



Eric Gaitho Macharia

Host organization: Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association (KWCA)

Fellow position: Project Accounts Fellow

Fellowship duration: April 2025 – March 2026

Degree: MBA

Professional experience: 5 years



Summary

Through my role, I supported the financial management and operationalization of key donor-funded initiatives working closely partner conservancies to strengthen budgeting, compliance, financial reporting, and grant management systems in line with organizational and donor requirements.

The problem KWCA aims to tackle

- Communities in Kenya that historically co-existed with nature face a livelihood crisis. Ensuring sustainable human wildlife coexistence through community-led conservation in Kenya.

The solution KWCA provides...

- KWCA serves as the national umbrella body for wildlife conservancies in Kenya, providing a unified voice for the sector and advocating for enabling policies and frameworks that support community led conservation and human wildlife coexistence.

... contributing to the SDGs:



Opportunity for a Fellow

- Exposure to national level conservation policy engagement
- Opportunity to support the strengthening of community led conservation systems that advance human wildlife coexistence
- Hands-on experience in grant and fund management

"My experience as a Fellow..."

... has given me real responsibility within donor-funded systems. worked at the intersection of finance and implementation while engaging with different stakeholders to make sense of how decisions translate into actionable impact. It was a space that pushed me to think more critically, act with ownership and understand systems in a much more grounded way."

- Eric Gaitho Macharia



Eric Gaitho's achievements...

- Supported end-to-end grant and sub-grant management processes, including financial reviews, compliance checks and documentation for donor-funded programs.
- Contributed to the setup and operationalization of structured conservation financing mechanisms, including the Kenya Conservancies Fund (KCF)
- Built practical experience in managing donor requirements, reporting frameworks, and coordination across multiple stakeholders in a complex funding environment.



... contributing to Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association

12+

donor-funded projects supported through financial accounting, bookkeeping, and reporting

99%

reduction in recurring reconciliation variances over time

2

audit cycles with minimal queries on supported accounts.

Eric Gaitho's next challenge

Staying on at KWCA and the impact space, with a growing interest in how funding is structured, particularly keen to deepen my exposure to the funder perspective.