



## **Agnes Sirima**

Director

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Agnes Sirima is an Assistant Lecturer at Sokoine University of Agriculture, Department of Wildlife Management in Tanzania. She holds bachelor degree in wildlife management from Sokoine University of Agriculture in Tanzania and Masters in Leisure, Tourism and Environment with a focus on communities and resource conservation from Wageningen University in the Netherlands. During her academic career she has won several awards for academic excellence.



She is currently on leave from the university while she pursues a PhD at Clemson University, South Carolina, USA. Her degree program is focused on parks and conservation areas management. Agnes's continuing specific research interests focus on understanding the human dimension of parks and protected areas management, especially around issues of sustainability and tourism, community capacity building and development, and integration of traditional ecological knowledge to landscape conservation planning.

After a brief time as a game officer with the Tanzania Wildlife Division in Southern Zone Anti-poaching Unit, Agnes focused her efforts on research, working extensively on dimensions of tourism and community connections. In Tanzania she has worked in the Kilombero Valley, Ruaha National Park and the coastal forest zone. Internationally she worked with the New Zealand Tourism Research Institute based at Auckland University in New Zealand. Currently, in conjunction with her PhD studies, Agnes is involved in research focusing on examining capacity for a cooperative seafood tourism trail as a value-added marine resource-based recreation and Tourism product on the South Carolina coast, USA.

Agnes is a member of a number of professional organizations locally and internationally and serves as a reviewer for academic journals in her field.

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