

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## 1.0 PERSONAL INFORMATION

NAME Leah Njambi Wanjama  
ADDRESS P.O. Box 5007 00200 Nairobi  
MOBILE 0722748806  
EMAIL Wanjama.leah@ku.ac.ke  
NATIONALITY Kenyan  
DATE OF BIRTH 18<sup>th</sup> March, 1953

## 2.0 QUALIFICATION

### 2.1 Academic qualifications

- 2002 PhD in Gender and Education Management – KU
- 1992 Certificate in Gender and Natural Resources – Clark University – Mass. US
- 1985 MA (Panning) University of Nairobi
- 1978 B Ed (Upper 2<sup>nd</sup>) University of Nairobi.

### 2.2 Professional Courses

- September 2013 Trained in Managing For Results (IU)
- 2012/2013 Trained in Personal Leadership Development Facilitation (Copenhagen University)
- February 2003 Trained in policy formulation and analysis (Futures Group International: Policy Project)
- September 1998 Trained in Strategic Planning (African Cultural Affairs Institute)
- August 1994 Trained in Leadership and Organizational Development (FAWE)
- December 1991 Trained in TOT Gender Planning, Programming and Development (Collaborative Centre For Gender and Development)
- August 1990 Trained in Gender Planning and Programming (FEMNET)

### 2.3 Other Courses

- October 2004 Trained in Corporate Governance (JKF)
- August 1999 Trained in Advocacy skills facilitation (Futures Group International)
- January 1994 Trained in Visualization in Participatory Programming (UNICEF)
- June 1989 Trained in Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) (UNICEF)

### **3.0 EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

- June 2014 to date      Kenyatta University, Senior Lecturer, Sociology, Gender and Development Department
- August 2013              Associate Professor, School of Business, Inoorero University
- March 2010              Employed by Inoorero University as Director Institute of Executive Education and Consultancy. I was in charge of Executive Master in Business Administration (EMBA).
- August 2009              Promoted as a Senior Lecturer, Department of Gender and Development Studies, Kenyatta University
- June 2007                Appointed Director, Gender and Affirmative Centre, Kenyatta University
- 1993                      Lecturer, Department of Development Studies, Kenyatta University
- 1990                      Moved from administrati to academic section in the Department of Development Studies as a Tutorial Fellow
- 1989 – 1990              Employed by Kenyatta University as an Administrative Assistant
- 1986 -1989              Employed by the Kenya Red Cross Society as the Deputy Secretary General
- 1978 – 1985              Employed as a Graduate Teacher by the Teachers Service Commission and taught in Gatanga and Ngara Girls Secondary Schools.

### **4.0 ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES**

- July20 August 31, 2015      Acted as Chairperson of Gender and Development Department – Kenyatta University
- 2010 - 2014      In-charge of all administrative and management responsibilities for the Institute of Executive Education and Consultancy in Inoorero University. The Institute housed the Executive MBA and I was in-charge of all matters both academic and administrative for the Programme.
- 2007 - 2010      Was appointed Kenyatta University Director, Gender and Affirmative Action Centre currently Centre for Gender Equity and Empowerment
- 1990 – 1994      Was the examinations officer of the Department of Development Studies.
- 1979 – 1980      Appointed the Headmistress of Gatanga Girls Secondary School.

### **5.0 POSTGRADUATE SUPERVISION**

#### **5.1 PhD Supervision**

- May 2013                      Assigned to supervise Jeddidah Mwangi

- January 2014 Assigned to supervise Elizabeth Kithuka
- April 2009 Assigned to supervise Esther Mworira as she developed PhD proposal. She dropped out before submitting her final proposal
- April 2009 - 2013 Assigned to supervise Florence Muthoni Maina.

**5.2 Masters Supervision I have been assigned to supervise more over 40 Masters students. The following have graduated**

- 2009 Assigned to supervise Christine Wasike
- 2009 Assigned to supervise Dorcas Phillip
- 2009 Assigned to supervise Dorcas Munuve
- 2010 assigned to supervise Faith Linda Muya
- 2010 Assigned to supervise Sarah F. Baraza
- 2012 Assigned to supervise Pamela Charylus
- 2012 Assigned to supervise Edna Omari
- 2013 Assigned to supervise Christine Muthikwa
- 2013 Assigned to supervise Benson Mutuku
- 2014 Assigned to supervise Lilian Janetrix

**5.3 Masters Supervision (on-going)**

- 2009 Assigned to supervise Annis Muthoni Miriti
- 2012 **Internal Examiner:** I am an internal examiner of both PHD and Master's thesis for the Department. I have examined and submitted reports for 1PhD thesis and 10 MA thesis. I am also an academic advisor for the post graduate programme in the Department and currently there are 50 post graduate students.

5.4

**6.0 CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS/SEMINARS**

**6.1 Participation in workshops/conferences**

- From 1993 – 2012 I attended and participated in most of FAWE Conferences and Seminars both locally and internationally (Ghana, Zambia, Zimbabwe, South Africa and Ethiopia) as an official of FAWE Kenya Chapter.
- I have attended as a participant over 20 locally organized conferences, workshops and seminars since I joined Kenyatta University.

**6.2 Presentation of papers at academic and professional conferences**

- **October 2019** Presented a Paper on *Gender Equity and Equality Discourse in the Higher Education Reforms in Africa* (9<sup>th</sup> Anie Conference in Nairobi)

- **October 2019** Presented a paper *Higher Education in Kenya: An Assessment of Gender Issues in Academic Progression and Promotion to Senior Levels of Management*. (9<sup>th</sup> Anie Conference in Nairobi)
- **October 2017** Presented a Paper on *Transforming Teacher Education As A Strategy For Achieving Gender Equity And Equality: Lessons From Research* ( 3<sup>rd</sup> Conference on Education and Life Long Learning - Kenyatta University)
- **July 2017** Presented a paper on *Breaking The Conspiracy Of Silence And Secrecy Surrounding Sexuality To Restore Women 's Dignity Post-Fistula* (Conference on Health held in Kenyatta University).
- **May 2017** Presented a paper on *Education as a strategy for mitigating against negative cultural practices and sexual exploitation*. (Conference on Early Childhood Education )
- **August 2016** Presented a paper on *A Reflection on the Status of the Inclusion of Women and Girls in Science, Technology and Innovation in Kenya Public Universities* at the 1<sup>st</sup> Biennial Conference on the State of Higher Education In Kenya.
- **March 2016** Presented a paper on *Gender and Peace: Reflections on the Importance of Gender in Peace Building at Family Unit Level*: at the 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference On Peace Held at The Management University Of Africa (MUA)
- **October 2015** Presented a paper on *Gender Responsive Pedagogy: Promoting Gender Equity and Equality in Education*: at The 2<sup>nd</sup> International Annual October Conference on Education and Lifelong Learning, Kenyatta University.
- **August 2014** Presented a Paper on *An Overview of the Status of Girls Education in Sub-Saharan Africa as Depicted by EFA and MDGS 2013/2014 Reports* (FAWE General Assembly)
- **August 2014** presented a Paper on *Marriage Rite of Passage and Gender Construction Among the Agikuyu Community* (International Conference on African Languages and Literatures in 21<sup>st</sup> Century – Kenyatta University)
- **May 2012** Presented a paper on *Poverty and Culture in Relation to Maternal and Child Survival* (International Conference on Maternal and Child Health)
- **August 2012** presented a paper in an International Conference organized by Kenyatta University on GBV entitled *Engaging Advocacy and Lobbying to Bring Change and Create Safe Space for Human Habitation*.

- **December 2009** presented a research paper on *Issues of Education of the boy child in Kenya*, ( at Kenyatta University Research Conference).
- **December 2009** presented a paper on *Gender, Religion and Sustainable Development for the African Religious Council* (Libya)
- **August 2004** presented a paper on the *Education of the Girls Child 2000 and Beyond* organized by FAWE – Ethiopia.
- **September 1995** presented a paper on *Poverty and the Girl Child an International University Women Conference* in Japan

### 6.3 Convening and coordinating Conferences

- **In June 1995**, convened a one day conference for FAWE Kenya on Issues of the girls child in education as a preparation for 4<sup>th</sup> Women’s conference in Beijing
- **September 1995** attended a 5 day conference organized by International University Women to prepare for the 4<sup>th</sup> Women’s Conference in Beijing. I was in charge of all preparations for the issues of Poverty and the Girl Charge and I had presented a paper on the same.
- **September 1995** Attended the 4<sup>th</sup> Women’s Conference in Beijing and coordinated a one day workshop on *Women’s education in Africa for FAWE* in the Africa Tent.
- **September 1995** Attended the 4<sup>th</sup> Women Conference in Beijing coordinated a one day workshop on *Poverty and the Girls Child for International University Women*.

### 7.0 MAJOR CONSULTANCIES UNDERTAKEN

- **July to September 2016:** Bid and was awarded a consultancy to conduct *KAP Study in 12 Arid and Semi-Arid Counties* by an **SNV** an International Organization based in Netherlands
- **April 2016 to June:** Bid and was awarded a consultancy to conduct a *Baseline study on Gender Analysis in 12 Arid and Semi-Arid Counties of Kenya* by **SNV** an international organization
- **January to December 2016:** together with other team members we were awarded a research grant by Kenyatta University to conduct a study on Production and Utilization of social Research by institutions in Kenya.
- **January to June 2015:** Conducted a survey to document Gender Responsive Pedagogy as Best Practice for United Nations Girls Initiative (UNGEI) through FAWE
- **August – December 2013:** Part of a team that carried out an evaluation for ERR on Community /wild life conflict in Tanzania.
- **March 2009:** awarded a contract to Develop HIV and AIDS Policy for USIU

- **May 2006:** awarded a contract by Washington DC HIV and AIDS Section to carry out Mid Term Evaluation of the Abstinence and Be Faithful for the Youth PEPFAR Project.
- **September 2009:** awarded a contract to Develop HIV and AIDS Policy for Kiriri Women's University of Science and Technology.
- **August 2008:** Awarded a contract to develop an Action Plan for the Department of Children Services for National Council for Children Services
- **June 2009:** Awarded a contract to Develop National Children's Policy for National Council of Children Services.
- **June 2008:** awarded a contracted to Conduct Strategic Planning for Malawi Network of People Living with HIV and AIDS.
- **March 2008:** awarded a contracted to carry out Gender Audit for Safe the Children – Canada.
- **January 2006:** part of the Technical Team that Developed The Sessional Paper No. 4 on Gender Policy for Kenya.
- **2006 – 2007:** a member of the technical team that developed the Ministry of Education Gender Policy in Education.
- **2000 – 2005** a member of the Gender Technical Subcommittee for National AIDS Council mandated with the responsibility of Mainstreaming Gender in all operations of the Council.
- **2000 – 2004** awarded consultancy to conduct Regional Advocacy Training for the Futures Group (trained in Nigeria, Ghana, Ethiopia, Malawi, Uganda, Tanzania and South Africa).
- **January to June 2003:** developed Advocacy Strategic Plan for Youth and Reproductive Health (AHIP) in Nigeria.
- **1993 – 2000** Carried out various consultancies for FAWE in Mainstreaming Gender in the Education Sector in Kenya.
- **March 1995:** Conducted Participatory Rural Appraisal Training in Malawi.

## 8.0 RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

### 8.1 Articles in refereed Journals with students

- Sarah Fedha , Grace Wamue, Leah Wanjama; *Experience of School Related Gender Based Violence by Pupils and Culture of Violence: a case Study of Primary Schools in Kasarani District – Nairobi County – Kenya* (International Journal of Education and Research – 2013)
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- Dr. Florence Nyamu, Dr. Leah Wanjama, Rose M. Irungu and Fred Kariuki. (Sep. 2018). *Education As a Strategy to Mitigate Harmful Cultural Practices and Value Systems. International Journal Of Current Research. An online publication. ISSN: 0975-833X*

## 8.2 Articles in Conference Proceedings

- Leah Wanjama. (2014), *Marriage Rite of Passage and Gender Construction Among the Agikuyu Community* ( A paper presented at the International Conference in African Languages organized by Institute of African Studies – Kenyatta University)
- Leah Wanjama. (2014) *An Overview of Status of Girls Education in Sub-Saharan Africa as Depicted by Education For All and Millennium Development Goals Reports* – 2013/14.
- Leah Wanjama. (2012) *Engaging Lobbying and Advocacy to Bring Change and Create Safe Space For Human Habitation* – (in the process of being published).
- Leah Wanjama. (2009), *Gender and Sustainable Development: Confronting Violence and Advancing Shared Security* (A chapter in an unpublished book sent to the printers by African Council of Religions for Peace).
- Leah Wanjama. (2012), *Poverty and Culture in Relation to Maternal and Child Survival* (a paper presented in an International Conference, peer reviewed for publication).
- Leah Wanjama: *Gender Dimensions in Participation and Performance in Science and Mathematics:* ( a paper presented at a FAWE conference in Zambia, 2009)

## 8.3 Books

- Leah Wanjama, Phyllis Muraya, Shiphrah Gichaga, Revised Edition of *Life Skills: A Handbook for Students, Parents and Teachers*. Jomo Kenyatta Foundation, 51 Enterprise Road, Industrial Area, Second Edition 2018
- Leah Njambi Wanjama, Elishiba Njambi Kimani, Mildred Jeniffer Lodiaga, *HIV and AIDS: The Pandemic*. Jomo Kenyatta Foundation, 51 Enterprise Road, Industrial Area, 2007
- Leah Wanjama, Phyllis Muraya, Shiphrah Gichaga, *Life Skills* - Jomo Kenyatta Foundation, 51 Enterprise Road, Industrial Area, 2006

## 8.4 Chapters in Books

- Leah Wanjama. (2004). *Agriculture and Development in Sub-Saharan Africa*, Published by Acasia Publishers (2004), Nairobi, Edited by D. M. Muia and J. E. Otiende.
- Leah Njambi Wanjama. (2018). *Marriage Rites and Gender Construction Among the Agikuyu Community*. Published in the Book, From Asmara 2000 To Nairobi 2014: Trends In African Languages and Literatures. Institute of African Studies , Kenyatta University

## 9.0 NETWORKING AND COLLABORATION WITH ORGANIZATIONS

- In 2010, as part of my responsibility to network with institutions and organization, I initiated and concretized networking relationships with Housing Finance; Home Grown, Mount Kenya Bottlers, James Finlays Kenya Limited and Magandi Soda.
- In 2011, as part of my networking and recruitment of organizations for Executive Training, I established contacts with UAP, Resources Associates, Majani Insurance, Kenya Airways, Tea Board of Kenya among others.
- In 2012, as part of my responsibility to recruit organizations and institutions for executive education I established contacts with Kenya Motors, Finlays Mombasa, Home Grown Naivasha, Williamson Tea, Kenya Tea Development Authority among others.
- 2013, as part of my networking and recruitment drive, I established contacts with KEPSA, UAP Tanzania and Uganda, East Africa Chamber of Commerce in Agriculture, Jomo Kenyatta Foundation, National Housing Corporation among others.

## 10.0 EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL GRANTS

- **October 2020 to October 2025:** In the team that bid and won the **Kenyatta University Women’s Economic Empowerment (KU-WEE) Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Grant to implement the Initiative on What Works for Women’s Economic Empowerment (IWWEE)**. I am a Principal Investigator (PI) for *the Gendered Impacts of the Kenya Government Policy Response to COVID – 19 Pandemic* Project
- **January 2018 to December 2019** Among five researchers who tendered and won an NRF Grant (10,000,000) to conduct research on *Production and Utilization of Education research in Kenya*
- **January to December 2018** –Together with a team - A grant to conduct a research on *Health and Wellbeing of Older Persons in Kenya: Tackling the Data Gap and Needs*. A collaboration with Southampton University
- **In 2009**, I was able to convince Farmers Voice Radio, to include a component on Gender. By the time I left Kenyatta University, the project was barely starting



and the Gender Empowerment Centre took over. The gender component was funded for over 3 years.

- **In 2008**, got a grant from FAWE for Kenyatta University to carry out a mentoring and advocacy for the girl child in Kenya.
- **Between 2010 and January 2014** when I left Inoorero University, I had written proposals for training in various executive education courses that had raised more than Ksh 30 million. This is not inclusive of 38 Executive MBA students who graduated from the EMBA programme who I recruited single on my own and who had brought to Inoorero University Ksh. 25, 080, 000.

## **11.0 LOCAL, REGIONAL & INTERNATIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

- **August 2013** Appointed as a Member of the Kenya School of Law Board by the Minister for Justice I am the Chair of the Audit Committee of the Board.
- **February 2013** Appointed as a Member of the Board, State Corporations Advisory Committee (SCAC) for a second term by the President.
- **June 2013** Appointed as a Board of Governors Board and Chairperson, Gatura Girls Secondary School.
- **June 2012** Appointed by the Bishop of Murang'a to be in the Board of The Blessed St Paul II Sabbatical Centre for Religious men.
- **January 2010** Appointed to the Advisory Board of Queen of Apostles Seminary by Cardinal John Njue.
- **2007 – 2013** Appointed to Chair the Management Committee, Starehe Girls Centre by the Trustees.
- **March 2006** Appointed as a Member of the Board of Jomo Kenyatta Foundation for the second term by the Minister of Education. I chaired the Staff Development Committee of The Board
- **January 2004** Appointed as a member of Thika District Education Board, Thika by the Minister of Education.
- **September 2009** Appointed as a member of Gatanga District Education Board by the Minister of Education
- **2003 – 2013** Appointed to Chair the Constituency AIDS Control Committee for Gatanga Constituency.
- **June 2003** Appointed as a Chairperson of the Board of Governors, Gatanga Girls Secondary School by the Minister of Education.
- **January 2002** Appointed as a member of the Board, Jomo Kenyatta Foundation.
- **September 2000** Appointed as a member of the Board of Governors, Gatanga CCM Secondary School by the Minister of Education

- **February 1998** Appointed by the Minister of Education to be a member of The Board, Our Lady of Mercy Secondary School.
- **March 1993** Founder Member of Forum for African Women Educationalists – Kenya Chapter (FAWEK) and joined its Executive Committee and served in various positions as Secretary, Vice Chairperson and retired as Chairperson in 2012.

## 12.0 AWARDS/RECOGNITION

- 2009 Recognized by the Vice Chancellor (KU) for raising funds from FAWE for Gender and Affirmative Action Centre.
- 2011 – Recognized by the Member of Parliament Hon. Peter Kenneth for the leadership role in Gatanga AIDS Constituency Committee.
- 2013 – Recognized by the Starehe Girls Trustee for the role I had played in Steering the Management Committee for 7 years.

## 13.0 COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- I am actively involved in the education of Gatanga Constituency as a member of DEB but more so as a mentor of teachers and girls in various schools. I am have been invited to many of these schools a guest of honour
- I am active in my Catholic Church and as a result, the Bishop of Murang'a and Cardinal John Njue have trusted me with various responsibilities some of which have been highlighted elsewhere
- I am active in the gender and development area and have been invited to give leadership and gender talks in various forums by various churches particularly when there is a training going on in Limuru Pastoral Centre
- As a result of my advocacy and gender training, I have been invited to talk in various forums for Kenya Union of Teachers particularly to their regional women representatives.
- In my local church, I am actively involved as an official in Catholic Women's Association. On March 9, 2014, on the Women's International Day, our Church, Regina Caeli – Karen invited me to speak at a service held for all women on *Appreciating Self, Inspiring Change in the Family*.

## Referees

**Prof. Henry Thairu**

Kenyatta University

Email – [hthairu@gmail.com](mailto:hthairu@gmail.com)

**Dr. Mildred Lodiaga**

Chairperson, Department of Gender and  
Development Studies,  
Kenyatta University.

**Email: mjalod@gmail.com**

**Prof. Cathrine Ndungo**

Associate Dean, School of Humanities  
Kenyatta University

**Email: catendungo@yahoo.com**