

J.B.Okeyo-Owuor B.Sc. (Agric), M.Sc. (Entomol/IPM), Ph.D. (Zool/IPM-Ecology),
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Born on 10th July 1949, Joash Barack Okeyo-Owuor (Ph.D. EBS) is the Founder and Director General of Victoria Institute for Research on Environment and Development (VIRED) International based in Kisumu and a Professor of Environmental Biology and Health at the School of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences at Rongo University, Kenya. He holds B.Sc. (Agriculture), M.Sc. (Entomology) and Ph.D. (Zool & IPM) degrees and over 25 years professional expertise and working experience in agriculture, food security, nutrition and ecosystem and natural resources management in Tropical Africa. He is a renowned scientist and continues to conduct research and capacity building at various levels in East and Central Africa especially in the Lake Victoria Basin. In 2009 he received a Presidential Recognition and Award, the Elder of Burning Spear (EBS) for his role in environmental protection in Kenya. Currently he is involved in several donor funded collaborative research and community based projects including the UNDP supported Nyando Wetland Conservation, the Dutch funded project on ecology of livelihoods in the Lake Victoria Wetlands (ECOLIVE), SIDA funded Efficient management of Waste Water Using Constructed Wetlands (EMAU), the ASARECA funded Payments for Environmental Services in transboundary landscapes in East and Central Africa, the FAO, USAID and JICA funded Community based Flood Mitigation projects in Lake Victoria Basin. He has successfully supervised thesis research for over 20 Ph.D. and 45 M.Sc. scholars from various parts of the world. He has held numerous important posts including Senior Research Scientist at the International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE) in Kenya and Somalia, Managing Director Lake Basin Development Authority, Kenya, President of Africa wide ARPPIS Scholars Association (ASA), among others. He has been a lead consultant in numerous environmental management and food security projects in Kenya, Somalia, DRC, Mozambique among others where he has successfully led interdisciplinary, multinational and multi-cultural teams. In 2010 he received the prestigious Presidential Award of Elder of Burning Spear (EBS) of Kenya due to his scientific and development records in the country and beyond. Prof. Okeyo-Owuor has published many papers, books and participated in numerous workshops and international conferences. He is a mature personality and pleasant to work with in a team.