

## Project Seminar Tuesday 22 August 2023

Venue: Geitaskarð 201, second floor, AUI Keldnaholt

- 09:00-09:05 Welcome by GRÓ LRT Director.
- 09:05-09:20 Esther Olufunmilayo David (Nigeria). Policy and management challenges in the Omo biosphere reserve in Nigeria: implications for sustainability.  
Supervisor: Jón Geir Pétursson (University of Iceland).
- 09:20-09:35 Brendah Namara (Uganda). Local perceptions on the alternative livelihood approach for wetland restoration in Buhweju district Uganda: a case study of Kyenjogyera-Mushasha wetland system.  
Supervisor: Tamar Melanie Heijstra (University of Iceland).
- 09:35-09:50 Awekonimungu Annet Orombi (Uganda). Wetland degradation in Zombo district, Uganda: a study on the perceptions of the local community.  
Supervisors: Tamar Melanie Heijstra & Guðrún Guðjónsdóttir (University of Iceland).
- 09:50-10:00 *Coffee break*
- 10:00-10:15 Purevsuren Munkhtur (Mongolia). Habitat quality assessment of Khyargas Lake, western Mongolia.  
Supervisors: Maartje Oostdijk & David Cook (University of Iceland).
- 10:15-10:30 Odchimeg Nyamsuren (Mongolia). Assessing restoration success by food web structure: case study of lakes in west Iceland.  
Supervisors: Jón S. Ólafsson & Jóhannes Guðbrandsson (Marine and Freshwater Research Institute).
- 10:30-10:45 Chimwemwe Nelson Bandazi (Malawi). Evaluation of stream health to measure mining impact.  
Supervisor: Jacob Matthew Kasper (AUI).
- 10:45-10:55 *Coffee break*
- 10:55-11:10 Vasila Sharipova (Uzbekistan). Monitoring long-term ecosystem change.  
Supervisors: Bryndís Marteinsdóttir & Rán Finnsdóttir (SCSI).
- 11:10-11:25 Masekthali Bernice Lekhotsa (Lesotho). The status of knowledge of Basotho farmers on impacts of climate change effects on forests: case study Mafeteng district, Ha Ramokoatsi Village in Lesotho.  
Supervisor: Jóhanna Gísladóttir (AUI).
- 11:25-11:40 Elizabeth Apuseyine (Ghana). United Nations Decade of Ecological Restoration: raising awareness among students of Nyankpala Campus at UDS Ghana.  
Supervisor: Margrét Hugadóttir (Reykjavík Energy).
- 11:40-11:55 Paul Effah Koranteng (Ghana). Addressing land degradation problems in Ghana through social media-based environmental education.  
Supervisor: Guðmundur Hörður Guðmundsson (University of Iceland).

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- 10:00-10:05 Welcome by GRÓ LRT Director.
- 10:05-10:20 Triphine Ainembabazi (Uganda). Land cover changes in the Bugoma Central Forest Reserve, Western Uganda: Evolution and prospects, using classification of remote sensing imagery.  
Supervisor: Emmanuel Pierre Pagneux (AUI).
- 10:20-10:35 Maksat Miinazarov (Kyrgyzstan). Assessing pasture vegetation in certain regions of Kyrgyzstan.  
Supervisors: Katrín Valsdóttir & Jóhann Helgi Stefánsson (SCSI).
- 10:35-10:50 Byambaa Ganbat (Mongolia). Soil carbon stock in Mongolian forests.  
Supervisors: Jón Guðmundsson, Erla Sturludóttir & Ólafur Arnalds (AUI).
- 10:50-11:00 *Coffee break*
- 11:00-11:15 Geoffrey Mukisa (Uganda). Effect of afforestation on soil properties in Heiðmörk, Iceland.  
Supervisors: Utra Mankasingh & María Svavarsdóttir (AUI).
- 11:15-11:30 Motlatsi Johannes Pheko (Lesotho). Impacts of stone lines construction on soil properties in Mohale's Hoek, Lesotho.  
Supervisors: Utra Mankasingh (AUI) & Guðrún Óskarsdóttir (East Iceland Nature Research Centre).
- 11:30-11:45 Ben Amoah (Ghana). Biocrust-based land restoration: biogeochemical signatures from a land reclamation site in Iceland.  
Supervisors: Alejandro Salazar & Ása L. Aradóttir (AUI).
- 11:45-13:00 *Lunch*
- 13:00-13:15 Richard Thole (Malawi). Assessment of the status and factors affecting the sustainable usage of the water retention ditches in Matapwata EPA, Thyolo District.  
Supervisor: Guðrún Helga Jóhannsdóttir (Save the Children, Iceland).
- 13:15-13:30 Clifford Omonu (Nigeria). Community participation in nature conservation: a case study of Omo biosphere reserve, south-west Nigeria.  
Supervisor: Auður H. Ingólfssdóttir (Transformia).
- 13:30-13:45 Kennedy Chifundo Adamson (Malawi). Perceptions of artisanal and small-scale miners towards forest landscape restoration near mining sites in Malawi's Lilongwe district.  
Supervisor: Auður H. Ingólfssdóttir (Transformia).
- 13:45-14:00 Mathapelo Falatsa (Lesotho). Drivers of land degradation and recommendations for restoration in Miðfossar Iceland.  
Supervisors: Anna Mariager Behrend & Sólveig Sanchez (AUI).
- 14:00-14:10 *Coffee break*

- 14:10-14:25 Aisha Wumpini Abdul-Samad (Ghana). Greenhouse gas fluxes in an agricultural field under different fertilization schemes in Iceland.  
Supervisors: Alejandro Salazar & Friederike Dima Danneil (AUI).
- 14:25-14:40 Shuhrat Valiyev (Uzbekistan). Changes in structural and functional characteristics of vegetation and soil water under different sheep grazing intensities, soil types, or soil warming levels in Iceland and Uzbekistan.  
Supervisors: Ruth Phoebe Tchana Wandji & Bjarni Diðrik Sigurðsson (AUI).
- 14:40-14:55 Madalitso Mbanjani Mkandawire (Malawi). Impact of land registration and certification on sustainable land management practices: case study of Traditional Lukwa, Kasungu district Malawi.  
Supervisor: Magnfríður Júlíusdóttir (University of Iceland).