

BRIEF CV

Prof. (Eng). Bancy Mbura Mati *PhD. RENG*

Professor of Soil & Water Engineering
Department of Biomechanical & Environmental Engineering
Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture & Technology (JKUAT)

Prof. Bancy Mbura Mati, is Professor of Soil and Water Engineering in BEED, JKUAT. In a career spanning 26 years, she joined the then JKCAT as an Assistant Lecturer in 1985 and rose through the ranks to full Professor in 2010. Prof. Mati holds a PhD degree in Rural Land Use and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) from Cranfield University (UK), MSc degree in Land and Water Management and BSc in Agricultural Engineering, both from University of Nairobi. She is also a Registered Professional Engineer (RENG). At JKUAT Prof. Mati specializes in land and water management, teaching courses such as; watershed management; rainwater harvesting, soil and water conservation, GIS, irrigation and drainage, hydrology, engineers in society. She also supervises research projects and PhD, MSc and BSc students. She has represented university at several national and international forums on water and agriculture.

Prof. Mati is an established researcher, having conducted many research and development projects in Kenya as well as in Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) Region. She has proven competence working on multi-country, participatory research and development initiatives and with diverse stakeholders, including researchers, policy makers, donors, civil servants, private sector, grassroots organizations and farmers. Among her numerous projects, Prof. Mati led a team of 12 researchers in a joint research project which assessed water management interventions bearing returns on investment in ESA, identifying the technologies and approaches that upgrade agriculture in Africa. Her current research is on SRI (System of Rice Intensification), a method of growing rice with less water which also increases yields, and which is revolutionizing how rice is grown in Mwea Irrigation Scheme. This research is also supporting one PhD and two MSC students. In addition, Prof. Mati has published 102 publications on water management and related topics, variously in refereed journals, books, book chapters, training manuals, conference papers, workshop and research reports. She has made several technical presentations at international conferences and invited forums as well as facilitated international video-conferencing. Further, Prof. Mati has directed, scripted and produced a set of 7 documentary films on innovations in agricultural water management in ESA, which were used for advocacy and capacity building.

Prof. Mati has held other leadership positions outside the University, including providing advisory and outreach services. She has served in the Steering Committee of the Global Water Partnership (GWP), as Chairperson of the Kenya Rainwater Association, Council of the Institution of Engineers of Kenya (IEK) and the Advisory Board of the International Rainwater Harvesting Alliance (IRHA). Further, Prof. Mati was for five years the Programme Manager of IMAWESA, a knowledge-sharing network spanning 23 countries in ESA. She has a very good understanding of the key issues, policies, strategies and institutional frameworks with respect to agricultural water management in Africa. She assessed the policies and institutional frameworks with respect to water management in 9 African countries (i.e. Eritrea, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania and Zimbabwe). She also helped develop the partnership for Agricultural Water in Africa (AgWA) in the ESA region. She is a competent user of computer-based applications, such as remote sensing and GIS tools, hydrological simulation modeling, graphics and Microsoft office software. She regularly upgrades knowledge in computer-based applications and new technologies. Prof. Mati has a proven record for hard work, high integrity, service delivery, transparency and accountability.