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2016 BHEARD Scholar  
**Patrick Zakeyo**

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# Profile

<b>Country of Study:</b>	Kenya
<b>University:</b>	Egerton University
<b>Department:</b>	Environmental Science
<b>Student Position:</b>	Graduate Research Assistant—M.Sc.
<b>Hometown:</b>	Lilongwe, Malawi
<b>Home Institution:</b>	Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development
<b>Home Position:</b>	Fisheries Officer
<b>Mentored By:</b>	Jeremiah Kang`ombe, Professor, LUANAR

## *Research Area: Environmental Science*

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**BHEARD PROGRAM START DATE:** August 2016

**UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION:** B.Sc., Aquaculture and Fisheries Science, University of Malawi

**RESEARCH INTERESTS:** Aquatic Ecology and Water Quality Management. In many developing countries the grade of water in natural water bodies continues to degrade due to climate change and increase in economic activities such as agriculture and industrialization. This has some impact on the quality of water and its ecosystem. In turn this affects the productivity and health of aquatic ecosystems and affects the suitability of water in such ecosystems for agriculture and fisheries development.

Patrick's research focuses on the impacts of anthropogenic activities on aquatic ecosystems. It also focuses on the generation of information which will be useful in policy development and assist in sustainable management and utilization of water resources, so that Malawi has water of acceptable quality and of sufficient quantities for the enhancement of the country's natural ecosystems.

Thus, Patrick's research will help in the development of new knowledge and better instruments for restoration and management of aquatic ecosystems to maintain its health and maximize its usefulness and productivity.

**PERSONAL STATEMENT:** In his current work with the fisheries department in Malawi, Patrick's responsibility includes promoting sustainable aquaculture and fisheries management and conducting research. Patrick plans to increase his knowledge in various aspects of aquatic ecosystems and water quality management research through Ph.D. training and short courses.

In his future endeavors with the fisheries department, Patrick would like to engage communities who use water resources, on how they use them and how positive outcomes of use can be enhanced and negative impacts can be mitigated. Soliciting of information may be of paramount importance to the government in policy issues related to management of aquatic ecosystems and resources. It may enhance their productivity as they provide alternative sources of income to communities around them and thus contribute to the economic status of Malawi.

**WHEN I AM NOT WORKING I ENJOY:** Patrick enjoys reading news and novels, watching movies and soccer, chatting, and travelling.