



2015 BHEARD Scholar  
**Mumina Shibia**

# Profile

<b>Country of Study:</b>	United States of America
<b>University:</b>	Texas Tech University
<b>Department:</b>	Agricultural and Applied Economics
<b>Student Position:</b>	Graduate Research Assistant—Ph.D.
<b>Home Country:</b>	Kenya
<b>Home Institution:</b>	Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization
<b>Home Position:</b>	Research Officer
<b>Mentored By:</b>	Dr. Festus Murithi, KALRO Dr. Shaikh Mahfuz Rahman, Texas Tech University

**Research Area:** *Agricultural and Applied Economics*

**BHEARD PROGRAM START DATE:** August 2015

**UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION:** B.Sc., Agricultural Economics, Egerton University, Kenya

**GRADUATE EDUCATION:** M.Sc., Agricultural and Applied Economics, Egerton University, Kenya

**RESEARCH INTERESTS:** Mumina is interested in Agricultural Product Value Chain Analysis (APVC), climate change, and food security, production systems, agricultural policy and markets, rural development, environmental economics, project monitoring and evaluation, project impact assessments, community-driven development innovations targeting empowerment and mainstreaming of women, youth, and vulnerable groups in research and development programmes. In a nutshell, she is interested in the field of development economics targeting food security, climate change, and agribusiness.

The livelihoods of households in Northern Kenya predominantly depend on livestock, mainly cattle, sheep, goats, and camels. These households not only rely on their livestock for food, fiber, and labor but also use livestock as a principal asset to transfer risk over time (usually by liquidating a part of the livestock during emergencies). The arid and semi-arid Northern Kenya experiences frequent catastrophic droughts. Persistent droughts cause livestock deaths inflicting catastrophic production risks and food insecurity outcomes. Terms of trade declined sharply for pastoralists, contributing to rising food insecurity and malnutrition.

As a result, manifested levels of acute malnutrition worsen into critical levels. They, therefore, require long-term resilience measures for these households to cope, adapt, manage and continue with their livelihoods beyond emergencies. Mumina's proposed research is evaluation of livestock shocks and risk management options for pastoral households in northern Kenya. Her employer's research interest is agribusiness.

**PERSONAL STATEMENT:** Mumina would like to continue working with KALRO to incorporate climate change, food security, food security and nutrition, agribusiness, and policies in its programs. She wishes to be a food security and nutritional policy analyst/expert in Kenya, Africa, and the globe; Conduct research in the area of food security, food and nutritional security, policies, agribusiness, and mentor graduate and undergraduate students in Kenya; Write research grant proposals with a team of experts and institutions to address issues of climate change, food security, food and nutritional security, and policies; Implement and participate in programs that fight hunger by combining sustainable agriculture, rural development, and agribusiness; Ensure the most vulnerable are food secure by targeting the four domains of food security in our programmes; Innovate interventions that strengthen the drought coping capacity of households and enhance their food and nutritional security and sustainability.

Mumina's primary interest is to work with the pastoral communities, farmers, government institutions, policymakers, civil society organizations, development organizations, non-governmental organizations, and the institution of higher learning so as to streamline long-term interventions with our food security policies. She would like to lecture in institutions of higher learning and mentor youth and women in the field of agricultural and applied economics with emphasis on food security, food nutritional security, agribusiness, and policies. Mumina would like to be a monitoring and evaluation expert for food security programs, climate-smart agriculture, and agribusiness. Importantly, empower women, girls, youths and the most vulnerable in leadership and resource mobilization and access. Steer incorporation of agribusiness innovations in research and development.

**WHEN I AM NOT WORKING I ENJOY:** Much of Mumina's time is spent in socializing with friends and families. She like reading and traveling to different places. She enjoys interacting with different communities on leadership and social aspects and empowerment of women, youth, vulnerable and marginalized groups. She love advising, mentoring girls, and give mentorship talks in institutions. Mumina like cooking different and healthy foods and organize for getting together. She love music as a source of inspiration. She am excited to watch soccer and track events. Mumina have growing interest in entrepreneurship.