

# DEDAN NGATIA

## *Curriculum Vitae*

*Kenyan scientist specialising in ecology and management of infectious disease in wild and domestic carnivores. Working for sustainable coexistence of people and wildlife.*

### PERSONAL INFORMATION

**Full name:** Dedan Kabuu Ngatia      **Date of Birth:** 24 Oct 1989      **Nationality:** Kenyan  
**Address:** Mpala Research Centre, PO Box 555-10400, Nanyuki, Kenya  
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### RECENT POSITIONS

- 2016-present    Project Manager, Kenya Rangelands Wild Dog and Cheetah Project. Project lead: Prof Rosie Woodroffe, Zoological Society of London. Role involves monitoring African wild dogs and cheetahs using GPS- and VHF-collars, visual observations, collar deployment, necropsies, and community outreach.
- 2014-2016    Project Manager, Kenya Small Carnivore Study “*Anthropogenic disturbance in mesocarnivores: Consequences for disease dynamics across human-wildlife interface*”. Project lead: Dr Adam Ferguson, Smithsonian Institute/Karatina University. Role involved trapping, handling and blood-sampling small carnivores.
- 2014:    Research Assistant; Kenya Bats Research Project, Karatina University
- 2014:    Research Assistant, Ungulate Herbivory under Rainfall Uncertainty Project, Mpala Research Centre. Project lead: Dr Jacob Goheen, University of Wyoming.
- 2013:    Intern, Laikipia Wildlife Forum, Nanyuki, Kenya.

### EDUCATION

- 2016:    MSc Wildlife Management (by research), Karatina University. Thesis Title: “*Conserving carnivores in Kenya: addressing disease dynamics in domestic dogs in rural communities, Laikipia, Kenya*”. In Kenya MSc by research is not graded. A paper derived from this research is currently in review.
- 2014:    BSc Natural Resources Management, First Class Honours, Karatina University. Dissertation title “*Effects of fire on herbaceous vegetation and herbivore visitation of burnt patches at a Kenyan savannah, Laikipia, Kenya*”. I was ranked highest in my year (among 21 students), receiving the highest grades achievable for both my dissertation and my final year examinations.

### PUBLICATIONS

- Woodroffe W., Rabaiotti, D., Ngatia, D., Smallwood, T., Strebel, S., O'Neill, H.,  
Dispersal, group formation, and group termination in an obligate cooperative breeder
- Ferguson, A.W., D. Muloi, D.K. Ngatia, W. Kiongo, D.M. Kimuyu, P.W. Webala, M.O. Olum, M. Muturi, S.M. Thumbi, R. Woodroffe, L. Murugi, E.M. Fèvre, S. Murray, and D.J. Martins.  
(*In review*) Volunteer based approach to dog vaccination campaigns to eliminate rabies: Lessons from Laikipia County, Kenya. *PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases*.
- . Ngatia D. K., T. Butynski, P. W. Webala and A. W. Ferguson (in prep.) Distribution of *Herpestes ichneumon* in Kenya: with the description for the first record for Laikipia County.

### ADVISORY POSITIONS

- 2017: Member, Kenya National Rabies Elimination Coordination Committee
- 2017: National Geographic Society – Member, leadership and mentorship programme
- 2016: Member, Kenya Wildlife Service National Taskforce for Small Carnivore Conservation

## FUNDS RAISED

- 2017: Rufford Foundation, Student Grant, GBP 5,000
- 2016: National Geographic Society, Young Explorers Grant, USD 5,000
- 2016: American Society of Mammologists, Early Career Travel Award, USD 300
- 2016: Idea Wild grant for field equipment, USD 650
- 2015: Rufford Foundation, Student Grant, GBP 5,000
- 2015: Kenya National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation, USD 2,000
- 2015: Private donors, USD 5,000

In addition to these grants for my own research I helped raise over USD 37,000 to support the 2016 and 2017 Laikipia Rabies Vaccination Campaigns.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

- 2016: **Ngatia, D.**, P. W. Webala, Linus Kariuki, Monica Chege & A. W. Ferguson. Laikipia Small Carnivores Research and Parasites Study, and KWS Small Carnivore Taskforce Kenya Wildlife Service Annual Carnivore Research and Conservation Conference.
- 2016: **Ngatia, D.**, P. W. Webala and A. W. Ferguson. The spatial ecology of domestic dogs along Kenya's Human-Wildlife-Livestock interface; Annual Meeting of the American Society of Mammalogist; University of Minnesota, USA.
- 2016: **Ngatia, D.**, A. W. Ferguson and P. W. Webala. The spatial ecology of domestic dogs along Kenya's human, wildlife, and livestock interface. Pathways Kenya: Integrating Human Dimensions into Fisheries and Wildlife Management, Nanyuki, Kenya.
- 2015: **Ngatia, D.**, P. W. Webala & A. W. Ferguson. The spatial ecology of domestic dogs along Kenya's Human-Wildlife-Livestock interface. Department of Natural Resources, Purdue University, Indiana, USA.
- 2015: **Ngatia, D.**, A. W. Ferguson and P. W. Webala. The spatial ecology of domestic dogs along Kenya's Human-Wildlife-Livestock interface. Kenya Wildlife Service Annual Carnivore Research and Conservation Conference.

## LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- 2017: Led Laikipia Rabies Vaccination Campaign 2017, coordinating 24 volunteer vets and 30 other volunteers to vaccinate 9,313 domestic dogs vaccinated over 25 community ranches.
- 2016: Helped coordinate Laikipia Rabies Vaccination Campaign, leading to vaccination of 4,530 domestic dogs over 12 of community ranches.
- 2015: Initiated Laikipia Rabies Vaccination Campaign in the course of my MSc research, leading to vaccination of 800 domestic dogs over 7 of community ranches.
- 2013-2014: President, Nature Club of Karatina University
- 2012-2013: Organizing Secretary, Nature Club of Karatina University
- 2012-2014: Vice-Secretary, Karatina University Red Cross Society
- 2012-2014: Organised multiple town clean-up days and tree-planting events in Karatina, Kenya.

## MEDIA COVERAGE

My rabies vaccination work has been covered on [national television news](#), as well as [national newspapers](#). My African wild dog work has been featured in [international newspapers](#), and I have also been asked to [comment](#) on related news stories.

## REFEREES

Prof Rosie Woodroffe, Zoological Society of London, Email: [rosie.woodroffe@ioz.ac.uk](mailto:rosie.woodroffe@ioz.ac.uk)

Dr Adam Ferguson, Curator of Mammals, Field Museum of Natural History Chicago, Email [adamwferguson@gmail.com](mailto:adamwferguson@gmail.com).