

ROSELYTER M. RIANG'A, PHD. (FEMALE)

Medical Sociologist

1. PROFILE

Passionate Social science researcher interested in understanding human behaviour and how this relates to their adoption of innovations and to translate this understanding into informed guidance on adoptable effective policies that improve social and health wellbeing of people in low-and-middle-income countries. I have conducted a number of qualitative and mixed methods scientific studies and authored a number of publications in highly reference journals. My research projects are in the domain of health and Nutrition, Food security and sustainable development. Currently, I am lecturer of Sociology and Community Development, at Moi University Kenya where I mentor postgraduate and undergraduate students on sustainable community development, Medical Sociology, qualitative and quantitative research methodology among other units.

Contact Details

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Date and place of birth: 13-04-1980, Kenya

Nationality: Kenyan

2. EDUCATION

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|---------------|---|
| December 2018 | <p>Vrije Universiteit (VU University) Amsterdam, the Netherlands</p> <p>Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) on Maternal Nutrition and Health,</p> <p>Athena Institute for Research on Innovation and Communication on Health and life Sciences, Faculty of Earth and Life Sciences</p> <p>Thesis Title: Maternal Nutrition Intervention Strategies in Rural Kenya: The Role of Cultural Beliefs and Practices</p> <p>Funded by A Sustainable Approach to Livelihood Improvement (ASALI) project -
https://acwfs.vu.nl/en/research/themes/inequality-in-food-security/projects/sustainable-livelihood/index.aspx</p> <p>Supervisors: Prof. Dr Jacqueline E.W. Broerse, (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam) and Prof. Anne Kisaka Nangulu (Principle, Bomet university College, Kenya)</p> |
| December 2007 | <p>Moi University, Eldoret, Kenya</p> <p>Master of Philosophy (MPhil) in Sociology</p> <p>Department of Sociology, School of Arts and Social Studies.</p> <p>Thesis Title: Knowledge and attitudes of the Abagusii on the practice and health effects of Female Genital Cutting</p> <p>Supervisors: Prof. Jamine Masinde (Moi University) and Dr. Joseph K. Rono (Moi University)</p> |
| December 2003 | <p>Moi University, Eldoret, Kenya</p> <p>Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree in Social Studies – Major in Sociology</p> <p>Department of Sociology, School of Arts and Social Sciences.</p> |
| December 1997 | <p>Kioge Girls High School, Kisii County, Kenya</p> <p>Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) – Mean grade B -</p> |
| December 1993 | <p>Nyabiosi Maranatha Primary School, Kisii County Kenya</p> <p>Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE)</p> |

3. RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

Oct 2020-present	<p>Visiting Academic Staff (Adjunct Lecturer) Department of Geography, Environment and Development Studies Bomet University College, Bomet, Kenya</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching undergraduate and postgraduate students • Supervise academic research projects for post graduate students. • Examine university theses for postgraduate students • Partner in proposal writing, research and implementation of university projects • Curriculum review
March 2019 -Present	<p>Lecturer Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Psychology Moi University, Eldoret, Kenya</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training, guiding and supervising postgraduate students' research projects/tresses on research methodology and other units as assigned by the head of the department • Contributing to professional seminars and conferences through delivering lectures or speaking publicly. • Actively seek and obtain funding for speciality areas of research • Supervising academic qualitative and mixed research projects for undergraduate, masters, and doctoral students. • Preparing Teaching Materials as per the curriculum for undergraduate, masters, and doctoral students. • Member of faculty/school Board Meeting (School of Arts and Social Studies)
September 2014 - December 2018	<p>PhD Research Fellow Athena Institute for Research on Innovation and Communication on Health and life Sciences, Faculty of Earth and Life Sciences Vrije Universiteit (VU University) Amsterdam, the Netherlands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducting a systematic literature search in electronic databases • Designing a research proposal, protocol development and submission for ethical and scientific approval (Netherlands and Kenya) • Tool development i.e. designing a survey instrument, interviews and focus group discussion guides, observation guides, and data capture templates • Grant management and project management responsibilities e.g. designing the research budget, procurement of research equipment and stationeries, hiring, training, supervision and coordination of research team, supervision of masters students on research internship under my project. • Project implementation: reconnaissance study, stakeholder engagement (County and community leaders, county and health facility teams, health partners and civil society organisations), pilot study and refinement of research instruments • Data collection i.e. document analysis, recruitment of study participants (pregnant and post-natal mothers) and key informants, observations and interviews with pregnant and postnatal women, community health workers, maternal healthcare providers, traditional birth attendants, county nutritionists nutrition programme implementers. • Data analysis i.e, programme implementation fidelity evaluation, transcription and analysis of recorded videos and field notes using MAXQDA program, coding and analysis of survey data using SPSS computer program. • Scientific writing and dissemination: drafting scientific articles based on research findings and submitting them to international peer-reviewed journals; responding to reviewer comments, presentation of research findings in local and international

meetings/conferences, drafting of thesis manuscript and submitting it to the reading/examination committee, preparation and submission of the manuscript to the publishers.

June 2013 -
February
2019

Assistant Lecturer

Department of Sociology and Psychology, school of Arts and Social Sciences,
Moi University, Eldoret, Kenya

- Contributed to professional seminars and conferences through delivering lectures or speaking publicly.
- Actively seek and obtained funding for PhD research
- Supervised academic and research projects by undergraduate students.
- Preparing Teaching Materials as per the curriculum for by undergraduate, students
- Actively engaged in Doctoral degree programme/research

November
2012 -June
2013

Customer Care Manager

Customer Service Department

Kenya Commercial Bank Ltd (KCB), Machakos Branch Kenya

- Champion of customer service excellency in the branch
- Manage the corporate brand of the bank and ensure the brand promise is delivered to the customers efficiently and effectively
- Handling and resolving both corporate and retail customer issues
- Conduct periodic customer satisfaction surveys
- Support implementation of all customer initiatives at the branch.
- Conduct periodic inter-departmental meetings to discuss on service improvement initiatives
- Organize quarterly programmes to celebrate and reward customers at the branch level

July 2007 -
October
2012

Bank officer

Various departments

Kenya Commercial Bank Ltd (KCB), Thika and Murang'a Branches, Kenya

Various positions with the Kenya Commercial Bank Ltd:

- Administration assistant – Administration department
- Accounts clerk- Accounts reconciliation, returns and clearing department
- Cashier / teller- Cash department
- Customer consultant – Customer Service Department
- Personal banker – Personal Banking Department
- Direct sales officer- Sales and marketing department

June 2003 –
September
2003

Research Assistant

Reproductive health program,

Population Council Nairobi, Kenya

- Primary data collection - participant observation (mystery shopper) and researcher administered questionnaire, Focus group discussions
- Data editing and coding.

April 2002 –
September
2002

Student attaché

Water and HIV/AIDS programs

Catholic Diocese of Eldoret, Kenya

- Conducting health behavior change training and workshops
- Mobilized resources locally and internationally to support program activities.
- Project implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting.
- Networking with relevant government ministries, NGOs and other stakeholders.

- Conducted community-based rehabilitation programs for HIV/AIDS victims and their dependents

4. MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL BODIES

1. Life member - The Kenya Red Cross Society
2. Member - Counselling Society of Kenya
3. Cluster member - Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence, University of Bayreuth, German

5. PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Jan 2021 – Jan 2025	I was appointed as a member of Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence, University of Bayreuth, German to lead and monitor Moi University Cluster research activities and funds https://www.africamultiple.uni-bayreuth.de/en/index.html
Sept 2019 - Sept 2022	I was appointed to be the coordinator of diploma programmes offered by the department of Sociology and Psychology in various campuses of Moi University and partner colleges
May 2019 - December 2021	Appointed as a project research team member of A Sustainable Approach to Livelihood Improvement (ASALI) project, Moi University Chapter, under the thematic area of Food Security, Nutrition and Maternal Health. https://acwfs.vu.nl/en/research/themes/inequality-in-food-security/projects/sustainable-livelihood/index.aspx
December 2019- March 2020	I was appointed on acting capacity as the Faculty coordinator (School of Arts and Social Sciences) at Moi University, Nairobi Campus

6. PROFESSIONAL TRAININGS

22 nd -24 th March 2021	Three days training on Gender Dimension in Research Training organised by Centre for International Cooperation (CIC), Vrije University Amsterdam
8 th -12 th June, 2020	Five days training on Designing and implementing qualitative research instruments Training Organized by- Projects on Time and Training consultants
8 th -12 th June, 2020	Three days training on Analyzing Qualitative data using MAXQDA program Training organized by Tatua Communications and Research Consultancy
December 2014	Five days' training on PhD Success and Personal Efficacy

7. SCIENTIFIC JOURNAL REVIEWS COMMITTEE

Year	Journal	Publisher
2021	Patient Preference and Adherence	Dove Medical Press Publishers
2020-2022	PLOS One	The Public Library of Science
2021	Women's Health	SAGE Publishers

8. SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles:

1. 2022-Riang'a R.M, Knowledge, experiences and perceptions of Abagusii Community of Kisii County, Kenya on the health consequences of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) –International Journal of Research in Humanities and Social Studies (IJRHSS)– (Submitted in February 2022)
Publisher: RSIS
2. 2022-Riang'a, RM. Theoretical explanations on the persistence of ethno-medical pregnancy nutrition interventions and possible recommendations for biomedical interventions- International Journal of Nursing and Health Care Research (IJNHR) (accepted for publication in February, 2022)
Publisher: Gavin Publishers
3. 2021-Riang'a et al, Male Partner Involvement in the Continuum of Pregnancy and Childbirth in Uasin Gishu County, Kenya. African Journal of Midwifery and Women's Health (AJM), (accepted for publication in September, 2021)
Publisher: MAG Online library
4. 2020- Riang'a RM, Nangulu AK, Broerse JEW. Implementation fidelity of nutritional counselling, iron and folic acid supplementation guidelines and associated challenges in rural Uasin Gishu County Kenya. BMC Nutr. 2020;6: 1–27. doi:10.1186/s40795-020-00403-1: Available: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1186/s40795-020-00403-1>
Publisher: Springer
5. 2018- Riang'a RM, Nangulu AK, Broerse JEW. Perceptions of Causes of Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes and Remedies Adopted by Rural Kalenjin Women in Kenya. BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth; 2018;18: 1–16. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12884-018-2041-5>
Publisher: Springer Nature.
6. 2018- Riang'a RM, Nangulu AK, Broerse JEW. Perceptions of Kalenjin women on antenatal care and its implications on initial access and differentials in patterns of antenatal care utilization in rural Uasin Gishu County Kenya. PLoS One. 2018; 13: e0202895. doi:10.1371/. Available: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0202895>
Publisher: Public Library of Science
7. 2017- Riang'a RM, Nangulu AK, Broerse JEW. “When a woman is pregnant, her grave is open”: health beliefs concerning dietary practices among pregnant Kalenjin women in rural Uasin Gishu County, Kenya. Journal of Health, Population and Nutrition; 2017; 36: 53. doi:10.1186/s41043-017-0130-0. Available: <https://jhpn.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s41043-017-0130-0>
Publisher: Springer
8. 2017- Riang'a RM, Broerse J, Nangulu AK. Food beliefs and practices among the Kalenjin pregnant women in rural Uasin Gishu County , Kenya. Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine; 2017; 13: 29. doi:10.1186/s13002-017-0157-8. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13002-017-0157-8>
Publisher: Springer

Books:

1. 2018- Riang'a RM, Maternal Nutrition and Intervention Strategies & the role of cultural beliefs and Practices: The case of Kalenjin in Uasin Gishu County, Kenya. ProefschriftMaken Publishers, Amsterdam the Netherlands, 2018. <http://dare.ubvu.vu.nl/handle/1871/55846>
2. 2013- Riang'a RM. Female Genital Cutting in Gucha: Abagusii Practice and Health Problems [Internet]. Lap Lambert Academic Publishing GmbH KG; 2013. Available: <https://books.google.nl/books?id=xx0UngEACAAJ>

9. RESEARCH, RESEARCH SUPPORT AND DISSEMINATION

- 1) **May 2019 to December 2021:** Maternal and child nutrition in western Kenya. A thematic area of ASALI project: <https://acwfs.vu.nl/en/research/themes/inequality-in-food-security/projects/sustainable-livelihood/index.aspx>

Theme of the research: An assessment on Food security status, Child and maternal nutrition status as well as nutrition knowledge and practices in Uasin Gishu and Bungoma Counties, Kenya. The overall goal is to implement nutrition intervention strategies in these regions to address food security and nutrition status of mothers and Children.
- 2) **September 2019- Date:** Livelihood experiences of local dairy farmers using artificial insemination services in Uasin Gishu County, Kenya. This is a Masters student research project under my supervision
- 3) **September 2019- Date:** The psychosocial determinants of family dysfunctionality at Kalazoni Village in Makueni County- This is a Masters student research project under my supervision
- 4) **September, 2020 – Date:** Understanding social norms and beliefs about gender Roles: implications on gender-based violence in childhood. This is a masters student research project under my supervision
- 5) **September 2014-December 2018:** Maternal Nutrition Intervention Strategies in Rural Kenya: The Role of Cultural Beliefs and Practices – My PhD Research study (scholarship award funded by A Sustainable Approach to Livelihood Improvement (ASALI) project.
<https://acwfs.vu.nl/en/research/themes/inequality-in-food-security/projects/sustainable-livelihood/index.aspx>

The aim of this research study was to understand local knowledge and practices regarding maternal nutrition and health and its influence on health-seeking behaviour and adoption of biomedical nutrition intervention strategies among pregnant women in rural Kenya. The research adopted a mixed methods study design.
- 6) **September 2004 - December 2006:** Knowledge and Attitudes of the Abagusii on the Practice and the Health Problems Associated With Female Genital Cutting: A Case Study of Nyamarambe Division, Gucha District of Kenya – This was my masters’ degree research project whose aim was to understand the persistence of Female Genital Cutting among the Abagusii by specifically focusing on the affected people’s perceptions, knowledge and attitudes towards the practice, and the associated health effects. The research adopted mixed methods design.
- 7) **May 2003 – June 2003:** The medicalisation of female genital mutilation/cutting in Kenya: a case study of Abagusii of Kenya. **This** was a research study that was being conducted by the Population Council Nairobi to understand the changing trends of Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting including medicalisation among the Abagusii community of Kisii and Nyamira Counties.

10. SEMINARS/CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

March 28 th - April 1, 2022	Consortium of Universities for Global Health Conference (CUGH)- Virtual Topic presented: Theoretical explanations on the persistence of ethno-medical pregnancy nutrition interventions and possible recommendations for biomedical interventions
23rd -25th February 2022	International Conference on Gender Studies in Africa – held at Makerere University - Kampala Topic presented: Male partner involvement in the continuum of pregnancy and childbirth in Kenya: Implications on maternal healthcare
17 th -18 th February, 2022	Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence Workshop on Ageing and Leisure in Africa- Held at Moi University, Kenya Topic presented: Aging and healthcare access in Kenya: Perceptions and challenges
February 15th – 17th, 2022	Food and nutrition Security; challenges and opportunities – Held at the University of Eldoret, Kenya Topic presented: Pregnancy food taboos in Kenya: Implications on food security and Nutrition Interventions
February 15th – 17th, 2022	Food and nutrition Security; challenges and opportunities – Held at the University of Eldoret, Kenya Topic Presented: Adherence and associated factors of prenatal Iron and Folic Acid Supplementation in Uasin Gishu County, Kenya
10 th – 12 th April 2018	ASALI conference held at Noble Hotel Eldoret whose theme was: Kenya Vision 20-30: Towards Food Security, Sustainable Energy and Successful Entrepreneurship Topic Presented: Maternal Nutrition and Intervention Strategies & the role of cultural beliefs and Practices:
November & Dec 2014	Workshop training on PhD project success and personal efficacy organized by VU University Amsterdam
3rd - 5th September 2013	First international interdisciplinary conference organized by university of Eldoret Kenya in collaboration with Anambra state university Nigeria Topic presented: Female Genital Mutilation in Gucha, Kenya: Knowledge and perceptions on the associated Health effects

11. GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

January 2019 - December 2021	Research Grant by A Sustainable Approach to Livelihood Improvement (ASALI) project 2014-2018 https://acwfs.vu.nl/en/research/themes/inequality-in-food-security/projects/sustainable-livelihood/index.aspx
September 2014 – Dec 2018	PhD scholarship award under A Sustainable Approach to Livelihood Improvement (ASALI) project 2014-2018 https://acwfs.vu.nl/en/research/themes/inequality-in-food-security/projects/sustainable-livelihood/index.aspx

12. PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

- strong written, communication and presentation skills as demonstrated in my Scientific articles published in various international peer-reviewed journals
- Excellent research skills both qualitative and quantitative skills
- Excellent interpersonal communication skills with colleagues and able to liaise effectively with different stakeholders at various levels
- Strong analysis, data interpretation and visualization skills
- Financial and research project management

- Guiding and supervision of student researchers

- Designing research proposal
- Curriculum design and teaching bachelors and graduate students