




RESEARCHER'S PROFILE

Prepare fill in the following information

BIO

Profile title	Dr.
Name:	Erasto Vitus Mbugi
School	School of Medicine
Department	Biochemistry
Areas of Research Interest	Nutritional Immunology, Molecular Biology of Infectious (Malaria and Tuberculosis) and Non Infectious Tropical Diseases in understanding pathogenic strain variation, antigenicity and genetic markers of drug resistance.
Personal statement	 <p>Erasto graduated as a Veterinary Doctor at Sokoine University of Agriculture in Morogoro, Tanzania. He worked as a veterinary consultant at DARVETCARE in Dar es Salaam for four months before being employed by the Ministry of Home Affairs as a Veterinary Officer at Moshi Police Training School, where he worked for a year.</p> <p>Erasto joined Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences in 2001 as a Tutorial Assistant, his current employer to date as a Senior Lecturer and Director of Undergraduate Education. Erasto holds a Master of Veterinary Medicine (specializing in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology) of Sokoine University of Agriculture since November, 2004 that was funded partly by The African Malaria Trust Network (AMANET) and DAAD; researching on malaria. He has been involved in malaria research since 2003, Ifakara Health Research and Development Centre (Now Ifakara Health Research Institute) being the basis for his outstanding performance in research. He has previously investigated molecular markers for malaria parasite multiplicity of infections and SP drug resistance from which published two articles. In January 2005, he joined Wageningen University as a sandwich PhD student at Cell</p>

Biology and Immunology Group under Micronutrients and Child Health Project, financed by WOTRO/NWO grant. This project was in corroboration with the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre in Tanzania as a host institution. After graduation as a PhD holder, Erasto has excelled in biomedical research on tropical diseases with major focus on molecular basis underlying diversity in *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* in which he has published over 10 publications and two book chapters. Through his research career, Erasto and his colleagues under the theme "One Health" has been able to map strains of *M. tuberculosis* complex prevailing in Tanzania in relation to other neighboring and the rest of African countries. In among their finding, they have in addition, been able to report and underline spoligotype patterns of *M. tuberculosis* strains tentatively grouped within the newly designated EA13-TZA lineage which seems to be specific to Tanzania. Erasto has so far successfully supervised 3 (Three) undergraduate elective students, 6 (six) MSc students and co-supervised 1 (one) PhD student. He currently is co-supervising two PhD and two elective students at the University.

EDUCATION AND LINK TO RESEARCH

Education	Postdoctoral Research Fellow (2010 – 2015) PhD – Wageningen University, The Netherlands (2005 – 2009) Master of Veterinary Medicine, SUA – Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (2002 – 2004) Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine, SUA (1994-1999)
Professional certifications or licenses	Tanzania Veterinary Association (TVA - 698)
Research Gate ID	Erasto Mbugi
PubMed link	https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=Mbugi+E
Linkedin ID	Erasto Mbugi
Major grants	Wellcome Trust Grant WT087546MA under the Southern Centre for Infectious Diseases (SACIDS) – 2010-2015 The Netherlands Foundation for the Advancement for Tropical Research (NWO/WOTRO) – 2005-2009 Malaria initiative Grant through African Malaria Network trust (AMANET) – 2002-2004 Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdiens Scholarships (DAAD) – 2002-2004

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Selected latest Publications	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mbugi E.V, Mutayoba B.M, Malisa A.L, Balthazary S.T, Nyambo T.B, Mshinda H. Drug resistance to Sulphadoxine-pyrimethamine (SP) in <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> malaria in Mlimba, Tanzania. <i>Malaria Journal</i>; October 2006; 5:94. 2. Mbugi EV, Meijerink M, Veenemans J, Jeurink PV, McCall M, Olomi RM, Shao JF, Verhoef H and Savelkoul HFJ. Alterations in early cytokine-mediated immune responses to <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> infection in Tanzanian children with mineral element deficiencies: a cross-sectional survey. <i>Malaria Journal</i>, May 2010; 9(1):130. 3. Mbugi EV, Meijerink M, Veenemans J, Jeurink PV, McCall M, Olomi RM, Shao JF, Chilogola JO, Verhoef H, Savelkoul HFJ. Effect of nutrient deficiencies on in vitro Th1 and Th2 cytokine response of peripheral blood mononuclear cells to <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> infection. <i>Malaria Journal</i>, June 2010; 9(1):162. 4. Mbugi EV, Katale BZ, Siame KK, Keyyu JD, Kendall SL, Dockrell HM, Streicher EM, Michel AL, Rweyemamu MM, Warren RM, Matee MI, van Helden PD. Genetic diversity of <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> isolated from tuberculosis patients in the Serengeti ecosystem in Tanzania; <i>Tuberculosis</i> 2015, 95 (2): 170-178. 5. Mbugi EV, Katale BZ, Streicher EM, Keyyu JD, Kendall SL, Dockrell HM, Michel AL, Rweyemamu MM, Warren RM, Matee MI, van Helden PD, Couvin D, Rastogi N. Mapping of <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> complex genetic diversity profiles in Tanzania and other African countries. <i>PLoS One</i> 2016 May 5;11(5):e0154571 6. Ayub Y, Mollé JT, Mbugi EV. Potential Value of Qiagen and PrepIT•MAX Kits in Extraction of Mycobacterial DNA From Presumptive Tuberculosis Archived Formalin-Fixed, Paraffin-Embedded Tissues. <i>East African Health Res J.</i> 2018;2(1):18-25.