

Biographical sketch

Name:	Gufu Oba Dr. Philos
Professional title:	Professor
Date of birth:	24.06.1952
Nationality:	Kenyan
Residence:	Norway

(a) Professional Training and experiences

Post-graduate: Dr. Philos (Range Science), University Oslo, 1993-1996

Post Doctoral: University of Oslo, 1997-1999, under Professor Nils Christen Stenseth

(b) Appointments

Professor, Noragric, Department of International Environment & Development Studies, Norwegian University of Life Sciences, PO Box 5003, N-1432 Ås, Norway.

1997-1999- Post Doctoral Fellow at Division of Zoology, Department of Biology, University of Oslo

1993-1996- Dr Philos candidate at the Division of Zoology, Department of Biology, University of Oslo

1994- Environmental Policy and Society (EPOS) University of Uppsala, Sweden

1992- Research Fellow at Christian Michelsen Institute of Development and Social Studies (Bergen)

1986-1991- UNESCO-TREMU project in Turkana, Kenya

1981-1983 – UNESCO/MAB-Integrated Project on Arid Lands (Marsabit/Nairobi, Kenya)

(c) Selected Publications (2003-2008)

1. Tiki Uma, **Gufu Oba** and Terje Tvedt (2010 in press). Human stewardship or ruining cultural landscapes of the ancient Tula wells, southern Ethiopia. *The Geographical Journal* doi:10.1111/j.1475-4959.2010.00369.x
2. Boku Tache and **Gufu Oba** 2010. Is poverty driving Borana herders in southern Ethiopia to crop cultivation? *Human Ecology* 38: 639-649.
3. James C. Njanja and **Gufu Oba** 2010. The Turkana camel breed in north-western Kenya: lactation characteristics, *Outlook on Agriculture*, 39: 49-55.
4. Ayana Angassa and **Gufu Oba** 2010. Effects of grazing pressure, age of enclosures and seasonality on bush cover dynamics and vegetation composition in southern Ethiopia. *Journal of Arid Environments*, 74: 111 - 120
5. Hassan G. Roba and **Gufu Oba** 2010. Framework for integrating indigenous knowledge and ecological methods for implementation of Desertification Convention, In Runars, J. and Dahlgren T. (eds) *Grassland biodiversity; Habitat types, ecological processes and Environmental impacts*. NOVA Science Publ. New York. Pp. 135-177.
6. Hassan G. Roba and **Gufu Oba** 2009. Efficacy of Integrating Herder Knowledge and Ecological Methods for Monitoring Rangeland Degradation in Northern Kenya, *Human Ecology*, 37 : 589-612
7. Ayana Angassa and **Gufu Oba**, 2009. Bush encroachment control demonstrations in southern Ethiopia: 1. Woody species survival strategies with implications for herder land management. *African Journal of Ecology*, 47 : 63-76
8. Boku Tache & **Gufu Oba** 2009. Policy driven inter-ethnic conflicts in southern Ethiopia. *Review of African Political Economy* 121: 409-426.
9. Waktole Tiki and **Gufu Oba** 2009. Ciinna - the Borana Oromo narration of the 1890s Great Rinderpest epizootic in North Eastern Africa, *Journal of Eastern African Studies*, Vol. 3, No. 3, November 2009, 479-508
10. Hassan G. Roba and **Gufu Oba** 2009. Community participatory landscape classification and biodiversity assessment and monitoring of grazing lands in northern Kenya, *Journal of Environmental Management*, 90: 673-682
11. Angasa, A. and **Gufu Oba**. 2009. Effects of grazing pressure, age of enclosures and seasonality on bush cover dynamics and vegetation composition in southern Ethiopia, *Journal Arid land Environments* 74 111-120
12. Hassan G. Roba and **Gufu Oba** 2008. Integration of herder knowledge and ecological methods for land degradation assessment around sedentary settlements in a sub-humid zone in Northern Kenya. *International Journal of Sustainable Development and World Ecology* 15 : 251-264.
13. Philip E. A., **Gufu Oba** and Thomas Akuja 2008. Long-term impacts of droughts on pastoral production and trends in poverty in Northwest Kenya: An evaluation of 14-year drought early warning data series, in Sanchez, J. M (ed), *Droughts; Causes, effects and predictions*, NOVA Science Publ. New York, Pp. 103-138.
14. **Gufu Oba**, R.B. Weladji b, D.J. Msangameno, L.M. Kaitira and J. Stave (2008). Scaling effects of proximate desertification drivers on soil nutrients in northeastern Tanzania *Journal of Arid Environments* 72: 1820– 1829

15. **Gufu Oba**, Patrick Byakagaba and Ayana Angassa (2008). Participatory monitoring of Biodiversity in East Africa Grazing lands. *Land degradation & Development*,19: 636-648.
16. Hassan G. Roba and **Gufu Oba** (2008). Integration of herder knowledge and ecological methods for land degradation assessment around sedentary settlements in a sub-humid zone in Northern Kenya. *International Journal of Sustainable Development and World Ecology* **15** 1-14.
17. Ayana Angassa and **Gufu Oba** (2008). Herder perceptions on impacts of range enclosures, crop farming, fire ban and bush encroachment on the rangelands of Borana, Southern Ethiopia. *Human Ecology* **36**: 201-215.
18. **Gufu Oba**, Sjaastad, E. and Roba, H. G. (2008). Framework for participatory assessments and implementation of global environmental conventions at the community level. *Land degradation & Development* **19**: 65-76.
19. Ayana angassa and **Gufu Oba** (2007). Effects of management and time on mechanisms of bush encroachment in southern Ethiopia. *African Journal of Ecology* **46**: 186-196.
20. Jørn Stave, **Gufu Oba**, I. Nordal and NC Stenseth (2007). Traditional ecological knowledge of riverine forest in Turkana, Kenya: Implications for Research and management . *Biodiversity Conservation* **16**: 1471-1489.
21. Ayana Anagassa and **Gufu Oba** (2007). Relating long-term rainfall variability to cattle population dynamics in communal rangelands and a government ranch in southern Ethiopia. *Agricultural Systems* **94**: 715-725.
22. **Gufu Oba** (2007). Challenges and opportunities for pastoralism in Africa. Degrading rangelands or maintaining resilience). PP. 317-328. In Rosati, A. Tewolde, A. and Msconi, E. (Eds). Animal production and animal science worldwide. WAAP book of the Year 2006: *A review on Developments and Research in Livestock systems*.
23. **Gufu Oba** and Kaitira, L. M. (2006). Herder knowledge of landscape assessments in arid rangelands in Northern Tanzania. *Journal of Arid Environments* **66**: 168-186.
24. Muluberhan Hailu Abebe, **Gufu Oba** and Ayana Angassa (2006). The role of area enclosures and fallow age in the restoration of plant diversity in Northern Ethiopia. *African Journal of Ecology* **44**: 507-514.
25. **Gufu Oba**, Charlotta, S. Bjorå and I. Nordal (2006). Effects of herbivory on aboveground biomass partitioning in two arid zone dwarf shrubs. *African Journal of Range and Forage Sciences* **23**: 159-164.
26. Asser Sheuyage, **Gufu Oba** and Robert B. Weladji (2005). Effects of anthropogenic fires on savanna vegetation in Northeastern Namibia . *Journal of Environmental Management*. **75**: 189-198.
27. Jørn Stave, **Gufu Oba**, Aud B. Eriksen, Inger Nordal, Nils C. Stenseth (2005). Seedling growth of *Acacia tortilis* and *Faidherbia albida* in response to simulated ground water tables. *Forest Ecology and Management* **212**: 367-375.
28. Jørn Stave, **Gufu Oba**, Nils C. Stenseth and Inger Nordal 2005. Environmental gradients in the Turkwel riverine forest, Kenya: Hypotheses on dam induced vegetation change. *Forest Ecology and Management* **212**: 184-198.
29. Asser Sheuyage, **Gufu Oba** and Robert B. Weladji (2005). Effects of anthropogenic fires on savanna vegetation in Northeastern Namibia . *Journal of Environmental Management* . **75**: 189-198.
30. Zerihun H. Desta and **G. Oba** (2004). Feed scarcity and livestock mortality in *Enset*-mixed farming systems in the Bale highlands southern Ethiopia. *Onlook on Agriculture* **33**: .277-280.
31. Selma Nangula and **Gufu Oba** (2004). Effects of artificial water points on the Oshana ecosystem in Namibia. *Environmental Conservation* **31**: 47-54.
32. Fadhili, H. Mumia and **Gufu Oba** (2003). Potential role of sacred groves for *in-situ* biodiversity conservation in Tanzania. *Environmental Conservation* **30**: 259-265.
33. A. L. Mapinduzi, **Gufu Oba**, R. B. Weladji and Jonathan Colman (2003). Use of indigenous ecological knowledge of the Maasai pastoralists for assessing rangeland biodiversity in Tanzanian. *African Journal of Ecology* **41**: 329-336.
34. Jørn Stave, **Gufu Oba**, C. S. Bjorå, Z. Mengistu, Inger Nordal and N. C. Stenseth (2003). Spatial and temporal woodland patterns along the lower Turkwel River, Kenya. *African Journal of Ecology* **41**: 224-236.
35. **Gufu Oba**, Robert B. Weladji, W. J. Lusigi and Nils C. Stenseth (2003). Scale-dependent effects of grazing on rangeland degradation in Northern Kenya: A test of equilibrium and non-equilibrium hypothesis. *Land Degradation & Development* **14**: 83-94.
36. Dereje, T. Asefa, **Gufu Oba**, Robert B. Weladji and Jonathan E. Colman (2003). An assessment of restoration of biodiversity in degraded High Mountain grazing lands in Northern Ethiopia. *Land Degradation & Development* **14**: 25-38.
37. **Gufu Oba**, Robert B. Weladji, W. J. Lusigi and Nils C. Stenseth (2003). Scale-dependent effects of grazing on rangeland degradation in Northern Kenya: A test of equilibrium and non-equilibrium hypothesis. *Land Degradation & Development* **14**: 83-94.

38. Gufu Oba, Nils Chr. Stenseth and Robert Welaji 2002. Impacts of shifting agriculture on a floodplain woodland regeneration in dryland, Kenya, *Agriculture, Ecosystem & Environment*, 90: 211-16
39. **Gufu Oba**, Ole R. Vetaas and N. C. Stenseth (2001). Relationships between biomass and plant species richness in arid-zone grazing lands. *Journal of Applied Ecology* **38**: 836-845.
40. **Gufu Oba** (2001). The effects of multiple droughts on cattle in Obbu, Northern Kenya. *Journal of Arid Environments* **49**:375-386.
41. Jørn Stave, **Gufu Oba** and N. C. Stenseth (2001). Temporal changes in woody-plant use and the *ekwar* indigenous tree management system along the Turkwel River, Kenya. *Environmental Conservation* **28**: 150-159.
42. **Gufu Oba** (2001). The importance of pastoralists' indigenous coping strategies for managing drought in Northern Kenya. *Nomadic Peoples* **5**: 89-119.
43. **Gufu Oba** (2001). Indigenous ecological knowledge of landscape change in East Africa. *International association for Landscape Ecology Bulletin* **19**: 1-3.
44. **Gufu Oba** and D. G. Kotile (2001). Assessments of landscape level degradation in southern Ethiopia: pastoralists versus ecologists. *Land Degradation & Development* **12**: 461-475.
45. **Gufu Oba**, Eric post and N. C. Stenseth (2001). Sub-Saharan desertification and productivity are linked to hemispheric climate variability. *Global Change Biology* **7**: 241-246.
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47. **Gufu Oba**, Inger Nordal, N. C. Stenseth, Jørn Stave, C. S. BJORÅ, J. Muthondeki and K. A. Bii (2001). Growth performance of exotic and indigenous tree species in saline soils in Turkana, Kenya. *Journal of Arid Environments* **47**: 499-511.
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49. **Gufu Oba**, Nils Chr. Stenseth and Walter Lusigi 2000. New perspectives on sustainable grazing management in arid zones of Sub-Saharan Africa, *Bioscience* **50**: 35-51.
50. **Gufu Oba**, Mengistu Zelalem and Nils Chr. Stenseth 2000. Aboveground dry-matter allocation in ungrazed and grazed stands of *Indigofera spinosa* in the arid zone of Turkana, Kenya, *Ecography*, **23**: 224-230
51. Gufu Oba, Mengistu Zelalem and Nils Chr. Stenseth 2000. Compensatory growth of the African dwarf shrub *Indigofera spinosa* following simulated herbivory, *Ecological Applications* **10**: 1133-1146.
52. **Gufu Oba** 2000. Where the bulls fight, it is the grass that suffers" : impact of border administration on drought-coping strategies of the Obbu Booran during the 20th century, *Journal of Oromo Studies*, **7**: 87-108.
53. **Gufu Oba** and Eric Post (1999). Browse production and offtake by free-ranging goats in arid zone, Kenya. *Journal of Arid Environments* **43**:183-195.
54. **Gufu Oba** (1998). Effects of goat herbivory on *Acacia tortilis* woodland around pastoralist settlements in northern Kenya. *Acta Oecologia* **19** : 395-404.
55. **Gufu Oba** 1995. The effects of controlled grazing on phytomass dynamics of the dwarf shrub *Indigofera spinosa* in arid Kenya, *Acta Oecologica* **16**: 31-54.
56. **Gufu Oba** 1994. Responses of *indigofera* to simulated herbivory in a semi-desert northern Kenya *Acta Oecologica* **15**: 105-117.
57. **Gufu Oba** 1992. Effects of controlled grazing on Degraded dwarf shrub, anual grass semidesert vegetation type of northwestern Kenya, *Land Degradation & Rehabilitation* **3**: 199-213.
58. **Gufu Oba** 1990. Effects of wildfire on a semidesert riparian Woodland along the Turkwel River, Kenya, and management implications for Turkana pastoralists, *Land Degradation & Rehabilitation* **2**: 247-259.