

Apollo M Nkwake
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Summary:

Apollo M. Nkwake Leads the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) team for the Accelerated Quality Education for Liberian Children (AQE) Activity. He previously served as Education Development Center’s M&E Technical Advisor. He was Associate Research Professor for M&E at The George Washington and Tulane Universities. He holds a PhD in Social Development from University of Cape Town and holds Canadian Evaluation Society’s *Credentialed Evaluator* designation. Dr. Nkwake is a recipient of American Evaluation Association’s 2017 Marcia Guttentag Promising New Evaluator Award. He has authored five books, several journal papers/book chapters and guest edited several special journal volumes. He is the author of: *Credibility, Validity, and Assumptions in Program Evaluation Methodology* (2015, Springer), and *Working with Assumptions in International Development Program Evaluation* (2013 & 2020, English and French editions, Springer).

a. Key Qualifications

<i>Canadian Evaluation Society, Ottawa</i>	<i>Credentialed Evaluator</i>	<i>Professional Designation, 2014</i>
<i>University of Cape Town, South Africa</i>	<i>Social Development</i>	<i>PhD, 2012</i>
<i>Makerere University, Kampala</i>	<i>Social Sector Planning and Management</i>	<i>Master of Arts, 2004</i>
<i>Makerere University, Kampala</i>	<i>Social Works and Social Administration</i>	<i>Bachelor’s Degree, 2001</i>

b. Professional Affiliations

- Member of the International Development Evaluation Association (IDEAS)
- Member of the American Evaluation Association
- Member of the Canadian Evaluation Society
- Associate Editor: American Journal of Evaluation
- Member of Editorial Board: Journal of International Research in Education
- Reviewer: African Journal of Evaluation and Quality Assurance in Education
- Evaluation Reviewer: UNDP Independent Evaluation Office

WORK EXPERIENCE

International Technical Advisor, Monitoring and Evaluation, Education Development Center/Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, Accelerated Quality Education for Liberia Children (AQE) May 2018- to date.

- Leading project teams in setting up and maintaining project Evaluation (M&E) systems, including databases. I supervise the project field evaluators and I design methods and tools for use in data collection, analysis and reporting.
- Principal Investigator for program research studies including Safe Learning Environments Assessments, School Quality Assessments, Site mapping surveys, Classroom Observation Studies, Formative and Summative Assessments, among others.
- Leading Collaborative Learning and Adaptation Exercises.

Associate Research Professor of International Affairs (Monitoring and Evaluation), Institute for Disaster and Fragility Resilience, Elliott School of International Affairs, The George Washington University (previously at Tulane University): March 22, 2013 to April 2018

Program Research, Monitoring and Evaluation, curriculum development and delivery at the Initiative for Disaster and Fragility Resilience.

Providing technical expertise in M&E, by implementing graduate-level courses that focus on Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) and Disaster Resilience, by undertaking assessments, and by developing and supporting proposal development in the United States and abroad.

Courses taught: Quantitative Research and Analysis of Disaster Resilience and Methods of Disaster Research and

Program Evaluation

Key project assignments:

- *Monitoring and Evaluation Lead:* Response Innovation for Somali Emergencies (RISE) program: a 2 year program that aims to strengthen the application of innovation solutions to emergency response challenges in Somalia. RISE is funded by USAID/Office for Foreign Disaster Assistance.
- *Senior Evaluator/Knowledge Management Advisor:* Program for Building Resilience in Somalia-a 3 year USAID's Office for Foreign Disaster Assistance funded program.
- *Research Scientist:* Consortium of Resilient Gulf Communities
- *Principal Investigator:* Adapting to The Sahel's Changing Climate: Local Approaches: An Economic and Technical Feasibility Analysis of Adaptation Techniques in Niger, Burkina Faso and Mali, Funded by the British Department for International Development (DFID) and Catholic Relief Services, 2014.
- *Principal Investigator:* Building livelihoods on the frontlines of Climate Change: Identifying Market Opportunities and Agricultural Value Chains in the Sahel Regions of Niger, Burkina Faso and Mali, Funded by the British Department for International Development and Catholic Relief Services, 2014.
- *Monitoring and Evaluation Technical Lead:* Strengthening Leadership in Disaster Resilience Program, World Bank/Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Tulane University/DRLA
- *Monitoring and Evaluation Technical Lead:* ResilientAfrica Network, USAID, Tulane University/DRLA. Funded by the United States Agency for International Development (2012-2017).
- *Senior Researcher:* Resilient Malian Children: UNICEF/Tulane University/DRLA: examining the factors that promote the well-being of Malian children in order to generate effective strategies and coping mechanisms for children in risk-prone areas (950,000\$, 15 months).
- *Lead Evaluator:* Evaluation of Emergency Capacity Building Project, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Disaster Resilience Group, 2013/213.
- *Senior Evaluator:* Developing a knowledge management architecture for emergency capacity building within a large national organization (BRAC, Bangladesh) and local, national, and regional disaster management networks in four countries in Central America, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Disaster Resilience Group, 2014/15.
- *Lead investigator:* Retrospective social network analysis for African Women in Agricultural Research and Development, 2016
- *Lead Investigator:* Global literature review on gender responsive agricultural research and development, 2015/2016
- *Lead investigator:* Africa review on gender responsive agricultural research and development institutional policies, 2016
- *Evaluation team member:* Local Capacity Initiative, USAID/MEASURE Evaluation, 2015-2016
- *Lead investigator:* Evaluation of the Humbo Area Development Program, Ethiopia (2012-13)

Senior Manager, Monitoring and Evaluation, World Agroforestry Center/African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD): July 2015-May 2017

Provide technical direction, program management including staff supervision to ensure high quality design and delivery of program research, monitoring, evaluation and learning. Design research and evaluation projects. Constitute and lead research and evaluation teams. Work with communications teams to translate data into compelling narratives and action points.

Senior Program Research Specialist/Design, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist (Evaluation/Capacity Building) World Vision United States: October 1, 2010-March 25, 2013

- Facilitate continuous improvements in organizational effectiveness and program quality to maximize World Vision's contributions towards the sustained well-being of children in our programs.
- Provide technical expertise and support in program quality and organizational effectiveness
- Develop organizational capacity in program effectiveness competencies
- Equip International Programs Group (IPG) staff with skills, knowledge and tools to develop and support programs that are technically rigorous, effective, and contribute to child well-being.
- Evaluate how our programs contribute to child well-being:

- Conduct regular and systematic qualitative and quantitative analysis of programs to inform broad strategic priorities and direction.
- Lead meta-analysis of evaluation and design data to understand impact.
- Analyze trends in monitoring data.
- Represent World Vision externally at Program Effectiveness forums

Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Advisor, University Research Co., LLC affiliated to Center for Human Services: March 5, 2010-September 30, 2010

- Lead Monitoring and Evaluation for NuLife – Food and Nutrition Interventions for Uganda - a three year program funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and designed to support the Ministry of Health in addressing the needs of malnourished people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS.
- Develop M&E systems and Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP) indicators
- Conduct data quality assessments
- Develop M&E training modules for data collection by health workers
- Conduct program evaluations and dissemination of findings to relevant stakeholders.

Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant, University Research Co., LLC: October 7, 2009-November 30, 2009

Providing technical support and leadership in results monitoring and reporting

Consultant, United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), Cameroon: November 10, 2009-December 18, 2009

Gather information from UNICEF staff and counterparts and document program results
Work with senior management to assist in drafting and reviewing sections of annual report

Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant, United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), Uganda: October 10, 2009-November 16, 2009

- Hold meetings with technical sectors to establish agreed upon intermediate results and corresponding indicators, targets and resources
- Collect baselines for all the indicators of key results and intermediate results
- Produce the integrated results, resources and monitoring and evaluation matrix of UNICEF’s Country Program Action Plan (CPAP) for 2010-2014

United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant, United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), Uganda: August –September 2009

Finalize United Nation’s Development Assistance Framework’s Monitoring and Evaluation (UNDAF M&E) matrix, collect baselines for the indicators of the UNDAF M&E matrix, develop an M&E calendar for the UNDAF and facilitate target setting.

Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant (Various Evaluation Assignments), World Vision International, Oasis Associates Ltd and Development Informational Systems International: July 2008-September 2009

- Evaluation of World Vision International’s Food Security Portfolio in Africa (Field work in Mozambique and Ethiopia)
- Evaluation of World Vision International’s Transformational Development Indicators system (Work visits to Ghana, United Kingdom, Italy, Kenya, Ethiopia, Uganda)
- World Vision’s Global meta-analysis for Child Well-Being Outcomes (Work visits to Senegal, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Ghana and United States).

Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, JSI Research and Training Institute/United States Agency for International Development: August 1, 2005-September 30, 2008

Provide Monitoring and Evaluation Leadership for USAID’s five year, 120 million \$ Uganda Program for Human and Holistic Development.

- Carry out daily Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) related to the program , especially for PIASCY and IES– keep track of all the monitoring and evaluation schedules and work with UPHOLD technical staff, district personnel and other stakeholders to design, implement and review M&E procedures and ensure timely collection and collation of UPHOLD’s data needs.

Research and Evaluation Specialist, Compassion International: October 1, 2003-July 30, 2005

Collect and Analyse Data related to approved research projects investigating the Impact of Compassion International Programs on assisted children; provide Compassion with background information in support of corporate position statements and report program quality and effectiveness to leadership.

Consultant: Capacity Building, Monitoring and Supervision, Technical Assistance Team (ALFA DCC), Nutrition and Early Childhood Development Project, World Bank: September 1, 2001-September 30, 2003

Monitoring, evaluation, training for implementing partners of World Bank's Nutrition and Early Childhood Development Project in Northern Uganda.

c. Select Publications and Conference presentations

Special reports, books and edited journal volumes:

- Nkwake, A. 2015. [Credibility and Assumptions in Program Evaluation Methodology](#). New York, Springer Publishing.
- Nkwake, A and Morrow, M (2016) (eds) [Working with assumptions. Existing and emerging approaches for improved program design, monitoring and evaluation](#), Special issue in the Evaluation and program planning journal.
- Nkwake, A, Kamau-Rutenberg W and Mentz M (2017): [Catalyzing and measuring women's leadership and empowerment in African agricultural research and development](#) (eds), Special issue for the Journal of Gender, Agriculture and Food Security.
- Hartenberger Toby, L., Nkwake, A., Janke, C. and Lavan, D. (Guest Editors): [Special Issue on Education in Crisis Settings, Quality Assurance in Education](#) (2019/20).
- Luu, K, [Nkwake, A.](#) Morris, M. and Peschi, L. 2015. [A Networked Approach to Strengthening Emergency Response Capacity](#): Disaster Resilience Group/Disaster Resilience Leadership Academy.
- Luu, K, [Nkwake, A.](#) Morris, M. and Peschi, L. 2014. [Lessons from an Evaluation of the Emergency Capacity Building \(ECB\) Project](#).
- Nkwake, A. Magistro, J and Horjus, P. 2014. [Adapting to the Sahel's Changing Climate: Local Approaches. An Economic and Technical Feasibility Analysis of Adaptation Techniques in Niger, Burkina Faso and Mali](#). Catholic Relief Services/DFID.
- Nkwake, A. Magistro, J and Horjus, P. 2014. [Building Livelihoods on the Frontline of Climate Change: Identifying Market Opportunities and Agricultural Value Chains in the Sahel Regions of Niger, Burkina Faso and Mali](#). Catholic Relief Services/DFID.
- Nkwake, A. 2012 and 2020. [Working with assumptions in international development program evaluation](#) (with a forward by Michael Bamberger). New York, Springer Publishing (Book).
- Nkwake, A. 2020. [Travailler avec des hypothèses Dans l'évaluation des Programmes de Développement International](#). Editions Universitaires Europeennes
- Nkwake, A. 2013. [Changing Gender Roles? A study on fathers' involvement in childcare](#). Mustang, Oklahoma. Tate Publishing (Book).

Select journal papers

- Nkwake, A. and Morrow, N. 2016. *Volume overview: Working with assumptions. Existing and emerging approaches for improved program design, monitoring and evaluation*, Journal of Evaluation and Program Planning, Volume 59 Pages 1-160 (December 2016) Pages 94-96
- Faulkner, W., Nkwake, A., Bonifaz, A and Wallace, N. (2019/20). *Using Social Network Analysis to explore the extent and nature of community engagement for out-of-school youth (OSY) in the Mindanao region of the Philippines*. Forthcoming in the special issue on Education in Crisis Settings, Quality Assurance in Education Journal.
- Nkwake, A. and Morrow, N. 2016. *Clarifying concepts and categories of assumptions for use in evaluation*, Journal of Evaluation and Program Planning, Volume 59 Pages 1-160 (December 2016) Pages 97-101,
- Morrow, N. and Nkwake, A. Morrow, N. 2016. *Assumption-aware tools and agency; an interrogation of the primary artifacts of the program evaluation and design profession in working with complex evaluands and complex contexts*. Journal of Evaluation and Program Planning, Volume 59 Pages 1-160 (December 2016) Pages 141-153
- Nkwake, A. and Morrow, N. 2016. *Conclusion: Agency in the face of complexity and the future of assumption-aware evaluation practice*, Journal of Evaluation and Program Planning, Volume 59 Pages 1-160 (December 2016)

- Faulkner, W. F. and Nkwake, A. 2017. *The potential of Social Network Analysis as a tool for monitoring and evaluation of capacity building interventions*. The Journal of Gender, Agriculture and Food Security, Vol 2, Issue 1, pp 125-148, 2017
- Nkwake, A. Bensolomon, B. and Mentz, M. and Fouché, N. 2017. *Understanding women's empowerment using an exploratory mixed-methods index*. The Journal of Gender, Agriculture and Food Security. Vol 2, Issue 1, pp 149-171, 2017
- Aguiari, S., Nkwake, A. and Mentz, M. 2017. *Beyond the double gender gap in science and agriculture: Is there space for feminist-inspired transformation within AWARD?* The Journal of Gender, Agriculture and Food Security. Vol 2, Issue 1, pp 106-124, 2017
- Nkwake, A., Trandafil, H. & Hughey, J. 2012. [Examining the relationship between community participation and program outcomes in a Metaevaluation](#). Journal of MultiDisciplinary Evaluation (JDME) 9 (20): 1-17.
- Nkwake, A. Trandafil, H. & Hughey, J. 2012. [Examining the relationship between Intentionality for Child Well-Being \(CWB\) and Program Outcomes in a meta-evaluation](#). Child Indicators Research 6 (1): 97-114. 10.1007/s12187-012-9160-8.
- Nkwake, A. 2009. [Maternal employment and fatherhood: what influences paternal involvement in child-care work in Uganda?](#) Gender & Development 17 (2): 255-267. 10.1080/13552070903009726.
- Nkwake, A. 2015. [Spousal Wealth and Fathers' Involvement in Childcare in Uganda](#). Feminist Economics Volume 21, 2015 - Issue 3: Engendering Economic Policy in Africa.
- Nkwake, A. 2009. [Mothers' and Fathers' Perceptions of Paternal Involvement in Child Care in Uganda](#). Journal of Childhood in Africa 1 (1): 25-30.
- Nkwake, A. 2007. *Local Government-NGO Partnerships: Experiences from the Uganda Nutrition and Early Childhood Development Project (NECDP)*. Asiimwe, D. & Musisi, N. Decentralization and Transformations of governance in Uganda, Kampala Uganda: Fountain Publishers. 278-288.
- Nkwake, A. (2003). *Gender and Religion: Alternative Avenues for Women Empowerment in Uganda*: In Okuni, A & Sewakiryanga, R. (eds). Post-Colonial Studies in Africa. Kampala: Center for Basic Research/Enhancing Research Capacity, Occasional Paper Series 1(2003):90-99

Conference presentations

- *HIV prevention for children in areas with conflict: challenges and strategies*. With Christine Laloba, Consolata Tumwesigye and Alice Ibale. Paper presented in the 5th African conference on Child abuse and Neglect, 27th -29th March 2007. Kampala-Uganda, by The African Network for Prevention and Protection Against Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN). Published in conference proceedings volume.
- *Aligning Program Information Needs to Existing Health Information Management Systems: TB/HIV Collaboration in Uganda* A. Nkolo, A. Nkwake, B. Mpeka, F. Adatu, S. Kironde, for the XVII International AIDS Conference, Mexico City, 3-8 August 2008
- *A Cultural Barrier to HIV Prevention Communication and the Role of Peer-to-Peer Approaches: Experiences from Primary Schools in Uganda*. With Samson Kironde, Silvanus Turyamwijuka and Alice Mugoya. Paper presented in the 5th African conference on Child abuse and Neglect, 27th -29th March 2007. Kampala-Uganda, by The African Network for Prevention and Protection Against Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN). Published in conference proceedings volume.
- *Do 'Talking Compounds' really talk? Experiences from Uganda's Primary schools*. With Alice Ibale, and Joshua Okwena: Paper presented in the 5th African conference on Child abuse and Neglect, 27th -29th March 2007. Kampala-Uganda, by The African Network for Prevention and Protection Against Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN) Published in conference proceedings volume.
- *Emergency Capacity Building: Organizational and Network Challenges and Insights*, Presented at American Evaluation Association's Annual conference, 2015, Chicago.
- *Lessons from the evaluation of a 10 year Inter-Agency Humanitarian Capacity Building Program*, presented at American Evaluation Association's Annual Conference October 2014, Denver Colorado (With Ky Luu, Margie Morris and Steven Hansh)
- Invited Presentation: *Perceived spouse wealth differences and fathers' involvement in childcare*, Engendering Economic Policy in Africa Special Issue Panel at the 2014 International Association for Feminist Economics Conference, June 27 – 29, Accra, Ghana.

- *Working with Assumptions: Lessons from the AWARD Program*, Presented at the 8th African Evaluation Association International Conference 2017 (27th – 31st March 2017) and at the USAID evaluation summit Oct 2017, Washington DC and at the 2016 American Evaluation Conference, Atlanta Georgia.
- *Examination of Methodological Assumptions: Results of a Metaevaluation*: Presented at the 8th AfrEA International Conference 2017 (27th – 31st March 2017)
- *Addressing gender data gaps at the program level*. Presented at the Grand Challenges for Development conference, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, London, Oct 2017
- *Working with assumptions for theories of change*. Presented at American Evaluation Association’s annual conference, 2015, Chicago
- Lead Facilitator: Professional Development Workshop on “*Working with Assumptions: Key Concepts and Tools for Program Design, Monitoring and Evaluation* (October 15, 2013: 9am-4pm)” at American Evaluation Association (AEA)’s Annual Conference; Washington DC. (Extended brownbag discussions at USAID’s office of Learning, Evaluation and Research, Washington DC and USAID Uganda mission office, Kampala)
- *Rationale, Design and Implementation of Outcome Monitoring with Lot Quality Assurance Sampling Surveys*, Presented at American Evaluation Association’s Annual conference Washington DC from 14th -20th October 2013
- *Innovations for Strengthening Resilience: Experiences of the ResilientAfrica Network*, Presented at American Evaluation Association’s Annual conference Washington DC from 14th -20th October 2013
- *Mapping a Postulated theory of change for four World Vision programs in a multi-site evaluation in Sierra Leone*; Presented at American Evaluation Association’s Annual conference, Anaheim CA; November 2011.
- *A thematic review of World Vision’s Food Security Programming in Africa*: Presented with Nathan Morrow at American Evaluation Association’s Annual conference, Anaheim CA; November 2011.
- *Nkwake, A. Tailor made Monitoring and Evaluation Capacity building in Uganda*: Presented at the Global Assembly of the International Development Evaluation Association (IDEAS), 17-20 March 2009, Johannesburg, South Africa
- Madri Jansen van Rensburg & Nkwake, A. *The responsibility of making assumptions explicit*: Presented at the 6th Conference of the African Evaluation Association, Accra, Ghana 9-13 January 2012
- *Increasing enthusiasm and use of evaluation findings in Uganda*: presentation in the International Conference on impact evaluation by the African Evaluation Association and the Network of Networks on impact evaluation 29 March-3 April 2009 in Cairo, Egypt

Referees:

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