

Grace Mukarusagara

Program Consultant, Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute

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Education

- B.S. Soil and Water Management, University of Rwanda (formerly, Higher Institute of Agriculture and Animal Resources), 2009

Professional Experience

- 2018-Present – Program Consultant, Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute at the University of Nebraska
- 2017-2018 – Assistant Manager, Omni Agriculture Limited
- 2017-2016 – Irrigation Engineer, Clinton Development Initiative
- 2015-2016 – Irrigation Engineer, Rwanda Agriculture Board
- 2011-2016 – Irrigation Engineer, Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources
- 2010-2011 – Young Professional, Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources

Selected Outputs:

Publications and Multimedia

Journal articles, book chapters, reports

2023

- Akaliza, N., Bodnar, L., Brozović, N., **Mukarusagara, G.**, Turatsinze, F., Urujeni, R., February 2023. “Current state of irrigation-as-a-service for smallholder farmers in Rwanda.” Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute, https://waterforfood.nebraska.edu/-/media/projects/dwfi/our-work/researchpolicy/entrepreneurship/2023_02_07-irrigation-as-a-service-rwanda.pdf.

2022

- Akaliza, N., Bodnar, L., Brozović N., **Mukarusagara, G.**, Nzayiramyia, S., Turatsinze, F., Urujeni, R., April 2022. “Mapping and analysis of the business ecosystem for smallholder irrigation in Rwanda.” Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute, <https://waterforfood.nebraska.edu/-/media/projects/dwfi/resource-documents/reports-and-working-papers/mapping-and-analysis-of-the-business-ecosystem-for-smallholder-irrigation-in-rwanda.pdf>.

Briefs, infographics, blogs, newsletters

2025

- **Mukarusagara, G.**, Anders, E., Elnes, A., November 2025. “CultYvate connects smallholder farmers to precision irrigation through affordable tech.” Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute, <https://waterforfood.nebraska.edu/news-and-events/news/2025/11/cultyvate-connects-smallholder-farmers-to-precision-irrigation-through-affordable-tech>.
- **Mukarusagara, G.**, Anders, E., Elnes, A., November 2025. “Pumptech transforms water access with customer-focused, pay-as-you-go model.” Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute, <https://waterforfood.nebraska.edu/news-and-events/news/2025/11/pumptech-transforms-water-access-with-customer-focused-pay-as-you-go-model>

- **Mukarusagara, G.**, Anders, E., October 2025. “Agriworks Uganda uses motorcycle network to expand irrigation access for smallholder farmers.” Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute, <https://waterforfood.nebraska.edu/news-and-events/news/2025/10/agriworks-uganda-uses-motorcycle-network-to-expand-irrigation-access-for-smallholder-farmers>.
- **Mukarusagara, G.**, Anders, E., October 2025. “Agrishare connects farmers to shared irrigation equipment.” Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute, <https://waterforfood.nebraska.edu/news-and-events/news/2025/10/agrishare-connects-farmers-to-shared-agricultural-equipment>.
- **Mukarusagara, G.**, Urujeni, R., Akaliza, N., Bodnar, L., and Brozović, N., April 2025. “Pay-N-Pump Business Model Canvas.” Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute, https://waterforfood.nebraska.edu/-/media/projects/dwfi/our-work/researchpolicy/entrepreneurship/2025-publications/2025-04-13-pay_n_pump_bmc_report.pdf.

2023

- Urujeni R., Akaliza, N., **Mukarusagara, G.**, Bodnar, L., Brozović, N., November 2023. “Agriworks Business Model Canvas.” Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute, <https://waterforfood.nebraska.edu/-/media/projects/dwfi/our-work/researchpolicy/entrepreneurship/agriworks-business-model-canvas/agriworks-bmc-report.pdf>.
- **Mukarusagara, G.**, October 2023. “Reflections on attending StartUpAfrica Innovation Olympiad as a mentor and judge to teams of technical and entrepreneurial students.” Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute, <https://waterforfood.nebraska.edu/news-and-events/news/2023/10/reflections-on-attending-startupafrika-innovation-olympiad>.
- **Mukarusagara, G.**, February 2023. “Water on wheels: Tanker truck entrepreneurs provide water for livestock in Rwanda.” Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute, <https://waterforfood.nebraska.edu/news-and-events/news/2023/02/water-on-wheels---tanker-truck-entrepreneurs-provide-water-for-livestock-in-rwanda>.

2022

- **Mukarusagara, G.**, Akaliza, N., Urujeni, R., Bodnar, L., September 2022. “PLAYBOOK for Customer Discovery.” Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute, <https://waterforfood.nebraska.edu/-/media/projects/dwfi/our-work/researchpolicy/entrepreneurship/dwfi-customer-discovery-playbookfinalv10.pdf>.
- **Mukarusagara, G.**, Akaliza, N., Urujeni, R., Bodnar, L., August 2022. “PLAYBOOK for Ecosystem Mapping.” Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute, <https://waterforfood.nebraska.edu/-/media/projects/dwfi/our-work/researchpolicy/entrepreneurship/dwfi-ecosystem-mapping-playbookfinalv10.pdf>.

2021

- Akaliza, N., Bodnar, L., **Mukarusagara, G.**, Nzayiramyia S. Turatsinze, F., Urujeni R., November 2021. “DWFI releases Rwanda smallholder irrigation ecosystem map based on dozens of discovery interviews.” Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute, <https://waterforfood.nebraska.edu/news-and-events/news/2021/11/dwfi-releases-rwanda-smallholder-irrigation-ecosystem-map-based-on-dozens-of-discovery-interviews>.

2020

- Akaliza N., Urujeni, R., Musayidizi, P., Turatsinze, F., **Mukarusagara, G.**, Brozović, N., November 2020. “COVID-19 impacts on agricultural entrepreneurship in Rwanda.” Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute, <https://waterforfood.nebraska.edu/-/media/projects/dwfi/blogs/2020/research-handouts/covidagentrepreneurship.pdf>.

Presentations and Engagements

2023

- “Making Agriculture Resilient to Climate Change.” Panelist at the 2nd WASAG International Forum. February 2023, Cape Verde.
- “Supporting entrepreneurs in small-scale agriculture.” Panelist at the 2023 Water for Food Global Conference. May 2023, Lincoln, NE. <https://youtu.be/P1eyJz5yvso?si=qkHV0hnlXV8V3Cvf>.
- “Mainstreaming TVET for Skills Development, Mobility and Resilient Economies in Africa.” Mentor and judge to teams of technical and entrepreneurial students, August 2023 Accra Ghana. Organized by StartUpAfrica.

2021

- “Discovery interviews: Tips to get the most out of your field interview and understanding the landscape.” Presenter at the virtual Water for Food Global Forum, October 2021, Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute, Lincoln, NE. https://youtu.be/LfE5x5PJMcM?si=SPv7wZu_d6PRSGqt.
- “The future of the farmer-led irrigation development experience in Sub-Saharan Africa.” Invited panelist at the virtual Water for Food Global Forum, October 2021, Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute, Lincoln, NE. <https://youtu.be/BQ8vkZ3ctVQ?si=t32wC-IRW8myPeld>.
- “Ecosystem mapping workshop.” Presenter at the virtual Water for Food Global Forum, October 2021, Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute, Lincoln, NE. https://youtu.be/hKfagVpSVD8?si=XsIwtGiahE9_pSIe.