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Social dimensions of crane and wetland conservation in African rural landscapes: insights from Kenya, Uganda and Zimbabwe
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Curriculum Vitae

Osiman Mabhachi was born in Bikita, Zimbabwe, on 11 July 1974. He completed his primary and secondary education in his home district. He studied Maths, Physics and Chemistry at Assisi High School, where he obtained his Advanced Level Certificate in 1992. He graduated with a BSc. Agricultural Engineering degree from the University of Zimbabwe in 1999. Between 1999 and 2007, he worked in various field-based positions, coordinating agricultural, natural resource management and biodiversity conservation projects in Zimbabwe. During this period, he participated in participatory environmental research and extension projects, working with rural communities. In 2007, he registered as an MSc Environmental Management student at the University of Wolverhampton, United Kingdom. His dissertation was on modelling the projected impacts of climate change on rain-fed maize production in two regions of contrasting agricultural potential in Zimbabwe.

Upon completion of his MSc studies in 2008, he joined the International Crane Foundation / Endangered Wildlife Trust Partnership as a Community Projects Coordinator. His brief was to coordinate a regional conservation programme aimed at mainstreaming community-based approaches in the conservation of cranes in Kenya, Rwanda, South Africa, Uganda and Zimbabwe. He played a key role in project conceptualisation, fund-raising and technical capacity development during a time when the programme was setting up in-country offices in East Africa. He continued to fulfil his work responsibilities as he was pursuing his PhD research at the University of Leiden between 2011 and 2015. Upon completion of his PhD research, he contributed to the development of national project strategies and plans for community-based crane and wetland conservation projects in Kenya, Uganda and Zimbabwe. He has professional interest in the development of strategies for biodiversity conservation outside formally protected areas. Osiman is currently employed by Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) as a Programme Design and Quality Lead. He provides technical support in the design of regional programmes in Africa and Asia, focusing on Education, Health and Livelihoods.

