

Kenya

Principal Investigator: Dr. Munina Shibia

Internship Title: Enhancing Productivity, Post-harvest Management, and Market Access of African Indigenous Vegetables in Kenya.

Time Period: Late May

Project Background: Determine the efficiency of solar dryers in drying selected AIVs. Simulations of drying will be carried out in Dehydrators to determine drying kinetics of selected AIVs. Drying parameters will be compared between the Dehydrator and open drying. Field drying validation will be conducted with selected SMEs and cooperatives supported by the project in the study regions. Innovative value-added products based on drying and with extended shelf life will be developed. Modeling for product prototypes will be done with selected SMEs and two cooperatives.

Research Question(s) or Specific Issues to be Addressed	Range of Acceptable Disciplines	Deliverables
Enhance post-harvest management, value addition and safety of AIVs to improve nutrition and dietary diversification in rural and urban households	Doctoral student in Postharvest technology or food engineering.	The intern will be based in Kakamega County, which is outside Nairobi. Transport from Nairobi City County to Kakamega County and back to Nairobi City County, as well as when traveling back to the US, accommodation allowance, and upkeep will be provide the intern.

