

# ROD PARSLEY MWANGI

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## PROFILE

Following my academic foray through the dual fields of International Relations and Anthropology at Riara University and the University of Nairobi, I've spent the past two years working across government, UN agencies, and civil society on policy research, programme coordination, and M&E systems design. This work has ranged from contributing to Kenya's Beijing+30 Country Report and drafting technical submissions for CSW69, to leading field research generating evidence for gender-responsive programming. Through it, I've come to see inclusion not merely as a moral position but as a systems requirement for sustainable outcomes. It's a conviction that shapes how I show up: curious, thorough, and ready to do the work that makes systems actually work for people.

## KEY COMPETENCIES

<b>Research &amp; Evidence Generation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Qualitative &amp; Quantitative Research (KIIs, FGDs, Surveys)</li><li>M&amp;E Framework Design &amp; Indicator Tracking</li><li>Data Collection &amp; Analysis (Kobo, NVivo, Excel, Power BI)</li></ul>	<b>Policy &amp; Documentation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Policy Research &amp; Legislative Analysis</li><li>Strategic Communication &amp; Report Writing</li><li>High-Level Brief, Talking Points &amp; Concept Note Drafting</li></ul>
<b>Programme Coordination</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Multi-Stakeholder Coordination &amp; Partnership Building</li><li>Activity Planning, Logistics &amp; Field Team Management</li><li>Training Facilitation &amp; Capacity Strengthening</li></ul>	<b>Compliance &amp; Governance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Gender Mainstreaming &amp; GBA+ Methodology</li><li>Compliance Frameworks (SEAH, Ethics, Anti-Corruption)</li><li>Grant Management &amp; Donor Reporting</li></ul>
<b>Human Rights &amp; Advocacy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Human Rights Monitoring (CEDAW, UPR, BPfA)</li><li>Workshop Facilitation &amp; Multistakeholder Dialogue</li><li>Youth Engagement &amp; Civic Empowerment</li></ul>	<b>Tools &amp; Languages</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>MS Office, Google Workspace, Kobo Toolbox, NVivo</li><li>Canva, Trello, SurveyMonkey</li><li>Languages: English (Native)   Swahili (Native)   French (A1)</li></ul>

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Research Assistant (Mentee)

UPDATE Research Project – Institute of Anthropology, Gender and African Studies, University of Nairobi

January 2026 – Present | Nairobi, Kenya

- Collecting quantitative and qualitative data on how digital technologies, including mobile phones, social media, and digital work platforms, shape access to work, income, collective organization, and workers' ability to mobilize and influence policy
- Administering approved research instruments in accordance with ethical research protocols, informed consent procedures, and fieldwork standards
- Maintaining accurate, complete, and timely field records while ensuring participant confidentiality and data integrity
- Contributing to documentation and transcription of qualitative research findings
- Participating in enumerator training, mentorship sessions, and feedback/learning reflections to strengthen data collection quality and ethical practice

### Field Coordinator & M&E Lead (Consultancy)

UN Women Kenya – Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) for Blue & Circular Economies

November 2025 – December 2025 | Kwale & Lamu Counties, Kenya

- Designed comprehensive M&E framework and developed data collection tools using Kobo Toolbox for mixed-methods GBA+ assessment examining gender dimensions of financial inclusion, ecosystem governance, and green jobs in Kenya's coastal blue economy
- Led field coordination for data collection with 175+ respondents across two counties, conducting Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with women, youth, fishing communities, and LNOB groups
- Recruited, trained, and managed field enumerators, ensuring data quality, ethical research practices, and adherence to UN Women safeguarding protocols
- Conducted comprehensive desk review synthesizing existing GBA+ studies from Plan International, MEDA, World Bank, and other development partners to identify knowledge gaps and inform primary research design
- Preparing GBA+ report and stakeholder validation workshops with county governments, CSOs, and private sector actors to inform gender-responsive blue economy policy recommendations aligned with SDG 5 and SDG 14

### Program Assistant (Consultancy)

Tarucca East Africa Ltd (Accurat) – Union-to-Union Global Pilot on Ethical Governance

January 2025 – September 2025 | Nairobi, Kenya

- Supported 18 Kenyan trade unions to develop and institutionalize Codes of Conduct, SEAH, and Anti-Corruption policies aligned with Kenya's Constitution (2010), Sexual Offences Act (2006), Employment Act (2007), and ILO conventions
- Synthesized legal research into model policy clauses ensuring enforceability, survivor-centered safeguards, procedural fairness, and organizational alignment with international labor standards
- Produced validation reports, learning briefs, and workshop documentation with actionable recommendations for policy implementation and capacity building
- Developed simplified IEC materials and briefing packs to support uptake of ethical governance tools; captured implementation challenges and success stories for donor reports and regional replication across Sub-Saharan Africa

## Policy Intern — Gender Policy Research & Documentation

State Department for Gender and Affirmative Action, Kenya

January 2024 – March 2025 | Nairobi, Kenya

- Contributed substantively to Kenya's Beijing Platform for Action +30 Country Report featured in regional and global review processes, conducting policy research, drafting core sections, and co-developing documentary on 30 years of gender reform
- Drafted official speeches, concept notes, high-level briefs, policy summaries, and talking points for Principal Secretary and senior management for government events, donor meetings, and international forums
- Served as Convenor leading research and drafting for the Technical Paper on Youth and Gender Dialogue for CSW69, incorporating feedback from community-based and youth-led organizations into unified policy submission
- Provided technical drafting support for Gender Bill, National Affirmative Action Policy, and Education Sector Gender Policy Review, ensuring alignment with Constitution (2010), CEDAW, and Maputo Protocol
- Facilitated bilateral engagement under Kenya–Colombia MOU on GBV, coordinating knowledge-sharing sessions, partner meetings, and institutional exchanges
- Coordinated multi-stakeholder workshops with ministries, UN agencies (UN Women, UNICEF), CSOs, and development partners to gather evidence for policy reviews and program design
- Served as rapporteur for interagency forums, producing detailed minutes, workshop reports, and action plans supporting internal coordination and external partnerships
- Developed IEC materials, campaign messaging, and visual documentation for departmental advocacy initiatives including 16 Days of Activism Against GBV
- Represented the State Department at a civil society roundtable convened following the Presidential Taskforce on Femicide and GBV, contributing policy advisory inputs to a multi-stakeholder memorandum

## EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

### Bachelor of Arts in International Relations and Diplomacy

Riara University, Nairobi, Kenya | May 2020 – July 2024 | Second Class Upper Division

### Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology

University of Nairobi, Kenya | September 2017 – September 2022 | Second Class Upper Division

### Diploma in International Studies

University of Nairobi, Kenya | December 2017 – December 2018 | Distinction

### Certifications

Gender Equality & Women's Empowerment (Commonwealth of Learning, 2025) | French A1 (Alliance Française)

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP & VOLUNTARY ENGAGEMENT

**Riara University (2022–2024):** Chaired the university Electoral Commission, restructuring the electoral system by introducing a third-party digital voting platform and developing a comprehensive SOP manual that increased voter turnout and restored trust in democratic processes post-COVID. Co-founded and coordinated the Debate Society, receiving the Best Speaker Award at the Nairobi Kleva Model African Union (2023) for excellence in policy negotiation.

**Gospel Outreach Church (2017–Present):** Volunteer supporting audiovisual production, digital engagement, and community outreach initiatives.

## LANGUAGES

English (Native) | Swahili (Native) | French (Basic – A1)

## REFERENCES

### Joseph Mutuku

Program Associate  
UN Women Kenya  
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### Katherine Mbugua

General Manager  
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### Anne Wang'ombe

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