

**Metolo FOYET, she/her**

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**Career Objective:** intellectually challenging role that contributes meaningfully to leveraging technology/indigenous knowledge to enhance rural development, environmental protection, and the sustainable management of natural resources in Africa.

**Research Objective:** inter-disciplinary research (green technology, peacebuilding, arts, management, governance) that bridges scholarship and practice in conservation and development.

**EDUCATION**

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**B.A. (Honours) 2017 Lancaster University**, Politics, and International Relations, Division One

**M.A. 2019 Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre**,  
Conflict, Peace and Security (Environmental Security)-Jan'19 (thesis submission) | Nov'19 (graduation)

**PhD. 2025 University of Florida**, Geography / Tropical Conservation and Development

**FELLOWSHIPS, PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS, HONORS AND AWARDS**

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2021 Fred Swaniker's *ALX Fellow* & Member of *The Room*, remotely

Certificate of Attendance – Social Media Bootcamp, Fray College of Communications & Southern Africa Trust

2020 Commonwealth Correspondent of the Month (January)

Leader of Liberty, Washington (online)

2019 Certificate of Competence - Political Economy of Land Governance in Africa, University of the Western Cape

Member of the Francophone Network of Evaluation (RFE)

Open-Source Leader, London (online)

*George Soros's OSF/WACSI Fellow*, Accra

2017 *President Obama's Young Africa Leaders Initiative (YALI) RLC Fellow*, Washington/Accra

Member of the Mandela Institute for Development Studies (MINDS) network

2016 Certificate of Participation: Ghana International Model United Nations (GIMUN)

2014 Contested for the International Prize for Young Writer of French Language (PJEF), Paris  
Outstanding Academic Interaction: Lancaster University Students' Union (LUSU) Cultural Exchange Program

Certificate of Successful Completion: LUSU Cultural Exchange, Lancaster

Provost List, Lancaster University Ghana (LUG)

2013 Certificate of Achievement for Academic Performance: International Foundation Program

Outstanding Young Writer: Turkish International School (Ufuk), Benin

Certificate in Computer Science and English Language courses

Bronze Medal: International Science Olympiad (ISO), Abuja, Nigeria

2010 Gold Medal: "La Cotonoise" National Olympic Walk (1st Edition), Cotonou, Benin

2009 Katilim Sertifikasi ve Mansiyon Madalya: Uluslararası Türkçe Olimpiyatları (7th Edition), Turkey

2013-17 1<sup>st</sup> class certificates & Best student of the year for six consecutive years, High school: Turkish International (Ufuk), Benin

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

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**Aug.-Present: Graduate Assistant, University of Florida (UF) Geography Department**

**May.-Present: Research Fellow, African Centre for a Green Economy (AfricGE)**

- Conducting research on the future of green technology in Africa in collaboration with the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and the Africa Leadership University (ALU)

**May. – July 2021: Independent Consultant, Plan International**

- Donors, partners mapping and local fundraising assessment in 16 countries in WCARO

**Feb. – July 2021: Independent Consultant, Commonwealth Secretariat**

- Contributed to the Commonwealth Blue Charter (CBC) Team's Storytelling Project designed as a

complement to the Secretariat's flagship Youth Development Index (YDI) to support member states in evidence-based, inclusive, and socially sensitive planning and policy making. The project shares the stories behind the numbers. These stories of young people, investigated and told by young people, have the potential to inspire by highlighting the innovations and contributions of young people to the attainment of SDGs.

**Oct.2020-May 2021: Fruit Procurement Manager, Blue Skies Holdings, Benin**

- Source tropical fruits (pineapple, coconut, passion fruit, papaya), from a network of 3000+ farmers across the country
- Purchase USD 2K-7K worth of fruits weekly from a cluster of farms worldwide
- Explore new routes for fruit procurement in the sub-region (Ivory Coast, Senegal, Guinea Conakry, Sierra Leone, Liberia)
- NPD (New Product Development) Lead and Logistics Support

**Feb.2020-Sept.2020: Operations Officer, Blue Skies Holdings, Benin**

- Managed £5K-£30K worth of orders daily, from a cluster of supermarket giants including Albert Heijn, Tesco, Sainsbury's, Asda, Carrefour, Waitrose, Amazon Fresh, Monoprix and Aldi
- Managed information systems from 8 departments (production, logistics, finance, agronomy, procurement, engineering, HR, and quality control) and act as liaison agent between Benin, UK HQ, and branches in Brazil, S.A, France, Egypt, Ghana, Senegal, Burkina Faso, and Ivory Coast

**Jun.-Aug.2019: Knowledge Management Assistant, West African Civil Society Institute, Ghana**

- Technically assisted the Head of KM unit in the proposal design for: the Empowering for Freedom bid, a USD 50K-1M project funded by Rising Tide Foundation for a 5 YRS period; and provided monthly Human Rights SITREPs covering Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, and Senegal

**Dec.2017-Feb.2018: Sysadmin / Pen Tester, Office of the President of Ghana**

- Protected confidential data/information and ensured reliable operation of the presidential office's computer systems
- Addressed essential features and flaws, and prevented breaches/leaks by conducting prototype testing, finding defects before e-platforms go live, preparing the ground before pen testing, collecting quantitative, qualitative, and behavioral data while evaluating the user experience and applying systems thinking

**Mar.2016-Feb.2017: Comms. and Public Affairs Dir., Ghana International Model UN, Ghana**

- Coordinated the regional and international promotion plans of the GIMUN conference, with more than 700 participants attending the event vs 500 planned
- Coordinated the drafting, editing and approval process of submissions and prepared information packs, training manuals, newsletters, press releases, reports, official letters, and briefings for GIMUN's mediated operations.

**HUMANITARIAN, LEGAL, NOT-FOR-PROFIT, AND VOLUNTEERING EXPERIENCE**

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**Feb.-May 2019: Operations Assistant, Catholic Relief Services, Benin**

- Technically assisted the HR manager insorting and classifying, in alphabetic order, more than 1000 confidential folders dating back over 20 years
- Supported monitoring of recruitment processes, e-learning services, time, attendance and performance, insurance services and payroll for more than 100 staff

**Sept.-Nov.2018: Executive Assistant, N. Dowuona & Company, Ghana**

- Designed legal packages aimed at offering quality legal advice to startups at a low price
- Developed/coordinated talent acquisition processes & partnerships between 200 startups in Africa

**Oct.-Dec.2017: Operations Officer, Catholic Relief Services, Niger**

- Co-designed training sessions and capacity-building in experimental design, lean iteration, and

impact evaluation related to household food security [PASAM-TAI (USD 40M) project], and trained more than 30 local sub-grantees in the Maradi and Zinder regions

**2014-2016: Founder and CEO, Left Handshake International, Ghana, Niger**

- Built 3 eco-libraries with 10K recycled bottles in 2 remote communities (Kwahu/Teshie-Nungua) in Ghana; 20% (waste) of these bottles, used to hand-craft daily necessities sold to tourists, generated USD 300 which were used to empower 2 teenage girls (from an early-pregnancy prone community) through TVET training
- Crowdfunded USD 5K to offer 25 underprivileged kids and youth the opportunity to attend and complete primary school.
- Produced awareness documentaries (available on youtube) to disseminate the voice of the forgotten and organised a cleaning/recycling day campaign and an environmental workshop in Koara Kano (Niger) in 2016.

**Aug.2015-Sept.2016: Translator, United Nations Volunteer (Online), Haiti, Benin, Ghana**

- Provided translation services to organizations in the UNV's database such as Fondation Lazarienne Joseph the Worker, and to presidential candidate Jean Claude Bazin during the 2015 elections in Haiti
- Taught French to UNU-INRA staff and to kindergarten and primary level students

**Aug.-Sept.2015: Volunteer Event Coordinator, Educational Endowment Trust (EET), India**

- Assisted the Director in the organisation of the IFLC-sponsored Indo-Turkish Festival of Language and Culture, an annual charity event aimed at raising funds used for educating children

**Jul.-Aug.2014: Editorial Production Assistant, Population Services International (PSI)**

- Supported in the distribution (through social marketing) of more than 60M condoms in Benin, as part of a USD 22M USAID funded common agreement and assisted in the establishment of Univers Jeunes Magazine on health and reproduction among teenagers and young adults

**Oct.2013-Sept.2014: Editor in Chief, JobWeb Ghana / Independent Associate, Max International**

- Wrote, selected, and reviewed articles; coordinated teams of freelance web-redactors; managed the website and operated online publications | In charge of marketing the company's health products.

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE AND CONSULTANCIES**

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**Feb.2021: Consultant, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), Remotely**

- Was contacted by Katie Acheson via the Commonwealth Network, to act as Consultant for the 2021 "World Youth Report". Served in Focus Groups "Employment, unemployment, precarious employment and mental health" and "Structural barriers in education and mental health".

**May-Dec.2019: GreenTech/Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) Specialist, B. Faso, Ghana, Niger, Benin, USA**

- Independent consultant - conducted research on the sustainable management of conflict of transhumance in the Sudano-Sahelian basin of Niger, in partnership with the USD 248M World Bank-funded Regional Sahel Pastoralism Support Project (PRAPS)
- Technically assisted in the development of procedural frameworks and proposal design of ESS projects, notably the World Bank-funded Agricultural Competitor & Export Diversification - PACOFIDE (USD 260M) and Benin Covid-19 Preparedness and Response project (USD40M)
- Represented Benin at the International Civil Society Summit on Land, Biodiversity and Climate (Desertif' Actions), organized by the UNCCD/CARI/SPONG, in Ouagadougou
- Represented the Benin's Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (MAEP) at the Political Economy and Land Governance symposium organised by UNECA/PLAAS/NELGA/KNUST in Accra

**Jan.-Sept.2017: Global Affairs and Diplomacy Analyst, Canadian International Council, Canada**

- Technically assisted in developing the WHO-instructed paper on "Understanding Global Health

Diplomacy Policies and Frameworks” covering 10 nations (Afghanistan, Iraq, Cuba, UK, USA, Japan, Canada, Switzerland, Brazil, and Ghana), to support the design of Public Health policies.

**Mar.-Aug.2017: Head of Research and Development (R&D), ThinkAfrik, Ghana**

- Developed and elevator pitched the Ekuia Pa socio-impact agribusiness at a Young African Leadership Initiative (YALI) event and attracted USD 20K+ worth of investment and technical assistance. The early venture aimed at positively impacting communities and filling the gap in the agro-chain by linking farmers to the market.
- We provided 40T of cassava to Guinness, prevented USD 8K losses by safely storing harvest, participated in the design of capacity-building trainings in the Eastern, Northern, Western and Central regions of Ghana, to 400+ sub-grantees on best agri-practices, fundraising, safe storing and transformation among others

**Jun.-Aug.2016: Country Risk Analyst, Songhai Advisory, Ghana**

- Conducted country risk assessments (politics, economics, legal/advisory, operational & security lenses) covering 5 countries (Gabon, Cameroon, DR Congo, Ghana, and Ivory Coast)
- Technically assisted with investment climate updates, macro-economic forecasting, regional developments memos, open contracting data, PPTs, performance and risk rating. Exploited open and citizen data for informing policy making in covered countries

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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**Jun.-Jul.2018: French Teacher, Volta Region, Ghana**

- Supported Adaklu District Chief Executive Hon. Kadey Donkoh by upskilling 100+ Senior High School 1, 2 and 3 students of Adaklu in French (beginners and intermediate levels), 21 days before national exams
- Developed quizzes and assignments. Revised the syllabus to meet accreditation standards

**Jan.-Mar.2016: Critical Thinking Teaching Assistant, Lancaster University, Ghana**

- Taught to undergraduate classes averaging 60 students per semester; conducted class assessments, provided guidance in academic writing, and presentations techniques and coordinated grading
- Counseled students and initiated the Mind Mingling with Metolo “Triple M” interactive sessions, which involved roundtables on complex and contentious topics, using documentaries, The Venus Project, and Toastmasters Mags
- Technically assisted in a Hotel Rehabilitation and Reconstruction project as a LUG Project Mgmt. team member

**Aug.-Nov.2015: Alumni Officer, Turkish International School, Ghana**

- Developed an alumnus tracking system, tracked 127 former students spread across 30 countries worldwide and planned Alumni reunions

**PUBLICATIONS**

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***Books***

1. Foyet, M., The UN and Natural Resources in Liberia: Exploring the Nexus between Natural Resources, Conflict, the Environment and Peace Support Operations (PSOs), Lambert Academic Press, Feb, 2021
2. Foyet, M., Toxic Waste and Climate Change in Africa: Awareness and Responsiveness, Scholars’ Press, Oct. 2018

***Story Books and Blogs***

3. Foyet, M., Le Journal d’une Révoltée, Ed. Lulu, Feb. 2014.
4. Foyet, M., Aux Dentelles du Diable, Wattpad, Nov. 2013.
5. Foyet, M., Vente de Cuisses de Moustiques à Doubangar, Ed. Edilivre, Jul. 2013.
6. <https://lugsummertripuk2014.wordpress.com/about/>
7. <https://metolofoyet.wordpress.com/cv/>
8. <http://weekly-met.blogspot.com/>

### **Online Articles as Commonwealth Correspondent**

([www.yourcommonwealth.org/?s=Metolo+Foyet](http://www.yourcommonwealth.org/?s=Metolo+Foyet))

9. Foyet, M., “Education is more than classroom-based learning”, Feb. 2021
10. Foyet, M., “Language learning for health, safety and life”, May. 2020
11. Foyet, M., “Farming smart in Fiji”, Apr. 2020
12. Foyet, M., “The ABCS of Education”, March. 2020.
13. Foyet, M., “Moving away: Africa’s migration challenge”, Jan. 2020.
14. Foyet, M., “Making glasses more affordable for Ugandans”, Apr. 2019.
15. Foyet, M., “Finding natural resources: A blessing or curse?”, Jan. 2019.
16. Foyet, M., “Why some parents are watching the family tree”, Nov. 2018.
17. Foyet, M., “Conflict, leadership and democracy in Africa”, Jul. 2018.
18. Foyet, M., “Can western ways work in Africa?”, Jun. 2018.
19. Foyet, M., “Discordancy and democracy in Africa”, May. 2018.
20. Foyet, M., “Africa’s alarming deficit of good leadership”, Apr. 2018.
21. Foyet, M., “A positive take on Africa: God bless Wakanda!”, Mar. 2018
22. Foyet, M., “Climate change threatens SDG progress”, Dec. 2017.
23. Foyet, M., “Hackers smell blood now, not metals”, Nov. 2017.
24. Foyet, M., “African states and responsible mining policies!”, Nov. 2017
25. Foyet, M., “Is Africa’s story untold, or only partly told?”, Oct. 2017

### **Contributions**

26. Foyet, M., “*Rethinking First Ladyship in Africa: Sustainability from Another Lens?*”, WACSI Issue Paper, Jun. 2021 Foyet,
27. M., “*Youth Leadership in the Public Service Sector in Africa: Opportunity for Engagement?*”, WACSI Issue Paper, Apr. 2021
28. Foyet, M., “*Youth Leadership and Governance in West Africa*”, WACSI Issue Paper, Feb. 2021
29. Foyet, M., “*The Role of Civil Society in the Promotion of Peace in West Africa*”, WACSI Issue Paper, Mar. 2020
30. Foyet, M., “*The Use of Term Limits to Enhance Accountable Governance in Africa: Analysis from A Civil Society Perspective*”, WACSI Issue Paper, Feb, 2020
31. Wacsi, “*Guidebook on Alternative Funding Models: A Tool to Drive Civil Society’s Financial Sustainability in Africa*”, Aug. 2019.
32. Foyet, M., “*Worrisome right violations of journalists in Ghana as press freedom endures critical times*”, WACSI Blog, Aug. 2019
33. Agyeman-Togobo, K., Ampofo, N. A., Togobo, L. G., Gudiaby, L., Coulibaly, N., Ademuwagun, A., Danquah, E., Taylor-Sampson, E., Balogun, R., Tambajang, F. and Foyet, M. “*Things (May) Fall Apart ... But... Brexit: What Next For Africa?*”, Mondaq.com, Jun. 2016.

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### **PROFESSIONAL TRAININGS**

1. Presented the “*Political Economy of Land Governance in Benin*” at the NELGA event, Accra, 12-16 Aug. 2019
2. Clarity 4D HR Forum and Edkins Career Development Session, Accra, 2015

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### **PRESENTATIONS, INVITED LECTURES**

1. International Civil Society Summit on Land, Biodiversity and Climate (**Desertif Actions**), organized by the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), CARI and SPONG, Ouagadougou 19-22 June 2019
2. Africa Centre for Energy Policy (ACEP) - Expert Panel Seminar on Energy Sector: Promises of Political Parties, Accra, 2016.

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### **COMPUTER SKILLS AND OTHERS**

**Area of Specialization:** Risk analysis, ESS (Environmental and Social Safeguards), Greentech,

Peacebuilding, Capacity-building and facilitation at all levels, Project design, management and assessment, Community engagement, Cybersecurity, Translation **Platforms:** Office suite, C++, SPSS, CSS, Web design, Pen testing

**LANGUAGES**

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**French/Fe'fe:** Native Languages | **English:** Professional Working Proficiency | **Spanish/Turkish:** Intermediate Listener, Novice Speaker, Advanced Reading, and Writing

**HOBBIES AND INTERESTS**

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**Charter Member** of the LUG Rugby, Media, and Olympics Clubs; Politics/Debate Society | **Hobbies:** Globetrotting, Reading, Lawn tennis, Swimming and Painting (Instagram: the.lady\_f / www.theladyf.com) – former member of the Busy Speakers Toastmasters Club

I, the undersigned, certify that the above information exactly reflects my profile and is subject to verification.

Cotonou, June 29, 2021 – Metolo FOYET

