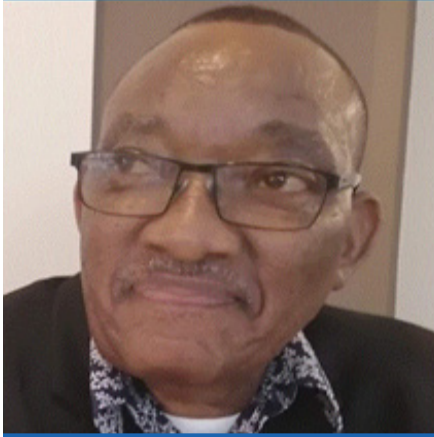




Our February 2022 UDSM Alumnus

This is a “light corner” on the UDSM portal intended to feature for one month in turns two among many of the University’s graduates—alumni—since its foundation in 1961. The corner is designed to inform the public and the University itself, without prejudice in terms of historical precedence but guided only by professional information search, on the past graduates of the University, their whereabouts, their current position or engagement, what is remembered of them as past ‘boys’ and ‘girls’ of their time and, finally, on what is reckoned about their contribution to their Alma Mater, their nation, the Africa region and/or the wider world.

Damas Alfred MASHAURI



Year of matriculation: 1975

Year of graduation: 1979

Award: B.Sc. Hons (Civil Engineering), University of Dar es Salaam.

More info:

- **M. Sc. in Civil Engineering (1981), Tampere University of Technology, Finland;**
- **Dr Tech in Civil Engineering [PhD], Tampere University of Technology, Finland (1986)**

This February of a New Year, the UDSM Alumni Corner is pleased to feature Damas Alfred Mashauri, an alumnus of the 1979 graduating class in engineering. He is currently Professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Namibia in Windhoek.

Born on 2nd December 1948 in Ngulu-Jitengeni village in Mwanga district (Kilimanjaro Region), he had his early education at Kwakoa Primary School in Mwanga (1956–1960), then at Kilomeni Middle School also in Mwanga (1961–1964), from which he proceeded to Ifunda Secondary Technical School in Iringa (1965–1968). From Ifunda Technical, he joined Dar es Salaam Technical College for technical education and training (1969–1971). In 1975 he gained admission at the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Dar es Salaam, where he undertook a four-year undergraduate programme in civil engineering, majoring in water resources and hydraulics engineering. He successfully completed the programme in 1979 with a B.Sc. (honours) degree award in civil engineering. Supported by a good record of academic performance in his undergraduate training, Damas was in that year (1979) retained by the Faculty of Engineering for a staff-development position of tutorial assistant, pending attainment of postgraduate training. In 1980, he obtained a scholarship for postgraduate study at Tampere University of Technology in Finland. He enrolled there for a M.Sc. degree programme, specialising in civil and water-resource engineering, which he completed in 1981. On attaining this, he proceeded to a doctoral programme, taking him five years up to 1986.

It is reckoned that Dr. Mashauri was actively involved with his Faculty of Engineering (now College of Engineering and Technology) for a total of 31 years, from March 1979 to February 2010, in connection with various teaching and research programmes and innovations. Within this span, he grew through the ranks from tutorial assistant (March 1979–June 1981), to assistant lecturer (July 1981–June 1984), to lecturer (July 1984–June 1989), senior lecturer (July 1989–June 1996), associate professor (July 1996–June 2009) and finally to professor (July 2009–2010). Also, while a staff member at UDSM, he played a significant role in the coordination and management of the affairs of his Department and Faculty, including as Head of Department of Civil Engineering, from 1997 to 2000.

In February 2010, Prof. Mashauri left the University of Dar es Salaam for a teaching position at the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) in Windhoek, a second university in Namibia that had previously been transformed from the Polytechnic of Namibia (PoN). At NUST, he was not only full professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering but also a focal point and coordinator for a newly created Professorial [‘SADC-Waternet’] Chair in integrated water resource management (IWRM). It was a professorial position supported by the Southern Africa Development Cooperation [SADC] based in Gaborone, Botswana. He served there at NUST and in that capacity of a SADC Waternet Professorial Chair for a period of seventeen years up to December 2017. Since January 2018, Professor Mashauri is with the University of Namibia as full Professor of Civil Engineering.

It is worth mentioning that Damas is as hard-working today as he was during his student days. As a student he was winner of the “Best 2nd Year Student Award in Building Materials” in 1976/77, and of the Jos Hansen Ltd “Best 3rd Year Student Award in

Hydraulics Engineering” in 1977/78. Today, in his adult working life, he has won several research grants. These include one on Resource-oriented sanitation in Africa, ‘ROSA’ (2006–2009), one on Development of water services in Keetmanshoop (in partnership with Kangasala and Lempalla municipalities in Finland), funded by the European Union-ACP (2012–2016), and another on “Strengthening research capacity at universities and research Institutions: A Water Secure Future—Building Smart Cities in Namibia”, funded by NCRST (2017–2019). A prolific researcher and teacher, Damas Mashauri has published a book (*Storm and Sewer Water Management and Wastewater Treatment and Disposal*. Lambert Academic Publishing/Books on Demand GmbH, Germany (2011), as well as a total of not less than 35 journal articles, and 27 conference and consultancy papers. Three of his latest publications include:

- Environmental Radioactivity of groundwater and sediments in the Kuiseb and Okavango-Omatako basins in Namibia, with A. Akweetelela, N. Kgabi and M. Zivuku, in *Journal of Physics and Chemistry of the Earth* (2020);
- An examination of the politics of privatization of water and sanitation services in Africa, Europe and Latin America (1990–2004)—Cases from Kenya and Tanzania, with J. E. Castro, and E. N. Nyanchaga, in *WATERLAT-GOBACIT Network* (June 2018) (www.waterlat.org); and
- With Sika Franklin, Kwaambwa Habauka and Kgabi Nnnesi, Evaluation of the Efficiency of Moringa Oleifera products as natural adsorbents of heavy metals in contaminated wastewater, in *European Journal of Scientific Research*, 144(4), 382–391, April 2017.

His current research interests centre on (i) Hazards of floods and droughts in southern Africa (proposal submitted to UNESCO); (ii) Capability of natural adsorbents in the treatment of water for drinking; (iii) Defluoridation processes at household levels in Namibia; (iv) Rainwater harvesting as a mitigation to climate change in semi-arid Namibia; and (vi) Biogas generation and utilisation at University of Namibia School of Engineering and the Built-environment.



Figure 6.1: Inspection of the prototype system



2020. At the Jose Eduardo dos Santos (JEDS) Campus of Engineering, University of Namibia: Prof. Mashauri monitoring a laboratory-scale treatment plant for hand-wash water following the onset of COVID-19.

**Damas Alfred MASHAURI is Our February 2022 Alumnus,
and his great stories begin here!**

Get in touch with us through

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