

MULELE SIBESO



Nationality: Zambian
Starting-Ending year:
2024-2027

Current Country Location:

Zambia

Bachelor's degree:

Food Science and
Technology

Master's degree:

Sustainable Agriculture
and Rural Development

PhD program in progress:

Doctor of Philosophy –
Agriculture –PhD – Human
Nutrition.

Institution/University:

University of Zambia/
Zambia



What is agrobiodiversity for you?

Agrobiodiversity is a foundation for healthy communities, a thriving environment, and resilient economies. Its preservation is vital for sustainability today and for generations to come.

Why did you choose to work on this topic?

My choice was driven by a desire to preserve agrobiodiversity—a passion that was first sparked over a decade ago by observations in my hometown, Mongu District in Western Province, Zambia, where I noticed a decline in the availability and use of indigenous foods. These early observations were later confirmed by my MSc research, which focused on the value of indigenous foods. My desire was reinforced by the knowledge I gained from my studies in sustainable agriculture and rural development, as well as on sustainable diets and food systems which emphasized food production that balances economic, social and environmental interests

What do you expect to achieve with this master/PhD?

My PhD research explores how agrobiodiversity can be used to improve adolescent nutrition. It aims to increase knowledge and awareness of the benefits of local nutritious foods, particularly neglected and underutilized species, among in-school adolescents and stakeholders (school administrators, farmers, government officials and others), while strengthening the involvement of small-scale farmers in the production and supply of these foods to schools.

