

# Masumbuko Sembra

DATA SCIENTIST | PHD

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## Education

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### Ph.D. in Physical Oceanography

University of Dar es Salaam

Dar es Salaam,  
Tanzania

2017 - 2023

### Data Analyst

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration | Rosenstiel School of Marine, Atmospheric, and Earth Science

2015 - 2016

### Pre-Doctoral

KU Lueven

Leuven, Belgium  
2014 - 2016

### Master of Marine Sciences

University of Dar es Salaam

Dar es Salaam,  
Tanzania  
2009 - 2011

### Bachelor of Fisheries and Aquaculture of Marine Sciences

University of Dar es Salaam

Dar es Salaam,  
Tanzania  
2009 - 2011

## Work Experience

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### Lecturer

The Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology

Arusha, Tanzania  
2014 - todate

### Lecturer

University of Dodoma

Dodoma, Tanzania  
2014

### Environmental Officer

National Environmental Management Council

Dar es Salaam,  
Tanzania  
2012 - 2013

### GIS Specialist

Samaki Consultants

Dar es Salaam,  
Tanzania  
2010 - 2013

### Research Associate

Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association | Tanzania Coastal Management partnership

Zanzibar, Tanzania  
2007 - 2012

## Consultancy

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### Community Livelihood

USAID/Heshimu Bahari Project

Dar es Salaam  
(Kinondoni &  
Kigamboni) - Mtwara  
(Mnazi Bay)

Apr 2024 - Sept 2025

- Identify areas for establishing Non-Replenishing Zones
- Train on climate change impact
- Establish alternative income generating activities
- Empower compliance with protection and conservation of coastal resources

## Benthic Ecological Survey of the Southern Corridor

USAID/Heshimu Bahari Project

- Benthic habitats (Seagrass, coral reef and benthic substrates)
- Mapping hotspots areas of coral reefs, seagrass, other substrates

*Kinondoni, Dar es Salaam - Lindi, Lindi*

Nov - Feb 2023

## Benthic Ecological Survey of the Northern Corridor

USAID/Heshimu Bahari Project

- Benthic habitats (Seagrass, coral reef and benthic substrates)
- Mapping hotspots areas of coral reefs, seagrass, other substrates

*Bagamoyo, Pwani to Mkinga, Tanga*

Jul - Dec 2023

## Mapping Potential Areas for Cage Fish Farming

Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries

- Benthic habitats (Seagrass, coral reef and benthic substrates)
- Mapping hotspots areas of coral reefs, seagrass, other substrates

*Mara, Simiyu,  
Mwanza, Geita,  
Kagera*

May 2023 - Feb 2024

## Skills

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### Spoken Languages

Swahili (Native), English (Fluent)

### Programming Languages

R, Python, MATLAB, Java

### Markup Languages

Typst, Quarto, LaTeX, CSS, HTML

### Statistic Software

R, Python, MATLAB, Excel, SPSS, OriginPro, SigmaPlot

### GIS Software

ESRI, QGIS, R, Python, MATLAB, Java

### Graphic Design Software

Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe After Effect

### Typset and Layout Software

Adobe InDesign, Typst, Quarto, LaTeX, CSS, HTML

## Publications

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**Job, S., Semba, M., Monga, E., Lugendo, B., Tuda, A., Kimirei, I., & Rushingisha, G.** High-frequency dynamics of pH, dissolved oxygen, and temperature in the coastal ecosystems of the Tanga-Pemba Seascape: implications for upwelling-enhanced ocean acidification and deoxygenation

*Frontiers*

2024

**Silas, M. O., Kishe, M. A., Semba, M. R., Kuboja, B. N., Ngatunga, B., Mgeleka, S. S., ... & Gullström, M.** Seascape configuration influences big blue octopus (*Octopus cyanea*) catches: Implications for a sustainable fishery

*Fisheries Research*

2023

**Silas, M. O., Semba, M. R., Mgeleka, S. S., Van Well, L., Linderholm, H. W., & Gullström, M.. Using fishers' local ecological knowledge for management of small-scale fisheries in data-poor regions: Comparing seasonal interview and field observation records in East Africa.**

*Fisheries Research*

2023

**Lugendo, B. R., Igulu, M. M., Semba, M. L., & Kimirei, I. A. Caudal fin as a proxy for dorsal muscle for nutrient enrichment monitoring using stable isotope analysis: the case of *Gerres filamentosus* and *G. oyena* from mangrove creeks of Tanzania.**

*Western Indian Ocean Journal of Marine Science*

2022

**Peter, N., Semba, M., Lugomela, C., & Kyewalyanga, M. Seasonal variability of vertical patterns in chlorophyll-a fluorescence in the coastal waters off Kimbiji, Tanzania.**

*Western Indian Ocean Journal of Marine Science*

2021

**Kyewalyanga, M. S., Peter, N., Semba, M., & Mahongo, S. B. Coastal upwelling and seasonal variation in phytoplankton biomass in the Pemba Channel. Western**

*Western Indian Ocean Journal of Marine Science*

2020

**Semba, M., Lumpkin, R., Kimirei, I., Shaghude, Y., & Nyandwi, N. Seasonal and spatial variation of surface current in the Pemba Channel, Tanzania.**

*PloS one*

2019

**Peter, N., Semba, M., Lugomela, C., & Kyewalyanga, M. S. The influence of physical-chemical variables on the spatial and seasonal variation of Chlorophyll-a in coastal waters of Unguja, Zanzibar, Tanzania**

*Western Indian Ocean Journal of Marine Science*

2018

**Semba, M., Kimirei, I., Kyewalyanga, M., Peter, N., Brendonck, L., & Somers, B. The decline in phytoplankton biomass and prawn catches in the Rufiji-Mafia Channel, Tanzania.**

*Western Indian Ocean Journal of Marine Science*

2016

**Crawford, B., Herrera, M. D., Hernandez, N., Leclair, C. R., Jiddawi, N., Masumbuko, S., & Haws, M. Small scale fisheries management: lessons from cockle harvesters in Nicaragua and Tanzania.**

*Coastal Management*

2010