

For a Better World



Hebrew University: Making a Difference

The Hebrew University is home to several international master's programs in the spirit of *Tikkun Olam* – repairing the world.

The international master's programs in Public Health (IMPH), in Agricultural Sciences and in Community Development (GLOCAL), aim to share Israeli expertise in key fields with students primarily from developing countries. Since their inception, over 1,000 professionals have been trained. Meet Alexis, Beatrice, and Ernest featured here, who returned home as agents of change to positively impact their communities and countries; all with the goal of making the world a better place.

Did you know?

These programs advance the United Nations' Agenda for Sustainable Development, specifically Goal 17 (Partnerships), which calls for "implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the sustainable development goals."





Dr. Alexis Nizigiyimana (IMPH, 2018/2019) was born in Mugamba Commune- an under-developed, poverty stricken rural community of Burundi.

Alexis' experience and struggles inspired him to study medicine. In 2018 he joined the IMPH program and was awarded a Pears Foundation scholarship. The IMPH experience was life-changing for Alexis. Upon completing his studies and returning home, Alexis founded the Ubuntu-Village of Life - whose vision is to support disadvantaged people living in rural areas with a particular emphasis on returnees, displaced persons, widows, orphans, and disabled children.

“ We pledge to provide education, shelter and health care services to those who need it. We are also committed to teaching sustainable economic development backed by innovation and modern practices in our main areas of concern: health; agriculture; nutrition and environment. We are committed to bringing about change in Africa.

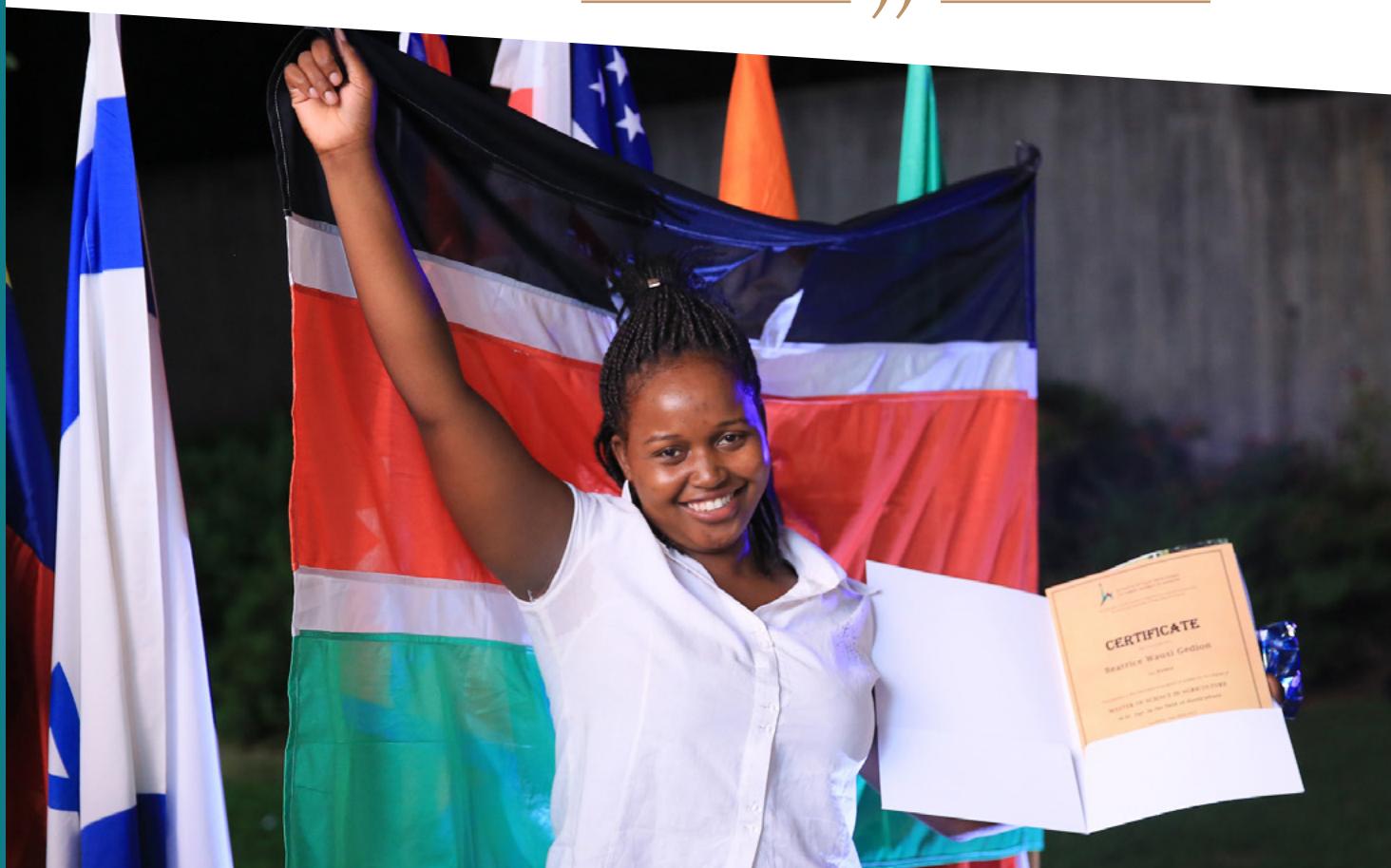
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Beatrice Gedion from Kenya, graduated with an MSc in Plant Sciences from the International School of Agricultural Sciences at the Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Environment.

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The nearest water point to my village is approximately 17 km away, with the only accessible means of transport being donkeys, since it is mountainous; people spend half a day just fetching water. When I went home during the semester break, I discussed with my community's leaders the idea of constructing water reservoirs to collect water runoff for irrigation. My parents supported my idea and helped me dig. So far, my community has built five reservoirs.

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Originally from Rwanda,
Ernest Ngabonzima
completed his master's in
International Development
(Glocal) in 2015.

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Glocal contributed a lot to my professional life, as a senior consultant working on advancing gender equity within the greater context of sustainable development in Rwanda. The courses I took in evaluation and action research have enabled me to carry out research in Rwanda, evaluate different programs, and conduct trainings.

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Call for Action

The Hebrew University is committed to preparing leaders for tomorrow from among the talented students who come from across Israel's diverse society as well as from around the world. This commitment is carried out with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals in mind and hand in hand with our partners at the Pears Foundation

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If I had to pick one partnership that is most emblematic of our Foundation's identity and values it would be this one [with the Hebrew University]. It links Jewish values, Israeli expertise and the skills and knowledge of the students themselves to create a truly global cohort of leaders who can create lasting change in their own countries. I am proud and humbled by every Pears scholar I meet and it is a privilege to support them.

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Sir Trevor Pears CMG, Executive Chair of Pears Foundation

We welcome your partnership in this vital mission. Together we can advance our vision for a better world. These programs are an investment in the students' future, the University's future, and the future of humanity.

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