

## **Juliet Akello PhD, Biography**

Juliet Akello is a plant Pathologist at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), Southern Africa Regional Hub, Lusaka Zambia. As part of the CGIAR team on Agriculture for Nutrition and Health, Juliet coordinates the mycotoxin mitigation research projects in Zambia and Zimbabwe. Juliet holds a Ph.D. in Agricultural Sciences from the Center for Development Research (ZEF), University of Bonn; MSc in Crop Science (Crop protection) and BSc in Biological Sciences from Makerere University. As a Plant Pathologist/Entomologist, her scientific interests are diverse, including food safety (microbial contaminants and mycotoxicology), arthropod pathology, microbial ecology, microbials as biocontrol agents, and capacity building. She has extensive experience in teaching as well as conducting research in food safety and use of beneficial microbes (entomopathogens, endophytes, and other non-pathogenic microbes) for reducing pest and disease pressure. Her field experience has been in Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, USA and Germany. She taught in Uganda (Makerere University) between 2006 and 2008; and Rwanda (University of Rwanda-Umutara Campus) from 2012 to 2013. She has been leading the Aflasafe development since 2013 in Zambia, providing trainings to build capacity in mycotoxin research to diverse audiences. She has published on a wide range of subjects related to food safety and use of beneficial microbes for pest and disease management. In addition to various receiving trainings in Project Management and Risk Management, Juliet also completed a two-year AWARD (African Women in Agricultural Research and Development) fellowship in June 2017.

