

SHORT BIO – SUNDAY EKESI, PhD, FRES, FESA, FAAS, FTWAS
XX International Plant Protection Congress, July 1-5, Athens, Greece



Dr Sunday Ekesi is an entomologist, research for development scientist, and science leader with extensive knowledge and experience in sustainable agriculture (microbial control, biological control, habitat management/conservation, IPM, pesticide management), biodiversity and climate change. He has developed several biopesticides for use in IPM jointly with the private sector. In 2019 alone, these biopesticide products were applied on 132,994 ha of farmland by >53,198 farmers. This has benefitted 212,792 households and minimized the use of synthetic pesticides. Dr Ekesi has successfully developed pre- and post-harvest management methods for fruit

flies that meet the demands of domestic and quarantine-sensitive export markets. The programme has significantly improved the production of fruits and vegetables affected by fruit flies and increased net income, reaching >100 million beneficiary households across Africa. Most recently, Dr Ekesi has expanded his research activities to the use of insects as alternative sources of protein for food and feed and his R4D is informing policy decisions and leading to the development of standards for the use of insects as protein additives in animal feed and food in Africa. The standards have enabled >300 small, medium, and large-scale feed producers to integrate insect-based protein into feed production. Dr Ekesi has published >270 peer reviewed articles in scientific journals and given over 150 presentations at scientific gatherings. He has trained >30 graduate students (PhD and MSc). He has won several awards including Distinguished Scientist Award (2021) of the Entomological Society of America, Curt Bergfors Foundation Food Planet Prize (part of the 2020 team of institutional programme recipient) and The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) in Agricultural Sciences. He is a Fellow of the Entomological Society of America (FESA), Royal Entomological Society (FRES)-UK, African Academy of Sciences (FAAS) and TWAS. He is a member of the advisory board of several technical agencies and institutions including the 1890 Universities Center of Excellence for Global Feed Security and Defense University of Maryland Eastern Shore, USA.