



Nick Rahier

PhD, Anthropology

LATEST EXPERIENCE

PROJECT LEAD – ‘Green Science From the South’

KU Leuven – UGhent – Egerton University Kenya (2023 – 2027)

FWO-funded senior project on the topic of ‘Green Science From the South’. This project will be executed in collaboration with Prof. Katrien Pype (KU Leuven, main PI), Prof. Koenraad Stroeken (UGhent, co-PI) and Dr. Milcah Mutuku (Egerton University Kenya, co-PI).

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER – RESPIRA COORDINATOR

KU Leuven (oct. 2022 – Oct. 2023)

Coordination of a transdisciplinary team of researchers combining leading insights from the disciplines of medicine and health, engineering, architecture, conflict and development studies and anthropology to combat and research Chronic Respiratory Diseases (CRDs) on the African continent. Core tasks: authoring funding applications, organization of conferences and meetings, networking with African partners

PROGRAM COORDINATOR SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

KU Leuven (April 2022 – Sept. 2023)

Coordination of MA-program social and cultural anthropology at KU Leuven. Core tasks: student affairs, teaching assistance, admission of new students, execution of program vision/mission in collaboration with program director

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

KU Leuven (November 2021)

I co-authored a successful Marie S. Curie Doctoral Network application on the topic of climate urgency (successful after 1st submission). I organized weekly meetings with the consortium members, and drafted the project proposal.

DOCTORAL RESEARCHER

KU Leuven (2016 - 2021)

Anthropological research project that aims at studying the ways in which technological infrastructures have been co-producing the post-colonial society in the Democratic Republic in Congo and Kenya. My research within this project focused on urban life in Nakuru, Kenya where I conducted long-term (2 years) qualitative research to investigate various manifestations of ‘heat’ in the city. Research output touches upon topics such as technology worlds, energy culture, urbanity, healing and herbalism. Additionally, I spent 3 months in Lubumbashi for the same research project.

POLICY OFFICER - PROJECT COORDINATOR

APDH Burundi (2009 - 2015)

Coordination and organization of policy-oriented (research) projects focusing on cultural exchange, good health and minorities support through capacity building, internships and reconciliation/land conflict workshops in Burundi.

FORMATION

PhD SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

KU Leuven (2016 - 2021)

MA AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

UGHENT (2011 - 2015)



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[Green Science From the South](#)

ABOUT ME

Dr. Nick Rahier's research interests include technology worlds, food culture, urbanity, healing and herbalism. He is involved in a Marie-Curie doctoral network on the topic of climate urgency, coordinating a research consortium on respiratory illness and air pollution in Africa and leading a research project on the topic of green pesticide production in Kenya, Rwanda and Tanzania. He has an extensive network in East Africa and loves to set up (applied) research projects that deal with everyday experiences of and concerns with runaway change, sustainability, health and well-being.

SKILLS

LANGUAGES

DUTCH



FRENCH



ENGLISH



KISWAHILI



RESEARCH AND PROJECT COORDINATION

anthropocene

multimodal scientific outreach

multimodal data collection

policy

participatory data collection

stakeholder negotiation skill

africanist

analytical thinking

cultural sensitivity

TEACHING

- * Anthropology and the Anthropocene (AY 2023 – 2024 / KU Leuven, Belgium)
- * Ethnographic writing (tutor) (AY 2020 – 2021, KU Leuven, Belgium)
- * Qualitative research methods (AY 2023 – 2024 / Egerton Uni, Kenya)
- * Society and Environment (AY 2023 – 2024 / Egerton Uni, Kenya)
- * Language, History and Identity in Central and Eastern Africa (AY 2023 – 2024 / UGhent, Belgium)

SELECTION OF PUBLICATIONS

- * A1 Article: Rahier, N. (2023). Tasting 'kienyeji': gustatory explorations of city futures in Nakuru, Kenya. *Africa*, 93(1), 80-99.
- * A1 Article: Rahier, N. (2021). Overheated stomachs: notes on urban life and toxicity in Nakuru, Kenya. *Africa*, 91 (3), 453-472.
- * Accepted Book proposal: Rahier, N. *City Heat: Accelerated Urban Change in Nakuru, Kenya*. University College London Press (UCL Press)/ International African Institute)
- * A1 Chapter contribution: Rahier, N. Enchanting Urban Futures through Geothermal Explorations in Nakuru, Kenya. In: K. Pype, O. Adunbi, M. Fischer (eds.), *Technology and the City in Africa*. Duke University Press (in press)
- *A1 publication Rahier, Nick, Gökçe Günel, and Pamila Gupta. 2017. "Our Electric Infrastructures." *Theorizing the Contemporary*, *Fieldsights*, December 19. <https://culanth.org/fieldsights/our-electric-infrastructures>

GRANTS/FUNDING

Secured:

- ***VLIR Open Faculty Financing (Global Minds)** (2023; 25 000 euros) – funding to organize a networking event in Nakuru, Kenya on the topic of air pollution and CRDs in Africa (RESPIRA) *Role: Author*
- ***FWO Senior Project 'Green Science From the South'** (2023-2027; for a total of up to 1.085.935 euros) – in collaboration with Prof. Katrien Pype (KU Leuven, main PI), Prof. Koenraad Stroeken (UGhent, co-PI) and Dr. Milcah Mutuku (Egerton University Kenya, co-PI). *Role: Author*
- ***Marie-Curie Doctoral Networks funding for project 'C-Urge'** (2023 – 2027; for a total of up to 2.7.000.000 euros) *Role: lead author*

***Private funding (Rotary International, Alpro Soja, private donations)** for exchange projects/capacity building projects in Burundi (2009 – 2015; for a total of up to 50 000 euros) *Role: author*

***VLIR travel grant for research stay** (1000 euros) in Burundi – Rwanda (2015) *Role: Author*

Submitted:

***H2020 INT-AIR – ‘indoor air quality and ventilation practices in Europe and Africa’** (submitted Sept 2023; for a total of up to 8.000.000 euros) – in collaboration with Leiden University, Technical University of Bratislava, KU Leuven and University of Valladolid) *Role: lead Author*

***G-STIC – ‘Enhancing Capacity for Climate Change Resilience in Nakuru, Kenya through an AI-based Monitoring and Early Warning System for Climate Change Induced Air Pollution’** (Submitted Sept 2023; for a total of up to 600.164,21 euros) – in collaboration with Egerton University, Kenya and KU Leuven. *Role: Author*