



## **Publication Policy**

### **AfriNutriForest (ANF) Project**

Version 28.01.2026, by Katja (based on a draft by Silke from 2024)

#### *Purpose of this document*

The success of the AfriNutriForest science-practice collaboration project and its individual participants depends on the successful publication of results in appropriate high-quality scientific journals (excluding predatory open-access journals), at scientific conferences and in magazines, as well as in websites and social media targeting the development community among others. Publications also include dissemination materials, like policy briefs, fact sheets, project briefs, manuals and technical guidelines produced by team members. In the ANF project we aim at developing joint publications based on the collaboration of team members. Benefits of collaborative publications include the following:

- ✓ Increased impact and enhanced quality of publications;
- ✓ Opportunity to learn from each other and make use of diverse expertise in the team;
- ✓ Access to a wider range of data and techniques for research;
- ✓ Ability to conduct deeper and more comprehensive research;
- ✓ Support and motivation throughout the writing process.

In order to avoid uncertainties about access to research data or authorship of publications, AfriNutriForest team members agree on the following publication policy. Social media dissemination is excluded from this policy and is done independently by each partner.

The team members are responsible for their own work and for the work of their students and other employees involved in the project. Publication activities will be coordinated by the following team members:

Lead:

- **Dr Katja Kehlenbeck, SLE**
- **Dr Elisha Gogo, Pwani University**

Responsible ANF team members:

- Prof. Dr Annie Hilda Ong'gayo, Pwani University
- Dr Rose Kigathi Pwani, University
- Dr Papa Madiama Diop, ISRA
- Dr Ghislain Khanfany, Université Gaston Berger
- Dr John Chelal, Plant Village
- Fatimata Diop, APAF
- Dr Fatou Diouf, Eclasio
- Aicha Mechri, SLE
- Dr Silke Stöber, SLE

#### *Guidelines for publications*



- The participant who originally obtained data, conceived the study (e.g., MSc, PhD students, postdocs), or wrote the first draft typically publishes the results as **first author**. If data was jointly obtained, collaborative paper rules apply.
- Collaborative papers will have multiple authors, with the first author being the one with the most significant contribution, such as in writing the article.
- Any co-workers delivering substantial contributions to a publication, e.g. reviewers, data/information collectors or data analysers, may justify co-authorship. NGO partners and research farmers may be co-authors if applicable (e.g. intensive data collection). The team leader (or main supervisor of a student) is usually the last author.
- To ensure timely publication of collaborative papers, authorship credit is discussed before writing begins and tasks assigned to specific team members, often leading to co-authorship at the end.
- Data suppliers should not block or delay access to data needed for collaborative synthesis, as it complements, rather than delays, disciplinary publications.
- Before starting data analysis or manuscript writing, participants must announce a tentative title, list of authors, journals, summary, and data to be included to the full mailing list of the project. Usually, the first author is responsible for this task. Updates will be discussed within the author/co-author team at monthly meetings and documented, e.g. on Google Drive.
- The first author must add the basic information about the planned manuscript to the Publication List at the Google Drive (in the folder WP5). Basic information includes a list of authors/co-authors, the tentative title, the targeted journal (or conference, dissemination platform) and the planned submission date. This list must be updated regularly.
- **Before any submission** to a journal or other dissemination platforms, final drafts of **manuscripts must be shared** with all co-authors and with Katja and Gogo for their approval or feedback and to ensure that all are informed of ongoing activities.
- Manuscripts are confidential and should not be shared with non-participants.
- All publications and events must acknowledge funding from the German Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Regional Identity, including the ministry's logo in reports, presentations, brochures, and all other dissemination materials.
- Acknowledgements should include – if applicable – farmers, village leaders, local assistants, plot owners, student assistants, lab technicians, reviewers, and collaborative institutions and colleagues.
- For presentations, the logo of the project and of the organization of the presenters should be shown on the first slide, and complete set of all partner logos as well as the donor logos (see on google drive) on the last slide.
- Also non-scientific publications, e.g. in newspapers or radio, must be shared with the co-authors and the WP5 leader for review (exception: contributions for local newspapers or other local media channels).

### *Authorship rules*

- The ANF project adheres to the principles of good scientific practice as outlined in the DFG's "Guidelines for Safeguarding Good Research Practice" document (<https://www.dfg.de/en/basics-topics/basics-and-principles-of-funding/good-research-practice/code-of-conduct>).
- Guidelines on good practice in publication and authorship are also provided by several universities (see for example <https://governance.admin.ox.ac.uk/research-innovation-committee/policies/publication-authorship> and [2](https://division-</a></li></ul></div><div data-bbox=)

[research.brown.edu/research-cycle/conduct-research/ethics-research/guidelines-authorship-scholarly-or-scientific](https://research.brown.edu/research-cycle/conduct-research/ethics-research/guidelines-authorship-scholarly-or-scientific)) as well as by the respective journals (e.g. for Springer journals <https://link.springer.com/brands/springer/journal-policies>).

- Authorship is merited by significant contributions to the research, including obtaining funds, planning experiments or field campaigns, data collection and analysis, providing materials, and writing and reviewing the manuscript. Just being the leader of a work group or work package is not sufficient for co-authorship.
- Co-authors must actively contribute to the manuscript. After an offer of co-authorship, a reply is expected within the given deadline. If no response is received, co-authors may be removed, a decision to be discussed among all involved co-authors. Individuals are free to decline co-authorship, in which case their contributions will be acknowledged according to good scientific practice and copyright laws.
- Data providers may receive credit through co-authorship, acknowledgment in the manuscript or figure/table legends, or as “personal communication,” depending on their contribution to the manuscript and the significance of the data. This will be discussed with data providers before manuscript writing. If data are derived from original data (e.g., averages or indices), the original data rights are maintained, and all publication policies apply to derived data as well.
- Corresponding author is usually the first author, even if he/she is a student. Sometimes even two corresponding authors are possible, following institutional rules.

All project members and any students involved in project work must sign this publication policy. WP leaders/co-leaders and team leaders within a WP are responsible for getting the signatures of their students.

***I hereby confirm to comply with the above described ANF publication policy:***

Name:

Affiliation:

Location and date:

Signature:

**Please scan the signed document and send it to Katja and Gogo for documentation**

