2018 Biosafety Heroes Award Winner



Deo B. Ndumu

First Designate Biosafety and Biosecurity Officer
National Veterinary Laboratory,
National Animal Disease Diagnostic and Epidemiology Centre (NADDEC),
Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF)
Entebbe, Uganda

IFBA Certified Professional Biorisk Management
IFBA Certified Professional Biological Safety Cabinet Selection, Certification, and
Safe Use



Since 2011 Dr. Ndumu has served as First Designate Biosafety and Biosecurity officer at the National Veterinary Laboratory of the Ugandan National Animal Disease Diagnostic and Epidemiology Centre, MAAIF, a position he accepted without additional compensation. He has been the coordinator of significant biosafety and biosecurity upgrades at his institution performed under two separate US Government programs, and played a lead role in the implementation of CWA 15793 there. He also coordinated the investigation and rapid response to anthrax outbreaks in several areas of Uganda that killed hundreds of wild and domestic animals. After being trained as a biorisk management trainer himself Dr. Ndumu went on to train others in Uganda, in both the animal and public health sectors, and has also written SOPs and other documents relevant to that. He began these activities at a time when current ideas and discipline of biorisk management were little understood and at the very infancy in the Ugandan veterinary sector, but tirelessly worked to change opinions. He is a member of the African Biological Safety Association and the Biosafety and Biosecurity Association – Uganda and has been a member of the American and other biological safety associations. Dr. Ndumu has also donated his time to the IFBA, serving on the Biocontainment Engineering Working Group, and providing assistance to the development of the certification program examinations. He was in the first cohort of Africans to receive IFBA Professional Certification in Biorisk Management, and is also IFBA Certified in Biological Safety Cabinet Selection, Installation, and Safe Use.

