

# **CURRICULUM VITAE**

## **Shortened**

### **Prof Klaus Kellner**

#### ***Personal particulars***

Current position : Professor  
Person : Klaus Kellner  
Identity number : 5704275091082  
Date of birth : 27 April 1957 – Okahandja, Namibia  
Sex : Male  
Marital status : Married  
Mobile : 0825696145  
Electronic mail : [Klaus.Kellner274@gmail.com](mailto:Klaus.Kellner274@gmail.com)  
Websites : [www.ecorangerestore.co.za](http://www.ecorangerestore.co.za) and [www.beims.co.za](http://www.beims.co.za)  
Work address : Temporary appointment at the Unit for Environmental Sciences and Management (UESM) in School of Environmental Sciences Development, North-West University (Potchefstroom campus), Potchefstroom, 2520, SOUTH AFRICA

#### **Resume**

Prof Dr Kellner has been working at the NWU since 1988, first as lecturer, senior lecturer and full professor. He now has a temporary appointment and is project manager in the Unit for Environmental Sciences and Management (UESM) at the North-West University (Potchefstroom campus) to carry out research projects.

The most important aims of Prof Dr Kellner's career include the training and capacity development and the participation in research and development projects at national and international level. The latter includes the collaboration with other scientists, managers and land users in his field of expertise, as well as the teaching and supervision of under- and post-graduate students, the training and capitation of agricultural extension officers, land users and environmental managers.

Prof Dr Klaus Kellner was a C3 rated researcher by the National Research Foundation (NRF) in South Africa, in the field "Conservation and Management of Ecosystems and Biodiversity" till 2023. He was a lecturer and supervised and mentored many post-graduate studies. His fields of expertise include the control of bush (woody) encroachment, vegetation dynamics, land degradation and desertification, restoration/rehabilitation ecology, range condition assessment and the implementation of sustainable land management (SLM) practices in mainly the arid- and semi-arid rangelands.

He also studies the impacts of climate change, different land-use strategies, loss in biodiversity, vegetation regression and the impact of anthropogenic factors that influence long-term decision making. The effects of implementing restoration/rehabilitation strategies, especially after the impact of ecosystem disturbances and factors leading to land degradation (e.g. bush encroachment (increase in density of woody species) after being controlled/cleared, occurrence of alien and indigenous species invasions, anthropogenic and implementation of mismanagement practices) are researched and sustainable management strategies proposed.

Prof Dr Kellner is currently or was the Principal Investigator (PI) of several national and international projects. He is currently the PI for the “Rangeland Improvement through Bush Control and Sustainable Intensification to mitigate Climate Change and Improve Livelihoods and Food security in Southern Africa (RIBS)” project, which is funded by the Southern African Science Services Centre for Climate Change and Adaptive Land Management (SASSCAL 2.0), Germany. He is responsible for research carried out in South Africa and Namibia for RIBS. Other projects include the Desert Margins Program (DMP) funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Kalahari Namib Project (KNP), PRACTICE (Prevention and Restoration Actions to Combat Desertification), IDESSA (An Integrative Decision Support System for Sustainable Rangeland Management in southern African Savannas) etc. He has contributed to IPBES deliverables (Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services) and represented South Africa at the UNCCD (United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification) as the STC (Science and Technology Correspondent) in the CST (Committee on Science and Technology). Prof Dr Kellner has represented South Africa at the CST of the UNCCD COP’s (Conference of Parties) for 22 years. He is also a member of the National Coordinating Body (NCB) for UNCCD matters at the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) and leads research projects regarding land degradation, desertification, bush encroachment and sustainable land management (SLM) for the DFFE and DAFF (Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries) in South Africa. Prof Dr Klaus Kellner was recently appointed by the former Minister of Forestry and Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) in South Africa, Ms Barbara Creecy, to serve on the panel regarding the Conservation Advisory Board till 2025 to revise the Regulations and Amendment of the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (CARA), 1983 (ACT No. 43 of 1983) and was also appointed by the Director General (DG) of DFFE (Ms Nomfundo Tshabalala) to serve as a member on of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) to evaluate the projects submitted regarding “Sustainable Land Management (SLM)” that have impacts on the grazing lands in Limpopo and Northern Cape under the Land Degradation (LD) Focal area. Prof Dr Kellner serves on different National and International committees regarding land degradation, desertification and restoration/rehabilitation ecology and has done work for UNEP (United nations Environment Program), SAFGRAD-AU (Semi-Arid Food Grain Research and Development of the African Union), several consultancies of the UNCC (United Nations Compensation Commission) in Kuwait and many other committees of the UNCCD regarding his field of expertise. Prof Dr Kellner served as Co-chair on the Advisory Group for the Provision of Scientific Advice (AGSA) on DLDD (Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought) matters for the UNCCD and was part of the SPI (Science and Policy Interface) committee for the UNCCD till September 2017.

He is an honorary member (2022) of the Land Rehabilitation Society of Southern Africa (LaRSSA) (since 2014). Prof Dr Kellner also received the long-term achievement award from LaRSSA in 2022. He was the president and chairperson of the GSSA (Grassland Society of South Africa) Trust and now only a member of the GSSA. He was the president of the Arid Zone Ecology Forum (AZEF) and is currently a member of the Society of Ecological Restoration (SER). Prof Dr Kellner was appointed in 2018 as a member to serve on the South African Roster of Independent Experts (RoE) of the UNCCD. He has done many consultancies regarding advice about SLM and restoration at national and international level, including work in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). In 2010 and 2015, he received the award as the “International Researcher of the year” from the North-West University for contributions in policy and advisory bodies, related societies and managerial level, international panels,

subject related journals, conferences and organisations at national and global level. In 2007, he was selected as one of the top 10% and in 2009 and 2010 as one of the top 20% researchers at the North-West University in South Africa.

Prof Dr Kellner's research outputs since 2008 include the author- or co-authorship of 13 chapters in books, 43 peer-reviewed scientific papers (since 2004) and >100 conference presentations since 2008. He has supervised over 37 MSc and 5 PhD post-graduate students since 2001. In 2017 alone, he was the supervisor of six (6) MSc studies who completed their post- graduate studies. The research and expertise gained from national and international collaborations, attendance of conferences and consultancies are used in the lecturing and supervision of under-and post-graduate students.

Prof Dr Kellner is the reviewer of papers for 8 scientific journals and serves as the external examiner of many Universities at global level. He was involved in 11 professional societies and contributed to many national and international organisations in his field of expertise.

Prof Dr Kellner is busy developing a meta-database for technologies to control bush encroachment in Namibia, Botswana and South Africa. He is also developing the BEIMS website (BEIMS - Bush Expert Information Management System) which can be accessed at [www.beims.co.za](http://www.beims.co.za).