**Country of Study:** Kenya

**University:** Egerton University

**Department:** Biological Sciences

**Student Position:** Graduate Research Assistant — MSc

**Home Country:** South Sudan

**Home Institution:** Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries

**Home Position:** Livestock Inspector

**Mentored By:** Prof. Manfred Teage

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**Research Area:** Limnology

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**BHEARD PROGRAM START DATE:** August 2014

**HOMETOWN:** Bortown Jonglei, South Sudan

**UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION:** Dr. John Garang Memorial University of Science and Technology

**RESEARCH INTERESTS:** Limnology; The value of wetlands resource in community’s economic development and poverty alleviation or reduction

South Sudan is blessed with rich fisheries resources in its many lakes, rivers, and wetlands. If these resources are put into use, Chol is sure the fisheries sector will makes a significant contribution to the national goals of poverty eradication and economic growth. Chol says, the sector provides high quality food in the form of fish for all small-scale captured fisheries along the Nile among the poor communities. However, that sector is given the least amount of attention and, therefore, few cadres in this field. “I felt if these resources are given adequate knowledge and understanding, it will have a tremendous contributions to our communities as well as the country at large,” says Chol.

**PERSONAL STATEMENT:**
Chol hopes to gain the knowledge, skills, and experiences to do his work and research efficiently in order to help his community back home. “Experience is the best teacher and one can get this through academia as well as from team work,” says Chol. “In South Sudan, people who study fisheries are treated as if of a low profession, yet all communities in South Sudan eat fish. With this
belief, I must make sure the knowledge I will gain here is shared through extension services as well as through the university back home. What matter is the ability to do your job, but not how others perceive your job. Do your job properly and people will appreciated it, they will join you, and therein development.”

In his spare time, Chol enjoys reading novels, the Bible, and the Sudan Tribune News; watching movies, soccer, BBC World News, and the National Geographic channels; and exploring social media such as Facebook, Twitter, Twoo and Watsap.