

NELSON OPANY

Professional | Leader | Humanitarian | Scout



Nelson Opany is a Public Relations and Communications Management Professional with more than five years of continuous experience, with one and a half years in a managerial role in the international nonprofit sector. He possesses core skills in strategic communications, content development and impact storytelling. He has also practised in the areas of stakeholder and reputation management. Additionally, Nelson has useful skills in information technology, project management. He is a graduate of Moi University, Mombasa Aviation Training Institute and a proud alumnus of Starehe Boy's Centre & School.

Besides his professional work, Nelson is a long time Scout with a passion for volunteering, leadership, youth empowerment and supporting the development of social enterprises at local, national, regional and international levels. He is the first-ever African recipient of the World Scout Messenger of Peace Hero Award and has also been recognized with a Letter of Commendation and Lion Scout Award from Kenya Scouts Association.

He currently sits in the Boards of Kanisa Savings and Credit Cooperative Society, Kanisa Holdings, the Network of International Youth Organizations in Africa and Fanaka Welfare Group. Mr Opany is a member of the Public Relations Society of Kenya, Africa Scout Foundation, Old Starehian Society and Kenya Scouts Association where he once served as National Youth Representative and board member. He has also previously served as Chair of the Eastern Africa Scout Youth Forum and as Member of the National Steering Committee for 350.org Kenya

Together with his wife, they run NelBen Foundation, a family charity started in 2019 to inspire and empower young people in disadvantaged communities with skills, opportunities and resources for personal and community development. He is also the founder of the defunct Uwezo Youth Development Programme in Mombasa.

Nelson has travelled to at least 24 countries worldwide as a leader, facilitator, rapporteur, activist, volunteer and consultant. He has worked in multinational teams on non-formal education, youth development, environmental conservation and peacebuilding, an experience which has greatly shaped his global citizenship and intercultural skills. M. Opany has appeared on Ghana Broadcasting Corporation (Ghana TV), Y254TV by Kenya Broadcasting Corporation, Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation (ZBC TV) and his articles published by the Standard Media Group, Kenya.

A believer in family, hard work and giving back, he draws inspiration from personal experiences and the teachings of Dr. Geoffrey W. Griffin – founder of the Starehe Schools and Lord Baden Powell – founder of the Scout Movement. With his mantra “Aspire for Better”, Nelson is guided by a set of personal values that include: Respect and Dignity; Honesty and Integrity; Fairness and Equity; Hard and Smart Work; Leadership and Service; and Family and Friendships.

Mr. Opany works as Manager, Communications and Partnerships at the Africa Regional Office of the World Organization of the Scout Movement. He uses his spare time to be with the family, write, practice photography, pursue his business interests, play and watch football, and explore the countryside. Nelson lives in Nairobi, Kenya with his wife Benta and two sons, Powell and Adriel.

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