

ILRI Electrician saves ILRI

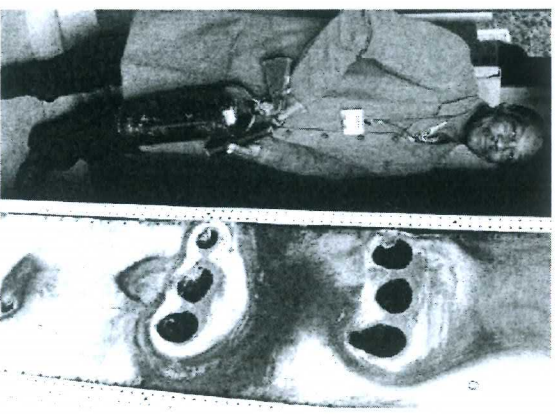
When **Peter Kiberu Njuguna** an electrical technician at ILRI reported to work on Saturday, 20th of June 2009, he was coming to ensure that the freezers in Lab 1 had power as the contractors fixed a replacement cable from the main switch room to Lab 1.

Normally, this is a task that would take two hours and so he had planned to leave at 10:30 am and spend the rest of his weekend with his youngest daughter who was home from boarding school for the half term break. But that was not to be. At 10:00 a.m. he heard about 5-ear splitting explosions and stopped what he was doing. He instinctively dashed out of Lab 1 and lo and behold, he saw a huge billowing, dense, cloud of smoke and sparks from the distance. It was a fire! He ran back to the lab, grabbed a fire extinguisher, put it on one shoulder and sped off in the direction of the smoke.

Oblivious to the danger he was placing himself in, he moved into the smoke filled room, from where everyone else had fled. He began to battle the fierce flames, single handedly, right from the entrance of the main switch room – the heart of the institute.

The rising flames were hot, the acrid fumes were choking and Peter was blinded by the smoke. Nonetheless, he remained undeterred by his singular mission to save the institute that has been his mother for the last 18years, from being burnt to a shell.

Two fire extinguishers later, Peter won the battle. The fire was off. So, as we walked into ILRI this morning, and continued with business as usual, its because Peter went beyond the call of duty to deal with "business unusual" over the weekend while we relaxed and had a good time at



home.

Story by: Jane W. Gitau, People Livestock & the Environment (PLE)
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Well done, Peter! What a wonderful thing you did for us all on Saturday, as we lazed away the day! Thank you.