

# MARIAMU MABINDA

Information Security Analyst | Cybersecurity Expert | Data Protection Specialist

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## SUMMARY

Highly skilled Information / Cyber Security Analyst with over a decade of experience in the technology sector and a Master's in IT System Security and Forensics. Proficient in identifying security vulnerabilities, implementing effective defenses and analysing incidents to bolster organizational security. With a deep passion for information security, I am dedicated to providing high-quality solutions that enhance an organization's cybersecurity posture and ensure the integrity of digital assets. I seek to leverage my knowledge, skills and expertise within forward-thinking organizations committed to innovative security practices, ultimately fostering a culture of safety and resilience in a rapidly evolving digital landscape.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Information Security Officer

#### Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Corporation

03/2022 - Present Nairobi, Kenya

- Proactively monitored and analyzed security alerts and incidents, performing real-time investigations and coordinating swift responses to mitigate potential threats effectively.
- Conducted comprehensive risk assessments and vulnerability assessments of applications, systems, and devices to proactively identify and remediate risks, ensuring robust protection against cyber threats.
- Developed, maintained, and regularly updated security playbooks to reflect the latest threats and best practices in cybersecurity, fostering a dynamic response strategy to evolving risks.
- Strategically developed and implemented security policies and governance frameworks aligned with business objectives while ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements such as ISO 27001 and the Data Protection Act 2019.
- Led impactful cybersecurity training programs and awareness campaigns, educating employees on emerging threats and compliance requirements, thereby cultivating a proactive security culture within the organization.

### Cyber Analyst

#### Schneider Ikol Ltd

01/2014 - 03/2022 Nairobi, Kenya

- Monitored, reviewed, and analyzed security logs, alerts, and events through XOAR platforms to identify potential threats and vulnerabilities, facilitating timely responses.
- Contributed to the successful deployment of an Identity and Access Management solution, enhancing user access control and security management, which minimized unauthorized access risks and enhanced compliance with security standards.
- Regularly performed risk assessments and vulnerability scans to proactively identify and mitigate potential security weaknesses.
- Engaged in incident response activities, collaborating with teams to contain, eradicate, and recover from security incidents.
- Contributed to the review of cybersecurity standards to ensure IT security policies align with business strategy and industry best practices.
- Participated in technical reviews and change committees that ensure compliance with best practices.

### Customer Advisor

#### Barclays Bank

2010 - 2014 Nairobi, Kenya

- Spearheaded strategic sales planning initiatives that resulted in a remarkable 120% increase in revenue across personal, retail, and corporate sales.
- Delivered high-value business solutions by re-focusing team efforts, enhancing service delivery to high-profile clients including The American Embassy and major NGOs.
- Initiated and drove organizational culture changes to improve client engagement and service quality, successfully integrating new practices across teams.
- Conducted comprehensive pre-sales analysis to tailor solution designs, ensuring alignment with client needs and market trends.
- Managed and cultivated relationships with high-profile clients and key sectors, reinforcing Barclays' position as a trusted partner and expanding market reach.
- Oversaw the deployment of complex solution designs, ensuring successful implementation and client satisfaction through meticulous project management.

### Sales Executive

#### Zain Centre

2008 - 2010 Makueni, Kenya

- Secured 100% portfolio attainment, surpassing revenue and budget targets for the first time in five years, demonstrating exceptional performance in meeting goals.
- Successfully crafted and integrated service industries to address telecommunications needs, improving service delivery and client satisfaction.
- Implemented strategic management practices for services and contracts, ensuring high standards of execution and client retention.
- Fostered and maintained strong relationships with key clients in the Makueni region, contributing to a robust and loyal client base.

## EDUCATION

### Bachelors of Business Information Technology

#### Kenya Methodist University

2016 - 2018 Nairobi, Kenya

### Master of Science in IT (System Security and Forensic)

#### Strathmore University

10/2022 Nairobi, Kenya

## CERTIFICATIONS

### Certified Data Protection Officer

Strathmore University

### Certified Ethical Hacker

EC-Council

### ERP Security Certification

Computer Society of Kenya

### Cybersecurity and Digital Forensics

Bruno University

### Technical Support Certificate

Google

### Digital Marketing Certificate

Google

### Supervisory Skills Certification

Kenya School of Government

### Senior Management Course

Kenya School of Government

### ISMS Training Certificate

Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS)

### Introduction to Cybersecurity

CISCO

### Cloud Introduction

IBM

### IBM Cybersecurity Introduction

IBM

### Introduction to Critical Infrastructure Protection

OPSWAT

### CISA Certified Information Security Auditor

ISACA

## SKILLS

Leadership and Team Management | GDPR

Threat Analysis & Intelligence | Firewall Tuning

Network Security Monitoring | ISO/IEC 27001

Data Protection and Privacy | NIST Frameworks

Incident Response & Management | SIEM tools

Security Policies & Governance | Reporting Skills

Information Security Audits | Troubleshooting

Splunk | IPS | DLP | AD | EDR & XDR | XSIAM | Firewall

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

### Dynamic Risk Mitigation

Developed and updated incident response playbooks for REREC, enabling swift, effective reactions to cyber threats and reducing attack escalation, thus safeguarding organizational assets.

### Enhanced Security-Driven Strategic Initiatives

Developed and executed a comprehensive security strategy that strengthened data protection and reduced operational risks, significantly boosting client trust across sectors.

### Operational Efficiency and Fraud Reduction

Implemented an ERP role based matrix to streamline access rights and reduce fraud, resulting in significantly enhanced security and operational productivity.

### Enhanced Threat Response Capability

Developed and maintained incident response playbooks at REREC, ensuring quick and effective responses to cyber incidents, minimizing risk to assets and operations.

### Proactive Data Protection Compliance

Led REREC's compliance efforts with the Data Protection Act of Kenya, crafting policies and delivering training that protected the organization from regulatory risks.

### Security Culture Transformation

Successfully fostered a culture of cybersecurity awareness through continuous staff training on threat detection and data protection, reducing incidents and improving security adherence.

## VOLUNTEERING

### Cybersecurity Judge

[KamiLimu](#)

#### Tech Mentorship Organization:

Provided expert evaluation and mentorship in cybersecurity.

## PROJECTS

### Project RIDS Implementation | Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Corporation (REREC) | 2022

- Spearheaded the transition from SAP to S/4HANA, achieving paperless digital government status by completing 11 modules on schedule.

### Data Protection Compliance Initiative | REREC | 2023

- Led a cross-functional project to align with data protection standards, executing Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) audits, crafting comprehensive privacy policies, and delivering targeted training for staff to ensure compliance.

### Darktrace Cybersecurity Deployment | REREC | 2024

- Successfully implemented Darktrace for enhanced cybersecurity, overseeing seamless integration, conducting staff training, and establishing proactive threat response protocols.

### ISE Integration for Advanced Network Security | REREC | 2024

- Led the rollout of Identity Services Engine (ISE) to fortify network security by configuring advanced access controls, streamlining authentication processes, and enhancing overall compliance.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Thesis: "A Snake Classification Model for Snakebite Envenoming Management"

[Strathmore University](#)

Developed to address neglected tropical diseases by recommending first aid measures and appropriate antidotes based on image analysis.

## CAREER STRENGTHS

### Cybersecurity Acumen

Extensive expertise in threat detection, vulnerability assessment, and incident response, ensuring proactive defense against evolving cyber threats.

### Data Privacy and Compliance

Deep knowledge of data protection laws with a proven track record in implementing compliance frameworks that safeguard sensitive data and mitigate regulatory risks.

### Security-Driven Strategic Growth

Skilled in developing strategies that embed robust security measures, driving organizational growth by enhancing client trust and securing new revenue channels.

### Proactive Risk Mitigation

Demonstrated success in designing and implementing risk mitigation strategies, including incident response playbooks and advanced access controls, significantly reducing system vulnerabilities.

### Operational Security Efficiency

Strong history of enhancing security operations through process automation and fraud reduction, leading to improved operational integrity and cost savings.

### Collaborative Leadership in Security

Effective leader focused on team collaboration and culture-building, empowering teams to adopt best security practices and achieve comprehensive organizational security goals.

### Innovative Problem Solving

Demonstrated expertise in crafting and integrating innovative solutions, from improving ERP systems to developing effective incident response playbooks, to address complex challenges.

### Leadership and Team Collaboration

Strong leadership capabilities with a focus on team collaboration and culture change, effectively guiding teams to achieve organizational goals.

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

### Computer Society of Kenya

Member

### Kenya Cybersecurity and Forensics Association

Member

## LANGUAGES

English Proficient ●●●●●

Kiswahili Native ●●●●●

## REFEREES

[Justine Musau](#) | Principal Officer - Rerec  
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