



**Nana Ama Kum
BROWNE**

**Home Country
Ghana**

**Degree
PhD in Environmental
and Geographical
Science**

**Expertise
Physics**

**Research Focus
Climate Prediction
Systems**

**Host University
University of Cape
Town,
South Africa**

**Fellowship Awarded
2008**

Nana Browne was born in Saltpond, Ghana and now hails from Nyanfeku Ekroful. She is married with a son and has three sisters, two of whom are younger.

While attending Anomabu Methodist Primary and Junior Secondary School in Saltpond, Nana's father and teachers encouraged her to pursue an academic career in physics.

She obtained her bachelor's degree in physics in 2003 from the University of Cape Coast in Ghana, and her master's degree in physics from the same institution in 2006. Following the first year of her PhD studies at the University of Cape Coast, Nana was admitted to a doctoral program in Environmental and Geographical Science at the University of Cape Town in South Africa, where she is now applying her interest in physics and mathematics in the area of climate science.

Extreme weather events such as cyclones, hurricane, severe storms and heat waves remain a threat to society. In addition to destroying lives and property, these events can lead to food shortages and to outbreak of disease.

To make weather forecasts more reliable, forecasters have started using results from many climate models instead of only one. Nana's research tests the capability of climate models in producing seasonal forecasts of extreme events. She investigates the best way to combine the results of these models to produce more reliable forecasts.

Although her research focuses on Africa, if she is successful in developing a reliable seasonal climate prediction it would contribute to global climate prediction systems.

Nana plans to teach at the University of Cape Coast in Ghana. She is of the opinion that girls should be encouraged at the basic level to build their interest in science.