

## Biosketch

### Viola Clausnitzer

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#### Personal data

Date of birth: 28. Nov 1970  
Place of birth: Celle, Germany  
Nationality: German  
Family: married, 3 kids  
Degree: PhD

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Viola Clausnitzer has worked widely in Africa, starting with an MSc on dragonflies in Kenya, followed by a PhD about afro-alpine rodents in Uganda and after that on various projects (surveys, capacity building, workshops, teaching, RL and KBA assessments) in Angola, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda. She is chair of the IUCN/SSC Dragonfly Specialist Group, member of different IUCN committees, has been involved in the global assessment of all African dragonfly species on the IUCN Red List ([www.iucnredlist.org](http://www.iucnredlist.org)) and co-authored the field guide to the dragonflies of Eastern Africa (Dijkstra & Clausnitzer 2014).

Viola Clausnitzer is also author and co-author of various scientific articles (ecology, taxonomy, biogeography and conservation) on African Odonata (dragonflies and damselflies), invertebrate conservation IUCN Red Lists.

Training local researchers and providing tools for environmental impact assessments and monitoring biodiversity and ecosystem health has become the main part of Viola Clausnitzer's work in Africa. She has been training and supporting local researchers on various levels, e.g. as lecturer at the Tropical Biological Association, as PhD supervisor, as referee for conservation projects and with providing free access to the biotic value, ecology, distribution and identification of all 770 African Odonata species via ADDO "African Dragonflies & Damselflies Online" (<http://addo.adu.org.za/>). She co-organized the first African Freshwater Entomology Workshop (AFRESH1), at Midmar in South Africa in February 2016, which hosted 69 aquatic entomologists representing 21 African countries and was supported by the JRS Biodiversity Foundation. Since 2019 Viola Clausnitzer is member of the BIOPAMA Regional Advisory Committee for Eastern Africa and since 2021 she is running a field course on ecological survey techniques in Rwanda.

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### Publications (relevant last 10 years)

Pinkert, S., Clausnitzer V., Acquah-Lampitey D., De Marco P., Johansson, F. (in press) **Biological responses to climate and climate change** in: Córdoba-Aguilar, A., Beatty, C.D., Bried, J.T., Suárez-Tovar, C.M. (2021) *Dragonflies and Damselflies: Model Organisms for Ecological and Evolutionary Research* (2nd ed)

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Dillon, A., Simaika, J., Clausnitzer, V., Thompson, A., White, E., Montes-Fontalvo, J., Goforth, C., Khelifa, R. 2023. Bridging people and nature through Odonata. In: Córdoba-Aguilar, A., Beatty, C.D., Bried, J.T. (Eds) *Dragonflies & Damselflies: Model Organisms for Ecological and Evolutionary Research*, 2e. Oxford University Press, New York. pp. 413-426 DOI: 10.1093/oso/9780192898623.003.0029

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- Clausnitzer, V., Dijkstra, K.-D.B. (2020) **Dragonflies and damselflies (Odonata) at the Kafa Biosphere Reserve, pp 52-68**, in: NABU's Follow-up Biodiversity Assessment at the Kafa Biosphere Reserve
- Harvey, J. Heinen, R., Armbrecht, I., Basset, Y., Baxter-Gilbert, J.H., Bezemer, T.M., Böhm, M., Bommarco, R. Borges, P.A.V., Cardoso, P., Clausnitzer, V. et al. (73 authors) (2020) International scientists formulate a roadmap for insect conservation and recovery. **Nature Ecology & Evolution** 4: 174-176. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/s41559-019-1079-8>
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