



Youth Innovators: **HUNGER FIGHTERS**

PANEL DISCUSSION:

Can Youth Be the Solution to
Combat Hunger in Africa?

Thursday, September 19, 2013
12:30 PM to 2:30 PM

Howard University
Ralph Bunche Center
2218 6th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20059

rsvp@gyin.org



AFRICA
AGRIBUSINESS
magazine



Youth Innovators: **HUNGER FIGHTERS**

This speaker series aims to identify and educate young entrepreneurs from different backgrounds and countries to become hunger fighters and establish a truly global network of young farmers, agribusiness entrepreneurs, leaders, and innovators. It will also actively support young entrepreneurs in the implementation of projects aimed at developing their local communities through self-sustaining socio-economic and cultural opportunities based on practical success stories that can guarantee a decent life for the next generation and feed their families.

The panelists consist of advocates from governments, corporations, non-profit organizations, international development agencies, humanitarian relief agencies and policy makers with extensive knowledge and experience on how to effectively fight hunger and provide long-term food security through youth entrepreneurship, agribusiness, employment, and innovation.



PROGRAM

- 12:30 – 12:35 PM Welcome Message by
Dr. Harold Scott, Jr.
Deputy Director, Ralph Bunche Center
- 12:35 – 12:40 PM Opening Remarks by
Jeff Vosseller
Publisher, Africa Agribusiness Magazine
- 12:40 – 12:50 PM Introduction of Moderator & Panelists
- 12:50 – 1:50 PM Panelists' Presentations
- 1:50 – 2:20 PM Q & A Discussion
- 2:20 – 2:30 PM Closing & Thank You

MODERATORS

PAPE SAMB

Chairman, Global Youth Innovation Network (GYIN)

JEFF VOSELLER

Publisher, Africa Agribusiness Magazine (AAM)

PANELISTS

NANDINI GUNewardena

Gender and Rural Statistics Development Officer, Food and Agriculture Organization

ALEXANDRE LAURE

Junior Professional Officer, World Bank

DENNIS MATANDA

Head of Government Relations, Manchester Trade Ltd. Inc.

TIM MCCOY

Senior Advisor Outreach, World Cocoa Foundation

TJADA MCKENNA

Deputy Coordinator Development, Feed the Future, USAID

HENRI JOEL NKUEPO

Associate Counsel, World Bank

BOB RABATSKY

Director, Fintrac Partnering for Innovation



NEXT GENERATION OF AFRICAN HUNGER FIGHTERS SPEAKER SERIES ORGANIZERS

GLOBAL YOUTH INNOVATION NETWORK (GYIN)



GYIN seeks to establish a truly global network of all young entrepreneurs, leaders and innovators. The network has over 5000 members in over 100 countries in North and South America, Europe, Africa, the Middle East and Asia, with a special focus in West and Central Africa. Through its members, it creates an environment that is conducive for the sharing of skills, knowledge and experiences. GYIN also actively supports young entrepreneurs in the implementation of projects aimed at developing their local communities through self-sustaining socio-economic and cultural opportunities based on practical success stories that can guarantee a decent life for the next generation.

GYIN envisions creating an enabling space that young women and men can channel their creativities, potentialities and vibrancies in transforming their communities through self-sustaining socio-economic and cultural opportunities that guarantees a decent life for the next generation. GYIN is committed to capitalizing on the global entrepreneurial spirit of young women and men to overcome poverty and build a healthy society for the next generation.





ORGANIZERS

AFRICA AGRIBUSINESS MAGAZINE (AAM)



AAM exists in order to connect Africa's agricultural sector to the rest of the world. By doing so, we hope to act as a catalyst to the development of Africa's agricultural sector.

AAM will inform and connect African farmers, business persons and governments with

modern technologies, practices, ideas, and materials (increase Africa's human capital). We hope that this will help African nations develop independent and vibrant agricultural sectors which will lead to a decrease in malnutrition and general increase in health and well-being for the continent. Furthermore, we hope to help connect Westerners to Africa so they can gain a greater understanding of African culture and agribusiness opportunities which exist in Africa (increase direct and indirect foreign investment in Africa).

In order to accomplish these goals, AAM publishes a bi-monthly magazine which is distributed in the United States, African nations and published on the internet. Our magazine focuses on engaging the outside world with Africa, securing vital information on farming techniques, identifying comparative advantages, helping our readers learn how to invest in the agricultural sectors of certain countries, connecting non-profits, helping farmers learn how to access modern farming equipment, and supporting community efforts for development.



MODERATORS



PAPE SAMB

Chairman

Global Youth Innovation Network (GYIN)

A driving force and empowering 'agent of change' for youth globally, Pape Samb is the co-founder and Chairman of the Global Youth Innovative Network (GYIN), a youth-run and led network of over 5,000 young leaders entrepreneurs, innovators and farmers in almost 100 countries. He also serves as President and CEO of Exeleadmen which focuses on executive leadership, management and entrepreneurship training and coaching for private and public sector managers and young aspiring entrepreneurs.



JEFF VOSSELLER

Publisher

Africa Agribusiness Magazine (AAM)

Jeff Vosseller began his love for Agriculture and Commodities back in 1995 as a grain trader at the Chicago Board of Trade. Two years ago he founded Africa Agribusiness Magazine with the vision of helping smallholder farmers in Africa increase both their yields and incomes through proper planting techniques and the ability to eliminate post-harvest losses. Africa Agribusiness Magazine only focuses on success stories both big and small and promotes the many reasons why companies should be investing and doing business in Africa.

PANELISTS



NANDINI GUNewardENA

*Gender and Rural Statistics Development Officer
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)*

Nandini Gunewardena is an Economic Anthropologist and gender specialist with two decades of research and practitioner experience in rural development, poverty reduction, and food security concerns, analyzing and focusing particularly on marginalized and under-served communities. As a staff member in the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization, she has been primarily responsible for supporting member countries to enhance gender and social equity through evidence-informed rural policies.



ALEXANDRE LAURE

*Junior Professional Officer
World Bank*

Alexandre Laure is a non-executive Chairman of the board of Green Bio Energy (GBE), Uganda's leading company in household fuel which produces and distributes improved charcoal briquettes (from recycled wastes) and fuel-efficient cook stoves. He is also a private sector development specialist with the World Bank Group in the Africa Region, focusing on the development competitive industries.

PANELISTS



DENNIS MATANDA

*Head of Government Relations
Manchester Trade Ltd. Inc.*

Dennis Matanda is one of three of the founding members of the Uganda Media Center. At Manchester Trade, he leverages his past experience and contacts to add value to the U.S.–Africa trade and investment partnership. He is currently working on *Master of the Sagging Cheeks*, a work of political fiction, and *5500 Days Later*, a repertoire of essays on work ethic and education in Africa.



TIM MCCOY

*Senior Advisor Outreach
World Cocoa Foundation*

Tim McCoy serves as senior advisor for outreach at the World Cocoa Foundation, where he manages WCF's strategic outreach to the public and private sector. He brings nearly 20 years' experience in international affairs and political and economic development programs, primarily in Africa.



TJADA MCKENNA

*Deputy Coordinator for Development
Feed the Future, USAID*

Tjada McKenna is the Deputy Coordinator for development for Feed the Future. In this capacity, McKenna coordinates implementation of Feed the Future across the U.S. Government, oversees its execution and reports on results, and leads engagement with the external community to ensure that food security remains high on the U.S. development agenda.

PANELISTS



HENRI NKUEPO

*Associate Counsel
World Bank*

Henri Nkuepo is an Associate Counsel at the World Bank, assigned to the Africa and Middle East and North Africa practice group of the Legal Vice Presidency. He is also an Associate Fellow for the Center for International Sustainable Development Law, McGill University and the Founder of African Trade Review (previously African Trade Law Expert).



BOB RABATSKY

*Director
Fintrac Partnering for Innovation*

A Fintrac senior vice president, Bob is currently Director of the Feed the Future Partnering for Innovation program where he leads a team in identifying and commercializing innovative agricultural technologies to base-of-the-pyramid consumers. He has also supervised agricultural projects in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Russia, the Balkans, and Eastern Europe; managed large USAID agricultural, governance, and micro-enterprise contracts and has been Director of major programs funded by USAID.

PURPOSE

The Global Youth Innovation Network (GYIN), Africa Agribusiness Magazine (AAM), in partnership with several other organizations initiated the Next Generation of African Hunger Fighters Speakers Series to learn how young women and men especially in rural areas are increasingly transforming themselves as Hunger Fighters by unleashing their potentialities in diverse ways to feed their communities.

Today, there are over 1.8 billion adolescents and youth around the world. At the end of 2010, over 75 million young people ages 15-24 were struggling to find work or feed themselves. In order to support young people in transforming local economies and fight hunger, more banks must provide appropriate financial services to youth, more industries must train their workforce for current and future market demands, more institutions must mainstream entrepreneurship and agribusiness, and nurture potential entrepreneurs, and more governments must encourage youth innovation and engagement. We need to do these things in an effective and inclusive way by prioritizing young people's needs, considering their developmental needs, and including girls and other marginalized populations to ensure equity.

GOAL

The goal of the Speaker Series is to bring voices of African youth, practitioners, policy makers and experts in agribusiness together and create an enabling environment under which young people can be nurtured, equipped, raised and supported to fight hunger on and facilitate exchange of experience, learning and networking for young entrepreneurs and smallholder farmers.



OBJECTIVES

To ensure that it impacts the next generation in its diversity, the speaker series will be implemented to meet five objectives within the program areas of Leadership, Agribusiness, Entrepreneurship, Community Learning, and Education with innovations and policy development as cross sectors.

LEADERSHIP: to build sustainable poor rural youth businesses that are more resilient to climate change, environmental degradation, and market transformation.

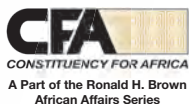
AGRIBUSINESS: to contribute directly to the reduction of poverty through raising incomes of smallholder farmers in rural areas.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP: to give poor rural youth the skills to manage profitable, sustainable, and resilient farm and non-farm enterprises.

COMMUNITY LEARNING & PARTNERSHIP: to develop public/private partnership building activities and support of rural youth advocates allowing poor rural youth and organizations to influence policies and institutions that affect their livelihoods.

EDUCATION: to research the characteristics of enabling environments and empowering poor, rural youth to articulate these needs to institutions and policy makers.

SPECIAL THANKS TO:



COFFEE SHOPS • SCHOOLS • INSURANCE OFFICES
GYMS • RETAIL STORES • MARKETING AGENCIES
EVENTS PLANNING • BARS • RESTAURANTS • GYMS
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