African Diaspora Network



Y E A R S A N N I V E R S A R Y

Inform. Engage. Act.







Team

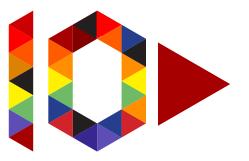
ALMAZ NEGASH, Founder of ADN & Executive Director DANIEL HARTZ, Founding Board of ADN & Director of Finance and Operations MEGAN HUNSBERGER, Program and Digital Media Manager DEBRA PACIO, Content Developer & Storyteller YINKA DJIN, Information Technology Associate CAROLINE OCAMPO, Public Information & Brand Officer

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DR. LIESL RIDDLE, Associate Professor of Int'l Business and Int'l Affairs, George Washington University

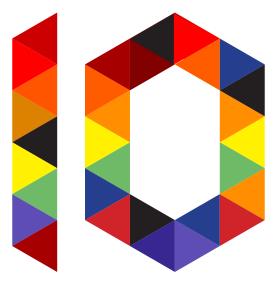
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African Diaspora Network



10 Years in Review: Past, Present, Future

Celebrating 10 Years

From Humble Beginnings to an Ever-Growing Community Acting for the Good of Africa Over the last decade, ADN has witnessed a remarkable trajectory of growth. Beginning as just a small convening in 2010, we have grown into a community of 1,200 members and a network of more than 7,500 people. Along the way, we've successfully fostered 20 influential partnerships with leading organizations; launched our annual symposium, African Diaspora Investment Symposium, and a year-round speaker series, Impact and Innovation Forums; in addition to honoring 31 entrepreneurs for their innovation and impact through our Builder's of Africa's Future program and our new program, Builder's of America's Future.

What We've Learned

Building on Our Past for a Better Future

Commemorating ADN's 10-year anniversary has given us the opportunity to pause and reflect on ways we can leverage our strengths and identify new areas of growth. From mitigating the cost and time commitment associated with executing annual conferences to prioritizing our social media and web presence, we've outlined the lessons learned from our first 10 years in the making.

A Look Ahead

Accelerating African Development in a Post-COVID World

While the COVID-19 pandemic has brought on many challenges, it has also shown us where the opportunities lie. Over the next three years, we will leverage the power of technology and employ digital strategies in four vital areas—connectivity, education, health care, and finance. This shift in focus will allow us to respond to the "new normal" and grow our community, all while continuing to elevate the intellectual, financial, philanthropic, and entrepreneurial capacity of Africans, diasporans, and friends of Africa.

Foreword





Dr. Musimbi Kanyoro ADN Founding Board & Co-Chair, Former President & CEO of Global Fund for Women

How on Earth did 10 years just go by? They have been great years and there is a lot to be thankful for and to commemorate. Little did we know that the Africa Diaspora Network (ADN) would be marking 10 years in the middle of a deadly global pandemic!

It is easy to be tempted to skip marking this anniversary because of COVID-19, but we bring you this anniversary edition as a sign of hope. We embrace hope and celebrate the hope that community creates when we work together. We honor the journey we have traveled and thank all those who traveled alongside the leadership and hope to redefine the new paths ahead after the pandemic.

ADN has grown over the last 10 years because of the diaspora community that forms its networks. The growth is most notable in numbers of people participating, sending inquiries and providing ongoing support in the form of time, talent and treasure.

The signature event of the ADN is the African Diaspora Investment Symposiumthe January conference that brings together people from many sectors of life with interest in Africa. ADN gives them opportunities to learn from one another, to exhibit their business, and to pitch for collaborations. For the diaspora community, this is the place that incites and calls to imagination the courage to be. Many Africa Diaspora entrepreneurs operating from outside Africa often work in isolation and many have never met other successful Africans who are their diaspora peers or their mentors. ADIS is that Forum that creates space for getting to know each other, see each other, learn from each other, and admire each other.

All these things happen because Almaz Negash had a vision that drove her to reach out and invite people like me to help her realize her dream. I have been privileged to work for Almaz for 10 years, eight of which I was a founding Board Chair. The amount of time, money, and energy that she has given to ADN is remarkable. She does all this because she is a serial entrepreneur who inspires people to call her a friend and a model.

Today I write this preface as a returnee-finding my place back home in Africa after 37 years of identifying as a diaspora African. Nairobi, Kenya was booming with innovators, entrepreneurs, Artists, Activists, and more. Young Courageous Kenyans were experimenting with their imaginations, aided by the ability to form and register their trades, speak freely about their sector, and even offer criticism to the Government.

Message from the Founder & Executive Director





Almaz Negash ADN Founder & Executive Director

The African Diaspora Network team is excited to celebrate 10 years of service, and we are honored that you are a part of our celebratory journey! Every morning I wake up excited to go to work. I spend my days trying to understand the need of our network, and amplifying the collective work of Africans, Diasporans, and friends of Africa. It's amazing to bring them together in one place where they can share ideas, develop relationships, and create something that will make a difference in Africa and the communities where we live.

In the beginning, these questions drove me:

- How is it that individual diasporans send triple the amount of money to Africa than the continent receives in foreign aid?
- Even though diasporans send over \$48 billion per year to Africa, why were their voices unheard in the social entrepreneurship and impact investment eco-systems where conversations about Africa were taking place?
- Why were these highly educated, hardworking, skilled diasporans working individually versus collectively to support their families and communities in Africa?

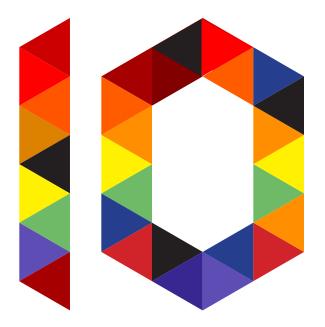
These initial questions lead to the broader culminating questions.

Is there a community, online or off, where diasporans can connect, collaborate, and cocreate? Is there a place where the diaspora can join forces and mobilize as a united diaspora family with one goal-to benefit Africa?

Message from the Founder & Executive Director

Today, the answer is yes. And the solution is the African Diaspora Network. The articles of incorporation say that ADN began in Silicon Valley in 2010, but the truth is that it began in Eritrea many years ago. There, I learned the importance of hard work and entrepreneurship from my mother, and the foundational values of love, respect, and humility from my father.

Equipped with the core values I learned from my parents, I moved to the US and met a wonderful family. What I learned as a result of my relationship with the Emersons made a huge impact and rounded out my worldview. You don't have to be the same color or class to work together for a common goal. With the trifecta of influences from my parents, the Emersons, and of course my husband, children, and friends, and with the help of some incredible innovators and passionate advocates for Africa, the African Diaspora Network was conceived.



Dr. Musimbi Kanyoro, former President & CEO of Global Fund for Women, and Dan Hartz were among the early pioneers. They knew it was a gamble, but they also believed that if we worked hard, respectfully built connections, and humbly worked with people regardless of their



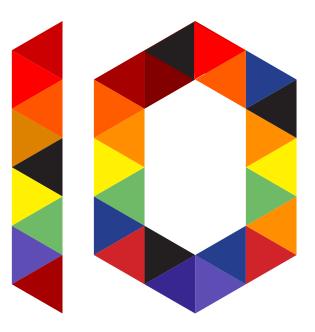


Message from the Founder & Executive Director

backgrounds, we could develop an informed and engaged community that cares and acts for the good of Africa and the communities we live in.

The African Diaspora Network was born in the fall of 2010 and is celebrating 10 years of bringing together Africans on the continent, in the diaspora, and friends of Africa to ensure a brighter future for the African continent.

There are others who share a vision and commitment to ADN, and so, throughout this commemorative book, you will see testimonials like the one below from our friends, funders, and champions.





Daniel Hartz Founding Member & Director of Finance and Operations

"I am an ADN "lifer." I was captivated by Almaz and her passion, inspiration, energy for what, at the time, was just an idea. Her desire to avoid the silo effect of support and look at the bigger picture for the greater good of the continent was appealing and refreshing. The organization is inclusive, everyone's voice is heard and valued; it's agile and always willing to adjust as needed. Ultimately, ADN is guided by hope and aspirations for a better future for Africa."

> Daniel Hartz Founding Member & Director of Finance and Operations

Whether you've been with us from the beginning or joined us somewhere along the way, we are grateful that you are here and hope that you will continue to journey with us.

Thank You,

Almaz Negash ADN Founder & Executive Director



Message from the U.S. Department of State



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Friends at African Diaspora Network,

We, in the U.S. Department of State's Office of Global Partnerships (GP), are writing to extend our deep appreciation of your efforts over the past 10 years to harness and engage the intellectual, financial, philanthropic, and entrepreneurial capacity of Africans and friends of Africa. African states' progress across the continent towards growth, stability, self-reliance, and citizen-responsive governance make African nations strong partners and allies to America.

In 2014, the U.S. Department of State and USAID hosted a conference entitled African Diaspora Investment Symposium (ADIS) in Washington, D.C. The symposium attracted investors, entrepreneurs, practitioners, and diasporans. In 2015, the African Diaspora Network requested to start ADIS in Silicon Valley. The growing success of ADIS led to the U.S. Department of State and USAID's International diaspora Engagement Alliance (IdEA) teaming up with African Diaspora Network to host ADIS 2016 in Silicon Valley. The partnership was forged out of common interest, a shared vision, and a clear definition of success. And the rest is history. ADN was able to leverage the support from IdEA to raise additional funds, confirm top tier talent, and successfully host more than 175 participants in the first ADIS session of 2016.

This year, a global pandemic forced ADN to go back to the drawing board to recreate another version of ADIS. The U.S. Department of State was happy to partner again on ADIS2020 to support the transition to a completely virtual symposium! Our September panel of experts included representatives from Microsoft, Mastercard Foundation, and BRCK. We discussed Digital Connectivity Across Africa and our <u>COVID-19 Private Sector Engagement & Partnership Fund</u>.

GP engages with a broad range of private sector organizations, including the likes of ADN, to advance the Department's top policy priorities. Without private sector partners like ADN, we would not be as equipped to meet our foreign policy goals. We thank you for your time and energies and encourage your continued efforts in cultivating partnerships that advance the best of American values and spirit globally.

We look forward to building on the continued successes we have shared with Almaz Negash and her talented team at African Diaspora Network.

Sincerely,

Homas Debar

Thomas Debass Managing Director Office of Global Partnerships, U.S. Department of State



Who We Are

Based in Silicon Valley, the center of innovation and entrepreneurship, ADN has built a strong community of 1200 members and a network of over 7,500 people. Our highly anticipated annual African Diaspora Investment Symposium has attracted over 3,000 attendees who are interested in investing in and partnering with African and Africa-focused business leaders and entrepreneurs. In addition, we hold a year-round speaker series, the Impact and Innovation Forums, social entrepreneurship awards, the Builders of Africa's Future as well as a variety of mentorship programs for diasporan entrepreneurs and youth.

As an integrated member of the Silicon Valley ecosystem, ADN is reputed as a conduit for local and global African diaspora entrepreneurs, tech professionals, innovators, and philanthropists who are interested in working with or being mentored by the world's most prolific innovators. In 2018, ADN scaled its presence in key national hubs of influence through our Impact & Innovation Series taking place in Los Angeles, New York, and Washington D.C.

ADN is an organization accessible to all who are committed to work with the diaspora to further Africa's development.





Who We Serve



ADN has been such an amazing platform and network for me personally and my business. The ability to network and gain wisdom from other ADN members has been instrumental in helping me grow and my business expand to what it is today. Over the years I have gained so much by attending ADN conferences, gatherings, dinners, and events. If you are looking for a network of people doing great things this is surely one to have on the top of your list. As we all know we never stop learning, but when you learn from people in the ADN network you learn even more. ADN members love to share insight and help you down where you need help in your business and startup ideas. You gain friendships, wisdom, business partners, access to investors, mentors and so much more. ADN has been such an inspiration and a priceless gift in my life personally. Thank you to the ADN team for being such a strong pillar to all diaspora. The efforts of the organization can never be measured in words or figures. I am proud to be an ADN member.

-Chris Folayan CEO / Founder - MallforAfrica & Link Commerce



ADN Organizational Strategy, 2020–2023 Accelerating African Development in a Post-COVID World

While the COVID-19 pandemic has brought on many challenges for our community, it has also shown us where the opportunities lie. In transitioning our African Diaspora Investment Symposium (ADIS) from an in-person annual conference to a monthly online event, we've been able to bring more people together, more often, and in a cost-effective way. The growth in using technology as an acceptable, and more convenient, way to connect has opened the door for us—not only to grow our community but to explore new strategies to elevate the intellectual, financial, philanthropic, and entrepreneurial capacity of Africans, diasporans, and friends of Africa.

OUR STRATEGY

The ongoing pandemic has devastated the world and hit Africa hard. It has forced us to focus on accelerating technological development. This focus presents an opportunity to leapfrog traditional African development processes, bypassing physical infrastructure that the continent has lacked for the most part of a century. Over the next three years, ADN will leverage the power of technology and employ digital strategies in four vital areas: connectivity, education, health care, and finance.

OUR MISSION

The mission of ADN is to sustainably serve its constituencies, marketplace, and partners. This is inextricably linked to engaging the African diaspora through an ethics of care, enhancing their well-being in their adopted homelands, and facilitating their strategic involvement in the development of Africa.

OUR VISION

ADN's vision is to activate capital from the African diaspora and friends of Africa for the development of Africa and communities around the world. We aim to be the global leader in diaspora philanthropy, investment, and innovation.

OUR VALUES

Our Core Values are:

- Diversity and inclusion
- Integrity in our work, partnerships, and projects
- Accountability to our partners
- Civic responsibility to the community



ADN Organizational Strategy, 2020–2023 Accelerating African Development in a Post-COVID World

CONNECTIVITY

As an established convener for the African and African diaspora community, we will apply a digital strategy to deliver year-round convenings—like The African Diaspora Investment Symposium (ADIS)—that keep the development and wellbeing of Africa at the forefront.

EDUCATION

ADN sees an unprecedented opportunity for Africa to accelerate education through technology, as the "new normal" following COVID will bring millions of African students online for the first time. Our community of students, education experts, and technologists all have a shared interest in supporting this mass migration in EdTech, and we will continue to provide networking opportunities so that this shared support continues to grow.

HEALTH CARE

Health care digitization is accelerating, allowing more doctors and other health care professionals to participate in Africa's health systems from anywhere in the world. ADN will leverage this growing opportunity to increase accessibility to health care for more Africans and improve health outcomes at a time when health carerelated needs are increasing.

FINANCE

ADN's focus on philanthropy and investment will be crucial in transforming financial inclusion as more of Africa comes online. Through technology, we will be able to scale programs like Builders of Africa's Future, Builders of America's Future, and our partnerships with social and impact funds to ensure a sustainable economic future for Africans.



HOW WE'LL ACCOMPLISH THIS STRATEGY

We will accomplish this strategy by continuing our pattern of creating lasting partnerships. Our motto, 'Inform, Engage, Act', will serve as a guide to co-creating solutions with experts and similarly aligned organizations:

CORPORATIONS

ADN encourages corporate giving by partnering with organizations whose leaders and employees make up our communities. We work through corporate interests in diversity, education, technology, and philanthropy.

COMMUNITIES

We highlight acts of service to encourage philanthropic and investment leadership from within our diaspora communities.

ENTREPRENEURS/INNOVATORS

ADN amplifies emerging entrepreneurs and innovators on our platform by showcasing accomplishments and facilitating introductions.

PHILANTHROPISTS/FOUNDATIONS

We connect philanthropists and foundations with vetted African opportunities. ADN maximizes their impact through partnerships with local experts from our community.

NONPROFITS

We source developmental capital for nonprofits whose work furthers our goal.

There is no mistaking the important role that the African Diaspora Network plays in connecting social entrepreneurs with impact investors to further Africa's development. The African Diaspora Investment Symposium (ADIS) provides the perfect forum to knowledge share and foster partnerships and that is why I am consistently proud to support this event. I am honored to share my 10 years of experience in Ghana, supporting social entrepreneurs who own schools that serve impoverished families. The annual ADIS events create a very special community united in a common goal and I am very excited to see where this leads.

-Irene D. Pritzker, President & CEO, IDP Foundation, Inc.

Outcomes

ADN prides itself in being an action-oriented organization with initiatives and convenings that result in strong partnerships, authentic community-building and even new businesses and organizations. Here is a partial list of the many success stories.

7500	Since 2010, the ADN has brought together 7500 plus Africans and friends of Africa.
1300	Organized five in-person African Diaspora Investment Symposiums (ADIS), held in Santa Clara County, California in 2016-2020, with an attendance of 1,300 entrepreneurially-minded, Africa-focused leaders and professionals from across the world.
2100	Due to COVID-19, pivoted to hosting a virtual ADIS July 2020 - November 2020 with an attendance of 2,100 professionals.
900	Between 2018-2020, ADN hosted the Impact and Innovation Forums with 900 participants in California, Washington, D.C, and New York.
31	Over the last three years honored 31 Builders of Africa's Future (BAF) enterprises, who have demonstrated excellence in leading startups and NGOs that contribute to Africa's development. (Complete listing of enterprises in BAF section)
20	20 partnerships formed. ADN is a catalyst for building partnerships with leading organizations to enable more entrepreneurs to gain access to resources. Some of these partners include Stanford SEED, Stanford University; Conrad Hilton Foundation; Mastercard Foundation Scholars; Segal Family Foundation Africa Visionary Fellows; The Harambeans; Miller Center for Social Entrepreneurship, Santa Clara University; MIT Lab; Africa America Institute; Ashesi University; and Frugal Innovation, Santa Clara University.





Here are a few examples of the major outcomes as a result of ADN.



During ADIS18, the VMware team met Dr. Mimmie Watts who became the first Independent Consultant and Facilitator for VMware. It was this connection that jump started the Virtualize Africa Program by giving the organization needed access and connections to succeed. VMware advances the education and workforce re-skilling of Africans in Africa by providing access to the learning platforms, contents, software and tools required to enable them to be knowledgeable, proficient, certified and more employable.

During the first ADIS, two software engineers, Hiruy Amanuel and Amadou Daffe, met and went on to co-found Gebeya, a new-age EdTech company based in Ethiopia that trains, hires, and cultivates top talented African software engineers.



Positively impacted LoftyInc's business relationships with Africa. When Marsha Wulff and partners attended the symposium in 2017, they met with African cohort members of YC & 500 Startups. After meeting and learning firsthand about African entrepreneurship from African entrepreneurs, LoftyInc went on to invest in three Africa-facing ventures: Flutterwave, Printivo and Kangpe/Reliance HMO.



What We Do



2010-2020: African Diaspora Network's Strategic Areas: Inform, Engage, Act

For many years, Africans in the Diaspora have been actively and passionately engaged in giving back to their home communities. Each year more than \$48 billion is sent to Africa in remittances as individuals fundraise within their communities from around the world. They also engage by providing donations through church groups, sending funds directly to extended family members, investing in businesses, and more. We at ADN saw the potential of the diaspora early on and we began convening Africans and friends of Africa to amplify their efforts and to Inform, Engage, and Act.

Through these three areas of action, we have been able to build a diverse and energetic community—including for-profits, non-profits, philanthropists, community leaders, universities, and more—that comes together to share knowledge, network, and mobilize around impactful initiatives, individuals, and organizations. ADN continues to organize and host community events to introduce organizations and individuals working on African issues and to discuss and debate current and developing initiatives that have been designed and executed to create positive economic and social impact in Africa and the communities where we live. The ADN is committed to:

- Bringing together a global network of Africans, diasporans, and friends of Africa
- Connecting entrepreneurs, investors, academics, and leaders of nonprofit, corporations, and development agencies
- Creating opportunities for learning, engaging, and co-creating possibilities between the above groups
- Capitalizing on the collective ideation, action, and collaboration of Africans around the world for the benefit of Africa.
 - The African Diaspora Network (ADN) represents the best of us cooperative efforts undertaken for the benefit of society. We need institutions that draw from the abundance of talent that Africans possess to deliver programs that educate, uplift, and create a community. Building on the success of its first ten years, we look forward to a long, brilliant future. Thank you, Almaz, for your pioneering contribution.
 - Dr. Gillian Marcelle, Resilience Capital Ventures

Inform. Engage. Act

What We Do



2010-2020 Strategic Areas: Inform, Engage, Act

The African Diaspora Network is committed to informing, engaging, and activating Africans, diasporans, and friends of Africa through in-person and virtual meetings, webinars, and more. The three main programs ADN hosts that reflect this commitment are: African Diaspora Investment Symposium (ADIS), Impact and Innovation Forums, and Builders of Africa's Future.

African Diaspora Investment Symposium (ADIS)

ADN's African Diaspora Investment Symposium, before COVID, held annually in Santa Clara County, California, brought together over 350 entrepreneurially-minded, Africa-focused, highlevel leaders and professionals from across the world. Due to COVID-19, the symposium is now held online monthly with nearly 1,500 registrants and about 700 attendees since July. The symposium is full of insightful dialog related to investment and innovation in Africa. One of the greatest takeaways from the Symposium is the partnerships and mentorship opportunities that are organically and intentionally formed as a result of both in-person and online interactions.



What We Do



Inform. Engage. Act

Inform, Engage, Act

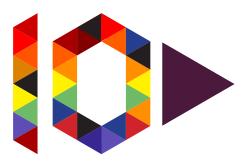


Impact & Innovation Forums:

Our Innovation and Impact Forums are part of a year-round speaker series across Silicon Valley, Washington, D.C., New York City, and virtually with thought-provoking conversations around strategic and consistent diaspora engagement in Africa's future and empowering youth in their entrepreneurship and leadership journeys. Africa is poised to become a leading continent for investment. According to the World Bank, over the past 15 years, African economies have enjoyed growth 'above global average.' The ADN Impact and Innovation Forums enable us to continue harnessing the knowledge and resources of Africans in the Diaspora for positive impact through investment, entrepreneurship, innovation, and human capital.

Builders of America's Future:

Builders of America's Future, a new initiative of African Diaspora Network, is an enterprise accelerator program designed to strengthen, energize, and support small businesses and nonprofit organizations led by African diasporans and African-Americans based in the United States. Adapted from the Builders of Africa's Future program that celebrates innovation and impact among early-stage African enterprises, Builders of America's Future identifies 20 entrepreneurs catalyzing an array of sustainable solutions to poverty across multiple sectors at the local and national level. We thank Silicon Valley Community Foundation for their seed funding.



Inform, Engage, Act

Builders of Africa's Future

Builders of Africa's Future ((BAF) is a program that celebrates innovation and impact in earlystage African enterprises. BAF serves to showcase and award entrepreneurs who are running early-stage for-profit and nonprofits that are addressing Africa's unique needs through technology or differentiated business models. These unique needs are in health, education, energy, financial inclusion, gender inclusion, nutrition, commerce, industrial development, and other socioeconomic solutions.

In this crucial time, the African Diaspora Network is committed to identifying 10 Builders of Africa's Future awardees focused on technology and health care access and delivery. 2021 BAF enterprises will be recognized in January 2021 as part of the culmination of the ADIS21 Virtual Forum. We look forward to celebrating innovation and impact among early-stage BAF enterprises!



ADN has built a community committed to building Africa's future through entrepreneurship. The convergence of shared mission at ADIS was truly inspiring and offers unique opportunities to effect meaningful impact moving forward. Congratulations to Almaz and her team!

–Thane Kreiner, Ph.D. Executive Director, Howard and Alida Charney, University Professor

Builders of Africa's Future is one of ADN's chief methods of engaging the broad community of mentors, investors, entrepreneurs, and African enterprises. We remain dedicated to our commitment to inform and engage, but for the next three years, our intent is to be laser-focused on ACTION.

ADN in partnership with the Miller Center for Entrepreneurship at Santa Clara University is developing the Africa-US Enterprise Leadership Initiative. The Initiative aims to accelerate and promote leadership, innovation, and impact in early stage African enterprises here in the U.S. and the African continent. ADN anticipates hiring an external consultant to organize and implement the planning process.

Builders of Africa's Future (BAF)

Inform, Engage, Act

2020BAF Enterprises:

- Tabitha Arenson Abimiku, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Virtouscore Ltd.
- Kanyinsola Adepoju, Global Business Manager & Expansion, Flutterwave
- Jabulani Dlamini, Founder and CEO, Sidingulwazi
- Genesis Ehimegbe, Co-founder and CFO, Coliba
- Mosoka P. Fallah, PhD, Acting Director General, National Public Health Institute of Liberia (NPHIL)
- Tendekayi Katsiga, Founder, Deaftronics
- Lou Louis Koboji, Founder/Director Kajo Keji Health Training Institute
- Innocent Magambi, Executive Director-There Is Hope
- Joan Rukundo Nalubega, Founder, Uganics
- Madlala Nkanyiso, Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Energy Efficiency (Pty) Ltd.
- Diana Wilson, Yielding Accomplished African Women



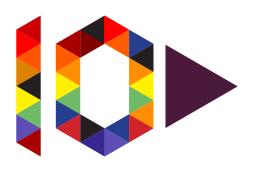
Tabitha Arenson, Abimiku, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Virtouscore Ltd.



Madlala Nkanyiso, Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Energy Efficiency (Pty) Ltd.

"There is no mistaking the important role that the African Diaspora Network plays in connecting social entrepreneurs with impact investors to further Africa's development."

Irene D. Pritzker,
President & CEO, IDP Foundation, Inc.



Builders of Africa's Future (BAF)

Inform, Engage, Act

2019BAF Enterprises:

- Pamela Anyoti Peronaci, Founding Partner & CEO, Sunshine Agro Products & Asante Mama
- Solomon King Benge, Founder, Fundi Bots
- Barbara Birungi Mutabazi, Founder & Director, Women in Technology Uganda
- Joachim Ewechu, Founder, SHONA Group
- Celestine Ezeokoye, Founder & CEO, WeMove Technologies
- Mahmud Johnson, Founder & CEO, J-Palm Liberia
- Linda Kamau, Co-Founder & Managing Director, AkiraChix (Kenya)
- Faraja Nyalandu, Founder, Shule Direct (Tanzania)
- Navalayo Osembo-Ombati, Founder, Enda Athletic, Inc. (Kenya)
- Kwami Williams, Co-Founder, MoringaConnect (Ghana)



Pamela Anyoti Peronaci, Founding Partner of Sunshine Agro Products, Owner and CEO of Asante Mama



Solomon King Benge, Founder of Fundi Bots

The U.S. African Development Foundation is honored to have participated in the African Diaspora Network's Annual African Diaspora Investment Symposium. The symposium provided USADF the chance to see old friends, make new ones and discover the many ways in which similarly aligned organizations and individuals are acting as stewards of sustainable change on the African continent. Our mission, to create pathways to prosperity for underserved communities in Africa, is a mission embodied by the participants. The African Diaspora Network provides USADF the opportunity to expand on our mission and mandate to invest in Africans and their ideas. We, therefore, found ourselves in excellent company.

-U.S. African Development Foundation



Builders of Africa's Future (BAF)



2018BAF Enterprises:

- Akin Jones, Co-Founder & CEO, Aella Credit
- Louison Mbombo, Co-Founder & President; Belinda Ilenge Lofone, Co-Founder, SOLIDARIEDADDE NA MOKILI
- Wawira Njiru, Founder & Executive Director, food4education
- Yasmin Kumi, Founder & Managing Director, Africa Foresight Group
- Maya Horgan-Famodu, Founder & Managing Partner, Ingressive
- Abolade Lawal (Bola), Co-Founder & CEO, ScholarX
- Peter Kegode, CEO, Nishati Koffee
- Curtis Vanderpuije, Co-Founder &CEO, expressPay
- Ugwem Eneyo, Co-Founder & CEO, Solstice Energy Solutions
- Dena Montague, Co-Founder, EnergieRich

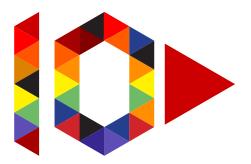
Akin Jones, Co-Founder & CEO, Aella Credit



Ugwem Eneyo, Co-Founder & CEO, Solstice Energy Solutions

- Earlier this year, I was referred by you to Joanne Vliet who is the Director, US Commercial Service - Silicon Valley/San Jose. Today, because of the networking introductions, PrimoEnergy has been requested by the Barbados Light & Power to present a proposal for renewable energy generation products on the island. This proposal also includes the establishment of a presence on the island as well as eventually being a regional hub for manufacturing and distribution to other islands in the Eastern Caribbean. I don't believe this would have been possible without your involvement, introduction and reference. Thank you to the African Diaspora Network.
 - David M. Rice, CHA, CAM Sunbury International

2010 🕨



Almaz Negash convenes a group of 15 people to discuss the idea and viability of starting African Diaspora Network.

2011-2012 🕨

From August '11-'12, the team convenes local grassroots Diasporans on issues ranging from entrepreneurship to innovation to investment, at about \$5,000 from out of pocket.

2012-2015 🕨

ADN begins to form tangible collaborations with International Institute for Education (IIE), Tswhane University, Pretoria, Global Fund for Women, and Silicon Valley African Film Festival (SVAFF).

ADN hosts several women leaders from Africa.

2015 🕨

ADN pitches the idea for the first African Diaspora Investment Symposium (ADIS) to the State Department.

ADN receives seed funding from the U.S. Department of State that propelled the first ADIS for January 2016.

2016 🕨

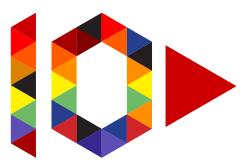
ADN hosts the inaugural African Diaspora Investment Symposium.

2017 🕨

ADN hosts the second annual African Diaspora Investment Symposium.

Milestones

2018 🕨



ADN hosts the third annual African Diaspora Investment Symposium, featuring the first-ever Builders of Africa's Future Awards.

ADN launches the first African Diaspora Network Impact and Innovation Speaker Series, expanding nationwide to reach audiences in Silicon Valley, Washington D.C., and New York City.

2019

ADN hosts the fourth annual African Diaspora Investment Symposium, featuring the second cohort of the Builders of Africa's Future Awards.

ADN partners with eBay as a recipient of the eBay Foundation Global Gives program to provide mentorship and access to resources to the 2020 Builders of Africa's Future cohort.

For the first time, ADN receives formal designation as a fiscal priority on the County of Santa Clara FY19-20 Budget Appropriation through the advocacy of Supervisor Dave Cortese, District 3, County of Santa Clara.

ADN launches the second annual African Diaspora Network Impact and Innovation Speaker Series, continuing partnerships in Silicon Valley, Washington D.C., and New York City.

2020 🕨

ADN hosts the fifth annual African Diaspora Investment Symposium, featuring the first African Diaspora Luminaire Awards honoring Mimi Alemayehou.

ADN launches the first virtual ADN Impact & Innovation Speaker Series from April to June 2020, adapting programming to prioritize community health and well-being in light of COVID-19.

ADN hosts the sixth annual African Diaspora Investment Symposium as a monthly virtual series taking place from July 2020 - January 2021.

ADN celebrates its 10-Year Anniversary (August 19, 2020) with a virtual celebration in December 2020.



Ten Years in the Making: Lessons Learned

ADN has emerged as a conduit, connector and convenor of networks of affluence and influence with unique potential to be an aggregator of development impact for the African diaspora in the United States and their role on the continent of Africa. ADN has witnessed a remarkable trajectory of growth since its inception with flagship initiatives such as the African Diaspora Investment Symposium and Builders of Africa awards positioning ADN as a network of choice for the African diaspora and friends of Africa in the United States and beyond.

African Diaspora Network celebrates a decade of commitment to elevating the intellectual, financial, philanthropic, and entrepreneurial capacity of Africans, diasporans, and friends of Africa. Beginning in 2010, the organization grew from humble beginnings, seeded by the belief of supporters inspired by its vision to bring together stakeholders to uplift the continent of Africa and the communities in which we live. Our dedication has been fueled by opportunities for growth and learning along the way. We are delighted to share with you lessons learned from our first 10 years in the making.

African Diaspora Investment Symposium:

We have learned that designing and executing an annual conference with 250+ attendees is really difficult and expensive.

Volunteer organization has high cost:

ADN has successfully operated on a lean team, but the lack of capacity places a high demand on the personal and financial well-being of the founder, team members, the board, and volunteers.

Social Media and Website:

Not having a dedicated team member with a key focus on web design, social media, and other technical skills negatively impacted ADN for many years. That said, we are improving with our web presence and the shift to virtual collaboration due to COVID-19 is moving us even further in that direction. We should focus on greater improvements in this area as we continue growing.

Opportunistic:

As a new organization, it is tempting to say yes to every offer or opportunity for collaboration, but this can lead to trouble. Sometimes offers are too good to be true. It is important to understand the person or group offering the partnership and not to stray too far from ADN's vision and mission. We made some of these mistakes along the way, but we persevered and were better for it in the end.

Coronavirus Pandemic Lessons: Smart Move

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, we had to pivot to virtual events. We believe this is a smart decision for our business and the health and safety of our attendees.



ADN began with a humble premise: that the connections and capitals that flow through the African diaspora had an unrealized potential of good for both the continent and our community. It is this premise that has inspired our constituencies to serve as advisors, investors, and partners, sustaining our first decade of growth. ADN is an organization accessible to all who share a passion to work with the diaspora to further Africa's development. We welcome you to ADN as we embark on our second phase of growth, together.

We welcome you to ADN as we embark on our second phase of growth, together.



Dr. Martin Russell Advisor, The Networking Institute

It has been a personal and professional privilege to have helped out a little on ADN's journey during its first act. As it turns 10, we are in a defining moment for the communities and constituencies that ADN serves both in the United States and on the continent of Africa.

ADN's values have set it apart as an authentic vehicle and voice to co-design an equitable future for all during these defining moments. We can draw courage from ADN's first 10 years to look out on the horizon of the next 10 years, or ADN's second act, with aspirations and hopes for African diaspora engagement that were not possible when ADN began its journey.

That is the greatest testament we can pay to the impact that Almaz and the team at ADN have co-created over the past 10 years. So, happy anniversary to ADN and to all those who have helped make ADN possible – its funders, members, supporters, and staff.

My closing message is that the defining moments on the horizon require us to treasure and invest in remarkable nonprofits such as ADN. Let's never take them for granted as their bravery will inspire the discovery of better days ahead for all involved. Let's collectively strive to make sure we are all here celebrating ADN's 20th anniversary in another 10 years down the road!

I am sure ADN has some amazing plans afoot to make this road a lot of fun.

Thank You ADN & Onwards.

Dr. Martin Russell Advisor, The Networking Institute

Our Supporters

SEED FUNDERS

2010-2014 – Mr. Regga Tekeste and Almaz Negash



2016 African Diaspora Investment Symposium (ADIS 2016)

- IdEA, U.S. Department of State
- Ms. Melissa Greer, Philanthropist at a Global Difference

2016-2020

\$50K to \$100K







Hugh Stuart Center Charitable Trust

\$25K to \$49K





CONRAD N. HILTON FOUNDATION







KING BAUDOUIN Foundation United States



Our Supporters

2016-2020

\$10K to \$48K







\$5K to \$9,999

Symantec Inc. IDP Foundation, Inc. Ernst & Young Koniku The Africa-America Institute Heifer International One World Children's Fund Atlas Network SAP

\$2500 - \$4999

VMware Cilker Family Foundation USA for IOM Moya Technologies Mall for Africa The Harambeans American Homebuilders Global Catalyst Foundation Tiba Foundation

\$500 - \$1000

Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors Sherpa Foundry Pan-African Women's Philanthropy Network LoftyInc Gebeya Ingressive

INDIVIDUAL FUNDERS

\$5K to \$25K

Anonymous Twum Djin, Goodwater Capital Joshua Ghaim, IgniteBrands Ndeye Makalou, Genentech Abbey Omokhodion, Intel Murli Kotteyil, VMware

\$1000 to 2500

Kola Olofinbora, Fairview Capital Carolyn and Terry Gannon Regga Tekeste Hugh Molotsi, Ujama Tewelde Stephanos

\$250 - \$999

Dr. James Emerson Jed Emerson, Blended Value Charlie Adams, Wells Fargo Advisors Dave Wilde, HP Ms. Cleo Donovan Jon & Rossella Derickson Theresa Samuel Boko Sangeeta Tiwari Dagnew A/Michael Dr. Hagos Tekeste

Our Partners

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Our Champions & Circle of Friends



THE AFRICAN DIASPORA NETWORK: EARLY CHAMPIONS AND CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

SPECIAL THANKS





Nicholas Bassey,

Acting Director, Center for Transformational Partnerships at USAID ADN thanks Nicholas for his time, insight, and support over the last several years. He's been a skillful and knowledgable ADIS Master of Ceremonies since 2016. We thank you!

Abbey Omokhodion, Chief of Staff, Intel Corporation

Special thanks from ADN for Abbey's financial and moral support over these past few years. Abbey is a quiet and humble person who is committed to the good of our community-thank



Twum Djin,

ADN Board Chair

Special thanks to Twum for helping us move Builders of Africa's Future (BAF) from ideation to action. Twum has led ADN's BAF efforts from 2018-2020. BAF has grown to include a cohort of 31 entreprenurs who are uniquely focused on Africa's needs.

Our Champions & Circle of Friends

THE AFRICAN DIASPORA NETWORK: EARLY CHAMPIONS AND CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

Dr. Musimbi Kanyoro Dan Hartz Brittan M. Stockert Savannah Crowley **Tewelde Stephanos** Jennine Athas Abraham Negash Sheryl Chamberlain Yohannes Assefa Steph Heckman Melanie Bielefeld Chike Nwoffiah Marsha Wulff Mara Matsumura Dawit Weldeghergish Efrem Tewelde

Michael Olorunninwo Jim Kaubisch Abdulai Jalloh Sara Y. Gallagher Nicholas Bassey Thomas Debass Martin Russell Kingsley Aikins Prof. Liesl Riddle Prof. Laura Hubbard Prof. Laura Hubbard Prof. Mammo Muchie Regga Tekeste Radhika Shah Ashwood Heffern Jo Addy



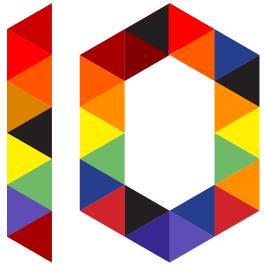
SPECIAL THANKS to the following for their contribution:

Brittan M. Stockert Debra Pacio Serge Ouedraogo Ghirmai Tekeste





African Diaspora Network



Years Anniversary

Our Mission

The mission of ADN is to sustainably serve its constituencies, marketplace, and partners. This is inextricably linked to engaging the African diaspora through an ethics of care, enhancing their well-being in their adopted homelands, and facilitating their strategic involvement in the development of Africa.

Our Vision

ADN's vision is to activate capital from the African diaspora and friends of Africa for the development of Africa and communities around the world. We aim to be the global leader in diaspora philanthropy, investment, and innovation.



Santa Clara, CA 95054, United States www.africandiasporanetwork.org

