BUILDERS OF AFRICA'S FUTURE 2022 PITCH SESSION

June 23 Session Summary - Highlight - Action Steps



Context

On June 23, African Diaspora Network hosted the fifth annual Builders of Africa's Future Pitch Session and Celebration.

The virtual pitch session recognized the eleven entrepreneurs of the 2022 cohort, comprised of changemakers leading 100% fully-African led and owned organizations spanning six countries: Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia.

The 2022 Builders of Africa's Future program is organized by the African Diaspora Network in partnership with the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, the United States African Development Foundation, and enterprise trainer the African Management Institute of Kenya. Since 2018, Builders of Africa's Future has recognized and catalyzed 42 African startups.



A Community Commitment to Supporting Grassroots African Entrepreneurs

The program opened and closed with a cadre of esteemed speakers who inspired and energized the audience before the start of the pitch session.

Opening Session

Josh Ghaim, PhD, Chairman of the ADN Board; Founder and Managing Partner, IgniteGB Inc.; Co-Founder and CEO, Small World Brands Inc., welcomed the audience and opened the event as the session host. "Whether you are an African, African Diasporan, or friend of Africa, we ask you to consider ways of being engaged and supporting the entrepreneurs," said Josh Ghaim. "The Diaspora has a lot to offer, through time, talent, connections, investment, and resources. We encourage you to catalyze and bridge opportunities for these entrepreneurs along their journeys."



He introduced **Thomas Debass**, **Chief Partnerships Officer and Managing Director of the Office of Global Partnerships at U.S. Department of State**, as the context setter. Thomas galvanized the audience in recognizing the meaningful and relevant work of the entrepreneurs amid the convergence of a multitude of global challenges. "Galvanizing the world is about partnership and collaboration. We need all hands on deck to solve the wicked challenges that we face," said Thomas Debass. "What better way to collaborate than through startups and ventures like you, from Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Tanzania, and Zambia – all have a rendition of trying to solve the healthcare crisis, agriculture, and energy crisis, and with a pan-African vision in the way they are doing it."

Keynote Speeches



For the keynote speeches, **Kwasi Donkor, Chief Strategy Officer, United States African Development Foundation** gave a warm congratulations to the entrepreneurs and shared USADF's continued commitment and collaboration to supporting the Builders of Africa's Future program. "We are thrilled to be a part of this year's Builders of Africa's Future program in partnership with ADN,"

stated Kwasi Donkor. "USADF has been working to dispel myths about Africa and encourage investment and creativity in Africa. The eleven changemakers you will hear from are part of a larger culture of innovation and creativity in Africa."

Sr. Jane Wakahiu, LSOSF, PhD, Associate Vice President of Program Operations and Head of Catholic Sisters Initiative, Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, proceeded to encourage the entrepreneurs before the start of the pitch presentations. "To the entrepreneurs: thank you for your vision, dream, hard work in your projects, and patiently waiting for these ideas to mature," said Sr. Jane Wakahiu. "I am delighted to see three Catholic sisters among these seasoned entrepreneurs. I invite you to think of the ways that individuals, companies, private sectors, and development groups can partner, collaborate, and network to tackle socioeconomic issues and increase job opportunities in Africa."



Pitch Presentations by the 11 Builders of Africa's Future

This session recognizes the rising stars of African entrepreneurship as they build the future of the continent through nonprofit and for-profit businesses addressing key community needs. The BAF program awards Africa's most promising entrepreneurs with enterprise development training, mentorship opportunities, and a platform to boost brand visibility and investment potential in Silicon Valley. This virtual showcase of pitch presentations by grassroots African entrepreneurs presents the perfect opportunity for venture capitalists as well as angel, impact, and philanthropic investors.



After the pitch presentations, the audience members had an opportunity to interact with the entrepreneurs in breakout rooms for deep-dive conversations and Q&A.

More information on the entrepreneurs can be found in the directory at the appendix of the summary.

Investing in Africa's Future

The closing plenary session welcomed Andy Bryant, Executive Director, and Beatrice Onyango, Manager of the African Visionary Fellowship, of the Segal Family Foundation. Speaking to the theme of "Investing in Africa's Future," Beatrice called attention to the gap in resources and investment that often led to African-led organizations growing half as fast as their foreign counterparts. She pointed to the importance of capacity-building support through programs such as Builders of Africa's Future and the African Visionary Fellowship.



Andy Bryant provided a very helpful framing for investing in Africa's future with the audience with an emphasis on taking a grassroots approach to philanthropy. Andy stated, ""To Western funders and investors, go local in all facets of your model, from the grantees to companies you invest in, to the composition of your staff and investors. You don't have to do it all today. Start somewhere."



Beatrice Onyango closed with words of encouragement for the entrepreneurs, sharing ""As Africans, we are taught to be humble and let others speak about us. Sing your praises and let the world know all the good you have done. For funding, ask for it boldly."

Suggested Action Steps

- Learn More About the BAF 22 Entrepreneurs Find the bios, websites, and podcasts of the 2022 Builders of Africa's Future <u>here</u>. We encourage you to learn more about their enterprise.
- **Connect Directly and Share Resources and Opportunities** In the following directory, you will find the contact information for the eleven Builders of Africa's Future participants. Identify opportunities and ways to support their enterprises and provide connections or resources.
- Attend the African Diaspora Investment Symposium 2023 The 2022 Builders of Africa's Future will be invited to attend the return of the in-person African Diaspora Investment Symposium in Mountain View, CA, from March 22-24, 2023. Please save the date! We encourage you to join us to meet the entrepreneurs in-person in Silicon Valley.

See the full session recording <u>here</u>.

BAF COHORT DIRECTORY



MEET THE BUILDERS OF AFRICA'S FUTURE 2022 COHORT



Justine Abuga, CEO and Founder, Ecobora (Kenya)



Jamila Mayanja, CEO, Smart Girls Uganda (Uganda)

FUNDERS





George Akilimali, Victor Boafo, CEO & Co-Founder, Co-Founder, Entofarms Enterprise Limited (Ghana)



Hyasintha Ntuyeko, CEO. Kasole Secrets (Tanzania)



Dr. Hanane

Prosper, Co-Founder mSCAN (Uganda)



Caleb Edwards. Co-Founder and CEO, Wami Agro Limited (Ghana)



Kabagaaju, In-Charge Clinical Officer, Nkuruba Health Centre (Ugan da)



Sr. Rose Thumitho, LSOSF, Co-Founder, Mother Kevin Providence Social Enterprise (Uganda)



African Management Institute

COHORT 2022



Smartcore

(Tanzania)

UNITED STATES

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

ACADEMIC PARTNER

WELCOME BUILDERS OF AFRICA'S FUTURE COHORT 2022

The Builders of Africa's Future 2022 Directory provides a window into the enterprises, professional backgrounds, and impact that the entrepreneurs make in their local communities. We encourage you to connect with the entrepreneurs and learn about and support their work. Building community is essential to the strength of our entrepreneurial ecosystem, and we are delighted to have you be a part of the journeys of the fifth cohort of Builders of Africa's Future.

JUSTINE ABUGA ECOBORA



TITLE CEO and Founder

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DOERS WITHIN US PODCAST

BIO

Mr. Justine Nyaruri Abuga is an award winning social impact entrepreneur. He is the CEO and Founder of <u>Ecobora</u> Company, the first green energy company that provides African schools solar cooking stoves and saves them 100% of firewood costs. He uses green energy as a catalyst for poverty alleviation with a mission of building resilient and empowered communities that can thrive. He has 7 years' experience working in the green energy space and believes in status quo disruption through innovation, technology, and sustainability, with a passion for working with rural and marginalized women and youth.



GEORGE AKILIMALI SMARTCORE ENTERPRISE LIMITED



TITLE CEO and Co-Founder

WEBSITE https://smartcore.co.tz/

LOCATION Tanzania

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DOERS WITHIN US PODCAST

BIO

George Akilimali is a social entrepreneur, technology enthusiast, high-achieving senior executive bringing expertise in business planning, revenue development, and change management. He is a graduate of Mzumbe University with a Bachelor of Science in Information and Communication Technology with Management, offering seven years of leadership in the Education and Technology industry along with an entrepreneurial, forward-thinking mindset, and demonstrated track record of accomplishment. He is also the CEO & Founder of Smartcore Enterprise. He is passionate about various fields including social entrepreneurship, technology innovation, and education.



VICTOR BOAFO ENTOFARMS



TITLE Co-Founder

WEBSITE https:// e8jepvsnzzk6gz1vbjehxa.on.dr v.tw/www.ENTOFARMS.com/ index.htm

LOCATION Ghana

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DOERS WITHIN US PODCAST

BIO

Victor Boafo is a 23-year old social entrepreneur with a background in banking and finance who spun off to co-found <u>Entofarms</u>, an agricultural base start up, in a bid to create an impact in his community and economy as a whole.



SOCIAL MEDIA



@Entofarms Ghana

<u>https://</u>

<u>e8jepvsnzzk6gz1vbjehxa.on.drv.tw/</u> <u>www.ENTOFARMS.com/index.htm</u>

DR. HANANE CHAIBAINOU BIOTESSIA



TITLE CEO and Co-Founder

WEBSITE http://biotessia.com/

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DOERS WITHIN US PODCAST

BIO

Dr. Hanane Chaibainou is the former Moroccan Ambassador for the first Youth Forum at the UNESCO and a member of the Covid-19 taskforce for the American Moroccan Competencies Network (AMCN). She is now the Chief Executive Officer and co-founder of <u>Biotessia</u>, S.A., based in Casablanca, Morocco. As soon as Dr. Chaibainou is done seeing neurosurgical patients, she is fully dedicated to Biotessia. The company is centered around access to all diagnostic and genetic testing, oncology and biosample collection in rural and underserved populations in Morocco with the vision to make Pointof-Care testing faster, cheaper, and accessible to all patients.



CALEB EDWARDS WAMI AGRO LIMITED



TITLE CEO and Founder

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DOERS WITHIN US PODCAST

BIO

Caleb Edwards is a self-motivated and success-driven business development manager with 12+ years of experience in solution-selling and new business development across financial services, logistics, fintech, and construction industries. He is a founding member of <u>Wami Agro Limited</u>, an AgTech company with a mission to deliver tech-enabled solutions to secure sustainable sourcing, improve farmer quality of life, and protect the environment. He is a focused senior management executive with exceptional planning and implementation capabilities.



SR. JANE FRANCES KABAGAAJU NKURUBA HEALTH CENTRE

TITLE In-Charge Clinical Officer

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DOERS WITHIN US PODCAST

BIO

Sr. Jane Frances Kabagaaju belongs to the Congregation of the Daughters of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus. She has served for 32 years in this congregation and is professionally trained as a Medical Clinical Officer. Sr Jane Frances has served in charge of health facilities for 22 years, particularly those in rural and difficult to reach communities. She is currently in charge of <u>Nkuruba Health Centre</u>, located in the rural area of Kabarole District-Uganda and established in 1964. Sr. Jane Frances completed a social entrepreneurship training by the African Management Institute of Kenya.



JAMILA MAYANJA SMART GIRLS UGANDA



TITLE CEO

WEBSITE

https://www.facebook.com/ smartgirlsuganda/

LOCATION Uganda

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DOERS WITHIN US PODCAST

BIO

Jamila Mayanja a certified marketer who started <u>Smart Girls Uganda</u>, a social enterprise that empowers girls and women through trainings that build their life and economical skills. Smart Girls has famous girls and women empowerment programs like the Girls with tools program that socially and economically empower vulnerable girls and young women through models of skills development in male dominated careers and The Solar smart bags for girls innovation project, that is a comprehensive menstrual hygiene kits/back packers with educational programming designed with and for girls in Uganda.





SR. CHRISTABEL JUUNZA MWANGANI EMERGING FARMERS INITIATIVE



WEBSITE

holyspiritsisters.org/ projects.html

Zambia

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DOERS WITHIN US PODCAST

BIO

Sr. Juunza Christabel Mwangani is a member of the Religious Sisters of the Holy Spirit, a congregation of women based in Zambia whose charism is their "Dedication and openness to the personal action of the Spirit continuing Christ's mission." Sr. Juunza has been a Religious Sister for eighteen years. She leads the <u>Emerging Farmers Initiative</u> and also currently serves as Senior Hospital Administrator at Monze Mission Hospital, where she coordinates and supervises all the non-clinical departments and manages all developmental and income-generating activities of the Hospital. She has served at this facility for the past 14 years.



SOCIAL MEDIA

@RSHSZambia
@Religious Sisters of the Holy Spirit
http://bolyspiritsisters.org/



http://holyspiritsisters.org/ projects.html

HYASINTHA NTUYEKO KASOLE SECRETS



secrets

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DOERS WITHIN US PODCAST

BIO

Hyasintha Ntuyeko is a social entrepreneur and a registered professional engineer who has challenged the status quo since 12 years ago. In 2013, She founded <u>Kasole Secrets</u> <u>Company</u> which innovates solutions to the Menstrual Health/Hygiene (MHH) challenges through developing and selling embossed bamboo charcoal disposable pads, providing MHH consultation, Training and Education campaigns which includes boys and men alongside girls and women and lastly encourage and support MHH innovation within communities by partnering with Local and International organizations.



DR. AHIMBISIBWE PROSPER MSCAN



TITLE Co-founder

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DOERS WITHIN US PODCAST

BIO

Ahimbisibwe is a medical doctor by profession and a medical entrepreneur by passion. He is a Global Shaper with the Kampala Hub under the World Economic Forum and a Young Emerging Leaders Project Fellow with the Leo Africa Institute.

SOCIAL MEDIA





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SR. ROSE THUMITHO, LSOSF MOTHER KEVIN PROVIDENCE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

TITLE Co-founder

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DOERS WITHIN US PODCAST

BIO

Sister Rose Thumitho is the co-founder of <u>Mother Kevin Providence Social Enterprise</u>. As a business manager with great passion and commitment with hands-on technical support, she brings 15 years of experience with expertise in leadership, governance, management, administration, resource mobilization, system-strengthening, networking and communications learned from working in underserved mission hospitals. In 2020, she started a social enterprise with the goal of reaching out with compassion to vulnerable communities to empower them to grow their income and transform their livelihood through organic poultry and sustainable means of farming.



