We are excited to announce the sixth cohort of Builders of Africa’s Future (BAF) 2023! This year's cohort features 10 entrepreneurs leading 100% African-led and owned businesses in Education, Recycling, Health Tech & Innovation, Poultry Farming, FinTech, Green Energy, and Coffee Farming. Meet the cohort and read the official press release here.

BAF celebrates innovation and impact in early-stage African enterprises. The program identifies African entrepreneurs running early-stage nonprofits or for-profit businesses that address key community needs through technology or differentiated business models. Each year, we work toward our goal of helping businesses scale their ventures and impact their communities with innovative and sustainable solutions.

Thank you to our funders, the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation and U.S. African Development Foundation, for making this program possible. We are excited to work with our academic trainer, African Management Institute (AMI), for the enterprise training this summer. Stay tuned as we share more on the journey of the Builders of Africa’s Future. For now, please save the date for the BAF2023 Virtual Pitch Day on September 12.

Meet the Cohort

### Adeola Ayoola
CEO & Co-Founder, Famasi Africa

Adeola is the CEO & Co-founder at Famasi, the Operating System (OS) for pharmacies in emerging markets. With over 7 years of expertise as a Pharmacist, she has experience in various sectors, including retail, wholesale, primary healthcare, hospital pharmacy, and supply chain management. Adeola is on a mission to power 1 million refills across Africa by empowering Pharmacies with the right technology to deliver last-mile care.

### Godwin Benson
CEO & Founder, Tuteria

Godwin Benson is an accomplished entrepreneur and CEO of Tuteria, Africa’s leading tutoring company. He has been honoured with prestigious accolades such as MIT's Inclusion Innovation Award, Harvard Business School Africa Club’s New Venture Prize, and the Future Awards for Education in Africa. Having had a first class degree in Systems Engineering, a background at ExxonMobil, and Deloitte West Africa, Godwin's passion lies in advancing education and entrepreneurship across the continent.

### Olufunto Boroffice
CEO & Founder, Chanja Datti Ltd.

Funto Boroffice is the founder/CEO of award-winning Chanja Datti Ltd, a waste collection & recycling social enterprise. Chanja Datti Ltd is dedicated to transforming the waste in her environment in Abuja, Nigeria into value by creating jobs and Quidroo, a fintech startup that provides access to working capital for Nigeria SMEs, especially women-owned SMEs. In the last 81 years, her organization has successfully diverted almost 6,200 tons of waste from uncontrolled landfills, and empowered
Henry Ngale Foretia
Founder, AIT Group

Henry Ngale Foretia is the co-founder/CEO of AIT Group (PFMS), an animal nutritionist, livestock farmer, and trainer with over 14 years of experience. Henry has acquired a quality education from prestigious institutions, and won multiple awards. His work has afforded him the honor of being recognized as one of the brightest young minds in Africa. Henry believes in combining ideas and committing ourselves positively in small groups to change the world and make it a better place for all.

Sister Josephine Nabulya
Treasurer & Marketeer, Ssunga Coffee Social Enterprise

Sr. Josephine Nabulya, belongs to the Institute of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Reparatrix-Ggogonya in Kampala, Uganda. Sr. Josephine is an accountant by profession, from Uganda Martyrs University Nkozi and holds a Masters Degree in Administration and Management. Being interested in farming, Sr. Josephine feels called to create an impact in the lives of the people in community through farming by sharing the knowledge she has with them.

Grace Nakibaala
Architect & Founder, PedalTap

Grace Nakibaala is the founder of InnovAsepsis a young, dynamic company that creates pathogen-free environments. As a leader in innovative health solutions, InnovAsepsis created its flagship product, PedalTap. PedalTap is a retrofittable, affordable, hands-free, foot-operated water dispensing system. Grace is also the Uganda Response Innovation Lab Manager whose mandate is to facilitate innovation and learning in the humanitarian response and populations affected by crisis.

Virtue Oboro
CEO & Founder, Tiny Hearts Technology

Virtue Oboro is a Nigerian Visual Artist and a Social Entrepreneur. She founded Tiny Hearts Technology, an organization focused on raising awareness and educating Nigerian women about neonatal jaundice at the same time producing and deploying cost-effective solar-powered Phototherapy Units for the treatment of neonatal jaundice. Virtue was inspired to birth the organisation after her son was diagnosed with severe neonatal jaundice in 2016. She calls herself a "Vision Caster" to the youth because she helps young people see a brighter/bigger part of their little ideas.

Sserubiri Joseph Uhuru
Co-Founder & CEO, eMaisha Pay

Sserubiri Joseph Uhuru is a passionate entrepreneur, with vast experience in product design, and UX research, working at the intersection of finance and technology to drive financial inclusion across Africa. Sserubiri is the CEO & Co-Founder of eMaisha Pay, an award-winning financial technology company on a mission to unlock financial opportunities for the 44 million micro and small businesses in Africa.

Patrice Wachira
CEO, Patvention Limited

As a highly motivated and experienced beekeeper and waste recycler, Patrice Wachira, CEO of Patvention Limited has well over 5 years’ experience in her respective fields. Patrice’s passion for her community led her work in recycling waste such as plastics to construct environmental friendly beehives which Patvention Limited uses to engage in modern beekeeping methods. Ms. Wachira has been featured on TV 47 in Kenya for her beekeeping efforts and in Forbes magazine in 2019, under “Businesses of the Future Among 20 New Wealth Creators on the African continent.”
Mathias Charles Yabe  
CEO & Co-Founder, AkoFresh

Mathias is an award-winning Ghanaian social entrepreneur and innovator. He has interest in food security, clean energy solutions and climate change. He currently leads AkoFresh, an AgriTech startup that offers smallholder farmers climate smart solutions to reduce post-harvest losses and alleviate poverty. Mathias’ contributions in various technology related solutions, has garnered acclaim as a “Top Youth4South Entrepreneur,” by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, and received recognition from Global Solutions Initiative, UpLink-World Economic Forum, FAO, and Prototypes for Humanity in Dubai.

Calling All Black Entrepreneurs

ACCELERATING BLACK LEADERSHIP AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (ABLE)  
United States

Are you a Black entrepreneur or do you have an entrepreneur in your network who would like to scale their business? The ADN 2023 Accelerating Black Leadership and Entrepreneurship (ABLE) application portal is open for innovative entrepreneurs now! Participants have the opportunity to expand their social capital, increase their access to venture capitalists and deepen their connection to professional mentorship.

ABLE has graduated 27 entrepreneurs since the program’s inception and is looking to expand the graduate pool to 20 for this 2023 cohort. Applications are due June 14th, 11:59 PM PDT. Apply today or nominate an entrepreneur today!

Apply Today

Join the ABLE Review Team

ADN seeks seasoned professionals, industry experts, academicians, and volunteers interested in reviewing ADNs Accelerating Black Leadership and Entrepreneurship (ABLE) program accelerator applications. Help us identify the next 15-20 entrepreneurs to receive a fully paid entrepreneurship and leadership training, mentorship, and a platform to pitch.

Applications for ABLE will be due by mid June. The estimated time frame for reviews is late May through early July 2023.
The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) has announced the regional finalists of the 2023 ASME Innovation Showcase (ISHOW), the prestigious international accelerator of hardware-led social innovation. Eight teams of social innovators from throughout Africa will present their design prototypes and participate in an extensive design and engineering review in a virtual event beginning June 6. Three regional winners will be announced in a virtual awards ceremony on Wednesday, June 14 at 12 p.m. EST/7 p.m. EAT.

Register Here
Looking to have a more active role as a member of African Diaspora Network?

Learn more about ways to engage:

- Invite a friend to subscribe to our newsletter by sending them the link here
- Follow us on social media: Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram
- Subscribe to our YouTube channel
- Give Through Silicon Valley Community Foundation (SVCF) Donor-advised fund
- Mentor entrepreneurs participating in our ABLE and/or BAF programs. Contact Brett Cave, Entrepreneurship Programs Manager at brett@africandiasporanetwork.org to learn more.
- Be an organizational sponsor and support the African Diaspora Network to bring together diverse people from around the world to collaborate and work together. Support ADN HERE
- Fill out the ADN Engagement form here.

Engagement Opportunities

A Special Thank You to Our Funders

See full list here.

Media Coverage

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