



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE BUILDERS OF AFRICA'S FUTURE 2022 COHORT



Justine Abuga,
CEO and Founder,
Ecobora (Kenya)



George Akilimall,
CEO and
Co-Founder,
Smartcore
Enterprise Limited
(Tanzania)



Victor Boafo,
Co-Founder,
Entofarms
(Ghana)



**Dr. Hanane
Chaibainou,** CEO
and Co-Founder,
Biotessia
(Morocco)



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



**Sr. Jane Frances
Kabagajju,**
In-Charge Clinical
Officer, Nkuruba
Health Centre
(Uganda)



Jamila Mayanja,
CEO, Smart Girls
Uganda (Uganda)



**Sr. Christabel
Juunza Mwangi,**
Emerging Farmers
Initiative (Zambia)



Hyacintha Ntuyeko,
CEO,
Kasole Secrets
(Tanzania)



**Dr. Ahimbisibwe
Prosper,** Co-Founder,
mSCAN
(Uganda)



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



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Dear friends and colleagues,

On Thursday, June 23, we recognized eleven grassroots African entrepreneurs at the fifth annual Builders of Africa's Future Pitch Session. This virtual event provided a platform for these changemakers, leading 100% fully African-led and owned organizations, to boost their brand visibility and investment potential.

Support for entrepreneurs matters along their journey. In 2021, the number of investments in African startups from the seed stage to series A [fell by 84%](#) last year, a higher difference compared to companies in the U.S., southeast Asia, and Europe. Builders of Africa's Future is a program of the African Diaspora Network that seeks to elevate the rising stars of African entrepreneurship and engage Africans on the continent, in the diaspora, and friends of Africa to support their work.

Congratulations to each of the Builders on this milestone achievement! This is only the beginning, and we encourage our network to learn more, get connected, and consider ways of supporting their ventures on the journey ahead. A special thank you to our esteemed speakers for energizing and inspiring our audience and sharing words of wisdom and support to the entrepreneurs.

As always, thank you,

Almaz Negash

Almaz Negash
Founder & Executive Director
African Diaspora Network

Congratulations to the 2022 Builders of Africa's Africa's Future



The June 23 pitch session recognized eleven rising stars of African entrepreneurship as they build the future of the continent through nonprofit and for-profit businesses addressing key community needs. This showcase of pitch presentations by grassroots African entrepreneurs presented the perfect opportunity for venture capitalists as well as angel, impact, and philanthropic investors.

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. BAF 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. Since 2018, Builders of Africa's Future has recognized and catalyzed 42 African startups.


Thanks to our Esteemed Speakers



[Learn More About Builders of Africa's Future](#)

Doers Within Us Podcast


The African Diaspora Network is collaborating with Doers Within Us Podcast to bring you a series on this year's Builders of Africa's Future cohort. Check out the podcast on Justine Nyaruri Abuga, CEO and Founder of Ecobora.

A portrait of Justine Abuga, a Black man with a short beard and mustache, wearing a dark blue sweater over a white collared shirt and a patterned tie. He is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression.

Doers Within Us

DOERS WITHIN US PODCAST

INTRODUCING A SERIES PROFILING
AFRICAN DIASPORA NETWORK'S
BUILDERS OF AFRICA'S FUTURE
2022 COHORT

The logo for the African Diaspora Network features a stylized map of Africa in orange and blue, with a rainbow arching over it. Below the map, the text "AFRICAN DIASPORA NETWORK" is written in a sans-serif font, with the tagline "INFORM. ENGAGE. ACT." in a smaller font below that.

JUSTINE ABUGA
CEO AND FOUNDER,
ECOBORA

[Listen to Podcast Featuring Justine](#)

Grant Funding Opportunity



Call for Proposals

The U.S. African Development Foundation (USADF) and Ekiti State Government (EKSG) invites proposals from African cooperatives, producer groups, and enterprises for grant financing and local support for innovative solutions that extend their own capabilities to increase revenues, create jobs, improve farmer incomes, and achieve sustainable market-based growth.

Deadline for Applications:

July 31, 2022

Visit **USADF.gov/apply** for more information.



Apply Today!

Job Opportunities at ADN

Want to Help Black Entrepreneurs Access Capital?



Apply for our new fundraising positions at africandiasporanetwork.org/job-postings

[Apply Today!](#)

Video of the Week

Check out our video of the week to learn more about issues, trends, and opportunities on the African continent! With your support, ADN gathers an incredible lineup of industry leaders, government officials, and entrepreneurs to share their insights and expertise. We invite you to explore our gallery of past sessions and stay tuned for upcoming live events.

**Builders of Africa's Future Pitch Session
2021**



Builders of Africa's Future (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.

The goal is to help scale their ventures and impact in the areas of health, education, energy, agriculture, financial inclusion, gender inclusion, nutrition, commerce, industrial development, and other socioeconomic goods.

Check out the recording from last year's Builders of Africa's Future 2021 cohort and read more about the past cohorts [here](#).

[Watch on YouTube](#)

Support African Diaspora Network



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](#)
- Support us through [Amazon Smile](#)
- Give Through Silicon Valley Community Foundation ([SVCF](#)) Donor-advised fund
- Mentor entrepreneurs participating in our ABLE and/or BAF programs. Contact Debra Pacio, ADN's Entrepreneurship and Community Engagement Manager, at debra@africandiasporanetwork.org to learn more.
- Be a volunteer and support African Diaspora Network initiatives
- 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](#)

Support ADN

A Special Thank You to Our Funders

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See full list [here](#).





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