



African Diaspora Network celebrates the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), now called the African Union (AU).

On May 25th, the AU observes “Africa Day” to honor the vision and accomplishments made toward “An Integrated, Prosperous and Peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the global arena.” This year’s Africa Day commemorates “Our Africa, Our Future” in recognition of the organization’s founders, whose dream was to work toward a peaceful, unified Africa that would be a powerful force in the international arena.

At the African Diaspora Network, we celebrate Africa Day 2023 by highlighting changemakers on the African continent, ranging from those involved in changing the narrative of Africa, strengthening healthcare systems on the continent, and protecting our planet and national resources. These changemakers also include African youth who are actively involved in the socioeconomic development of the continent. We are proud to highlight the future of Africa in our newsletter in honor of Africa Day.

African Changemakers

Today, on Africa Day, we recognize individuals making positive change by improving healthcare, protecting natural resources, and promoting a positive narrative about Africa.



Moky Makura

Executive Director, Africa No Filter

Moky Makura is a Nigeria-born journalist focused on telling the African story from the African perspective. She has been a TV presenter, producer, author, publisher, entrepreneur and Executive Director of Africa No Filter, which supports contemporary stories of and from Africans through research, advocacy and grantmaking. She also co-produced and presented “Living It”, wrote Africa's Greatest Entrepreneurs, and started a mass market fiction book series called Nollybooks.



Wanjira Mathai

Managing Director, Africa and Global Partnerships at the World Resource Institute

Wanjira Mathai is following in the footsteps of her mother, Wangari Maathai, who became the first African woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004 for her work in preventing deforestation. Wanjira was harassed and beaten by her mother's opposition to the cutting down of forests, but eventually joined the Green Belt Movement. Since then, Wanjira has put her heart and soul into fighting climate change and preventing deforestation. She is currently Managing Director, Africa and Global Partnerships at the World Resource Institute, a Leadership Council member of the Clean Cooking Alliance, and a member of the High-Level Group of the Africa-Europe Foundation.



Sikhulile Moyo

*Laboratory Director/Research Associate
at Botswana Harvard AIDS Institute*

Dr. Sikhulile Moyo is a virologist who was the first to alert the world to the existence of the coronavirus' Omicron variant in November 2021. He is the Director of the Botswana Harvard Aids Institute Partnership (BHP), a lab and research associate at Harvard School of Public Health of Immunology and Infectious Diseases, and a member of Botswana's Presidential Covid-19 Task Force team. He has also contributed to studies on mother-to-child HIV transmission prevention, HIV-exposed infants, monitoring HIV mutations associated with drug resistance, and other infectious diseases. He has written over 150 published journal articles and was included in Time magazine's list of the 100 Most Influential People in the World.

[Read More](#)

Our Africa, Our Future

Young Africans are expected to make up 42% of the world's youth and 75% of those under 35 in 2030 (Population Reference Bureau). Young people are an opportunity for the continent's growth, but only if they are empowered to realize their potential. By investing in today's youth, Africa can position itself as a world leader and forge a prosperous, unified, peaceful continent. At ADN, we recognize the significant role African youths play in building a prosperous Africa. We are proud to highlight the future of Africa in our newsletter in honor of Africa Day.



Ambrose Kamyia

Founder, Kinga Safety

Ambrose is a 2019 Mandela Washington Fellow originally from Uganda. He holds a Master of Science in Technology & Entrepreneurship from the University of Notre Dame. Ambrose is a fellow at enFocus, Inc., working with the City of South Bend Mayor's Office managing the High Skill Immigration Fund. He is the Founder of Kinga Safety, a personal safety app for young women based in South Bend, IN. For young women that need to be safe from sexual assault, Kinga is a widget application that educates and empowers them to detect, avoid and de-escalate sexual assault situations in a way that is accessible, discrete, personalized, and makes money via annual subscriptions of \$50.

ADIS Highlights

Since ADIS23, Ambrose received a \$10,000 investment in Kinga with several mentorships hours from the contacts he made in Silicon Valley.



Mwanga Simwanda

Co-Founder, Zambian Alliance for Empowered Communities

Mwanga Simwanda is a Public Health Specialist with extensive experience working with Adolescents & Young People focusing on HIV/AIDS and Sexual and Reproductive Health in vulnerable communities. While working with the HBCUs, she developed a model that responds to the epidemic control of HIV/AIDS among Adolescent Girls and Young Women. A model that has been recognized by CDC Zambia and funded by HRSA as one of the effective models that helps reach out to young people. Mwanga aspires to scale up sustainable

adolescent and young people focused interventions to other vulnerable communities and hopes to leverage the opportunities that African Diaspora Network presents.

ADIS Highlights

ADIS23 made me realize the importance of social enterprises for sustainable development. Not only did I learn concepts and ideas, the interaction during tea breaks also allowed me to share my business ideas that attracted \$30,000 in investments from investors. I believe young people are ideally positioned to develop the continent and spaces like ADN is making that possible.



Tabitha Florence Shikuku, CPA

Tabitha Florence Shikuku has 15 years of experience as an International development professional. She promotes sustainable development goals through education, policy, and investment infrastructures in various countries. As a Global Good Will Ambassador for humanitarian activities in Kenya and USA, she mentors entrepreneurs on financial inclusion and impact investment and advocates for systems change, effective funding structures, and financial policies in governmental departments and public bodies. Tabitha is a 2017 Mandela Washington Fellow with a Bachelor's degree in Business Management and is a qualified Public Accountant.

ADIS Highlights

I am grateful to have connected with good mentors and individuals who are interested in exploring potential partnership opportunities.



Ugochi Obidiegwu

Founder, The Safety Chic

Ugochi Obidiegwu is the founder of a child safety social enterprise, The Safety Chic. Her organization creates safety education products and programs that reduce unintentional injuries in African children and increases their safety consciousness. She also leverages her strategic thinking and speaking abilities to proffer solutions to problems affecting young Africans. She believes that meaningful collaborations between the diaspora and friends of Africa with Africa will be a game-changer for the advancement of the continent.

ADIS Highlights

ADIS23 exposed me to quality knowledge sharing from brilliant minds. It was a pleasure to build new connections, and I was also able to pitch to an angel investor I met at ADIS23. I received an investment of \$10,000. I am grateful to ADN for making this possible and to my angel investor for believing in me.



Peva F. Gbagornah

Tuberculosis physician, Partners In Health

Peva F. Gbagornah, a Liberian doctor, specializes in diabetes, Tuberculosis, and neglected tropical diseases. He has provided clinical and preventative medical services in Liberian rural and urban health facilities and communities for over ten years. He has committed his career to reaching the unreachable and most vulnerable through clinical practice and health education. Peva earned a Doctor of Medicine in General Medicine from the University of Liberia (2016), a Masters in Diabetes Management from the University of South Wales (2021), and a Diploma of Advance Studies (DAS) in Healthcare

Management from Basel University (2020). He is completing his master's in Global Health Delivery at Harvard University in May 2023.

ADIS Highlights

Peva networked with pharmaceutical CEOs, Program Directors, and other successful entrepreneurs at ADIS. He is leveraging the network to build a collaboration that would transform tuberculosis management in Liberia and Africa by using pharmaceutical aerosols instead of 10 to 15 tablets each day. Peva is interested in research, Clinical medicine, Telehealth, and health programs.

Upcoming Events

The Role of Youth in Shifting Narratives of Africa



2023 AFRICAN DIASPORA NETWORK
IMPACT AND INNOVATION FORUMS

Webinar: The Role of Youth in Shifting Narratives of Africa
Wednesday, June 7, 8:00 AM PST, 11:00 AM EST, 3:00 PM GMT



VICTOR MARK-ONYEBU
Grants Lead,
Africa No Filter



AMBROSE KAMYA
2019 Mandela Washington Fellow and
Founder of Kinga Safety



MEHRET AMSALU
2016 Mandela Washington Fellow
and Health Systems Researcher and
Coordinator at London School of
Hygiene and Tropical Medicine,
University of London



MICHEAL OMEKA
MASTERCARD FOUNDATION SCHOLAR
ALUMNUS, INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKER,
FITNESS SPECIALIST

Hosted in collaboration with Africa No Filter



The Population Reference Bureau reports that by 2030, young Africans will make up 42% of the world's youth population and 75% of those under 35. As they are crucial to

the continent's development, it is essential to empower these young Africans to achieve their full potential.

Join the African Diaspora Network and Africa No Filter for a webinar on "The Role of Youth in Shifting Narratives of Africa" on June 7 at 8:00 AM PST, 11:00 AM EST, 3:00 PM GMT.

[Register Today](#)

GFRID

Global Forum on Remittances, Investment and Development
Summit 2023 Africa

United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on Africa

IFAD Investing in rural people

WORLD BANK GROUP

Harnessing the power of migrants: misconceptions and opportunities

Pedro DE VASCONCELOS
Lead Technical Specialist and Manager of the Financing Facility for Remittances
IFAD

Almaz NEGASH
CEO and Founder
African Diaspora Network

Dare OKOUDJOU
CEO
MPS Africa

Dilip RATHA
Lead Economist, Migration and Remittances and Head of Knomad
World Bank

Diasporans contribute much to Africa through remittances. How do we further engage the diaspora beyond remittances? Join us from June 14 to 16 at the Global Forum on Remittances, Investment, and Development Summit in Nairobi to find out. Register for this free summit today!

[Register Today](#)

Mentor Grassroots African Entrepreneurs



Mentor a grassroots African entrepreneur through the 2023 Builders of Africa's Future (BAF) program! We are currently seeking industry experts in the following areas to join our mentor community: education, recycling, health tech & innovation, poultry farming, fintech, green energy, and coffee farming.

Sign up to mentor an entrepreneur once or twice a month from June to September 2023. Learn more on our [mentor flyer](#) and sign up today!

For more information, e-mail brett@africandiasporanetwork.org

[Sign Up Today](#)

Apply for ABLE

ACCELERATING BLACK LEADERSHIP AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (ABLE)

United States



LEAD ORGANIZATION



ACADEMIC PARTNER



FUNDERS



MAKAHAKAMA
FOUNDATION



BlackRock



Applications are now open for the third cohort of Accelerating Black Leadership and Entrepreneurship!

Accelerating Black Leadership and Entrepreneurship (ABLE) is an enterprise accelerator program for startups and small businesses led by Black entrepreneurs in the United States. This no equity, no cost accelerator is a 6-week power packed program geared to take your business to the next level. Learn how to share the valuation of your business, how to scale, and how to craft the ultimate pitch.

Apply by June 14!

[Sign Up Today](#)

Join the ABLE Review Team



ADN seeks seasoned professionals, industry experts, academicians, and volunteers interested in reviewing ADN's 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 the end of June. The estimated time frame for reviews is late June through early July 2023.

[Sign Up Today](#)

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](#)
- 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 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

Foundations & Government

See full list [here](#).



BILL & MELINDA
GATES *foundation*



Hugh Stuart
Center
Charitable Trust





Media Coverage

See full list [here](#).



Forbes





Copyright © *|CURRENT_YEAR|* *|LIST:COMPANY|*, All rights reserved

Our mailing address is:

4701 Patrick Henry Drive, Building 25
Santa Clara, CA 95054

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

|IF:REWARDS| *|HTML:REWARDS|* *|END:IF|*