



# ADIS24

AFRICAN DIASPORA INVESTMENT SYMPOSIUM

**ACTIVATE WITH AFRICA: CLIMATE CHANGE, CONNECTIONS, AND ACTION**

March 20-22, 2024 | Hayes Mansion, San Jose, California, USA - Silicon Valley

## Two Days to ADIS24

With just a few days left until we kick off ADIS24, make sure you do not miss the opportunity to attend one of these amazing panel discussions. For a full list of sessions, please visit our [website](#).

[Register for ADIS24](#)

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INVESTOR FORUM

Grassroots African entrepreneurs and African diasporan entrepreneurs are actively innovating and realizing solutions to global challenges, including climate change, through their businesses. Yet, the biggest challenge they face and continuously work to overcome in evolving from a startup to a sustainable business is fundraising and investment. This forum presents an opportunity to hear firsthand from graduates of ADN's accelerator programs, Builders of Africa's Future and Accelerating Black Leadership and Entrepreneurship, to learn about their individual journeys as entrepreneurs and their advice for building toward success.



**Romi Bhatia**

*Sr. Finance & Investment Advisor, USAID  
Africa Bureau*

Mr. Romi Bhatia is the Senior Finance and Investment Advisor for USAID's Africa Bureau supporting the strategic priorities of Prosper Africa; a presidential-level national security initiative aimed at strengthening the strategic and economic partnership between the U.S. and Africa by catalyzing transformative two-way trade and investment flows.



**Olufunto Boroffice**

*CEO, Chanja Datti*

Funto Boroffice is the founder/CEO of award winning Chanja Datti Ltd, a waste collection & recycling social enterprise dedicated to transforming the waste in her environment to value and creating jobs and positioned to solve the growing plastic waste and unemployment crisis in Africa.



**Kristal Hansley**

*CEO and Founder, WeSolar*

As the CEO and Founder of WeSolar Inc., the first Black Woman-owned community solar development company in the U.S., Kristal has accrued over 8 years of hands-on experience in solar and Distributed Energy Resources (DER) development.



### **Shingai Samudzi**

*CEO, Asoba*

Data scientist by training, Shingai has built AI-based tools for driving greater efficiency in major industries for nearly 20 years. Currently, with Asoba, he is building Africa's largest private retail clean energy marketplace, with a goal of 10GW under management by 2030.

## **CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND ECONOMIC IMPACT FOR AFRICAN AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS**

Africa's agricultural and food systems support more than [60% of the population's workforce](#). Climate change threatens livelihoods with challenges such as irregular weather patterns severely impacting crops and livestock. However, sustainable farming practices such as crop diversification, conservation agriculture, and promoting drought-resistant crops and livestock breeds can better prepare African countries to design agriculture and food systems that withstand the effects of climate change.



### **Degan Ali**

*Executive Director, Adeso*

Degan Ali is an internationally-renowned humanitarian leader who has been at the forefront of shifting power for decades. She is a Rockefeller Foundation Global Fellow for Social Innovation, a contributor to the Overseas Development Institute/Humanitarian Policy Group and the Global Food Security Journal.



**Nicholas M. Bassey**

*Deputy Vice President, Congressional And Public Affairs, Millennium Challenge Corporation*

Nicholas M. Bassey is Deputy Vice President for MCC's Department of Congressional and Public Affairs, where he works to strengthen relationships with Congress, NGOs, businesses, government officials, and the U.S. public.



**Eric Rutayisire Muziga**

CEO, Charis UAS

Eric holds a master's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. As a seasoned systems engineer, he boasts a rich history in pioneering new technologies and tech products worldwide.



**Pedro De Vasconcelos**

*Manager, Financing Facility For Remittances, International Fund For Agricultural Development (IFAD)*

Pedro De Vasconcelos is the Programme Manager of IFAD's multi-donor Financing Facility for Remittances (FFR) and Lead Senior Technical Specialist on remittances, migration and inclusive finance.



# THE GLOBAL AI REVOLUTION: STEPS TO ETHICALLY UTILIZE AI TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE CRISIS IN AFRICA

This session centers around exploring the potential applications of cutting-edge artificial intelligence technologies to tackle the pressing issues of climate change. It will delve into how AI can be leveraged to combat the detrimental consequences climate change has on our planet and discuss the various eco-friendly strategies and approaches that can be employed toward this goal.



**John Kamara**

*AI Centre Of Excellence Nairobi*

John Kamara is a Pan-Africa smart technology thought leader, investor, and technology entrepreneur with over 20 years of experience in business growth and market expertise.



**Hugh Molotsi**

*President and CTO BuyNothing Project*

Hugh Molotsi is the President and CTO of BuyNothing, a gift economy platform. Hugh is a seasoned product and technology leader with over 30 years of experience developing global solutions for small businesses and consumers.



**Deirdre White**  
*CEO, Pyxera Global*

Deirdre White, a globally recognized leader in building tri-sector partnerships to address the world's most pressing challenges, is president and CEO of Pyxera Global.

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- Mentor entrepreneurs participating in our ABLE and/or BAF programs. Contact Brett Cave, Entrepreneurship Programs Manager at [brett@africandiasporanetwork.org](mailto: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**





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