

Development in Agriculture – Growing Ambitions for Food

3rd International Conference on Financing for Development

Side-Event

Speakers' Biographies



EVENT MODERATOR

Josefina Stubbs

Associate Vice-President and Chief Development Strategist, Strategy and Knowledge Department, International Fund for Agricultural Development

Josefina Stubbs holds a PhD in Political Science and International Development from the Institute of Social Studies in Holland. She has over 25 years of experience in the areas of development and management, gained through her work at national, private, and multilateral development agencies.

Prior to becoming the Associate Vice-President and Chief Development

Strategist in the Strategy and Knowledge Department on 1 October

2014,

she was Director of the Latin America and the Caribbean Division. Prior to joining IFAD, Ms. Stubbs worked with the World Bank where she held various positions in the Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition, she worked for sixteen years in Oxfam UK and for the Dominican Republic's Ministry of Agriculture.



Daniel Gad

CEO, Omega Farms in Ethiopia, Member of World Farmers Organisation (WFO)

“Agropreneurs: Youthful Future in Africa”

Daniel Gad is the owner and general manager of Omega Farms Plc. a leading vegetable production farm in Ethiopia. Omega Farms is engaged in the production and sales of pre-packed exotic high value vegetables to the EU & UK markets. Omega Farms produces and distributes Sugar Snaps, Mange Tout and Baby Corn on a weekly basis during the season (from early October to end of May).

Prior to returning to Ethiopia, Daniel Gad had a career in the telecom industry with AT&T for 18 years. In his last assignment as VicePresident and Client Partner, he steered the development

of AT&T Solutions and secured a \$1.6 billion outsourcing contract with JP Morgan. In addition, he also led the venture capital funded IPO of Opus 360, which was later acquired by a major software development company.

In 2003, Daniel Gad returned to Ethiopia where he was born and raised and established MetroLux Flowers, a company that produced and exported large T-Hybrid roses to direct high value markets in the EU, Russia, and the Middle East. He then divested his interest in MetroLux Flowers in order to concentrate on the development of Omega Farms.

Most recently Daniel Gad led the national project funded by PepsiCo aimed at improving smallholder productivity in the production of Chickpeas. In addition to this he has been a speaker on the subject of PPP (public private partnerships) and participation of the private sector in aid effectiveness at the OECD, IMF and World Bank as well as at the Food Security and Nutrition forum of the G8 in Washington DC as well as the Global Forum for Agriculture (GFFA) in Berlin 2013 & 2014).

Mr. Gad currently serves as the Board Chairman of the Ethiopian Horticulture Cooperative and is an active member of the World Farmers Organization. Mr. Gad is a member of the high level leadership team of the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition. He was recently appointed to a three year term to the ACP EU follow-up committee of the EU parliament.



Lawrence Ndambuki Muli
Programmes and Policy Advisor, African Observatory for
Policy Practice and Youth Studies

“Consolidating Finance for Africa's Youth in Agro-Value Chains”

Lawrence Ndambuki Muli is an Agro-Economy & Climate Change Policy Specialist. He is the Co-founder & Programmes and Policy Advisor of the African Observatory for Policy Practice and Youth Studies. A policy think tank that strengthens the work of intergovernmental institutions and African Ministries and Agencies in charge of Youth in mainstreaming an evidence based policy making and programming approach to youth development in Africa. Prior to this for 3years he worked as a Programmes Associate of the UNFPA Liaison office to the AU and ECA where he was seconded as a Policy Advocacy and Communications Expert to the Youth Division, Department of Human Resources Science & Technology, African Union Commission.

His masters is in Public Policy and Management from the University of London, and his bachelors in Environmental Science, Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya his home country.

Lawrence also chairs UNESCO's Pan African Youth Network on the Culture of Peace and is one of the youth advisors to the board Food Agriculture Natural Resource Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN); and is also a founding member and now Policy & Partnerships Advisor of the African Youth Initiative on Change.



Ntiokam Divine
Global Youth Digital Advocate for Post-2015 Development Agenda and Founder, Climate Smart Agriculture Youth Network (CSAYN) “Mobilizing Finance for Mainstreaming Women and Youth in ClimateSmart Agriculture”

Ntiokam Divine, has over ten years of experience in youth advocacy and mobilization of youth interested in agriculture. He recently established the Climate-Smart Agriculture Youth Network (CSAYN). His background includes international exposure in youth mainstreaming participating in the United Nations Millennium Development Goals processes ensuring youth voices are heard. He has hands-on experience and training in developing and managing youth projects within the EU and non - EU countries. He is committed young professional with team building potential having demonstrated his ability to reach out to youth in urban and rural areas. In addition, his bilingual skills and networking abilities has led to the CSAYN becoming operational.



Shaan Mavani
Team Leader, Analytics Team, Agricultural Transformation Agency (ATA), Government of Ethiopia
“ATA’s Analytics Team: Young Graduates Providing Analytical Support to the Agri-Food Sector”

Shaan Mavani is the Team Leader of the Analytics Team at the Ethiopian Agriculture Transformation Agency. The Analytics Team provides strategic advisory and analytical consulting services within the organization as well as to key partners, to support the transformation of smallholder agriculture in Ethiopia.

Shaan joined the ATA from Boston Consulting Group, where he led projects for financial and development sector clients globally. Prior to that, he worked in corporate banking and risk management consulting. Shaan holds an MA in International Studies with a focus on development in Africa, and a BA in Mathematics.



Gebru Aderajew Woldu
Young Professionals in Agricultural Research and Development (YPARD)
“Engaging Youth in Agriculture through ICT”

Gebru Aderajew Woldu is a graduate in Rural Development (B.Sc) from Bahir Dar University, Ethiopia, since 2008. He was employed that same year at Haramaya University as a graduate assistant in the department of Rural Development & Agricultural Extension (RDAE) and carried on as an assistant lecturer, till the end of 2010. While teaching, he was actively participating in coordinating & supervising community field projects, village stay campaigns, RDAE Resource Centre Chairperson and other departmental tasks.

He is now a Masters student in Agricultural Information & Communication Management (AICM) at Haramaya University. He is very enthusiastic about ICT applications in agriculture and active in social reporting and social media. He has been helping the youth via his blog: ADO-Keld Ena Kumneger - where he posts opportunities for Ethiopian & African youth. His areas of research interest include ICT in aquaculture, mobile apps in agri., early warning information system, agri-decision support system, contract farming, ICT in climate change.



Tip O'Neill
CEO, International Raw Materials (IRM) and member of the International Fertilizer Industry Association (IFA)

“The role of Business in Promoting Talent Development in Agriculture, Experiences from IRM”

Mr O'Neill has been an executive in the international fertilizer business for over 40 years. He has been with IRM since its founding in 1979 as Chief Executive Officer. Based in Philadelphia, IRM is an international marketing company specializing in the wholesale distribution of fertilizers and industrial chemicals.

He currently serves as the Convenor for the International Fertilizer Industry Association's Working Group for UN Outreach. He is also on the Board of the International Plant Nutrition Institute. He is a past Chair of the Fertilizer Industry Round Table, and has also served on the Executive Committee of the Agricultural Retailers Association, as a Director of The Fertilizer Institute, and the Canadian Fertilizer Institute. He currently serves as an independent director, and Audit Committee Chair for OCI Resources (OCIR.NYSE). Additionally he served as an Independent Director and Audit Committee Chair for Columbian Chemicals Company.

Tip is a graduate of the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. In 1988, he returned to Wharton attending the Advanced Management Program and in 2006 The Directors Consortium. He also is a graduate of and was an instructor for the U.S. Army Artillery Officers Candidate School. He subsequently served with the 5th Battalion 22nd Artillery.

Community interests include having served as a Trustee and Chairman of the Board of Malvern Preparatory School, as a Trustee of the Agnes Irwin School, as a Trustee of the Bethesda Project and as a founding Trustee of the Paoli Battlefield Preservation Fund. He currently serves on the Board and as the Treasurer of the Conshohocken Rowing Center, and as Chairman of the Board of Managers for Joseph's House, an organization that cares for Camden, New Jersey's homeless.



Aloys Ntezimana
CEO, World Alliance against Youth Unemployment “Agro-Green Technology applied by Young Professional Farmers”

Aloys Tezimana is a former United Nations Youth Delegates of Rwanda and a former UNESCO Students Ambassador. He comes from Nyagatare district, eastern province of Rwanda. He is an initiator of the United Nations Youth Delegates Programme in Rwanda.

Mr. Aloys is the founder and CEO of the World Alliance against Youth

Unemployment (WAYU: unemployedyouthvoice.org) and one of the co-founders of Rwandan Youth Alliance for Climate Action (RYACA: www.ryaca.org). As a Rwandan youth leader, he has created different initiatives in his country; Aloys is known through his effort to promote human dignity and human rights, fighting poverty, climate change and HIV/AIDS.

He studied Biology at National University of Rwanda from 2007-2011 with Zoology and Conservation as a major. His university studies were combined with studies of Social Entrepreneurship and Social Business by addressing the bottom of the pyramid from the Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDI India), Training on Climate Change and Diplomacy issued by United Nations Institute of Training and Research (UNITAR) and other professional trainings. He is well known as very strong and ever ambitious youth activist to promote youth participation in international decision making processes, most importantly youth from Global South.