INNOVATION PRIZE FOR AFRICA 2017

Disrupting Africa’s agriculture value chain
Agriculture & Innovation Workshop
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Speakers

WALTER FUST
PROFESSOR NYASSE BARTHELEMY (Moderator)
CLAUDE GRUNITZKY (Workshop Moderator)
AMMA GYAMPO
GIDEON PADI KONOTYEY
EMMANUEL ANSAH-AMPROFI
NANA ADJOA SIFA
PAPA ARKHURST (Workshop MC)
KOJO OHENE-KYEI
JOSEPH OPOKU GAKPO
FREDA OBENG-AMPOFO
DAVID ASIAMAH
OLUFEMI ODELEYE
ZEINOU ABDELYAMINE

#IPA2017
Ambassador Walter Fust is Chairman of the Board for the African Innovation Foundation, providing strategic guidance to the Foundation’s mandate. After studying Public Administration at the University of St. Gallen in Switzerland, he commenced his diplomatic career, serving Swiss embassies in Baghdad and Tokyo. Since his retirement, Amb. Fust holds mandates in the Broadband Commission for Digital Development (ITU/UNESCO) and the UN Committee of Experts on Public Administration (CEPA). He chairs the Global Crop Diversity Trust (Bonn) and serves on the boards of the Coalition for Dialog on Africa/CoDA, the Library of Alexandria, CATIE, the American University for tropical agriculture and forestry in Costa Rica, and different national Foundations. Ambassador Fust is a well-known and a widely-connected personality in international development, with particular knowledge and expertise in trade, development and humanitarian affairs.
Professor Nyasse Barthelemy is the IPA 2017 Chairman of the Jury. He has lectured at the University of Yaounde since 1986 after obtaining his PhD in Chemistry of Natural Products alternating between the University of Yaounde (Faculty of Science, Department of Organic Chemistry) and the National Museum of Natural History Paris (Chemistry Laboratory). After two years of academic services at the university, he joined the University of Uppsala for his second PhD, awarded to him in 1995. After living in Sweden for six years where he interned with multi-national pharmaceutical companies, acquiring knowledge on the protection of Intellectual Property (IP) assets and knowledge transfer - he returned to the University of Yaounde in 1995 where he was appointed Professor of Chemistry in 2005. He teaches organic chemistry and research methodologies in scientific research at the University of Yaounde and the University of Bamenda. He is the author of several scientific publications on the chemistry of natural products, IP and organic synthesis.
Successful serial entrepreneur in the magazine and advertising industries, Claude Grunitzky, an IPA 2017 Judge, is the founder of TRACE and TRUE Africa, a new media tech platform funded by Google and other partners. Along with two business partners, he completed a multimillion-dollar financing deal led by Goldman Sachs Group. As a result, the TRACE brand is now being leveraged globally across various television, event and interactive platforms. In 2013, he created the annual “Forum des Jeunes Entrepreneurs” in Togo, to identify, mentor and fund his native country’s best young entrepreneurs. He is a graduate of MIT and also sits on the board of the Watermill Center, a laboratory of inspiration and performance, founded by theater and visual artist Robert Wilson, which provides a unique environment for a global community of emerging and established artists and thinkers to gather and explore new ideas together. He is also a board member at Humanity in Action, a foundation that works internationally to build global leadership, defend democracy, protect minorities and improve human rights.
Amma Gyampo is the CEO of AmDeCo. Her work centers around the development of the entrepreneurship eco-system in Africa, particularly in relation to skills, technology, innovation and STEM. She is an Advisor, Business Coach and Mentor to African entrepreneurs and a Funding-SME Matchmaker. Her clients also include those in the Diaspora who need practical advice and steps towards Doing Business in Africa. Her portfolio career spans 15 years’ experience in the North America, Europe and Africa in Management Consultancy, Project Management and Advisory Board roles. She currently sits on the board of 4 companies. She is actively seeking collaboration with Investors to fund SMEs, Agencies to fund the business/skills development of entrepreneurs and Entrepreneurs requiring support, mentoring. Amma has a keen interest in Tech, Innovation, Agribusiness and Social Enterprise entrepreneurs.
Gideon Padi Konotey is the key driver of an emerging brand, “Goat Masters.” He is a passionate young entrepreneur, has a teachable spirit, God-fearing, very creative and synonymous with innovation. His ultimate objective is to establish the largest livestock market in Africa, which started in 2015 to rebrand goat and other livestock within the ECOWAS region. Gideon developed the interest for agribusiness at age four from his grandparents who raised goats for domestic use. He developed keen interest in agriculture in 2012 when the health of his grandfather began to fade; he took over fully in 2014 after the grandfather’s demise.
EMMANUEL ANSAH-AMPROFI

Emmanuel is the COO and Co-founder of Trotro Tractor, an agricultural technology company of young passionate Africans using the internet of things (IOT) and technology to change the lives of smallholder farmers. The company provides platforms which makes agricultural mechanization (Tractor) service available, accessible and affordability to enhance productivity, improve efficiency and reduce post-harvest loss. The company is focused on improving global food and income security by building a network of “TrotroTractor” owners that farmers obtain service from via SMS. This way, small landowners have access to affordable farm machine services to increase their productivity.
NANA ADJOA SIFA

Nana Adjoa A. Sifa is a Ghanaian Agripreneur and a Social Entrepreneur who believes that agribusiness is the only economic sector that can address the most pressing problems facing the world such as unemployment, food insecurity, poverty, hunger and malnutrition. To help this dream become reality, this young Ghanaian initiated Guzakuza – a regional, social enterprise committed to raising bold young women Agribusiness Entrepreneurs. Nana Adjoa is also the co-founder of Yo!Gate Foods (a company providing innovative food solutions). She is a Global shaper of the World Economic Forum, British Councils’ Active Citizen, a fellow at the New York University’s GWSLP and a proud Kanthari. She is also a member of the Association for Women’s Rights in Development, World Pulse and Alliance of Young Entrepreneurs. Nana is a regular speaker at higher level panel meetings which include the 2017 G20 conference in Germany, African Union’s Gender Empowerment, Ethiopia, AU-EU Investing in a Food Secure Future. The Netherlands and The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Meetings, Ghana. Her work has attracted recognition from both local and international media. She has been awarded as one of the ten outstanding young Persons in Ghana.
PAPA ARKHURST (WORKSHOP MC)

Papa Arkhurst is an e-government expert and an accomplished key communicator who has earned the highest coveted award of Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM – the first individual to have achieved this in Ghana) with the Toastmasters International Organization. Papa has been instrumental in setting up 5 of the current 7 chartered clubs, and is currently engaging with a number of organizations in an effort to start many corporate clubs and build a toastmaster’s district in Ghana. In his capacity as Chief Information officer of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs he is consistently trying to find ways of engaging and automating the process of promoting and providing information about Ghana. He also works closely with the Diaspora engagement office to help promote engagement between Ghanaian Diasporas and our locals. As the founder of the G-wave movement, and the BWP-Series (Breakfast With Papa - a youth empowerment forum), and as a member of the Ghana Open Data Initiative, Papa is consistently finding innovative ways of promoting the beautiful culture of Ghana and her children. He was also the Chairman of the Koica Alumni group, an office which he used to strengthen relations with his South Korean contacts, promoting Ghanaian people and their products and sharing lessons he had picked up from his time in Korea.
KOJO OHENE-KYEI

Kojo Ohene-Kyei is an accomplished Financial Services Consultant and Business Executive with extensive experience in Corporate Banking, Risk Management, Corporate Governance and Business Transformation. He has a wide ranging business management and leadership experience, through several years of active participation in the financial services industry particularly in the last 7 years. He has occupied key leadership roles during this period in the Country executive team of Barclays Bank of Ghana until April, 2007 and subsequently, the establishment of IFS Financial Services Group.

He has played important roles in promoting the growth of the Chartered Institute of Bankers as Council Member, Chief Examiner and Moderator in the last 10 years. Kojo is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Bankers (Ghana) and a member of the Institute of Financial Services in the UK. He also holds an MBA from the Henley Management College, UK.
JOSEPH OPOKU GAKPO

Joseph Opoku Gakpo is broadcast and online journalist with the Multimedia Group Limited in Ghana, operators of Joy FM, Joy News TV and www.myjoyonline.com. He has more than 8 years’ experience practicing as a journalist. Joseph additionally works as correspondent in Parliament for the organisation’s radio, TV and online platforms. He is also host of a one hour news related talk show (Sunday Edition) on Ghana’s leading radio station, Joy FM. In 2015, he was awarded as Ghana’s Best Journalist in Poverty Alleviation Reporting by the Ghana Journalists Association. In 2016, he was again awarded as Ghana’s Best Journalist in Sustainable Development Goals (SDG’s) Reporting. Joseph is Director of Policy at the Ghana Agricultural and Rural Development Journalists Association, where he leads the drafting of the organisation’s official position on key issues of national interest affecting the agricultural sector. Joseph is also a Partner and Lead Consultant at RM Communications, a communications consultancy firm in Accra.
Freda is a Global Public Policy professional with a Regional focus on Africa. She wears many hats: She is the Regional Program Specialist for USAID West Africa and sits on the board of Ahaspora Young Professionals and the Ispace Foundation. Most importantly, Freda is the brain behind the amazing body care line, KAEME, a brand that hinges on the raw, the natural, and the indigenous. KAEME is all about utilizing simple innovations to change the way we use local raw materials, and changes the feel and use of some of these basic raw materials by giving them a luxury feel while maintaining the original benefits. KAEME’s main goals are to provide solutions and create experiences. We do this by using our products to inspire personal, healthy care across Africa and its Diaspora, and by nurturing intimate relationships with our customers and leveraging person-to-person interactions and connections to grow the brand.
DAVID ASIAMAH

David is the founder and CEO of the Agro Mindset Group of companies which comprises the Agro Mindset Organisation, Agro Mindset Farms, Agro Mindset Brokerage, Agro Mindset Logistics, Youth In Agriculture Support and the Ghana Young Farmer Awards. He is a farmer by profession and he guides the group with his switched-on strategic vision, values, and fresh approach to engaging the youth in agriculture. The philosophy of the mother company - Agro Mindset Organisation - is premised on its belief in the ideals and potential of the sustainable development paradigm, in raising agriculture in Ghana and the diaspora to prominence. Critically, the vision places emphasis on value chains, entrepreneurship and ‘farming as a business’ which lends support services to entrepreneurs in the valuation and planning of value-added agriculture. Agro Mindset is at the forefront of agriculture education preparing interested youth in diverse functions, industries and academia to master tomorrow’s agriculture today.
Olufemi ODELEYE

Olufemi is the CEO Bespoke Design Concepts, which aims to design and produce innovative mechanized equipment (with a special focus on vehicles) which will uplift the socio-economic needs of Sub-Saharan Africa and add value to lives. He is the inventor and lead designer of Tryctor, a 3-wheel mini tractor based on a motorcycle design which performs similar duties as a conventional tractor but to a smaller scale. This innovation earned him a place in the IPA 2016 nominee list. Femi worked as a Vehicle designer at OMNI Design, a top design consultancy outfit based in Coventry in the U.K. Thereafter, he moved on to Technocraft, a Vehicle customizing company in London.
Zeinou Abdelyamine is an IPA 2012 runner up. He is an industrial chemist from Algeria focusing on the development of environmentally friendly, natural insecticides and rodenticides. He has two patents on manufacturing of insecticides at INAPI in Algeria. His product, Bit Bait (small bait) rivals global products in price and quality and are non-chemical and 100 per cent natural. His products contain natural elements which attract insects and rodents, but are fatal when consumed. Bit Bait is regarded as a global breakthrough to help rid urban areas of harmful pests in an environmentally friendly manner.