
From: Stephanie Fields
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 3:57 PM
To: Joe Esparza; Corey Rose; Kim Bergmann
Subject: FW: Invitation to Participate Again in this year's 2022 East Africa Chamber of Commerce (EACC) 17th Annual Trade Conference
Attachments: EACC 2021 16th Annual Trade & Investment Conference.pdf
Importance: High

More info attached.

Thanks,
Stephanie

Stephanie Fields

Office of the Secretary of State
Capitol Building, Room 1E.8
Tel: (512) 463-5770
sfields@sos.texas.gov



From: Monica Razo <Monica.Razo@gov.texas.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 3:24 PM
To: Stephanie Fields <SFields@sos.texas.gov>
Subject: FW: Invitation to Participate Again in this year's 2022 East Africa Chamber of Commerce (EACC) 17th Annual Trade Conference
Importance: High

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Hello Stephanie,
Please see the below request for the Secretary to handle

Thank you,
Monica Razo

From: Bill Morgan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 12:07 PM
To: Invite <Invite@gov.texas.gov>
Subject: FW: Invitation to Participate Again in this year's 2022 East Africa Chamber of Commerce (EACC) 17th Annual

Trade Conference

Importance: High

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Greetings!

The East Africa Chamber of Commerce (EACC) is hosting its 17th Annual Trade Conference this year on September 29th - October 1st at the Sheraton DFW Airport Hotel located at 4440 West John Carpenter Freeway Irving, Texas 75063

More details can be found at: <https://www.eachamber.org>

Would it be possible to have a representative from the Governor's office to attend a reception or lunch for a few minutes and provide EACC with a Texas proclamation?

Once again, we would like to include a "Welcome letter" from the Governor in our pre-conference campaigns. With your assistance, it is respectfully requested to be placed in the queue as soon as possible.

We do include it in our published program as seen on page 7 of the attachment.

If at all possible, EACC would appreciate a "personal touch" as these letters have been somewhat generic (basically the same) for the past 10 years.

See page 7 of last year's program (attached) as an example of past letters.

Recall that our delegates attending come from the highest levels of government in South Sudan, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania.

Please be aware that The Democratic Republic of Congo has now also officially joined the East African Community.

Over the past five (5) years, we have hosted President Kenyatta from Kenya at the Bush Library and at Irving Convention Center; and helped to facilitate President Paul Kagame when visiting TCU; and Vice President of Uganda at Las Colinas Country Club along with scores of Governors and Parliament members.

Our visitors include major corporate leaders including the CEOs of the largest banks, developers and other industry titans from the East African Community region.

East Africa is thriving and needs more American, specifically more Texas participate in their economic growth and transformation.

EACC would love to coordinate with the Governor's office to strengthen trade between us.

There is still time to coordinate a "field trip" to Austin, for VIP delegates (typically Governors, Parliament Members, Ambassadors, etc.) for an "Executive Briefing" by the Governor's Office, if you are interested and would be willing to come alongside us to collaborate.

Please let me know how we can coordinate something really special this year.

Respectfully,

Bill Morgan

**Chief Executive Officer &
Consulting Principal**

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2021



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EAST AFRICA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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CHAIRWOMAN'S MESSAGE

2021 has set the tone for recovery and has reminded us of our global interconnectedness. It has reminded us that we all are experiencing this together. Additionally, I am glad we are adapting and coming together again. This year the conference has progressed to a hybrid style due to the lingering versions of the pandemic.

We are optimistic that the hybrid format will allow our global community to come together beyond barriers of time, space, and distance.

New Start, New Rules, New trade is the theme for 2021 and I am sure it will take us on a journey of contributing collectively to the continuation of steady growth between the USA and the East African Region.

The East Africa chamber has successfully contin-

ued membership and partnership expansion. We are committed to our vision of increasing diversity, inclusion, entrepreneurship, and sustainability throughout the chamber to further impact the EACC mission.

We are open to working with the public and private sector leaders to address socioeconomic challenges. As always, we want to hear from our members and partners. What can we do to help? We are better together let's continue to work together to accomplish uncommon results.

With gratitude,

Elsa Juko-McDowell

Chairwoman of the Board

East Africa Chamber of Commerce



**STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

Greetings:

As Governor of Texas, it is my honor to welcome all in attendance to the 16th Annual Trade Conference hosted by the East Africa Chamber of Commerce.

The East Africa Chamber of Commerce continues to play a vital role in equipping entrepreneurs and building successful businesses throughout Texas. The valuable partnership between Texas and the seven East African nations your organization represents have proved to be lucrative, with trade revenues between Texas and East Africa producing \$497 million in 2020 alone. Your hard work has laid the foundation of economic success and prosperity for your communities and continues to build a better future for all.

Texas is proud to boast one of the strongest economies in the nation and world, one that continues to incentivize businesses and entrepreneurs through low taxes, our reasonable regulatory structure, and a business-friendly climate which encourages prosperity and growth. Events like this trade conference are excellent opportunities for our partners from around the globe to tap into the entrepreneurial spirit of the Lone Star State.

As you come together to forge new partnerships, strengthen old connections, and share ideas and knowledge with your peers, I commend you all for your commitment to business excellence and wish you success in your endeavors.

First Lady Cecilia Abbott joins me in wishing you all a productive and rewarding event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Abbott".

Greg Abbott
Governor



DR. ELBA GARCIA
DALLAS COUNTY COMMISSIONER
DISTRICT 4

October 7, 2021

Dear Sponsors and Attendees,

¡Bienvenidos! Welcome to the **East Africa Chamber of Commerce's** 16th Annual Trade Conference! What a pleasure to have all of you attending this conference in Irving, Texas. I want to personally thank you for choosing to participate in this conference in beautiful North Texas and a special thank you to all of our international visitors, as well.

Irving is the 8th most diverse city in America, and Irving is home to over 8,500 companies; among those are the global headquarters of five FORTUNE 500 companies. Similarly, North Texas is filled with many attractions, historic centers and diverse dining with over 150 restaurants in Irving alone, so I encourage you to sightsee.

This is an excellent opportunity for everyone attending to learn, brainstorm on new ideas and to network with your peers. I hope that you all accomplish your goals and are able to bring something new back to your businesses and governmental agencies of your respective countries to further advance social and economic relationships.

Again, welcome to The Lone Star State and to Dallas County District 4. Enjoy the informative event-filled few days you will be spending here. Take part in the dialogue, but most importantly don't forget to check out Irving and the rest of the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dr. Elba Garcia".

Dr. Elba Garcia
Dallas County Commissioner
District 4



Rick Stopfer
Mayor

October 7, 2021

Welcome,

It is an honor and pleasure for me to welcome you all to Irving, Texas for the 14th Annual East African Chamber of Commerce Trade Conference. With so many places to pick to host your event, we are very fortunate and honored you chose Irving.

This three-day event presents a fantastic opportunity for attendees to network, participate in a wide range of discussion panels, and hear from leaders of various industries.

We hope you take full advantage of what this convention and Irving have to offer.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard H. Stopfer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Richard H. Stopfer
Mayor

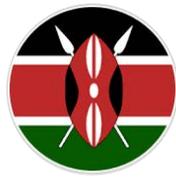


EAST AFRICA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PROGRAM SUMMARY

16th Annual Investment & Trade Conference October 7-9, 2021

Marriott Dallas Las Colinas Hotel
223 West Las Colinas Blvd, Irving, Texas, 75039

<p>Registration</p> <p>EACC 16th Annual Investment and Trade Conference-</p> <p>Day 1: Thursday, Oct 7th, Evening Cocktail Reception-</p> <p>Welcome -Elsa Juko-McDowell Closing remarks-Bill Morgan</p>	<p><u>Welcome Reception</u></p> <p>Marriott Dallas Las Colinas Hotel</p> <p>Exhibitions opens for showcase and vending on Friday**</p> <p>Konza City Venture Lift Africa- Wilmont Allen Certified Homes Presentation- Peter Nyagah</p>	<p>5:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.</p>
<p>Conference –</p> <p>Day 2: Friday, Oct 8th, Power Breakfast-</p> <p>Conference Overview and Welcome</p> <p>Keynote</p>	<p><u>Power Breakfast</u></p> <p>Welcome-Benson Kasue</p> <p>EACC – Chairwoman <i>Elsa Juko-McDowell</i></p> <p>City of Irving Councilman Kyle Taylor EAC Ambassador South Sudan Uganda Kenya Rwanda *Camille Richardson - Deputy Assistant Secretary- U.S Department of Commerce International Trade Administration. (ACFTA)</p>	<p>8:00 A.M. – 9:45A.M.</p>
<p>Exhibition</p>	<p><u>Advertisement Break</u></p> <p>-Exhibitions showcasing and vending</p>	<p>All day and including breaks</p>
<p>Preparing Investment in Africa</p>	<p>Toyin Awesu</p>	<p>10:20 -10:30A.M</p>
<p>Session 1 Financial Panel</p> <p><i>Moderator- Lydiah Tate</i></p> <p>Objective-Discussing financial services and sectors available to help grow business.</p>	<p>Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Melanie Mingo- ADP • Bridge Capital (John Robinson, CEO) Laban Opande-The Opande Law firm PC • Louise Kimani- Licensed Mortgage Loan Originator • Herbert Austin- U.S. Small Business Administration 	<p>10:35 A.M. – 11:15 A.M.</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prosper Africa Iman Kennerly, Senior Advisor-Transactions) 	
Preparing for Trade in Africa	Prosper Africa- Fred Stewart	11:20 -11:30A.M
<p>Session 2 Advanced Healthcare Pamela Nelson-Healthcare and Quality Management Consulting Founder and CEO of Bracane Company, Inc</p> <p>The truth and science behind Covid-19 and Impact on travel and commerce</p>	<p>Healthcare Panel Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Judy Olepere -Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner at Psymed Solutions Dr. Edwards-Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Specialist Dr. Mezgebe Berhe-North Texas Infection Diseases Consultants Lisa Coppe-Senior Country Manager, Sub-Saharan Africa-USTDA 	11:35 A.M. – 12:20 P.M.
<p>Working Lunch Keynote “The Next Normal” Moderator- Benson</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ADP – Colby Boone/ Melanie Mingo Prosper Africa - Leslie Marbury, COO 	12:30 PM. – 1:50PM.
Break	Vendors	2:00 Pm – 2:30PM.
<p>Session 3 Education/Youth Empowerment Moderator- Dr. Tana J Hicks</p> <p><u>"Think Broadly: Workforce and Educational Opportunities"</u> Objective-Discuss sectors that are in demand and how to get access to these professional fields. Discussion on how to get into a mentorship program to empower them, & scholarships.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North Carolina Central University- Prof. Jerono Rotich UTD - Prof. Habte Woldu Professional Home Health & Hospice-Vice President -Calandra Rollins Stephanie Duelm-Tarrant County College Foundation 	2:30 P.M. – 3:45 P.M.

<p>Session 4 Real Estate Moderator – <i>Elsa Joko-McDowell</i></p> <p>Objective-Discuss the available opportunities in real Estate, Affordable housing, both in the Diaspora and overseas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zuri Realty Group- David Muthiani • Pearl Marina- Janet Njuki • Almond Estate Company LTD- Chrispus Wachira • The Opande Law Firm PC- Laban Opande • Practice Lead & Senior Director MCC- Prabhat Garg 	4:00 P.M. – 5:15 P.M
<p>Sponsorship Reception: Cocktail</p>	<p>Diaspora & Sponsor</p> <p>World Remit</p> <p>Almond Estate Ltd- Chrispus Wachira MD/CEO</p>	6:30PM- 8:30PM
<p>Conference Day 3 Saturday, October 9th</p>	<p>Targeted Group Planned Investor Matching Benson Kasue / Fareed Zein</p>	9:00 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.
<p>Technology Panel Session 1 Moderator- Larry Yon of B & C International</p> <p>How Technology has been the key driver of economic growth in countries. What new technology.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Viola Llewellyn- Ovamba Inc • Lonnie Harris- CyberAlliance • Wale Ayantoye- Flutterwave • Swati Sucharita- Prudential Africa 	10:30-11:45 A.M
<p>Session 2 WCW-Women Connecting Women</p> <p>Moderator – Regina Onyeibe</p> <p>Objective- Opportunities and partnership in achievement of the Big Four agenda.</p>	<p>Voices of Businesswomen & Government Leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beth Plumlee- EACC Advisor • Danielle McClelland • H.E Amb. Arikana Chihombori MD • Christine Brown-SBA • Amuniqui Love- MWBE Program 	1:30 P.M. – 3:30P.M.
<p>DINNER GALA Millicent Nyang'on- Master of ceremony</p>	<p>Pastor Black Peter Mathuki-Secretary General East Africa Community Paul Gariboldi- Google Award presentation Keynote Speaker – ADP Celebration</p>	6:00 P.M. – 11:00 P.M.





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Professional Home Health and Hospice won the best agency DEAR Award 2017. Professional was recognized as being one of the top Home health agencies in USA by Home Health Care Elite In 2007 and 2008.



- Debby Mackaria is the Marketing Manager for North America at WorldRemit.
- She leads the community engagement efforts on the ground in the region, working with diaspora communities both in United States and Canada.

dmackaria@worldremit.com

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Elsa Joko-McDowell, Chairwoman - Board Member

Since 2003, Elsa has been a licensed Real Estate consultant in Dallas, Texas. She specializes in buying and selling residential, commercial, and investment properties in the Greater Dallas-Fort Worth area, and has recently expanded through partnerships with major companies in the East African Region. Elsa is a professional small business owner with successful strategic leadership, client, centered management, and sales experience. Her experience includes working in real estate as a realtor and in the mortgage servicing industry for the past 18 years. She now owns multiple businesses which include art, real-estate investment. She is passionate about helping her community grow and thrive in business.



Bill Morgan, Vice Chairman - Board Member

Mr. Morgan is an Avistas Founding Principal, CEO and International Management Consultant with 22+ years of proven experience leading major business growth and transformation initiatives relating to secure Information and Communications Technology (ICT) deployments around the world.

He is a member of the Security Industry Association and has participated in many other international standards bodies with the development and harmonization of interoperable software security products.

Mr. Morgan received his Bachelor of Science in Telecommunications Engineering Technology from Texas A&M University.



Benson Kasue, Treasurer- Board Member

Benson Kasue (MBA) Entrepreneur, Owner of Big D Finance. Benson is the founder of East Africa Chamber of Commerce (EACC), an organization dedicated to facilitating trade and investment between East Africa and the rest of the world (with a special focus to USA). Benson is the currently ambassador of EACC to the USA. Benson worked in corporate America for twenty years before starting his own financial consulting company. He has had a progressive career at FMC Corporation, Hewlett Packard, Dell Computers, IBM, and United Technologies. He has held almost every accounting and financial position in corporate America. In doing so, he gained tremendous experience in running successful organizations and improving human productivity. A graduate of Brigham Young University –Marriott School of Management with a BS in accounting and University of Utah David Eccles Business School with an MBA in Finance.



Sonnie R. Muroki-Secretary-Board Member

A Kenyan native currently residing in Dallas, TX. Sonnie R. Muroki obtained her education from New Mexico State University. She is a board member of EACC and currently serves as the secretary. She works at Cardinal Health as a pharmacy representative. She also works as a freelance Front End Web Developer. Sonnie is a well-rounded individual with extensive background knowledge in Healthcare and Customer Service domains as well. When not working on the professional development side of her career, she dedicates her time by volunteering for projects that not only bring awareness, but also shine light on issues affecting the East African Community and the African Community as a whole.



Fared Zein El Abdin, Board Member

Founder and CEO of Universal Toll Tag, Inc (Unytag), a tech startup looking to disrupt the toll road fee payments industry and ease daily toll road commute through a mobile payment solution.

Fared retired as an IT Planning Manager following a 26-year career in Information Technology with Royal Dutch Shell Plc covering various positions of increasing responsibility with broad experience in enterprise IT systems, a track record of project delivery, and results through teamwork.

A community leader, Fared is co-founder and Board Chairman of the Sudanese American Public Affairs Association (SAPAA), a national non-profit serving the Sudanese American community. Fared is a Board member of the East Africa Chamber of Commerce (EACC) in Dallas, a non-profit working to promote trade and investment opportunities in East Africa and help realize the goals and ambitions of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).



Regina Hill Onyeibe, Board Member

Regina Hill Onyeibe, holds dual roles for the City of Dallas, she is Africa Liaison for the City of Dallas and she is also part of the Small Business Initiatives team responsible for helping stand up Small Businesses and Entrepreneurs helping arm them with education and information to ensure long term sustainability. Ms. Onyeibe's charge in her position as Africa Liaison is to strengthen/create relationships between the City of Dallas and the continent of Africa for the purpose of mutually beneficial bilateral trade and cultural exchange opportunities. In her current role as Africa Liaison, Ms. Onyeibe has inimitable opportunities to interface with decision makers of many nations, as well as top business executives across Africa, giving her access and sound relationships that most could only dream of.



Karen Muigai Henry, Board Member

Karen Muigai Henry is a Board member to the East Africa Chamber of Commerce where she has remains committed in it growth. She has a master's degree in Information System from Keller Graduate School of Management. She works as a Software Engineer in the Health Care Industry. In addition to having extensive experience in Project and Business Management, Karen is passionate in bringing awareness and advocating for Women in her community. Karen also owns a small business. She is a member of different entities and sits in many committees including being a Director of Kenyan Women in the USA (KWITU) and Safe Haven which deals mostly with domestic violence.



Lydia Tate, Board Member

Lydia's banking career spans for nearly 27 years, having started her career in banking in 1994. She has held several positions at different Financial Institutions, from Teller, Customer Service, Branch Manager/VP to and Business Banking and Commercial Banking VP. Lydia joined Business and Commercial Banking in 2002 and has worked for several financial institutions in both Tennessee and Texas. Lydia graduated with honors from university of Memphis in 2002 with a Finance degree and an MBA with honors in 2005. She is multi-lingual and speaks 5 languages. She is a member of National Association of Women Business Owners and National Black MBA Association. Lydia is also a published spiritual empowerment writer and a public speaker. Her passion is to make a difference for businesses and individual's by providing tailored banking solutions to diverse businesses.



Laban Opande, Board Member

Laban Opande, Juris Doctor (JD), MBA, BSc, is a Kenyan-American lawyer with over 23 years of leadership, management and executive experience in a unique and vast array of fields including law, business, technology, science, agriculture and the environment, as well as community engagement.

Mr. Opande is currently the Principal Attorney at The Opande Law Firm PC, a Texas based legal practice. (www.opandelaw.com). With a team of formidable associate attorneys, paralegals, and legal assistants, he has represented thousands of clients, and continues to, in business law, civil litigation, immigration law, criminal defense, among others. He is also associated with several organizations in the US, including Kenya US-Bar Association, American Bar Association, African Bar Association, Texas Young Lawyers Association, East Africa Chamber of Commerce, Kenya USA Diaspora Sacco, Kenya Houston Community, Mashujaa Awards, Uhuru Soccer Stars.



Immaculate Busingye-MBA - Board Member

Founder & CEO, IB Financial Freedom Solutions

Immaculate is a licensed business consultant and independent insurance professional with impeccable experience and a trusted advisor to families, individuals, business owners and entrepreneurs. As an expert in the areas of life, health insurance and business consulting, Immaculate takes a personal approach to every aspect of her business, from assessing client needs to shopping the marketplace and helping families retire with dignity. As a wholehearted ally, Immaculate is committed to serving, not selling, thereby sharing her expertise and empowering her clients to achieve their financial



Frank Kanobana - Board Member

Native of Rwanda, Frank has a bachelor's degree in public administration from the Indiana University South Bend. As Former Chairman of the EACC, Frank has been in the forefront in promoting trade between US and Rwanda and has traveled extensively to establish trade relations.

He is the owner of Qstar Global LLC, a logistics and freight forward company that operates across USA and Canada

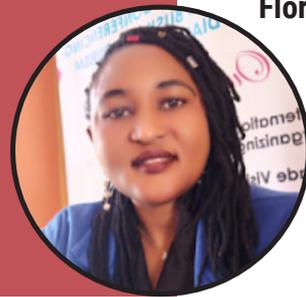
Frank is also the vice president of Niza LTD an international corporation that primarily focuses on real estate investment in Rwanda.

Frank is active in the Dallas diaspora community and is founded and former elected President of Rwanda American Community in Dallas/Fort worth. He currently lives in Fort Worth, Texas.



Jolly Kahunde - Board Member

Ms. Jolly Kahunde, a philanthropist and a children's activist, is based in Dallas Texas. Ms. Kahunde has been in the healthcare industry for the past 9 years. Ms. Kahunde has always had a heart for helping those in need and her time in healthcare has heightened the heart of helping and giving back.



Florence Sugut - Board Member

Managing Director and founder of Ikapamedia East Africa- International Trade fairs and Conference Marketing Company. Florence holds a Master's degree in Business Administration- Marketing bias, Higher diploma in Human Resources.

Florence is a seasoned serial entrepreneur with International business focus. Has over seven years of experience in international Trade Fairs and Conferences business. Has worked with, and represented International Trade Fair companies in Germany: Messe Dusseldorf, Messe Berlin, Messe Hannover and Messe Koeln ITB, Green week, Fruit Logistica, Import Shop- Berlin, K-show, Medica, interpack-Dusseldorf, Anuga- Messe Koeln Hannover Messe- Messe Hannover.



Angela Alowo - Board Member

Angela is a multi skilled professional with over 20 years of experience in Trade and Customs policy formulation and implementation. Has worked with Uganda Revenue Authority and Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives, where she gained specialized knowledge in trade and customs related aspects of Trade Facilitation and Non-Tariff Measures; EAC and COMESA Regional Integration; Economic Partnership Agreements; Rules of Origin; Competition law and Intellectual Property Rights. Well-grounded in customs concepts of Single Customs Territory, Integrated Border Management/One Stop Border Posts, WCO Safe Framework of Standards, Electronic Single Window, and Electronic Cargo Tracking Systems. Angela holds a Master of Arts Degree in Public Administration and Management, a bachelor's degree in Law and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History and Political Science attained from Makerere University Kampala (Uganda).



Aziza Abdallah - Board Member

Safety expert and health professional has over 5 years experience in Occupational health and safety in power generation, agriculture, mining sector and manufacturing industries with Tanzania Occupational Safety and Health Authority (OSHA). She is a Certified Electrical Engineer and a member of Engineers Registration Board (ERB). Chairman of Women Tanzania Union of Government and Health Employees (TUGHE). She has dedicated her professional career and personal life to empower women and to achieve their full potential. She is passionate about developing innovative social and educational programs that empower them. Aziza holds a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Saint Joseph University in Dares Salaam, Tanzania. She is a Champion of the youth.

East African Chamber of Commerce BOARD OF ADVISORS



Roy E Kayizzi - Board of Advisors

Roy E Kayizzi MBA, has over fifteen years of investment, Securities, Portfolio, Insurance, financial and credit risk analysis. He has a talent for analyzing financial reporting, marketing and strengthening internal controls to improve business operations. He has worked and Consulted with a number of major Institutions namely: Verizon, Primerica Financial, Capital One, HSBC, Bank Of America and Wells Fargo where he has applied exceptional strategic, marketing, business, operational, and financial skills to effectively offer strategic plans to enhance efficiencies, reduce costs, and increase revenues.

Wilmont Allen - Board of Advisors



Dr. Wilmot Allen is the Founder of VentureLift Africa, a fintech and crowdsourcing solution to help African SMEs scale, and Venture Partner with RH Managers, a healthcare private equity fund in South Africa. He is also a Strategy Consultant with the Africa Union Center for Disease Control (CDC), working on the strategic plan and implementation of a foundation, investment facility, and public-private partnerships to strengthen healthcare systems and public health emergency management across Africa. Previously, Wilmot was Director of East Africa with CrossBoundary, LLC, leading the firm's investment advisory practice from Nairobi. Prior, he worked at the International Finance Corporation (IFC) with the private equity funds, financial institutions, and infrastructure teams, responsible for new investments and portfolio supervision. Wilmot has a Ph.D. in comparative political economy from Georgetown University and holds degrees from the Wharton School of Business, Harvard Kennedy School, and Yale University.

Elizabeth Ruman Plumlee (Beth) - Board of Advisors



Beth holds an undergraduate degree from the University of Texas and a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from Southern Methodist University, Dedman School of Law, Dallas, TX.

She counsels in the areas of Fair Business Practices/Foreign Corrupt Practice Act and investment opportunities. She has worked with numerous East African, government agencies, diaspora and the private sector, to help shape economic development strategies with respect to security, technology, energy, agriculture, health and infrastructure issues and requirements.

Beth is focused on racial empowerment collaborative efforts. She currently serves on the board of advisors of the East Africa Chamber of Commerce where she speaks on business development, women empowerment and connecting women. She is a board member of the Rusinga Island Trust, Kenya, a community trust, focusing on multifaceted community development with a concentration on the empowerment of women and the education of children.

Connie Bryant - Board of Advisors



Consolata Ayoo-Bryant is a native of Kenya, owner and CEO of Professional Home Health in Euless, Divine Hospice and Arms of Comfort in Azle Texas: Companies which provide medical services in patients' residence. She has been in the healthcare industry for 28 years. Ms. Bryant holds a diploma in nursing from Nairobi College of Health Profession and a BSN with honors from Chamberlain College of Nursing. She is also the founder and Managing Director of Organi Limited- an agro-processing sweet potato company based in Kenya, established to promote consumption of natural vitamin A in East Africa and to create employment. She has experience in healthcare management, leadership, entrepreneurship, startups, customer service, business strategy and executive management. Ms. Bryant serves in the UTD Global Business Advisory Council Board. She has also served in the Texas Home Health and Hospice Association Clinical Committee Advisory Board.

Larry Yon - Board of Advisors



Larry Yon is Senior Partner and Chief Operating Officer of B&C International, the oldest minority-owned global business strategy consulting firm in the United States. Larry joined B&C International in 2012 and previously served as the firm's Chief Strategy Officer. He is a seasoned entrepreneur and problem solver focused on identifying and developing business opportunities in North America and the Continent of Africa. His instinctive approach to working through complex business, economic and social issues has been honed over the years helping influential leaders, families and entities worldwide bring disruptive, game changing ideas to life. Larry earned his bachelor's degree in business administration from North Carolina Central University with independent course work at Duke University's Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation and the University of North Carolina Kenan-Flagler Business School's Construction Executive Management Program. Larry currently lives in Durham, NC with his wife and their three children.



Colby Boone

Colby Cornell Boone is a Senior District Manager / Diverse Business Channels at ADP and also a serial entrepreneur along with his wife in the private business sector. An eastern NC native with a servant leadership mindset, his client impact can be felt across the U.S stretching over multiple industries.

Colby has landed coverage in print and broadcast outlets around the world, including WBTV, Fox News exclusives, and his own curated articles generating over 4.2 million views on social media and growing daily. Colby holds a B.S in Marketing from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University.

Proudly serving companies in small to mid-markets he prides his success on taking a holistic approach in every interaction and positioning clients and partners to win.



Melanie Mingo

Melanie Mingo is a Sales Executive at ADP specializing in relationship management, diverse channels, and leadership development. A Dallas transplant originally from the Midwest, her focus and work ethic was bred on the basketball court as a college player at Butler University as well as professionally overseas.

Her sustainable growth mindset rooted in empowering teams and organizations through servant leadership breeds a level of success that has spread across the company. Melanie prides herself on taking a strengths-based approach to leadership and business development. Her unique ability to bridge creativity and execution makes her a standout among her peers.

She is a dedicated police wife and mother passionate about creating positive change through genuine relationships, integrity, and excellence.



CT Mobley

CT Mobley is a part of the Small Business Services (SBS) Sales team as Division Vice President, Diverse Business Markets.

CT's background includes over 20 years of executive experience leading cross-functional leadership teams, indirect and direct sales teams, strategic planning and execution in diverse markets. He joins us from the Better Business Resource Group, a boutique sales consulting and marketing firm, where he was Executive Director with a client roster that included T-Mobile and Verizon. In this role he built a new division while significantly contributing to the company's top-line growth and expanding their client base.

Recently, CT began a financial literacy program, specifically targeting the Black and LatinX communities, inspired by the challenges that many began to face as the nation went deeper into the COVID-19 pandemic. The program has been able to assign \$13 million in cash accumulation vehicles, life insurance and future income assets to people in the target communities and within the networks' scope through group and one-on-one video meetings.

At ADP he is responsible for the go-to-market strategy and execution for diverse channel growth and will lead the formation of alliances and partnerships with clients who represent minority, differently-abled, veteran, LGBTQ+ and women-owned businesses. This new area of business is critical to the evolution of how we connect our clients, prospects and diverse communities to ADP's product offerings and expertise.



UGANDA

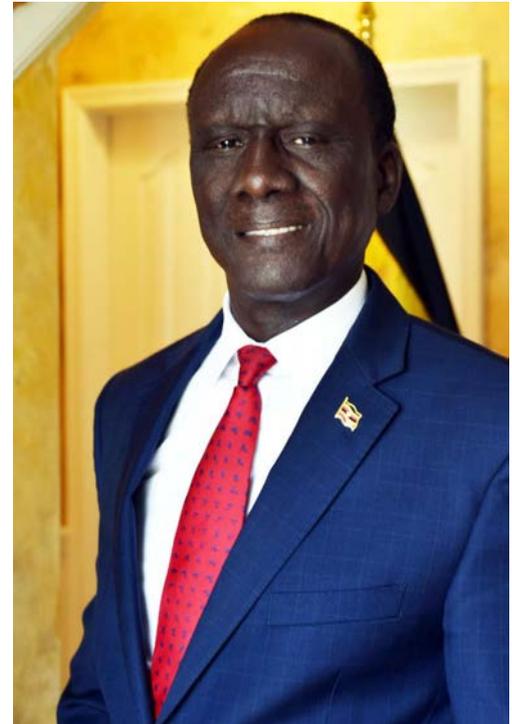


Uganda, officially the Republic of Uganda, is a landlocked country in East Africa. It is bordered to the east by Kenya, to the north by South Sudan, to the west by the Democratic Republic of the Congo, to the southwest by Rwanda, and to the south by Tanzania. Uganda is the world's second most populous landlocked country after Ethiopia. The southern part of the country includes a substantial portion of Lake Victoria, shared with Kenya and Tanzania. Uganda is in the African Great Lakes region. Uganda also lies within the Nile basin, and has a varied but generally a modified equatorial climate.

Uganda takes its name from the Buganda Kingdom, which encompasses a large portion of the south of the country, including the capital Kampala. The people of Uganda were hunter gatherers until 1,700 to 2,300 years ago, when Bantu-speaking populations migrated to the southern parts of the country.

Beginning in 1894, the area was ruled as a protectorate by the British, who established administrative law across the territory. Uganda gained independence from Britain on October 9, 1962. The period since then has been marked by the intermittent conflicts, including a lengthy civil war against the Lord's Resistance Army, which has caused tens of thousands of casualties and displaced more than a million people.

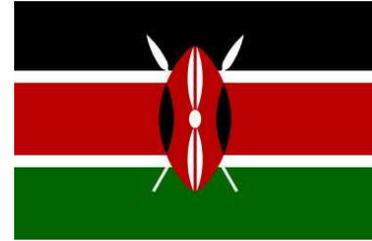
The official language is English, Luganda, a central language, is widely spoken across the country, and several other languages are also spoken including Runyoro, Runyankole, Rukiga, and Lango. The president of Uganda is Yoweri Museveni, who came to power in January 1986 after a protracted six-year guerrilla war.



Ambassador
H.E. Mull Sebuja Katende



KENYA



Kenya, officially the Republic of Kenya, is a country in Africa and a founding member of the East African Community. Its capital and largest city is Nairobi. Kenya's territory lies on the equator and overlies the East African Rift covering a diverse and expansive terrain that extends roughly from Lake Victoria to Lake Turkana (formerly called Lake Rudolf) and further south-east to the Indian Ocean. It is bordered by Tanzania to the south and southwest, Uganda to the west, South Sudan to the north-west, Ethiopia to the north and Somalia to the north-east. Kenya covers 581,309 km² (224,445 sq mi), and had a population of approximately 48 million people in January 2017.

Kenya has a warm and humid tropical climate on its Indian Ocean coastline. The climate is cooler in the savannah grasslands around the capital city, Nairobi, and especially closer to Mount Kenya, which has snow permanently on its peaks. Further inland are highlands in Central and Rift Valley regions where tea and coffee are grown as cash crops which are major foreign revenue earners. In the West are Nyanza and Western regions, there is an equatorial, hot and dry climate which becomes humid around Lake Victoria, the largest tropical fresh-water lake in the world. This gives way to temperate and forested hilly areas in the neighbouring western region. The north-eastern regions along the border with Somalia and Ethiopia are arid and semi-arid areas with near-desert landscapes. Kenya is known for its world class athletes in track and field and rugby. Thanks to its diverse climate and geography, expansive wildlife reserves and national parks such as the East and West Tsavo National Park, Amboseli National Park, Maasai Mara, Lake Nakuru National Park, Aberdares National Park and white sand beaches at the Coastal region, Kenya is home to the modern safari and has several world heritage sites such as Lamu and numerous beaches, including in Diani, Bamburi and Kilifi, where international yachting competitions are held every year.

The African Great Lakes region, which Kenya is a part of, has been inhabited by humans since the Lower Paleolithic period. By the first millennium AD, the Bantu expansion had reached the area from West-Central Africa. The borders of the modern state consequently comprise the crossroads of the Niger-Congo, Nilo-Saharan and Afroasiatic areas of the continent, representing most major ethnolinguistic groups found in Africa. Bantu and Nilotic populations together constitute around 97% of the nation's residents.[9] European and Arab presence in coastal Mombasa dates to the Early Modern period; European exploration of the interior began in the 19th century. The British Empire established the East Africa Protectorate in 1895, which starting in 1920 gave way to the Kenya Colony. Kenya obtained



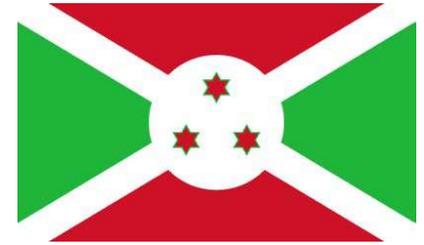
Ambassador
Lazarus O. Amayo

independence in December 1963. Following a referendum in August 2010 and adoption of a new constitution, Kenya is now divided into 47 semi-autonomous counties, governed by elected governors.

The capital, Nairobi, is a regional commercial hub. The economy of Kenya is the largest by GDP in East and Central Africa.[10][11] Agriculture is a major employer; the country traditionally exports tea and coffee and has more recently begun to export fresh flowers to Europe. The service industry is also a major economic driver. Additionally, Kenya is a member of the East African Community trading block.



BURUNDI



Burundi, officially the Republic of Burundi, is a landlocked country in the African Great Lakes region of East Africa, bordered by Rwanda to the north, Tanzania to the east and south, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the west. It is also considered part of Central Africa. Burundi's capital is Bujumbura. The southwestern border is adjacent to Lake Tanganyika.

The Twa, Hutu and Tutsi peoples have lived in Burundi for at least 500 years. For more than 200 of those years, Burundi was an independent kingdom, until the beginning of the 20th century, when Germany colonised the region.[9] After the First World War and Germany's defeat, it ceded the territory to Belgium.

The Belgians ruled Burundi and Rwanda as a European colony known as Ruanda-Urundi. Their intervention exacerbated social differences between the Tutsi and Hutu, and contributed to political unrest in the region. Burundi gained independence in 1962 and initially had a monarch, but a series of assassinations, coups, and a general climate of the re-

gional instability culminated in the establishment of a republic and one-party state in 1966. Bouts of ethnic cleansing and ultimately two civil wars and genocides during the 1970s and again in the 1990s left the country undeveloped and its population as one of the world's poorest.

2015 witnessed large-scale political strife as President Pierre Nkurunziza opted to run for a third term in office, a coup attempt failed and the country's parliamentary and presidential elections were broadly criticized by members of the international community.

In addition to poverty, Burundians often have to deal with corruption, weak infrastructure, poor access to health and education services, and hunger. Burundi is densely populated and has had substantial emigration as young people seek opportunities elsewhere. The World Happiness report 2016 ranked Burundi as the world's least happy nation.



RWANDA



Rwanda (/ruːˈɑːndə/ or /ruːˈændə/ (About this sound listen); Kinyarwanda: U Rwanda [u.rgwanda] (About this sound listen)), officially the Republic of Rwanda (Kinyarwanda: Repubulika y'u Rwanda; French: République du Rwanda), is a sovereign state in Central and East Africa and one of the smallest countries on the African mainland. Located a few degrees south of the Equator, Rwanda is bordered by Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Rwanda is in the African Great Lakes region and is highly elevated; its geography is dominated by mountains in the west and savanna to the east, with numerous lakes throughout the country. The climate is temperate to subtropical, with two rainy seasons and two dry seasons each year.

The population is young and predominantly rural, with a density among the highest in Africa. Rwandans are drawn from just one cultural and linguistic group, the Banyarwanda, although within this group there are three subgroups: the Hutu, Tutsi and Twa. The Twa are a forest-dwelling pygmy people descended from Rwanda's earliest inhabitants. Scholars disagree on the origins of and differences between the Hutu and Tutsi; some believe differences are derived from former social castes within a single people, while others believe the Hutu and Tutsi arrived in the country separately, and from different locations. Christianity is the largest religion in the country; the principal language is Kinyarwanda, spoken by most Rwandans, with English and French serving as official languages. Rwanda has a presidential system of government. The president is Paul Kagame of the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF), who took office in 2000. Rwanda today has low corruption compared with neighbouring countries, although human rights organisations report suppression of opposition groups, intimidation and restrictions on freedom of speech. The country has been governed by an ordered administrative hierarchy since pre-colonial times; there are five provinces delineated by borders drawn in 2006. Rwanda is one of only two countries with a female majority in the national parliament.

Hunter gatherers settled the territory in the stone and iron ages, followed later by Bantu peoples. The population coalesced first into clans and then into kingdoms. The Kingdom of Rwanda dominated from the mid-18th century, with the Tutsi kings conquering others militarily, centralising power and later enacting anti-Hutu policies. Germany colonised Rwanda in 1884 as part of German East Africa, followed by Belgium, which invaded in 1916 during the First World War. Both European nations ruled through the kings and perpetuated a pro-Tutsi policy. The Hutu population revolted in 1959. They massacred numerous Tutsi and ultimately established an independent, Hutu-dominated state in 1962. The Tutsi-led Rwandan Patriotic Front launched a civil war in 1990. Social tensions erupted in the 1994 genocide, in which Hutu extremists killed an estimated 500,000 to 1.3 million Tutsi and moderate Hutu. The RPF ended the genocide with a military victory.

Rwanda's economy suffered heavily during the 1994 Rwandan Genocide, but has since strengthened. The economy is based mostly on subsistence agriculture. Coffee and tea are the major cash crops for export. Tourism is a fast-growing sector and is now the country's leading foreign exchange earner. Rwanda is one of only two countries in which mountain gorillas can be visited safely, and visitors pay for gorilla tracking permits. Music and dance are an integral part of Rwandan culture, particularly drums and the highly choreographed intore dance. Traditional arts and crafts are produced throughout the country.

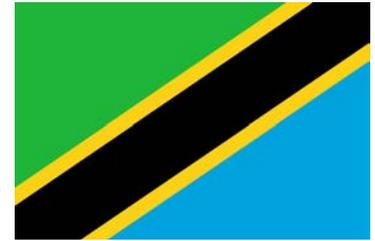


Ambassador
Prof. Mathilde Mukantabana

Prior to her appointment, Ambassador Mathilde Mukantabana was a tenured Professor of History at Cosumnes River College (CRC) in Sacramento, California from 1994 to 2013. She is also co-founder and President of Friends of Rwanda Association (F.O.R.A), a non-profit American relief association created in the wake of the 1994 Genocide against Tutsi in Rwanda. Since its inception, FORA's dual purpose has been to expand the circle of friends of Rwanda and to support survivors of 1994 Genocide through a variety of initiatives and relief efforts. In addition, under the aegis of United Nations for Development Programs (UNDP), Ambassador Mukantabana started the academic program of Social Work at the National University of Rwanda in 1999, and as an Invited Lecturer taught a variety of subjects in their summer program until recently.



TANZANIA



Tanzania, officially the United Republic of Tanzania, is a country in Eastern Africa within the African Great Lakes region. Parts of the country are in Southern Africa.

It is bordered by Kenya and Uganda to the north; Rwanda, Burundi, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the west; Zambia, Malawi, and Mozambique to the south; and by the Indian Ocean to the east. Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest mountain, is in northeastern Tanzania.

Tanzania's population of 51.82 million (2014) is diverse, composed of several ethnic, linguistic, and religious groups. Tanzania is a presidential constitutional republic, and since 1996, its official capital city has been Dodoma, where the President's office, the National Assembly, and some government ministries are located. Dar es Salaam, the former capital, retains most government offices and is the country's largest city, principal port, and leading commercial centre.

European colonialism began in mainland Tanzania during the late 19th century when Germany formed German East Africa, which gave way to British rule following World War I. The mainland was governed as Tanganyika, with the Zanzibar Archipelago remaining a separate colonial jurisdiction. Following their respective independence in 1961 and 1963, the two entities merged in April 1964 to form the United Republic of Tanzania.



S. SUDAN



South Sudan (/ˌsaʊθ suˈdɑːn, -ˈdæn/ (About this sound listen)),^{[11][12]} officially the Republic of South Sudan,^[13] is a landlocked country in northeastern Africa that gained its independence from Sudan in 2011. Its current capital is Juba, which is also its largest city. Before the outbreak of a civil war in 2013, it was planned that the capital city would be moved to the more centrally located Ramciel in the future.^[14]

South Sudan is bordered by Sudan to the north, Ethiopia to the east, Kenya to the southeast, Uganda to the south, the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the southwest, and the Central African Republic to the west. It includes the vast swamp region of the Sudd, formed by the White Nile and known locally as the Bahr al Jabal.

The territories of modern South Sudan and the Republic of the Sudan were occupied by Egypt under the Muhammad Ali Dynasty, and later governed as an Anglo-Egyptian condominium until Sudanese independence was achieved in

1956. Following the First Sudanese Civil War, the Southern Sudan Autonomous Region was formed in 1972 and lasted until 1983. A second Sudanese civil war soon developed, and ended with the Comprehensive Peace Agreement of 2005. Later that year, southern autonomy was restored when an Autonomous Government of Southern Sudan was formed.

South Sudan became an independent state on 9 July 2011, following a referendum that passed with 98.83% of the vote.^{[15][16]} It is a United Nations member state,^{[17][18]} and a member state of the African Union,^[19] of the East African Community,^[20] and of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development.^[21] In July 2012, South Sudan signed the Geneva Conventions.^[22] South Sudan has suffered ethnic violence and has been in a civil war since 2013; as of 2017, it had the highest score on the Fragile States Index (formerly, the Failed States Index), surpassing Somalia.



Speaker Biographies



Herbert Austin

Herbert Austin is currently the Acting Regional Administrator for Region VI that encompasses the States of Arkansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Louisiana and Texas. He is also the District Director of SBA's Dallas/Fort Worth Office and has held this position since 2008.

Herb joined SBA in 1989 in the New Jersey District Office; he spent many years in New York and Long Island before moving to Dallas. Herb holds a BS in Marketing from New York University and an MBA in International Marketing and Management from Pace University. Herb is fluent in French and Spanish.



Viola Llewellyn

Ms. Viola Llewellyn is co-founder and President of Ovamba Solutions, Inc. an award winning African "TradeTech" company and the first to create technologies recognizing the need to innovate with a sensitivity towards African realities and cultural groups.

Ms. Llewellyn oversees strategic implementation, investor communications, and global business development for Ovamba.



Lonnie Harris

Lonnie Harris is co-founder and Chief Technology Officer of CyberAlliance, a company that uniquely connects digitization to governmental cyber security policy, private sector application and skills training to build a pipeline of African cyber talent. Mr. Harris brings over 20 years of technology experience to CyberAlliance. Currently, Lonnie is VP of Privacy Engineering at a publicly traded U.S. multinational corporation that collects and aggregates information on over 800 million individual consumers and more than 88 million businesses worldwide. Lonnie's previous corporate experience has included various roles, lastly as a senior cybersecurity architect at Cisco Systems.



Christine Brown

Christine Brown is director for trade policy in the Small Business Administration's Office of International Trade. In this role, she leads a team dedicated to representing and protecting small business interests in trade negotiations and trade policy development and to providing assistance to U.S. small businesses confronting barriers to trade.

Christine came to SBA with 20 years of trade policy experience. She previously worked at the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, the U.S. Department of Commerce's International Trade Administration, the Korea Economic Institute, and C&M International.

Christine received her Master's Degree from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies and her Bachelor's Degree from Tufts University.



Speaker Biographies



John C. Robinson

John C. Robinson is a seasoned investment professional with more than 25 years of global institutional financial services and capital markets experience. He has held senior management, investment consulting, marketing and product development roles in the private and public sectors. He has extensive experience in the Southeast and throughout the United States. During Mr. Robinson's career, he has been the Acting Deputy Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer for the Government of the District of Columbia and Trustee for the District of Columbia Retirement Board. He also served in the City of Atlanta's Finance Department as Chief Investment Officer, Cash and Investments. He was a Board Member for the Pan American Development Foundation and currently serves as the Treasurer for the Sickle Cell Foundation of Georgia, headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia. Mr. Robinson holds a Master of Business Administration from Kennesaw State University and Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He is a member of the Association of Financial Professionals and holds the Certified Treasury Professional (CTP) designation a Certified Alternative Investment Analyst Level II Candidate and an advisory board member of the African Investor Emerging Manager Forum. Mr. Robinson holds several board and advisory positions.



Loise Kimani

Loise Kimani has for the past fifteen years led an exceptional career in finance and information security, having been recognized and awarded for her exceptional acumen in management of business assets and critical analysis of controls to optimize organizational objectives. Ms. Kimani is a deeply analytical, high performing and results oriented leader, who holds a diverse portfolio of expertise spanning from financial leadership, information security to mortgage loan origination while carving her path forward to entrepreneurship.

Ms. Kimani has worked with various organizations from different industries such as Raytheon, developing financial models through benchmarking, process analysis along with quarterly forecast to prepare cost projections as well as capital planning. At PepsiCo, she serves as an Information Security leader assessing risks and streamlining processes around cyber security protection, detection, response and recovery to minimize risk, while developing a framework to govern processes in operations that impact information security.

As a mortgage loan originator, she has developed a passion for assisting investors especially first-time home buyers in property ownership. Ms. Kimani excels in simplifying and highlighting the financial requirements involved for vested parties, as well as guiding them in the right direction to obtain loans that best fit their needs.



Iman Kennerly

Iman Tariq Kennerly is Prosper Africa's Senior Advisor for Transactions. He develops pipelines of investments and coordinates the execution of transactions with investors and U.S. government agencies.

Iman spent 20 years originating trade and investment with the U.S. Development Finance Corporation (DFC; formerly known as Overseas Private Investment Corporation) and on Wall Street. While at DFC, he was detailed to USAID's Bureau for Resilience and Food Security as an advisor and program manager. Iman has led over 70 transactions in more than 35 countries. His underwriting experience spans debt and equity, funds, securitizations, insurance, derivatives, and trade finance.

Iman has executed innovative transactions in established emerging markets, such as DFC's first corporate loan to a housing developer, a mortgage facility for informal income earners, and multiple fintech startups. He also has experience in frontier markets such as South Sudan, Somalia, Burma, Afghanistan, and East Jerusalem. Iman earned his MBA from NYU's Stern School of Business and his BBA in International Business from Howard University. He is an avid ice hockey player and certified coach.



Danielle McClelland

For more than two decades, Danielle McClelland has provided leadership for municipal government operations, environmental performance, media relations, and revenue contract management for the ninth largest city in the nation. Her specialties include analyzing, streamlining, and communicating operations; staff development; and relationship management to exceed organizational and customer expectations. As president of the City of Dallas' only nonprofit employee resource group, Danielle advocates for and helps Black employees connect with the people, opportunities, and resources they need to help advance their career goals as public servants. When she's not volunteering to help others reach their financial goals, Danielle is gardening and planning trips to visit her grandchildren.



Amunique Love

Amunique Love, serves The City of Irving Minority/Womenowned Business Enterprise Program and board member of North Central Texas Regional Certification Agency. With over 10 years as an Experienced Business Professional and Executive Public Administrator she has demonstrated a history of working in local governments to innovate programs while creating strategic partnerships; to assure meaningful impressions within the population she serves. Skilled in areas such as Nonprofit Organization, Business Diversity, and Community Relations. Amunique earned her Bachelor's and Master's in Criminology from Lamar University where she attained leadership awards while serving as Director of Community Relations for Beaumont's government constituents. While cultivating her passion for public service and philanthropy in The Greater Houston Area; she received her Master's in Business/Public Administration from Texas Southern University as magna cum laude graduate. This young lady is not only passionate about her profession she is qualified and believes deeply in selfless service. Her life's mantra is, "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel" -Maya Angelou. Therefore, she believes in living a life of purpose through service to others.



H.E. Dr. Arikana Chihombori Quao

Founder, President and Chief Executive Officer of ADDI, Her Excellency Arikana Chihombori Quao MD is a medical doctor (having practised medicine for over twenty-five years), founder and owner of medical clinics, diplomat, public speaker, educator and an entrepreneur. She is also an author and her recently published book Africa 101: The Wake-Up Call is a best seller on Amazon.

She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians and a member of the American Association of Family Physicians as well as the Tennessee Association of Family Physicians. Her Excellency Arikana Chihombori Quao MD was born and raised in Zimbabwe where she attained her primary and secondary education. She then left Zimbabwe for the United States of America where she obtained a Bachelor's Degree in General Chemistry, a Master's Degree in Organic Chemistry as well as a Doctor of Medicine Degree.

Her Excellency Ambassador Arikana Chihombori Quao MD is married to her Ghanaian husband and is a proud mother of five children and a very happy grandmother of five grandchildren.



Camille Richardson

Camille Richardson is a tenured Senior Foreign Service officer with the U.S. Commercial Service. She began her career in government with the International Trade Administration (ITA) at the U.S. Department of Commerce in 1993. She became an accredited diplomat with the U.S. Commercial Service in 1998 and has served six successive tours of duty in Miami, FL; Buenos Aires, Argentina; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Nairobi, Kenya; Mumbai, India, and Sao Paulo, Brazil facilitating commercial partnerships between U.S. and local companies. She was recently appointed as Commerce ITA's new Deputy Assistant Secretary for MEA region.

A native of Washington, D.C., Camille earned a B.A. in International Relations from Brown University in 1989, and an M.A. in International Relations from Johns Hopkins/SAIS in 1993. She speaks Portuguese and Portuguese along with a bit of Hindi, Swahili and French.



David Muthiani

David's 21 years of global, multi-cultural experiences provide him insight, understanding, compassion and communication skills that few real estate professionals possess.

Throughout his career, David has worked in demanding situations, exercising extraordinary precision to meet project deadlines while maintaining strict client confidentiality. David is comfortable managing projects for and routinely communicating with CEOs, entrepreneurs, doctors, technology gurus, financial experts, and diplomats. Most of David's clients are professionals who appreciate and expect these traits.

David's success derives from his leadership and management skills, guiding multi-disciplinary teams. His prior experience in Mortgage Originations and Servicing, Oil and Gas Servicing as well as Real Estate Consultation give him a breadth of expertise and competencies that serve his clients well. Today David serves as Lead Real Estate Consultant for the Zuri Realty Group, where he manages key clients, while Zuri Realty Group specialists supports his efforts in the field.



Speaker Biographies



Chrispus Kaniuki Wachira

Chrispus Wachira is the founder and CEO of Almond Estate Company Ltd, a Kenyan based real estate firm. Prior to founding Almond Estate in 2014, Mr. Wachira served in various Managerial positions for over 30 years where he spearheaded over 50 transformational programs and projects.

His expansive experience spans from Public Sector, Entrepreneurship, Finance, Real Estate and Energy Sector. As the Vision bearer at Almond Estate, Mr. Wachira shares his invaluable experience by leading and developing successful and impact driven entrepreneurial business models.

“As a Kenyan and a seasoned professional, I recognize and value the trust my clients place in me. I strive daily to exceed their expectations.” Chrispus Wachira.



Alice Janet Njuki Acca

ALICE JANET NJUKI ACCA, Msc.CAIA, PODITRA (Tax) and BBA (Accounting) hold many titles among them, CEO & FOUNDER – AJ & PARTNERS CONSORTIUM LTD, CEO – Business Development – KIYIIRA Africa (U) LTD, FOUNDED PARTNER – 1 BILLION CUPS Investment Club, Director & Shareholder – EKM (U) Limited (Property) and Board Member & Treasurer – NDA (Nansagazi Development Agency)

Janet Njuki Also is a Real Estate Agent at the Pearl Marina. Having over 20 years in Business Finance and Administration workforce experience including having worked in, Telecommunications Industries, Human Resources & recruitment, Banking and Finance Services, Healthcare services, Audit and Assurance services, Community based Charities and Legal Advisory services. Alice is very passionate in Mentoring Start-up businesses.



Prabhat Garg

Prabhat Garg is the Practice Lead and Senior Director of Program Procurement Practice Group in MCC. He joined MCC in 2006 after about 18 years with the World Bank and in the private sector. He manages a team of MCC staff and consultants working on MCC portfolios across the globe. This practice group develops MCC program procurement policies and procedures, monitors compliance by the partner countries, helps develop procurement strategies, and guides the preparation of solicitation and other related documents.

Mr. Garg holds an Engineering degree from the Indian Institute of Technology in India and a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Maryland.



Dr. Tana J. Hicks

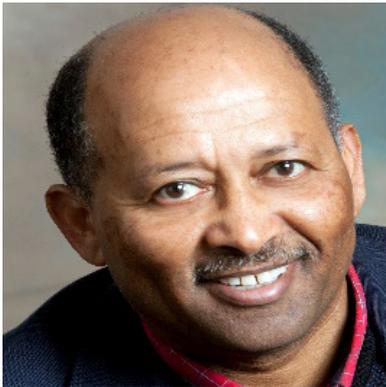
Dr. Tana J. Hicks joined the Labor Market Intelligence Center at Dallas College in the spring of 2018 and obtained the role of Senior Director in December of 2020. She contributes to improving labor market alignment through the exploration and analysis of local industry data. Dr. Hicks is passionate about equity and inclusivity, and as such, she leans on it as a focal point in all the work she does, starting as far back as her dissertation work, which she completed in 2017.

Tana earned her Doctor of Philosophy in English at the University of North Texas and holds both a Bachelor of Science degree in Kinesiology and a Master of Arts degree in English from Texas Tech University.



Jerono Rotich

Prof. Jerono Rotich is a professor and department chair at North Carolina Central University in Durham, North Carolina. She is CEO and Founder of WOYO (Women & Youth) Global Diversity Consulting and JVV Wellness and Safety LLC, CEO and Founder of Kenya Students in Diaspora (KESID) Foundation. She is the current President of the Kenya Scholars and Studies Association (KESSA). She serves on the Commission of Research & Publication of ICTSG, established at the 2018 UNESCO Collective Consultation on TSG, among many other organizations. She is a dedicated servant leader, educator, scholar, change agent, motivational speaker, women, youth, and peace champion committed to excellence, community engagement, and international collaboration. Prof. Rotich's work in the academe and community has not gone unnoticed. Her exemplary work has earned her many recognitions and awards that include the: 2016 recipient of the Greensboro Community Partnerships Chamber of Commerce Other Voices Change Agent Award; 2015 recipient of the University of North Carolina Board of Governors Excellence in Teacher award; 2015 recipient of the School of Education Senior faculty teaching excellence award; 2014 recipient of the University North Carolina A&T State University Faculty Community Engagement scholarship Award and many others.



Habte G. Woldu

Born in Ethiopia, Dr. Woldu attended Haile Selassie I University in Addis Ababa where he pursued an undergraduate degree program education in social science while simultaneously working as an auditor for the National Bank of Ethiopia. He earned a scholarship to attend higher education abroad, and decided to pursue a Masters Degree program in human resource management followed by a Doctorate degree in Economics from the Poznan University of Economics, Poland.

After beginning his academic career as an Assistant professor at his alma mater in Poznan University of Economics, Dr. Woldu and his family moved to Dallas where he subsequently joined the University of Texas at Dallas in 1993. Dr. Woldu has done extensive research and has many publications in a wide breadth of areas, including comparative management and cross-cultural Studies, empirical analysis of cultural divergence and convergence, international human resource management in Central & East European countries, the role of institutions, resources and culture in African development. Currently, he is working on the impact of elongated and deeper economic crises on divergence and convergence of global cultures.



Toyin Awesu-Uhuegbu

Toyin is an experienced communications and media relations professional who is passionate about using her skills to help organizations shape public opinion and drive policy changes to build more equitable societies.

For the 116th Congress, Toyin served as the Director of Communications for the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC). As the Director of Communications, Toyin helped the Caucus elevate its voice on critical issues affecting the Black community as well as its position on US-Africa policy.

An ardent communications professional, Toyin has also facilitated communications trainings around the world and participated as a communications expert on social justice, US-Africa relations, and diversity, equity and inclusion panels.

Toyin received her Master of Science Degree in Integrated Marketing & Communications from West Virginia University and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Journalism from Temple University.



Wale Ayantoye

Wale Ayantoye is the global head of product Compliance and Risk Management at Flutterwave. Flutterwave's mission is to build payments infrastructure to connect Africa to the global economy.

In his role, Wale manages a product risk and compliance program that runs across over 35 countries and executes payments in over 130 countries globally. He is responsible for scaling the team, while developing and executing policies in accordance with the AML and BSA requirements.

Wale is also responsible for identifying, developing, training and implementing process improvements on various AML controls. He has extensive experience with and leading standard fraud investigations, sanctions, KYC, risk assessment, product and program improvement, and merchant onboarding. He is an author, a consultant and a Tech speaker.



Speaker Biographies



Swati Sucharita

Executive MBA Candidate | IE Business School | Senior Manager | Digital Transformation | Prudential Africa
Swati Sucharita has over 15+ years of global IT experience that includes 6+ years of international work experience in Los Angeles, with the customer Sony Pictures Entertainment, Culver City, CA and 2+ years in Uganda. She has excellent experience in technical, analytical, organizational, and communication skills, for making effective interaction with third party (vendors)/stakeholders and all levels of management.

Swati, also believes in continuous personal development as much as professional development. She plays guitar, is trained in Indian Classical dance form Kathak, enjoys traveling and exploring new cultures.



Pamela Nelson

Registered Nurse, Certified Clinical Research Associate, regulatory consultant, and author with over 30 years of experience in the healthcare industry. Areas of service as Staff Nurse, Nursing Administration, Research Compliance Monitoring, Project Management, and Community Health Education. Pamela is a trusted business leader and advocate for small and diverse businesses; known for her work with disparities in access to healthcare and solutions for helping to create opportunities for minorities to enter the clinical research industry with the formation of the Association of Minorities in Clinical Research (AMICR). An accomplished speaker and author, Pamela speaks to professionals in her industry about the regulatory process and quality monitoring procedures. She has a passion for health promotion. She has authored articles and presentations and wrote *Declutter Your Mind (A Biblical Perspective)*. Pamela began her career in Longview, TX as a nurse and developed a passion for traveling and conducting medical missions. Since 1999, she has served with agencies to complete medical missions in Ghana, Uganda, Dominican Republic, Guatemala. At home, she has worked with remote communities in South Texas and was instrumental in collaborating with healthcare systems to bring neighborhood clinics to disparate healthcare areas in Collin County.



Ivan Edwards

Dr. Ivan Edwards (FAAPMR, FRSA) is a medical doctor, a USAF Reserve flight surgeon, an entrepreneur, a community activist/leader, and a public speaker.

His involvement in community affairs, ranging from veteran affairs to his discourse on topics like Parkinson's disease and multiple sclerosis, here and abroad, have endeared him in the public eye.

His military service is punctuated with honor and dedication. He has earned the following awards and decorations

Dr. Edwards has been a guest speaker at numerous events, ranging from sponsored symposiums to educational conventions. He has spoken at the Uganda Diaspora's international events held annually in Kampala, Uganda, and been featured as a webinar main speaker on the topic of PTSD during the COVID 19 pandemic in the US in September 2020. On September 5th, 2021, he was the keynote speaker at the UNAA convention (the oldest and largest Ugandan diaspora community in North America).

His involvement in community affairs, ranging from veteran affairs to his discourse on topics like Parkinson's disease and multiple sclerosis, here and abroad, have endeared him in the public eye.



Judy Olepere

Judy Olepere obtained her Master of Science degree in Nursing from the University of Texas at Arlington and is a board-certified Family Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner.

She strives to create a welcoming and inclusive environment where you feel safe, accepted, and understood.

Her philosophy revolves around open communication, setting mutual goals and educating patients on their diagnosis and treatment plan.

Judy provides mental health care for patients across the life span – children, adolescents, and adults. She possesses strong clinical skills enhanced by natural ability to build rapport with patients.

Judy provides medication management to treat a variety of psychiatric conditions including, but not limited to ADHD, Anxiety, Depression, Bipolar Disorder, and PTSD.

She follows evidence-based guidelines blended with clinical experience, observation, and intuition.

Speaker Biographies



Fred Stewart

Fred leads a group of Senior International Trade Specialists in the advancement of U.S. commercial interests to include increasing trade and investment between the United States and African countries. Fred's team is charged with implementing key initiatives such as Prosper Africa and recommendations made by the President's Advisory Council on Doing Business in Africa (PAC-DBIA) to include the U.S-Nigeria Commercial and Investment Dialogue and follow up actions associated the Memorandums of Understanding executed by the United States Department of Commerce and Sub-Saharan Africa countries. From 2012 to 2015, prior to assuming his role at the Office of Africa, Fred was the Director of International Programs at Kratos Defense (KTOS) and from 2008 to 2012 he was the Director of International Business Development at VSD. With 24 years of service, Fred is a retired Naval Officer with specialties in Engineering and Propulsion Systems.



Dr. Mezgebe G. Berhe

Dr. Berhe joined North Texas Infectious Diseases Consultants (NTIDC) in August 2005 after completing his Infectious Disease fellowship training at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, VA, and his Internal Medicine residency at St Barnabas Hospital, which is affiliated with Cornell Medical Center in New York City. He also holds a Masters of Public Health Degree from VCU in Epidemiology. Since joining NTIDC in 2005, Dr. Berhe has been active in research as a primary investigator and sub-investigator for clinical trials. He also has extensive training in both tropical medicine and transplant infections.



Lisa Coppé

Lisa Coppé is the Senior Country Manager for Sub-Saharan Africa at the U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA). She has over a decade of experience working on infrastructure projects across Africa and is currently responsible for business development, project preparation and evaluation, and supervision of USTDA activities in East Africa. Mrs. Coppe designs, implements, and monitors a multimillion-dollar portfolio of grants and contracts. She has worked on deals in over 20 African countries in telecommunications, oil and gas, trade facilitation, energy, environment, and transportation. She is also the cybersecurity sector lead on the Telecommunications Team at USTDA. Mrs. Coppé is a French speaker and holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from Bucknell University.



Leslie Marbury

Leslie Marbury joined Prosper Africa as the Acting Chief Operating Officer in July 2021. Most recently, she completed a tour as the Mission Director in Rwanda and Burundi, where she led the development of a new Country Development Cooperation Strategy, established a leadership initiative to empower staff to achieve greater development results, and led the response to COVID-19. Her previous posts include Honduras, Bolivia, South Africa and Burma. Throughout her time with the U.S. government, she has worked with governments, the private sector and civil society to improve economic governance, private sector investment, trade, the financial sector, environmental policy, agricultural development, and food security. Leslie is a career member of the Senior Foreign Service. She gained her formative experience as a U.S. Peace Corps Volunteer in Ghana and received her Masters degree in Environmental Economics and Policy from the University of Georgia.





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