



**2017 Borlaug Dialogue Symposium
2017 World Food Prize**

**18 – 20 October 2017
Des Moines, Iowa, USA**

Biographies of Agripreneurs

N°	Name	Picture	Biography
1	Kwame ABABIO		<p>Ababio Kwame is a young farmer and an entrepreneur from Ghana-West Africa who after graduating as a Geomatic engineer from mining school in Ghana decided to start agribusiness.</p> <p>He graduated from mining school with distinction honors, and has professional membership in the Ghana Institute of Engineers (GHIE), but nonetheless sees agriculture as a solution to ending poverty in Africa and has passion for its development. He is an optimistic young African contributing towards Africa’s development with focus on agri-business - and says <i>“Farming will end poverty in Africa, if we execute it; turning Farms into Firms”</i>. He started his agro-business after school, with motivation from his father, when he identified huge deficits in Africa’s agriculture specifically in oil palm. He strongly believes, with all necessary support; young Africans can lift the potentials of Africa. Kwame, is the founder of Green Afro-Palms (GAP) and a multiple award winning young entrepreneur (RUFORUM, ADLER, Future of Ghana, AfDB), also a fellow of West Africa YALI-RLC and a Global Shaper of the World Economic Forum belonging to Kumasi hub.</p> <p>Green Afro-Palms (GAP) is a growing agro-company in GHANA creating sustainable agribusinesses driven by entrepreneurship, innovation and the</p>

			<p>desire for social change. GAP among 15 top agric-innovations in Africa, and listed among 100 globally competitive startups in Ghana: is designing and facilitating the use of mechanization technology in agro-processing specifically in oil palm, and providing coordinated platforms for marketing quality oil palm products to consumers. SEE: www.facebook.com/greenafropalms. VIDEO: https://youtu.be/7XZPgFim3k, https://youtu.be/D6u8QswD-3E. www.gapworld.org .</p>
2	Mahmud JOHNSON		<p>Mahmud Johnson is Founder and CEO of J-Palm Liberia, which produces oil-palm-based consumer and industrial products, and works to improve incomes for Liberia’s smallholder oil palm farmers. J-Palm Liberia provides access to improved processing machinery for smallholder oil palm farmers and has created a market for previously wasted palm kernels, helping to increase smallholder incomes by 50-80 percent.</p> <p>J-Palm Liberia processes the palm kernels into a range of products including Kernel Fresh (organic moisturizer and hair conditioner made of virgin cold-pressed palm kernel oil), Palm Kernel Cake for use as animal feed, and Palm Kernel Shells for use as a cleaner energy source to power industrial boilers. J-Palm Liberia is in the process of setting up a plant to add value to Palm Kernel Shells by carbonizing them to create <i>SuperCoal</i>, Liberia’s first brand of clean energy biomass charcoal briquettes.</p> <p>Mahmud holds a Bachelors degree in Economics from Dartmouth College and a Certificate in Business Strategy from the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth IN Hanover, New Hampshire, USA.</p>


3


Lilian UWINTWALI



Lilian UWINTWALI is the founder and CEO of MAHWI TECH Ltd founded in 2011 an African renowned IT firm that serves the agriculture sector with ICT platforms that serve over 10,000 farmers in Rwanda linking farmers to markets, banks, insurance companies and extension services etc..... Her online and mobile based Agric Platform m-lima www.m-lima.com (Formerly known as agro-FIBA platform) that connects small holder farmers with all key stakeholders in agriculture to ensure the smallholder farmer benefits from essential services they need and leverage on arising opportunities. Lilian is the 40 Chances Fellow for Rwanda jointly awarded by Howard-G Buffet Foundation, Tony Blair’s AGI (African Governance Initiative) and the World Food Prize Foundation. She was also recognized among the TOP 3 Young Innovators in Agribusiness across East Africa and Ethiopia in 2016! And she is a recipient of so many national and international awards owing to her innovations at MAHWI Tech!

Lilian has 5 years wealth of experience in the agripreneurship field and over 7 years in the business ecosystem. Lilian also serves as the board secretary and Public Relations Director of Rwanda Youth in Agribusiness Forum (RYAF), an umbrella of over 2500 youth agripreneuers in Rwanda , a forum established to change youth mindsets vis-a vis agribusiness and create massive change agents to drive agribusiness in Rwanda. She also consults for IFC (International Finance Corporation)/ World bank Group where she handles Agriculture cooperatives’ assessments and trains youth and SMEs on business development and entrepreneurship skills.. Lilian also serves as a board member of Urwego Bank, a leading Microfinance in Rwanda best known for supporting rural livelihoods and the agriculture sector in particular. Very recently she was appointed as a Board Secretary of the Panafrican EYE (Emerging Young Entrpreneur) www.eyeafrica.org, an organiation aimed to inspire a generational shift in the African Agribusiness Industry by preparing a new breed of entrepreneurs through improved access to technology , innovation, mentorship and finance.

			<p>Lilian holds a bachelors degree Bsc. in Computer Engineering and Information Technology from the University of Rwanda (Former, Kigali Institute of Science and Technology) and has undergone post graduate trainings with several institutions like IFC/World Bank Group, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge University, USAID/HICD-R, ONG2.0, Scope Insight to mention but a few specializing in these key areas: Entrepreneurship and Business Development, ICT4D (Information Communication Technology for Development), Human and Institutional Capacity Development, Institutional and Organization Assessment, Agro-Inputs-Outputs Markets and Value chain Development etc.</p>
4	Temitope AROGE		<p>My name is Aroge Temitope, Managing Director of Arog Bio Allied Agro Services Limited, Nigeria. As the chief promoter, the company started 6years ago with specific focus on agro processing, mechanization and commercial cassava farming.</p> <p>The company progressed from a 1million share units to 100million and from a 1hectare farm to 200hectare farm in 2017. We commenced garri processing 5 years ago with incremental capacity to cassava chips processing. A 16tons per day high quality cassava flour production plant is expected to be installed, test run and commissioned on our farm by March, 2018.</p> <p>As a young agripreneur, our company benefitted from the AEHE (Agric Equipment Hiring Center) program of the Dr Akinwumi Adesina led Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. The center offered services to small holder and corporate farmers with a total land size of 450 Ha in 2017 planting season alone. We seek to increase the tractor ownership from 3 to 12 with a target of 1,500 Hain 2018.</p>

			<p>I am a trained physician, community leader and proud farmer. I am the Vice President of Association of Young Agriculture Entrepreneurs in Nigeria (Umbrella body of young agripreneurs).</p>
5	<p>Manir UMAR</p>		<p>Manir Umar is a young, focused and determined agripreneur who is passionate about farming. He is the MD/CEO of Deenat Integrated Farms Ltd which was created due to high level of youth unemployment in the year 2011. Manir got inspired to key into the Agri-business industry by the former minister of agriculture Dr. Akinwuni Adesina through his numerous youth empowerment programs.</p> <p>As the Managing Director of Deenat Farms, the company grew from 2,000 birds to 50,000 laying birds. The maize farm increased to 300 Ha farm in 2017 alone. Deenat farms fishery segment increased to 25,000 table size fish capacity, 35 cows, 30 goats, 23 sheeps in 2017. Deenat Farms is a major horse breeding farm in Nigeria with 20 horses and a major player in the Agricultural Equipment Hiring Enterprise. The firm is the first private company to own a horse race track in the country (Deenat Derby).</p> <p>After the successful launch of the YEAP (Youth Employment in Agriculture Program), 28 Young Agricultural Entrepreneurs (Nagropreneurs) were recognized to champion the youth revolution in Agriculture. He was elected president of the Association of Nigerian Agricultural Entrepreneurs (A-NAGROPRENEURS) which was saddled with the responsibilities of mentoring and empowering youths to embrace Agriculture as a business. Prior to his election as the National President of A-NAGROPRENEURS, Manir has worked with MTN,Alaqaat Global,Marvel Planet Holdings.</p> <p>Manir has a BA in Public Administration, MPA from the prestigious Ahmadu Bello University Zaria (ABU).</p>

6


Haowa BELLO




Madame Coquette (MC) is a line of meticulously handcrafted handbags and small leather goods made in Nigeria. With minimal use of machinery, local artisans use traditional tools and techniques to produce a variety of high quality bags and purses. In addition to producing locally, MC is committed to promoting artisanship and skill development in the community. Each piece is hand cut and carefully put together with superb craftsmanship and attention to detail. The brand's bold choice in colors and rich textures have become a signature aesthetic. The label has recorded sales not only in Nigeria, but in North America and Europe.

Awarded best accessories designer in 2013 (Exquisite Magazine), MC's work has been recognized by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and Africa Development Bank. The brand was featured on CNN's African Voices in November 2015, giving it international exposure. In addition to leather goods production, Haowa Bello has set up a small cattle farm in Lagos. Fula Farms stands as one of the few dairy farms in Lagos and it supplies small businesses and individuals with raw (fresh) milk and locally produced cheese. The farm works with families in small clusters and has recently set up a cooperative managing upwards of 50 cows. Fula Farms is committed to supporting and promoting rural women and their plight for economic empowerment. It works closely with a group of rural women who produce a specific type of cheese. The cheese is produced and packaged by the women in the communities under the formed cooperative. The role of these women in their various communities are highly under-valued. They not only provide physical and emotional support, their contributions feed their families.


Haowa Bello is a handbag enthusiast from north eastern Nigeria. Her passion for human development and capacity building stands as the foundation of her work. She has a background in Economics (Ahmadu Bello University Zaria), Fashion Marketing (Parsons School of Design, New York) and handbag

			<p>construction (Academia Riacci, Florence). In her spare time, she enjoys yoga, cooking and gardening.</p>
7	<p>Joyce KYALEMA</p>		<p>Pumpkin Value Addition Enterprise was started by Joyce Kyalema in 2013 with an aim of organizing vulnerable youth and women in rural areas to find alternative ways of increasing their household income, food security and nutritional values to reduce malnutrition among their children and the surrounding areas. In addition majorities were not educated and believed poverty was inherited and had no hope for tomorrow. Poor mindset of the youth and women who think one who has not attained higher/ formal education cannot get a job or run a business. With all these challenges undressed, with the support of International Labour Organization i implemented a skills building project in pumpkin growing and value addition for youth and women job creation. As a result of the project, youth and women produced plenty of pumpkins and we decided to add value to them. Later i formed a company called Josmak International (U) Ltd to take the project to another level of a business enterprise. It is a legally registered company with the registrar of companies in Uganda, under Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). Josmak provides vulnerable Ugandan youth and young women in rural areas with alternative ways of increasing their household income, food security and family nutrition to reduce malnutrition among their children and reduce unemployment through pumpkin growing and processing. We produce a variety of quality organic pumpkin products that meet national and international market standards which include; Pumpkin porridge, Pumpkin Juice, Pumpkin powder made from leaves and flowers, Pumpkin roasted seeds, Pumpkin seeds powder, pumpkin wine, pumpkin oil, Pumpkin flour which is used to make bread, cakes, cookies, snacks, pumpkin soup, pumpkin tea spices, pumpkin seeds butter among others. We are environmentally conscious and all residues from products are used to make animal feeds and manure for improved agricultural productivity. All these products contain nutritional supplements good for health boosting.</p>

8	Thato Martin STIMELA	 A portrait photograph of Thato Martin Stimela, a Black man with short dark hair, wearing a light-colored collared shirt and a beige blazer. He is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be an office or indoor setting with a window.	<p>Martin is a Programme manager with an MSc in Program Management and an extensive portfolio both in emerging and developed markets. As a highly qualified Transformation manager he has vast experience working in top blue chip organizations, setting up new businesses and delivering successful projects while managing risks and maximizing value.</p> <p>mAgri is a comprehensive mobile application that is transforming the way the farming community interacts and shares agricultural information through cellular (mobile) devices. It provides for the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Advisory services (farming tips, weather updates, early warning, market prices, etc.);2. Access to Markets (buying and selling from own personalized mobile stores);3. Access to Short term Financing (brdging capital and short term loans for farmer);4. Social platform (chat and share best practices with other farmers);5. Farm management (Livestock registration, identification, traceability and management).

9	Noël MULINGANYA		<p>Noel Mulinganya was born in Bukavu, South Kivu, DR Congo on 24 December 1988. He graduated from the Catholic University of Bukavu with a Bachelor of Agronomy in Crop production in June 2012. Impressed by his commitment towards agriculture and his ability to work with farmers, he was awarded a full MSc scholarship by IITA to study Soil Science (Integrated Soil Fertility Management option) at Kenyatta University in Nairobi, Kenya between September 2012 and December 2014. After his Msc in Kenya, Noel returned to DR Congo to supervise final year students in practicals and thesis writing.</p> <p>Noel who is now the coordinator of the IITA Kalambo Youth Agripreneurs (IKYA) in DR Congo tries to engage more youth through training and mentoring of unemployed graduate in agribusiness. He supervises planning, implementation and evaluation of all IKYA activities. In addition, he explores all business ideas and form strategic alliances to expand the various IKYA enterprises.</p> <p>Under his leadership, IKYA has recorded a lot of success with the production of High Quality Cassava Flour which is being exported to Rwanda. Also as a model group in DR Congo, IKYA has trained over 1,000 women and youth on best agronomic practices and processing techniques.</p> <p>Noel’s vision is to scale out the IKYA model through the Young Agripreneurs network acting in synergy with different segments of the value chain. He is convinced that in two years time, the youth center through agribusiness will serve a lot of youth and women groups and indirectly reduce youth unemployment in DR Congo.</p>
10	Sausthène Guy EHUI		<p>I am SAUSTHENE GUY EHUI an agronomist and start-up co-founder ICT4DEV. After my studies in agronomy I decided to use my knowledge to help African farmers and the way chosen to help our farmers are the ICT because I think in a</p>

			<p>world more and more digital, ICT is the best way to produce solutions that will have a better impact.</p> <p>So I joined JEAN-DELMAS EHUI, an expert in ICT for development and with ICT4DEV, we developed solutions (www.gelico.ci , www.virtualmarket.ci , SMS Agri Consultant, market information system) for the happiness of African farmers. Note that the first solution we developed called GELICO is an application of online management of agricultural cooperatives. then the second is the virtual market, the virtual market is a service of relationship between seller and buyers of agricultural products via web sms and mobile application. It is therefore a virtual market where cohabitates offers and demands of agricultural products. This platform allows sellers to post offers while consulting inquiries sent by customers who also come to consult offers.</p> <p>Finally the last service is Agri-advice, this solution allows farmers to receive advice by sms on good agricultural practices, weather and prices of agricultural products. here is a general overview of solutions and our daily activities. Thank you for the attention to carry this mail.</p>
--	--	--	--

11	Sesuur Loveth MILE		<p>Sesuur Loveth MILE was born on the 1st of February 1988 in Gboko Benue State Nigeria. She has a Bachelor in Agriculture from the University of Agriculture, Makurdi Benue State. She is currently the head of production and operations of the IITA Youth Agripreneurs incubation platform in Abuja, with the sole responsibility to supervise all production activities and operations of the group. These activities cut across Fisheries and Livestock, crop production and processing activities along the agricultural value chain.</p> <p>She is presently a co-founder of CAAS Nigeria Limited a business which is to flag up its operations soon. The company will be involved in grain aggregation and supply. This is an attempt to reduce the problem of unavailability of quality grains to meet processing and consumption needs in Nigeria.</p> <p>In 2016, she acquired training in Business Plan Development in IITA Ibadan Nigerian and Agricultural Technical Training Organised by the Chinese Embassy in Abuja Nigeria. In 2017, she also attended training in sorghum seed production and seed entrepreneurship in Kano, Nigeria.</p> <p>Because of her passion and dedication for youth in agribusiness, Sesuur represented the IITA Youth Agripreneurs in the Feed Africa Implementation Engagement workshop (Strategy for Agricultural Transformation in Africa 2016-2025) in Dakar, Senegal, 2016.</p>
12	Evelyn OHANWUSI		<p>Evelyn Ohanwusi is the Interim Head of the Youth in Agribusiness office, a newly institutionalized office at the headquarters of the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), Ibadan.</p> <p>She holds a Bsc in Quantity Surveying from Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Osun state, Nigeria. She began her career as a pioneer and founding member of</p>



the IITA Youth Agripreneurs (IYA) program at IITA Ibadan in 2012 and has since become a strong advocate for youth and women in agribusiness.

IYA is a youth in agribusiness model that was established to address the issue of widespread youth unemployment and to provide a platform that propels youth towards self-employment and job creation in agriculture through training and mentoring. The model has gained recognition and was adopted by the African Development Bank in the implementation of the Pan-African Youth in agribusiness program- the ENABLE Youth. Evelyn is one of the lead contributors to the initial concept note on the Empowering Novel Agribusiness Led Employment for youths (ENABLE-Youth) program.

Building on the experience gathered in IYA and her interaction with other aspiring young people, Evelyn believes that without fore exposure to agriculture, youth can be productively engaged in the sector if provided the right trainings, backstopping, institutional support/mentoring and linkage to finance/other resources. Her effort in ensuring that young people get the opportunity to explore and earn a decent living through agriculture has yielded some remarkable results.

She has led various teams of Agripreneurs in mobilizing resources for carrying out agribusiness related capacity building activities for various categories of youths; she is as well very much involved in the implementation. Many independent agribusiness enterprises spanned off from the trainings and resource mobilization facilitated by Evelyn and her team.