



AGRICORD



CEMA



Youth in agribusiness: Promoting job creation in Africa
*Leveraging Investment and innovations for Africa's youth
and sustainable economic growth*

European Development Days 2017

BIODATA

Alieu Jallow – Founder of the Gambia Young Entrepreneurs Association, EDD Young Leader

As a social entrepreneur from a humble background, Alieu dedicates his life and career to building opportunities for young people like himself. In 2012, he founded the “Young Entrepreneur Association of the Gambia”, and in 2015, he founded the first ever business incubator “Startup Incubator Gambia” which has so far supported 42 start-ups, and created 120 jobs. In 2016, he launched the first Youth Entrepreneurship Summit + Job Fair for young people, which centred on innovation, entrepreneurship, and professional development. With his work, Alieu has provided interactive workshops and networking opportunities to over 400 young entrepreneurs and professionals. He has helped young, jobless people develop their ideas and become successful entrepreneurs who are able to sustain their businesses and provide for their families.

Dalitso Luke Mbewe – Director, Tapera Bio Industries, Zambia

Dalitso Luke Mbewe serves as Deputy Secretary General of the Pan African Youth Union. A keen advocate for the modernisation of agriculture and agribusiness, Dalitso has played a key role in facilitating the participation of young people in the sector, from the levels of policy design to implementation. As National Youth Representative at the Zambia the Youth Development Fund, Director for Partnerships at the Zambia Young Emerging Farmers Association and Director for Business Development at Tapera Industries Ltd, he has his hands full; and quips: "Dirty hands are a sign of honest work done"

Leonard Mizzi – Head of Unit Rural Development, Food Security, Nutrition, Europeaid, European Commission

Leonard Mizzi is a Maltese national, having started working in the Maltese public administration (Office of the Prime Minister in the late 80s) then moving to the Maltese private sector between 1996-2006 where he was the first Director of the Malta Business Bureau in Brussels- the joint office of the Hotels and Restaurants Association and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Malta. Since 2007 he joined the European Commission (DG Agriculture and Rural Development), first dealing with ACP countries and development and then inter-institutional affairs. In 2017, he joined DG DEVCO. Dr. Mizzi is a graduate of the University of Malta, CIHEAM-IAMM (Montpellier) and has a Ph.D from Reading University, UK – with a specialisation in food demand economics. He has been a visiting lecturer at the University of Malta, Open University and Boston University and occasionally College of Europe (Bruges). He is the author of a number of articles, specialising in Euro-Mediterranean issues, Malta-EU relations, agribusiness in island states and agribusiness and SME development.

Christiaan Rebergen – Director General for International Cooperation at Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands

Drs. A.C.C. Rebergen is Director-General International Cooperation at the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Before his positions were, amongst others, Deputy Director-General International Cooperation (2012-2014), Ambassador for the Millennium Development Goals (2010-2012), and Deputy Director Economic Development (2006-2012). He also worked for the Ministry of Finance and the Second Chamber. He has a Master in Economics.

Martin Stimela – Managing Director, Brastorne Enterprises, Botswana

Brastorne Enterprises is a youth owned enterprise that focuses on developing valuable solutions that are relevant in the African market and are targeted at levelling the playing field for the under-served and rural communities. One of those solutions being a USSD based application for farmers called mAgri, which aims to merge mobile technologies with agriculture to help create access to markets and information for farmers and to contribute to a comprehensive eco-system for farmers in Botswana. Martin was the winner of [Pitch AgriHack](#) 2016 which aims at accelerating youth-led e-agriculture entrepreneurship for improved livelihoods and food security unveiled the winners of the 2016 pitching event. Pitch AgriHack 2016 was organized by CTA, in collaboration with the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the support of partners including the Centre for Agricultural Bioscience International (CABI) and mLab East Africa.

Mara Walz - Board member, German National Young Farmer Association (BDL)

Mara Walz is from Vaihingen near Stuttgart, in the South-West of Germany. She is board member of the German National Young Farmer Association (BDL). Her family produces wine, and she serves as elected representative of the wine sector ("Weinkönigin") for 2016/17. In 2016, she participated in AHA's TopKurs, the program for young farmer leaders, preparing them for engagement in the association world.

Info: <http://bit.ly/2rwhsSH>