

INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL VIRTUAL TRADE SUMMIT

5th & 6th October 2022



BEST PRODUCE
INTERNATIONAL (UK) LTD



In association with:



Department for
International Trade

THEME: GLOBAL FOOD CRISIS AND
SUSTAINABLE FUTURE, THE ROLE OF
AFRICA IN SUSTAINABLE
AGRICULTURE / FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN

For inquiries, send email at info@bestproduceuk.com
<http://www.bestbroduceuk.com>
+447961 135 581

BRIEF PROFILE OF THE ORGANISER:



**MRS PATRICIA
OBICHUKWU FRSA
CEO BEST PRODUCE
INTER. UK LTD, AGRI-
MARKET ACCESS AND
QUALITY STANDARDS
SPECIALIST**



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Mrs Patricia Obichukwu FRSA is the MD / CEO of Best Produce International (UK) Ltd. She is the Pioneer, key facilitator / Approved Consultant / Verification Body for GLOBALG.A.P. activities on primary production and International Featured Standards (IFS) for processed foods and value chain in Nigeria.

She specializes in Project Development / Management; Quality Improvement of Agricultural Produce, Supply-Chain Management; Export Promotion, Product Sourcing, Product Design and Packaging, Training and Capacity Development; Needs & Risk Assessment and Management, Health and Social Care Service Development. Patricia has over 29 years' experience in the Food Industry in the UK which includes Fresh Produce, Processed and Cooked Food.

She has over 16 years International Export and Market Access experience in addition to 18 years' experience as a Business Adviser and Trainer across grass root, middle and senior management levels in the areas of Health and Social care service provision; Business start-ups; Agricultural product development, Quality standards, Product Packaging and Export Market Entry Strategy.

She is a full GLOBALG.A.P. registered member for 9 years and has participated in Focus Groups and committees for setting Chain of Custody, Crop for Processing Standards and is currently a Benchmark Committee member.

BRIEF PROFILE OF CO-ORGANISER:



**MS LORNA LO P.
STEWART
CEO | LEAP
CONSORTIUM
INTERNATIONAL TRADE,
BUSINESS DEV.
& FUNDING SPECIALIST
(UK)**



Lorna Lo P Stewart, is the Co-LEAD Consultant and organiser of the International Agriculture Trade Summit.

She is CEO of LEAP Consortium and a multi-award-winning Business, Leadership and Professional Development Consultant with over 25 years' experience across diverse industries.

Lorna is a member of the Institute of Directors and the UK Representative for the G20 Entrepreneurs Alliance, where she contributes towards influencing policies for entrepreneurs within the UK and around the globe.

She specialises in Access to Finance and Funding, Business Sustainability, Peak Personal Performance, International Trade and EDI (Equity, Diversity, Inclusion). Lorna is the founder of The UK Access to Finance & Funding Show.

As a national and international events organiser Lorna has coordinated The Mayor of Lewisham's Launch, Apple Centre Launch (University of the Arts London), Caribbean High Commissions Stock Exchange (Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago, Barbados) and is the Lead Consultant for the E.A.T.O.W Trade Mission to Lagos Nigeria.

For inquiries, send email at
lstewart@leapconsortium.com
<http://www.leapconsortium.com>
+4479402 228200

INTRODUCTION

This 2022 International Agricultural Virtual Trade Summit that took place virtually, on 5th and 6th October 2022, was organised by Best Produce International UK Ltd and LEAP Consortium Ltd in Association with the UK Department for International Trade (UKDIT), Africa group.

The aim of the summit was to explore the great opportunities that African SMEs have in contributing towards addressing the issues of global food crisis and sustainable future for all. The summit was "A CALL TO ACTION" hence the focus was on exploring the current issues, the roles African countries could play, opportunities for SMEs in building sustainable trade relationships between UK/Europe and Africa, possible challenges facing sustainable development and key solutions for addressing any barriers.

The Key Objectives of the Summit were:

- Education and Employment: to Reduce Poverty in Africa through strengthening of SMEs by Knowledge transfer, Education, Employment Creation in Agriculture and building relationships with SMEs in UK / EU.
- Equality and Inclusion of Women & Young people: to Inspire Women and Young People towards Leadership in Agriculture and other related fields.
- Transforming lives: through Fair trading Practices, production of healthy food / lifestyle and total wellbeing (food security and sustainable development)
- Building Effective Partnerships: to create a better more inclusive world and sustainable environment through Good Agricultural Practices.
- Effective Engagement of Young People: in sustainable Future in Agriculture & employment creation.

Key topics covered at the summit included:

- Overview of the current global crisis & UK Government's strategy.
- Crop Breeding, Research & Development to improve yields and disease management.
- Juice Production: Opportunities & Challenges.
- Equality and Inclusion for Women
- Quality Standards and Market Access
- Young People and Sustainable Future
- Investment in Sustainable Agriculture for African SMEs
- Environmental sustainability
- The role of the media in re-branding Africa

The "**Call to Action**" for this Summit was for speakers and panel speakers to:

1. To collectively provide practical solutions for African SMEs in embracing the current opportunities created as a result of global food crisis.
2. To strive towards building stronger communities through effective collaboration and relationship building.

In all, it was two days of exploring and evaluating the critical role Africa could play in leading the recovery process of this global food crisis. There were 56 speakers and panel members with vast industry expertise who contributed to the Summit. These included UK Government Officials, Private sector standard organisations, Auditors, Non-for-profit organisations, UK / EU Buyers / Product distributors, UK Senior Researcher, Juice Industry Experts, SMEs from UK / Africa and 15 young speakers (aged 11 to 35). The contributions of the youths were very vital in talking about sustainable future.

Key Contributors

UK Department of International Trade (Africa Team), Best Produce Int. (UK) Ltd, LEAP Consortium, International Featured Standards (IFS), International Fruit and Vegetable Juice Association (IFU), QLBS, Impact Buying BV, Business Quality Services (BQS), Dalgety Master Tea Blenders, ASDB, Pauline Long Entrepreneurship, ARWA Uganda, National Research Institute Umudike Nigeria, Sub-Sahara Open University, 29 Miles Export (UK), Farm Pride (Nigeria), EUROFIN, Bel Impex NL, IITA West Africa, Institute of Directors (Africa Special Interest Group), Zambia Development Agency, Lesotho Prime Minister's Delivery Team, Waterloo Consulting Services, Duchess Media, Ben TV, Berryman Consulting, other Independent Experts and young people selected across UK, Nigeria, USA, Lesotho, and Switzerland.



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SUMMARY OF THE SUMMIT 2022 SPEAKERS / PANEL MEMBERS' INPUTS

GLOBAL FOOD CRISIS AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURE, THE ROLE OF EMERGING MARKETS SUCH AS AFRICA



MS CHIMWEMWE CHALEMERA
COUNTRY DIRECTOR
UK DEPARTMENT FOR
INTERNATIONAL TRADE
NIGERIA

Chimwemwe Chalemera – as our Keynote speaker from UKDIT, dwelt on some of the causes of Global Food Crisis including wars, low-skilled labour, Covid-19 pandemic and finance. Apart from identifying the difficulties, she also offered solutions e.g. innovations, trade and capacity building.

Her post event testimonial:

“I was honoured to be part of this successful virtual agricultural trade summit. As the Nigeria Country Director for the UK Department for International Trade, I often get asked how Nigerian businesses can trade with the UK. A recurring question has been around how to export agricultural products from Nigeria to the UK so this summit was quite timely.

Best Produce International UK and Leap Consortium team did a fantastic job at bringing together experts to deliver an excellent masterclass, providing a detailed overview of the process, challenges and opportunities when exporting to the UK.

It was clear from the feedback and comments from participants that this summit was long overdue. A big congratulations to all those involved in the organisation and delivery of the summit. I look forward to reading and hearing about the success stories and partnerships that have sprouted from the summit.”

Chimwemwe

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GLOBAL FOOD CRISIS AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURE, THE ROLE UK GOVERNMENT IN EMPOWERING AFRICAN SMES IN SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE / FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN



MR DAVID BURTON
SECTOR DIRECTOR
AGRICULTURE - AFRICA
UK DEPARTMENT FOR
INTERNATIONAL TRADE

David Burton – Keynote Speaker from UKDIT, focused on the Global Food Crisis and role of the UK government in empowering developing countries with emphasis on Africa. He further dwelt in current practices and suggested improvements for the future.

"It was my pleasure to take part. It was a very well organised and useful day".

David Burton

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IMPROVE PRODUCTIVITY, QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE THROUGH R & D / INNOVATION (CROP BREEDING, IMPROVE YIELDS AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT)- SHARING OF GOOD PRACTICE



DR JEMMA TAYLOR
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE
CHAP SOLUTIONS

Dr Jemma Taylor (CHAP UK) looked at improving productivity in Agriculture through Research and Development / Innovation. She explored Innovations including Crop Breeding, Improved Yields, Disease control, cascading and sharing of good practices.

PANEL MEMBERS THAT DWELT ON IMPROVING PRODUCTIVITY, YIELDS AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT FROM DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES

PANEL MEMBERS



DR OSITA ANIEMEKA
PRESIDENT SUB- SAHARA
OPEN UNIVERSITY



DR ATHANASIOS MANDIS
FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR
DE LA TIERRA LTD (UK) /
CHAIR JUICE



JULIUS DEJI AFOLAMI
AGRONOMIST



MR MICHAEL ABBERTON
DIRECTOR OF R4D
IITA WEST AFRICA HUB



DR CHRISTIANA A OKOYE
AGRIBUSINESS
ENTREPRENEURSHIP
DEVELOPMENT
ECONOMIST



SHAMIM W BIRUNGI
SCIENCE OFFICER

'Panel members spoke on an overview of Africa R & D, productivity and yields, smart farming, food security, pest management in sustainable agriculture and precision farming on nature-based solutions'

PANEL MEMBERS THAT FOCUSED ON FRUITS AND VEGETABLES JUICE PRODUCTION IN AFRICA, OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR INTERNAL / EXPORT MARKET

PANEL MEMBERS



MRS AINTZANE ESTURO
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
IFU-FRUIT JUICE
& VEGETABLE JUICE
ASSOCIATION



DR ABDULSALAM
OGBEMUDIA
CEO -NIYYA FOOD AND
DRINKS NIGERIA



MARCEL DUMOULIN
EUROFIN



DR ALFRED JIMIN
NATIONAL VICE
PRESIDENT CITRUS
GROWERS ASSOCIATION
(NIG)



STEPHEN SEMPALA
CEO ASSOCIATION FOR
RURAL WEALTH &
AGRICULTURE (ARWA)
UGANDA



MR SLIM OTHMANI
IFU AFRICA
AMBASSADOR

'As the chair of the panel Mrs Esturo examined the opportunities and challenges of fruits and vegetables' juice production in Africa'

PANEL MEMBERS THAT FOCUSED ON GLOBAL FOOD CRISIS - THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

PANEL MEMBERS



MRS LUCY KANU HOPPER
INDEPENDENT
PRACTITIONER



MRS MAT'SELISO NTHO
BUSINESS CONSULTANT
LESOTHO



MS NORA MULIZA
INDEPENDENT
PRACTITIONER



ABIGAIL SHILLINGFORD
MARKETING STRATEGY
CONSULTANT



TEBOHO MOOROSI
GLOBALG.A.P REGISTERED
TRAINER

'Mrs Kanu - Hopper highlighted the critical Role of Women in Building a Sustainable Future and the need to empower more women into leadership in Agric-sector'

THE CERTIFICATION PATH TO IFS STANDARDS



JOAO STEIN
IFS STANDARD
MANAGEMENT /
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Mr Joao Stein spoke on quality assurance and standards with emphasis on IFS Certification process.

IMPLEMENTING QUALITY SYSTEM AND AUDIT PROCESS FOR CERTIFICATION



MR LEEN KLAASSEN
GERENTE GENERAL
BUSINESS QUALITY
SERVICES

Mr Leen Klaassen dwelt on Quality System and Audit Process for Certification of general crops, with particular focus on stepwise approach for producers in preparing for Audit Certification.

The summit also had input from young Africans in Diaspora and Africa, who have interests in promoting sustainable Agriculture in Africa.

The speakers included:

YOUTH PANEL



MAH
TAH



MIRACLE
EZIHE



BENJAMIN
SABAROCHÉ



CHIOMA
CHUKWUEMEKA



VICTOR
JOSEPH EPELLE



ADAEZE
AGHAJI



CHIAMA
ONYECHESI



TLABA
MOCHEBELELE



KARABO
NTHO



AUDREY
KANU



ORIANA KOKOU-
TCHRI FASSER



VICTOR
PATRICK



SARAH
ONIFADE



ANULIKA
MONYILI

'They focused on the role of young people in bringing solutions towards the current global food crisis and sustainable future'

PANEL MEMBERS FOCUSED ON INVESTMENT IN SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE FOR AFRICAN SMES

PANEL MEMBERS



MRS PATRICIA OBICHUKWU FRSA
MD | CEO BEST PRODUCE INTER. UK LTD,
AGRI-MARKET ACCESS AND
QUALITY STANDARDS SPECIALIST



MS LORNA LO P. STEWART
CEO | LEAP CONSORTIUM
INTERNATIONAL TRADE, BUSINESS DEV.
& FUNDING SPECIALIST (UK)



OMER KOKOU-TCHRI
FOUNDER & CHAIR OF AFRICA
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT BOARD



MR ALBERT HALWAMPA
ACTING DIRECTOR
ZAMBIA DEV AGENCY

'Panel members spoke on Investment and Sustainable Agriculture, with particular emphasis on Accessibility, Challenges and the need to empower African SMEs in building sustainable recovery'

PANEL MEMBERS FOCUSED ON TOOLS FOR ATTRACTING YOUNG PEOPLE INTO AGRICULTURE AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

PANEL MEMBERS



EDITH PARKER FOUNDER
AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OF WATERLOO
CONSULTING LTD



MS LORNA LO P. STEWART
CEO | LEAP CONSORTIUM
INTERNATIONAL TRADE, BUSINESS DEV.
& FUNDING SPECIALIST (UK)



JOEL POPOOLA
CHAIR IOD
AFRICA



CHABA MOKUKU
HEAD OF PRIME
MINISTER'S
DELIVERY UNIT LESOTHO



CHINYERE LUKE
EDUCATIONAL
INSTRUCTOR

'Panel members addressed the issues on attracting young people into Agric-sector. They focused on Education, Modern Technology, and Effective Communication as essential tools for attracting Young People into Agriculture and Sustainable Future'

PANEL MEMBERS FOCUSED ON SUSTAINABLE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT IN AGRICULTURE AND GLOBAL FOOD SYSTEM FOR AFRICAN SMES



MR DAVID BERRYMAN
CONSULTANT

Mr Berryman explored the theme on Sustainable Energy and Environment with particular interest on the impact of climate change, using the Juice Industry as a case study.

PANEL MEMBERS FOCUSED ON TAKING A STRATEGIC APPROACH TO QUALITY ASSURANCE COMPLIANCE THROUGH QUANTUM LEAP DIGITALISATION



MR KEITH PHILLIPS
CEO
QLBS

Mr Keith Phillips dwelt on Digitalisation and Quality Assurance Compliance with emphasis on Quantum Leap Technology for effective management of Certification process

PANEL MEMBERS FOCUSED ON CHANGING NARRATIVES FOR AFRICAN SMES THROUGH QUALITY STANDARDS, FAIR PRICING AND SUSTAINABLE INTERNATIONAL MARKET ACCESS

PANEL MEMBERS



MRS NDIDI NWUNELI
FOUNDER- CHANGING
NARRATIVES / NOURISHING
AFRICA



MARK DALGETY
FOUNDER / CEO
DALGETY TEA CO



MR MARTIN VAN LIER
CEO
BEL IMPEX



IRENE BEERS
KNOWLEDGE
INNOVATION MANAGER
IMPACT BUYING

'Focused on changing narratives for African SMEs through Quality Standards , Fair pricing and Sustainable International Market Access, brought UK and EU buyers perspectives and requirements to the fore. This session enabled the SMEs to hear directly from potential UK / EU buyers / distributors on International market access requirements and expectations.'

PANEL MEMBERS FOCUSED ON THE ROLE OF MEDIA IN PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND FUTURE FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN FOR AFRICA SMES / YOUNG PEOPLE

PANEL MEMBERS



DR CAROLYNE TAH
PRINCIPAL
RESEARCHER



MRS NENA UBANI
CEO
DUCHESS MEDIA



ALISTAIR SOYODE
CEO
BEN TV



SEBONGILE KOLOBE
TV JOURNALIST



PROF. DR PAULINE LONG
H.E AMBASSADOR

'Explored the critical role of the Media in Promoting Sustainable Agriculture and Future Food Supply Chain for African SMEs and Young People'

CONCLUDING REMARKS

The summit was very successful in bringing all the key industry experts together to discuss the challenges and solutions for African SMEs. It was also a call to action for all key stakeholders and Africa SMEs to take advantage of the current situation and maximise the opportunities these created.

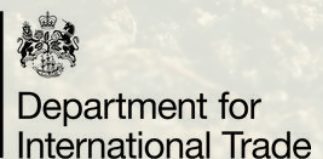
We hope that African leaders in different countries will key into this opportunity and work with Best Produce International (UK) and our stakeholders to build on these opportunities.

We are also calling all the African young people both in the Diaspora and in Africa to join our youth platform.

The organisers, Best Produce International (UK) Ltd and LEAP Consortium (UK) would like to once again say a big thank you to all our speakers and participants for making this trade summit a memorable event.



In association with:



THE WAY FORWARD (POST SUMMIT PLAN)

In line with our Communique created in 2021, Best Produce International (UK Ltd) ascribes to use our wealth of knowledge and expertise as follows:

1. To work in collaboration with our key partners to empower at least 50-100 SMEs from selected African countries to access UK / EU markets. (Training / Capacity Development / Product Placement in UK / EU markets)
2. To increase our internship programme for young people from Africa and provide an enabling platform (Integrated Hub) for cross learning / knowledge sharing between African Youths in Diaspora and in Africa.
3. Promoting African brands in UK / EU in general / mid / upper markets.
4. To strengthen our local partners in Africa through knowledge / technology transfer



OUR PROFESSIONAL NETWORK & PARTNERS



In association with:

