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BEST PRODUCE
INTERNATIONAL (UK) LTD



In association with:



Department for
International Trade

INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL VIRTUAL TRADE SUMMIT 5TH & 6TH OCTOBER 2022

Theme:

Global Food Crisis and Sustainable Future,
the role of Africa in Sustainable
Agriculture / Food Supply Chain

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Presents

**INTERNATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
VIRTUAL TRADE
SUMMIT
5TH & 6TH
OCTOBER 2022**



Organiser

Mrs Patricia Obichukwu FRSA
CEO Best Produce Inter. UK Ltd,
Agri-Market Access and
Quality Standards Specialist

Mrs Patricia Obichukwu FRSA is the 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 in Nigeria. Patricia is an Approved Consultant and Registered Training Centre for International Featured Standards (IFS) on processed foods for West Africa. She is also a Registered Trainer for Rainforest Alliance and an International Fruit Juice Association (IFU) Representative for 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 on Business start-ups; Agricultural product development, Quality standards, Product Packaging and Export Market Entry Strategy. Patricia has participated in GLOBALG.A.P. Focus Groups and committees for setting Chain of Custody, Crop for Processing Standards and is currently a Benchmark Focus Group member.



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 Virtual Trade Summit.

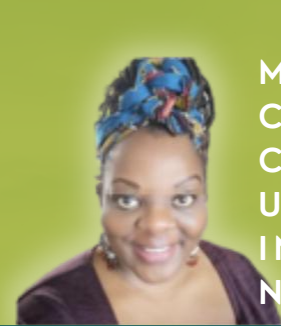
She is CEO of LEAP Consortium and a multi-award-winning Business, Leadership and Professional Development Consultant with over 25 years' experience across diverse industries.

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.





**MS CHIMWEMWE
CHALEMERA**
COUNTRY DIRECTOR
UK DEPARTMENT FOR
INTERNATIONAL TRADE
NIGERIA

Ms Chimwemwe Chalemera is a multiple-award winning Chartered Quantity Surveyor by profession. She is currently the Country Director for the UK Government Department for International Trade in Nigeria and has a wealth of experience covering a multitude of sectors, including agriculture, infrastructure, energy, education, health, commercial & residential, public sector, visitor attractions and heritage to name a few.

In addition to her sector experience, she has worked across several markets for both the private and public sectors in the UK, South Africa, DRC, Malawi, Zambia, Nigeria and Zimbabwe. Chimwemwe speaks several languages including French and is passionate about developing Africa and its markets.



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

David Burton is the UKDIT Sector Director for Agriculture for Africa, based in Pretoria, South Africa. His first career was as a farm business adviser in the UK, specialising in large agri-dairy businesses. He then worked in international development for over 26 years, where he implemented 85 substantive assignments and worked in 50 countries.

During this time, he has spent a total of 7 years resident overseas as Team Leader and has held the position of Project Director on 56 occasions. He has significant operational experience and has held senior Board positions in six development consultancies. He is very experienced in business development and has successfully led teams that have won projects for FCDO (DFID), the EU, ADB, AfDB, IrishAid, World Bank, NEFCO, The Nike Foundation, USAID, Global Affairs Canada, UNDP, MCC, EBRD and the Governments of South Africa, Kenya, Finland and Kazakhstan. He holds a BSc in Agriculture and an MSc in International Development.



MR LEEN KLAASSEN
GERENTE GENERAL
BUSINESS QUALITY
SERVICES

Leen Klaassen, BSc on international land and water management and MBA on integrated quality management, safety and environment, boasts international experience in 43 countries around the world.

The main fields of focus are food safety, hygiene, processes and good agricultural & manufacturing practices amongst others, specifically in the ornamental, agri-food and sugarcane sectors.

As the former chairman for GLOBALG.A.P. national technical working group in Ecuador, he has guided the working group towards the generation of a national interpretation guideline for GLOBALG.A.P. and mediated between the ministry of agriculture and the productive sector on the acceptance of specific chemicals used in the cultivation nationwide.



JOAO STEIN
IFS STANDARD
MANAGEMENT /
BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT

Joao Stein – IFS Senior Technical Manager and IFS Global Markets Program Manager.

Holds a Business Science degree in Agronomic Engineering at the University of São Paulo, with several specializations in Food Safety and Quality Management. Based in Sao Paulo Brazil, has several years of experience working for Retailers and Industry in global supplier, food safety and quality management.

Joao joined IFS (International Featured Standards) in 2019 and currently is responsible for the development program IFS Global Markets and supports market development strategies.



DR JEMMA TAYLOR
RESEARCH
ASSOCIATE -
CHAP SOLUTIONS

Dr Jemma Taylor is Research Associate for New Innovations at Crop Health and Protection (CHAP), where she helps to bring experts together to discuss problems in UK agriculture, to develop new ideas to solve these problems.

Jemma has completed a PhD at the University of Warwick, looking at the breeding of late bolting varieties of leafy crop rocket before taking up post-doc roles in industry and academia involving breeding and genetics in horticulture crops in Europe and Africa.

Now through her role at CHAP, one of the government's agri-tech innovation centres, Jemma is part of a team that strives to push forward technologies that support sustainable crop production, helping to address important global issues such as climate change.



**DR CHRISTIANA A
OKOYE**
AGRIBUSINESS AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP
DEVELOPMENT
ECONOMIST

Okoye, Amala Christiana is an Agribusiness/Entrepreneurship specialist and System Analyst. Research Scientist with Sweet potato Research Programme, National Root Crops Research Institute, Umudike, Nigeria. Her research program spans issues on, agribusiness models and entrepreneurship management, food security, production economics, farm management, agricultural marketing, agricultural extension, gender studies, environmental and resource economics, adoption studies, productivity and efficiency.

Her research works involves critical assessment of the distinction between "quantitative" and "qualitative" research with particular attention to livelihood development and sustainability. Vast in assessment of various techniques of data collection and "fact-finding" instruments such as; interviews, observation and archival studies to locate their potentiality for construction of successful research projects.





DR OSITA ANIEMEKA
PRESIDENT SUB-SAHARA
OPEN UNIVERSITY

Dr Osita Aniemeke is currently, Dean, Central Bank of Nigeria – Vocational and Entrepreneurship Development Centre (CBN - VEDC) and the President, Sub Saharan Open University (SSOU). Before the CBN-VEDC and SSOU, Osita was appointed Program Director for the Central Bank of Nigeria – South East Entrepreneurship Development Centre (CBN - SEEDC) in September 2014 and before then in 2010, he was Fulltime Faculty, School of Management and Social Sciences, Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida (IBB) University, Lapai, Niger State and the Director of the Center for Learning Communities of same University, where his work involved taking the academic community beyond the classroom and broadening university learning experience to a global environment. His job, beyond teaching at the college, included the establishment of the University’s Entrepreneurship and Agropreneurship Programs.



JULIUS DEJI AFOLAMI
AGRONOMIST

Julius Deji Afolami is a young, energetic, calm, seasoned Agronomist, Consultant and professional Agripreneur with ten (10) years’ experience in both Crop and Livestock production. He has been consistently providing comprehensive administrative, operational and managerial support to Agricultural sector in Nigeria and abroad.

He is an author, Organic Agriculture enthusiast, strategic analyst and Public Speaker. A Crop Production graduate from Olabisi Onabanjo University, he obtained a Masters degree in Agronomy from the University of Ibadan in year 2016 and currently a PhD student at Royal Agricultural University Cirencester, UK where he's researching on how to improve soybean production and yield.



PROF MICHAEL
ABBERTON
DIRECTOR OF R4D
IITA WEST AFRICA
HUB

Prof Michael Abberton is currently Director of R4D in West Africa, Head of the Genetic Resources Centre and Head of Biosciences Centre at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), based in Ibadan, Nigeria. He joined IITA in 2012. Previously he was Professor of Public Good Plant Breeding at the Institute of Biological, Environmental and Rural Sciences (IBERS), University of Aberystwyth, UK.

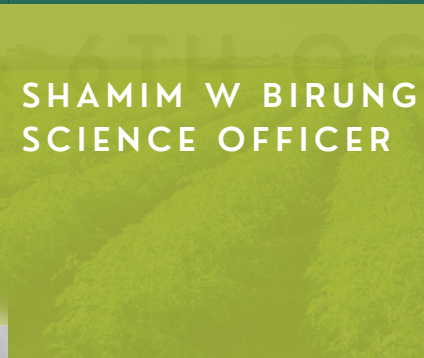
He was also Head of Plant Breeding and Genetics at IBERS and for many years worked on the breeding and genetics of forage legumes at the Institute of Grassland and Environmental Research (IGER), Aberystwyth. His work has contributed to a number of commercially successful varieties as well as numerous papers and presentations



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

Dr Athanasios Mandis graduated in Tropical Agricultural Engineering and has had a two decade career in the food and drink sector. The initial decade was working for UK importers supplying fresh produce to the UK and continental retail sector.

Atha was a technologist for Innocent drinks, responsible for the citrus and tropical portfolio. In addition to quality improvements and cost optimisation, two mango sustainability projects were instigated in India, one on pesticide reduction and improved yields with Alphonso mango, the other improving economic resilience and income diversity with tribal communities in the Gujarat.



SHAMIM W BIRUNGI
SCIENCE OFFICER

Shamim Warugaba Birungi has MSc Food Science and Technology – Makerere University. She has Four years experience as a Science Officer – Biosciences and Bioeconomy at the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation. Before then she participated in 3 Agricultural Research projects in Eastern Uganda.



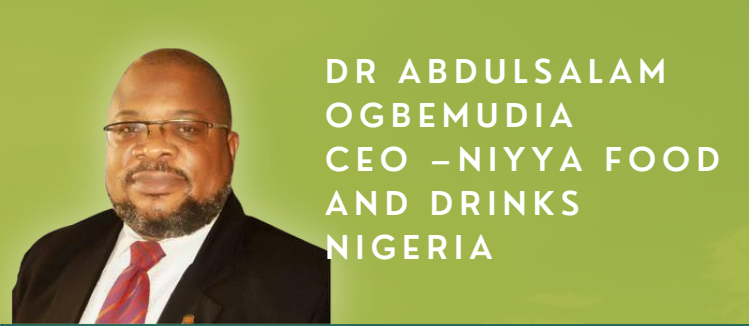
DR CAROLYNE TAH
PRINCIPAL
RESEARCHER

Dr Carolynne Tah has worked in various capacities across local and central government. She is currently coordinating voluntary work to develop support for vulnerable communities in Cameroon to become self-sufficient and maximise their full potential in society.

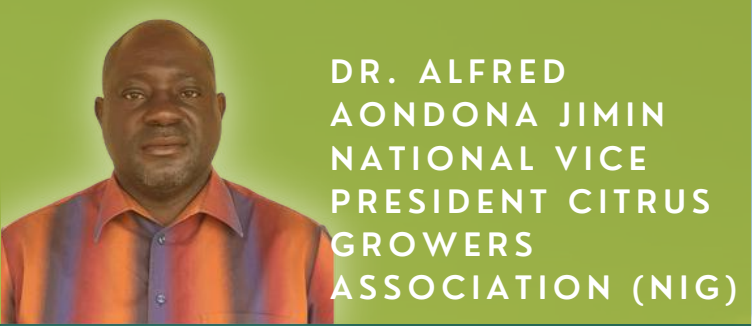




MRS AINTZANE ESTURO
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
IFU-FRUIT JUICE
INTERNATIONAL FRUIT
& VEGETABLE JUICE
ASSOCIATION (AFRICA)



DR ABDULSALAM
OGBEMUDIA
CEO – NIYYA FOOD
AND DRINKS
NIGERIA



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

Ms. Aintzane Esturo, MSc, MBA, PMP is Technical Director at the International Fruit and Vegetable Juice Association (IFU), the exclusive representative of the juice industry at global level that develops, with experts from all over the world, methods of analysis accepted worldwide as reference.

She also collaborates as independent expert in sustainability and juice supply chain for institutions such as the European Union and the EIT Food. Aintzane has international work experience: Technical Manager at SGF e.V. (Germany), responsible for the certification programs for juice safety, quality, authenticity and sustainability in South America, North America and Western Europe; Secretary General of the European Quality Control System (Belgium) for harmonisation of national juice control systems in Europe; Technical Secretary of the juice quality control association AEAZN (Spain); Project Manager at AZTI (Spain) developing R&D projects for the food industry; Quality Assurance Head at Pepsico’s snack production plant (Spain).

Dr. Abdulsalam E. Ogbemudia is a great business leader on all sides. He is Management Professional with specialization in Food and Agro-allied Manufacturing Operations and Corporate Governance. Dr. Abdulsalam Erenwan Ogbemudia is a professional who is driven by the desire to serve and has continuously shown strong commitment to corporate and national development.

He has exhibited these qualities in several topflight multinational organizations where he has worked for a period spanning over 25 years. Abdulsalam Ogbemudia is currently the CEO of Niyya Foods and Drinks Company Limited, a subsidiary of the parent company, Niyya Farm Group Limited (NFGL). Abdulsalam Ogbemudia holds a Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) in Business Management from the Swiss School of Business and Management, Geneva, Switzerland.

Dr. Alfred Aondona Jimin is currently the National Vice President, (North Central), National Citrus Growers Processors and Marketers Association of Nigeria, obtained his first degree in Crop Science at the prestigious University of Calabar.

His quest for further excellence led him to Federal University of Agriculture, Makurdi, where he bagged Masters and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D), degrees respectively, in Crop and Environmental Protection and Weed Science. Dr. Jimin also, is currently a Researcher and Lecturer in the Department of Crop and Environmental Protection, J. S. Tarka University.

As an avid and prolific researcher, he has several scholarly publications in both National and International reputable Journals across the globe.



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



MRS MAT'SELISO
NTHO
BUSINESS
CONSULTANT -
LESOTHO



MS NORA MULIZA
INDEPENDENT
PRACTITIONER

Bishop Stephen Joseph Sempala is the CEO Association For Rural Wealth and Agriculture (ARWA) for 6 years. In addition, he is the MD of Helium clouds Uganda running the three Apps (TeleAfya, TeleSomo & TeleAgrea). He is also the Proprietor of Prince Joseph Academy Namagunga.

Mrs Mat'seliso Ntho is a Financial Accountant by profession and passionate about entrepreneurship, cooperatives and women empowerment initiatives. Her business passion developed earlier during her primary school years; expressed in selling sweets and saving for her school needs and sharing with other needy learners at school. She is a co-founder and head of Business Economic Forum/Cooperative Lesotho. An initiative aimed at creating and supporting small businesses for the rural communities. She holds a Certificate in General accounting and is certified under the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and the International Auditing Standards (IAS) under Lesotho Institute of Accountants.

Nora Muliza is an alternative health practitioner and farm owner. She practices integrated farming and is keen on the role of women in international farming and global food sustainability



ABIGAIL SHILLINGFORD
MARKETING STRATEGY
CONSULTANT

Abigail Shillingford, is a Marketing Strategy Consultant based in the UK. She holds a Ba (Hons) in Marketing & Advertising and a Masters in Law.

She is the founder of 29 Miles Export, a consultancy which is on a quest to help smallholder farmers and agribusinesses in Dominica (i.e. the Nature Island of the Caribbean), to identify agricultural opportunities, enter new markets and build profitable businesses. Her experience and expertise is a powerhouse to her clients as they strategise to create a dominant position in food security and build resilience to self-sustainability.



MRS LUCY KANU-HOPPER
INDEPENDENT
PRACTITIONER

Lucy Kanu Hopper is a seasoned executive with an innovative mindset built on over 25 years of experience straddling the worlds of community development, non-profit management, and business. Lucy has a commendable track record as a visionary and thought leader responsible for advancing the strategic direction of a multiplicity of development initiatives.

Lucy is a gender balance advocate with board experience including serving for five years as a Jury member and Sub-Saharan Africa Jury President for the Cartier Women's Initiative Awards and the Women's Forum on the Economy (Deauville), Regional Board of ICCO Cooperation. She holds a Master of Science Degree in Management & Leadership and a Bachelor's in Business Management. She is also a social entrepreneur, an Ashoka Fellow, and Commonwealth Fellow.



TEBOHO MOOROSI
GLOBAL.G.A.P
REGISTERED TRAINER

A seasoned technical and extension service provider in Fruit Production and member of the SMME Support Network-Lesotho. Teboho has 15 years experience working with fruits and vegetables farmers including the first commercial deciduous orchards certified under GLOBAL.G.A.P in Lesotho. She has 17 years of experience as a Trainer of Trainers, extension and advisory service provider also developing the National Horticulture Programmes and facilitating linkages amongst the Horticultural Sector Stakeholders.

Teboho has enjoyed the privilege of facilitating the establishment of the Grievance Redress Mechanism Committees (GRMs) seeking to identify, assess and address complaints on projects consistent with Good International Practices and the World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework

MR KEITH PHILLIPS
CEO
QLBS



Keith Phillips is an accomplished International Business innovator. He grew up in Zimbabwe and obtained a Business Degree at the University of Cape Town. He began his career with Unilever as a Brand manager of Foods. He went on to be Marketing Manager of Gillette Africa before going on to hold senior executive positions with Apple in the UK and USA.

He now has his own company, 'QuantumLeap beyond Spreadsheets' (QLBS). QLBS has developed a software platform that enables capability building in small businesses and farms. QLBS has run programs across the Pacific Island nations and throughout Australia and New Zealand. QLBS was authorised as the first software partner of GLOBAL G.A.P to help with the Certification of producers in good agricultural practice.

MR ALBERT HALWAMPA
ACTING DIRECTOR
ZAMBIA DEV
AGENCY



Mr Albert Halwampa is currently the Acting Director General for the Zambia Development Agency and a Chevening Scholar with vast experience in International Trade and Investment. He has led teams in promotion and facilitation, investment and trade in regional and international markets. He has participated in Bilateral and Multilateral Trade Negotiations that include SADC, COMESA, COMESA-SADC-EAC TFTA, AGOA, EU, African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), Middle East and Chinese Market, Angola and Democratic Republic of Congo. Mr Halwampa has worked over the years to develop export strategies for both the public and private sector. He sits on the Board of Zambia Export Development Fund, Investment Committee of the ZCCM-IH Board, and Market Transactions Committee of the Securities and Exchange Commission Board. He has been instrumental in organising conferences for Afreximbank, International Trade Centre, World Bank, and Intra African Trade Fair under the African Union.

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



Omer KOKOU-TCHRI is a former councillor, in Surrey, and the Founder & Chair of Africa Sustainable Development Board. With an African background and a vision and hope to trigger African sustainable development international and diplomatic thought-provoking talk, he believes that not only soft individuals, but everyone, needs to be included in subject discussions so that we can look at them from new angles, talk about the difficult realities and find possible remedies to benefit all.

Although one of his greatest achievements is founding African Sustainable Development Board, something which was started as a project around 2010, the journey that has led to the UK Section of ASDB GROUP UK LIMITED and developing international ambassadors' programs has been quite interesting. ASDB is a private club of experts, organisations and friends that are dedicated to the sustainable development of Africa for a win-win, collaborative approach.



**MR DAVID BERRYMAN
CONSULTANT**

David Berryman began his career as a biologist in pharmaceutical research with the British Company ICI, (which later became AstraZeneca), before going into trading of pharmaceutical compounds. In 1988 he founded the fruit juice company David Berryman Limited (DBL), which specialised in non-citrus juices and their derivatives. In 1997 he opened the first juice blending plant in UK. Within four years, the company was providing up to 30% of the UK's AJC in its own small fleet of road tankers. It was during this period that juice authenticity and traceability became paramount. By assembling a dedicated and well-trained team, DBL soon became an important provider of new ideas, formulations and, indeed, new fruit juices to the market. The company was sold in 2020 to the UK company THG. David continues to be very active in the food business, he serves as a committee member of The British Fruit Juice Association, Chair of the IFU Working Group on Sustainability, a member of BBIA (Bio-Based and Biodegradable Industries Association) and a trustee of a food recovery charity.



**EDITH PARKER
FOUNDER AND
EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR OF
WATERLOO
CONSULTING LTD**

Edith Parker, ACMA is the Founder and Executive Director of Waterloo Consulting Ltd, specialists in governance, digital transformation, risk management, strategic planning and financial management for the UK's international charities, grant-making and housing & social care sectors.

She is also the Chair of The Marr Manning Trust - an independent grant making organisation in UK tackling poverty by supporting marginalised communities in the Indian sub-continent, Sub Saharan Africa and Southeast Asia. In 2009, she co-founded and led key international negotiations for the establishment of the 5th Street Paper in Africa, Big Issue Malawi.



**MRS NDIDI NWUNELI
FOUNDER- CHANGING
NARRATIVES /
NOURISHING AFRICA**

Ndidi Okonkwo Nwuneli is an expert on social innovation, agriculture and nutrition, entrepreneurship, and youth development, with over 25 years of international development experience.

She is the founder of LEAP Africa, Nourishing Africa, and Changing Narratives Africa. She is also the co-founder of Sahel Consulting Agriculture & Nutrition Ltd and AACE Foods.

She sits on the Board of the Rockefeller Foundation, the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition, and AGRA.

Ndidi is the author of "Food Entrepreneurs in Africa: Scaling Resilient Agriculture Businesses" and "Social Innovation in Africa, a practical guide for scaling impact."

**CHABA MOKUKU
HEAD OF PRIME
MINISTER'S
DELIVERY UNIT
LESOTHO**



Mr. Chaba Mokuku is currently the Head of the Project Management Unit for the World Bank financed Second Lesotho Private Sector Competitiveness and Economic Diversification Project and the African Development Bank financed Economic Diversification Project. Both projects are designed to improve private sector investment in Lesotho, by improving investment climate; supporting economic diversification; and strengthening entrepreneurship ecosystem in the country with the ultimate aim of creating employment and eradicating poverty in Lesotho. Mr. Mokuku is also the Head of the Prime Minister's Unit which serves as Secretariat to the Cabinet Sub-Committee on Investment Climate and Economic Reforms as well as a debottlenecking mechanism for viable private sector investment projects.

**JOEL POPOOLA
CHAIR IOD
AFRICA**



Joel Popoola is the Chair, The Institute of Directors, Africa Special Interest Group, an IoD Ambassador North East, a passionate digital democracy campaigner and the founder of Rate Your Leader - digital democracy app.

Joel's sterling track record cutting across two financial institutions, (United Bank for Africa & Access Bank) honed his over 18 years professional skills and grounded him distinguishing leadership roles with excellent service delivery in banking operations, branch management, relationship management, business development, risk management among others.

A full member of Chatham House, International Institute of Strategic Studies, and a friend to Radix Big Tent, he also holds a master's degree in Managerial Psychology, and Business Analytics: Decision Making Using Data from Cambridge Judge Business School.

**CHINYERE
LUKE
EDUCATIONAL
INSTRUCTOR**



Miss Chinyere Luke is 26 years old and lives in Nigerian. She is an Educational Instructor and her desire is to see the youth take over the Agricultural sector with the help of modern technologies thereby contributing to the consistent supply to agricultural food demands.



MARK DALGETY
FOUNDER / CEO
DALGETY TEA CO

Dalgety Teas is the largest black owned Tea company in Europe . His journey started 25 years ago in his yard in Georgetown, Guyana where he began to dry and package Corilla, also known as Cerassie Bush.

Using his Chemical Engineering Degree technological skills he applied tea bagging technology to what West Indians called Bush Tea. Today his company, Dalgety Teas, has over 30 variants in Herbal Teas. The teas can be found in the UK top supermarket chains; Tesco, Sainsbury and Asda and export into numerous Europe countries , South Korea, USA and Africa.

His latest venture to hit major global market in 2020/2021 was the commissioning of Dalgety distribution hub in Ghana to begin market penetration of the Africa continent with its 1.5 Billion inhabitants. Mark Dalgety is also the founder of Black Entrepreneurs International Association.



MRS NENA UBANI
(DUCHESS NENA)
CEO
VEGAN MELANATED
PUBLISHERS

Nena Ubani (a.k.a Duchess Nena) is a UK-based Vegan Chef, Editor of Vegan Melanated magazine and Founder of Uziiza.com, the 1st UK's online African vegan store. She is also an author with 3 books under her belt.

Her textbook, Plant-based Food and Nutrition Guideline for schools, is currently part of the syllabus in schools in Nigeria. She is an activist who uses her voice and platform to educate about the benefits of the plant-based lifestyle.

Over the years, Nena has received numerous awards/nominations for her work in the community as well as her work in the media. She was a popular voice on Voice of Africa Radio as a co-host on The Woman2Woman show. She later had her own talk show, Tea with the Duchess. During her career she has had the opportunity to interview many leading African and international names including Stevie Wonder.



MARJAN DE BOCK-SMIT
FOUNDER IMPACT
BUYING

Marjan De Bock Smit is the Founder and Managing Partner to Impact Buying BV. The procurement department plays a key role in financial and sustainable supply chain results. The true sustainability picture of a the company is reflected in what and how they buy.

The fact is that category managers and buyers who negotiate with suppliers are steered and incentivised on financial KPIs and lack knowledge when it comes to sustainability and what is expected from them. Impact Buying solves this disconnect between sustainability goals and procurement practices and supports deep-dives on product groups to let companies understand where the options are to make a proven positive impact.



MR MARTIN VAN LIER
CEO
BEL IMPEX

Martin van Lier, 56 years old and CEO at Bel Impex. Working in the fresh produce sector for decades, of which the last 20 years in the fruit and vegetable sector. Bel Impex specialises in fresh exotic fruit and vegetables, with its own import lines from Central/South America, Asia and Africa. Our sales market is located on the European mainland and our focus is on the retail channel.

70% of the sales of fruit and vegetables go through the supermarket channel and demand from us as a specialist for delivery reliability, top quality and to meet this we work with partners who meet the requirements of retailers. Certificates from Global Gap and Smeta/Grasp are prerequisites.



SEBONGILE KOLOBE
TV JOURNALIST

Ms Sebongile Kolobe - Lesotho TV Journalist Sebongile Kolobe is a broadcast Journalist, serving Lesotho TV. She has a wealth of experience in journalism with 5 years experience in the field. Her broad experience applies in Live Reporting, News Gathering, Features and Documentary Storytelling.

Ms Kolobe is the winner of the Industry Award of Excellence from the Faculty of Media, Film and Communication at Limkokwing University of Creative Technology. AU_CIEFFA Lesotho Champion . She is also an aspiring Agriculture Reporter.



ALISTAIR SOYODE
CEO
BEN TV

Dr Alistair Soyode - CEO BEN TV - Mentoring Cmdt Alistair Soyode, FCPA (Is an Entrepreneur, Community Leader, Mentoring Coach, Leadership & Management Expert & Media Broadcasting Specialist/Professional)

Globally known as the Founder and Chairman - Europe's First Ethnic Satellite Media Channel - BEN Television and former President Nigerians in Diaspora Organisation (NIDOE) Commandant, International Mentoring Corp.



PROF. DR
PAULINE LONG
H.E AMBASSADOR



IRENE BEERS
KNOWLEDGE
INNOVATION
MANAGER
IMPACT BUYING

H.E Ambassador Prof. Dr Pauline Long is a AUGP NOBEL PEACE PRIZE recipient. She has been honoured with The Presidential Life Achievement Award by the President of America H.E Joe Biden for her great leadership and service to humanity. She is a multi-award winning serial entrepreneur, serial philanthropist, media mogul, public speaker, author, peace activist, mentor, TV/film producer and presenter who has been listed on Black Women In Europe Powerlist, named the most outstanding woman of the year (2016) and Europe's most powerful woman for changing many lives through BEFFTA(2017).

She is a global ambassador for Universal Peace Federation (UPF) and Governor at Academy Of Universal Global Peace based in New York. She is the owner and founder of Europe's biggest award ceremony for black and ethnic personalities in showbiz and leadership - BEFFTA where she has transformed thousands of lives.

Irene Beers is Knowledge Innovation Manager and a senior consultant at ImpactBuying in the Netherlands. ImpactBuying data management solutions and services focus on delivering support for impact management in complex international value chains, with the ultimate aim to achieve supply chain transformation for sustainable development.

Irene develops services in the area of supply chain data management and assurance, sustainability due diligence and risk assessment. She has implemented practical solutions for supply chain assessment and reporting for corporate and non-profit organizations, and multi-stakeholder initiatives in various sectors. Before joining ImpactBuying in 2012 Irene worked in financial and scientific publishing. She studied at Nijenrode Business University and Leiden University and holds an MBA degree.



BEST PRODUCE
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YOUTH PANEL



MAH TAH

Mah Tah, age: 28, graduated with a degree in Maths and Masters in Data Science. She is now working as a Data Scientist at Apple.



MIRACLE EZIHE

Miracle Ezihe is a Graduate of Pentecost University College, Ghana. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Information Technology. She is a Graphic Designer & An Event Planner and would like the opportunity to make a great difference for other Young people in Nigeria. She is interested in becoming a successful business woman. Miracle is one of the Interns with Best Produce International UK Ltd that are being mentored in the area of Agribusiness opportunities.



BENJAMIN SABAROCHÉ

Benjamin Sabaroche is an 11 year-old who enjoys sporting activities and writing stories in his spare time. He became an author of a book called "Elisha and the Tale of Two Weddings" at the age of 8. Benjamin lives in England with his family and has great interest on the issue of the global food crisis as he sees it as an opportunity for young people to engage in wider discussion and also be able to influence worldwide crisis issues.

CHIOMA CHUKWUEMEKA



VICTOR JOSEPH EPELLE



ADAEZE AGHAJI



Mrs Chioma Chukwuemeka is 31 year old mother of 2, a fashion designer and nutritionist. She graduated with Home Science and Nutrition degree from the University of Nigeria Nsukka. She is one of the interns at Best Produce International UK Ltd. She is seeking for opportunity to make a difference in her community.

Mr Victor Joseph Epelle is 33 yrs old and holds a B.Ed in Education/Business Studies and M.Ed. Educational Management. He is based in Nigeria and is currently a Phd Research student. Joseph is one of the Best Produce International UK Ltd Interns who is going through the mentoring programme and seeking international connections in primary research in Agric-Education.

Daze Aghaji is a London based Youth Climate Justice Activist who centres on Regenerative Cultures, Intersectionality, Radical Social Justice and Youth Political Engagement in her work. Described by The Guardian as "a ball of energy, conviction and warmth", Daze's advocacy for racial systemic change has led her to work with many leading charities, institutions, governments and grassroots change-makers globally. In 2019, she became the youngest candidate to stand in the European Parliamentary election under the banner of a Climate and Ecological Emergency Independent. Daze is currently the Creative Director at Earthrise Studio, a creative agency dedicated to communicating the climate crisis as well as an Artist in Residence at Phytology, the Bethnal Green Nature Reserve.



TLABA MOCHEBELELE



ANULIKA MONYILI



AUDREY KANU

Tlaba Mochebelele is upcoming young Lesotho farmer aged 30. He developed the passion in agriculture at early stage because he was raised in a family that was surviving through farming. He holds a Diploma in Agricultural Education from Lesotho College of Education and is currently pursuing a Degree at the National University of Lesotho for BSc Agric (Animal Science). He was driven by his passion and interests to start up an agric business (a farm) named Phokeng Farms that has been registered since 2018

Miss Anulika Monyili, is a 22 year old student of University of Nigeria (Nsukka). Studying Biology as a discipline. She is from Anambra state, Nigeria. She enjoys working as part of a great team and loves challenges that will yield positive results. She is seeking to further develop her in-depth knowledge in the area of agribusiness. She is one of the interns with Best Produce International UK Ltd and would love the opportunity to expand her horizon and interact with international organisations.

Audrey Kanu is a junior at STMA High school in the United States. She is aspiring to be chiropractic and ultimately pursue an advanced degree in osteopathy. She won District and Regional Spelling Bee Champion and represented her district in debate and educational discourse spaces. She is a 2022 Scholastics Art and Writing Gold and Silver Key recipient and an American Vision Award Nominee. Her other areas of interest include matters related to African Diaspora and Human Rights/Justice.

VICTOR PATRICK



ORIANA KOKOU-TCHRI FASSER



SARAH ONIFADE



Victor Okechukwu Patrick is a 29 years old Social Media Content Facilitator (Intern) of Best Produce International (UK). He holds a Masters in Education (M.Ed) Degree in Adult Education and Community Studies. Victor has proven leadership and management skills, and can work with minimal supervision. He has been a classroom teacher for four years with productive results. Victor is now seeking opportunity for investors to enable him engage in Agriculture where he hopes to impact positively and contribute towards sustainable future.

Oriana Kokou-Tchri Fasser has just completed her second year at University of Loughborough, in the UK. She is studying Economics and Management with the career aspirations of taking her natural love for Business Management to benefiting the youth. She has volunteered on numerous youth programs within the UK as well as working with her father on multiple projects in Africa to aid African youth.

Sarah Onifade is a 2nd year student of International Relations at the London School of Economics. She is a British-born Nigerian. She is extremely passionate about advocating for the role of the diaspora in promoting African interests. She is the former co-president of the African Caribbean society at Woodhouse College London and the current Co-Creative Officer of the London School of Economics Student Unions' African Caribbean society.



CHIAMAKA ONYECHESES



KARABO NTHO

Chiamaka is a certified agricultural extension worker with Bachelor of Agriculture degree in Agricultural Extension from University of Nigeria, Nsukka. She is the only female child in the family of three. She loves skipping and her hobbies are cooking, reading, travelling, making new friends, & hair styling. Chiamaka believes that research unlocks the unknowns and would like to pursue that in order to explore the world from different perspectives, and fuels a deeper understanding of real life situations.

She has worked as an intern at a Research and teaching farm during her penultimate year of her undergraduate education which exposed her to practical experience in crop and livestock production. In addition to her practical agricultural experience, she is currently one of the interns at Best Produce International UK Ltd. She is seeking the opportunity to make a visible impact within the Agric Sector and in addressing the issue of Food insecurity in Nigeria.

Karabo Ntho is a 16 years old Mosotho youth pursuing an AS program at Sophia International School in Butha-Buthe-Lesotho. He has aspirations to join the farming communities in Lesotho to make sure that food is available, accessible and affordable to all people of his country. His passion as a young person is to see agriculture is made appealing to young people in terms of technological relevance needed for job creation.



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