

Regional Youth Employment Forum 2019
“Learning from Innovations in Youth Employment”
November 13-14, 2019 | Location: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Speakers' Bios

Abla Safir, World Bank, Kenya:



Abla Safir is a Senior Economist in the World Bank Social Protection and Jobs Global Practice, currently based in Kenya, where she leads a large project on youth employment and job creation. Abla has conducted analytical and operational work on labor, migration, skills, social protection, and service delivery, mainly in Europe and Central Asia and in North Africa. She was a core team member of the 2017 World Development Report “Governance and the Law”. She holds a PhD in Economics from the Paris School of Economics and M.A. degrees from HEC Business School and ENSAE School of Economics and Statistics.

Adam Grunewald, Lynk, Kenya:



Adam is the co-founder and CEO of Lynk, a Nairobi based technology platform offering the infrastructure needed for informal sector workers to succeed in the gig economy. Lynk provides consistent income and career growth to thousands of informal sector workers each month and has quickly grown into one of the continents largest service marketplaces. Starting his career at Google, Adam gained important experience in product management, marketing, and design. At the end of 2015 he founded Lynk and has been following his passion ever since.

Akshay Kashyap, National Skill Development Corporation, India:



With National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), a unique Public-Private-Partnership institution addressing a critical challenge – skills and jobs, Akshay has been instrumental in design and delivery of PMKVY, the largest human resource development program in the world. Providing access to industry-oriented short-term VET programs to 10 million youth in four years, the program has trained 2.4 million youth including two million dropouts, one million women and four hundred thousand socially marginalized individuals, in 300+ courses across 650 districts of India.

Alemayehu Konde Koira, Mastercard Foundation, Ethiopia:



Alemayehu is the Mastercard Foundation Country Head in Ethiopia. With more than 20 years' experience within the international development field, Alemayehu previously served as Mastercard Foundation Country Representative in Rwanda, where he led the development and execution of programs to address the challenge of youth employment, including the Hanga Ahazaza ('Create the Future') and Leaders in Teaching initiatives. Alemayehu holds a BSc. from the Alemaya University of Agriculture in Ethiopia and an MSc. in Agriculture Economics from Reading University, UK.

Andrea Vermehren, World Bank, Ethiopia:

Andrea Vermehren is a Lead Social Protection Specialist at the World Bank, presently based in Addis Ababa and coordinating the Social Protection and Jobs work in Ethiopia, Sudan, South Sudan and Eritrea. Besides being responsible for the ongoing Urban Productive Safety Net Program, she is leading the preparation of the new Urban Safety Net and Jobs Project which is expected to include significant financing for Youth Employment. At the World Bank since 1999, she has led policy, operational and analytical work in Latin America, South Asia and Africa focusing on building Social Protection Systems. Andrea studied Economics at the Universities of Tübingen and Hamburg and did her post-graduate studies in Development Economics at the German Institute for Development Studies (DIE) in Berlin.

Asma Ennaifer, Orange, Tunisia:

After a ten years' experience in communication and public relations, mainly within Tunisair in France and Tunisia, Asma joined Orange Tunisia to take in charge and to develop the external communication media relations, innovation and corporate social responsibility. In the past 9 years, she made the Tunisian operator one of the leaders of CSR in the region by structuring and developing the Orange Digital Center and other initiatives that aim to anchor digital culture to children, to train young people and to support innovative startups, as well as to strengthen the socio-economic empowerment and entrepreneurial abilities of girls and women.

Cheick-Oumar Sylla, International Finance Corporation (IFC), Ethiopia:

Mr. Sylla is Country Manager for Eritrea, Djibouti, Sudan, and South Sudan. With more than 30 years' experience, Cheick-Oumar held leadership positions in a range of different industries in Africa and Europe. Most recently, he served as Executive Vice President Business Development Africa at ContourGlobal. Cheick-Oumar Sylla is a graduate of École des Hautes Études Commerciales (HEC) in Montréal, Canada. He is also a member of the Institute of Directors (IoD).

Chema Triki, Jobs Creation Commission, Ethiopia:

Chema Triki is working as an Advisor at Tony Blair Institute for Global Change, embedded within the Jobs Creation Commission as an Advisor to the Commissioner, and has been leading the development of the Plan of Action for Job Creation in Ethiopia. She worked before on Private Sector Development in the MENA region at the OECD and contributed to different research and studies on employment and investment in North Africa. She has also worked for several years in management consulting in financial services. She is an Engineer in Applied Mathematics and holds a Master of Public Administration from Sciences Po Paris and London School of Economics, with Economic Policy as a major.

Constantine Obuya, The African Centre for Women, Information and Communications Technology, Kenya:



Ms. Obuya is the founding Executive Director of The African Centre for Women, Information and Communications Technology (ACWICT), a not for profit Kenya based ICT for Development organization whose mission is to promote youth and women's access to ICTs as tools for sustainable development. Constantine has played a key role in design, management and implementation of over 15 women and youth employability programs that have reached and impacted over 170,000 young people in Kenya with digital, vocational and soft skills for employment; and connected about 70% of them to internships/jobs and business opportunities.

Elena Georgalla, Africa's Voices, Kenya:



Elena has five years' experience working on DFID, World Bank and USAID projects in the fields of governance and education. Prior to joining Africa's Voices, Elena worked for Cambridge Education (Mott MacDonald) in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, and Tanzania. In 2015, she launched the Work Readiness Program, an initiative funded by the J.P. Morgan Chase Foundation to support underprivileged students at Birkbeck College, University of London to find meaningful careers after graduation. She holds a MPhil in Development Studies from the University of Cambridge and a MA (Hons) in International Relations and Social Anthropology from the University of St Andrews.

Eliana Carolina Rubiano Matulevich, World Bank, Washington DC:



Eliana Rubiano-Matulevich is currently the focal point for gender equality in Human Development sectors at the World Bank. Eliana has more than ten years of experience working on operations and research activities in Latin America, South Asia and Africa. Her main areas of interest and expertise include education, gender equality and forced displacement. She has published articles in refereed journals and co-led reports on these topics. Eliana holds Master's degrees from Columbia University in the City of New York and from Universidad Javeriana (Bogota). She is a PhD Research Fellow at the School of Governance of Maastricht University.

Felipe Miguez, Anima, Uruguay:



In 2017 Juan Felipe Miguez decided to change the course of his career from working in the private financial sector when he came across ANIMA, an innovative quality apprenticeship program that contributes to the challenge of youth employment. Along these years, he has helped develop a pool of more than 65 companies that are working on the first quality apprenticeship program in Uruguay, helping low-income youth to acquire the proper skills needed to achieve quality jobs and to foster their personal and human development. Felipe holds a degree in Economics for Universidad de la Republica, Uruguay, and is working on his master's thesis on skill gaps.

Ghada Khalifa, Microsoft Philanthropies, Microsoft (MENA)

Ghada Khalifa is the Director for Middle East and Africa, Microsoft Philanthropies – a role she acquired in July 2016 after a 19-year tenure at Microsoft. She credits her long stint with the company to the ongoing opportunities she has to create change and make an impact on the lives of people who are underserved and underprivileged. Ghada’s main areas of expertise include: planning and building programs for skills development and employability; building public private partnerships; developing strategic plans; and has also been instrumental in initiating several best practices. Ghada holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Ain Shams University.

Heather Oh, Technoserve, Ethiopia:

Heather Oh serves as the Deputy Country Director, Ethiopia for TechnoServe, a US-based non-profit organization that promotes business solutions to poverty by working with enterprising people in the developing world to build competitive farms, businesses and industries (www.technoserve.org). She currently leads implementation of a portfolio of projects in Ethiopia, including TechnoServe’s contribution to the *Livelihood Improvements for Women and Youth in Addis Ababa (LIWAY)*. Heather holds an MBA from the University of Oxford in the UK and a BA in Political Science and English from Duke University in North Carolina, USA.

Hosna Ferdous Sumi, World Bank, Bangladesh:

With more than 14 years of experience in private sector development, Sumi, based in Bangladesh, is leading multiple lending and advisory services projects of WBG in South Asia (Bangladesh and Afghanistan). Her main area of focus is enhancing competitiveness in manufacturing, agribusiness and services sectors, supply chain development, export market development, Investment promotion and linkages, food safety, women’s economic empowerment, inclusion etc. and works closely with Government agencies, chambers, and private sector associations. She holds bachelor and master’s degree in Business Administration (BBA and MBA).

Hugh Bosely, RBK, Jordan:

Hugh Bosely is founder and CEO of ReBootKamp (RBK) - the first code bootcamp in the Arab world and one focused on empowering vulnerable populations. Combining lessons learned during 30 years of complex project management with a powerful new education technology called *eXtreme Learning*, RBK is rapidly converting knowledge potential into knowledge capital in fragile countries.

Ian Walker, World Bank, Washington DC:

Ian Walker is the Manager of the World Bank's Jobs Group, a post he has held since 2018. Previously (from 2015-18) he was a Lead Economist in the same Unit. His recent work is focused on the analysis of the economic returns to better jobs and on the design of programs for improving jobs outcomes for low income households by improving market linkages in Mozambique, Nepal and Central America. Prior joining the World Bank in 2005, Mr. Walker was the Representative of the Interamerican Development Bank in Honduras. Mr. Walker has published widely on social protection and labor, education and skill development, health, nutrition, violence prevention, governance/accountability mechanisms, infrastructure services and private sector development. He holds a Master's degree in modern history and economics from Oxford University, UK.

Ifedayo Durosinmi-Etti, Parlimo Bambini & Member of Youth Advisory Group – S4YE, Nigeria:

With her passion for women and children, Ifedayo (Ife) launched several startups - through locally manufactured furniture and clothing for children, with the aim to reduce poverty, empower the youth and promote access to quality education in Nigeria and Africa. She has also launched the AGS Tribe - a platform, to democratize opportunities for entrepreneurs across Africa, and the AGS Enterprise Challenge, to empower female entrepreneurs through funding, mentorship and training program. Through her startup Dome, Ife launched a project to bridge the gender gap for a socio-economic empowerment of women in Nigeria. Ife is a Global Shaper of the World Economic Forum and a member of Youth Advisory Group – S4YE.

Kimmo Paajanen, BUCSBIN, Finland:

Kimmo is a Project Manager at BUCSBIN, Master of Science in Engineering. He has over 25 years of experience in education, digital media and ICT. An experienced Project Manager and professional in education export and international project management in both private and public sectors. Current projects include managing the implementation of new educational projects in Nepal (bucsbin.org) and United Arab Emirates (auselabs.com). Also, a responsible business developer in the largest ICT collaboration network in Northern Europe, Allied ICT Finland. Leadership merits from acting several years as a CEO and partner in a private software company engaged in both domestic and international business.

Lisa Corsetto, J-PAL, Global:

Lisa Corsetto is a Senior Policy Associate at J-PAL, where she manages the Labor Markets sector and serves as a liaison to the J-PAL Latin America and the Caribbean office. Prior to joining J-PAL, Lisa worked at a vocational training center for youth in Nicaragua and researched social safety nets in Mexico. She holds a Master of Public Policy from UC Berkeley and a BA in economics and a BS in international agricultural development from UC Davis. For her master's capstone, she consulted with the Inter-American Development Bank's Office of Evaluation and Oversight to study public transportation usage in Peru.

Marieke Feitsma, Empower Youth for Work, Oxfam, Netherlands:

Marieke is the Global Program Manager of the Empower Youth for Work program. The 5-year program focuses on enabling young people (especially young women) in rural climate-affected areas of Pakistan, Bangladesh, Indonesia and Ethiopia to seek and obtain economic independence. The program focuses on agency and skills, economic opportunities and influencing policies and social norms and behavior change. Marieke holds an MSc Tropical Land Use - Management of Natural Resources from the Wageningen University and Research Center, and an MBA International Business from the Saint John's University - Peter J. Tobin College of Business.

Mesenbet Shenkute, President of Addis Ababa Chamber of Commerce, Ethiopia:

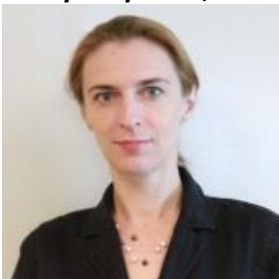
First female Chamber of Commerce president elected in 71 years, Mesenbet was Abay Bank's president for almost five years since its establishment back in 2010. Before her tenure in Abay bank, she worked with the Development Bank of Ethiopia for more than two decades in different positions including Vice President for Credit Support. Mesenbet received her BA degree in Management from Addis Ababa University in 1987 as well as her MBA from the UK.

Mimshach Obioha, Ventures Platform, Nigeria:

After joining Ventures Platform Foundation (VPF) in 2016, Mimshach was quickly noted as a leader and visionary and in 2019 was named the Executive Director of VPF. VPF is an enterprise development organization with a mission to support innovators and entrepreneurs in order to unlock the potential of underserved sectors, people, and places in Africa. VPF supports innovative solutions in entrepreneurship development and creates employment in underserved communities. He is a 2013 Future Africa Leaders award recipient and a 2016 Mandela Washington fellow.

Namita Datta, World Bank, Washington DC:

Namita Datta is the Head and Coalition Manager of Solutions for Youth Employment (S4YE) based in the World Bank's cross-sectoral Jobs Group. Namita brings significant experience on development issues and the jobs agenda. Before taking over the role of Coalition Manager of S4YE, she was Global Head of Let's Work, a global program on jobs, with a focus on the private sector. She has led multi-sectoral operations on jobs at the country level in several regions including Africa, Western Balkans, and Asia. She has worked for the World Bank (both World Bank and IFC) for over 12 years working across sectors and regions. She holds a PhD from Cornell University, an MIA from Columbia University, New York, and an MBA from the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad.

Nataliya Mylenko, World Bank, Ethiopia:

Ms. Mylenko is leading World Bank's engagement in Ethiopia, Sudan and South Sudan in the areas of macroeconomic policy, financial and private sector development, governance and poverty reduction based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Before this she was based in East Asia region and focused on financial sector topics in the Philippines as well as worked on financial sector reform in Myanmar, SME finance policy in Malaysia, and financial inclusion and community development in Indonesia. Ms. Mylenko is the lead author of the number of the World Bank reports including *Global Survey on Consumer Protection and Financial Literacy: Oversight Frameworks and Practices in 114 countries*, and *Financial Access 2009 and 2010 reports*.

Nuradeen Maidoki, Natview Technology, Nigeria:

Nuradeen Maidoki is the CEO of Natview Technology and an Executive Director of Natview Foundation. He is passionate about performance management; using data science to solve public policy and social problems. Nuradeen has extensive experience working with development partners and is currently spearheading the implementation of the Click-On Kaduna Digital Skills Program in partnership with the World Bank and the Rockefeller Foundation in Kaduna. He has an MSc in Computer Science and IT Entrepreneurship from Brandeis University, Massachusetts and several fellowships and professional degrees in Performance Management, Data Science and Artificial Intelligence from Harvard and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Patricia Muigai, Asante, Kenya:

Patricia has 10+ years career history of working with youth in the education sector. She is passionate about children, women and youth especially those living in marginalized areas or experience social exclusion. She provides life skills training to young people so they can thrive where they stand; get ready for the world of work and become job creators. Her goal is a world of equal opportunities for all, regardless of their gender, geographical location or family status. She holds a bachelor's degree in Communications and currently working as the Country Program Manager at Asante Africa Foundation.

Peter Shiras, Partnerships, International Youth Foundation (IYF), USA:

Peter joined the International Youth Foundation in September 2005 as the Vice President for Employability. He was appointed to Executive Vice President in January 2008 and currently oversees IYF's global corporate partnerships and new business development with companies and foundations. Peter has extensive international experience in Latin America and Africa, where he directed humanitarian and development programs during his 13 year tenure at Catholic Relief Services. He lived and worked in Central America from 1981-1985, and in Kenya from 1987-1990. He also worked for eleven years in Washington, DC with InterAction and INDEPENDENT SECTOR. He is a graduate of Cornell University, with Masters and Bachelors of Science degrees in Agricultural Economics.

Phillip Chikwiramakomo, Samasource, Kenya:

Phillip Chikwiramakomo is a Senior Director at Samasource, leading their International Growth and Partnerships which has implemented training projects in diverse geographies such as Dadaab, Lebanon, Jordan and Tanzania. Prior to that he was Program Director for their Learning and Development arm which has trained over 3500 low income youth and women across East Africa, with over 65% of them securing digital jobs. Prior to joining Samasource, Phillip had worked in a variety of Youth led initiatives, with Refugees and displaced people.

Priyam Saraf, World Bank, Pakistan:

Priyam Saraf is an economist at the World Bank, where she has been working on the Bank's Latin America and South Asia private sector development programs. Her work focuses on driving public policy changes to spur private sector growth and human capital improvements (education and health) to achieve job creation, gender parity, and entrepreneurship success. Priyam is currently leading a Randomized Control Trial study in conflict-affected areas of Pakistan to test the effectiveness of a low-cost Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) training to improve mental health and business outcomes of entrepreneurs. She holds a BSc. in Information Systems Management and a BSc. in Economics from Singapore Management University, as well as a Master of Public Administration from Columbia University.

Ramakrishnan H, Generation Kenya, Kenya:

Ram is currently the CEO of Generation Kenya – which skills youths and provides them the opportunity to successfully launch their careers with a critical focus and rigor on creating and measuring impact. He comes with expertise in implementing business strategies with a focus on building capacities and working closely with cross-functional teams. He is passionate about development and impact space and is a start-up specialist. His sectoral experience ranges from banking & finance to education and agriculture. Additionally, he has consulted organizations on capacity building and operational efficiencies.

Raphael Karrasch, Manager, Joblinge, Germany:

Raphael received his diploma in social work and dedicated his professional life creating professional perspectives for the socially underprivileged youth. After 12 years in the school-to-work market, Raphael joined JOBLINGE in 2012 and created major impact for long term unemployed youth and young refugees. He built a strong cross-sectoral network in the Ruhr area, one of the most challenging regions in Germany due to structural change and over proportionally high number of long-term unemployed youth.

René León Solano, World Bank, Lebanon:

Rene Leon Solano is a Senior Social Protection Specialist in the Social Protection and Jobs (SPJ) Global Practice of the World Bank. He has worked on issues related to social assistance, labor markets, education/skills, health, poverty, displacement, youth and gender in the Middle East and Africa, with a special focus on Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, post-revolution Tunisia, Morocco, Palestine, Mali, and Nigeria. Currently, he is the SPJ Task Team Leader (TTL) of the World Bank's response to the Iraqi conflict, where he manages a portfolio of over half a billion dollars. Rene is also the TTL of SPJ operational and analytical tasks in Lebanon, which are part of the World Bank's response to the Syrian refugee crisis. He holds a master's degree in public policy from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

Samantha De Martino, World Bank, South Africa:

Samantha De Martino is an Economist in the World Bank's Mind, Behavior, and Development Unit (eMBeD) within the Poverty and Equity Global Practice. She leads the thematic area of Skills within the eMBeD team where she focuses on socio-emotional skill development in education and youth labor markets through the design, implementation, and measurement of behavioral interventions. She has extensive qualitative and quantitative experience in impact evaluation design and implementation of interventions for wide-ranging policy issues in Africa, Latin America, East Asia, Eastern Europe and Central Asia with the World Bank, Institute of Development Studies, Innovations for Poverty Action, and the City of Cape Town. She holds a master's degree from Johns Hopkins University and PhD in Economics from the University of Sussex.

Sarah Kayondo, Educate!, Uganda:

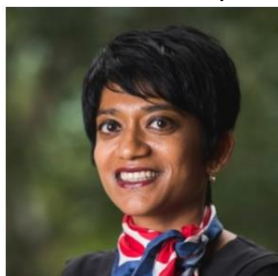
Sarah is the Uganda Country Director at Educate!. Sarah has been with Educate! since 2013. As Country Director at Educate!, Sarah oversees internal and external communications in Uganda. She reviews performance goals and financial operations quarterly, and ensures annual goals are set and achieved. She is currently building an optimized HR structure to handle changes and growth in staff structure related to scaling. Sarah, formerly the Head of HR at TechnoServe Uganda, is a graduate of Makerere University and Uganda Management Institute.

Siv Elin Tokle, World Bank, Washington DC:

Siv Tokle currently leads the results, knowledge, communications and operations team of the World Bank Jobs Group. She is engaged in improving the evidence base on jobs; addressing knowledge gaps; and developing Monitoring and Evaluation systems and indicators that support jobs-focused lending operations for jobs creation, better, job quality and access to jobs. She also covers the WBG corporate scorecard, corporate results indicators and the SDGs. She has held a variety of positions within evaluation and results-based management and portfolio management in a number of organizations, including the World Bank's climate change department and the Global Environment Facility. She holds a Masters in Economics and Business Administration from the Norwegian School of Economics and Business Administration (Bergen, Norway).

Sentayehu Lemeneh, Hyatt Group, Ethiopia:

Sentayehu is a Director of Human Resources at Hyatt Regency Addis Ababa since 2018. Being in Hospitality industry since 1998 she worked mainly on Human Resources and Training. Before Hyatt she used to work for Marriott / Starwood Brand for 17 years as Training and Human Resources Manager. She is currently attending MBA program, Leadership - Robert Kennedy College, London.

Sharmi Surianarain, Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator, South Africa:

Sharmi Surianarain leads solutions design at Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator, focusing on the African continent. Sharmi has nearly two decades of experience in social impact, human capital management, education, and facilitating pathways to opportunity across Africa, India, and the United States. As Solutions Lead for Africa at Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator, Sharmi oversees Harambee's geographic expansion and scaling approach across new markets including Rwanda, where she works closely with government and private sector stakeholders to identify pathways for youth into employment and income-generation. Sharmi holds a B.A. from Harvard University, a master's degree from the Harvard Graduate School of Education and a master's degree from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management.

Tatu Gatere, Buildher, Kenya:

Tatu is an entrepreneur, an architect and a built environment enthusiast. She is the Co-Founder & Chief Operating Officer of BUILDHER, an organization that disrupts the male dominated construction industry in Kenya and equips disadvantaged young women with accredited construction skills, leading to greater financial prosperity, changing male attitudes and promoting gender equity within the construction industry. As Buildher's COO, Tatu drives the strategic growth and initiatives of the organization, ensuring constant innovation in all aspects of program implementation and development. Tatu has over 10 years' experience in the built environment sector and has focused her career on exploring the intersection of culture and the built environment both locally and internationally, in a variety of socio-economic and cultural contexts.

Victoria Strokova, World Bank, Washington DC:

Victoria is a Senior Economist currently working on Liberia and Ethiopia, where she supports the governments in the design and implementation of policies and programs aimed at improving jobs outcomes for youth. Her recent country portfolio focused on Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, and Pakistan, but she has experience in almost every region at the World Bank. Victoria joined the World Bank staff as a Young Professional in 2013, and prior to that she worked as a social protection and labor consultant in Europe and Central Asia region for 3 years. She has authored numerous studies, including *Tajikistan Jobs Diagnostic: Strategic Framework for Jobs* and *Sustaining employment and wage gains in Brazil: a Skills and Jobs agenda*. Victoria graduated with honors with an MPP degree from the University of Chicago's Harris School of Public Policy.

Violette Uwamutara, Digital Opportunity Trust, Rwanda:

Violette has led DOT Rwanda since its inception in 2010. Violette is involved in numerous youth and women's economic empowerment and technology-fueled development initiatives. She is a mentor through the Imbutu Foundation, a member of the Africa Leadership Network and a recipient of the Change Agent ABIE Award from the Anita Borg Institute. In 2016, Violette was named one of Amazon's Watch Magazine's Top 25 Distinguished Women in Business Excellence in Africa for her work to economically empower young girls and women. Violette holds a Master of Public Administration with a focus on International Development from Carleton University and a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Comparative Development from Trent University in Canada.

Vivek Singh, Ikea Foundation, Netherlands:



Vivek heads the IKEA Foundation's portfolio on Employment and Entrepreneurship. His work involves providing strategic direction and managing and overseeing a portfolio of programs and partnerships. For a decade, Vivek worked at the Aga Khan Foundation, where he designed, managed and implemented integrated poverty-reduction programs with a variety of partners. Vivek holds a Master's degree in Social Policy and Development from the London School of Economics and Political Science, where he was an LSE Scholar, Post-Graduation in Environment and Development from the Indian Institute of Forest Management and Bachelor of Arts from the University of Delhi.

Vera Mills-Odoi, Global Communities, Ghana:



Kafui Vera Mills-Odoi is a Ghanaian bilingual humanitarian aid development expert, counsellor, and the Youth Ambassador for Construction since 2018, an award in recognition for her extensive work towards youth workforce development. Kafui is currently the Project Director for Youth Inclusive Entrepreneurial Development Initiative for Employment (YIEDIE), a project partnership between Global Communities and Mastercard Foundation. Under her leadership, YIEDIE has currently produced 23,724 youth artisans for the construction sector in Ghana and YIEDIE has won the Ghana Real Estate Developers' Association 2018 Award for innovation in apprenticeship training. Currently, 220 youth start-ups in operation serve different levels of the constructions sector.

Hon. Aisha Mohamed Mussa, Minister of Urban Development and Construction, Ethiopia

Ayuba Hussein, World Bank, Ethiopia

Ida Mboob, World Bank, Nigeria

Kathleen Elsig, Global Apprenticeship Network, Switzerland