



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Innovations in Women's and Youth Entrepreneurship

October 27, 2021



Moderator

Ms. Aline Mugisho, Executive Manager, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA). Ms. Mugisho has extensive experience leading various programs centered on gender and youth in agriculture including, the European Youth Education Centre, and USAID's Food Security Programme (FSP) and Food Security (FS). Her region of expertise is sub-Saharan Africa and the Great-Lakes Regions of Africa.



Enhancing Support for Youth and Women-led Agribusiness Enterprises

Ms. Oluyemi Adunoye, Project Coordinator - Youth Employment in Agribusiness and Sustainable Agriculture project (YEASA), International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA). YEASA focuses on supporting young men and women to establish independent agribusiness enterprises along priority value chains in Nigeria and the Republic of Benin. Ms. Adunoye is an expert in developing training manuals and curriculum on agricultural related courses and soft skills. She is passionate about seeing young people harness the benefits from agricultural foods system and she puts action to will, by designing effective training programs, lending her voice during policy dialogues, and contributing to the creation of an enabling environment for youth-led agribusinesses to thrive.



Development Increasing Agency Among Women and Youth Populations

Mrs. Ndidi Okonkwo Nwuneli, Co-Founder & Managing Partner, Sahel Consulting: Agriculture & Nutrition Ltd. Mrs. Nwuneli is an expert on social innovation, African agriculture and nutrition, entrepreneurship, and youth development. She has over 25 years of international development experience and is a recognized serial entrepreneur, author, public speaker, and consultant. Mrs. Nwuneli serves on numerous boards, including those of the Rockefeller Foundation and the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN). She has been recognized as a Young Global Leader and a Schwab Social Innovator by the World Economic Forum, in 2011 was listed as one of the 20 Youngest Power African Women by Forbes, and in 2019 was listed as one of the 100 Most Influential Africans by NewAfrican Magazine.



Youth-friendly Digital Finance

Ms. Ryan Newton, Founder & CEO, Paisa. Ms. Newton is an expert in financial inclusion, with more than 15 years of private and nonprofit experience in the development of inclusive financial solutions. As the Savings Manager at Women's World Banking, she designed and implemented customer-centric, commercially viable youth and adult savings propositions with financial service providers around the world. While at Citibank North America, Ryan managed marketing strategies and new product development for key remittance corridors.

Forum themes

- Farms and Farmers of the Future - **March 2 - 30, 2021**
- Innovations in Genetic Improvement of Agricultural Systems - **May 11 - June 8, 2021**
- Innovations in Post-Harvest Management – **July 13 - 27, 2021**
- Innovations in Information & Communication Technologies - **August 31-Sept. 21, 2021**
- Innovations in Entrepreneurship, Especially Among Youth – **October 19 - 27, 2021**
- Innovations in Scaling – **November 16 - December 7, 2021**

About the Global Agriculture Innovation Forum:

The Global Agriculture Innovation Forum is a joint undertaking between USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service and Purdue University's Office of International Programs in Agriculture. The Forum will be valuable to entrepreneurs, producers, value-chain operators, service providers, and researchers, as well as donor agencies and implementing partners and consists of a series of virtual events held throughout 2021

globalaginnovationforum.org, Twitter: [@PurdueIntlAg](https://twitter.com/PurdueIntlAg)

