

BIOGRAPHIES

GENDER AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Prof. Anita Spring
Professor Emeritus, Department of Anthropology, University of Florida

Prof. Anita Spring is Professor of Anthropology at the University of Florida. She has links with the University’s Centres for African Studies, Latin American Studies, Transnational Global Studies, Women Studies and Gender Research, and the School of Natural Resources and the Environment. She has also worked with the USAID Office of Women in Development and as Chief of the Women in Agriculture Production and Rural Development Service in the United Nations. Her research interests include Cultural, Applied, and Medical Anthropology and Entrepreneurship and Micro-Enterprises.

Prof. Lettice Kinunda Rutashobya
Professor of Business and Management, University of Dar es Salaam

Professor Rutashobya is Professor of Business and Management at the University of Dar Es Salaam Business School (UDBS). She was Dean of the Faculty of Commerce and Management between 1994 and 2000, and has been involved with the International Academy of African Business and Development. Professor Rutashobya’s research has mainly focused on women’s entrepreneurship, strategic management, the impact of foreign direct investment (FDI) in business development and growth in developing countries, and internationalization through networks and value chains.

Dr. Hala Hattab
Lecturer in Business Administration/Entrepreneurship, British University in Egypt

Dr. Hala Hattab is a lecturer in Business Administration/ Entrepreneurship at the British University in Egypt and Programme Manager for the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor- Egypt. She holds a PhD In female entrepreneurship. Her areas of research include entrepreneurship education, social entrepreneurship and youth and female entrepreneurship. She is on the editorial board of several journals (Economic Review, Journal of Small Business and Entrepreneurship) and is a founding member of the Middle East Council for Small Businesses and Entrepreneurship, Egypt.

Jacqueline Musiitwa
Legal Counsel and Assistant to the CEO at PTA Bank, Founder of Hoja Law Group

Jacqueline Musiitwa is Legal Counsel and Assistant to the President and CEO of the Eastern and Southern African Trade and Development Bank (PTA Bank) and a Managing

Partner / Founder of the Hoja Law Group that advises companies doing business in Africa on property laws. Prior to this, she served as an adviser to the Director-General of the WTO and to the Minister of Justice of Rwanda. She has also been an Adjunct Professor of Law at several universities in the US and Rwanda, an Archbishop Desmond Tutu Fellow 2011 and a 2012 Mo Ibrahim Foundation Leadership Fellow.

EDUCATION QUALITY

Prof. Suleman Sumra
Consultant in Education and Training, previously Director at TENMET Uwezo

Suleman Sumra holds a Ph.D from Stanford University. He retired from the University of Dar Es Salaam in 2002 after a teaching career spanning 30 years, having held posts as Associate Dean for Research and Publications; Director of the Bureau of Research and Evaluation (BERE); and national coordinator for a joint research project on the Language of Instruction in Tanzania and South Africa (LOITASA). He has written widely on primary education in Tanzania and coordinated Uwezo Tanzania from August 2008 to April 2012.

Dr. Chika Ezeanya
Senior lecturer, College of Business and Economics, University of Rwanda

Dr Chika Ezeanya is a researcher, author, essayist and teacher. She holds a Ph.D. in African Studies from Howard University in Washington D.C. and has worked as a World Bank consultant at its Headquarters, in Rwanda and in Nigeria. She is interested in education that can generate personal and societal transformation across Africa and herald an era of widespread innovation. Chika is currently affiliated with the University of Rwanda, the African Institute for Research in Indigenous Solutions and the African Centre for Education Research and Transformation.

Njideka U. Harry
Founder and chief executive, Youth for Technology Foundation

Njideka U. Harry is the President and CEO of Youth for Technology Foundation. She has over 13 years of experience in non-profit administration and planning, program management and social impact. Njideka is an advisory board member for the Women of West Africa and Entrepreneurship (WOWe) Council and a board member for Promoting Readiness in Science and Math (PRISM), a program supporting young girls all over Africa. She is an Ashoka Fellow and in 2013 was awarded ‘Social Entrepreneur of the Year’ by the Schwab Foundation and the World Economic Forum.

MIDDLE CLASS

Prof. Mthuli Ncube
Chief Economist and Vice President, African Development Bank

Mthuli Ncube is the Chief Economist and Vice President at the AfDB. Before joining the AfDB, he held the post of Dean of the Faculty of Commerce, Law, and Management at the University of the Witwatersrand (Wits) in Johannesburg, and before that, was Dean and Professor of Finance at Wits Business School. Prior to working extensively in the financial sector, including for the South African Financial Services Board, Professor Ncube was a Lecturer at the London School of Economics. He holds a Ph.D. in Mathematical Finance from Cambridge University.

Dr. Christian Kingombe
Chief Regional Integration & Infrastructure Officer, African Development Bank

Christian Kingombe is Chief Regional Integration & Infrastructure Officer at the AfDB. He has a Ph.D. in Applied Economics from Imperial College London and University of London. Before joining the AfDB, he worked for the International Economic Development Group at the ODI in London. He was also a Visiting Research Fellow at the IHEID in Geneva, an Academic Visitor at the Centre for the Study of African Economies (CSAE) at the University of Oxford and a Research Associate of the OECD Development Centre in Paris.

Angus Downie
Head of Economic Research, Ecobank

Angus joined Ecobank in 2011 and heads the bank’s economic research that focuses on sub-Sahara Africa. He joined Ecobank from the Institute of International Finance where he worked as an economist analysing major economies in Africa and the Middle East. Prior to the Institute, he worked as an economist at the African Development Bank in Tunis and in the Africa Department of the Economist Intelligence Unit in London. Angus holds an MSc Finance, MSc Development Studies, Postgraduate Certificate in Economics, and a BA Classics (all awarded by the University of London).

Edward George
Head of Group Research, Ecobank

Edward joined Ecobank in 2011 and became Head of Group Research in August 2014 after having headed the Soft Commodities Research Desk. He is also a specialist on Francophone and Lusophone Africa, and is the bank’s expert on intra-African trade and trade finance. Prior to joining Ecobank, Edward worked for The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) as a

Senior Editor in both the Commodities and Africa Departments. Before that, he worked as a freelance writer covering the politics and economics of Sub-Saharan Africa. He holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of Bristol.

Axelle Fofana
Macroeconomic Analyst, Ecobank

Axelle recently joined Ecobank and is an analyst on the Economics Research Desk. Prior to joining Ecobank, she worked as an Economist for the Department of Economic Affairs for Southern Africa at the French Embassy in South Africa focusing on sectoral intelligence including the energy, mining, transport, infrastructure, and communications industries. Before that she worked as a Country risk economist for the credit-insurance company Coface based in Paris. Axelle holds a Masters degree in International Economics and Development Economics from the Paris Dauphine University.

Minna Salami
Founder and editor, MsAfropolitan blog

Minna Salami is a Nigerian-Finnish writer and the founder of MsAfropolitan, a multiple award-winning blog covering contemporary Africa and Diaspora society and culture from a feminist perspective. She has overseen campaigns for clients such as The Oxford Literary Festival, Heart FM, International Masters Publishers and Simon & Schuster. Minna is listed as one of Applause Africa’s 40 African Changemakers and one of the ‘Top 100 Most Influential Black People on Digital/Social Media’. Minna has an MA in Gender Studies from the School of Oriental and African Studies, London.