Closing session

16 June 15:00-16:00 (CET)



Conference highlights & innovation strategies for a post-pandemic Africa

#BuildForwardAfrica

Building forward more inclusively

Isa Baud Mavis Owusu-Gyamfi Chiamaka Nwachukwu Amanda Kabagambe

Isa Baud



Isa Baud is emeritus Professor in International Development Studies at the University of Amsterdam. As a Professor, she was responsible for the acquisition and implementation of research programmes on major themes, including Spatial information infrastructure and urban governance for multi-dimensional poverty reduction: comparing middle-size Indian cities, New Forms of Urban Governance, Urban Environmental Management (EU 4th Framework INCO-DC) and Poverty and development between state, market and civil society. Isa is the former head of EU 7th Framework project Chance2Sustain: Urban Chances, City Growth and the Sustainability Challenge, coordinating an international research programme on urban knowledge management configurations for sustainabilities in medium-sized fast growing cities in India, Peru, Brazil and South Africa. Previously she was Professor in Urban Studies in developing countries at the VU University Amsterdam and a staff member of the Institute of Housing and Urban Development Studies in Rotterdam. Isa Baud is the current President of the European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes (EADI) and Chair of the NWO-WOTRO 'Urbanising deltas of the world' (UDW) Programme Steering Committee.

Mavis Owusu-Gyamfi



Mavis Owusu-Gyamfi is the Executive Vice President at the African Centre for Economic Transformation (ACET) – a pan-African economic policy institute supporting Africa's long-term growth through transformation. Prior to joining ACET, she was the Director of Investments at The Power of Nutrition. Previous positions include Director for Programme Policy and Quality (PPQ) at Save the Children UK and a number of Private Sector Development (PSD) specialist positions at the UK Department for International Development (DFID) over 15 years. In her last role at DFID, she was a Deputy Director with responsibility for PSD policy and technical specialists across the Department.

Mavis has over 20 years of international development experience in Africa, Asia and Eastern Caribbean. She has led multi-sectoral teams in both government and non-governmental organisations to develop and successfully implement programmes in the social and economic sectors in over 30 countries. She is currently a Trustee of Sightsavers and a board member of The Coalition for Global Prosperity

She is a political economist by training and has an MPhil from the Institute of Development Studies at the University of Sussex. Her publications include Binding Constraints to Growth in Nigeria (Oxford University Press, 2008) and Growth and Competitiveness (World Bank, 2007).

Chiamaka Nwachukwu



Dr. Chiamaka Nwachukwu is a medical doctor, and currently functions as the Program Coordinator of the African Youth Charter Hustlers, an initiative of the African Union to engage youth leaders from all 55 member states to lead advocacy and accountability for the ratification and implementation of the African Youth Charter. She was previously the Coordinator of the African Youth Front on Coronavirus and co-authored the publication "Greater Inclusion of African Youth in Public Service and Governance."

Amanda Kabagambe



Amanda Kabagambe is an economist and management consultant with experience working with businesses, investors, and development actors in East and South Africa. Previously worked with PwC and Deloitte.

Founder of Bethel Advisors, an advisory firm specializing in project design, market assessments, project finance, social and financial inclusion. Current project portfolio exceeds \$25.6m.

Consultant to the Economic Response Unit established to define and coordinate the Government economic response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Consultant to the World Bank project on refugee skills development.

Ardent traveller, food blogger and host at Trade Talk Afrika, a Pan African podcast on trade, trends, and investment opportunities across Africa.