



Session 2

**9 June
14:00-15:30 (CET)**

**Merging perspectives on
decent employment for
Africa's youth post-pandemic**

#BuildForwardAfrica

**Building forward more
inclusively**

Chiamaka Nwachukwu

Marjoke Oosterom

Susana Puerto

Tijmen Rooseboom

Shona Bezanson

Cheikh Tidiane Dieye

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.”

Marjoke Oosterom



Dr. Marjoke Oosterom is a research fellow at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK. She leads the IDS Research Strategy on 'Youth Employment and Politics', which encompasses a diverse portfolio of interdisciplinary research projects focusing on Africa and MENA region. Marjoke Oosterom has a background in comparative politics and her research concentrates on the effects of violence, conflict and repression on civic and political participation; civic space; popular and collective action; youth politics; politics of the informal economy; and youth employment and empowerment in fragile and conflict affected settings in Africa. She has been involved in consultancy work for donors, policy actors and international organisations that fund and implement governance and youth-focused interventions in Sub Saharan Africa. Marjoke is a member of the Global Coalition on Youth, Peace and Security – task force Youth Participation.

Drew Gardiner



Drew Gardiner is a Youth Employment Specialist and member of the Global Technical Team of the International Labour Organization's Employment Policy Department. He was previously the Chief Technical Adviser of the ILO's "Taqeem Initiative" which undertakes impact evaluation of policies and programmes on women's and youth employment. He is a researcher, speaker and adviser on evidence-based active labour market interventions and has mobilized and managed a portfolio of labour market programmes related to skills, entrepreneurship and employment services across Africa and the Middle East, working with stakeholders from the United Nations, the private sector and government. He has a B.A. in International Relations and French from the University of Calgary and an MBA from the University of Geneva.

Tijmen Rooseboom



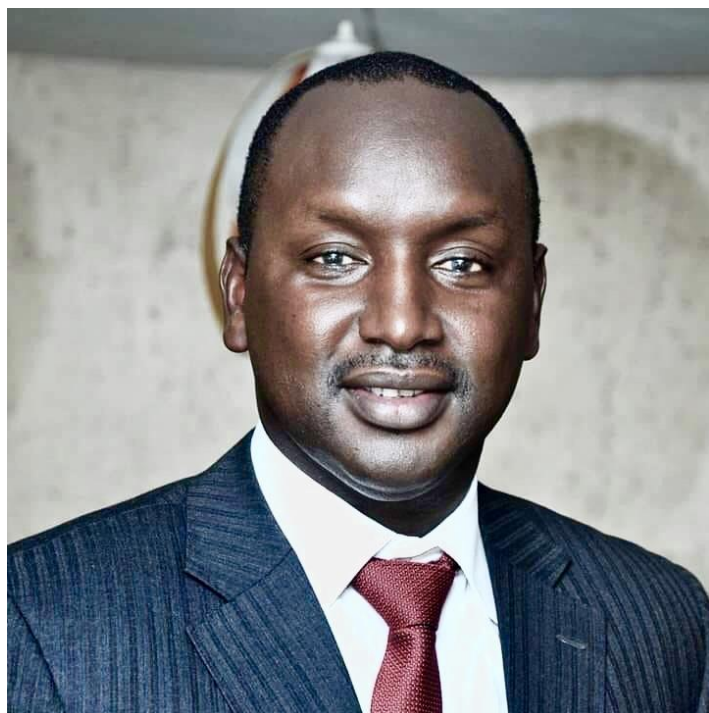
Tijmen Rooseboom is the Ambassador for Youth, Education and Work at the Netherlands' Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He works on the ambition of the Netherlands to increasingly put the challenges and opportunities of young people at the heart of its international cooperation, as stipulated in the Youth at Heart strategy and the recently organized Youth at Heart virtual forum. Prior, Mr. Rooseboom worked at the Dutch Development Bank and as the Deputy Ambassador to Somalia; also for the EU NAVFOR mission in Kenya and the UN Peacekeeping Missions in South-Sudan and Ivory Coast.

Shona Bezanson



Shona Bezanson is Head of the Eastern and Southern Africa Partner Network, Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program. The program aims to develop a network of young transformative leaders in Africa. Before joining the Foundation, Shona worked in child protection with Save the Children in Sierra Leone, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Chad and with Right To Play and the Catholic Office for Emergency Relief and Refugees, in Thailand. Shona is an eternal optimistic who is passionate about peace and justice. She is a graduate of Dalhousie University (Master's in International Development Studies) and Mount Allison University (Bachelor's in History and Political Science), in Canada.

Cheikh Tidiane Dieye



Cheikh Tidiane Dieye is Founder and Executive Director of the African Centre for Trade, Integration and Development (CACID), Member of Enda Tiers Monde Network. CACID is a Research, Training and Advocacy organization on trade, sustainable development and regional integration. Dr. Dieye is member of the West African EPA Negotiating Committee and several other ECOWAS Technical Committees. In the multilateral level, he participated to all WTO Ministerial conferences since Cancun as member of the Senegalese delegation. In addition, Dr. Dieye is Lecturer at the University of Dakar and Ziguinchor (Senegal), University of Abidjan (Cote d'Ivoire) and Trade Capacity Building and Training Centre (Trapca) in Tanzania. He is also course Director at the United Nation Institute for Economic Development and Planning (UNIDEP). He holds a PhD on Development Studies from Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva. He is the author of several publications, including on the future of Africa-EU Relations".