



# WASHINGTON FELLOWSHIP FOR YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS



## BIOGRAPHIES OF THE 2014 WASHINGTON FELLOWS

The Washington Fellowship is a program of the United States Government and is supported in its implementation by IREX.

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**Hassan Adaweh Abdi, Djibouti, Public Management, Howard University**

Hassan Adaweh Abdi has over four years of experience working at the Institute of Sciences and New Technologies of the Djibouti National Research Centre-CERD. Currently, he is a Research Assistant in Information Technology at the CERD where he works on speech recognition algorithms in the Somali language, in order to preserve the endangered Somali linguistic and cultural heritage. He often conducts field trips inside the country to collect data related to history, culture, law, and customs of the Djiboutian communities and later puts the information together in a large corpus that he uses in his algorithms. Hassan holds a Bachelor of Science in Information Technology from the International Islamic University in Malaysia. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to work on the preservation of the Djibouti linguistic and cultural heritage through modern information technologies with a focus on social leadership.



**Paul Hilarius Asiwome Kosi Abiwu, Ghana, Public Management  
Morgan State University**

Hilarius Asiwome Kosi Abiwu is a clinician working with the Ministry of Health since April 2007. He is the Deputy Secretary of the Medical Superintendents Group and serves as the sole doctor at the Krachi West District Hospital, a government owned hospital in a disadvantaged area of Ghana. Hilarius received a bachelor's degree in Medical Science and Surgery from the University of Ghana Medical School. He is currently pursuing an executive master's degree in Business Administration. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship, he hopes to share his new knowledge with his colleagues at the Ministry of Health to encourage them to become change agents and produce a world-class health system in Ghana.



**Ashiru Adamu Abubakar, Nigeria, Civic Leadership, Tulane University**

Ashiru Abubakar currently serves as a medical officer with Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University Teaching Hospital. He is responsible for providing clinical services to the hospital's amenity clients as well as care and support to HIV patients including the prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV. He also serves as a development worker with Health Education Initiative for Women (HEIFOW), a non-governmental organization where he mentors facility health committees and provides care and support to orphans and vulnerable children in rural communities. He received the 2013 Newborn Health Hero award from Evidence for Action for his work conducting voluntary blood donation campaigns. Ashiru graduated from Bayero University Kano with a medical degree in 2009. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he intends to use the skills and linkages acquired to ensure equitable access to quality health care, especially to the underprivileged and vulnerable in his community, country, and throughout Africa and the world.



**Fatima Madaki Abubakar, Nigeria, Civic Leadership, Rutgers University**

Fatima Madaki has over seven years of experience working in areas related to education, environment, peace building, gender, and leadership. She is the Conflict Management Research Fellow for Mercy Corps Nigeria and is responsible for coordinating programs related to inter religious peace building in Northern Nigeria. Fatima is the founder of Education & Sustainable Livelihood Youth Initiative (ESLYI), a youth-led organization that focuses on engaging youth; especially girls, in environmental sustainability, peace, and education related projects. She holds a bachelor's of science in Psychology from the Federal University of Jos, Nigeria. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she intends to provide conflict resolution assistance to pastoralist/herder and farmer conflicts in the middle-belt region of Nigeri. She plans to focus more on women and children affected by these conflicts and will organize women led peace initiatives aimed at promoting environmental sustainability, cultural tolerance, poverty reduction, and improving access to education for children.



**Adediran Olasile Adegoke, Nigeria, Public Management  
University of Minnesota**

Diran Adegoke's experience spans the fields of Information Technology, Human Resources & Public Management. He is currently an Administrative Officer in the Human Resources division of Joint Admissions & Matriculation Board (JAMB), where he championed the move for the computerization of the human resources processes. He is a Teens' Counselor and Youth leaders in his church. Adediran holds a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and a Master of Business Administration, both from Obafemi Awolowo University Ile-Ife, Nigeria. Upon his return from the

Washington Fellowship, he plans to use his newly acquired knowledge and status to further build on his success with JAMB by pushing for the computerization of the operational processes in all government organizations in Nigeria.



**Fozya Tesfa Adem, Ethiopia, Public Management, Syracuse University**

Fozya Tesfa has over nine years of experience working in the education sector. She is founder and current Dean of the School of Education at the University of Gondar, responsible for recruiting instructors, working with instructors on curriculum planning and delivery, training and advising students, and organizing and delivering pedagogical trainings. Fozya holds a Master of Arts in Educational Planning and Management from Addis Ababa University focusing on identifying management problems and prioritizing possible solutions in technical and vocational education and training institutions. She is also a Ph.D. candidate in Comparative and

International Education at the same university with a special emphasis on pre-primary education. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Fozya plans to work towards improving the quality of education in Ethiopia by empowering teachers and students and to advocate for children and other stakeholders throughout the educational system.



**Adegboyega Doja Adewolu, Nigeria, Public Management, Morgan State University**

Adegboyega Adewolu has five years of experience in finance and public management. He currently serves as a Special Assistant to the Executive Governor of Ogun State on public private partnerships (PPP). In this capacity, he is responsible for initiating, designing, and structuring core and social infrastructural PPP projects, ensuring value for money is achieved and operational integrity is sustained. He has used his position to promote social change and political participation of young people in policy making and implementation. He holds a bachelor's degree in Business Economics and a masters degree in International Business Management. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Gboyega intends to continue building his career in financial public management and use the experience as a springboard to pursue his campaign for strong and credible democratic Institutions that will enhance national development in Nigeria.



**Harriet Yayra Adzofu, Ghana, Public Management, Florida International University**

Harriet Adzofu is a Psychiatric Nurse working with the Accra Psychiatric Hospital since 2008. Her focus is to work directly with people suffering from mental disorders, their relatives, and the larger community in early prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation. Harriet conducts several health educational talks in her community to empower people to live healthy lifestyles. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Central University College, a HND in Public Health Nursing from Public Health Nursing School, and a diploma in Mental Health Nursing from Nurses Training College. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Harriet plans to establish an NGO to strengthen mental health awareness in Ghana with the aim of reducing the stigmatization of people with mental disorders and protecting their fundamental human rights. She believes that people who suffer from a mental illness are equally talented and can achieve their full potential and contribute immensely to national development when given the needed support and resources.



**Gerald Kobobo Afadani, Cameroon, Public Management, Howard University**

Gerald Kobobo Afadani has over five years of experience working with presiding magistrates and liaising with litigants and counsels in the administration of justice at the Court of First Instance Tikoas. He is a Member Delegate to the Joint Court Registry Administrative Board and Permanent Disciplinary Council where he participates in the career evaluation and management of over 2,000 colleagues. He also serves as the Chief of the Trade and Personal Property Rights Register where he is responsible for the study, verification, and registration of companies. Gerald holds a master's degree in Business Law, and a law degree in English Private Law, both from the University of Yaoundé II in Soa. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship program, he plans to extend the use of electronic templates in the incorporation of businesses to the Courts of First Instance. He also plans to advocate for and pilot the use of an integrated court management and business incorporation model.



**Alaba Lawrence Afere, Nigeria, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Northwestern University**

Lawrence Afere has five years of experience working in youth and enterprise development with a focus on jobs and wealth creation for the unemployed and marginalized youth in Ondo State, Nigeria. He currently serves as the founder and Director of the Springboard Entrepreneurship Development Initiative, where he develops programs for unemployed youth in entrepreneurship, jobs, wealth creation, and agriculture. He is also responsible for coordinating the production and marketing of plantain chips produced from the Springboard Farms. Lawrence holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Covenant University, Nigeria and received training in social entrepreneurship from the International Institute for Global Leadership and the Kanthari International Institute for Social Entrepreneurs. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Lawrence plans to extend his entrepreneurship and agricultural programs to several unemployed young people across the 18 local government areas in Ondo State, Nigeria.



**Marietta Agathe, Mauritius, Public Management  
Florida International University**

Marietta Agathe has over two years of experience in the field of Public Management. She currently serves as the Deputy Project Coordinator for the Social Inclusion and Empowerment Program at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). In her role, she liaises with the RRA, national institutions, NGOs, CSOs, village committees, community leaders, and private stakeholders to ensure their active participation in project activities. She also assists in identifying and obtaining any support and advice that are required for the management, planning, and control of the project and further assists UN project administration. Marietta holds Bachelor of Science in Social Science with a specialization in Political Science from the University of Mauritius and is currently studying for Master of Arts in Responsible Management and Sustainable Development at the UN Mandated University for Peace. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship, Marietta plans to mobilize resources to improve waste management in Rodrigues and to conduct research to determine if there are correlations between the poor waste management system and the high cancer rate on the island.



**Regina Fremah Agyare, Ghana, Business and Entrepreneurship, Dartmouth College**

Regina Agyare is a software developer with 8 years' work experience and a social entrepreneur with a passion for using technology to drive social change. She started a social enterprise called Soronko Solutions that uses basic mass technology to drive human potential and solve social problems. Regina is currently helping small and medium scale enterprises in Ghana create visibility and grow their business with technology. She is also working on a program that will develop the next generation of innovators and problem solvers from the rural communities in the field of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics in Ghana and across sub-Saharan Africa. Regina is also working on how the disabled in Ghana can use technology to integrate better in their communities. Her story was featured in *Lean In for Graduates* by Sheryl Sandberg and *Impatient Optimist* by The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. CNN featured her Tech Needs Girls Ghana project which assists girls to code and create technology. Regina graduated from Ashesi University with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders, she intends to use the education, experience, and network to continue with her work of using technology to drive social change and scale her social enterprise.



**Amina Garuba Ahmed, Nigeria, Public Management, Howard University**

Amina Garuba Ahmed has seven years of experience working as a public servant in the criminal justice and dispute resolution sector. She currently serves as Senior Magistrate and District Court Judge with the Bauchi State Judiciary. Amina holds several diplomas and certificates including a master's of dispute resolution degree in Law from the University of New South Wales, a Bachelor of Law from the Nigerian Law School in Abuja, and an LLB from the University of Jos. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Amina plans to organize seminars and workshops for judicial officers and supporting staff at the Bauchi State Judiciary focused on public management skills. She also intends to collaborate with relevant institutions to ensure continued public management training for the judiciary and push for it to be a mandatory requirement for any appointments of judicial officers or other staff into managerial positions in the judiciary.



**Olushola Abiodun Akinyemi, Nigeria, Civic Leadership  
Arizona State University**

Olushola Akinyemi is a social entrepreneur with over seven years of experience in human capital development. He works with burgeoning entrepreneurs by providing strategic support to help their ideas thrive and come alive. Shola guides them to explore, incubate, nurture, grow and translate raw business ideas into veritable business ventures that power the Nigerian and African economy. He is the co-founder of Business Connect Africa, a nonprofit business support organization that works to help businesses grow and transform the African economy. He holds a bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Olushola plans to focus more on setting up and facilitating business connect schools in different African cities with a long term plan of building the African 500 Corporation, a strategic agenda to nurture and grow African SMEs into a fortune 500 prototype so that they can readily function and compete on the global scale.



**Ayaovi Djifa Akomatsri, Togo, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Northwestern University**

Ayaovi Lola Akomatsri is a journalist from Togo with eight years of experience in journalism and the media. She has worked for several media organizations. Currently, Lola is the editor in chief of FOCUS INFOS, a weekly newspaper based in Togo and the local correspondent of the French desk of the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) since 2012. She is also member of the Executive Board of the National Journalist Trade-Union that represents a collective voice for journalists and that is engaged in the fight for freedom of speech in her country. She has developed codes of ethics and conduct for journalists and is currently participating in the development of the first collective agreement for journalists in Togo. Ayaovi holds a bachelor's degree in communication and media studies. Recently, she received a certificate on Coaching and Leadership in Media from the Poynter Journalism Institute in Florida and 2011, and she was recognized as an Emerging African Women Leaders by the Moremi Initiative. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to create the first West Africa magazine that will focus on women's rights, children, people with disabilities and sexual minorities.



**Walid Ahmed Ali, Kenya, Civic Leadership, University of California - Berkeley**

Walid Ahmed Ali has over six years of experience working with community based organizations as a civic leader and as community resource person. Currently, he serves as Chairman and Social Scientist with Lamu Youth Alliance. His work focuses on respecting diversity and promoting human rights to ensure human suffering is reduced. Walid is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Development Studies at the Technical University of Mombasa in Kenya. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Walid plans to work with youth by empowering them with leadership skills, increasing their understanding of sustainable development, and promoting their rights with the goal of bringing positive change to Kenya.



**Adebayo Samuel Alonge, Nigeria, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Yale University**

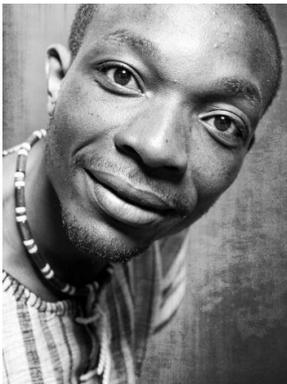
Adebayo Alonge has over five years of experience working in Nigeria's healthcare industry with roles in counseling and support of HIV patients and marketing and distribution of pharmaceuticals. He is the founder of Lusoy Investments Limited, an organization that tests practical approaches to low cost generic drug distribution with the aim of ensuring that Nigerians everywhere can access quality medicines. In 2013, the firm achieved a turnover of over four million naira distributing medicines in rural Lagos. He holds a Bachelor of Pharmacy from the University of Ibadan, a membership certificate from the Nigerian Institute of Management, and is currently studying for a fellowship and a Master of Business Administration from the West African Postgraduate College of Pharmacy and the Lagos Business School respectively. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Adebayo intends to scale up his distribution business across western Nigeria as well as roll out a retail pharmacy chain across the region.



**Andrew Amara, Uganda, Business & Entrepreneurship  
Clark Atlanta University**

Andrew Amara is a registered architect and urban planner, with a wealth of construction experience ranging from large multi-storey commercial and institutional projects to modest community developments. He has worked with underprivileged groups to develop better housing and environment plans in the townships of Johannesburg, Kampala, and Vancouver and has also volunteered with Planning Aid England in the UK. He is the founder of studio.flame, an ICT consultancy and architecture/engineering practice that is currently working on several projects including

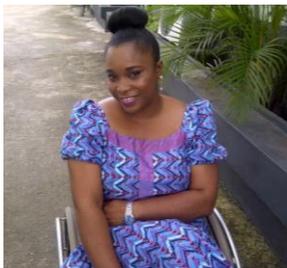
a treatment center for children with nodding disease in Gulu-Uganda, a library for an orphans school in the Amor-Tororo, and a community hospital in Iganga-Uganda. Andrew plans to extend his work in creating shelter planning solutions for the usually neglected and slum population in selected towns of Uganda. Andrew has a bachelor's degree in Architecture and a master's degree in Urban Planning from the University of Manchester.



**Nguomoja Amuri, Democratic Republic of Congo, Civic Leadership  
University of Delaware**

Nguomoja Amuri has over nine years of experience working in underprivileged communities in the fields of sports, music, and peace building. Currently, he is the founder and Creative Director of Tumaini Sports Academy in Uvira and Kigoma, where he focuses on using sports and music as a medium to create cultural awareness and understanding among young people of different ethnic backgrounds involved in conflict. He is an Action Partner with the Oxfam International Youth Partnerships program managing different youth led initiatives. Nguomoja completed a sports and development fellowship at the DO School in Hamburg, Germany. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Nguomoja plans to set up five training centers in South and North Kivu with each center selecting 200 boys and girls aged 10-20 years old and representing all tribes. These centers will provide sports and arts

training, peace education, and life skills with a goal to broaden the network of peace ambassadors who will in turn launch campaigns to inform and engage their communities about peace.



**Ndifreke Etiowo Andrew-Essien, Nigeria, Civic Leadership  
University of Delaware**

Ndifreke Andrew-Essien has over four years of experience working in HIV / AIDS related programs. She recently founded Freky Andrew-Essien Care Foundation (FAECARE), a nonprofit organization that plans and implements programs that provides basic support services in education, health, and psychological development to vulnerable communities. Ndifreke currently serves as the Office Manager with the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International with major responsibilities in operations and

administration. Ndifreke has a bachelor's of science and a master's degree in Human Physiology. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Ndifreke plans to work on mentoring programs for youth, step gap programs for orphans and vulnerable children, and empowerment and advocacy programs for people with disabilities.



**Jean Clement Andriamanampisoa, Madagascar, Civic Leadership, Wagner College**

Jean Andriamanampisoa has 15 years of experience working with Youth for Christ Madagascar. As part of his work, he leads youth groups to perform community service work in prisons, hospitals, and schools. He participated in a young leader's empowerment training offered by Youth for Christ International and was later appointed the Center Director of Youth for Christ Madagascar Antananarivo in March 2013. Jean studied Law and later Human Resource Management. Upon returning from the Washington Fellowship, he plans to implement a plan to create a Christian center called Training, Leadership, and Development Center (TLDC) that will promote volunteerism among youth.

**Mirindra Zo Nambinina Andrianantenaina Ep. Manankasina, Madagascar  
Business and Entrepreneurship, University of Wisconsin-Stout**



Mirindra Manankasina has two years of experience working in environment and sustainable development. She is currently the Director of Administration of the Information and Communication division at Miro Knowledge Engineering Sarl, a solution and software provider. Her main tasks consist of managing information and communication, coordinating international training, organizing events, and serving as the administrator of Miro's website and social network. Mirindra has studied several topics including language, culture and communication, English, computer management and mathematics at the University of Antananarivo. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she hopes to lead Madagascar in sustainable development through the production of renewable energy, namely bioethanol from molasses.

**Catherine Anite, Uganda, Civic Leadership, University of Delaware**



Catherine Anite is a pro-bono human rights advocate focusing on the promotion and defense of freedom of expression, media rights, and access to information in Uganda and at a regional level. She is currently head of the legal department at the Human Rights Network for Journalists in Uganda, where her responsibilities include defending and representing journalists, analyzing and publicizing laws and policies that impede on freedom of expression, publishing work on media rights, training journalists on professional standards, and spearheading advocacy campaigns to fight for the rights of journalists and media practitioners in Uganda, most especially the rural areas. She was selected by Avocats Sans Frontiers and the East African Law Society in an EU Human Rights Defenders project to constitute a pool of human rights lawyers to defend rights in East Africa and the Great Lakes Region. Catherine holds a bachelor's (hons) degree in Law from Makerere University and a postgraduate diploma in Legal Practice from the Law Development Centre in Kampala. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to continue working towards

creating a conducive environment for enjoyment of freedom of expression in Uganda through defending journalists' rights, litigation, advocating for legal and policy reform for media, and training journalists in media law and professional ethics.

**Humphrey Anjoga, Uganda, Public Management, Florida International University**



Humphrey Anjoga has over seven years of experience in ICT, project management, capacity building and accounting. Currently, he is the co-founder and Chief Operations Officer of the Uganda School of Professional Development. He previously served as a Teaching Assistant with the Makerere University Business School where he chaired the Academic Staff Association to champion staff interests and welfare. He later joined the National Information Technology Authority, where he managed and provided support in initiating, planning, and executing various national IT projects including the National Backbone /E-Government Infrastructure, Video Conferencing, VOIP Telephony, and National Data Centre. Humphrey has a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and a master's degree in Information

Technology from Makerere University. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship program, Humphrey plans to work on setting up regional ICT centers and mobile ICT units to empower the rural vulnerable communities in Uganda with hands-on ICT skills to increase their access to online public services and to enhance their knowledge of agriculture, rural affairs, community development, and life skills.



**Akiules António, Angola, Business and Entrepreneurship, Dartmouth College**

Akiules António is the Market Intelligence Manager for Halliburton in Angola. He is strategic and has a critical eye for innovation. Akiules maintains his own blog focusing on various current topics with an aim to not only inspire others but also to keep himself grounded to his beliefs and thoughts. He earned his Ph.D. in Nuclear Physics at the Delft University of Technology in Holland. His aspirations after completing the Washington Fellowship are diverse, but his outmost goal is to improve the education system and opportunities in Angola which he hopes to do by strategically applying his knowledge and experience.



**Mihidjai Anturia, Comoros, Business and Entrepreneurship, Clark Atlanta University**

Mihidjai Anturia is currently employed as a pharmacist at the Iranian Red Crescent Polyclinic where she manages inventories, orders drugs from local suppliers, dispenses drugs, and assures stock management. She also works as a freelance dental technologist designing and making dentures for patients. She is a member of various associations focused on youth and encouraging them to pursue self-employment and job creation ventures. Mihidjai holds a bachelor's degree in Nursing from the University of Comoros and a diploma in Dental Technology from Mount Kenya University. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship program, she plans to train local women farmers on basic entrepreneurship skills. She also hopes to create an enterprise that assists these women farmers in conserving their surplus goods by selling them to other parts of the country.



**Mildred Sara Apenyo, Uganda, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Notre Dame**

Mildred Apenyo created a Facebook page called Fitclique256 in response to accounts of rape and molestation in Uganda's media and the comments that leaders in Uganda were expressing about women's bodies, sexuality, defilement, and rape. Fitclique256 empowers women and girls on both a physical and psychological level with the creation of a women's gym. The gym provides a variety of classes including strength training, Afrikan yoga, dance, and self-defense, with self-defense being heavily discounted to draw more

women to the class. When she is not running Fitclique256, Mildred is a columnist, copywriter, and writer. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship program, she intends to organize self-defense workshops for women who work in high risk areas around Kampala city as well as for those who have been victims of molestation. She also intends to implement self-love and body acceptance programs to be implemented in primary and secondary schools.



**Alfredo Isidoro Araujo de Pina, Cape Verde, Public Management  
University of Minnesota**

Alfredo Isidoro Araujo de Pina is the Director of Human Resources at the Cape Verde Public Administration where he specializes in working with youth on providing public employment opportunities. He also serves as the Coordinator of the Public Administration Professional Internship Program. He also manages the Qualifications and Employment Pool, an online platform for labor demand and supply, awarded by the African Union with the 2012 African Public Sector Innovation Award. In addition to his work with the Public Administration, he is also a Professor of Public Policy at the Law and Social Sciences Institute and owner of a menswear store called Executive Line. Furthermore, he's the leader and founding member of the social action group called WEDOCARE, promoting creative practices for aiding the poor and vulnerable. He's also the founder of the Power of Youth, a group dedicated to

empowering youth through lectures and conferences in universities and high schools focused on sharing good examples and motivation.



**Mbali Pretty Arojojoye, South Africa, Civic Leadership  
University of Virginia and the College of William & Mary**

Mbali Arojojoye has 10 years of experience working directly with rural communities in Nkomazi and Mpumalanga focusing on gender based violence and sexual reproductive health and rights for women and girls. She is the founder and Director of Ark of Hope Southern Africa, a nonprofit organization that focuses on women and girls rights. She is also a Manager for Tshwane Home of Hope, a shelter that offers residential care and education to disadvantaged girls. Mbali has a Trauma Counseling certificate from INTEC College and a Community Based Paralegal studies and Office Administration certificate from the Centre of Law and Community Development at the University of North-West. After completing the Washington Fellowship, she plans to start Camp Girls Leading Our World (GLOW), a weeklong leadership training camp for teenage girls that provides life-skills on important health topics in an open and accepting environment.



**Johannes Thomas Arthur, Ghana, Civic Leadership, Wagner College**

Johannes Arthur currently serves as the Creative and Projects Coordinator with RECNOWA, a non-governmental organization that is interested in advocacy and training on waste management issues. He is an artist who uses raw material from a refuse dump to create eco-friendly furniture, clothing, handbags, and other products made from waste plastic water bottles. He manages an innovative social enterprise that trains and employs youth from disadvantaged communities to clear their streets of plastic and other material waste. He has trained over 20 schools and artisan groups in the creative reuse and recycling of materials considered as waste. Johannes holds a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Design from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology and is working on a master's degree at the same institution. After completing the Washington Fellowship, he hopes to build the largest recycling plant in the world with proceeds being used to build schools and hospitals in rural Ghana.



**Anissa Issufo Arune, Mozambique  
Business and Entrepreneurship, University of Texas at Austin**

Anissa Arune has over six years of experience serving as the Projects Manager to a social responsibility organization named Mozambique in Action. She has an interest in working in domestic violence and child abuse issues. She was producer, MC, and volunteer for Hixikanwe ('We are Together'), an orphanage for people living with HIV/ AIDS in the Marracuene District. She also founded a small nonprofit named Um pão para todos ('A Bread for All'), which offers meals, clothes, Polio vaccinations, and medical assistance in partnership with the Ministry of Health. She studied Philosophy at the University of Saint Thomas of Mozambique. Upon the completion of the Washington Fellowship program, Anissa is planning to open a small center for women and children victims of domestic violence and abuse and in coordination with local government institutions and social institutions will provide social, medical, psychological and legal assistance. Most importantly, the center will provide an education in entrepreneurship and skills on how to start your own business.



**Lily Obenewaa Asare, Ghana, Public Management  
University of Arkansas**

Lily Obenewaa Asare currently works for the Ministry of Health and serves as the Principal for the SDA Midwifery and Health Assistants Training School at Asanta. She has a special interest in research, capacity building, and organizational development. Lily has established a youth leadership club called Friends of the Pregnant Woman to help reduce the high maternal mortality rates in rural communities. She is a registered nurse and a nurse educator with a Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences Education from the Cape Coast University and a master's degree in Public Health from the Walden University. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Lily plans to build capacity in rural communities and empower women and youth to have the tools to address maternal health issues.



**Mesganaw Assefa, Ethiopia, Public Management, Syracuse University**

Mesganaw Assefa has experience working in the areas of governance, human rights, and education. He currently serves as a national Peace Expert for the Ministry of Federal Affairs where he advises on strategic directions, policy formulation, and capacity building efforts in its conflict prevention and resolution tasks. He also teaches law for undergraduate students at Addis Ababa University. Previously, he worked at the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission as a member of the team of experts that drafted the first National Human Rights Action Plan of Ethiopia, which is currently being implemented. Mesganaw holds two master's degrees, an LLM in International Human Rights Law from Lund University and a Master of Arts in Global Political studies with specialization in peace and conflict studies from Malmö University. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Mesganaw plans to continue to engage with public institutions to influence the implementation of strategic policy decisions on safety and justice issues with a particular focus on issues of women and girls.



**Willy-Conrad Asseko-Allogo, Gabon, Business & Entrepreneurship  
Yale University**

Willy-Conrad Asseko-Allogo successfully runs a transport company that continues to grow and prosper. He is passionate about encouraging the youth of Gabon to use sports as a means to enhance leadership, education, and foster an entrepreneurial spirit. He is the General Secretary and official spokesman of the Association of Young Gabonese Entrepreneurs (APJA), the president of the NGO Basketball Academy Club (BAC), and the Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) Lead Delegate. Willy received his bachelor's degree in Telecommunications from the Dortmund University of Applied Sciences and Arts. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to further his work in fostering entrepreneurship in Gabon and will coordinate an Education through Sport tutoring program for 50 children established by the Basketball Academy Club.



**Kablankan Gisele Assemian, Cote d'Ivoire, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Clark Atlanta University**

Kablankan Gisele Assemian is the founder and Managing Director of the Corporate Square, a results-oriented business center operating in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire since January 2012. She also serves as the Executive Secretary of the American Chamber of Commerce in Côte d'Ivoire. Prior to opening her company, Gisèle was the Country Office Manager for Randgold Resources where she managed the Administration department. She has experience in customer relationship management and office administration and has worked in the mining and airline industries as well as in real estate management. She earned her advanced diploma in Marketing and Management at the London School of Management in the United Kingdom. After the Washington Fellowship program, Gisele intends to share her experience with young entrepreneurs in Côte d'Ivoire by setting up a wider platform to allow them to set up their business with low costs.



**Lucy Mary Athieno, Uganda, Business and Entrepreneurship, Dartmouth College**

Lucy Athieno has had over three years of experience working with youth, with a special emphasis on girls and women. As part of this work, she has created Eco-pads, which are environmentally friendly, cost effective, and comfortable sanitary kits for women and girls to ensure increased retention of girls in school. She also serves as the Project Coordinator of Kadama Widows Association, an organization that supports families living and affected by HIV/AIDS to enjoy longer and productive lives. Lucy is a graduate of Industrial and Organizational Psychology with postgraduate training in topics related to project planning and management, monitoring and evaluation, leadership and governance, and entrepreneurship. On her return from the Washington Fellowship, she plans to launch Eco-pads, mentor young girls to ensure they stay in school, and continue to sensitize the

communities on the importance of girls' education.



**Petrina Ndapandula Auino, Namibia, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Notre Dame**

Petrina Auino is a naturopath who co-founded and co-owns Nature's Way, a business created in 2010 that specializes in offering complementary and alternative healthcare services, therapies, consultations, body scans, and products. She writes articles for local newspapers and magazines and speaks on radio and TV talk shows on healthy living, wellness, and disease prevention. Petrina is multilingual and speaks Oshiwambo, English, Afrikaans, German and Portuguese. She studied at the University of the Western Cape where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Complimentary Health Sciences (Summa Cum Laude) and a BCM in Naturopathic Medicine (Summa Cum Laude) and is currently pursuing a master's degree in Global Health: Non Communicable Diseases. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Petrina would like to expand her business to reach rural populations, venture into innovative solutions for health problems in Africa, and give workshops on entrepreneurship and innovative business.



**Lois Auta, Nigeria, Civic Leadership, Arizona State University**

Lois Auta has over five years of experience in the community development sector advocating for the betterment of persons with disabilities. She currently serves as the Executive Director of Cedar Seed Foundation, an organization that promotes the participation of women with disabilities into human rights based development in Nigeria. Lois is responsible for initiating and implementing empowerment programs. She holds a diploma in Public Administration and is currently studying to receive a bachelor's of science degree in Public Administration from the University of Abuja. Upon her return from the Washington Fellowship, she plans to create more

advocacy programs focused on education, democracy, and good governance, and create employment opportunities for women with disabilities in the Northern part of Nigeria.



**Paleki Matthew Obur Ayang, Civic Leadership, South Sudan  
University of California – Berkeley**

Paleki Ayang is a lawyer who is passionate about women's rights. She currently serves as the Executive Director of the South Sudan Women's Empowerment Network (SSWEN), a national indigenous network that aims to empower South Sudanese women, promote human rights, and build peaceful societies in the Republic of South Sudan. Paleki serves in an Advisory Council to the Special Representative of United Nations Secretary General in South Sudan. She is also a Gender Advisor to the United States Institute for Peace – Peace Radio for Youth in South Sudan program. Paleki is also a member of the Taskforce for the Engagement of Women, supported by the Institute of Inclusive Security and representing a group of 20 peace-builders from Sudan and South Sudan who come together with an objective to increase the effectiveness of the nine cooperation agreements signed between

both countries. She graduated from the University of Juba's College of Law with a distinction in 2008.



**Sani Ayouba Abdou, Niger, Civic Leadership, University of California-Berkeley**

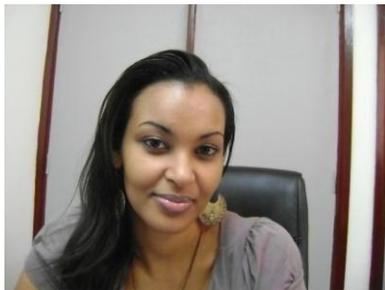
Sani Ayouba Abdou is founder and Executive Director of the Young Volunteers for the Environment (JVE), an NGO that works for the protection and preservation of the environment by conducting climate advocacy and promoting clean energy. He travels frequently to rural areas in Niger to inform the public of environmental and sustainable development issues facing their community. Ayouba holds a master's degree in Project Management. After completing the Washington Fellowship, he plans to increase youth involvement in the field of environment and encourage youth employment in the green economy.



**Pierre Balamou, Guinea, Public Management, Morgan State University**

Pierre Balamou has over five years of experience working in the implementation of priority health programs with a special focus on malaria control, maternal and child health, nutrition, and HIV/AIDS. He currently serves as an intern with the West African Health Organization (WAHO) and works on the National Malaria Elimination Program (NMEP) in Nigeria. His responsibilities include developing a new national Malaria strategic plan for 2014-2020, providing assessment of health workers, and conducting trainings at the national, local, government, and community levels. Pierre holds a certificate of completion in Public Health Management from WAHO in Burkina Faso, a Master of Science in Health Programs Management from the African Centre for Advanced Management Studies in Senegal and a diploma of Medical Doctor from the University of Guinea. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he would like to support health policy formulation and strategy

planning at all levels of the health system in Guinea. He also plans to set up a capacity building agency for global health access and leadership development.



**Dalada Bally, Mali, Public Management, Florida International University**

Dalada Bally has over four years of experience working in economic development. Currently, she serves as the Director of Regulatory Compliance and Performance Service for Orange Mali, a telecommunications company. She is responsible for organizing and managing all regulatory aspects of product development and money transfer service activities. She previously served as Local Project Manager for eRegulations Mali, a United Nations Conference on Trade and Development Program. Dalada holds a masters degree in International Law and Regulation from the Institute of Law, Peace, and Development at the University Of Nice Sophia-

Antipolis in France where she focused on development issues. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to work on economic formalization with a focus on administrative procedures and benefits of the law. She also intends to help simplify the administrative process and procedure for starting a business in in Mali.



**Bilma Edney Bandeira Mandinga, Sao Tome & Principe, Public Management Howard University**

Bilma Bandeira Mandinga has over six years of experience working in diplomacy and international relations. Currently, she is a Lawyer and Diplomat for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Communities, where she focuses on elaborating the policy of economic diplomacy and designing and implementing legal advisory for the diplomatic and consular affairs. Bilma received a diploma in Public Law, specializing in Political Science in Morocco and a post-graduate degree in Diplomacy Studies in Brazil where she focused on commercial diplomacy and its impact on development in Sao Tome and Principe. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship program, Bilma plans to work on the implementation of commercial diplomacy in Sao Tome and Principe.



**Charlene Bangwe, Zambia, Civic Leadership, University of Delaware**

Charlene Bangwe is a Development Specialist with over 10 years of management level work experience with major child-focused agencies. As Field Office Manager for the Zambia Open Community Schools (ZOCS), she is currently responsible for providing overall strategic direction to the regional team including planning, implementation, research, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting on program activities. Charlene has a strong passion for issues related to sustainable human rights, development, and social wellbeing. She is experienced in poverty-reduction strategy implementation, monitoring and evaluation, development and scaling up of economic strengthening enterprises, gender-mainstreaming, addressing HIV/AIDS, and championing education access and retention programs. She has a Bachelor's of Science in Project Management and a diploma in Social Work. Upon returning from the Washington Fellowship program, Charlene intends to promote increased access to education for all children including girls, children with disabilities, and those living in rural areas.

**Darara Mole Banti, Ethiopia, Civic Leadership, University of Delaware**

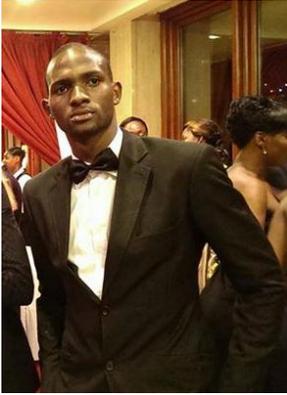


Darara Mole has five years of experience working in community development. Currently, he serves as a Program Coordinator with the Harmee Education for Development Association, an organization that works with women, children, youth, and people with disabilities located in rural areas. He is also chairman of the Youth for Action and Charity and previously worked with the Office of Government Labor and Social Affairs. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a minor in Sociology and is currently working towards a master's degree in Social Work at Addis Ababa University. Upon his return from the Washington Fellowship, Darara plans to share his acquired skills and knowledge with his community and engage in leadership cultivation programs at schools to inspire youth to be responsible citizens. He is also very keen to engage in charitable activities and to continue working with children.



**Akizou Bataba, Togo, Business and Entrepreneurship, Clark Atlanta University**

Akizou Bataba has over six years of working experience in the financial sector, and started as financial analyst in Germany. Currently, Akizou is a Project Analyst at the Togolese Presidency, where he has assisted in the improvement of the business environment in Togo. He contributed as a member of a high motivated team to improve his country's ranking in the Doing Business rating system. As member of a task force, he has also helped to set up a state-owned holding company to attract direct investments in Togo. Akizou holds a master degree of Business Information Systems from the TU Braunschweig University in Germany and a Fixed Income Expert Certificate from the Deutsche Boerse, the German financial market based in Frankfurt. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Akizou plans to help improve young Togolese entrepreneur's conditions by assisting new starters in the development phase of their activities.



**Charlie Batchanzi Wandji, Cameroon, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Yale University**

Charlie Wandji has over 3 years of experience in social entrepreneurship. Currently, he is the co-Founder of a company called Solutionneurs, and the founder of Africa's leading outsourcing platform. His goal is to reduce the unemployment rate in Africa by connecting micro tasks from online and offline sources to youth in Cameroon and across the continent through his website [www.1task1job.com](http://www.1task1job.com). Charlie is also the Financial Management Officer of a project called B-ADAPT (Business Adaptation to Climatic Change) at AMFN (African Model Forest Network). AMFN is an NGO that deals with rural development, operating in over six partner countries. Charlie holds an ACCA certificate (chartered accountancy) and a Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Accounting. After returning home, Charlie plans to inspire youth in his country, organizing workshops and Google hang-out sessions and

sharing his experience as a Washington Fellow. He also plans to realize his dream to reduce the unemployment rate in Cameroon by 50% over the next 10 years.



**Abella Paul Bateyunga, Tanzania, Civic Leadership  
University of Virginia and the College of William & Mary**

Abella Bateyunga has over nine year of experience working with international non-profit organizations and currently works with the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) where she is the Governance Officer at BBC Media Action Tanzania. In this capacity, she is responsible for designing and implementing a civic education training program for Tanzanian media to equip them with knowledge, skills, and resources that enable them to report objectively on the country's political events while promoting a constructive conversation between citizens, leaders, politicians, and the electorate. Her career focuses on enhancing good governance through civic engagement and promoting positive self-identity and creativity amongst the youth in Tanzania through media and the arts. As a media personality, she is renowned for her use of 'edutainment' style that combines

education and entertainment to reach out to Tanzanian youth to be active and engaged in their communities' social, economic and political processes. Abella holds a bachelor's of arts in law with honors from the University of Dar-es-Salaam. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship, she plans to continue working on civic education projects in Tanzania.



**James Bayanai, Zimbabwe, Civic Leadership, Tulane University**

James Bayanai is founder of Zimbabwe Youth Development Foundation Trust, an organization that promotes literacy. In his efforts to improve education in Zimbabwe, he has successfully secured and distributed over 100,000 books to rural schools, raised a scholarship fund for 25 rural children at Maware Primary School, and has established a community library in the Chirumanzu rural community. He is skilled in leadership development, volunteer management, capacity building, monitoring and evaluation, partnership building, project management, report writing, research, and advocacy. He holds a bachelor's of law honors degree from the University of Zimbabwe, a diploma in

Labor Relations from the Institute of Personnel Management of Zimbabwe, and a certificate in Social Enterprise from Elos Institute Brazil. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, James plans to establish community educational resource centers in the Chirumanzu rural community and even beyond.



**Fatima Salim Said Ahmed Bazahy, Kenya, Public Management  
University of Arkansas**

Fatima Salim Bazahy is a pharmacist working within the Ministry of Health and serves as the sub county Medical Officer of Health for both Malindi and Magarini counties. Fatima received her Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy and has participated in several trainings focused on community management risk reduction, integrated vector management, leadership development, proposal writing, and senior management. After completing the Washington Fellowship, she plans to focus on a few priority areas including community strategy, maternal neonatal child

health (MNCH), HIV/AIDS/TB, and Sanitation. Her goal is to create an organization that addresses issues related to access to potable water, sewage and trash disposal, personal hygiene, sustainable food sources, infrastructure, preventative medicine, barter system management, and self-governance.



**Samantha Beckbessinger, South Africa, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Yale University**

Sam Beckbessinger serves as the Strategic Director of Quirk, Africa's largest digital marketing agency. She helps big companies understand how to cope with new technological advancements. In 2011, she was awarded the Adfocus New Broom award for young talent in the industry. Sam is involved in other activities including writing short stories, creating podcasts, lecturing extensively on online culture and digital marketing, and serving as a course content developer for Vega and Red&Yellow. She's involved in projects that involve mentoring startups and teaching teenage girls to code. She received her Bachelor of Arts

degree (honors) in Creative Writing. Upon returning from the Washington Fellowship, Sam plans to continue to help business leaders understand how to better deliver key services to the emerging middle market through digital technology.



**Sani Dantuni Bello, Nigeria, Public Management, Howard University**

Sani Dantuni Bello has over eight years experience serving as an investigator, and currently serves as Unit head of the Intelligence and International Cooperation unit at the National Agency for the Prohibition of Persons in NAPTIP Sokoto zonal office. He is responsible for coordinating the collection, analysis and dissemination of intelligence, particularly as it relates to Trafficking in Persons (TIP). He trains law enforcement officers and civil society organizations on issues including victim identification, TIP investigation, and child protection. He attended the Regional Academy for Drug Control, Jos, State Services Academy, Lagos and the International Law Enforcement Academy, Gaborone Botswana and hold a Bachelor of Science in Botany and a masters degree in Gender, Environment and Development from Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to conduct training and sensitization workshops on the trafficking and labor

exploitation of the Almajiri children; a category of vulnerable children exploited in Northern Nigeria, to help build the capacity of the NAPTIP, law enforcement officers and NGO's as well as create awareness in the communities.



**Helawi Sewnet Beshah, Ethiopia, Public Management, University of Minnesota**

Helawi Beshah is an architect that researches and lectures for the Ethiopian Institute of Architecture, Building Construction and City Development (EiABC). For the last seven years he has researched and conducted experiments focusing on innovative, green, and affordable housing alternatives and constructing prototype buildings for lower income neighborhoods in Ethiopia. He is also the founder and Executive Editor of Building Ethiopia, the first architecture and urban scientific journal in Ethiopia. He is skilled in photography, visual communications, and graphics design. Helawi received his bachelor's degree in Architecture from the Addis Ababa University and a master's in advanced studies in Urban Design at the

Swiss Federal Institute of Technology. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Helawi plans to create publications, documentaries, and platforms that focus on innovations and change by youth across Africa.



**Justin Philip Beswick, South Africa, Business and Entrepreneurship University of Wisconsin-Stout**

Justin Beswick has over seven years of experience in technology startups, primarily in the renewable and sustainability arena. He has launched and coordinated Google's technology incubator in Cape Town and completed a marine expedition up the East Coast of Africa. He is currently scaling up his existing companies and working on getting a documentary of the marine expedition edited and broadcast. He is also actively involved in growing communities that foster entrepreneurial mind-sets, skills, and idea sharing that lead to action. He does so by channeling his time and efforts as a World Economic Forum

Global Shaper, curator of TEDxCapeTown, and through the Sandbox-network. He received a bachelor's of science degree in Biotechnology and also studied Financial Analysis & Portfolio Management at the University of Cape Town. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Justin intends on further growing his companies and completing the documentary aspects of his marine expedition.



**Abdel-Hamid Biema, Togo, Civic Leadership, Tulane University**

Abdel-Hamid Biema has over seven years of experience in various fields, such as leadership and community development. Currently, Hamid is a trainer in American Corner Fan club (A.C.F.C), and a financial assistant for E2C association (*Education- Citizenship- Change*) – Togo, where he focuses on sharing, initiating, designing and implementing citizenship and leadership activities. He was one of the first initiators of the youth forum organized by the US embassy in Lomé-Togo and organizer of the public speaking contest at the two state Universities of Togo. Hamid holds a bachelor's degree in English Linguistics from the University of Lomé. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship,

Abdel-Hamid hopes to work on civic education for elementary schools, on a project of Responsible Citizenship for young students with an emphasis on community growth through action plans, contests and workshops in universities, as well as in secondary and high schools.



**Bamshak Dennis Bigwan, Nigeria, Civic Leadership, Tulane University**

Bamshak Bigwan currently serves as the Director of Administration for the Latterhouse Christian Centre. He is responsible for working with youth in the northeastern states of Nigeria and empowering them through workshops and seminars that focus on skills acquisition. Bamshak is the the founder and President of the Global Leaders Consult, a nonprofit organization that seeks to restore the declining economy of northeastern Nigeria by training widows and orphans in basic hands on skills to enable them to start small scale businesses and factories. Bamshak holds a bachelor's degree in Electrical & Electronics Engineering from Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, a master's degree in Public Administration, and is a certified CISCO Networking Associate. After completing the Washington Fellowship, Bamshak intends to increase the scope

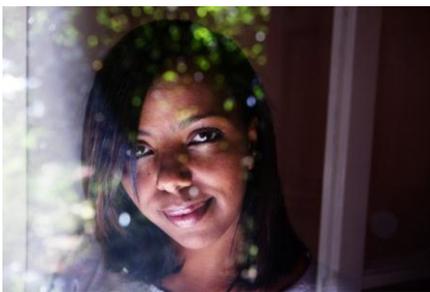
of his economic empowerment seminars and start off literary programs for youth who are out of school due to the insurgency in northern Nigeria. He also plans to revamp his skills acquisitions program to include northcentral Nigeria and create a mentoring program to share knowledge gained from the fellowship with other promising and talented emerging youths.

**Sahra Said Bile, Somalia, Civic Leadership, Wagner College**



Sahra Bile has worked with the United Nations (UN) and other International Organizations in Somalia for the last eight years. She currently serves as Project Officer for Community Security and Peace Building with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Governance and Rule of Law Program. In this capacity, she oversees the establishment of community safety and peace building infrastructure, partnerships with key stakeholders, knowledge building and sharing in conflict resolution, and security and peace building activities in Somalia. Prior to working with the UN, she started her career with Save the Children where she served as the Senior National Finance Officer. Sahra received a postgraduate diploma in Conflict and Peace Studies from the Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies (IPCS), Hargeisa University in January 2012. Upon completion of Washington Fellowship, Sahra plans to work with local communities in security, peace building, and development projects through advocacy, provision of basic services, and improving opportunities for women such as access to education and employment. She

believes that it is vital to engage Somali women and youth to take an active role in the dialogue for peace.



**Saba Kabsay Bisrat, Ethiopia, Business & Entrepreneurship  
Clark Atlanta University**

Saba Bisrat has over five years of experience in the construction business sector. She is currently the founder and Managing Director of Revo Construction where she executes projects that mainly focus on alternative construction methodologies. She is also a partner with a turnkey solution company called TKM Maestro Technology PLC and serves as co-founder and committee president for an international student organization called AIESEC. Saba is planning to launch a labor training center focused on providing skills for

those working in the construction sector. Saba holds a bachelor's degree in Construction Technology and Management from Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia. Upon the completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to share her acquired knowledge and skills with her community by giving workshops to different construction associations and graduating students who will be entering the construction industry.



**Sheick Omar Bittaye, Gambia, Business and Entrepreneurship, Yale University**

Sheick Omar Bittaye has six years of experience in volunteerism and private sector employment. He currently serves as a Sales and Marketing Manager with RLG Communications and RLG Institution of Technology. Sheick is skilled in event management, fundraising, and promotional campaign planning. He attended the University of the Gambia where he was president of the Students Union and received a Bachelor of Science in Marketing and a diploma in Sales and Marketing. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship, he intends to expand his organization's training program to underprivileged young people to give them life skills employment opportunities.



**Laud Ampomah Boateng, Ghana, Public Management, Morgan State University**

Laud Boateng has four years of experience in rural medical practice. He is a trainee public health physician with keen interest in measuring and tracking population health indices. He has experience in clinical trials, quality improvement, occupational health, and crisis management. He is a physician by training and pursuing a graduate training in Public Health from the University of Ghana and New York University. Laud plans on pursuing his projects on population based approaches in non-communicable disease management after his Washington Fellowship.



**Yabah Berthe Bognini, Cote d'Ivoire, Public Management, University of Arkansas**

Yabah Berthe Bognini has over seven years of experience working with governmental structures on reconciliation and social cohesion. Currently, she is a Legal Advisor and Assistant for the Ivorian Truth and Reconciliation Commission where she works on the coordination of 11 local commissions and the implementation of the commission's objectives and activities. She previously served as a consultant for a local NGO and worked on the harmonization of the Ivorian criminal, civil, and social legislation with related international instruments on human rights. Yabah holds a master's degree in Law and Conflict Resolution from the University of Abidjan and a master's of advanced studies from the University of Geneva. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Yabah plans to work on a transitional justice monitoring program with a focus on community resilience and capacity building.



**Nthabiseng Mary Bohloa, Lesotho, Public Management, Howard University**

Nthabiseng Bohloa is a Doctor at the Baylor College of Medicine in Lesotho. In this role she oversees the health of HIV infected mothers and children. She is a regular contributor to the HIV management training of other health workers in Lesotho. She has collaborated with consultants in RSA to introduce Telemedicine Lesotho. She received her medical degree from the University of Pretoria, South Africa and Bachelor of Science in Medical Science from the University of Natal in South Africa. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Nthabiseng plans to improve health care management with a focus on TB and HIV.



**Roland Yinyu Bongko, Cameroon, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Northwestern University**

Roland Yinyu Bongko possesses over eight years of progressive experience in the finance and accounting field with a special focus in the microfinance sector. He is currently serving as the General Manager for RGF where his main duties include overseeing the activities of the institution in operations, customer service, and sales. He holds a bachelor's of science degree in Accountancy from the University of Buea and a Global Commerce license from AEACAE. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Roland plans to expand and improve his institution to provide microfinance services help Cameroonians overcome the poverty line.

**Vandana Premila Boolell, Mauritius, Business and Entrepreneurship, Northwestern University** (*bio pending*)

**Mam-Pingdawende Francine Boro-Legma, Burkina Faso, Civic Leadership  
University of California-Berkeley**



Mam-Pingdawende Francine Boro-Legma currently serves as the IT Project Manager with ONATEL SA, a private telecommunication company where she has launched postpaid offers, 3G solutions, mobile payment platforms, and loyalty systems. In 2009, she became the General Secretary of the Association of Women of Telecommunications in Burkina Faso. She has received extensive training on topic of internet governance and is increasingly concerned about the technological gap between Africa and developed countries, and more importantly the gap between women and men in their usage of new technologies in Africa. As a response to this growing concern, Francine created AFT, an NGO that focuses on building the technology capacity of women and girls via trainings, seminars, and workshops. Francine has a master's degree in International Commerce from Icofes in Paris, France and a bachelor's of engineering degree in computer science from the Institute of Engineering in

Computer Science in Limoges, France. Francine hopes her time in the Washington Fellowship will help her achieve her future goals of becoming the first woman leader in the IT sector in Burkina Faso.

**Gillion Bosman, South Africa, Public Management  
Florida International University**



Gillion Bosman believes that the youth have a significant role to play in building a better South Africa. As a result, he is very active in youth led projects and serves as the Chairperson and co-Director of Youth End Poverty, a youth-led development initiative. He is also a global change maker who participated in the 2008 World Economic Forum and a South Africa Washington International Program. He believes that education is key to poverty eradication and equality and currently works in educational publishing and previously managed the basic and higher education portfolios for the British Council in South Africa.

**Isabel Zeca Paulo Bueio, Civic Leadership,  
University of Virginia and the College of William & Mary**



Isabel Zeca Paulo Bueio was born in Benguela where she still lives. She has seven years of experience working for the promotion of human rights at the community level. She has focused her efforts on negotiation, meditations and conflict resolution. She has degree in Business and Management from Jean Piaget Institute (Instituto Politecnico Superior Jean Piaget) in Benguela. Isabel Bueio has worked as a reporter and radio correspondent, as well as for the legislative election and on transparency issues in the past. She is currently focused on women's empowerment and fighting domestic violence. These will be the issues that she focuses on after she returns from the Washington Fellowship. Her motto is, "It's not what you say, but how you say it that makes all the difference."

**Aarhi Burtony, Mauritius, Civic Leadership, Rutgers University**



Aarhi Burtony is a blind disability activist and an intern at the Supreme Court of Mauritius. She is active in several roles including serving as the Chairperson of DIS-MOI, a non-profit organization advocating for the promotion and protection of human rights in Mauritius and the south-west Indian Ocean. She is also the President of CEDEM, a non-profit organization working for the welfare of needy children; including children with disabilities. Aarhi serves as the Secretary of the Executive Committee of the Forum of Women with Disabilities and is a board member of the Training and Employment of Disabled Persons. She strives to educate people on disability rights and create an inclusive Mauritian society whereby discrimination on the ground of disability is non-existent.



**Louis Friday Bwalya, Zambia, Public Management, University of Arkansas**

Louis Bwalya has seven years of experience working in governance and service delivery for both the public sector and civil society. His particular focus is in research, policy analysis, planning, capacity building, domestic accountability, project management, and advocacy. Louis currently works for the Ministry of Justice where his role is to facilitate the development and implementation of effective interventions on public accountability and transparency through policy reviews, reforms, capacity building, awareness raising, research, and civil society engagement. After completing the Washington Fellowship, Louis intends to continue working on improved

accountability in public service delivery with local authorities and civil societies. He hopes to achieve this through advocacy, lobbying for capacity building, and reviving the Anti-Corruption Forums and Civil Society Governance symposium.

**Musiime Christopher Byaruhanga, Uganda, Civic Leadership University of Virginia and the College of William & Mary**



Musiime Byaruhanga has three years of experience spearheading an Extractives Governance project at ActionAid Uganda. He also manages Oil in Uganda, a website and newsletter that promotes transparent, constructive, and well-informed public and policy debate to promote oil management that is fair, prudent, accountable, and beneficial to all Ugandan citizens. He also oversees various interventions in the Albertine Region of Uganda that seek to empower women and youth by equipping them with the knowledge and skills to defend their rights to land and other natural resources. Chris earned a bachelor's of arts

degree in Environmental Management from Makerere University, a postgraduate diploma in Financial Management from the Uganda Management Institute, and a certificate in Mining and Regional Development from the University of Western Australia. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Chris plans to mobilize local communities in oil-producing areas into small business associations that can lobby to supply goods and services to Uganda's oil industry alongside the current international service providers.

**Rebeca Sara Cain, Angola, Civic Leadership, Rutgers University**



Rebecca Cain has over ten years of experience working with vulnerable children in Africa, Latin America and North America. After working with abandoned girls in Swaziland and with street children in Ecuador, she has spent the last three years as a child therapist for underprivileged children in Angola and is the coordinator of a volunteer program at a local orphanage. Her role as a therapist is to provide individual or group therapy to referred children with trauma, behavioral and/or emotional difficulties. The first goal of the volunteer program is to implement play activities that will help to stimulate children at the orphanage and help them overcome many of their fears, frustrations and emotional difficulties. The second goal is to help high school students develop their spirit of volunteerism and solidarity in order to promote peace through education. She obtained a double honor's degree in

International Development Studies and Business Administration followed by postgraduate studies in Child Therapy. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship program, Rebecca plans on setting up, registering, and mobilizing the funding for a not-for-profit children's organization focused on child and youth issues in Angola.



**Adelina Canjala Dangola Calundungo, Angola, Public Management  
University of Minnesota**

Adelina Calundungo has seven years of experience working in the health sector. She currently is a nurse educator at the Nursing College of Lubango (EFTSH) where she coordinates a nursing course and provides trainings. She is also a registered nurse (RN) at Rundu Intermediate hospital in Namibia. Adelina holds a diploma in Comprehensive Nursing and Midwifery from the University of Namibia (UNAM). Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship program, Adelina plans to work on improving nurse education and helping to reduce the rate of maternal and neonatal death by creating opportunities of education and access to health care for less privileged women from small Angolan villages.



**Mahamadou Camara, Mali, Business and Entrepreneurship,  
Clark Atlanta University**

Mahamadou Camara has over five years of experience working in the community development sector. He is the founder and Executive Director of the Independent Cabinet of Translation and Consulting in Sikasso, the first translation and consulting office with language teaching facilities. He also works with Group for Community Support where he trains women in accounting and mobile micro-credit. Mahamadou holds a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Bamako and a certificate in Sustainable Human Development from the Central European University in Budapest. Upon completion of the

Washington Fellowship, he plans to train women in agro business and market gardening. In addition, he intends to provide trainings to youth in entrepreneurship and English language instruction to assist them as they search for career opportunities.



**Piet Carstens, Namibia, Public Management, University of Arkansas**

Piet Carstens has over ten years of experience in the areas of youth leadership and community development. He currently serves as Senior Employment Officer in the public sector where he is responsible for providing career and employment counseling for the residents of the Erongo region. He also serves as the Administrative Head of the regional office of the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare. Piet holds qualifications in the fields of information technology (systems administration and networking), philosophy, and project management. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he intends to work in rural areas and informal settlements to provide programs in youth empowerment, youth mentorship, and career guidance.



**Nomathansanqa Bonolo Celia Cebe, South Africa, Public Management, University of  
Arkansas**

Nomathansanqa Cebe has over five years of experience working on issues related to education, HIV/AIDS, environmental sustainability, mentorship and personal development for the youth of Africa. She is currently the Youth Liaison Officer at Youth Development Organization Enke: Make Your Mark, where she is working to support young people to make a meaningful impact in their communities through community action projects. She holds an honors degree in Development Studies from the University of Witwatersrand. After completing the Washington Fellowship, she plans to further develop her initiative Make|Shift|Afrika, which seeks to inspire young people to start projects and innovations for the direct development of Africa. The initiative also intends to shift mindsets through educational workshops, dialogues, and activities that will challenge Afrophobia/xenophobia in South Africa and around the continent ensuring that as a generation we recognize how interconnected our future is.



**David Chakombera, Zimbabwe, Business and Entrepreneurship, Northwestern University**

David Chakombera is a Senior Advisor at Ernst & Young who has over six years of experience working across multiple sectors advising senior management and CEO's on their most pressing strategic business needs. He is also the co-founder of Africa Lead, an incubator for gifted entrepreneurs that provides mentorship and business coaching to the growing informal sector in Zimbabwe. In addition, Africa Lead hosts the annual Africa Business Leadership Summit, which promotes the exchange of ideas between accomplished international business leaders and Zimbabwean captains of industry. David also sits on the board of Lead Us Today, a nonprofit organization that empowers young people to work together and lead community development efforts. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to utilize the experience and networks established in order to scale up his efforts with Africa Lead.



**Abel Williams Cheayan, Liberia, Civic Leadership, Tulane University**

Abel Cheayan has five years of experience working with youth on environment and sustainable development issues, including aid provision to war affected orphans and widows. He is President of the Natural Resources Research Initiative (NRRI). NRRI is involved in negotiation with governments and major actors for the inclusion of young people into the decision making process of Liberia's natural resources to prevent potential conflicts and associated environmental human rights abuses. Abel is an orphan affected by the 14 years of civil conflict in Liberia. In 2008, he founded Guardian Care to provide aid to orphans and widows. As Founder/CEO of Guardian Care, he has provided primary education to children and empowered single mothers and youth to be active in small and sustainable agriculture activities. He is currently studying for his bachelor's degree at the St. Clement University College majoring in Petroleum Engineering. After completing the Washington Fellowship program, he plans to provide basic civic leadership workshop training to youth, facilitate youth involvement into the natural resources decision making process at the national level in Liberia, and empower youth through sustainable agriculture activities as a means of creating green jobs.

**Yousra Cherif, Mauritania, Public Management, Howard University (*bio pending*)**



**Clive Musiya Chifunte, Zambia, Public Management  
Florida International University**

Clive Chifunte, is a trained forester with 10 years of experience in wildlife management and research. He works for the Zambia Wildlife Authority as a Wildlife Ecologist responsible for ecological research and monitoring of habitats in Zambia's wildlife estates. Clive also works with local communities living adjacent to national parks to promote sustainable utilization of non-wood forest products to enhance natural resource sustainability and reduce pressure on wildlife and forest resources. He holds a bachelor's of science degree from the Copperbelt University in Zambia. Clive hopes to use his influence and knowledge gained from the Washington Fellowship to engage various stakeholders in initiatives that would enhance adaptation and resilience to climate change. He will also actively participate in the management of the Kafue National Park in Zambia that surrounds his duty station.



**Mutibo Chijikwa, Zambia, Public Management, University of Minnesota**

Mutibo Chijikwa-Mushenywa has served as a cotton entomologist for over six years. She currently works for Cotton Development; a cotton research institute that is responsible for providing the 250,000 small holder cotton farmers with technologies that will help reduce their production costs and increase their profits in cotton. Mutibo is responsible for promoting integrated pest management to cotton farmers, especially among women. She holds a master's degree in Entomology from the University of Zambia. Upon Completing the Washington Fellowship, she plans to work more closely with young women in her district of Mazabuka to encourage them

to attend university and to study science based courses. She also plans to focus on introducing policies that will positively impact cotton farmers, especially as it relates to pest management.



**Irene Chikumbo, Zimbabwe, Business and Entrepreneurship Northwestern University**

Irene Chikumbo is co-founder and current Community Manager of Hypercube Technology Hub where she is responsible for developing digital capacity to drive youth entrepreneurship, community stakeholder engagement, and contributing to the tech ecosystem by helping ignite a digital startup culture in Zimbabwe. She is skilled and experienced in event management, social media, and designing and implementing programs to engage youth in tech-based entrepreneurship. She holds a master's degree from the Blekinge Institute of Technology in Sweden in the areas of innovation, business development, and entrepreneurship. After completion of the Washington Fellowship, she

hopes to drive the use of technology and entrepreneurship amongst both young men and women to contribute to social and economic development.



**Takunda Ralph Michael Chingonzo, Zimbabwe, Business & Entrepreneurship University of Notre Dame**

Takunda Chingonzo is a tech savvy, inspirational leader who loves working on cutting edge technology and discovering ways to monetize such technology in emerging economies. Takunda is the co-founder of Neolab Technology P/L, a multi award winning start-up that is currently working on bringing free Internet access to the public. He is also the co-founder of NeoEffect, a social start-up working towards the empowerment of underprivileged youth through IT Literacy in southern Zimbabwe. Takunda is passionate about entrepreneurship and has successfully rolled out initiatives such as the MX project and BOOT Africa that

strive to promote student start-ups in tertiary institutions. Takunda is currently studying for a bachelor's degree in Quantity Surveying and is also working towards CISCO certification in Network Security. Upon the completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to roll out services over WiFi on the "free WiFi" network called Saisai that is being developed by Neolab. He also intends on expanding his social initiatives to other tertiary institutions in Zimbabwe and southern Africa.



**Taurai Chinyamakobvu, Zimbabwe, Business and Entrepreneurship, Yale University**

Taurai Chinyamakobvu is a partner and investor in Flocash Zimbabwe, a joint venture with a UK payment gateway services company. He is also the founder of Pazimba, an e-commerce start-up business focusing on providing multiple retailers with a convenient platform to sell their goods online. In his present role, he focuses on leading his team, developing a business model, and managing other hard and soft issues related to the ventures. Taurai is interested in contemporary tech-driven business models and in technology transfer and development in Africa. He consults Japanese companies that pursue business opportunities in Africa. He has previously worked in banking and telecommunications and holds two

Masters of Business Administration. After completing the Washington Fellowship, Taurai plans to take e-commerce mainstream in Zimbabwe with a vision to do the same across Africa

**Alain Chirwisa, Democratic Republic of Congo, Civic Leadership  
Tulane University**



Alain Chirwisa has over five years of experience working with youth focusing on using the arts as a tool for activism, civic education, and positive social change. He is the founder and Artistic Director of the Mental Engagé, an organization that focuses on empowering hip hop artists with civic and human rights knowledge; producing, disseminating and promoting socially committed artistic initiatives; organizing awareness programs; and using urban culture and hip-hop as a mean. His main responsibility is to coordinate awareness and artistic workshop programs for young Congolese hip hop artists. He is also hip hop artist known as ALESH and speaks four languages including French, English, Kiswahili and Lingala. Alain has a Bachelor of Science in International Monetary Economic Sciences from University of Kisangani. Upon returning from the Washington Fellowship, he plans to create the Lumumba Civic and Cultural Center to empower youth in civic engagement, human rights, and artistic skills.

**Greaterman Chivandire, Zimbabwe, Civic Leadership, Rutgers University**



Greaterman Chivandire has more than five years of experience in civil society specifically in the area of child protection and youth development. Currently, he is employed as a Program Coordinator for Leonard Cheshire Disability Zimbabwe Trust, an organization that strives to create equal opportunities for children and youth with disabilities. Greaterman coordinates six programs and is responsible for managing program design, monitoring and evaluation, and strategic partnerships and alliances. He holds a master's degree in Development Studies: Poverty Studies and Policy Analysis from the International Institute of Social Studies of Erasmus University Rotterdam in the Hague. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Greaterman will continue to coordinate programs that campaign for the rights and welfare of people with disabilities in Zimbabwe.

**Christelle Bay Chongwain, Cameroon, Civic Leadership, Tulane University**



Christelle Bay Chongwain is a youth worker and an advocate of peace and good governance. She is the founder and Director of Hope for the Needy Association (HOFNA), a youth led nonprofit organization that is dedicated to helping the most underprivileged and marginalized youth in Cameroon achieve lasting positive changes in their lives. She has seven years of experience working in the civil society sector with a focus on education promotion, entrepreneurship, youth empowerment, and community development. Christelle is a certified chemistry instructor from the Higher Teacher's Training College of the University of Yaoundé I, Cameroon, and holds a higher national diploma in Banking and Finance. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to use the knowledge and experience acquired to contribute to the development of civic leadership and engagement in Cameroon as a route to foster youth empowerment and community development.

**Lawrence Ezekiel Chuma, Tanzania, Public Management, Howard University**



Lawrence Chuma has over eight years of experience working with civil society in the areas of human rights, governance, and leadership as well as advocating for policies that influence the well-being of youth, women, and marginalized groups. He has served as a youth representative to various national and international events, and engaged as a convener, facilitator, trainer and panelist. Currently, Lawrence is a lead Consultant and founder of Diligent Solutions International, a company that works to build the capacities of civil societies, emerging business enterprises, and local government leaders. He holds a post graduate diploma in Economic Diplomacy. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to mobilize and undertake a leadership training program that will empower youth to participate in governance, leadership, and accountability.



**Christian Cirhigiri, Democratic Republic of Congo, Civic Leadership  
Tulane University**

Christian Cirhigiri has three years of experience using the arts and communication as a tool to empower youth in post conflict areas. He co-founded the Bukavu Youth Action center, a local NGO that promotes responsible youth leadership programming through the arts and produces a bi-monthly magazine called Jeune Leader. Christian's main goal is to impact a vibrant generation of young leaders that will change the course of the Democratic Republic of Congo's (DRC) future leadership. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Christian plans to use his acquired training to improve his organization's leadership curriculum and partner and network with similar NGO's across the continent to share best practices for civic engagement.



**Sekou Amadou Cissoko, Guinea, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Notre Dame**

Amadou "Chico" Cissoko is the founder of Making Africa a Continent of Innovators (MACI) and Director of the Dare to Innovate Movement. He is an expert in human development, agro tourism, and agricultural marketing. He has served as the Director of Marketing and Commercialization for the integrated farm Fabik, the leading commercial farm in Guinea. Amadou is also founder of the first agro tourist site in Guinea called the Vathaba. After completing the Washington Fellowship, he plans to collaborate with the YALI Network to initiate a mass innovation initiative in

Africa with a vision to create a culture and environment that fosters innovation, entrepreneurship, and excellence in African societies; thus making every African an everyday innovator.



**Cindy-Lee Cloete, South Africa, Civic Leadership, Arizona State University**

Cindy-Lee Cloete has six years of experience working on providing environmental education within rural communities. She is currently the Conservation Education Director for the Nature's Valley Trust, a conservation NGO striving to maintain environmental integrity through building informed and mobilized communities. In 2011 she conceptualized, initiated, and launched the Bitou Environmental Education Forum; a platform to formalize a collaborative and integrated approach to environmental education in this region. Cindy-Lee holds a national diploma in Nature Conservation from the Cape Peninsula University of Technology. On her return from the Washington Fellowship, she would like to work with the Department of Education to introduce environmental education into the national curriculum. She would also like to run workshops, training the youth of the Garden Route in Eco-Guiding, teaching young people to live sustainably

within set boundaries, and creating employment opportunities.



**Ethel Delali Cofie, Ghana, Business and Entrepreneurship, Yale University**

Ethel Cofie is an IT and Strategy Consultant with over 10 years of experience working with innovative and transformational systems and products. Her work focuses on providing services such as product solutions management, business analysis, software development, service management, strategy development and implementation. She has international experience working on a variety of projects including the Bill and Melinda Gates Mobile Technology for Health project, the Ford Foundation's Election Monitoring project for Nigeria, and serving as head of Commercial Solutions at Vodafone. Ethel runs a monthly series titled Women in Technology, which is an informal networking group focused on education and enhancing women's careers by sharing experiences and lessons learned in members' career development. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Ethel plans to launch a social media project to help boost and increase tourism to Ghana and create an accelerator venture capital fund to help develop entrepreneurship in Africa.



**Ivan Vilaça Collinson, Mozambique, Public Management, University of Arkansas**

Ivan Collinson currently serves as the Deputy-Registrar of Eduardo Mondlane University, the oldest public university in Mozambique. He is responsible for student enrollment, scholarship management, graduation ceremonies, alumni office, international exchange, student guidance, professional integration, internships, academic control, and review and implementation of legal tools for academic and student management. He holds two bachelor's degrees in Educational Sciences and Theology, and two post-graduation degrees in Business and Management and Higher Education Studies and Development. His main research interests are related to university governance and access and success policies in higher education. After completing the Washington Fellowship program, he plans to use information and resources acquired to improve access and success in public higher education institutions in Mozambique with a specific emphasis on underrepresented groups, including youth and women.



**Combey Djidjole Combetey, Togo, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Northwestern University**

Combey Djidjolé Combetey, also known as Sylvio Combey, has more than eight years of work experience in various fields of journalism and media studies. He holds a Diploma in Journalism and Media Studies, in Accra, Ghana. He is a bilingual in French and English. After several years of practice in Ghana and with Togolese local radio stations, newspapers and magazines, he has, since 2013, been the Managing Director of the information website AFRICA RENDEZ-VOUS ([www.africardv.com](http://www.africardv.com)). News from this website is broadcasted by Africans from seven African countries, which focuses on the daily lives and events of the people from those countries. He is at the forefront of the blogging community in Togo due to his organizing of several interest and training workshops with the support of the American Corner in Lomé University. He has also volunteered in several projects of the Togo US Alumni Community and is active in various NGO's and associations. To date, he is leading the African network of journalists on peace and human security (RAJOSEP). His perspective is to acquire skills and strategies that will enable him expand the network of AFRICA RENDEZ-VOUS to the whole Africa by 2020 in order to voice the concerns of the African community.



**Zainab Ferrah Conteh, Sierra Leone, Public Management, Morgan State University**

Zainab Conteh has two years of experience working as the District Monitoring and Evaluation Officer for the Ministry of Health and Sanitation. Her main responsibility is to collate and analyze routine health data generated in the Bombali district. The data collected is used for annual planning and also disseminating information to partners. After returning from the Washington Fellowship, her objective is to advocate for the provision of a data archiving facility at all levels of the health sector to improve proper planning and decision making.



**Abu Bakarr Conteh, Sierra Leone, Civic Leadership, Rutgers University**

Abu Bakarr Conteh has experience working in community-based psychosocial intervention, child protection programming, advocacy, and capacity building. He has served many roles including President of the Children’s Forum Network, founder and Coordinator of Kids Arise Sierra Leone, Secretary General of Port Loko District Alliance of Civil Society organizations, and Community Based Advocacy Officer and Team Coordinator for War Child Holland- Sierra Leone. His goal is to establish functional and sustainable community structures that support children and youth, Increase awareness of child rights and the psychosocial development of children,

provide and improve learning opportunities for children, and contribute to law enforcement to promote minority rights. Abu Bakarr is currently pursuing a bachelor’s degree in Development Studies at the University of Makeni. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship, he intends to strengthen intervention on youth empowerment and e-governance.



**Sounon Bazoumana Coulibaly, Cote d’Ivoire, Business and Entrepreneurship, University of Texas-Austin**

Sounon Bazoumana Coulibaly has over seven years of experience working as a translator and business English teacher for professionals. He currently serves as the Head of Administration, Protocol and Human Resources for DANGOTE Cement Cote d’Ivoire. He is also the founder and Manager of Vice Versa Language Solutions, a company providing language and communication services. Sounon is a member of the Ivorian Movement for Human Rights and co-founder and President of an NGO assisting people in distress. He holds a diploma of engineering in Human Resource Management, a bachelor’s degree in Communications, and a master’s degree in

English. Upon returning from the Washington Fellowship, he plans to create the First Contract Program, an initiative that provides young graduates with the opportunity to have their first professional contact in the field to learn the ropes and be able to think and manage their own businesses.



**Fouzia Abdikadir Dahir, Kenya, Civic Leadership, Tulane University**

Fouzia Dahir has over nine years of experience in social and community development. Her work focuses on providing alternatives to economic livelihood and the rights of women and children in her community. She is the founder and Executive Director of Northern Organization Of Social Empowerment. Fouzia is currently working on programs that will transform her community from nomadic lifestyle to agro-pastoralism. She is pursuing a Master of Business Administration at University of Wales Institute, Cardiff. After completing the Washington Fellowship, she seeks to use the knowledge and networks gained to advance her community development programs to lead hopefully transform her community

from a nomadic dependency culture to a more diversified culture.



**Nfamara K. Dampha, Gambia, Public Management, University of Minnesota**

Nfamara Dampha has seven years of experience in student and youth organizational leadership and community and public sector management. He currently serves as Assistant Secretary to the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Fisheries and Water Resources. His main work responsibilities include formulating, reviewing, and monitoring the implementation of fisheries, water, and climate related policies, programs, and strategies. He is the founder and current President of Genieri Youth’s Association for Education & Development focused on empowering rural youth with skills meant to combat poverty, inequality, and unemployment. He earned a first class degree (Cum Laude) in Development Studies from

the University of the Gambia. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to implement a variety of projects focused on mitigating rural-urban drift, illegal migration, and promoting rural youth empowerment for the purpose of rural development.



**Abdalla Dao, Burkina Faso, Public Management, Florida International University**

Abdalla Dao works with the Burkina National Agricultural Research Corporation as a researcher focused on crop improvement. Over the past seven years, he has been coordinating the creation, evaluation, and dissemination of improved maize varieties and working with farmers and NGOs in designing and implementing agricultural development projects. He also serves as a mentor and contributes to the capacity building of many agronomists. Abdalla completed his Ph.D in Genetic and Plant Breeding from the West Africa Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI) at the University of Ghana. Abdalla believes agriculture is essential for economic growth in Burkina Faso and hopes that by

participating in the Washington Fellowship, he will cultivate relationships and gain skills that will help him contribute to a green revolution, not only in Burkina Faso, but throughout Africa.



**N'Sira Daraba, Guinea, Civic Leadership, Arizona State University**

N'Sira has over eight years of experience working directly with local communities in rural Guinea focusing on local economic development. Currently, she serves as the Senior Livelihoods Officer for a mining company where she assists communities with sustainable livelihoods restoration activities that include supporting agriculture, market gardening, and salt extraction programs. N'Sira is a member of Jeune Cellule pour le Development and is pushing for mining transparency in Guinea by increasing awareness on the efficient use of royalties and local resources by communities to fight against poverty and to share resources equitably. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship, N'Sira plans to work on improving

stakeholders engagement trough lobbying for relevant use of local resources by communities and networking by empowering good practices between different offices.



**Chundung Ashley Dauda, Nigeria, Civic Leadership  
University of California-Berkeley**

Chundung Ashley Dauda has five years of experience as a community development worker. She currently serves as the Program Officer with Women Without Walls Initiative (WOWWI) where she is responsible for coordinating peace building programs for communities living in conflict, including the city of Jos in northern Nigeria. She is also responsible for facilitating dialogue sessions for youth living in conflict and conducting training workshops in peacebuilding for women and peace education for students. Chundung holds a master's degree in Conflict

Management and Peace Studies from the University of Jos Nigeria with a focus on the use of inter religious dialogue as a tool for building peace in Jos. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Chundung plans to work on sensitization workshops for youth in Jos, with a focus on empowering electorates on how to hold elected officials accountable to help mitigate corrupt practices in government.



**Ryno Alsander De Water, South Africa, Public Management, Syracuse University**

Ryno De Water has seven years of experience in both prosecution and investigations of complex commercial crimes. He currently serves as the Deputy Director of the Forensic Audit Services within the Office of the Accountant-General at the Department of National Treasury. His current duties are to investigate fraud and corruption within all three spheres of the South African government within the procurement system. He facilitates training courses for the Anti-Corruption Task Team (ACTT) on the investigation and prosecution of public finance and public procurement contraventions. Ryno holds a LLB Law degree from the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University and is an admitted Advocate of the High Court of South Africa with various other qualifications in Forensic Accounting and Fraud Examination. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Ryno plans to use best

practices gained to strengthen public finance governance within South Africa's Public Procurement System.



**Ruka Yaro De-Liman, Ghana, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Wisconsin-Stout**

Ruka De-Liman is an entrepreneur with a passion to influence change in her community through advocacy and mentoring. She is currently the President of Camfed Alumni (CAMA) and serves as a Business Trainer for Camfed Ghana. In this capacity, she has trained over 500 young women to become financial literacy peer educators who in turn, have trained over 10,000 community members in financial management. Ruka has established a farm in her community that raises and processes poultry to create employment opportunities for youth, especially girls. She has a bachelor's degree in Integrated Development Studies from the University for Development Studies in Ghana. Upon completion of the Washington

Fellowship, Ruka plans to use the knowledge gained to expand her business so that more young people can benefit and also help other entrepreneurs further develop their businesses.



**Nontonhou Nicaise Marius Deguenonvo, Benin, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Wisconsin-Stout**

Nontonhou Deguenonvo currently serves as Director of the Training and Communication departments with the Benin National Federation of Agricultural Producers. He has over three years of experience in training Beninese farmers on natural resource conservation, sustainable agricultural practices, developing communication plans, rural entrepreneurship, personal and organizational effectiveness, and project designing for fundraising and development of farming activities. Nicaise is a former President of the Benin University Agronomy Students Association and continues to provide support through advice, negotiation skills, and project management. He holds a degree in Agricultural Engineering. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Nicaise plans to address youth unemployment through providing Beninese rural youth with trainings in leadership,

business, and entrepreneurship to help them to set up their own business.



**Ntombifuthi Jackie Dennis, Swaziland, Public Management, Morgan State University**

Ntombifuthi Dennis has over seven years of progressively challenging experiences in the area of Public Health. She currently works with the Swaziland National AIDS Council (known as the National Emergency Response Council on HIV and AIDS –NERCHA). She has served many roles with the AIDS Council including Youth Programs Advisor, SBCC Assistant Coordinator, and the position she holds now, which is HIV Prevention Coordinator. As part of her current position, she is responsible for strategy and policy development of an HIV prevention program. She also supports NGOs and government sectors in developing rigorous evidence informed HIV prevention programs. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to work on empowerment programs targeting young women and girls.



**Alassane Abdoulaye Dia, Senegal, Public Management, Howard University**

Alassane Abdoulaye Dia has five years of experience serving as an Assistant English language Instructor for the Université Gaston Berger in Senegal. He served as Secretary General and President of the university's English Club and also founder and Coordinator of the African Studies Group. Alassane was an exchange in South Korea where served as a tutor of English and French classes with the Sookmyung Women's University. He is currently studying to receive his Ph. D from Université Gaston Berger. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to work with national and international organizations to boost the sector of education and connect to global education leadership to improve the performance of academic institutions.



**Nathalie Diagne, Senegal, Public Management, Florida International University**

Nathalie Diagne is a researcher at the Senegalese Institute for Agricultural Research (ISRA/ CNRA). Her current work is focused on the use of biofertilizers to help farmers deal with land degradation problems, enhance their agricultural yields, and improve food security in Africa. She has received her Ph.D. in Plant Biotechnology and Soil Microbiology from the Cheikh Anta Diop Université of Dakar. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Nathalie plans to work in collaboration with other YALI Fellows to promote the use of biofertilizers to increase field productivity and improve smallholder’s livelihoods in Africa.



**Mahamadou Diakite, Mali, Public Management, Howard University**

Mahamadou Diakite is experienced in ICT and has worked in the industry of software development for five years. He currently serves as CT Officer for the USAID/OTI program that is implemented by AECOM International Development. The objective of the program is to build peace and reconciliation in Mali and Mahamadou is responsible for the ICT infrastructure of the program and the use of technology to promote program activities. He believes that all Malians should have access to a good quality education and is active in working with youth organizations to promote peace in Mali. He holds a bachelor’s

degree in Information Technology and Knowledge System and an honors degree in Management of Technology from the University of Pretoria. After the Washington Fellowship, he plans to use ICT to empower young people and promote peace in Mali.



**Muhammad Yaya Diallo, Guinea, Civic Leadership, Tulane University**

Muhammad Diallo has over four years of experience in environmental matters in Guinea and West Africa. He is the Executive Director of Guinée Ecologie and serves as the organization’s principal technical advisor on environmental law and communication issues. He is currently assisting in the development of a Guinée ecology project funded by GEF and focusing on chimpanzee’s conservation in the Fouta Djallon Highlands. Muhammad is also the national focal point in Guinea for IUCN/IIED’s Global Water Initiative (GWI). He holds a master’s degree in Environmental Law and Land-use Planning from Toulon’s University in France. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to assist in the

development of more environmental and natural resources conservation projects focused on species conservation, climate change, and environmental education.



**Tebogo Moatshe Ditshego, South Africa, Business and Entrepreneurship University of Wisconsin-Stout**

Tebogo Ditshego has over eight years of experience in the public relations industry. Some of his work includes managing media relations for the South African Reserve Bank’s new “Mandela” banknotes communications campaign and writing speeches for the President of the American Chamber of Commerce of South Africa (AMCHAM). In addition, he is the CEO of Ditshego Media, a public relations agency and the founder of @ReadAbookSA, South Africa’s most followed reading initiative with 30,000 twitter followers. In February, 2014, Tebogo was listed as one of Forbes Magazine’s top 30

African Entrepreneurs under the age of 30. He holds an honors degree in Communications and Media Studies from the University of Johannesburg.



**Gcinaphi Ntombikayise Gcinile Dlamini, Swaziland, Public Management  
University of Minnesota**

Gcinaphi Dlamini is the Senior Human Resource Officer, specializing in Human Resource Development (HRD) with the Ministry of Public Service. She holds a bachelor's degree in Humanities and a postgraduate diploma in Human Resource Management. Gcinaphi also has additional certifications in Monitoring and Evaluation, Strategic Public Sector Management, and Records Management. After the Washington Fellowship, she intends to empower co-workers through mentorship, coaching and workshops to be more effective and efficient providers of government services.



**Lindiwe Chola Dlamini, Swaziland, Public Management, Florida International  
University**

Lindiwe Dlamini has nine years of experience working in energy regulation, sustainable energy and climate change in Swaziland. She currently serves as the Senior Energy Officer with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy and works on a portfolio that includes heading petroleum regulation, biofuels industry development, and the coordination of sustainable energy and climate change programs. She has spearheaded projects such as the National Biofuels Development program, the Clean Cook Stoves project and the Sustain Energy for All (SE4ALL) initiative. Lindiwe holds a bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering, honors in Environmental Management and soon to complete a Master of Science in Geography and Environmental Studies. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Lindiwe intends to work on the Clean Cook Stoves initiative program to ensure Swazi women in rural households are empowered with improved cooking technologies.



**Sebentile Sithembile Dlamini, Swaziland, Public Management, Syracuse University**

Sebentile Dlamini has been working in the public sector as an economist for over five years. Her current position involves providing policy, program, and project advice to the Principal Secretary and the technical staff of the Ministry. She is also responsible for the technical, financial, economic analysis, and evaluation of development projects within the Ministry. She recently led efforts to re-draft the Pre-Service Tertiary Education and Training Loan Policy, which led to the overhauling of the whole Student Loan Program. After completing the Washington Fellowship, Sebentile plans on improving the social inclusion of people with disabilities by facilitating the review of the Vocational Training and Rehabilitation Services Centres Curricula.



**Deginet Wotango Doyiso, Ethiopia, Civic Leadership, Rutgers University**

Deginet Doyiso has four years of experience working as a Public Prosecutor in the Kambata Tambaro Zone Justice Office, in the SNNP Region of Ethiopia. As a disabled person, Deginet works to ensure that all disabled people in Ethiopia are given equal opportunities and do not live in poverty. He has received training in various areas including project management and planning, fundraising, and public speech from the International Institute for Social Entrepreneurs in Kerala, India. He is founder of an NGO that focuses on issues and problems important to the disabled community and also has a center that provides training to disabled women in small businesses. After completing the Washington Fellowship, Deginet plans to renew his energy and further improve his NGO to empower disabled persons economically and socially.



**Mamadou Drame, Senegal, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Notre Dame**

Mamadou Drame has over six years of experience serving as the Senior Finance Analyst for Catalyst Business Solutions Group, where he is responsible for finance and compliances for subsidiaries in Cameroon and Morocco. In 2008, he founded CESAG Dakar, an online social network for alumni from his university to post job opportunities and training information. He has also founded Foundation Africashool to promote ICT in education. He has partnered with leading IT companies such as Microsoft and Google to implement technology products in schools to improve education. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Mamadou plans to be a leader in ICT for education issues in Africa, share his various experiences with young Africans, and advise local governments on ICT for education policy.



**Rumbidzai Dube, Zimbabwe, Civic Leadership  
University of Virginia and the College of William & Mary**

Rumbidzai Dube is a human rights defender and lawyer with over six years of experience in legal research and advocacy work. Currently, Rumbidzai is a Legal Researcher at the Research and Advocacy Unit (RAU), a local NGO in Zimbabwe where she is involved in analyzing, critiquing, and contributing towards the transformation of public policy, legislation, and state institutions. She is a published researcher, noteworthy being her contribution on the relationship between political freedoms and democracy in the IDASA Democracy Index. She is involved in numerous advocacy campaigns with politicians and policy makers in Zimbabwe including the African Union and UN Treaty bodies such as the CEDAW Committee and the Human Rights Council. Rumbidzai holds a master's degree in Law majoring in Human Rights and Democratization in Africa from the University of Pretoria in South Africa and an honors degree in Law from the University of Zimbabwe. Upon her return, Rumbidzai will continue her efforts at legal education through her blog and launch a new website, a project that will simplify the law in a way that ordinary individuals can relate to. She will also continue her research work in contributing towards holding state and government institutions accountable.



**Frank Akowuge Dugasseh, Ghana, Civic Leadership, Arizona State University**

Frank currently serves as the District Operations Manager with Anglogold Ashanti Malaria Control Limited (AGAMal), the corporate social arm of Anglogold Ashanti Mining Company. The focus of AGAMal is to reduce malaria cases in Ghana. Frank started the first ever Mobile Library Service (MLS) in Northern Ghana with only five books on a bicycle after his National Service in 2007. Through social media and families he collected over 2000 reading materials and secured funding to purchase a van to reach more in rural communities. In 2011 he founded the Wechiau Community Library in Wechiau to augment the MLS. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Technology from the University for Development Studies (UDS), Tamale and is currently pursuing a master's of science degree in Environmental Resource Management at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology. After completing the Washington Fellowship, he intends to set up an incubator for the training of social entrepreneurs in Ghana to help scale up their activities.



**Milton John Saio Dumbuya, Sierra Leone, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Texas-Austin**

Milton Dumbuya is experienced in community development, leadership, and business management. He is the co-founder and Administrative and Finance Manager of Source of Hope Sierra Leone. In this capacity, he is responsible for managing the finances of the company, developing new products and maintaining existing ones for high profitability, initiating strategies that will produce new business opportunities, designing projects, and lobbying for funds. After completing the Washington Fellowship, he plans to implement the new skills he has gained to improve the overall performance of his company. He also plans to train others with the leadership and entrepreneurship skills he has attained through workshops, conferences, and media coverage. Finally, he hopes to work with other participants from Sierra Leone to establish a resource and training center where future leaders can be trained and empowered to create a better Sierra Leone and Africa.

**Daniel Henry Dunga, Malawi, Civic Leadership, Rutgers University**



Daniel Dunga has over 11 years work experience in various leadership and management roles. He is currently the General Manager for CDH Asset Management Limited, a portfolio management firm in Malawi. He also served as the CEO of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Malawi (ICAM) for six years where he was involved in leading various national developmental projects in accountancy, audit, corporate governance, and business strategy. He also led a corporate social responsibility effort to build school blocks in primary schools in the southern region district of Chikwawa and to train unemployed graduates in employability and entrepreneurship skills. Daniel holds a Master of Business in Strategic Leadership from the University of Derby where he focused on strategic leadership, sustainable development, and change management. Daniel is also a Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) UK. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Daniel plans to set up a youth success motivation, training, and self-development Trust to support African youths towards achieving their full potential in various aspects of life including employability skills, entrepreneurship, and community service.

**Samuel Talwa Duo Jr, Liberia, Civic Leadership, Wagner College**



Samuel Duo has over ten years of experience in management and civic leadership with a focus on community services, community development, training and capacity building, and human resources management. He is the Executive Director of Calvary Empowerment Team (CET), a local not-for-profit organization working with children and youths in Liberia. CET implements programs focused on sexual and reproductive health education, leadership development, sports for development, culture, and education. Samuel holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the African Methodist Episcopal University, where he focused on Management, and a master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Liberia. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship program, he intends to strengthen CET in terms of institutional and human capital development and program delivery.



**Jean-Patrick Ehouman, Cote D'Ivoire, Business & Entrepreneurship  
University of Texas-Austin**

Jean-Patrick Ehouman is a Web/Mobile Applications Developer and a Software Architect who launched his own tech company located in Côte d'Ivoire called Akendewa in 2009. His successful work with Akendewa has resulted in him being awarded the UNESCO-CEPS "Tremplin" prize, an international scholarship for youth entrepreneurship and promoting a culture of peace, in October 2013. In 2010, Jean-Patrick founded TechMissus, a collaborative blog about information technology and new media in Africa that has been ranked as the top technology news website in Francophone Africa. In early 2013, he launched AllDevCamp, a web/mobile development bootcamp that targets African developers that was selected by

UNESCO Youth Mobile as one of 13 expert centers in the world. Jean-Patrick received bachelors' degrees in Mathematics and Computer Science and Electrical Engineering from the University of Poitiers and a professional bachelor's degree in Information Systems and Software from the University of Provence. After completion of the Washington Fellowship, Jean-Patrick plans to run a seed accelerator to help African tech innovators develop monetizable products and create jobs.



**Martine Theodora Kessy Ekomo-Soignet, Central African Republic  
Civic Leadership, University of Virginia and the College of William & Mary**

Martine Ekomo-Soignet has over three years of experience in the political and development sectors. She serves as the Project Officer for the African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF) in France where she focuses on the Health Africa Club, an endowment fund that aims to raise private sector funds in Europe and Africa in order to help African communities living in isolated area improves their health. She is also vice president of an association of young professionals from Africa living in France and president of an association of young African women living in France. Martine holds a bachelor's degree in Economics and Social and Political studies and a master's degree in Geopolitics, International Security and

International Relations. After completing the Washington Fellowship, she plans to work on the empowerment of youth (as recovery actors) in Bangui through the establishment of a center for youth with a focus on civic leadership, advocacy workshops, and vocational training.



**Mfonobong Ekpo, Nigeria, Public Management, University of Arkansas**

Mfonobong Ekpo is a maritime lawyer, a development strategist, and a multiple award-winning best-selling author. She is the founder of the Discovery Center, a training organization committed to creating an educated population that will result in educated leaders that can work towards the socio-economic and political development of Nigeria. Mfonobong holds multiple degrees in the fields of business law and social sciences, journalism, neuro linguistic programming, project management, conflict resolution and negotiation. She is a founding partner of the John Maxwell Team and currently the Chief Operating Officer for the Future Project Africa, an organization that has developed programs to identify and showcase leaders, innovators, and entrepreneurs in Africa. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Mfonobong plans to drive training and development programs focused on harnessing Nigeria's human capital, transforming Nigeria's demographic composition into demographic dividends, and training young people on the nature of their involvement in values-based transformational leadership.



**Samuel Nnaoma Ekwuribe, Nigeria, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Clark Atlanta University**

Samuel Ekwuribe has over eight years of experience in community retail banking and providing financial services to the poor in rural Nigeria. He has worked with various banks in Nigeria leading the drive for financial inclusion by encouraging rural access to financial services through electronic banking channels. He managed the Nigerian government's MDG/CCT social safety net project where he recruited, trained, and deployed over 600 mobile money agents who served as 'rural banks,' paying cash to over 52,000 monthly beneficiaries through their mobile phones. Samuel holds a Master of Business

Administration in Development Finance and a degree in Accounting. He is also a member of the Chartered Institute of Bankers of Nigeria. After completing the Washington Fellowship, he plans to focus on business projects and organizational partnerships that enhance financial access and economic opportunities for youths and women in rural Nigeria through his mobile money and agent banking business model.



**Mohamed Abderrahmane El Hassen, Mauritania, Public Management,  
University of Arkansas**

Mohamed El Hassen has six years of experience teaching English as a Second Language in a public high school. He currently works with the Ministry of Education as an English and Arabic teacher. He has a Bachelor of Arts in English and a certificate in English and Arabic Teaching. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans on using the experiences and new knowledge he has gained to improve the quality of his teaching and share the information he has obtained with his community. He also plans on creating the Speak English Institute, where teachers will be trained to improve their quality of instruction

and students will have an opportunity to improve their English skills. Finally, he plans on re-editing school textbooks, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education.



**Ilwad Elman, Somalia, Civic Leadership, University of Delaware**

Ilwad Elman has over four years of experience working in human rights and community development. Currently, she serves as the Director of Programs and Development for a human rights nonprofit organization. Her key areas of focus are the socio-economic reintegration of children and youth disassociated from armed forces and groups and supporting survivors of sexual and gender based violence. She also leads various coordination groups in south and central Somalia to improve service delivery amongst the vast number of humanitarian actors, strengthening

their referral and cooperation system, enhancing information sharing, and ensuring the civil society's initiatives are in cohesion with the federal government's action plans. Upon returning from the Washington Fellowship, Ilwad intends to apply knowledge and information acquired to change public policy to support the most vulnerable including women and youth, enhance social support services, and continue to create livelihood opportunities for the marginalized minority.



**Chukwuebuka Ndukaku Emebinah, Nigeria, Public Management  
Syracuse University**

Chukwuebuka Emebinah is a chartered accountant and has over nine years of experience across diverse areas of business and financial management including risk management, financial analysis, business risk evaluation, corporate governance evaluation, finance transformation, internal audit, and tax. Currently, he is a Consultant with Nigeria's largest indigenous management consulting firm, Phillips Consulting Limited where he is involved with public, private, and non profit clients working on development advisory projects in agriculture and education aimed at uplifting the populations of some of Nigeria's most disadvantaged communities. He has a degree in Accounting from the University of Ado Ekiti in Nigeria. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Chukwuebuka plans to continue a career in public financial management helping developing countries including Nigeria achieve more inclusive growth, create jobs by developing core sectors of the economy (power, infrastructure and agriculture), reduce reliance on natural resources by increasing tax/GDP ratios, and enable more equitable distribution of public resources by instituting stronger controls to check mismanagement of public funds.



**Bruce Ernest, Zambia, Business and Entrepreneurship, Dartmouth College**

Bruce Ernest is a business sustainability expert trained in green energy and sustainable business who specializes in the creation of sustainable businesses and systems in productive sectors. He has provided trainings in topics including strategy, sustainability, entrepreneurship skills, renewable energy, planning, budgeting, critical thinking and strategic planning for over 10 years and has helped the establishment of small and medium start-ups in southern Africa. Currently, Bruce is the Founder and CEO of Sixsigma Sustainability Consulting Limited, a firm involved in sustainable business and investments in Africa. He volunteers at the Zambia Wildlife and Environmental Conservation Society where he participates in teaching youth and minors the importance of conserving nature and wildlife. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Bruce intends to create a social sustainable entrepreneurship venture that will help reduce poverty in communities in the eastern province of Zambia.



**Cristian Eteo Botau, Civic Leadership, Arizona State University**

Cristian Eteo Botau has worked on youth empowerment programs oriented towards cultural and educational development for more than ten years. He is a founding member of Casa de Cultura de Rebola, the first privately established and managed cultural institution in Equatorial Guinea, where he has volunteered as Cultural Coordinator since 2009. He has promoted various cultural and educational initiatives, the latest being HABLAR, an innovative method on sensitizing people on Human Values, outlining their relevance in intellectual emancipation, and sociocultural development. Cristian holds a Bachelor's Degree in Law and recently obtained a Certificate from the London Institute of Leadership and Management (ILM) in Project Management, and he is Certifying in Internal Auditing from the Institute of Internal Auditors. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to expand his current activities surrounding Human Values Awareness in order to inform the population about their basic and fundamental rights.



**Temitayo Otekpen Etomi, Nigeria, Business & Entrepreneurship  
Clark Atlanta University**

Temitayo Etomi currently serves as the General Manager of Operations at the Lagos State Signage & Advertisement Agency where she is responsible for managing the organization's strategy design and implementation, as well as serving as the Project Director of the Lagos Countdown End of Year Celebrations. Prior to this role, she founded Redwire Marketing Consulting Group, and worked on several youth related initiatives including managing the Positive Impact Youth Development Network, a youth organization established to harness the potential of young Nigerians towards development goals. She also served as a consultant to the Nigerian government on the development of a National Youth Policy in 2003. She received a law degree from the University of Lagos and a master's degree in Strategic Marketing from the Columbia

Graduate School of Business. Temitayo's objectives upon completing the Washington Fellowship are to expand the scope of her Summer Internship Program to include employment opportunities in agriculture and to foster engaging, productive, and issue-based conversations and activities for young Nigerians as they prepare for Nigeria's forthcoming elections.



**Abibatou Banda Fall, Senegal, Civic Leadership, Rutgers University**

Abibatou Fall has seven years of experience managing and organizing international development projects in Senegal. In 2012, she created the Association for Research-Action Development and Environment in the Sahel (ARADES). The organization implements initiatives on diverse issues including girls education, food processing, domestic energy, reuse of plastic bags, and needle crafts. One of these projects focused on creating thermal baskets in Senegal that enabled households to use less cooking fuel, produce less waste, and keep food hot or cold for 12 to over 24 hours. Abibatou's long term goal for ARADES is to establish an interdisciplinary civic and green center with a cooperative garment workshop and courses for women on entrepreneurial skills. Abibatou has a bachelor's degree in Political Science, a master's degree in Geography from Gaston Berger University of Saint-Louis, and is currently studying for a PhD in biomass energy and strategies of eco-development in the Sahel.



**Torki Farhat, Sudan, Civic Leadership, Arizona State University**

Torki Farhat has over seven years of experience working with community and youth. Currently, Torki is the Chairman of the Sudanese Assembly of Youth (SAY) Foundation. He has been the Regional Assistant for Africa of Human Rights and Peace Committee in the International Federation of Medical Student Association. Torki is also a certified trainer and holder of an NGO Management diploma. He is an expert in the areas of fundraising, leadership, and recruitment. After completing the Washington fellowship program, Torki plans to create a platform that focuses on youth from different backgrounds and offering them the proper logistical and technical support. Also Torki is a doctor who is working on attaining a master's degree in Health Management and Hospital Administration.



**Sarah Ferdjani Ibrahim, Niger, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Texas-Austin**

Sarah Ibrahim is a Senior Reporting Assistant at the World Food Program Niger Country Office. She is a volunteer with Afrique Fondation Jeunes, a local NGO which aims to help young Nigeriens acquire practical skills to gain employment and develop their own projects. Previously she worked as a senior consultant in Beijing, China for a year. Sarah completed most of her education outside of Niger and plans to create a hub to connect young Nigeriens who have experience abroad with their peers who have not had such opportunities. She has both a bachelor's and a master's degree in Business Administration. After completing the Washington Fellowship, she hopes to use her training in entrepreneurial and management skills to implement her own ventures.



**Gregory Pierre Feris, Namibia, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Dartmouth College**

Gregory Feris has over seven years of experience working with diverse professionals in the Namibian tourism industry. He currently owns Lark Journeys Namibia, a tour facilitator that specializes in organizing unique and customized journeys throughout Namibia. As owner, he is responsible for driving all sales and marketing efforts and coordinating business partnerships as part of the overall growth strategy. Gregory is active in several other roles including serving as the Head of Operations for a tourism marketing and reservations company and mentoring and tutoring students studying Tourism Management at the Polytechnic of Namibia. He holds a bachelor's degree in Tourism Management and a

master's degree in International Business. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Gregory aims to expand eco-tourism development by engaging local community members to participate in tourism enterprise development as a means of realizing sustainable tourism in Namibia.



**Haleta Giday Fiseha, Ethiopia, Public Management, University of Arkansas**

Haleta Giday has over three years of experience working in community development. She is currently a Lecturer of Law at the Woliya Sodo University and serves as a public prosecutor in southern Ethiopia. She focuses on the rights of women and children and has conducted several trainings to increase awareness regarding the legal and financial rights of women. Haleta holds a degree in Law from Jimma University and conducted her research on human rights violations in Africa. After completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to work with the United Nations and African Union on issues related to peacekeeping and conflict resolution in Africa. She also plans to conduct trainings on gender equality and women's empowerment.



**Kizita Mah Fitemi Forgwe, Cameroon, Civic Leadership  
Arizona State University**

Kizita Mah Fitemi Forgwe has eight years progressive experience working in policy development, systems strengthening, technical assistance provision for implementation, monitoring and evaluation, capacity development, and partnership management. She has worked on social and economic development programs with a focus on addressing the needs and rights of the most vulnerable groups such as children and people with disabilities. Kizita currently serves as Program Officer with the Sightsavers Cameroon office where she manages human resource

development for eye health, social inclusion and inclusive education for children with disabilities programs, and conducts advocacy with government for the development of disability friendly policies and services. Kizita holds a bachelor's of law degree and a master's degree in Human Rights and Humanitarian Action. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship program, she plans to share acquired knowledge and skills with youth and advocate for more protection of vulnerable populations through the development of inclusive policies.



**Selma Margarida Fortes Neves, Cape Verde, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Dartmouth College**

Selma Margarida Fortes Neves has over four years of experience working in community development and gender issues. She is currently the President of the Cooperative Women of Sal, an integrated project that provides training and empowerment for women heads of single parent families. The project develops sustainable social projects that help create jobs for disadvantaged people in the community. Selma previously worked for the City Hall of Sal Island. She is also a member of several associations including RA-AMAO, focusing on empowering African woman and ADAD, working on the environmental protection of Cabo Verde. Selma has a bachelor's degree in Biology and a master's degree in Food Science from State University of Ceara. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship program, Selma plans to continue working and expanding her cooperative projects.



**Matthew M Fred, Civic Leadership, Liberia  
University of Virginia and the College of William & Mary**

Matthew Fred is a humanitarian and journalist with five years of experience working to resolve conflict and discrimination issues among tribal communities in rural Grand Bassa County, Liberia. He currently serves as the founder and President of the Youth Against Tribalism In Africa (YATIA), a non-profit youth led organization striving to eradicate tribalism. In this capacity, he focuses on mentoring rural communities with an emphasis on youth and elders on the effects of discrimination. He is also a journalist reporting on human rights issues affecting the rural communities in Grand Bassa County. Matthew holds certificates in human rights reporting from the Journalist for Human Rights, a certificate in Youth Peace Building and Leadership from the Action Aid Liberia/ UNICEF JPYEE program, and an advanced diploma in Computer Science from the Keytech Computer Institute in Liberia. Upon returning from the Washington Fellowship program, Matthew plans to continue working on YATIA programs focused on advocacy, awareness, and mentorship against TRIBALISM, which he believes is economically, socially, religiously, physically, and emotionally restraining Africa's economic growth and development.



**Benjamin Freeman Jr, Liberia, Civic Leadership, Arizona State University**

Benjamin has four years of experience designing and implementing school based programs aimed at reducing the performance gap between top and under-performing students across Liberia. He serves as the Executive Director of the Liberia Institute for the Promotion of Academic Excellence, an NGO that applies a data driven approach to ensuring access to quality education for all in Liberia. Benjamin holds a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from the Stella Maris Polytechnic and a certificate in Monitoring & Evaluation from the St. Clement University in Liberia. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Benjamin plans to build a model school in Liberia run entirely by trained Liberian teachers and operated on a contextualized and proven American based curriculum. Through the creation of a public-private school partnership, Benjamin hopes to adopt more public schools and trained public teachers to reduce the divergence gap and increase access to quality education.



**Rose Peter Funja, Tanzania, Public Management, Syracuse University**

Rose Peter Funja is the Dean of the College of Science at the University of Bagamoyo where she lectures on courses in ICT. Prior to academia, Rose worked with Huawei Technologies International as a Senior Product Manager. She is experienced with wireless telecommunication technologies and pioneered projects in various countries and regions including China and east and South Africa. Rose has been actively involved in Rotaract and served as the Club President when she was a student at the University of Dare Salaam and until 2005. She holds a bachelor of science in Computer Engineering and a master's of engineering degree in Communication and Information Systems. Her current focus is on geo information systems and she has co-founded a land ownership verification system-solution. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Rose plans to use her capacity as college dean to empower more girls to venture into science related courses.



**Lettebang Gabontshwe, Botswana, Public Management Syracuse University**

Lettie Gabontshwe is a health professional with more than six years of experience working in various managerial capacities in NGO's dealing with health issues. She currently serves as the Program Coordinator with BONELA, one of the largest human rights organizations in the country. Lettie is also the Coordinator for the Cancer Association of Botswana where she is responsible for managing the interim home and helping patients generate income for themselves through the bead work project. She worked with Population Services International in partnership with the Ministry of Health

on their Same Male Circumcision Campaign. After completing the Washington Fellowship, Lettie plans to use the knowledge and skills acquired to open an orphanage in Botswana.



**Paul Dmitri Galatis, South Africa, Business & Entrepreneurship Northwestern University**

Paul Galatis is an entrepreneur with an information systems and design background. Over the past six years he and his partners have developed Yuppiechef.com - South Africa's most awarded e-commerce store - growing their company from a team of three to eighty employees. Paul joined the team as a partner in 2008 and led the design, branding, marketing, customer service, PR and user experience divisions of the business but today fulfils a non-executive role, having recently stepped back from daily operations to start a new venture. Having recruited the vast majority of Yuppiechef.com's employees, Paul enjoys building teams and believes deeply in the importance and impact of corporate culture on employee happiness and performance. He holds a bachelor of business science degree in Information Systems from the University of Cape Town. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Paul plans to return to Cape Town to apply himself to helping other entrepreneurs start and grow their businesses in South Africa.



**Halimatou Gambo Illo Daoura, Niger, Public Management, Morgan State University**

Halima Daourahas currently serves as a Junior Economist and Program Assistant for the Millennium Challenge Niger Coordination unit, a U.S. government aid agency seeking to fight poverty through economic growth. She is also Vice-President of Education Support-Niger, an NGO that works to increase Nigerien's access to higher education. In 2013, Halima was selected by the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) as one of the 100 emerging women leaders for their commitment to service in Niger. She holds a bachelor's degree in Economics, master's degree in Business Administration, and a master's of business in Finance from the United Kingdom. Upon her return from the Washington Fellowship, Halima will share the experience and knowledge she gained with Young Nigeriens and continue mentoring them. She will also continue working on the implementation of the MCC Compact

program at the national level.



**Edson Gandiwa, Zimbabwe, Civic Leadership, Wagner College**

Edson Gandiwa has ten years of experience in the natural resources conservation field. Currently, Edson is a Professor and Dean of the School of Wildlife, Ecology and Conservation at Chinhoyi University of Technology in Zimbabwe, where he provides academic leadership in teaching, research, and community service. He previously served as a Wildlife Ecologist for the Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority based in Gonarezhou National Park, Chiredzi, Zimbabwe. He holds a bachelor's degree in Environmental Science and Health from the National University of Science and Technology in Zimbabwe, a master's degree in Tropical Resource Ecology from the University of Zimbabwe, and a doctorate degree in Wildlife Conservation from Wageningen University in the Netherlands. His current main research interests include community-based natural resources management, wildlife conservation, population ecology, media framing of wildlife

conservation, and plant ecology. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Edson plans to contribute to the capacity building of local communities' management of natural resources conservation and to the training of students in conservation leadership and research in Zimbabwe.



**Danbala Garba, Nigeria, Public Management, Florida International University**

Danbala Garba is a lawyer and human rights officer with over five years of experience working to promote the rights of prisoners in Nigeria. He provides lectures and trainings for staff at Nigerian prisons regarding the fair treatment of prisoners and also provides support and assistance to prison inmates on their rights. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Danbala plans to expand his awareness campaign to prisons throughout Nigeria and beyond by liaising with the prison authority at the highest level and continuing to assist prisoners in protecting their inalienable rights by assisting them in seeking legal redress in cases of rights violations. In addition to his human rights work Danbala is also passionate to harness the enormous solid mineral resources in Nigeria. He works with Blessed Global integrated miners Ltd and also serve as the company secretary to A.L.T mines Nig LTD. He is also the legal consultant to many local and international mining companies.



**Farouk Garba, Nigeria, Public Management, Morgan State University**

Farouk Garba is a doctor specializing in Ophthalmology. He currently serves as the Senior Resident and Lecturer in the Department of Ophthalmology at Ahmadu Bello University Teaching Hospital and works in the eye care facility at the same university. He also provides free consultations and treatment to communities in underdeveloped areas. Farouk holds a master's degree in Information Management. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans on promoting the importance of eye care to reduce the burden of blindness in the community.



**Andrew Ihsaan Gasnolar, South Africa, Public Management, Morgan State University**

Andrew Ihsaan Gasnolar has over 10 years of experience in various fields including community and youth development, corporate law, and civic and political society. Most recently he was the Chief Operating Officer of Agang SA and is responsible for providing organizational and strategic direction for the organization, developing and driving policy development, stakeholder management and relationship building, management of the organization in terms of inputs and outputs as well as activities around civic education and engagement. Andrew holds a law degree from the University of the Western Cape and is a Mandela Rhodes Scholar. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Andrew plans to continue working in the civic and political space to ensure more participation of young

citizens and also mapping forward a way of comprehensive and effective networks for young leaders to leverage opportunities for Africa



**Ramatoulie Gassama, Gambia, Business and Entrepreneurship, Dartmouth College**

Ramatoulie Gassama is a communications and media professional and an aspiring entrepreneur. She currently serves as the Public Relations Officer at Ace Communications Executive Ltd. She previously worked as Junior Economist at the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs and was one of the lead coordinators in the first ever resource mobilization and investment forum held in the Gambia. Ramatoulie is also a TV and radio host who has co-hosted a talk show focusing on social issues and has interviewed the former President of Gambia, Sir Dawda K Jawara on independence and his return from exile. As an aspiring entrepreneur, Ramatoulie is the sole proprietor of a retail business in Gambia called RAJAB Collection. Upon her return from the Washington Fellowship, she intends to expand her business internationally and create employment opportunities for youth in Gambia and surrounding region.



**Rose Roulyne Njeri Gateru, Kenya, Civic Leadership  
University of Virginia and the College of William & Mary**

Rose Roulyne Njeri Gateru is a passionate human rights defender with over three years of experience in human rights law with a particular emphasis on matters of sexual orientation, gender identity, and expression. She has worked with sexual and gender non-conforming refugees and is currently heading the legal department of the National Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (NGLHRC). In this capacity, she provides legal aid, litigation, documentation, and advocacy services to persons who have been violated on grounds of their sexual orientation or gender identity and expression. Rose holds a bachelor's degree in Law from the Kenyatta University and is now pursuing her second degree in Gender and Development studies. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she intends to further the operations of NGLHRC through setting up grassroots offices and forming partnerships with other queer groups.



**Ndeye Tening Gaye, Senegal, Public Management, University of Arkansas**

Ndeye Gaye has seven years of experience volunteering as a peer educator and researcher for organizations working on economic development, public policy, and youth employment. She has worked with several organizations including Oxfam, UNFPA, and UNODC as a researcher on youth issues focused on self-employment, active citizenship, and technical vocational training. She is also a coordinator for the Embassy of Dakar's Youth Council. Ndeye has organized several training sessions and recorded public service announcements for young people related to reproductive health. After completing the Washington Fellowship, she plans to

provide technical assistance regarding youth policies and assist in the implementation of an action plan on reproductive health rights.



**Yonas Moges Getachew, Ethiopia, Business & Entrepreneurship  
Northwestern University**

Yonas Moges has over ten years of experience working in the hospitality industry with major international hotel chains. Currently, he is a managing partner at Calibra Hospitality Consultancy and Business Plc, where he focuses on advising local hotel developers in hotel design concept development, site selection, conducting feasibility studies, searching and selecting a hotel operator, and sourcing debt and equity finance for hotel projects. Yonas received his Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from Addis Ababa University and is currently pursuing an MBA-HRM in Distance Education from Cambridge International College. Upon the Completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to work on strengthening third party hotel management and introducing the first franchised family restaurant to his home city. He is also working to start an Ethiopian Vocational School of

Hospitality with an international hotel school accreditation system.



**Brian Hativatye Geza, Zimbabwe, Civic Leadership, Tulane University**

Brian Geza has fourteen years of experience working in the performing arts as a performer, teacher, and choreographer. He has performed on international stages such as Edinburg Festival, FNB Dance Umbrella, and the Africalia Dance Festival. He is the founder and Artistic Director of Zvishamiso Arts, a Mbare based community performing arts troupe, with a mandate to education. Currently, Zvishamiso Arts, is embarking on implementing artistic and community development programs through the performing arts in various communities. Brian is a graduate from Oslo academy of the Arts in Norway where he obtained a master's of choreography. After the Washington Fellowship, Brian will impart skills acquired to his fellow artists in various communities through workshops and discussions.



**Angela Nyambura Gichaga, Kenya, Public Management, Morgan State University**

Angela Gichaga has over five years of experience working in the public sector, having served in the Ministry of Health as both a clinician and an administrator. She currently serves as a Health Economist with the Health Sector Monitoring and Evaluation Unit of the Ministry of Health. In this capacity, she has assessed adherence to performance contracting, contributed to policy development, built capacities of county health teams to form local M&E structures, and developed universal health coverage initiatives. She holds a master's degree in Health Economics and Policy from University of Adelaide in Australia with an interest in Universal Health Coverage. As part of her experience participating in the Washington Fellowship, Angela seeks to interact with inspiring individuals to facilitate exchange of ideas based on individual country experiences and learn how to leverage Africa to take her rightful place in the world. She is keen to increase the visibility of women in leadership through comprehensive mentorship programs and to fast track the progress towards universal health coverage through innovative multi-stakeholder initiatives.



**Ndeye Absa Gningue, Senegal, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Texas-Austin**

Ndeye Absa Gningue is the Software Group Marketing Leader for IBM. She is the founder of the African label promoting 'LOVE AFRICA. WEAR AFRICA' across 5 continents and founder of J.E.A.D.E.R., a think tank dedicated to young leaders and entrepreneurs with the purpose of building leadership capabilities. Absa has experience working in sales, personal development, marketing and communication, social media, and is also a writer. She holds a master's degree in Marketing & Communication and a bachelor's degree in Business Administration. After completing the Washington Fellowship program, her goal is to work on getting Senegal's education system to align with the country's economic business and entrepreneurship models through leadership and personal development.



**Laura Golakeh, Liberia, Civic Leadership, Arizona State University**

Laura Golakeh is a youth and women's right advocate who has overcome the odds of poverty, civil crisis and social inequality. She coordinated the first young women empowerment center in her community and is currently the founder and Executive Director of Right to Read, a community based organization with a goal to provide access to quality education to underprivileged children. She helped to lead a project called Put Ma Ellen There that fostered peace, unity and reconciliation in her country and changed the negative image of Liberian youth around the world. Laura holds a bachelor's degree in Sociology and is currently studying law. She plays many roles including citizen journalist, promising writer, leader, volunteer, and mentor with expertise in youth, gender, and human rights issues. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship program, she plans to promote the importance of civic leadership in her country and expand her organization. Her mission is to

empower young people to build a society where everyone is equal and are given the opportunity to discover their potential and use it for the good of mankind.



**Edwlne Gomes Afonso Neto, Sao Tome & Principe  
Business and Entrepreneurship, Dartmouth College**

Edwlne Neto is an architect and business owner. He has over four years of experience studying Cubata's, which are Sao Tome and Principe traditional houses. He is the founder of Eneto Architects and co-founder of Intercon-International Constructions, which employs over 40 local youth. His architectural practice focuses on designing with local and alternative materials to help improve the living conditions of people in rural areas. Edwlne holds a master's degree in Architecture from the National Taiwan University of Science and Technology

(NTUST), where he focused on maximizing the use and strategic flexibility of traditional architecture of Sao Tome. After completion of the Washington Fellowship program, he plans to improve technical support provided to local builders and launch a project to replace wood with alternative local material for the constructions of Cubatas.



**James Alben Greaves, Liberia, Public Management, Howard University**

James Alben Greaves has over four years of experience in youth development and child justice advocacy. Currently, he is the Coordinator of the Juvenile Diversion program and chair on the Independent Accreditation Committee of Orphanages in Liberia where he identifies specially designed programs for juveniles who come in conflict with the law and are ordered into diversion. He is a recent graduate of the President's Young Professional program, holds a certificate in Peace and Conflict Resolution from the Cuttington University, and received a bachelor's of arts degree in Public Administration. He is currently pursuing a degree in General Law at the Louis Arthur Grimes School of Law. James served as President of the Student Government at Cuttington and as Vice President for the Liberia National Students Union. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship program, he plans to continue the implementation of the Juvenile Diversion program and create national awareness and outreach programs on relevant laws in order to prevent juvenile delinquency.

**Ilda Suzana Massuanganhe Guambe, Mozambique, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Yale University**



great concern in this community and in the country in general.

Ilda Guambe has 10 years of professional experience in management and business administration. Currently she is the Executive Secretary to the Ambassador of Finland in Maputo where she is responsible for the coordination of the overall environment at the Embassy and also is an Occupational Health and Safety Coordinator. She promotes debates and workshops on women and girls empowerment, especially within the religious community in rural areas. Ilda holds a bachelor's degree in Management and Administration from Africa University in Zimbabwe and is currently studying for her master's degree in Business and Entrepreneurship at University of São Tomas writing her thesis on less privileged women and girls in rural communities and their education and rights. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship program, Ilda plans to promote trainings and workshops for rural women and girls in Mumemo-Marracuene District, advocating for women's rights and also mentoring girls on the consequences of early marriages, which is a

**El Hadji Abou Gueye, Senegal, Public Management, University of Arkansas**



development of his community through the realization of a social and solidarity project aimed at supporting youth employment in disadvantaged areas and fighting against insecurity.

El Hadji Gueye is the founder and general manager of Khadija Services Group's Company. He is actively involved in the promotion of youth entrepreneurship in Senegal and in member countries of the International Organisation of La Francophonie (OIF). He is the chairperson of Senegal's National Network of Young Entrepreneurs (RENCJES) and member of several international youth organizations. El Hadji served for four years in the Senegalese National Civic Volunteer Service and is now one of the founding members and current Chairperson of *Jeunes Volontaires pour Vacances d'Action de Solidarité Internationale* (JVpourVASI), which has been organizing holiday camps for street children since 2006. After completing the Washington Fellowship program, El Hadji intends to participate actively in the

**Ndeye Awa Gueye, Senegal, Business and Entrepreneurship, University of Notre Dame**



Ndeye Awa Gueye is a Senegalese computer scientist specializing in software design and development. She currently serves as the Business Operation Engineer with SENTEL GSM. Ndeye Awa is very active in initiatives related to promoting women and technology and is the co-founder of Jjiguene Tech Hub, the first training center and incubator for women in Senegal that supports women in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. She is also a member of the Youth Council of the U.S. Embassy. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Ndeye plans to further develop and expand Jjiguene Tech Hub.

**Sabrina Gujjalu, Mauritius, Public Management, Howard University**



Sabrina Gujjalu works at the Financial Services Commission in Mauritius, the regulator for the non-banking financial services and global business. As Manager in the Policy Unit, she conducts research and analysis for policy formulation and drives the introduction of new policies, standards and financial products. She is currently involved in the establishment of proficiency standards for licensees in the non-banking financial sector as well as in the development of a regulatory regime for credit rating agencies. Sabrina has spent the last eight years of her career in the financial sector in Mauritius, with five years at HSBC Group in commercial banking. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she hopes to use the skills acquired to support the development and diversification of Mauritius as an international financial center.



**Mustapha Dauda Gwary, Nigeria, Public Management  
Florida International University**

Mustapha Gwary currently serves as Monitoring and Accountability Officer with the National Polio Emergency Operations Center where he is responsible for monitoring all polio eradication activities. He is the founder and Project Coordinator of Water for Sustainable Living Initiative, an NGO that focuses on providing communities with access to clean water and informing them of the importance of hygiene and sanitation. He has a PGD in Strategic Studies and holds a bachelor's degree in English Language. On completion of the Washington Fellowship, Mustapha intends to strengthen and expand his NGO and work on developing a line of communication between leaders and the people to ensure favorable policies are formulated in the interest of both parties.



**Kwasi Owusu Gyeabour, Ghana, Business and Entrepreneurship, Yale University**

Kwasi Gyeabour has five years of experience in international sales, business development, and management. He currently works at Barefoot Power, an Australian social enterprise working to provide rural and off grid communities with affordable solar lighting and phone charging solutions through innovative business models. He manages operations across 23 countries in the West and Central Africa region. Kwasi is an expert and has spoken at international conferences on the topics of green economy, sustainable development, and renewable energy. He has also won notable local and international awards including the prestigious World Bank international essay competition in 2009, AIESEC international writing award in 2011, and is a past winner of the Ghana national debate championship. Upon his return from the Washington Fellowship, Kwasi intends to develop sales and distribution models that deliver ownership of solar lighting solutions to off-grid communities across West Africa.



**Nchimunya Luyando Haangala, Civic Leadership,  
University of Virginia and the College of William & Mary**

Luyando Haangala has over nine years of experience in the media sector as a TV host/producer, MC, Radio presenter, Voice Over Artist and singer. She is currently a freelancer and has worked on some of the biggest TV and radio shows/events in Zambia. She holds a degree in Communication/Business from Helderberg South Africa. Luyando is passionate about the youth of Zambia and serves as a Youth Ambassador for US Embassy Zambia. She is also ambassador for Dance for Life Zambia and the App "Action for Transparency". Luyando recently launched a mentorship program in high schools, using influential and successful young professionals to mentor high school students. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Luyando plans to grow her mentorship program and desires to use media for social change in Zambia.



**Michael Addisu Haile, Ethiopia, Business & Entrepreneurship  
Clark Atlanta University**

Michael Addisu Haile has more than 8 years of experience in lecturing, consultancy and business management, with a focus on the financial sector. He worked in several positions before starting a new and pioneering microfinance institution called Nisir Microfinance. Nisir provides medium size and demand-driven credit, saving, micro-insurance, micro-leasing and business advisory services to medium sized enterprises. Michael was inspired to start Nisir when writing his Master's thesis in 2006, when he discovered a large gap in the Ethiopian financial sector that was not being served; existing microfinance institutions focused only on the bottom segment and commercial banks mostly served high-end customers only. He was able to raise over \$800,000 from over 200 shareholders to establish his company. Upon returning to Ethiopia, Michael will continue to provide young entrepreneurs, including women-owned businesses and other emerging companies through business development and financial services. Michael has bachelor's and master's degrees in Finance and Accounting, and is currently a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) candidate from the CFA Institute.



**Keke Haina, Comoros, Civic Leadership, University of Delaware**

Keke Haina has worked in the field of health and education for four years. She is currently the coordinator and counselor for Excellence in English Language and Leadership Association (EXCELL ), managing a yearly camp and serving as a speech tutor. She began her career as a volunteer, creating activities and coordinating EXCELL. She later served as a non-medical volunteer translating for South African doctors during Operation Smile's surgical mission in Madagascar. As part of these efforts, she created a club of student volunteers to help facilitate local missions by raising funds and providing enough volunteers to assist foreign doctors. She is currently obtaining her Master of Arts degree from the English Department at the University of Antananarivo, Madagascar. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship program, Keke plans to return to her native country of Comoros and implement an exchange program between schools and institutions to help promote education and build a network of communication and understanding.



**Miradji Halima, Comoros, Civic Leadership  
University of Virginia and the College of William & Mary**

Miradji Halima has over two years of experience serving as an English teacher. She is the founder and director of Mbae Trambwe English Center (MTEC), a center that focuses on teaching all generations of people the English language. In addition, she works with the YES WE CAN Association, which provides free English language classes for communities and villages. She is also a French news reporter for a radio and television station on the island of Ngazidja, Comoros (ORTN). Miradji holds a degree in Applied Foreign Languages from the University of Comoros. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship program, she plans to work with the Ministry of Education to improve the way English is taught so that the Comorian people will receive more opportunities in scholarships and job promotions.



**Emmanuel Faustine Hamaro, Tanzania, Business & Entrepreneurship  
University of Wisconsin – Stout**

Emmanuel Faustine Hamaro has over five years of experience in intensive agricultural production, agribusiness, and agri-consultancy. Currently, he serves as the Managing Director of an agricultural firm called Epinav Agricultural Solutions (EAS) where he is responsible for ensuring intensive production, high quality customer service, and creating a Tanzania rural farmers’ market link with niche market and untouched pork demand in Tanzania. With a great sales plan, proven competitive strategies, and a group of people that bring dynamic energy to the company and the sales process, EAS aims to draw superficial benefits from piggery, horticulture, and agri-consultation while benefiting the surrounding community. Emmanuel also serves as Technical Field Expert for Syngenta Company, whose core mission is bringing plant potential to life through the use of high standard

pesticides and hybrid seeds. As an entrepreneur and agribusiness graduate, his plan upon return from Washington Fellowship is to scale up and reach more women and youth in the region.



**Araba Mbirba Hammond, Ghana, Civic Leadership, Wagner College**

Araba Hammond has over six years of experience working in the area of non-profit management with a focus on childcare, education, and health care for poor children. She serves as the Chief Operations Officer of Village of Hope, a Ghanaian non-governmental organization with over 200 employees responsible for 1,000 children. Her work focuses on coordinating the operations of the organization, facilitating collaboration among its subsidiaries, and supervising all communications across a variety of media ensuring that the childcare and educational initiatives of the organization continue to grow. She also mentors children and has personally formed a children's choir that she directs. Araba has a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science from Ashesi University College and a diploma in Telecommunication Engineering from Multimedia University. After completing the Washington Fellowship, Araba plans to change negative mindsets about children with learning difficulties and lead in the establishment of a child assessment and parent training center for children with learning difficulties.

**Elizabeth Nashitye Hamupembe, Namibia, Public Management  
University of Minnesota**



Elizabeth Hamupembe has over five years of experience working in the education sector in Namibia. She is currently a Chief Hostels Officer in the Directorate Programmes and Quality Assurance division of the Ministry of Education in Namibia. She is responsible for the management, administration, training and monitoring and evaluation of school hostels throughout the country. In addition, she oversees hostels policy advice, formulation, implementation, and review. Elizabeth is currently studying to receive her master’s degree in Education at the University of Namibia, focusing on educational research, evaluation, and curriculum studies. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to further her work with the Ministry of Education by providing public management training workshops for education officials. She also plans to start a project that focuses on curbing teenage pregnancies among school going children, especially in the Kavango region where statistics are alarmingly high.



**Mohamed Ali Hassan, Djibouti, Public Management, Syracuse University**

Mohamed Ali Hassan has nearly 10 years of experience in supporting private sector development and entrepreneurship in Djibouti. He is a Chartered Accountant and Auditor and currently the Deputy Secretary General of the Chamber of Commerce. He is responsible for promoting and advising the private sector within the organization, identifying barriers to private sector development, and proposing solutions to the public sector. Mohamed has a master's degree in Finance and Accounting from the Academy of Paris. Following the Washington Fellowship, he intends to bring innovative forms of assistance and support for the promotion of the private sector and helping the public sector promote policies

favorable to business expansion.



**Abdoul Kadri Hassane Kaneye, Niger, Business and Entrepreneurship Northwestern University**

Abdoul Kadri Kaneye is a Management Consultant with nine years work experience. He is currently the Regional Executive Partner of HLB KMC West Africa, an auditing, accounting, and consulting firm covering eight French-Speaking West African countries and ranked among the top three firms in Niger.

As CEO of KMC Niger, Abdoul Kadri engaged in major operational changes in the firm in 2010, which consisted of creating three new lines of services in accounting, tax and law, and executive training, increasing the number of clients from 40 in 2010 to 200 in 2014, and increasing the number of consultants from 7 in 2010 to 41 in 2014. Kad is engaged in youth empowerment, women leadership, promoting ethical and responsible business, and fighting against corruption. He holds a CPA from France. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Abdoul Kadri intends to create an NGO that promotes ethical and technical excellence in youth, start a business school on the American model to help solve public and private sectors capacity issues, and mentor young CEOs and entrepreneurs by helping them unlock their full potential through coaching and stewardship.



**Yossi Hasson, South Africa, Civic Leadership, University of Delaware**

Yossi Hassan is a tech-entrepreneur with over 12 years of experience starting, running, and scaling businesses. His third venture SYNAQ, was ranked by AllWorldNetwork as the sixth fastest growing company in South Africa and was recently acquired by Dimension Data. He is active in many roles including serving as the President of Entrepreneurs Organization in Johannesburg, acting as a mentor to the Branson Center of Entrepreneurship, and serving as an MBA lecturer on Advanced Entrepreneurship. He holds a master's of business degree from GIBS where he graduated cum-laude. After completing the Washington Fellowship, Yossi

plans to pursue his goal of starting a "boot camp" school designed to disrupt the current 3-to-4 year tertiary educational model and address the current technology skills gap in South Africa. The focus of the school will be to take previously disadvantaged people from having no programming experience to being a 'world class beginner' coder within six months or less.



**Nadia Hitimana, Rwanda, Civic Leadership, University of Delaware**

Nadia Hitimana currently serves as the Health and Hygiene Officer with Sustainable Health Enterprises (SHE). She is responsible for developing, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating a girl's education program that addresses menstrual hygiene management. She is passionate about breaking stereotypes and myths regarding menstruation that result in Rwandan girls missing nearly fifty school days per year. She holds a bachelor's degree in Community Health Development from the former Kigali Health Institute with a focus in Environmental Health Sciences. Upon her return from the Washington Fellowship program, she plans to further advocate for youth education, especially for girls, and serve as a mentor to girls in Rwanda.



**Moratuo Jane Hlongwa, Lesotho, Business and Entrepreneurship, Yale University**

Moratuo Jane Hlongwa has over ten years of experience in accounting and auditing. She is currently partner at New Dawn Chartered Accountants, an INPACT international member firm, where she carries out strategic and business development responsibilities. She is also the founder of Image Evolution Lesotho, where she advocates for personal and corporate branding, self-awareness, involvement in community service and social activities, and instilling strong etiquette standards. Moratuo is the co-author of the book titled “Image Matters” and is an audit committee member of the Central Bank of Lesotho. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to continue with image and community service advocacy programs in Lesotho, working closely with government ministries and development partners with more focus on inculcating the spirit of patriotism among Basotho.



**Deo-Gratias Judrita M Hougni, Benin, Public Management  
Florida International University**

Deo-Gratias Hougni is an Agricultural Engineer specializing in crop production with over eight years of experience in research and extension. He has served as an Extension Officer since 2006 and has previous experience serving as a Research Assistant in laboratory and science oriented projects. He is responsible for writing scientific proposals and reports, carrying agronomic trials, running surveys and appraisals in rural areas, and conducting soil lab analyses. In addition, he also provides technical training to various stakeholders, empowers farmers’ capacities, monitors livelihood projects, and helps prevent and resolve pastoral conflicts. After the Washington Fellowship, he plans to continue training and advising the rural community on agricultural issues and link small farmers to the market's need.



**Tatiana Le Houndji, Benin, Civic Leadership, Rutgers University**

Tatiana Houndji has over six years of experience working directly in rural communities. She serves as the Assistant to the overseas President of Glean Ministries, a nonprofit missionary organization registered in the state of Ohio and working in Benin since 2007. She is responsible for the rural setup through medical missions, sponsoring education for poor children, and helping troubled families through family foster care programs designed to bring equilibrium into dysfunctional families. Tatiana is also the Manager of Betha Sarl Benin, a company that sells second hand cars and food products with all profits going towards assisting abused children, orphans, and widows in villages. She holds a master's degree in Management and Business Administration and she is currently studying for a second master's degree in Public Law at the University of Benin. After the Washington Fellowship, she plans to teach and encourage young people of Zè and Glo districts to engage in community service to face shared problems. She also wants to help poor pregnant women to safely carry their pregnancy until delivery.



**Fatima Ibrahim, Nigeria, Business and Entrepreneurship, Clark Atlanta University**

Fatima Ibrahim currently teaches entrepreneurship and has initiated entrepreneurship projects and women forums aimed at uplifting the socio-economic status of women. She works for the Centre for African Entrepreneurship Research and Training in Bayero University, where she is responsible for facilitating the entrepreneurship education program across different faculties of the university. As part of her work, she conducts research locally and internationally and also mentors students on enterprise development and business management. She has a bachelor's degree in Economics, a master's degree in Business Administration with a specialization in entrepreneurship, and is currently studying for a master's degree in Management. Upon return from the Washington Fellowship, she plans to develop sustainable entrepreneurship program to impacts under privileged girls and women and promote women enterprise development efforts in her community.



**Amnah Feisal Amin Ibuni, Tanzania, Civic Leadership, Arizona State University**

Amnah Ibuni has over seven years of experience working in youth empowerment and has been a longstanding and active member of the Zanzibar Youth Forum. She is a co-founder of Sure Steps Nursery School, a community based nursery school in which she was part of the forum that decided to give it a charity twist, turning it towards a social enterprise initiative. She is the Principal Secretary for the Youth Parliament in Zanzibar and possesses skills in event management, advocacy, peer mentoring, and awareness programming. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to formally start up a project focusing on women's rights and advancement in the Zanzibari context, which includes advocating and lobbying for issues of reproductive rights, inheritance rights, and marital rights and providing capacity-building for female community members in employability and self-employment, budgeting, and assertiveness.



**Ijeoma Princess Precious Idika-Chima, Nigeria, Civic Leadership, University of Delaware**

Ijeoma Idika-Chima has over three years of experience working directly with teenagers, focusing on education, character, positive cultural values, and mentoring them with life-building skills. She is the founder and Chairperson for Teenz Global Foundation (TGF), an NGO that focuses on training, educating, and mentoring teenagers through the difficult phase of their lives using various programs that positively impacts them as they become adults. She has counselled over 10,000 teenagers in various schools both in rural communities and urban cities throughout Nigeria. In addition, Ijeoma organizes free guidance and counselling sessions for teenagers on social vices and education support services, broadcasts a weekly educational program on teenage related issues on TV and radio stations, distributes free educational and learning materials, and hosts an annual language program. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in English Language from the University of Abuja. Upon completion of the Washington fellowship, Ijeoma plans to expand her reach by

implementing various educational projects that will enhance the lives of young people across Nigeria.



**Oghenevwoke Shehu Usman Ighure, Nigeria, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Texas at Austin**

Oghenevwoke Ighure is an economist and statistician with work experience across different sectors including information technology, management consulting, agriculture, retailing, oil, and energy. He currently leads the strategy and corporate development initiative for West Africa's largest business and financial media corporation. In this capacity, he has led the organization's international expansion across sub Saharan Africa and increased their business portfolio to include research, training, consulting services, and conferences. He has also helped them build the first digital news service platform in West Africa. He has a

Master of Business Administration from the University of Kent in the United Kingdom. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Oghenevwoke plans to work on empowerment workshops and set up innovation centers / business incubators for young entrepreneurs in Lagos and Delta, Nigeria.



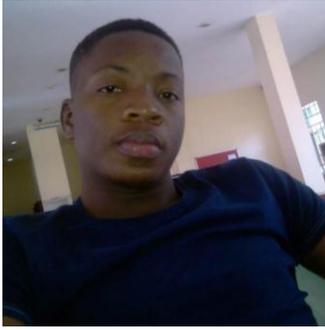
**Irene Ikumu, Uganda, Civic Leadership  
University of Virginia and the College of William & Mary**

Irene Ikumu has five years of experience working in governance and democracy in Uganda. She manages Parliament Watch Uganda, an initiative that monitors ongoing parliamentary processes and disseminates this information to the Ugandan public through various online platforms. She currently sits on USAID Uganda's Democracy, Rights and Governance Advisory Board. In addition, Irene has been recognized as an outstanding young leader by the U.S. Embassy and selected to serve as a Generation Change Fellow representing youth perspectives at policy and political analysis dialogues. She has been behind diverse social change start-ups that have empowered young people in Uganda to become active citizens like the National Debate Council, Early Life Online Radio and the Green Light Movement. Irene holds a bachelor's degree in Law from Makerere University. Upon completion of the

Washington Fellowship, she plans on getting more young people engaged in the policy and legislative discussion, particularly targeting law students that will be future legislators and policy analysts.

**Serge Ilambo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Public Management  
Syracuse University**

Serge Ilambo has over six years of experience in the Telecommunication and Information Technology sectors. He currently serves as a Telecommunication and Networking Engineer with the Democratic Republic of Congo's (DRC) Ministry of Budget where he manages project design and telecom infrastructures. Prior to the Ministry of Budget, he worked in microfinance as the Database and System Administrator Assistant with Opportunity International Bank. Serge interned and trained with several organizations including Airtel-DRC, Huawei Technologies in Nigeria, and CDAC-Noida in India. He received his degree in Computer Science from the University of Kinshasa and a postgraduate diploma in the same field from the African University of Science and Technology in Abuja, Nigeria. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to work in programming that provides leadership, good governance, and capacity building training to promote the emergence of future leaders in the DRC and Africa.



**Amine Issouf Ilboudo, Burkina Faso, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Notre Dame**

Amine Issouf Ilboudo currently works as a research engineer at the Laboratory of Construction Eco-Materials of 2iE where he focuses on the development of new non-conventional building materials. He is the co-founder and CEO of ICEBERG, a small company that locally manufactures machines to make ice blocks and is the representative in Burkina Faso of Codbit Ghana Ltd., a software solutions provider. Amine holds a Master of Science in Materials Science and Engineering from the African University of Science and Technology and a Bachelor of Science in Water and Environmental Engineering from the International Institute for Water and Environmental Engineering. He recently launched Chika Village Project, which engages graduate students in designing, fabricating, and distributing ceramic water filters for families in Chika. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Amine plans to apply science, technology, and business skills to solve societal problems in Burkina Faso and throughout Africa.



**John Ilima, Uganda, Civic Leadership, Rutgers University**

John Ilima has over five years of experience working in education in Uganda. Currently, he is a visiting lecturer at Gulu University where he is helping to nurture careers through teaching, assessing, supervising, and mentoring students, as well as lobbying for their internship placements. He has a passion for working with underprivileged children and youth and co-founded and currently serves as a volunteer Executive Director of Integrated Response, a nonprofit entity that works to advance the interests of disadvantaged children and youth in Katakwi district through increasing access to meaningful education and training. He is charged with the responsibility of providing general oversight in planning, organizing, coordinating and controlling activities and processes to lead the organization to its vision directions. Upon return from the Washington Fellowship, he plans to initiate a fundraising drive for a Scholarship Fund to support poor yet highly talented young women and men to build gainful careers through vocational training and skills-based tertiary education. He also plans to establish an ICT resource center at his organization's secretariat to be an information and training hub, as well as a gateway to online learning platforms and other related resources.



**Phillip Garjay Innis, Liberia, Public Management, Syracuse University**

Phillip Garjay Innis has over six years of experience working with public entities in areas of revenue assurance, fraud management, government auditing, and public financial management. He is currently the Internal Audit Team Leader at the National Oil Company of Liberia where he is responsible for planning and executing financial and operational audits as well as consultancy assignments, developing audit programs aimed at revenue assurance, and assessing the efficiency, economy and effectiveness of the company's operations and transactions. Phillip holds a bachelor's of science degree in Economics from the University of Liberia and a master's degree in Business Administration from Coventry University in the United Kingdom. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship program, Phillip plans to continue to work with public entities in Liberia with focus on revenue assurance and fraud management, especially in the extractive industries.



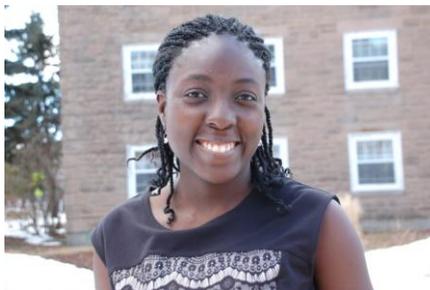
**Bernadette Mah Ippet Letember, Mali, Public Management  
Florida International University**

Bernadette Ippet Letember currently serves as the President of OPEN MALI, the first youth association with a partnership with the Malian government and the National Committee for the Fight Against Accidents. OPEN MALI gives scholarships for vocational training to youth and has helped enroll 1,300 Malian children in school. As part of her role with OPEN MALI, Bernadette has also contributed to the improvement of living conditions of disadvantaged people in Mali. She also works in a construction company where she manages the customer relation section. Bernadette holds a master's degree in Finance Management. After the Washington Fellowship, she plans to assist in the reconstruction and development of Mali due to recent conflict.



**Colombe Ituze Ndukiye, Rwanda, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Dartmouth College**

Colombe Ndukiye Ituze is a fashion designer and an ICT trainer with the Rwanda Workforce Development Authority (WDA). She is also the Founder and Creative Director of “INCO icyusa” which is the first fashion label owned by a Rwandan and introduced in Rwanda. She designs all of her clothing and accessories and works with women cooperatives to produce and sell products that are available in retail and custom order. Her collections have been showcased in several Fashion shows in Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda, Kenya, and also in the United States through the “Cowboy and Couture 2012” in Oklahoma. The Africa Diva Award recognized Colombe with the Rwanda Fashion/Style Role Model award in 2013. She holds a bachelor’s degree in Business and Information and Communication Technology from Mount Kenya University. After completing the Washington Fellowship program, she will coach and create networking opportunities for young girls involved in the Duhugurane Project and the Young Adolescent Initiative (AGI) to help them successfully get internships and employment opportunities.



**Adepeju Opeyemi Jaiyeoba, Nigeria, Business and Entrepreneurship,  
University of Texas at Austin**

Adepeju Jaiyeoba is a skilled community advocate with experience in women’s right and maternal and child health in Nigeria. She is the founder of Mothers’ Delivery Kit, a company that manufactures and distributes birth kits for purchase. In this capacity, she coordinates business development for the organisation and works to continually develop an effective distribution line that will see women across Nigeria connected to lifesaving supplies irrespective of their location at childbirth. Since August the organization has sold more than 6,000 pieces kits while also connecting more than 140 traditional birth attendants’ (TBA) homes, 25 primary health care centres, 40 private hospitals, and one university teaching hospital. Adepeju holds a degree in Law from the Obafemi Awolowo University Ile-Ife and a certificate in Global Change Leadership from the Coady International Institute in Canada. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship, Adepeju hopes to have gained business skills that will help her build proper market chains, double production, increase her customer base, and establish a depot for the kits to serve geopolitical zones in Nigeria.



**Grace Nkechi Japheth, Nigeria, Business and Entrepreneurship, Yale University**

Grace Japheth has over two years of experience working to eradicate poliomyelitis and currently serves as an Independent Monitor for the World Health Organization (WHO). She is a peer educator trainer who teaches and trains youth on the prevention and effect of HIV/Aids. Grace is also a Facilitator for the Christian Rural and Urban Development Association of Nigeria (CRUDAN), an NGO that advocates for the poor. She raises local chicken and grows mangoes that are made into various products to promote healthy living and to provide job opportunities for the youth in her community. Grace holds a Bachelor of Science in Applied Microbiology and Brewing from Nnamdi Azikiwe University. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Grace plans to empower both Christian and Muslim youth in her community by creating more job opportunities through agriculture and promoting peaceful coexistence.



**Avinash Jasgray, Mauritius, Civic Leadership, University of Delaware**

Avinash Jasgray has over eight years of experience in the community development sector, especially in youth development. Currently, he is a Community Project Executive and Life Skills trainer with the National Empowerment Foundation, where he focuses on identifying and implementing community projects and case management for vulnerable people. Vashil holds a degree in Social Work from the University of Mauritius, where he focused on the socio-economic impact of the rehabilitation of drug addicts. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to create a team of young leaders who will work and empower young drug addicts and encourage them to participate in community activities.



**Matty Jobe, Gambia, Civic Leadership, Tulane University**

Matty Jobe currently works as the Performing Arts Officer with the Gambian National Center for Arts and Culture, a statutory institution responsible for the preservation, promotion and development of the arts and culture in Gambia. She works directly with artists, artistic groups, and associations engaged in music, dance, drama, and other cultural manifestations with a duty to help build capacity in these areas. She is also the founder of the Gambia Youth Actors Association (GAMYAA), an organization devoted to building talent in the domains of music, theater, dance, and film. Upon her completion of the Washington Fellowship, Matty plans to further her work with Learning with the Arts, a program that increases access to art centers throughout The Gambia to people of all backgrounds.



**Warren Dewald Johannes, South Africa, Civic Leadership University of Virginia and the College of William & Mary**

Warren Johannes has extensive experience in project coordination, community mobilization, and advocacy. As a human rights activist and community worker, he has been involved in civil society organizations for more than 10 years advocating for the rights of PLHIV and Commercial Sex Workers. He has coordinated several USAID, UNAIDS and EU funded projects and has worked extensively in the areas of HIV/AIDS, gender, and advocacy. He recently completed a six month lectureship at Makerere University in Uganda, where he taught international law, humanitarian law, and diplomacy. His research interests are peace and security, human rights, and gender studies. Warren holds a bachelor's of law and master's in Human Rights from the University of Fort Hare. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Warren plans to identify an African institution of higher learning with the view of establishing a law project sensitizing lawyers in law and gender.



**Sarah M Johnson, Liberia, Public Management, Morgan State University**

Sarah Johnson has over four years of professional working experience in both the public and private sectors. She is a member of the President's Young Professional Program and also a member of the Youth Advisory team to the U.S Ambassador to Liberia. She currently works in the budget department of the Ministry of Finance and her responsibilities include preparing and managing the national budget calendar, assisting in developing and issuing the budget call circular, and serving as liaison between various stakeholder units of the Budget Working Group. Sarah graduated from the African Methodist Episcopal University with a bachelor's degree in Accounting. Upon her return from the Washington Fellowship program, she intends to share knowledge gained with co-workers and ensure it has a positive trickle-down effect on her community and country at large.



**Majo Joseph, Mozambique, Civic Leadership  
University of Virginia and the College of William & Mary**

Majo Joseph is an English teacher, human rights activist, and volunteer. He currently serves as the Program Officer with the Parliament of Mozambique (YPM), province of Manica. His main responsibility is to work with youth, women, and disadvantaged persons to promote their active and constructive participation in the decision making process for the development of Mozambique. Majo is studying for his Bachelors of Arts degree in English Language Teaching from the Universidade Pedagogica de Moçambique. After

completing the Washington Fellowship program, Majo intends to partner with other civil society organizations to organize seminars in the 11 districts of the province of Manica to promote the empowerment of youth, women, and disadvantaged persons.

**Jessyca Joyekurun, Mauritius, Business and Entrepreneurship, Yale University**



Jessyca Joyekurun has over six years of experience in the human resources field and has been running Expand Human Resources in Mauritius for two years. She specializes in providing human resource outsourcing for small and medium enterprises. She has also recently opened two branches in Uganda and Tanzania. She holds a Bachelor of Law from the University of Kent and is currently reading an MBA in Human Resource Management from the University of Wales. She has been awarded a 'Special Mention by Jury' by the HR Excellence awards by the human resource council of development in Mauritius in 2013. She writes articles regularly in the local newspapers regarding employment law and human resources. She is also the Board Secretary on a Children's NGO in Mauritius, which promotes education for destitute children. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she intends to provide trainings and mentorship to entrepreneurs in Mauritius and in the East African region, helping them to gain the necessary skills and expertise so that they can grow their businesses.

**Patrice D Juah, Liberia, Business & Entrepreneurship, Dartmouth College**



Patrice Juah is a poet, media professional, activist, entrepreneur and former Miss Liberia dedicated to changing Liberia's image within the international community. She strives to motivate and empower young women by supporting several local non-profit organizations' efforts in educating women on topics such as HIV/AIDs, teenage pregnancy, education, and workforce development. Patrice launched the first ever Miss Education Awareness Pageant to inspire young girls to strive for higher education. She also serves as a regular contributor to the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) radio show 'Girl Power' that promotes self-esteem, confidence, and the importance of leadership in local communities. She established the Martha Juah Educational Foundation, named in honor of her mother who was a primary school teacher for 47 years, to advocate for scholarships for young girls in rural Liberia. Patrice holds a bachelor's degree in Mass Communication and an advanced certificate in Fashion Design. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Patrice intends to further her work in developing mentorship and entrepreneurship opportunities for young people in Liberia.

**Anne Kakurugusi Kabahuma, Uganda, Business & Entrepreneurship, Northwestern University**



Anne Kabahuma is a practitioner with over ten years of experience working with communities in both urban and peri-urban areas focusing on women's empowerment and girl's education. She is the Operations Manager for Rwenzori Sustainable Trade Center where she focuses on design, development, and marketing of local handcrafts made by women from the Rwenzori region in western Uganda. She has excellent communication, mobilization, and training skills and is competent at project planning, development, assessment, designing, and monitoring and evaluation. Her main goal is to work collectively with disadvantaged communities in developing strategies to improve their welfare. She is interested in acquiring additional experience and academic qualifications that enable her to have a career in social, public, and community development. Anne holds a master's degree in Business Administration from Mountains of Moon University. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to work on creating empowerment workshops for women

and girls in the Rwenzori region that provide skills in business, entrepreneurship and marketing.



**Vickie Wambura Kairo, Kenya, Civic Leadership, Wagner College**

Vickie Kairo has over six years of experience engaging with the criminal justice system in Kenya with a particular focus on prisons. She is the founder and Executive Director of Nafisika Trust. Under her leadership Nafisika has become a key partner in the prisons where they have successfully implemented programs aimed at reducing recidivism among inmates through behavior change and economic empowerment skills training. In recognition of her work and transformative approach, she was elected an Ashoka Fellow in 2013. She holds a Cambridge International diploma in Business Management and is an alumnus of the Institute for National Transformation, a pan African organization that works to train and impact transformational leaders across different spheres. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Vickie plans to work on enhancing communication and prisoner information sharing among the different stakeholders in the criminal justice system in Kenya.



**Vincent Kalimba, Rwanda, Civic Leadership, Wagner College**

Vincent Kalimba has over five years of experience working on employment and economic development programs for youth. He currently serves as the Senior Business Advisor for Technoserve Rwanda, a program that aims at the sustainable improvement of livelihoods for 15,000 regional rural youth and their households. Vincent holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Food Science and Technology from Kigali Institute of Science and Technology and is pursuing a master's of business from Kampala International University in Uganda. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship program, Vincent plans to implement the ACTION4CHANGE Initiative, a program designed to empower Rwandan youth to build their capacity around leadership, entrepreneurship, and management in order to enhance their readiness, competitiveness, and preparedness to seize any economic or leadership opportunity.



**Tomas Kalimbo, Namibia, Public Management, Syracuse University**

Tomas Kalimbo has over seven years of professional experience as an educator. Currently, he serves as a principal at a government school in rural Namibia. He is responsible for managing the affairs of the school including personnel, finances, and policy development. He also serves as a regional facilitator for ICT and is responsible for facilitating teacher training workshops. He holds a graduate diploma in ICT Leadership and Knowledge Society from Dublin City University, an advanced certificate in Education from North West University, and a diploma for Basic Education Teacher from the Ministry of Education. Upon returning from the Washington Fellowship, he plans to create a community pre-primary school for children between the ages of 2-5 in Olunkono community and nearby villages. He also plans to mobilize the community of Olunkono to raise funds to install electricity for the community.



**Rachel Maano Ndesihafela Kalipi, Namibia, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Clark Atlanta University**

Rachel Kalipi has eleven years of experience working in the diamond mining industry. She is currently a Management Accountant at DEBMARINE Namibia, the world's largest marine diamond producer. Her key interests are in real estate investments, mentoring upcoming entrepreneurs, sustainable food production, and poverty eradication in Africa. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Rachel plans to assist disadvantaged communities in Namibia by setting up backyard gardens to ensure that they have access to daily nutritional needs. She will also continue mentoring upcoming entrepreneurs and hopes to establish a career guidance center where she and fellow professionals can share their knowledge and experience with youth and contribute to the growth of the Namibian economy.

**Nosiku Kalonga, Zambia, Civic Leadership, Rutgers University**

Nosiku Kalonga has over five years of experience in child and youth development and empowerment programs. She is the founder and Director of Mmabana Community Outreach of Choma, an organization specializing in the empowerment of orphans and vulnerable children through the provision of life skills training in leadership skills, entrepreneurship, HIV/AIDS, and ICT development. She is responsible for strategic planning, project design, and monitoring and evaluation. She is also a trained psychosocial counselor who has mentored girls on HIV/AIDS. Nosiku has a bachelor's degree in Law from the University of South Africa and hopes to practice as an international human rights lawyer in the near future. After completing the Washington Fellowship, she intends to apply the skills obtained to enhance service delivery to the community, engage local youth in leadership and capacity building trainings, and initiate a Youth Resource Center which will serve as a hub for information on youth opportunities in the global community.

**Brian Kasule Kalule, Uganda, Civic Leadership, Rutgers University**



Brian Kalule is a multifaceted professional with slightly over five years of work experience as an Occupational Therapist and Community Organizer. He is interested in human rights with a focus on disability and children's rights. Brian has served as the co-founder and Director of Hope for the Disabled Uganda (HODU), a community based organization created in 2009 that caters to the needs of persons living with disabilities. He has also served as an Occupational Therapist with Watoto Child Care Ministries where he helps Ugandan children transform into future leaders. Brian holds a diploma in Occupational Therapy from Mulago Paramedical School, a certificate in Community and Home Based Rehabilitation from Karolinska Institute in Sweden and a degree in Biomedical Science from Makerere University. After The Washington Fellowship, Brian wants to concentrate on lobbying and advocating for the promotion of inclusive education as a tool to social inclusion of special needs children.



**Kolu Fawula Kamah, Liberia, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Texas-Austin**

Kolu Kamah currently serves as the Director of Nursing Services and Acting Hospital Administrator with the Eternal Life Winning Africa (ELWA) hospital. She holds a master's degree in Public Health and has been practicing as a professional nurse for more than seven years. Upon her return from the Washington Fellowship program, she plans to develop a business and social enterprise that focuses on health care delivery in under-served communities. Kolu intends to give back to communities by investing 20% of the business profit in scholarships, development of water and sanitation facilities, and other small scale community projects.



**Florence Wamuyu Kamaitha, Kenya, Business & Entrepreneurship  
University of Texas-Austin**

Florence Kamaitha has over three years of experience distributing sanitary towels and undergarments to underprivileged girls to reduce absenteeism from school during their menses. Currently, Florence serves as a Resource Mobilizer where she focuses on raising funds to provide education for girls and provide free surgical camps for the poor. Florence is skilled in resource mobilizing, communication, negotiation skills, and social media campaigns. She is currently pursuing her bachelor's degree in Communication and Marketing. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Florence will create the first eco-friendly, affordable, and good quality sanitary towels made from banana stems to provide to girls to keep them in school. She will work with different county governments to lobby and have them include a budget for sanitary towels so each girl will never miss school during her menses.



**Mohammed B Kamara, Liberia, Civic Leadership, University of California-Berkeley**

Mohammed Kamara has over ten years of experience working with many international organizations including American Refugees Council (ARC), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Premere Urgence Aid Humanitarian International, and Right to Play with IBIS - Education for Development. He served as the Program Assistant with IBIS on their Support to Ivorian Refugees and Host Communities (SIRHC) program where he worked with refugees, host communities, youth, and students. He coordinated educational activities for refugees that focused on life skills, livelihood, and peace building. Mohammed is the founder of Peace Link Liberia, an organization seeking to build the capacity of youth as stakeholders to resolve disputes between and within their community of peers by using a non-violent approach to conflict resolution. Upon the completion of the Washington Fellowship program,

he plans to continue to work with Peace Link Liberia to undertake peace building and youth empowerment Initiatives in Lofa County, Liberia. He hopes to combat tribal and religious violence and youth unemployment to build a peaceful and Inclusive community.



**Sedekie Bangale Kamara, Liberia, Public Management  
Morgan State University**

Sedekie Kamara has three years of progressive experience in the planning, coordination and monitoring of national development. He is presently a Senior Planning Officer at the Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs where he is responsible for providing technical and operational assistance to the Minister in the formulation, coordination, and monitoring of the implementation of national development plans. He has significant experience in teaching, social work, and student leadership. Sedekie has a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics from Cuttington University in Liberia and is currently a candidate for a Master of

Business Administration in Finance. After completing the Washington Fellowship program, he plans to work towards a sustainable and strategic Public Private Partnership that builds the private sector's capacity to train more people and create more jobs especially for young people.



**Ariane Kampingwe, Burundi, Public Management, Florida International University**

Ariane Kampingwe has over five years of experience working in the field of refugee protection. Currently, she is the Deputy Coordinator in charge of International Protection at the National Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons. She is responsible for coordinating the asylum procedures of over 7000 asylum-seekers and implementing the protection of 42,000 refugees in Burundi. Ariane holds a master's degree in Human Rights and Humanitarian Action from the Catholic University of Central Africa where she focused on the protection of migrants' rights. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Ariane plans to work on migrants' rights and obligations as well as help illiterate migrants, in order for them to stay and live comfortably in Burundi and avoid statelessness.



**Mariem Kane, Mauritania, Business and Entrepreneurship, University of Notre Dame**

Mariem Kane is a Telecommunications Engineer working in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) since September 2011. She currently serves as a Presales Engineer with Mauritel, Mauritania's largest operator company and is responsible for managing new ICT projects. Mariem is also working on a web communication project that will present Mauritanian events in a networking web platform. In addition, she is working on the creation of the first ICT incubator in Mauritania. Mariem is a member of several organizations including the Youth Chamber of Commerce of Mauritania, Mauriandroid Community, and Google Developer Group Nouakchott. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Mariem plans to create networking platforms to help young Mauritians develop their entrepreneurship skills.



**Chipiliro Liyana Kansilanga, Malawi, Public Management, Howard University**

Chipiliro Liyana Kansilanga is a Malawian journalist with an interest in issues related to gender, development, and new media. She has over six years of experience in writing and editing for online and print media and has held various positions in some of Malawi's forefront publications. Currently, Chipiliro is the Online Editor for Blantyre Newspapers Limited, where she champions new media projects. She holds a postgraduate diploma in Media Management and a bachelor's degree in Mass Communications, both attained with upper credits. Upon her return from Washington Fellowship, she intends to use her skills to advance leadership development for

young women by promoting women's literacy and new media training in order to narrow the male-female training and technology gap.



**Doreen Karake, Rwanda, Public Management, Florida International University**

Doreen Karake has served as Legal Analyst with the Rwanda Development Board for two years. Her responsibilities include negotiating strategic investment deals on behalf of the government, undertaking investment appraisals, and making recommendations on which investments would most benefit the country. Prior to this position, Doreen worked for one of Rwanda's top corporate law firms and practiced company law, mergers and acquisitions, labor law, and general corporate commercial law. Doreen has a B-Juris from the University of Namibia, a postgraduate LLB and a master's in law from the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa, and is currently pursuing a long distance master of business administration from the Heriot Watt University in the United Kingdom. After completion of Washington Fellowship program, Doreen intends to work on sharing the knowledge acquired with her colleagues in the Rwanda Development Board, as well as across all government bodies, to help Rwanda become a knowledge-based economy.



**Oteng Karikari, Ghana, Public Management, University of Minnesota**

Oteng Karikari has eight years of professional experience working in policy analysis, research, monitoring and evaluation, community development, and human resource management. He currently works with the Ministry of Finance where he supports the continuous development of a robust and sustainable M&E system for the Ministry and its agencies. He has also worked for the Women Caucus Secretariat of Ghana’s Parliament where he initiated and/or supported activities and projects that helped to improve the health, economic, political and socio-economic outcomes for women and children. Oteng received his bachelor degree from Prempeh College and the University of Ghana and his

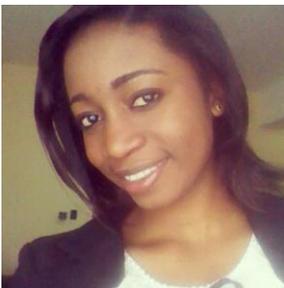
Master of Science in Public Policy and Management from Carnegie Mellon University. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Oteng intends to contribute to the discussion around the issues and challenges affecting the creation of a strong M&E and statistics system in Ghana. He also plans to revive an NGO he founded to support the effective regulation of the gambling industry to minimize the harmful effects of gambling on youth through research, advocacy and public education.



**Ali Karim Alio, Niger, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Notre Dame**

Ali Alio has six years of experience working in the IT sector and is a computer science engineer specializing in software engineering. He currently serves as the CEO of Nova Technologies and is responsible for defining the prospects of the company and implementing strategies for organizational success. In addition to his work in IT, Ali is also very active in the sport of rugby and serves as General Secretary of the Niger Rugby Union, captain of the national rugby team, and Coordinator for Kid’s Academy for Rugby and Development (KARD). In 2014 he

launched PC for All, a social entrepreneurship project that works to reduce the digital divide in Niger through the sale of refurbished computers at affordable prices. After completing the Washington Fellowship, he plans to use acquired knowledge and skills to strengthen and enhance his projects to impact people throughout Niger.



**Chikulupi Njelu Kasaka, Tanzania, Public Management, Howard University**

Chikulupi Kasaka is a lawyer working with the Parliament of Tanzania where she analyzes bills and laws, drafts private members motions, and prepares the schedule of amendments. She has been active in several committees and organizations including serving as Chairperson of Ruling Party Youth league –UVCCM, Vice President of East African Community Students Union-EACSU, Member of Parliament for Dar es Salaam University Student Government-DARUSO, and Publicity Officer of the University of Dar es Salaam Human Rights Association-UDHRA. As part of her work with the youth led NGO Tanzania Youth Vision Association (TYVA), she advocates for youth engagement in the ongoing new

constitutional making process. Chikulupi is a graduate of the Law School of Tanzania and holds an LL.B from University of Dar es Salaam. Upon her return from the Washington Fellowship, Chikulupi plans to further her efforts with TYVA and campaign on youth participation in the forthcoming referendum on the new constitution in Tanzania.



**Mweta Wyford Katemba, Malawi, Civic Leadership, Wagner College**

Mweta Katemba has over eight years of experience working with rural communities on the issue of HIV/AIDS and providing education on how to prevent and combat HIV and gender based violence. He currently serves as the Project Manager with Friends of AIDS Support Trust (FAST) in Malawi. He is responsible for implementing and monitoring the Men as Protectors campaign and women empowerment project as well as design project monitoring and evaluation tools. Mweta holds a certificate in Community Development from the Association of Business Managers Administrators in the UK. Upon his return from the Washington Fellowship, he plans

to further his work on the women empowerment project and the Men as Protectors campaign.



**Immaculate Katushabe, Uganda, Business & Entrepreneurship  
University of Wisconsin – Stout**

Immaculate Katushabe has over three years of experience in green house production and management. She is skilled in plant protection, gene bank management, breeding, selection and seed processing of chrysanthemum. Currently, she works with Xclusive Cuttings U Ltd and volunteers as the Crop Production Advisor with a women farmers group in the Bupai, Wakiso district. Immaculate received her bachelor's of science degree in Horticulture from the Department of Agricultural Production at Makerere University in Uganda. Upon the

completion of the Washington Fellowship program, she plans to start Agritec Grain Milling, a company that will equip rural women and youth with necessary skills required for commercial agriculture and increased income in the Masheruka Sheema district.



**Eugene Paul Kavishe, Tanzania, Business & Entrepreneurship  
University of Wisconsin – Stout**

Eugene Kavishe is an entrepreneur in the poultry sector with more than five years of practical experience. He is the founder and Managing Director of Vonkavy Agro Company Limited, which deals with commercial poultry and agriculture. He manages and oversees a modern poultry facility with over 5,000 layers supplying quality and nutritious table eggs in the Morogoro region of Tanzania. He holds a bachelor's of science degree in Economics with a major in Project Planning and Management from Mzumbe University in Morogoro, Tanzania. After completing the Washington

Fellowship, Eugene plans to expand his company by increasing production and creating more employment opportunities for youth. He also plans to encourage and mentor youth to engage in self-employment and be the main actors towards development.



**Cyrus Salabwa Kawalya, Uganda, Civic Leadership  
University of California – Berkeley**

Cyrus Kawalya is a visual development strategist with a deep passion for the creative arts of film and photography. He has been a photographer for 10 years and has worked with clients such as African Woman magazine, Zenji magazine, British High Commission, GIZ, World Bank, and the European Union. He is currently the founder and Team Leader of Vision I, an organization that offers workshops to young people who are interested in pursuing a career in film or photography. He has conducted youth empowerment and development projects for

youth from slum and urban communities to provide them a platform to tell their stories the way they want them heard. He created the Youth innovation Hub, a platform to help youth who have pioneered business ventures to earn a living. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship program, Cyrus will continue to offer workshops and trainings and will also create a new multimedia platform that will amplify and bring together many voices and stories.



**Sombo Lute Kaweza, Zambia, Public Management, Morgan State University**

Sombo Kaweza has five years of experience working with micro, small, and large enterprises. For the past three years she has worked at the Zambia Development Agency (ZDA) where she is currently serving under the Policy and Planning Directorate as Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist. Her main responsibility is monitoring and evaluating programs and activities covering investments, exports, and enterprise development in the country. She holds a bachelor's degree in Development Studies and a master's degree in Development Policy with a concentration in Entrepreneurship and Private Sector Development from the Korea Development Institute (KDI) School of Public Policy and Management.



**Junior N'Kashama Kayembe, Democratic Republic of Congo  
Public Management, University of Minnesota**

Junior N'Kashama currently serves as the Procurement Officer for the Prime Minister's Project Management and Procurement unit. He also provides monitoring and mentoring work to other public agencies including the National Independent Electoral Committee, The Addis Ababa Agreement Monitoring Mechanism, and the National Society of Transport concerning procurement issues. Previously, he worked at La Benevolencija, a Dutch NGO whose objective is to end tensions between grassroots communities. He is also the co-founder of Fondation Jeune Espoir, a nonprofit organization that helps young artists express and showcase their talents. He has a degree in Law and participated in a two year training with the World Bank on procurement procedures.



**Tshiamo Reginald Keakabetse, Botswana, Public Management  
University of Arkansas**

Tshiamo Reginald Keakabetse is the National Coordinator for the Maternal and Newborn Health program in the Public Health Department of the Ministry of Health in Botswana. He has eight years' experience in policy planning, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of health care for women and newborns. He holds a master's degree in Public Health from the University of Melbourne in Australia with an emphasis on reproductive health and rights. The Washington Fellowship program will provide him a platform to implement strategic activities towards breaking the vicious cycle of gender based violence (GBV) and its impact on orphans and vulnerable children. He plans on providing skill-based training and empowerment workshops for survivors of GBV and their children with an emphasis on providing contextual, individualized, and practical solutions to ending GBV.



**Lena Galelemogoe Kedukaetswe, Botswana, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Texas-Austin**

Lenah Kedukaetswe is an aspiring media entrepreneur and the co-founder of Avant-Garde Media. She is currently the editor of Avant-Garde Media's Pristine Online Magazine, which is a lifestyle magazine that is intended for readers to re-awaken their dreams and fuel their desire for success and good living. Lenah's vision for the company is to have an emphasis on covering social issues in an informative yet entertaining manner. Her main goal for the future is to continue increasing Avant-Garde Media's prominence and visibility and for it to play a significant role in helping Botswana's media industry grow and compete with other international media outlets. She is currently a participant in Women In News, a World Association of Newspapers and Publishers project aimed at helping women in southern African news media advance in their careers. She is also co-organizer and media liaison for the annual Young Women Empowerment Conference, a three day summit that commemorates International Women's Day. She has a bachelor's degree in Mass Communication from Curtin University.



**Ziyadath Hoang Oanh M A Kelani, Central African Republic, Public Management  
Syracuse University**

Ziyadath Kelani has been working in human rights for over four years. She currently serves as a human rights observer for the African Union Commission at the African-led International Support Mission to the Central African Republic (AFISCA). Her main activities focus on the current military operation in the Central African Republic (CAR) with a particular emphasis on observing and reporting adherence to international human rights law and monitoring and reporting on the situation of civilians and refugees. Prior to this position, she monitored the human rights situation in Mali for 13 months and was a frequent speaker on radio outlets on the topic of human rights. She holds a master's degree in International Public Law and she speaks French, English, Hindi, and Arabic. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to promote the rights of girls to education in rural CAR and other African countries.



**Magdalene Naseylan Kelel, Kenya, Civic Leadership, Wagner College**

Magdalene Kelel currently serves as Project Leader with the Free Pentecostal Fellowship in Kenya (FPFK). She has extensive experience in HIV and AIDS community development programs where she is responsible for initiating, designing, and implementing project ideas and activities with a focus on human capacity development and facilitation team approach for community and organizational change. She has additional experience working with youth groups on advocacy and women on promoting sustainability and self-reliance for a better future. She holds a bachelor's degree in Art from Egerton University and is currently conducting research on indigenous health care and its resilience. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Magdalene plans to work on youth participation in democratic processes, capacity development on early childhood education, and health issues.



**Tawanda Kembo, Business and Entrepreneurship, University of Texas-Austin**

Tawanda Kembo has served as the Technical Coordinator at Muzinda Umuzi Hub since February 2014. Tawanda previously served as System Administrator at Connection Software. Prior to that position, he worked as a Developer at HITRAC, as well as at the University of Zimbabwe. Tawanda is also involved in a number of startup initiatives in Zimbabwe, namely ZimStay Technologies, which is a startup that sells tourism productions online and VirtualBank Africa - a startup which is making it easy for people to collect online payments. Outside work, Tawanda is mostly contributing his time and skills to the Bitcoin project. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Tawanda plans to

use what he has learned to help the entrepreneurs he works with at Muzinda Umuzi Hub to grow their businesses.



**Queen Baboloki Kgeresi, Botswana, Civic Leadership  
Arizona State University**

Queen Kgeresi has over five years of experience working on women and youth issues with an emphasis in education and empowerment of girls. Currently, she is the Student Welfare and Support Officer at BA ISAGO University College where she counsels students on psycho-social issues, mentors them to promote hope and empowerment, and teaches life skills. Queen is the founder of the Dream Hub Project, an initiative that supports youth and marginalized groups including survivors of gender based violence (GBV). She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and Sociology from the University of Botswana. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship program, Queen plans on completing a variety of

projects including: establish a one stop safe house in Botswana; provide empowerment workshops for young women, girls, and youth; promote equal access of employment for youth by providing trainings in entrepreneurship, business management, and functional literacy; and support the formation of a grassroots girls club that provides peer support.



**Katlarello Kate Kgwefane, Botswana, Public Management  
Florida International University**

Katlarello Kate Kgwefane has over three years of experience working as an allied health professional. She currently serves as an Audiologist at Princess Marina Hospital in Gaborone where she provides diagnosis, management, prevention, and promotion of hearing and balance disorders. She is involved in several health related initiatives including the Botswana National TB program where she has created an ototoxicity monitoring program for MDR-TB patients. She also serves as a volunteer for the Healthy Athlete Initiative with the Special Olympics under the Botswana National Sports Council and has worked with several organizations in drafting legislation that regulates noise management in public areas and in the work environment. Kate holds a Bachelor of Science degree in

Audiology.



**Mazin Mohammed Khalil Ali, Sudan, Civic Leadership,  
Arizona State University**

Mazin Khalil Ali is the founder of SudaMed, a company dedicated to providing unique services to improve the Sudanese healthcare sector and provide the Sudanese community with a reference for all their medical inquiries. SudaMed is the first social entrepreneurship private company in Sudan with 70% of its profits used to invest in providing free health clinics, free schools, and the youth of Sudan. Mazin has worked very hard to transform SudaMed into an international, award winning company. He has a bachelor's degree in Medicine from the University of Khartoum and a master's degree in business administration.



**Khahliso Khama, Lesotho, Civic Leadership, University of California-Berkeley**

Khahliso Khama is a journalist, TV producer, blogger, and social entrepreneur. As an advocate for quality education in Africa, she founded the Dream Lesotho Education Foundation, an initiative that supports and advocates for quality education and youth development in Lesotho. For her efforts and contribution in education, Khahliso has been recognized by the Moremi Initiative for Women's Leadership in Africa as a MILEAD fellow and the SET Africa initiative as one of the 23 inaugural fellows from across Africa. After completing the Washington Fellowship, she hopes to establish a youth support center in Lesotho to aid youth development initiatives.



**Simon Zerezghi Kiflay, Eritrea, Civic Leadership  
University of California – Berkeley**

Simon Kiflay has ten years of experience working in community and youth development. Currently, he is head of the Automation and Preservation section in the Research and Documentation Center of Eritrea. He co-founded the Eritrean National Reading Day, which aims to encourage youth and the larger community to have a stronger reading culture. He serves as an Executive Committee Member in the Library and Information Association of Eritrea (LIAE). In this role, he has established and strengthened libraries and information centers by introducing a records and information management system. Simon holds a bachelor's degree in History from the University of Asmara and he is currently studying for his master's degree in Library and Information Science at the University of Nairobi. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship, Simon intends to establish stronger information centers, conduct trainings and workshops to increase awareness and understanding, and work to contribute towards a prosperous, democratic, peaceful, and developed Africa.

**Gwamaka Robert Kifukwe, Tanzania, Public Management, University of Arkansas**

Gwamaka Kifukwe currently works with the Institute of African Leadership for Sustainable Development (UONGOZI Institute), a public institution whose mission is to equip and inspire current and future African leaders in public, private, and civil society to live up to their individual and collective potential and deliver sustainable solutions to the challenges facing Africa. In addition to research, his duties and responsibilities include the overall coordination of the Green Growth Platform as well as overall responsibility for the institute's efforts and initiatives relating to young and emerging leaders. Furthermore, he hosts two monthly and nationally aired TV interview shows called Meet the Leader and In Focus. Gwamaka is the 2013/2014 Curator of the Global Shapers Community Dar es Salaam Hub, an initiative of the World Economic Forum and he is a National Expert on Social Responsibility working with the Tanzania Bureau of Standards to implement the ISO 26000 standard in East Africa. He graduated from the University of Nottingham (UK) with a PhD in Geography. Upon his return from the Washington Fellowship, Gwamaka plans to institutionalize the knowledge he has gained at UONGOZI Institute and continue his endeavours to enable green and inclusive growth and transformation in Tanzania and beyond.



**Jessie Nabulambo Kilembe, Malawi, Public Management, Syracuse University**

Jessie Nabulambo Kilembe has over six years of work experience in the public sector. She is currently a Domestic Market Operations Dealer at the Reserve Bank of Malawi (RBM), where she focuses on implementing monetary policy and managing banking system liquidity and public debt. Prior to joining RBM, she worked in the Ministry of Finance's Treasury Department as an economist responsible for macro-fiscal issues. She has skills in forecasting, policy analysis, financial programming and policies, macroeconomic management, debt sustainability analysis, and public debt management. Jessie holds a bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Namibia and a Master of Science in

Economics and Finance from the University of Leeds, UK. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to work on macroeconomic policy initiatives with a focus on public debt management and the coordination between fiscal and monetary policies.



**Koulouar Kinga Nadege, Chad, Public Management, Howard University**

Koulouar Kinga Nadege has over three years of experience in public governance. She currently serves as a SIGASPE Controller for the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Tourist Development where she prepares and oversees the human resource and salary management systems. Prior to this position, Kinga was a Program Assistant for the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA), where she supported the facilitation of inter-party dialogue processes among youth leaders in West Africa. Kinga has considerable experience in simultaneous interpretation and translation from English to French and has worked in a bilingual environment. She received a bachelor's degree in Constitutional Law and Political Science and masters' degrees in Public Law and Political Science and Public Administration. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship program, Kinga plans to mentor young Chadian women leaders in public service with a focus on the development and strengthening of their leadership and communication skills.



**Tchegoun Adebo Koba, Senegal, Public Management, Howard University**

Tchegoun Koba is a young professional with over five years of experience working in economics development, public policy and youth development issues. Currently, Tchegoun is an Associate Technical Expert on child labor and youth employment for the International Labour Organization for West Africa where he focuses on child labor elimination in West and East African countries. Previously, he was a Junior Professional Fellow at the United Nations University office in New York where he coordinated several research projects focused on poverty, higher education contribution to economic growth in Africa, aid effectiveness, MDGs, public policy, and economic crisis. As an African Union Young Expert and leader of the international student organization AIESEC in Senegal, he has coordinated several youth empowerment initiatives promoting entrepreneurship, advocacy, and youth participation. Tchegoun holds a bachelor's degree in Project Management and Business Administration, and a master's degree in Economic Policy and Analysis from Dakar Cheikh Anta Diop

University. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Tchegoun plans to pursue a career in socio-economic development by fostering youth development and employment activities across Africa.



**Percy Morapedi Koji, South Africa, Public Management, Howard University**

Percy Koji is active in the field of education and working with youth. As part of this work, he has set out to build a community library in his birthplace of Taung. He believes that education is the key for people to escape poverty and hopes to raise more funds to complete this library project soon. Percy is the current Chairperson of the Youth Council in Johannesburg where he is responsible for creating the committee's economics and finance portfolio. He received a diploma in Tourism in 2005 and a diploma in Intercultural Communications, Gender & Globalization from Fulda University in Germany in 2012. Upon his return from the Washington Fellowship, he plans to raise more funds to complete his library project and develop a mentorship program for youth.



**Benard Wairagu Komu, Kenya, Business & Entrepreneurship  
Dartmouth College**

Komu Bernard has over three years of experience in software development. He currently works as a Senior Software Developer for a startup company called Wezatele Ltd. He is responsible for developing solutions that help retailers order goods from distributors via SMS. He's also the founder of myNGOcareer.com, a job aggregation website focusing on the NGO sector. Benard is experienced in customer acquisition and retention strategies and has a bachelor's degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering from the University of Nairobi and a certificate in Web Design from Zetech College. He hopes to use the skills and

networks gained from the Washington Fellowship to further his entrepreneurial journey in the ICT sector and also to start a firm that does value addition to the banana crop produced by farmers from his hometown.



**Kwezi Kondile, South Africa, Public Management, Florida International University**

Kwezi Kondile has more than two years of experience in the management consulting sector and is also active in the field of development economics. He is currently a Leadership Fellow at McKinsey and Company and previously served as a Business Analyst at Accenture. Kwezi is also active in youth issues and is currently a Director with InkuluFreeHeid and the co-founder of the National Youth Engagement (NYE), a platform for youth led civil society organizations to express their views with leaders in national development planning. He is also a World Economic Forum Global Shaper. Kwezi has a bachelor's of science degree in Construction Economics and another in Quantity Surveying, both from the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Kwezi plans to use the public management skills gained to further accelerate the impact of InkuluFreeHeid and NYE from a local to a national level.



**Metta Kongira, Gambia, Civic Leadership, University of California-Berkeley**

Metta Kongira has four years of experience in public service as a Public Health Officer in the Gambia. She is currently training to become a Laboratory Scientist at the Medical Research Council Unit. She volunteers with several nonprofit organizations providing assistance in caring for the elderly, teaching at summer school camps, providing peer health education, and mentoring children. Metta has a higher national diploma in Public and Environmental Health from the Gambia College and a Bachelor of Science in Biology and Public Health from the University of the Gambia. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she intends to work on projects that focus on improving the health and well-being of the public to

improve the living standards of her community.



**Mihia Denise Paule Andree C Konin Epse Adou, Cote d'Ivoire  
Business and Entrepreneurship, Northwestern University**

Mihia Denise Adou has 12 years of experience working with various companies including Yara West Africa and Polyco. She also served as the Key Account Manager with Hope Finance, and is now currently working as Technical Commercial with GIM-UEMOA. In 2008 she founded Aurore Beauty Institute and later in 2012 a company specializing in loyalty called Fid'Technologies, where she currently serves as the General Manager. Mihia studied Business Management at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Cote d'Ivoire. After completing the Washington Fellowship, she plans to

educate and mentor college girls on women's leadership and empowerment.



**Eric Koua, Cote d'Ivoire, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Notre Dame**

Eric Koua has over six years of experience working in the oil and gas sectors. He has participated in deep offshore drilling and operations on land with the National Society of Oil and Gas of Ivory Coast. He is a volunteer with the Red Cross and a board member with ESMG Engineers. Eric has worked as geoscientist since 2007 and is responsible for energy data management with professional software's such as Landmark and Halliburton applications. After completing the Washington Fellowship program, Eric plans to work with the Red

Cross to set up a new social entrepreneurship project that will help his community be economically independent by growing new activities for community development. Eric received his education to become a Petroleum Engineer from the High School of Mining and Geology (ESMG), one of six schools of the National Polytechnic Institute Felix Houphouet (INP-HB) of Yamoussoukro in Ivory Coast.



**Ama Kouao, Cote d'Ivoire, Public Management, University of Arkansas**

Ama Kouao has over two years of experience working in the Ivorian Public Administration. Her first position was with the Ministry of Public Service and Administrative Reform, where she assisted in managing the Public Administration's payroll. In 2014, she transferred to the Cabinet of the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, where she serves as the Assistant to the Cabinet Head and specializes in statistics and economic issues. She is responsible for addressing concerns and problems related to the Ivorian higher education system and working to improve the employability of

young graduates. Ama received a degree in Engineering Statistics and Economics. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to improve the quality of her job with the Ivorian Public Administration by applying all of the new skills she has attained into practice.



**Olivier Kouollo Ndéna, Chad, Public Management, University of Minnesota**

Olivier Kouollo Ndéna has over nine years of experience working in the domain of education, health and water. He is National Program Officer for the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation. Olivier is engaged on matters of access to safe drinking water and sanitation that directly involve, empower and benefit rural communities in Chad. He is supporting communities tackling problems of HIV, reproductive health and public administration and management of health and water sector. He is skilled in project management, project design, community participation in social and basic services, project monitoring and evaluation. Olivier holds a Master of Science in Development and Project management in Africa from Catholic University of Central Africa, a Master and a Bachelors of Art in socio-anthropology. After completing the Washington Fellowship, he plans to mentor youth organizations engaged in implementing sustainable projects to improve access to safe water.



**Rose Marie Kouo, Cameroon, Public Management, Morgan State University**

Rose Marie Kouo has seven years of experience in public management. Currently, she is a Research Officer at the Prime Minister's Office where she is involved in legal and administrative research. Prior to that, she was Foreign Affairs Officer at Cameroon's Ministry of External Relations. She has also been Associate Legal Officer and Associate Courtroom Officer at the UNICTR. Rose Marie holds a master's degree in International Relations from the International Relations Institute of Cameroon where she focused on International Disputes. Upon completion of the fellowship, she hopes to apply the public management techniques learned in improving service delivery by the administration and in

lobbying to reduce gender bias.



**Adama Kouyate, Mali, Civic Leadership, Wagner College**

Adama Kouyate has over six years of experience working directly with disadvantaged communities focusing on health and capacity building for women and youth. He currently serves as the Communications and Public Affairs Manager for the Mali Health Organizing Project (MHOP) and is responsible for all of MHOP's communication activities. He works to promote the prevention of disease in women and children and to improve the quality of health care Adama is also the founder and CEO of *Initiative contre la Faim des Enfants* (IFE-Mali), an organization specializing in the field of child nutrition and food sufficiency

through food donation and strengthening the agricultural production capacity of local farmers in western Mali. He has completed an intensive management training course through the Management Development Institute, participated in an intensive English study program at Ohio University, holds a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Bamako, and a master's of business degree in Human Resource Management from Technolab-ISTA. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Adama plans to expand IFE-Mali to other communities in northern Mali in order to enhance the agricultural production capacity of more local farmers.



**Akouèba Atia Marie-Louise Kponton Quam Dessou, Togo, Public Management  
Howard University**

Akouèba Atia Marie-Louise Kponton Quam Dessou is the IT Manager of Bank of Africa Togo since August 2013 and is also the National Vice President of Maritime Region in charge of the coordination of the activities of five local chapters of Junior Chamber International (JCI) Togo. During the past four years, she served as General Secretary in 2010, Vice President in charge of projects and international affairs in 2011, Executive Vice President in charge of the coordination of the whole activities in 2012, and Chapter President in 2013. She is committed to helping solve the lack of blood donations used in hospitals. She has worked with the Blood Transfusion Center in order to develop an

application that can help remind regular donors of their donation appointment by text messages and calls. She holds a master's degree in Management of Informative Systems from the University of Sciences of Fez in Morocco where her studies focused on IT and Management. After completing the Washington Fellowship, she is looking forward to organizing workshops, training sessions and communications for young students to educate them on the basic rules of road safety, blood donation and the advantages of citizenship in their communities.



**Mana Akuvi Banoungouzouna Regina Kpotor, Public Management  
University of Minnesota**

Regina Kpotor is a specialist in public procurement control and communication at the National Directorate for Control of Public Procurement (DNCMP). She has over five years' experience in public administration and communication. At DNCMP, Regina's focus is on controlling compliance with public procedures. As a former journalist and reporter, she is also in charge of the agency's newsletters. Regina was also a television anchor at one time and has extensive experience in fundraising and community outreach. Her professional life goes along with volunteering for various activities. Regina is an active member of the Council for Kloto's Development (CODEK), which is a civil society association where she serves with the Gender Promotion unit to help women achieve their economic goals, as well as learn leadership skills. A graduate in political Science and law enforcement from University of Kara, she is very passionate about public relations, singing and art which allowed her to be awarded the second national prize of the 50th anniversary of the Independence Day of Togo in 2010. After the Washington Fellowship, she plans to work on empowerment workshops for young people of different public agencies where she has worked and also with DNCMP. These workshops would have a focus on teaching leadership's skills.



**Enitan Oluwayomi Kuku, Nigeria, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Notre Dame**

Enitan Kuku is experienced in finance and has a passion for driving social change in rural communities. She currently serves as Finance Coordinator with BAT Nigeria where she is responsible for providing transactional finance support for corporate social responsibility (CSR) projects and other activities commissioned within the organization across West Africa. She is the founder of Marque Africa Initiative (MAI), providing a platform for youth in rural communities to create and exhibit their products or services and receive a profit through sales with a percentage being donated to the development of their communities. Enitan has also initiated the Drop a Book Campaign and the Mobile Library project, which focuses on sourcing donations for educational materials to primary schools in rural communities. Enitan has a Bachelor of Science in Estate Management from Obafemi Awolowo University. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she intends to use the acquired knowledge and proficiency to expand her initiative across Nigeria; providing opportunities to more rural youth with the hopes of bridging the social and economic gap that exists between urban and rural communities.



**Josephine Kulea, Kenya, Civic Leadership, University of Delaware**

Josephine Kulea is a child rights activist with over eight years of experience. Currently, she is the founder and Executive Director of Samburu Girls Foundation, where she focuses on rescuing young girls from harmful cultural practices performed in pastoralist communities in Northern Kenya. Her work has earned her numerous awards, including UN Person of the Year in 2013. Josephine is a registered nurse with the Nursing Council of Kenya. Upon the completion of the Washington Fellowship, she hopes to use her new experience and network to further her efforts to end child exploitation and abuse.



**Raphael Kumwenda, Zambia, Public Management, Howard University**

Raphael Kumwenda is a broadcaster with more than 10 years’ experience, with a focus on producing developmental programs. He currently works for the Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation as a producer, with responsibilities including program development and production for radio and television. One of his weekly programs, “Government Forum” seeks to enlist responses from Government ministers on various public concerns. Previously, Raphael worked as a paralegal officer for the Legal Resources Foundation for more than 5 years where he provided pro bono legal aid services and managed the Legal Advice Center in a Matero, one of the most populated constituencies in Lusaka. He contributes regularly to a publication of human interest stories in a monthly bulletin called the LRF News and participates in raising human rights awareness issues on national radio. Raphael has studied media at the Zambia Institute of Mass Communication Educational Trust and World Bank Institute, and has a certificate in Law from the University of Zambia. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Raphael hopes to apply new skills and knowledge acquired to enhance his efforts at work and in the community to advance good governance practices and promote development.



**Williams Kwarah, Ghana, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Notre Dame**

Williams Kwarah has over 10 years of experience working in mobile health, public health, and medical research. Currently, Williams is the Assistant Implementation Manager at Grameen Foundation working on the Mobile Technology for Community Health (MOTech) project, an innovative mobile health product developed and implemented in partnership with Columbia University for the Ghana Health Service. His major roles involve liaising with software developers to ensure full system functionality in the field, troubleshooting, leading field implementations, supporting monitoring and evaluation to assess program impact, and leading capacity building activities and trainings. Williams has a bachelor’s degree in Applied Biology from the University for Development Studies in Ghana, a certificate in Mobile Phones for Public Health from the Institute for Social and Technology Change (TechChange), and a master’s degree in Public Health from the University of Ghana. Upon return from the Washington Fellowship, Williams hopes to start a business enterprise focusing on non-communicable diseases prevention and control, leveraging on the unparalleled potentials of mobile health technology in underserved districts in northern Ghana.



**Valerie Abena Konyo Labi, Ghana, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Clark Atlanta University**

Valerie Labi has over 10 years of experience specializing in the delivery of business solutions and creation of sales propositions for several companies in both Africa & Europe including Vodafone Plc and Ernst & Young LLP. She currently serves as CEO of Clean Team Toilets, a social enterprise pioneering an affordable household sanitation solution for urban communities in developing countries. She also works with the fair trade cooperative of Global Mamas, an organization that works with over 300 women owned businesses across Ghana. Valerie played a critical role in developing a website that enabled the cooperative of small businesses to sell their produce directly to international buyers online, allowing them to earn a living wage. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Valerie is determined to continue to empower households and improve living conditions in Africa by driving the ‘democratization of toilets’ and the ‘commercialization of waste’ across the continent. She plans to replicate the Clean Team sanitation model into multiple developing countries, influence national sanitation agendas, and create channels for skilled African youth to access employment opportunities in the social enterprise sector.



**Zandile Lambu, Zimbabwe, Business and Entrepreneurship, Yale University**

Zandile Lambu currently serves as an Account Executive for Econet Services at Econet Wireless, where she focuses on prospecting and establishing new trade channels mainly for mobile money products. She recruits entrepreneurs to partner with the business in providing mobile money services to the local communities. She has been a volunteer mentor, teacher, and judge for the Techwomen Technovation challenge 2014, an entrepreneurship program and competition that teaches young women to design and develop mobile apps. Zandie is also an alumni of StartupbusAfrica (now known as FounderbusAfrica) where her team won first place for the startup they founded in five days.

Zandile holds a bachelor's degree in Computer Science from the National University of Science and Technology in Zimbabwe. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to work on skills development through providing employment opportunities to generate income for self-sustenance targeting women and youth in the Bulawayo and Matabeleland south districts of Zimbabwe.



**Bridie Pascale Fleur LaPlace, Congo, Business & Entrepreneurship  
Clark Atlanta University**

Bridie LaPlace brings over six years of experience in project financing and private sector development in Africa, working within both international and local organizations. She is skilled in investment analysis, fundraising, and project management. She currently serves as an Associate Expert for Africa Consulting and Trading (ACT) in Congo Brazzaville, a pan African management consulting firm providing strategic advisory services to African countries and public and private entities. She holds a master's degree in Management from the SKEMA Business School located in Sophia Antipolis, France. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship program, Bridie plans to create PAPSI Ya Bisso, a social business focused on addressing the Congolese's basic needs including light and consumable water by clean and affordable means.



**Yassah Nupolu Lavelah, Liberia, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Notre Dame**

Yassah Lavelah has over seven years of experience as a social entrepreneur with a specific focus on the role of maternal health in community development. She currently serves as the Nursing Supervisor at the Grace D. Wallace Memorial Clinic and a Registered Nurse at the ELWA Hospital. She has a longstanding passion for maternal health and its role in community development and partnered with her mother to create the Ma V. Maternity Clinic in 2008 as a social enterprise. Yassah volunteers with Youth Crime Watch of Liberia providing training to young women as it relates to personal hygiene, maternal health and responsible sexual lives. She holds a bachelor's of science degree in Nursing from Cuttington University. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship program, Yassah plans to work on the development of the first community based midwifery center in Liberia. The center will provide a platform for traditional and formally trained midwives to engage the community in direct response to the alarming rate of infant mortality in Liberia.



**Ladu David Morris Lemi, South Sudan, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Wisconsin – Stout**

Ladu David Morris is a Teaching Assistant at the University of Juba and a freelance consultant in Business Development. His work focuses on delivering tutorials in Bioscience and helping small enterprises improve their business performance. He has been an agronomist program coordinator and agribusiness consultant for humanitarian organizations such as the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED), Sustainable Agriculture Information Network East Africa (Sustainet E.A), and South Sudan Agribusiness Development Project (SSADP) of BMB Mott McDonald Company. Ladu holds a bachelor's degree in Agriculture from Ain Shams University in Egypt and a diploma in HIV/AIDS Prevention from the College of Venereal Diseases Prevention in London. Upon the completion of the Washington Fellowship program, Ladu plans to work on delivering capacity development workshops to women and youth entrepreneurs. He also hopes to initiate a credit and saving unit to better improve entrepreneurs' business environments in Central and Western Equatorial states in South Sudan.



**Ntsane Reginald Lepholisa, Lesotho, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Northwestern University**

Ntsane R Lepholisa is an entrepreneur located in the Mountain Kingdom of Lesotho. In 2009, he founded an advertising agency that specializes in the media sector providing services such as pre-press graphics, newsprint publications, and marketing communications. As a third year university student, he established a student organization called the Student Business Council where he currently serves as President. Ntsane recently received his bachelor's degree in Visual Communication and majored in Advertising and International Marketing at Limkokwing University of Creative Technology in Maseru. Upon returning from the Washington Fellowship, he plans to kindle entrepreneurship in young people with a focus on economic development and eradicating poverty through sustainable local manufacturing and investment.



**Christopher Andrew Lespoir, Seychelles, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Texas-Austin**

Christopher Lespoir has over 16 years of experience in the aviation industry. He has worked as a pilot and ground instructor with Air Seychelles in the fields of aircraft technical safety, emergency procedure, and crew resource management. He is the founder and Director of Aviation Training Solutions (ATS) and the chairperson of the Seychelles Young Leaders Association. He received his master's degree in Strategic Management from the Institute of Public Administration in Ireland. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship program, Christopher plans to continue pushing for the implementation of CRM training programs within the Ministry of Health in the Seychelles.



**Thomson Robert Ligowe, Malawi, Public Management, Syracuse University**

Thomson Ligowe is currently Chief Resident Magistrate at Blantyre Magistrates Court in Malawi. He is a lawyer with twelve years of experience working as a judicial officer. His responsibilities include court management and presiding over criminal and civil cases. He also supervises the administration of justice in over 30 magistrate courts where he is challenged by inadequate resources provided by the government leading to poor service and limited access to justice. After the Washington Fellowship, Thomson intends to work with senior government officials and fellow judicial officers to discuss and implement strategies for ensuring quality access to justice for the people of Malawi.



**Eunice Amboka Likoko, Kenya, Civic Leadership, Arizona State University**

Eunice Likoko has over seven years of experience as a social worker in various fields including social justice and women empowerment. She is the co-founder of Full Circle Trust initiative, a rehabilitation center for women in prostitution whose goal is to provide an alternative source of income for women in prostitution and to prevent women from resorting to prostitution in the first place. In this capacity, she is responsible for rolling out a prostitution prevention campaign, providing a holistic rehabilitation plan for women who want to quit prostitution, leadership development, resource mobilization, and partnership development. She lectures on issues of sustainable development and holds a bachelor's degree in Social Work and a master's degree in Sustainable Development. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Eunice plans to continue working in social and environmental justice and also engage in social advocacy and leadership development, especially for vulnerable women in Kenya.

**Lukonga Lindunda, Zambia, Business and Entrepreneurship, Yale University (bio pending)**



**Lombola Gama Lombola, Malawi, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Texas-Austin**

Lombola Lombola is the co-founder and Managing Director of Bamboo Express, a firm that uses bamboo for furniture production. Underpinning his business ethos is capacity building and mentorship of aspiring young entrepreneurs. Prior to this position, he worked for an organizational management and development consulting firm serving as an Associate Consultant for three years. In this role, he was responsible for developing proposals, supervising data collection, analysis, interpretation and report writing. He has a degree in Agriculture and Applied Economics from the University of Malawi. Upon his return from the Washington Fellowship, he plans to inspire young entrepreneurs through motivational and business talks, mentor aspiring entrepreneurs in the bamboo sector by helping them develop and establish their ventures as allies of bamboo express, and provide internship

opportunities to young people.



**Jose Maria Gomes Lopes, Cape Verde, Civic Leadership  
University of Virginia and the College of William & Mary**

José Maria Gomes Lopes is a social activist with over seven years of experience in the community development sector. Currently, José is the Chairman of the Association for the Community Development of Picos Acima (APDZA), a community based organization he co-founded in 2006 that promotes the social, cultural, and economic development of the Picos Acima village. He also teaches at the Higher Institute of Economics and Business Sciences (ISCEE) and serves as Chair of the Language Department. As a researcher, José studies the power relation between the national languages of Creole and Portuguese as well as the economics of the English language. José holds a bachelor's degree in English Language Studies and a master's degree in Social Sciences from the University of Cape Verde. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship program, José plans to empower nonprofit organizations by providing workshops on fundraising, volunteer work, leadership,

professional training, and life skills. In addition, he plans to help create small businesses in rural villages to help disadvantaged people get out of poverty.



**Moffat Louis, Botswana, Civic Leadership, Wagner College**

Moffat Louis currently serves as a Rehabilitation Officer with the Ministry of Health. His work focuses on mobilizing people with disabilities, their families, and the community to be responsive to the needs and challenges that people with disabilities experience daily as they strive for independent living and a better quality of life. He has helped start new parent support groups and disabled persons organizations (DPO's) and has worked in capacity building by providing mentoring, coaching, and leadership training. In the past three years, he has focused on promoting supported employment, community day options programs, and sports for people with disabilities. He has a bachelor's degree in Disability and Community Rehabilitation from Flinders University in Australia. After completing the Washington Fellowship program, he plans to continue providing supported employment projects for people with disabilities, with a specific emphasis on the agricultural sector.



**Ruth Elineema Lukwaro, Tanzania, Business & Entrepreneurship  
University of Wisconsin – Stout**

Ruth Elineema Lukwaro has over seven years of professional experience in business management and accounting. She has worked with several companies and organizations including a microcredit organization called FINCA Tanzania, St. John's University of Tanzania, and at the Daewoo Company and Multicultural Family Service Center in South Korea. Currently, Ruth is a lecturer at the University of Arush and founder of Gongali Model Company Limited, a social enterprise that has established a model village and trains her university students to follow her model. She has exceptional managerial and entrepreneurial experience which is demonstrated by her networking capacity and ability to secure international and local donors. Ruth holds a Master of Business Administration in International Business from Ajou University, South Korea. On completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to expand and spread her social enterprise initiatives on empowering young Tanzanian elites, youth, and women.



**Michael Amaya Lwoyelo, Kenya, Business & Entrepreneurship  
University of Wisconsin – Stout**

Michael Lwoyelo is the Engineering Operations Manager with Sanergy. He is responsible for overseeing the technical operations required to make sanitation accessible, affordable, and sustainable in Africa's slums. As part of these efforts, he manages a diverse team of 75 people in manufacturing, waste management, quality assurance, and research and development. He has over eight years of experience working in the rail, automotive, and manufacturing industries in the UK and Kenya. Michael has a Six Sigma Black Belt and a master's degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Manchester. As Michael transitions into an executive role at Sanergy, he is looking to leverage on the expertise and contacts that he will gather from the Washington Fellowship to help him lead his organization's efforts in transforming communities in Africa.



**Buhle Mabaso, South Africa, Civic Leadership, Arizona State University**

Buhle Mabaso has over six years of experience in community development and sexual reproductive health. She is currently a Communications, Knowledge, and Media officer for the Southern Africa HIV and AIDS Information Dissemination Services (SAfAIDS). Buhle is the co-founder of Asakhe Ikhaya lethu, a movement that advocates for women and girls to protect themselves from violence and HIV transmission, by tackling gender based violence and harmful gender norms and attitudes. Buhle holds an Audiovisual Communications and Development studies degree from the University of Johannesburg. Upon the completion of the Washington Fellowship, Buhle aims to grow the Asakhe Ikhaya lethu network to reach girls and women in rural villages in Zimbabwe, Zambia, Swaziland and Malawi. She aims to collaborate with existing community based organizations and create Information Centers geared at ensuring the post 2015 MGD goal of the three zeros (zero new infections, zero AIDS deaths and zero stigma and discrimination) is attained.



**Verengai Mabika, Zimbabwe, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Texas-Austin**

Verengai Mabika has over six years of experience working in the fields of social innovation, ICT, and climate change. He is the founder and Director of the Development Reality Institute (DRI), which manages the first Climate Change Virtual School in Africa for youth. Verengai is an Ashoka Global Fellow and a member of the BMW Foundation Young Leaders Forum. He holds several leadership positions including leading the Internet Society Zimbabwe-Chapter and the Zimbabwe Institute of Regional and Urban Planners (ZIRUP). He also sits on the technical advisory board of the Zimbabwe National Network for People Living with HIV and AIDS, which has a membership of approximately 1.3 Million people and is a member of the Zimbabwe National Manpower Advisory Council. He holds a bachelor's degree in Rural and Urban Planning as well as Water and Sanitation and a master's degree in Philosophy. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Verengai plans to expand the Climate Change Virtual School in Africa and Zimbabwe to reach 10,000 participants per month and also expanding the social innovation fund for exceptional young and new ideas to US \$1 million annually.



**Tumiso Godiraone Mabusela, Botswana, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Dartmouth College**

Tumiso Mabusela is a creative enthusiast and a firm believer in Ideas and the creative economy. He is the co-founder of Ideas Expo Botswana, a platform showcasing innovation within the marketing sector and designed to develop activities that will contribute to the creative industries and economy of Botswana. He believes that Africa and Africans need big ideas to help drive economic growth and diversification in Africa. He describes himself as an Afro Optimist and believes that Africans can come together to deliver and create work that can be used as best practices on a global scale. He sees the Washington Fellowship program as a gateway to collaboration amongst young Africans to work together and pursue Ideas that will contribute to the growth, success, and betterment of the African continent.



**Mhlanganisi Someleze Madlongolwana, South Africa  
Business and Entrepreneurship, Dartmouth College**

Mhlanganisi Madlongolwana has over six years of experience working in issues such as student activism, debate development in the SADC region, and youth development. He works with the Activate Change Drivers Network to help young social entrepreneurs build sustainable organizational models that have an impact throughout South Africa. Mhlanganisi is the founder of Speak Afrika Consulting (PTY) Ltd, a firm that concentrates on business development and innovation consulting for start-up entrepreneurs. He holds a certificate in Human Rights, Pluralism and Development from the University of Humanistic in the Netherlands. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Mhlanganisi hopes to expand PTY to the rest of South Africa through local innovation and entrepreneurship hubs.



**Murendeni Stewart Mafumo, South Africa, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Yale University**

Murendeni Stewart Mafumo is a social entrepreneur and scientist who has five years of experience working in the water environmental conservation laboratories field in South Africa. He is currently the Director of GreenSolns Holdings and founder of Ikhwezi Foundation, a project that brings science and mathematics lessons as well as support and interactive platforms to rural South Africa. He is skilled in information technology, project management, and business strategic development. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to grow, strengthen and broaden the scope of the science and mathematics centers to other areas and subjects. He also hopes to build water treatment systems that are able to support rural areas and create a platform for water conservation and care in South Africa.



**Khanyisile Magubane, South Africa, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Northwestern University**

Khanyisile Magubane is a filmmaker and radio broadcaster with 14 years of media experience in radio broadcasting, online media, film and TV production, and magazine feature writing. She is currently producing a four-part documentary series entitled, "Making Cents," which looks at the economic inequalities in South Africa and its root causes. She currently hosts two radio shows on SAfm, a leading South African news and current affairs radio station. A trained journalist, she has worked as a news reporter, radio producer, and presenter. Her breakout work as a documentary filmmaker was in 2012 when she wrote and produced a six-part documentary series entitled, "Why Are We So Angry?" Khanyisile holds a bachelor's degree in Communications and an honor's degree in Journalism from the University of Johannesburg. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Magubane will use knowledge acquired to build up a media enterprise that will use media as a vehicle for positive change in Africa.

**Abbas Mahmood, Kenya, Civic Leadership, Arizona State University (bio pending)**



**James Makini, Kenya, Business & Entrepreneurship  
University of Texas at Austin**

James Makini is CEO and co-founder of the One Hen Campaign Project, an organization that mobilizes youth and women to form self-help groups. Each participating member is given one indigenous hen and a cage as a micro-loan. After hatching, the individual donates two pullets (once) for onward lending and sustainability. The project has provided the community with self-employment, a source of income, a source of food security, and basic financial skills through financial management trainings. Over 50,000 farmers in rural Kenya have benefited and it has generated over 300 million Kenyan shillings for the participants. James has created a mentorship program for youth to encourage them to have a career in farming and explaining the benefits of joining a cooperative society. James holds a bachelor's degree in Commerce. Participating in the Washington Fellowship will provide James with new connections and networks that will help replicate the One Hen Campaign across Africa.



**Lalumbe Makuya, South Africa, Civic Leadership, Wagner College**

Lalumbe Makuya is a civil engineering technician and social entrepreneur. She currently serves as the founder and Executive Director of Naledi Foundation, an organization that identifies underperforming rural schools and finds solutions to improve their academic performance as well as exposing pupils in rural schools to different careers and higher institutions available to them. She has received a SET Africa international award for her contribution to social entrepreneurship in Africa. Lalumbe is currently studying for a Business Administration degree. Upon her return from the Washington Fellowship, she will use the knowledge and experience acquired to extend Naledi Foundation to all rural areas in South Africa.



**Peter Malatji, South Africa, Civic Leadership, Tulane University**

Peter Malatji has five years of experience working in rural schools promoting the study of science. He is the chairperson of Magaeng Developers for Science and Engineering, a non-profit organization aimed at creating an enabling environment for learners in Seabe village and other villages within the Obuka traditional authority so that they can excel in physical science and mathematics. His responsibilities include organizational management, planning projects, and fundraising. Peter holds a PhD in Chemistry and is currently postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Cape Town conducting research on making hydrogen for fuel cells. After completing the Washington Fellowship, he plans to build a multipurpose science center to increase access to science facilities for rural learners.



**Yannick Henri Jackson Malessandji, Central African Republic, Business and Entrepreneurship, Northwestern University**

Yannick Henri Jackson Malessandji is the co-founder and CEO of Architects and Partners Consulting Sarl, founded in 2012. He is an architect – urbanist and a visiting lecturer at the University of Bangui in the subjects of architecture, urban planning, and computer science. He supports education in remote villages by setting up private schools where tuition fees are paid by the school garden profits. He also works with an NGO working on ecotourism and the integrated development of villages (ETODIVI). He provides free technical assistance and expertise to less-fortunate people building their homes. When he returns to the Central African Republic after the Washington Fellowship, he will organize sessions for community members, students of the University of Bangui, and fellow teachers to sharpen their entrepreneurial spirit, talent, and leadership to promote a culture of excellence and a better world.



**Velaphi Mamba, Swaziland, Civic Leadership, University of Delaware**

Velaphi Mamba is a human rights activist and pro-democracy campaigner in Swaziland. He currently serves as the Program Officer with Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA). His responsibilities include grant making, proposal development, reporting, training, and monitoring and evaluation. Velaphi has a strong passion for youth activism and advocates for a greater role for young people in governance not only in Swaziland but also in the African continent and the world at large. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in Development Studies from the University of the Free State. Once back from the Washington Fellowship, Velaphi intends to support and build strategic youth interventions for human rights and public accountability through the arts, sports, and other civic activities including mentoring young people in civic engagement.



**Simon Manda, Zambia, Public Management, Syracuse University**

Simon Manda has over five years of experience in academics and research. Currently he lectures at the University of Zambia on agriculture, political economy of resources, livelihoods and rural development, and development management. Simon has experience in community led initiatives and is active in community service projects. He holds a master's degree in Global Development where he focused on global land grabs and the consequences on small-holder farmer's food security. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Simon plans to work with youth in higher learning institutions on empowerment and leadership issues in the contemporary dynamic global political-economy.



**Cadija Mané, Guinea-Bissau, Civic Leadership  
University of California-Berkeley**

Cadija Mané currently serves as the Coordinator for House of Rights. She previously served as a health researcher with the Ministry of Health and later with the National Institute of Health. She is also a volunteer working to create open forums to give citizens an opportunity to voice concerns regarding issues impacting their local community such as drug trafficking, human rights abuses, and political issues. Cadija received her degree in Sociology from the Universidade Lusofona de Humanidades e Tecnologias in Portugal. After completing the Washington Fellowship, she intends to continue to be active in the field of human rights and hopes to teach civic education to her community.



**Gloria Ndirir Mangoni, Democratic Republic of Congo, Public Management  
Florida International University**

Gloria Mangoni is an Assistant Teacher at the University of Kinshasa where she is in charge of assignments related to urban planning and geographic information systems. She joined the Prime Minister's office in 2012 as a Research Analyst and is responsible for managing, mapping, and disseminating agricultural data. Gloria has a Bachelor of Science in Geography and Urban Planning from the University of Kinshasa. She has also received intensive training in GIS and Remote Sensing through OSFAC. Upon returning from the Washington Fellowship, she plans to implement an integrated information system web site to better inform the decision making process in the agricultural and urban planning sector that will help link political decision-makers, investors, donors, NGO's, and researchers to the local beneficiary population.



**Nomzamo Faith Mangope, South Africa, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Texas-Austin**

Faith Mangope has over seven years of experience as a broadcaster. She is currently the anchor, insert producer, and field reporter at E.TV's breakfast show called Sunrise and the columnist for the national newspaper publication the New Age Newspaper titled "The New G." In addition, she has just completed her three year tenure as the host of the Current Affairs talk show on South Africa's only youth broadcasting station YFM. Faith is the founder of the New G in Business Forums, a bi-monthly empowerment forum that is aimed at educating young professionals, entrepreneurs, as well as aspiring entrepreneurs on the different sectors of industry in South Africa. She is also the Managing Director of FTA Media Communications, a public relations company. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Faith plans to introduce the New G in Business Forums to the rest of the South African and African market, utilizing those resources attained through the forums to strategically create employment opportunities for the youth as well as in particular, women in the African continent.



**Mohamed Abdul Mansarico Mansaray, Sierra Leone, Public Management University of Minnesota**

Mohamed Abdul Mansarico Mansaray serves as the Development Planning Officer with the Kambia District Council. His responsibilities include ensuring there is a district development plan, managing projects and programs of the local council, and coordinating the activities of development partners working in the district. He graduated from Njala University with a bachelor's degree in Agriculture General. After completing the Washington Fellowship, Mohamed will share knowledge and skills acquired with colleagues and other development actors through lobbying, advocacy, and trainings. He also plans to increase the inclusion and participation of vulnerable and deprived community residents in the planning and monitoring of projects to ensure community ownership and sustainability of projects.



**Sekou Mansare, Guinea, Civic Leadership, Rutgers University**

Sékou Mansare is founder of Center of Hope, a social and educational center in Guinea. The organization serves 60-70 people a day and provides classes that teach English, computers, and life improvement skills. Sekou uses his electrical engineering skills to provide electrical power to the Center of Hope by integrating solar, city, and generator powers. He received his degree in Electrical Engineering in 2013. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Sekou plans to improve the effectiveness of the programs at the Center of Hope and make it more self-sustainable to ensure that the organization has a long-term impact on the community.



**Danielle Renee Manuel, South Africa, Public Management, University of Minnesota**

Danielle Manuel has worked in several roles including NGO fieldworker, educator, project manager, board member, and public servant. Her academic background is multi-disciplinary with an interest in psychology, development, commerce, and management studies. She currently serves as the Deputy Director of Infrastructure Policies and Strategies with the Western Cape Provincial Government, Department of Transport and Planning. In this role she is responsible for coordinating integrated infrastructure planning across all spheres of government and state-owned entities. Her core responsibility is strategic coordination and facilitating joint planning between all spheres of government, parastatals and the private sector. She has managed projects such as the Global Fund Program, 2010 FIFA World Cup™, and Integrated Service Delivery Program from the conceptual to the maturity phase.



**Kopo Gary Mapila, Botswana, Public Management Florida International University**

Kopo Mapila has over two years of experience as a Policy Analyst in the South African Ministry of Economic Development. His work focuses on job creation primarily through industrial and economic policies. Passionate about the continent's development, Kopo has co-authored and presented a research paper on African industrialization and written in several journals including Africa in Fact. He holds a bachelor of social science degree in Politics, Public Policy and Administration, and Economic History from the University of Cape Town and is currently enrolled in an Honor's degree in Development Theory and Policy at the University of the Witwatersrand. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship program, Kopo plans to mentor the youth of Botswana who are passionate about the development of the country and continent.



**Jean Pierre Maro, Senegal, Civic Leadership, University of California-Berkeley**

Jean Pierre Maro is an English teacher and served as an interpreter for Gaston Berger University for visiting delegations from foreign universities. He has served as the Director of Mobility in the Bureau of Research and Cooperation. Jean Pierre founded Bridge Kids Senegal, which is based in Saint-Louis and provides formal school for underprivileged students attending Koranic schools. He has also launched a Clean Campus program, emphasizing the importance of individual stewardship of the environment. He has an academic background in media and communications. Upon his return from the Washington Fellowship, he plans to share his acquired skills and knowledge with his community to inspire change.



**Keolebogile Lebogang Maruapula, Botswana, Public Management  
University of Arkansas**

Keolebogile Lebogang Maruapula is a youth leader in her community and co-founder of The Goddess Foundation. Founded in 2011, the foundation focuses on the empowerment of girls through mentorship and activities that promote dialogue and shed light on the struggles of girls. In addition to her work with the foundation, she also serves as a Public Relations Officer for the Botswana Tourism Organization. Keolebogile has six years of experience in communications, public relations, and marketing. She also has a keen interest and passion for new media, digital media, and social media management.

Keolebogile is currently studying to obtain her master's degree in International Policy and Diplomacy with a specialization in Public Policy. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship program, Keolebogile will work on empowering youth and conducting community outreach programs for youth in rural Botswana.

**Stephen Julius Masele, Tanzania, Public Management, Florida International University (*bio pending*)**



**Edmore Tendai Masendeke, Zimbabwe, Civic Leadership  
University of Delaware**

Edmore Masendeke is a disability activist who is passionate about inspiring and challenging people with disabilities to rise above the limitations of their impairments. In 2010, he founded Endless Possibilities, an organization that coordinates awareness campaigns and events focusing on the exclusion of disabled people in society and also creates empowerment programs for people with disabilities. Edmore manages the design, planning, organization, and execution of Endless Possibilities' events and activities. He is also an Economist at the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe and a poet and blogger of issues pertaining to the rights and challenges of people with disabilities. He holds an honors degree in Business Studies from

the University of Zimbabwe, a master's of arts degree in Leadership and Management from the Africa Leadership (ALMA), and a master's of laws degree in International and European Human Rights Law at the University of Leeds. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Edmore plans to work on empowerment workshops for university and college students with disabilities that focus on teaching techniques related to goal setting, mentorship and peer support, and communication and self-advocacy.



**Tsakani Nola Mashaba, South Africa, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Clark Atlanta University**

Tsakani Mashaba currently serves as the Director of Marketing for the ABN group, the parent company of CNBC Africa and Forbes Africa. She became group head of communications and stakeholder relations after a year spent in marketing. Since she joined the company, she has been responsible for the ABN's corporate social investment portfolio and ABN Education Trust. Prior to this role, Tsakani worked for multinational companies such as BAT, OGILVY & MIG and was responsible for CRM, branding, marketing and public relations at senior management levels. After completing the Washington Fellowship, Tsakani has a vision to confront the challenge of unemployment by creating an initiative called Further Education Training (FET). The FET initiative will ensure guaranteed job, internship, and incubation placements, introduce entrepreneurship program in schools to facilitate the building of enterprising communities, and create a social investment fund to stimulate entrepreneurial ideas amongst youth. FET will allow previously disadvantaged entrepreneurs with limited assets and access to capital get their ideas off the ground.



**Thabiso Mabandla Masina, Swaziland, Public Management, University of Minnesota**

Thabiso Masina is head of the Conveyancing Department working in property law, land administration, and management space since 2010. Some of his responsibilities include policy formulation and implementation, preparation and execution of legal instruments, transferring rights in immovable property, and providing property law legal advice. He holds two degrees in law, namely Bachelor of Arts in Law and Bachelor of Laws. Upon his return to Swaziland, he plans to apply his acquired skills and new experiences towards driving the newly established Department of Land Affairs.



**Tinashe Adolf Addi Mavengere, Zimbabwe, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Clark Atlanta University**

Tinashe Addi Mavengere serves as the founder and Managing Consultant of Groupé Suisse Consulting, a business that facilitates personal and professional development trainings and offers strategic management and industrial engineering services. Addi has notable experience working in operations management, project management, training facilitation, and marketing. He also has a background working in the arts, photography, publishing, and youth development. Addi holds a bachelor's of engineering (honors) degree in Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering from the National University of Science and Technology in Zimbabwe, a graduate diploma in Purchasing and Supply from the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply, and a master's of commerce degree in Strategic Management and Corporate Governance from Midlands State University in Zimbabwe. Upon his return from the Washington Fellowship, he plans to expand his consulting business and launch a service that will enable thousands of people, regardless of their income, to access consulting services from highly qualified and experienced practitioners.



**Amukelani Hermando Mayimele, South Africa, Civic Leadership  
University of California-Berkeley**

Amukelani Mayimele has over three years of experience working in youth consultation, policy engagement, and capacity building. She is currently the Executive Director of Zayrah Africa, a youth led development agency focusing on development of fragile states. Amukelani leads a team of dynamic and inspired young people from offices in South Africa, Benin and Tunisia and is responsible for the design and implementation of youth programs and bringing the voice of youth into policy making. She holds a bachelor's of commerce degree in Accountancy. When she returns from the Washington Fellowship, she plans to engage government leaders in creating and implementing effective youth policies that will address youth issues, particularly youth unemployment.



**Mellisa Mazingi, Zimbabwe, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Dartmouth College**

Mellisa Mazingi is a fashion and media entrepreneur and a philanthropist with a special interest in women's development. As the Managing Director of fashion events at the PR company Runway Production, she creates innovative and intuitive media, marketing, events, and business solutions for fashion businesses in Zimbabwe. Mellisa is the founder and Managing Editor of the fashion website Zim Fashionista, promoting the local fashion industry through media coverage and was awarded the Blogger of the Year honor at the Zimbabwe Fashion Awards for her work on the website. In the same year the Zim Fashionista business expanded to include Zim Folio, an online media store retailing magazine subscriptions, and is growing to include other fashion media and product offerings. She holds a bachelor's degree in Accounting and Auditing from the University of South Africa. Mellisa is an entrepreneur with the belief that economic, social, and personal growth comes from creating something new. She looks forward to returning to Zimbabwe to share lessons and

knowledge gained through the Washington Fellowship with other female and fashion entrepreneurs and opening up additional fashion opportunities in Zimbabwe.



**Jean Marc Afesi Mbafor, Cameroon, Civic Leadership  
University of Virginia and the College of William and Mary**

Jean Marc Afesi Mbafor views entrepreneurship as a solution to the socioeconomic problem of unemployment especially among the youth of his country. He is the founder of Eshcol Housing and Mortgage Cooperation and has used his company to employ more than 15 youth and to create a robust internship program that has benefited over 30 youth. His strong sense of social responsibility prompted him to create the corporate social responsibility arm of his company known as Mustard Seed Development Program. Jean serves as President of the Cameroon National Youth Council. He holds an advanced diploma in Business Management from Thames Business School Lagos, Nigeria. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship program, he plans to organize the first national youth conference

focusing on training, business, and jobs and the role of youth in promoting sociopolitical stability and peace maintenance in times of conflict.



**Ida S. Mboob, Gambia, Public Management, Morgan State University**

Ida Mboob is a legal regulatory specialist with ten years experience in the field of procurement, government tender processes, telecommunications, energy, and broadcasting regulation. She is currently the Deputy Director for Legal Licensing and Enforcement at the Gambia Public Utilities Regulatory Authority. In this role, she develops comprehensive legal and regulatory frameworks for the regulated industries. She has collaborative working relationships with international institutions, government bodies, local communities, and the media. Ida believes strongly that the telecommunications industry can serve as a driving force in bridging development gaps in Africa. She recently graduated

with a master's degree in Computer and Communications in the UK. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Ida intends to expand on her current role as a youth leader for Girls in ICT through lecturing and mentoring programs.



**Angella Kwamboka Mecha, Kenya, Civic Leadership, Tulane University**

Angella Mecha is a social entrepreneur who owns Castreal Agency, a public relations and marketing company. Castreal Agency provides PR, marketing, advertising, event planning, management, and research services to corporate and consumer goods companies. It also trains and mentors young people through talent management and job placement. Angella has experience in radio and TV production and has made documentaries, audio-visual training material, radio plays, and other media material for training on various topics such as family planning, HIV/AIDS, FGM, male circumcision and civic rights for women, children and people living with disabilities. As a Washington Fellow, Angella desires to acquire skills and network with potential partners to help her set up a community center in Nyanza. The centre will serve as a home for destitute children, provide food and education, conduct trainings for women who have lost their husbands to HIV/AIDS, and provide employment in various

areas such as teaching, medical services, and IT support. Angella would ultimately like to set up community radio & TV stations run by local people to educate and share people’s stories to inspire others.



**Edda Zekarias Mekuria, Ethiopia, Civic Leadership  
University of Virginia and the College of William & Mary**

Edda Zekarias has eight years of experience working in child and adult education, communication, and advocacy. She currently works closely with UNDP Ethiopia’s Governance and Capacity Building Unit where she is responsible for reporting and sharing program developments with different parties including the Ethiopian government and its people as well as international partners. She also assists with media related projects by producing content and pictures for the UNDP Ethiopia website and writing updates for the organization’s social media networks. Edda also serves as the Secretariat of the UN Communication Group (UNCG) in the office of the UN Ethiopia Resident Coordinator, assisting efforts to strengthen and promote the work of the UN in Ethiopia and also engage

the state and private media in developing communication. After The Washington Fellowship, Edda plans to share acquired knowledge and skills with her UNDP Ethiopia and UNCG colleagues.



**Nomvula Rutendo Denise Nonhlanhla Mhambi, Zimbabwe  
Business and Entrepreneurship, University of Wisconsin-Stout**

Nomvula Mhambi has five years of managerial and marketing experience and is the founder of a marketing and advertising business, Disruptive Innovation (Pvt) Ltd, which operates as a social enterprise. She is responsible for identifying niche markets for the company’s operations and implementing business strategies. She is currently studying for her bachelor’s of business administration degree from the University of South Africa. Upon return from the Washington Fellowship, her vision is to contribute significantly to creating an enabling environment for community development and infrastructural improvements through

trailblazing mixed media communication channels by working closely with local municipalities.



**Charlene Nyambura Migwe, Kenya, Business & Entrepreneurship  
Clark Atlanta University**

Charlene Migwe has three years of experience working in IT and helping to build solutions that can empower African organizations and individuals to contribute to the betterment of their countries. She is the co-founder of two organizations including Synacor, where she serves as the head of Business Development and Endelevu Youth Empowerment Network, where she serves as Team Leader. She has experience in developing and deploying IT applications and software solutions. In addition, she manages youth empowerment programs by conducting trainings, providing mentorship, and incubating startups. Charlene has a degree in Business and IT from Strathmore University in Nairobi. After completing the Washington Fellowship, she plans to run youth empowerment programs through the Endelevu Youth Empowerment Network, with an emphasis on trainings, mentorship, skill building, and supporting youth led businesses.



**Michael Mwanzalima Mihayo, Tanzania, Civic Leadership  
Tulane University**

Michael Mwanzalima Mihayo, has over six years of experience working in the Department of Social Welfare in the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare in Tanzania. He currently serves as a Social Welfare Officer at the Kinondoni Municipal Council in Dar es Salaam focusing on the provision of social services to the members of the community and working with vulnerable groups such as people with disabilities, widows, and people affected with HIV/AIDS. As part of his work, Michael acts as a counselor and mediator to family conflicts and issues, serving primarily as an advocate for children's rights and vulnerable groups. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from the University of Dar es salaam. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Michael will focus on his newly established NGO, working with people with disabilities to reduce stigma and increasing their access to services. He also plans to share the skills and experience acquired from the Fellowship with other members of society.



**Duncan Ogaro Mikae, Kenya, Civic Leadership  
University of Virginia and the College of William & Mary**

Duncan Ogaro Mikae has many different roles including serving as the founding President of Yes Youth Can of Bungoma County and the immediate National Organizing Secretary of the National Youth Bunge Association (NYBA). He is also the Director of Sanaa Arts, a community based organization that supports youth talent development and the CEO of Stagescratch Agency, a company supporting young entrepreneurs. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship, Duncan seeks to use the knowledge and networks acquired to build capacity in Kenyan youths through mentorship clinics that he will create across the country. He intends to set up a fund that will support young African entrepreneurs by offering them necessary training and investments to start their businesses.



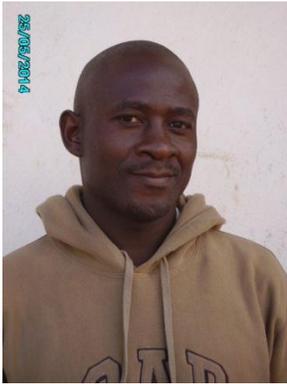
**Liginiku Octavian Millinga, Tanzania, Business & Entrepreneurship  
Dartmouth College**

Liginiku Millinga has over eight years of experience auditing private and government funded projects throughout Africa. He currently serves as the Marketing Manager for Vodacom Tanzania focusing on acquisition and device management. Liginiku is skilled in marketing, project planning, fundraising, problem solving, organizational and leadership skills, and interpersonal communication. He holds a Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing from Mzumbe University in Tanzania and is a member of the Association of Certified Chartered Accountants (ACCA) Glasgow-United Kingdom. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Liginiku plans to initiate sustainable community development projects including the borehole clean water project.



**Zila Milupi, Zambia, Civic Leadership, Wagner College**

Zila Milupi has three years of experience leading national and international public service institutions including the International Labor Organization, the United Nations, the World Trade Organization, and the Permanent Human Rights Commission of Zambia. She previously served as the President of the Stop-AIDS Society and also recently coordinated a community football league in her hometown of Lusaka, Zambia for over 200 youths to combat inactivity that can lead to anti-social and unproductive behavior. She is the co-founder of the Winners' Circle Association (WCA), which aims to promote entrepreneurialism as a means of wealth generation for and poverty reduction amongst youth. Zila holds a bachelor's degree in Law and a master's degree from the London School of Economics in Public International Law. Through the Washington Fellowship, she aims to further her skills in civic engagement to more efficiently and effectively run WCA. She also aims to draw inspiration from other young leaders on how to address challenges faced by African youths in today's economy.



**Hastings Mkandawire, Malawi, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Wisconsin-Stout**

Hastings Mkandawire has over 10 years of experience in rural alternative energy and socio economic activities targeting youth living in rural Malawi. Currently, he serves as the Country Coordinator for Media and Technology of the Youth (MTESO), where he designs socio economic related initiatives. His work focuses on reducing youth unemployment and ending careless and wanton cutting down of trees for charcoal and firewood sales that contribute to draught, climate change, and low agricultural production. Hastings holds a certificate in Electrical Engineering from the National Trade Test of Malawi. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he hopes to mentor and strengthen youth economic activities through coursework trainings, workshops, development and distribution of educational

materials, and encourage massive replication of low cost electric power generation systems to support youth economic activities in the isolated rural areas of Malawi.



**Sbonelo Mkhize, South Africa, Civic Leadership, University of California-Berkeley**

Sbonelo Mkhize has been involved in community development for over five years. Having traded his three piece suits from his investment banking days to lead a community in the Province of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, Chief Mkhize, as he is known to his community, has placed emphasis on development in all aspects for his 23,000 strong clan. The AbaMbo Traditional Authority, headed by Chief Mkhize and situated in the foothills of the Drakensberg Mountains, is an impoverished community whose inhabitants mostly survive on social grants and primary agricultural vocations. Sbonelo's main responsibilities are to provide guidance in disputes between people, give advice on what development issues

should take priority, and to draw up plans on how to unlock economic value on close to 10,000 hectares of land on which he has jurisdiction. His ultimate goal, when he returns from the U.S., is to draw up creative plans in order to attract investment, foreign and local, into rural areas for the benefit of 296 Chiefs within the Province of KwaZulu-Natal. Currently reading for a Master of Commerce in Local Economic Development at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, he hopes to utilize that technical knowledge to further assist in the development of his clan.



**Rebaone Junior Ditso Mmereki, Botswana, Civic Leadership  
University of Virginia and the College of William & Mary**

Rebaone Mmereki has worked in the legal arena nationally and internationally for over five years. Currently, he is an Assistant Protection Officer for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Botswana. He focuses on advocacy for the welfare of refugees and asylum seekers and ensures adherence by the government to its international obligations. He is also a founding member of the Organization for Youth and Elections in Botswana (OYEBO), a youth organization that addresses voter apathy. Rebaone holds a law degree from the University of

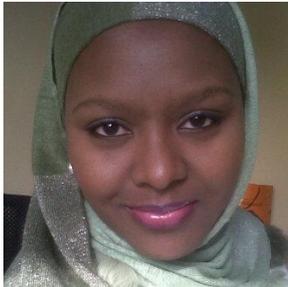
Witwatersrand, Johannesburg in South Africa. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship program, Rebaone plans to work on educating youth and the disabled on the importance of voting to further encourage and empower them to take part in the politics of Botswana and re-shape their own countries future.

**Brian Magwaro Mogaka, Kenya, Civic Leadership, Wagner College**



Brian Mogaka has over five years of experience working in community development. Currently, he serves as the Director of Social Work for Blue Cross Kenya where his duties include rehabilitating and reintegrating street children, transferring life skills to over 100 children whose parents abuse alcohol and other drugs, and also starting AA groups for drug addicts. He is also the founder of Young Change Makers CBO where he uses football as a tool to empower children and youth living in informal settlements through health education, violence prevention, and life skills building. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Brian plans to set up the first youth center in Kisumu, which will give young people from the informal settlements an opportunity to get access to different sports, games, and vocational training. It will also give them an opportunity to be active in community service projects such as digging ditches, clearing bushes, sweeping community markets, and planting trees in schools.

**Maryam Shehu Mohammed, Nigeria, Public Management  
Morgan State University**



Maryam Mohammed currently serves as the Company Secretary for both Abuja Urban Mass Transport Company Limited (AUMTCO) and Abuja Investments Company Limited (AICL), the investment arm of the Federal Capital Territory. Her responsibilities include conducting research, negotiating and drafting commercial agreements, ensuring compliance with legislation, developing project materials, and observing and directing the course of litigation or other means of dispute resolution. She is the founder of Charity to Cheer Foundation, an NGO that caters for the welfare of the destitute especially with respect to health and education. Maryam was called to the Nigerian bar in 2004 and she is currently a PhD Law student at Ahmadu Bello University Zaria where she earned her LLB and LLM Degrees. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she intends to use her acquired skills to create a professional development camp for AUMTCO and AICL staff and she also plans to mentor and encourage her community to engage in community service.

**Mohlatlego Cathy Mohlahlana, South Africa, Civic Leadership, University of Delaware**



Cathy Mohlahlana is an award winning news reporter and anchor for South Africa's leading news channel, eNews Channel Africa. She's been working for over seven years as a broadcast journalist and covers issues of national importance including governance and service delivery. She also works with an NGO that builds schools in rural areas and conducts youth development programs. Cathy is also responsible for facilitating various workshops and conferences which tackle issues facing young girls and women. She has a bachelor's of arts degree in International Relations and Political Sciences from Wits University. After completing the Washington Fellowship, Cathy hopes to expand the projects she's involved in and create a network that will assist her in becoming more effective at what she does.

**Mantoa Moiloa, Lesotho, Civic Leadership, University of California-Berkeley**



Mantoa has worked with the Lesotho Northern Parks for four years and currently serves as Park Manager at the Liphofung Cave cultural and historical site. She serves as an advisor to Community Conservation Forums (CCF) where she helps identify and approve restoration projects to improve the local infrastructure. Mantoa is active in many different activities in her community including working on ecotourism projects to help improve livelihoods, assisting with conservation awareness campaigns, partaking in law enforcement operations against illegal poachers in the parks, and working in alien plants removal and reintroducing indigenous plants operations. Mantoa has a Bachelor of Technology in Ecotourism Management from Tshwane University of Technology. Upon her return from the Washington Fellowship, she plans to dedicate her newly acquired skills in empowering local communities, especially women, in strengthening their ecotourism projects. She will also focus more on conservation awareness campaigns and environmental education.



**Ohentse Jeremiah Mokae, South Africa, Public Management  
Morgan State University**

Ohentse Jeremiah Mokae has over nine years of experience working in youth political activism and is passionate about youth development and active citizenship. He has held several roles with student organizations including Secretary for the Congress of South African Students (COSAS), Student Affairs Coordinator with the Students' Christian Organization, and Provincial Youth Coordinator for the Democratic Alliance in the Northern Cape province of South Africa. Through these roles, he has gained skills in computer literacy, administrative and events management, fundraising, political organizing and campaigning. He holds a bachelor's degree in Journalism and several certificates in Youth Leadership, Conflict Resolution and Media. After successful completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to continue to work in youth development projects specifically looking at exposing young people to educational and entrepreneurial opportunities as well as championing youth leadership initiatives through camps, workshops, and seminars.



**Elizabeth Mmabatho Mokiti, South Africa, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Clark Atlanta University**

Mmabatho "Batho" Mokiti is a mathematician turned impact entrepreneur and has seven years of experience in the fields of education and youth development. Currently, Batho is the founder and Managing Director of Mathemaniacs, a math and science education company and the Director of DAD Fund, a nonprofit organization that focuses on youth mentorship and entrepreneurship programs. She also runs the DreamGirls international outreach and mentoring program for young girls in disadvantaged and rural schools and communities in South Africa. Batho holds a degree in Mathematics and Chemistry and is currently completing her second Science degree in Mathematical Statistics. She is a recipient of the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Women Entrepreneurship award from the Gordon Institute of Business Science. After completing the Washington Fellowship, Batho plans on starting mathematics and science academies in South Africa and Africa to focus on a purely African curriculum and she also has aspirations to one day become South Africa's Minister of Education.



**Gay Lebohng Mokwena, South Africa, Public Management  
Howard University**

Gay Mokwena has over eight years of professional work experience in the non-governmental research sector. She served as a Policy Researcher for the Centre for Policy Studies and as a State Bureaucrat in the role of Director of Youth Development Programs in the National Department of Higher Education and Training in Pretoria, South Africa. In the Department of Higher Education and Training, she oversees the implementation of students support services in technical and vocational education and training colleges. She has also represented the Department on the Human Resource Development Council (HRDC) of South Africa's Task Team on strengthening entrepreneurship education in colleges. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship, Gay will be pursuing graduate studies in the field of Industrial Sociology, specifically focusing on the relationship between human and industrial development policies. She hopes to establish a South African research and advisory services entity to inform economic and social development policy.



**Thabang Vuyani Qaqambile Moleko, South Africa, Public Management  
Morgan State University**

Thabang Moleko has 10 years of experience working in both the public and private sector focusing on property management, financial management, and project management. He is currently a Manager in the Property Management section of the Eastern Cape Department of Roads and Public Works and is responsible for the implementation of best practices on property portfolio management. Thabang has a bachelor's degree in Commerce from Rhodes University, certifications in Project Management and Infrastructure Delivery from the University of Pretoria, and is currently completing his dissertation for his master's degree in Business Administration from the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University. Upon completion

of the Washington Fellowship, Thabang will seek to return to public administration as an effective civil servant or as a management consultant for the civil service.



**Kabo Diamond Moseki, Botswana, Civic Leadership, Rutgers University**

Kabo has over five years of experience working in civic leadership focusing on HIV and AIDS prevention programs. He currently serves as a director with True Men Trust, a community based organization that designs and implements behavior change programs primarily for men. His major responsibilities include program development and management, staff supervision, financial management, stakeholder relations, monitoring and evaluation, fundraising, proposal writing, risk management, strategy management, and board management. Kabo is involved in the NGO movement serving as both the chairman of Francistown civil society organizations and as a board member and chairman of the

Botswana Council of NGOs (BOCONGO) health and HIV & AIDS sector. He hopes to develop and mentor new leaders on his return from the Washington Fellowship program and to contribute to the growth and sustainability of civil society in Botswana.



**Tampose Jacobina Mothopeng, Lesotho, Civic Leadership, University of Delaware**

Tampose Jacobina is a human rights defender and activist working with Matrix Support Group, a lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex biased organization. He was responsible and active in legally registering the organization when serving as a coordinator. Tampose has participated in the International Service for Human Rights Geneva training and spoke on LGBTI human rights at the 53rd Session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva. He would like to work on strengthening the youth network in Lesotho and recently developed a LGBTI youth network with the purpose of motivating, strengthening and building young leaders of Lesotho for a better future in Lesotho. After acquiring the skills,

knowledge, and network from the Washington Fellowship, he plans to support the SOGI movement, which is human rights and health networks within Africa, the SADAA region, and Lesotho.



**Sharleen Mabisa Moyo, Zimbabwe, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Notre Dame**

Sharleen Mabisa Moyo has over eight years of experience in youth development in Africa. She currently works with UNICEF Zimbabwe and serves as the Project Manager for a Technology for Development (T4D) initiative called UReport, an SMS based platform that encourages youth participation. She previously worked for Youth Alliance for Leadership and Development in Africa (YALDA) as a Regional Associate and currently sits on the international executive committee. Sharleen is also the founder of The Brand Group, a company that provides brand management, business development, and technical assistance for startups. She graduated with an honors degree in English and Communication from Midlands State University where she focused on strategic communication for business, market research, and media studies. After the Washington Fellowship, Sharleen will venture into taking technology to grassroots communities through IndigeCode, which teaches coding as a second language. She also plans on expanding the Brand Group's operations in southern Africa.

**James Msipa, Zimbabwe, Business and Entrepreneurship, Clark Atlanta University**



James Msipa is the Managing Director and principal shareholder of Quest Financial Services, a micro-finance company that he founded in 2011. At Quest, he is responsible for general management and developing new products for the under-banked and financially excluded population. His previous experience includes being Head of Lending and co-founder of Untu Micro-finance. He has over 10 years of experience in the financial services sector covering corporate banking, treasury and micro-finance. James sits on the board of Action Against Poverty, a local trust, which runs various livelihood programs in Zimbabwe. He holds a bachelor's of commerce degree from the Midlands State University and a certificate in Banking from the Institute of Bankers. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, James will focus on his passion to deliver financial services to every household. In addition to his current product offering, he will also incorporate clean energy and micro-insurance products. He will also expose his farming clients to more sustainable farming practices.



**Khulekani Jeremiah Msweli, Swaziland, Business and Entrepreneurship, Dartmouth College**

Khulekani Msweli has four years of experience as a fashion interior decor designer and artist. He is the co-director and owner of a multiple award winning design company, JEREMPAUL Investments. He is also co-owner and director of Edladleni Restaurant, Swaziland's premier traditional haute cuisine restaurant. Khulekani gained his higher education in Fashion Design and Art from Southport College and Manchester Metropolitan University in England. Due to the lack of design knowledge and business skills amongst most craft artisans in Swaziland, Khulekani plans to establish a design hub in Lobamba Swaziland after completing the Washington Fellowship. The design hub will provide design business training and reference materials for Swazis that are already practicing craft artisans, allowing them to create products that are more competitive and relevant within the global market.

**Chanda Mubanga, Zambia, Civic Leadership, Tulane University** *(bio pending)*

**Tayson Mudarikiri, Zimbabwe, Civic Leadership, Arizona State University**



Tayson Mudarikiri has worked in the field of youth development in Zimbabwe for over 10 years. Currently, he works for Terre des Hommes Schweiz as national Consultant for Zimbabwe and South Africa where he provides on-going support to community based civil society organizations in the areas of programming for youth and organizational development. He has previous experience in promoting youth participation in public policy and development discourse. Tayson holds a master's degree in Public Sector Management from Africa University in Zimbabwe. Upon return from the Washington Fellowship, he intends to facilitate a multi-stakeholder process to initiate policy reforms in the country on issues pertaining to entrepreneurship. He also seeks to mobilize youth at a grassroots level to inform public policy and eventually, Tayson hopes to establish the first ever national institute that provides academic training on youth development and produces enough human capital to tackle development challenges in a country where youth constitute over half of the total population.



**Martin Mugabi, Uganda, Business & Entrepreneurship  
University of Wisconsin – Stout**

Martin Mugabi has over sixteen years of experience developing and executing business ideas. He is a founding Managing Director at Future Investments Group Ltd (FIG) where he produces food and provides seasonal employment to women and prisoners. He is also a Director at Twinkle Industries Ltd, a cleaning products manufacturing company, based in Nakawa Kampala. Martin has worked for Uganda’s national water utility entity, the National Water and Sewerage Corporation developing marketing concepts and monitoring business performance. He has also worked with a World Vision affiliated micro-finance company evaluating the credit worthiness of small scale businesses and ensuring credit recovery. He has a bachelor’s of business administration degree in Marketing. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Martin will assist Twinkle Industries Ltd diversify into the refinery of

cooking oil in order to increase supply and improve the quality of oil provided to urban poor communities and populations living in rural towns. At FIG, he plans to improve efficiency and diversify to goat breeding and multiplication.



**Martin Muganzi, Uganda, Civic Leadership, Arizona State University**

Martin is a Laboratory Scientific Officer and currently serves as an Assistant Lecturer at the Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology for the Kampala International University. He has served as a Laboratory Officer with the Baylor College of Medicine Children’s Foundation, a pediatric HIV/AIDs treatment and care organization. He is very active in youth related projects including Youth Alive Uganda where he has assisted in the delivery of behavior change programs to youth living in the rural areas of Central, Eastern and Northern Uganda. He is currently the Public Relations Officer at One Health Club Uganda, a multidisciplinary association of young people working together for a safer planet and prosperous communities. In addition, he has also founded and heads Youth At Work Initiative (YAWI), a youth-led development agency organization that is addressing youth unemployment in Uganda through behavior change programs, skills development, mentoring, and capital ventures. He has a bachelor’s of science in Biomedical Sciences from Makerere University. After completing the Washington Fellowship program, he plans to

develop and implement programs that will reduce youth unemployment in the pearl of Africa.



**Mireille Muhigwa, Democratic Republic of Congo, Civic Leadership  
Wagner College**

Mireille Muhigwa currently serves as a Gender Program Officer for SAMWAKI where she focuses on initiating peace building activities. She founded a project called Children Integration and Education Empowerment in 2013 and has been an interpreter and facilitator in women workshops and children outreach programs for the Walungu Community Development Trust. Mireille holds a bachelor’s degree in Sociology from the Universite Officielle de Bukavu. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to create an

NGO that focuses on the education and empowerment of vulnerable populations with an emphasis on women and children who are victims of sexual violence in the Eastern part of the Democratic Republic of Congo.



**Watson Karuma Muiruri, Kenya, Public Management  
Syracuse University**

Watson Karuma has over ten years of experience as a journalist. He currently serves as Sports Editor with the Nation Media Group's broadcasting division NTV and was recently awarded the best Sports Reporting Award from the Media council of Kenya for a piece he did on Kenyan football. His main focus is development-based sports, which seeks to improve the lives of youth. He is a member of a small football team in Kiambu County and works with young players by providing them with guidance and counseling sessions as part of their weekend training program. He has also leased a small piece of land where the yet-to-be-employed players can practice farming. Watson encourages the young players to take up farming, which has helped sustain their livelihood and kept them away from societal vices. He hopes that the new knowledge and networks gained through the Washington Fellowship will help him further develop his youth club project into a sustainable youth academy.



**Norman Jabulani Mukwakwami, Zimbabwe, Civic Leadership  
University of California-Berkeley**

Norman Mukwakwami currently serves as a Research Coordinator for the Centre for Natural Resource Governance, where he focuses on initiating, designing and implementing research projects. He has worked as a trainee-mining engineer for Lafarge Cement Zimbabwe and RioZim Limited. Norman holds a bachelor's degree in Mining Engineering from the University of Zimbabwe and intends to begin his studies towards an LLM in Mineral Law and Policy in late 2014. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Norman plans to carry out a project to reduce the use of mercury in artisanal mining in Zimbabwe. He also intends to continue campaigning for the formalization of artisanal mining, curbing of illicit financial flows, and affording equal opportunities for women in mining with a focus on ensuring transparency and accountability in Zimbabwe's extractive industry.



**Xitshembhiso Russel Mulamula, South Africa, Public Management, Syracuse University**

Xitshembhiso Russel Mulamula is a corporate governance activist and Manager for Public Entities oversight with the Limpopo provincial Treasury Department. He is responsible for overseeing compliance at all five state owned entities and their subsidiaries. He recently organized a corporate governance workshop aimed to deliberate on the state of corporate governance and compliance in Limpopo Province. Mulamula is a post-graduate student of Company Secretariat and Governance practice with Chartered Secretaries Southern Africa. In addition to his work in compliance, he also has experience working in youth and student activism and has coordinated the Walter Sisulu memorial lecture, the Free Education campaign, and the Graduate Alive campaign that alerted university students about the impact of HIV on graduates. He currently serves in the Limpopo ANC Youth League Communications sub-committee and is a member of the Institute of Directors in Southern Africa (IoDSA). Upon completing the Washington Fellowship, Mulamula will continue to advocate for good governance and ethical leadership in the public sector.



**James Kpadeh Mulbah, Liberia, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Wisconsin-Stout**

James K. Mulbah has worked with young people for more than five years in the areas of psychology, waste management, business/entrepreneurship, and mentoring. Currently, he is the CEO and Manager of Green Cities Inc., running the day to day activities as owner of the company. James is a Candidate for a bachelor's of arts degree in Sociology from the University of Liberia, a diploma in Peace Building, and a diploma in Strategic Business Management from the Swedish Institute for Public Administration-Sweden. After successfully taking part in the Washington Fellowship program, James plans to work in five disadvantaged communities (West Point, Slipway, New Kru Town, Doe Community, and

Red light) to initiate the Urban Youth Recycling project with a focus on creating jobs for unskilled youths in the area of waste value chain.



**Abbigail Muleya, Zimbabwe, Civic Leadership, Tulane University**

Abbigail Muleya is a development practitioner specializing in the field of women empowerment. She currently works on women's economic empowerment in the Binga district of Matabeleland north province in Zimbabwe under the Zubo Trust where serves as a Project officer responsible for facilitating, planning, and implementing program activities. She is also responsible for monitoring and evaluation to assess and ensure the success of programs and identify any improvements that need to be implemented. She holds a Bachelor of Arts honors degree in African Languages and Culture. After completing the Washington Fellowship, she intends to share her acquired skills and knowledge in civic leadership with fellow staff and women in her community.



**Hilda Bih Muluh, Cameroon, Civic Leadership, University of California –Berkeley**

Muluh Hilda Bih is a journalist with eight years of experience working with Cameroon's national radio and television service. In this capacity, she uses her voice and personal experience as a disabled person to champion the cause of women and persons with disabilities. She also mentors young girls through the ESTHER Project, an initiative that she founded, by speaking in schools, churches, and conferences throughout Cameroon. Hilda holds a bachelor's of science in Journalism and Mass Communications from the University of Buea. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to use the knowledge acquired to empower other young women and disabled persons through workshops and seminars and continue to use mass media more efficiently to effect change in Cameroon.

**Lydia Nafulu Munika, Kenya, Business & Entrepreneurship, Dartmouth College**

Lydia Munikah is an entrepreneur and youth leader who works to harness the energy, talent, and potential of youth in a positive direction through activities and trainings. She is the first and only female President of Kakamega County Youth Bunge Forum with 12 constituencies, over 1200 youth Bunges, and an average of 25 members per group. She is also the Assistant Secretary of the National Youth Bunge Association. Lydia has a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Business studies from Kenyatta University. She is a certified trainer of entrepreneurs by the International Labor Organization (ILO). After completing the Washington Fellowship, Lydia plans to establish constituency entrepreneurship centers that will offer both enterprise and youth leadership training.



**Emily Kadzo Murabu, Kenya, Business & Entrepreneurship, Yale University**

Emily Murabu is an Information Officer at Kenya News Agency (KNA), which is under the Ministry of Information Communications and Technology (ICT). She founded a women group known as Tunaweza (Swahili for “we can”) with the goal of economically empowering women who are being side lined in economic development. Emily holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication and Media and is currently pursuing a postgraduate program in Mass Communication at the Kenya Institute of Mass Communication (KIMC). After The Washington Fellowship, she plans on using the knowledge and skills acquired to empower more women in entrepreneurship throughout Kenya.



**Anna Alice Adhiambo Musandu, Kenya, Public Management, Syracuse University**

Anna Musandu is a communications specialist working in the Parliament of Kenya where she serves as a Public Affairs and Communications Officer. She has over 10 years’ experience working in the national legislature. Anna is working on various communication strategies for the Parliament of Kenya that includes developing and improving various platforms for public participation, outreach, and engagement. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications Science from the University of South Africa and a master of arts in Mass Communications from the University of Leicester, United Kingdom. Through the Washington Fellowship, Anna seeks to gain knowledge and skills that she will use to facilitate her work in promoting gainful relations between Parliament and the public. She also seeks to establish programs to help raise youth and women to public leadership positions through training and networking. Furthermore, she aims to use innovative means to package

and disseminate public information to aid effective public participation in governance issues as provided for in the Constitution of Kenya.



**Neo Musangi, Kenya, Civic Leadership, Kenya, University of Delaware**

Neo Musangi is a gender non-conforming feminist academic, activist, and performer living in Nairobi Kenya. Neo is the co-founder and advisor at Iranti-Org, the Johannesburg-based Queer Media organization, and a member of Jinsiangu, the Nairobi-based, Intersex, Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming organization. Currently, Neo is the Humanities Research Fellow at the British Institute in Eastern Africa and responsible for designing and conducting independent research on topics such as gender and sexualities, war and militarism, urbanscapes, and toilet politics. Neo holds a bachelor’s of arts degree in Education from Egerton University, a master’s of arts in African Literature from the University of the Witwatersrand, and is currently a Doctoral student at the same university.

As a Washington Fellow, Neo aims to use the experience and expertise gained during this Fellowship to continue making media through an internship program. The internship will focus on visual media with the aim of demystifying the lives and experiences of marginalized gender and sexual minorities as well as creating an evidence-based archive. Within this program, interns will acquire photography, video, audio, artistic, reporting skills as well as career guidance that will prepare them for the world of work.



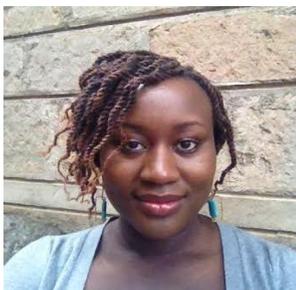
**Maurine Muthengi, Kenya, Civic Leadership, University of California – Berkeley**

Maurine Muthengi has four years of experience working with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) providing services in information technology, project management, and database management. She is the founder of the Donate a Pad Initiative that was created in December 2012 and ensures girls in primary schools are provided with sanitary towels to prevent them from missing school during their menstrual cycle. Maurine holds a bachelor's of science degree in Information Technology from Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she seeks to use her knowledge, skills, and networks to improve and grow Donate a Pad Initiative. She hopes to do so by empowering youth through mentorship programs, workshops and training. In addition, Maurine hopes to partner with other Kenyan fellows to disseminate what they learn during the fellowship to youth and to work on projects that will bring solutions to Kenya and Africa at large.



**Kenneth Eric Muthomi, Kenya, Business & Entrepreneurship  
Clark Atlanta University**

Kenneth Muthomi is an award winning entrepreneur that has over five years of experience working in food security and post-harvest losses. Currently, Eric is the founder and CEO of Stawi Foods and Fruits Limited, which manufactures highly nutritious flours made from locally-sourced raw materials. The products include innovative gluten free banana flour made from organic bananas procured from two women's groups in rural Kenya. Eric holds a bachelor's degree in Law and two certificates in Agribusiness Management and Enterprise Management. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Eric seeks to use his new knowledge and connections to expand his business activities across Kenya and other countries and increase the uptake of raw materials from more farmers.



**Valerie Joyce Andeso Mutoka, Kenya, Civic Leadership, University of Delaware**

Joyce Mutoka has over five years of experience in transitional justice, human rights, governance and project management. She is the co-founder of Chanzo, an organization that works to create and foster a reading culture among young people in Kenya. She previously worked with the National Cohesion and Integration Commission to help foster greater reconciliation in Kenya following the 2007/8 post poll violence. She has also been involved with the UWIANO platform for peace which is a conflict early warning and response platform established to track and respond to conflict in Kenya. Joyce holds a Bachelor of Arts from University College Roosevelt specializing in International Law. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Joyce plans to scale up the work of Chanzo as a basis for community reconciliation through documenting and sharing the stories and experiences of young people.



**Chola Chilufya Lungu Mutoni, Zambia, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Texas at Austin**

Chola Lungu Mutoni currently serves as Executive Assistant to the Country Director for FHI360, an international nonprofit organization. She is also a model, fashion designer and Zambian culture awareness promoter. In 2011 she founded Katuntulu Edutainments, which specializes in hosting interactive empowerment workshops for women and serves as a platform to discuss health and Zambian culture/traditional teachings. She has a certificate in Diplomatic Practice, Protocol, and Public Relations and a bachelor's of arts degree in Politics and Sociology from Rhodes University in South Africa. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Chola plans to raise funds to build an audiovisual cultural village, a center where Zambian history, culture, and traditions can be shared, preserved, and documented. The center will empower youth by educating them about their country and employing them to be active in local and international exchange programs.



**Marcel Mutsindashyaka, Rwanda, Business & Entrepreneurship  
Yale University**

Marcel Mutsindashyaka is Founder and CEO of UMUSEKE IT LTD, a media and IT company in Rwanda. He is a survivor of the Rwandan genocide of 1994 and believes that media strongly contributed to accelerating the genocide. As a result, he created the news website [www.umuseke.rw](http://www.umuseke.rw) to spread a message of peace and reconciliation. The website employs 25 people and is the second most popular news website in Rwanda with a readership of 85,000 visitors daily. He received his bachelor's degree in Business Information Technology and is now studying to receive his MSIT at Carnegie Mellon University. After completing the Washington Fellowship, he plans to start an FM radio and TV channel dedicated to spreading the message of peace and reconciliation to Rwandan youth who represent 63% of the population.



**Rhoydah Mwenya Mutuna, Zambia, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Notre Dame**

Mwenya Rhoydah Mutuna has experience in computer and information systems, management, mobile application development training, and community research. Mwenya currently works for Partners Group as an Online Services Executive, where she works on developing web and desktop applications and a customer records management system. She recently developed a cervical cancer awareness mobile application called Girl Fight, which is available on educational tablets provided in Zambian schools by iSchool Zambia. She also worked on a team to conduct a baseline survey on Zambian youth (aged 12-18), further confirming her belief in the need to educate and empower Zambian youth. Mwenya is a member of the Asikana network, an association of Zambian women aimed at empowering other young women in the field of technology. She holds a degree in Computer and Information Systems, and an advanced diploma and certificate in Computer Studies. Upon completion of the Washington fellowship, Mwenya plans to start a project that will help Zambian youth identify ways to use technology to solve problems in Zambia, including community surveying in rural areas and working to bridge the rural-urban digital divide in Zambia.



**Chisenga Muyoya, Zambia, Civic Leadership, Arizona State University**

Chisenga is the co-founder of Asikana Network, a youth led technology organization that equips and empowers young women in Zambia. With over 4 years of experience in the technology sector, Chisenga applied her interest in ICT for development in her work as a Software Developer at Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric Aids Foundation where she focused on developing SmartCare, Zambia's national electronic health record system. She currently serves as Project Manager with BongoHive, Lusaka's tech hub in order to help build a stronger local tech community. Chisenga holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science and is currently pursuing a master's of science degree in Information Systems Management. She is a MILEAD Fellow, and has been named one of the top 28 young women leaders in Africa. She hopes to use her opportunity as a Washington 2014 Fellow to share lessons learned with her community and intends to mentor young leaders and inspire the young minds to aspire for more.



**Dizando Norton António Mvemba, Angola, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Texas at Austin**

Dizando Mvemba has over three years of experience serving as a student/practice teacher, Web developer, and Database Administrator at the Faculty of Sciences of Agostinho Neto's University (FSUAN). At FSUAN, he founded Núcleo da Computação (NC), a group that promotes additional programming knowledge and practical experience for Computer Science students. Dizando is also the organizer of the Google Developers Group chapter of Luanda (GDG Luanda) and is currently an active member of Startup Angola (SA), a non-profit organization that helps young Angolan digital entrepreneurs on starting and marketing their startups. He majored in Computer Science and is currently waiting to defend his Masters in Information Management at the School of Statistics and Information Management at the Nova University of Lisbon. Upon his return from the Washington Fellowship, Dizando plans to create a sustainable business and provide mentoring on business and digital entrepreneurship to universities and at NC, GDG Luanda, and SA events.



**Nancy Mwaisaka, Tanzania, Civic Leadership, Tulane University**

Nancy Mwaisaka currently serves as a Program Assistant with the International Labour Organization office for Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda where she focuses on planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Decent Work Country Programs. She works with partners in making decent work a reality for East Africans. Nancy is also a poet and co-founder of La Poetista, which is a group of young artists and arts lovers committed to grow the art of poetry and other art forms in the Tanzanian community. In addition, she is a coordinator for Daughters of Destiny, which focuses on women and girl's empowerment and a founding member of Friends of Children with Cancer, a non-profit organization that supports children with cancer in Tanzania. She has worked on the UNHCR project Echoes of Pain where she teaches refugees poetry. Nancy holds a master's degree in International Business from the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Nancy plans to create opportunities to empower young women and men to be effective young leaders, youth, parents, and community

citizens.

**Hope Wakio Mwanake, Kenya, Business & Entrepreneurship, Yale University**



Hope Mwanake is the co-founder of Trace Kenya Group, a vibrant community based organization that works with young people in addressing solid waste management issues in Gilgil, Nakuru County. She has over four years of experience as Project Leader for environment conservation at the grassroots level. She is an EIA/EA expert, member of Eastern Africa Water Association, and has been trained in project management by the Global Youth Coalition on HIV/AIDS. She won the Presidential Gold award for young people in 2010, MTV Staying Alive Foundation grant award in 2011, and RSSAF Green grant for environment in 2012. Hope holds a Master of Science degree in Environmental Science from UNESCO-IHE Netherlands and Bachelor of Science (Hons) from Egerton University where she also lectures on a part time basis. Upon completion of the Washington

Fellowship, she plans to start a recycling venture making compost from organic waste, glass tiles from glass, and plastic poles from discarded polyethene bags and plastics. She also aims to mobilize many young people into social entrepreneurship as a means of livelihood throughout Kenya.



**Charles Chalwe Mwansa, Zambia, Civic Leadership  
University of California-Berkeley**

Charles Chalwe Mwansa has over three years of experience working with marginalized groups such as Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, Transgender and Inter-sex persons (LGBTI) and victims of HIV/AIDS. As the Advocacy and Policy Officer for a LGBTI rights advocacy community, Charles mobilizes and advocates for the promotion and protection of marginalized populations in his country. Additionally, he has been involved in volunteer work since 2010 as the Assistant Coordinator for A Home for Charity, whose main objective is to identify

outstanding young vulnerable children of Ndola's Chipulukusu compound, and provide financial aid in the form of primary school educational scholarships. He is a law graduate from the Zambia Open University. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Charles will apply newly acquired skills in his professional work and continue to champion for the rights of LGBT persons in Zambia through consultative dialogue engagement with various stakeholders.



**Isaac Timothy Mwanza, Zambia, Civic Leadership  
University of Virginia and the College of William & Mary**

Isaac Mwanza currently serves as the Democracy and Governance Specialist at the Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI Zambia). He has ten years of experience in developing basic leadership development programs, conducting research on youth and women democratic engagement, strengthening dialogues between citizens and parliamentarians, and facilitating the training of youth election monitors in Zambia and other African countries. Isaac holds a first degree in Business Administration and is currently pursuing legal studies

with the University of Zambia. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to continue working with YALI Zambia to set up a School of Leadership Studies in Lusaka that will focus on training youth who are aspiring to take up leadership positions in societies where politics has been dominated by the rich and older generation.

**Morris Mbetsa Mwero, Kenya, Business & Entrepreneurship, University of Notre Dame (bio pending)**



**Didas Mwachila Mzirai, Kenya, Civic Leadership, Rutgers University**

Didas Mzirai is the President of the National Youth Bunge Association of Kenya, which is under the Yes Youth Can program and is the largest youth network in Kenya. He has over three years of experience working directly with communities and development partners focusing on providing social, political, and economic empowerment to young people in Kenya. As the president of the national network of more than 22,000 grassroots youth led, youth owned and youth managed organizations, Didas mobilizes resources and advocates on behalf of the Kenyan youth. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship,

Didas plans to mobilize resources to implement a youth employment program that focuses on providing life and entrepreneurship skills training, internships, and support for young people to start their own businesses or venture into formal or informal employment.



**Affree Dany Romaric N'Dri, Cote d'Ivoire, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Clark Atlanta University**

Affree Dany Romaric has worked with several organizations including the Network of Education and Peace Caretakers (NEPC) in 2003, Blue Cross in 2005, the CIFIJEC in 2009, and the RIJLI in 2013. He serves as a consultant and has trained over 595 people including youth, business staff, disabled people, and women. Affree founded MCC in 2013 to assist in the development of very small enterprises in Côte d'Ivoire. He holds a vocational diploma in Chemistry and plans to get a master's degree in Quality Management System.



**Kombo Ehouman Fabienne N'Guessan, Cote d'Ivoire, Public Management  
Morgan State University**

Kombo Fabienne N'guessan has two years of experience working in public administration. In 2012, she served as an intern at the Ministry of Family, Women, and Children Affairs and in 2013 she transferred to the Cabinet of the Minister of Health and the Fight against AIDS as a Research officer. She is also a member of the Ministry's technical committee for the implementation of universal health coverage in Cote d'Ivoire. She has been active in the humanitarian and social development sector where she has volunteered in a literacy centre for children in India, elaborated a pilot project on conservation agriculture as a source of revenue for women in rural areas of Kenya, and conducted a study on women traders in the informal sector of Uganda. She holds a bachelor's degree in Anthropology from the University of Waterloo in Canada and a master's in Development Studies at the University of Kwazulu Natal, in Durban, South Africa. After she returns from the Washington Fellowship Program, she intends to implement a project with other Fellows to fight against child

mortality and promoting the improvement of maternal health.



**Passy Mubalama Nabintu, Democratic Republic of Congo, Civic Leadership  
University of Delaware**

Passy Nabintu is a freelance journalist and activist with over seven years of experience reporting on social, human rights, and international justice issues from conflict-affected Eastern DRC. Her personal experiences reporting from Goma's camps inspired her to create her own NGO called AIDPROFEN in 2009. AIDPROFEN supports survivors of sexual violence and orphans with a goal to rebuild the torn social fabric in Goma's IDP populations. Passy has received training from the Institute for War and Peace Reporting and uses multiple social media outlets for her reporting. She holds a degree in Management for Development. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Passy plans to create a newspaper in Goma that will provide competitive salaries to journalists and encourage

Goma's young population to read the news. Young female journalists will be recruited and the newspaper will be used as a platform to report on gender based violence.



**Creesen Naicker, South Africa, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Texas-Austin**

Creesen Naicker is the founding Project Manager of the Young Heroes program and has previously been selected for the Brightest Young Minds in South Africa award and the Alberto Madella award. Currently, he is a board member of the RedCap Foundation, on the steering committee of the African Physical Activity Network, and an Executive Director of VisionRSM Pty Ltd. Creesen has applied his skills to both social development and entrepreneurship and sees social enterprises as a meaningful way to address many of the challenges in Africa. He has an International Master in Sport Management, Law and Humanities (FIFA) masters alumni having studied through the International Centre for Sport Studies. He also received a master's degree in Organizational Psychology from the

University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban and completed a post-graduate certificate in Result Based Management from the University of Witwatersrand's Graduate School of Public and Development Management.



**Nulu Naluyombya, Uganda, Civic Leadership, Tulane University**

Nulu Naluyombya has over three years of experience working in personal development and women empowerment. Currently, Nulu is the founder and Executive Director of Success Chapter, a local nonprofit organization that focuses on leadership and entrepreneurship development for young people, especially young women. In this capacity, she facilitates trainings and designs programs such as the Girls Leadership Academy that empowers young women in schools and less privileged communities. Nulu holds a bachelor's degree in Procurement and Supply Chain Management and is finalizing her master's degree in Business Administration, both from Makerere University Business School. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Nulu plans to expand the Girls Leadership Program to other

Ugandan schools as well as African countries to empower young African women through leadership, entrepreneurship, and personal development.

**Diana Nalwoga, Uganda, Business & Entrepreneurship, University of Notre Dame**



Diana Nalwoga has over six years of experience in the financial services sector. She is the co-founder and Director of Tumaini Microfinance Limited where she focuses on strategy formulation in areas of budgeting, auditing, and funding. She also facilitates training of local women and conducts women empowerment groups in business management skills in Mukono, Uganda. On completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to use the technical capacity built and strategic partnerships formed to expand the outreach of Tumaini Microfinance to all of Uganda and empower and transform lives by providing affordable, progressive, and sustainable financial services.



**Wenyam Hermann Nare, Burkina Faso, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Wisconsin-Stout**

Wenyam Hermann Nare has over four years of experience in rural development with a focus on agriculture and rural entrepreneurship. He currently serves as a Program Manager for a farmer's organization called Fédération des Professionnels Agricoles du Burkina where his responsibilities include supporting and designing income generated activities, implementing trainings in farm management, and providing access to financial services. His skills are in project design and management, social enterprise design, coaching, adult education, and social media. Hermann holds a bachelor's degree in

Economics with a focus in Macroeconomics and Management of Development from the University of Ouagadougou and a diploma in Development Leadership from the Coady International Institute at Saint Francis Xavier University in Canada. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Hermann plans to start a social business to support rural entrepreneurship initiatives and create jobs and professional development opportunities for young, skillful leaders.

**Joshua Samwel Nassari, Tanzania, Public Management, University of Arkansas**

Hon. Joshua Nassari has worked for various grassroots non-governmental organizations targeting peasants, youth, and orphans. He previously worked at the American-supported Foundation for Tomorrow which offered scholarships to orphans and abandoned kids. Currently, Hon. Nassari is the youngest Tanzania Member of Parliament (MP) representing Arumeru East constituency in the National Assembly and also a deputy shadow minister for education and vocational training. As an MP, among other duties performed at the National Assembly, he oversees his constituency's annual budget including monitoring the implementation of any development projects undertaken by both local and central governments. He holds a B.A in Sociology with majors in policy, planning, and administration from the University of Dar es Salaam Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Nassari plans to use the experience gained to continue initiating various projects in Tanzania especially on improving science education in public schools. He also plans to continue representing his constituency.



**Faith Nassozi, Uganda, Civic Leadership, Wagner College**

Faith Nassozi has six years of experience working in the area of behavioral health communication specifically related to the use of telephone hotlines. She currently works with Marie Stopes Uganda where she sets up and manages a telephone hotline that provides health services to over 4,000 clients on a monthly basis. In addition she is a sexual reproductive health (SRH) rights advocate who has written various articles in the press and participated in both national and international advocacy campaigns on SRH. She holds a bachelor's degree in Social Work and Social Administration and is currently studying for her master's degree in Public Administration and Management. Upon her return from the Washington Fellowship, Faith plans to ensure that the young people who call the hotline on a monthly basis receive an electronic voucher which will entitle them to discounted family planning and SRH services. She also plans to setup clubs in schools to promote SRH.



**Bongwiwe Ndakisa, South Africa, Civic Leadership, Arizona State University**

Bongwiwe Ndakisa has over three years of experience working in youth empowerment and community development. She is the founder of Kwenzekile Community Development Centre, an organization that offers basic services such as photocopying, printing, faxing, internet services, and computer literacy training to rural communities and also encourages organic farming. She also works as an IT Administrator for the Global Ecovillage Network- Africa. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Bongwiwe plans to share the knowledge and information she has learned and mentor young people in her community. She also plans to work

with other young African leaders in finding answers to the most pressing needs of the continent.



**Sokhna Mame Bousso Ndiaye, Senegal, Civic Leadership, Tulane University**

Mame Bousso is a social entrepreneur and civil society activist that has over ten years of experience working on the social and economic reintegration and empowerment of youth and women. She is the founder and Executive Director of Solidarité Active, a community based organization that she created in 2003. Mame develops programs in social reintegration and vocational training for children and women in difficulties and those who are in prison through the Second Chance Academy. She also implements programs related to capacity building and support for the creation of income-generating activities for women and youth in suburbs of Dakar and in rural areas through the Solidarity Guaranty Fund. In addition, she helps to implement Women Future Leaders, a leadership program that helps girls develop their leadership skills and participate in decision-making and community activities. Mame is a trainer in Leadership and Personal

Development. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship she plans to expand the leadership training program to other African countries and strength Solidarité Active programs on community development.



**Ramadhani Khamisi Ndiga, Kenya, Civic Leadership, Rutgers University**

Ramadhani Ndiga is the founder and Director of Where Talent lives, an organization advocating at both local and policy level for the implementation of existing policies on sexual reproductive health & rights (SRHR) of young people in Kenya. As part of his work, he uses innovative approaches and skills including taekwondo to increase awareness and educate the most at risk populations on HIV prevalence, trends, and prevention measures. After participating in the Washington Fellowship, Ramadhani hopes to recruit IDUs, teenage mothers, community commercial sex workers and idle youth to work on a solid waste management project. They will be responsible for turning waste into bio-fertilizers and handcrafts that will be sold in the local Tugendane markets. Over 500 young people will be employed by the project.

### **Kolisile Theo Ndindwa, South Africa, Civic Leadership, Tulane University**

Kolisile Theo Ndindwa has seven years experience in civic engagement and entrepreneurship and fifteen years experience with in the professional arts field. Founder & Executive Director of iKapa Dance Theatre, Arts Township International, and OnPointe Dance Ndindwa, Kolisile is a skilled artist with extensive national and international experience. Having grown up in the historically disadvantaged community of Gugulethu and being afforded a successful career through dance, Theo's personal experience motivates his desire to give back to disadvantaged communities and contribute positively to the social environment of his homeland. Theo's versatile dance influences, vast social exposure, management training, mentoring and professional experience gained all over Europe and Africa have resulted in distinctly powerful organizations and direction and proudly represent and serve the cultural and historical society of the Country. Theo returned to South Africa in 2005 after refining his technical and choreographic skills in the United Kingdom with the aim of contributing to the transformation of his sector and country. Theo has completed various leadership and Arts Management courses throughout South Africa and graduated from Common Purpose<sup>1</sup> in 2010. In his role as Executive Director of iKapa, Theo leads the organization from the front, nurturing professional partnerships that support the growth of the organization. Throughout his work Theo focuses on social transformation, youth empowerment and the development, protection, preservation and promotion of arts, culture and heritage from, within and outside South Africa. Theo utilizes artistic excellence in dance as a mechanism to create socially relevant, publicly engaging, audience centered performance's that utilize social trends around current issues, in ways that are entertaining, inspiring and instills appreciation for innovative artistic creations and performances.



### **Emmanuel Ndlovu, Zimbabwe, Civic Leadership University of Virginia and the College of William & Mary**

Emmanuel Ndlovu is a public policy advocate with over five years of experience working with marginalized and underrepresented communities. He is presently the Advocacy and Program Manager with Bulawayo Progressive Residents Association, a community based social movement operating in Zimbabwe's second capital. He has been successful in formulating community driven problem solving interventions and assisting communities to deal with problems of service delivery and irresponsible local governance in a manner instrumental to their solutions. Emmanuel holds a master's degree in Development Studies from the National University of Science and Technology in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe where he examined the causal relationship between domestic and international trade policies and the deindustrialization of Bulawayo. After completing the Washington Fellowship, he hopes to bring back more organized thinking and participatory forms of evidence based local level advocacy to Zimbabwe.



### **Sibusisiwe Ndlovu, Zimbabwe, Civic Leadership, University of Delaware**

Sibusisiwe Ndlovu is a media practitioner with 12 years of experience in radio broadcasting. She is the founder and Director of Women's Media for Development Foundation (WMDF), an institution dedicated to increasing the capacity of female journalists to better cover issues that affect women in Zimbabwe, as well as increase the voices of women in the country's media platforms. For the past seven years, Sibusisiwe has worked mainly with development organizations such as the National Youth Development Trust (NYDT) and the Bulawayo Progressive Residents Association (BPRA) in the fields of communication and gender mainstreaming. She holds a Bachelor of Science honors degree in Journalism and Media Studies and a diploma in Mass Communication. She is an occasional blogger and ardent social net-worker who upon returning from the Washington Fellowship, wishes to use these and other mass media platforms to help female journalists better network and gather views from women commentators and opinion leaders, currently limited in Zimbabwe's media spaces.



**Abdou Ndour, Senegal, Public Management, Florida International University**

Abdou Ndour has served as Energy Program Officer for the International NGO ENDA Energy - Environment – Development for over seven years. He focuses on promoting renewable energy, energy climate change, and energy efficiency related projects. In this capacity, he works with several different stakeholders including community based organizations, small and medium enterprises (SMEs), micro finance institutions (MFIs), and rural populations. He has a master’s degree in Energy and Environment from Ecole Supérieure

Polytechnique, Cheikh Anta DIOP University of Dakar (UCAD). After completing the Washington Fellowship, he plans to develop social energy entrepreneurship around the country and beyond.



**Mable Beene Nedziwe, Zambia, Public Management, University of Minnesota**

Mable Beene Nedziwe has over six years of experience in various fields in the public development sector. Currently, she is a Senior Sports Development Officer responsible for initiating, designing, and implementing community sports development activities and empowerment programs for men and women. Mable is a Rotary World Peace Fellow who was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Lusaka to pursue a bachelor’s degree in Social Work from the University of Zambia and a master’s of arts degree in International Politics and Security Studies from the University of Bradford in the United Kingdom. Upon her return from the Washington Fellowship, Mable intends to advocate for the use of best practices in service delivery, including efficiency and transparency within the civil service. She also intends to mentor two aspiring candidates and provide skills training and mentoring to young female school dropouts.



**Lukhlo Ngamlana, South Africa, Public Management University of Minnesota**

Lukhlo Ngamlana has over 12 years of experience in project management, communication, training design and facilitation, monitoring and evaluation, and nonprofit finance management. He is currently a Monitor and Evaluation Officer for the Global Fund project (GF) under the Western Cape Provincial Department of Health. His work focuses on providing support and verification to districts and nonprofit organizations that are implementing GF projects. He previously served as the Assistant Manager for the Children’s Resource Centre/Children’s Movement

(CRC) and later as Assistant Probation Officer for the Provincial Department of Social Development working with young people who are in conflict with the law. His skills and experiences will be strengthened by participating in the Washington Fellowship as it will provide a platform to network with other young leaders and share skills and knowledge. He plans to share the knowledge acquired with the community that he mentors in South Africa.



**Zamafuze Lumka Ngcobo, South Africa, Business and Entrepreneurship Dartmouth College**

Zamafuze Ngcobo is currently a Leadership Fellow at McKinsey and Company where she focuses on organization, change management, and leadership development. Her work experience also extends to the media industry where she has interned with Waggener Edstrom, EURORSCG and later served as a Media Analyst in consumer analytics at Nota Bene. In 2011, she represented the African delegation at the One Young World Summit in Switzerland by delivering a speech on global health resolutions. She is a Mandela Rhodes scholar with a bachelor’s of arts (honors) in Strategic Communication. Zamafuze hopes to use the Washington Fellowship as a launch pad to start a communications advisory firm with a focus on shifting mindsets and issues management.



**Francisco Sebastião Marcos Ngola, Angola, Public Management, Syracuse University**

Francisco Ngola has over three years research experience in the public policy and government sectors. He is currently a Trainee Lawyer and Public Defender in the Correctional Police Court and works as an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Law at Agostinho Neto University (UAN). At UAN, he is also a member of the Moot Court Initiative and provides lectures on decentralization and de-concentration. Francisco is working on his master's degree in Civil Legal Sciences from Faculty of Law at ANU in cooperation with Law Faculty of Coimbra University. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Francisco hopes to provide workshops focusing on state liability for breaching the rights and interests of individuals in fulfillment of its legislative, judicial and administrative functions. He also hopes to contribute to reducing bureaucracy and increasing transparency in public administration.



**Sobel Aziz Alfred Marie Ngom, Senegal, Civic Leadership  
Wagner University**

Sobel Ngom is an entrepreneur who serves as the Social Media Manager for an African digital agency. He has started several social projects including a summer school program for rural communities to reduce the gap in national exam results between rural and urban students. Following the implementation of this program, a 50% raise in the success rate of these communities was recorded. He has also designed and implemented the Voices of Youth, a program that provide key information regarding the voting registration and process during the 2012 elections in Senegal. Sobel was recognized as an African Changemaker by Ashoka and has served as a consultant for the organization for three years. After completing the Washington Fellowship, he hopes to use the acquired skills and knowledge to open his own social marketing agency dedicated to social change.



**Mutoba Ngoma, Zambia, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Wisconsin-Stout**

Mutoba Ngoma has over five years of experience in entrepreneurship activities, focusing primarily on renewable energy processing and raw material resources. Currently, Mutoba is the founder and CEO of Tapera Industries Limited, whose activities include recycling used cooking oil into biodiesel fuel and natural soap products, and providing market linkages for small holder farmers by aggregating their energy. He volunteers his time working with the Alliance of Youth Entrepreneurs in Zambia to promote startup businesses by providing market linkages and access to funding. He also volunteers with the World Economic Forums- Global Shapers Community in Lusaka to address every day social challenges. Upon the Completion of the Washington Fellowship, Mutoba plans to increase his business capacity to

encourage supplies of service delivery and raw materials from his local community and to also increase the availability of decent employment provided by the business.



**Adda Ngomde, Chad, Public Management, University of Minnesota**

Adda Ngomde has six years of experience working directly with local government representatives and communities focused on child welfare. He currently serves as a Development Facilitator with World Vision International where he works with community stakeholders to identify their challenges and set up appropriate projects that contribute to the sustainable wellbeing of children and their families. After completing the Washington Fellowship program, Adda will seek a leadership position that will give him the opportunity and platform to showcase the new skills he has acquired.



**Eric Nicholas Ngondi, Kenya, Public Management, Florida International University**

Eric Ngondi is an engineer who co-founded a company called Water, Environment, Sanitation and Safety (WESS). He is also active in advocating for the rights of the visually impaired and people with disabilities. As part of this work, he assists the Kenya Society for the Blind (KSB) by offering services such as sighted counseling, mentorship, and training in computer adaptive technology to people with visual impairments. Eric is a graduate of Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology and holds a diploma in Project Management. He is also a registered Associate Environment Auditor with the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) and certified in Health Environment and Safety from the Petroleum Institute of East Africa. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Eric will use the skills gained to educate leaders and people of a local market in Nairobi County on the issues of environment and sanitation. He also plans to create a program to educate employers and people with disabilities about actionable policies related to employment.

**Setshwano Sharey Ngope, Botswana, Business and Entrepreneurship, Northwestern University**  
*(bio pending)*

**Franck Darnod Nguimbi Mbenze, Congo, Civic Leadership  
Arizona State University**



Franck Nguimbi Mbenze is a lawyer with over seven years of experience in the fields of human rights, education, environment, women empowerment, and youth. He currently serves as the Public Relations and Communications National Secretary for the Young Congolese Leaders Association Network (RAJLC). In 2010, he implemented the First Human Rights and Documentation Centre in partnership with the US Embassy in Brazzaville, the Office of the Higher Commissioner of Human Rights (OHCHR), and the United Nations Information Center (UNIC). He received a master's degree in Business Law and Justice from the Higher School of Administration and Magistrature. Since receiving his degree in 2012, he has focused most of his work on youth leadership and engagement, education, and new technologies. Upon the completion of the Washington Fellowship program, Franck plans to work jointly with local and international NGO's on youth issues and provide legal services to youth led social business development initiatives.

**Chedi Festo Ngulu, Tanzania, Business & Entrepreneurship  
Dartmouth College**



Chedi Ngulu has a passion for communications, media, business development, and music. He is the founder of MegaMark Communications and has grown the company in four years to be a sought after leader in the industry. Chedi has led several major commercial and social marketing campaigns for companies, CSOs, government, and international organizations. He has organized concerts, seminars and conferences, and was the principal local organizer for the African First Ladies Summit 2013 in Dar es Salaam, sponsored by ExxonMobil and the Bush Foundation. After returning from the Washington Fellowship, he plans to implement a voter education and registration campaign to increase youth engagement in the upcoming 2015 general elections in the country.



**Paskaline Ngayozi Kue Ngunaihe, Namibia, Civic Leadership  
Rutgers University**

Paskaline Ngunaihe has over four years of experience working with NGOs. She is the co-founder of Her Liberty Namibia, an organization for women and young girls where she is involved in the implementation of daily activities, management of projects, and the facilitation of organizational interest. She is experienced in business communication, marketing, and media management. Paskaline holds a BT degree in Public Management. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to develop a toolkit for

other youth organizations in her country to ensure that her learning and experiences are documented and shared as much as possible.

**Muzi Sakhile Warren Ngwenya, Swaziland, Business and Entrepreneurship, Clark Atlanta University (*bio pending*)**



**Vilma de Carmen Nhambi, Mozambique, Business and Entrepreneurship University of Notre Dame**

Vilma de Carmen Nhambi began her career in community development as a women's advocate in 2009 with the Mozambican Association for Woman Empowerment (AMODEM). While working with AMODEM, she served as the Community Development Coordinator of Bio Óleos de Maxixe (BOM) and later became the Regional Sales Manager. She currently serves as an independent consultant providing workshops on small business management in marginalized areas of Mozambique with an aim to encourage and help women to develop businesses. Vilma was recently elected to serve as the President of Girls in Development: Education and Health (REDES), a program developed by Peace Corps in Mozambique. She is responsible for facilitating support groups for young girls that promote women's rights,

increase self-confidence, improve knowledge of sexual health, and develop income generating projects. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship program, she plans to expand her business by providing consultancy and training on the management of small businesses, conduct market research in the urban areas of Mozambique, and work in partnership with schools to provide workshops to encourage young people to pursue their dreams.



**Martine Nibasumba, Burundi, Public Management, Syracuse University**

Martine Nibasumba is the current Director of Planning and Research at the Burundi Revenue Authority with five years of experience in the field. She is part of the senior management team and has experience in corporate planning, reporting, and monitoring and evaluation. She is a member of the East African Revenue Authorities Technical Committee (EARATC) and the Country Correspondent for the African Tax Administration Forum (ATAF). Martine holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Management from Uganda Martyrs University and a master's degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance from the United States International University. She is convinced that the mobilization of domestic revenues is essential and remains a key component to achieve economic development and reduce dependency on external aid. Upon completion

of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to apply what she learned from the leadership training regarding transparency in revenue collection and is confident that there will be a positive impact.



**Samwel Mwangala Njagi, Kenya, Civic Leadership  
University of California – Berkeley**

Samwel Mwangala has over seven years of experience working in the community development sector. He currently serves as a volunteer President with the Of Kilifi County Youth Bunge Network, where he focuses on mobilizing Kilifi youth towards starting their own business, participating in key decision making processes, and implementing leadership and governance activities. He has also served as a coordinator for Vijana Pata Vitabulisho Chap! Chap! He holds a diploma in Community Development from Pwani University in Africa. Upon completion of the

Washington Fellowship, Samwel Mwangala plans to provide empowerment workshops for young people that promote production of alternative energy sources.



**Pauline Muthoni Njoroge, Kenya, Civic Leadership, Rutgers University**

Pauline Muthoni is a business and management professional and a social entrepreneur at heart. She passionately supports youth led startups and social and business enterprises that seek to create opportunities for the youth and that have potential for great social and economic impact in Kenya. She has ten years progressive work and professional experience in the corporate sector both in FMCG and the service sectors. Pauline holds degrees in Commerce and Business Administration, a diploma in Purchasing and Supplies Management, and professional certifications in General and Project Management. Participating in the Washington Fellowship will equip Pauline with vital tools, networks, and connections that will catapult her work to great heights. Upon returning home, she will take on more game changing social and business entrepreneurs and offer sustainable social and business solutions geared towards the achievement of the MDG's.



**Moses Nkomo, Zimbabwe, Business and Entrepreneurship, Yale University**

Moses Nkomo has over 12 years of experience as a registered practising attorney in Zimbabwe and over six years of experience as a consultant and lecturer of intellectual property law. Currently, he is the Senior Partner of Donsa-Nkomo & Mutangi Legal Practice, a commercial law firm with a special interest in intellectual property law. He is the founder of IPIQ Business Solutions (Private) Limited, a consultancy company which advises businesses on how to leverage intellectual property for sustainable competitive advantage.

Moses holds a Bachelor of Law honors degree, a master's degree in Intellectual Property, and soon to be conferred an executive master's degree in Business Administration. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to roll out a Pan-African training program on the business aspects of intellectual property.



**Linky Nkuna, South Africa, Civic Leadership, Rutgers University**

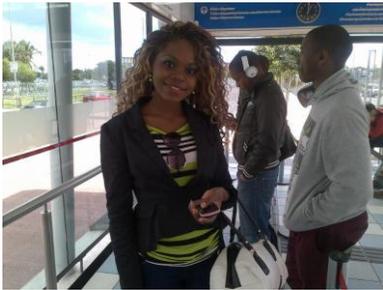
Linky Nkuna has over eight years of experience in various fields in the hospitality industry. Currently, she works in collaboration with the Good Work Foundation and serves as the Coordinator of the Madlala Digital Learning Centre. In this capacity, she facilitates English classes to youth and adult learners. She is also on the board of directors of Lex Deux Lapins, an organization based in San Francisco, USA. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Linky plans to return to her home in Justicia to continue her work in helping and empowering young people, with a specific emphasis on boys, to stand up against the abuse of women and children.



**Robert Nkwangu, Uganda, Public Management, Morgan State University**

Robert Nkwangu has seven years of experience working in issues related to children, youth, and people with disabilities (PWDs). Currently, he is working with the National Union of Disabled Persons of Uganda (NUDIPU) representing youth with disabilities, the Uganda Society for Disabled Children (USDC) and the Kampala Capital City Youth Council. His tasks are to ensure that youth with disabilities are given equal opportunities at all levels, both in government and in civil society. He also chairs the Finance Committee of the NUDIPU Board of Directors. He previously worked as a Job Support and Political Officer with Handicap International. Nkwangu has been deaf since the age of six and uses sign

language and interpreters to communicate but can do some lip reading. He finalized the research thesis for his master's degree in Social Sector Planning and Management from Makerere University, Kampala. Upon his return from the Washington Fellowship, he hopes to mobilize young people, especially the marginalized PWDs to raise their voice, advocate for inclusiveness, promote their Human Rights and form groups with unique initiatives so as to benefit from the many opportunities available to them.



**Ursula Axelle Nname Nguema, Gabon  
Business and Entrepreneurship, Clark Atlanta University**

Ursula Nguema has over four years of experience promoting podiatry in rural areas in South Africa. She is a bilingual (French/English) podiatrist with a specific interest in the effect of diabetes on feet and has educated African healthcare providers from ten different countries on this topic. She received her bachelor's degree in Podiatry from the University of Johannesburg and is currently studying for her master's degree in the same field. Her master's research project focuses on assessing the needs of opening a podiatric service in her home country of Gabon. Her goal is to

educate the Gabonese diabetic population about foot health in order to prevent lower limb amputations. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to start working with the Diabetic Association on foot education, training Gabonese healthcare providers on how to screen the diabetic foot, and ultimately open a proper diabetic center with all the necessary diabetes specialists in Gabon.



**Valere Tsasa Nsimba, Democratic Republic of Congo  
Public Management, University of Minnesota**

Valère Nsimba has over six years of experience protecting the public and the environment against ionizing radiations. He currently serves as the Deputy Chief of the Executive Bureau at the National Nuclear Regulatory Body where he has conducted several inspections of mining industries as well as nuclear and hospital sites. He also reports on the impact of radiation on humans and the environment. Valère holds a Bachelor of Science in Physics from the University of Kinshasa. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Valère plans to focus on leadership management in nuclear energy and technology, serve as councilor or government

advisor for strategic nuclear safety and security, and mentor youth to take new opportunities in science, technology, and innovation.



**Vanessa Nsona, Malawi, Business and Entrepreneurship, Dartmouth College**

Vanessa Nsona designs and hand makes bags, shoes, jewelry, and hair accessories. All of her products are uniquely created through Malawian fabrics and recycled materials such as old car tires, wasted leather, and dried seeds. She trains and employs underprivileged women to make accessories for her business. She is a member of Soroptmist International of Blantyre (SIB), a women's charity organization that aims at helping less advantaged women and children. Vanessa has partnered with Samaritan Trust to create a project called Luso to raise funds by creating and promoting Malawian fashion designs. Her key responsibilities are designing, quality control, marketing of afro-centric designs, and mentoring children in design. She holds a diploma in Business Management. After completing the Washington Fellowship, she plans to use the new knowledge and skills acquired to expand her social enterprise by setting up a manufacturing industry.



**Sibusisiwe Lynette Ntuli, South Africa, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Northwestern University**

Lynette Ntuli is the Founding Director and a chief executive for a South African property, asset and infrastructure development and solutions firm; Innate Investment Solutions. Lynette has previously held positions in various senior leadership roles in the auditing services sector, the commercial and retail property industry, and the trade and investment promotion arena. Her work in the private and public sector has centered around business development and growth activities and sustainability within the priority sector, including infrastructure development and planning. Passionate about youth education, skills development, and leadership, Lynette is a Founding Director and Chairman of IgniteSA.com,

a multimedia platform and skills based initiative with a focus on education, employment opportunity facilitation and entrepreneurship. The dynamic youth led movement and media platform aims to mobilize the youth and leadership in South Africa to network and debate collectively on the critical issues, share relevant information and network thought leaders in various sectors through its programs. A recipient of several South African press awards and an executive member of a number of industry organizations,, Lynette is also a World Economic Forum Global Shaper. Lynette is a nationally and internationally recognized professional speaker and delivers a wide variety of business, economic and socio economic presentations at national and international forums and events.

**Mbali Ntuli, South Africa, Public Management, University of Arkansas (Bio Pending)**



**Eric Ntumba, Democratic Republic of Congo, Public Management  
University of Arkansas**

Eric Ntumba has six years of experience working in banking and personally has an interest in regional integration efforts and politics. He currently serves as Relationship Manager with Citigroup in Kinshasa. Prior to working in banking, he received two years of training as a civil servant with exposure to both central and local government in France. He served as the President of North-West University Student Representative Council and took part in merger and incorporation negotiations launched by the South African Ministry of Education and aimed at bridging the gap between previously poor black universities and their white counterparts. For his contributions, he received the Alumni Award and the University Council Award from North-West University. Eric holds a bachelor's of science degree in IT

from NWU-SA and a master's degree in Public Administration from ENA-France.



**Armel Ntwari, Burundi, Business and Entrepreneurship, Clark Atlanta University**

Armel NTWARI has seven years of experience in the field of microfinance. He currently serves as the Managing Director of a microfinance institution called Development Interpeople Finance Operations (DIFO). He previously served as the Inspector in the Central Bank 's Banking and Microfinance Supervision unit. He has a master's degree in Banking Management from the CFPB in Paris. Armel is active in major project that DIFO has recently launched in the area of TEZA that encourages the promotion of other cultures and other income generating activities around the culture of tea. After he returns from the Washington Fellowship, he plans to use the new knowledge and skills acquired to help

implement the DIFO tea project and better serve the community impacted by it.



**Theresia Charles Numbi, Tanzania, Public Management  
Florida International University**

Theresia Charles Numbi is an expert on international trade, business, and investment law. She currently serves as Assistant Lecturer at Tumaini Dar Es Salaam College and Kampala International University where she is responsible for preparing student reading modules, teaching courses, serving as an academic advisor, conducting research, and counseling when needed. Theresia is the first General Secretary for the University of St Augustine of Tanzania (SAUT) student's Law Society, a human rights group under SAUT-Human Rights Centre and served as a volunteer to the Legal and Human Rights Centre, Tanzania Law

Reform Commission, and Attorney General Chambers of Tanzania. She has experience as a facilitator and researcher and is skilled in communications and organizational leadership, lobbying, advocacy, and marketing. She holds a master's degree in Trade, Business and Investment Law from Western Cape South Africa.



**Amaka Osarieme Nwaokolo, Nigeria, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Yale University**

Amaka Nwaokolo has five years of experience working in Nigeria's building and construction sector. She is the founder of Blue Tower House Services Int'l Ltd, a Nigerian affordable housing start-up with a vision to meet the high and rising demand for housing in Nigeria. She currently serves as the company's CEO and is responsible for instituting an organizational structure, culture, and process. The company is in its initial phase of implementing a 300 housing unit pilot in Nigeria's federal capital territory, Abuja. Amaka holds a Bachelor of Science in Mass Communications from Bowen University, Osun State in southwest Nigeria. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to finalize

the company's pilot and begin expansion across underserved cities in Nigeria.



**Pauline Wawira Nyaga, Kenya, Public Management  
Florida International University**

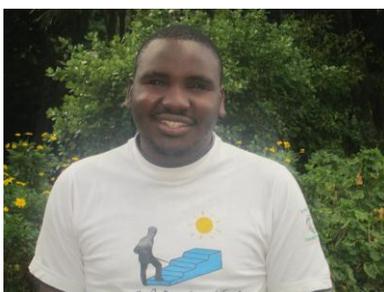
Pauline Wawira Nyaga is a seasoned Performance Auditor working at the Office of the Auditor General. She is pursuing a master's degree in Business Administration at the University of Nairobi and is also a student at Strathmore University taking a course titled "Association of Chartered Accountants," an accounting course offered by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW). As a Washington Fellow, Pauline will use the knowledge, skills, and networks attained to improve her public management skills and advocate for improved accountability in the use of public resources. She will also

champion for improved governance in public entities to ensure the community receives government services. In addition, she plans to share her knowledge and skills with her colleagues at the Office of the Auditor General and the public sector at large to enlighten them on the importance of good governance in the public sector.



**Marlon-Ralph Nyakabau, Zimbabwe, Civic Leadership, Wagner College**

Marlon-Ralph Nyakabau has five years of experience mentoring young people living with HIV/AIDS. He is a volunteer Program Coordinator with the Champions For Life program, a faith based psychosocial support and leadership development program for children, adolescents, and young adults living with HIV. In this capacity, he is responsible for fundraising, designing, and facilitating seminars that tackle psychosocial issues affecting young people with HIV in dynamic and creative ways. He is a medical doctor who holds MBChB degrees with the University of Zimbabwe allowing him to clinically support the young people he mentors. Upon returning from the Washington Fellowship, he aspires to be an avid social entrepreneur who will expand the reach and effectiveness of his seminars and employ networks to source medical equipment and resources to support a rural district hospital at which he will be working.



**Tafadzwa Nyamuzihwa, Zimbabwe, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Northwestern University**

Tafadzwa Nyamuzihwa is the founder and Director of Shine On International Trust, a humanitarian organization registered in 2012 and aimed at empowering the blind in Zimbabwe and across borders. His focus is on lobbying and working for disabled people in Zimbabwe, especially the blind community. As Director of Shine On, Tafadzwa has trained the blind on the unaided use of computers, disseminated HIV/AIDS information with an emphasis on how it particularly affects the disabled, and taught the blind life skills. He is committed to expanding the project to all ten provinces of Zimbabwe. After completing the Washington Fellowship, he plans to use the acquired knowledge and skills to enhance his managerial skills, help expand his network, and establish synergies with other organizations. He also plans to share the knowledge acquired with his staff and community through his speeches and appearances on radio and other events.



**Godfrey Joseph Nyombi, Tanzania, Public Management, Morgan State University**

Godfrey Joseph Nyombi works for the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania with six years working experience in southern Tanzania as Regional Health Secretary for Mtwara Region. His main responsibilities include providing support to seven local government authorities and the Regional Referral Hospital particularly in financing, planning, budget and reporting for health care delivery intervention. He serves as the Executive Secretary of the Association of Health Secretaries and Administrators of Tanzania and Chairperson of the Regional Human Resources for Health Steering Committee. Godfrey holds a master's degree of medical science in Health Informatics from Karolinska Institute in Sweden, focused on effective implementation of healthcare technologies in developing countries. Upon completion of Washington Fellowship, Godfrey plans to support his seven district councils and the Regional Referral Hospital in the effective management of human and financial resources for health performance and delivery through the use of technology as a means for effective utilization of the limited resources in the delivery of healthcare services.



**Fikiri Nzoyisenga, Burundi, Civic Leadership, University of Delaware**

Fikiri Nzoyisenga currently serves as the Innovation and Production Manager at Imagine Burundi, an organization that works to promote education, empowerment, innovation, and entrepreneurship with poor families in order for them to become economically independent and avoid gender-based violence. He is also the founder and Legal Representative for the Youth Coalition Against Gender-based Violence and volunteers for organizations such as the Half The Sky Movement and Girl Rising that work to empower vulnerable people worldwide. He was appointed as a Global Youth Ambassador of a World at School. Fikiri holds a bachelor's degree in Law from the University of Burundi. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to use his newly for youth-led and women-led organizations, so that they can have a positive influence in their communities.



**Oluwaseun Adedayo Oluwamayowa Obidipe, Nigeria, Business and Entrepreneurship University of Wisconsin-Stout**

Oluwaseun Obidipe has 14 years of experience working as a business developer in agriculture, real estate, oil and gas services, and business consulting. He is an entrepreneur and consultant who has been selected to serve as a business mentor by the Nigerian government and has supported the birth and growth of over 40 businesses across varying industries. Oluwaseun is also CEO of Ocean and Earth Limited, a for-profit enterprise focused on creating a significant transformation in deprived communities by applying innovative technologies to obtain the best use of abundant but wasting agricultural resources. Seun holds a bachelor's of science degree in Economics and an executive Master of Business Administration from the Lagos Business School. After completing the Washington Fellowship, Seun plans to generate massive economic opportunities for 1,000,000 people through the replication of a sustainable and scalable business, and

furthermore; through an enterprise development academy, to empower and support 1,000 entrepreneurs.



**Olusegun Gbenga Odunaiya, Nigeria, Business and Entrepreneurship Dartmouth College**

Olusegun Odunaiya has over six years of experience working in the renewable energy sector with a focus on solar energy systems. He currently serves as the founder and Operations Officer for Havenhill Synergy Limited where he oversees the implementation of End Blackout, a project that provides small micro off-grid solar systems with sustainable capacities in rural communities. He is also responsible for overseeing the organizations daily operation including energy management and audit, strategy and policy formulation for

the growth of the organization, and managing the various solar energy projects in and out of Abuja. He has a degree in Physics and Solar Energy from Bowen University, and is currently studying to receive a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from SMC University, Switzerland and an online advance PG diploma in Renewable Energy from Teri University, Delhi. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Olusegun plans to strengthen and enhance his renewable energy program in both rural and urban communities by providing centralized and decentralized small scale solar systems and creating a renewed effort in inspiring and encouraging young people through the "Secondary Schools Go-Green initiative."



**Oluwatoyosi Esther Ogunseye, Civic Leadership University of Virginia and the College of William and Mary**

Oluwatoyosi Ogunseye has over 10 years of experience working as an investigative journalist on topics such as politics, crime, business, health, and environment. She currently serves as the first female editor of Punch Newspaper, Nigeria's most widely read newspaper. She is responsible for ensuring that her staff of over 90 reporters, deliver at their optimum best in order to make the paper and its online platforms competitive and revenue-generating. Oluwatoyosi is an advocate for the empowerment of youth and gives self-development talks locally and internationally to young people. She is skilled in media, communications, and scientific research. She holds a BSc in Biochemistry from the University of Lagos, a Pgd in Print Journalism from the Nigerian Institute of Journalism, a MSc in Media and Communication from the Pan-Atlantic University, and is currently studying for a PhD in Politics and International Relations at the University of Leicester. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she hopes to use her platform to advocate

for effective leadership in the society.



**Nonso Peter Okafor, Nigeria, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Texas at Austin**

Nonso Okafor has over eight years of experience training young people in entrepreneurship skills with a goal to make them job-creators instead of job seekers and to decrease the unemployment rate in Nigeria. He is the founder of Operation Be Your Own Boss Initiative where he organizes workshops that have empowered over 57,000 youths. He is also the founder and President of Newbreed Youth Organization, an NGO that focuses on youth empowerment, leadership development, and community service. Nonso holds the 2009 Nigerian Youth Leadership Award of LEAP Africa/IYF in recognition of his measurable impact in the area of youth leadership and community service and also the 2010 Henry Dunant Gold Medal of the Nigerian Red Cross Society for his service to humanity. He is a 2012 alumnus of the Discovering Young Leaders Program (DYLP) of the Commonwealth Secretariat, Lusaka, Zambia. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Nonso plans to scale up his activities in the areas of promoting entrepreneurship and galvanizing youth for community service.



**Clara Ezioma Okorie, Nigeria, Public Management, University of Arkansas**

Clara Okorie has over 16 years of experience in the community development sector. She is an Ambassador to the United Nations and Main Representative of African Youths for Transparency International (AYFT /YTI), an NGO in special consultative status with ECOSOC of the United Nations since 2007. She is active in several roles and positions including being a member of the International Youth Council of the United Nations, serving as a Mara Mentor, and working as a certified gender analyst. In addition, Clara is the National PRO of the Quintessential Business Women Association and winner of the 2008 Nelson Mandela - Gracia Machel Innovation Award. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship Clara plans to expand her work with a focus on empowering women and youth in her country. She also intends to plan and execute sensitization workshops to stop violence against women.



**Ezenwa Eleazar Okoro, Nigeria, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Wisconsin-Stout**

Ezenwa Okoro has over eight years of experience in the community and youth development sector. Currently, he is the President of Enugu Youth Entrepreneurship Network (E-YEN), where he focuses on designing, initiating and implementing youth entrepreneurship development activities. He is also the CEO of Oxygen Resources Industrial Ventures and Vice Chairman of the Nigeria Association of Small Scale Industrialists (NASSI) Enugu State Chapter. He was appointed Consultant to the Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the Enugu State Governor on Youth Development and Mobilization. Ezenwa is an alumni of the Galilee International Management Institute Israel (GIMI) and Entrepreneurship Development Centre of the Pan Atlantic University (EDC-PAU). Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to establish the Youth Innovation and Productivity Cluster (YIPC), a Moringa Oleifera value chain development program that will help his country achieve the Millenium Development Goals.



**Belinda Okumu-Ringa, Uganda, Business & Entrepreneurship, Yale University**

Belinda Okumu-Ringa is a medical professional who is passionate to help transform the health sector in the world, starting with Uganda. She is currently part of the Medical Concierge Group (TMCG), a team that uses mobile technology and social media to provide free healthcare consultation services to the Ugandan people. Her responsibilities are broad but include running the social media, marketing and sales departments while also sharing responsibility in the operation of the business development department. Belinda volunteers with Uganda's National Regulatory Body for Pharmacists to develop training materials for pharmacists. She holds a Bachelors' degree in Pharmacy from Mbarara University of Science and Technology in Uganda and is currently taking a French language course at Alliance Française Kampala. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Belinda plans

to run a pioneering website that will offer the east African community quality preventative healthcare information for free and also be used as a tool for practical information such as region-wide hospital locations, contact information, and a customary health blog.



**Christiana Okyere, Ghana, Civic Leadership, Tulane University**

Christiana Okyere has four years of experience in the area of community development, leadership development, and corporate social responsibility. She is currently the Program Coordinator for the Databank Foundation where a major component of her work has focused on humanitarian outreaches to poor, vulnerable, and at risk children. Christiana holds a first class honors degree in English and Linguistics from the University of Ghana and is currently pursuing a Master of Arts in Conflict, Peace and Security with a focus on security for the vulnerable at the Kofi Annan International Peace Keeping Training Centre (KA IPTC). Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Christiana plans to work on empowering young people in deprived high schools in Ghana through educational seminars and mentoring programs. She also plans on working collaboratively with non-governmental organizations that focus on providing security for vulnerable people in the Ghanaian society

and in the world at large.



**Paul Victor Oloo, Kenya, Business & Entrepreneurship, Northwestern University**

Paul Oloo is a cinematographer and entrepreneur focused on producing Informative documentaries, short films, and corporate videos. He is the current CEO and founder of Chromatic Pictures Africa Limited, an independent film &TV production company. He has received training at Princeton University's Global Seminar in Kenya on the art of science storytelling and completed a master-class in cinematography given by One Fine Day Films. Paul is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Broadcast Journalism from the United States International University-Africa. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he seeks to use the knowledge and connections gained to further his entrepreneurial ventures into agribusiness by setting up village entrepreneurship centers that will offer both film and agribusiness training.



**Andrew Akelo Omogo, Kenya, Business & Entrepreneurship, Northwestern University**

Andrew Omogo is an up and coming filmmaker and journalist interested in all areas of communication. He is known for his work on the documentary series titled Africa's Global Image, where he advocated for a change in global perception towards sub Saharan Africa. He is owner of Olives Media, which is currently involved with Impact Kenya for Youth Empowerment, a TV/radio program looking at the effectiveness of the current constitution on youth political representation in Kenya. Andrew developed his interest in media through screenwriting and the desire to contribute to accountability in political leadership. He is currently studying Journalism and International Relations at the United States International University in Nairobi, Kenya. His ultimate dream is to successfully own and sustain an established media franchise and contribute to major political reforms in Kenya.



**Ehiaghe Rita Omovbude, Nigeria, Civic Leadership, Tulane University**

Ehiaghe Rita Omovbude has over ten years experience working on community and youth development projects. Besides her full-time job as a Senior Copywriter with Yellow Brick Road - an advertising agency based in Nigeria, she is the Founder and Lead Visionary of Street Project Foundation, a social enterprise, which she runs part-time using performing arts as a tool for educating and empowering young people. She is responsible for conceptualizing and implementing unique and relevant initiatives aimed at providing less fortunate youth with access to a sustainable livelihood. Ehiaghe holds a bachelor's degree in Creative Arts and a master's degree in Media and Communications from Pan Atlantic University with a research focus on Cause Marketing. She is a 2013 recipient of Make a Difference Award for her contributions in community development and a Honouree of The Future Awards in Community Action. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Rita plans to facilitate the creation of the largest online talent community in Africa – a pool from which gifted less privileged youth in society can be discovered, trained and mentored to take on the world.



**Catherine Oluwakemi Onabanjo, Nigeria, Public Management  
University of Minnesota**

Catherine Onabanjo is currently a Consultant for McKinsey & Company's Lagos office where she serves public sector, social sector, and corporate clients across West Africa on their growth, strategy and transformation programs. In addition to her client work, she is a member of the Board of Trustees for Helping Other People Excel (HOPE), an NGO whose theory of change is that developing leadership skills in Nigeria's teenagers today will cultivate change agents who will drive social change in the country. Kemi holds a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science from Covenant University and continues to closely engage with the university as Welfare Secretary and Community Outreach Coordinator of the Covenant University Alumni Association. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Kemi plans to focus on capability building and development of her public sector clients, as she believes that the enhanced capability of public sector employees is a critical enabler to unleash Nigeria's great potentials.



**Joan Amina Oshiokepkhai, Nigeria, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Northwestern University**

Joan Oshiokepkhai has over five years of experience as an entrepreneur with a strong passion in the cakes and sugarcraft industry. She is the founder of Abuja Cakes and Sugarcraft Society, a group of women who converge monthly to share ideas and inspiration that fosters growth in business. She holds a higher national diploma and is currently a law student at the University of London International. Upon her return from the Washington Fellowship, Joan plans to use her experience as a model to inspire, educate, and empower budding entrepreneurs in her field. She also hopes to work with other Fellows to create a platform that peacefully implores the Nigerian government to create strategic skill acquisition institutes in different regions of the country that will cater to specific entrepreneurial trainings.



**Dongui Zana Yacouba Ouattara, Cote d'Ivoire, Civic Leadership  
University of California-Berkeley**

Dongui Zana Ouattara has over six years of experience working in the field of community development. Currently, he is an EFL teacher and the co-director and lecturer of a non-violence league in the central part of the Ivory Coast. He arranges and performs campaigns of sensitization in secondary schools and neighboring war-stricken towns. Donqui previously led many youth leagues promoting literacy and development in his hometown. He holds a higher national diploma in Transports and Logistics and a master's degree in English Linguistics from the University of Abidjan Cocody. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Donqui plans to continue promoting non-violence nationwide and work on the creation of a Professional Training Center to help abandoned and orphaned children in his home region.



**Jacob Otieno Ouma, Kenya, Civic Leadership  
University of Virginia and the College of William & Mary**

Jacob Ouma, commonly known as 'Jobby,' is a businessman, peace ambassador, human rights and environmental campaigner, and politician. He owns and runs Admedia Communications Limited, a leading communication and marketing company that directly employs over 50 youth and has a diverse clientele spanning across government, private sector, pharmaceuticals, and NGOs. Jacob was the runner up in a campaign for the Member of National Assembly for Lang'ata Constituency in the 2013 general elections. He holds a bachelor's degree in Public

Health and Nursing from Kenyatta University. On his return from the Washington Fellowship, he hopes to create the Jobby Foundation, an organization that will empower 20,000 youth in nurturing their business ideas and providing them with employment. He also hopes to expand Admedia Communications Limited to other countries in Africa.



**Isaiah Oluwatobi Owolabi, Nigeria, Civic Leadership, Wagner College**

Isaiah Owolabi has over six years of experience implementing development initiatives aimed at combating HIV/AIDS, malaria, and environmental degradation and incorporating business models for such interventions. He is the co-founder and Project Director of HACEY's Health Initiative, an NGO that supports and empowers vulnerable children, women, and young people in Africa to live a healthy and productive life. He is also the co-founder and Executive Chair of the International Youth Alliance on Family Planning (IYAFF). Isaiah is the author of the book HIV/AIDS - The future of the infected and affected, a contributing author to the Girls

Sexual Health Promotion training manual, and the co-author for the Sanitation and Hygiene training manual for school children. Isaiah holds a Bachelor of Science in Human Physiology. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to use the knowledge and experience acquired to strengthen the advocacy and program management skills of youth-led organizations in Nigeria that are championing initiatives that can help vulnerable people live a healthy and productive life.



**Mohammad Zuhyr Panchoo, Mauritius, Civic Leadership, Tulane University**

Zuhayr Panchoo currently works in project management, fundraising and public relations. He has over six years of experience working and engaging with communities on different civic issues such as poverty, human rights, disabilities, and youth leadership. He completed his studies in the subjects of Finance and Law and is a previous Yes You Can participant, a program sponsored by the US Embassy in Mauritius. Upon completion of his Washington Fellowship, Zuhayr will continue his work with several non-profits promoting civic issues with an emphasis on inspiring youth to be more active and engaged in shaping the future of Mauritius.



**Tinotenda Pasi, Zimbabwe, Civic Leadership, Arizona State University**

Tinotenda Pasi is an Economist with five years of experience in research, analysis and reporting in the development sector in Zimbabwe. She is currently working as a Fundraiser for PaNhari, which is a youth empowerment organization that seeks to prepare university students for the workplace and equip them with entrepreneurial skills to start their own initiatives. Prior to this, she worked in the field of gender economics for a women's organization - Zimbabwe Women's Resource Centre & Network (ZWRCN) as an Economist, specializing in gender responsive budget and policy analysis. She holds an Honors degree in Economics from the University of Zimbabwe and has a keen interest in working in the fields of gender based violence and provision of education for children & youths from disadvantaged communities. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to roll out a pilot project in Chitungwiza focusing on providing skills training for survivors of gender based violence, as well as scholarship opportunities and educational materials for gifted children who come from disadvantaged backgrounds.

**Edmar Paulo Badilé Nhaga, Guinea-Bissau, Civic Leadership  
University of Virginia and the College of William & Mary (bio pending)**



**Linda Simon Paulo, Tanzania, Civic Leadership, Wagner College**

Linda Simon has three years of experience working in the field of health care. She has extensive experience serving as a volunteer including with Family Health International as a youth group advisor on a Tanzania youth HIV prevention project in Dar es Salaam and with the Simple Hope Organization to coordinate a medical exchange program between Sheboygan Surgical Centre and health centers in Arusha town. She currently works as an Intern Doctor at Selian Lutheran Hospital in Arusha. Linda was a student at Emusoi Centre for Pastoralists' Girls where she learned more about the educational needs of her community, especially women. She holds a bachelor's degree in Medicine from Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences in Dar Es Salaam. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Linda plans to work on projects that support early childhood development and community education in Enduimet ward at Longido District in Tanzania.



**Tatiana Alves Pereira, Mozambique  
Business and Entrepreneurship, Northwestern University**

Tatiana has 10 years of experience, working in business management, human resource management, and organizational development. She is co-founder and partner of IdeiaLab, a consultancy company created in Mozambique in 2010 and focused on the development of start-ups and the promotion of entrepreneurship and innovation. IdeiaLab has been actively promoting initiatives to foster youth and women entrepreneurship through trainings, mentoring, coaching, and businessidea competitions. Tatiana holds a master's degree in Business from Australia's Curtin University and a honors degree in and Human Resources Management from ISCTE in Portugal. On her return from the Washington Fellowship program, shes hopes to expand her IdeiaLab activities to reach more entrepreneurs and be a partner of excellence in entrepreneurship and innovation contributing to Mozambique's social and economic growth.



**Charmaine Picardo, Zimbabwe, Civic Leadership, Rutgers University**

Charmaine Picardo has over three years of experience working in HIV and AIDS activism, sexual and reproductive health and rights advocacy (SRHR), and over four years of experience in media and information dissemination with skills in project management and coordination, public speaking, and journalism. She is the SRHR Ambassador for young people in Zimbabwe and is responsible for implementing projects for young women living on the streets of Harare, Zimbabwe and has produced a documentary highlighting and sharing their experiences. She is Zimbabwe's elected country representative for the Southern Africa's Young Women's Network (SAYWNet). Charmaine is currently studying to receive her Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology from the University of Zimbabwe. After completing the Washington Fellowship, she plans to complete her SRHR project working with young women living on the streets, source free sanitary wear distribution in marginalized communities, and establish a young people's think tank.



**Hashim Salum Juma Pondeza, Tanzania, Civic Leadership  
University of California – Berkeley**

Hashim Pondeza is a Zanzibari scholar with a regional focus on sub-Saharan African countries, with specific expertise in the politics of Zanzibar and Tanzania. He has previously worked with Save the Children International as a Child Labor Technical Advisor to the Child Labor Unit of the Zanzibar's Ministry of Labor, Economic Empowerment and Cooperatives. He has also taught child protection courses at the Zanzibar University and previously worked as a Senior Research Officer for the Zanzibar Institute for Research and Public Policy. Currently Hashim is an Advisor for ILPI in Zanzibar, working across Tanzania with local governments, CSOs and other international development partners on efforts to strengthen democracy and good governance in Tanzania. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Public Administration with a focus in International Relations from the University

of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania and a Master of Public Administration. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Hashim plans to empower Zanzibar youth on matters related to good governance, democracy, life skills, social and economic entrepreneurship, and access to social services.



**Candice Potgieter, South Africa, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Notre Dame**

Candice Potgieter is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the KZN Science Centre and is passionate about improving the quality of education in KwaZulu Natal, South Africa. In her role as CEO, she has been responsible for increasing the KZN Science Centre's visitor base from 40,000 to 100,000 each year, of which over seventy percent of all visitors are sponsored and from previously disadvantaged backgrounds. She has extensive experience in scientific research, business development, financial management, marketing, communication, government relations, and fundraising

activities. Academically, she holds a postgraduate degree in Applied Physics and Applied Mathematics from the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal and was a student of the National Astrophysics and Space Science program at the University of Cape Town. Upon her return from the Washington Fellowship, Candice hopes to use her acquired knowledge to uplift the communities around her using social entrepreneurship through education.



**Afua Serwah Akoto Prempeh, Ghana, Public Management  
Florida International University**

Afua Serwah Akoto Prempeh is an environmentalist who has worked in the field of environmental management and rural development for over three years. She currently serves as a Program Officer at the Western Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Ghana. As part of her work, she strives to build a structured and close collaboration between state institutions and local communities to ensure national sustainable growth. Afua is a Commonwealth Scholar who holds a certificate in Policies, Strategies and Support Systems for Rural Revitalization from the Weitz Centre for Development Studies in Israel, a Bachelor of Science in Natural Resources Management from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), and a Master of Science in Environmental Policy and Management from the University of Gloucestershire. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship, she plans to start an environmental movement which will focus on encouraging people to adopt green lifestyle choices and to share lessons

learned and apply them in her work as a public officer.



**Ulrichia Francelle Rabefitiavana, Madagascar, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Northwestern University**

Ulrichia Rabefitiavana has five years of experience serving as the Health compliance Coordinator of the Corporate Social Responsibility department at Ambatovy, a mining company in Africa based in Madagascar. Her responsibilities include initiating, developing, and supporting the implementation of an effective health program between the company and all stakeholders. She has developed and coordinated an expansive HIV AIDS prevention program to more than 5,000 employees and youth in several communities, and supported Ambatovy's social investment project in urban waste management. She believes strongly in corporate social responsibility and the role of the private sector in the socio-economic development of Madagascar. She holds a master's degree in Management and is pursuing

another master's degree in Sustainable Development Engineering. Upon returning from the Washington Fellowship, she plans to promote social change by motivating and educating young people through social media and workshops focused on civic leadership.



**Hetiarivony Hasinandrasana Zo Mamisoa Rabetsimamanga Ep. Rafenomanantsoa  
Madagascar, Business and Entrepreneurship, Yale University**

Hetiarivony Rabetsimamanga serves as the National Business Development Specialist at the PROSPERER Program, which is focused on providing rural entrepreneurs and young people with entrepreneurial skills. Her role is to mentor several Business Development Officers in the poorest regions of Madagascar so that they can directly provide mentorship and support to their local communities. She also assists her church with rural development projects that are focused on providing training in areas such as agriculture skills, marketing, and the production of handicrafts. Hetiarivony created the Global Youth Innovation Network Madagascar chapter, which brings young people together to focus on innovation, entrepreneurship, and agribusiness. She has a diploma in Marketing and Strategy and a master's degree in Management from INSCAE, a private university in Madagascar. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship, she plans to extend her work into other villages and manage a social enterprise focused in rural development.



**Tsanta Gaelle Ramamonjisoa, Madagascar, Civic Leadership, Rutgers University**

Tsanta Ramamonjisoa has devoted the past five years of her life to volunteering and helping in multiple areas including translation, English teaching, childcare, and community-based work. She contributed to the empowerment of children from impoverished families in a program called “Girls Leading Our World,” initiated by Peace Corps volunteers. She is currently the President of Saint Michel Alumni English Club, one of the leading private high schools in Madagascar, and an intern at the EducationUSA Center. Tsanta has volunteered with several other organizations including Share Life, which is a group of theatre artists from Broadway that empowers street children through drama, and Operation Smile South Africa during which she assisted the medical records leader with patients’ records. She is currently studying to earn a bachelor’s degree in Culture, Communication and Languages Applied to Tourism from the University of Antananarivo. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship, she plans to create an NGO aimed at giving neglected children the chance to travel for free so they have the opportunity to be inspired and hope for a brilliant future.



**Andry Tiana Ravalomanda, Madagascar, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Yale University**

Andry Tiana Ravalomanda has been working in the telecommunication and IT sector for eight years. He currently manages his family’s company and serves as a subcontractor for telecommunication operators by providing full turnkey IT solutions to customers. He is a board member of GOTICOM, a professional association regrouping 84 local companies working in IT. He is interested in helping local entrepreneurs develop their business, especially in call center and business process outsourcing sectors. He has a degree in Electronic and Computer Engineering. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Andry will work on helping his peers set up a Computer Engineering school in Antananarivo, create a technological center, and regroup small IT companies in order for them to work as a cluster. He believes that the IT sector can positively influence the development of Madagascar.



**Ketty Valerie Ruhara, Burundi, Public Management, University of Minnesota**

Ketty Valerie Ruhara is a firm believer that African economies will only prosper by creating strong synergy between government and the private sector. She believes that there is need to move from the donor-model to a private sector–led economic driver. Ketty is passionate about seeing the transformation of the African continent into a responsible and respected member of the global economy. In light of her desire to develop and empower leaders, she currently serves as the Deputy Director of Operations for the International Leadership Foundation. She has professional experience in the field of marketing and a master’s degree in Organizational Leadership. After returning from the Washington Fellowship, she plans to help the people and institutions of Burundi be better able to turn their resources into wealth and prosperity with significant improvement of quality of life.



**Kadidja Mohamed Sanalasse, Djibouti, Civic Leadership, Rutgers University**

Kadidja Mohamed Sanalasse currently works with the Djiboutian Social Development Agency on a social safety net project where she trains poor populations in income generating activities and public works to reduce poverty and build self-sufficiency. She has a master’s degree in Communication and experience with monitoring and evaluation software. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Kadidja plans to work on social communication in the remote areas of Djibouti, especially in northern localities where poverty persists by sensitizing and mobilizing the community for behavioral change.



**Anselme Simeon Sanou, Burkina Faso, Public Management  
Morgan State University**

Anselme Siméon Sanou has over five years of experience in the health sector in Burkina Faso. He works at Centre MURAZ Research Institute as a clinical epidemiologist in the PROMISE Saving Brains project and is responsible for the overall coordination and implementation of the project in the field. He is the national focal point person for Burkina Faso and on the international Board of World Young Doctor's Organization. Trained as a physician in Burkina Faso, he completed his master's in Epidemiology at the University of Bordeaux and has taken a number of additional courses in clinical research, infectious disease, and maternal and child health. In the fall, he will begin a PhD in Norway. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Anselme plans to develop and expand his professional experience in child health and development while creating partnerships to strengthen the public health system in Burkina Faso.



**Carla Santos de Carvalho, Cape Verde, Public Management, University of Arkansas**

Carla Santos de Carvalho has over five years of experience in the public management sector. She currently serves as the President of the Board of the School of Business and Governance at the University of Cape Verde (UniCV). She is a lecturer and researcher specializing in gender and development issues. Carla has published academic articles on the status of women located in the rural areas of the island of Santiago. She has a master's degree in Sociology and is a Ph.D. candidate in Development Studies. After completion of the Washington Fellowship program, she plans on introducing gender based curriculum into courses related to business and governance at her university.



**Mohamed Ally Sauko, Tanzania, Public Management, University of Minnesota**

Mohamed Sauko has five years of experience working in the field of engineering. He currently works with Tanzania Airports Authority (TAA) as a Senior Engineer (Electrical and Electro- Mechanical) where his responsibilities include supervising projects to ensure that applicable standards and regulations are implemented and projects are executed, overseeing the maintenance of airports facilities, preparing strategic plans for projects, and providing advice on major rehabilitation works whenever foreseen. Mohamed holds a bachelor's degree in Laws from the Open University of Tanzania (OUT), a bachelor's of science degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM)-United Republic of Tanzania, and is currently studying for his master's degree in Engineering Management from the same university. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Mohamed plans to train staff in management skills to help increase performance and transparency in the working place.



**Agiechie Comfort Sawyer, Liberia, Public Management, Syracuse University**

Agiechie Sawyer has over seven years of experience working with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. She is a Research Analyst with the division of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), where she focuses on growing and empowering Liberia's small businesses by providing research and analytical support for addressing problems that affect them. Agiechie is a founding partner of Enterprise Development Consultancy (EDC), a firm that provides business development services where she assumes the role of an administrator. She is a candidate for master of public health in Community Health from the Cuttington University Graduate School in Liberia. She plans to integrate knowledge learned from the Washington Fellowship into her work and also organize mentorship programs for young people.



**Dzedzorm Kwaku Segbefia, Ghana, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Dartmouth College**

Dzedzorm 'JayJay' Segbefia is General Partner of BraveHearts Expeditions and works as Expedition Leader on the firm's experiential learning adventure activities. His company won this past year's StartUp Cup Ghana Business Model Competition, from which he was personally acclaimed and honored with the Ghana Angel Investor Network's coveted Most Promising Entrepreneur 2013 Award. He led his firm to place 2nd in the first World StartUp Cup Competition hosted in Armenia in January, and compensated four months later with winning the Enablis Business Launchpad Competition. Although his academic backgrounds are in communication studies and journalism, he has over a decade's experience in extensive adventure leadership having conducted a total of 387 jungle, mountain, white water, and wilderness experiential learning expeditions across Africa. Before founding BraveHearts Expeditions, he honed his skills as a Public Relations Officer of a graduate university and briefly as Junior Communications Advisor to the African Cashew Initiative (ACI) of GIZ, Germany's leading provider of international cooperation. JayJay plans to apply the Business and Entrepreneurship education experience from the Washington Fellowship to expanding the revenue streams of his young firm with commercial Rappelling Sports and Corporate Expedition services that will create more economic opportunity and jobs for Ghana's teeming unemployed young people.



**Gorata Bessie Selelo, Botswana, Public Management, Morgan State University**

Gorata Selelo has three years of experience researching theoretical economic concepts and contemporary development issues. She currently serves as an Associate Researcher with the Botswana Institute for Development Policy Analysis (BIDPA) where she reviews, researches, and informs new policies, monitors project budgets, and presents research findings to stakeholders. She is a 2011 UNICEF-UB graduate research grant recipient, and her areas of interest include health economics, efficiency analysis, and business enterprise development. Gorata holds a Master of Arts degree in Economics from the University of Botswana where she focused on efficiency in health care. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship program, Gorata intends to create an empowerment program that includes workshops and seminars for high school students in and around Gaborone, Botswana. The focus will be on mentoring and changing negative perceptions towards working in public management institutes.



**Suzanne Muindi Semenye, Kenya, Business & Entrepreneurship  
University of Wisconsin – Stout**

Suzanne Semenye is the co-founder and current Director of The Grass Company, an Insights and Consumer Collaboration Agency that works and pays a network of over 200 young people nationwide called Grasses to share relevant insights on brands. She has worked with various local and global clients to provide market insights, brand strategies, ideas, concepts and solutions that target youth. She has conceptualized and founded an online forum on social media for moms dubbed For Babies by Mums (with over 4,000 members) that educates moms on crucial aspects of child rearing with bias to pediatric nutrition. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Suzanne intends to create an enterprise curriculum and a business incubation center for young women. She also intends to scale up information dissemination for women and girls on health and well-being.



**Doue Harnold Jordan Sera, Cote D'Ivoire, Civic Leadership, University of Delaware**

Doue Jordan Sera has over three years of experience working as a youth activist focusing on youth participation and education issues. He currently serves as the Coordinator of Association Tous Unis and is an online UN Volunteer and Youth Development Advocate at the Associated School Project Network University of UNESCO in Abidjan. Doue works to promote youth participation in the decision-making process at local, regional, and international levels and also encourages the engagement of youth in the United Nations system. He holds a Master of Arts degree in English Studies, a professional master's degree in Public Health, and is pursuing another master's degree in Communication at the University Felix Houphouet-Boigny of Cocody, Abidjan. Upon completion of the Washington fellowship, Doue plans to work on youth empowerment workshops to build the capacity of young individuals and youth-led organizations to be actors of social change through education, citizen participation, and community service.



**Raynatou Seyni Baro, Niger, Civic Leadership, Tulane University**

Raynatou Baro currently serves as a Financial Auditor with KMC, an auditing and consulting firm. She is responsible for auditing development projects, financial statements, and internal procedures. Her job requires her to verify accounts and to ensure the adherence of policies and procedures. Raynatou founded the Ladies Hub, an internal structure dedicated to women in her firm. She previously served as Administrator of Customer Relationship Management Software at Amundi Asset Management in Paris. After completing the Washington Fellowship, she plans to promote and advocate for women development in Niger.



**Amy-Louise Margaret Shelver, South Africa, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Dartmouth College**

Amy Shelver is a multi-media and socio-economic development specialist active in the areas of media, development, arts, and culture. She is a Public Relations (PR) and Communications consultant heading Meropa Communications' Nelson Mandela Bay office, a national PR company. She has been active in motivating youth to take ownership of city spaces. Her academic research is focused on creative economy; maximizing less tangible capitals and ensuring community and city development emerges through public participation-activation. She is the co-founder of the n\_mb city project/ Numb City Productions, a youth social entrepreneurship initiative. Amy has a master's in Development studies and degrees in TV Journalism, Anthropology and Psychology. She is also an aspiring writer and filmmaker. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship, Amy plans to continue exploring opportunities for creative and competitive city development, to generate historical films exploring pre-Apartheid South African history, and possibly enter the diplomatic corp.



**Beata Mandy Shemuvalula, Namibia, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Texas-Austin**

Mandy Shemuvalula has over two years experience working with international companies in marketing. She is currently the founder and CEO of Gloca Inc., an organization with a mission to reinvent product distribution in Africa as a customer experience, as a business, and ultimately as an industry. Beata enjoys working with children and as a result launched The M'ché Trust (TMT), a philanthropic foundation helping to develop the next generation of children in Namibia and eventually the rest of Africa through mind sub-consciousness, wellness, and asset matchmaking. Mandy holds an honors degree in Business and

Commerce from Monash University in Malaysia, where she focused on International Marketing for Malaysian consumers. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to capitalize on new collaborations and thinking to further democratize global access for African consumers through Gloca, and continue with TMT to find innovative ways for community organization and development for children in Namibia and beyond.



**Ntuthuko Shezi, South Africa, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Notre Dame**

Ntuthuko Shezi has over eight years experience in the venture capital and start-up environment. He is the founder of Scratch Mobile, the only auto body repair, auto glass and tire replacement facility in the world located completely within an airport at Johannesburg's OR Tambo International Airport. He also operates a laundry, shoe repair and dry cleaning business, Airport Dry Clean, also located at the same airport. These businesses provide convenience to both travelers and airport staff. His secret passion is in growing a modernized arcade video game business across the continent

where computers are scarce and game consoles are too expensive. Shezi previously held a management position at a global management consulting company, Accenture where he consulted to clients in the Resources and Energy sectors. He is an Electro-Mechanical Engineer by qualification from the University of Cape Town. Shezi was a Clinton Democracy Fellow in 2005 and in 2013 was selected as one of the Mail and Guardian 200 Young South Africans.



**Eric Kweyu Shiunzi, Kenya, Business & Entrepreneurship  
University of Notre Dame**

Eric Kweyu is a Software Engineer working with Equity Bank Group. He is the head of Channel Systems and responsible for all alternative delivery channels such as ATMs, mobile, and point of sales that serve over eight million people across five East African countries. He is a certified Oracle professional with key skills in data analytics. Eric also plays a key role in the secure distribution of government funds to orphan and vulnerable children across the country. As a Washington Fellow, Eric seeks to learn from other Washington fellows in areas of civic and public management. Upon

returning home to Kenya, he hopes to use the knowledge and connections obtained to build momentum that will address the problem of financial inclusion in Kenya and across the African continent. He also intends to setup a technology hub for youth, especially those living in marginalized areas.



**Fransina Kondjashili Shivute, Namibia, Public Management, Howard University**

Fransina Shivute has nine years of experience teaching and has been active as a volunteer and coach, involved in science fair and science projects, served in leadership positions as the head of the Natural Science department and chairperson of the girls' soccer team. Fransina has a bachelor's degree in Education from the University of Namibia and is studying for her master's degree in Environmental Science and Management from the University of London. After completing the Washington Fellowship, she plans to empower senior learners and unemployed youth by providing after school projects to upgrade their grades and to mentor and coach them on career and employment opportunities. She also hopes to encourage her colleagues that serve in leadership positions to provide continuous professional development to teachers.



**Saidat Abiodun Shonoki, Nigeria, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Wisconsin-Stout**

Saidat Shonoiki has over eight years of experience working directly with fish farmers in the manufacturing of high yielding affordable feeds. She currently serves as the Chief Operating Officer for De Ideal Agro Allies Service Ltd-A Feed Manufacturing Company based in Abuja, Nigeria. She has provided a substitute to imported floating fish brand in order to reduce feed cost. She provides business training to women and founded a business consulting and Islamic finance house called I green consult solutions. She is also an executive member the Abuja Chapter of the Neca Network of Entrepreneur Women (NNEW). Saidat holds a bachelor's degree in Agriculture from the University of Ilorin, Nigeria. After completing the Washington Fellowship, she plans to create an agribusiness entrepreneurship class for youth studying agriculture in higher education institutions.



**Amina Sidibe, Mali, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Notre Dame**

Amina Sidibe has over 10 years of professional experience in various fields and projects including logistics, shipping, sales and marketing, and management. Amina currently serves as a Procurement, Logistics and Sub-Contracts Officer for an OTI project implemented by AECOM International Development in Mali. She is in charge of managing procurement, logistics, contracts, and training and mentoring staff. Amina is passionate about farming and owns and runs a small poultry and agriculture farm where she employs about 10 people,

supplies about 20 medium retailers, and her plan is to grow and modernize the business. Amina has completed a two years Leadership and Business Management program called "LEADEM" in Cape Town, South Africa, holds a bachelor's degree in Economics and Management, and a degree in Information System. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Amina plans to use the knowledge gained to promote and encourage business start-ups among youth in Mali through mentoring, workshops, trainings, and networking.



**Amadou Moctar Sidibe, Senegal, Civic Leadership, Arizona State  
University**

Amadou Moctar is an engineer specializing in road construction and sanitation. He is the founder and President of a community based organization called People Initiative and Impact on Society (PIIS) that aims to empower youth and the civil society community with leadership skills. He currently serves as the National Coordinator of the African Youth Initiative on Climate Change. In addition, Amadou mentors youth on project management, leadership, communication, and social issues. Upon completion of the Washington

Fellowship, he plans to establish an empowerment center for domestic workers that will focus on providing training and also protect them from violence, injury, or exploitation in their workplace. The center will also serve as a hub for information and documentation on human rights, sexual and reproductive health, family planning, and other important resources for youth and women.



**Aminazahra Sigat, Kenya, Business & Entrepreneurship  
University of Wisconsin – Stout**

Aminazahra Sigat has five years of experience in the field of procurement and logistics. She currently serves as the Procurement and Logistic Assistant with the Transition Initiatives for Stabilization (TIS), a project through the International Organization for Migration, which is a quick-impact, results-driven program promoting peace and stability in Somalia. Aminazahra is responsible for all procurement requests including sourcing quotation from potential suppliers/vendors, recommending the right supplier, issuing purchase orders, and arranging field travel to all regions. She received her Bachelor of Commerce in Procurement, Logistics and Supply Chain Management from the University of Nairobi. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship, Aminazahra plans to establish a grassroots level enterprise program for women and youth concentrating on microfinance.



**Tibuyile Joy Sigudla, Swaziland, Public Management, Morgan State University**

Tibuyile has worked for the Ministry of Health as a Pharmaceutical Procurement Supply Chain Pharmacist for the past six years. Her overall responsibility is to support the Swaziland Government to strengthen the procurement and supply chain management of HIV/AIDS related commodities, with the ultimate objective of enabling a better quality ARV treatment to people living with HIV and AIDS. She sits in numerous technical working groups advising the Ministry of Health on pharmacy issues related to regulation, optimizing drug therapy, health program development and implementation, procurement and supply chain management, medication information and safety, budgeting, and monitoring and evaluation. She holds a Bachelor of Pharmacy, a qualification in Procurement and Supply Chain, and is currently studying towards a master's degree in Pharmacoeconomics and Health Economics. Upon her return from the Washington Fellowship, she looks forward to designing and implementing strategies that will improve the supply chain holistically.



**Jestina Simba, Sierra Leone, Civic Leadership, Wagner College**

Jestina Simba has over three years of experience serving as the Administration and Logistics Officer for Restless Development Sierra Leone. She is responsible for procuring, organizing, coordinating, and supporting trainings and events. She also has experience serving as a volunteer peer educator working in remote communities for her organization. Jestina has a bachelor's of science degree in honors Sociology from Njala University Sierra Leone. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she hopes to conduct trainings and workshops focused on raising awareness on teenage pregnancies and girl's education in Sierra Leone.



**Jean Paul Simbashira, Burundi, Civic Leadership, Rutgers University**

Jean Paul Simbashira has over ten years of experience in the fight against HIV/AIDS and the promotion of sexual and reproductive health among young people. He currently serves as the Coordinator of the National Youth Network where he coordinates activities throughout Burundi. He was trained as a lawyer at the Light University of Bujumbura. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Jean Paul plans to implement a mentorship program for community stakeholders including local councils, religious groups, and civil society that will promote sustainable projects.



**Brice Steve Sime, Cameroon, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Clark Atlanta University**

Brice Sime has over seven years of experience in business development and commercial banking. He is currently the Deputy Manager of the main branch of Afriland First Bank. He is responsible for ensuring that the bank achieves its growth and profitability objectives and does so by designing the strategy, managing staff, and monitoring the branch results. Sime previously worked in business development for five years and led several projects to create new products and to improve service quality and efficiency. He holds a degree in Industrial Engineering from Ecole Nationale Supérieure Polytechnique, Yaoundé. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to help tackle the housing shortage in the cities of Yaoundé and Douala.



**Mshila Mwakai Sio, Kenya, Business & Entrepreneurship  
Dartmouth College**

Mshila Sio has over three years of experience in the water resource management sector. He is the founder and Director of Agua Inc. Kenya, an innovative water purification and wastewater treatment company dedicated to providing sustainable solutions throughout the continent. His approach advocates that the unique challenges Africa faces offer the required impetus to create pioneering solutions that can then be offered to the rest of the world. As a result, Mshila has formed strategic partnerships with the Climate Innovation Center, a Worldbank-InfoDev initiative working with innovations that mitigate climate change as well as with leading universities in the region. As a Washington Fellow, Mshila seeks to use the knowledge and connections obtained to further ventures into safe water provision by setting up local water treatment centers that will offer training entrepreneurship and renewable resources for stakeholders. He hopes to transform the way water is managed and accessed on the continent making it safely available for all.

**Olwethu Sipuka, South Africa, Civic Leadership, Arizona State University (*bio pending*)**



**Changu Siwawa, Botswana, Civic Leadership, Wagner College**

Changu currently serves as an Outreach Coordinator for the Kagisano Society Women's Shelter in Botswana. She is responsible for implementing strategies to build capacity within communities to correctly identify, understand, and address gender based violence (GBV) and has been instrumental in forming ward gender committees. Changu excels at proposal writing and monitoring and evaluating field program results. She has a master's degree in International Development Management from the University of Bradford in northern England. She has a keen interest in involving men in addressing gender inequalities and sees them as agents of change towards ending GBV. To that end, she sees her involvement in the Washington Fellowship program as an opportunity to strengthen programming for men, particularly in sports mentorship and plans to form male action groups upon returning to Botswana.



**Eugene Benjamin Femi Smart, Sierra Leone, Civic Leadership, University of Delaware**

Eugene Femi Smart has worked in youth issues for six years and serves as volunteer with the Global Justice Volunteers (GJV) and Peace and Development Crop (PaDCO) focusing on skills training, adult literacy, mentoring, and advocacy. He currently works in several roles including serving as the Project Manager of the Finn Church Aid project and founder and National Coordinator of Community Development Watch. He holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration with additional diplomas and certificates in Computer Operations and Accounting. After completing the Washington Fellowship, he plans to impact the youth of Sierra Leone by using agriculture as a route to accessing and staying in school and eventually completing their education cycle.



**Alpha Yaya Souare, Guinea, Business and Entrepreneurship, Northwestern University**

Alpha Souare is owner of the Avi-Leydi Farm and currently serves as its field-based entrepreneur. He previously worked with PricewaterhouseCoopers as an Auditor and with a mining company as a Finance Manager. Alpha received a degree in Finance and Accounting from ISCAE business school. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to expand his farm to create more jobs and implement new projects that will empower and employ his local community.



**Roseline Souebele Mayinga, Congo, Civic Leadership, Wagner College**

Roseline Souebele has over three years of experience working in civic education, volunteerism, and the empowerment of girls. Currently, she is a team leader in the south district of Brazzaville for the Catholic Association of Scouts and Guides where she mobilizes and manages young groups. She also works in a private business as management secretary. Roseline is skilled in communications, including administration skills and holds a vocational training certificate from Marien Ngouabi University. She will receive a degree in Communications in 2015. Upon the completion of the Washington Fellowship program, she plans to work on mobilizing youth through workshops with a focus on promoting a sense of civic commitment.



**Sedjro Gerard Vital Sounouvou, Benin, Business and Entrepreneurship University of Texas-Austin**

Sedjro Vital Sounouvou is an entrepreneur and the founder of Exportunity.com. He serves as a facilitator between investors and African entities and is engaged in promoting foreign direct investment opportunities for Sub Saharan African Countries. He is a member of several organizations including Toastmaster, Internations and GF2045, and has been recognized as the Ambassador of the Global Youth Innovation Network by the International Fund for Agricultural Development. Vital is also a consultant for numerous companies who are seeking entry in sub-Saharan Africa. He is fluent in English, French and several local languages and is an IT graduate from the UIT de Calais in France. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Vital plans to launch MOBILE TRADE by Exportunity, a mobile trade platform that will allow any registered African producer, anywhere and with any basic phone, post his products and access buyers for only one dollar USD.



**Christelle Sukadi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Civic Leadership Rutgers University**

Christelle Sukadi has seven years of experience working with non-governmental organizations in community development. Currently, she is the General Secretary for the Youth Movement for Dignity and Development in Katanga Province. She is responsible for organizing, coordinating and moderating conferences and awareness sessions focused on promoting peace among youth fighting against tribalism. She has been a speaker for the Youth Network for Solidarity, promoting peace among the youth of the province of Katanga. Christelle obtained her honors degree in Information and Communication Sciences at the University of Lubumbashi and she is currently pursuing postgraduate studies in the same field. At the conclusion of the Washington Fellowship, Christelle plans to partner with Youth Movement for Dignity and Development to organize a “Peace University” and will hold training sessions about peace in the main cities of Katanga province. The theme of the training will be “Our Differences: A Strength for Peace,” and more than 500 young people will be trained to improve peace by showing the rich differences between people.



**Saied Tafida Sulaiman, Nigeria, Public Management, Syracuse University**

Saied Sulaiman works with the Nigeria Federal Inland Revenue Service where he educates taxpayers on their rights and obligations. He believes that achieving a corrupt-free and transparent tax system that increases revenue will help reduce poverty in Nigeria. His prior experience includes work with the media, NYSC/UNICEF, and various NGOs. He has experience creating people focused media reports, conducting monitoring and evaluation of society development programs, and raising awareness on reproductive health and HIV/AIDS prevention. Saied volunteers with an NGO that promotes efforts in the control and treatment of children diagnosed with bilharzia to ensure they grow to live a healthy life. On his return from the Washington Fellowship, he plans to share his knowledge with his colleagues and associates and lead efforts to restore dignity in the Nigeria public sector.



**Ahmed Sunka, Malawi, Business and Entrepreneurship, University of Wisconsin-Stout**

Ahmed Sunka has worked with RAB, an Agro processing, trading and distribution company since July 2003. He is currently the Deputy Managing Director in charge of all aspects of revenue generation, operations, logistics and marketing. He has been a key member of the new product development team and is also responsible for customer and supplier relationship management across the company. Furthermore, he is an active member on various task forces and forums related to international trade and export development. Ahmed has also been a board member of several organizations including the Export Association of Malawi, Agricultural Commodity Exchange, and Council of Non-Government

Organization of Malawi. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to empower youth in his organization and in the community at large through the establishment of a Young Entrepreneurs Organization with a focus on capacity building, greater employment opportunities, networking, and skills development.



**Cheikh Ahmed Tidiane Sy, Senegal, Civic Leadership University of Delaware**

Cheikh Sy is a passionate believer in nurturing the youth for a better future and uses his experiences in community work, capacity building, sports, and leadership to engage with young people. Over the last nine years, he has been involved in community development programs with and for the youth around education, environment and leadership, both in Senegal and the USA. He is a Leadership for Environment and Development (LEAD) fellow and has also served as a facilitator and

mentor on a number of initiatives including the LEAD Africa Fellowship Program. Cheikh is currently focused on building a youth-led initiative, Conscious and Responsible Youth (JCR-CRY) that seeks to empower young people to transform their challenges into opportunities. One of the initiatives of JCR is to develop and pilot a program that demonstrates how to improve the quality and delivery of education in Senegal. Through the Washington Fellowship, he is hoping to be inspired with ideas, skills, and confidence to promote reform that positively impacts the youth.



**Rachel Maii Syengo, Kenya, Public Management, University of Minnesota**

Rachel Syengo has over three years of experience in the field of community development and five years in public service. She has worked with AIC Kiambu Child Development Center as a Social Worker where she was involved in counseling people living with HIV/AIDS. Currently, Rachel works with the Betting Control and Licensing Board under the Ministry of Interior and Coordination. She is in charge of the gender unit and works on initiating gender policy and a policy on work place gender based violence. Rachel holds a master's degree in International Studies from Ewha Woman's University in South Korea where she focused on Women and Development. After the Washington Fellowship, Rachel plans to work in conjunction with the local administration, community leaders, and the church at large to come up with holistic proposals on how to enhance girl education for improved prosperity in Katutu, Kenya.



**Fatoumata Sylla, Seychelles, Public Management, Howard University**

Fatoumata Sylla currently serves as Director General in the Executive Office of the President of the Republic of Seychelles. She previously worked for the Department of Youth serving as the Senior Policy Analyst and later as the Director General of Youth Affairs. In this capacity, she made recommendations to the government on issues related to youth development, implemented youth programs in line with national policies, and fostered relationships with international youth bodies. Fatoumata firmly believes in youth empowerment and the power of leading by example. As such, upon her completion of the Washington Fellowship program, she intends to create a mentorship project for youth and by youth.



**Kgomotso Teresa-Anne Tabane, South Africa, Business and Entrepreneurship, University of Texas-Austin**

Kgomotso Mots Tabane has seven years of brand management experience with both L’Oreal and The Coca-Cola Company. She is currently the Senior Brand Manager for the Sports and Energy drinks portfolio of Coca-Cola Southern Africa. Under Mots’ management her brands have achieved market leadership through focusing on driving innovation and consumer engagement. She holds a bachelor’s of business science degree from the University of Cape Town. Outside of her career, Mots sits on the board of Orange Babies Montessori, as the Vice Chairperson. Orange Babies is a pre-school that focuses on early childhood development for children who are from a disadvantaged community. Mots is also a One Young World Ambassador. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Mots

plans to grow Tabane Capital, her startup company, which is focused on developing and scaling Africa’s cultural/creative industries through providing its young entrepreneurs with business skills, mentorship, and financing, so that they can expand their enterprises.



**Harenae Patricia Tahirindray, Madagascar, Business and Entrepreneurship Northwestern University**

Harenae Tahirindray currently serves as the Credit Analysts Manager with BMOI, a commercial bank in Antananarivo (BMOI) where she has worked for eight years. She has been a member of the Catholic Association of Girl Scouts in Madagascar called Fanilon’I Madagasikara (FIM) for over 20 years. She currently holds the position of International Commissioner and is in charge of projects and partnerships. She is active in improving the situation of girls and women through activities that strengthen youth leadership and improves girl’s education. She holds a master’s degree in Finance. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Patricia plans to work on the development of youth leadership and

entrepreneurship programs that focus on young women in order to help them to become economically independent.



**Aichatou Tamba, Ethiopia, Public Management, Syracuse University**

Aichatou Tamba has five years of experience in conflict prevention and African peace and security dynamics with the African Union (AU). She is currently working on the AU Border Program, focusing on capacity development in a dozen African States with an emphasis on promoting borders as a conflict prevention tool and an instrument for African integration. Previously, Aichatou conducted research focused on the relation between African regional and continental integration bodies and on the concept of “African Solutions.” For two years, she was the liaison officer of the Africa Peace and Security Program, which gave her advocacy skills and access to a network of multilateral organizations and actors focused on mediation, peace, security, and governance. She received her degree in Comparative Law and Politics with a specialization in International Analysis and Prospective from the University of Auvergne. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship, she plans on advocating for strong diversity management policies for conflict prevention in Africa.



**Tendai Carol Tambudze, Zimbabwe, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Wisconsin-Stout**

Tendai Tambudze is the Business Manager for Tambudze Tanning, a tannery that currently produces wet blue leather. She is responsible for steering the company's operations as it targets full capacity utilization and a strong presence on the local and international market. She sits on the executive committee of the Leather and Allied Industries Federation of Zimbabwe where she represents the interests of leather manufacturers and is also involved in implementing the Zimbabwe leather sector strategy. Tendai holds a degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Cape Town. After completing the Washington Fellowship, she will launch the tannery's expansion project, which involves capacity building and value addition to produce finished leather and leather goods.



**Michael Kimbi Tchenga Wanchi, Cameroon, Public Management  
University of Arkansas**

Michael Kimbi Tchenga is a public administrator working with the Cameroon Economy Ministry. He previously served as the Administrative Officer for the Presidency of the Republic of Cameroon and also served as a copy editor for leading newspapers in Cameroon. He holds a master's in Public Health Sciences and is passionate about satisfying the common interest and motivating others to pursue their dreams. Upon returning from the Washington Fellowship, he plans to devote more time in quality service to the State of Cameroon and in advocating better citizen education.



**Joël Vwira Tembo, Democratic Republic of Congo  
Business & Entrepreneurship, University of Texas-Austin**

Joël Vwira Tembo is the Managing Director at Business and Services Company (BSC Ltd), a waste management business company he co-founded in 2008. His primary responsibilities include defining the general policy of the company, designing and managing business projects, spearheading public relations, forming business contracts, and leading strategic planning efforts. Additionally, Joël manages the budget, trains staff and supervises all daily business operations. He graduated from Goma University in 2007 with a degree in Economics, and subsequently has attended multiple business and entrepreneurship trainings. After completing the Washington Fellowship, Joël plans to extend his waste management business to other countries and cities across the DRC. He also plans to create an entrepreneurship training and information center to empower young university graduates.



**Monicah Jepkemboi Tenai, Kenya, Business & Entrepreneurship, Yale University**

Monicah Tenai is trained in Early Childhood Education and Guidance Counseling. She is currently working at Little Rock Inclusive Centre in Kibera, Africa's largest informal settlement in Nairobi, where she is responsible for the Kenyan sign language department. She has started a self-help group in Kibera, Nairobi as well as in Eldoret, North Rift valley where she encourages women and youth to apply for Kenyan legislative funding such as the women and youth enterprise funds and the National Development Fund for People Living With Disabilities (PWDS). After the Washington Fellowship, Ms. Tenai plans to share her experience back home with women with disabilities and youth to help them to become change agents in their communities. She wants to work on sensitizing public and private sector enterprises to implement disability and gender friendly program policies, and plans to grow her self-help group into a community based organization.



**Mitiku Gabrehiwot Tesfaye, Ethiopia, Public Management, University of Arkansas**

Mitiku Gabrehiwot is a lecturer at Mekelle University with over 10 years of research and teaching experience. He is a postgraduate Coordinator at the Department of Anthropology and is responsible for launching and supervising master's programs within the department. He also works with the Mekelle School for the Blind where he organizes and coordinates volunteers from several different countries including Ethiopia, UK, and USA. He received a bachelor's degree in History and Law and a master's degree in Journalism and Medical Anthropology. He is an accomplished photographer and speaks seven different local languages. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to mobilize and encourage youth in his community to be active in volunteerism and public service.



**Moses Nganwani Tia, Ghana, Civic Leadership  
University of California-Berkeley**

Moses Nganwani Tia has over six years of experience working in agricultural development throughout rural Ghana. He currently serves as the Executive Director of the Savannah Young Farmers Network (SavaNet) where he focuses on providing efficient organizational management, project design and implementation, and coalition building strategies. Moses holds a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Economics and Extension from the University for Development Studies (UDS) and a professional development certificate in Innovative Collaboration for Development

from UNITAR. Upon his return from the Washington Fellowship, he plans on leading the implementation of a nationwide initiative focused on the empowerment of youth in agriculture that will support Ghanaian youth achieve a sustainable livelihood in agriculture.



**Romy Alexandra Titus, South Africa, Civic Leadership, Wagner College**

Romy Titus has over seven years of experience in prison work. She is the founder of Babies Behind Bars (BBB), an organization that ensures prisons in South Africa, Namibia, and Swaziland have the basic building blocks to ensure that prison born children remain happy and healthy while living with their incarcerated mothers. As the head of this organization, Romy accomplishes this task this by donating educational toys, upgrading facilities for mothers and children, and by advocating proper nutrition. In addition to working with BBB, Romy is a journalist on radio and TV serving as a Sports Anchor for the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC). After

completing the Washington Fellowship, she hopes to return home armed with the necessary skills to seek funding and to grow BBB beyond South Africa's borders into the rest of Africa, ensuring that every prison born baby on the continent is given the chance to become tomorrow's shining stars.



**Nketso Gaona Tlhasana, Botswana, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Yale University**

Gaona is a broadcast journalist who has worked for the Department of Broadcasting Services for eight years. She is a radio and TV journalist, hosting a mid-morning show on RB2 called "Urban Flavas" and serving as the co-host of the BTV breakfast show. She also mentors and empowers youth and as part of her "Urban Flava's" show, she has a feature called "The Business Factory" aimed at serving as a platform for young entrepreneurs to showcase their crafts and interact with more established business people. Gaona is currently part of an anti smoking campaign for teenage girls championed

by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in partnership with Dialogue Saatchi and Saatchi Botswana. She holds a bachelor's degree in Communications and Media Studies from Monash University, South Africa. Upon her return from the Washington Fellowship program, she would like to continue to avidly work with youth entrepreneurs through diverse media outlets and initiatives such as the Glam Divas Botswana, a women and girls empowerment program that seeks to inspire and inform women and girls with entrepreneurial skills.



**Jeroboam Tojaka Beaka, Business and Entrepreneurship  
Clark Atlanta University**

Jeroboam Tojaka has over eight years of experience working directly with multinational oil and gas companies (Noble Energy, Hess, EG LNG and Bechtel International) focused on the exploration and production of oil and gas. As a Buyer in his current role at Noble Energy Equatorial Guinea, he has been engaged in sourcing materials and services to support the daily activities of exploration and production of oil and gas. This has enabled Jeroboam to make contacts with different people from across the world. In doing so, he has identified the needs of developing small and medium sized enterprises in Equatorial Guinea along with recognizing that relations with other African and western companies are vital for success. Jeroboam is also in charge of identifying opportunities to develop “National Content” for small and medium enterprises. Jeroboam holds a diploma in Purchasing and Supply from the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya – Spain, a diploma in Business Administration and Management from Wintech Professional Studies – Ghana. He also holds a degree in Import & Export Management from Harvard International School – Ghana and a certificate in accounting from Escuela Técnica de Economía 1ro de Mayo – Equatorial Guinea. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Jeroboam plans to increase his involvement in the promotion and development of small and medium enterprises by organizing learning seminars and coaching sessions.



**Esther Oladunni Tola, Benin, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Wisconsin-Stout**

Esther Tola is a journalist with 13 years of experience in radio, television, and online media. She currently serves as a Web Journalist for [acotonou.com](http://acotonou.com), a portal working closely with the local press in Benin where she updates news and photographs, prepares a daily press review, and writes informational content. Esther has a special interest in environmental issues and writes articles that focus on land degradation. She has an Associate Degree in Business Management. Upon her return from the Washington Fellowship, she intends to lead innovative business projects that will create employment opportunities for youth and provide trainings and workshops to encourage youth to create and implement their own innovative projects.



**Setondji Cahetel LC Tonoukouen, Benin, Public Management  
University of Arkansas**

Setondji Tonoukouen has seven years of experience working on the STI/HIV/AIDS Control Program in Benin. He previously worked on the Prevention Mother to Child HIV/AIDS Transmission (PMTCT) program from 2008 to 2012 and currently serves as the Manager of the regional HIV/AIDS Control Program. In this capacity, he is responsible for training, supervision, monitoring and evaluation of HIV/AIDS program, and coordination of international global health initiatives. Setondji is a member of Emerging Voices for Global Health, an international young researcher’s network from 20 countries. He is a medical doctor and holds a master’s degree in Public Health from the Institute of Tropical Medicine in Antwerp, Belgium. His main challenge upon completion of the Washington fellowship will be to work with all stakeholders (public, private, communities, and funders) in order to elaborate and implement strategies to reduce mother to child HIV transmission rate from 12% today to less than 5% before the end of 2015.



**Sylvie Tougouma, Burkina Faso, Civic Leadership  
University of Virginia and the College of William and Mary**

Sylvie Tougouma has over three years of experience in various fields in women empowerment. She is the manager of the project called Promotion of Women's Political Participation in Democratic Life in Burkina Faso and has also worked as an investigator for the German Technical Cooperation (GTZ, now GIZ) and the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA). She is currently working on her master's thesis in Legal Translation while teaching law at the Gabriel Taborin Technical Secondary School in Ouagadougou. Sylvie holds a

master's in public law from the University of Ouagadougou. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to help her country by promoting the enhancement of women engagement in politics through *Tylay* and leadership trainings.



**Lerato Tshabalala, South Africa, Business and Entrepreneurship  
University of Notre Dame**

Lerato Tshabalala has 15 years of experience working in the South African (SA) publishing industry. She has worked with newspaper and magazine outlets including Oprah SA and Marie Claire SA as a senior writer. Her first management position was as a women's editor with Drum magazine, a South African weekly publication. Since then she has moved up the management ranks at different companies, including South Africa's largest Sunday paper, Sunday Times, where she managed eight people as the editor of the Lifestyle section. She has also served as the editor of South African English women's title, True Love magazine where she mentored aspiring writers and editors. In 2013 she was voted by the Mail & Guardian newspaper in South Africa as one of the 200 Young People to watch in the Media category. Upon completing the Washington Fellowship, Lerato plans to open a media business that will initially focus on custom/trade magazines and progress to also providing digital solutions for companies.



**Gnienwo Anuarite Marie Celine Tuho, Cote D'Ivoire, Business and Entrepreneurship,  
Dartmouth College**

Gnienwo Anuarite Tuho currently works in a local Flour Mill as Brand Manager. She is responsible for building and enhancing notoriety and sales performance of brands. She is passionate about women issues and is working to empower Ivorian women to take on leadership roles through social networks and meetings. She received her diploma in Supply Chain and Management. After completing the Washington Fellowship, Gnienwo intends to share her leadership vision and experience she acquired with her community and will officially go into entrepreneurship by implementing projects she elaborated.



**Mohammed Zahradeen Umar, Nigeria, Public Management, Syracuse University**

Mohammed Zahradeen Umar is a civil servant currently serving as the Administrative Officer in the Office of the Head of Civil Service of the Bauchi state government. He is also a member of the Human Resource Management Information System (HRMIS) of the Public Sector Governance Reform and Development Project and head of ICT Administration in the Bauchi State Bureau for Information and Communication Technology. Mohammed holds a Master of Business Administration from the Bayero University in Kano, Nigeria. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, he plans to modernize government administration by creating paperless offices and enhancing the capacity and enforcement of relevant legislations that will ensure prudence, transparency, and accountability in the conduct of government business to conform best to international practices.



**Muhammad Usman, Nigeria, Civic Leadership, University of California-Berkeley**

Muhammad Usman has over four years of experience working in areas related to education for sustainability, climate change adaptation, and mitigation. He currently serves as the founder and Executive Director for the Centre for Renewable Energy and Action on Climate Change (CREACC-Nigeria). In this capacity, he works on designing a biogas generation system using 100% available local raw materials and implementing climate and renewable energy related activities that assist in bridging the poverty gap among his local community. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Usman's ambitious plan is to forge ahead with his civic engagements on sustainability, renewable energy, climate action campaigns, green growth advocacy and continue to build capacity to develop his under-served and under-resourced communities.



**Sheryl Natasha Christine Vangadasamy, Seychelles, Public Management University of Minnesota**

Sheryl Vangadasamy is an elected representative of the Mont Buxton constituency in the Seychelles National Assembly. She previously served for eight years in the Department of Police and two years in the Department of Legal Affairs. She is passionate and dedicated to ensure that Seychelles continues to enjoy peace and stability and that her fellow citizens aspire for positive change towards the betterment of the country.



**Tsungai Elaine Vere, Zimbabwe, Civic Leadership University of California-Berkeley**

Tsungai Elaine Vera has eight years of experience working to enhance the public participation of women, youth, and marginalized groups in Zimbabwe. She currently serves as a Projects Lawyer with the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum where she provides legal assistance for victims of organized violence and torture. She also trains traditional leaders and communities on the law and their role in providing rural communities with access to justice. Tsungai has extensive, hands-on program cycle management experience, is a keen and skilled trainer /facilitator in the areas of human rights, legal education, and voter rights, and a successful grant writer. Upon returning from the Washington Fellowship, Tsungai plans to conduct work focusing on the new Constitution including providing technical support in terms of justice for victims of political violence, ensuring a gender focus, and amplifying the voice of youth.



**Yigha Fokum Violet, Cameroon, Public Management, University of Arkansas**

Violet Yigha Fokum has over five years of experience in various fields in the community development, youth leadership and women's empowerment. Currently, she is a Research Assistant in the International Research Development Centre in the University of Buea (IDRC-UB). She has been involved in several training programs in policy making, gender inclusive programs, adult literacy especially women's education. Her work focuses on ensuring that policy outcomes have a direct and positive impact on women and youths. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Political Science and Public Administration from the University of Buea, a Maitrise in Law and Political Science at the University of Yaounde II, Soa and a master's degree in Women and Gender Studies from the University of Buea where she focused on gender disparities within society and their impact on the sustainable development of Africa and Cameroon in particular. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Yigha plans to work on empowerment workshops with government administrators and Non-governmental organizations in order to encourage policy makers to vote for bills that are more inclusive and create more men engaged projects with a focus on teaching, lobbying, and advocacy on women's rights and equal opportunities. She also plans to sensitize women and youth on the necessity of determining the quality of lawmakers they vote into Parliament.



**Rachael Njeri Wainaina, Kenya, Business & Entrepreneurship  
University of Notre Dame**

Rachael Wainaina is a business owner, community worker, and filmmaker. She is the CEO of Film Village of Kenya, which is expected to be the largest film city in Africa. She has also sponsored and trained over 300 underprivileged youths in practical and professional film making skills. Rachael runs a women project that has a goal to eradicate poverty in 30 rural counties and has a current membership of 2000 women. She has received various international and local awards for her impact on Kenyan society.

**Alex Kagwe Waithaka, Kenya, Civic Leadership, Arizona State University (*bio pending*)**



**Charles Maina Wanjiru, Kenya, Business & Entrepreneurship  
Clark Atlanta University**

Charles Maina is co-founder of Revalue Waste Kenya Ltd, which works with hotels to divert waste from the largest dump-site in East Africa called Dandora. In 2007, Charles helped established Child Peace in Kenya, which is committed to improving the lives of children and youth in informal settlements by creating study centers, a children radio program, and a children's magazine. Charles understands the intricate relationship between business and the environment and wants to help businesses in Kenya meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the welfare of future generations. Charles is a graduate of the University of Nairobi with a degree in Education as well as a post-graduate diploma in Community Development from the same university. As a Washington Fellow, Charles hopes to learn how recycling waste can be used to provide financial gains and professional opportunities for youth. In addition, he'd like to learn how to best use market forces to leverage environmental challenges such as climate change, pollution, and resource depletion that are facing Africa today.



**Belinda Jubilant Wera, Tanzania, Public Management, Howard University**

Belinda Wera has over three years of experience working in public relations and marketing with a key focus on regional integration in East Africa. Currently, Belinda is a Program Assistant in the Corporate Communication and Public Affairs department in the East African Community where she ensures that programs, projects, and activities run smoothly so that the people of East Africa are informed about the integration. She is the Sub Editor for the Community Magazine, which is the official magazine of the EAC, and is responsible for managing media and visitor relations, organizing events, and writing reports. Belinda holds a Bachelor of Arts in Public Relations and Marketing from St. Augustine University of Tanzania and is currently pursuing her MBA at the Eastern and Southern African Management Institute (ESAMI). Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Belinda plans to set up a career counseling program in Tanzania which will provide career advice for young people.



**Abdirisak Yusuf Ali, Somalia, Civic Leadership, Rutgers University**

Abdirisak Yusuf Ali has over six years of experience working on issues related to community education, women empowerment, and youth leadership. He is a lecturer of Social Science at the University of Bosaso where he is involved in several activities including increasing awareness on the risk of HIV/AIDS, organizing and facilitating peer-to-peer educator meetings, recording and reporting on gender based violence cases, and training women with entrepreneurial skills. Abdirisak received a diploma in Community Development and Social Work from the Bosaso College of Social Work Training and a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from East Africa University in Bosaso, Somalia. After completing the Washington Fellowship, he plans to enhance the quality of education in Somalia and use it as a tool to empower the community. He also plans to provide leadership trainings to

youth and encourage them to be active in civil society.



**Tsion Teferra Zeleke, Ethiopia, Public Management  
Howard University**

Tsion Teferra Zeleke has seven years of experience serving as a development practitioner. Her work has focused on providing services in strategic development and management, result based program implementation and management, partners appraisal and management, and promotion of community and children participation. She is currently serving as the Director of Child Protection for Save the Children Ethiopia. Her responsibilities include developing and implementing the in-country child protection program and performing advocacy work to positively influence policies. She

has a Master of Arts in Social Work and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, Tsion plans to be engaged in advocating for adequate budgeting for the implementation of projects that protect vulnerable children and families.



**Bwalya Musenje Zimba, Zambia, Public Management, Morgan State University**

Bwalya Zimba has over five years working experience from working in the Public Sector in Zambia. Bwalya recently joined the Copperbelt University in Zambia as a Lecturer in the School of Built Environment, where she teaches Housing Economics and Policy; Building Construction, and Design. Bwalya has skills in project management, architectural design, community planning and interdisciplinary work. Bwalya holds a bachelor's degree in Architecture from the Copperbelt University, a Master of Science degree in Human Settlements, with a focus on Gender and Housing, from the Katholieke Universitet of Leuven in Belgium; a Master of Science in Urban Management, with a focus on the Governance of Peri-Urban Sanitation Planning, from the Technical University of Berlin, Germany; and, Postgraduate qualifications in project management and in social housing program development. Bwalya hopes that the Washington Fellowship training in Public Management will lay the foundation to continue building her career in Public Policy, with a focus on Housing Studies and Urban Policy, and to work on projects to benefit the

community and the country.



**Regina Zoneziwoh Mbonggulo, Cameroon, Civic Leadership University of Delaware**

Regina Zoneziwoh Mbonggulo Wondieh is a feminist activist, an award winning humanitarian storyteller, and blogger with over five years of experience in gender activism, policy advocacy and youth leadership. Currently, she serves as the Executive Director of Women For A Change Cameroon (WFAC) where she designs, directs and executes programs for the advancement of women and girls sexual and reproductive health rights, leadership, and empowerment. Zoneziwoh is an alumna with the African Leadership Centre (ALC) Kenya. She holds a bachelor's degree in Environmental

Sciences and a master's of arts (non- degree) in Conflict, Security and Development from King's College in London. Upon completion of the Washington Fellowship, she plans to use her civic leadership and advocacy skills to train and empower young people, particularly women and girls to get involved in the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of programs that impact their lives.

## **FELLOWS BY COUNTRY**

### ***Angola***

Akiules António  
Isabel Zeca Paulo Bueio  
Rebeca Sara Cain  
Adelina Canjala Dangola Calundungo  
Dizando Norton António Mvemba  
Francisco Sebastião Marcos Ngola

### ***Benin***

Nontonhou Nicaise Marius Deguenonvo  
Deo-Gratias Judrita M Hougni  
Tatiana Le Houndji  
Ziyadath Hoang Oanh M A Kelani  
Tchegoun Adebo Koba  
Sedjro Gerard Vital Sounouvou  
Esther Oladunni Tola  
Setondji Cahetel L C Tonoukouen

### ***Botswana***

Letsebeng Gabontshwe  
Tshiamo Reginald Keakabetse  
Lena Galelemogoe Kedukaetswe  
Queen Baboloki Kgeresi  
Katlarelo Kate Kgwefane  
Moffat Louis  
Tumiso Godiraone Mabusela  
Kopo Gary Mapila  
Keolebogile Lebogang Maruapula  
Rebaone Jumior Ditso Mmereki  
Kabo Diamond Moseki  
Setshwano Sharey Ngope  
Gorata Bessie Selelo  
Changu Siwawa  
Nketso Gaona Tlhasana

### ***Burkina Faso***

Mam-Pingdawende Francine Boro-Legma  
Abdalla Dao  
Amine Issouf Ilboudo  
Weneyam Hermann Nare  
Anselme Simeon Sanou  
Sylvie Tougouma

### ***Burundi***

Ariane Kampingwe  
Martine Nibasumba  
Armel Ntwari  
Fikiri Nzoyisenga

Ketty Valerie Ruhara  
Jean Paul Simbashira

***Cameroon***

Gerald Afadani  
Charlie Batchanzi Wandji  
Roland Yinyu Bongko  
Christelle Bay Chongwain  
Kizita Mah Fitemi Forgwe  
Rose Marie Kouo  
Jean Marc Mbafor  
Hilda Bih Muluh  
Brice Steve Sime  
Michael Kimbi Tchenga Wanchi  
Yigha Fokum Violet  
Regina Zoneziwoh Mbonggulo

***Cape Verde***

Alfredo Isidoro Araujo de Pina  
Selma Margarida Fortes Neves  
Jose Maria Gomes Lopes  
Carla Santos de Carvalho

***Central African Republic***

Martine Theodora Kessy Ekomo-Soignet  
Yannick Henri Jackson Malessandji

***Chad***

Koulouar Kinga Nadege  
Olivier Kouollo Ndena  
Adda Ngomde

***Comoros***

Mihidjai Anturia  
Keke Haina  
Miradji Halima

***Congo, Republic of***

Bridie Pascale Fleur LaPlace  
Franck Darnod Nguimbi Mbenze  
Roseline Souebebe Mayinga

***Cote d'Ivoire***

Mamadou Drame  
Kablanckan Gisele Assemian  
Yabah Berthe Bognini  
Sounon Bazoumana Coulibaly  
Jean-Patrick Ehouman  
Mihia Denise Paule Andree C Konin Epse Adou

Eric Koua  
Ama Kouao  
Affree Dany Romaric N'Dri  
Kombo Ehouman Fabienne N'Guessan  
Dongui Zana Yacouba Ouattara  
Doue Harnold Jordan Sera  
Gnienwo Anuarite Marie Celine Tuho

***Democratic Republic of Congo***

Nguomoja Amuri  
Alain Chirwisa  
Christian Cirhigiri  
Serge Ilambo  
Junior Kayembe  
Gloria Mangoni  
Mireille Muhigwa  
Passy Nabintu  
Valere Nsimba  
Eric Ntumba  
Christelle Sukadi  
Joel Tembo

***Djibouti***

Hassan Adaweh Abdi  
Mohamed Ali Hassan  
Kadidja Mohamed Sanalasse

***Equatorial Guinea***

Cristian Eteo Botau  
Jeroboam Tojaka Beaka

***Eritrea***

Simon Zerezghi Kiflay

***Ethiopia***

Fozya Tesfa Adem  
Mesganaw Mulugeta Assefa  
Darara Mole Banti  
Helawi Sewnet Beshah  
Saba Kahsay Bisrat  
Deginet Wotango Doyiso  
Haleta Giday Fiseha  
Yonas Moges Getachew  
Michael Addisu Haile  
Edda Zekarias Mekuria  
Mitiku Gabrehiwot Tesfaye  
Tsion Teferra Zeleke

***Gabon***

Willy-Conrad Asseko-Allogo  
Ursula Axelle Nname Nguema

***Gambia***

Sheick Omar Bittaye  
Nfamara K. Dampha  
Ramatoulie Gassama  
Matty Jobe  
Metta Kongira  
Ida S. Mboob

***Ghana***

Paul Hilarius Asiwome Kosi Abiwu  
Harriet Yayra Adzofu  
Regina Fremah Agyare  
Johannes Thomas Arthur  
Lily Obenewaa Asare  
Laud Ampomah Boateng  
Ethel Delali Cofie  
Ruka Yaro De-Liman  
Frank Akowuge Dugasseh  
Kwasi Owusu Gyeabour  
Araba Mbirba Hammond  
Oteng Karikari  
Williams Kwarah  
Valerie Abena Konyo Labi  
Christiana Okyere  
Afua Serwah Akoto Prempeh  
Dziedzorm Kwaku Segbefia  
Moses Nganwani Tia

***Guinea***

Pierre Balamou  
Sekou Amadou Cissoko  
N'Sira Daraba  
Muhammad Yaya Diallo  
Sekou Mansare  
Alpha Yaya Souare

***Guinea-Bissau***

Cadija Mané  
Edmar Paulo Badilé Nhaga

***Kenya***

Walidi Ahmed Ali  
Fatma Salim Said Ahmed Bazahy  
Fouzia Abdikadir Dahir  
Rose Roulyne Njeri Gateru  
Angela Nyambura Gichaga

Vickie Wambura Kairo  
Florence Wamuyu Kamaitha  
Magdalene Naseyian Kelel  
Benard Wairagu Komu  
Josphine Kulea  
Eunice Amboka Likoko  
Michael Amaya Lwoyelo  
Abbas Mahmood  
James Makini Makini  
Angella Kwamboka Mecha  
Charlene Nyambura Migwe  
Duncan Ogaro Mikae  
Brian Magwaro Mogaka  
Watson Karuma Muiruri  
Lydia Nafulu Munika  
Emily Kadzo Murabu  
Anna Alice Adhiambo Musandu  
Neo Musangi  
Maurine Mukuta Muthengi  
Kenneth Eric Muthomi  
Valerie Joyce Andeso Mutoka  
Hope Wakio Mwanake  
Morris Mbetsa Mwero  
Didas Mwachila Mzirai  
Ramadhani Khamisi Ndiga  
Eric Nicholas Ngondi  
Samwel Mwangala Njagi  
Pauline Muthoni Njoroge  
Pauline Wawira Nyaga  
Paul Victor Oloo  
Andrew Ochieng Akelo Omogo  
Jacob Otieno Ouma  
Suzanne Muindi Semenye  
Eric Kweyu Shiunzi  
Aminazahra Sigat  
Mshila Mwakai Sio  
Rachel Maai Syengo  
Monicah Jepkemboi Tenai  
Rachael Njeri Wainaina  
Alex Kagwe Waithaka  
Charles Maina Wanjiru

***Lesotho***

Nthabiseng Mary Bohloa  
Moratuoa Jane Hlongwa  
Khahliso Khama  
Ntsane Reginald Lepholisa  
Mantoa Moiloa  
Tampose Jacobina Mothopeng

***Liberia***

Abel Williams Cheayan  
Samuel Talwa Duo Jr  
Matthew M Fred

Benjamin Freeman Jr  
Laura Golakeh  
James Alben Greaves  
Phillip Garjay Innis  
Sarah M Johnson  
Patrice D Juah  
Kolu Fawula Kamah  
Mohammed B Kamara  
Sedekie Bangale Kamara  
Yassah Nupolu Lavelah  
James Kpadeh Mulbah  
Agiechie Comfort Sawyer

***Madagascar***

Jean Clement Andriamanampisoa  
Mirindra Zo Nambinina Andrianantenaina Ep. Manankasina  
Ulrichia Francelle Rabefitiavana  
Hetiariivony Hasinandrasana Zo Mamisoa Rabetsimamanga Ep. Rafenomanantsoa  
Tsanta Gaelle Ramamonjisoa  
Andry Tiana Ravalomanda  
Harenae Patricia Tahirindray

***Malawi***

Daniel Henry Dunga  
Chipiliro Liyana Kansilanga  
Mweta Wyford Katemba  
Jessie Nabulambo Kilembe  
Thomson Robert Ligowe  
Lombola Gama Lombola  
Hastings Mkandawire  
Vanessa Nsona  
Ahmed Sunka

***Mali***

Dalada Bally  
Mahamadou Camara  
Mahamadou Diakite  
Bernadette Mah Ippet Letembet  
Adama Kouyate  
Amina Sidibe

***Mauritania***

Yousra Cherif  
Mohamed Abderrahmane El Hassen  
Mariem Kane

***Mauritius***

Marietta Agathe  
Vandana Premila Boolell  
Aarthi Burtony  
Sabrina Gujjalu

Avinash Jasgray  
Jessyca Joyekurun  
Mohammad Zuhyr Panchoo

***Mozambique***

Anissa Issufo Arune  
Ivan Vilaça Collinson  
Ilda Suzana Massuanganhe Guambe  
Majo Joseph  
Vilma de Carmen Nhambi  
Tatiana Alves Pereira

***Namibia***

Petrina Ndapandula Auino  
Piet Carstens  
Gregory Pierre Feris  
Elizabeth Nashitye Hamupembe  
Tomas Kalimbo  
Rachel Maano Ndesihafela Kalipi  
Paskaline Ngayози Kue Ngunaihe  
Beata Mandy Shemuvalula  
Fransina Kondjashili Shivute

***Niger***

Sani Ayouba Abdou  
Sarah Ferdjani Ibrahim  
Halimatou Gambo Illo Daoura  
Abdoul Kadri Hassane Kaneye  
Ali Karim Alio  
Raynatou Seyni Baro

***Nigeria***

Ashiru Adamu Abubakar  
Fatima Madaki Abubakar  
Adediran Olasile Adegoke  
Adegboyega Doja Adewolu  
Alaba Lawrence Afere  
Amina Garuba Ahmed  
Olushola Abiodun Akinyemi  
Adebayo Samuel Alonge  
Ndifreke Etiowo Andrew-Essien  
Lois Auta  
Sani Dantuni Bello  
Bamshak Dennis Bigwan  
Chundung Ashley Dauda  
Mfonobong Ekpo  
Samuel Nnaoma Ekwuribe  
Chukwuebuka Ndukaku Emebinah  
Temitayo Oteken Etomi  
Danbala Garba  
Farouk Garba  
Mustapha Dauda Gwary

Fatima Ibrahim  
Ijeoma Princess Precious Idika-Chima  
Oghenevwoke Shehu Usman Ighure  
Adepeju Opeyemi Jaiyeoba  
Grace Nkechi Japheth  
Enitan Oluwayomi Kuku  
Maryam Shehu Mohammed  
Amaka Osarieme Nwaokolo  
Oluwaseun Adedayo Oluwamayowa Obidipe  
Olusegun Gbenga Odunaiya  
Oluwatoyosi Esther Ogunseye  
Nonso Peter Okafor  
Clara Ezioma Okorie  
Ezenwa Eleazar Okoro  
Ehiaghe Rita Omovbude  
Catherine Oluwakemi Onabanjo  
Joan Amina Oshiokpekhai  
Isaiah Oluwatobi Owolabi  
Saidat Abiodun Shonoki  
Saied Tafida Sulaiman  
Mohammed Zahradeen Umar  
Muhammad Usman

***Rwanda***

Nadia Hitimana  
Colombe Ituze Ndutiye  
Vincent Kalimba  
Doreen Karake  
Marcel Mutsindashyaka

***Sao Tome & Principe***

Bilma Edney Bandeira Mandinga  
Edwlne Gomes Afonso Neto

***Senegal***

Alassane Abdoulaye Dia  
Nathalie Diagne  
Abibatou Banda Fall  
Ndeye Tening Gaye  
Ndeye Absa Gningue  
El Hadji Abou Gueye  
Ndeye Awa Gueye  
Jean Pierre Maro  
Sokhna Mame Bousso Ndiaye  
Abdou Ndour  
Sobel Aziz Alfred Marie Ngom  
Amadou Moctar Sidibe  
Cheikh Ahmed Tidiane Sy  
Aichatou Tamba

**Seychelles**

Christopher Andrew Lespoir  
Fatoumata Sylla  
Sheryl Natasha Christine Vangadasamy

**Sierra Leone**

Abu Bakarr Conteh  
Zainab Ferrah Conteh  
Milton John Saio Dumbuya  
Mohamed Abdul Mansarico Mansaray  
Jestina Simba  
Eugene Benjamin Femi Smart

**Somalia**

Sahra Said Bile  
Ilwad Elman  
Abdirisak Yusuf Ali

**South Africa**

Mbali Pretty Arojoye  
Samantha Beckbessinger  
Justin Philip Beswick  
Gillion Bosman  
Nomathansanqa Bonolo Celia Cebe  
Cindy-Lee Cloete  
Ryno Alsander De Water  
Tebogo Moatshe Ditshego  
Paul Dimitri Galatis  
Andrew Ihsaan Gasnolar  
Yossi Hasson  
Warren Dewald Johannes  
Percy Morapedi Koji  
Kwezi Kondile  
Buhle Mabaso  
Mhlanganisi Someleze Madlongolwana  
Murendeni Stewart Mafumo  
Khanyisile Thobekile Magubane  
Lalumbe Makuya  
Peter Malatji  
Nomzamo Faith Mangope  
Danielle Renee Manuel  
Tsakani Nola Mashaba  
Amukelani Hermando Mayimele  
Sbonelo Nkosinathi Mkhize  
Mohlatlego Cathy Mohlahlana  
Ohentse Jeremiah Mokae  
Elizabeth Mmabatho Mokiti  
Gay Lebohang Mokwena  
Thabang Vuyani Qaqambile Moleko  
Xitshembhiso Russel Mulamula  
Creesen Naicker  
Bongiwe Ndakisa

Kolisile Theo Ndindwa  
Lukholo Ngamlana  
Zamafuze Lumka Ngcobo  
Linky Nkuna  
Mbali Ntuli  
Sibusisiwe Lynette Ntuli  
Candice Potgieter  
Amy-Louise Margaret Shelver  
Ntuthuko Shezi  
Olwethu Sipuka  
Kgomotso Koketso Teresa-Anne Tabane  
Romy Alexandra Titus  
Lerato Tshabalala

***South Sudan***

Paleki Matthew Obur Ayang  
Ladu David Morris Lemi

***Sudan***

Torki Farhat  
Mazin Mohammed Khalil Ali

***Swaziland***

Ntombifuthi Jackie Dennis  
Gcinaphi Ntombikayise Gcinile Dlamini  
Lindiwe Chola Dlamini  
Sebentile Sithembile Dlamini  
Velaphi Mamba  
Thabiso Mabandla Masina  
Khulekani Jeremiah Msweli  
Muzi Sakhile Warren Ngwenya  
Tibuyile Joy Sigudla

***Tanzania***

Abella Paul Bateyunga  
Lawrence Ezekiel Chuma  
Rose Peter Funja  
Emmanuel Faustine Hamaro  
Amnah Feisal Amin Ibuni  
Chikulupi Njelu Kasaka  
Eugene Paul Kavishe  
Gwamaka Robert Kifukwe  
Ruth Elineema Lukwaro  
Stephen Masele  
Michael Mwanzalima Mihayo  
Liginiku Octavian Millinga  
Nancy Mwaisaka  
Joshua Samwel Nassari  
Chedi Festo Ngulu  
Theresia Charles Numbi  
Godfrey Joseph Nyombi  
Linda Simon Paulo

Hashim Salum Juma Pondeza  
Mohamed Ally Sauko  
Belinda Jubilant Wera

***Togo***

Ayaovi Djifa Akomatsri  
Akizou Bataba  
Abdel-Hamid Biema  
Combey Djidjole Combetey  
Akoueba Atia Marie-Louise Kponton Quam-Dessou  
Mana Akuvi Banoungouzouna Regina Kpotor

***Uganda***

Andrew Amara  
Catherine Anite  
Humphrey Anjoga  
Mildred Sara Apenyo  
Lucy Mary Athieno  
Musiime Christopher Byaruhanga  
Irene Ikumu  
John Ilima  
Anne Kakurugusi Kabahuma  
Brian Kasule Kalule  
Immaculate Katushabe  
Cyrus Salabwa Kawalya  
Martin Mugabi  
Martin Muganzi  
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Diana Nalwoga  
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Bruce Ernest  
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Nosiku Kalonga  
Sombo Lute Kaweza  
Raphael Kumwenda  
Lukonga Lindunda  
Simon Manda  
Zila Milupi  
Chanda Mubanga  
Chola Chilufya Lungu Mutoni  
Rhoydah Mwenya Mutuna  
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***Zimbabwe***

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Edson Gandiwa  
Brian Hativatye Geza  
Tawanda Kembo  
Zandile Lambu  
Verengai Mabika  
Edmore Tendai Masendeke  
Tinashe Adolf Addi Mavengere  
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Sharleen Mabisa Moyo  
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Norman Jabulani Mukwakwami  
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Abbas Mahmood  
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Martin Muganzi  
Chisenga Muyoya  
Bongiwe Ndakisa  
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James Msipa  
Kenneth Eric Muthomi  
Affree Dany Romaric N'Dri  
Muzi Sakhile Warren Ngwenya  
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Patrice D Juah  
Benard Wairagu Komu  
Tumiso Godiraone Mabusela  
Mhlanganisi Someleze Madlongolwana  
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Liginiku Octavian Millinga  
Khulekani Jeremiah Msweli  
Lydia Nafulu Munika  
Zamafuze Lumka Ngcobo  
Chedi Festo Ngulu  
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Danbala Garba  
Mustapha Dauda Gwary  
Deo-Gratias Judrita M Hougni  
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Yossi Hasson  
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***University of Minnesota***

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Helawi Sewnet Beshah  
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Danielle Renee Manuel  
Thabiso Mabandla Masina  
Mable Beene Nedziwe  
Lukholo Ngamlana  
Adda Ngomde  
Valere Nsimba  
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Ketty Valerie Ruhara  
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***University of Notre Dame***

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Takunda Ralph Michael Chingonzo  
Sekou Amadou Cissoko  
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Samuel Nnaoma Ekwuribe  
Ndeye Awa Gueye  
Amine Issouf Ilboudo  
Mariem Kane  
Ali Karim Alio  
Eric Koua  
Enitan Oluwayomi Kuku  
Williams Kwarah  
Yassah Nupolu Lavelah  
Sharleen Mabisa Moyo  
Rhoydah Mwenya Mutuna  
Morris Mbetsa Mwero  
Diana Nalwoga  
Vilma de Carmen Nhambi  
Candice Potgieter  
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Eric Kweyu Shiunzi  
Amina Sidibe  
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***University of Texas at Austin***

Anissa Issufo Arune  
Sounon Bazoumana Coulibaly  
Milton John Saio Dumbuya  
Jean-Patrick Ehouman  
Sarah Ferdjani Ibrahim  
Ndeye Absa Gningue  
Oghenevwoke Shehu Usman Ighure  
Adepeju Opeyemi Jaiyeoba  
Kolu Fawula Kamah  
Florence Wamuyu Kamaitha  
Lena Galelemogoe Kedukaetswe  
Tawanda Kembo  
Christopher Andrew Lespoir  
Lombola Gama Lombola  
Verengai Mabika  
James Makini Makini  
Nomzamo Faith Mangope  
Chola Chilufya Lungu Mutoni  
Dizando Norton António Mvemba  
Creesen Naicker  
Nonso Peter Okafor  
Beata Mandy Shemuvalula  
Sedjro Gerard Vital Sounouvou  
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***University of Virginia and the College of William & Mary***

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Matthew M Fred  
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Nchimunya Luyando Haangala  
Miradji Halima  
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Warren Dewald Johannes  
Majo Joseph  
Jose Maria Gomes Lopes  
Jean Marc Mbafor  
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Rebaone Jumior Ditso Mmerekhi  
Isaac Timothy Mwanza  
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### ***University of Wisconsin-Stout***

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Nontonhou Nicaise Marius Deguenonvo  
Tebogo Moatshe Ditshego  
Emmanuel Faustine Hamaro  
Immaculate Katushabe  
Eugene Paul Kavishe  
Ladu David Morris Lemi  
Ruth Elineema Lukwaro  
Michael Amaya Lwoyelo  
Nomvula Rutendo Denise Nonhlanhla Mhambi  
Hastings Mkandawire  
Martin Mugabi  
James Kpadeh Mulbah  
Weneyam Hermann Nare  
Mutuba Ngoma  
Oluwaseun Adedayo Oluwamayowa Obidipe  
Ezenwa Eleazar Okoro  
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***Yale University***

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Ethel Delali Cofie  
Ilda Suzana Massuanganhe Guambe  
Kwasi Owusu Gyeabour  
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Lucy Mary Athieno  
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Mamadou Drame  
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Ntsane Reginald Lepholisa  
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Lombola Gama Lombola  
Ruth Elineema Lukwaro  
Michael Amaya Lwoyelo  
Verengai Mabika  
Tumiso Godiraone Mabusela  
Mhlanganisi Someleze Madlongolwana  
Murendeni Stewart Mafumo  
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Emily Kadzo Murabu  
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Rhoydah Mwenya Mutuna  
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Weneyam Hermann Nare  
Zamafuze Lumka Ngcobo  
Mutuba Ngoma  
Setshwano Sharey Ngope  
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Muzi Sakhile Warren Ngwenya  
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Olusegun Gbenga Odunaiya  
Nonso Peter Okafor  
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Hetiarivony Hasinandrasana Zo Mamisoa Rabetsimamanga Ep. Rafenomanantsoa  
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Dziedzorm Kwaku Segbefia  
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