



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Biennale of Luanda
Pan-African Forum for the Culture of Peace

Youth Forum: Panelists' Bios and interventions

Youth, Peace and Security



Ms Mfrekeobong Ukpanah, Chief Youth
Network for Peace and Security of the
African Union

BIOGRAPHY

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Mfrekeobong Ukpanah is a Conflict Early Warning Analyst at the Continental Early Warning System (CEWS) of the Peace and Security Department (PSD) of the African Union Commission. She also co-convenes the Youth4Peace Africa Program of the PSD that seeks to partner with youth as leaders, implementers and beneficiaries of peace interventions in Africa. She is passionate about meaningful youth participation in peace and security as evident in her advocacy for the first ever AU Peace and Security Council (PSC) session on Youth, Peace and Security in November 2018. She has a master's degree in Peace and Conflicts Studies from the University of Ibadan, Nigeria and a Diploma in Peace and Security in Africa from Uppsala University, Sweden.

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Mfrekeobong Ukpanah est analyste de l'alerte précoce des conflits au sein du Système continental d'alerte rapide (CEWS) du Département Paix et Sécurité (PSD) de la Commission de l'Union africaine. Elle co-organise également le programme Youth4Peace Africa du PSD qui cherche à établir des partenariats avec les jeunes en tant que leaders, exécutants et bénéficiaires des interventions de paix en Afrique. Elle est passionnée par la participation significative des jeunes à la paix et à la sécurité, comme en témoigne son plaidoyer pour la toute première session du Conseil de paix et de sécurité (CPS) de l'UA sur la jeunesse, la paix et la sécurité en novembre 2018. Elle est titulaire d'une maîtrise en études sur la paix et les conflits de l'Université d'Ibadan (Nigéria) et d'un diplôme en paix et sécurité en Afrique de l'Université d'Uppsala (Suède).

PAPER

Presentation – Youth and the Culture of Peace in Africa

Africa continues to grapple with diverse threats to peace and security arising from a combination of several factors including political instability, grievances over exclusion and marginalization, transnational organized crimes (arms, drug and human trafficking), violent extremism and fundamentalism etc. Whereas, diverse stakeholders instigate and sustain this violence, the youth have often been perceived as the perpetrators of violence with little or no attention paid to their increasing roles and contributions through preventive actions and building a culture of peace amongst their peers and broader society. Often, young women and men are only involved in peace interventions as beneficiaries without acknowledgements of their skills to lead, implement and monitor peace interventions.

This perceptions and lop-sided engagements of youth facilitated calls for a United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) on Youth, Peace and Security. In December 2015, the UNSC adopted the historic UNSCR 2250, which recognizes the significant roles of youth in the promotion of peace and security and encourages their meaningful participation via five pillars – participation, prevention, protection, partnerships and disengagement and reintegration. The UNSCR 2250 mandated the independent progress study on Youth, Peace and Security - the Missing Piece that documents youth contributions and challenges in peace and

security. It makes strategic recommendations for the implementation of UNSCR 2250 to include appointment of YPS focal points, who will champion national YPS coalition with the aim of implementing commitments on 2250; urges regional/continental bodies to support the development of policy frameworks that address YPS issues in partnership with youth; and encourages the UN to provide financial support to youth led and oriented organizations, amongst other things – ensure periodic engagement with youth via presentation at the UNSC especially from countries on the UNSC agenda. In June 2018, the UNSC further adopted UNSCR 2419 and encourages the effective participation of youth in peace negotiations and implementation. This gave impetus to the commissioning of a global policy paper on the participation of youth in peace processes. The paper identifies youth participation in peace processes across 3 layers – inside, around and outside the room; and makes substantive recommendations to the inclusion of youth in all phases and tracks of peace processes; establish young insider mediation networks for the effective implementation and durability of peace agreement.

In this regard and as part of efforts to implement Article 17 of the AU Youth Charter (2006) and UNSCR 2250/2419, the Peace and Security Department (PSD) of the African Union Commission (AUC) launched the Youth for Peace (Y4P) Africa Program in September 2018 in Lagos, Nigeria with the cardinal objective of including, investing and partnering with youth for the promotion of sustainable peace and security in Africa. Article 17 of the AYC prescribes and roles obligations for youth in peace and security across seven areas – capacity building, promotion of a culture of peace via education and dialogue, condemnation of armed conflicts and prevention of sexual slavery of young people; protection of civilian population including youth during armed conflicts; mobilization of youth for the reconstruction of war-torn areas including bring assistance to war victims, promote peace, reconciliation and rehabilitation actions as well as promote physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration of young victims. It is against this background that the Youth4Peace Africa program seeks to effectively engage, involve and collaborate with youth – individual and organizations in the promotion of peace and security on the continent. This will contribute towards changing the negative perception of youth as harbingers of violence or problems to be solved to partners for peace.

Further, as part of efforts to gain political will in the implementation of the programme, the Youth4Peace Africa program advocated and secured the first open session of the AU Peace and Security Council (PSC) on Youth, Peace and Security,

which held on 8th November 2018 in commemoration of the Africa Youth Day. Key decisions of the communiqué of the 807th meeting of the PSC include clarion call to member states to urgently implement UNSCR 2250, 2419 and other regional and continental instruments relating to youth peace and security; appointment of five regional African Youth Ambassadors for Peace (AYAP) to champion the promotion of peace in collaboration with the AU Youth Envoy; finalization of the ongoing framework on youth peace and security; and commissioning of a study to assess the role and contributions of youth in peace and security on the continent. The PSC also institutionalized an annual session on YPS. Plans are ongoing to validate the continental study and framework on youth, peace and security which is anchored on Article 17 of AYC and UNSCR 2250 – it is our hope that the continental framework will serve as a guide to Member States in the development of national action plans as mandated by PSC; build and enhance the capacities of youth; support diverse efforts and interventions of youth on peace and security; develop a five year strategic plan (2020 – 2024); select the AYAP who in collaboration with the AU Youth Envoy will champion peaceful coexistence in Africa especially amongst the youth agency. The study report, continental framework and the AYAP will be presented and inaugurated at the 2nd PSC session on YPS in November 2019.

The regional and national level consultations for the PSC-mandated study provided unquestionable evidence of the incredible actions of young women and men across the spectrum of peace and security including but not limited to the following:

- In West Africa, ***the Sanctuary of Hope and Charity Foundation***, a youth oriented organization is conducting awareness for youth in schools and universities on the dangers of drug abuse and criminalization of drug trafficking. In collaboration with Nigeria’s drug and law enforcement agency as well as psychiatric doctors, the group has reached more than 8,000 lives in 12 out of 36 states of Nigeria and facilitated the rescue of over 31 youth from drug abuse.
- ***In Cameroon***, LifeAid via its Youth Initiative for Inclusive Dialogue (YILD) program advocates for young people as forerunners of inclusive dialogue in the ongoing Anglophone crisis including via shuttle mediation efforts between disputing parties in the Anglophone crisis. The group is also raising awareness on the consequences of the crisis especially the plight of displaced people and the increased risk of radicalization and violent extremism in the Anglophone areas.
- ***In Rwanda***, a youth organization mobilizes people against hate speeches and genocidal ideologies; conducts training, dialogues and conferences with

the objective of preventing a re-occurrence of the 1994 genocide and all forms of atrocity crimes. *In Somalia*, the Centre for Youth Empowerment works to promote the participation of youth especially young women in decision making against systemic and cultural hindrances in Burao region of Togheer. The group has succeeded in lobbying traditional and religious authorities to allocate seats to youth and women in decision-making process.

- *In Zimbabwe, Community Solutions Zimbabwe (CSZ)* initiated and implemented Youth Capacity Building and Advocacy Initiative on National Peace and Reconciliation (YCBA-NPR). The group engaged in targeted advocacy at the National Peace and Reconciliation Commission (NPRC) to encourage meaningful participation of youth in the NPRC-led dialogue that facilitated peaceful political transition. Their interventions created robust awareness especially within the NPRC structure, which increasingly strives to ensure meaningful youth participation in all peace and reconciliation efforts. It also nurtured trust between Youth and NPRC as the former are dedicated and actively participating in all NPRC outreach consultations across the 10 provinces.

The deployment of peace education by diverse youth organizations including those working in remote communities to create peace clubs and raise peer mediators in schools is strategic as these goes a long way to imbibe in pupils a culture of peace that will not be easily discarded when grown. Several young people have also taken to arts, music, movies, sport etc. to promote peace and foster cohesion in their communities. I find this very appealing, as these are spaces young people are readily found and could be enticed/incentivized for peace. Hence, I have conceived what I term the CAR approach – use of creative, appealing/attractive and rewarding measures to promote peace. In this regard, the Youth4Peace Africa Program team with support from the AU leadership will be instituting an annual reward scheme for young peacebuilders but also using diverse creative and attractive ways to promote peace across the continent. The above examples are only minor evidence of youth roles as formidable agents of peace and promising actions of which the Youth4Peace Africa program is convinced that given the opportunity and space to operate, African youth will undoubtedly and effectively promote sustainable peace either in the formal or informal sectors.

To foster sustainable peace, security and development, several structures, policies, programmes but most of all attitudinal changes are required. For instance, we need

to review strategies to capture the heart, mind and soul of youth for peace – we are not solely interested in their promotion of peace, but mostly interested in their being peaceful and infecting the world with the peace they carry; as the saying goes, ‘you cant give what you don’t have’. We need to work to control and silence the negative and inciteful thoughts that penetrate our daily minds – for all the violence of this world are a direct manifestation of the human mind, hence we must put the mind in check. Specifically, i make the following recommendations.

To the Government:

1. We appreciate the diverse policies, programmes and platforms to facilitate youth engagement and involvement. However, these policies or programmes are inadequate and also do not necessarily facilitate the active inclusion and participation of youth in design and implementation. As the largest and most potent population of the continent, we need to move beyond the talk and act the talk by ensuring meaningful youth engagement and participation;
2. Provide the political space and resources required to support the youth agency. Deliberately create spaces including key positions in the presidency, government or private sector establishments to be lead by youth;
3. Allocate dedicated financial resources to support the enormous work of youth in peacebuilding, entrepreneurship and innovation.
4. Provide requisite infrastructures to enhance their capacities and support their creativity, entrepreneurship and innovation in preparation for their effective contributions and drive of the 4th industrial revolution on the continent and global arena;

To Youth:

1. Arise Ye African Youth and Assert your leadership in all spheres;
2. Awake from slumber, circumstances, and blame-games and create the future you desire and deserve. There is no room to wallow in self-pity; we can no longer afford to cry or bemoan unavailability of jobs, perceptions of marginalization and exclusion etc., We need to arise and upset the status quo, shake off obstacles and build peace, foster cohesion and create employment and livelihood opportunities;
3. You can no longer afford to wait for seats to be allocated to you on the table. Peaceably arise to demand and take your seats on the table; where necessary, create inclusive tables to drive desired changes. ***Make impacts that can not be comprehended but yet can not be denied – this way, no***

one will deny your presence or impact but rather lobby for your participation at the decision making and implementing tables;

4. Refrain from unhealthy competitions that pitch you against your agency. Foster collaborative partnership within available resources while exploring more opportunities; forge and maintain strong links to your respective youth agencies and ensure strategic as well as effective information and communication flow. Adopt a bottom up approach and build trust amongst your agency;
5. We can do all of these and many more...because we are the most potent population on the continent – physical strength, wisdom for unbeatable & inconceivable creativity and innovation; ***So arise, activate your subconscious mind - develop positive intent, dwell on strategies to implement this intent and possess the unending burning desire to nurture a better Africa.***
6. Arise, take the lead to design, deploy and implement sustainable peace, development and technological strides on the continent and beyond;
7. There is never a better time to ACT than now – to cultivate, harvest and convert the enormous energies that lies within African Youth for the promotion of sustainable peace, stability and development for the actualization of the Africa WE collectively Want, Desire and Deserve.

God bless African Youth, God bless Africa



Mr. John Paul Ekene Ikwele, Chairperson of the pan-African Youth network for the Culture of Peace

BIOGRAPHY

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Ekene is a youth engagement, social inclusion and culture of peace professional with over ten-years of experience working with youth-led organizations and civil society initiatives. He is experienced in result-orientation (certified), project coordination and partnership development, customer/donor relations, and has intriguing interpersonal and communication skills evident from his role as Chairperson of the Pan-African Youth Network for a Culture of Peace (PAYNCoP), a UNESCO-affiliated network of youth organizations working on the promotion of the Culture of Peace in 42 African countries.

He is Co-Founder and Team Lead at the Center for Youth Advocacy and Development (CEYAD); a young organization focused on Social transformation via good governance; Peace and Security via social justice and inclusion; on preparing young people for smooth transition to adulthood; and on building grass-root movements through coalitions and people power. Ekene helped co-design and plan the 11th UNESCO Youth Forum with the UNESCO Youth Secretariat as a member of the UNESCO Youth Steering Group. Ekene is also a movement building coach whose work with CEYAD and the African Coaches Network has supported emerging youth movements and coalitions to build collective power, solidarity and to effectively use non-violent actions and peacebuilding advocacy to transform their local communities and change narratives while fostering active citizenship.

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Ekene est un professionnel de l'engagement des jeunes, de l'inclusion sociale et de la culture de la paix qui a plus de dix ans d'expérience de travail avec des organisations dirigées par des jeunes et des initiatives de la société civile. Il est expérimenté dans l'orientation vers les résultats (certifié), la coordination de projets et le développement de partenariats, les relations clients/donateurs, et possède des compétences interpersonnelles et de communication intrigantes, comme en témoigne son rôle de président du Réseau panafricain de la jeunesse pour une culture de la paix (PAYNCoP), un réseau d'organisations de jeunesse affilié à l'UNESCO qui travaille à la promotion de la culture de la paix dans 42 pays africains.

Il est co-fondateur et chef d'équipe du Center for Youth Advocacy and Development (CEYAD), une jeune organisation qui se concentre sur la transformation sociale par la bonne gouvernance, la paix et la sécurité par la justice sociale et l'inclusion, la préparation des jeunes à une transition en douceur vers l'âge adulte et la création

de mouvements de base par le biais de coalitions et du pouvoir populaire. Ekene a participé à la conception et à la planification du 11e Forum des jeunes de l'UNESCO avec le Secrétariat de la jeunesse de l'UNESCO en tant que membre du Groupe directeur de la jeunesse de l'UNESCO. Ekene est également un coach en construction de mouvement dont le travail avec le CEYAD et le Réseau des coachs africains a soutenu les mouvements de jeunesse et les coalitions émergentes pour construire le pouvoir collectif, la solidarité et pour utiliser efficacement les actions non-violentes et le plaidoyer pour la construction de la paix pour transformer leurs communautés locales et changer les récits tout en favorisant la citoyenneté active.



Mr. Acha kele Christian Leke, Coordinator of the Local Youth Corner in Cameroun

BIOGRAPHY

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Achaleke Christian Leke, is a youth civil society activist and peace advocate with over eight years of experience and a record of working with over one million young people in his execution/co-organisation of over 100 youth development and peace building projects.

He volunteer as the National Coordinator of a youth-led civil society organization called Local Youth Corner Cameroon. He is member of several youth development networks and organisations, and he work in close collaboration with the Cameroon Ministry of Youth Affairs and Civic Education and other development stakeholders. Most recently, he was named the Commonwealth Young Person of the Year 2016, thanks to my contribution to peace and the fight against violent extremism. His organization is currently championing youth action for peace and preventing and countering violent extremism. In 2015, he developed a youth peace building

training manual and video documentary that has empowered over 20,000 young people both in Cameroon and abroad. He have an established track record of working and disengaging young people from violence.

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Achaleke Christian Leke, est un jeune militant de la société civile et un défenseur de la paix avec plus de huit ans d'expérience et un record de travail avec plus d'un million de jeunes dans l'exécution/co-organisation de plus de 100 projets de développement de la jeunesse et de construction de la paix.

Il est coordinateur national bénévole d'une organisation de la société civile dirigée par des jeunes, appelée Local Youth Corner Cameroon. Il est membre de plusieurs réseaux et organisations de développement de la jeunesse, et il travaille en étroite collaboration avec le ministère camerounais des affaires de la jeunesse et de l'éducation civique et d'autres acteurs du développement. Plus récemment, il a été nommé Jeune de l'année 2016 du Commonwealth, grâce à ma contribution à la paix et à la lutte contre l'extrémisme violent. Son organisation défend actuellement l'action des jeunes pour la paix et la prévention et la lutte contre l'extrémisme violent. En 2015, il a mis au point un manuel de formation des jeunes à la construction de la paix et un documentaire vidéo qui a permis à plus de 20 000 jeunes de se prendre en charge, tant au Cameroun qu'à l'étranger. Il a fait ses preuves en matière de travail et de désengagement des jeunes de la violence.



Mr. Noemio Dylan Mukoroli, Regional
Coordinator for Southern Africa Youth
Network for the Culture of Peace

BIOGRAPHY

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Mr Noemio Dylan Mukoroli holds a Diploma in Lifelong Learning and Community Education from the University of Namibia, and is a Final Year Honours student in the same field. He is pursuing a career in this field because of his ambition to better the lives of communities. He has experience in training, research and project consulting. He was a junior project consultant at Integrated Social development Services in 2015. Also from the year 2015 he has and is still annually contracted by Feminist NGO Sister Namibia to conduct 'Conflict resolution, youth and peace' workshops in Rural Omaheke. In November 2015 Darwin, Australia and December 2016 London, UK respectively, he presented reports on his Commonwealth Experience. Lastly he is a graduate of the U.S State Departments Premier Program. He is the Regional Coordinator for Southern Africa for the Pan-African Youth Network for the Culture of Peace (PAYNCoP-UNESCO).

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M. Noemio Dylan Mukoroli est titulaire d'un diplôme en Lifelong Learning and Community Education de l'Université de Namibie et est étudiant en dernière année avec mention dans le même domaine. Il poursuit une carrière dans ce domaine en raison de son ambition d'améliorer la vie des communautés. Il a de l'expérience en formation, en recherche et en consultation de projets. En 2015, il a été consultant junior chez Integrated Social Development Services. Depuis 2015 il est engagé chaque année par l'ONG féministe Sister Namibia pour animer des ateliers « Résolution des conflits, jeunesse et paix » à Omaheke. En novembre 2015 à Darwin, en Australie, et en décembre 2016 à Londres, au Royaume-Uni, il a présenté des rapports sur son expérience du Commonwealth. Il est diplômé du programme U.S State Departments Premier. Il est coordonnateur régional pour l'Afrique australe du Réseau panafricain de la jeunesse pour la culture de la paix (PAYNCoP-UNESCO).

PAPER

Assessment of the progress made for the implementation of Article 17 of the African Youth Charter and the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250 and 2419 in Namibia

Summary

Namibia has made great strides in integrating youth in the processes that seeks to deal issues such youth, peace, security, economic and political integration. This

paper makes a case for Namibia's adoption and advocacy of UNSCR 2250 and 2419 and looks at what level of communications exists between existing youth bodies. The two resolutions have not been implemented in Namibia as of yet. There exists no action plan that seeks to materialize the content under the two resolutions. Furthermore, there is also much that still needs to be done politically and economically integrate youth into the mainstream.

Biography

" Mr. Mukoroli holds a Diploma in Lifelong Learning and Community Education from the University of Namibia, and is a Final Year Honours student in the same field. He is pursuing a career in this field because of his ambition to better the lives of communities. He has experience in training, research and project consulting. He was a junior project consultant at Integrated Social development services in 2015. Also from the year 2015 he has and is still annually contracted by Feminist NGO Sister Namibia to conduct 'Conflict resolution, youth and peace' workshops in Rural Omaheke. In November 2015 Darwin, Australia and December 2016 London, UK respectively, he presented reports on his Commonwealth Experience. Lastly he is a graduate of the U.S State Departments Premier Program, the International Visitors Leadership Programme.

- 1) With Regards to UNSCR 2250 and 2419, there is a lack of extension and appropriation by governments and youth organizations. There is a lot of youth development in Namibia, however youth development covers areas of agriculture, financial literacy and industrialization. Youth are still greatly marginalized from the issues of peace and security. Issues of peace and security are regarded as high profile interventions and there is a sentiment that it cannot be left in the hands of young people. Although the issue of sustainable development has great level of participation amongst young people, there is little emphasis on peace and security. It is very much in abstract.

There exists no action to spearhead the implementation of UNSCR 2250 and 2419. This puts youth at a great disadvantage as it does not give them a foundational scope to advocate for the issue.

On Article 17 of the African Youth Charter (AYC) that looks at the right to education, ability to freely take part in cultural life of their community and promotion and protection of morals and traditional ideas. This perhaps is an issue that young people are championing. Right to education is big political business in my country. The constitution places the greatest legal emphasis on the issue. There exist certain youth organizations that are

championing this issue, such as the Namibian National Students Organization (NANSO). However, there is no action to implement article 17 of AYC. The advocacy around right to education is mere an issue of principle but there is nothing of substance that directly speaks of an action plan.

4) Of the main areas, i) political integration, ii) economic integration, vi) disengagement and reintegration are the areas that possess a challenge for my country.

i) Political Integration

Namibia is a relatively young democracy. Having gained independence in 1990, there is a lot that still needs happen that shall seek to mature our democracy and political integration is one of them. With regards to our parliament, it is shameful to say that 29 years after independence; young people are still not fully represented in the legislature. The legislature is still dominated by old guards who refuse to relinquish power to the young and capable.

However, one notable intervention is the establishment of a Children's Parliament. The aim of this children's parliament is to include young people in decision making processes. It however has some achievements for the girl and boy child. But it can go up to 6 years without having a session. This greatly questions the ineffectiveness of the body.

A point is case, the ruling party of the country, SWAPO recently held its electoral college in which it selects its party members for parliamentary seats. Young party members really came out in numbers to contest and vouch for parliamentary. It was seen as the takeover of the young in the parliamentary process. However, as slightly expected the old guards mobilized themselves and again dominated the party seats. Only a small pocket of young people made it through to. This speaks to the question of political integration. Young people are not integrated.

ii) Economic Integration

This is one area where young people have been constantly demanding for inclusiveness. The Namibian economy is very much marginalized in the sense that it does not include women and young people. The most notable case of including young people in the economy is the establishment of the Small and Medium Enterprise Bank (SME Bank). SME Bank with a blast and

put young people at the centre of economic activity. The bank gave out non collateral credit facilities to youth owned SME's. however, this story was short-lived. The bank was mismanaged and closed down.

This greatly affected young people as it set them back to square one. In terms of genuine economic integration, there exists a certain pockets of initiatives, but nothing that carries substance that can answer the question of integration.

5) The most notable recommendation is that, that speaks to increasing youth engagement platforms. Youth engagement platforms is a concept that allows young people to develop action plan ideas and compare notes. Initiatives such as the Biennale de Luanda are platforms where critical policy can be scrutinized with the utmost of scrutiny.

6.) Young people can take ownership by being more involved in civic engagement platforms. Civic engagement platforms such as public speaking and conferences. It is at such platforms where young people will be able to develop youth networks.

Secondly youth organizations such as NANSO and the National Youth Council must reconfigure and restructure their youth based policies. Policies cannot only be in abstract anymore. It must be based on a matter of merit.

8.) I do not consider this call to be sufficient. There was no aspect of accountability, monitoring and evaluation. There's nothing that holds countries to account if they don't prioritise to remove barriers hampering the effective implementation of UNSCR 2250 and 2419. Above and beyond that, there's no committee that will evaluate how well countries have integrated the two UN resolutions.

Creativity, Entrepreneurship and Innovation



Mr. Zié Daouda Koné, Incubation and Innovation
Center of the National Commission for UNESCO (Côte
d'Ivoire)

BIOGRAPHY

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Zié Daouda Koné is an Ivorian national. He holds a Master's degree in economics and a Master's degree in rural economics. As a youth leader, he has participated in the development of several youth programmes, including the National Youth Policy 2016-2020. With several years of experience in the field of employability and social inclusion of young people, he is involved in the design, planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of programs and projects for this target group. As a member of the "Youth, Peace and Security" programme, he carries out civic activities and youth capacity building activities in line with resolution 2250 for a better presence of young people. Appointed as a young champion by the FIDA, he participated in consultations on the development of the Youth Advisory Council of this institution for a more active integration of young people. He is a member of the team of the Department of Macroeconomics and Modelling at CIREs (Centre Ivoirien de Recherches Economiques et Sociales)

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De nationalité Ivoirienne, Zié Daouda KONE est titulaire d'une maitrise en Economie et d'un master en Economie Rurale. Leader de jeunesse, il a participé à l'élaboration de plusieurs programmes en faveur de la jeunesse et notamment à la politique nationale de la jeunesse 2016-2020. Coordonnateur du centre d'incubation et Laboratoire d'innovation sociale de l'UNESCO, il a participé à la formation de plus de 27.000 jeunes avec MTN FOUNDATION, MICROSOFT et l'Université du Réseau sur les modules en gestion de projets, en entrepreneuriat, en éducation au développement durable et à la citoyenneté mondiale ; sur la gouvernance, la démocratie et le genre. Avec plusieurs années d'expériences dans le domaine de l'employabilité et l'inclusion sociale des jeunes, il participe, à la

conception, la planification, la réalisation et le suivi-évaluation des programmes et projets à l'endroit de cette cible. Membre de l'équipe directeur de la pépinière qui est un incubateur pour la formation des jeunes filles en leadership, participation politique et gouvernance citoyenne. Membre du programme « **jeunesse, paix et sécurité** », ils mènent des activités de civisme, de renforcement des capacités des jeunes en lien avec la résolution 2250 pour une meilleure présence des jeunes. Nommé comme jeune champion par le FIDA, il a également participé aux consultations sur l'élaboration du Conseil Consultatif de la Jeunesse de cette institution pour une intégration plus active des jeunes.

Il est par ailleurs membre de l'équipe du département de Macroéconomie et modélisation au CIRES (Centre Ivoirien de Recherches Economiques et Sociales).



Miss Dora Massounga, Executive
Director of Warisse (Gabon)

BIOGRAPHY

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Dora Massounga is an innovative entrepreneur, a tourism consultant and a published academic author from Gabon. She is also a 2019 Mandela Washington Fellow. Dora is the head of two tourism startups, she's the co-founder and CEO of Warisse and the founder and head consultant at AZ Travel Consulting and Services.

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Dora Massounga est une entrepreneuse innovatrice, consultante en tourisme et une auteure universitaire gabonaise publiée. Elle est également boursière du Mandela Washington Fellow 2019. Dora est à la tête de deux nouvelles entreprises touristiques, elle est co-fondatrice et PDG de Warisse, ainsi que la fondatrice et consultante principale chez AZ Travel Consulting and Services.

PAPER

Promoting Experience Tourism in Gabon: an innovative way to alleviate poverty, create jobs and contribute to heritage conservation

Summary:

In a country where unemployment rates are high especially among women and the youth, and where the tourism potential is still widely underutilized, entrepreneurship in that field seems to be one logical solution. This is the goal that Warisse, a tourism startup based in Gabon, is set out to achieve. Dora Massounga, one of the founders whose background is in tourism management explains how the young company intends to create sustainable jobs, involve local communities and promote revenue distribution, while at the same time encouraging cultural heritage preservation.

The challenges faced on a daily basis range from lack of funding, lack of skills in critical fields, and evolving in an environment that is not yet familiar with the culture of entrepreneurship. However, they are determined to bring about change in their environment, their country and the continent as a whole, and they believe that the African youth can achieve anything, if given the right opportunities.

Key words: Youth, Entrepreneurship, Gabon, Tourism, Africa.

1) ABOUT GABON

Gabon, like many other Sub-Saharan African countries, is characterized by a high rate of unemployment (over 20 % according to a recent World Bank study). Many women and young people, some of them highly educated, struggle to find decent jobs, and one of the solutions proposed and encouraged by government is their emancipation through entrepreneurship. Over the past few years, there has been various initiatives to diversify the country's economy and promote entrepreneurship especially among the youth. This has been done mainly through the implementation of a legal framework adapted to entrepreneurship and the establishment of a one-stop shop to register companies, through training and mentoring opportunities as well as easier access to funding.

The tourism sector of Gabon presents the perfect opportunity to achieve that as it is still in its early stages. This beautiful country is extremely rich in both natural and cultural resources; however the tourism offer is mostly of poor quality and lacks

diversity. This is the reason why Dora Massounga recently co-founded a tourism startup called Warisse that aims at creating one of a kind tourism experiences in Gabon.

2) ABOUT DORA

Dora Massounga is a travel and tourism professional with a passion for excellent customer service and a determination for success. She is the co-founder of Warisse, and the founder of AZ Travel Consulting & Services. Before becoming an entrepreneur, she had the privilege of working worldwide for hospitality brands like Garden Court, Marriott International, Park Inn and Radisson Blu hotels.

As a postgraduate in Tourism Management from the University of Johannesburg, Dora is committed to participate in the development of the tourism sector in her home country through entrepreneurial activities based on strategic partnerships and host community participation. Her goal is to cultivate her expertise and creativity to not only grow her companies into generating profitable revenues, but to also create jobs and contribute to poverty alleviation.

In 2019, she was selected to take part in the Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders, and was also given the opportunity to participate in a **Professional Development Experience** with a US based organization.

3) ABOUT WARISSE

Warisse started as both a private company and a social initiative. Its two co-founders wanted to put their knowledge, past experiences and creativity to good use by tackling one big problem: the inadequacy of the tourism offering in Gabon. They had both already been entrepreneurs for a while, having both quit their respective previous jobs in search of something meaningful. After they met in early 2018 and realized they shared the same vision for tourism in their country and had been struggling to bring it to life on their own, they decided to join forces and work on this project together. They officially launched Warisse in November of the same year.

Warisse offers curated trips, tours and activities that expose travelers to the hidden beauty of Gabon based on its culture, traditions, people and nature. Moving away from traditional ways of viewing and promoting tourism, which are based on the destination, Warisse focuses on the unique experience of the costumer.

The concept of Warisse is essentially that of a web platform where users can browse through, book and purchase a range of unique tourism experiences that fit

their preferences. Using technology to simplify the purchasing processes and increase customer satisfaction, making sure to provide one of a kind experiences and outstanding service quality for every visitor. The company works with a range of partners, suppliers and tour operators including local communities. With their help, a range of experiences are continuously being created that fall under different categories: Cultural traditions, Nature and wildlife, Gastronomy, Adventure, Arts and crafts, Road trips and excursions.

Warisse responds to several needs, whether economic or social, namely the creation of employment and income-generating activities through tourism activity for local populations who are often poor and have no other means of surviving; the valorization and conservation of cultural heritage; the diversification of the economy and the promotion of Gabon as a tourism destination both locally and internationally. It can therefore be considered a social enterprise

The company, which relies heavily on strategic partnerships with other SMEs and local communities, is expected to create fifty (50) direct and indirect jobs in the next five (5) years, as well as generate a cumulative turnover of approximately 150 000 USD that will be distributed across all stakeholders.

4) OVERCOMING CHALLENGES

One of the biggest challenges faced by startups is the lack of funding to launch and execute their business strategy in the best conditions. Warisse is no exception and instead of waiting around for a grant or for big funding, its founders chose to bootstrap their way to success. They also apply for startup competitions and entrepreneurship programs whenever the opportunity presents itself.

Also, there is the fact that entrepreneurship is not well understood nor encouraged in some African societies. Parents of young entrepreneurs rarely support their efforts, as they would prefer them to pursue traditional careers in fields like medicine, law, banking or even politics. In order to face that societal discomfort, Warisse founders believe in the importance of developing a network of fellow entrepreneurs who can relate and support through the daily struggles, and in being mentored by someone who has already been through that journey and can help, guide or advise whenever necessary. Hence, initiatives like #1Millionby2021 are welcomed and highly encouraged, for a blooming of African entrepreneurs.



Mr Maxwell Katekwe, Head of Monitoring and Evaluation of Restless Development (Zimbabwe)

BIOGRAPHY

EN

Maxwell Katekwe is a 28-year-old young Zimbabwean man. He holds a History and International Studies Degree and MSc Master of Science Degree in Development Studies. He is passionate working with young people to make a lasting positive change as they constitute the greatest percentage of the world's population.

FR

Maxwell Katekwe est un jeune Zimbabwéen de 28 ans. Il est titulaire d'un diplôme d'histoire et d'études internationales et d'une maîtrise en sciences en études du développement. Il est passionné par le travail avec les jeunes, car ils constituent le plus grand pourcentage de la population mondiale, et c'est avec passion qu'il travaille avec eux afin d'apporter un changement positif durable.

PAPER

Peace for Prosperity

ABSTRACT:

*A peaceful environment gives room for young people to be creative and innovative and also for entrepreneurship to thrive, which is key for an Africa We Want. Using the story circle tool for the first time in Zimbabwe and in Southern Africa on a pilot project and also testing the tool have been a peace ambassador. With this I have dedicated my time since 2017 when I was working on a project entitled "**Fostering***

a Culture of Peace Among Young People in Zimbabwe”, in Mufakose, Ushewokunze and Hopley Farm .The project was designed to champion peace and tolerance among young people by equipping them with knowledge, skills and attitudes on how to live peacefully with others despite their differences, Zimbabwe was approaching 2018 as well elections. I conducted 30 community dialogue sessions with the assistance of other young people reaching out to 489 (211M, 278F) young people in four months.

Importance of peace

Peace is a concept of societal friendship and harmony in the absence of hostility and violence. Conflicts have exacted numerous burdens on the society and economy, without peace, the destructive tendencies of our species will continue to inch us closer to catastrophe. Young people need to identify common, similar and shared lived experiences despite differences and then start building a relationship from there. Differences should be celebrated within community and it's a sign of strengths. In 2016 the global economy lost \$14.3 trillion to violence and conflict in purchasing power parity, therefore peace is important for prosperity.

Background & Context

A number of topics were covered during the dialogue sessions such as culture and cultural differences, communication, self-awareness, empathy, respect, peace and relation building. Through the dialogue sessions, young people reflected on the main sources of misunderstanding, conflict and violence at school, their neighborhood, in marriages and at church.

What works & good practices

- The sessions created safe spaces for young people to share and reflect on their experiences. The story circles were participatory in nature, they opened the floor for everyone to share their thoughts and personal experiences.
- The story circles generated a lot of useful information through the use of open ended questions which gave room for gathering contextual and diverse views of participants.
- In addition the story circles are more about listening than telling, hence they have challenged young people to critically listen to other people's views rather than dominating discussions.

The manual is very detailed hence it provides the facilitator with good content on the aspects to be covered.

The ICD dialogue sessions utilised the story circles methodology that promoted young people to share their lived experiences on a number of topics. An evaluation of the sessions has shown that young people have been empowered with the essential aspects of intercultural competencies such as respect, self-awareness, empathy, listening and relationship building. The competencies gained have enabled peace, community building, reconciliation and celebration in the short period that the project has been implemented. In the long run the competencies gained will help young people to have some of the characteristics of social entrepreneurship which are self-confidence, perseverance, leadership, team spirit and adaptability which are essential for every entrepreneur.

The feedback has shown an important element of the methodology, as it does not end on just understanding each other, but it also challenges individuals on what they think and why, and what they will do with the gained knowledge.

I employed the story circles methodology to address gender based violence and drug abuse issues by bringing together young people from different districts to dialogue on the issues

Challenges & lesson learnt

- Intercultural competencies are required in any society as they unpack the realized causes of misunderstanding, conflict and violence and facilitate locally generated solutions that ultimately promote tolerance, peace and harmony.
- There is need to also contextualise the prompts or area of focus for the discussion during a dialogue for example in one of the areas had to discuss on the issue Gender Based Violence.

Financing, monitoring & policy guidance

There is need for financial resources for more activities pertaining to peace so as to be able to promote a culture of peace among young people. In Zimbabwe there the National Youth Policy which guides young people's entrepreneurship and creativity. It stipulates that youth empowerment is the creation of an enabling environment for the youth to have freedom to choose, to participate in and take decisions in matters that affect them, it also talks of inclusion and leaving no youth behind as it talks of the young people with disability. On section 4.2 an estimated 10% of the young people are living with disability. The youth policy recognises that unemployment and limited access to economic and social resources are among the great challenges facing young people in Zimbabwe. Among some of the **youth empowerment and participation** are the following:

- a. Ensure meaningful youth participation during the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of youth programmes and projects;
- b. Facilitate establishment and funding of youth groups and youth Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), led and headed by the youth themselves and ensure their participation in decision-making processes at all levels;
- c. Promote the creation of a National Youth Forum for all youth and youth organizations;

Peace in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and African Union Agenda 2063 goals and targets, and if possible, to regional frameworks of the African Union Regional Economic Communities (REC)

Sustainable Development Goal number 16 speaks of Peace, Justice and Strong institutions which is essential and should be achieved by year 2030. On the same note to achieve Agenda 2063 the concrete manifestation of the pan-African drive for unity, self-determination, freedom, progress and collective prosperity pursued there is need for peace. Opportunities for the development of youth in Africa, to actively and meaningfully drive the full realization of Africa's Agenda 2063 is the epicenter of Africa's development. As I am in favor of the "1 Million By 2021 Initiative" which aims to concretely reach millions of African youth from across the continent with opportunities and interventions in the key areas of Employment, Entrepreneurship, Education and Engagement (4E's), which will accelerate socioeconomic development on the continent. To achieve the four E's there is need for peace, hence Peace for Prosperity.

Mr. Jofre Euclides Dos Santos, Director General of the Youth Institute, Angola

PAPER

Introduction

L'Angola est un pays à population majoritairement jeune, les données du dernier recensement de la population montrent qu'environ 2/3 de sa population a moins de 25 ans de cette façon, il serait imprudent d'établir les bases du développement socio-économique sans tenir compte de ce facteur, c'est une préoccupation primordiale du gouvernement, de travailler pour assurer son présent et son avenir afin de lui permettre de contribuer au développement durable du pays ;

La Constitution de la République d'Angola prévoit, aux termes de l'article 81, que les jeunes jouissent d'une protection spéciale pour la réalisation de leurs droits économiques, sociaux et culturels, parmi lesquels nous soulignons ce paragraphe ;

a) Dans l'éducation, la formation professionnelle et la culture ;

b) l'accès au premier emploi, au travail et à la sécurité sociale.

En 2013, le gouvernement angolais a élaboré un vaste processus de consultation avec les jeunes. Plus de 202 réunions ont eu lieu dans toutes les municipalités et provinces du pays, avec la participation de plus de 50 000 jeunes, qui ont abouti à la tenue du Forum national de la jeunesse en septembre de la même année, à l'issue duquel 65 recommandations structurées ont été formulées dans dix domaines principaux, dont l'emploi, la formation professionnelle, l'éducation et l'éducation, et l'accès aux tics ;

Ces recommandations et domaines ont donné naissance au Plan national de développement de la jeunesse, aligné sur le Plan national de développement de la jeunesse 2014-2017, qui contient les principales préoccupations des jeunes, sa mise en œuvre ayant un caractère transversal dans une articulation étroite entre le MINJUD et les autres ministères et a constitué la base pour structurer des politiques orientées vers la jeunesse, permettant aux acteurs publics et privés d'harmoniser leurs stratégies, comprendre mutuellement leurs objectifs et définir des actions communes plus efficaces et cohérentes.

Ces domaines correspondent à un programme d'action divisé en quatre axes, dont le premier est l'intégration des jeunes dans la vie professionnelle.

Les instruments suivants ont été mis en place pour appuyer la mise en œuvre du plan : L'Institut angolais de la jeunesse et le renforcement du Fonds de soutien à la jeunesse et au sport, dont le budget provient de l'augmentation de la surtaxe sur les ventes de tabac.

Au cours de cette période, afin de promouvoir la créativité, l'esprit d'entreprise et l'innovation, le Gouvernement a investi massivement dans les centres de formation professionnelle, les écoles d'art et d'artisanat, les établissements d'enseignement supérieur, en mettant l'accent sur le centre technologique national de l'université Augustinian petit fils où les jeunes créateurs développent leur créativité et développent les programmes suivants :

11. Entrepreneurship Program dans la communauté, ont été formés un univers de 12.430 citoyens de ces derniers ont eu accès au microcrédit ami sun 5.528.. ;
12. Incubateur d'entreprises INEFOP ;
13. Centres municipaux d'entrepreneuriat et de services d'emploi ; dans l'ensemble du pays, nous avons 66
14. Clese's (centres locaux d'entrepreneuriat et services d'emploi)
15. Création et expansion du réseau de médiathèques, nous avons 8 dans le pays et 6 centres mobiles.
16. Création de carrés numériques
17. Programme Pró-Jovem, une ligne de crédit pour soutenir les jeunes entrepreneurs;
18. Les foires d'inventeurs, qui ont déjà donné lieu à de nombreuses médailles pour le pays ;
19. Plusieurs pavillons d'art et d'artisanat ont été créés ;
20. Dans tout le pays, nous comptons plus de 300 000 étudiants et 79 établissements d'enseignement supérieur qui encouragent la créativité et l'innovation fondées sur la recherche scientifique et l'utilisation de la technologie. Plus de 700 unités de formation privées et publiques ont été créées pour former des jeunes et d'autres citoyens, l'accent étant mis sur Cinfotec (Centre intégré de formation technologique), le seul du pays à avoir le niveau 4.

En 2018, le Plan National de Développement, PDN (2018-2022), a été approuvé, avec un caractère prospectif et pluriannuel, qui couvre les niveaux national, sectoriel et provincial de planification, et met en œuvre les options stratégiques pour le développement à long terme du pays, reprises dans la Stratégie à long terme (PEL) Angola 2025 où un des programmes essentiels est le développement intégral des jeunes qui est inclus dans le premier axe de l'instrument mentionné ; Dans le même ordre d'idées, la Politique Nationale de la Jeunesse a été approuvée en juillet 2019, dont l'un des principaux objectifs est de préparer et d'autonomiser les nouvelles générations d'Angolais afin d'en faire des hommes et des femmes d'initiative créative, compétents et capables d'assumer leurs tâches dans le processus de reconstruction et développement du pays.

Développement

Les jeunes Angolais sont très créatifs et innovateurs par nature, ce qui en fait des entrepreneurs par excellence, ce qui résulte de l'histoire de notre pays, puisque nos ancêtres, nous sommes habitués à trouver des solutions à diverses difficultés sociales et économiques, nous avons toujours été très actifs et résistants.

Dans notre pays, ces questions liées à la jeunesse sont traitées par le gouvernement avec un sens aigu des responsabilités, car elles ont contribué à l'insertion dans la vie active de nombreux jeunes et à l'amélioration de leur qualité de vie.

Exemples de solutions concrètes et de bonnes pratiques dans le domaine de l'innovation commerciale :

5. Kubinga Projects ;
6. Projet Tupuca ;
7. Projet Platinum Line ;
8. Projet Food Yeto ;

Le gouvernement angolais soutient et encourage la créativité, l'esprit d'entreprise et l'innovation en soutenant les initiatives des jeunes dans ce sens, développe des programmes et des projets et crée des structures qui facilitent l'accès des jeunes à la formation, travaille en partenariat avec les banques pour concevoir des crédits subventionnés et plaide avec des entités privées pour le financement des jeunes et la promotion du travail indépendant, avec des investissements financiers et un appui institutionnel qui consiste en un suivi, une facilitation et un accès au financement, valorisant avant tout la créativité, la capacité d'innovation, l'esprit d'entreprise générateur de revenus, afin d'améliorer la qualité de vie des jeunes.

Par l'intermédiaire des centres et institutions de l'État, l'exécutif apporte un appui institutionnel, technique, financier et juridique aux initiatives des jeunes entrepreneurs ; suivi, suivi et contrôle, en particulier des entrepreneurs émergents.

Recommandations :

21. Promouvoir le travail indépendant et le développement de l'esprit d'entreprise chez les bénéficiaires de la formation professionnelle ;
22. Améliorer le soutien aux initiatives et à l'esprit d'entreprise des jeunes pour accroître les possibilités de création d'emplois ;
23. Promouvoir une formation adaptée aux besoins du marché ;
24. Aider les entrepreneurs à surmonter les multiples défis de la mise en œuvre de l'entreprise par la formation et le conseil ;
25. Promouvoir la recherche appliquée en entrepreneuriat et le développement des entreprises ;
26. Encourager la recherche et la recherche scientifique chez les jeunes étudiants afin d'entreprendre sur la base de compétences scientifiques ;
27. Promouvoir une offre adéquate de formation dans le domaine de l'éducation des entreprises et de l'esprit d'entreprise ;

28. Créer des réseaux de centres d'incubation pour les jeunes pour une meilleure orientation économique ;
 29. Élaborer un programme pour promouvoir l'entrepreneuriat dans les 18 provinces du pays ;
 30. Mettre en œuvre des programmes qui facilitent la légalisation des petites entreprises des jeunes ;
 31. Créer davantage de carrés numériques dans les différentes provinces pour faciliter l'accès des jeunes à Internet ;
 32. Promouvoir la formation à l'entrepreneuriat dans les établissements d'enseignement et d'éducation ;
 33. Extension du réseau de centres de recherche technologique (cinfotec) dans tout le pays ;
 34. Meilleure appréciation et diffusion des inventions des jeunes Angolais essentielles pour le développement durable du pays ;
 35. Un meilleur suivi des Star-tups technologiques dans la gestion et la formalisation de leurs activités ;
 36. Développer des lignes de crédit qui facilitent la création de petites entreprises pour les jeunes ;
 37. Consolider le programme d'entrepreneuriat dans les établissements d'enseignement et d'enseignement afin de développer des habitudes, des compétences et des attitudes pour une vie active et l'esprit d'initiative, de créativité et d'autonomie ;
 38. Encourager l'esprit d'entreprise et les réseaux de petites et moyennes entreprises, soutenir les entrepreneurs émergents, stimuler le réseau d'incubateurs pour l'émergence de nouvelles entreprises ;
 39. L'organisation et la gestion de la recherche scientifique en tant que composante fondamentale de la promotion de l'innovation ;
 40. Exiger que les académies investissent davantage dans le volet recherche scientifique et innovation.
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Ms. Yvette Ishimwe, Monitoring and Evaluation
Officer of Restless Development, Zimbabwe

BIOGRAPHY

EN

Yvette Ishimwe is a young social entrepreneur with experience running a social innovative water supply company. She is the founder and CEO of IRIBA WATER Group Ltd, a social enterprise that offers authentic innovative solutions for drinking water and household water scarcity in Rwanda to help people access safe drinking water easily. Yvette holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Management with a focus in Logistics and Operations from Southern New Hampshire University. She is a fellow of YALI RLC East Africa 2015 and a global young water fellow in 2017. Yvette is a recipient of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth of England's 2017 and a 2019 Mandela Washington fellowship alumnus in the business and entrepreneurship track.

FR

Yvette Ishimwe est une jeune entrepreneuse sociale ayant de l'expérience dans la gestion d'une entreprise d'approvisionnement en eau socialement innovante. Elle est la fondatrice et la PDG d'IRIBA WATER Group Ltd, une entreprise sociale qui offre d'authentiques solutions innovantes pour l'eau potable et la pénurie d'eau domestique au Rwanda afin d'aider les gens à accéder facilement à une eau potable saine. Yvette est titulaire d'une licence en gestion des affaires avec spécialisation en logistique et opérations de la Southern New Hampshire University. Elle est membre de YALI RLC Afrique de l'Est 2015 et une jeune boursière mondiale en eau en 2017. Yvette est récipiendaire d'une bourse de Sa Majesté la reine Elizabeth d'Angleterre en 2017 et d'une bourse Mandela Washington en 2019 dans le volet affaires et entrepreneuriat.



Ms. Fadwa Gmiden, Pan-African Youth Network for
Culture of Peace, Tunisia

BIOGRAPHY

EN

With an academic background in Tunisia, the United States, and Belgium, Fadwa Gmiden is passionate about development, entrepreneurship and civic engagement. She has been given and taken positions of responsibility within different international NGOs and start-ups. She works on shaping and moving forward with their projects within budget and timeline. Her goal is to be a reference in secure software architecture and business sustainability.

FR

Avec une formation universitaire en Tunisie, aux États-Unis et en Belgique, Fadwa Gmiden est passionnée par le développement, l'entrepreneuriat et l'engagement civique. Elle a occupé des postes de responsabilité au sein de différentes ONG internationales et startups. Elle travaille à façonner et à faire avancer leurs projets avec diligence. Elle a pour objectif d'être une référence en matière d'architecture software sécurisée et de durabilité commerciale.