

World Export Development Forum 2023

Diversify with Green Trade: Organic, Digital, Sustainable

SESSION BIOGRAPHIES

In Conversation: Scaling up Youth Entrepreneurship



Video remarks: Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake, United Nations Secretary General's Envoy on Youth, United Nations.

Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake is the youngest senior official in the UN and the first woman to serve as the United Nations Secretary General's Envoy on Youth. In 2019 Ms. Wickramanayake was recognized by Time Magazine as one of the "Time 100 Next: Rising stars shaping the future" and in 2020 she was recognized by Forbes magazine as part of its "30 under 30" list. Prior to taking up her post, Ms. Wickramanayake was instrumental in creating the movement for civic and political engagement of young people in Sri Lanka. Previously, she advocated for global youth on an international level including as the first Sri Lankan Youth Delegate to the United Nations and as a member of the International Youth Task Force of the World Conference on Youth 2014.



Mr. Vedant Gandhi, Founder, RecycleX, India

Mr. Gandhi was an award winner for the first edition of the ITC Ecopreneur Awards. He co-founded and directs RecycleX, which recycles industrial carbon coal waste into green building materials. He specializes in environmental and social impact assessments for start-ups and governments, and is passionate about building an ecosystem for climate, clean tech and sustainability focused entrepreneurship. He also helps start-ups to scale up in clean tech space. He previously worked with the United Nations Smart Cities Programme in Bonn, Germany.



Ms. Neo Mosimane, Founder, Lebone Enterprise Development Agency, Botswana

Ms. Mosimane is an experienced entrepreneur and Advisor to the Ye! Community for Young Entrepreneurs chapter in Botswana. She has personal entrepreneurial experience as the founder of the Lebone Enterprise Agency, as well as Romantic Coffee. Ms Mosimane's enterprise development experience includes participating and moderating discussions around the field of entrepreneurship in Botswana, Africa as well as-internationally. As well as facilitating Ye! meet-ups under the theme of "Agri-tech business". She has also facilitated a panel discussion on financing startups in Botswana between mentors for the University of Botswana Business Clinic, where she herself is an active mentor guiding young entrepreneurs on their journey.



Mr. Allan Majuru, Chief Executive Officer, ZimTrade

Mr. Majuru was appointed CEO of ZimTrade in 2018. He spearheaded numerous transformative programmes at Zimtrade, including the global award-winning Eagle's Nest youth startup incubation initiative. Mr Majuru also serves as Chairman of two boards in the agriculture and mining sectors. He currently serves as Zimbabwe's Commissioner General Zimbabwe's delegation for Expo 2025, in Osaka, Japan and previously served as Zimbabwe's country ambassador for the 2021 Intra-African in Durban, South Africa. Mr. Majuru holds an MSc degree in Agricultural Applied Economics from the University of Pretoria and an Honours BSc degree in Agricultural Economics Extension from the University of Zimbabwe.



Moderator: Ms. Natalie Domeisen, Programme Lead, World Export Development Forum

Ms. Domeisen is a senior communications and advocacy professional specialized in trade development and environmental issues. Her career spans initiatives at the International Trade Centre, the World Meteorological Organization, the United Nations Strategy for Disaster Reduction, the World Health Organization and the World Economic Forum. Previously, she provided trade information to a multinational firm based in Washington DC and served as an experience-based learning director for the organization that trained the US Peace Corps. She co-founded a career development networking space housed at a Geneva-based university as a young professional, and over the years she has regularly mentored and trained numerous young professionals.