

# SET AFRICA

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS TRANSFORMING AFRICA

A MEMBER OF YouthActionNet®



YOUTH SHAPING THE FUTURE  
**2015 SET AFRICA FELLOWS**



“Initially we thought our mission was to develop ‘African solutions for African problems.’ After five years, it’s clear that what we offer the world is ‘African inspiration to solve global problems.’”

Bright Simons, mPedigree  
*2008 YouthActionNet Global Fellow, Ghana*



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The MasterCard Foundation is an independent, global organization based in Toronto, Canada, with more than \$6 billion in assets. Through collaboration with partner organizations in 49 countries, mostly in Africa, it is creating opportunities for all people to learn and prosper. The Foundation’s programs promote financial inclusion and advance youth learning. Established in 2006 through the generosity of MasterCard Worldwide when it became a public company, the Foundation is separate and independent from the company. Its policies, operations, and funding decisions are determined by its own Foundation Board of Directors and President and CEO.

For more information on The MasterCard Foundation, please visit [www.mastercardfdn.org](http://www.mastercardfdn.org).



The International Youth Foundation (IYF) invests in the extraordinary potential of young people. IYF builds and maintains a worldwide community of businesses, governments, and civil-society organizations committed to empowering youth to be healthy, productive, and engaged citizens.

To learn more, visit [www.iyfnet.org](http://www.iyfnet.org).

## BACKGROUND

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Youth are Africa's most abundant asset; as Bright Simons points out, young people in Africa can offer inspiration and solutions, not only on the continent but also globally. However, young people in Africa face a number of challenges. The results from the International Youth Foundation's (IYF) YouthMap assessments show that one such challenge is the lack of opportunities for youth to acquire leadership skills and experience, creating a major barrier to effective youth participation in community development.

To address this challenge, IYF, in partnership with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), The MasterCard Foundation, and Makerere University Business School (MUBS), established Social Entrepreneurs Transforming Africa (SET Africa), an initiative that supports young social innovators from across Anglophone Africa.



## ABOUT SET AFRICA

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SET Africa is a fellowship program for young social entrepreneurs, ages 18 to 29, who have founded or co-founded a venture that addresses a social challenge in their communities. Ventures must have demonstrated impact for at least one year in their community in one or more of the following thematic areas: Civic Engagement, Economic Empowerment, Education, Environment, Health, or Social Inclusion.

During the fellowship period, selected young leaders are equipped with the personal and organizational leadership skills, networking support, and advocacy needed to strengthen and expand their projects within their target communities. These fellows also join IYF's global YouthActionNet community of 1,100 young social innovators who are supported by 20 national and regional institutes like SET Africa.

Founded in 2013, in its first year SET Africa selected 23 fellows from 15 Anglophone countries in Africa, brought them together for a one-week residential training in Uganda, and provided follow-up mentoring, organizational development, funding, and networking support. Beginning in 2014, SET Africa focused on young social innovators within Uganda, and selected a cohort of 18 fellows from across the country, who were convened for leadership and organizational management training in early 2015.

The SET Africa program is managed through a collaborative effort by the Entrepreneurship Centre, Leadership Centre, and ICT Centre at MUBS, with ongoing support from IYF's YouthActionNet initiative, and is based in Kampala, Uganda.

For more information, please visit [www.setafrica.org](http://www.setafrica.org) or email [setafrica@mubs.ac.ug](mailto:setafrica@mubs.ac.ug).

With 70 percent of its population under the age of 30, Africa is the world's youngest continent. What role are the region's youth playing in shaping its future? How can today's young leaders access the knowledge and skills needed to fully contribute to their communities and nations, while serving as role models for their peers? SET Africa was launched in 2013 in response to these questions. Over two years, the program has identified and supported over 40 young social entrepreneurs in 15 countries. In these pages, you will learn about the innovative solutions implemented by the 2015 SET Fellows—from empowering rural communities with low-cost, solar lighting to using film and other media to spark awareness and action around urgent social issues.

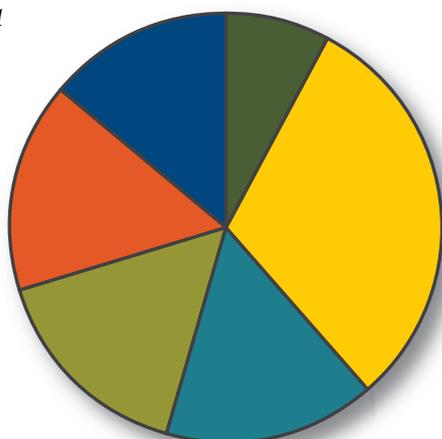
SET Africa is one of several leadership development initiatives spearheaded by the International Youth Foundation in Africa through its YouthActionNet program. Through a similar regional program in Francophone Africa and national programs in Senegal and Nigeria, YouthActionNet has identified more than 120 young social entrepreneurs across the continent whose ventures are impacting over 100,000 lives annually. Collectively, these youth offer rich insights into the motivations and aspirations of a new generation of African leaders. What is equally powerful is that these leaders are now connected to the larger global network of YouthActionNet Institutes now totaling 20 around the world.

What issues drive these pioneering youth in search of solutions? Nearly a third of the youth-led social ventures supported through YouthActionNet in Africa focus on economic empowerment (*see figure 1*) and creating opportunities for vulnerable populations to pursue productive livelihoods. Other priority issues include education (16%), the environment (16%), health (16%), and social inclusion (14%). That said, many of these youth-led organizations strive to address more than one problem at a time through broad-based community development approaches.

A majority of fellows (78%) cited youth engagement as both a critical tool—and a goal—in their work, demonstrating the power of these youth to catalyze their peers into action and contribute to a more engaged citizenry that is better equipped to lead change. With 67% of projects led by co-founders, the youth social entrepreneurship sector reflects a strong emphasis on collaborative leadership, as opposed to the individual as heroic leader.

More than half of these ventures function either as for-profit entities with a social mission (30%) or as hybrid organizations (26%) that rely on a combination of revenue-generating activities and charitable donations to sustain their work (*see figure 2*). This speaks to a growing recognition among these change leaders of the need to be self-reliant and leverage the power of business for social good.

Figure 1



### By Issue Area

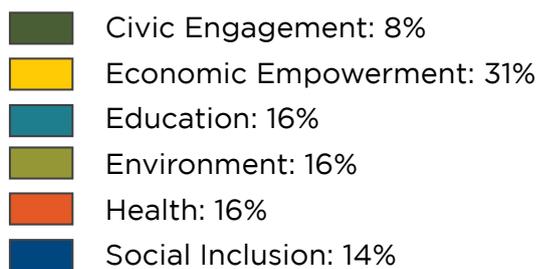
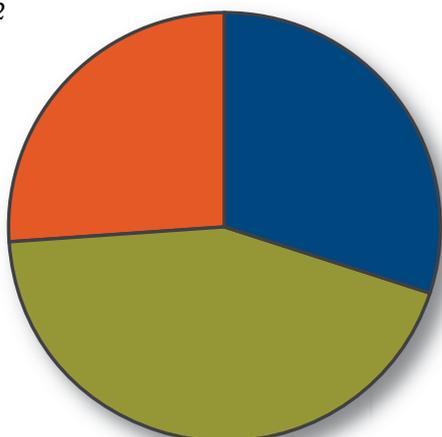


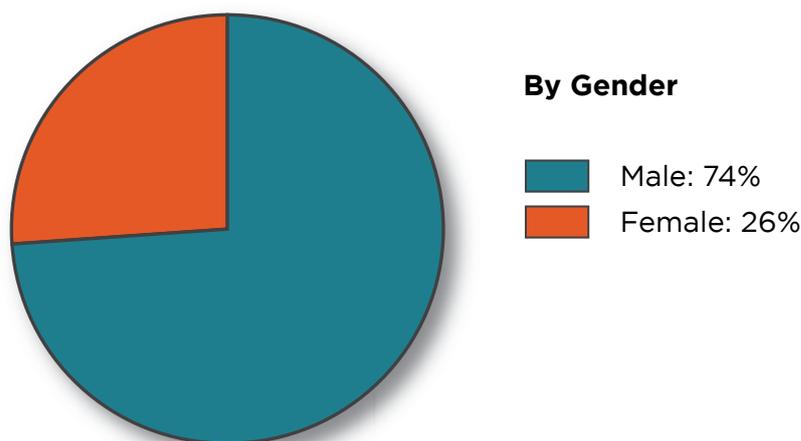
Figure 2



### By Type of Social Venture



Figure 3



Other potent themes to emerge from this diverse pool of young innovators include:

### Youth as Democratizers of Development

Talk abounds of ‘Africa rising’ as a result of increases in economic growth and GDP in a number of countries; yet along with this growth has come speculation over whether the benefits will reach those most in need. Driven by the value of achieving social good, today’s young African leaders are working to ensure more equitable development—providing communities with the knowledge and tools to foster greater local self-reliance. Says Peggy Mativo, a Fellow from Kenya, “The unrelenting resilience that has historically characterized African populations is slowly, but surely, turning into sustainable problem-solving by youth committed to locally-led development.”

### Creating More Opportunities for Women

Less than a third of Fellows across YouthActionNet’s Africa programs are women (see figure 3). 2015 SET Africa Fellow Hellen Ziribagwa, CEO of the *Pass it on Trust* in Uganda, attributes the dearth in women applicants to three main factors. First is the widely held notion of women’s empowerment coming through traditional jobs. For women whose role has long been to care for their families, there’s a tendency, according to Hellen, to focus on viable livelihoods, as opposed to risk-taking and entrepreneurial ventures. Second are the more limited educational opportunities available to young women, who receive less exposure to the social entrepreneurship field as a result. And lastly, young women living in rural areas have less access to the Internet, where most fellowship opportunities are publicized.

### A Focus on Agriculture

Contrary to popular stereotypes of African youth forsaking rural life in search of opportunity in urban areas, nearly a third of YouthActionNet’s Africa fellows have launched diverse agri-related enterprises. Their efforts include empowering low-income communities to grow crops and raise livestock, integrating agricultural value chains into their activities, and, in some cases, recycling agricultural byproducts in their ventures.

Take, for example, Mene Blessing Oritseweyinmi, a 27-year-old Nigerian who is producing a low-cost chicken feed that makes poultry farming more affordable, while also addressing local nutritional needs. Similarly, Caroline Owashaba in Uganda trains low-income mothers to make and sell products from readily-accessible materials such as banana leaves.

### Use of Technology

Nearly half of Fellows in Africa report using technology in creative ways to deliver their programs. This ranges from the relatively low-tech use of radio for program delivery to more sophisticated uses of mobile phones for banking and data collection. Fellows are also leveraging the power of the Internet to network, deliver trainings, raise funds, and advocate for their causes.

These trends speak to both the power of today’s African youth movement for social change and where additional training and investment can help strengthen its impact. Together, the SET Africa Fellows and their peers across the continent reflect a vision of the future that values human dignity over no-holds-barred development; that defines progress by creating equal opportunities; and that seeks to ensure that all Africans are able to benefit from basic human rights ranging from education to healthcare, productive livelihoods to a clean and safe environment.

Below are profiles of three SET Africa alumni who demonstrate the power of today's youth movement for social change in Africa. Each has developed successful social ventures that address urgent issues through innovative and sustainable approaches.



## ROBERT OKODIA, 28

ARYODI BEE FARM  
UGANDA

Witnessing communities in Northern Uganda devastated by war, unemployment, lack of education, and poor health, Robert saw an opportunity to use a market-based approach to address these multiple dimensions of poverty. Under the *Adyaka Rural Youth Development Initiative (ARYODI)*, Robert began a beekeeping and honey production operation, *ARYODI Bee Farm*, which currently employs 20 young men and women and works with over 500 local smallholder farmers as suppliers. Profits from the sale of the Farm's products—including its Lango and Daisy-brand honey, beeswax, candles, and honey wine—help support *ARYODI's* mission.

Through its activities, the *ARYODI Farm* is working to build the capacity of local farmers, while boosting incomes. "We offer training and a resource center where youth and women are trained in bee keeping as a business, developing group businesses, entrepreneurship, and life skills," says Robert, whose business has grown to the extent that the farm sells equipment to and conducts trainings with diverse farmers' groups. *ARYODI Farm* products are now being sold in supermarkets in neighboring communities—and as far away as Kampala and Nairobi.

Robert views beekeeping and honey production as a powerful tool to combat poverty on many levels. Not only are jobs created along the value chain, but local agriculture outputs increase through cross-pollination by the bees, biodiversity is enhanced, and the community can enjoy the health benefits of high-quality honey.

The SET Africa Fellowship came at an opportune time for Robert, who says, "After the retreat in Kampala, I was inspired by the skills that I learned on how to be a great leader... My level of networking and collaboration has scaled up and I now manage my time well, with improved presentation skills." As a result of networking opportunities made possible through the award, *ARYODI* applied for and received a grant of \$50,000 to improve its work with smallholder farmers.

"After the retreat in Kampala, I was inspired by the skills that I learned on how to be a great leader... My level of networking and collaboration has scaled up and I now manage my time well, with improved presentation skills."

Robert Okodia,  
*ARYODI Bee Farm, Uganda*



"There's an emerging generation of youth that seeks to build a more just world; yet they lack knowledge and examples of what's possible. SET Africa Fellows are demonstrating to their peers on campus and beyond what's possible when youth take leadership in creating indigenous solutions."

Professor Waswa Balunywa,  
*Principal, MUBS*





## MARIA OMARE, 26

### THE ACTION FOUNDATION KENYA

Children with disabilities in low-income areas of Kenya face stigmatization, neglect, and lack access to education and health care, resulting in many being confined indoors, impeding their development even further. To address their needs, Maria founded *The Action Foundation (TAF)* in 2010. Says Maria, “For an inclusive society to be achieved, all children should be valued in spite of their differences.”

A grassroots NGO, *TAF* enables children with physical and mental disabilities in marginalized areas to lead healthy, dignified lives, providing early intervention and care for children with conditions including autism, Down’s syndrome, and cerebral palsy. In the *TAF* rehabilitation center located in Mashimoni Village, Kibera, children receive physical, occupational, speech, art, and play therapy, along with two nutritious meals per day. Through *TAF*’s therapy and care, children develop gross and fine motor skills, as well as cognitive, speech, and social skills.

To help parents better care for their children, *TAF* provides psychosocial support and training, involving mothers in income-generating activities to help support their livelihoods. These include weaving handicrafts from water hyacinths and making soaps. Part of the income generated from the sale of the products made by the mothers goes toward supporting the therapy and other needs of their children.

Over the long-term, *TAF* seeks to create a barrier-free society for children with disabilities through community-based rehabilitation, health education, and awareness-raising activities.

Learn more: [www.theactionfoundationkenya.org](http://www.theactionfoundationkenya.org)

**“For an inclusive society to be achieved, all children should be valued in spite of their differences.”**

Maria Omare,  
*The Action Foundation, Kenya*



## REGINA MTONGA, 26

### ASIKANA NETWORK ZAMBIA

With few women in Zambia prepared to take advantage of opportunities within the ICT industry, Regina co-founded the *Asikana Network (AN)*. Its goal is to increase participation of women in ICT by changing mindsets and eliminating negative stereotypes attached to girls and women in the sector.

*AN* offers skills training in such areas as computer basics, video editing, web development, and game development, as well as job placement services and mentoring. In addition to developing technology know-how, participants benefit from life skills instruction to enhance their self-confidence and ability to pursue their dreams. Graduates are encouraged to pay forward what they’ve learned by helping other young women, with the aim of creating a more open ICT industry that welcomes contributions by women from across Zambia.

The *Asikana Network* team has now trained over 150 girls and young women through their various programs, and plans to expand to work with more schools and reach more rural girls in the coming years.

“We mentor women of all ages using the help of other established and ‘on their way’ women in our country,” says Regina, who has founded other entrepreneurial ventures and supports herself and her sister through her own IT consulting business.

Learn more: [asikananetwork.org](http://asikananetwork.org)

**“It [SET Africa] shows that someone is listening to and watching over our cries and efforts.”**

Regina Mtonga,  
*Asikana Network, Zambia*

## CIVIC ENGAGEMENT



### CHRISTOPHER LUBWAMA

ELECTRONIC MEDIA FOR DEVELOPMENT UGANDA  
KAMPALA

People in Uganda face a number of challenges, such as poverty, corruption, food insecurity, domestic violence, and gender injustice. In these challenges, Chris saw an opportunity to help people better understand the nature of such problems and their potential solutions by harnessing the power of media. Through *Electronic Media for Development Uganda*, he uses internet, TV, radio, and open-air screening of feature films, short stories, documentary films, and audio and video messages to promote awareness of development challenges faced by Ugandan communities. He hopes through such awareness campaigns governments, community leaders, and other concerned stakeholders will join forces to create new solutions to these problems and shape sustainable national development.

## ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT



### MICHEAL KIRUNGI

MASINDI COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
MASINDI

Micheal founded *Masindi Community Foundation* in Uganda, where rural enterprises are the main source of income for poor and vulnerable citizens. He believes that if these enterprises are able to work more effectively, there is great potential to lift many people out of poverty. Through the *Masindi Community Foundation*, Micheal has created innovative tools for sustainable social enterprise establishment and development. His approach has enabled communities in Masindi to establish sustainable social enterprises with over 8,518 people earning a monthly income of at least \$2,000. With a vision to change more lives through social enterprises, Micheal plans to work with the Ministry of Local Government to scale up the approach nationally.



### EDDY BALINA MATAGALA

THE NON-VIOLENCE PROJECT UGANDA  
JINJA

Passionate about reducing crime and violent behavior amongst youth in his community, Eddy serves as Executive Director of *The Non-Violence Project Uganda*, a youth leadership and educational organization engaging young people in positive action through entrepreneurship, sports, and music as an alternative to violence. The organization collaborates with schools and youth groups to deliver an educational and engaging violence prevention curriculum. In addition, the organization hosts the annual Youth in Business Summit, a networking event that brings together young entrepreneurs, mentors, and investors to collaborate and share experience and expertise in business. Through *The Non-Violence Project*, Eddy is shaping safe and healthy communities where young people are empowered to take charge in a positive way.



## MOHAMED MAKUUZA MUKALU

+256 YOUTH PLATFORM  
IGANGA

In Uganda, young people make up 75% of the population. These youth are poised to be the nation's leaders, but often do not have the skills and resources they need to develop their leadership potential. Along with several friends, Mohamed founded +256 *Youth Platform* to empower young people to become not only effective leaders, but leaders that address social change issues. The center has engaged youth to strategize and take action on issues such as unemployment, reproductive health, and cultural unity. Mohamed envisions a Uganda where all youth have the confidence, skills, and platforms to be problem solvers for their own communities.



## HELLEN NALWEYISO

BALUNYWA FOUNDATION  
KAMPALA

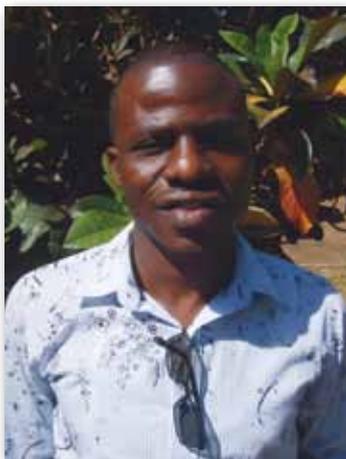
Whether the problem is unemployment or poverty, Hellen believes that formal and informal trainings can address many societal challenges. She launched the *Balunywa Foundation* to empower people with the skills needed to create their own jobs and inspire them to become more innovative and creative in solving community problems. She believes in a society that is prosperous and self sustaining, where all people are fully engaged in income generating activities and earning a living. In 2014, the *Balunywa Foundation* trained more than 150 vulnerable people with skills that included entrepreneurship, communication, leadership, career guidance, and vocational trainings to help them become self employed and reduce youth unemployment in Uganda.



## GODWIN OCEN

ARUABITS  
ARUA

Aware that youth unemployment has become a “global song,” Godwin believes that the solution to this challenge lies in information and communications technology (ICT) and entrepreneurship skills development. Through *Aruabits*, Godwin empowers young people to use ICT creatively so that they can become competitive in Uganda's job market. In 2014 alone, more than 350 underprivileged young people benefited from *Aruabits'* creative ICT multimedia and entrepreneurship skills development activities, which opened opportunities for them to find jobs or venture into entrepreneurship. Godwin envisions a vibrant Ugandan society where young people use ICT and entrepreneurship strategies to creatively and positively transform their communities.



## ELIJAH OMAGOR

P-SAVE SAVINGS AND CREDIT COOPERATIVE LIMITED  
KAMPALA

Elijah Omagor is the co-founder and CEO of *P-Save SACCO Limited*, a microfinance social enterprise that delivers financial services and enterprise management education to poor urban women and youth in Kampala. These services enable such disadvantaged populations to make smart financial decisions, create their own economic opportunities, and become financially empowered and independent. *P-Save* fosters a discipline of saving, provides affordable credit facilities, and creates business growth opportunities through financial and business literacy. The enterprise currently serves over 350 members and has been instrumental in helping them take charge of their financial future. Elijah hopes to see *P-Save* reach more clients in the coming years and help build Ugandan communities where women and youth have the opportunity to create their own futures.

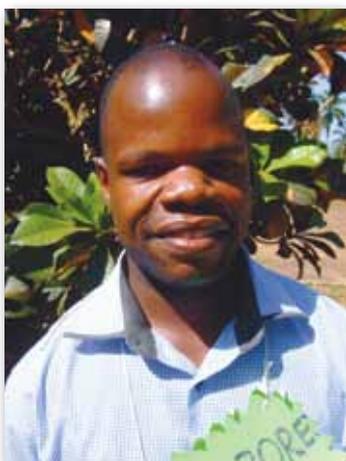


## CAROLINE OWASHABA

CHILDREN FOR ALTERNATIVE CHANGE (CHACHA)  
MBARARA

Under *Action for Youth Development Uganda (ACOYDE)*, Caroline founded *Children for Alternative Change (CHACHA) Active Citizens*, a social action plan (SAP) that is aimed at community empowerment, promoting intercultural dialogue, and bridging the communication gap between children and mothers by fighting poverty at a household level through socio-economic activities. These activities include creating *CHACHA* products from locally available resources in the community; for example, using banana leaves and stems to produce table mats, lamp shades, and floor mats, or making vinegar from banana peels. These small-scale income generating activities have been key in strengthening relationships between parents, children, and the community as a whole because they are an alternative source of income for households, and parents can carry out SAP activities when children are at school.

# EDUCATION



## GILBERT OBORE

GLORY CHRISTIAN NURSERY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL  
BUKEDEA

Research has shown that over 50% of Ugandan children become school drop outs. Believing that the education system caters to the rich and is not designed to encourage entrepreneurship, Gilbert started Glory Christian Nursery and Primary School in 2012. The school's aim is to provide quality, affordable education to the children of Bukedea and the communities beyond. In addition to the normal school curriculum, Glory School students learn practical skills in fields such as horticulture, encouraging children to value their environment while also exploring opportunities to become future job creators. Through Glory School, Gilbert aims to make access to a quality education more equitable in Uganda, and to transform children's lives by offering them an education with purpose.



## GERALD KIMULI

TWAAKE RURAL LIGHTING SCHEME  
MUKONO

Access to energy (lighting, cooking, and phone charging) is one of the biggest catalysts to community development. About 95% of the rural population in Uganda does not have access to electricity, and it is this widespread social problem that motivated Gerald to start a company called *K&G Solar Power (U) Ltd*, through which he promotes the *Twaake Rural Lighting Scheme*. Twaake means “let us light”, and the Rural Lighting Scheme is a renewable energy initiative aimed at replacing low-quality, carbon dioxide-emitting kerosene lamps with high-quality PV solar systems. The project works through partnerships with local financial institutions like VisionFund, which extend solar loans to clients that cannot afford to pay for the equipment all at once. The project is marketed to communities through local CBOs, NGOs, churches, and participation in village market days. So far, about 2000 rural households have been served, but Gerald aims to reach over one million people in the next five years.



## JOSEPH MULAJJE

LUBYA SENSITIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION  
(LUSADO)  
KAMPALA

Jose believes that creating job opportunities for Ugandan youth through environmental conservation strategies solves two critical needs: environmental degradation and unemployment. Making fuel briquettes and other products such as shoes and bags out of rubbish can remove waste from the city and create a new use for it, whether a source of energy or accessories and clothes for people to wear. The products made by *LUSADO* are sold by entrepreneurial community groups and business people. In addition to providing income generating opportunities and recycling waste, briquette production can also save low-income families time and money in cooking and finding fuel sources.



## ALLEN NABUKENYA

FUSION ART WORKSHOP  
KAMPALA

There is a saying, “One man’s trash is another man’s treasure,” and Allen Nabukenya has proven it. A talented artist and eco-entrepreneur, Allen uses recycled materials to create unique pieces of art and fashion, selling the products to sustain and grow her venture while training community members to produce similar crafts. By showing customers the amazing things that can be done with what is normally thrown out, Allen is encouraging a new culture of recycling in Uganda. With a vision for increased environmental awareness in Uganda, Allen hopes others will try their hand at recycling materials for new purposes.

## ENVIRONMENT



**CATHERINE NAKITENDE**  
KINGFIRE ENERGY SOLUTIONS  
KAMPALA

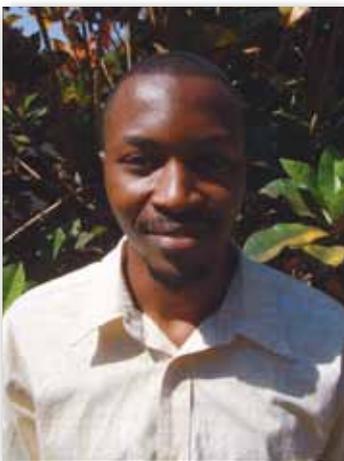
Catherine works in sustainable energy, environmental conservation, and community development in Uganda. Confronted with an alarming rate of deforestation, waste management problems, and poor access to energy sources in her local community, she decided to tackle all these problems at once with a company called *Kingfire Energy Solutions LTD*. Traditional charcoal requires a lot of wood, is expensive, and pollutes, so through *Kingfire* Catherine recycles organic waste materials into quality briquettes for households and schools. These briquettes cost 50% less, produce 30% more energy and are environmentally friendly. By offering briquettes, solar products, improved stoves, and trainings, Catherine hopes to create a movement of like-minded people working toward environmental conservation and sustainable energy in Uganda.

## HEALTH



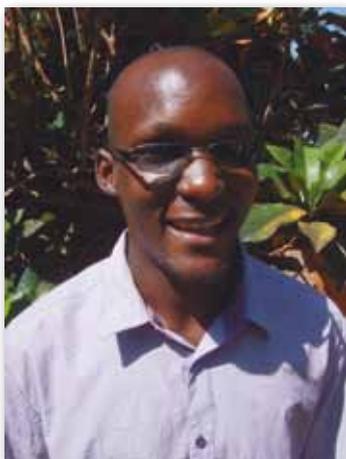
**EMMANUEL MUKISA**  
THE DOCTOR MAGAZINE  
KAMPALA

With 27.2% of Ugandans in rural areas living below the poverty line, many people cannot afford medical care and better living conditions. Inspired to do something about this problem, Emmanuel started *The Doctor Magazine*. This project brings health education and promotion to rural areas and empowers communities with simplified methods of disease prevention, thus reducing the incidence of illness and improving their standards of living. Through *The Doctor Magazine*, Emmanuel envisions rural communities that are free of the burden of preventable diseases and fully able to contribute to society positively.



**IVAN NSUBUGA**  
BEFRIENDER UGANDA  
KAMPALA

Ivan is an anthropologist and a dedicated community developer. At Makerere University, Ivan discovered the real threat that suicide poses to his community. Since 2012, he has engaged in activities that build people's self-esteem and help them discover themselves, becoming a bridge for those impacted by suicide and depression to engage with the outside world. Ivan co-founded *Befriender Uganda* to provide a platform and a listening ear for Ugandans with suicidal thoughts. *Befriender Uganda* promotes help-seeking behavior among community members. Ivan envisions a suicide-free Uganda where all people can discover the value of life and have a support system to rely on along the way.



## AMILLY MBOWA

MPOMA YOUTH DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION  
MUKONO

Amilly is the founder of the *Mpoma Youth Development Association*, a youth group that aims to address a number of pressing needs in the community. One such challenge is the lack of food security; to solve this problem, the association set up a demonstration farm where community members are trained on modern methods of small plot farming that produce higher quality products and a higher yield. By using such community engagement methods, Amilly hopes to see a food-secure community that is also empowered to solve other challenges and improve their opportunities.



## JOHNSON OGULA

NORTHERN UGANDA EFFORT FOR THE NEEDY (NUEN)  
LIRA

Sexual and gender-based violence in Lira, a region of northern Uganda, is on the rise. In 2014, 3,845 reports of sexual violence and 2,603 domestic violence cases were recorded—and those are just the incidents that were reported to police. With the belief that there is no excuse for this violence, Johnson founded *Northern Uganda Effort for the Needy (NUEN)* to bring the issue to light and work toward a comprehensive solution. Since 2011, *NUEN* and its partners have held dialogue meetings with 80 policy makers, helped 380 families find justice, and increased awareness of the issue among hundreds of Ugandans. Johnson believes that better policies toward handling sexual and gender-based violence cases and reform of certain cultural and religious practices can help Uganda, Africa, and the world become free of sexual and gender-based violence.



## HELLEN ZIRIBAGWA

PASS IT ON TRUST UGANDA  
SOROTI

In Uganda, 40% of girls are married before the age of 18. Traded off to improve their family's financial situation, these girls lose control over their own futures. In order to solve this problem, Hellen founded the *Pass It On Trust* in 2013. The initiative trains girls in the areas of personal development, entrepreneurship and ICT, and has already reached more than 300 girls. For each girl who is trained to become assertive and enterprising, an entire family benefits. Program participants teach their families to create their own income, providing the funds needed to keep girls in school, out of early marriages, and on the path to realizing their dreams.

## ABOUT YouthActionNet®

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A program of the International Youth Foundation, YouthActionNet pursues a bold mission: to strengthen and scale up the impact of youth-led social ventures around the world. Through its local and global initiatives, YouthActionNet provides training, funding, advocacy, and networking opportunities to social entrepreneurs, ages 18 to 29, who have pioneered solutions to urgent global challenges. Joining us are universities, foundations, corporations, government agencies, and individuals—all united in their support of young leaders whose innovations are changing the world—one community at a time.

To learn more, visit: [www.youthactionnet.org](http://www.youthactionnet.org)



## ABOUT MUBS

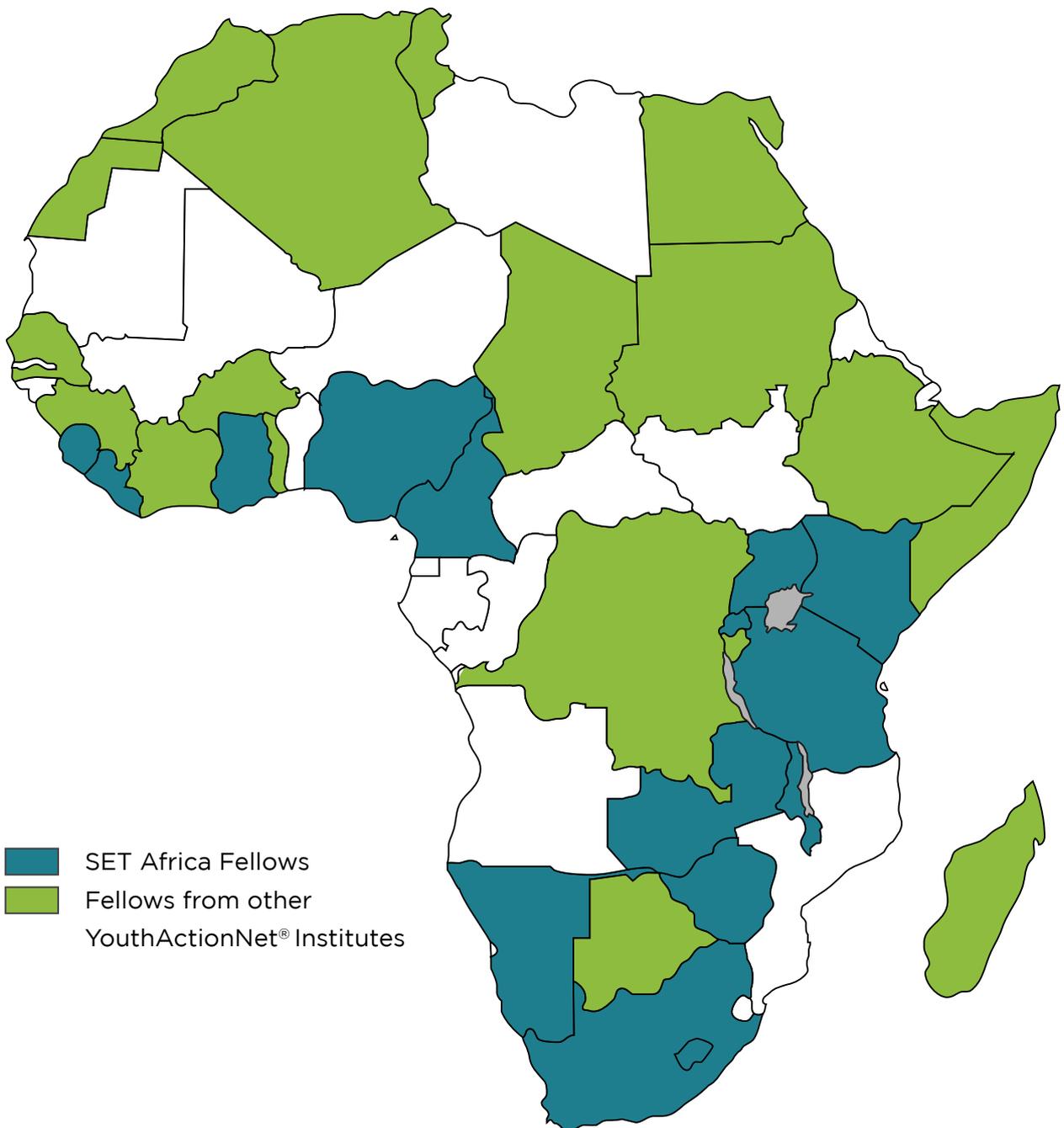
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Makerere University Business School was established in 1997 to centralize the development and standardization of business and management education in Uganda. The School has seen phenomenal growth over the last 13 years of its existence. The growth is a reflection of the importance of business and management in people's lives. The School examines about 15,005 students in its different programs including students in the Colleges of Commerce and at Private Colleges affiliated to it. It was established by the Makerere University (Establishment of Constituent College) Order 1997 as a Constituent College of Makerere University. In 2000, the law was amended to give financial and administrative autonomy to MUBS by the Makerere University Amendment Order. In 2001, the structure was changed further with the enactment of the Universities and Other Tertiary Institutions Act which transformed MUBS from a Constituent College of Makerere University to a public tertiary institution affiliated to Makerere University. Makerere University Business School has established outreach Centres that directly link with the industry. These include the Entrepreneurship Centre, Leadership Centre, ICT Centre and the Microfinance Centre.

Through initiatives like SET Africa, YouthActionNet is building a community of young social entrepreneurs across 32 African nations – and counting – who are redefining leadership and creating a new narrative for Africa’s role in global development.

Join us in supporting these inspiring young leaders as they shape the continent.

[www.youthactionnet.org](http://www.youthactionnet.org)





SET Africa is hosted by the Entrepreneurship Centre at MUBS, in collaboration with the Leadership and ICT Centres.

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