



# AGRF

## VIRTUAL SUMMIT 2020

Hosted by Rwanda

FEED THE CITIES, GROW THE CONTINENT –  
LEVERAGING URBAN FOOD MARKETS TO ACHIEVE  
SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS IN AFRICA

**ONLINE PANEL: THE KEY ROLE OF SMES IN SERVING  
URBAN FOOD MARKETS**

**7<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020**

**11:00 – 12:45 (TIME UTC+2)**

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED:**

<https://agrf.org/agrf2020>



**COLEACP**

## BIODATA OF THE SPEAKERS

### OUSMANE BADIANE - EXECUTIVE CHAIRPERSON & ACTING MANAGING DIRECTOR, AKADEMIYA 2063 AND MEMBER OF MAMO PANEL



Dr. Ousmane Badiane, Distinguished Fellow of the African Association of Agricultural Economists, recipient of the Africa Food Prize in 2015 and member of the World Academy of Sciences, is the founder and Executive Chairperson of AKADEMIYA2063. He has over 30 years of experience, as academic and a practitioner, in international development. As the Director for Africa at the International Food Policy Research Institute, he was instrumental in developing and guiding the implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme.

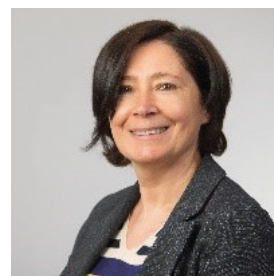
As Lead Specialist for Food and Agricultural Policy at the World Bank, he served as advisor to the Vice President for Africa and originated projects with funding ranging from US\$5 million to US\$150 million. Between research and development finance, Dr. Badiane taught Economics of Development in Africa at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies for many years.

Dr. Badiane received PhD in agricultural economics from the University of Kiel in Germany. He is also recipient of a Doctorate Honoris Causa from the University of KwaZulu Natal.

### ISOLINA BOTO - HEAD OF NETWORKS AND ALLIANCES, COLEACP

Isolina Boto is the Head of Networks and Alliances at COLEACP, a non-profit Association of private sector operators in the agrifood sector, active in the EU, Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific regions.

Isolina has more than 25 years of experience in agricultural development. She started her career with the European Commission and has also worked with various ACP embassies and NGOs in areas related to food security, rural development and trade. Before joining COLEACP, she was the Manager of the CTA Brussels Office (2004-2020) implementing policy initiatives related to the ACP-EU cooperation in the field of agricultural and rural development. She has led agribusiness projects in support of capacity development of SMEs, entrepreneurs and farmers organisations across Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific.





## AYODEJI IBOSIOLA - GENERAL MANAGER, L.A.T.C AGRO, NIGERIA



Ayodeji is a well-seasoned business administrator and project manager with excellent people skills who has garnered over 20 years' extensive experience in project management, procurement, marketing, operations management and business administration in the manufacturing, agricultural and engineering sector of the Nigerian business scene. He is skilled in exemplary leadership, organizational development, business acumen, financial management, budget & resource development, personnel management, strategic planning and well versed in business strategies.

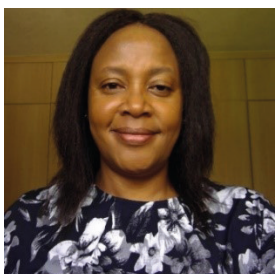
Trained in business administration and management as well as in agricultural engineering, he has a long experience in agribusiness development. Before joining L.A.T.C. Agro in 2019, company that produces fresh vegetables for high-end markets in Nigeria, he was the CEO for almost 20 years of Matna Foods, a company processing cassava.

## JEREMY KNOPS - GENERAL DELEGATE, COLEACP

Jeremy holds a Master's degree in Business Engineering from the Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management (SBS-EM). Prior to joining COLEACP in 2009, he was involved in Guatemala with the daily operations of a farmers' cooperative exporting loquats to the EU and the US. He started to work for COLEACP as an expert in charge of matters related to private standards and certification for ACP producers and exporters of fruit and vegetables. Jeremy is an accredited coach for leadership and professional development. He has been appointed as General Delegate of COLEACP in June 2019.



## JANE MAINA - MANAGING DIRECTOR VERT LTD, KENYA



Jane Maina is the Managing Director of Vert Limited. Vert specializes in export of fresh vegetables and processed fruit products targeting the European market and regional markets. With 20 years' experience in the horticultural industries, her role is to ensure that the business is focused on achieving its strategic objectives. The social enterprise depends 100% on the produce sourced from the small holder farmers. Despite social-cultural norms, Jane ensures that Vert Ltd consciously strives to engage women. Before that Jane worked with UNDP and UNCEF as a social mobilizer for Primary Health Care projects in Southern Sudan.

## LEONARD MIZZI - HEAD OF UNIT RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD SECURITY, NUTRITION, DG INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT, EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Dr. Leonard Mizzi is Head of Unit, European Commission, Directorate-General (DG) for International Cooperation and Development - Rural development, food security and nutrition, since 2017. Prior to this post he was Head of Unit in DG Agriculture & Rural Development, in charge of agritrade, development, & relations with the European Parliament, Council & consultative bodies.



A graduate in Public Administration from the University of Malta (BA Hons First Class), CIHEAM-Montpellier (Master of Science) and a Ph.D in Agricultural economics from the University of Reading (UK). He has authored many articles and publications on agrifood and nutrition. Visiting lecturer at the Boston University (Brussels campus), Open University and Malta University, College of Europe in Bruges.

Dr. Mizzi has a broad working experience in public administration and private sector and held positions in the the Office of the Prime Minister, Director of the Malta Business Bureau in Brussels and Malta Hotels and Restaurants Association. His areas of specialisation are global food security governance, agriculture and food and nutrition security, the Mediterranean and Sub Saharan Africa.

## ELIZABETH NSIMADALA - PRESIDENT, PANAFRICAN FARMERS ORGANISATION (PAFO)



Elizabeth Nsimadala is a Ugandan young agriprenuer, the President of the Pan Africa Farmers Organization (PAFO) and the Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF). She was recently appointed on the Advisory committee for the UN Food Systems Summit 2021, serves on the Global steering committee for Forest Farm Facility (FFF), is a Governing Council member for Africa Fertilizer Financing Mechanism (AFFM) and sits on the steering committee of Pan Africa Agribusiness Apex Chamber (PAAAC) among others. She is a passionate cooperator who with others spearheaded the push to have the regional law on cooperatives - The East Africa Cooperative Societies Bill 2015 through the East Africa Legislative Assembly which awaits ascent by the EAC Heads of states. Elizabeth is also a farmer champion who has been at the fore front of championing farmer led agriculture technology and innovation through the EAFF farmers' owned eGranary mobile initiative that virtually aggregates farmers for input, service and output markets. As a result of her efforts in supporting Farmers Organizations, she was Globally recognized by the World Farmers Organization as one of the women contributing to sustainable development.

## **SOLÈNE PRINCE-AGBODJAN - CREDIT PORTFOLIO MANAGER, AGRI BUSINESS CAPITAL (ABC) FUND**

Solène is the Credit Portfolio Manager of the Agri Business Capital (ABC) Fund, in charge of the direct investments across Africa.

Prior to Injaro, she led the investment activities of Oikocredit Agri Unit in Africa where she was responsible for the expansion and diversification of the agriculture portfolio of Oikocredit. She played a key role in Oikocredit's work in cocoa, tea, cashew and cereals and contributed immensely to the institution's visibility in the agricultural finance sector across the region. Solène has past experience in finance and agriculture at ACE Global (Côte d'Ivoire, Switzerland and Dubai), Ancile Investment (Switzerland) and SIFCA Group in Europe and in Africa where she held several senior positions.

Solène has a Master's Degree in Economics from Paris Dauphine University. She also holds a Master's Degree in Concept and Methods of Company Diagnosis in addition to a UV DECF in financial management and financial analysis from the same university



## **MARCO WOPEREIS - DIRECTOR GENERAL, WORLD VEGETABLE CENTRE**



Marco Wopereis (The Netherlands) joined the World Vegetable Center as Director General in April 2016 and is based in Taiwan. An agronomist with a Doctorate in Tropical Agronomy from Wageningen University, The Netherlands, he has global expertise in agricultural science and management, and previously served as Deputy Director General and Director of Research for Development of the Africa Rice Center (AfricaRice) in Benin and as the Director of the Annual Crops Department of the French Agricultural Research Centre for International

Development (CIRAD) in France. He also worked in different capacities for the International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC) in Togo, the West Africa Rice Development Association (WARDA, now AfricaRice) in Senegal and Côte d'Ivoire and for the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines. His specific strengths include fostering productive, action-oriented partnerships for efficient and effective research among international research institutes, national research systems, the private sector and community organizations





*COLEACP's programmes are funded by:*

