2019 International Youth Innovation Conference

Biographies of 28 Young Entrepreneurs

1) Abdulla Al Hamid

Country: Bangladesh
Initiative: Biotech Bangladesh

Biotech Bangladesh are producing renewable Biodiesel from waste cooking oil from Restaurants by our homegrown technology. Ensuring health security by improving restaurant food quality also reducing CO2 emissions by producing renewable biodiesel. They have earned about $ 21,176 by selling the produced Biodiesel and are working with 5 people. besides they have partnerships with 27 Restaurants along with KFC, Tony Romas, Manhattan Fish Market and other international food chain restaurants.

2) Amani Niyoyita

Country: Rwanda
Initiative: Polystar Workshop Ltd

Polystar Workshop Ltd is a business which comes to solve different public problems and threats including for impaired persons; where we will provide some electronic devices to help them in navigation. Also, the business will try to ease home, office and industrial automation. The business will also focus on public possessions’ security, by developing digital security surveillance. The business technology will also facilitate the Rwanda TVET trainees to develop their technical
projects. All the above are the essential missions of the business. Polystar workshop ltd business is a made-in-Rwanda developing business, which deals with electronic innovations and solutions over the Rwandan and foreign people. It is successfully competitive due to that there is a huge gap between a traditional usage of electronics in people and nowadays technology. Our business philosophy depends on honesty, integrity, innovation (due to that all the products that will be supplied by the business will be INNOVATIVE to the public), with community relationships.

3) Ameni Kharroubi

Country: Tunisia
Initiative: Bios Caros

Bios Caros is a green technology, making an end to the “wasted used cooking oil” pollution; by giving birth to a new product: biodiesel. A substance based entirely on recycling that is more efficient and more environment friendly than fossil fuel. Our main goal is to reduce pollution and to encourage people to use renewable energy. Awareness campaign will be our first move to convince restaurants, hotels, and more importantly households to avoid throwing away used cooking oil in the sanitation systems thus, in collaboration with our partners we are going to collect it, afterwards recycle it and eventually produce a safer, cleaner and more efficient fuel. Our products will benefit both the public and private sector from businesses to farmers and anyone who’s willing to use our green energy.

4) Bidossessi Charbellia Allagbe

Country: Benin
Initiative: Etrilabs
The Tech4Youth initiative aims to assess needs of young people and strategize on how technology can add value towards achieving UNFPA’s Strategic Plan objectives, including Demographic Dividend (DD), assess successes and challenges in implementing mHealth initiatives and most of all, identify common key priorities and strategic objectives with use of technology to accelerate results of the adolescents and youth program in Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Nigeria and Togo.

5) Chang Zhao

Country: China
Initiative: Remake Hub

REMAKEHUB is a young social enterprise, which provides circular solution for waste pollution in fashion industry. We provide creative and impactful recycling solutions on transforming waste into the new generational lifestyle products through high tech innovative material and sustainable design. We follow “Cradle to Cradle” design concept, promote resource reuse to extend the product life circle, thereby achieving zero-to-landfill, closing loop, cleaning up waste, and saving mother planet. We are leveraging technology to make production and consumption more sustainable, from the use of waste-made renewable materials and products to leveraging a blockchain-based supply chain to increase transparency.

6) Cyrial Alexis Otabil
Country: Ghana
Initiative: You Must Know (YMK)

Young people today are a resilient and a technologically savvy generation. We are mostly called the ‘Computer Babies’ because our lives are based on technology and we use it positively to aid specific purposes. In Ghana, The You Must Know (YMK) application was birthed out of the need to ensure that young people have access to SRH information for informed decisions making. This application is designed for young people with phones. (In Ghana, the mobile phone usage stands at 40.93m[2018] and the internet usage is 10.11m [2018]. Since Ghana has a large youth population, it is highly probable that young people form a large portion of this estimate) The App runs 90 percent offline and 10 percent online to make it accessible for more young people and ensure that no one is left behind. The information provided on the app include Education, Youth Clinics around you, News and Online counselling (not a bot). To ensure the achievement of the SDGs no one should be left behind; hence one must have the right information to make informed decisions.

7) Fraterne Manishimwe

Country: Rwanda
Initiative: Sanejo Youth Ltd

SANEJO YOUTH Ltd is a Rwandan agribusiness social enterprise aiming to improve opportunities for the local youth in Rwanda. Founded in and certifies by RDB in 2017, based in Northern
Province, Burera District, we are a team of 6 people with different backgrounds (agriculture and social sciences) we are currently collaborating with 30 farmers, including individual and cooperative farmers; and we’ve successfully worked in different projects to improve social lives. Previously, we’ve won GERA KUNTEGO youth scaling impact for social innovation, award 2017 by DOT-Rwanda, and 2018 BDF university graduates’ business facility, 2018 Youth Connect competition award; 2018 Postharvest innovation competition under Reducing Post harvest Losses in Rwanda and 2019 GERAKUNTEGO Youth Innovation Competition award. Our most recent project SANA OIL aims to improve the efficiency of pumpkin farming by producing pumpkin oil and bakery products, also resulting in local employment creation, reducing malnutrition and the import dependency.

8) Gifty Mintaa Quarshie

Country: Ghana
Initiative: TechShelta

TechShelta is a service-oriented company that builds suites of software and hardware to impact the agricultural and agribusiness industry. Our focus is to revolutionize the way key stakeholders in the Agricultural industry organize themselves, apply information and form collaborative business processes through the power of technology. They provide advice on Greenhouse Farming; procurement and deployment of greenhouses, the economics of when and what to grow, yield, marketing, handling, packaging and income opportunities. o Agronomy; general cultural practices, disease and pest management, operational and greenhouse farming management. We install IoT devices with the aid of software application to remotely control temperature, humidity and irrigation/fertigation systems. We create market access for greenhouse farmers and agro-input dealers. Farmer Field Schools (FFS) and Competency Based Training (CBT) Models for Farm Owners and Farm Hands in greenhouse farming.

9) Huong Quynh Hoang
Country: Vietnam
Initiative: Save your Ocean

Millions of tons of plastic are dumped in the ocean every year, Vietnam being one of the biggest polluters. Save Your Ocean is committed to prevent plastic pollution. We use Near Field Communication (NFC) and QR technology for our water refill network in Vietnam to help reduce the consumption of single-use plastic bottles. This smart yet simple water refill system can be easily installed in public or private spaces, where environmentally conscious people can easily refill their bottles, and encourage more people to join in the movement to reduce plastic use. Our environmentally friendly bamboo Ocean Hero flasks can be refilled with water and other beverages like coffee and juices. This refill network is cost effective and environmentally responsible. For every bottle refilled there is one less plastic bottle entering the ocean. Our goal is to remove millions of plastic bottles from the environment.

10) Jingyun Pi

Country: China
Initiative: ALL4SHE

All4She Global Network-Young Women Empowerment, Leadership and Entrepreneurship is initiated under the value of gender equality, youth leadership and participation, quality education, and women empowerment. It targets on 18 to 35 year-old young women from 13 countries such as Ghana, Syria, India, China, and so on. It aims at acquiring all resources we can get from the world for all young women globally to fully empower them in personal health and growth, especially empowering them to make their own choices about their body, life and world.
It is a global network and platform building initiative to support and empower young women on gender equality awareness, sexual and reproductive health and rights, career development, skill and competency building, mental health, leadership, and entrepreneurship through knowledge and information exchange, training, coaching, tour visiting, internal supporting system building, and external partnership developing.

11) John Smith

Country: Liberia
Initiative: The Ever-Green Recycling Institute (EGRI)

EGRI aims at turning all urban cities in Liberia into plastic waste-free cities through the collection and recycling of plastic waste materials into finished low-cost products for local and international consumption. In so doing, cities will be cleaner; jobs will be created for vulnerable social groupings including marginalized women and disadvantaged youths. The overall result for this initiative is clean and safe environment for urban dwellers, sustainable income for vulnerable and marginalized youth and women and the provision of durable, low cost products including fuel and construction materials on the Liberian market. With millions of plastic pouches discarded daily in urban cities across Liberia EGRI is guaranteed of raw materials for the next 3-5 years.

12) Joseph Liu

Country: China
Initiative: Vevolution Tech (Clear Plate)
Vevolution Tech is a social enterprise focusing on AI technology innovation in the field of ecological and environmental protection. Its vision is a low-carbon future for all. ClearPlate APP is the flagship product of Vevolution Tech. In the face of serious food waste in the society, Vevolution Tech has developed and implemented ClearPlate APP to achieve the goals of reducing the food waste and promoting the responsible consumption. By taking pictures of ClearPlate through the APP, AI algorithm will identify whether waste or not, and reward users with energy points which can be used to exchange gifts as well as charity meals. At present, the total number of ClearPlate users has reached nearly two hundred thousand with 1.2 million times of Clear Plate. And ClearPlate APP has donated nearly 400,000 Yuan to the public welfare projects.

13) Khandmaa Sukhbat

Country: Mongolia
Initiative: Creating Legally developed environment for Youth Key Population

Youth are the future of the world and they should be treated equally. No identity difference can make them restricted from having their basic human rights. Marrying to your loved one; doing the job you enjoyed are the meaning of one’s life. Imagine that you can’t marry to your loved one because of unsupportive law environment of the country you live in. Yes, it is meaningless. To make this situation end happily ever after, this project aims to improve lawyers’ knowledge about YKPs’ basic human right, to produce legal project supporting YKPs’ right with presence of well-educated lawyers, to declare the legal project to related units of the State.

14) Kuldeep Bandhu Aryal
Country: Nepal  
Initiative: Himalayan Innovations

Himalayan Innovations is a for profit social enterprise which uses innovative systems such as design technology, blockchain and artificial intelligence to bring creative solutions to rural sectors such as agriculture and energy. Our main project, GAUNBATA SANJAL, combination of two words meaning “from the village” and “community”, aims to connect rural women smallholder farmers to urban markets and provide access to secure finance. We want to help them increase agricultural production, have steady marketing and financing options, and significantly increase their livelihoods and standard of living. We aim to empower women farmers by modernizing the agricultural sector, increasing profits, reducing crop waste, removing bottlenecks in marketing logistics and establishing quality standards in Nepal’s agricultural sector. We use modern technology innovatively to solve problems in Nepal’s agricultural sector. The first of its kind in Nepal, these solutions can be replicated and scaled to other sectors and countries.

15) Mbabazi Suzan

Country: Uganda  
Initiative: EcoSmart Uganda

EcoSmart Uganda Limited is a Ugandan based company that locally produces sanitary pads that are Comfortable, low cost and biodegradable. Eco Smart Uganda envisions equality in menstrual hygiene management among girls and women from different income backgrounds. We up cycle
sugarcane residue to make low cost, eco-friendly disposable sanitary pads that are affordable and effective for girls and women all over Uganda especially those from low resource settings. Eco smart pads are a hygienic and comfortable alternative compared to the unhealthy materials utilized by the females in rural communities and hard to reach areas. EcoSmart Uganda aims at springing dignity and vibrancy in menstrual hygiene management through creating a sustainable, innovative, ecofriendly and world class product that is affordable so as to improve female experiences.

16) Moneera Hussein Eltayeb Yassien

**Country:** Sudan  
**Initiative:** Innovation and Entrepreneurship Community Research Chapter (IECRC)

IECRC (Innovation and Entrepreneurship Community Research Chapter), is a think tank working to study the entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystem in Sudan, from a scientific point of view. Our mission is to create a self-sustaining ecosystem with a scientific approach to work in collaboration with other parties towards pointing out, discussing and overcoming all the challenges that face entrepreneurship and innovation in Sudan. We envision creating a research center and a database to monitor the development of entrepreneurship in Sudan, and to study how it affects the economic development cycle, and aim to achieve that through building a database about Sudanese entrepreneur’s activities and studying the factors affecting entrepreneurship development in Sudan, in order to find and fill the gaps in the entrepreneurship ecosystem in Sudan and help in pushing public policies to support entrepreneurs the Sudanese entrepreneurship ecosystem. At IECRC we are using research and data to direct young people toward adopting new technologies, tap into the opportunities in our challenges, to meet higher rates of productivity, and drive our economy to safe shore.

17) Nahed Eletribi
Country: Egypt  
Initiative: E-waste Recycling Through Heroes (ERTH)

ERTH: E-waste Recycling Through Heroes is a digital platform that provides free on-demand pickup of electronic waste for recycling and pays a portion of the recycling revenue to individual e-waste owners and businesses to incentivize a high recycling rate. The company generates revenue by selling refurbished devices, spare parts and precious metals recovered from the electronic waste.

18) Namgyel Dorji

Country: Bhutan  
Initiative: Bundle.bt

Bundle.bt is Bhutan’s first online, on-demand parcel delivery system. We are using a peer-to-peer platform model to source people commuting to a designated place and find them packages waiting to be delivered; enabling couriers to earn additional income and users to save money compared to the current post system. We began Bundle.bt after winning the Techstars’ Startup Weekend hackathon in October 2017. Currently, we are a two-person team with Namgyel heading operations, and Nagendra managing marketing and outreach. We have 4 outpost handlers in 3 districts and over 100 registered delivery personal, known as bundlers. Our vision is to make logistics simpler, cheaper, and more efficient. The logistics infrastructure in Bhutan is lagging
behind our neighbors given the country’s rugged landscape, but we are developing a home-grown solution that is driven by the community. We are laying the groundwork to catalyze the future growth of e-commerce and entrepreneurship in Bhutan.

19) Omar Seidu Farouk

Country: Ghana
Initiative: Medtrack

Medtrack is a patient record management system that allows doctors to progressively capture the health information of their patients. The Ghanaian health sector is largely informal couple with an overwhelming 1 to about 4000 doctor-patient ratio. The informal nature of the sector creates a challenge in the creation, storage and retrieval of patient information to provide ongoing care. Medtrack allows doctors to create, save and share patient health information with authorised health care providers. It also allows doctors access to other ancillary services such as diagnostic centres and pharmacies for medications. Patients can grant access to their health information other health care providers for ongoing care.

20) Scarlett Rachel Zongo

Country: Burkina Faso
Initiative: Aino Digital
The vision statement of AINO Digital is resumed in its motto: make your life easier. We are living in the digital era where new services and new economic actors disrupt everything, we knew 15 years ago. The e-revolution now leverages all aspect of our societies from economic and social to cultural and environmental aspects. AINO Digital wants to embrace the concept of “leapfrogging” and bring sustainable development in an innovative way, faster, more efficiently, less expensively, environmentally friendly and socially responsibly to Africans in urban or rural areas by surfing the digital wave. We believe that we have the potential to change people lives by giving them access to digital services that target issues in their households and communities through they cellphones, with or without access to internet.

21) Simiyu Patrobers Robert

Country: Kenya
Initiative: IEEE Smart Village/Energy empowerment to Communities

IEEE Smart Village aims to empower people in environments deprived of energy; especially in the rural areas for poverty alleviation and economic development. This initiative focuses developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. He works as a Microgrid Simulation Designer and has the responsibility of designing cost-effective and efficient energy systems that would serve a home/community, school, a community center, a dispensary etc. He has designed several solar home systems, solar water pumping systems and community solar-wind power projects and hopes to assemble and maintain such microgrid systems in Kenya where IEEE smart village has several such energy initiatives.

22) Sophia El Bahja
Country: Morocco
Initiative: Nobox Lab

Founded in 2017, Nobox Lab is a social enterprise and an EdTech Startup that reinvents the classical education experience for kids to help them develop life skills such as critical thinking, decision-making, a spirit of innovation and to be active citizens. Through this we mobilize a network of experts and young talents who are determined to revolutionize the classical education model. And that, in order to contribute to the achievement of the goals of sustainable development, set by the United Nations, more specifically the objective 4 of quality education. We offer creative programs through workshops and bootcamps in various fields where kids can learn by doing, experiment and create. We also provide a platform with playful mobile games, online videos and an evaluation system to measure the impact.

23) Sundus Hussain

Country: Pakistan
Initiative: AGAAHE

AGAAHE is a social enterprise and an acronym for Aware Girls about Abuse Harassment and Equal Empowerment. Through AGAAHE we help people and especially females to learn about abuse and harassment. AGAAHE works towards building a society that gives equal empowerment to all the people irrespective of gender. And I’m excited and thankful to UNFPA for giving us the
opportunity to explore and learn many new things during the conference. I am very hopeful that this conference will help us grow in many different ways. It will give us the opportunity of networking with different people and stakeholders and I am sure this training will help me in building capacity on this particular topic.

24) Syed Ommer Amer

Country: Pakistan
Initiative: Daastan

We dream of ‘putting a book in every hand’ to give birth to knowledge-driven communities all across the world. For this we have built a technology portal QISSA (meraqissa.com) where we are gathering the local stakeholders of literary space and general community to facilitate knowledge and idea exchange through stories. We not only aggregate content and businesses in niche of publishing but also crowdsource ratings to identify top content and content creators. Pakistan's premier publishing platform featuring 5000+ users from 17 countries who have published 300+ books in 24 genres. It enables creatives to monetize their time, content and skills through an online marketplace. They specialize in community mobilization on social issues, capacity building of youth in niche of publishing and organizing online/offline events to promote reading culture in Pakistan. A diverse team of 13, steered by award winning founders with international experience, chasing a dream of putting a book in every hand is becoming a juggernaut who has disrupted the Pakistani literary space and it's aftershocks are moving into the South and South East Asian regions. Having raised 50,000 USD in grant funding to achieve market-fit product, the team is now looking to raise funds and find partners organizations in other countries to scale.

25) Walid Machrouh
Country: Morocco  
Initiative: Tafanoun

Tafanoun is a collaborative creative platform for a value education for youth that puts tolerance and enriching entertainment at the forefront. Through our human-centered videos and social experiences, we focus on the why, value the human connection and spread positivity. So, we can capture and deliver real stories with a positive impact or just spontaneous and fun special moments.

26) Watsal Rajbhandari

Country: Nepal  
Initiative: Dochaa

DOCHAA, a Nepali word for handmade shoes, aims to highlight the country’s art and culture. Every DOCHAA shoe embodies the essence of Nepal. We use traditional fabrics to create contemporary designs with locally sourced materials and sustainable practices. An innovative, socially conscious enterprise, DOCHAA is committed to preserving Nepali heritage and providing decent employment to marginalized groups, women, and youth. Our unique, comfortable and durable, hand crafted shoes are made by skilled Nepali artisans. We are inspired by the UN’s Sustainable Development Goal # 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth. Our objective is to drive grassroots innovation in Nepal and enable DOCHAA to scale up and become a world-famous brand.
27) Watson Atwine

Country: Uganda
Initiative: Agro Supply Ltd

Agro Supply has pioneered an alternative system (USSD mobile layaway) that matches how farmers already manage their money. Using a prepaid scratch card model similar to buying prepaid mobile minutes farmers can pay in advance for fertilizer, seed and other agricultural tools by buying Agro Supply card from any Agro Supply village Agent (from 50 cents to $50), depositing their money into a layaway account by texting in the scratch-off code. After a few months of buying the scratch cards and saving little by little, Agro Supply delivers the fertilizer, seed, and tools they’ve paid for in time for planting time.

28) Yafa Husam Ibrahim Abdulraheem

Country: Palestine
Initiative: Cerati

Cerati is a platform (Web/App) that targets university students to add value in the marketplace, by grouped them with their experience and skills. Aims to EMPOWER University students in the Marketplace and provide them with an income source during their educational period, in addition to reducing the gap between them and companies and institutions in the Marketplace, by highlighting the skills and potential of these students and converting them to opportunities that
enable them to work and gain experience which qualifies them to work after graduation from university.