

Speakers Booklet

Joint Perspectives: “Cooperation with Africa in Times of Change”

25 January 2023, 03:00 to 07:00 p.m. CET
followed by a reception for on-site participants

Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation
and Development (BMZ)
Stresemannstrasse 94, 10963 Berlin

Speakers

Moderator

Liz Shoo

Journalist working for WDR and Deutsche Welle

Since 2020 Liz Shoo presents “The 77 Percent—The Magazine for Africa’s Youth” at Deutsche Welle, where she introduces the voices of African Youth that shape the future of the continent. At Deutsche Welle she has also been the presenter of „Focus on Europe“ since 2020 — a magazine that reports on the diversity of the continent’s people and places –and on the conflicts and coexistence of the people of Europe. In 2021 Liz Shoo also joined the WDR, where she currently presents the News Magazine „WDR aktuell“.

Ms. Shoo was moderator at several events like the UN climate conference and TedxBonn. She holds a degree as online editor from TH Cologne. Liz Shoo is passionate about the topics education, migration and poverty reduction.



Speakers

Welcome and Opening

Svenja Schulze

Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development

Ms. Schulze first joined the Federal Cabinet when she became Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety in March 2018. Since December 2021, she has been Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development. Before joining the Federal Government, she served as Minister for Innovation, Science and Research of the state government of North Rhine-Westphalia. Prior to that Ms. Schulze worked as business consultant with a focus on the public sector.

She holds a master degree in German studies and political sciences from the University of Bochum.



H.E. Jutta Urpilainen

*Commissioner for International Partnerships,
European Commission*

Ms. Urpilainen was appointed as European Commissioner for International Partnerships in 2019. Before joining the Commission, Ms. Urpilainen served as a member of the Finnish Parliament from as part of the Finnish Parliament's Committee for Foreign Affairs and Special Representative on Mediation 2015—2019. From 2011 to 2014, she served as Finland's Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister.

In her career, she became closely involved in development issues, joining the Development Committee of the World Bank Group and IMF in 2013. She was also Chair of the Finnish National Commission for UNESCO and the National Commission on Sustainable Development and the UN Association of Finland.

Ms. Urpilainen is a strong advocate for gender equality, social justice, and youth participation.



Speakers

Keynote Statement

Jennifer Makumbi

Author of The First Women and Kintu

Jennifer Nansubuga Makumbi is a Ugandan author. Her first novel, *Kintu*, won the *Kwani? Manuscript Project* in 2013 and was shortlisted for the Edward Stanton Award 2019.

In 2014 she won the Global Commonwealth Short story prize for *Let's Tell This Story Properly. Manchester Happened*, a collection of short stories, was shortlisted for The Big Book prize. *The First Woman* won the Jhalaka Prize and was shortlisted four times in 2021.

Makumbi is a recipient of the prestigious Windham-Campbell Prize 2018. As a DAAD Fellow, she holds a PhD from Lancaster University and has lectured at several universities in Britain.



Speakers

Panel I: *Joining Perspectives: Cooperation with Africa in Times of Change*

H.E. Dr. Monique Nsanzabaganwa

Deputy Chairperson for the AU Commission

Dr. Nsanzabaganwa has been Deputy Chairperson for the African Union Commission since 2021. Prior to her AU service she was Deputy Governor of the National Bank of Rwanda and held senior positions in the Government of the Republic of Rwanda including Minister of State in charge of Economic Planning, Minister of Trade and Industry.

Dr. Nsanzabaganwa has supported various Gender Empowerment initiatives through her memberships in the Alliance for Financial Inclusion Gender committee, Women's World Banking African Advisory Council, the Graça Machel Trust Expert Group on women's financial inclusion and the digital economy in Africa, New Faces New Voices Rwanda chapter and Unity Club amongst others.



Koen Doens

Director-General for International Partnerships, EU Commission

Mr. Doens joined the European Commission in 2004 and was Head of Cabinet of Louis Michel, Commissioner in charge of Development and Humanitarian Aid from 2004 to 2010. From 2010 to 2014 he was Head of the Commission Spokespersons' Service.

After a period as Director for EU-Africa Relations, he became Deputy Director-General responsible for Africa, Asia, Middle East/Gulf, Pacific, Latin America and Caribbean in the Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development in March 2018. He has been posted in Syria, Iran and Russia and has held positions in several Belgian ministerial cabinets.



Speakers

Panel I: *Joining Perspectives: Cooperation with Africa in Times of Change*

Ahunna Eziakonwa

*Regional Director for Africa, United Nations
Development Programme (UNDP)*

Ms. Eziakonwa became Director of the Regional Bureau for Africa of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 2018.

For 10 years she served as UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Ethiopia, Uganda, and Lesotho and as Chief (Africa) at UN OCHA, led response to natural disasters, emergencies and transitions to recovery. She also worked for the UN Departments of Peacekeeping Operations and Public Information in New York. Before joining the UN, Ms. Eziakonwa has held a series of senior positions in civil society organisations in Africa.



Mavis Owusu-Gyamfi

*Executive Vice President, African Center for Economic
Transformation (ACET)*

Ms. Owusu-Gyamfi leads ACET's strategy implementation and the day-to-day management of the organization. Prior to ACET, she was Director for Investments of a newly established NGO, the Power of Nutrition. Her previous positions include Director of Program Policy at Save the Children, UK and Deputy Director for Private Sector Development at the UK Department for International Development (DFID).

She has extensive experience in NGO governance and is currently a member of the Board of Directors for Results for Development and Sightsavers International and an Independent Member of the Strategic Coherence of ODA Funded Research (SCOR) Board. Ms. Owusu-Gyamfi is a political economist by training and a private sector development specialist. She holds an Mphil in Development Economics from the University of Sussex.



Speakers

Panel II: *Digital Transformation: A joint journey into the future*

Dr. Bärbel Kofler

Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

Dr Bärbel Kofler (SPD) holds the position of Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. Before being appointed to this role in December 2021, she was the Federal Government Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid for six years.

She has been a member of the German Bundestag since 2004, where her previous roles included Development Policy Spokesperson of the SPD parliamentary group and member of the Foreign Affairs Committee. Dr Kofler holds a PhD degree in linguistics.



Moses Bayingana

Head of Information Society Division, Department for Infrastructure and Energy, African Union Commission

Mr. Moses Bayingana is currently Head of Information Society Division at the Department for Infrastructure and Energy of the African Union Commission where he has served since 2007.

Mr. Bayingana has managed and coordinated a number of continental programs and initiatives including the African Regional Action Plan for the Knowledge Economy, Africa Internet Exchange System Project and more recently the Digital Transformation Strategy for Africa (2020-2030). Before joining the AU Commission, he was the Coordinator for the implementation of Rwanda's National ICT plan.

He holds a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and a Master of Computer Applications degree.



Speakers

Panel II: *Digital Transformation: A joint journey into the future*

Carla Montesi

*Director Green Deal & Digital Agenda, General
Direction for International Partnerships, European
Commission*

Carla Montesi is responsible for the Directorate “Green Deal and Digital Agenda”. From September 2018 to mid-January 2021 Ms. Montesi was Director for Directorate “Planet and Prosperity”. Before that (2014-2018) she was Director for Western and Central Africa. Prior to 2014, she was Director at the Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries.

Mrs Montesi had diverse responsibilities in the field of EU external policy for development and cooperation both at Headquarters and in EU Delegations in Africa, as well as experience in the Cabinet of EU Commissioner Emma Bonino for External Policy and Humanitarian Affairs. Ms. Montesi is a lawyer who specialised in European affairs at the College of Europe in Bruges.

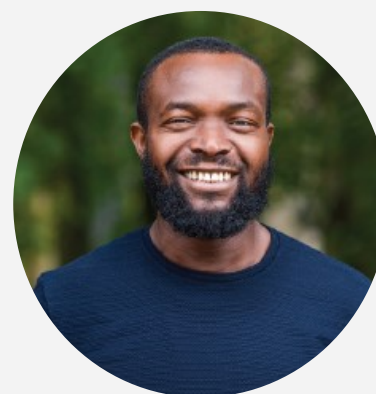


Bosun Tijani

Co-Founder and CEO, Co-Creation Hub

Bosun Tijani is the co-founder and CEO of Co-Creation Hub, a pan-Africa innovation enabler that works on accelerating the application of innovation and social capital for a better society. He has more than 15 years of experience across public and private corporations including Pera Innovation Network (UK) and International Trade Centre in Geneva, Switzerland. He is the leader and initiator of the Yaba Technology Cluster. New Africa Magazine named him as one of the 100 Most Influential People on the continent.

Mr. Tijani holds a masters’ degree in information systems and management from Warwick University and is currently completing his PhD in innovation systems at the University of Leicester. He is a Desmond Tutu fellow and a fellow of the



Speakers

Panel II: Digital Transformation: A joint journey into the future

Nanjira Sambuli

Author and expert on digital equality

Nanjira Sambuli is a Kenyan-based researcher, policy analyst and strategist studying the gendered impacts of digitalization. She is a Fellow in the Technology and International Affairs Program at The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and a board member at The New Humanitarian, Development Gateway, Digital Impact Alliance. Besides, she sits on the Gender Advisory Board at the UN Commission on Science and Technology for Development and is a Diplomacy Moderator at the Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipator.

She previously led digital equality advocacy efforts at the World Wide Web Foundation, and worked at iHub Nairobi. She was a panel member on the United Nations Secretary General's High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation.



Speakers

Closing Statement

Jochen Flasbarth

State Secretary at the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

Jochen Flasbarth took office as State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development in December 2021. From 2013 to 2021, he was State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety.

Prior to that, he held the position of President of the Federal Environment Agency for four years. He holds a degree in economics from the Universities of Münster and Bonn.



Chido Cleopatra Mpemba

Special Envoy on Youth to the AU Chairperson

Ms. Chido Mpemba is the Youngest Diplomat in the African Union Chairperson's Cabinet. She leads on youth affairs with the responsibility to front the voices of over 870 Million youth in the 55 Countries and Governments in Africa as the African Union Special Envoy on Youth.

Recognized on the list of 100 most Influential African Women and CNN New York as Top 100, Under 40 Most Influential People of African Descent, she is a Pan-African youth advocate. She has worked with various institutions to coordinate activities focused on social equity and policy advocacy including on education, climate change, public health whilst promoting the continental framework on Youth, Peace & Security in Africa and advocating for African Countries to ratify the AU Youth Charter .



Reception for on-site participants

DJ Nomi

DJ, MC and Producer Iterational

Born in Stuttgart, of Ghanaian origin and Berliner by choice, DJane Nomi has established herself as one of the most versatile artists in the Berlin club scene.

She has played in some of the best locations and clubs, e.g. Gretchen, Ipse, Metropol, Prinz Charles, House of Weekend, Sohohouse, Watergate in Berlin and also internationally (Warsaw, Luanda, Accra, Maputo, Nairobi, Antananarivo, Kigali, Dar es Salaam, Madrid and Zurich).

DJane Nomi has also had gigs at the German Bundestag, Berlin Art Week, Berlinische Galerie Museum of Modern Art and at Haus der Kulturen der Welt (HKW). She also performed at festivals like the Fusion and Hype Festival.



