

PARTICIPANTS' PROFILES

*Training and Mentoring Program for
Women-Led Business: Liberia, DRC,
Rwanda, Senegal, Mozambique and
South Africa*

COUNTRY: LIBERIA

Aisha Bruce



Ms. Bruce's business is Terravilla Gardens, Inc., which provides both the private sector and Government ministries with floral arrangements. She wishes to make the site of the Gardens a resort facility as well.

Tina Jatei Kpan



Ms. Kpan's business is Wofegasp Packaging, Quality Control and Networking, which sells Batik Art, household items and African designs. She wishes to expand her business and thus help her community by creating jobs.



"I revised my Business Plan to look at the long term and really go for promoting the bamboo industry in Liberia, not just for myself as a bamboo furniture maker but also for the entire community and to help our forests as well. Thanks to my business plan, developed with the help of IE teachers and tutors, I was able to get 60.000 \$ from the US Government as a grant"

Anyaa Vohiri



Ms. Vohiri is the manager of Fauna and Flora International, which promotes the use of bamboo as environmentally friendly. She wishes to expand her business and hire more local workers to fight poverty in her community.



Grace Scotland



Ms. Scotland is the managing director of Amazing Grace, Inc., which manufactures and designs beaded jewelry, baskets and handbags.

COUNTRY: MOZAMBIQUE

Natividad Bule



Ms. Bule has a Charter Company that provides air travel and specializes in event organizing and catering to government and local businesses. She wishes to have more opportunities for financing.

"As a participant of the WLB program I discovered a need of creating a Mozambican women entrepreneur association. FEMME - Mozambique is now one of the well known association which is collaborating with UNIFEM, SADC among others. Lao, I'm glad to say that I received the African Woman Business Award which is a great honor to me. "

Leticia Klemens



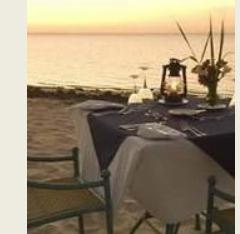
Ms. Klemens creates mosquito nets which have the approval of the WHO. She is constantly thinking of ways to expand her base, especially in the commercial market.



Silvia Maria



Ms. Maria is owner of one of the largest award winning travel agencies in Mozambique. She wishes to go further by opening a tour operation division with buses.



"Managing an enterprise in Mozambique is a big challenge, but with the support I got from the WLB program, I have learnt a lot and have improved my business"

Amelia Zambeze



Ms. Zambeze's business is IMAL, which manufactures school, travel and personal bags, the only company to manufacture bags in Mozambique. She wishes to hire more workers and compete with companies buying goods from China.

COUNTRY: RWANDA

"I have discovered the potentialities of my business. I never expected to reach the results obtained so far: This is a result of what we learn from each other and from the IE teachers. I can see my business growing up and reaching other opportunities such as the hotel business."

Appolonie
Kalingarie



Ms. Kalinganire is the manager of Clean A99, a laundry and dry cleaning company. Her customers come from both the private and public sector. She wishes to become a business consultant in her industry.

Zulaft Mukarube



"With the training I obtained in the 1st phase of the program, I can now run my business much better than before"

Ms. Mukarubega began a school of tourism. She teaches skills to youths who would otherwise be unemployable. She wishes to build an even bigger facility and to expand into all areas of the hospitality industry.

Chantal Maweya
Murebwaga



Ms. Murebwa is the managing director of New Kigali Designers and Outfitters, which designs and supplies clothing to the private sector, commercial outfits and the government. She wishes to begin exporting her clothes regionally and to ultimately reduce the amount of clothing importation in her country.

Immaculée
Umutoni



Ms. Umutoni's company, Gorilla, is the only woman-owned company to assemble computers in the Central African region. Her goals are to increase her technical capacity and her branding in the region, to encourage more young girls to enter the field of IT, and, ultimately, to get computers into every school in Rwanda.

COUNTRY: SOUTH AFRICA

"I would like to thank FAS and IE for giving me this opportunity"

Sindisiwe Hlatshwayo



Ms. Hlatshwayo's company, Mhayise Design, turns recycled products into handmade jewelry, home décor and gifts. Her company not only provides a service to the environment, but also to her community through job creation. She wishes to expand to all South African provinces and ultimately, the international market.



Ana Phosa



Ms. Phosa is the co-owner of Balemi Baleke Agri Cooperative. Her cooperative grows maize and breeds cattle for the government and the private sector. She wishes to become a commercial farmer, and develop a milling company.

"The programme has changed my life drastically. My business has improved and I'm enjoying the results"

Normalizwe Radebe



Ms. Radebe's company, Leaps Media, provides post-production film services. She wishes to expand her business and employ more disadvantaged youths who have a passion for film.



Eve Tepsy



Ms. Tepsy's is the COO of Eve's Eden, an agro-business that has grown into a company that produces food for caterers. Her goal is to attract more funding.

COUNTRY: SENEGAL

Sylvie Aicha



Ms. Aicha is the managing director of Nirwana Au palais de l'encens, which sells incense. She uses local raw materials like sticks, bowls, cores and pastes, as she learned in India, to create scents, and wishes to expand her business and hire more workers.

"The help from IE Business School helped me achieve the award at Cartier competition and the program helped my business to grow a lot. Behind this "agriceutical business", that refers to the production of pharmaceutical cosmetics, there are 616 women supplying Baobab seeds for the production of the oil, and 320 women for the Shea butter, not considering all the employees involved in the direct creation of the cosmetics. Today we sell our products all around the world, from Canada to Japan. And this thanks to WLB Program."

Mame Khary Diene



Ms. Diene's company is Bioessence Laboratories, which formulates creams, lotions, gels and balms with organic African ingredients. Her goal is to improve her products and expand her business to hire more local workers.



Aissatou Dione



Ms. Dione is the general manager of Aissa Dione Tissus (ADT SA), which creates and sells an African deco line. She wishes to expand her business, especially her organic cotton line.

Mariama Diouf M'Bodji



Ms. M'Bodji is the general manager of Maria Distribution, which is engaged in food and drink production. Specifically, she turns local fruits into juice, jams and syrups. She wishes to expand with new partners in distribution and marketing.

Ndiémé Ndao (in Switzerland)



Mrs Ndieme Ndao, created Dieme Cosmetics SARL Geneva and Dakar (Senegal), a business organization aimed at producing her karité (Shea) butter based natural products.

COUNTRY: DRC

Rachel Tona Bilongi



"I would be very grateful to meet again all the participants and exchange our experiences after the program ends"

Ms. Bilongi is president of Congo Lips, an agro-business that grows manioc. In the future, she wishes to turn the manioc into manufactured products, like flour and chikwange.

Suzanne Kahambu Mutamu



Ms. Mutamu is the manager of a stock farm. She grows her own food to feed her animals, and so keeps costs low. She is trained as a pharmacist and therefore has a better understanding of the health and necessary nourishment of her animals. She wishes to expand her business by opening a butcher's shop.

