

FUTURE LEADERS CONNECT

Member's Biographies
#FutureLeadersConnect



FUTURE LEADERS CONNECT: BIOGRAPHIES



Aardra Chandra Mouli – India

Aardra Chandra Mouli is a biotech engineer, entrepreneur, founder and Managing Director of Aeka Biochemicals Pvt. Ltd, the first fully female-owned environmental biotech company in India. A young entrepreneur based in Trivandrum, Kerala, she is passionate about developing effective bio-based solutions for environmental problems. Aardra has received several awards for her work, including the New Indian Express Devi Award, the Professional's Conclave Woman Entrepreneur Award, and the RED Shakti Award. She was selected by the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, to participate in the BIO International Convention 2017, and was a finalist in the entrepreneurial category of the 2017 Study UK Alumni Award.

Aardra's vision for global change is the increased adoption of environmentally positive technologies and processes in infrastructure and industry, backed up by more investment, research, innovation and entrepreneurship.



Abdullah Bin Shabbir – Pakistan

Abdullah Bin Shabbir is the founder and President of a non-profit, community development organisation, the Together We Can Foundation. Shabbir believes that a lack of universal and quality education is the cause of all the global challenges including poverty, inequality and discrimination, climate change, war and conflict. His foundation aspires to eradicate these problems and empower communities through direct intervention in education and health. By organising numerous projects at grass-root level, he has mobilised more than 500 volunteers and has affected the lives of thousands of people. Shabbir assumed various roles in numerous organisations including the National Youth Assembly, the International Federation of Medical Students' Association-Pakistan and Young Leaders Programme. He represented Pakistan at the International Youth Forum in China and the International Student Festival in Trondheim, Norway.

Shabbir's vision for global change is to provide a free and quality education to every child that is out of school in Pakistan, and globally.



Abilasha Ramanan – UK (England)

Abilasha Ramanan is the Chief Executive Officer of ImpactVision, an early-stage technology company building a more transparent and effective global food system, using hyperspectral imaging. She has previously worked on campaigns for non-governmental organisations, including Stamp out Poverty, Oxfam, the British Institute of Human Rights, the Fairtrade Foundation, and Sustain. She was also part of the founding team of the pressure group Move Your Money UK. She founded two food social enterprises in London: Papi's Pickles, a catering company providing South Indian and Sri Lankan food and pickles, made by women who relocated to the UK during and after the conflict in Sri Lanka; and DayOld, a food surplus social enterprise. In 2015, Abi won a scholarship to Singularity University's Global Solutions Programme, where she co-founded ImpactVision, with the goal of addressing the US\$1 trillion food waste problem through rapid and non-invasive supply chain analytics.

Abilasha's vision for global change is to transform food supply chains to reduce food waste, using technology to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of food distribution globally.



Alaeddine Oueslati – Tunisia

Alaeddine Oueslati is a freelance journalist for *Youth Time* magazine and a contributor to *Huffington Post*, *YaLa Press*, and *Global Eyes Network*. He has a particular interest in gender equality, human rights, Africa, and the Middle East. Alaeddine is a Women Deliver Young Leader and a UN Empower Women Global Champion, working on advancing women's rights, well-being, and economic empowerment in the Middle East and North Africa. He has worked for the Hickey Center for Interfaith Studies and Dialogue, Caux Initiatives of Change, UNICEF and is a 120 Under 40 Award Nominee. He has recently been appointed Youth Media Professional by the African Union, which involved working with a think tank to promote the 2017 African Union youth campaign to harness the demographic dividend through investment in African youth, particularly women in rural areas.

Alaeddine's vision for global change is gender equality so that women and men are no longer divided by gender, and women are not judged for their looks or femininity, or objectified and considered more vulnerable and less capable.

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Angel Santamaria – Mexico

Angel Santamaria works as the Director for Bilateral Relations at the Mexican Ministry of Public Education. He is responsible for a team of 27 people in charge of 16 scholarship programmes. He also manages the government strategy for access and integration to schools of deportees and returnees that want to continue with their education. Angel previously worked as adviser for international co-operation for the Minister of Tourism and has worked with consulting groups for implementation of local development projects. He has also completed volunteer work with vulnerable communities in Queretaro, México and in Tegucigalpa, Honduras and worked as an English and Spanish teacher for the Latino community in Torino, Italy.

Angel's vision for global change is for improved access to quality education, combined with a greater focus on developing socio-emotional skills to improve both the learning process and the school environment.



Ayodele Adiat – UK (England)

Ayodele Adiat is a first year Registrar in General Practice in the north-east of England. Prior to this she was Senior Analyst, Quality Improvement initiatives at the Health Strategy and Delivery Foundation Nigeria where she was involved in the start up and spread of quality improvement initiatives to reduce maternal and new born mortality across 80 hospitals. She mentored frontline health workers to achieve sustainable improvement in processes, outcomes and patient satisfaction. She also partnered with the State Ministry of Health to incorporate quality improvement into policy and performance management processes.

Ayodele's vision for global change is an end to wasteful spending in healthcare so that available resources can be dedicated to efficient and sustainable patient care to improve health outcomes globally.



Ayu Kartika Dewi – Indonesia

Ayu Kartika Dewi co-founded SabangMerauke a not-for-profit organisation which runs an intra-nation student exchange programme, selecting junior high school students to live with host families who are of different ethnicity and/or religion. When these students return home they act as peace ambassadors in their own community. Ayu was selected as one of Wardah's ten Inspirational Women in Education in 2017. SabangMerauke has also won several awards. Ayu is now the Managing Director of Indika Foundation, a not-for-profit organisation focusing on diversity.

Ayu's vision for global change is to ensure democracies can operate for the benefit of their citizens without prejudice based on religion, sexual orientation, gender or race.



Blessing Omakwu – Nigeria

Blessing Omakwu currently works as a policy consultant and has completed projects for the Presidency, the Nigerian Permanent Mission to the UN, the National Planning Commission, the National Human Rights Commission and UNDP Nigeria. In 2016, she was invited to Harvard University's Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Studies to undertake policy analysis on women's security issues. After graduating, she received the 2012 USA National Association of Women Lawyers Outstanding Law Graduate Award. Blessing served with the National Youth Service Corps at the National House of Assembly and organised the Transformed to Transform Nigeria leadership conference and career fair. She also runs a blog (www.blessingomakwu.com), where she explores the intersection of gender equality with public policy, popular culture, religion and literature. Blessing's writing has appeared in *Bella Naija*, *Genevieve Magazine*, and *She Leads Africa* among others.

Blessing's vision for global change is for a world where gender equality is achieved and women's rights are upheld, leading to greater representation of women in positions of power including elected offices, the civil service, academia, and religious institutions.

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Christine Mwangi – Kenya

Christine Mwangi is a Doctoral Fellow at the Strathmore Institute of Public Policy and Governance. She led the establishment of postgraduate training programmes in public policy which have now trained hundreds of policymakers in the East Africa region. At the time, policy was a new discipline within the region and not widely known. Christine was driven by a passion for education and a belief that public servants should have access to the best possible education.

Christine's vision for global change is to reduce inequalities to ensure education for all young children to develop their cognitive and behavioural strengths.



Diego Mendiburu – Mexico

Diego Humberto Mendiburu Contreras leads Factico, a technology start-up that develops projects to promote freedom of speech and citizen engagement. Factico launched Supercívicos, an iOS and Android app that allows citizens to become reporters and produce short videos about public services and public infrastructure issues in their city. The reports are stored on a massive open database to keep a record of issues in cities, and available to governments and decision makers. Diego also oversees development of Ligue Politico, a Tinder-like app that seeks to promote voting among young people; and Escudo Ciudadano, an app to find and evaluate Public Prosecutor's Offices. Diego was previously a full-time reporter at investigative journalism magazine *emeequis* and oversaw the promotion of the London 2012 Olympic Games as press officer at the British Embassy in Mexico City.

Diego's vision for global change is to help communities identify and address problems through community journalism to highlight the issues and bring robust information on real problems to the attention of governments.



Dina Novita Sari – Indonesia

Dina Novita Sari works for the Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD) in Indonesia as a Programme Co-ordinator. She is responsible for managing projects on strengthening parliament and human rights. She previously worked for various organisations including a law firm, a multinational company and non-governmental organisation.

Dina's vision for global change is to see a more accessible and better quality education for young people wherever they live, regardless of nationality, sex, ethnic origin, or any other status.



Emma Jones – UK (Scotland)

Emma Jones is working towards an LLM in International Commercial Law with Arbitration at the University of Aberdeen. Last year, Emma returned from Kampala, Uganda after a two-year contract with a public policy and research think tank, Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment, where she worked on national governance, public policy, and regional peace and security issues. She has volunteered on international service projects in India, Rwanda, and Thailand. She worked on the Local Government Council Score-Card Initiative, run by ACODE, where citizens were empowered and informed to hold political leaders accountable and work together to provide local government services effectively.

Emma's vision for global change is responsible, effective, and sustainable financing in the development sector, using private sector partnerships and innovative financial solutions to bring about improvements in education, transport infrastructure and environmental management.

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Felippa Ann Amanta – Indonesia

Felippa Ann Amanta works as a Programme Associate at the Women and Youth Development Institute of Indonesia in Surabaya. In her current role, Felippa has successfully planned and managed training for hundreds of women across Indonesia, including legislative candidates and activists, to increase their political participation and leadership capacity. Felippa has previously interned for the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in Washington DC and for the Indonesian National Commission for UNESCO in Jakarta.

Felippa's vision for global change is to see the realisation of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, especially on gender equality, through empowering people to make changes in their own communities.



Gandrie Ramadhan Apriandito – Indonesia

Gandrie Ramadhan Apriandito is a transport planner with a broad practical experience in transport planning and bus rapid transit development. He is currently working for ITDP Indonesia as a transport associate. He works closely with Transjakarta to provide technical assistance in bus rapid transit planning and improvement for route analysis, station design and pedestrian accessibility. His work is also focused on building safe networks of pavements and bike lanes, collaborating with the authorities to get the design supervised and implemented.

Gandrie's vision for global change is to develop infrastructure and transport plans which are sustainable and address the challenge of climate change, ensuring cities are fit for people to live and work in.



Grace Blakeley – UK (England)

Grace Blakeley is a researcher at the Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR), where she specialises in economic policy. Prior to this, she worked as a management consultant in KPMG's public sector and healthcare practice. Grace is actively involved in political organising in the UK and around the world. She is the President of Club Alpbach London, which fundraises to allow young people from across the UK to attend the annual Alpbach conference in Austria. She is passionate about economic policy, and aside from advocating changes to the UK's approach to economics, she actively campaigns for economic issues such as tax justice and basic income. She seeks to create change by both engaging with political elites herself, and by mobilising and educating young people to challenge the status quo.

Grace's vision for global change is the implementation of policies to heal divisions within the UK, to reinvigorate local democracy and increase social capital thereby empowering people to bring about real change in their own communities.



Hauwa Liman – Nigeria

Hauwa Liman is an inspector with the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC), a creative entrepreneur and also the founder of the Impact Nigeria Project, a platform that inspires, empowers and mentors youths to reach their potential and improve their communities. The project also promotes ethnic and religious tolerance among youths. She is a member of the Nigerian Institute of Management, a Tony Elumelu Foundation entrepreneur, an alumni of the Cherie Blair/Exxon Mobil Road to Growth initiative for women and also a 2016 Mandela Washington fellow. Through her work with the National Youth Service Corps and her own project, Hauwa has worked with over 5,000 youths on value re-orientation and attitudinal change, small business start-up and community development. She hosted a creative entrepreneurship boot-camp for girls on entrepreneurship and accessory design in April 2017.

Hauwa's vision for global change is to see youth unemployment tackled through intensive early entrepreneurship education and vocational training.

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Hussain Paisawala – India

Hussain Paisawala is a Deputy General Manager at the Saifee Burhani Upliftment Trust. He is a key part of the team undertaking India's largest inner city renewal project: the cluster redevelopment of Bhendi Bazaar. Over the last ten years he has worked in the banking and finance, insurance, retail, and real estate sectors. In his role at the Saifee Burhani Upliftment Trust, a first of its kind not-for-profit initiative, Hussain and his team have worked with the government to bring about changes in policy. These changes are essential to accelerate the pace of redevelopment in a city where thousands of buildings are in a precarious condition and are endangering many lives. Having a disability himself, Hussain has experienced first-hand the challenges faced by people with special needs.

Hussain's vision for global change is to ensure that the commitments made as part of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals for inclusive development and growth are honoured by mainstreaming disability rights.



Imani Jacqueline Brown – USA

Imani Jacqueline Brown is a New Orleans native, artist, activist, and researcher. Imani is Director of Programs at Antenna, co-founder of Blights Out, and a core member of Occupy Museums. Through three years of experiential research into the system of housing development, Blights Out is calling for policy change to redress the city's housing crisis. In 2017, Occupy Museums' project, Debtfair was featured in the Whitney Biennial. Imani is Artistic Director of Fossil Free Festival, which will take place in New Orleans in April 2018. In 2014, her paper, *Performing Bare Life*, was named best in her sub-stream at LAEMOS in Havana, Cuba. Her writing has been published in *Pelican Bomb*, *Krytyka Polityczna*, and *Shelterforce* magazine.

Imani's vision for global change is a world where joined up thinking on housing, the economy and the environment allows the issues created by climate change to be addressed fairly so that the poorest communities are not always forced to bear the brunt of its devastating effects.



Imru Al Qays Talha Jebril – Morocco

Imru Al Qays Talha Jebril currently works as an adviser to the High Commissioner for Planning in Morocco. With a background in political science, his focus is on understanding how to influence and lobby policymakers within Morocco to ensure proposals for education reform and other key issues are adopted.

Imru's vision for global change is focused on educational empowerment, with the global democratisation of educational practices, using the latest available resources such as massive online open courses and digital schooling.



Jack Gillum – UK (Wales)

Jack Gillum is currently a 3rd year student at the University of Reading studying for his degree in Politics and International Relations. Jack from Knighton, Wales, United Kingdom was recently awarded a Winston Churchill Memorial Trust Fellowship to research the role of Civil Society in policy making. Jack also sits on a number of charity boards focused on working to raise youth engagement in areas which affect their life. This includes the Campaign for the Children and Young People's Assembly for Wales (CYPAW) and the Smart School Council Community. He has a range of experience of the UK political system from campaigning during elections and is currently interning for a backbench Member of Parliament. Jack as a Trustee of CYPAW campaigned for the creation of a Youth Assembly in Wales which received support both from the United Nations CRC and more importantly the National Assembly for Wales late last year.

Jack's global vision for change is to see an increase level of civic participation in the policy process at all levels of governance as it is important to close the 'loop' and make sure that citizens have the ability to be heard at all levels of the policy process.

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Jihene Ferchichi – Tunisia

Jihene Ferchichi is a legal consultant in Tunisia and deputy regional director of the International Chamber of Commerce of Paris. In 2012, Jihene interned with the Tunisian Presidential Cabinet and worked on drafting and reviewing laws with the President of Tunisia's legal adviser. Jihene plays an active role with civil associations working with children and to improve children's rights.

Jihene's vision for global change is an effective global policy for the protection of the rights of the child which will combat the trafficking of children, including forced transportation, recruitment, transfer, harbouring or receipt of children.



Jimmy Paul – UK (Scotland)

Jimmy Paul is committed to improving the experiences and outcomes of those who, like himself, have care experience. Jimmy has shared his experience of growing up in care by writing a number of impactful articles, and by speaking at conferences and events. He works in the looked after children's sector, and volunteers for several charities.

Jimmy's vision for global change is to improve the experiences and outcomes for children who have been in care and looked after by the state, ensuring opportunities are available and best practice in care settings is recognised and replicated.



Jonathan Buckley – UK (Northern Ireland)

Jonathan Buckley is a Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) for the Upper Bann constituency. Prior to this he served as a Councillor on the former Craigavon Borough Council and then on Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council. He has also worked as an adviser and personal assistant to an MLA.

Jonathan's vision for global change is to open up educational opportunities for all, to tackle a lack of education and educational underachievement through fostering a collaborative approach between political leaders, charities, NGOs, educational leaders and the private sector.



Juliana Ospina Cano – USA

Juliana Ospina Cano works in education and social justice to positively influence the academic and socioemotional success of immigrant students. Based in Washington, DC, she spearheads the work of UnidosUS (formerly National Council of La Raza) in shaping, accelerating and broadening access to science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) education for underserved students across the USA. Before UnidosUS, Juliana held leadership positions in public schools in Tennessee and Georgia. At STEM Preparatory Academy, Nashville's first STEM-focused public charter school, she developed systemic and sustainable practices which created a welcoming environment for all families and advanced student achievement.

Juliana's vision for global change is the development of educational programmes that focus on socioemotional development and academic readiness to help immigrant students reach their potential.



Kamil Majeed – Pakistan

Kamil Majeed is currently undertaking a postgraduate on education and international development at the Institute of Education, UCL. Kamil was the winner of the United Nations Principles for Responsible Management Education video essay on *The Future Corporation* and was invited as a global change agent guest speaker at the United Nations Global Forum in New York 2015. As part of the expert panel, he led the global student community and provided the student perspective on the systemic drivers that encourage change within the global management school system. He is the co-ordinator for the United Nations Global Compact, Lahore, Pakistan Network and was invited as a guest speaker to discuss the role of the private sector and civil society in localising the Sustainable Development Goals at the UNDP meeting held at the Planning and Development Department, Pakistan.

Kamil's vision for global change is decentralised education policies which focus on empowerment and quality education for developing countries.

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Karina Izquierdo – Mexico

Karina Izquierdo is an architect with a strong interest on public policies for sustainable urban development. She previously worked in Argentina as part of the International Experience Buenos Aires programme within the Ministry of Urban Development, planning for a low carbon emission city and social housing policies, and worked in China as project architect for urban renewal and environmental regeneration interventions. Her current role is Architect and Planning consultant in Mexico City. She is a Local Pathways Fellow for the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (Youth) and is developing a project to reduce inequalities and build resilient livelihoods in the context of climate change. Karina strongly believes solutions for sustainable development lie in the way we conceive and live in our cities.

Karina's vision for global change focuses on building more resilient, inclusive and sustainable environments.



Katherine McCloskey – UK (Northern Ireland)

Katherine McCloskey is a Public Affairs and Policy Co-ordinator for NIACRO (formerly the Northern Ireland Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders). She focuses on supporting frontline staff, overseeing public consultations and policy formulation, as well as the management of the communications and public affairs arm of the organisation. She has policy experience in criminal justice, mainstream advice services and housing, having previously worked for Citizens Advice and the Northern Ireland Federation of Housing Associations (NIFHA). Katherine is a member of the board of trustees of two third sector organisations – AWARE, and Training for Women Network (TWN). She played a key role in the CIPR-nominated Let's Keep Supporting People campaign in Northern Ireland, to protect funding which provides housing-related support to help vulnerable people to live as independently as possible.

Katherine's vision for global change is an improvement in mental healthcare services within the criminal justice system so people can re-integrate into, and contribute to, a safer society.



Lucy Radoli – Kenya

Lucy Radoli is an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya, a legislative drafter and a public servant working as Legal Counsel in the Senate Parliament of Kenya. Lucy joined the Senate as a legal pupil three years ago and worked her way up to Advocate.

Lucy's vision for global change aims to encourage states to work together to tackle global insecurity caused by violent extremism, civil wars and unrest and find solutions to bring about peace and security which address human rights, immigration policies, humanitarian aid and promotion of the rule of law.



Mahmoud Mohamed Hussien Abdelrazek – Egypt

Mahmoud Mohamed Hussien Abdelrazek is a geologist who is currently leading the development team of Industrial Development Authority (IDA) of Egypt. In this role he manages industrial licences and registrations and implements reforms to industrial zones management. He was responsible for the implementation of a new customer care unit which has addressed issues facing industrial investors.

Mahmoud's global vision for change is to facilitate a switch to a sustainable energy model, with more robust government regulation and incentives to encourage both consumers and producers to switch to renewable energy sources.



Miguel Mendivil Roiz – Mexico

Miguel Mendivil Roiz works as an adviser for disarmament and international security at the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations. He has previously worked as a Research Assistant on Middle Eastern studies and North American integration at El Colegio de Mexico. In 2014, he was one of four Mexican Youth Delegates to the United Nations General Assembly and also participated in the Young Diplomats Forum 2014, held in Querétaro, Mexico. Miguel has always been involved in projects which aim to improve his community, from volunteering activities with the Mexican Red Cross to founding a non-governmental organisation dedicated to the implementation of Agenda 2030 in his home state, Sinaloa. For Miguel, many local solutions come from global decisions, but all global change comes from local awareness, engagement, and empowerment.

Miguel's vision for global change is a world where migration is safe and provides development in both receiving and hosting countries and becomes an opportunity for growth rather than a threat.

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Mithun Srivatsa – India

Mithun Srivatsa is the co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of Blowhorn, a leading intra-city, last-mile logistics start-up. He has over ten years of experience in ports, logistics and shipping including seven years with the AP-Moller Maersk Group. Blowhorn operates in Bangalore, Mumbai, Hyderabad and Chennai and currently employs over 100 people and completes over 15,000 deliveries every day. Mithun previously worked with the NITI Aayog programme called 'Champions of Change', where he was part of a cohort of 150 entrepreneurs chosen to drive forward-looking policymaking, promoting innovation and employment.

Mithun's vision for global change is to ensure a securer future for communities by promoting capitalism which works alongside sustainability.



Nikki Giant – UK (Wales)

Nikki Giant is the founder and director of Full Circle Education, a social enterprise that connects children and young people to their potential through a range of educational and extra-curricular programmes to raise aspirations, attainment and school attendance. Nikki is also the founder of its sister organisation, Girls Circle, which aims to educate, elevate and empower girls and young women across the UK. Nikki is the author of three educational books and the author of a young adult novel, *Hello Me*, which will be published in 2018. Nikki was named as a Rising Star by Business Insider Wales and listed as one of Wales Online's '35 under 35' business women in 2015. Nikki is an ambassador for the organisation Girl Rising, which seeks to empower girls across the globe.

Nikki's vision for global change is for gender equality through better support for girls, and more recognition of the challenges still facing girls and young women. She would like Wales to be the world's first gender-equal country, creating a more equal and prosperous society for all.



Noha Ihab Hussien Aly – Egypt

Noha Ihab Hussien Aly is a financial analyst and regulator at the Capital Market Authority in Egypt. She is a member of the global Chevening finance network and has worked on a number of projects in collaboration with SIFE, CFA and other civil societies to empower disabled people and children in rural areas. Noha also supports recent university graduates aiming to help them recognise their own abilities and better prepare for the job market.

Noha's global vision for change is innovation and change within the financial sector to support economic development in rural areas, reducing income inequality and promoting economic growth.



Nwamaka Ogbonna – Nigeria

Nwamaka Ogbonna works as a Researcher at the Tony Elumelu Foundation focusing on entrepreneurship and private sector development. She is passionate about the structural transformation of African economies to address the development deficit between Africa and the world. After winning the Vice Chancellor's award for the most outstanding female international student at Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology she won the Lalji London School of Economics Program for African Leadership (PFAL) full scholarship to study Development Management at the London School of Economics. During her national service, she was elected as President of the Education Community Development group, leading the provision of study materials to over 1,000 indigent students. Nwamaka has a blog where she discusses policy, political and economic issues and volunteers as a writer for Stears News, providing commentary on the Nigerian economy.

Nwamaka's vision for global change is the structural transformation of African economies through a vibrant technology-led manufacturing sector that is able to create sustainable jobs for the working population of the continent.

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Olatunji Oladotun – Nigeria

Olatunji Oladotun has experience and expertise in donor-funded humanitarian cash transfer programmes, mobile and digital payment implementation, government social intervention programmes and financial inclusion initiatives for financial institutions and international donor organisations. Some of his recent successes include implementation of mobile money disbursement to immunisation officers of the World Health Organization, monthly payments to Save the Children Child Development Grant Programme beneficiaries, implementation of the pilot phase of the Federal Government National Social Welfare Program and the securing of a US\$2 million EFINA grant for FCMB Microfinance Bank.

Oladotun's vision for global change is to help those living in poverty to become economically active and to tackle food insecurity through sustainable income and improved affordability of, and access to, nutritious quality food.



Olaoluwa Abagun – Nigeria

Olaoluwa Abagun is a lawyer and gender equality advocate from Lagos, Nigeria. She is the founder of Girl Pride Circle Initiative, a registered non-governmental organisation in Nigeria which advocates for girls' rights and empowers girls to transform their communities. In two years, Girl Pride Circle has reached 1,000 Nigerian adolescent girls, educating them about leadership, gender equality, and sexual violence. Olaoluwa has been recognised as a Women Deliver Young Leader and has advocated across strategic global platforms including the UN Commission on the Status of Women 2017. She is an Associate Fellow of the Royal Commonwealth Society. She was enrolled as a barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Nigeria in 2016 and is currently a Trainee Associate at the legal firm Adepetun Caxton-Martins Agbor & Segun.

Olaoluwa's vision for global change is for gender equality, where individuals thrive equally across socio-economic spaces regardless of gender.



Omar Khorshed – Egypt

Omar Khorshed currently works as National Projects Manager in the Egyptian Ministry of Trade and Industry where he is leading on four national strategic industrial projects for Egypt. He has previously worked in various fields including engineering, business development, project management and policymaking. Omar was the founder and president of the first AIESEC chapter – the world's largest student run organisation – at university and has taken on leadership roles at both national and international level.

Omar's vision for global change is an international strategic alliance for green and renewable energy to ensure sustainable sources of energy for the planet.



Rebecca Bunce – UK (England)

Rebecca Bunce currently works part time as the Policy and Engagement Manager for Small Charities Coalition and will shortly be joining Involve as Political and Parliamentary lead. She is a passionate advocate of the benefits of engaging with diverse communities – and ensuring typically unheard voices are heard and responded to in decision making. She co-directs the IC Change campaign, which calls on the UK government to ratify the Istanbul Convention on Violence Against Women. Although the campaign is run entirely by volunteers, it was able to create a coalition of over 50 organisations and successfully supported a law through UK parliament in 2016–17. The campaign is continuing to build on this success to ensure ending violence against women is a strategic priority for the UK government and the Istanbul Convention is ratified. As a disabled woman, she volunteers with Sisters of Frida, a Disabled Women's Collective to ensure disabled women's voices are heard across a range of issues and Access the Vote campaigning for disabled people to have better access to democracy.

Rebecca's global vision for change is to ensure that typically unheard voices are involved, heard and responded to in decision making.

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Sairah Zaidi – Pakistan

Sairah Zaidi is an elections and governance expert currently working on a British-funded programme to consolidate democracy in Pakistan through support for the Election Commission of Pakistan, parliament, political parties and civil society. She has previously worked for Democracy Reporting International, the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, and Teach for Pakistan. During her time at Georgetown University in Washington DC she created a partnership between educators at the university and teachers at a school founded by her grandmother in Karachi that serves underprivileged students.

Sairah's global vision for change is to empower communities to design local solutions to today's challenges to bring about increased equality and prosperity.



Seun Tuyo – Nigeria

Seun Tuyo is a Project Management Professional and a trained business analyst with over nine years of experience across different sectors including telecommunications, financial services and media and digital services. She currently works as a Research Manager and Digital Researcher at Kantar TNS and is also the Vice President of Seaside Toastmasters in Lagos, Nigeria. Under her leadership as Corporate Social Responsibility Lead for Kantar Nigeria, the business contributed to tackling malaria in its host communities to mark World Malaria Day in April 2017, touching over 300 lives.

Seun's vision for global change is to reduce the rate of malaria transmission and death rates and ultimately to create communities which are free from the devastating effects of malaria.



Simon Ndirangu – Kenya

Simon Ndirangu is a Global Shaper at the World Economic Forum; a Mandela Washington Fellow, a consulting strategist and certified trainer. He has over five years' consulting experience across government, the private sector and non-governmental organisations in Kenya and Uganda. He has a keen interest in youth issues and is concerned that young people are equipped with the right skills to find employment. In 2016 he set up The Bridge, a project to provide employability and entrepreneurship tools for school leavers.

Simon's vision for global change is to eradicate the problems in the labour market so that young people do not face unemployment, but are able to provide value to organisations and make a positive impact on the economies of their countries.



Simon Wanda – Kenya

Simon Wanda is a programme officer at the Partnership for African Social and Governance Research, an international organisation that works to enhance research excellence in governance and public policy. Simon co-ordinates the Master of Research and Public Policy programme offered in 13 African universities across seven countries and funded by the Department for International Development. Before this, Simon was a Research Fellow at the African Centre for Technology Studies, where he edited a policy magazine covering critical issues in African development. He won the Louis Dreyfus-Weidenfeld Scholarship and Leadership Programme to study at the University of Oxford. It was during the leadership programme that he developed an interest in water sanitation and hygiene and as a result set up a water project in a rural village in western Kenya, receiving high commendation from the Scholarship programme.

Simon's vision for global change is the provision of water, sanitation and hygiene to slow down or eradicate the spread of preventable diseases. This is a particular problem in Kenya where less than half the population have access to adequate sanitation, leading to high rates of child mortality.

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Sonia Guiñansaca – USA

Sonia Guiñansaca is a migrant poet, cultural organiser, and activist. She has performed at El Museo Del Barrio, the NY Poetry Festival, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, and featured on NBC, PBS, *Latina Magazine*, Pen America, and the Poetry Foundation. Sonia has presented keynotes, workshops, and panels at universities throughout the country on issues of immigration, LGBTQ, and the power of arts and culture. She's been named as one of ten Up and Coming Latinx Poets You Need to Know by Remezcla, one of The 13 Coolest Queers on the Internet by *Teen Vogue*, and the 2017's Artist in Residence at NYU's Hemispheric Institute of Performance and Politics. She founded some of the first creative artistic projects by and for undocumented writers and artists and was recently named as the Managing Director of CultureStrike.

Sonia's vision for global change is to shift culture and narratives about migration so that we can truly address the political, systemic, and social needs of migrants and refugees.



Soumaya Graine – Morocco

Soumaya Graine currently serves as Legal Counsel for Northern Africa at ENGIE, a global energy player. Previously, Soumaya served as a Legal Counsel at Jacobs Engineering SA, a joint venture between OCP, the largest phosphate exporter in the world and the Jacobs Engineering Group, a Fortune 500 company.

Soumaya's vision for global change is that more people, particularly those living in rural areas of the African continent, have better access to affordable and sustainable energy solutions.



Suniya Taimour – Pakistan

Suniya Taimour is an environmental lawyer and a conservation specialist who has developed a participatory approach to the inclusion of participation by rural communities. Her work in litigation and proposal development allows development of conservation alliances with a focus on policy amendments and guidelines. She has been involved in various public interest litigation cases around Lahore, Pakistan, including the Canal Widening Case, which resulted in building cycle lanes and rights of way for pedestrians.

Suniya's vision for global change focuses on rural participation through regulation and enhanced governance for the mitigation of climate change.



Tim Kipchumba – Kenya

Tim Kipchumba is a co-founder of Questworks, a real estate consultancy and integrated project delivery firm providing solutions to companies and individuals who want to undertake significant construction and solar projects. At Questworks, he leads on financing and procurement with clients in the USA, Kenya, Uganda and Nigeria. Tim is also a teen author and mentor. He has written two books (*Unstoppable*, *Achieving Excellence in High School and Beyond* and *Different Millionaires*). His first book has inspired many young Kenyans to overcome financial and social limitations to follow their dreams. He was awarded *Business Daily's* Top 40 Under 40 in 2015 and the Mandela Washington Fellowship in 2016.

Tim's vision for global change is the availability of quality affordable housing supported by a clean energy infrastructure.



Victoria Mwirichia – Kenya

Victoria Mwirichia is a policy practitioner with multi-sector experience covering the private sector, non-governmental organisations and government. Her work has included review and analysis of the human security situation in East and Horn of Africa, and advice to clients on the investment climate in Sub-Saharan Africa. This prompted an interest in the role of public-private partnerships as a vehicle for development in Africa. Victoria helped to establish a Sino–Africa think tank and played a leadership role which included managing the organisation's office in Nairobi, developing a scope for projects and research, recruiting staff, fundraising and managing stakeholder engagements. More recently she has spent one year working on education service delivery in Pakistan and Somalia.

Victoria's vision for global change is to work with governments in Africa to develop and implement sustainable education policies to ensure that all children have access to affordable, equitable and quality education.

FUTURE LEADERS CONNECT: BIOGRAPHIES



Vineet Kumar – India

Vineet Kumar founded the Cyber Peace Foundation, a think tank which aims to pioneer initiatives to build resilience against cyber crimes and the global threats of cyber warfare. He previously worked as Chief Technology Officer at Jharkhand Police and headed a state government agency on cyber defence. Vineet has received numerous national and international awards and accolades. He is frequently invited to speak in global forums such as the Internet Governance Forum, TEDx and ISACA Dubai Chapter.

Vineet's vision for global change is to ensure the safety and security of everyone using the internet and to eradicate cyber crime and cyber warfare.



Yomna Khattab – Egypt

Yomna Akram Khattab is a Senior Economist and Deputy Director of the Macro-fiscal Policy Unit at the Egyptian Ministry of Finance. She led a team of ten economists and researchers negotiating with the International Monetary Fund which resulted in a loan worth US\$12 billion, the second largest ever agreed by the fund. Yomna is also a writer and published a book of short stories in 2014, took part in the Ugly Ducklings storytelling project between 2014 and 2016 and recently completed the script for her first feature length movie.

Yomna's vision for global change is for climate change to be taken on globally to ensure binding policies can be put in place which address the problem.



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