



# Innovate, Advocate, Lead

The Future of Africa



22nd October, 2025



10am



Virtual



to ACT Foundation's Annual Conference 2025





#### About

#### **ACT Foundation**

Aspire Coronation Trust (ACT) Foundation is an award-winning organization that addresses development challenges and associated needs across the African Continent through funding, capacity strengthening and strategic project delivery with local and regional nonprofits and social enterprises, to drive sustainable development. Our vision is to leverage relationships to deliver effective social impact solutions, ensuring communities thrive through innovative interventions that uphold the values of equity, inclusion, sustainability, and collaboration.



#### Our Vision

To leverage relationships to create effective social impact solutions across Africa.



#### Our Mission

To build sustainable societies by engaging initiatives that unleash potentials and empower beneficiaries.



#### **Focus Areas**

#### Health

In line with the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3, we aspire to ensure health and well-being, especially for the vulnerable and marginalized groups in society. We believe that if individuals live healthy lives, they can be empowered to lift themselves out of poverty and be productive members of society. We support an array of programs and initiatives that provide innovative and sustainable solutions in the areas of Maternal and Child Health, and Noncommunicable Diseases.



#### **Entrepreneurship**

Sustainable Development Goal 8 reaffirms the need to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. Research shows that entrepreneurship contributes to building resilient infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization and fostering innovation. As one of the fastest growing continents in the world, Africa must support entrepreneurship in order to provide access to goods and services, promote its economic growth, thus making a positive impact on communities and improving the well-being of the underserved populace. Our entrepreneurship interventions support initiatives that improve the livelihood of individuals and families through income generation and economic empowerment thus reducing poverty. Our focus is hinged on **Acquisition of Vocational and Digital Skills and Financial Literacy and Inclusion.** 







#### **Focus Areas**

#### **Environment**

Climate change, air and water pollution, soil erosion, land and forest degradation are areas of global concern as these hinder efforts to achieve sustainable development. ACT Foundation is committed to supporting human activities that ensure access, availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable and take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts on vulnerable communities in line with SDG Goals 6 (Clean water and sanitation), 11 (Sustainable cities and communities) and 13 (Climate Action). We support programs and initiatives in **Integrated Waste Management, Access to Safe Drinking water, and Climate Action.** 



#### Leadership

At ACT Foundation, our aim is to raise a new generation of credible, accountable and ethical leaders who will drive initiatives that promote effective and sustainable, economic and human development. Our focus is on the development of individuals (particularly young people and women) towards good governance, economic development, and organizational and professional development. Thus, we support initiatives aimed at Youth Leadership, Thought leadership, and National Development.





# **Our Programs**



#### **Fund Management**

- » Grantmaking
- » Changemakers Innovation Challenge (CIC)
- » Co-funding
- » Sub-granting



#### **Capacity Strengthening Programs**

- » ACT Foundation Annual Conference (Breakfast Dialogue)
- » Professional Volunteer Program
- » ACT Foundation Podcast (ACTPod)
- » ACT Knowledge Series







# Our

# Leadership

#### **Board Members**



Tunde Folawiyo Chairman



Claire Omatseye Member



Amaechi Okobi Member



Abimbola Akeredolu (SAN) Member



Osayi Alile Chief Executive Officer

# 2024

# **BFD Event Highlights**

Eye-catching images from previous conference







# A welcome message from CEO

Hello everyone and welcome to the 9th edition of the ACT Foundation's Annual Conference (Breakfast Dialogue). ACT Foundation is celebrating 8 years of social impact and that makes this year's Breakfast Dialogue extra special.

Since its inception, ACT Foundation has committed to bridging the economic and social deficits in the African continent by promoting sustainability programs that revolve around the four pillars of Health, Environment, Entrepreneurship and Leadership. We believe addressing these core areas would ultimately positively affect the lapses that feature in other sectors.

Today, we are privileged to have amongst us seasoned and experienced speakers drawn from various sectors and socio-economic backgrounds who will be sharing with us strategies that would foster our approach to addressing Africa's challenges. This year's conference themed: Innovate, Advocate, Lead: The Future of Africa' aims to convene visionary leaders, influential institutions, and changemakers across Africa to spotlight the ingenuity and resilience of individuals shaping critical sector; driving a bold, inclusive future for Africa.

The goal of this year's event is to broaden the knowledge of key leaders and catalyze action towards building a more inclusive and sustainable Africa. Central to this goal is exploring the pivotal role of African Changemakers in addressing the diverse challenges hindering sustainable development across the continent.

Over the last eight years, ACT Foundation has irrefutably grown to become an asset to the entire continent through our strategic partnership with over 107 nonprofit and social enterprises, implementing projects across Africa, private and public sector organizations, impacting 4.2 million beneficiaries in over 1200 African communities, in 13 African countries. We intend to further drive sustainable impact by empowering and securing the future of Africa by enabling and supporting nonprofit organizations in the region to strengthen capacity thereby catalyzing socio-economic development.

Let us charge forward to making Africa resilient for the changes that are to come through the discussions, debates and models that will be showcased at today's event. We are calling on all stakeholders to work collaboratively towards systematic change.

On behalf of the board and management of Aspire Coronation Trust Foundation, I welcome you to this event.





# Agenda at a Glance

9:30 - 10:00 am **ACT Foundation Videos** 

10:00 - 10:05 am **Conference Kick-off** 

10:05 - 10:10 am Welcome Address

Mr Amaechi Okobi, ACT Foundation Board Member

10:10 - 10:15 am **Grantee Video** 

10:15 - 10:35 am

Keynote Address: Redefining Power: Africa's Youth Leading the New Social Contract

Fred Swaniker, Founder and CEO, Sand Technologies

10:35 - 11:25 am Spark Talks (Panel Discussion): Thriving Through Innovation: Changemakers Shaping the Future

Ifeoluwa Dare-Johnson, CEO, Healthtracka Ifedayo Durosinmi-Etti, Founder Herconomy Abimbola Ojenike, Founder, Destiny Trust Foundation

Moderator: Foluso Gbadamosi, Lead, 1 Million Girls Campaign, Junior Achievement Africa

11:25 - 11:30 am Micro Talk: Voice in Action
Amara Nwuneli, Founder, Preserve our Roots

11:30 - 11:40 am Introduction of the Changemakers Innovation Challenge (CIC)
Announcement of CIC Winners

11:40 - 12:25 pm Level Up (Masterclass): Cracking the Funding Code: Tips and insights on funding social enterprises and nonprofits.

Ndifreke Okwuegbunam, Development Consultant

12:25 - 01:00 pm **Networking/Closing** 





## About Our

#### **Funder**



Access Bank, a wholly owned subsidiary of Access Holdings Plc ("Access Corporation"), is a leading full service commercial bank operating through a network of more than 700 branches and service outlets, spanning 3 continents, 17 countries and 45 million customers. The bank employs 28,000 people in its operations in Nigeria and has subsidiaries in sub-Saharan Africa and the United Kingdom, a branch in Dubai, UAE and representative offices in China, Lebanon and India.

The Bank has over 900,000 shareholders, including several Nigerian and International Institutional Investors, and has enjoyed what is arguably Africa's most successful banking growth trajectory in the last 18 years. Following its merger with Diamond Bank in March 2019, Access Bank became the number bank in Nigeria and one of Africa's largest retail banks. As part of its continued growth strategy, Access Bank is focused on mainstreaming sustainable business practices into its operations. The Bank strives to deliver sustainable economic growth that is profitable, environmentally responsible, and socially relevant, helping customers to access more and achieve their dreams.

In honor of its defining roles across the African continent, Access Bank has been accorded recognition by reputable domestic and global organizations. Some of these recognitions include: 2021 African Banker Awards "Banker of the Year"; 2021 Euromoney Awards "Best Digital Bank in Africa"; 2021, Karlsruhe Sustainable Finance Awards "Outstanding Business Sustainability Achievement"; 2021, Global SME Finance Awards "Best Bank for Women Entrepreneurs ";2021 International Banker Awards "Best Commercial Bank, 2021 World Finance Awards "Most Sustainable Bank"; 2021 Global Brands Magazine Awards "Best Investor Relations Bank in Nigeria"; 2021 Global Finance Sustainable Awards "Outstanding Leadership in Green Loans" just to mention a few.

# We are faster, closer and safer

With our scale, expertise and deep desire to satisfy your needs, we will deliver exceptional experiences for the moments that matter the most to you.





# Event **Background**

Africa is home to the world's youngest population; a powerful demographic dividend that holds the potential to reshape the continent's future. This year's Breakfast Dialogue themed "Innovate, Advocate, Lead: The Future of Africa" is a bold response to this reality. It aims to celebrate the ingenuity, courage, and resilience of changemakers around the continent, driving transformation across various sectors, including technology, health, climate and education. Through a keynote address, panel session, micro talk, and masterclass session, the conference will spotlight innovative interventions, amplify voices that are often underrepresented in decision-making spaces and equip participants with the much-needed knowledge and skills to fund and sustain their innovations.

This convening is designed to be a catalyst, equipping participants with practical tools, leadership insights, and collaborative opportunities needed to scale their impact. It will explore how innovation can shape systems, how advocacy can influence policy, and how leadership can redefine power and responsibility on the continent. The conference aims to spark a new era of action where young people are not just seen as beneficiaries of change, but leaders of Africa's future.



### **Conference Theme**

#### Innovate, Advocate, Lead: The Future of Africa

**Innovate:** Create new solutions, approaches, and technologies that respond to Africa's unique challenges, from climate, health, education, to governance. Innovation is the foundation for progress. Without new ideas and solutions, advocacy and leadership have nothing transformative to push forward. It signals visionary thinking; dreaming of what is possible, not just fixing what is broken.

Advocate: Speak up, push for policies, mobilize communities, and influence systems to adopt or scale innovative ideas. Once innovations are birthed, they often need systems change, funding, and mass adoption. Advocacy ensures those brilliant ideas get the traction and support they need to have an impact. It involves amplifying voices and rallying others to believe in and support new approaches.

**Lead:** Takeresponsibility, guideothers, and set the pace for transformation, whether in communities, institutions, or on the continent. Leadership is the ability to carry innovation and advocacy forward sustainably. A true leader in Africa's future will not only have ideas and speak out, but will also drive execution and inspire others.

Conference Date: Wednesday, 22nd October 2025

**Conference Host:** Omoye Oriaghan, Senior Branding and Communications

Executive, ACT Foundation





## **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

# Redefining Power: Africa's Youth Leading the New Social Contract Africa is the youngest continent, with over 70%

Africa is the youngest continent, with over 70% of its population under 30. Yet, power remains concentrated in outdated systems that often exclude the very voices driving innovation, culture, and change - the youth. This keynote seeks to confront a critical truth about redefining power for an inclusive and thriving Africa, harnessing collaboration, co-creation, and collective responsibility. It challenges youth to move from the sidelines into the center of decision-making, shaping a new social contract that reflects Africa's values, realities, and aspirations; one that is bold, equitable, and future-forward.

# Speaker



Fred Swaniker

Founder, African Leadership Group



**Profile** 

# Keynote Speaker



Fred Swaniker
Founder, African

Leadership Group

Fred Swaniker is a visionary entrepreneur and systems thinker who has launched eight organizations at the intersection of education, technology, talent, and Al. He is the founder, African Leadership Group, which includes ALX, one of the world's fastest-growing tech talent accelerators.

Fred is also the Founder & CEO of Sand Technologies, a global enterprise Al company solving complex challenges across healthcare, infrastructure, water, energy, and connectivity spanning the Americas, Europe, Asia, and Africa. He has been recognized by TIME as one of the 100 Most Influential People in the World, and honored by Forbes, Fortune, and the World Economic Forum for his leadership and bold vision for Africa and beyond.





# SPARK TALKS (A PANEL DISCUSSION)

# Thriving Through Innovation: Changemakers Shaping the Future

Africa's youth are building the future now. From disruptive tech to grassroots health solutions, climate action to educational reform, founders across the continent are sparking bold, homegrown innovations that respond directly to the needs of their communities. **Spark Talks** is a panel session that showcases visionary entrepreneurs and social entrepreneurs who are challenging the status quo, turning local problems into scalable solutions, and redefining what it means to lead change in Africa. The conversation will border on the actions, resilience, and the boldness to create lasting solutions in the face of uncertainty.





**Profile** 

# Panelist (Health)



lfeoluwa Dare-Johnson

CEO, Healthtracka

Ifeoluwa Dare-Johnson is a visionary leader at the intersection of health, technology, and women's empowerment. She is the Founder of Healthtracka, a pioneering health tech company revolutionizing early disease diagnosis through technology-driven solutions. She is also the Convener of the Banking on Women's Health Conference.

Under her leadership, Healthtracka has transformed healthcare accessibility, ensuring that life-saving screenings and diagnostics are more widely available. Beyond health, her impact has earned her global recognition, including being named one of the Top 3 Bold Women Award winners by Veuve Clicquot and a recipient of the Bayer Women Empowerment Award.





**Profile** 

## Panelist (Education)



**Abimbola Ojenike** 

Founder, The Destiny Trust Foundation

Abimbola is a lawyer and social entrepreneur. He's Co-founder/ Executive Director at The Destiny Trust. He also launched an accelerated education school to provide an alternative pathway for Nigeria's, co-founded Helpcentral. As a lawyer, Abimbola has extensive experience in litigation and advising on corporate and commercial transactions, finance, technology, and intellectual property.

Abimbola holds an LLM in International Financial and Commercial Law from King's College London, Bachelor of Laws (Hons) from the University of Ibadan and he is an associate of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (UK). He leads The Justice Project and sits on the board of several non-profits.



**Profile** 

# Panelist (Technology)



lfedayo Durosinmi-Etti

Founder, Herconomy

Ifedayo Durosinmi - Etti is an Author, Entrepreneur, and young global leader with over 10 years of management and leadership experience working in the finance, marketing, and manufacturing industries. Ife holds a first degree in Biochemistry and an MBA in Global Business. She is the founder of Herconomy, a financial technology platform that helps women securely grow their wealth.

Ife is a Mandela Washington Fellow. In 2018 as well, she received the Women's Advocacy Award from the West African Leadership Organization, for her exemplary leadership and dedication to the socioeconomic development in West Africa. In 2017, Ifedayo received an award from Vivian Fowler College for Girls, one of Nigeria's best secondary schools, in recognition of her contribution to women's empowerment.





**Profile** 

### Moderator



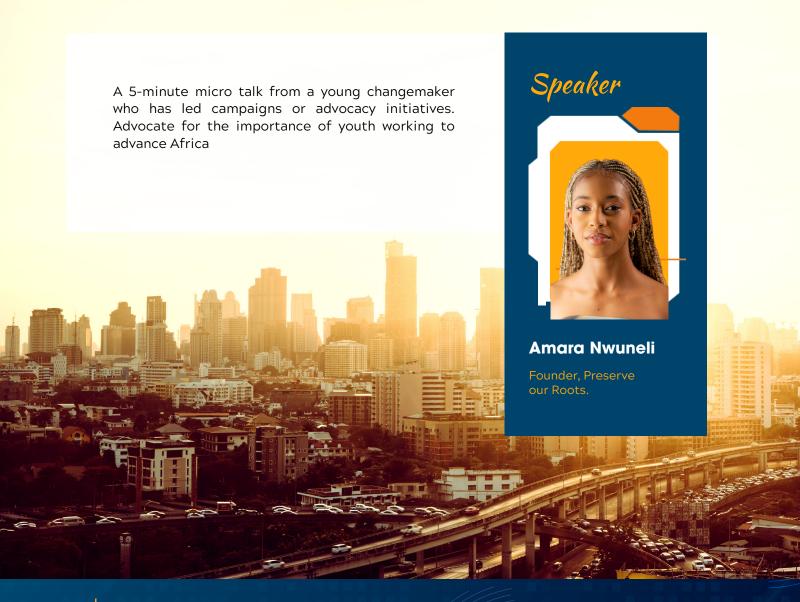
#### Foluso Gbadamosi

Lead, 10 Million African Girls Campaign, Junior Achievement Africa Foluso Gbadamosi is passionate about helping people unlock their potential and achieve their purpose. With a background in Technology, she sees it as a catalyst for human and social transformation. Guided by the mission to empower people and create lasting impact, Foluso brings this vision to life by blending strategy, heart, and contagious energy to tackle complex problems, uncover new possibilities, and ignite meaningful action for individuals, organizations, and society.

Foluso currently leads the 10 Million African Girls initiative at Junior Achievement Africa, equipping underserved African girls with the tools, mindsets, and confidence to rise into their potential. She also co-founded Serving With Love (SWL), which brings digital literacy and coding skills to children in rural communities. Above all, she is committed to shaping a future where innovation, education, and purpose collide to unlock potential, accelerate impact, and light up the world.



# **MICROTALK: Voice in Action**







**Profile** 

#### Micro Talk - Voice in Action



Amara Nwuneli

Founder, Preserve our Roots.

Amarachi C. Nwuneli is an 18-year-old Nigerian-American changemaker, social innovator, creative producer, and published author whose work bridges policy, storytelling, and grassroots action. She is the visionary founder of Preserve Our Roots, a youth-led NGO and cultural movement, she leads initiatives that mobilize climate and civics action through educational advocacy, climate storytelling, and regenerative community development.

She was named an Ashoka Youth Changemaker, awarded the Africa Earth Prize, Co-Lab's Teens Dream Grant, amongst many and has been named an Africa Next Green Leader, Global Teen Leader, Global Youth Leader and Young Climate Voice from organizations like GGI, We Are Family Foundation, University of Oxford and The World Around respectively.



# **LEVEL UP (A Masterclass)**

# Cracking the Funding Code: Tips and insights on funding social enterprises and nonprofits.

This session demystifies the process of securing funding for social enterprises and nonprofits by providing practical strategies for building diverse and sustainable funding models. It explores how organizations can position themselves to attract grants, investments, and partnerships by understanding funders' priorities, crafting compelling value propositions, demonstrating measurable impact, and building sustainable revenue models. Participants will gain actionable tips on identifying the right funding sources, strengthening proposals, leveraging networks, and avoiding common fundraising pitfalls. The discussion aims to equip attendees with the knowledge and confidence to navigate the competitive funding landscape and secure resources to drive long-term social impact.







**Profile** 

### Masterclass Facilitator



Ndifreke Okwuegbunam is a visionary executive with 18+ years of global leadership in philanthropy, social innovation, and cross-sector partnerships. She is an accomplished strategist, fundraiser, advocate and skilled in guiding organisations through transformation.

She empowers communities and strengthens organisations by mobilising resources, championing inclusive policies, while also building high-performing teams and sustainable programs. She has a Master's degree Ain International Development and serves on several Boards.

#### Ndifreke Okwuegbunam

Development Consultant



**Profile** 

# Compere



**Omoye Oriaghan** 

Senior Branding and Communications Executive, ACT Foundation Omoye is a passionate communications strategist and storyteller. She is currently the Senior Communications and Branding Executive at Aspire Coronation Trust Foundation. She is known as a "Communicator for Change and Impact," blending storytelling with strategy to shift narratives and build lives. Driven by impact, she provides communications and branding solutions to impact leaders, champions impact-driven conversations and volunteers on several social impact initiatives.

Additionally, she contributes her voice and insights to the Youth Advisory Board of the Advocates for Health and Rights of Women and Youths Initiative - an initiative focused on advocacy and equity. Omoye holds both a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in Mass Communication from the University of Lagos and other certifications from Claremont Graduate University, California and Pan Atlantic University, Nigeria. She brings over a decade of experience in communications, branding, advocacy, journalism, and project management.



### **CIC Overview**

The Changemakers Innovation Challenge was conceived by ACT Foundation as a response to the impressive work of community non-profits and social enterprises in Africa that leverage technology and digital tools to create social change within their communities. Whether it be solutions in mobile health, farm automation, telemedicine, ed-tech, microfinance, and beyond, technological advancements continue to strengthen the capacity of organizations to solve social problems. Emerging technological innovations like artificial intelligence, data analytics, blockchain, renewable energy sources, and other transformative solutions also play a pivotal role in driving social change. In response to these trends, ACT Foundation seeks to garner partnerships towards the support of such forward-thinking organizations and innovators in creating lasting impact.

The Challenge has supported 19 social enterprises with funding and technical assistance, enabling them to scale innovations ranging from tech-enabled blood drives and academic learning platforms to sustainable agriculture, business development and renewable energy solutions for underserved communities.

The theme for this year is 'Innovation in Action: Youth Rising for Change,' focusing on providing grant funding and technical support to African Changemakers aged 18-25 that are utilizing technological and digital tools to develop innovative social solutions

Grant funding will be awarded to the top three (4) finalists of the Changemakers Innovation Challenge, facilitating the scaling of their innovative solutions across different communities. Winners will be announced at the 8th Breakfast Dialogue.





# Innovation in Action:

Youth Rising for Change

## Judges



Bukola Thomas MCIoD, MCIPM, ACIPD UK

emPLE



Kwame A.
Oppong
Head, FinTech
and Innovation

**Bank of Ghana** 



Andrew
Olowude
Chief Technology
Officer

Xenet in London



**Tobe Rapu**Strategic
Partner

StoneCreek Properties



# **Top 7 Finalists 2025**







#### Umar Abdulganiyy Solarpeer 360, Nigeria

SolarPeer 360 uses a Smart Solar Energy System that combines innovation, efficiency, and security for sustainable power management. Its Smart Solar Tracking System automatically adjusts panels for optimal sunlight capture, while an Energy Sharing algorithm enables remote energy control and fair distribution among tenants. Sensor-Based Monitoring transmits real-time performance data to a cloud dashboard for transparency. An Intrusion Detection feature with IR sensors sends instant WhatsApp alerts for security.



#### Clinton Adoga Farmlens, Kenya



Farmlens uses technology to help smallholder farmers adapt to climate change. They are developing an autonomous Spider Bot that uses sensors and AI to monitor soil health in real time. Alongside this, Agri Core Sensor Hubs will track key soil and environmental data, while Climate-Smart Maps visualise trends like rainfall and degradation. All this information is delivered through a simple digital dashboard or mobile app, helping farmers make better decisions on irrigation, planting, and fertilisation.







#### Vivian Arinaitiwe

**CHE Innovations, Uganda** 

NeoNest uses a microcontroller with dual thermistor sensors to keep newborns at 36.5-37.5°C via a low-voltage resistive heater. A thermally insulated shell made from locally sourced, repurposed jerrycans reduces cost and improves durability. A rechargeable lithium-ion pack delivers up to six hours, with 12V ambulance charging. Visual/audio alerts signal temperature drift or low battery.



#### Yahuza Sani Hudu

Cleanup, Nigeria

Cleanup MDC leverages voice technology to make waste reporting and recycling accessible to everyone. By calling a toll-free number in English, Hausa, Yoruba, Igbo, or Pidgin, users can report waste, learn how to sort recyclables, and even earn rewards – no smartphone or internet required. The system uses voice recognition and location data to connect callers to the nearest recycling facility or collection agent for quick, localised response.









#### Norah Kimathi

Zerobionics, Kenya

Zerobionic's platform uses advanced Natural Language Processing and Automatic Speech Recognition to transcribe spoken content in real time. This data is sent to a 3D-printed robot equipped with servomotors and jointed actuators, enabling it to replicate human sign language movements accurately. The robot's computer vision-guided facial modules reproduce facial expressions for sign interpretation. An edge Aloptimized exoskeleton allows local processing without continuous internet access.





# **Eunice Adewale**Smokeless Brigs, Nigeria

Smokeless Briqs combines IoT data tracking with TEG clean-tech to create a solution that delivers affordable, sustainable cooking energy while improving access to electricity in underserved communities.







#### **Abdulmumin Solihu**

YucaChain Limited, Nigeria

YucaChain is a digital innovation transforming Nigeria's cassava value chain through a scalable web and mobile platform. It offers a digital marketplace where stakeholders can list, buy, and sell cassava products, supported by data analytics dashboards powered by Python for demand forecasting, price trends, and production insights. The platform enhances logistics efficiency through API integrations for delivery booking, tracking, and mapping. To improve user experience, YucaChain integrates an Al-powered chatbot using natural language processing (NLP) to answer questions, provide advisory support, and deliver personalised recommendations within the app.







#### Our

#### **Partners**























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