

## THEMATIC SESSION ON RURAL YOUTH EMPLOYMENT



### **Annira Busch**

#### **Senior Policy Officer, Division Food and Nutrition Security, Fisheries, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)**

Annira Busch is Senior Policy Officer in the division for “Food and Nutrition Security, Fisheries” at the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). She oversees BMZ’s portfolio on fisheries and aquaculture and is working on G7 and G20 processes related to food security and nutrition. Prior to joining BMZ, Annira has worked for eight years with the German development cooperation, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, on democratization, regional development, decentralization, good governance, prevention of violent extremism and biosecurity, including five years in GIZ projects in Tunisia.



### **Yukiko Arai**

#### **Director, a.i., Sectoral Policies Department, International Labour Organization (ILO)**

Yukiko Arai is the Deputy Director and Officer-in-Charge of the ILO Sectoral Policies Department. Previously, she was the Director of the ILO Country Office for Argentina. She joined the ILO in 2001 and since then have worked as a specialist on child labour, poverty reduction, as well as issues related to business and decent work. In 2013, she took a leave of absence from the ILO to work as the Director of International Relations of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games Bid Committee. Before joining the ILO, Ms Arai worked at the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington, DC.



### **Genna Tesdall**

#### **Director, Young Professionals for Agricultural Development (YPARD)**

Genna Tesdall (she/her) is an agriculture systems thinker taking on projects to sustain the environment and people, now as the director of YPARD. She strives to be a servant-leader in order to foster equality between generations (and all delimiters of privilege). Before joining YPARD, she was the federal agricultural policy officer at the German Rural Youth Association (Bund der Deutschen Landjugend) (2020). As a Fulbright Researcher at the Humboldt University of Berlin (2018-19), she focused on youth involvement in agricultural policy, and was the former president (2013-14) of the International Association of Agriculture and Related Sciences Students (IAAS). She is a graduate of the global oriented Iowa State (2015) and Penn State Universities (2018) with a M.Sc. in Plant Pathology and International Agriculture and Development.



### **Ji-Yeun Rim**

#### **Senior Policy Analyst, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)**

Ji-Yeun Rim is a Senior Policy Analyst at the OECD Development Centre where she oversees the work on youth well-being, employment in agri-food systems and green transition in agriculture. She led the EU-OECD Youth Inclusion project, which supported the development of national youth policies in nine developing countries and global research on youth aspirations, youth entrepreneurship and rural youth livelihoods. Ms Rim joined the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in 2009 and has contributed to various workstreams related to social cohesion, youth employment and social protection. Prior to the OECD, Ms Rim worked for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN on local institutions, food security and rural development projects. Ms Rim has a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacology and Toxicology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, a Master in Public Administration and Social Welfare from Kyung Hee University, and an Master in Business Administration from HEC-Paris.



### **Dorothy Makayoto**

#### **Chairperson, Ingo Agrichamps Youth Association, Western Kenya**

Dorothy Makayoto is a passionate advocate for agriculture and the Chairperson of Ingo Agrichamps Youth Association. With a Bachelor's degree in Agribusiness Management from Kenyatta University, Dorothy is a dedicated individual with a strong commitment to rural youth development in Kenya. She's been trained in public policy by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and her leadership role in Ingo Agrichamps has given her a platform to advocate for rural youth employment and engagement in agriculture. This has led to opportunities for her to be elected the Kakamega County Youth Lead for the Resilient Agriculture that Works for the Young People (RAY) project by Practical Action Kenya. Despite her educational background, Dorothy has chosen to focus on fodder production and poultry farming as her main source of income. Her story exemplifies the dedication and passion she holds for agriculture, believing it's the key to a better tomorrow for the youth of Kakamega County. Her dedication, skills, and tireless efforts are driving change and empowering the next generation of agripreneurs in Kenya.

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### **David Warui Mwangi**

**County Director, Vocational Education and Training (Youth Training), Nakuru County Government, Kenya**

David Warui Mwangi is the Director of Vocational Training in Nakuru County Government. Nakuru is the third largest city in Kenya. He is responsible in designing, managing and implementing programs in the 34 Vocational Training Centers spread across Nakuru County. This role involves collaborating with various stakeholders including educators, industry professionals and government agencies to develop Vocational training Curricula ensuring the trainees align themselves with the current market demands and industry standards. Mr. Mwangi has a Master's degree in Educational administration from The University of Nairobi and has worked in the Vocational training department for six years. He was previously the Director in-charge of Sports in Nakuru county Government (2013-2017), National Chairman of the Kenya Youth Inter county Sports Association (2015-date), Chairman Secondary Schools Sports Association (2001-2007) and was a secondary school principal for fifteen years (1997-2012).



### **Haile Abebe**

**Programme Support Consultant, African Union Commission (AUC)**

Haile Abebe is a Programme Officer- Youth in Agribusiness in the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment at the African Union Commission in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. He is currently in charge of coordinating youth employment in agriculture and agribusiness activities and programmes, including facilitating the implementation of the African Agribusiness Youth Strategy (AAYS) activities at the continental level. He is also the African Union focal point for the Opportunities for Youth in Africa (OYA) Programme that the Commission is implementing in partnership with the FAO and UNIDO. Prior to joining the African Union Commission, he worked as a technical officer for a joint European Union and International Labour Organization (ILO) technical cooperation programme titled Strengthening the Impact on Employment of Sector and Trade Policies (STRENGTHEN) in Geneva, Switzerland. Haile holds a Master's degree in Public Policy with a special focus on Social and Innovation Policies from Sciences Po Paris, France.



### **George Yaa Mazuri**

**Chief Executive Officer, Ustadi Foundation**

George Yaa Mazuri, currently the Chief Executive Officer of USTADI Foundation, is a project management development professional with over thirty-five years of demonstrated expertise in the management of development programs; designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluation including people and financial oversight. His career includes working with partners (public and Private) and communities from low-income, urban and rural areas. George previously worked with the Danida Agricultural Business Development Programme as the Coast Regional Coordinator; Aga Khan Foundation, Programme Manager, Early Childhood Development (ECD); Programme Manager (KWAHO-SIDA-WATSAN-Kwale). George holds a Masters of Business Administration in Project Management degree from the University of the Valley, Mexico, a Bachelor's Degree in Project Management, a Diploma in Education. He is a Member of the Institute of Directors (K) (MIoD 1048) Kenya. He also served as a Director of the Kenya Coconut Development Authority – and Chairman of the Boards' Finance and General-Purpose Committee for 6 years, was the Board Chair of SCOPE (Strengthening Community Partnerships and Empowerment) a local NGO. Currently serving as the Chair Board of Trustees of YEHU Members Welfare Association.



### **Ileana Grandelis**

**Programme Officer, Inclusive Rural Transformation and Gender Equality Division, FAO**

Ileana Grandelis is a policy expert, specialized in rural development, and youth employment. She holds a MSc degree in Rural development, institutions and management of natural resources from the Institut Agronomique Méditerranéen (IAMM-CIHEAM), a MA degree in International and European Relations, and a BSc degree in Political Science and International Economy. She joined FAO in 2007 and is currently based in FAO Headquarters in Rome, coordinating the programme "Integrated Country approach for boosting decent jobs for youth in the agrifood system", funded by Sweden.