

Innovation, Inclusion, Inspiration

**Opportunities for Youth Employment & Entrepreneurship  
International Conference 2021**

19-20 OCTOBER 2021 | AGENDA



"Innovation, Inclusion, Inspiration" is the theme of the second edition of the Opportunities for Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship (OYE) International Conference taking place 19-20 October 2021 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



SNV is partnering with the Swedish International Development Agency ([SIDA](#)) for this conference's edition. SIDA is investing in and partnering with SNV for the implementation of OYE projects in several countries such as Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, and Zambia.

Anchored to the learnings and recommendations of the first [OYE International Conference](#) that took place in Mali in October 2019, this edition will provide a platform for networking and stimulate continued dialogue and engagement between different stakeholders, including with youth who are the epitome of the work that we do.

SNV's Opportunities for Youth Employment ([OYE](#)) approach continues to transform the lives of young men and women, as well as their communities, in over 10 countries across Africa. We apply an integrated market systems approach to contribute to systems change. OYE interventions facilitate linkages between the labour market (demand side) and skilled youth (supply side) and stimulate employment and entrepreneurship opportunities in countries and markets where we work. In other words, OYE focuses on ecosystem development (enabling environment), collaborating with national governments, civil society organisations, local service providers and private sector companies, assuring sustainability and scale. Young women and men gain sustainable employment and entrepreneurship opportunities through business development support services such as mentoring and coaching, market linkages and access to finance.

At this year's conference we will take a closer look at the role of each of these actors in developing youth employment and entrepreneurship opportunities, share what we are learning and seek to exchange good practices for enhanced collaboration and impact.

The following pages present the conference agenda and speaker information. (Please note: all scheduled times are in East Africa Time)

## Welcome to the land of the young people!

On behalf of SNV, I am pleased to welcome you to the Opportunities for Youth Employment & Entrepreneurship International Conference 2021.



For the past decade, despite the increase in global youth population from 1 billion to 1.3 billion, the total number of young people engaged in the labour force has decreased. Although the global youth unemployment rate is 13.6 per cent, there is considerable regional variation, from under 9 per cent in Northern America and sub-Saharan Africa to 30 per cent in Northern Africa. Young people make up 70% of Ethiopia's population. While the Government of Ethiopia, other African governments and Development Partners are increasing their investments to curb youth unemployment, the number of under- and un-employed youth continues to rise.

It is against this backdrop, with support from Sida, that we come together in Addis Ababa, to discuss youth employment and entrepreneurship as well as the SNV OYE approach under the theme Innovation, Inclusion, and Inspiration.

Due to the COVID situation, we are organising this conference as a hybrid event with virtual sessions and a limited number of in person participants.

8.30-8:45AM EAT	<b>Arrivals</b>
8:45-9:00AM EAT (7:45-8:00 CEST)	<b>Introduction</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcoming remarks by Timoteos Hayesso from Global OYE International conference organising team - to introduce Worku Behonegne</li> <li>• Introducing conference and event objectives by Worku Behonegne, Country Director SNV in Ethiopia</li> </ul>
9.00-9.45AM EAT (8:00-8:45 CEST)	<b>Plenary opening session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nigussu Tilahun, State Minister, Works, Works placement and Marketing, Ethiopia</li> <li>• Jantirar Abay, Deputy Mayor of Addis Ababa City Administration and Head for the Bureau of Work, Enterprise and Industry Development (BoJEID)</li> <li>• Henk Jan Bakker, Ambassador of the Netherlands in Ethiopia</li> <li>• Hans Henric Lundqvist, Ambassador of Sweden in Ethiopia</li> <li>• Nancy Okoro Oghenetega, EUTF Green Project – Ghana</li> <li>• Andre de Jager, Managing Director of Sectors, SNV</li> <li>• Keynote address by the Minister of Women and Social Affairs Ministry, Ergoge Tesfaye PhD., Government of Ethiopia.</li> <li>• Stories of impact: a 3-minute OYE animated video.</li> </ul>
9:45-10:00AM	<b>Plenary session:</b> Building resilience and sustainable entrepreneurial acumen in an evolving and competitive global marketplace: What's needed? by Dawit "DREAMS" Gebreegziabher
10:00-11:30AM	<b>Roundtable discussion:</b> Youth aspirations and perspectives on market opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitator: Sharon Wekwete, SNV Zimbabwe</li> <li>• Nancy Okoro Oghenetega, GrEEen project, Ghana - Youth green jobs and climate change</li> <li>• Hosania Mmari, Haki Leather, Tanzania - Young women and entrepreneurship development</li> <li>• Ifeoluwa Tryphena Olatayo. 2SCALE programme, Nigeria - SMEs growth in inclusive value chains and agri-food systems</li> <li>• Moussa Doumbia, Just Buguni, EJOM project, Mali</li> </ul>
11:30 - 11:45AM	<b>Stories of impact, coffee break and exhibition: Virtual tour - online delegates.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth expo and networking with young agripreneurs for high level officials</li> <li>• Media briefing by high level officials</li> </ul>
11:45AM-12:45PM	<b>Breakout cafes</b> <p><b>Café 1:</b> Digital innovation and youth employment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitator: Robson Nyirenda, SNV in Zambia</li> <li>• Magnus Johnson, Microsoft Philanthropies Lead - Middle East and Africa</li> <li>• Moussa Doumbia, Jus Buguni, EJOM project, Mali</li> </ul> <p><b>Café 2:</b> Youth green jobs, climate change and the future of work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitator: Harko Koster, Global Lead Climate &amp; Business SNV</li> <li>• Ifeoluwa Tryphena Olatayo. Soupah Farm-en-Market Limited, 2SCALE, Nigeria</li> <li>• Tafadzwa Chirinda, ILO Green Jobs enterPRIZE Zimbabwe</li> </ul>
12:45-1:00PM	<b>Report back and closing</b>
1:00-1:45PM	<b>SNV OYE Youth expo and networking for delegates in Ethiopia . Virtual tour for online delegats</b>
1:45PM	<b>Lunch and departure</b>

## Wednesday 20 October 2021: Youth innovation and inclusion

9:00-9:15AM EAT (8:00-8:15CEST)	<b>Opening session</b> Takeaways day 1 by Alison Rusinow, Head of agriculture sector, SNV
9:15-9:30 AM EAT (8:15-8:30CEST)	<b>Plenary session</b> Key innovative building blocks to financial access for emerging young entrepreneurs by José Pierre Félix Coulibaly, Deputy General Director APEJ, Mali
09:30-11:00 AM	<b>Roundtable discussion</b> Digitalisation and the digital eco-system: an opportunity for young women and men entrepreneurs and innovators <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Facilitator: Tewodros Yeshiwork - Country Director Ethiopia Heifer International</i></li><li>• <i>Mr. Vince Mountaga Diop, Hello Market- BelCash, Ethiopia.</i></li><li>• <i>Ms. Rose Funja, Founder and Managing Director of Agrinfo Company limited. And co-founder of Impact Hub Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.</i></li><li>• <i>Ifeoluwa Tryphena Olatayo, Soupah Farm-en-Market Limited, Nigeria</i></li><li>• <i>Nadia Yerima Bako_- Innovation and Entrepreneurship program associate, Africa Union</i></li><li>• <i>Urbain Amegbedji, National Agency for Employment - Benin</i></li></ul>
11:00-11:30AM	<b>Coffee break – 30 min</b>
11:30AM-1:00PM	<b>Breakout cafes</b> <b>Café 1:</b> Innovative approaches by young women entrepreneurs in agri-food systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Facilitator: Gahaihi Bonavitha, SNV Tanzania.</i></li><li>• <i>Hosiana Mmari, Haki Leather Products, Tanzania</i></li><li>• <i>Thomas Tichar, Youth &amp; Gender Advisor in Food Systems, Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation at WUR, The Netherlands</i></li><li>• <i>Youth townhalls at SNV countries</i></li></ul> <b>Café 2:</b> Innovative financial inclusion models in agri-food systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Facilitator: Thulani Ncube, SNV Zimbabwe</i></li><li>• <i>Peter Kiriimi, Financial Inclusion manager at the 2SCALE programme, Kenya</i></li><li>• <i>Ms. Rose Funja, Founder and Managing Director of Agrinfo Company limited and co-founder of Impact Hub Dar es Salaam, Tanzania</i></li><li>• <i>Youth townhalls at SNV countries</i></li></ul>
	<b>Report back 12:45 – 1:00PM</b>
1:00-1:15PM	<b>Closing and vote of thanks</b> by Jean Muthamia-Mwenda - Global Lead, youth employment & entrepreneurship and to introduce SNV CEO Simon O'Connell
1:15PM	<b>SNV OYE Youth expo, networking, lunch and departure</b>

## Speaker information



**Worku Bohonegne**

Country Director of SNV in Ethiopia

19 October | opening session



**Hans Henric Lundqvist**

Ambassador of Sweden in Ethiopia

19 October | plenary session



**Henk Jan Bakker**

Ambassador of the Netherlands in Ethiopia

19 October | plenary session



**Nancy Okoro**

GrEEn project, Ghana

19 October | plenary session



**Andre de Jager**

Managing Director of Sectors, SNV, Kenya

19 October | plenary session



**Dawit DREAMS**

Motivational speaker, Ethiopia

19 October | plenary session



**Hosiana Mmari**

Haki Leather, Tanzania

19 October | roundtable



**Ifeoluwa Tryphena Olatayo**

Soupah Farm-en-Market Limited, ZSCALE, Nigeria

19 October | roundtable



**Magnus Johnson**

Microsoft Philanthropies Lead - Middle East and Africa

19 October | breakout cafe



**Moussa Doumbia**

Jus Buguni, EJOM project, Mali

19 October | breakout cafe



Tafadzwa Chirinda

ILO Green Jobs enterPRIZE,  
Zimbabwe

19 October | breakout cafe



Alison Rusinow

Head of agriculture sector,  
SNV

20 October | opening



Nadia Yerima Bako

Program associate, Africa  
Union, Benin

20 October | roundtable



Jose Pierre Felix Coulibaly

Deputy General Director APEJ,  
Mali

20 October | plenary



Urbain Amegbedji

National agency for  
employment, Benin

20 October | roundtable



Mountage Vince Diop

Founder of BelCash.,  
Ethiopia

20 October | roundtable



Rose Funja

Co-founder of Impact Hub,  
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

20 October | roundtable



Thomas Tichar

Youth & gender advisor in Food  
Systems of WUR, Netherlands

20 October | breakout cafe



Peter Kiriimi

Financial inclusion manager,  
2SCALE programme, Kenya

20 October | breakout cafe



Simon O'Connell

CEO of SNV, Netherlands

20 October | closing session

## About SNV

SNV is a not-for-profit international development organisation that makes a lasting difference in the lives of people living in poverty by helping them raise incomes and access basic services. We focus on only three sectors and have a long-term, local presence in around 24 countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Our team of more than 1,297 staff is the backbone of SNV.

### **We lift up incomes and access to basic services**

We make a lasting difference in the lives of people living in poverty, helping them raise incomes and access basic services. Driven by the Sustainable Development Goals, we are dedicated to a society in which all people are free to pursue their own sustainable development and no one is left behind. This commitment to equity directs us to focus on gender and youth.

We apply our know-how to deliver results at scale

### **Local presence and know-how to realise effective solutions**

We apply practical know-how to support people living in poverty. By connecting our global expertise with our extensive and longstanding in-country experience, we help realise locally owned solutions. And we do so in around 24 countries worldwide.

### **Expertise in three sectors**

We are experts in agriculture, energy, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH). Our services include advice, brokering and stakeholder engagement, advocacy, fund management, results-based financing and delegated management.

### **Impact through direct results and systems change**

Our projects directly benefit millions of people. At the same time, our projects also drive systems change – strengthening institutions and kick-starting markets to help many more people work their way out of poverty, well beyond the scope of projects.

### **We commit to operational excellence**

We are proud to be a not-for-profit organisation, implementing our mission exclusively through project financing. This requires us to work efficiently and to invest in operational excellence every day.

## About Sida

Sida - the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency - is a government agency. Our mission is part of the national policy for global development and we strive to reduce world poverty. Sida's activities are funded through Swedish tax revenue.

### **For a better world together**

We strive to reduce world poverty by allocating resources and knowledge with the goal of making a difference for people in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America. To achieve this, we collaborate with actors from civil society and universities as well as the public and private sector.



Room for notes



Room for notes

The SNV Opportunity for Youth Employment (OYE) approach uses the unique push-match-pull-enable methodology to create meaningful employment for young women and men in agriculture, energy and water sectors.

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