



RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, AFRICA
Hyatt Regency, Johannesburg, 25 – 27 June 2018

The future of farming: Advancing technological solutions for food security

Scheduling

Date: Tuesday 26th June 2018

Time: 14:10 – 15:55 (1 hour 45 minutes)

Venue: Hyatt Regency, 191 Oxford Rd, Rosebank, Johannesburg, 2132, South Africa

Room: Ayanda I&II

Speakers

Moderator: Wendy Engel, Agricultural Economist, WWF South Africa

Samir Ibrahim, CEO, Sun Culture

Sunesh Bhoola, Co-Founder & CEO, uLima Limited

Rafael Flor, Director, YieldWise, The Rockefeller Foundation

Alloysius Attah, CEO & Co-Founder, Farmerline

Synopsis

To meet the goal of zero hunger in Africa by 2025, food availability must increase by 437 million metric tons¹. There has been an increasing dependence on technology to help meet these increasing demands, from mobile money systems facilitating transfers between farmers, agents and banks, to drones that use A.I to analyse the readiness of crops to harvest.

There is a significant opportunity to leverage technological advancements to improve food security. Technology can support better production yields and livelihoods of smallholder farmers and plays a role as an enabler for farmers, and especially for women, by providing access to markets, information and finance. With the right level of investment, regulation and planning, technology in agriculture can contribute to sustainable economic growth of the continent, reduce inequalities and bring young people back into the agriculture sector.

This discussion will focus on how collaborative, multi-stakeholder approaches are helping to '**advance technological solutions for food security**'. It will focus on examples of innovation, youth and technology transforming the continent's development, and incorporate perspectives from a cross-section of stakeholders, including at least one youth perspective and/or an entrepreneur.

¹ Zero Hunger in Africa by 2025 possible, <http://www.nepad.org/content/zero-hunger-africa-2025-possible>



Format (1 hour 45 minutes)

We kindly request that you do not prepare slides.

1. **Welcome and introduction:** The moderator will briefly introduce each panellist, and provide a short overview to frame the discussion (**10 minutes**).
2. **Panel discussion:** The moderator will ask each panellist for their views and experiences, with examples drawn from practice and current initiatives, before opening up to a wider discussion between panellists (**40 minutes**).
3. **Audience Roundtable Discussions:** Delegates will discuss, share and finally agree on **three** priority recommendations on how organisations can better support innovation, youth and technology generation to drive development (**25 minutes**).

An example recommendation: "Private sector to provide innovation incubator programmes for youth to help develop business skills at the same time as creative solutions."

Panellists are welcomed to join in a roundtable to support the discussions. The moderator may wish to roam among tables as the point of contact for the recommendations.

4. **Feedback from Roundtables:** Each table will assign a rapporteur to stand and share their recommendations with the room (**20 minutes**).
5. **Wrap up:** Moderator will close with a quick summary of the main discussion points and recommendations and select three of these recommendations to report back in the plenary (**10 minutes**).

Thank you again for joining us, and we look forward to the discussion.

Kind regards,

Ria Coburn
Senior Programme Manager
Global Initiatives