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

CONNECTING AFRICA THROUGH MOBILE TECHNOLOGY

Scheduling

Date: Wednesday 27th June 2018
Time: 11:30 – 13:15 (1 hour 45 minutes)
Venue: Hyatt Regency, 191 Oxford Rd, Rosebank, Johannesburg, 2132, South Africa
Room: Nina I

Speakers

Moderator: Jolene Dawson, Global Agriculture Lead, Accenture Development Partnerships
Taki Netshitenzhe, Chief Officer, Corporate Affairs, Vodacom Group
Gerry Rasugu, Director, Mobile for Development, GSMA
Kabonire Ruhinda, Ambassador, Humaniq
Dorron Mottes, Chief Executive, N-Frnds

Synopsis

According to Ericsson, by 2019 there will be 930 million mobile phones in Africa, almost one for every person on the continent[1]. Through mobile, people are able to connect to the internet, to each other, get news, weather forecasts, emergency announcements and access healthcare and finances.

Along with the ability to provide digital identify and mobile money, mobile technology can also support and improve agricultural productivity. For example, mobile services can help smallholder farmers to be more profitable by helping to bridge the financial and information gap, giving them the opportunity to make more informed decisions about their crops, trading prices and provide access to finance.

This discussion will focus on how collaborative, multi-stakeholder approaches are helping to '**Connect Africa through mobile technology'.** 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.

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[1] https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2016/01/is-africa-leading-the-innovation-revolution/

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