

PROGRAMME

Business Opportunities
& Networking Day (BONDay)
Workshop & Seminars

AFRICA'S TRAVEL INDABA

02 – 05 MAY 2022

VENUE:

Durban International Convention
Centre, South Foyer

Brought to you by *South African Tourism*



Inspiring new ways

OVERVIEW

The Business Opportunities and Networking Day (BONDay) Workshop and Seminars scheduled from 3-5 May 2022, alongside the Tourism Indaba, aim to explore new business opportunities and ways to reignite the sector as the country and the continent overcome the COVID-19 pandemic.

Issues to be discussed in the BONDay Workshop and Seminars will include: SME and youth business development, business recovery opportunities, intra-Africa market access and connectivity, digital transformation and marketing, niche marketing (gastronomy focus) as well as the critical initiatives South African Tourism intends to take in leading the inclusive recovery of the tourism sector. Central to these sessions is the exchange of knowledge on trends and insights that can assist businesses to recover, strengthen their growth and thrive in the “new normal”.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



AMOS FISH MAHLALELA

*Hon. Deputy Minister of Tourism
Republic of South Africa*



MZILIKAZI THEMBA KHUMALO (CMSA)

*Acting Chief Executive Officer and Chief Marketing
Officer, South African Tourism*



ELCIA GRANDCOURT

*Director, Regional Department for Africa,
United Nations World Tourism Organisation, Spain*

DAY 1: YOUR HOSTS & SPEAKERS



NALEDI MOLEO
*Programme Director &
Moderator*



JUDY KEPHER-GONA
Moderator



**HON. FISH AMOS
MAHLALELA**



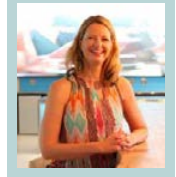
**ADVOCATE MOJANKU
GUMBI**



**JABULANI
DEBUDU**



IDDY JOHN



LINDA BALME



ROY BARFORD



ROBERT MANSON



**LIZANNE
DU PLESSIS**



**AMANDA KOTZE-
NHLAPO**



UNOTIDA NYONI



**SICELILE
MSIMANGO**



**PEARL MOTAUNG-
MLANGENI**



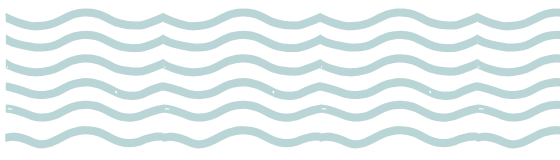
ROB KUCERA



BHEKI DUBE



**DR JOSHUA
AWESOME**



TIME	SESSION	TOPIC	SPEAKER
10h00 - 10h05	1	Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PROGRAMME DIRECTOR - Naledi Moleo – News Anchor and Journalist
10h05 – 10h10	2	Welcome Message and Introduction of Deputy Minister	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate Mojanku Gumbi - Board Chairperson, South African Tourism
10h10 -10h15	3	Keynote Address	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hon. Fish Amos Mahlalela – Deputy Minister of Tourism - South Africa
10h15 – 10h45	4	TEDTALK: Unlocking uncommon experiences through Personal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Joshua Awesome - Peak Performance Coach Conference Comperere Team building Consultant & Adventurer-Kilimanjaro Alumni
10h45 – 11h30	5	MINIMIZING RISK AND OPTIMIZING REVENUE Practical lessons for rebuilding travel and tourism businesses through innovative business planning and execution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jabulani Debedu - Senior Consultant, Strategic Development and Advisory, BDO
11h30 – 11h45		REFRESHMENT AND NETWORKING BREAK	
11h45 – 13h00	6	DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION & INNOVATION Insights and practical approaches to pursuing digital transformation as a business imperative in travel, tourism and hospitality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iddy John – CEO - Safari Wallet, Tanzania • Linda Balme - Commercial Manager, TravelStart & Innovation City • Roy Barford , Business Development Director, Flow Communications • Robert Manson - Chief Digital Transformation & Technology Officer & Acting Chief Strategy Officer, South African Tourism • Lizanne du Plessis - Director and Founder, EcoAfrica Digital • MODERATOR - Judy Kepher-Gona – Lead: Sustainable Travel & Tourism Agenda, Kenya
13h00 – 14h00		LUNCH & NETWORKING SESSION	
14h05– 14h45	7	THE TRIPLE BOTTOM-LINE APPROACH Collaborating with social entrepreneurship change-makers to catalyse economies of scale and sustainable recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unotida Nyoni - Grandscale Consulting, South Africa
14h45 – 15h00	8	TEDTALK: Fast tracking the capabilities and opportunities around women, youth and SMEs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sicelile Msimango - Founder & Managing Director, Ndzenga Tours & Safaris
15h05 - 16h00	9	VALUE PROPOSITION AND BUSINESS GROWTH LINKAGES Practical steps to enhance operational efficiencies as brand equity for customer retention and repeat business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amanda Kotze-Nhlapo – Chief Convention Bureau Officer, South African Tourism • Pearl Motaung-Mlangeni – General Manager, MyPond Hotel, Stenden, South Africa • Rob Kucera - District Director East Africa Complex General Manager - Radisson Blu Hotel & Convention Centre, Kigali, Rwanda • Bheki Dube – Founder & CEO, Curiosity, South Africa • Judy Kepher-Gona – Lead: Sustainable Travel & Tourism Agenda, Kenya • MODERATOR - Naledi Moleo News Anchor and Journalist

DAY 2: YOUR HOSTS & SPEAKERS



NALEDI MOLEO
Programme Director



DIDIER DOGLEY
Moderator



GLENTON DE KOCK
Moderator



**AMANDA KOTZE-
NHLAPO**



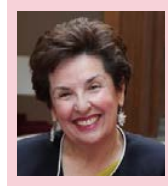
DR. ROB DAVIDSON



**PROF. IKECHUKWU
O. EZEUDUJI**



KUMBI CHIWESHE



LINDA PEREIRA



THEMBA KHUMALO



**TSHIFHIWA
TSHIVHENGWA**



MOSEKETSİ MPETA



DIGU //NAOBEB



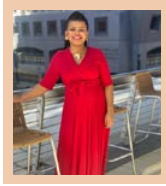
**DIMAKATSO
MALWELA**



TIME	SESSION	TOPIC	SPEAKERS/PARTICIPANTS
STREAM 3			
12h00 – 13h00	1	Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PROGRAMME DIRECTOR - Naledi Moleo – News Anchor and Journalist
12h00 – 13h00		<p>BLEISURE TRAVEL What is it and why is it important for tourism stakeholders and business owners in a Covid-19 environment?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amanda Kotze-Nhlapo – Chief Convention Bureau Officer, South African Tourism • Dr. Rob Davidson, Managing Director, MICE Knowledge, UK. (Virtual) • Dimakatso Malwela, Managing Director, NKPI Holding • Prof. Ikechukwu O. Ezeuduji, Department of Recreation and Tourism, University of Zululand • Kumbi Chiweshe – Managing Director, Victoria Falls DMC • Linda Pereira – Managing Director, CPL Events Portugal (Video) • MODERATOR: Glenton De Kock – Southern Africa Association of Conference Industry
13h00 – 14h00			
LUNCH & NETWORKING SESSION			
STREAM 1			
15h00 – 15h05	2	Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PROGRAMME DIRECTOR - Naledi Moleo – News Anchor and Journalist
15h05 – 16h00		<p>REIMAGINING LOCALISM AND REGIONALISM IN TOURISM – THE BUSINESS CASE FOR INTRA AFRICA TRAVEL. Unpacking travel and tourism business opportunities in key African and domestic markets</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Themba Khumalo – Acting CEO, South African Tourism • Tshifhiwa Tshivhengwa - CEO, TBCSA • Tshoganetso Carl - Ponoesele – Acting CEO, Botswana Tourism Organisation • Digu //Naobeb - CEO, Namibia Tourism Board • Moseketsi Mpetla - Head Tourism and Services, Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) • MODERATOR: Didier Dogley – Founder, Inspire for Tomorrow Consultancy Services, Seychelles



DAY 3: YOUR HOSTS & SPEAKERS



NOMSA MDHLULI
Programme Director



AARON MUNETSI
Moderator



THEBE IKALAFENG
Moderator



THEMBA KHUMALO



SIMON NEWTON-SMITH



SANDILE CHIPUNZA



ALAN RENAUD



SHINGAI GEORGE



**BOIPELO
TLADINYANE HLUBI**



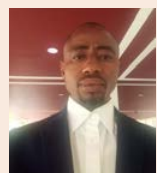
ELCIA GRANDCOURT



**CHEF COCO
REINARTZ**



**CHEF ISAAC
SACKEY**



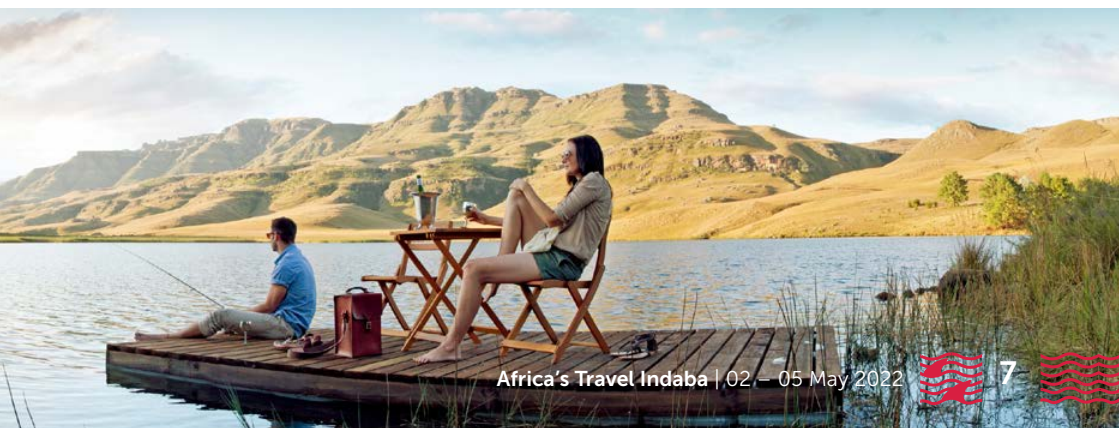
**CHEF BAMBA
MOUSSA**



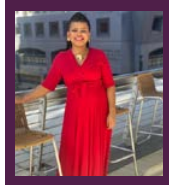
JUDY KEPHER GONA



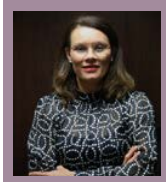
TIME	SESSION	TOPIC	SPEAKER
STREAM 4		STRENGTHENING & ENABLING ECONOMIC CAPABILITIES	
10h30 – 10h35	3	Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PROGRAMME DIRECTOR - Nomsa Mdhululi, News anchor and journalist, SABC News
10h35 – 10h40		Welcome Message	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Themba Khumalo – Acting CEO, South African Tourism
10h45 – 11h30		CONNECTIVITY AND MARKET ACCESS OPPORTUNITIES Insights into Airlift and Route Development as key drivers of intra-African travel market access, business growth and opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simon Newton-Smith - Interim Executive Commercial, SAA • Alan Renaud - Principal Secretary, Department of Civil Aviation, Ports & Marine, Seychelles • Shingai George - Data Analyst and Insights Expert, ForwardKeys • Sandile Chipunza - Manager, Advocacy & Strategic Relations, IATA • MODERATOR: Aaron Munetsi - CEO, Airlines Association of Southern Africa
STREAM 1		BEST PRACTICE FOR BRAND AFRICA	
13h00 – 14h00		LUNCH & NETWORKING SESSION: TOUR OF AFRICAN GASTRONOMY & SHOWCASE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chef Coco Reinharz – South Africa • Chef Isaac Sackey - Ghana • Chef Bamba Alex – Cote d’Ivoire
14h00 – 14h05	4	Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PROGRAMME DIRECTOR - Nomsa Mdhululi, News anchor and journalist, SABC News
14h05 – 14h15		Keynote Address	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elcia Grandcourt - Director, Department for Africa, UNWTO, Spain
14h15 – 15h00		NICHE TOURISM BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES African gastronomic experiences as niche cultural tourism product opportunities for travel trade and accommodation facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boipelo Tladinyane – African Overland Solo Traveller & Author • Chef Coco Reinharz – South Africa • Chef Isaac Sackey - Ghana • Judy Kepher-Gona – Lead: Sustainable Travel & Tourism Agenda, Kenya • Chef Bamba Alex – Cote d’Ivoire • MODERATOR: Thebe Ikalafeng - Founder and Chairman – Brand Africa



DAY 4: YOUR HOSTS & SPEAKERS



NOMSA MDHLULI
*Programme Director &
Moderator*



ELCIA GRANDCOURT



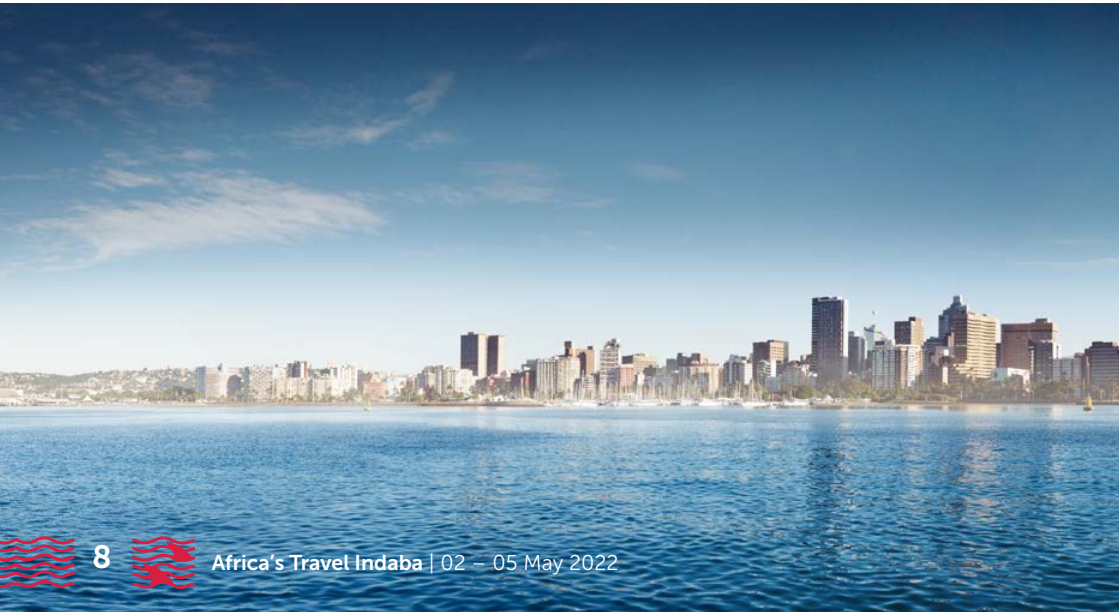
GUILLAUME MASSEY



**ADEBAYO "BAYO"
ADEDEJI**



ROBERT MANSON



TIME	SESSION	TOPIC	SPEAKERS/PARTICIPANTS
STREAM 1		BEST PRACTICE FOR BRAND AFRICA	
10h30 – 10h35	5	Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PROGRAMME DIRECTOR - Nomsa Mdhuli, News anchor and journalist, SABC News
		DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elcia Grandcourt – Director, Department for Africa, UNWTO, Spain
10h35 - 11h30		The driver of value creation across Africa's travel and tourism ecosystem.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guillaume Massey - Senior Business Development Manager – UAE & Africa, Expedia Group™ Media Solutions • Adebayo Adedeji – CEO, Wakanow, Nigeria • Robert Manson - Chief Digital Transformation & Technology Officer & Acting Chief Strategy Officer – South African Tourism • MODERATOR - Nomsa Mdhuli, News anchor and journalist, SABC News





PROFILES

Speakers & Moderators





AMOS FISH MAHLALELA, Deputy Minister of Tourism Republic of South Africa

Hon. Amos Fish Mahlalela is the Deputy Minister of the Department of Tourism of the Republic of South Africa from 29 May 2019. He is a member of the African National Congress in the National Assembly of South Africa and is the ANC Whip at Portfolio Committee on Health (National Assembly Committees).

He has served in the government for over 21 years now and is former regional Transport MEC, as well as a former member of the provincial executive council of Mpumalanga. In 2002, Mahlalela won the African National Congress chairmanship of Mpumalanga. Mahlalela has been a member of African National Congress since 1980, and holds a seat for ANC in the National Assembly of South Africa.

He obtained his matric certificate from Nkomazi High School, and got a Honours Degree in Governance and Leadership from the University of the Witwatersrand.



NALEDI MOLEO, Media Practitioner

At age 34, Naledi Moleo is a seasoned broadcaster of News and Current Affairs and a communications expert as well as a media trainer.

Her career spans over 17 years and in that time Naledi has gone from being an informed and lively on screen Current Affairs host on SABC News International to being a seasoned News Anchor on eTV News and Sport.

She continuously leads discussions from a well-read and intellectually esteemed perspective. Her on screen career has seen her host prime television shows such as LoveLife's Make Your Move TV on SABC 1, a current affairs youth show Youth Expression on SABC News International, prime time radio on SAfm and most recently as News Anchor employed with eMedia Holdings for both eTV News and ENCA.



AMANDA KOTZE-NHLAPO, Chief Convention Bureau Officer, South Africa Tourism

Amanda Kotze-Nhlapo was appointed (in November 2011) to the position of Chief Conventions Bureau Officer (CCBO) at the National Conventions Bureau (NCB) at South African Tourism.

In total, she brings more than 12 years' experience in senior management to the NCB having come to South African Tourism from her position as head of the Conventions Bureau and Events at Cape Town Routes Unlimited (CTRU) where she gained stellar experience in developing and managing competitive, creative bids to win business tourism and other big event bids for that city.

In her role as head of the Conventions Bureau and Events at CTRU, she developed and led a team that secured more than R750 million worth of business – over five years – for the city. Inter alia, she provided overall strategic direction and drove marketing operations to promote Cape Town as the preferred destination for business travel and leisure events; developed and

managed a sustainable business tourism and events marketing growth plan that spoke to the National Tourism Growth Strategy; actively courted international associations to secure bids for the destination; was a SAACI board member; and an active member of the BestCities Global Alliance Board.

She joined the Cape Town destination marketing team in 2006 as an events manager at the Cape Town Metropolitan Council, a position she took after having served Free State Province as an assistant director of SMME development.

She brings an intimate knowledge of policy, procedure and protocol of both national and provincial government to her role at the new NCB and her commitment and passion towards growing the global meetings and events industry in South Africa is absolute. Her clear objectives in her position as executive head of the entity are to increase the overall business tourism agenda in South Africa and to drive both awareness and understanding of the power of meetings and events to build international relations and help stimulate economic growth in South Africa.

Amanda hails from the Free State. She holds a BA in Political Science and BA Honours degree in International Political Relations, both from the University of the Free State.



DR. JOSHUA AWESOME, Human Performance Coach & Teambuilding Consultant, Mindfulness Coach, and public speaker South Africa

Over the last two decades we have had the privilege and pleasure to train, Coach; thereby leading learning and development (L & D) Programs, sessions from over 100 courses within our training, team-building portfolio for Home Grown Brands Like Discovery , Pan-Africa Organizations Like MTN, South African Airways(SAA) to Global Brands Like GlaxoSmithKline(GSK), Oxfam, Ericsson, General Electric(GE) amongst others as Benjamin Franklin Says;

“Tell Me and I forget, TEACH ME and I May Remember, INVOLVE ME and I LEARN”.

We are an African Learning and Development Company , Member International Coach Federation (ICF) and Member Of Board, African Board For Coaching Consulting & Coaching Psychology (ABCCCP), focused on personal and professional performance with our founder An American Psychological Association (APA) member and New York Times Bestselling Co-Author with Bria Tracy and several other colleagues in the industry.



JABULANI DEBEDU, Senior Consultant BDO, South Africa

As Senior Consultant, Jabulani conducts feasibility studies, strategies, economic impact studies, financial evaluations, business evaluations and general market research assignments.

Jabulani worked as a Media Analyst for Newsclip Media Monitoring. He was involved in reading print, broadcast and online media content for clients; analysing media content; compiling media analysis reports for various companies, organisations and government departments; compiling sponsorship reports for clients; preparing weekly, monthly, quarterly and annual media observations; preparing daily industry analysis for industries; researching and compiling reports for large corporate clients, including Coca-Cola, the JSE, Goodyear Tyres, SAB and PWC.

Jabulani joined the now BDO PS Advisory as a consultant in January 2012. (Grant Thornton Johannesburg merged with BDO South Africa in December 2018.)



IDDY JOHN, Founder and CEO Safari Wallet, Tanzania

Iddy John is Founder and CEO of Safari Wallet, a serial entrepreneur, tech business strategist, and innovative executive officer with a high interest in the tourism and financial technology business, with over ten years of experience in tourism and technology.

Iddy believes in the critical and design thinking process in developing and building solutions that solve people’s needs and wants, driven by data in decision making and the application of user behavior science in research and findings.



LINDA BALME, Snr Commercial Manager and Innovation City, Travelstart, South Africa

Linda Balme has been in the travel industry for 20 years. After 14 years in senior management roles, across 4 countries, leading 6 different brands, Linda returned to South Africa to join Africa’s largest on-line travel company, Travelstart, as their Senior Commercial Manager.

Recognized by industry professionals for her passion as well as her ability to create vision and buy-in, she is entrusted with the relationship between international tourism boards, travel providers and corporate partners, to promote African inbound and outbound tourism.

With an audience size of 25 million across all online and offline channels, Travelstart is in a position to increase both awareness and increased passenger numbers to different destinations.



ROY BARFORD, Head of Business Development, Flow Communications, South Africa

Roy is the Head of Business Development at Flow Communications, one of South Africa's leading communication agencies in the travel and tourism sector.

Flow has provided digital marketing and communication services to organisations such as South African Tourism, Table Mountain Cableway, Northern Cape Tourism, City Sightseeing, Gauteng Tourism, Mala Mala, and many others.

For more than 12 years, Roy has been involved in digital tourism projects across South Africa, as well as in countries such as Kenya and Reunion Island.

Flow has won numerous local and international awards for their digital work in the tourism sector, and are excited to play their part in the regeneration of the industry across the globe.



ROBERT MANSON, Chief Digital Transformation & Technology Officer & Acting Chief Strategy Officer, South African Tourism

Robert Manson joined SA Tourism in December 2020. He has a wealth of diverse experience from different multinational technology companies like IBM, Microsoft, Oracle, Altron, Thermofisher Scientific and Imperial Holdings. He is responsible for driving digital transformation, technology, data analytics and insights for SA Tourism.

Robert holds 3 Masters Degrees from leading universities both locally and internationally, among others: Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Wits University, Master of Philosophy (MPhil) in International Business from University of Pretoria, a Master's Degree in Data Science specialising in Big Data and Analytics from University of Liverpool. He also holds Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration, Postgraduate Diploma in Futures Studies from Stellenbosch University, Post graduate Diploma in Finance from University of Cape Town. He also completed an Executive Leadership Programme from Oxford University, a Management Advancement Programme from Wits Business School, the Board Leadership Program from Gordon Institute of Business Science as well as a Digital Disruption Program from Harvard Business School.



LIZANNE DU PLESSIS, Founder, Eco Africa Digital, South Africa

Lizanne du Plessis is the Founder of Eco Africa Digital, a digital marketing agency based in Stellenbosch, South Africa, since 2012. The company's focus is on generating leads and direct bookings for the tourism and hospitality industry via Social Media Content Management, Social Media Paid Ads, Google PPC Ads, SEO, Email Management, Content Management and Web Development. With a Cum Laude Masters Degree involving ecotourism research in Kenya, Lizanne aims to use her marketing agency as a tool to increase the profitability of tourism ventures in Africa and in this way benefit conservation and local economies.



MAKHOSI MSIMANGO, Founder and Managing Director, Ndzenga Tours, South Africa

Makhosi Msimango is an award-winning tourism expert. Msimango is the Founder and Managing Director of Ndzenga Tours-tour operator and DMC business which specialises in cultural heritage tourism with exclusive rights to take tourists into the Zulu royal palaces.

Msimango is also the provincial chairperson of the Kwazulu-Natal Province Woman in Tourism and sits as tourism advisory board member for the AAWTH association. She is passionate about rural and township women empowerment and development.



JUDY KEPHER GONA, Founder & Principal Consultant Sustainable Travel & Tourism Agenda, Kenya

Judy has a wealth of knowledge in sustainable travel and tourism across the African continent. Judy is a sustainable tourism advocate, planner, adviser, assessor and trainer with over 20 years' experience working with tourism sector, communities, conservation. Holder of MA in Rural Sociology & Community Development, Judy has dedicated her professional life to creating awareness on sustainable tourism. This has involved, challenging status quo, reviewing, debating and making contribution to how to effectively link tourism, community development, and conservation for sustainable tourism development.

She was the founding CEO of Ecotourism Kenya, the premier ecotourism society on Africa. While at Ecotourism she led and coordinated the development of criteria and standards for sustainable tourism certification, resulting in Kenya's eco-rating scheme for hotels and lodges.

In 2013, she founded Sustainable Travel & Tourism Agenda (STTA) an advisory organization that uses education, research, advocacy, and training to accelerate uptake of sustainable tourism, and support public and private sector agencies to engage and respond.

Globally Judy has served severally as a judge of World Travel and Tourism Council Tourism for Tomorrow Awards, and onsite evaluator for Nat Geo Unique Lodges of the World and Nat Geo World Legacy Awards. She has also been judge for IIPT Awards.

Her other roles in the industry include: board member of Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC), advisory board member of The International Ecotourism Society (TIES) and recently board member of Fair-Trade Tourism South Africa (FTT).

Judy has made significant contribution to acceptance and understanding of sustainable tourism through development of tools, training and awareness, assessment, advocacy and recently through a regional publication for East Africa- The EA sustainable tourism report.

Judy has developed one-day training modules for businesses that are beginning the journey and to support those who are in formative years/stage to mature into truly sustainable operations.

In 2019, she was awarded the Sustainable Citizen Award by Forbes Woman Africa in recognition of outstanding contribution to awareness and knowledge of sustainability in tourism in Africa and beyond.



UNOTIDA NYONI, Founder and CEO, Grand Scale Consultancy, South Africa

Uno helps entrepreneurs to improve their cashflow and grow their businesses by providing financial strategy advice, accounting services and leadership training. He is the founder and CEO of Grand Scale Consultancy, an advisory company which fulfils this mission.

He is also an Executive Coach, Trainer, Award winning Speaker and the Author of the book "How to multiply your value and create extraordinary impact".

Before founding Grand Scale Consultancy, Uno served as Chief Financial Officer for over 12 years. He holds 2 Accounting degrees and an MBA from UCT.

He is a member of Junior Chamber International (JCI), where he has gained extensive leadership experience from leading the Board of Directors at local, national and international level. He is a young enterprising leader who is passionate about entrepreneurship, and leadership development on the African continent.

In his spare time, Uno enjoys singing, dancing, playing tennis, jogging, watching movies and preaching. He resides in Cape Town with his wife Ellen.



PEARL MOTAUNG-MLANGENI, General Manager, MyPond Stenden Hotel, South Africa

Hotelier Pearl Motaung-Mlangeni has won several awards. She graduated from Unitas High School in 2004, earned a certificate in hotel administration and management in 2006, and went on to the University of South Africa to study labor relations management, human resources management, and services. She has a postgraduate diploma in international business management from Eaton Business School and is now working on her research master's degree in global business management.

She has more than 16 years of expertise in operations, including pre-opening five hotels, front desk, room division, and food and beverage. Her commitment in mentoring and instructing young minds in the hospitality sector demonstrates her enthusiasm for the profession.

She is on the African Association of Women in Tourism and Hospitality's advisory board.

Mrs Motaung-Mlangeni has received several honors after being nominated. She was a finalist for the Standard Bank Top Women Young Achiever of the Year under 40 in 2019/2020. She was nominated for the Strategic Africa Women in Leadership Award in 2021 and won the Pyne Awards for Rising Star of the Year (Hospitality). She represents Hospitality South Africa on the Top 10 Trailblazers to Watch in African Tourism 2022 list.

Mrs Motaung-Mlangeni is the General Manager of the MyPond Stenden Hotel**** in Port Alfred, where Stenden South Africa's hospitality students are taught.



ROB KUCERA, District Director East Africa & GM Radisson Blu Hotel & Convention Centre, Radisson Hotels Group, Rwanda

Rob is a dynamic and effective management executive, with over 25 years of experience and a portfolio of delivering excellence within the Hospitality Industry.

In a career of dedicated service delivery, coupled with the capacity to drive business growth, all the while managing multiple functions of premier, luxury, high- volume Hotels, Resorts and Spas, Rob Kucera has occupied the positions of leadership from the early days of his career. Accountable for comprehensive business, financial & operational management, he exceeds his mandate to deliver profitability, to maintain and/or improve standards of operation in addition to maximizing the total customer experience. Exposure to a variety of team dynamics within different hospitality industry environments, has facilitated his strength in management. Rob now offers dexterity both as a dynamic leader who has built successful teams, and as a proactive team member. He commits to mentoring employees and encourages ownership of

areas of management, thus leveraging higher levels of service.

Testimony to such excellence is a portfolio of multiple awards. Notably, Rob led the Westin Cape Town team to achievement of international recognition within the Starwood Hotels & Resorts Group, receiving the Best Team Collaboration Award (2015). In 2004 he received the Protea Hotels General Manager of the Year Award at Protea Hotel President in Bantry Bay, Cape Town. On an industrial level, he held the position of Chief Operations Officer at the Hospitality Property Fund Ltd the only dedicated hotel REIT (Real Estate Investment Trust) in South Africa and whose market value is approximated at R4.6 billion. Additionally, he played a key role in South African hospitality industry as Chairman of the FEDHASA Cape Board, the body responsible for monitoring the operations of over 700 companies in the Western Cape.

His educational background draws from esteemed institutions such as University of Witwatersrand, University of Johannesburg which accorded him a Citation with the status of Golden Circle Alumnus in recognition of his contribution to the growth and development of the South African Tourism & Hospitality Industry. He did his Advanced General Manager Course at Cornell University, USA and is also a certified NQ (National Vocational Qualification) Assessor. He also attended INSEAD Business School in Paris to complete a course called Managing Complexities.

Currently, Rob holds a regional function as the District Director EA & GM Radisson Blu Hotel & Convention Centre, Kigali, giving him an oversight role of existing properties (Radisson Blu hotel in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, the Radisson Blu Hotel Upper Hill, Park Inn by Radisson and the newest entrant Radisson Blu Residence in Arboretum, in Nairobi, Kenya, Park Inn by Radisson, Kigali) & future openings in East Africa. Prior to moving to Kigali-Rwanda, he was the General Manager of Radisson Blu Hotel Nairobi Upper Hill and the Bosphorus Hotel, Istanbul -Turkey.



BHEKI DUBE, Founder and CEO, Curiosity, South Africa

Bheki founded in the year 2013 by Bheki Dube at the age of 21. With an energy that developed from his entrepreneurial spirit as he organised walking tours for those searching for the same diverse and unique energy he had discovered.

The next step was to develop a place where his patrons could stay, safely and comfortably in the city and this is how Curiosity was born.

Bheki, now aged 29, has developed and grown CURIOCITY into five successful properties operating in three major South African cities, Cape Town, Johannesburg & The Cradle of Humankind.

His vision is to grow Curiosity into the rest of the African continent, and share authentic experiences of this continent one city at a time, while also unlocking entrepreneurial collaborations with emerging black youth wanting to make their mark in the hospitality & tourism industry in Africa.



DR ROB DAVIDSON, Managing Director, MICE Knowledge, UK

Dr Rob Davidson is the Managing Director of MICE Knowledge, a London-based consultancy specialising in research, education and training services for the meetings and events industry.

His main areas of expertise are conferences and incentive travel, and he has written seven books on these themes, including his latest publication, Business Events (<https://www.routledge.com/Business-Events/Davidson/p/book/9781138735767>). He has carried out research projects for a number of major organisations including the Poland Convention Bureau, the Ireland National Tourism Development Authority, and the Society for Incentive Travel Excellence. His most recent research publication is a report on 'The Impacts of the Pandemic on Convention Bureaus in Europe'.

He is regularly invited to speak at international conferences on themes linked to business events, in particular to present the results of his ongoing research into conference industry trends. Rob also teaches as a Visiting Professor in three European universities, where he educates and inspires Events Management and Tourism Management students every year.



DIMAKATSO MALWELA, Managing Director for Nhlakanipho Investment

Ms Dimakatso Malwela she is the Managing Director for Nhlakanipho Investment. She the founder of for House of D'Licacy Non-Alcoholic Wines Company and D'licacy Wines Brand Owner and Women of Value Southern Africa, an organization that is mandated by the SADC to implement women economic empowerment programmes within their Member States.

Dimakatso is also a committee member for the UNWTO Leadership Task Force, a committee represented by Africa Ministers of Tourism, is the former Chairperson SADC Women in Tourism, President for Organisation of Women in International Trade, Founder Bleisure Intra-Africa Trade & Investment Tours and Former Chairperson and Ambassador for Africa Women in Leadership Committee for Africa Tourism Board (ATB). She was a finalist for 2018 Gauteng Premier Women in Leadership Award.

Adding to the above she is a former Gender Equality and Social Inclusion / Women Economic Empowerment Expert for EU- Ecosystem Development for Small Enterprise (EDSE Programme). She qualifications includes BCom Law and Advance Project Management. And is the publisher for Bleisure Africa Business & Leisure Magazine



KUMBI CHIWESHE, Managing Director – Victoria Falls DMC, Zimbabwe

Kumbi is a competitive, driven person who thrives on new challenges. He is stimulated by people with fresh ideas and approaches to life and enjoys travelling and spending time with his family.

He is very passionate about life and thrives on being a pioneer in everything that he does, accepting the old maxim that there is no reward without risk. Charity and benevolence to fellow men (and women!) are matters very close to his heart.

Kumbi's professional experience spans 20 years during which time he has worked in various capacities at the highest levels, starting his career at pioneering Zimbabwean DMC, Green Route before joining Meikles Hotel, followed by a stint at The Hay Adams in Washington, DC.

Kumbi returned to Zimbabwe where he has maintained an interest in a branding business, and more recently, established The Victoria Falls DMC, completing a much desired return to the industry where he started, and his first love!

A passionate supporter of Manchester United FC, amongst his chief interests in life are aviation, and more recently mountaineering, having had the privilege to climb Mt. Kilimanjaro with his closest friends.



PROF. IKECHUKWU O. EZEUDUJI, Professor of Tourism Management, University of Zululand (UNIZULU), South Africa

Prof. Ikechukwu O. Ezeuduji, commonly known as Ike, obtained his B.Sc. (Honours) from the University of Jos, in Nigeria. He proceeded to acquire his M.Sc. and PhD from the BOKU – University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria, specialising in the areas of Environmental Management and Tourism Management. He thereafter got his MBA in General Management from The Open University, Milton Keynes, United Kingdom. After this qualification, he concentrated his focus on Tourism Management.

Prof. Ikechukwu O. Ezeuduji, is a full Professor of Tourism Management at the University of Zululand (UNIZULU), South Africa. Before joining UNIZULU, he taught at the University of Johannesburg and Cape Peninsula University of Technology, both in South Africa.

He has published more than 50 Journal Articles in Regional and International Journals, and 5 Book Chapters. He has also read and published more than 30 Conference Papers. Most of his publications are in the Tourism Management and Tourism Education disciplines. He is a peer-reviewer for many regional and international tourism journals. He is a Scientific Committee member of many international conferences, and a member of the Economic and Management Sciences standing panel; The National Research Foundation (NRF), South Africa. He is also a Board Member, Quality Assurance and Ethics, for the EU sponsored Erasmus+ Project: SUCSESS (Strengthening university-enterprise cooperation in South Africa to support regional development by enhancing lifelong learning skills, social innovations, and inclusivity).

He is a member of diverse professional bodies and associations such as Mountain Forum Europe, COMPETE (Competence Platform for Bioenergy in Arid and Semi-Arid Ecosystems in Africa), ATLAS (Association for Tourism and Leisure Education and Research), and TESA (Tourism Educators South Africa).

He has received many Research Excellence Awards, nationally and internationally.



LINDA PEREIRA, Executive Director CPL Events, Portugal and UK

Linda Pereira is the senior partner and CEO of the L&I Communications Group. In addition to her long and respected career as one of the most influential voices in the Meetings Industry. She is also Executive Director of CPL Meetings & Events. Respected internationally as a speaker, writer and as an educator, she has been an invited speaker in over 143 cities and all continents. She is also most proud of being the first woman ever to be invited by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as a keynote speaker at a national event. She is internationally known as the Destination Diva for her work as expert bidder and is a feared competitor. She is often contracted by a variety of destinations to present bids on their behalf. She has also played an active role in many major events and bids for world events.

Linda has worked on the major events which marked the last 30 years from EXPO '98, EURO 2004, World Stage Fencing Championship and various EU Presidencies among others. She is also an invited lecturer at three different international Universities where she lectures strategic meetings management. She is recognized for her efficiency and professionalism and thinking outside the box. She is absolutely passionate about associations and sits on a variety of international association boards herself. She is also a consultant to a variety of international Governments and associations. She is considered one of Europe's most influential voices in the industry and received various education awards from USA-based IAHP. In 2009 she received the medal of honour for responsible entrepreneurship for her commitment to promoting culture and heritage and for CSR initiatives.

In 2012 she was voted one of world's top 100 PCOs for the third year running and was listed among the top 100 Women CEOs of ecommerce companies by WE magazine from the USA. She is currently the European Ambassador for the Sands Cotai Macao', the City of Johannesburg and Ekaterinburg in Russia for their bid to host EXPO 2020. She sits on various Advisory Boards, most notably the Meetings UK Show since 2013 and various Events Industry Awards as well as the IAHP Education Committee which she presides and was the Chair of the International and European Association Congress for three years. In 2014 she was voted the Events Personality of the Year in Portugal and received the Global Marketing Personality Award from WE Magazine in the USA. In 2016 she was elected president of the Global Council for Women in Leadership. She is currently President of Spring Up Europe which attracts investment and venture capital for companies founded by women. She is also special advisor to the Minister for Tourism, transport and the Minister for the Maritime Economy of Cape Verde and sits on the Advisory Council for the Leader Magazine and the Venues of Excellence Certification Board. She considers her two daughters as her greatest achievement.



MZILIKAZI THEMBA KHUMALO (CMSA), Acting Chief Executive Officer and Chief Marketing Officer, South African Tourism

Themba joined South African Tourism in September 2019 as Chief Marketing Officer. He is responsible for defining, establishing and driving the South African Tourism brand in the domestic, regional and global markets as well as driving the overall marketing effort in order to achieve the economic outcomes required of the tourism sector from the National Development Plan (NDP).

A seasoned professional with entrepreneurial flair, Themba has held senior marketing executive positions in blue chip companies like Unilever, Coca-Cola, MTN, Cell C and Telkom among others. He also has aviation and tourism experience, having held executive positions at South African Tourism (2003-2006), Airports Company South Africa and South African Airways where he was prior to joining South African Tourism.

A lawyer by training, Themba holds a Bachelor of Arts Law degree, masters certificates in marketing and organizational behaviour, as well as a certificate in Digital Marketing. Themba serves on the board of the Marketing Association of South Africa. Themba is a certified Chartered Marketer and serves as a board member of the Marketing Association of South Africa.



GLENTON DE KOCK, Chief Executive Officer for the Southern African Association for the Conference Industry (SAACI), South Africa

Promoting positive community and economic growth in our neighbourhood" is an objective that drives Glenton daily.

Glenton had refined his public and private sector strategic management skills during his tenure as Managing Director of Tourism Buffalo City (covering East London, King Williams Town and Bhisho) where he oversaw the development and implementation of the destinations USAID Funded Tourism Master Plan, as Chief Executive Officer of Nelson Mandela Bay (Port Elizabeth, Uitenhage and Despatch) he refocused the organisations operating model, and as Chief Executive Officer of the Eastern Cape Tourism Board, which is now The Eastern Cape Parks and Tourism Agency (ECPTA) he drove the implementation of the provinces international partnerships program.

As an Associate Director at KPMG he led the Hospitality, Leisure and Tourism Unit for Africa and South Africa before moving onto Grant Thornton in a similar position. His position as Project Manager at the Nelson Mandela Bay Business Chamber ensured that Business embraces its civil society role by driving a holistic approach which enables business within the Metro to work towards long-term sustainability, though projects such as the Nootgedaght Low Level Water Scheme and the re-activation for the much needed Addo Road refurbishment.

Glenton's business management experience cuts across various sectors, such as Tourism Hospitality, Petro-chemical, Mining and all spheres of government to name a few. He provides strategic input into his family footwear manufacturing business which employees 60 people and is run by his sisters.

As active citizen, Glenton acts as an independent advisor to the Nelson Mandela Bay Consultative Christian Churches, The Nelson Mandela Bay Civil Society Coalition, and the Northern Areas Education Forum and occasionally when time permits mentors businesses within the ICT and Services Sector.

Glenton is Chief Executive Officer for the Southern African Association for the Conference Industry (SAACI). In his spare time, he is the President of the Nelson Mandela University Football Club and is a budding golfer.



TSHIFHIWA TSHIVHENGWA, Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Business Council of South Africa

Tshifhiwa Tshivhengwa is the Chief Executive Officer at the Tourism Business Council of South Africa with 20 years' experience in International Marketing, Business Development, International Trade Relations, and Leadership among others in tourism.

Tshifhiwa has worked for various companies in tourism value chain including South African Tourism, Myriad Marketing, FEDHASA, and others. He has also consulted for various companies focusing on projects development, marketing management, travel and events management, and communications.

Tshifhiwa holds a BBA Marketing Communications (Hons), Diploma in Marketing (Institute of Marketing Management) and a National Diploma in Tourism Management (University of Johannesburg). He is currently completing his MSc in International Business, Leadership, and Management with University of York.

During the time that Tshivhengwa was CEO of FEDHASA, he was instrumental in growing the organisation's brand, keeping it relevant amongst all its stakeholders, and ensuring that FEDHASA's members interests were kept top of mind at all times.

Tshivhengwa brings to the TBCSA strategic focus and versatile business acumen gained during his work internationally and in South Africa. He is a respected industry leader currently sits on the boards of the Tourism Grading Council of South Africa, Tourism BBBEE Charter Council and others.



DIGU //NAOBEB, Chief Executive Officer, Namibia Tourism Board, Namibia

Digu //Naobeb is the Chief Executive Officer for the Namibia Tourism Board, which is mandated to regulate Namibia's tourism industry, but equally to market Namibia as a tourism destination both in Namibia and beyond its borders.

Prior to joining Namibia Tourism Board, he was the Executive Director for the Indigenous Peoples Business Council where he was responsible for forging partnerships with the local and international funding communities, as well as establishing networking and collaborative multi and cross- institutional linkages with the NGOs and Business Chambers. Main aim of the Council was to lobby for the creation of the competitive environment for Black people to be able to engage in various industry sectors within Namibia. He also worked as the Head of Department for the Hotel and Tourism School at the Polytechnic of Namibia, where he was instrumental in establishing travel and tourism degree curricula, which was later accredited by the Higher Education Council of South Africa serving as a springboard for Namibian graduates to pursue postgraduate further studies in South Africa. He was also instrumental in the creation and development of the Hotel school itself.

Digu //Naobeb holds an M.Sc in Tourism Management from University of Surrey, UK; a B.Sc majoring in Botany and Zoology from the University of Namibia, a Postgraduate Diploma in Business Management from the University of Natal and a Senior Management Development Programme from the University of Stellenbosch. He is currently pursuing MBA studies with the University of Strathclyde in Scotland.



MOSEKETSI MPETA, Head Tourism and Services, International Development Corporation (IDC)

Moseketsi is the Head of Light Manufacturing & Tourism Business Unit at IDC. This unit that has facilitated the development and funding of several tourism establishments in South Africa and the Rest of Africa.

She has extensive experience in the tourism industry spanning over 10 years and plays a key role at various stakeholder's forums both in government and private sector. She is a Chartered Accountant by profession and sits on several Boards.



NOMSA MDHLULI, News anchor and journalist, SABC News

Nomsa Mdhului is an award winning broadcaster and former news anchor on SAFM, who is also a successful business-woman and entrepreneur in her own right. Her media career started in 2010, when she joined the Primedia Group (Cape Town) as a Radio News Anchor/ Reporter/Producer for, at various stages, Cape Talk, KFM, Radio 702 and EWN. She was recruited to SABC News in 2015.

Four years ago, Nomsa started Tishala Communications to serve corporate clients who deserved to have their ground-breaking business ideas, innovations and successes brought to public and business attention. Currently she is very excited about promoting a number of key clients in the Technology Innovation, Artificial Intelligence and Healthcare sectors.

Tishala Communications' list of achievements include a number of notable firsts for a young agency and clients have included the South African International Film Festival. Tishala has also also played an integral PR role in Africa's first-ever Artificial Intelligence event, as well as being entrusted with the PR responsibilities around bringing the world's largest gaming trade event to Africa.

In June this year, she was awarded a scholarship to pursue her Masters degree in Mass Media Studies with UK-based Liverpool John Moores University.



DIDIER DOGLEY, Founder and director of the Inspire for Tomorrow Consulting Services company, Seychelles

Didier Dogley is an experienced sustainable development consultant, who has studied in both Germany (Erfurt University of applied Science) and the United Kingdom (Reading University) at postgraduate level.

He started his long career in the field of environment back in 1989, when he was employed by the Ministry of Environment. He served in the same ministry until April 2018 when he was appointed the Minister responsible for Tourism, Civil Aviation, Ports and Marine. Before that he had held the posts of Director General for Nature Conservation, Principal Secretary of Environment, Special Advisor to the Minister of Environment and Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Energy.

During his tenure as Minister for Tourism, Civil Aviation, Ports and Marine, Mr. Dogley was responsible for the tourism department, including the marketing agency, airports, seaports and marine safety. He held the portfolio for two and a half years i.e. until November 2020. Both 2018 and 2019 were record years for visitor arrivals and receipt in revenue from the industry in Seychelles. As minister, he spearheaded the review of government policies and strategic plans for the various departments under his responsibility. These changes were done with the aim of responding to the various sectors needs thereby ensuring greater effectiveness and also in meeting the national commitments under international treaties and conventions. Secondly, some of the cumbersome processes were simplified in line with governments role as a facilitator rather than implementer.

Over the years he has developed outstanding negotiation skills, solid leadership in consultative and participative processes, excellent analytical skills and in-depth knowledge of sustainable development issues with a focus on the environment, tourism and blue economy. He has extensive experience in working with non-governmental organizations and the private sector. The last 15 years of his career within the government of Seychelles provided him with a sound knowledge of socio-economic and development challenges and opportunities Small Island Developing States face and a clear insight into government policy, legislative and strategic planning processes and mechanisms.

Mr. Dogley is currently the founder and director of the Inspire for Tomorrow Consulting Services company. Through the company he has provided services to the Government of Seychelles and also to various multilateral organisations.



SIMON NEWTON-SMITH, Interim Executive Commercial, South African Airways

Mr Newton-Smith, is responsible for the airline's commercial activities, which include identifying new opportunities, ensure that products and services are fit for the market and anticipate future market developments. We are confident given his proven track record as an International Sales and Commercial Leader with Qatar Airways, Virgin Atlantic Airways and previously with SAA, that Simon is the right person for the job, as SAA gears to take to the skies again.

A seasoned and highly experienced leader with consistent high delivery, he in September 2020, founded AERVOLUTION, a US based idea lab that challenges traditional airline business models to generate new revenue streams and offer unique customer value in generating and validating multiple forward-thinking airline business concepts in anticipation of 2- 5 years COVID-19 related travel demand disruption and resulting industry structural change.

Newton-Smith is an aviation professional with a global track record of driving profitable revenue and adding customer value in a competitive, complex and rapidly evolving sector.



ALAN RENAUD, Principal Secretary for Civil Aviation, Ports & Marine, Seychelles

Alan Renaud is Seychelles' Principal Secretary for Civil Aviation, Ports & Marine since November 2018. Prior to his appointment, Alan was General Manager for Alliances, Revenue Management and Aeropolitical Affairs at Air Seychelles, capping a 15 year career at the national airline where he served in a number of executive positions.

As Principal Secretary, Alan:

- served as Business Owner and Project Lead of Seychelles' new digital Health Travel Authorisation System, launched in September 2020, to facilitate the collection and analysis of traveller documents following IATA, ICAO and WTTC recommendations;
 - Drafted new coronavirus guidelines for Super yachts, whose simplicity resulted in a record number of calls to Seychelles in 2020;
 - Oversaw the inauguration of Seychelles's first, autonomous, Maritime Safety Authority;
- Presided over Seychelles' accession to nine new air treaties and five new maritime treaties, including the Bunkers Convention; and
 - Transcribed into law the International Ship & Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code governing port and ship security.

Alan has been an invited speaker and panelist at the, UNWTO Statistics Workshop, July 2021; IMO's Regional Webinar on challenges faced by seafarers and identification of best practices for the COVID-19 pandemic, October 2021; African Tourism Leadership Forum in Durban, August 2019; First UNWTO/ICAO Ministerial Conference on Tourism and Air Transport in Africa held in Cabo Verde, March 2019; IATA Aviation Day in Abuja, May 2016; ICAO Air Services Negotiation Event (ICAN) in Bali, December 2014 and served as moderator at the Second ICAO Meeting on the Sustainable Development of Air Transport in Africa held in Antananarivo, March 2015.

He is a magna cum laude graduate of Cornell University in Applied & Engineering Physics and served as Director on the Seychelles Tourism Board from 2017 to 2020.



ADVOCATE MOJANKU GUMBI, Board Chairperson, South African Tourism

Mojanku Gumbi, based in Johannesburg, is a Senior Advisor at ASG, where she works with companies from a wide range of industries to expand their African and global footprint. Ms. Gumbi is one of Africa's foremost political strategists and public policy practitioners. She is the founder of Mojanku Gumbi Advisory Services, a Johannesburg-based business advisory firm that maintains a strategic partnership with ASG.

She was a Special Advisor to South African President Thabo Mbeki from 1999 to 2008. From 1994 to 1999, she was an Advisor to then Deputy President Mbeki in the Mandela administration. During this time, she spearheaded South Africa's economic diplomacy, ensuring a global presence for South African companies, as well as peace-making initiatives in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Sudan, Lesotho, Somalia, the Balkans and the Middle East.

Also during the administration, Ms. Gumbi advised on domestic policy issues including the reform of the local healthcare industry, the expansion of South African telecoms operators to the rest of Africa and the world, banking, and mining sector reforms.

Ms. Gumbi was one of South Africa's principal negotiators at the Seattle and Doha rounds of the World Trade Organization, and served as President Mbeki's personal representative to the G8, where she played a leading role in the establishment of the G5 Group (Brazil, China, India, Mexico and South Africa).

Prior to serving in the Presidency, Ms. Gumbi acted as the Head of the Adjudication Secretariat of the Independent Electoral Commission during South Africa's first democratic elections in 1994.

Ms. Gumbi holds Law degrees from the South African Universities of the North, and Witwatersrand, and a certificate in Trial Advocacy from the University of Texas in Austin. She serves and has served on the boards of many companies, trusts and philanthropic associations including the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund, the Open Society Foundation, the Southern African Political and Economic Trust, the Black Lawyers Association and the Thabo Mbeki Foundation.



SANDILE CHIPUNZA, IATA Manager, Advocacy & Strategic Relations, Africa

Sandile Chipunza is IATA’s Manager, Advocacy & Strategic Relations, Africa and is based in Johannesburg, South Africa.

His responsibilities include ensuring that IATA’s members’ priorities and needs are met, implementing IATA policies and promoting its products and services to contribute to meeting the Industry expectations and as set out by IATA’s Board and Leadership.

Central to this role is solid Advocacy for the value that Aviation contributes to the African Continent and also contributes expertise in Aviation Industry solutions.

Prior to taking up the role of Manager, Advocacy & Strategic Relations, Africa, Sandile was an Aviation Solutions Manager for Southern Africa (3.5 years) and was previously with Airlink as a Regional Manager - Africa for seven (7) years, after spending seven (7) years with SAA setting up new SAA managed operations in Zimbabwe and Zambia. He has a total of 25 years in both Aviation and Travel experience.

Sandile holds a Bachelor of Commerce Degree in Managements from the University of South Africa and also holds various Diplomas with IATA.

AARON MUNETSI, Chief Executive Officer, Airline Association of South Africa, Southern Africa



Aaron Munetsi currently serves as the Chief Executive Officer at AASA. Prior to joining AASA, he held several commercial management positions at South African Airways, including Regional Manager for Africa and the Middle East and as its Acting Chief Commercial Officer. For 10 years, he served on the board of Nigeria-South Africa Chamber of Business, and after leaving SAA in 2018 he joined the African Airlines Association (AFRAA) for a stint as its Director: Government, Legal and Industry Affairs. For the past year he has been working as an aeropolitical and business strategy advisor to airlines.

Aaron holds diplomas and certificates in marketing, strategic management and leadership from the University of Zimbabwe, University of Witwatersrand Graduate Business School and the Gordon.

ELCIA GRANDCOURT, Director - Regional Department for Africa, United Nations World Tourism Organisation, Sabin



Originally from the Seychelles, Elcia Grandcourt joined the World Tourism Organisation, a United Nations specialised Agency for Tourism in 2013 as Director, of the Regional Department for Africa. Elcia began her tourism career studying Hotel Management in Singapore at the Singapore Hotel Association and Education Centre (SHATEC).

Thereafter, she occupied various positions in operations, reservations and sales mainly in hotels, including leading international brands such as Le Meridien and Hilton Worldwide Resorts. She was part of the rebranding team when Hilton Worldwide Resorts took over the management of the then Northolme hotel in Seychelles. She worked with the Seychelles national airline and destination management companies before joining the public sector to Seychelles Tourism Board as deputy CEO before being promoted to Chief Executive Officer, a position she occupied prior to joining UNWTO. Passionate about tourism, Elcia is honoured to be able to contribute towards sustainable tourism development in Africa.

Elcia also holds a Master in Dynamics of Cooperation, Conflicts and Negotiation in International Relations and Diplomacy.



CHEF COCO REINARHZ, Chef-Patron @ Épicure Restaurant, South Africa

The Reinarz family history is a culinary love story dedicated to the fine flavors of Africa and the African culinary renaissance which can be tasted in every mouthful of Coco's food.

- Cuisine is a family tradition - Currently a third generation of accredited chefs.
- Coco attended the École Hôtelière de Namur in Belgium & Institut Supérieur de Gestion Hôtelière in Namur.
- Worked in Belgium, Holland, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ivory Coast and South Africa

PHILOSOPHY

- Chef Coco Reinarz philosophy is that of a modern world culinary citizen who is also an African by birth and choice.
- He combines classical French training and skill with the panorama of spectacularly expressive but previously overlooked African food in a modern, sophisticated and utterly delicious manner.

- In doing so he is making a unique contribution to the development of an unrecognized new world food genre.

RECOGNITION

- TOP 100 South African restaurant since the year 2008
- Platinum Award Wine List from Diner's Club since 200
- Diamond Award for Sel et Poivre Restaurant in 2013 and since 2019 @ Épicure - Selected as American Express Fine Dining restaurant since 2008
- Member of The Chaîne des Rôtisseurs
- Disciple de l'Ordre d'Auguste Escoffier
- Best African restaurant of South Africa 2019 and 2020
- Celebrity African Chef - Creation of African meals in Premium Class Since June 2016 with development in other countries

TO THE BANQUETING HOUSE, AFRICAN CUISINE AN EPIC JOURNEY

- I co-authored "To the banqueting house, African Cuisine and Epic Journey"
- This revolutionary Pan African cookbook has received rave reviews from journals as diverse as Paris Match, Drum, Food and Home Entertaining, Oprah Magazine, Taste and New Visions Africa.
- To the Banqueting House, African Cuisine an Epic Journey, our book has won an international award at the Gourmand world cookbook Awards in Shanghai.



CHEF ISAAC SACKEY, President, Chefs Association of Ghana, Ghana

Chef Sackey is the President of Chefs Association of Ghana and has over 17 years of experience in the culinary arts and has worked in several renowned establishments. He is also a council member of Ghana Tourism Federation, (GHATOF) and the council for Worldchefs.

He is an entrepreneur and Chief Executive Officer of food link logistics and the executive Chef at Nocknita Restaurant, Tema.

He holds Bachelor of Science Degree Bsc. in Hospitality Management from Marshalls University College.

Notable establishments that Chef Isaac has worked in within and outside the shores of Ghana includes but not limited to; Villa Monticello Boutique Hotel (Airport), (Head Chef), Whitesands Hotel (Executive Sous Chef), Emeralds Royal Casino, South Africa, (Sous Chef), Southern Sun hotel, South Africa, (Sous Chef) and Novotel Hotel, now Accra City Hotel.

He contributed to Tour of Africa gastronomy initiated by UNWTO and also contribute to the culinary industry by using expertise to serve on committees, serve as a guest judge both local and international culinary competitions (i.e Dubai Culinaire Expo competition, Hospitality All Africa People imbizo(HAAPI, - South Africa, Gulf Food, Tertiary Cooking Challenge, just to mention a few).

His initiatives has brought into stay and stirred up a lot of project like West Africa Food Festival(WAFFEST) and Cooking to Save Lives etc.

Away from professional endeavors Chef Isaac is a family man and enjoys traveling and touring historical sites and beaches.



BOIPELO TLADINYANE HLUBI, Solo Traveller and Author, South Africa

Boipelo Tladinyane Hlubi is a solo traveller and author of a travel memoir titled: "A safari back to self – Backpacking 54 countries in Africa". Having travelled to 4 continents across the world, it is her solo travels across 54 African countries that has captured her heart the most. She is left with only one country (not due to lack of trying from her side) to complete setting foot in the whole continent. She shares her story as a contribution to reclaiming the African narrative in hope that this brings a certain understanding amongst Africans and pride that compels us to do better for one another and see the need to build for the benefit of each and every one of us.

Besides an African map clearly outlining the routes she took from one country to the next, her self-published book vividly depicts minute by minute details of her authentic journey across Africa, crossing land borders and using public transport. You get an insider's account as she navigates between cultures, religions, languages, currencies, issues and delights across the rest of Africa. From attending weddings, funerals, throwing kiddies parties, night clubs, getting hospitalized, sleeping on rooftops, at the beach, on the roadside among strangers, at the police station, starring in her own movie of jumping on and off moving vehicles, surviving deportation, endless immigration processes - to being fed and warmly welcomed into homes of people who felt the need to protect her regardless of having never met her before.

Boipelo is an alumna of Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) with a N-Dip in Engineering Computer Systems and B-Tech Degree in Knowledge management.



CHEF BAMBA MOUSSA, Celebrity Chef, Cote d'Ivoire

Chef Bamba Moussa is a renowned chef, having worked for various commissioner, ministerial and presidential delegates as a personal chef as well as worked for well established restaurants like the Mont Jacques and Reservoir restaurants.

Originating from Cote d'Ivoire, he has a speciality in making various African dishes.



GUILAUME MASSEY, Senior Business Development Manager, Expedia Group Media Solutions, Middle East and Africa

Guillaume has over 20 years of hands-on, international business development experience, selling data-driven marketing and various platforms including digital media, video production, content creation, social influencer partnerships, print, experiential events, online software/SaaS, white-labels, mobile app development, e-mail marketing, online gaming and virtual events.

He launched Condé Nast Traveller's Middle East digital platform, cntravellerme.com. This included display, video, branded content, and social influencer content creation, as well as developing and implementing all product strategies.

He also has Extensive experience selling, launching, managing, and marketing new products across various digital platforms, as well as in print, broadcast, and events, and planning and implementing growth strategies across these channels.

He launched 15 new print titles, several dozen websites, and multiple events while at ITP Business, as well as aggressively growing several existing brands.



THEBE IKALAFENG, Founder and Chairman, Brand Africa, South Africa

Thebe Ikalafeng is the pre-eminent global African thought leader and authoritative voice in branding in Africa. In a distinguished career which started over 25 years ago at Colgate Palmolive in New York, USA and a lauded tenure as chief marketing officer for NIKE for Africa, he won over 75 awards in branding and marketing communication globally.

He is the founder of the award-winning Brand Leadership Group, a pan-African branding advisory firm; Brand Africa, an inter-generational movement to inspire a brand-led agenda to drive Africa's competitiveness, connect Africa and create a positive image of the continent; Brand Africa 100: Africa's Best Brands, the widely referenced and only pan-African research and ranking of brands in Africa; and Africa Brand Leadership Academy (ABLA) to build the capacity for Africa-focused brand leadership. As the first indigenous African chairman of the prestigious Loeries and Financial Mail AdFocus advertising awards, he championed and led the creative industry's transformation agenda. Named one of the '100 Most Influential Africans'

by New African Magazine and the 'Creative 100' Most Influential People of African Descent in support of the United Nations 'International Year of the Creative Economy for Sustainable Development,' he has been to every country in Africa; worked in over 25 countries, and is widely acknowledged as the foremost advocate for a brand-led African renaissance to grow and protect the next generation of meaningful brands that will transform Africa's wealth and image. He was awarded the 2021 Financial Mail Lifetime Achievement. He has written extensively, addressed diverse audiences globally, and interviewed and quoted widely on all matters regarding brands and intellectual property law in Africa

A fellow of the IoD, he is a non-executive director at South African Tourism. He has held directorships in the public and private sector, including the JSE listed Cartrack Group and Mercantile Bank, Brand South Africa, Foodcorp Group, WWF South Africa and Nike South Africa. He has judged awards on design, branding and leadership globally, and held leadership positions in all Significant industry bodies.

Born in Kimberley, South Africa, he has been to over 110 countries, every country in Africa and every continent in the world, summited Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania and Mount Elbrus in Russia; and took a plunge into the coldest waters on the planet in Antarctica. Educated in South Africa, USA and Italy, Ikalafeng holds BSc, MBA and LL.M (Intellectual Property Law) degrees and is a Chartered Marketer (SA).



ADEBAYO "BAYO" ADEDEJI, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Commercial Officer at Wakanow, Nigeria

Bayo Adejebi, known popularly as 'The Lion' has a broad and diverse mix of competencies, advanced qualitative training and in-depth exposure to multiple business segments and functions. He has experience in big data, business intelligence, space planning, cost and financial planning, management accounting, cost accounting and management.

His brilliance and tenacity has helped shape a successful performance driven career in Finance and Business Optimization across various industries and especially in retail and technology.

Bayo is currently the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Commercial Officer at Wakanow Limited. He has prior experience working for multiple fortune 100 companies such as Amazon.com, Wal-Mart, Texas Instruments and PetSmart to mention a few.

Bayo Lion is an excellent communicator, manager and business leader with analytical acumen, goal-getting orientation and trusted attention to detail. He is happily married to Kemi and has two adorable children.



SHINGAI GEORGE, Insights Expert - ForwardKeys , Spain

As a ForwardKeys Insights Expert, Shingai George leverages ForwardKeys data to provide travel industry stakeholders with invaluable insights on market trends. His diverse professional background combines expertise in IT systems and database administration with a decade's experience in aviation safety, airline sales and flight and airport operations.

Passionate about aviation, Shingai is a trusted voice in the sector: in addition to speaking at industry events and contributing articles to various publications, he is a member of the General Aviation Safety Strategy Focus Group in his native South Africa.

Furthermore, as an official Contributor to Future Africa Forum, he lends his expertise to the think tank in the areas of infrastructure and development.



