

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

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Awel Uwihanganye
Founder, LéO Africa Institute

Message from our Founder

Greetings to the LéO Africa Institute community; friends and partners alike. The year 2017 was a phenomenal one for the Institute now marking five years. I am pleased to share on behalf of the team that runs the Institute our progress and vision thus far.

The LéO Africa Institute's core objective for the last five years has been to empower the pool of young and emerging leaders in the East African region. Through our various initiatives we have enabled these leaders to expand their impact both through their personal careers and communities. In 2017, the institute welcomed its inaugural fellows of the Young and Emerging Leaders Project (YELP). The fellows have been our champions in realising the institute's mission to create a network of leaders equipped to positively impact their communities by addressing socio-economic development issues to ensure Africa's sustained development.

During the reporting period, the Institute also unveiled its first strategic plan for 2017-2022. The plan will guide the Institute as we embark on a new chapter of programming and activities. Starting in 2018, and over the next decade, the Institute will transition into a leading training institution for the next generation of young and emerging African leaders.

The institute also organized its fourth and final session of the annual LéO Africa Economic Forum, which will in 2018 transition into the Annual Leaders Gathering. Read more about the Annual Leaders Gathering in this report.

None of our initiatives would be possible without the support of our faculty and board who persistently invest in the Institute through sharing their time and ideas to allow the smooth running of our activities. We also acknowledge the support of our partners, the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS) for their unwavering support to the Institute's programs; Stanbic Bank Uganda for their investment in the Young and Emerging Leaders Project and NBS Television for their media partnership on the Economic Forum.

We look forward to your continued support and engagement through 2018, as we grow our network and work towards the realisation of the Africa we want.

Awel Uwihanganye

About the LéO Africa Institute

The LéO Africa Institute is an independent, non-profit and non-partisan, organization with headquarters in Kampala, Uganda. It is registered as a not-for-profit company (limited by guarantee) in Uganda. The institute designs programs to support and empower young people into leadership from different spheres including politics, business and industry, thought leadership, social impact, sports and the arts. By leveraging our networks with the African Leadership Initiative and the Aspen Global Leadership Institute, the LéO Africa Institute provides training, mentorship and networking opportunities for young and emerging leaders in East Africa.

In 2018, the institute will be marking 5 years of existence and embarking on a new chapter of programming and activities. As part of our new 2017-2022 Strategic Plan adopted by the board in the reporting year, the Institute's focus over the next 5 years will shift towards leadership development, mentorship and creating platforms for emerging thought leaders to exchange ideas about how create impact in their personal careers and communities.

Our 2017 Activities

In the reporting year, the Institute undertook a number of activities and programmes in line with our mission objectives.

The Institute hosted the fourth and final session of the annual Economic Forum, welcomed the inaugural class of the Young and Emerging Leaders Project (YELP), and also launched the second edition of the LéO Africa Review. The institute also took on new partnerships with NBS Television and Stanbic Bank. Through these partnerships and initiatives, the intellectual pool in the institute's network has vastly been expanded and as LéO Africa marks 5 years, we hope to grow our network even further.

Partnerships

NBS

In the reporting year, the Institute signed a Memorandum of Understanding with NBS television. The MoU will see the Institute collaborate with NBS over the next 3 years on activities organized by the Institute. The station will also become the LéO Africa Institute's official events broadcaster. As part of the MoU, NBS TV provided live coverage of the 2017 Economic Forum

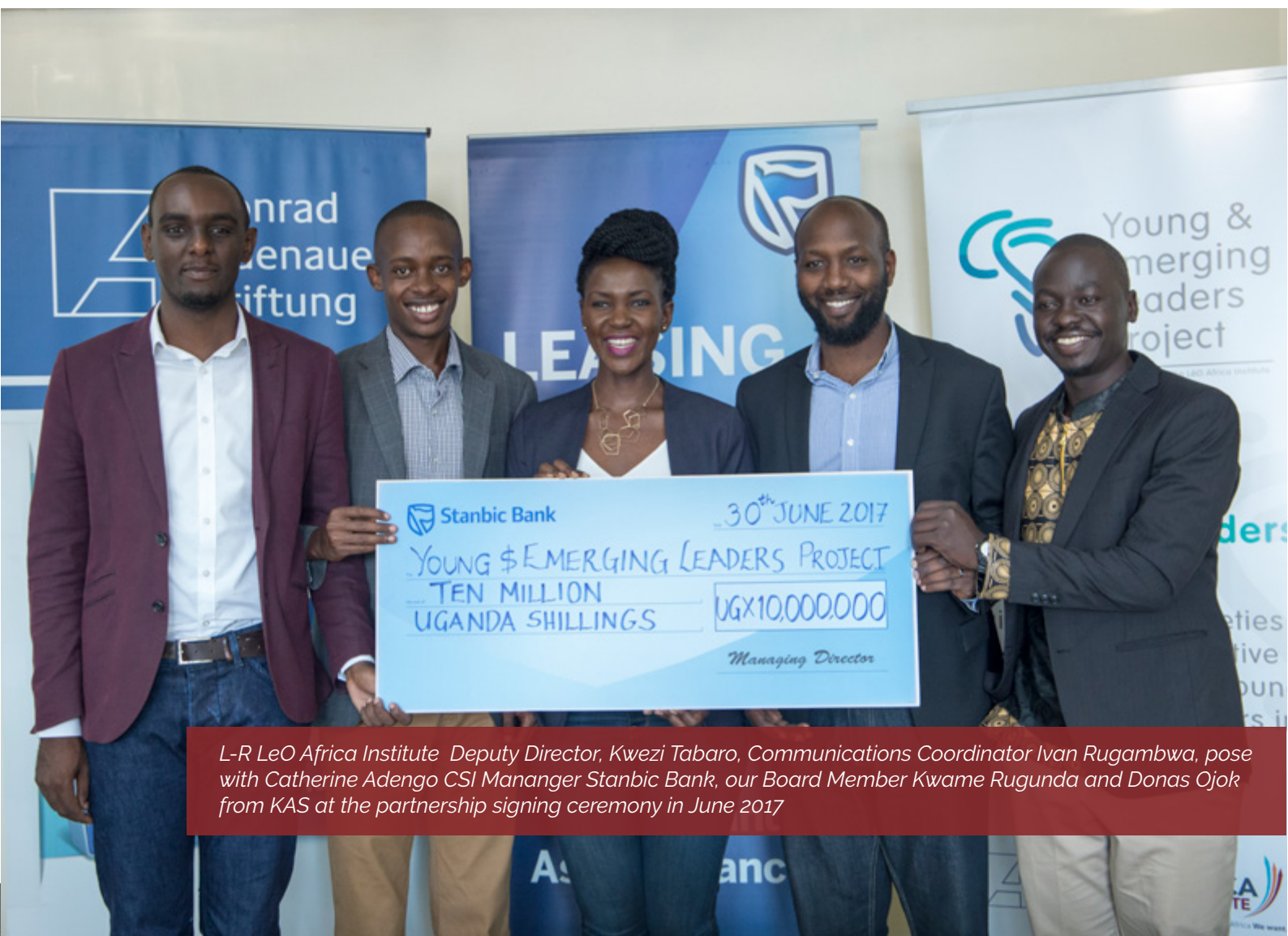


NBS CEO Kin Kariisa and Awel Uwhanganyane, LéO Africa Institute Founder shake hands after the MOU signing

Stanbic Bank

Stanbic Bank-Uganda contributed 10 million Uganda shillings towards the Young and Emerging Leaders Project (YELP). This was part of the bank's corporate social investment (CSI) in the next generation of leaders. The Institute is pursuing a long-term partnership with the bank that will involve an increase in support to both the YELP fellowship as well as other initiatives like the Annual Leaders Gathering.

The partnerships signed with NBS TV and Stanbic in 2017 are yet another symbol of the growing interest and appeal of the Institute as an authentic platform for African leadership. We hope to build on such partnerships in 2018 as we improve and expand our programming.



L-R LeO Africa Institute Deputy Director, Kwezi Tabaro, Communications Coordinator Ivan Rugambwa, pose with Catherine Adengo CSI Manager Stanbic Bank, our Board Member Kwame Rugunda and Donas Ojok from KAS at the partnership signing ceremony in June 2017

The Economic Forum

7th July 2017

The Economic Forum was established as a platform for discussion and sharing of ideas on how to achieve economic transformation for Uganda, and the East African region, while making sure the benefits of economic growth are shared equitably amongst citizens. The forum has over the last four years brought together actors in both the private and public sector, emerging thought leaders, social entrepreneurs and members of civil society.

The 2017 Economic Forum focused on the role of disruptive innovations on growth and development in Africa. Some of the key ideas discussed were the importance of utilising technology to advance innovation in Uganda so as to absorb the vast numbers of unemployed young people. A key highlight of the conversations at the Forum was the need to 'Africanise' innovations and own the innovation space in Africa.



"Identities are important; innovations like Uber are good but they do not speak to the ordinary Ugandan. We need to create ideas that are representative of our identities."

-Susan Mirembe,
Chapter Four-Uganda

In the afternoon keynote address, Donas Ojok the programme officer at KAS highlighted the effect that technology has had on the efficiency through which people conduct their lives. "The most important thing is how advancement in technology empowers us; how it enables governments and citizens to interact, how it promotes access to basic goods and services for the citizens, how it comes to the rescue of those trapped in complex humanitarian emergencies, and how businesses can harness the emancipatory potential of technology through; customer engagement, stakeholder collaborations, and how it builds and strengthens social relationships and communities".

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"Young entrepreneurs should not focus on the money, you don't need a lot of money, start with what you have! Passion and knowing where you want your organisation to go is what is most important. There are incredible young innovators that are finding solutions to issues that the government has failed to solve; instead of seeking help from foreign corporations, the government should fund these innovations."

-Kin Kariisa,
CEO, NBS TV



Stanbic Bank Uganda CEO, Patrick Mweheire emphasized the importance of partnerships in growing innovations, however, Irene Ikomu, Program Development Consultant-East and Horn of Africa Office at Heinrich Boell Foundation, added that young innovators should tailor their models to seek funding out of traditional sources.



"Innovators should come up with society-relevant innovations, the government is willing to supporting ICT and associated innovations that demonstrate tangible benefits to GDP growth, employment creation and the transformation of society."

-Frank Tumwebaze,
Minister of ICT

The 2017 Economic Forum brought together 250 participants, showing growth from the 150 that attended in 2016. The general consensus by the speakers at the Economic Forum was that young people are the biggest resource in Africa, and their innovations serve as an essential driving force towards economic growth. Lucy Mbabazi, the board chairperson of LeO Africa Institute, emphasized the role technology plays in allowing innovations by young people to scale in impact. She urged policymakers in attendance to set the proper foundation if the next big idea is going to be initiated by young innovators in Uganda, or the region. To support this growth of innovations by young people, Minister Frank Tumwebaze announced an Innovation Fund that is dedicated to aiding Ugandan innovators by lowering the cost of access to internet, and also enforcing the provisions of the PPDA Act which encourage preferential treatment for local products. Several entrepreneurs also had the opportunity to showcase their innovations at the Economic Forum. The presence of the ICT minister provided innovators with the opportunity to express their challenges directly to the relevant authorities.



L-R ICT Minister Frank Tumwebaze visiting some of the exhibition stalls at the 2017 economic forum

The Young & Emerging Leaders Project

The Young & Emerging Leaders Project (YELP) is the Institute's flagship leadership training and mentorship initiative. Launched in 2016, the initiative in the reporting year welcomed the inaugural YELP Class comprising 20 emerging leaders from Uganda, Kenya and Rwanda.

The fellows were drawn from diverse backgrounds in the media, Arts, architecture, social entrepreneurship as well as civil service.



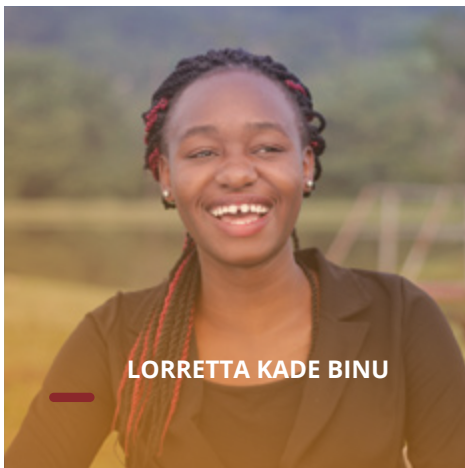
REBECCA KABEJJA MWERU



LIZ MUANGE



JOANITAH NVANUNGI NALUBEGA



LORRETTA KADE BINU



PATRICIA KAHILL



MARTIN BALABA



"The YELP fellowship has helped me learn new tricks to being an effective leader and know our journey into leadership is shaped by one's own traits and character. There is no universal definition of success and it's important to celebrate achievements even if they are small as you continue to pursue your life's goals. Success is defined by what are your life's objectives and what they intend to achieve."

-Liz Muange,
2017 YELP Fellow





RICHARD KIRENGA



FIONA MBABAZI



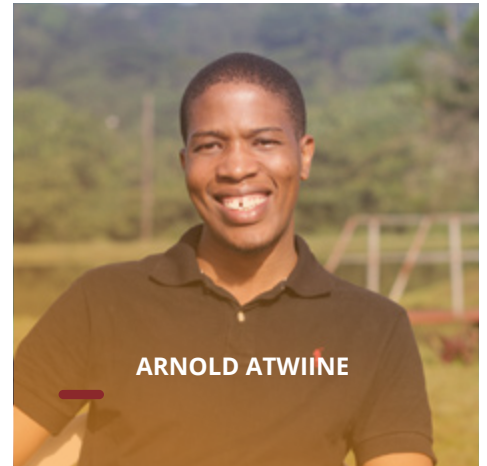
DONALD BYAMUGISHA



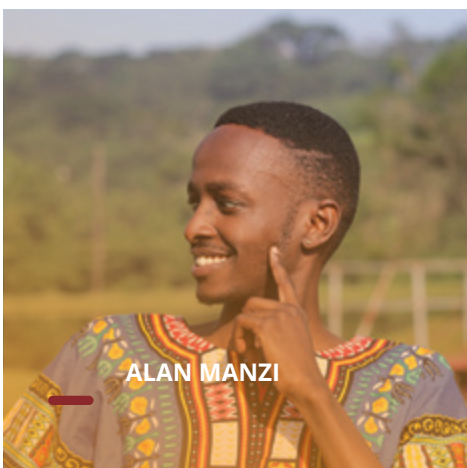
CONRAD MUGISHA



CLEOFASH ALINAITWE



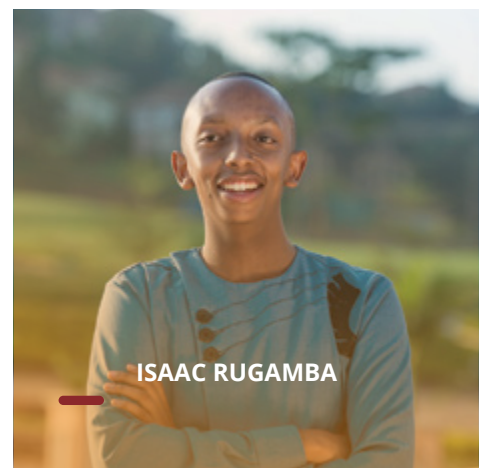
ARNOLD ATWIINE



ALAN MANZI



ABAAS MPINDI



ISAAC RUGAMBA



The Fellowship is underpinned by the principles of "Agaciro", which espouse the dignity, self-worth, and identity of the African as a cornerstone of all other leadership values.

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"The YELP fellowship represents our signature leadership development project which aims at nurturing a new breed of socially responsible leaders in Africa."

– **Awel Uwihanganye**, Founder,
LéO Africa Institute

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The Seminars



The Class of 2017 Fellows undertook three seminars throughout the course of the year focusing on key themes in personal leadership, achieving and managing success, as well as servant leadership. The seminars involved reflective sessions, conversations and workshops.

We are grateful to our partners the **Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS)** and **Stanbic Bank Uganda** who supported the initiative in 2017 and pledge to continue doing so in the future.



The 2017 Young and Emerging Leaders Project fellows at their graduation ceremony in January 2018.



L-R 2017 Fellows Allan Manzi, Joanitah Babirye, Arnold Atwine, Martin Balaba and Raymond Mujuni in a discussion during one of the seminars

The LéO Africa Review

The LéO Africa Review is an independent magazine published by the LéO Africa institute, distributed in print and online to different categories of readers free of charge. The magazine is a Uganda based but East African focused quarterly publication intended to advance constructive ideas on values-based leadership, with a major focus on economic, political and social governance and an environment that will enhance accountability and social justice. The publication's targeted readership includes the region's leaders at several levels of government and industry; private sector executives, government officials, students, trade and investment policy makers as well as an emerging mass of young professionals. It proposes suggestions for developmental challenges, social enterprise, innovation and representative governance.

The 2017 issue covered stories on young African entrepreneurs from an array of backgrounds, insight into the main sectors driving Africa's economy, the African Union's vision under President Kagame's leadership as well as Uganda's refugee crisis.



Kwibuka Conversation



L-R Ambassador Frank Mugambage addressing participants at the #Kwibuka23 conversation in Kampala that was hosted by Kwezi Tabaro, Deputy director of the Leo Africa Institute. Looking on is Patricia Twasiima, Program Officer at Chapter Four Uganda.

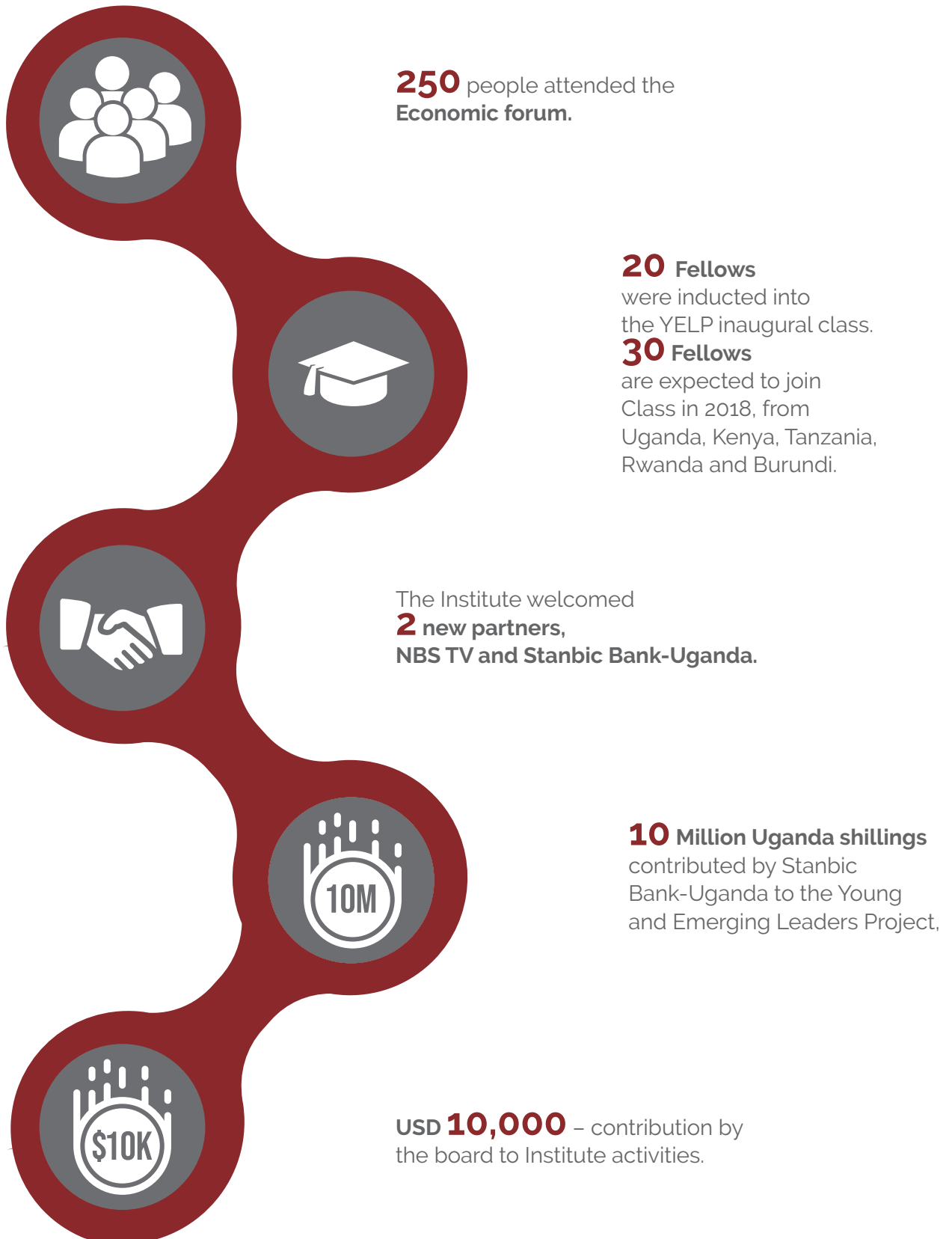
In April 2017, the Institute in collaboration with the Rwanda High Commission in Kampala and the Global Shapers community in Kigali organized a conversation to commemorate 23 years since the start of the genocide against the Tutsis in Rwanda. The conversation held under the theme, Kwibuka 23: Taking a Global Stand Against Genocide Ideology, was hosted simultaneously in Kigali at The Kigali Conference and Exhibition Village and in Kampala at the Innovation Village, Ntinda. Thousands more joined the conversation online through FacebookLive.



Participants at the #Kwibuka23 Conversation

The aim of the conversation was to ask young people to reflect on the role that each individual can play to fight genocide ideology. The event also sought to humanize and spark a continental conversation on the role that young people can play to prevent genocide from happening again.

Our Year in Numbers



The Institute in 2018

As the Institute marks 5 years of existence in 2018, we will be improving our programming and aligning it with the new 2017-2022 strategic plan. The Institute will partner with Stanbic Bank on a mentorship programme for YELP Fellows. The Mentorship will involve a Stanbic bank executive and board members mentoring one fellow for a year during which the fellow will have access to career advice and guidance from the member. The bank will also partner with the Institute to facilitate financial literacy sessions during the YELP seminars.

The Institute will also host the Inaugural Annual Leaders Gathering, that will replace the Economic Forum as our premier annual meeting of young and emerging leaders from across East Africa, and, over time, eventually Africa, to discuss emerging issues in leadership, personal development and Africa's progress agenda.

The Institute's annual ideas publication, the LéO Africa Review will starting in 2018 be published in digital format only, with the aim of reaching a wider readership.

The Team

In 2017, the LéO Africa Institute team welcomed two new members and bid farewell to Ivan Rugambwa who was our communications coordinator. Ivan was replaced by Miriam Watsemba. Miriam is passionate about communication and photography, a strength she brings with her to the Institute.

The institute also took on a new research associate, **Charlene Kamali**. Charlene is an International Relations and Psychology graduate from the University of Witwatersrand. She is passionate about intersectional socio-economic transformation in Africa and social justice issues. She handles the institute's administrative work while assisting the rest of the team in the various institute initiatives. **Charles Kavuma** remains on the team part-time as the Logistics and Finance Coordinator, alongside **Kwezi Tabaro** as the Deputy Director. **Awel Uwihanganye** continues to oversee the Institute's activities as the Founder.



**AWEL UWIHANGANYE,
FOUNDER**



**KWEZI TABARO,
DEPUTY DIRECTOR**



**CHARLES KAVUMA,
LOGISTICS & FINANCE COORDINATOR**



**MIRIAM WATSEMBA,
COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR**



**CHARLENE KAMALI,
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE**

Board of Directors



**AWEL UWIHANGANYE
FOUNDER, LÉO AFRICA INSTITUTE**



**PATRICIA NSANZE-NZEYI
GOVERNANCE & POLICY EXPERT,
BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION**



**GILBERT KAMUNTU
SENIOR COMMERCIAL
ADVISOR, TULLOW OIL**



**WILLIAM BABIGUMIRA
CERTIFIED TRADE ADVISOR, PRIVATE
SECTOR FEDERATION RWANDA**



**DANIEL KAGGWA
UGANDA FUND COUNTRY MANAGER,
BUSINESS PARTNERS INTERNATIONAL**



**KWAME RUGUNDA
FOUNDER & CEO,
WHATCAN INITIATIVE**



**LUCY MBABAZI (CHAIRPERSON)
GROUP MANAGER, PUSH PAYMENTS
- ECOBANK TRANSNATIONAL IN**

Associate Faculty

Leonard Mungarulire

Private Sector & Trade Development Advisor

Michael Mugisha

Assistant Lecturer, Makerere University

Donald Ntare Byamugisha

Founding Partner, BITEPH Strategic Consulting

Paul Kasenene

Medical Doctor and Nutrition Educator

Angelo Izama

Journalist, Energy Oil and Gas Policy Analyst

Hashim Mulangwa

Economist, Policy Analyst, Development Strategy Expert

Yusuf Kiranda

Governance & Project Management Specialist

Annete Mbabazi Ntezi

Monitoring & Evaluation Advisor, Adam Smith International

Our Community of Advisors

Magnus Mchunguzi

Entrepreneur and co-founder LéO Africa Institute

Evelyn Kamagaju

Certified Chartered Accountant, Former Auditor General Republic Of Rwanda

Ali Mufuruki

Leading African Entrepreneur, Founder & Chair Africa Leadership Initiative East Africa Foundation

Dr. Ben Mbonye

Orthopedic Surgeon, Public Health Specialist

Ambassador Frank Mugambage

Senior Diplomat, Rwanda Ambassador to Uganda

Andrew Mwenda

Journalist & Managing partner, Independent News Magazine

Ambassador Nimisha Madhivani

Senior Diplomat, Uganda's Ambassador to United Arab Emirates

Clare Akamanzi

CEO Rwanda Development Board, Republic Of Rwanda

Rosette Rugamba

Founder & Managing Director Songa Africa Travel Company

Leslie Rance

Corporate and Regulatory Affairs Executive

Stella Kilonzo

Capital Markets Manager, African Development Bank

Adonia Ayebare

Uganda's Permanent Representative, United Nations

Rehma Kasule

Managing Director CEDA, International

William Mkanza

Project Management Consultant

Grace Muguli Kwizera

Economist & Entrepreneur

Mohammed Shuriye

Corporate Social Responsibility Expert

Robert Ddamulira

WWF Energy Coordinator, East and Southern Africa

Ronnie Asiimwe

Legal Counsel, Managing Partner Capital Law Firm

Bob Katera

Business Development Specialist

Daniel Makubuya

Legal Counsel, Capital Partners

Didace Ruzigamanzi

Entrepreneur

Howard Mutimbo

Business Development Manager, Philips East Africa

Musoke Timothy

Technology & Software Expert, Laboremus



Contributing to the Africa **We want.**

Léo Africa Institute

Innovation Village, 3rd Floor,
Ntinda Complex Block C,
Chwa II road, Ntinda, Kampala

 +256-752-108886

 communications@leoafricainstitute.org

 www.leoafricainstitute.org

 facebook.com/LeOAfricaInstitute

 twitter.com/LeoAfricalnst

 www.instagram.com/leoafricainst