



Contributing to the Africa **We want.**

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Message from our Founder

Warm greetings to all our friends and partners of the Léo Africa Institute!

On January 18 we made three years as an organization and we could not possibly be prouder of the progress we have made thus far.

We embarked on the mission to work towards expanding a base for leadership development among young people and to contribute to ideas of how best to foster an environment for innovation and entrepreneurship and economic well-being. Equally, we are committed to working with young people and emerging leaders in building their capacity to exert impact on society and fulfill their own personal goals and aspirations.

As it often is with young organizations, it has not been an easy process starting projects and shaping the most impactful ways of achieving this mission, fundraising and rallying support towards this cause, but slowly our message is resonating. The call to action in empowering young people with leadership development, skills, and capacity is being heard.

In the last year, we were most grateful for the support from our partners, especially the **Konrad Adenauer Stiftung**, and **United Nations in Uganda** - in particular the UN Resident Coordinator Ms Ahunna Eziakonwa-Onochie for the unwavering support to our activities by both her office and herself.

The support for our programs and activities, has provided the institute and our partners a unique opportunity for young people's participation in the implementation, tracking, and monitoring of the sustainable development goals.

Our commitment to advancing the cause for young people through expanding income and economic opportunities, and a call to promoting values based leadership among emerging leaders has meant working with other partners to build platforms for sharing ideas, and build networks amongst themselves to strengthen their voice in championing issues important to them.



We are excited about prospects ahead in 2016 and beyond, especially with the growing base of our networks of young and emerging leaders across.

We look forward to hosting our third Economic Forum in July 2016, and launching our signature event: the **Annual Africa Leaders Gathering**, and different other programs already in the pipeline that give real capacity and tools to young and emerging leaders to be effective change agents in the societies they live.

We value your continued contribution towards these goals and look forward to your continued support and partnership.

Awel Uwihanganye,

Senior Director and Co-Founder
The Léo Africa institute.

About The Léo Africa Institute

The Léo Africa Institute was started in 2013 by three fellows of the Aspen Global Leadership Network and Africa Leadership Initiative, Awel Uwihanganye, Magnus Mchunguzi, and Richard Mugisha. It was conceived as a leadership project, a requirement for graduating fellows of the Africa leadership Initiative, to identify, support and nurture young and emerging leaders across Africa.

Today, the Institute membership has grown to include a host of outstanding individuals who include: young and emerging leaders, leaders in government & the private sector, and an extensive network of experts with vast knowledge and experience in politics, business, governance, the Arts, and academia.

We invest in building networks among these young and emerging thought leaders through high-level dialogues with decision makers in government, and mentorship sessions by our extensive network of fellows, so as to build a well-connected network of leaders who are committed to creating a better future for Africa.

Our Mission

To train, orient and empower young and emerging leaders committed to civic engagement and positive societal transformation

Our Vision

To build the most effective network of values-based and action-oriented leaders in Africa and the world

Our 2015 Events

The year 2015 was a busy one at Léo Africa! From the Global Students Dialogue, to the Economic Forum for Eastern Africa, to the Emerging Leaders Forum and Léo Africa Talks, we had our hands full for most of the year. Here are some of the conversations from 2015.



Global Students Dialogue

(July 4, 2015)



The Global Students Dialogue is a series of forums, conversations and meetings attended by university students, academia leaders and emerging leaders in Africa and across the world. At the inaugural event last year, students from Uganda, Canada and Rwanda were brought together in an informative and intellectual exchange. The dialogue was organized in the spirit of strengthening student movements, student leadership action and designing strategies for students taking action on important development issues.

The main goal of such dialogues is to engage with student leaders in devising creative and actionable solutions to today's complex global and community challenges. Last year's Forum held under the theme **"Fighting Inequality and Poverty through Student Action"** was the basis of a great interaction by students from Makerere University and their peers from Universities in Canada and Rwanda about how students globally can address issues of global poverty and income inequality.

Watch:

Highlights from the GSD 2015
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uNPXcDch7Lc>

The Economic Forum

(September 15, 2015)

The Léo Africa Economic Forum focuses on strategic emerging issues, highlighting vital economic trends driving change in Africa and the world. The 2015 Léo Africa Economic Forum was held under the theme, **"Opportunities in the Extractive Industries and Other Sectors of the Economy; Finding the Balance."** The conference dwelt on exploring opportunities around the emerging extractives industry in East Africa, with a focus on key sectors including oil and gas, mining, and infrastructure investment necessary in facilitating a production economy around the industry.

The Keynote speaker at last year's Economic Forum, Mr Aiden Eyakuze, Executive Director of Twaweza, a Tanzania based organization that works to empower citizens to exercise their rights provoked debate around the oil industry in Uganda and the East African region by suggesting that East Africa's Oil was "too little, too late!"



Watch:

Aiden Eyakuze's keynote address at the 2015 Léo Africa Economic Forum
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jXMmM2R5gJU>

The Forum attracted such respected voices in Uganda as Prof. Ezra Suruma, former Finance Minister and current Chancellor of Makerere University, who talked about the state of Uganda's economy and how oil will impact its future. The panel also heard from Gilbert Kamuntu, the Senior Commercial Adviser, Tullow Oil; Amos Wekesa, the Managing Director, Great Lakes Safaris and Irene Ssekywana, the Chairperson of the Civil Society Coalition on Oil and Gas in Uganda (CSCO).

Emerging Leaders Forum

(October 8, 2015)

The 2015 Emerging Leader's forum was motivated by the then recent adoption of the global development agenda - the Sustainable Development Goals and the need to have conversation with young people to get them actively involved in line with the UN's Post-2015 Development Agenda, **"leave no one behind."**

With over 1.8 billion of the global population being aged 10-24 years, it is imperative that the world pays attention to the voices of young people in pursuit of the post-2015 development agenda. In Africa alone, about 65% of the total population is below the age of 35 years; the ELF therefore aimed at collectively exploring and provoking reflections on the success and what could have been the shortcomings of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Africa as well as lessons learned, and provide space for a wide range of leading stake holders to voice their expert opinions, proposals and analysis on the implementation of the post 2015 agenda in Africa. The then UN Resident Coordinator, Ms. Ahunna Eziakonwa, in her statement observed that the tone in the new goals recognized a major shift from charity orientation to dignity when dealing with Africa.



Ms. Ahunna Eziakonwa (above) stressed the importance of economic development, creation of decent jobs and promotion of innovative technologies as a way to address the unemployment problem faced by many young people.

The debate continued in the breakaway sessions with contribution young people - many adding their voices to the importance of young people's involvement in the post-2015 development agenda discussions.



Andrew Rugasira, the Director at Good African Coffee, shared with the Gathering his entrepreneurial journey he set out on a decade ago that has seen him develop a global coffee brand and change the lives of thousands of coffee farmers in Uganda.



As a recommendation of the meeting, the LÉO Institute will this year convene a **Youth Advisory Group** on SDGs in partnership with the UN country team.

The Distinguished Lecture



The Léo Africa Distinguished Lectures are a platform for eminent persons in government and the academia to shape the everyday conversations. Last year's lecture was premised on the SDGs and their importance. The lecture delivered by the **Rt. Hon. Prime Minister Ruhakana Rugunda** on behalf of the President, **H.E Yoweri Kaguta Museveni** was focused on encouraging young people to think outside the box as a means of finding alternative means of financing if they want the post 2015 development agenda to be truly transformative.



Léo Africa Talks

The Léo Africa talks are a platform where distinguished speakers are invited to share their vision for Africa while highlighting how that can be shaped through their work and careers.



It is important to continuously give young people a chance to articulate their aspirations for their countries and the communities they live in while offering insightful solutions to global challenges today. The 2015 Léo Africa Talks brought together five amazing people who are involved in ICTs, agriculture innovations and social enterprise to share ideas on how each of them is addressing the need for youth involvement as flag bearers of the Post-2015 development agenda.

The five speakers; Emily Karungi, Esther Kalenzi, Rushongoka wa Mpiira, Brian Atuhairi and Humphrey Nabimanya are all extremely passionate about using innovations to address Uganda's development challenges. As an inaugural event, the Léo Africa talks were very well received by the public. It is one of the projects the institute remains passionate about, and looks forward to pursuing with universities across the country. It is imperative that we join hands and provide spaces for young people to inspire fellow young people.





Why Conversations at LèO Africa Are Important

The future of this continent largely depends on our ability to impact young minds today. It is essential that we create a new breed of leaders invested in transforming Africa. It is therefore our collective responsibility to teach and learn from young people who are the emerging leaders.

Through these conversations, we strive to change the mindsets of many young people so as to ensure transformative leadership. Together with partners and friends of LèO Africa, we have been able to influence thousands of young people all across the continent.

We pride ourselves in being able to provide the right networks that young and emerging leaders need to expand their horizons and capacity to transform society.



Last year, we were able to have impactful discussions in spaces where young people felt heard; platforms where experts, leaders in the private and public sector met to develop new ideas, and generate consensus where contention exists. Such spaces are an essential tool in the transformation of Africa.

The LèO Africa Institute will continue its strive to provide an independent non-partisan platform for expanding public knowledge on pertinent issues on the continent by bringing together young and emerging leaders across Africa to interface with decision makers in government, academia, civil society and the private sector.

We remain committed to this century's cause: contributing to the Africa we want.

The Team

Awel Uwhanganye

Senior Director & Co-Founder

Kwezi Tabaro

Programmes and Fundraising Coordinator

Twasiima Tricia

Communications Coordinator

Charles Kavuma

Logistics & Finance Coordinator

Executive Board

Chairman

Magnus Mchunguzi,

Entrepreneur & Member of the Aspen Global Leadership Network

Members

Richard Mugisha, Managing Partner Trust Law Chambers, Kigali Rwanda

Rosette Rugamba, Founder & Managing Director Songa Africa, Kigali Rwanda

Patricia Nsanze-Nzeyi, Governance & Policy Expert, Kampala Uganda

Kwame Rugunda, Founder & CEO WhatCan Initiative

Daniel Kagwa, Leading Finance Consultant

Awel Uwhanganye, Co-founder and Senior Director

Our Associate Faculty

Faith Mbabazi, Communications & CSR Specialist

William Babigumira, Trade and Export Promotions Specialist

Hashim Mulangwa, Economist, Policy Analyst, Development Strategy Expert

Philippa Mbonye, Public Health & Management Specialist

Leonard Mungarulire, Private Sector & Trade development Advisor

Marius Koestler, Africa region Rep. Labroemus

Lucy Mbabazi, Governance and Policy Expert

Angelo Izaama, Journalist, Energy Oil & Gas Policy Analyst

Bob Mukiza, Trade Policy and Energy Expert

Job Kahigwa, Energy and Petroleum Specialist

Grace Muguli Kwizera, Economist & Entrepreneur

Mohammed Shuriye, Corporate Social Responsibility Expert

Ivan Kyambadde, Founder T.E.A.M

Robert Damulira, WWF Energy Coordinator East and Southern Africa

Ronnie Asiimwe, Legal Counsel

Bob Katera, Business Development Specialist

Daniel Makubuya, Legal Counsel

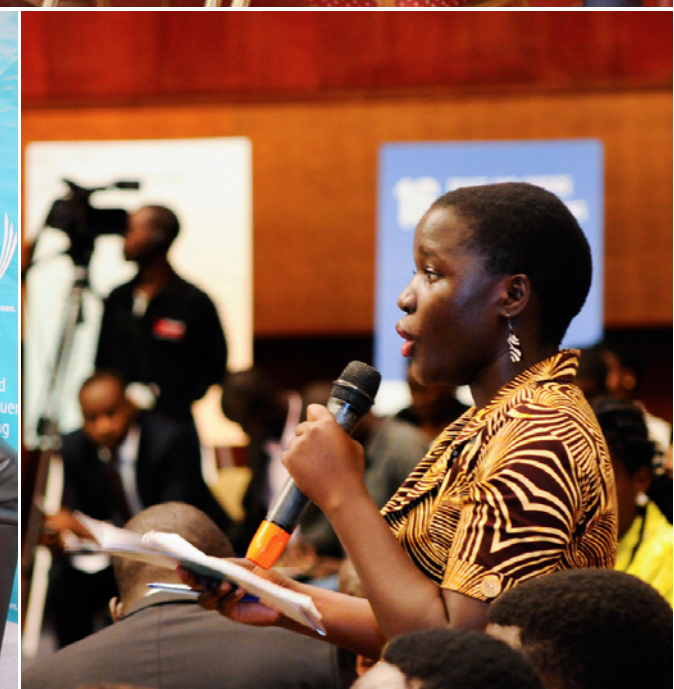
Didace Ruzigamanzi, Entrepreneur

Howard Mutimbo, Economist, Business Development Manager Philips East Africa

Yusuf Kiranda, Governance & Project Management specialist

Musoke Timothy, Technology & Software Expert-Laboremous

Members of the Associate Faculty are a valued component of the Institute structure. They make significant contribution with their time in shaping content and ideas towards various initiatives under the institute.





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Our Partners

