



**LAGOS
BUSINESS
SCHOOL**

PAN-ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

**Building Sustainable Businesses in Africa: Igniting Innovation
Global Network Week June 13 - 17, 2022
EMBA GNAM Director: Chinedum Ewuzie
Email: cewuzie@lbs.edu.ng**

1. Programme Synopsis and Objectives

This programme is designed to expose participants to the required strategies in building sustainable businesses in Africa. Sustainability is helping to create the best new business ideas and fostering innovation. Africa has a potential to unleash innovation that could transform industries and improve well-being across the region. These innovations can be seen in the transport, health, education, payment and fintech sectors. African startups have attracted hundreds of millions of dollars in equity funding.

As the world bounces back from the ravages of the pandemic, Africa is uniquely positioned for far stronger growth. With 1.3 billion people and a combined gross domestic product of \$3.5 trillion, Africa is the world's biggest growth market according to CNBC Africa.

According to a study by Boston Consulting Group (BCG), the number of African tech startups receiving funding between 2015 and 2020 increased by 46%, nearly six times faster than the global average.

“Entrepreneurs don't just want to build businesses, they want to be able to build businesses that change the world,” said Benjamin Bimanywaruhanga, head of machine learning and pharmacovigilance expert of Mfyeti, a health-tech company in Uganda.

Business start-ups from across Africa are beginning to become aware and integrate sustainability and impact measurement into their corporate agendas and management strategies in order to develop their long-term potential. The programme will encourage MBA current and intending entrepreneurs to think about success not just in terms of profit but in the overall impact it has on all their stakeholders, including employees, customers, the community, and the environment.

Virtual Welcome Reception

Sunday, June 12th, 2022

15:00pm - 16:30pm GMT+1

Networking session with classmates, getting to know themselves.

2. Programme Outline:

The five-day programme from June 13 – 17 would explore the following topics and activities:

Programme Schedule – 13.00pm – 17.00pm GMT+1

Day 1: Session with Case Study, Group work, Industry Panel Sessions

Monday: 13/06/2022

- Introduction - Chinedum Ewuzie, GNAM Coordinator & MBA Director
 - Dean's Welcome address - Professor Chris Ogbechie
 - Panel Session Topic with Industry experts: Building an Innovative Business Model in Africa
 - Mr Venkataramani Srivathsan, MD Africa & Middle East, Olam International Ltd
 - Mrs Kate Ikechi Isa, CEO, Katchey Company Limited
 - Mr Mitchell Elegbe, MD/CEO, Interswitch Group
 - Mrs Georgette Barnes Sakyi-Addo, Founder & Executive Director, Georgette Barnes Ltd, Ghana
- Moderator – Dr Franklin Nnaemeka Ngwu, Associate Professor of Strategy, Finance and Risk Management, Lagos Business School
- Topic: Sustainable Entrepreneurship Development in Africa
Method: Lecture & Discussion
Facilitator: Dr Henrietta Onwuegbuzie, Director, Entrepreneurship Innovation Centre, Lagos Business School

Day 2: Sessions with Industry Experts, Team Bonding Activities

Tuesday: 14/06/2022

- Growth Acceleration of Fintech in Africa - Ms Elizabeth Rossiello, CEO/Founder, AZA Finance
- Group Assignment: Business Innovation Proposal deliberations
- Doing Business in Kenya - Speaker - Mr Peter Ndegwa, CEO, Safaricom
- Team Bonding Activities – Jacinta Anakua, Head, MBA Programme Management
- Reflections and Wrap-up

Day 3: Group Assignment, Games/Entertainment

Wednesday: 15/06/2022

- Group Assignment: Business Innovation Proposal deliberations
“Think of any problem you can solve innovatively as a group and using the template provided, conceptualise a solution and think of how to commercialise and implement it such that it impacts lives and society while being profitable.”
- Competitive Strategy Development in Africa
Method: Lecture & Discussion
Facilitator: Dr Nkemdilim Iheanachor, Senior Lecturer, Strategy & International Business
- Reflection & Wrap-up

Day 4: Group Assignment, Entrepreneurship Session, African Cultural Tour

Thursday: 16/06/2022

- Group Assignment: Business Innovation Proposal deliberations
- Doing Business in Nigeria
Speaker: Dr. Adebola Akindele, Group Managing Director, Courteville Business Solutions Plc
- African Cultural Tour
- Reflection & Wrap-up

Day 5: Guest CEO session, Group Presentations, Award Certificates, Networking

Friday: 17/06/2022

- Meet the CEO Session
Topic: The Global Impact of Investing in Africa
Speaker: Dr Jean-Marc Ricca is Country Cluster Head for BASF in West Africa & Managing Director Nigeria.
- Business Innovation Group Presentations
Facilitators: Dr Henrietta Onwuegbuzie/Dr Franklin Ngwu
Your team has 7 minutes to share with the rest of the group
- Award of Certificates
- Networking

3. Pedagogy/Design/Methodology

Deep immersion into different businesses in Africa, industry expert sessions, group business presentations, cultural events and experiential learning sessions

4. Core Programme Faculty

<i>Faculty</i>	<i>Relevant Expertise</i>
Chinedum Ewuzie	Director, MBA Programmes EMBA GNAM Director
Dr Henrietta Onwuegbuzie	Senior Faculty, Entrepreneurship Director, Entrepreneurship Innovation Centre
Dr Bongo Adi	Senior Lecturer, Economics, Data Analysis, and Strategic Business
Dr Nkemdilim Iheanachor	Senior Lecturer, Strategy & International Business

COURSE EVALUATION

Grades in this course will be based on experiential learning reports (20%), group presentation of preliminary findings of business innovation project (40%), final brief of business innovation project (40%).

LBS GNAM VIDEO: Watch Lagos through my eyes: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B-vBScLNME0>



Chinedum Ewuzie
Director, MBA Programmes, Lagos Business School

Profile of LBS Dean



Chris Ogbechie is a Professor of Strategic Management and the Dean at Lagos Business School, Pan-Atlantic University. He is also a visiting professor at Strathmore Business School, Nairobi, Kenya. Professor Ogbechie has a first-class honours degree in Mechanical Engineering from Manchester University, an MBA from Manchester Business School and a PhD in Business Administration from Brunel Business School in the UK.

On January 1, 2021, he became the fourth dean of Lagos Business School where he has responsibility for setting the strategic direction for the school, as well as overseeing all academic and administrative matters.

He has vast experience in marketing, strategy and corporate governance derived from his work as Head of Marketing/Sales at Nestle Nigeria and his consulting work with Nigerian, Ghanaian and Kenyan firms over the years. While in Nestle, he held international positions in Malaysia, Singapore and Switzerland.

Professor Ogbechie teaches strategy, sustainability and corporate governance at the Lagos Business School and Strathmore Business in Nairobi, Kenya; he is also the founding Director of the School's Sustainability Centre. His research interests are in strategy in turbulent environments, strategic leadership, board effectiveness, and corporate sustainability. Professor Ogbechie has been involved with several start-ups. He was Chairman, Board of Directors, Diamond Bank Plc and is on the board of several private and public companies including Red Star Express Plc (FedEx), National Salt Company of Nigeria Plc. (NASCON), Health Partners and Palton Morgan Holdings.

He has several publications in financial services marketing, strategic planning, corporate social responsibility and corporate governance. His first book "Strategic Marketing of Financial Services in Nigeria" (2011) provides essential information for marketing practitioners, especially in the financial services sector, for improving the effectiveness of their marketing. His second book "Re-

engineering the Nigerian Society through Social Marketing” (2012) is his contribution towards changing societal values in a positive way.

Professor Ogbechie has penned several journal papers on corporate governance and sustainability notably: ‘How Large is Too Large and How Small is Too Small? Exploring Kuznets Inverted-U Relationship and Optimal Board Size in Nigeria Company Boards.’ International Journal of Business and General Management, ‘Corporate Social Responsibility in SMEs: A Shift from Philanthropy to Institutional Works?’ Journal of Business Ethics and ‘Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in Nigeria: Western Mimicry or Indigenous Practices?’ Journal of Corporate Citizenship.

He has also presented various papers on corporate governance at international conferences. His paper “Corporate Governance Practices of Publicly Quoted Companies in Nigeria” is published in the International Journal of Business Governance and Ethics. And his journal article “Board Characteristics and Involvement in Strategic Decision Making: The Nigerian Perspective” is included in Emerald’s peer-reviewed reading list of quality journal articles and book chapters. Besides teaching and researching, he is involved in community service and philanthropy.

Profile of Speakers



Dr Henrietta Onwuegbuzie leads sessions in entrepreneurship on the MBA and Executive programmes and is currently the Director of MBA Programmes at Lagos Business School. She is also one of the first African Visiting Faculty at Yale School of Management, US. She has an MSc (with honours), in Economics and Business Administration from the University of Navarre, Spain, an MBA from Lagos Business School, Nigeria, and a PhD in Entrepreneurship, from Lancaster University, UK. Onwuegbuzie is also a globally certified Management consultant and is a Fellow of the Institute of Management Consultants in Nigeria. She is a life

member of the Beta Gamma Sigma group, which admits only high performers in the top 5% of Schools, worldwide.

Prior to joining the LBS faculty, she managed educational projects for women’s development, in different states in Nigeria and subsequently, worked in the banking industry with key responsibilities for blue chip companies and multinationals in the Corporate Banking sector. Onwuegbuzie sits on the Board of a number of Nigerian companies, and has extensive consulting experience, spanning projects at the State level to conglomerates and SME’s in various industries. On a voluntary basis, she mentors a number of aspiring and established entrepreneurs.

Onwuegbuzie is passionate about economic development and social transformation in Nigeria and Africa, and has initiated the creation of over 100 profitable, social impact businesses through the MBA and Executive programmes at LBS. She has also presented award winning papers at various international conferences on entrepreneurship and sustainable development. In 2013, she was conferred the African Women Development Champion Award by the Centre for Economic and Leadership Development. In the same year, she was appointed one of the national mentors for the YouWin Entrepreneurship programme, which was driven from the office of the president. In 2015, she was conferred a certificate of recognition in New York by LEAP, a UN working group under the Principles of Responsible Management Education (PRME) sector, in recognition of her

ground-breaking work in developing change accelerators. She has been rated top 4% among Nigerian top Executives in the education Management industry.



Dr Bongo Adi holds a full-time faculty position in the Economics, Data Analytics, and Strategic Business Intelligence department of Lagos Business School, Pan-Atlantic University, Nigeria. He is a Development Economist, Data Scientist, PPP & Project Finance expert with over two decades of experience in Development Economics research, consulting and policy advisory, capital raising, business development, and data analytics.

He has successfully led and managed exciting and complex projects on subnational competitiveness indicator engineering and benchmarking. As a Project Finance and PPP expert, he pioneered PPP and Project Finance training at LBS, Nigeria. As a technical economist, he is adept in multi-sectoral Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) modelling, macroeconomics modelling, forecasting and econometrics modelling, and analysis. He applies his skills in economic development to help nurture start-ups and develop MSMEs. As a development finance specialist, he helps start-ups and SMEs access venture capital and various support from donor agencies, CBN, and the broader development finance ecosystem. He has sound expertise in managing large grants within development aid contexts.

Dr. Adi holds a Ph.D. in Regional Science and Development Economics and M.Sc. in Economic Development and Policy Management under the Joint Japan/World Bank Graduate Scholarship of the University of Tsukuba, Japan. He completed a postdoctoral training in Data Mining at the National Agricultural Research Centre, Japan. He is a recipient of several awards, including UNU Fellowships (2000); World Bank Scholarship (2000); Japanese Scholarship for International Students (2004, 2005, 2006); Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) fellowship (2006); and several Best Paper Awards, etc. His research has been presented in numerous international conferences, workshops and published in top-ranked international journals. He is a regular Economist and Business analyst on Channels TV, CNBC Africa, TVC, Arise TV, Silverbird TV, and AIT.

He maintains a column bongonomics in Businessday newspaper. He is the Chairman of the Board of Prime Media Ltd, Nigeria's leading online media and financial journalism company. He also sits on the board of several other blue-chip companies and foundations. He also serves as a member of the editorial board of National Economy, Prime News, and Daily Independent newspapers. He is the convener of Imo Economic Summit Group. His work in advancing education, social inclusion, poverty alleviation, and other charitable initiatives has been recognized with several awards. He is a celebrated policy economic activist who uses the media to keep the managers of the economy on their feet. He is Nigeria's leading policy economist with an international media footprint.



Dr. Nkemdilim Iheanachor is a member of Strategy Group in Lagos Business School (LBS) where he also serves as an Academic Director in the Senior Management Programme as well as a course director in other executive and open-enrolment programmes in the school. Nkemdilim holds a Bachelors degree in Electronic Engineering, a Master of Business Administration degree as well as MPhil and PhD Degrees in Management. He is also a visiting lecturer on the MBA programme at University of Stellenbosch's Business School, Cape Town, South Africa.

He has attended fellowships and faculty development programmes in Harvard Business School, Wharton Business School and Robinson College of Business all in the United States of America. He has extensively presented his research in international professional and academic conferences in the United States, Italy, Switzerland, Portugal, South Africa, Ghana, Nigeria, Spain, Kenya, and Rwanda to mention a few. He is currently a member of the worldwide Academy of Management as well as the Academy of Innovation, Entrepreneurship & Knowledge. As a member of the Academy of International Business, he sits on the executive committee as the treasurer of the African chapter. He sits on the editorial boards of the International Journal of Governance and Financial Intermediation and Digital Economics and Innovation ESIC Journal.

He has had prior experience in Banking as a Relationship Manager in the Multilateral, Conglomerates and Private Banking group of Zenith Bank; as an Investment Banker where he was involved in Project Finance, Mergers and Acquisitions and financial advisory engagements and as a consultant where he was involved in business advisory engagements for large multinationals and local corporates.

In the last ten years, he has consulted for well over one hundred private and public sector organisations as well as governments in industries such as banking, insurance, pensions, telecommunications, consumer markets and retail all around Africa. Nkemdilim has extensively consulted in the areas such as growth transformation, strategy execution, corporate restructuring, foreign subsidiary establishment, corporate strategy development, competitive strategy development and blue ocean strategy development.

Nkemdilim is a thought leader and active participant in the Nigerian Financial Inclusion Ecosystem. He leads the Supply-Side workstream of the Sustainable & Inclusive Digital Financial Services Initiative (SIDFS) in LBS aimed at improving financial inclusion in Nigeria through research, capacity building and stakeholder engagement. SIDFS is supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF). He has led different research programmes on the adoption of digital financial services (DFS) for financial inclusion.

He currently sits on the board of some private sector organisations and also serves as a strategy mentor to several CEOs and top corporates.



Dr Jean-Marc Ricca is Country Cluster Head for BASF in West Africa & Managing Director Nigeria. He manages nine countries within the African region. He joined BASF in 2011 as the head of global key account management care chemicals, Asia Pacific in Bangkok. Prior to joining BASF, he held various positions at Rhodia's and Cognis' R&D, marketing, and regional business management departments across three continents. Following a two-year assignment in Ludwigshafen within the care chemicals division, he took over the leadership for Country Cluster West Africa in 2016. He is also a director of the Nigerian German Business Association (NGBA) and a founding member of the German

Business Club.



Venkataramani Srivathsan (“Sri”) joined Olam International in 1994 and has more than 25 years of experience in the commodities industry. He has held various positions in the Olam group, including country head, Ghana; country head, Nigeria; and regional head, West and Central Africa. Currently, he is the managing director and CEO for Africa and the Middle East, with oversight responsibility for the fertiliser business.

Mr Srivathsan belongs to the 12-member executive committee that is Olam’s top policymaking body and is a member of its human resource and crisis committees. He is also the vice-chairman of the Singapore Business Federation and a member of the NTU-SBF Centre for African Studies executive committee. He was awarded a prestigious World Business for Peace Award in 2010.

With over 20 years of pan-African experience, Mr Srivathsan has presented many papers on smallholder farmways in the pan-African forums. He has also been part of the advisory committees for the ministry of agriculture and the ministry of trade and industry in Nigeria. Under his leadership, Olam Nigeria won several international and national awards.



Georgette Barnes Sakyi-Addo is the founder and executive director of Georgette Barnes Ltd., a Ghanaian drilling and mining supplies company based in Accra, Ghana. She was awarded 2018 Female Entrepreneur of the Year by Invest in Africa (IIA). She was selected as one of the 100 Global Inspirational Women in Mining by Women in Mining – UK in (2016). She is President of Women in Mining (WIM) Ghana and co-founder of the Accra Mining Network. She was also the President of the Accra Mining Network

from 2015 to 2020. Barnes Sakyi-Addo holds a BA in French and Linguistics, and a Graduate Diploma in Communications from the University of Ghana. In 2020 she was awarded an honorary DSc by the University of Mines and Technology.

When the mining industry suffered a downturn in 2012, Sakyi-Addo co-founded the Accra Mining Network with Samuel Torkornoo, Raymond Kudzawu-D'Pherdd, and Joseph Djan Mamphey. In 2015, she used that as a blueprint to form Women in Mining Ghana.

In 2015 she established Women in Mining Ghana (WIM), as a limited company. Its main purpose is to serve as an advocacy body for women working in the mining sector (Industry, Academia and Government) by offering training, mentorship, networking and research projects. She is its current President. In November 2019, she was elected as the president of the Association of Women In Mining Africa (AWIMA).

Sakyi-Addo was featured among Women in Mining in Nigeria and the subregion: a monograph with interviews by Fatima Ibrahim Maikore. Barnes Sakyi-Addo was also a speaker at the 2022 EU -African Union Business Forum. She was also a speaker at the Fire Site Chat of the Kenyan Gem and Jewelry Fair. She gave the opening remarks at the DRC Africa Business Forum 2021 on the social, environmental and governance challenges of battery-related industrial activities. The forum looked at fostering the development of battery, electric vehicle and renewable energy, industry value chain and market in Africa.

She was one of the judges of the Amazon Challenge of Artisanal Mining Challenge in 2020. Conservation X Labs led this event, to make artisanal mining more responsible for people and the planet. The winners were Jeffrey Beyer, Charles Espinosa, Alejandra Laina, Itai Mutemeri and Marcello Veiga]



Mitchell Elegbe is the GMD/CEO of Interswitch, an integrated payment and transaction company in Nigeria. He is a graduate of Electrical Engineering from the University of Benin. He was formerly with Schlumberger Wireline and Testing, and Telnet, an ICT engineering and consulting company until 2002, when he started Interswitch Group where he is currently the Group Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer. In 2012, he was awarded the West Africa Business Leader Award at the All African Business Leaders Awards (AABLA) organised by CNBC Africa. He is an Ernst and Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award recipient, and he won the Harvard Business School Association (Nigeria) Leadership Award in the General Management Category in 2015. He is a Bishop Desmond Tutu fellow of the African Leadership Institute.

Mitchell Elegbe is a graduate of Electrical and Electronics Engineering from the University of Benin. He is also an alumnus of the IESE/Wharton/CEIBS Global CEO Programme.

Mitchell Elegbe was formerly with Schlumberger Wireline and Testing, and Telnet, an ICT engineering and consulting company until 2002, when he started Interswitch Group where he is currently the Group Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer. Interswitch was founded four years after his NYSC Service Year. He was employed by Telnet, a telecommunications company in Nigeria. His first encounter with an ATM was in Scotland (then no ATM existed in Nigeria)

where the machine seized his card. He developed an idea to create a system infrastructure that would enable electronic payments in Nigeria while working on a project to implement SWIFT.

On his return to Nigeria, he was reemployed by Telnet. He pitched the idea of the transaction switch to his boss successfully and was authorised to execute it, but the process did not go according to plan. He started off by selling the software for switching but most players he sold to were not interested and this led him to creating Interswitch so as to meet his targets. With the assistance of Accenture, Mitchell and his team were able to establish the company but faced the challenge of finding a CEO to run the company because of finance. He was left with no choice than to become the CEO of the company, four years after his NYSC Service Year.

Mitchell has won several awards including the CNBC/Forbes All African Business Leader (AABLA) for West Africa, Ernst and Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award and the Harvard Business School Association (Nigeria) Leadership Award in the General Management Category. He is also a Bishop Desmond Tutu fellow of the African Leadership Institute.



Kate Ikechi Isa is an audacious trailblazing entrepreneur with unflinching belief that nothing can be impossible to the one who is determined to achieve success – Good Success.

The founder and CEO of Katchey Company Limited, the dominant player in the Science Laboratory equipment space in Nigeria, Kate is a modern day multi-preneur, having, in addition to KATCHEY, founded LEEISA Inc in Los Angeles, USA in 1993 and purchased SCIACHEM in the UK in 2016.

Perceiving gaps in the science and technology landscape in Nigeria, Kate is presently driving an aggressive forward- and backward- integration program at KATCHEY. The forward integration has birthed Katchey Laboratories Limited, the first internationally accredited Independent Analytical Laboratory Complex in Nigeria.

Katchey Laboratories is set to successfully compete against the SGSs, COTECNAs and INTERTEKs of this world. The backward integration, which will feature its Groundbreaking Ceremony in OGUN State, will focus on the manufacturing of laboratory equipment and supplies, Training Institute for Laboratory technologists, expanded Independent Analytical Laboratory Complexes, offices and warehouses.

With a passion for science and technology, Kate has been on a protracted unrelenting crusade, engaging the policy makers in Nigeria's educational system, to modernize the teaching and learning of Science and Technology in Nigeria through the use of digital science laboratory equipment, inspired by the STEM pedagogy.

Kate believes very strongly that only well-educated Nigerian scientists will invest the life resources needed to effectively revolutionize our nation, using our abundant natural resources to develop products and solutions for our unique needs.

Kate Isa obtained her BSc from the University of Lagos, an MBA from Harvard Business School in Boston, Massachusetts, a Certificate in Real Estate Finance and Development from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston and has attended several continuous education programmes.

Kate is a highly sought-after motivational speaker, an extravagant philanthropist, and a mobilizer for positive energy towards the actualization of project NIGERIA. Part of Kate's mission is to help younger women develop the skills they need to thrive professionally and personally, while building a balance home. She commits herself to helping them become the best versions of themselves, through guidance on navigating the career-family balance, as well as spiritual mentorship, enabling them to feel confident, grounded, and secure in themselves and their relationships.

Kate is the wife of Abdulrazaq Isa, the Founder and Chairman of Waltersmith Petroman Oil Limited, and they are the parents of Amina Ezinneke and Zaq Chidiebere.



Peter Ndegwa is a Kenyan businessman, accountant and corporate executive, who serves as the chief executive officer at Safaricom, the largest telecommunications company in the countries of the East African Community, with approximately 35.6 million subscribers in December 2020.

Before his current appointment, he was the Managing Director for Continental Europe and Russia, at Diageo. He was responsible for Diageo's spirits and beer business across more than 50 countries in Western Europe, Eastern Europe and Russia, excluding the United Kingdom and Ireland. The business comprises six business units each with a General Manager.

Ndegwa was born in Kenya circa 1969. He attended Starehe Boys' Centre and School, where he obtained a High School Diploma. He was admitted to the University of Nairobi, where he obtained a Bachelor's degree in Economics. Later, he graduated from the London School of Business with a Master of Business Administration. He is also a Certified Public Accountant.

Before EABL, he worked as a consultant at PricewaterhouseCoopers, based in the United Kingdom. Ndegwa joined East African Breweries (EABL) in 2004 as the director of strategy, based in Nairobi, Kenya's capital city. After eight years at EABL, he was appointed as the Managing Director of Guinness Ghana Breweries Limited (GGBL), in December 2011. He worked there until August 2015, when he was appointed to head Guinness Nigeria. Partly on account of his successes in Ghana and Nigeria, in July 2018, he was appointed General Manager of Diageo's business in Western and Eastern Europe, including Russia. He was based in Amsterdam in the Netherlands.

On 24 October 2019, the board of directors of Safaricom appointed Peter Ndegwa as the next CEO, effective 1 April 2020. He is the first Kenyan to serve in that role. He took over from former Safaricom CEO Michael Joseph, who has been interim CEO of Safaricom Limited since July 2019.



Elizabeth is the CEO and founder of AZA, an established provider of currency trading solutions which accelerate global access to frontier markets through an innovative infrastructure. By leveraging cutting edge technology in our flagship products, TransferZero and BFX, AZA is able to significantly lower the cost and increase the speed of business payments to and from frontier markets. AZA is now a market-maker in every major African currency and facilitates payments into G20 currencies directly.

Elizabeth expanded the company from Nairobi, Kenya to operations in 8 markets across Africa and Europe. Before founding AZA, Elizabeth was a rating analyst for microfinance institutions across sub-Saharan Africa, consulting for Grameen Foundation, Gates Foundation and the Acumen Fund, as well as working with regulators and policymakers on legislation for financial innovations. Elizabeth sits on the Investment Committee for Bamboo Capital and the World Economic Forum's Future Council on Blockchain. She holds an M.A. in International Business and Finance from Columbia University.



Dr. Adebola Akindele, Group Managing Director, Courteville Business Solutions Plc is a highly versatile, analytically minded and visionary business leader with consummate skills in process re-engineering, automation and standardization, financial control, business strategy decision making and new market entry analysis in both the public and private sectors, all of which were garnered over 35 years of working experience in various roles. He is a respected team leader with an enviable track record of bold and innovative thinking through which he has created new business models that are being employed for improved levels of financial and operational efficiency by global businesses in

highly regulated environments.

A major leverage are his extensive experiences in auditing & accounting as well as compliance & control and business development, which were respectively garnered from years working in an audit firm and an extensive career in leadership roles in banking, which included stints in the Central Bank of Nigeria and 2 commercial banks.

Bola, in his current role as the CEO of a leading global innovation company, is a proven team builder and mentor with the ability for critical business process analysis and identification of challenges through his unique style of simplification that engenders the easy transformation of concepts into definitive and innovative e-business solutions that effectively solve endemic and peculiar challenges associated with businesses and government agencies in developing economies and ultimately improve and create new revenue streams for such organisations. In the last 15 years he has led Courteville Business Solutions (CBS) to be a world-class organisation, listed on the Nigerian Stock Exchange and focused on process re-engineering in both the public and private sector.

CBS is a forerunner in financial inclusion with the flagship “AutoReg product”. AutoReg is a household name that has engaged over 1,000 franchises across Nigeria and other African countries including the Caribbean.

The AutoReg platform has created a perfect interface between FinTech, quality service in Vehicle Management and Administration, and efficiency in Government Revenue accountability.

In addition to the numerous franchises and consequent labour engagement of over 10,000 persons, the platform is also engaged by over 23 banks as delivery channels for Vehicle Administration Automation Services.

CBS has developed other payment and service facilitation platforms for FIRS, NAFDAC, and the Nigerian Insurers Association (NIA), these products have won several local and international awards, so also, CBS has won numerous awards such as The Nigerian Technology Award's (Best Use of Technology Vehicle Automation & Registration), CIPM's (ICT Category of 2019 HR Optimisation Awards), Commonwealth Industry Award 2016 (Best ICT Application).

Bola as founder and CEO of CBS has inspired a cross functional team to deliver a 50% year on year balance sheet and revenue growth for the organisation alongside yearly profitability and dividend payout to shareholders.