



Youth Workshop

During the 7th annual Timeless conference, among the workshops was the youth workshop with the theme '**Youth Driving Africa's Future**'. The workshop was moderated with panelists and youth contributors held in two sessions. The first session was via REMO platform while the next one was via ZOOM. The following were the panelists and contributors:

- a) Ms Faith Wich - CEO & Founder - Global Women Social Enterprise Denmark
MODERATOR
- b) Dr Benjamin Anyagre- Executive Director - Kwame Nkrumah Institute, Ghana
- c) Mr John Ngamawah- CEO Ana Junubi, Young Entrepreneur South Sudan
- d) Ms Janet Salaza- President , Foundation for the Support of United Nations (FSUN) USA
- e) CEO - Global Minded Organization Ms Carol J Carter USA
- f) Mr Victor Dauda Tarfa Founder Nehemiah Generation , Speaker and Author Nigeria / Uk
- g) Trixie Akinyi- Head of Performance Contracting Agriculture & Food Authority - Horticultural crops Directorate Kenya
- h) Benjamin Walgwe- CEO Benjawa East Farm, Social Entrepreneur, STEAM Educator Kenya
- i) Grace Kamau- Timeless Champion of Change Lead Kenya
- j) Bridget Cerafogli- GWSE YWSIMP Administrator Denmark
- k) Mitchelle Akinyi TWOW GLOW Mentee Kenya
- l) Gaelle Danji- GWSE GLOW Mentee Senegal
- m) Jackline Muriuki- TWOW Head of Youth Programs Kenya

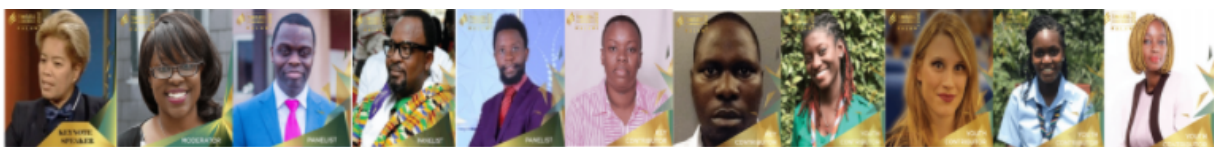
The discussion was engaging, thematic and consequential. The following presents the summary of the discussion capturing the highlights:

1. Youth and Mindset

The youth have been cultured by the factors beyond them eg their backgrounds and education systems to be look at success as a reward out of academic excellence. However, success is something that should be worked for and a separate package from academic excellence.

- Recommendation: Youths' mindset need to change from them to be positive thinkers and to tap into the opportunities that arise as a result. Growth mindsets will enable them to also accept to start small and grow gradually
- Actionable: Change of mindset is a progressive process. The youth can do better with a platform and program that best seeks to not only shift their mindset but allows them to challenge the notions that shaped their mindsets over and over

2. Youth and National development





The youth are thought to be a frustrated lot that just want to make it in a snap of a finger. We have youth rural urban migration in search of greener pastures while others are inclined to moving to the diaspora.

- Recommendation: Start local then go global. As such the youth were invited to a self search to find out who they are and what they want. Then begin from there applying creativity and innovativeness to create solutions to their own challenges
- Actionable: A program that will enable the youth find their purpose, passion and interests in order to give the best out of themselves

3. Youth and leadership

It was noted that while about 60% of Africa's population is the youth, with the average age being 19 years, the political class is not reflective of the same and the average age of political leaders is 62 years. The youth therefore sought to be included in the decision making platforms if the decisions are going to be reflective of their needs.

- Recommendation: The youth should create their own platforms then invite the rest to join them. In addition, due to their number the rest will be compelled to just join them as they can no longer be ignored.
- Actionable: The Timeless Champion of Change is such a platform that will be youth centric. Driven by the youth and for the youth. Necessary support from different stakeholders will be vital

4. Youth and mentorship

It was evident that the youth needed guidance and mentorship. They are ready to be shown the way and are energetic to grab the opportunities that are there. However we would need to revise effective practices that would result to fruitful mentorships from both parties

- Recommendation: Relevant stakeholders to come together and guide the youth. Reverse mentorship to apply to ensure that both parties learn from each other and understand each other for better collaboration
- Actionable: While the youth are out here to give their best, they need to be paired with mentors that will hold them through their journey. Different industry players come in for this purpose

5. Youth and agriculture

Agriculture is not conventionally a desired field that the youth want to venture into. This has been highly contributed to the preconceived notions that the society has fed them ever since regarding agriculture. This therefore has seen an irony of 60% arable land in Africa but acute hunger being experienced. Meanwhile, there are different spaces in the agriculture value chain that the youth can delve into.

- Recommendation: Deconstructing the retrogressive narratives that have made the youths to detest fields such as agriculture
- Actionable: Youth programs that seek to have the discussions questioning the narratives and charting the way forward. TCC provides such a platform





WAY FORWARD

Integrating the recommendations and the actionable items as above, TCC has come up with a program to address the above by **shifting mindsets**, helping the youths to find their **purpose** and bridging the gaps that barr them from **accessing the opportunities**.

We look forward to partnering on activities and matters of common interest.

MOMENTS CAPTURED

