

GROW ENTREPRENEURS. TRANSFORM FOOD.

A partnership initiative bringing the dynamism of youth entrepreneurship to Africa's agri-food sector.

4 September 2019

Celebrating Innovation and Youth Entrepreneurship at the Africa Food Prize Gala Dinner

The Africa Food Prize Gala dinner and awards ceremony will be held at 7:00 pm on Wednesday 4 September 2019 at the Adlon Ballroom of the Kempinski Hotel in Accra, Ghana. At tonight's black-tie event by invitation-only, the two winners of the US \$100,000 GoGettaz Agripreneur Prize (one man and one woman) will be announced, along with the winner of the prestigious Africa Food Prize.

This evening's program includes:

- Framing remarks and recognition of the 2019 GoGettaz Agripreneur Prize winners by Mr Strive Masiyiwa, founder and Chairman of Econet Global, and Mr Svein Tore Holsether, President & CEO of Yara International, the co-founders of Generation Africa, a new pan-African initiative to support and inspire young agri-food entrepreneurs across the African continent.
- Speech and Presentation of the 2019 Africa Food Prize by Committee Chair H.E. President Olusegun Obasanjo
- Video of the Africa Food Prize Laureate(s)
- Speech of the Africa Food Prize Laureate(s)

At yesterday afternoon's event held at the Accra International Convention Center (AICC), 11 finalists from 10 African countries pitched about entrepreneurial ventures ranging from innovative transformation of black soldier fly larvae into human and animal protein sources; to production, packaging and export of indigenous fruit products; to various digital platforms and innovations to support the farming sector, both commercial and smallholders as well as young people looking for arable land to farm. After the three-minute pitches, the judges had about four minutes to grill the young entrepreneurs about their innovative products and services in the agri-food sector, market readiness, social impact both social and environmental, scalability and financial sustainability.

Special UN IFAD Ambassador Mr Eazi had the crowd on their feet, including Generation Africa co-founders, Svein Tore Holsether, CEO of Yara International and Strive Masiyiwa, founder and Chairman of Econet Global (and outgoing Chair of AGRA) who later in the evening had the high honour of receiving the Dr Norman Borlaug World Food Prize Medallion at the AGRA board dinner.



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GoGettaz Agripreneur Prize 2019 Finalists on stage yesterday at the AICC:

Women

Ecodudu Limited, Starlin Farah

Kenya, Black soldier fly larvae processed into animal feed and fertilizer

Gourmet Grubb, Leah Bessa

South Africa, Black soldier fly larvae processed into "insect milk" ice cream and dried powder

Le Lionceau, Siny Samba

Senegal, Locally-made healthy baby food

Maungo Craft, Bonolo Monthe

Botswana, Indigenous fruit jam and preserves

Reel Fruit Nigeria, Affiong Williams

Nigeria, Healthy local fruit snacks

Women Smiles Uganda, Nakigozi Lilian

Uganda, Vertical farm bundle for urban women farmers including drip irrigation, compost/soil, payment app

Men

Alley Capital Limited, Piwai Chikasha

Zimbabwe, Agricultural drones

Distribution Express (DITEX), Bertin Fokou

Cameroon, Last mile transport linking smallholders/crops with markets

FarmCorps, Job Oyebisi

Nigeria, Digital platform linking smallholders with inputs, using tokenization/other innovations

Ngomalands, Steven Betcha

Democratic Republic of Congo, Web platform and app linking agripreneurs with land/uberization model

Sesi Technologies Limited, Isaac Sesi

Ghana, Locally made tech solutions for farmers to improve productivity and yield

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Generation Africa is a partnership initiative bringing the dynamism of youth to Africa's agri-food sector. Co-catalysed by Yara International and the Econet Group in early 2019, it aims to build on the efforts of other leading institutions to work collaboratively to strengthen the ecosystem that supports young agripreneurs on their journey from idea to scale.

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