

## **Meet the finalists:**

### **Waleed Abd El Rahman, CEO, [Mumm](#) (Egypt)**

Mumm is a virtual cafeteria for businesses, harnessing the power of shared economy through technology, cloud kitchens and an online marketplace for home-based entrepreneurial cooks. Waleed is a seasoned Entrepreneur with 12+ years in food tech, the former founding Managing director of MIT Technology Review-Middle East and a member of the Advisory Committee of the World Economic Forum's Global Shapers Community.

### **Ayodeji Arikawe, co-founder, [Thrive Agric](#) (Nigeria)**

Thrive Agric is an agricultural technology-enabled company that works with smallholder farmers to enable them with greater access to finance, as well as improve their income and harvest distribution. Today, Thrive Agric works with 22,000 farmers in Nigeria, but is aiming to build the largest network of farmers in Africa. They are on a mission to "build an Africa that feeds the world and Itself." Ayodeji is an accomplished software engineer and serves as both co-founder and CTO for Thrive Agric.

### **Temie Giwa-Tubosun, founder and CEO, [LifeBank](#) (Nigeria)**

LifeBank is a medical distribution company that uses data and technology to help health workers discover critical medical products, and has saved over 5,300 lives in Nigeria. Founder Temie has over 10 years of health management experience with DFID, WHO, UNDP and Lagos State. In 2014, BBC listed her as one of the 100 Women changing the world. She was also recognized by Quartz and World Economic Forum.

### **Mahmud Johnson, founder and CEO, [J-Palm](#) (Liberia)**

J-Palm Liberia (JPL) was founded with the goal to make premium consumer goods while creating income-earning and employment opportunities through sustainable palm oil production. When JPL was first founded, palm oil kernels had been going to waste in Liberia, but founder and CEO Mahmud Johnson found a way to innovate productive uses for this overlooked natural resource. Today, JPL has created a range of beauty and clean energy products, built a robust network of partnerships across the country, and helped to create jobs for hundreds of Liberians. Mahmud holds a degree in economics from Dartmouth College and is a 2017 recipient of the Order of the Star of Africa conferred by the President of Liberia.

### **Kevine Kagirimpundu, co-founder and CEO, [UZURI K&Y](#) (Rwanda)**

UZURI K&Y is an African-inspired ecofriendly shoe brand established in Rwanda. Kevine is the co-founder and CEO of UZURI K&Y, and she is passionate about ending global waste while also leveraging her creativity to create employment opportunities for her community. UZURI has made a direct impact on more than 750 people through employment and skills training. In addition to obtaining her degree in creative design, she has also participated in numerous entrepreneurship programs to enhance her skills in business development. In 2017, she was recognized as the winner of the Made in Rwanda Enterprise of the Year.

### **Christelle Kwizera, founder, [Water Access Rwanda](#) (Rwanda)**

Water Access Rwanda pioneered INUMA™, a Safe Water Microgrid that reclaims broken boreholes and transforms them into state-of-the-art solar-powered water kiosks and pipelines.

The water is sold for \$1/1000L and creates off-farm jobs for youth. Currently, Water Access Rwanda employs 68 people, and allows 47,612 customers access water daily across 86 stations. Christelle is a mechanical engineer and was named INCO's woman entrepreneur of the year in 2019 among other high-profile awards.

**Dr. Tosan J. Mogbeyiteren, founder, [Black Swan](#) (Nigeria)**

WeMUNIZE by Black Swan Tech Ltd is helping to solve Nigeria's public health challenges by deploying an automated scheduling, GPS-enabled Software-as-a-service that uses a combination of digital record keeping and community engagement to increase birth registration and early childhood immunizations. Black Swan is working with USAID Nigeria to expand WeMUNIZE coverage in northern Nigeria. Tosan is a public health specialist with more than 13 years of experience in deploying technology to solve development challenges in Nigeria.

**Chibuzo Opara, co-founder, [DrugStoc](#) (Nigeria)**

DrugStoc is a cloud-based pharmaceutical IT and logistics platform focused on eliminating counterfeit drugs, expanding access to pharmaceutical products and improving transparency in pricing for healthcare providers and the product supply chain. Chibuzo is a health economist and medical doctor with over 12 years of experience in the health sector. He has worked with the World Health Organisation, the World Bank, and the International Finance Corporation.

**Dr. Omar Sakr, founder and CEO, [Nawah-Scientific](#) (Egypt)**

Nawah-Scientific is the first private research center in the MENA region, focused on natural and biomedical sciences, that offers analytical and scientific services online and on-demand. Dr. Sakr has 13 years of pharmaceutical experience, has worked as an adjunct assistant professor of entrepreneurship at Zewail City of Science and Technology, and holds scientific and business awards for innovative product design.

**Moulaye Taboure, co-founder and CEO, [Afrikrea](#) (Cote D'Ivoire)**

Afrikrea.com is the leading "Made of Africa" fashion, art and handicraft online marketplace. The marketplace has processed more than \$4 million in sales across 101 countries and supports merchants from all over the world. After growing up in Mali and working for companies like PwC and Alstom, Moulaye now dedicates his time to building the global infrastructure for African culture.