



Current Business Issues in African Countries 2022

April 7 – 8

Online and In-Person

Conference Tracks

- Supply Chain
- Climate Change
- COVID-19
- Entrepreneurship
- Sustainable Development

The COVID-19 pandemic has given a renewed sense of urgency of the necessity of focusing on sustainable development and fair trade.

The conference will gather business leaders, NGO leaders, researchers, and students from African countries, Wagner College, and the New York City community to discuss the most pressing issues impacting businesses in African countries.

CBIAC.NET

cbiac@wagner.edu or info@cbiac.net

NICOLAIS SCHOOL of
BUSINESS
WAGNER COLLEGE

3RD CURRENT BUSINESS ISSUES IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES CONFERENCE



CONFERENCE ORGANIZING TEAM



*Shani D. Carter, Ph.D., Professor
Nicolais School of Business, Wagner College
New York, USA*



*Sharon Guinta, Director, Life Long Learning
Wagner College
New York, USA*



*Aarti Ivanic, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Dean
Nicolais School of Business, Wagner College
New York, USA*



*Mr. Justus Lavi Mwololo, Secretary,
Kenya Small Scale Farmers Forum
Nairobi, Kenya*



*Dr. Philip Munyao Mutisya, Entrepreneur,
ODYSSEY EYECARE FOUNDATION
Nairobi, Kenya*



*Abou Diakhate, MSW
Community Organizer & Advocate
New York, USA*



*Mrs. Evelyn Kpadeh Seagbeh
Founder & CEO, Just a Girl Initiatives
Monrovia, Liberia*



*Valerio Odubayo Thompson Boco
Entrepreneur
Equatorial Guinea*

With gratitude to the following Wagner College members:

Angelo Araimo, Interim President

Nicholas Richardson, Ph.D., Interim Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

Ruta Shah-Gordon, Ph.D., Vice President for Internationalization, Intercultural Affairs & Campus Life

Patrick Mooney, Director of Major Gifts, Institutional Advancement

Conference Theme

“The interdependence of the whole world must guide our roadmap.”

These penetrating words were spoken by Isabelle Durant, Deputy Secretary-General, UNCTAD at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD15) on October 5, 2021. The CBIAC theme rests upon this belief that countries are interdependent and that aspects of the global economy operate synergistically.

CBIAC will gather business leaders, NGO leaders, researchers, and students from African countries, from Wagner College, and from the local New York City community to discuss the most pressing issues impacting businesses in African countries. The issues discussed will revolve around the reciprocal impact of businesses, government, and society. The impetus of the conference is the discussions held at UNCTAD 14 and UNCTAD15 (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development) conferences, held in Nairobi, Kenya in July 2016 and Barbados in October 2021.

The COVID-19 pandemic has given a renewed sense of urgency of the necessity of focusing on the synergies between Supply Chain, Climate Change, COVID-19, and Sustainable Development as they affect business on the African continent, and how what occurs in one part of the world, affects the whole world.

COVID-19

COVID19 did not cause the inequalities within and between countries, rather it laid them bare and exacerbated them. The lack of sustainable development, trade inequalities, debt service, and lack of water are problematic for addressing the pandemic. Further, national debt service has taken money away from health programs and other programs. COVID19 debt for healthcare, vaccines, and PPE will hamper future development and will push countries back into poverty and make it more difficult for them to hit sustainable development goals. Many small countries lost 50% to 70% of their revenue due to the pandemic, exacerbating the difficulty of meeting healthcare and education needs. Wealthy countries ordered 5 times as many vaccine doses as they needed, leaving few vaccine doses available to poor countries which remain vaccinated at only 2% to 5% of their populations, leading to the variants which are now affecting the wealthy countries, and which continues to negatively affect businesses.

Climate Change

Small, developing countries are not the cause of COVID19 or climate change, but they are the ones suffering the most. For many countries, climate change is an existential threat, especially if the 1.5C degree limit of the Paris Accord is not reached. Climate change, trade, and peace are linked: for example, in NE Nigeria, Lake Chad has decreased by 90% since 1960, and the loss of fish and industry is thought to have given fertile ground to Boko Haram.

<https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement>

Sustainable Development

Annually, trillions of dollars in raw materials leave developing countries and are sent to developed countries, making advancement in developing countries unsustainable. There are massive opportunities for FDI into Africa. While exports from developed countries have returned to pre-pandemic levels, exports from developing countries have reached only 6% of pre-pandemic levels. However, intra-Africa trade via The African Free Trade Market and increased multilateralism between Africa and the Caribbean has helped African countries improve. The multilateralism within Africa and between Africa and the Caribbean can increase sustainable development and can pressure large countries to have true global multilateralism.

Entrepreneurship

An important issue for discussion is what are the best methods to encourage entrepreneurship in Africa? The power of large technology companies hinders the work of small businesses and hampers creativity. There is not a global framework for corporate tax for countries to obtain revenue based on the activity that occurs in their countries, which represents an unfair disadvantage against entrepreneurs. Trade is now not just at shipping ports but is conducted digitally, so trade is now in private hands more than ever. This private oligopoly must be addressed if development is to be sustainable and entrepreneurship is to flourish.

Supply Chain

The pandemic uncovered problems in the supply chain in virtually all industries (e.g., PPE, medical, chip shortages). Significant pressure was placed on supply chains, especially for companies that had single-source suppliers in other countries, such as the chip shortages in Asia negatively affecting automobile production in Europe. Some companies pivoted: (e.g., began making sanitizer and PPE; hotels became quarantine centers, etc.). Shipping costs are still skyrocketing raising serious inflationary concerns. This inflation negatively impacts food insecurity in SIDS (Small Island Developing States). Problems with production include new industrialization and increasing nationalism.

UNCTAD15 Documents

* **UNCTAD15 Program:** <https://unctad15.org/programme>

* **The Bridgetown Accord: Creative Economy and Digitalization Forum**
https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/td-inf-72_en.pdf

* **The Bridgetown Covenant: From inequality and vulnerability to prosperity for all**
https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/td-l-435_en.pdf

* **The Spirit of Speightstown: From inequality and vulnerability to prosperity for all**
https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/td-l-434_en.pdf

3RD CURRENT BUSINESS ISSUES IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES CONFERENCE



DAY 1

Thursday, April 7, 2022

9:00-9:30 am

VIRTUAL NETWORKING AND WELCOME

Shani D. Carter, Ph.D. and Conference Organizing Team

9:40-10:20 am



SYNERGIES BETWEEN COVID-19, SUPPLY CHAIN, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, AND CLIMATE CHANGE: LESSONS FROM UNCTAD

Shani D. Carter, Ph.D. Professor, Wagner College, New York, USA

Conference Theme

Manzulli Boardroom & Online



COVID-19: EFFECTS ON BUYING DECISIONS AND PATTERNS AMONG URBAN DWELLERS IN A SUB-SAHARA AFRICAN MARKET: A CASE OF LAGOS METROPOLIS.

Ayodele ONIKU, Senior Lecturer, University of Lagos, Nigeria

Owolabi KUYE, Professor, Dept of Business Admin, Faculty of Management Sciences, University of Lagos, Akoka-Yaba, Nigeria

COVID-19

Online

10:30-11:10 am



SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES IN EAST AFRICA

Mr. Justus Lavi Mwololo, Secretary, Kenya Small Scale Farmers Forum, Nairobi, Kenya

Sustainable Development

Manzulli Boardroom & Online



GOVERNING COLLABORATION FOR THE VERIFICATION OF FACTS RELATED TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE WORLD

Bettie Kemah Johnson-Mbayo, The Stage Media, Liberia

Climate Change

Online

11:20-12:00 pm

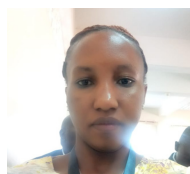


EFFECT OF COVID-19 ON SUSTAINABILITY OF SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES IN KENYA

Dr. Philip Munyao Mutisya, Entrepreneur, ODYSSEY EYECARE FOUNDATION, Nairobi, Kenya

COVID-19

Manzulli Boardroom & Online



ASSESSING THE PHYSICAL CONTAMINATION OF FOOD THROUGH THE USE OF METALLIC STAPLE PINS DURING PACKAGING WITH THE KENYAN MARKET AS A CASE STUDY

Faith Onyangore, UNIVERSITY OF KABIANGA, Kenya

Supply Chain

Online

3RD CURRENT BUSINESS ISSUES IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES CONFERENCE



DAY 1

Thursday, April 7, 2022

12:00-1:00 pm

IN-PERSON LUNCHEON

Faculty Dining Room

1:10-1:40 pm



CHALLENGES TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF AFRICAN INFRASTRUCTURE: BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER THE PANDEMIC

Cathynn Tully, DPS, Professor, and Students, Wagner College, New York, USA

COVID-19; Sustainable Development

Manzulli Boardroom & Online



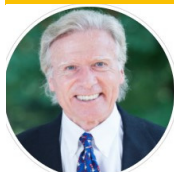
CHALLENGES AFFECTING THE FILM INDUSTRY AFTER THE OUTBREAK OF COVID 19.

Derick Mutiso Wambua, Chief Executive Officer, Mogul films, Kenya

COVID-19

Online

1:50-2:30 pm



OPPORTUNITY IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY: HOW TO SAFEGUARD YOUR RETIREMENT

Donald Crooks Ph.D., Professor, Roba Youssef, Connor Stapleton, and Vuk Bulajic, Wagner College, New York, USA

Sustainable Development

Manzulli Boardroom & Online



UGANDA'S LABOR EXPORT INDUSTRY SYSTEM AND THE EXPLOITATION OF MIGRANT WORKERS IN MIDDLE EAST: A CASE OF RETURNEES AND CURRENT MIGRANT DOMESTIC WORKERS IN SAUDI ARABIA, RIYADH CITY

Asiimwe Florence Munyonyo, Kyambogo University, Uganda

Sustainable Development

Online

2:40-3:20 pm



STRATEGIES FOR PROMOTING ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SELF EMPLOYMENT IN WEST AFRICA

Abou Diakhate, MSW, Community Organizer & Advocate, New York, USA

Entrepreneurship

Manzulli Boardroom & Online



DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE FRESH PRODUCE AGRICULTURE VALUE CHAINS: CASE STUDY OF AFRICAN INDIGENOUS VEGETABLES (AIVS) VALUE CHAIN IN UASIN GISHU COUNTY, KENYA

Cynthia Onyangore, Managing Director, Trade Up Commodities Ltd (Eldoret, Kenya) and Student at Van Hall Larenstein University of Applied Sciences (Velp, The Netherlands)

Sustainable Development

Online

3RD CURRENT BUSINESS ISSUES IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES CONFERENCE



DAY 1

Thursday, April 7, 2022

3:30-4:10 pm



INSIGHTS INTO AFRICAN-LED START-UPS AND HOW THEY ARE THRIVING USING A QUALITATIVE APPROACH.

Pearl Ogekuwor Kitcher, Founder and Nutritionist, Chocolart Haus, Greater-Accra, Ghana
Sylvester Asiedu, Initiator of Deep Dive Startup Series on Youtube; Josephine Yeboah, MBA candidate, University of Chester, UK.

Entrepreneurship

Manzulli Boardroom & Online



A FRAMEWORK TO INCLUDE SUSTAINABILITY IN CONSUMER PROTECTION POLICIES

Laura Best, Nelson Mandela University, Port Elizabeth, South Africa,
Miemie Struwig, Department of Business Management
Nelson Mandela University

Sustainable Development

Online

DAY 2

Friday, April 8, 2022

8:30 - 8:50 am

VIRTUAL NETWORKING AND WELCOME

Shani D. Carter, Ph.D. and Conference Organizing Team

9:00-9:30 am



COVID-19, SCHOOLS SHUTDOWNS: IMPLICATIONS FOR EQUITABLE EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT IN GHANA

AMINU DRAMANI, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana

COVID-19

Manzulli Boardroom & Online



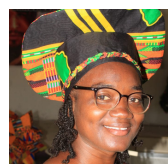
INCREASE BUSINESS PERFORMANCE THROUGH THE USE OF VIRTUAL TECHNOLOGY

Ioan David Legman, Ph.D. UMFST, Romania
Mihaela Adina Rusu and Manea Ana Maria

Sustainable Development

Online

9:40-10:20 am



INVESTING IN GIRLS AND WOMEN FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Mrs. Evelyn Kpadeh Seagbeh, Founder & CEO, Just a Girl Initiatives, Monrovia, Liberia

Sustainable Development

Manzulli Boardroom & Online



AN ANALYSIS OF THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON THE PERFORMANCE OF MOROCCAN SMES

Sara Bensal, Ph.D. Student, University IBN ZOHR, Morocco
Mohamed BINKKOUR, Ph.D. Professor, Department of Management Sciences
Faculty of Economic and Social Legal Sciences, Agadir, University Ibn Zohr

COVID-19

Online

3RD CURRENT BUSINESS ISSUES IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES CONFERENCE



DAY 2

Friday, April 8, 2022

10:30-11:10 am



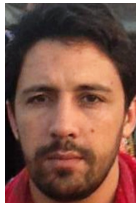
WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES

Andrea Smith-Hunter, Slena College, New York, USA

Gabrielle Hunter, Student, University of Toronto

Entrepreneurship

Manzulli Boardroom & Online



THE PARADOX OF ENTREPRENEURIAL POTENTIAL IN MOROCCO

Aziz Oulmoudne, Professor, IBN ZOHR UNIVERSITY, MOROCCO

Mohamed BINKKOUR, Ph.D. Professor, Laboratory of Studies and Research in Economics and Management (LEREG), Faculty of legal, economic and social sciences, University Ibn Zohr, Agadir, MOROCCO

Entrepreneurship

Online

11:20-12:00 pm



THE IMPACT OF COVID 19 ON INTERNATIONAL CAPITAL FLOWS TO AFRICA

Ebimo Amungo, Managing Partner, Amungo Consulting Ltd, Saudi Arabia

COVID-19

Manzulli Boardroom & Online



COVID-GATE: A MISSED OPPORTUNITY FOR HEALTHCARE INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT IN CAMEROON

Wallace Numvi Gwaibi, Lecturer, The University of Bamenda, Faculty of Law and Political Science, Bamili, North-West Region, Cameroon

COVID-19

Online

12:00-1:00 pm

IN-PERSON LUNCHEON

Faculty Dining Room

3RD CURRENT BUSINESS ISSUES IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES CONFERENCE



DAY 2

Friday, April 8, 2022

1:10-1:40 pm



THE ART OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Valerio Odubayo Thompson Boco, Entrepreneur. Equatorial Guinea

Entrepreneurship

Manzulli Boardroom & Online



RELIGIOSITY AND BUSINESS OWNERS

Owolabi KUYE, Professor, Dept of Business Admin, Faculty of Management Sciences, University of Lagos, Akoka-Yaba, Nigeria

Ayodele ONIKU, Senior Lecturer, University of Lagos, Nigeria

Sustainable Development

Online

1:50-2:30 pm



IMPACT OF CENTRAL BANK'S MONETARY POLICY ON CURRENT ACCOUNT BALANCES (IMPORT AND EXPORT).

Nargiza Alymkulova, Professor, Nile University of Nigeria, Nigeria

Mustapha-Jaji Olaide, Ph.D. Student, Department of Economics, Nile University of Nigeria, Abuja, Nigeria

Sustainable Development

Manzulli Boardroom & Online



SUPPLY CHAIN ISSUES AND THEIR IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY: AGRIBUSINESS IN KENYA

Richard N. Njuki, Chairman, Mornach Group

Sustainable Development

Online

2:40- 3:00 pm



CLOSING REMARKS AND NETWORKING

Shani D. Carter, Ph.D. and Conference Organizing Team

Conference Theme

Manzulli Boardroom & Online