



STATE OF THE
**AFRICAN
DIASPORA**

SOAD STATE NEWS

A GLOBAL STATE WITHOUT BORDERS NEWSLETTER

February 2021 SOAD AND BUSINESSES – A SPECIAL ISSUE



FROM THE DESK OF VICE PRIMER MINISTER

Keturah Amoako

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The Lumi Business Summits

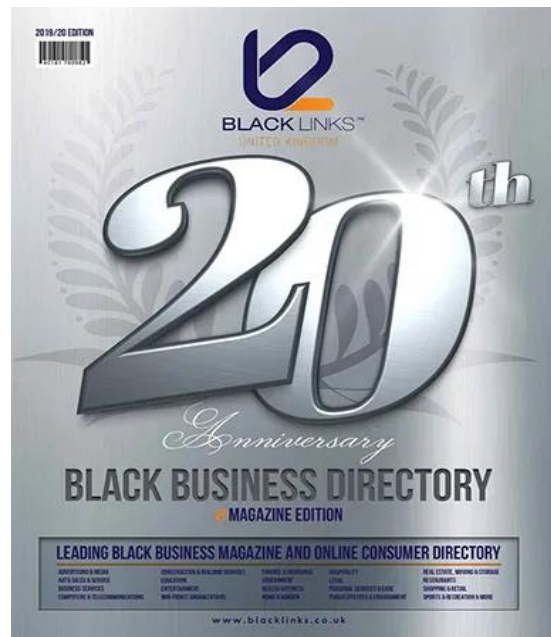
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Interview with Vice Prime, Minister Keturah Amoako Amoako



Q-As a Vice Prime Minister of the SOAD, what is your vision for SOAD regarding businesses ?

Our African communities were kidnapped, captured, deported, sold, exploited: we were business transactions, not as merchants, but as a commodity. Now, is the time we will reverse this chapter of our history and all that came before in our exploitation and dehumanisation. We intend to take control of our own economics, we will empower our businesses to favour our collective emancipation, we will create empowerment through inter-continental and intra-diaspora trade and investment. In this spirit, it is clear that our Panafrikan business, as I see it, is both a material and spiritual endeavour.

Q-Inside the Government, you are very committed to that area, and there are many other Ministers involved in economy and business, which shows that it is a strong priority for SOAD. Could you introduce them to us ?

-Indeed, as a Vice Prime Minister within the Leadership, we have to wear many hats and in addition to my Ministry of Repatriation, Restitution, Reparations and Restoration, we expand our scope of undertakings which is necessary to serve our Citizens as a global diaspora Government. We have many other Ministers in charge of economic development in different areas. We have Dr Joanes Louis, who is coming from France, he is the Minister of Economy; Telly Onu, from Saint Kitts and



Nevis, she is the Minister of Digital Economy; Dr. Sherrill Chong, from Jamaica, she is the Minister of Family and Social Economy; Elise Paraiso who is in Pakistan, she is the Minister of Investments; Sorviel Kyana, from UK, he is the Minister of Commercial and Corporate Affairs.

In fact, all our Ministers are dealing with economic development in one way or another: the Minister of Mines, of course, the Minister of Energy, the Minister of Tourism, etc; the Second Vice Prime Minister, who is in charge of our AgriBusiness Commodity Exchange is working on economic development, and it is the same for myself: working on repatriation among other topics, I am also involved in the development and implementation of our Smart City projects, which I like to refer to as our “LUMI Cities”, as they will be financed by our Lumi Currency. We currently have approx 33 LUMI city projects which is a huge program in terms of economic development in Africa and in the Diaspora.

Q-Inside SOAD, you have created different entities to promote and coordinate business, such as the Business Development Division, a service company and important documentation to support these entities such as the Business interest form. Could you tell us a little more about that ?

-Yes, of course. Obviously, the bigger we grow, the more we need to be organised and structured. The Business Development Division was formed as there is a need for expertise in assessing the business ventures and opportunities that are being presented to SOAD, be they joint ventures, partnerships, collaborations, investments, mergers or acquisitions etc. Therefore, to support these ventures, it was necessary to form a service company which supports the commercial activities and business interests of SOAD globally. The Business Interest Form is a document parties wishing to engage with SOAD are required to complete when proposing any kind of business opportunity to SOAD. The Proposal is then assessed by our experts who will analyse the venture, make various investigations, due diligence and interviews and make a report of the findings and recommendations which is then presented to the Government as to whether we will move forward with the venture or not. The political decision needs to be based on expertise, rationality, procedures and compliance.

Q-You have also organised different Summits to promote the LUMI to businesses and to the grass roots PanAfrican organisations. How will the LUMI support and be of benefit to them?

-Yes, every week, we organise a Lumi Summit. Sometimes in English, sometimes in Spanish, in Portuguese or in French. These meetings focus on PanAfrican businesses, or on PanAfrican Organisations. The idea is to explain to the global community what the Lumi is, how they can receive it, how they can use it and how they can benefit from it. For example, for established businesses, a line of credit is available to kick-start the usage and the economy in utilising the Lumi through the business supply chain. All this is available on our SWIFIN platform at www.swifin.com.

When it comes to PanAfrican organisations, they are the newsbringers and newsbearers of what is going on in the community. They are the facilitators of action and reaction and are the essential network and glue that keeps the community connected, informed and updated on concerns and celebrations that affect the community. They work diligently and tirelessly, organising and sacrificing their time with little or no recognition for their efforts and reaping no benefits for their service to the local and wider community. They are the ones who are generally the conduit and the bridge between the African Diaspora businesses and the greater community. Therefore, for their work, we wish to recognise and appreciate the years of struggle they have endured by empowering them with a Lumi Stimulus to generate an economy amongst themselves, within the community and ultimately to have this resource in order to create cross-continental trade with Africa and within the Diaspora.

Therefore, this information is very important and something which people need to know. These summits are very informative and practical. We need to be concrete in striving towards one PanAfrican currency for trading within Africa and within the Diaspora.

Q-To promote businesses, different entities may be used such as banks. Is SOAD working to create these kinds of institutions ?



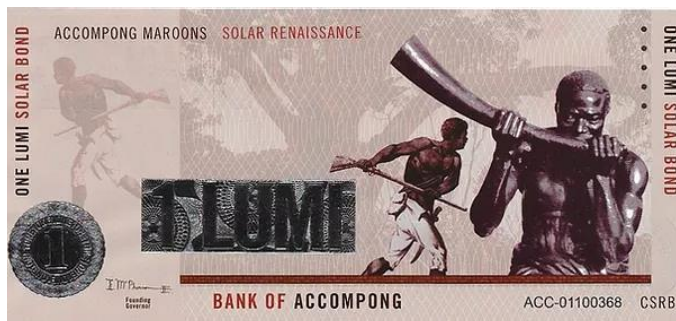
STATE OF THE AFRICAN DIASPORA

Q-To promote businesses, different entities may be used such as banks. Is SOAD working to create these kinds of institutions ?

-Yes, it is wholly necessary. At this moment, we are working with different partners to create a network of Diaspora Banks. They will be in different countries, in Africa and in the Diaspora. In our communities, most people do not have access to banking services and thus, we endeavour to change this situation. Also, we are creating the AgriBusiness Commodity Exchange, which is also an important economic institution, this will work in conjunction with our Diaspora banks. Moreover, we are creating a SOAD Chamber of Commerce, which will galvanise our business activities globally.

To this end, we believe SOAD will essentially be one of the most effective, active and profound Governments in service to its people worldwide through our business initiatives.

Our Business Philosophy



Any currency is basically a technical mechanism. The African peoples have been using physical representations of a means of exchange for ages. As Chief Timothy McPherson, the Governor of the Central Solar Reserve Bank and the man behind the creation of the Lumi, says ...

“The financial engineering behind the Lumi recognises the way in which our ancestors, in colonial times and pre-colonial times, always took a leadership role in creating their own mechanisms for monetary exchange whether bartering, cowrie shells, copper plates or gold.”

But beyond its technical mechanism, any currency is based on a vision and a philosophy, and for the Lumi, it is of course Panafricanism or, to put it differently, the Lumi is based on the the simple notion : buy Panafrican ! Voters vote every two or three years, in general, but consumers do consume every day and have more impact. The Lumi wallet is more powerful than the ballot. Or, let us say, if you want to empower yourself and your community, vote also with your wallet.



A few years ago, a very interesting survey showed that a dollar circulates in Asian communities in the USA for 28 days. The Chinese consumer will go to a Chinese restaurant when he is hungry, to a Chinese tailor when he needs some clothes, to the Chinese doctor when he is ill, and all of that money remains in Chinatown.

How long does a dollar or pound circulate in the black community? Guess what, only 6 hours! When he is hungry, the African Diasporan will go to Kentucky Fried Chicken ; when he needs some shoes, he will buy Nike trainers, when he needs to buy perfume or cologne, he will buy Gucci or Chanel - none of these companies being black owned, of course. There are African American tailors and restaurants in the USA, but African American people generally do not support them as much as they should. So it is not a matter of poverty, but of mentality.If the African man had more money, he would

give more money to the other communities. African American buying power is at \$1.1 Trillion; and yet only 2 cents of every dollar an African American spends in the USA diverts to black owned businesses. So if we do not support ourselves, why should we expect others to support us ?

That it why the Lumi is a mechanism aimed at encouraging and empowering people to buy Panafrican. Because the Lumi is currently being distributed in Black communities, you can use it only in these communities. KFC will certainly refuse your Lumis, which is great : we do not want our currency to reinforce the companies that do not respect our community enough. With our Lumi, you will have to buy Panafrican. It is a monetary device to keep our financial momentum inside our community.

It is exactly the philosophy behind the Africa Free Trade Agreement (AfCTA), which is came into force on 1st January 2021. Benin does more business with France than with Togo, their neighbouring country. The Treaty is the the legal instrument encouraging the countries to make business first within African circles. The Lumi is the monetary instrument that will drive people to make business within Panafrican communities.

The Lumi Business Summits



On January 27th, to promote the Lumi and our business philosophy, Keturah Amoako, Vice Prime Minister of SOAD, organised a Lumi Business Summit, in association with the African Kingdoms Federation and Blacklinks Global. At the peak of the conference, 166 people were attending the meeting.

The Prime Minister of SOAD, Dr Louis-Georges Tin, and the Representative of Eco-6, Chief Timothy McPherson, explained the vision related to the Lumi, and then several experts spoke, including Dr Linus, who explained how one can open a Lumi bank account on the Swifin Platform, Sorviel Kyana, Minister of Corporate affairs of SOAD, who presented Black Links Global, a worldwide directory of businesses associated with SOAD, and also Dr Sherrill Chong, the Minister of Family and Social Economy of SOAD, who explained how people can use the Lumi to make their daily business, which she is already teaching in Jamaica.



LUMI
CUMBRE
LATINOAMERICANA
DE NEGOCIOS

EN SOCIEDAD con
BLACK LINKS GLOBAL
\$10,000 CREDITOS
LUMI PARA
✓ NEGOCIOS
✓ MERCANCIAS
✓ SUPLIDORES

APRENDERAS..

- ▶ Como incorporar el LUMI en tus negocios.
- ▶ Como introducir el LUMI a tus clientes.
- ▶ Como el LUMI beneficia tus negocios.
- ▶ Incentivos para tus negocios del LUMI en tus negocios.
- ▶ Como registrarse.
- ▶ Recibe \$10,000 en valor de creditos LUMI.

ACOMPANANOS

MARTES - 23 FEBRERO 2021

5.00 PM A 7.00 PM
HORA DE PANAMA

10.00 PM A 12.00 AM
HORA DE LONDRES

11.00 PM A 1.00 AM
HORA DE PARIS

5.00 PM A 7.00 PM - EST

Y todos los MARTES posteriores..

zoom link:
<https://zoom.us/j/91070924297?pwd=THkHYFc1NmMw1MhBHTzIlaEJUS1NBUU9>

The Summit was very profound and practical at the same time. The people attending the meeting could learn how to create their business account online, and several strategic pieces of information were provided to them :

- a Lumi line of credit is open to any SME businesses in our community. The amount is the equivalent of US\$10,000.
- for bigger businesses, another line of credit is



- also available. The amount is the equivalent of their total 2019 revenue, before the COVID 19 crisis.

Businesses may choose among these two options and select the one that better suits their business needs. Also, many speakers, like Vice Prime Minister Hugh Johnson, gave concrete examples of companies already using the Lumi in many countries, such as Uganda, Jamaica, Malawi, etc.

The Lumi Summit was organised several times in English, but also in Portuguese, in Spanish and in French.

**Building a Lumi Digital Market Place :
Interview with Leon Mutambala**



1) Could you present yourself and your team for our readers?

I studied Electronics and Computer Engineering at KTH, Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, Sweden. My company, Sitlab Technology, is a FinTech and MedTech company providing consulting, software development and managed services. We are a forward thinking and innovative consulting and software company dedicated to innovative business solutions in the financial services and health & life science space. Our team is creative, innovative, entrepreneurial, and energetic with a can-do mentality.

2) You plan to create the Pan African Marketplace. What is it about ?

The Pan African Market place gives shop owners/vendors the ability to set up a digital market stall and be part of the local community marketplace to sell to local buyers with the possibility to sell to a global audience. The Pan African Marketplace gives vendors a complete tool set to easily create and run their business on the internet in a secure manner.



This includes Web domain, custom portal, administration tools to create and manage the shop, client management system, inventory management, integrated mobile app (Apple & Android), invoicing system, integration with open banking and online payment systems, online advertising, integration with logistic services, real time reporting, and accountancy.

As part of the Marketplace, the LUMI will be a part of an open exchange network allowing buyers and sellers to transact using LUMI, but also allowing currency risk management for those who prefer to hold national currencies, thus promoting LUMI as a Panafrican currency. The LUMI could also act as the base currency in any other currency transaction between parties.

4) What could be the possible link with SOAD?

SOAD could become an investment and marketing partner in the digital pan african marketplace. This collaboration could benefit the accelerated digitalization of commerce in Africa and promote cross border trading.

5) What are your growth prospects?

We anticipate an African wide penetration of the platform in 8 to 10 years. Based on growth rate of 1.7 multiplier we expect a conservative adoption rate of 84 thousand businesses by year 10 with annual turnover of \$73 millions.

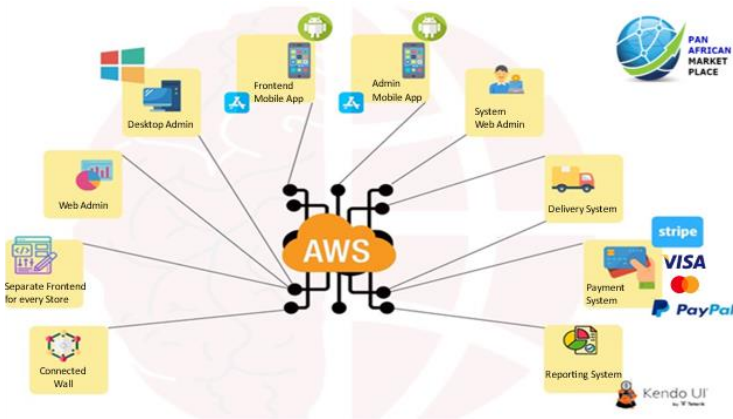


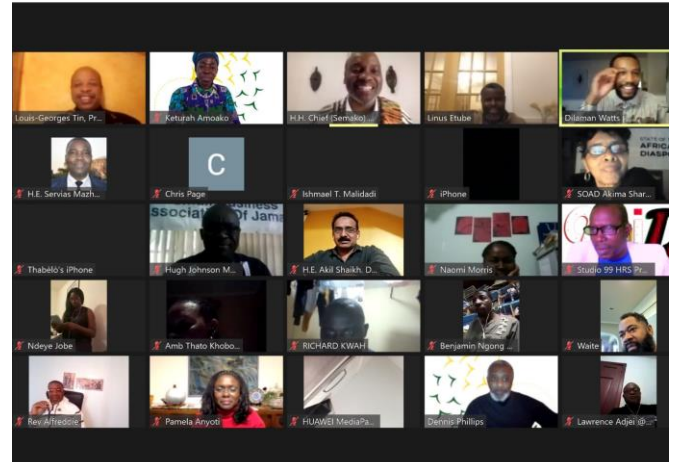
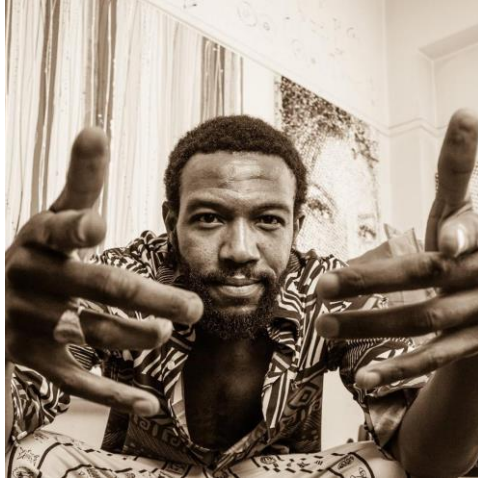
Fig. 1: Pan African Marketplace high level design.

3) How do you see the links between this Panafrican Marketplace and the LUMI, our national currency?

The LUMI will be one of the accepted payment methods to conclude transactions between buyers and sellers, alongside selected fiat, and crypto currencies. As part of the Marketplace, the LUMI will be a part of an open exchange network allowing buyers and sellers to transact using LUMI, but also allowing currency risk management for those who prefer to hold national currencies, thus promoting LUMI as a Panafrican currency.



The Lumi Anthem



The Lumi has now an anthem, and it was created by the artist Dilaman Watts. The story is pretty amazing. During the first Business and Lumi Summit that was organised by Vice Prime Minister, Keturah Amoako on January 27th, Chief Timothy McPherson launched a competition : the first person to create a digital wallet would receive a 100 Lumi award.

The winner was Dilaman Watts. The young man introduced himself. He said he was an artist, creating and producing music especially in rap, but other music as well. Then Dr Louis-Georges Tin told him : «I would like to make a prophecy. I know how your next piece of music will be called. Its name will be : Lumi ! ». Dilaman Watts answered : « In fact, it is already done. I have already created a piece of music, and it is called Lumi. »

The Prime Minister of SOAD was totally astonished. He had never met Dilaman Watts before, and had never heard about him. And this prophecy he was making, as a kind of game or joke, became an immediate reality. In fact, the prophecy turned out to be a miracle !

At the end of the meeting on line, Dilaman Watts sent the music to Chief Timothy McPherson, and everybody could hear the sound, and dance on it. Mr Watts is coming from London and South African and his music is inspired by reggae, which embodies the connections between Africa and Diaspora.

Then, the Prime Minister said, we have found « the Lumi Anthem ! » After the meeting, Dr Tin continued the conversation with Mr Watts, in order to see how SOAD could promote the Lumi through the artist, and the artist through the Lumi. Now, we are working to establish a formal and long term cooperation between SOAD, ECO-6 and Dilaman Watts.

Chorus of the Lumi Anthem

*I'm spending lumi's
But I ain't aluminated
But I'm aluminized
Feeling so Godly*



SOAD and Agribusiness



In our previous issue, we introduced the Panafrican Agribusiness Commodity Exchange (PACE). It is one of the priorities of SOAD, and the program is run by Vice Prime Minister, Mr Hugh Johnson.

Why do we speak of « agribusiness » ? Because our PACE is not based on agriculture only. In Africa, we have no problem about agriculture. We know how to grow food. But the business is not controlled by us. Most of the time, the products are sent abroad and transformed there, hence, all the added value is lost. We need manufacturing, processing, branding and labelling all to be done in Africa and in the Diaspora.

That is why, among all the hundreds of groups working with us in the PACE, we have, of course, many farmers and unions of farmers. But downstream, we have people working on chocolate factories, others working to create sugar factories, we also have a national union of restaurants, companies making food delivery on line, etc.

Upstream, we have many schools where the future farmers are trained to grow organic food, and also we have members working to create seed banks. We have in our network fisheries, people making drones, that may be used for agriculture, people working with plants for traditional medicine, one of our Minister's working to bring water to the dry regions of western Africa, people working to create markets, others working in food banks etc, not to mention many chambers of commerce in Africa and in the Diaspora. So it is not about agriculture only, it is about agribusiness in general, which is a whole chain of value, with many different

sectors of activity. All of them are represented in our network.

Beyond this professional diversity, There is also a great diversity of countries represented in the Panafrican Agribusiness Commodity Exchange. In the Diaspora of course, we have partners in the United States, in Haiti, in Jamaica, in Saint Lucia, in Barbados, in Trinidad and Tobago, in Panama, in Equator, in Brazil, in India, etc. But we also have many partners in Mauritania, in Senegal, in Benin, in Sierra Leone, in Ghana, in Togo, in DRC, in Gabon, in Zimbabwe, in Malawi, in Mozambique, in Zambia, in Tanzania, in Namibia, in Zimbabwe, in Uganda, in Lesotho, in South Africa, in Madagascar, etc. So it is truly a Panafrican initiative.

This Agribusiness program is also very social. Most of the time, the farmers who feed the world cannot feed themselves because of the economic system that exploits them – this is certainly unacceptable. So the Commodity Exchange will buy all their crop from day one, and will provide a good salary every month. They will not have to wait for the end of the year or the end of a season to reap a harvest, but can actually start to receive their first monthly revenue in advance.



Banana field in the Caribbean Islands destroyed by a hurricane

They will not have to worry about hurricanes, floods or droughts. They will not have to worry about swarms of grasshoppers, aphid armies, waves of fungi or animal disease outbreaks, which in a matter of days can ruin all their efforts. When these situations happen, they have lost the benefit of one or many years, and they will need probably one or many years to recover. In fact, from an economic point of view, their business is likely to be dead. But the Commodity Exchange will have its own insurance, so all these hazards will be included in our own insurance program, and the farmers may overcome situations like these and continue in spite of these challenges.

Most of the time, farmers work long and hard, and die early. They do not retire, as they have no pension. They have to work until they die. The members of the Commodity Exchange will have a pension scheme coming automatically with their salary. As for the children, who often have to work in the fields, they will be able to go school, as our Panafrican schools will be free for them. And this is where they will learn about Panafrican languages, Panafrican literature, Panafrican History, traditional medicine, organic agriculture, agribusiness, new technologies etc.

The Panafrican Agribusiness Commodity Exchange will also be able to buy the drones, the tractors and all the technical resources that are necessary, which are generally too expensive for an isolated farmer to afford. But because there are so many people in the commodity exchange, all these resources will be easy to finance and to make available for the members.

SOAD does not believe in business for the sake of business. Our agribusiness needs to serve the best economic and social interests of our Panafrican Community.

Building Lumi Physical Market Places in Southern Africa



Mme Isabel Jose Langa (Isabella), membre du Parlement de SOAD, et PDG du groupe Rock of Ages Limitada (Raga).

The Urban Fresh Lumi Market Network (U-FLMN) is a project pioneered by Rock of Ages Group and Associations limitada (RAGA) supported by the State of African Diaspora (SOAD) and powered by the Lumi. It is one of the many agribusiness initiatives supported by SOAD, it is a very good example of the kind of business activities we are promoting. The project is run by Hon. Ms. Isabel Jose Langa, SOAD Member of the Parliament and CEO of Rock of Ages Group and Associate's (Raga).

U-FLMN brings forth the creation of a network of neighbourhood markets, where a variety of goods and services can be exchanged. It means to reinforce an African culture of economic trade, where the quality of the African workforce can be displayed. This network aims to empower the already existing informal sector, by giving all its participants facilities to access fast transactions and an easily accessible currency. Once successfully established in Mozambique, our network will facilitate transactions on a Pan-African level.

The creation of this urban – fresh lumi market network will allow, with the effective human resource management of the African peoples who are a pivot to see a large rise in the work force of transporting, preserving & marketing of goods & services.



. U-FLMN will bring many benefits :

- a) A Network of Markets is offered to the African communities. The construction and expansion are managed by local Gov. Authorities and private organisations.
- b) Shop Units in markets are offered to the informal sector, for existing and potential businesses and entrepreneurs. It will allow various business functions to operate amidst the Covid-19 Pandemic whilst embracing the changes accompanied by the 4th Industrial revolution.
- c) Lumí Distribution Centres – Facilities and public servants that are for Lumí awareness, Lumí sign-up, Lumí transactions & Lumí assistance.
- d) Urban African Kingdoms Lumi Transport Terminals – Buses, Taxis, integrated routes for utilizers of the markets, with methods of pay that are Lumí compatible.
- e) Public & Social Empowerment – With the youth, women & children as the target for subsidies, sponsorships and workshops.

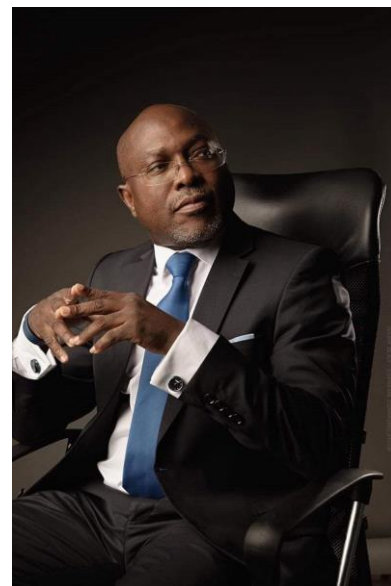
These projects will be built with solar panels on the roof and energy plants on one side and on the other side as E-commerce markets. These approaches have been studied, pen down and are progressive and implemented with all safety and economic imperatives to provide environmental health, job creations, growth and faster development.



Beyond SOAD, U-FLMN has received many other supports. King Maubane, for instance, has awarded 7 thousand hectares of land and 5 other hectares with community based structures for any kind of activity or projects SOAD intends to launch in this area. The roll out of the project, has also received the support of the Government of Mozambique, and will include 4800 small and medium business units within the first phase, and many more in Southern Africa for the second phase.



Our Program on Education and Entrepreneurship (1)



This program is the brainchild of Samuel Mathey, advisor of the Prime Minister of SOAD. Phd in Economy, coming from Togo, Samuel Mathey taught business in HEC, the best business university in France. He has established the African Foundation for Entrepreneurship (FADEDE) and

the Initiative EZF (Entrepreneurship with Zero Franc). Since then, hundreds of thousands students benefited from this training.

This program means to create scholarships for students or, should we say, reversed scholarships. As a matter fact, when a scholarship is given to an African student, usually, the money is used to pay his trip to UK or USA, the tuition for Oxford or Yale, the apartment where he or she will stay, and probably, he or she will live in this country. What is the benefit for Africa ? Nothing. That is why this program means to do the opposite. The money is used to finance teachers of African Descent who will travel to the countries in Africa or in the Diaspora and they will directly train the students on the ground. The money remains in the Panafrican communities, the students and their projects also.

The training is about entrepreneurship, and SOAD is a partner of the program. 13 000 scholarships are made available for the countries partnering with SOAD, and in each of them, 1000 students will be trained, and they will be supported by a coach. After they have made a business plan, their projects will also be supported.

Our Program on Education and Entrepreneurship (2)



Mrs. Olasubomi Iginla-Aina, recipient of the Member of the British Empire (MBE) award, on Nov 26, 2019, is a United Kingdom-based Nigerian charity worker, the founder/CEO of Lightup Foundation, London, has been providing succour, inspiration and empowerment to the youth. The award was given to her by Prince William who represented Her Majesty, the Queen of UK. Now, she works with the State of the African Diaspora. She is running for SOAD another program, which is focused on young people and entrepreneurship.

Q-Excellency, could you tell us more about your program called Young Entrepreneurs Support Strategy (YESS) ?

-Yes, we will setup an online business school. This will provide certified programs which will empower young entrepreneurs to access tools and resources. This online training will be a prerequisite to becoming a beneficiary of the Tyro Entrepreneurs Business Scheme (TEBS) .

Q-What is this Scheme about ?





-This program is designed for Young Entrepreneurs. It is an exchange program which provides new or aspiring entrepreneurs with the opportunity to learn from existing similar businesses. This will run both nationally and internationally. Hence SOAD Tyro Entrepreneurs Business Scheme will embrace participation from interested host businesses from different countries. During this programme, experience and expertise are exchanged, this will equip the young entrepreneur with the necessary skills required to set up a small business. Even when it appears that the young entrepreneur is the only beneficiary, on the contrary, this is not so because this form of exposure will no doubt broaden the scope of the host business. The host will also benefit from fresh perspective on their business and this will provide opportunities for expansions, partnerships and cooperation with foreign businesses.

Q-Who can participate ?

-Young entrepreneurs looking to set up a new business and has completed the SOAD Business School (SBS) training ; young people from ages 18 years to 40 years ; emerging businesses seeking to acquire experience to grow their business (businesses up to 3 years old) ; entrepreneurs who are quite experienced and own or manage a Small or Medium-Sized Enterprise in any of the participating countries.

Q-What are the benefits for the host entrepreneurs ?

-A PanAfrican business Certificate / Award in recognition of their partnership towards the development of business and trade in Africa ; free business advertising strategically placed in SOAD online business directory ; SOAD patronage of registered host services ; eligibility to apply for SOAD Business grant.

Rebuilding Black Wall Street in the USA

One hundred years ago, Black Wall Street in Tulsa, Oklahoma, was destroyed. The Greenwood District where Black Wall Street was located was founded by O.W. Gurley, a black educator and entrepreneur. Gurley came to the Oklahoma town in 1906, purchased 40 acres and, in this context of segregation, decided to sell the land to only black people. This district was home to more than 300 black owned businesses.

There were several black millionaires, black doctors, black pharmacists, black theaters, black businesses, a black bank and even a black pilot who owned his own aeroplane. Some black people had a piano in their house while many white people in other parts of the city would complain about that, as they could not afford one.

The fact that the district was called Black Wall Street, Oklahoma, reminds us that Wall Street, New York City, was, and still is, predominantly white. It does not mean that there were no black people in this place. On the contrary, black people were numerous in Wall Street from the very beginning : however, they were not the merchants, they were the merchandise. As a matter of fact, Wall Street used to be a slave market, and this is how the original fortune of the district started. It should always be reminded that the very heart of today global capitalism started on a slave market. For whoever knows the black origin of the white Wall Street, the white destruction of the black Wall Street is even more striking.



SLAVE MARKET, FOOT OF WALL STREET.

As a matter of fact, one day, in 1921, in a difficult context, a racial argument between a black and a white person eventually led to a racist massacre after an estimated 10 000 white citizens invaded the black area. About ten planes from the army were also sent and started to attack the civil black population dropping turpentine balls of fire. As a result, 35 blocks were burned to the ground, more than 300 black people were killed and several thousands were injured or left homeless. For many decades, because of the trauma, they could not even speak about the racist massacre. In 2001, a state commission decided to write a report and a law for reparation was voted. But of course, apart from a memorial and a few scholarships, very little was done.



The centennial Commemoration of the Tulsa, Oklahoma mass massacre will take place on May 31-June 1 2021. The Greenwood Chamber of Commerce decided to rebuild Tulsa's Historic Black Wall Street. A local group started a fund raising process and requested if the Prime Minister of SOAD could bring some support to the project. Of course, the Prime Minister said SOAD would participate to the ceremony for the 100th anniversary, and also provide its support to rebuild Black Wall Street. « SOAD is already contributing to more than 30 cities in Africa and in the Diaspora. I am proud to announce that SOAD is also ready to support the reconstruction of the Black Wall Street. »



Interview with Dr Wayne Soverrall

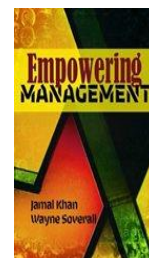
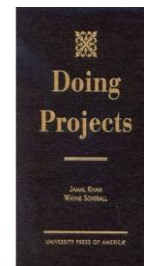


Dr Wayne Charles-Soverrall is a Member of the Parliament of SOAD for Trinidad and Tobago. He is a Senior Lecturer in Public Sector Management and PhD Advisor, Co-Coordinator of the Postgraduate Diploma in Public Sector Management, in the University of the West Indies. Dr. Soverrall has worked as a Consultant for the Government of Barbados, the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, the CARICOM Secretariat, and the United Nations Development Programme. He co-authored four books *Doing Projects* (2000), *Managing and Evaluating Projects* (2003), *Gaining Productivity* (2007), and *Empowering Management* (2018), three book chapters, and published widely in a range of international journals. He is also the Vice President of the International Black Chamber of Industry and Commerce, that will partner with the SOAD Chamber of Commerce, which will be registered in India and in Dubai.

Public Enterprise
Management

By

Dr. Wayne Soverrall





What is a mission of the Black Chamber of Commerce and Industry ?

-In the spirit of Pan-Africanism, the mission is to link & patronize black businesses first and foremost in order to share and sustain black businesses, by networking and representing all black interests locally, regionally and internationally. The IBCIC will therefore make it their responsibility to promote community empowerment as the catalyst for sustainable business development in the Caribbean, the diaspora through advocacy, education, and continuous capacity development to enhance human capital and workforce development.

Q-What are your aims ?

-The International Black Chamber of Industry and Commerce (IBCIC) is designed to serve as an international platform for South-South cooperation with five primary aims:

1. To further commerce and trade between Trinidad and Tobago and the Caribbean, the diaspora, Nigeria, and the wider African continent;
2. To advocate for better policy representation on behalf of small and medium sized businesses that comprise the backbone of our Caribbean economies and societies, as well as those in the diaspora and Africa.
3. To advance the dialogue on reparations and social justice so that black businesses can have greater access to finance, trade and global supply chains.
4. To promote its members and assist them in the realization of all their business goals.
5. To promote Continuous Professional Development (CPD) among all members and affiliates.

Q-What are the services offered by the Chamber ?

-The services provided by the IBCIC include Networking, Trade delegations, Conferences & Seminars, Continuous Professional Development, Community Empowerment, Diaspora Engagement, Marketing Services, General Marketing Information, and Specialized Marketing Information, Market research, Product and commodity information, Domestic and international commercial norms and regulations, General information on trade shows and promotional events, contact information for trade and

professional organizations, information on incentives for foreign investment, information on potential business partners.

Interview with Black Links Ambassador, Pastor Audie Cummings



Black Links is a directory of black companies. Its founder, Sorviel Kyana, is Minister of Commercial and Corporate Affairs of the State of the African Diaspora. On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of Black Links Global, a cooperation agreement was signed between Black Links and SOAD.

Interview with the official ambassador of Black Links, Audie Cummings.

Q-Greetings, could you tell us a little bit about Black Links ?

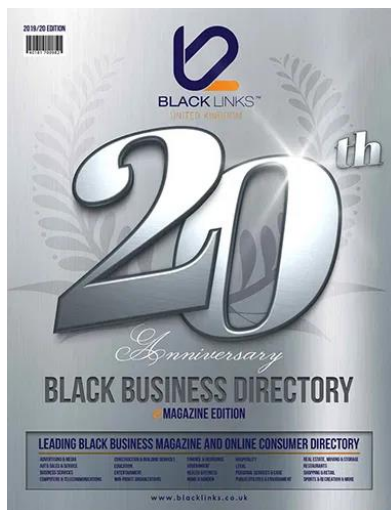
-Black Links began in 1999. It celebrated its 20th Anniversary during 2019/20. Black Links is now Black Links Global (BLG), a growing global business and consumer network that fosters international trade by strengthening the role of local, regional, national and international associations. BLG acts to connect members of the African diaspora communities together through commerce and business. BLG provides resources, and services to benefit the international trading community with resources to help do business globally.

The Black Links Mission is

- *To provide information to serve the African diaspora community.
- *To promote the economic development of the community.
- *To encourage networking in the community.
- *To serve as a bridge to the community at large.
- *To bring success to the heart of the African diaspora community.
- *To provide an environment where success can be developed.

Q-As we are celebrating this year Black Link's 20th Anniversary. Could you tell us about all your achievements ?

-We have received endorsements from Prime Ministers, Members of Parliament, Heads of Government Departments and Leaders of Commercial and Corporate (see <https://blacklinks.global/history>) Black Links was recognised as the premier printed Business and Consumer directory in 1999 and since then, Black Links Global has now become the largest online and hardcopy Business and Consumer directory globally with 6 stand-alone iMagazines. Black Links is recognised by Government and Corporates as the leading platform for being the voice of the black business community, we have signed a cooperation agreement with the State of the African Diaspora to reinforce each other and our founder has become a Minister in the cabinet of SOAD.



Q-How many companies do you have onboard, and in how many countries ?

-This specific information is commercially sensitive and not disclosed. The numbers are currently measured in 100 of 1000's ; it is a growing global database of 120+ countries.

Q-Does Black Links interact with the Lumi, and if so, how ?

-BLG provides visitors with an opportunity to subscribe to the LUMI via <https://blacklinks.global/eco-6-soad>. BLG has a Marketplace at www.blacklinkmarketplace.com which will be configured to accept the LUMI.