SEGENET KELEMU
Director-General, ICIPE

Dr. Segenet Kelemu, is the Director General of the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (icipe) Nairobi, Kenya. She is the fourth Chief Executive Officer, and the first woman to lead icipe. After more than 25 years in the United States of America and Latin America applying cutting-edge science that saw her garner numerous professional and state honours for an exceptional career as a scientist, Dr Kelemu, returned from the diaspora in 2007 to contribute to Africa’s development. Dr. Kelemu is a 2014 L’Oréal-UNESCO Laureate for Women in Science Awards, and one of the top 100 most influential African women featured in the May 2014 Edition of Forbes Africa. Dr. Kelemu was listed among the 10 most influential African women in agriculture by the Journal of Gender, Agriculture and Food Security. In January 2018, she was recognised by Bill Gates, as one of five ‘heroes in the field’ who are using their talents to fight poverty, hunger and disease, and providing opportunities for the next generation; and in April 2018, the Women Economic Forum awarded Dr. Kelemu their highest award “Woman of the Decade in Natural and Sustainable Ecosystems” for leadership. She has been featured in “The Mind of the Universe”, Time Magazine, the BBC, CNN’s African Voices, among others. She serves in various Boards, advisory panels in major global initiatives and has served in international juries of key science awards.

EDWARD MUNGAI
CEO, Kenya Climate Innovation Centre

Mr. Edward Mungai is the Chief Executive Officer of the Kenya Climate Innovation Center (KCIC). He leads the team across focus areas and crafts unconventional strategies to drive innovation and entrepreneurship in climate change. Mr. Mungai has a multifaceted background in business advisory, entrepreneurship, and investment management, having worked with the Danish International Investment Funds (IFU) as an Investment Manager in Copenhagen as well as in Africa where he was the head of the regional office for IFU. Edward holds an Executive MBA as well as a Business Management degree from Moi University, Kenya. He has huge interest in corporate sustainability and has been involved in high level discussions of the topic across Africa and the USA. Edward is a 2016 Eisenhower Fellow.
HAMADI BOGA
Principal Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Research
Government of Kenya

Hamadi Boga, is a Professor of Microbiology at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) was the Acting Vice Chancellor of Taita Taveta University since 7th October 2016. He has a BSc in Botany and Zoology (First Class Honors) and MSc in Botany (Microbiology) from Kenyatta University in Kenya, PhD in Microbial Ecology and Microbiology from University of Konstanz, Germany and a Post-Doctoral Research stay at the Max Planck Institute for Terrestrial Microbiology in Marburg, Germany. He is also a Humboldt Fellow and was from 2010-2015 the Humboldt Ambassador Scientist for Kenya.

Boga has previously, held various administrative positions in JKUAT including Chairman of Botany Department (2002-2004), Director of Institute of Biotechnology Research (2005), Dean of Faculty of Science (2007) and Principal of JKUAT Taita Taveta Campus in Voi (2007 to 2012). From 2012-2016 he was the Principal of Taita Taveta University College. He has an extensive international and local network of scientific engagements and collaborations. He was a Board Member of the World Federation of Culture Collections (www.wfcc.org)(2010-2013). He was the Secretary of the African German Network of Excellence in Science (AGNES) (2013-2016), the Secretary (2002-2006) and later Chairman (2008-2010) of the Kenya German Scholars Association (KDSA). Boga has over 66 scientific publications in International Journals, has supervised over 14 PhD and 31 MSc students. He is an active researcher with active international collaborations. Has a strong track record of fundraising for research. He has wide experience in Management and strategic planning.

RHETT MORRIS
Director, Endeavor Insight

Rhett Morris is the director of Endeavor Insight, the research and analytics team within Endeavor. Endeavor Insight studies how high-impact entrepreneurs become successful and how their firms generate jobs and economic growth. The Insight team’s work educates practitioners and policymakers on how to accelerate entrepreneurs’ success and support the development of entrepreneurship ecosystems. In 2013, the Endeavor Insight joined with the World Bank and the Kauffman Foundation to launch the Global Entrepreneurship Research Network.

Rhett’s writing on entrepreneurship has been published by TechCrunch, the Harvard Business Review, and the Huffington Post. Before working at Endeavor, he was a consultant at Bain & Company and the confidential assistant to the mayor of Baton Rouge.
SAMUEL RIGU  
CEO, Safi Organics

Samuel Rigu is an environmentally conscious agribusiness manager, a social entrepreneur and an innovator with a BSc in Agribusiness management from The University of Nairobi, Kenya. Samuel founded Safi Organics in 2015 - a company that converts farmers’ crop waste to high yielding organic fertilizers. Previously he has worked as a farm manager in the Turning Point Trust farm and Takachar as a country manager. Imagining agriculture without waste, Samuel continues to progress his passion for achieving results in agribusiness management and environmental conservation.

FRED KIIO  
Head of m-Agri Business, Enterprise Business Unit
Safaricom

Fredrick Musyoki Kiio is the Head of m-Agri Business within the Enterprise Business Unit in Safaricom PLC. A husband and father of a 2 year old son, Fred is passionate in giving meaning and purpose in people and thrives in challenges that driving meaningful transformation in customer’s lives. Fred has over 14 years working experience manifested by vertical and horizontal movements in the career ladder with special skills in commercial strategy and business development. Prior to joining Safaricom in 2006, he worked with Eastman Kodak for two years as a Business Analyst. His sound commercial and analytical skills have enabled him to consistently identify opportunities for sustainable business growth. When not developing opportunities, Fred is a farmer and spends most of his free time at his farm. Fred also loves sports and will always create time to enjoy Football and Formula 1.

RACHEL KABUYAH  
Head of Grants and Partnerships
Twiga Foods Limited

Rachel Kabuyah is the Head of Grants and Partnerships at Twiga Foods Limited, a business-to-business food supply platform which uses technology to consolidate the fragmented purchasing power of urban retailers. Prior to joining Twiga, Rachel was a lecturer at Kenyatta University’s School of Environmental Studies from 2015 – 2018.

Rachel holds a PhD from the University of Manchester in Mycology and Organic Geochemistry and a Bsc in Environmental Science from the same institution.
AZIZA BUKA
Strategic Partnerships Manager for East and Southern Africa
One Acre Fund

Aziza Buka is Strategic Partnerships Manager for East and Southern Africa at One Acre Fund, managing donor relationships with bilateral and multilateral agencies, as well as private foundations. In this role, Aziza is responsible for the end-to-end management of the public funding portfolio, from origination of funding opportunities to managing grants and overseeing reporting. Prior to joining One Acre Fund, Aziza was the Program Finance Officer for IUCN’s (International Union for Conservation of Nature) Global Ecosystem Management Program, where she managed a program portfolio of USD 50M, with projects spread across Eastern and Southern Africa, South America and South East Asia. Aziza holds a master’s degree in International Development, with a focus on the Environment and Climate Change from The University of Manchester and a bachelor’s degree in Finance from the University of Nairobi.

FLORENCE KIMATA
SME Advisor to the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Industry, Trade & Cooperatives, Government of Kenya

Florence Kimata is the SME Advisor to the Cabinet Secretary at the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Cooperatives. She is seconded to the Ministry by the World Bank Group where she currently serves as a Senior Consultant. Her role is to provide guidance and technical support to the Ministry in assessing, developing and implementing SME capacity development initiatives in Kenya as per priority sectors – leather, textile and agribusiness. The programs are aligned to the Kenya Industrial Transformation Program and the Manufacturing focus in Kenya’s Big-Four Agenda. They will primarily focus on policy reforms and creating an enabling environment to accelerate industrial and enterprise development. She is passionate about championing the startup agenda in Kenya and contributing to the strengthening of the innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem.

Florence has over 15 years’ experience in SME Development Initiatives, Commercial and Investment Banking and is an experienced Financial Structuring Consultant having advised on a number of projects spanning from agriculture, real estate, education and hospitality. Prior to venturing into consultancy, she served as the Senior Investment Officer at the East Africa Regional office of Proparco, the Private Sector Bank of the French Agency for Development. Florence also worked with Fina Bank (now GT Bank) where she was part of the team that pioneered and implemented the SME Banking Solutions.
PHILIP THIGO
Data & Innovation Lead, Office of the Deputy President
Government of Kenya

Philip Thigo is a technology, data & governance expert who has previously advised the Cabinet Secretary for Agriculture in the Government of Kenya and was central in the development of the Joint Agriculture Mechanism. He has previously held executive positions, notably Infonet Africa and Foundation El Taller with experience spanning across Asia, Africa, Arab World and Latin America. Over the years, he has co-created unique technology driven initiatives such as Apps4Africa together with the US State Department, Uchaguzi to monitor Elections in over 9 Countries in Africa, Budget Tracking Tool for citizen engagement and Sauti Yetu (Huduma) on public service delivery monitoring and the State House Summit for engagement of high level Government Officials with the public.

He currently serves as the Point of Contact for Open Government Partnership (OGP), leads the Philanthropic Engagement on SDGs with Private Sector Foundations and also acts as national focal point for the Global Partnership on Sustainable Development Data., which he co-founded with colleagues from Governments of the United States, Colombia, the United Kingdom and Private Sector.

JAMES KASHANGAKI
Head, Inclusive Growth, FSD-Kenya

Mr. Kashangaki is a dynamic financial sector specialist with a focus on financial inclusion in Africa. Building on over 20 years’ experience in merchant banking, financial and policy consulting, venture capital and micro-finance, Mr. Kashangaki has extensive knowledge of the financial landscape particularly in East and Southern Africa. In his current role as the Head of Inclusive Growth over the last 12 years at the Financial Sector Deepening Trust (FSD Kenya), he has achieved significant results by leveraging off partnerships in both the public and private sectors. James has been the driver in the design and implementation of successful programmes and projects to improve credit market infrastructure and increase access to finance for small and medium sized enterprises.

Mr. Kashangaki has an MBA in Finance from the Simon School of Business, University of Rochester and a MPA in International Economic Policy and Management from the School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University.