



# Food Systems Youth Leadership Programme

## MEET THE ALUMNI

We are on a mission to empower young leaders to transform global food systems for a resilient, sustainable, and equitable future.

Explore how >



This Programme is made possible by the generous support of



Federal Ministry  
for Economic Cooperation  
and Development

# AFRICA



## Kadiso Abdirahman Osman

### Somalia

Kadiso Abdirahman Osman is a young Somali specialist with a Master's in Disaster Resilience Leadership and a Bachelor's in Public Health. She is known for her ability to prioritize tasks efficiently and foster respectful work environments. Kadiso possesses strong research, analytical, and writing skills. She thrives under pressure, maintains focus during long hours, and enjoys multitasking. With excellent interpersonal skills, she effectively communicates at all levels, enhancing collaboration among colleagues.



## Angela Adzika

### Ghana

Angela Adzika is a passionate and aspiring global leader in agriculture, focusing on crop production and environmental sustainability. Her goal is to inspire youth, especially women, to engage in agricultural activities through collaboration and shared learnings. Angela's dedication to innovative solutions aims to address Ghana's agricultural challenges and create positive, solution-oriented impacts on food security and sustainability. She actively seeks partnerships to amplify her efforts in promoting youth participation in agriculture.



## Shadrack Agaki

### Kenya

Shadrack Agaki is a Climate Change and Food Systems Policy Communications Consultant, currently serving as a Legislative and Policy Researcher in the Parliament of Kenya. With a dedicated focus on climate resilience and food security, Shadrack is committed to shaping policy and legislative frameworks that advance sustainable development practices and strengthen food systems for lasting impact.



## Sizophila Asanda Mqadi

### South Africa

Sizophila Asanda Mqadi is a young extension officer with 4 years of field experience and is passionate about driving sustainable and inclusive agricultural practices. Her current pursuit of a Master's degree in Food Security and participation in International Youth Leadership programs reflects her commitment in fostering agricultural innovation and resilience.



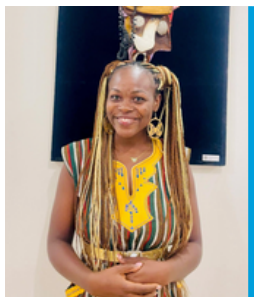
## Kaira Bake

### Chad

Kaira Bake is a Nutrition and Public Health Officer serving as a Thought For Food Ambassador and the General Secretary of the Chad Youth Network for Nutrition. With a commitment to promoting better nutrition and food security, Bake actively engages in initiatives that support youth involvement in health and nutrition programs. His work aims to create awareness around nutritional issues and foster collaboration among stakeholders to improve the overall health of communities in Chad.



# AFRICA



## Rita Bonwi Njابه

### Cameroon

Rita Bonwi Njابه is a resilient young African leader and rural agricultural engineer with over five years of experience in community development and cross-cutting UN Sustainable Development Goals. Currently working in the technical department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in Cameroon, she advocates for improved agricultural practices. Rita is committed to providing actionable solutions for food system transformation and enhancing food security for marginalized communities through collaborative initiatives.



## Jody Frank Brown

### South Africa

Jody is an Environmental professional with experience in environmental management at government and non-government levels. He is dedicated to driving meaningful change for environmental sustainability and climate resilience. Specializing in coordinating climate change responses across society, Jody is particularly interested in strategies for decarbonizing food systems and building Just Transitions toward climate resilient futures. He also advocates for youth empowerment and gender equality in environmental decision-making, ensuring diverse voices are included in shaping sustainable policies.



## Ndimele Lucius Chimezie

### Nigeria

Ndimele Lucius Chimezie is the Head of the Soil Unit at the National Agricultural Land Development Authority (NALDA) in Nigeria. With a Master's in Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition, he is committed to promoting sustainable and eco-friendly food systems. His strong academic foundation in soil management complements his practical experience in biodiversity programs. Lucius has participated in initiatives like the Foresight for Food program and the Biodiversity Academy, advocating for sustainable agriculture practices.



## Irene Rumisha Ernest

### Tanzania

Irene Ernest is a 27-year-old Tanzanian advocate for equitable food access, focusing on sustainable agriculture and land tenure security. Her dedication stems from witnessing food insecurity challenges firsthand. Irene has engaged in community projects aimed at improving food security and reviewing relevant country policies. She is excited to join the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub's Youth Leadership Program, aiming to enhance her skills in policy advocacy and community engagement for nutritious, sustainable food access for all.

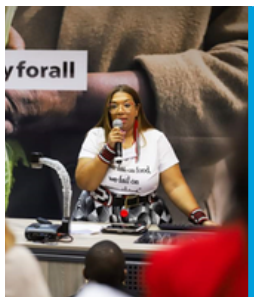


## Zakaria Mohamed Hagi Hassan

### Somalia

Zakaria Mohamed Hagi Hassan is the Head of the Agricultural Research Section at the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation of Somalia. With a decade of experience, he specializes in seed production technology, crop production, and environmental sustainability. Zakaria holds a Master's in Crop Science and has implemented various projects, including seed testing and foundation seed production. He is dedicated to advancing agricultural practices and enhancing food security through technical training and research.

# AFRICA



## Keshia Hoeane

### South Africa

Keshia Hoaeane is a PhD researcher at the NRF-DSI Centre of Excellence in Food Security at the University of the Western Cape. Her work is influencing national policy in South Africa. Her research utilizes a transversal governance approach to investigate food governance in the Western Cape, specifically analyzing the provincial food security strategy, Nourish to Flourish (N2F). Collaborating with the Department of the Premier, Keshia seeks to develop municipal-level governance models to improve food systems and foster coordinated responses to food security challenges



## Musa Juwara

### The Gambia

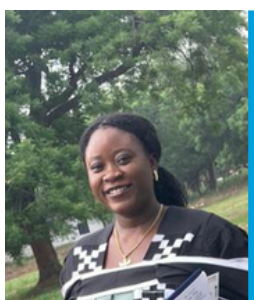
Musa Juwara, from The Gambia, is the founder of NAPE and has over four years of experience supporting Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) through his role at GIEPA. His work focuses on empowering local entrepreneurs, enhancing business development, and fostering sustainable economic growth in the Gambian context. Musa is dedicated to creating opportunities for youth in agriculture and entrepreneurship, aiming to drive economic development and resilience within his community.



## Dina Kebede

### Ethiopia

Dina Kassa Kebede holds a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry and a Master of Science in Environmental Science. She works at the Ethiopia Public Health Institute, focusing on food science and nutrition. Passionate about addressing environmental challenges, Dina is dedicated to climate action and poverty reduction. As a member of the Rise Africa Fellowship, she actively advocates for sustainable development and works on projects that enhance food security and promote community well-being in Ethiopia.



## Selom Kumudzro

### Ghana

Selom Kumudzro works with the Directorate of Crop Services under the Ministry of Food and Agriculture in Ghana. Recently graduating with an MPhil in Environmental Science, she has over three years of experience addressing climate and environmental issues as an Environmental Officer. Selom provides policy information to organizations and institutions, promoting sustainable land management practices. Her award-winning project presentation at the Green Cities Conference highlights her commitment to improving food security through environmental sustainability.



## Chisomo Justin Liwawa

### Malawi

Chisomo Justin Liwawa is an economist working at the Department of Economic Planning and Development in Malawi. Based in the Monitoring and Evaluation Division, he contributes to policy analysis and development initiatives aimed at fostering economic growth. Chisomo's work involves assessing the impact of various programs and ensuring that economic strategies are effectively implemented. He is committed to promoting evidence-based decision-making that enhances the welfare of communities through sustainable economic development.



# AFRICA



## Ruth Magak

### Kenya

Social Behaviour Change Communication Specialist and trained Counseling Psychologist dedicated to transforming food systems for healthier communities. Currently serving with the County Government of Nakuru in Public Communications, she has six years of experience in corporate communication, strategy, and digital content creation. WHO QualityRights certified, she integrates mental health into leadership and workplace wellness. Passionate about inclusivity, she contributed to Nakuru County's first Nutrition Policy 2024 and bridges communication gaps through Kenya Sign Language, driven by a vision for impactful, development-focused change



## Ghea Sandrine Mawen

### Cameroon

Ghea Sandrine is a Bachelor's (Hons) candidate in Computer Science at the African Leadership University. She is an enthusiastic data scientist and entrepreneur tackling climate change and food insecurity in Africa. Ghea collaborates with Rwanda's National Land Authority on a data analysis dashboard project to inform agricultural and land management policies. Her work aims to mitigate childhood stunting and malnutrition through improved resource allocation, fostering sustainable agricultural practices in her community



## Haward Muhwezi Tumuhimbise

### Uganda

Haward Muhwezi Tumuhimbise is a seasoned youth leader with over five years of experience in policy advocacy and research. He serves as the focal person for Policy Advocacy at the Young Farmers Champions Network in Uganda. Haward also acts as a thematic advisor for Trade and Business on the European Union Youth Sounding Board. His commitment to creating enabling environments for youth participation in agricultural value chains drives his advocacy efforts.



## Elizabeth Mwende Mwendwa

### Kenya

Elizabeth Mwende Mwendwa is an Agricultural Engineer with expertise in Food Systems and Climate Technology Transfer. She has experience in agro-processing, sustainable land management, and designing agricultural structures. Passionate about youth empowerment and climate action, Elizabeth advocates for meaningful youth engagement in food systems. As a youth representative on the Stakeholders Engagement and Networking Advisory Group of the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub, she works to elevate youth voices in agricultural policy discussions



## Angella Namayanja

### Uganda

Angella Namayanja is a dedicated professional in the food industry with over six years of experience in food safety and control systems. She is currently working as a standards inspector at the Uganda National Bureau of Standards ensuring that items offered for sale including food are safe for human consumption. Angella is currently pursuing a masters degree in Food Safety and Quality Management and she seeks to use her knowledge to advocate for safe food in the dynamic food systems through practical research and knowledge sharing.

# AFRICA



## Carlos Paul Nidza

### Zimbabwe

Carlos Paul Nidza is a Monitoring and Evaluation Officer with over five years in Climate Smart Agriculture, business development, and food systems transformation. Skilled in data collection, analysis, visualization, and knowledge management, he supports agricultural livelihoods and climate data initiatives across sectors. Carlos strengthens research and evidence use in project design and policy, applying strong analytical and interpersonal skills to collaborate effectively across cultures and organizational units.



## Joseph Niyomukiza

### Rwanda

Joseph Niyomukiza is an accomplished leader and activist focused on climate resilience, food security, and youth empowerment. As the founder of initiatives such as Climate Smart Agriculture and Waste to Energy, he collaborates with organizations to tackle environmental challenges and promote sustainable development. Joseph's leadership roles in networks like the Rwanda Greenpreneurs and Scaling Up Nutrition Business Network demonstrate his commitment to advocacy and policy change, inspiring transformative initiatives across Africa and beyond.



## Daouda Seck

### Senegal

Daouda Seck is an agro-economist and agricultural value chain specialist dedicated to promoting sustainable and equitable agriculture. He has extensive experience in food systems, working with various organizations to enhance food security in West Africa.



## Mirirai Tembo

### Zambia

Mirirai Tembo, founder of Cherry Orchard Farm in Zambia, is passionate about leveling the playing field for women in agriculture. From a young age, she has loved farming and aims to create job opportunities for youth while making fresh produce more accessible. Mirirai's commitment to empowering young people and improving food security drives her efforts to establish sustainable farming practices that support her community's economic development and well-being.



## Esther Torga-Drovou

### Ghana

Esther T. Drovou is a dedicated public health professional with a passion for improving nutrition and transforming food systems. Her career has focused on developing and implementing policies that enhance national nutrition security and promote sustainable food systems. As Operations Manager for Think Health Ghana, she leads impactful public health projects and has contributed to key policy documents, including Ghana's Vision 2057. She is passionate about resilient, sustainable food systems and climate change adaptation in the future.

# AFRICA



## Michaela Wekem

### Ghana

Michaela Wekem, an ambivert with a diverse skill set, balances her scientific knowledge with artistic expression. A One Health enthusiast, she works in animal health focusing on antimicrobial resistance and food safety. Michaela is also an accomplished public speaker and voice-over artist, fluent in English, Kasem, Twi, and basic French. As a project lead for an NGO, she champions humanitarian initiatives and empowers underserved communities through artistic activism and reproductive health education.



## Siliyetu White

### Malawi

Siliyetu White is a Child Development Officer specializing in Early Childhood Development (ECD) to foster children's well-being. With a commitment to shaping a thriving society, Siliyetu emphasizes compassion and dedication in her work.



## Senait Yihenew

### Ethiopia

Senait Yihenew is an accomplished professional with a diverse background in agricultural transformation and food systems. Her solid foundation in nutritional sciences fuels her passion for sustainable development in Ethiopia. Senait has made significant contributions to enhancing food security and promoting innovative practices through her work in research and consulting. She is dedicated to fostering collaborative efforts that improve agricultural productivity and resilience, contributing to the broader goals of food security and sustainable livelihoods.



# ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



## Saroj Acharya

### Nepal

Saroj Acharya, a Nepal-based manager and policy advocate, has over nine years of experience in community empowerment, child-focused initiatives, and social policy reform. Specializing in project management, advocacy, and public finance, Saroj is dedicated to sustainable development through strategic initiatives and collaborative efforts, aiming to improve lives across communities.



## Mohammad Ali

### Bangladesh

Based in Dhaka, Bangladesh, Mohammad Ali is an agricultural economist and Assistant Scientist at IRRI, specializing in socioeconomic studies, food security, and agricultural AI data. He conducts market research and youth empowerment initiatives, focusing on food markets, value chains, and Bangladesh's agricultural development.



## Hadiseh Bahrami

### Iran

Holding a Ph.D. in Sport Management from Iran, Hadiseh Bahrami is a university lecturer and decade-long Red Crescent volunteer. Known for creating a water consumption optimizer, featured on national TV since 2017, she brings innovation to sustainable water and resource management.



## Zhanyl Bozayeva

### Kazakhstan

Zhanyl Bozayeva is FAO Kazakhstan's Programme Coordinator, specializing in natural resource management, smallholder agriculture, and livestock. Recognized by FAO for her exceptional performance in 2020, she has managed projects on salinized area management, drought mitigation, and organic agriculture in Central Asia.



## Rino Dominic Cabungcal

### Philippines

Rino Cabungcal, a Registered Nutritionist-Dietitian and Science Research Specialist at the Philippines' Department of Science and Technology, is certified in food safety and sustainability. Trained in global diplomacy and community dialogue, Rino is passionate about advancing food and nutrition systems for national welfare.

# ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



## Joctan Do Reis Lopes

**Timor Leste**

Joctan Lopes, a marine biologist and fisheries expert from Timor-Leste, has worked with WorldFish, the government of Timor-Leste and CSIRO on climate security, fisheries adaptation and livelihood projects. He is a co-developer of Peskas, a digital data system showcasing real-time data on nationwide fishing activities. He has led nutritional surveys to support aquatic food systems in the Indo-Pacific using data-driven and local knowledge approaches.



## Thi Thanh Duong

**Vietnam**

Thanh Duong is a research associate with Alliance Bioversity International and CIAT in Vietnam. For over six years, she has contributed to projects focused on building sustainable food systems and has partnered with international organizations to promote consumer health and food security.



## Chansonita Ear

**Cambodia**

A recent addition to FAO Cambodia, Chansonita Ear holds a master's in Healthy Food Design and has a background in food and beverage R&D in Cambodia and Ireland. Committed to global food system transformation, she emphasizes accessibility to healthy diets worldwide.



## Jerome Garcia

**Philippines**

Economic Development Specialist at NEDA, Philippines, Jerome Garcia focuses on food security, policy innovation, and partnership building. With a background in food technology from the University of the Philippines, he contributes to policy development and innovation strategies for economic sustainability.



## Xinyue (Cataleya) Han

**China**

Xinyue Han, an Asia-Pacific climate advocate, serves as Delegate for COP28, CliMates, and the SDG7 Youth Constituency. She emphasizes women and youth participation in policymaking to address food sovereignty and food waste, striving to align policies with the Paris Agreement and Agenda 2030.

# ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



## Mawloda Hassas

### Afghanistan

Mawloda Hassas is a co-founder of the Entrepreneurship Association of Afghan Women and a political science graduate from Balkh University. Actively involved in socio-economic and cultural initiatives, she's a recognized advocate for women's empowerment, currently pursuing studies at Asian University for Women in Bangladesh.



## Alokita Jha

### India

Alokita Jha, an Indian advocate for sustainable development, holds a Master's in Sustainable Livelihoods and Natural Resources. As a Youth Empowerment in Climate Action Fellow, she bridges policy and climate challenges, working with YOUNGO on resilience and sustainable agriculture through youth engagement.



## Shovkat Kholdorov

### Uzbekistan

Soil scientist Shovkat Kholdorov is Head of Scientific-Innovation Projects at Uzbekistan's Agriculture Ministry. With dual Master's degrees in Agriculture and Soil Science, he utilizes GIS technology for soil surveys, focusing on sustainable land management and environmental resource conservation.



## Sajiid Malhardeen

### Sri Lanka

Sri Lankan climate activist and mechanical engineer, Saajid Malhardeen is an MSc candidate in Climate Change at the University of Colombo. Serving on various climate networks, he collaborates on creating climate action strategies for South Asia and advocates for sustainable solutions regionally.



## Asaeli Naika

### Fiji

Asaeli Naika is a dedicated food science academic and researcher at Fiji National University, specializing in the resilience of indigenous Fijian food systems, wild food plants, and local food environments. With a rich background as a nutritionist, food security officer, and agricultural expert, Asaeli brings a unique blend of experience to his research. Passionate about sustainable food systems, he contributes to impactful projects and publications that support food security and nutrition resilience across Fiji.



# ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



## Bhuvana Narayana Rao

India

Bhuvana Rao, a research consultant at India's Centre for Research on Innovation and Science Policy, specializes in agricultural innovation and environmental impacts. Her work encompasses rural development, social networks, and effectiveness within agricultural systems, enhancing sustainable practices and policy development.



## Sriyantha Peramunagama

Sri Lanka

Sri Lankan agriculture lecturer Sriyantha Peramunagama has expertise in Agricultural Economics and Fisheries Management. Known for training youth in agriculture, he focuses on cultivating interest in food systems through hands-on workshops and lectures for young Sri Lankans.



## Noraini Binti Ruslan

Malaysia

An advocate for environmental sustainability from Malaysia, Noraini Ruslan specializes in eco-friendly agricultural practices, particularly in oil palm cultivation. With experience in water and soil health monitoring, she brings a practical, data-driven approach to sustainable agriculture in Southeast Asia.



## Ni'matus Sholilah

Indonesia

Ni'matus Sholilah is a Food Technology lecturer at Indonesia's Institute Technology Kalimantan. She is dedicated to advancing food systems education, focusing on research and teaching to support local food technology innovation and development.



## Ashish Timalisina

Nepal

Ashish Timalisina is a public health professional with over seven years of experience in nutrition program management within the Government of Nepal. He has expertise in planning, implementing, and supervising nutrition and health programs at community, district, and national levels. His work focuses on improving public health outcomes through effective program management and evidence-based interventions. His published work covers topics such as micronutrient adherence and meat hygiene practices, underscoring his commitment to advancing public health initiatives.

# ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



## Imran Zahoor

### Pakistan

Imran Zahoor is a Pakistani civil servant with six years of experience in development planning, governance reforms, and community-based malnutrition management. Leading the Khyber Pass Economic Project, he focuses on enhancing connectivity between Central and South Asia to support sustainable development and poverty alleviation.



## Wannika Wutthi

### Thailand

Wannika Wutthi is Thailand's FAO cooperation focal point, facilitating over ten national dialogues on agri-food systems transformation. Since the UN Food Systems Summit in 2021, she has promoted youth inclusion in agri-food sustainability to achieve a resilient, inclusive food system in Thailand.



## Nantaporn Thirapongphaiboon

### Thailand

Nantaporn Thirapongphaiboon, APAC Food Systems Partnerships Associate Director at the Global FoodBanking Network, supports 15 food banks in 10 APAC countries to secure more surplus food donations by MNCs to help communities in need. Before this role, she worked at the local food bank in Thailand, led the National Food Bank initiative, and engaged in food rescue efforts. She serves on Thailand's SDGs Youth Panel and represented the country at COP28, advocating for sustainable food systems on global platforms.

# LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



## Deyra del Carmen Acevedo

### Nicaragua

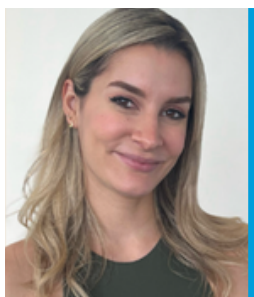
With a degree in Applied Economics, Deyra Acevedo from Nicaragua focuses on agroecology, climate change, and territorial development. She empowers rural youth through economic strategies to enhance agricultural resilience in vulnerable communities.



## María Paula Alvarado Rodriguez

### Costa Rica

Latin American forestry engineer focused on sustainable agroforestry, María Paula works with rural and indigenous communities to conserve traditional knowledge, integrating local practices into sustainable food systems.



## Isabel Sofia Baquerizo Medina

### Ecuador

Ecuadorian communications and public relations specialist with a focus on corporate identity, Isabel is the founder of Proyecto Sueños, which leverages strategic communication to support community-focused social projects.



## Odane Brooks

### Jamaica

Jamaican development professional and CARICOM Youth Ambassador, Odane Brooks is a university lecturer in politics. He focuses on innovation ecosystems to support socio-economic development, aiming to strengthen national strategies for R&D and policy integration.



## Juan David Caro Alvarez

### Colombia

Colombian farmer, zootechnician and entrepreneur, Juan David Caro promotes small and medium scale rural and periurban economies through holistic management. As Coordinator of Programs and Strategies in YPARD LAC he co-led the program Ypard-INCUBA to promote the development of agroecological startups in LAC. Member of Youth Advisory Group for the Global Agenda of Sustainable Livestock (YAG-GASL) he advocates for young farmers' engagement in sustainable livestock to support rural development.



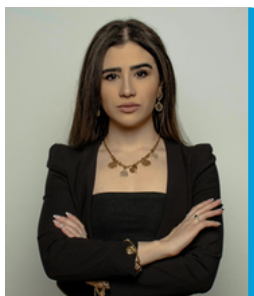
# LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



## Nicolette Francis

### Antigua Barbuda

Education Officer in Antigua and Barbuda, Nicolette Francis specializes in Agricultural Science, fostering food security through education. She promotes agricultural engagement among youth and enjoys family gardening with her husband and children.



## Melissa Yamel Flores Lopez

### Mexico

Mexican youth activist, food engineering and law student, Melissa Flores has climate change and sustainable development certifications. She represents Latin America at the UN and World Food Forum, working on initiatives on the SDGs and sustainable food systems. She is currently working with the National Convenor on the transformation of agri-food systems in Mexico and achieving the goals of SDG 2 Zero Hunger. She is an active member of YOUNGO, MGCY and other groups of Youth.



## Luis Raul Gonzalez Hernandez

### Cuba

Cuban Civil Engineer and SHARE Fellow, Luis is pursuing a Master's in Global Management at Thunderbird School. With five years in civil infrastructure, he focuses on water treatment and advocates for food security among disadvantaged communities in Latin America.



## David Aaron Henry

### Saint Lucia

Founder of ReThink Youth and CEO of Strategy Reloaded, David Henry mobilizes youth for climate action and resilience. Through the Vetiver Smart Farms, he pioneers solutions to soil erosion, regenerative agriculture, and sustainable land use. His leadership spans multiple organizations, empowering youth-led change across Saint Lucia and beyond, addressing climate challenges while building community resilience and sustainable futures.



## Woody Juste

### Haiti

Haitian environmentalist with a Master's in Environmental and Energy Management, Woody Juste serves as Climate Justice Ambassador for the Caribbean Climate Justice Project. His projects promote reforestation and climate resilience in Haiti.

# LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



## Maryorie Lupaca Mollocondo

### Peru

Peruvian civil engineering student and climate activist, Maryorie Lupaca advocates for youth in governance, serving as Regional Director for the World Network of Young Politicians Peru. Her work focuses on policy advocacy and sustainable development.



## Juan Fernando Martinez Hernandez

### Colombia

Colombian specialist at IICA, Juan Fernando has advised on bioeconomy and innovation policies. His experience includes projects with CIAT, FAO, and USDA, focusing on biotechnology and sustainability in Latin America's agricultural sector.



## Chemora McKnee

### Barbados

Sustainable development advisor from St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Chemora Mc Knee co-founded SUS-Edibles, a startup promoting climate-resilient agriculture. She advises on project development for climate financing in Barbados.



## Celeste María Mejía Flores

### Honduras

Honduran nutritionist and project manager, Celeste Mejía leads food systems transformation efforts, including the National School Meal Program. She combines her background in nutrition with project management to advance health and sustainable agriculture initiatives in Central America.



## Daniel Augusto Montas Jose

### Dominican Republic

Dominican researcher at TMG Research, Daniel Montas integrates local and global insights to promote food systems transformation. With experience in governance, he advocates for inclusive policies that support marginalized communities spanning Africa, the Caribbean, and Europe.

# LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



## Ryan Delvin Phillip

### Belize

Water and climate specialist from the Caribbean, Ryan Phillip integrates hydrology, water management, and climate science to build resilient water strategies. His work spans policy development for sustainable water and food management under climate change impacts.



## Karen Debora Ponieman

### Argentina

Argentine Ph.D. student in Agricultural Sciences, Karen Ponieman focuses on optimizing nitrogen fertilization for low-carbon agriculture. Her research at INTA examines strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while enhancing crop productivity in Argentina.



## Andrea Izamar Quiñonez Quiñonez

### Ecuador

Ecuadorian youth project manager with expertise in foreign trade, Andrea leads food sovereignty initiatives as National Youth Coordinator for the Scaling Up Nutrition Movement. She co-founded CPIL, focusing on innovation and leadership in Latin America.



## Sean Tevin Arijanto Resosemito

### Suriname

Surinamese entrepreneur and owner of NV Green STAR, Sean Resosemito is dedicated to social impact through initiatives like Pulse Juices. A member of Global Shapers Paramaribo, he promotes sustainable business and youth leadership in his community.



## Isaiah Samuel Thomas

### Trinidad and Tobago

Food Science and Technology student from Trinidad and Tobago, Isaiah Thomas is an advocate for sustainable development through youth networks like YOUNGO and UNEP MGCY. His work centers on food security and climate action in the Caribbean.

# LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



## Natalia Tsuyama Cócolo

### Brazil

Brazilian public policy specialist and climate activist, Natalia is involved with Engajamundo and Global Shapers Belo Horizonte. She advocates for climate resilience and youth engagement through regional and global sustainable initiatives.



## Sergio Alejandro Urioste Daza

### Bolivia

Bolivian researcher at the Center for Agrifood Economics and Development (CREDA) and Ph.D. candidate in Sustainability, Sergio Urioste specializes in agricultural economics. His research focuses on assessing the impact of agricultural technologies and policy analysis, alongside efforts to foster youth engagement in agriculture through digital tools and evidence-based policies.



## Mathews Vichr Lopes

### Brazil

Advisor to the Minister of Agrarian Development of Brazil and PhD student in Environmental Sciences and climate governance, Mathews has worked for eight years managing public policies and international projects to strengthen family and urban agriculture at the local and national levels.