

NIGERIA WEEK - Wazobia 2021

Speakers' biographies

Yinka Fayomi, MBA, FICE

Capacity and Competency building

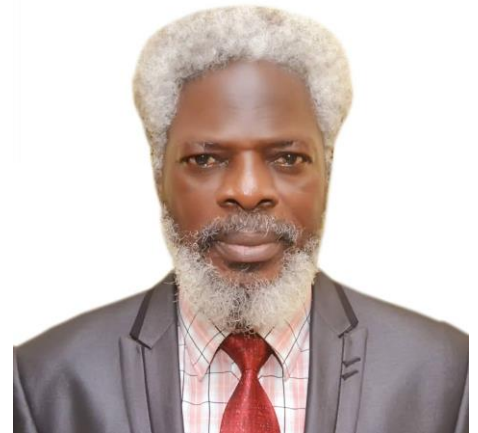
Yinka Fayomi is an investment consultant and chairman of Foreign Investment Network (FIN), a UK publishing and consulting firm that produces FIN Magazine which is published in English, Chinese and French. As a lead at FIN, Olayinka organizes investment and business events globally, promoting inward investment to Africa. She holds an MBA and a BSc [Hons] in economics and she is a fellow of the Institute of Chartered Economists. Her work with youth and women has been recognized through awards from the Financial Standard Newspaper and GC4W for 'Most Dynamic Nigerian Female in Diaspora' and 'Global Women Champion for Leadership in Business and Entrepreneurship in America' respectively among others. Yinka is a pioneer staff and former director of Nigerian Investment Promotion commission (NIPC) and has held various positions around the world, including joining the Nigerian National Vision 2020 team, participating as a juror on the BBC World Challenge, and serving as a Governor of Brent Council in the UK.



Prof Johnson Ayodele

The Political Elite Factor in Nigeria's Security & Infrastructure Decline

Johnson Oluwole Ayodele is an Associate Professor of Criminology at the Lead City University, Ibadan, Nigeria. He is a specialist in Criminology, Victimology, Social Problems, and Social Works, with special interest in victims' crime reporting to the police. He has done extensive work in the states of Nigeria. His latest interest is on cultural victimology where he intends to interrogate cultural value-driven praxis within the framework of Yoruba beliefs. His work has focused on social responses to victimization, police attitudes to victims, women as victims of widowhood, subsidy withdrawal injustice and marital rape. Ayodele has some of his works published in local and reputable and scholarly international journals. He is the editor of Global Perspectives on Victimisation Prevention and Analysis.



Dr Constance Omokaro-Romanus

The impact of Good Governance on Trade and Economic Development

Constance Omokaro-Romanus is Operations Director at Prection Consulting & Research Services in the Netherlands. She holds a PhD in Business Administration and Management studies with a specialisation in business strategy in Emerging Market from the Huddersfield University Business School, UK. She was also a lecturer in International Business Management. Before entering academia, Constance worked as an IT specialist for several years in the Netherlands.



Ayodele Ikuesan - @ayo_ikuesan
Sports Heritage in Nigeria and Abroad

Ayodele Ikuesan is a world-renowned French- Nigerian athlete. She has had over two decades experience in sports with a focus on sprint and has made a name for herself and country in these fields. Ikuesan has competed 2 times in the Olympics - Beijing 2008 and London 2012. She was a semi-finalist both times in the French relay 4x100m. She has also participated in 4 world championships - 2011 Daegu; 2013 Moscow; 2015 Dusseldorf; 2017 London finishing 9th in London 2017 with the relay 4x100m. Additionally, Ikuesan has participated in 2 European championships - 2012 Helsinki and 2014 Zurich where she was a finalist on the 100m and silver medalist on the relay 4x100m.

Other accolades include: Francophonie champion on 100m in 2013; Bronze medalist on the relay 4x100m in the Francophonie Games in 2013 and Multiple French champions on 60, 100m, 200. Ayodele is now a member of High-Level athletes' commission in the National Olympic Committee and the deputy Mayor in the 18th district of Paris in charge of Health and risk reduction.



Azuka Onwuka
Saving Our Land from Mindless Urbanization

Azuka Onwuka is a brand management consultant and strategist with 25 years experience in the communications industry that spans almost all aspects of the communications industry, including a time at newspaper *Thisday* as the Brand and Marketing Editor in charge of the advertising and brand-related pages. He also was the pioneer editor of Nigeria's first brand-focused journal *BrandFaces*.

Azuka later went into the banking industry managing brand management and communications for the HEIRS Group. He is the cofounder of August Consulting, a media and brand management consultancy, as well as Nesma Xandria Limited, a marketing communications-focused training and recruitment company, meant to increase the knowledge base of the industry.

In 2012 he was contracted to consult for Silver Bullet PR for 12 months as its Country Director. He is finally a course facilitator in communication, media relations, strategy, marketing and brand management, a reputable author and a crowd-pulling columnist with *The Punch* newspaper.



Friday Agbonlahor, M.A.
Forging ahead with an African Identity in Local Governance

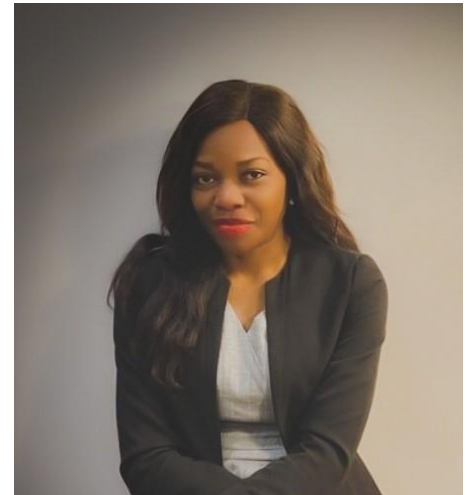
Friday Agbonlahor (also known under the penname **Frisky Larr**) is a prolific author. His essays explore contemporary political issues in Nigerian dailies (virtual and physical) while his books cover contemporary African political issues. His latest book, titled *"Leadership and Crime: Siamese Twins in Africa"*, is currently undergoing a social media campaign process for more exposure. Friday is at the head of a translation and interpreting company in Germany catering for the language needs of state institutions and private individuals. He is a graduate in Communication science with minors in Political science and Social Psychology a PhD candidate.



Sone Osakwe - @SoneOsakwe

The positive impact of Fintech growth in Nigeria

Sone Osakwe is a development economist with a combined business advisory and development policy consulting work experience of over a decade. Her experiences span both the private sector and not-for-profit sector in different countries, particularly in Africa. She has also consulted widely on public sector led projects in emerging economies. Sone is currently a Research Fellow at the Centre for the Study of the Economies of Africa (CSEA) where she contributes to finding practical solutions geared towards reducing poverty and inequalities, that ultimately promote better welfare outcomes for vulnerable groups, and more inclusive societies. Her expertise includes public policy advisory, domestic revenue mobilization strategies, SDG advocacy, socioeconomic research, among others. Before joining CSEA, Sone worked as a Fiscal Policy Advisor at Deloitte. She holds a Master's degree in International Development and Economics from the University of Bath. She is also a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria.



Emeka Nwachinemere

Building a resilient food system for Africa that feeds the world

Emeka Nwachinemere is a goal driven, innovation and technology enthusiast passionate about the transformation of Africa into the global food hub. He is a fellow of the Social Innovation Program, a recipient of the Total Startupper Awards for Innovation and the Nigerian Innovation Awards, as well as is a 2015 Tony Elumelu Entrepreneurship Program Alumni. Emeka was named part of the Africa Prize shortlist of the Royal Academy of Engineering in 2018. He also won the 2017 World Bank Ideas for Action competition in 2017, placing first out of 743 teams from 118 countries.

Emeka's efforts include answering the question of how the world would be able to feed 9.7 Billion people by 2050, including through his work with the startup Kitovu Technology Company, a United Nations STI 2020 winner. Emeka is a graduate of University of Nigeria, Nsukka, where he studied Mechanical Engineering. He has also received specialized training on Business and Entrepreneurship from Enterprise Development Center, Pan African University, Lagos. He hopes that his legacy will contribute to eradicating extreme poverty and hunger in Africa and the world. He is also a writer and public speaker with interests in governance and advocacy.



Chioma Agwuegbo

Youth and Technology; Harnessing Tech for Youth Development

Chioma Agwuegbo's interests revolve around women, media, politics, and technology. As Executive Director at TechHerNG, she applies tech solutions to societal problems, especially affecting women. Whether it is chaperoning young, first-time women politicians, co-creating solutions for sexual and gender-based violence, or curating sessions on digital freedoms/security, Chioma believes that technology not applied is not useful.

Chioma's foray into advocacy began with the Light Up Nigeria Movement in 2008. Since then, she has functioned in leadership teams for campaigns such as Enough is Enough, Gen Voices, Occupy Nigeria, Bring Back Our Girls, Not Too Young To Run, and now, StateofEmergencyGBV. She serves on the



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Artists' biographies

Chris Obehi

Chris Obehi is a young and multi-prized Nigerian artist who now lives in Italy. A multi-instrumentalist, he plays guitar, bass guitar, piano, drums and percussions. Thanks to Francesco Riotta, singer and bandleader of "Famiglia del Sud", he discovered the music of Rosa Balistreri, a Sicilian traditional folk singer, whose songs he started making covers of. Singing her songs, he feels and shares the emotion of Sicily, an island that has become his second home. His first album, *Obehi*, was released in March 2020. Inspired by his life experiences and current events his songs speak of realities in an artistic way, mixing afrobeat, afro-funk, pop and reggae music, as well as English, Pidgin, Italian and Esan (his mothertongue). *Non siamo pesci* (We are not fishes) was inspired by an event that happened to me during my difficult journey to Europe; *Mr Oga* talks about the abuse of power in Nigeria and in Africa at large. The latest videos of his songs *Mr Oga* and *Non siamo pesci* speak of violation of human rights and abuse of power. His work has also been recognised in its efforts of promoting music against the mafia. A new afrobeats project is in the works.



C-mi

C-mi (pronounced C.M.I), Adegoke Adesimisola Alice is a Nigerian born, France based artist poised to take the Nigerian and French scene by storm. C-mi is a versatile artist, composer and song-writer whose influences range from Whitney Houston to Jay-Z and Eve, as is obvious when listening to her music. A prized artist, she has won the Bitbender's freestyle Friday competition in Lagos. Relocating to Malaysia, she officially released her first single *NANI* (featuring Tupengo) and joined the A2 Brothaz now known as FEENIX EMPIRE. That same year, she won the Best Female Artiste for ASAM Awards Malaysia. C-mi has performed many shows alongside prominent Nigerian artists like 2 Baba, Terry G, Kelly Handsome, Morachi, Reekado Banks, CDQ and Skiibii in Nigeria and on their Europe tours. She relocated to Paris, France, taking a break from performing to focus on song writing and composing. She eventually made a come back with her hit single *HIGH*, a prophetic feel-good song. Amongst her latest creations is *I Can't Breathe Mama*, a song dedicated to George Floyd and the Black Lives Matters protest. She is currently working on her EP set to be released soon.

