

In Pursuit of the African Dream

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In Pursuit of the African Dream – IPAD aims to spread encouraging and inspirational stories of the laurels that Africans are achieving in various fields. Africans are attaining new heights in every field be it media, politics, business, science, environment, finance or philanthropy and *IPAD* is an attempt to disseminate such stories that can make us feel proud to be an African.

There are numerous examples where Africans, struggling under adverse conditions, make their presence felt worldwide and contributing positively in the advancement of their country and continent. Our objective is to inspire the new generation with the success stories of those who have already carved their niche.

To achieve our goals we conduct various activities such as:

- public speaking events in African schools and universities
- mentorship programs
- sponsoring deserving students
- publication and distribution of inspirational books
- educate people about the achievements of Africans

We aspire to start a new journey – *a journey of triumph*. There is a long way to go but this small step of ours is an attempt to provide a foundation to uplift the African countries.

About Us

Challenges are many but our hopes are high.

IPAD is a team of young and passionate Africans who want to inspire young and aspiring Africans. We share a common vision and have started our journey towards a developed and proud Africa. *In pursuit of the African Dream*, we seek more and more participations from all across the continent. Join us to make our mission – **A Success**

Our Mission

To help young-aspiring Africans create a life of meaning and fulfilment

To make Africa a better place, action is needed at all levels - individual, organizational, governmental and societal. At **IPAD**, we focus on change at the individual level. We focus on young and aspiring students and professionals who want to make a difference – and help them do just that.

We believe that it is the young generation that holds the key to the future. Our primary goal is to empower them find their path, and to support and guide them while they walk it.

Our Vision

An African community/ continent that offers young and aspiring Africans the opportunity to BELIEVE, PURSUE & ACHEIVE their DREAMS

We've all – at one time or the other - dreamt of a better life; a life of prosperity, a life of success, a life of meaning, of peace, or even one of just blissful love. Yet, more than any part of the world, Africans face some of the greatest challenges when trying to reach any of these goals. However, at **IPAD** we believe everything is possible regardless of where you are and whatever challenges you face. **IPAD** has been established therefore to assist the young African student or professionals in pursuit of the dreams.

Our Goal

We at ***IPAD*** believe in **Inspired Education** – not just education, but an educational experience that is inspiring and empowering, uplifting and edifying - one that touches the soul of the student and lifts the heart of the listener; one that stimulates the creativity of the student and drives him towards his goals. We think every young African deserves to have access to such an experience not just students at top Business Schools!

At the back of this belief our goals are:

- To establish a Mentorship programme for gifted African students
- To establish a sponsorship fund for students who are in need
- To publish & distribute an inspirational and educational materials for young Africans
- To create an interactive website where young & Aspiring Africans can Connect, share and learn from each other

Book Project – *Essays for Young and Aspiring Africans*

Essays for Young and Aspiring Africans is an ambitious project to compile the stories of all remarkable Africans who have succeeded in bringing positive changes all across the world.

The objective is to enlighten the young Africans with the encouraging series of essays that will help them to reenergize themselves with the sense of pride and hope. The essays will be compiled as a book that will inspire generations to come all over the continent.

We intend to publish this book with the contribution of the people from all spheres of life and a deeper humanistic approach. This essay compilation will reflect that with right approach and attitude anyone can get success even under hard circumstances. We also intend to make the audio version of the book available either on CDs or to be downloaded as an eBook.

To accomplish our mission, we invite people from all the fields to share their experience and perceptions on different issues. It would be a great inspiration for all of us if African giants like Desmond Tutu (South Africa), Kofi Annan (Ghana), and Ngonzi Nkonjo Iweala (Nigeria) participate in this noble mission. However, we have set a target of 50 African achievers to include in the first edition of the book. We want them to share their personal stories and guide the coming generations to overcome the gloomy era of poverty and instability.

We also like to incorporate stories from every walk of life, for that, if you also want to share your story or of anyone who you feel have had an extra-ordinary life, please contact us. Make our mission a success by participating or by sending your suggestions to us.

Profiles of Africans

Kofi Atta Annan

Kofi Atta Annan is the ex-secretary general; diplomat from Ghana. He is currently the chairman of The Alliance for the Green Revolution in Africa, AGRA, was established with an initial US\$150 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation.

Wangari Muta Maathai

Wangari Muta Maathai is a Kenyan environmental activist and member of the Kenyan parliament, was appointed Assistant Minister for Environment, Natural Resources and Wildlife in Kenya in 2003. Maathai is a qualified professor of veterinary medicine, and today she is internationally recognized as the founder of the Green Belt Movement in Kenya. The Movement is a grassroots, non-governmental organization (NGO) that concentrates on environmental conservation and community development by planting trees to protect the soil and empowers women by teaching them basic skills on environmentalism and creating jobs.

Marguerite Barankitse

Marguerite Barankitse is a Burundian humanitarian. Barankitse began providing food and shelter to 25 children on October 25, 1993, one of the worst days of the Burundi Civil War. Her activities expanded to other cities such as Butezi and Gizuru where she opened other children's shelters.

In 2004 an estimated 20,000 children had benefited from her help, either directly or indirectly [2].

The scope of her action, as well as the fact that she protects all children without consideration of their origin, Tutsi or Hutu, brought her praise from all corners of the world:

1998: « prix des droits de l'homme » (Human Rights award) of the French government

2000: North-South Prize from the Council of Europe

2003: World's Children's Prize for the Rights of the Child

2004: Voices of Courage Award of the Women's Commission for Women and Refugee Children

2004: Nansen Refugee Award

Bridgette Radebe

Bridgette Radebe is a South African Mine owner. She is one of the richest black women in Africa. Wife of ANC minister and South African communist Party leader Jeff Radebe and

the sister of Mining magnate Patrice Motsepe Ms. Radebe was the first black South African deep level hard rock mining entrepreneur in the late 1980s.

She has more than a decade of experience in contract mining, mining construction and mergers and acquisitions. She is founder and Executive Chairperson of Mmakau Mining, with investments in platinum, coal, chrome and gold mines, as well as shaft sinkers. She is President of the South African Mining Development Association, Vice Chairman of the Minerals and Mining Development Board advising the Minister of Minerals and Energy, a founder and Board of Trustee member of the New Africa Mining Fund, and participated in the design of the South African Mining Charter and present mining legislation. Ms Radebe is a member of the Human Resources Committee of Sappi Limited. Ms Radebe joined the Sappi Limited board in May 2004.

Cheikh Modibo Diarra

Cheikh Modibo Diarra is a Malian astrophysicist, a specialist in space exploration and a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador. In 2006, he was appointed head of Microsoft Africa at Bill Gates' request and with whom he has long been a friend.

Having obtained his baccalaureate in Mali, Cheikh Modibo Diarra went on to study mathematics, physics and analytical mechanics at the Pierre and Marie Curie University in Paris, finally going on to study aerospace engineering at Howard University in Washington DC in the States.

Cheikh Modibo Diarra was recruited by the NASA and, as their first African researcher, he has participated in programs such as Magellan (Venus), Ulysses (Sun's pole), Galileo (Jupiter), Mars Observer and Mars Pathfinder.

He was also the first President of the Virtual African University and member of the Africa Union for panel of Biotechnology in the partnership for the development of Africa (NEPAD); he has also been awarded the African Lifetime Achievement Award.

Cheikh Diarra is based in Johannesburg where he works with Microsoft South Africa and WECA (West, East and Central Africa).

Cecilia Ibru

Dr. (Mrs.) Cecilia Ibru is the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Oceanic Bank International, one of the fastest and most profitable banks in Nigeria

Dr. (Mrs.) Ibru holds a Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) Degree in Sociology from North East London University and a Masters of Philosophy from the London school of Oriental and African studies.

She commenced her career at the IBRU Organisation in 1978 where she held various positions.

In 1990, she joined Oceanic Bank as General Manager, Admin and Personnel later becoming Executive Director, Finance and Administration.

Cecilia Ibru became the bank's Managing Director /CEO in 1997. She is chairperson, Subcommittee of the Bankers' Committee on Small and Medium Investment Equity Scheme (SMIEIS) Member, Presidential Consultative Committee on SMIEIS, Member World Economic Forum. She is a Fellow Chartered Institute of Bankers of Nigeria and Fellow Nigeria Institute of Management.

In recognition of her numerous contributions to the development of Banking in Nigeria, the Federal Government of Nigeria honoured her with the award of Member of the Federal Republic (MFR).

Matemela Cyril Ramaphosa

Matemela Cyril Ramaphosa is a South African lawyer, trade union leader, activist, politician and businessman.

Ramaphosa himself is regarded as one of the most important leaders in the ANC. His election to the position of secretary general at the ANC Conference in June 1991 is proof of the faith members have in him.

Widely respected as a skilful and formidable negotiator and strategist, Ramaphosa is best known for the role he played in building the biggest and most powerful trade union in the country, the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM).

Nunu Ntshingila

Nunu Ntshingila is considered the highest ranking-black woman and significant milestone in the advertising industry. (She's known as the first Lady of Advertising"). She's is CEO of the internationally acclaimed agency Ogilvy & Mathers RSTM.

Shabani Jumi

Shabani Jumi is a Burundian mathematician.

Dr. Shabani has held a position at the Institut de Physique Théorique Université Catholique de Louvain 1348 Louvain-la-Neuve BELGIUM. Currently, he is a Professor in the Department of Mathematics University of Burundi 2700 Bujumbura BURUNDI and he is Deputy Secretary-General, Association of African Universities

Souhayr Belhassen

Souhayr Belhassen is the President of the International Federation of Human Rights (FIDH). She is both the first woman and the first Arab to occupy this position. Additionally, Ms. Belhassen has been the Vice President of Tunisian League for Human Rights since November 2000.

Support Us

Enlightened and Inspired Africa is our mission.

Join us in our shared passion of African development.

You can volunteer in various ways that includes but is not limited to:

- funding
- contacting and persuading African giants to be a part of IPAD
- developing market strategy
- implementing distribution system

Your support in every form (corporate or personal) will be of enormous importance for us. Your participation can help us to reach the people who we would have not been able to reach.

If you have other ideas to help the cause please feel free to contact us.

Contact Us

If you want to get in touch with us, please contact us at:

Telephone Number:

Email Id:

Correspondence Address:

If you have any query, feedback or suggestion, please fill the form.

Name:

Phone:

Email:

Query/Feedback/Suggestion: