

South-South Series: Empowering and Growing Women-led Business



Session n°9:

Engaging men as partners and champions of women's empowerment
Wednesday 10 June 2026 - 14:00-15:45 UTC

BIODATA OF PANELISTS

Inês Bastos – Head of Networks and Alliances, COLEAD



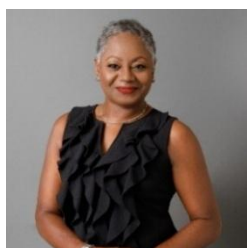
Inês Bastos is Head of Networks & Alliances at COLEAD, bringing over two decades of expertise across technical assistance, monitoring, network management, and policy development, with a deep specialisation in agri-food sector development. Since joining COLEAD, Inês has led and coordinated technical activities across Sub-Saharan Africa, overseeing programs and projects spanning agri-food production and processing, business management, access to finance, and network development. In 2024, she took on the role of COLEAD's Gender lead, driving women's empowerment across the organisation's programs.

Alonso Bobes – Programme Associate, UN Women Caribbean



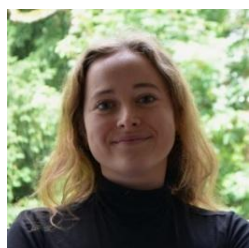
Alonso Bobes is an international development professional specializing in International Relations and Humanitarian Aid, with a strong commitment to global cooperation and sustainable development. He holds a Bachelor's degree in International Relations and a Master's in International Humanitarian Action from the University of Groningen. Throughout his career, he has contributed to programmes promoting gender equality, resilience, and inclusive growth across Latin America and the Caribbean, working with multilateral organizations, civil society, and development partners. Alonso brings expertise in programme coordination, communications, and partnership management. He currently serves as Programme Assistant with the UN Women Multi-Country Office (MCO) Caribbean, supporting initiatives that empower women and advance gender equality across the region.

Angela Davis – Programme Specialist, UN Women Caribbean



Angela Davis is a regionally respected development professional with over 20 years of experience in public health, sexual and reproductive health, international health, and development. She has extensive expertise in managing national and donor-funded programs, particularly in maternal and child health, HIV/AIDS, gender, and sexual and gender-based violence. For the past eleven years, she has provided strategic leadership and program oversight for a leading international development partner, managing a regional portfolio of approximately US\$6 million annually. Her work involves close collaboration with governments, donors, multilateral organizations, and civil society partners. Known for her strategic thinking and results-oriented approach, Angela consistently translates evidence into impactful, equity-focused programs.

Nina Desanlis-Perrin – Project Officer, COLEAD



Nina Desanlis-Perrin is a Project Officer in the Networks and Alliance Department at COLEAD, where she develops and coordinates global partnerships to support entrepreneurship development and sustainability in the agrifood sector across the Global South countries. She co-organises agrifood webinars aimed at showcasing innovations of farmer-led businesses and SMEs with key international partners such as UN Women. Nina holds an MSc in Environmental Science for Sustainability from King's College London, and a BSc in Public Administration from Erasmus University Rotterdam. She is an advocate for sustainable development, international cooperation, and climate justice.

Dr. Judy C. Deterville-Jacob – Sandals Resort, Saint Lucia



Dr. Judy C. Deterville-Jacob holds a Doctorate of Business Administration Degree; a Master of Philosophy in Business Management, an Executive Masters Degree in Business Administration and a Bachelor of Applied Arts Degree in Radio and Television Arts. She has contributed extensively to traditional and new media landscapes in radio, television and print. For over two decades, her creative expression has evolved within the tourism and hospitality sector through branding and marketing. In addition, she has represented Saint Lucia at international and regional trade shows across key markets in the US and in the Caribbean. She has served multiple terms as President of the Rotary Club of Gros Islet and has enjoyed membership in several organizations including the Board of Visiting Justice at the island's sole correctional facility. In addition to being a free-lance writer, she has released a book of poems. She is intrinsically motivated and possess a strong personal work ethic which contributed to her knowledge of, and appreciation or, continuous improvement through operational excellence.

Melissa Wong Oviedo – Equimundo, Peru



Melissa Wong Oviedo is the Regional Technical Lead for Latin America and the Caribbean at Equimundo. She oversees the organization's projects and initiatives within the region, connecting research, programs and advocacy efforts to advance gender equality and the prevention of violence through the engagement of men and boys. She has worked for international organizations, such as Plan International and Innovations for Poverty Action, and has worked closely with grassroots organizations and rural and indigenous men, women and young people in Latin America. She is passionate about participatory and intersectional approaches to advance gender equality, has a bachelor's degree in Psychology and a Masters in Education and Social Justice from Lancaster University.

Sue Ann Barratt – Caribbean Male Action Network, Trinidad and Tobago



Dr. Barratt is Lecturer and Head at the Institute for Gender and Development Studies, University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus. She is a scholar of human communication and gendered expression and interaction. Dr. Barratt interrogates gender-based violence, especially as it manifests through social discourse. In addition, she explores the nuance and significance of social identities, such as race/ethnicity, for example through her most recent book, "Douglas in the 21st Century: Adding to the Mix". In general, Dr. Barratt's research extends to human communication conflict, gender based violence and child sexual abuse, social media use and its implications, mental health management and its implications for learners, gender and



climate adaptation/resilience, and Carnival and cultural studies. She is dedicated to building gender responsiveness and gender justice within society.

George Kporye – Golden Exotics Limited, Ghana



George Hugh Mensah KPORYE is a leading figure in Ghana's horticultural and banana industries, recognized with multiple national awards for his contributions to agriculture and sustainability. Certified as an organic farmer in Sweden in 2001, he previously served as Managing Director and co-owner of Paradise Farms Limited before its acquisition by Golden Exotics Limited in 2003. He currently serves as Sustainability and Corporate Affairs Advisor at Golden Exotics Limited, one of Africa's largest producers and exporters of conventional and organic Fairtrade bananas. A strong advocate for sustainable agriculture, George holds several influential leadership roles, including President of AFRUIBANA, Vice-President of the Banana Producers Association of Ghana, member of the World Banana Forum, and Trustee of the Fairtrade Foundation UK. Through his active participation in international forums, conferences, and policy discussions, he continues to champion sustainable agricultural development and the growth of Africa's fruit export sector.

Mwansa Mungela – FAO, Zimbabwe



Mwansa Mungela is a development professional with 7 years of experience in sustainable agriculture, fisheries and gender equality in Zambia. He currently serves as a Programme Assistant with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Zambia, supporting the implementation of FISH4ACP, a global programme focused on sustainable fisheries value chain development. Prior to joining FAO, he worked as an Advisor on Gender and Sustainability with the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) in Zambia, where he also served as the Gender Focal Point for GIZ Zambia. In addition, he co-chaired the Sector Network for Rural Development (SNRD) Working Group on Gender Transformative Approaches, a network of more than 500 GIZ staff working on gender across Africa and Europe. Mwansa holds a Master's degree in Project Management from the University of Lusaka and a Bachelor's degree in Natural Resources Management from the University of Zambia.



This event has been created with the support of the Fit For Market Plus programme is implemented by COLEAD within the framework of Development cooperation between the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS), and the European Union (EU).

This publication has been produced with the financial support of the EU and the OACPS. Its contents are the sole responsibility of COLEAD and can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the EU or the OACPS.