Invitation for the virtual side-event:

Accelerating Job Creation and Youth Entrepreneurship in Agriculture and Agribusiness Through Innovative Solutions and Digitalisation

September 28th, 2022
from 11:00 until 12:30 GMT
Launched at TICAD 7 in August 2019, the Opportunities for Youth in Africa (OYA) Programme is developed jointly by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in response to a dedicated call for accelerating efforts in the area of job creation for African youth, especially through agribusiness and entrepreneurship development.

The OYA programme aims to leverage on TICAD8 to engage with stakeholders to raise awareness about persistent issues faced by youth in Africa and discuss best practices and innovative solutions that help address the identified challenges.
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This panel discussion will gather stakeholders from different backgrounds, including representatives from international institutions and national governments, partners incubators and beneficiaries to share their perspectives on how innovative transformation and digitalisation can increase production and create economic opportunities for young men and women in Africa.

**Hon. Felix Mutati**, MP, Minister of Technology and Science, Zambia (TBC)

**Mr. Dejene Tezera**, Director, SDG Innovation and Economic Transformation (IET), UNIDO

**Dr. Nomathemba Mhlanga**, Agribusiness Officer & Regional Office for Africa Programme Manager - Decent Employment in Agrifood Systems, FAO

**Ms. Afia Bobia Amanfo**, Entrepreneurship & Innovation Manager, Bridge for Billions

**Mr. Benjamin Gyan-Kesse**, Director, Kosmos Innovation Centre Ghana

**Dr. Faten Hamdi**, PhD Plant Protection, CEO ControlMed, Tunisia

**Dr. Janet Edeme**  
Head, Rural Development Division, Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment