



**AFRICA YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD  
ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

## Board members Biographies



@AYAB\_DRR



AYAB DRR



Africa Youth Advisory Board/DRR



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- ❖ AYAB DRR is originally a fifteen (15) but now fourteen (14) member gender balanced board.
  
- ❖ The board is an inclusive, open, and transparent platform for African youth to be meaningfully engaged in continental/regional DRR policy design, implementation, follow up and review of the Programme of Action (PoA) and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) towards sustainable development.
  
- ❖ AYAB DRR has five (5) Priorities and geographically covers the Africa region.
  
- ❖ The members of the board are thus representatives of the African Youth. Generally, members of the board are:
  - ✓ Young professionals who are not more than 35 years of age
  - ✓ Hold the nationality of a member state of the African Union (AU)
  - ✓ Engaged in organisations that are youth-led or youth focused in Disaster Risk Reduction
  
- ❖ The official language of the board are English and French. Membership of the AYAB lasts for two years. Members are selected through an open call led by the African Union Commission with support from the region of Africa Office of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group of the United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth. The next election is in 2022.

## BRIEF INTRODUCTION

## AYAB DRR



# Priority Representatives



## **Priority 1: Understanding Disaster Risk**

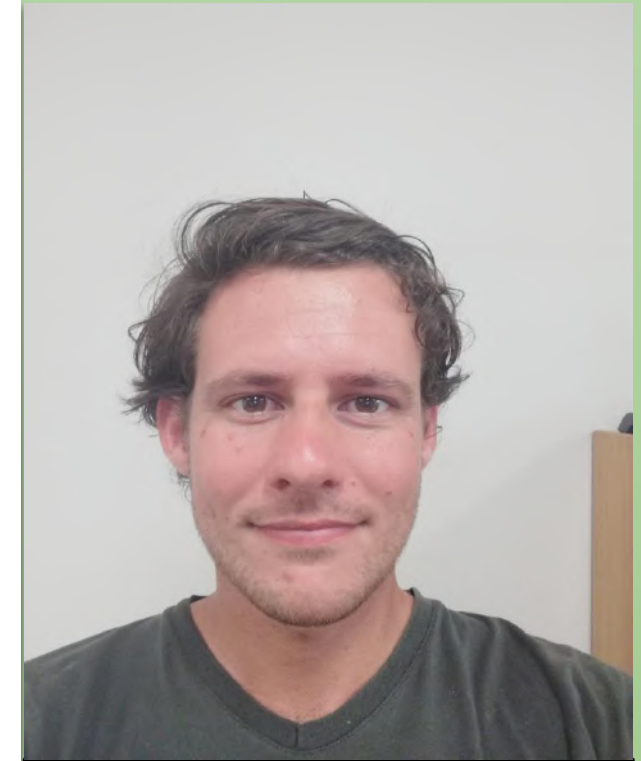
Mr. Francioli is the focal point for achieving Priority 1. He is a researcher turned projects manager working in the field of Disaster Risk Science and Development Studies. He is based at Stellenbosch university, where he works at the Secretariat for PERIPERI U, a consortium of 12 African universities. His scope of work includes:

1. Supporting management of the 'Periperi U' initiative as well as specific secretariat projects and activities.
2. Organising and participating in strategic engagements to advocate for DRR inclusion in Higher Education curriculum.
3. Providing logistical and operational support to PERIPERI U's Training and Capacity Development Related Activities such as the African Risk Methods School (ARMS).
4. Researching projects undertaken by PERIPERI U to investigate communities and infrastructure at risk to both natural and technological hazards,
5. Evaluate vulnerability and explaining means of enhancing resilience and reducing risk.

Mr. Francioli has extensive experience working in the field, collaborating and engaging with vulnerable (often low-income and or informal) communities on the ground to identify and assess disaster risk, and means of reducing them. He also has extensive experience engaging and teaching people about Disaster Risk, guest lecturing for University modules and courses, as well as helping to facilitate Disaster risk related short course training and summer school programmes in the aim of enhancing understanding and capacity in the field to contribute towards Disaster Risk Reduction.

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**Name: Alberto Francioli**  
**Nationality – South Africa**

## **Priority 2 - Strengthening Disaster Risk governance to manage disaster risk**

Ms. Kemeh is the focal point for achieving Priority 2 on the board. Ms Kemeh has extensive experience in bringing youth perspectives to DRR discussions at national, regional and global levels.

She brings to the board her experience in policy design, review and follow up, decision making, facilitating access to resources; knowledge in procedures and practices and monitoring the meaningful engagement of young people in DRR from the United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth (UNMGCY) DRR working group as a focal point for West and Central Africa from 2016 to 2018.

Furthermore, Ms Kemeh is the lead advisor on DRR for the Green Africa Youth Organisation (GAYO) in Ghana and among her achievements for GAYO has established a tradition of Quizzes on DRR to mark the UN international Day of Disaster Risk Reduction.

She has a joint masters from the United Nations University - Institute of Environment and Human Security and the University of Bonn, Germany. As the focal point for strengthening disaster risk governance, Ms Kemeh is interested in engaging and supporting AU member states together with relevant stakeholders in mainstreaming youth into DRR governance through policy development, review and follow up.

Ms. Kemeh is also interested in facilitating capacity building of young africans, so they can be meaningfully engaged in DRR Governance processes.

Email: [kemeh.ayabdr@gmail.com](mailto:kemeh.ayabdr@gmail.com)



**Name:** Ms. Sandra Delali Kemeh  
**Nationality:** Ghanaian

### **Priority 3: Investing in DRR**

Mr. Bamba is the focal point for achieving Priority 3. He is a PhD student at the laboratory of petrology metallogeny at the University Félix Houphouët Boigny where he is specializing in geochemistry and geochronology.

Mr. Bamba is passionate about protecting the environment, so he has actively served his community through the Green students Association which he co-created and is now the General secretary. At the moment, he doubles as the acting president since the actual president is finalising his PhD in neighbouring Ghana. Note Worthy of his achievements is the "week of citizenship" initiative which is an initiative that ...

His long volunteer history and academic background was key to his selection as an AYAB DRR member. His activeness has landed him the role of Vice-President and AYAB facebook manager on the board. His results oriented volunteerism and passion has led him to be chosen as part of the network of "Resilient40 " which is a Resilient 40 is an Africa-UK partnership to build climate resilience in Africa. He's also active in politics and so has been selected by Chatham House to joins the Common Future Conversation Community, which is a network of young people from across Africa and Europe to join an international exchange with policymakers.

Mr Bamba has the expertise and interest to engaged with stakeholders who would like to contribute to advocating for investment in DRR actions of young people. He is also interested in facilitating the capacity of young people so they can be able to leverage the opportunities that the DRR investment has brought.

He is available on [adamlebamba@gmail.com](mailto:adamlebamba@gmail.com).



**Name:** Adama Bamba

**Nationality:** Ivorian

**Priority 4 . Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.**

Ms. Bazilika is the focal person for achieving Priority 4 on the board. She is a graduate from the United States International University with a Bachelors of Arts in International Relations Concentration in Diplomacy and a Minor in Business Management and Sociology.

Ms. Bazilika is passionate about Environmental Preservation and Conservation, Human rights, Women and Youth Participation, Engagement and Empowerment, International and community development and because of that she dedicates her time to do volunteer work. She has volunteered in orphanages, National and international organizations and different youth and women Groups. Bazilika has worked with African Union Youth Volunteers Corps, Eve Organization for Women Development, Children and Youth Empowerment in South Sudan as well as done community service in Solidarity Child Rescue Centre Kasarani in Nairobi, Kenya

As the Focal person for Priority 4. Bazilika is committed to continual Facilitating knowledge sharing and capacity building for and with young people in Africa. Build a network with stakeholders in preparedness and ‘Building Back Better’ in disaster risk reduction. Create a platform to share lessons learnt and best practices and Facilitate intergenerational capacity building in DRR between youth practitioners and experienced DRR practitioners at different levels of engagement. Most importantly work with the other members of the board to achieve this priority.

She is available on [Bazilikaj@gmail.com](mailto:Bazilikaj@gmail.com)



**Name:** Bazilika Joan Lado

**Nationality:** South Sudan

### **Priority 5: Community Action**

Mr. Admisse is the focal point for achieving priority 5 on the board.

Mr. Admisse holds a Bachelor's degree in Social Science and is an alumni of the Cisco Certified Network Academy (CCNA).

He has over a decade work of experience in youth development policy at the national and Africa regional level.

He is a recipient of the Mandela Institute for Development studies Alumni Scholarship and due to his activism has been recognised by the Crans Montana Young Leaders of the Future Forum.

For the passed four years, Mr. Admisse has worked as a Project Management/Operations Associate at the United Nations Office for Project Management (UNOPS) within the United Nations Integrated Multidimensional Peace Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic, (UNIMISSA).

Mr. Admisse is interested in engaging with development partners and community leaders to co-develop and facilitate capacity building of young people at grass roots levels to take action to prepare, respond and recover from disasters.

Mr. Admisse can be reached on : [cadmisse@yahoo.fr](mailto:cadmisse@yahoo.fr); [constantadmisse@gmail.com](mailto:constantadmisse@gmail.com); or <https://www.facebook.com/constant.admisse>; or <https://www.linkedin.com/in/constant-admisse-92882181/>; <https://twitter.com/admisse>



**Name:** Mr. Constant Rodrigue Admisse  
**Country:** Central Africa Republic



# Regional Representatives



## **North Africa - The Arab Maghreb Union - UMA**

Ms. Zaddem is the North Africa representative on the board. She holds a first degree in Agri-food and Food processing and a Master's Degree in Engineering Biology (2009 and 2012 respectively). She has over eight (8) years of work experience related to the fields of environment, climate change, food security, sustainable development and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).

In addition to AYAB DRR, Ms. Zaddem serves as a board Member responsible for foreign affairs in the “Arab-African Council for Sustainable Development (CAADD)” which is an international organization based in Tunisia that applies the seventeen (17) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through many activities and projects in partnership with UNDP and various Tunisian ministries.

Before joining the board, Ms. Soumaya served as AU youth volunteer for one year in a professional environment within the Commission of African Union in Ethiopia, firstly in the Pan-African Veterinary Vaccine centre (PANVAC) and later under the Agriculture and Food Security Division both of which are under the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture (DREA).

As the North Africa representative, her mission is to meaningfully engage with national DRR focal points, UMA, African Union partners and other stakeholders in order to facilitate capacity building, empowerment platforms for young people to enhance and upscale their ‘agents of change’ abilities in DRR. Due to her dedication to the board, Ms. Zaddem is elected as the secretary of AYAB DRR executive committee.

She can be reached on [soumaya.zaddem8@gmail.com](mailto:soumaya.zaddem8@gmail.com)



**Name:** Soumaya Zaddem  
**Nationality:** Tunisian

## The Intergovernmental Authority on Development - IGAD

Ms. Muriuki is the IGAD representative of the board. She has been active in the DRR field since 2009. she holds a degree in Disaster Management and International Diplomacy and is a YALI East Africa alumnus.

Before joining the board, Ms. Muriuki was a key member of the Disaster and Environmental Management Association (DEMA)-2009-2013 in university, co-organising events to mark the International Day for Disaster Reduction. She has also worked on sustainability programmes for WiserEarth. She received training in 2015 on cyber security in emergency scenarios, and was named a NextGen fellow at ICANN for its 55<sup>th</sup> public meeting. She is trained in digital collaboration, transnational and transcultural awareness and communication through the Global Change Mates programme (Germany, 2015).

Ms. Muriuki co-led the Space Technology for Disaster Management (STDM) at the Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC) between 2017 and 2019. She also previously served as the deputy lead of the Early Warning Early Response Disaster Management (EWARDIMA) project, developing the content for the EWARDIMA Android application at ILICIT Africa (Uganda). She heads the Disaster Risk Management Unit at the Centre for Youth Empowerment and Leadership.

Apart from serving as the IGAD representative on the board, Ms. Muriuki is the manager of the AYAB DRR twitter page and leads the #SafeSaturdays chat. The chats are knowledge sharing and information sessions on DRR issues tailored to young adults.

She is also the co-founder of the Africa Space Workshops (ASW) and the Kenya Youth Biodiversity Network.

She seeks to engage meaningfully with students, young professionals, academia, governments, the private sector and DRR focal points in championing efforts towards achieving the Africa Programme of Action (PoA) and the targets of the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR).

She can connect through LinkedIn: <https://ke.linkedin.com/in/maryanne-mumbi-muriuki-33459053>



**Name:** Maryanne Muriuki

**Nationality:** Kenyan

## **The East African Community (EAC) - 1**

Mr. Walekhwa is one of two EAC representatives on the board. He holds a Masters degree of Public Health from Mbarara University of science and Technology(Uganda/Africa) and also Bachelors degree of Environmental Health Science from Makerere University, Kampala.

Mr Wilson brings to the board his vast experience in public – private partnerships in sustainable development in Uganda. His passion for promoting good health practices influenced his decision to be a One health Agenda volunteer, where he is currently serves as the Global President for International Students One Health Alliance(ISOHA) under One Health commission. As a results, he champions multi disciplinary approach to understanding and mitigating health related aspects of DRR. He also doubles as an Employee of Kibuku District Local Government where he works as Senior Environmental Health Officer.

Prior to joining AYAB-DRR, he worked and continues to work on a private enterprise called MAWAC AGRO PRODUCTS LTD as Managing Director. MAWAC focuses on addressing issues of food security, value addition to agricultural food stuffs in Uganda.

He has vast experience in Health Leadership, DRR systems strengthening and management of Epidemics. Thus, he is well placed to contributing to the vision and mission of AYAB DRR. As a result of his activeness, he has been elected as vice-secretary of AYAB DRR's Executive committee.

Mr. Wilson is interested in co-developing and co-implementing engagements that meaningfully engages young people in DRR processes on the continent.

He can be reached on [wabelwilson@gmail.com](mailto:wabelwilson@gmail.com)



**Name:** Walekhwa Abel Wilson

**Country:** Uganda



## **The East African Community (EAC) - 2**

Ms. Kayombo is the other representative of the EAC region and holds a Master degree of Science in Health System Management from the Mzumbe University in Tanzania. Ms. Kayombo serves as communication lead of the Executive Committee of the board and also is the manager of the board's official Instagram page. Ms Kayombo has extensive experience in youth engagement on environment, disaster management and Sustainable Development Goals.

She is a member of the United Nations Chapter in Mzumbe University, Tanzania. The chapter promotes environmental activism and DRR activities. Due to her passion and interest in DRR, she has contributed significantly to DRR activities such as tree planting.

Currently, she is a member of the ONE champion campaign, which is a campaign that has a vision to eliminate extreme poverty and significantly reduce diseases by 2030. Ms Kayombo is the founder of Lilianne Foundation which promotes health related disaster management in Ruvuma, Tanzania. The foundation educates young people on HIV prevention and Malaria Control. In addition, the foundation facilitates tree planting exercise and promotes activism on Gender based violence.

In accomplishing her roles as EAC representative, Ms Kayombo is interesting to meaningfully engage with Youth-led organizations, Non-Governmental Organisation (NGOs), students in both secondary and Universities and the government on the issue of DRR and sustainable development. She is also interested in facilitating capacity building and knowledge exchange in DRR with the young people in East Africa.

She can be reached through her social media channels and also through her e-mail: [Wikayolilizo@yahoo.com](mailto:Wikayolilizo@yahoo.com), [Liwilbrord@gmail.com](mailto:Liwilbrord@gmail.com)



**Name:** Lilianne Wilbrord Kayombo  
**Nationality:** Tanzanian

## **The Southern African Development Community (SADC)**

Mrs. Andrianjakatina is the representative of the SADC region on the board. She holds a Master's degree in Risk and Disaster Management and is continuing her PhD study in the same field.

With almost a decade of experience in DRR, Mrs. Andrianjakatina is a researcher at the Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches Economiques pour le Développement (CERED) - University of Antananarivo. As a researcher, Mrs. Andrianjakatina regularly publishes scientific articles in collaboration with the CERED team. Before joining the board, she was a short term training project officer on PERIPERI U programme which strengthen resilience and builds the capacity of people at risk. Mrs. Andrianjakatina is among the founders of the Association of Professionals in DRR in Madagascar, several members of which are young people, and of the Centre for Action and Promotion of Resilience of which she is the Vice-President. CAPRESIL, a member of the Global Network of Civil Society in Disaster Risk Reduction (GNDR) network which aims to promote resilience for all.

Mrs. Andrianjakatina will use her experience as a researcher in the AYAB-DRR to ensure that more young people, especially Africans, are aware of disaster risks and are committed to reducing them in order to rapidly achieve the objectives of the Programme of Action (PoA) and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR). Her membership and relationship with youth groups and networks of DRR professionals will serve Mrs. Andrianjakatina to effectively engage with development partners in building youth capacity in DRR and to strengthen youth knowledge exchange platforms especially in the SADC region.

She can be contacted on [ainasylvania@gmail.com](mailto:ainasylvania@gmail.com)



**Name:** Aina ANDRIANJAKATINA  
**Country:** Madagascar

## **The Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) - 1**

Mr. Batamio is one of three ECCAS regional representatives on the board. Mr. Batamio is an active politician and civil servant with experience in youth engagement and DRR. He holds a Master's degree in Agronomic and Environmental Sciences from the Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Agronomie et de Foresterie (ENSAF) of the Marien Ngouabi University and a PhD in Environmental Sciences and Biodiversity.

Before joining the board, he was the representative of District 9150 of the Rotary Club in Congo. Mr. Batamio is a skilled expert in early warning on flood management in Congo and Central Africa. He has worked with the World Food Programme (WFP) to revise national flood strategy and contingency plans in four Central African countries under the leadership of ECCAS secretariat.

Mr Batamio is engaged in promoting meaningful youth inclusion of young people in DRR at the national level for the last half decade. He also has extensive experience in strengthening networks with other youth groups and also in post-disaster assessment and recovery from the PDNA\_DRF expert working group in Central Africa.

As one of the regional representatives of ECCAS, Mr. Batamio is committed to building on his past success in promoting the meaningful inclusion of young people in DRR processes. His experience has increased his knowledge in the gaps in capacity building for young people in DRR, thus, he is seeking partnership with development partners and other stakeholders to close the capacity building gap in youth engagement on the issue of DRR.

He can be contacted through [clechbat@gmail.com](mailto:clechbat@gmail.com)



**Name:** Mr Cleche Batamio  
Mbemba  
**Country:** Congo

## **The Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) – 2**

Mr. Essola Etoa is another ECCAS regional representative of the board. He is Agricultural Engineer and holds a PhD student in Biotechnology and Crop Production at Dschang's School of Agriculture and Environmental Science of University of Dschang. Thus, he is Agronomist in the ministry of agriculture and rural development, Department of regulation and quality control of input and agricultural product. He is also a certified Phytosanitary Inspector, and member of technical work group in disaster risk reduction and road safety with ANOR.

Since 2014, he's been a member of Gouvernance-Economie Verte et Development Durable au CAMEROUN (GEVD-CAM) and facilitated the capacity building of young people group in agriculture and sustainable development. In addition, he is the project coordinator in charge of DRR issues and capacity building with the Africa Alliance for Developmental action. He also works with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), as trainer of returned Cameroonian migrants in agricultural issues. Mr. ESSOLA ETOA has also contributed to the elaboration of the international health network conduct by Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) in Cameroon. For his work and dedication , he has been awarded a research grant at the International Centre of Agronomic Research for the Development (CIRAD), to work Complex Agroforest System in Cameroon.

As a regional focal point, Mr. Essola Etoa is committed to working with national DRR focal points, and other stakeholders to help in the implementation of the PoA at local and regional level. He is interested in facilitating capacity building programmes of youth people in Agriculture disasters at sub-national, national and regional levels.

He can be contacted on: [eleedad@gmail.com](mailto:eleedad@gmail.com)



**Name:** Essola Etoa Louis Childéric

**Country:** Cameroon



### **The Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) – 3**

Mr. Girukwishaka is another representative of ECCAS on the board. He has 7 years of experience in teaching and is currently pursuing his Master's studies in Science and Integrated Environmental Management at the University of Burundi. Mr. Girukwishaka has an undergraduate degree in Biological Sciences and completed a research internship at the Royal Institute of Natural Sciences in Brussels in 2014 as part of his final year work for his Bachelor's degree.

In addition to being a member of AYAB DRR, he is the Secretary General of the Network for the Promotion of Environmental Education in Burundi (RPEEBU) and is the Deputy Focal Point of the Network of Young Leaders of Central African Forests - Burundi Chapter (REJEFAC), a youth network of the ten countries of the COMIFAC space.

As a regional representative, Mr. Girukwishaka is committed to facilitating youth engagement in strengthening DRR strategies. He is actively seeking partnerships to build on his success in advocating meaningful youth inclusion at local, national and regional levels.

He also calls on all DRR stakeholders in his region to support his capacity building proposals to realise his vision of young people as agents of change in DRR.

He can be reached on [girukwishakasc85@gmail.com](mailto:girukwishakasc85@gmail.com)



**Name: Schadrack Girukwishaka**

**Country: Burundi**

## **Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)**

Ms. Mbaiorga Simon Grace is the representative for the West African region on the board.

She is a Spatial Scientist with a broad interest in Disaster Risk Reduction, Natural Resource Management, Climate Change Vulnerabilities and Adaptation Strategies. She is based in Abuja and currently a Senior Scientific officer (SSO) in the Strategic Space Applications Department of the National Space Research and Development Agency, (NASRDA) under the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology, Nigeria.

Over the past seven years she has been actively involved in carrying out space application projects in the thematic areas of Natural Resources, Hazards and the environment. Her schedule of responsibilities are demonstrated in utilizing space-based data in providing reliable and efficient planning tools to significantly improve the quality, efficiency and the depth of decision making in the allocation of resources, environmental management, land use planning, and climate smart agricultural practices. Additionally, her department is the hub for the Regional Support Office of the United Nations platform for Space Based Information for Disaster and Emergency Response (UNSPIDER) in Nigeria, and also responsible for supporting the West and Central African countries with space based solutions to disaster management.

Ms. Mbaiorga Grace volunteered to use her expertise as a member of the board to meaningfully engage young people in strengthening DRR coordination in the ECOWAS region as well as aligning the developed national and regional programmes of the board to the Sendai Framework.

She can be reached by email through [sgrace308@gmail.com](mailto:sgrace308@gmail.com) or contacted by telephone on [+234 7087 7779](tel:+23470877779)



**Name:** Mbaiorga S. Grace  
**Nationality:** Nigeria



**Chairperson**

Ms. Sandra Delali KEMEH  
-GHANA-



**Vice – Chairperson**

Mr. Adama BAMBA  
-CÔTE D'IVOIRE-



**Secretary**

MS . Soumaya ZADDEM  
-TUNISIA-



**Vice-Secretary**

Mr. Abel Wilson WALEKHWA  
-UGANDA-



**Communication Lead**

Ms. Wilbrord Lilian KAYOMBO  
-TANZANIA-

# AYAB DRR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE