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PROFILE

Passionate about Africa's development to significantly contribute to global development and SDGs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 8, I have worked in roles and on projects that support these through systemic revisions and education, competency building, and skills training for the youth using African-centered approaches. My future passion is in ecovillage building while leveraging indigenous technologies to propel Africa's development and growth through its young people, with equitable opportunities for women.

CAREER OBJECTIVE

To support the systemic enhancement of Africa's development for continental growth and global relevance in the areas of food security, good health and wellbeing, and financial independence by equipping African youth equitably with the knowledge, competencies, and skills through education, interventions, and programmes.

SELECTED WORK HISTORY

Ashesi Health Initiative, Ashesi University.

Co-Principal Investigator from April 2023 to Date.

- Instrumental in co-creation conversations with the funder to arrive at an overall program strategy.
- Co-led the development of Ashesi University's strategy for the initiative in alignment with the university's strategic objectives and that of the larger health collaborative.
- Responsible for driving the systematic review of the health ecosystem in Ghana, the development of the business incubator, and supporting program management.
- **Skills/Competencies/Knowledge developed and honed:** understanding of the health ecosystem, its gaps, existing interventions, and potential enhancements; program management skills; honing communication skills to gain endorsement by the university's boards.

Ashesi E-Learning Initiative, Ashesi University.

Content Lead from February 2022 to Date.

- Co-led program strategy development and proposal development for the E-Learning Initiative while seeking Executive and Board approval for project implementation.
- Responsible for programmatic activities including the development, evaluation, and management of the program schedule, financials, risks, personnel, learning, and evaluation, among others.
- Responsible for content design, development, instructional design, and content team formation.
- **Skills/Competencies/Knowledge developed and honed:** managing complex projects, instructional design, contextually relevant content development and design, team building and management skills, and communication skills.

Research and Institutional Capacity Strengthening to Prevent and Manage Non-Communicable Diseases (StopNCD) in Ghana, Mali, and Burkina Faso.

Researcher and Community Engagement Lead from October 2022 to Date.

- Support technical and financial proposal development.
- Serving on the Community Engagement Committee and involved in a systematic review of NCD prevention and maintenance, while exploring existing projects in innovation and systemic change.

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- **Skills/Competencies/Knowledge developed and honed:** Systematic review processes and techniques, understanding the NCD landscape across three countries: Ghana, Mali, and Burkina Faso, communication across Anglophone and Francophone Africa, managing teams across multiple countries, building effective teams.

Education Collaborative's Entrepreneurship Ecosystem's Project, The Education Collaborative.

Project Lead from August 2021 to December 2023

- Project conceptualization and alignment with the strategic goals of the Education Collaborative.
- Developing and managing the project implementation process, plan, risks, and budget, while building the project team.
- Lead researcher for a desk study to develop a framework for higher educational institutions in designing, developing, and diagnosing their entrepreneurship ecosystems in a bid to develop active entrepreneurship ecosystems to aid in developing an entrepreneurial mindset, and drive research and development to promote entrepreneurship and innovation in these institutions.
- Managing stakeholders from about 45 African universities across the sub-Saharan African Regions, along with a staff size of about 8 project team members.
- Disseminated findings to inform institutional-level entrepreneurship strategy development while driving them towards active entrepreneurship ecosystems, and through other outlets.
- **Skills/Competencies/Knowledge developed and honed:** working across time zones, program conceptualization skills, process distillation competencies, cross-country project management, communication skills, and program management competencies.

Ashesi University, Berekuso.

Head of Business Administration Department from August 2020 to Date

- Developing departmental strategy in alignment with the university's overall strategy, while operationalizing this strategy.
- Responsible for the general administration, program improvement and management, department budget development and management, personnel: faculty and faculty interns management.
- Developing and executing projects to aid in the achievement of department goals, enriching the student's experience, while engaging stakeholders.
- Reviewing the Business Administration programme for better alignment with the university's learning goals and that of existing global standards for potential accreditation.
- Serving on committees: Council, Academic Programmes Committee, Quality Assurance Committee, and Research Committee to develop and execute policy towards the university's strategic objectives.
- Liaising with external institutions and universities on behalf of the department and university to foster collaborations, networks, and professional development, among others.
- **Skills/Competencies/Knowledge developed and honed:** Strategy development, strategic alignment, administration and management, stakeholder engagement and management, building mutually beneficial collaborations, setting, and measuring performance, performance enhancement programmes, team building and development, and curriculum reviewing.

Ashesi University, Berekuso.

Senior Lecturer from September 2017 to Date

- Led the development of new courses - Project Management, Creative/Entrepreneurship and Research Internship non-major elective, and the Foundations of Design and Entrepreneurship.

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- Worked with a team to develop a new Economics programme.
 - Led the redesign of 2 capstone courses: Applied Project and Entrepreneurship.
 - Taught the following courses: Capstone Entrepreneurship, Applied Projects, Project Management, Real Estate Development, and Creative/Entrepreneurship and Research Internship non-major elective.
 - I manage the administration and logistics of the Entrepreneurship capstone while coordinating a teaching team of two faculty members, two faculty interns, and over 30 industry advisors.
 - Support the department as thesis capstone supervisor of between 1 and 3 thesis projects annually, faculty advisor to four student clubs: the Business Club, the Agribusiness Club, the Real Estate Club, and the Project Management Club, and engaged in career advising and counselling.
 - Support Ashesi's Entrepreneurship Center as an Entrepreneurship Faculty Lead from 2020 to 2022.
 - **Skills/Competencies/Knowledge developed and honed:** curriculum assessment and revision, curriculum design and revisioning, curriculum alignment, session and meeting facilitation, administration, and stakeholder engagement and management.

Ashesi University, Berekuso.

The Berekuso Impact Study Project from 2013 to Date

- Conceptualizing and developing a methodology to collect data about Ashesi's impact within the Berekuso community while building a database of dwelling, household, and individual characteristics to aid in developmental strategy development, teaching, and further research.
- Survey design/ update, sample selection, survey data collection, data analysis, focus group discussions, dissemination events, community engagement, schedule, and budget management.
- **Skills/Competencies/Knowledge developed and honed:** community-based research, surveys, community engagement, stakeholder management, dissemination event facilitation.

The Education Collaborative.

Academic Strategy and Curriculum Development Consultant from May 2018 – December 2020

- Working with the African Development University, Niamey, Niger, to repurpose and restructure their academic offerings and structure; recruiting faculty and faculty development to revamp the University's academic department. Serving and delivering on the responsibilities of a Provost while the University worked to recruit a Provost. March to December 2020.
- Developed a framework for course re-design and new course development for core- and co-curricular activities and training stakeholders on these. June 2019.
- Worked with a team of faculty, students, and staff to co-develop a two-year extended capstone option for students enrolled at the Palm Institute, Kordeabe, Ghana. February – July 2019.
- Worked with the Palm Institute, Kordeabe, a startup university, to strategize and develop their academic structure, organizational structuring, and educational offerings. May 2018 – February 2019.
- **Skills/Competencies/Knowledge developed and honed:** academic programme development, academic strategy development, curriculum/ program design, working across multiple countries.

Ashesi University, Berekuso

Ashesi Ecosystem Development & Enterprise Fund from January 2015 to December 2020

- Led a team of faculty members to reimagine entrepreneurship education at Ashesi University using the ecosystem approach.

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- Designed and institutionalized an entrepreneurship ecosystem for Ashesi and assisted in developing its components: courses, co-curricular activities, and organizations, promoting an entrepreneurial culture on campus, finding markets, and aligning these with the overall strategy of Ashesi.
 - Establish and manage the Ashesi Enterprise Fund.
 - Raise funds to support an annual entrepreneurship education and training budget of USD20,000.00 on campus, while driving the conceptualization and development of entrepreneurship programming.
 - **Skills/Competencies/Knowledge developed and honed:** entrepreneurship ecosystem development, fundraising activities, engaging stakeholders, communications, and entrepreneurship co- and extra-curricular activity development.

Next Generation Cocoa Youth Programme (MASO) Business Academy, Ashesi University was a consortium member with Solidaridad West Africa as the Consortium Lead.

Project Lead from October 2015 to December 2020

- Working with the Solidaridad team to conceptualize and develop the Next Generation Cocoa Youth Programme in alignment with the strategy and values of all partners.
- Conceptualize, design, develop and implement the MASO Business Academy covering both the training and incubation of over 1000 rural youth who set up over 400 community businesses.
- Responsible for program management including schedule, budget, risk, and stakeholder management within over 40 communities across 5 regions in Ghana.
- Responsible for developing an entrepreneurial training and incubation curriculum for the Academy while managing a curriculum development team of 6 members, a research team of 4 members, and a project management team of 3 members.
- **Skills/Competencies/Knowledge developed and honed:** management of community-level research and intervention deployment, multi-stakeholder management, communication, rural enterprise development, team building and management, and funder reporting.

EDUCATIONAL & PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Academic Degrees

PhD. Construction Project Management (Building Technology) February 2009

Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana

BSc. Building Technology - June 2003

Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana

Professional Courses

- **Innovative Entrepreneurship – From an Idea to Starting a Business - January 2015**
Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation (MASHAV), The Golda Meir Mount Carmel International Training Center (MCTC), Haifa, Israel, in collaboration with the Young Americas Business Trust (YABT)
- **Leadership and Management for Integrity - July 2012**
Central European University (CEU) Summer School by TIRI Integrity Actions School. Policy Lab: Business Integrity in Emerging Markets. Budapest, Hungary
- **Project Management - May 2009**
Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA), Legon, Ghana
Project Management Professional certification course.

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- **Alternative Dispute Resolution - November 2006**
Gamey and Gamey Academy of Mediation, Community 12, Tema, Ghana
Executive Diploma in Alternative Dispute Resolution: Mediation and Arbitration

Leadership

- **Education Collaborative's Consulting Committee** –January 2021 to December 2023
- **Advisory Council Member:** Project Management Institute Ghana Chapter. January 2018 to December 2019
- **Co-founder and Regional Director** - West Africa Built Environment Research (WABER) Conference from 2009 to 2015.
- **Co-Founder and Director** – Dzigua Enterprise 2016 to 2018; Enable IT Company Ltd. 2012 to 2020; and Casabel Properties Limited. 2010 to 2015
- **Founding Steering Committee Member** – The committee established the Project Management Institute, Ghana Chapter (PMI-Gh) in 2010.

Professional Membership

- Project Management Institute – **Project Management Professional** (2009)
- Ghana Institution of Surveyors – **Professional Quantity Surveyor** (2009)

JOURNAL ARTICLES SINCE 2020

- Osei, D. B., Alagidede, I. P., & **Agbodjah, S.** (2023). Impact investing in Ghana: A multiple case study. *Journal of Social Entrepreneurship*, 1–21. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19420676.2023.2166093>.
- **Agyepong, S.A.**, Owusu-Ansah, A., Annoh, W., (2021) Ashesi's 360 Approach to the COVID-19 Pandemic. *International Studies in Educational Administration ISEA Journal of the Commonwealth Council for Educational Administration & Management*. [Volume 49, No. 1](#).
- Awuah, R., **Agyepong, S.**, & Kwarase, P. K. (2020) Leadership Education through Extracurricular Civic Engagement. *Partnerships: A Journal of Service-Learning & Civic Engagement*, Vol. 11, No. 1, 257-274. ISSN 1944-1061. <http://libjournal.uncg.edu/prt/article/view/1858/1445>

SELECTED GRANTS WON

- Ashesi Health Innovation Initiative: \$8,059,444.28 over 10 years.
- Global Health Research Centers for Non-communicable Disease Control in West Africa (Stop-NCD) / Research and Institutional Capacity Strengthening in NCDs: GBP 2,434, 223.00 over 5 years.
- Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Design, Development, and Diagnosis for sub-Saharan African higher educational institutions: USD400,000.00 over 3 years.
- Content Development Lead for Ashesi's E-Learning Initiative: USD1,117,000.00 over 2 years.
- C3 Grantmaking – Strengthening the Evidence Base Application: \$149,690.00.
- MasterCard Foundation Partners Research Fund: \$249,774.00.
- Between “Cultural Creativity and Securitization”: COVID-19 Responses in 6 African Countries €50,000.
- Next Generation Cocoa Youth Program, MASO: USD 14,900,000.00 over 5 years.

REFEREE list available upon request.