

Volume I , Issue I
January - August 2026



KURUNZI

NEWSLETTER



THE PLO LUMUMBA FOUNDATION

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EDITOR'S LETTER

Welcome to this edition of KURUNZI, the official newsletter of the PLO Lumumba Foundation.

Over the past eight months, our chapters across Africa and the diaspora have continued to make remarkable strides in mentorship, leadership development and community engagement. Through various initiatives, forums, outreach programs and mentorship activities, our members have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the ideals of servant leadership and the transformation of our beloved continent.

This edition captures our collective journey, celebrates the achievements of our mentees and highlights the impactful initiatives that are shaping the next generation of African leaders. It also provides a platform for sharing experiences, lessons learned and inspiring stories from across our growing network.

As a Foundation, we remain firmly guided by our conviction that **"servant leadership is the mother's milk for sustainable development."** True leadership is not measured by power or position, but by service, integrity and the ability to positively influence society. Through mentorship and continuous learning, we are nurturing a generation that will lead with purpose, character and a deep commitment to Africa's advancement.

I trust that this edition will inspire you, strengthen your resolve and encourage you to remain actively engaged in the noble mission of transforming Africa through ethical and servant leadership.

Thank you for being part of this journey.

~ JOHN WAKUI

I KURUNZI NEWSLETTER

“

A mentor warns those who are coming after him/her of the landmines he/she stepped on that they may never step on them so that if his/her journey was longer their journey is shorter and smoother and much more successful.

”

~ Prof. PLO Lumumba



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PLO LUMUMBA FOUNDATION

The PLO Lumumba Foundation is unique among local and international organisations in Kenya and Africa as a pioneer mentorship and leadership organisation that seeks to restore and preserve African values.

Established on 16th December 1994, the Foundation has built a strong international outlook based on trust and community-driven development approaches. The Foundation works through strategic partnerships throughout Kenya and beyond.

The Foundation has developed strong policies and procedures, establishing itself as a credible partner in the development agenda. Over the years, it has organically fundraised for its activities and programmes with support from well-wishers.

The Foundation is governed by an Advisory Board that ensures its work remains aligned with its vision, and a Board of Trustees that provides oversight, strategic direction, and guidance in the implementation of programmes.

The day-to-day management of the Foundation is led by the Executive Chairman and Director, together with the Executive Assistant, through the Foundation's Secretariat based in Nairobi.

VISION

To be a flagship of excellence through transformational leadership.

MISSION

To drive leadership and development initiatives for socio-economic progress.

CORE VALUES

Justice, Integrity, Authenticity, Excellence, Service, and Accountability.

PLO FOUNDATION ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS



**Sheikh Moustapha Kouyateh -
Liberia**
Business man, Politician and Philanthropist



Pauline Kea - Kenya
Tutor and leading kiswahili author



**Nomhle Maggie Mliswa -
Zimbabwe**
*Presidential advisor on investment,
Farmer*



Arnolda Shiundu - Kenya
Change Management Expert



Dr. Pancho Sharma - Kenya
Specialist & consultant Dental Surgeon



Hanna Mathu - South Africa
Entrepreneur Extraordinaire



Rev. Taiwo K. Ilesamni - South Africa
Leadership and Governance Expert



Dr. Jane Adogo Ph.D
Lawyer & Academic



Sen. Lenny Kivuti - Kenya
*Entrepreneur,
Geospatial Engineer*

PLO LUMUMBA FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Prof. Edmund Folefac -
Southern Cameroons /
Ambazonia

*Professor of Oncology, University of
Columbus, Ohio*



Rev Joseph Obwanda - Kenya
Clergy, Author & Mentor



Benard Mornah - Ghana
*Athlete, Farmer, Activist, Advocate, Pan-
Africanist*



Dr. Prakash Madhaudas
Heda, EBS, OGW - Kenya
Consultant Orthopaedic

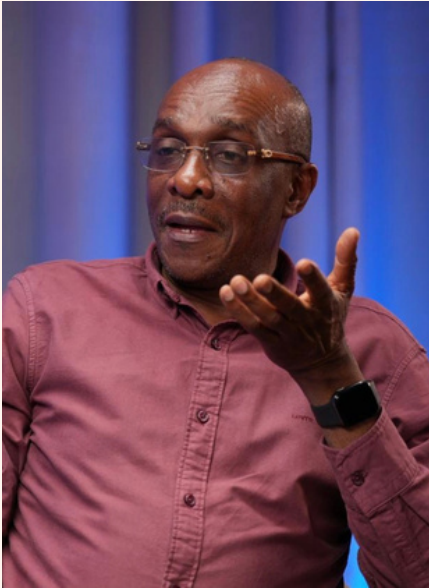


Mike Egbeh - Nigeria
Governance Consultant



Prof. Luis Franceschi
Lawyer & an Academic

PLO LUMUMBA FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Dr. Barrack Muluka - Kenya
*Strategic Communications & leadership
consultant*



***Amb. Wallace Williams -
Trinidad & Tobago***
Diplomat, Specialist in Oil & Gas

PLO LUMUMBA FOUNDATION EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS



Prof. PLO Lumumba
Founder and Executive Chairman



Celestine Otieno
Director, Kenya



Jane L. Afrane
Director, Kenya



Michelle L. Donado
Director, USA



OUR PARTNERS

- 1) AFRICA BRAND SUMMIT - SOUTH AFRICA
- 2) AFRICA ORGANIZATION OF TECHNOLOGY IN AGRICULTURE
- 3) AMINATU FOUNDATION - ZIMBABWE
- 4) AFRICAN CENTER FOR ADVANCE TECHNOLOGY - KENYA
- 5) AFRICA CHILD CARE NATION - SUDAN
- 6) ANDROSE DISABILITY ORGANISATION - TANZANIA
- 7) CHILDBIRTH SURVIVAL INTERNATIONAL - TANZANIA/KENYA
- 8) DANGARI GROUP - NIGERIA
- 9) DAWDA FOUNDATION - KENYA
- 10) EDEN UNIVERSITY - LUSAKA, ZAMBIA
- 11) ELIMISHA WATOTO FOUNDATION
- 12) SUN RAYS FOUNDATION - SOUTH SUDAN
- 13) GLOBAL PEACE FOUNDATION - KENYA
- 14) GREAT MINDS NAIROBI - KENYA
- 15) HESHIMIKA FOUNDATION
- 16) HAKIKA GROUP - TANZANIA
- 17) ISPEAK Society - Kenya
- 18) KENYA SCHOOL OF LAW
- 19) MUHANNA FOUNDATION - LEBANON
- 20) MAKUEI STUDENTS FOUNDATION
- 21) PAN-AFRICAN INSTITUTE - LUKENYA UNIVERSITY, KENYA
- 22) PARTNERS FOR CARE - UNITED STATES OF AMERICA/KENYA
- 23) PAN-AFRICAN INVESTMENT GROUP
- 24) SID-CARE GLOBAL NETWORK - NIGERIA
- 25) TRAVERZE CULTURE
- 26) THE DUO MODELS
- 27) UNITY UNIVERSITY - HARGEISA, SOMALILAND
- 28) UTHANGO FILMS
- 29) UKOMBOZI WA AFRIKA
- 30) UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI - KENYA
- 31) UNIVERSITY OF THE EARTH - AFRICAN STUDENTS - COSTA RICA

A WORD TO OUR READERS

Dear readers ,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to this edition of Kurunzi, the official newsletter of the PLO Lumumba Foundation. As we reflect on the period from January to June 2026, we celebrate the remarkable strides made in empowering young Africans through mentorship, leadership development, and transformative learning opportunities.

This edition highlights inspiring stories, impactful initiatives, and the collective efforts of mentors, mentees, partners, and stakeholders who continue to advance our vision of nurturing a generation of ethical, knowledgeable, and purpose-driven African leaders.

As we journey forward, let us remain committed to the values of excellence, integrity, and Pan-Africanism that guide our work. Together, we are building a future where African youth are equipped to lead, innovate, and contribute meaningfully to the continent's development.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement.



Razak Awudu
AMP Coordinator

Dear Esteemed Readers,

It is with profound appreciation that I welcome you to this edition of our bi-annual newsletter. Within these pages, you will find documented evidence of a continent mobilizing its greatest resource: its people.

Over the period, The Foundation's presence across more than 40 countries has translated vision into measurable impact. Through our network of mentee clubs and community chapters, we have advanced a singular mandate: to restore Africa's dignity and pride by developing ethical leaders and implementing solutions designed by Africans, for Africans.



Anna Nanor
Country Director - Ghana Chapter

This issue highlights that work in detail. You will learn about youth-led innovations, youth empowerment, and community service.

These accounts represent more than individual achievements. They confirm a continental pattern. Across every chapter, young Africans are rejecting dependency, choosing accountability, and leading projects that improve lives while strengthening institutions.

The stories within this newsletter affirm what we have always believed: Africa's renewal is not a future aspiration. It is a present reality, built daily through ethical leadership, rigorous training, and community-driven implementation.

Thank you for investing in this work. Your support has enabled training of our youth, resourced social impact projects, and expanded our reach to communities in need of sustainable solutions.

As you read, I invite you to celebrate these milestones and join us in scaling them. The foundation is set. The results are clear. The next phase of Africa's mission begins now.

In service to Africa's future.

AFRICA MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

The PLO Africa Mentorship Program (AMP) is the flagship initiative of the PLO Lumumba Foundation, dedicated to nurturing, training, and mentoring young Africans to become servant leaders for the next generation. The program serves as a platform through which young people are empowered to develop leadership skills, embrace African values, and contribute meaningfully to the transformation of the continent.

AMP is a program designed by and for young people. It seeks to instill pride in African identity by encouraging participants to appreciate and utilize Africa's rich cultural heritage, values, and resources as tools for sustainable development and progress. Through mentorship, leadership training, and personal development initiatives, the program equips young Africans with the knowledge, character, and vision necessary to address contemporary challenges facing the continent.

The program also provides opportunities for participants to showcase innovative projects and ideas that contribute to social, economic, and political transformation. It serves as a forum for empowerment, dialogue, collaboration, and networking among young people who share a common aspiration of acquiring the right leadership skills and values. By fostering a community of visionary and responsible leaders, the PLO Africa Mentorship Program aims to cultivate a generation committed to advancing Africa's development, unity, and prosperity.

The Africa Mentorship Program continues to empower young people across Africa and the diaspora through mentorship, leadership development, and intellectual engagement. Our focus remains on nurturing leaders grounded in integrity, discipline, and service to society.

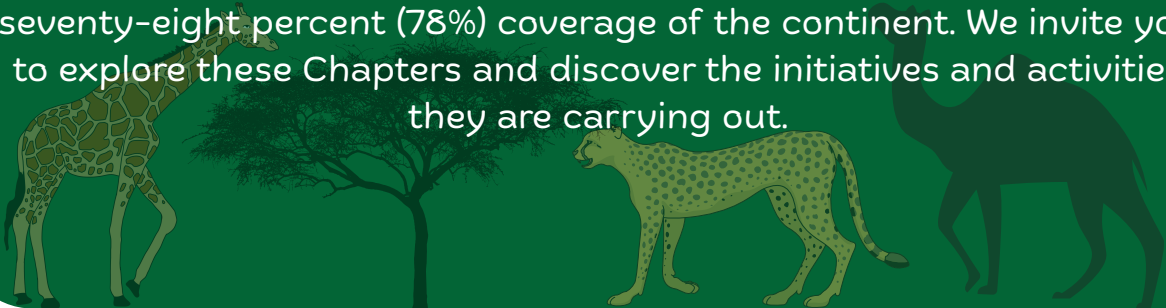
I encourage all members to stay committed to growth and servant leadership, as the future of our continent depends on the leaders we build today.

~ RAZAK AWUDU
AMP COORDINATOR



AFRICA CHAPTERS REVIEW

From its inception, The PLO Lumumba Foundation has expanded rapidly through the formation of Chapters. So far, forty-nine (49) Chapters have been set up across Africa, representing approximately seventy-eight percent (78%) coverage of the continent. We invite you to explore these Chapters and discover the initiatives and activities they are carrying out.



KENYA CHAPTER COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES MEETING

On 20th March 2026, the PLO Lumumba Foundation Kenya Chapter held a hybrid meeting bringing together county representatives from across the country, with a delegation from the Uganda Chapter also joining the meeting.

The meeting discussed strengthening county activities, improving coordination, and increasing participation in foundation programs. Members also discussed the possibility of undertaking a national project as a chapter that would have a meaningful impact on society and improve the quality of life of the people. The meeting ended with a renewed commitment to servant leadership, mentorship, and service to society.



PLO AFRICA INNOVATION CLUB IN SHS

The PLO Africa Innovation Club aims to inspire and empower young students in senior high and technical schools to develop innovative technological devices and machines using objects, electronics and other tools, with a focus on creating functional products such as drones, robots and environmental monitoring systems, within a period of 12 months (one academic year). The project was launched on 5th July, 2025 with Obuasi Senior High and Technical School in Ghana. The exhibition of cohort one innovative products was held on 22nd November, 2025, in Obuasi, Ghana. Products such as drones, atmospheric water generator and automated waste segregator were exhibited by the club members.

PARTNER SCHOOL: Obuasi Senior and Technical School (Ghana)

PLO FOUNDATION LIBERIA CHAPTER CLOTHING PROJECT

This project provides skill training, mentorship and job opportunities for young people in Liberia, thereby reducing unemployment among the youth. Currently, the project is providing employment for 8 mentees in Liberia as well as supporting chapter activities.

STATUS: The clothing is currently under the process of expanding production to sewing about 20 clothes per day by adding new sewing machines.

PLO FOUNDATION GAMBIA PRINTING PROJECT.

This project which was launched in 2024, in partnership with the Education Students Union, provides affordable printing services for students of the University of Gambia and also serves as an avenue for income generation and employment for the mentees in Gambia.

STATUS: The printing project currently operates with one printer and scanner, with average work output of 50 printings per day.

The Pulse of Our Journey

THE AFRICA PROSPERITY DIALOGUES (ACCRA, GHANA)

The Africa Prosperity Dialogues (Accra, Ghana): The year's advocacy was ignited in February at the Africa Prosperity Dialogues (APD 2026), held at the Peduase Lodge and the Accra International Conference Centre. Under the theme "Empowering SMEs, Women and Youth in Africa's Single Market: Innovate, Collaborate, Trade," the Foundation occupied a central role in bridging the gap between high-level policy and grassroots reality. Prof. PLO Lumumba delivered what many described as a "theological indictment" of Africa's current political trajectory, specifically targeting the culture of "ceremonial governance." He argued that the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) remains a "paper tiger" as long as leaders continue the theatre of signing protocols without the political will to domesticate them.



A pivotal moment of the summit was the Foundation's strategic alignment with the Africa Prosperity Network (APN) to champion the 10-million-signature petition. This initiative is not merely a symbolic gesture but a continental mandate demanding that African Heads of State honor their commitments to the free movement of people, goods, and services. The dialogue concluded with a stern reminder that a "borderless Africa" is impossible without peace and security; integration cannot flourish in an environment of instability.



THE SILVER JUBILEE AT NASARAWA STATE UNIVERSITY (KEFFI, NIGERIA)

On April 10, 2026, the spotlight shifted to Nigeria for the momentous Combined 8th Convocation and 25th Anniversary celebration of Nasarawa State University (NSUK). Delivering the keynote address titled "Universities Leadership of African Renaissance: Re-imagining Knowledge for Development in the 21st Century," Prof. PLO Lumumba challenged the gathered scholars and graduands to reject the comfort of the "ivory tower." He argued that for the AU Agenda 2063 to move from a blueprint to a reality, African universities must become the primary engines of industrialization and technological innovation.



The lecture was a call to bridge the gap between theoretical excellence and the practical "analog" problems of our communities, urging the institution to lead the charge in scientific research that adds local value to Africa's vast natural resources.



Prof. PLO Lumumba with the governor of Nasarawa state Hon. Abdullahi Sule

THE PLO LUMUMBA FOUNDATION PARTICIPATES IN THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI PRIZE GIVING CEREMONY

The PLO Lumumba Foundation participated in the University of Nairobi Student Awards Ceremony held on Friday, May 8, 2026, at Taifa Hall. The ceremony brought together university leadership, sponsors, award recipients, and distinguished guests to celebrate academic excellence and outstanding student achievement.

The Foundation was among the delegates who attended the event in recognition of students who excelled in various fields of study and were recipients of awards organized by the University of Nairobi.

Among the highlights of the ceremony was the presentation of the PLO Lumumba Foundation Award, which recognizes exceptional performance in Criminal Law.

The event also celebrated recipients of the Lucy-Onono Memorial Award, the N.H.O Mahondo Award and the Ms. Yvonna Bondi Memorial Award, all aimed at encouraging academic distinction and leadership among students.



The Foundation's participation reaffirmed its commitment to promoting education, mentorship, ethical leadership, and the nurturing of future generations of African leaders.

By supporting academic excellence, the Foundation continues to invest in young people who will play a critical role in shaping the future of the continent.

The ceremony served as a reminder of the transformative power of education and the importance of recognizing and rewarding hard work, discipline, and intellectual achievement.

Through education, mentorship, and leadership development, the PLO Lumumba Foundation remains committed to inspiring excellence and advancing Africa's future.

EMMANUEL TROKON BANNEY MEETS PRESIDENT JOSEPH NYUMA BOAKAI

Young Liberian Pan-Africanist and PLO Lumumba Foundation mentee, Emmanuel Trokon Banney, was honored to meet with the President of the Republic of Liberia, His Excellency Joseph Nyuma Boakai, marking their first meeting in three years.

During the engagement, Mr. Banney congratulated President Boakai on his electoral victory and held discussions centered on Liberia's development, Africa's future, leadership, and the responsibility of guiding the next generation toward prosperity and progress.

A notable highlight of the meeting was Mr. Banney's presentation of a special package to the President on behalf of Professor PLO Lumumba, Founder of the PLO Lumumba Foundation. The gesture underscored the strong bonds of mentorship, Pan-African solidarity, and shared commitment to ethical leadership.



Speaking after the meeting, Mr. Banney described the occasion as a moment of great personal significance and reaffirmed his dedication to advancing the ideals of good governance, Pan-Africanism, and service to humanity.

Mr. Banney is a young Liberian Pan-Africanist and a mentee under the direct supervision of Professor PLO Lumumba at the PLO Lumumba Foundation, where he continues to develop his leadership and civic engagement capacities.

PLO LUMUMBA FOUNDATION JOINS SEEDS OF THE FUTURE TREE PLANTING INITIATIVE AT CHELETA PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Representatives of the PLO Lumumba Foundation participated in the pilot launch programme of the Seeds of the Future Organization and a tree-planting activity held at Cheleta Primary School, Runda, Nairobi-Kenya, on Wednesday, May 13, 2026.

The Foundation was represented by Mr. Ohuru Timothy and Mr. Emmanuel Trokon Banney, who attended the event alongside representatives from environmental organizations, community groups, government institutions, corporate partners, educators, and learners.

The initiative, organized by Seeds of the Future Organization, forms part of a broader effort to promote environmental conservation, sustainability education, and community engagement among young people. The event brought together key stakeholders committed to nurturing environmental responsibility and climate consciousness within schools and communities.

A major highlight of the programme was the tree-planting exercise and a guided tour of the school's vegetable garden project, which showcased practical approaches to sustainability and food production within learning institutions. Participants emphasized the importance of exposing learners to hands-on environmental conservation activities that inspire responsible stewardship of natural resources.



Representatives from several organizations, including environmental and community-based institutions, delivered remarks underscoring the need for collaborative action in advancing environmental awareness and sustainable development.

Speakers praised the initiative for empowering young learners to become active participants in protecting the environment.

The event reaffirmed the importance of partnerships between schools, civil society organizations, and community leaders in cultivating a culture of environmental responsibility among future generations.

Through its participation, The PLO Lumumba Foundation reiterated its commitment to supporting initiatives that promote sustainable development, environmental conservation, youth empowerment, and responsible leadership across Africa. Planting trees today is an investment in a greener, more sustainable tomorrow.

KWIBUKA 32: A CALL FOR HISTORICAL JUSTICE (NAIROBI, KENYA)

Marking 32 years since the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi, the Foundation participated in the Kwibuka 32 commemorations at the University of Nairobi, Kenya. In a lecture titled "Rwanda Has Risen from the Ashes: Lessons for a Fractured Continent," Prof. PLO Lumumba provided a searing critique of the international community's historical indifference. He highlighted Rwanda's recovery not as a miracle of foreign aid, but as a victory of indigenous African ingenuity and reconciliation frameworks. The address served as a profound reminder that the patterns of hate speech and ethnic mobilization seen in the past remain present threats today, requiring a new generation of peace-builders committed to the "never again" mantra through active vigilance and historical honesty.



THE YOUTH SPARK SUMMIT: ARCHITECTS OF INNOVATION



On March 14, the Foundation joined a vibrant movement of Gen-Z leaders at the Youth Spark Summit. Addressing a generation "refusing to stay average," Prof. PLO Lumumba focused on the moral dimensions of technology and entrepreneurship. He challenged the youth to stop being mere consumers of foreign ideologies and instead become the architects of African-led innovation, reminding them that a digital revolution without a foundation of ethics is merely a new avenue for exploitation.

A DEFINING MOMENT FOR THE PLO LUMUMBA FOUNDATION, UNIVERSITY OF CAPE COAST MENTEE CLUB - GHANA



On 31st January, 2026, we successfully held the official launch of the PLO Lumumba Foundation, University of Cape Coast Chapter. The program brought members together and gave us the chance to engage with respected personalities, including Prof. Emeritus Kwesi Nkrumah Boadi, Miss. Anna Nanor Esq (The Country Director), H.E. Annobil Ebenezer (UEW SRC President), Dr. Charles Asante (Patron), among others, and shared the vision and direction of the Foundation.

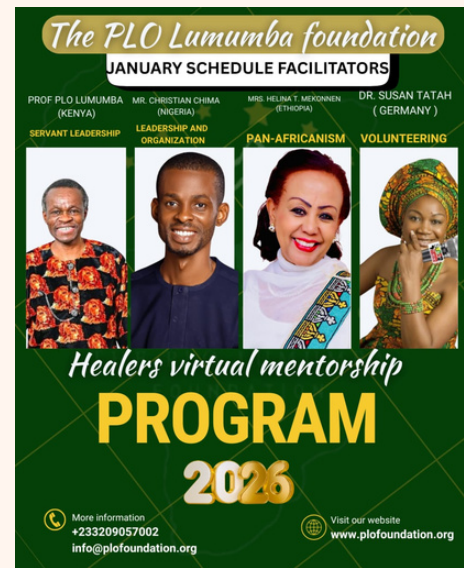
Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the program.

Inspiring Change in Young Africans Through Principled Leadership



HEALERS VIRTUAL MENTORSHIP PROGRAM 2026 (COHORT 1)

The Healers Virtual Mentorship Program is an annual mentorship program that aims to inspire the next generation of African leaders and changemakers, providing them with the tools, values, skills and ethics necessary for confronting Africa's persistent and contemporary challenges in a rapidly evolving world. The Healers Virtual Mentorship Program is designed to empower young Africans aged 18-25 to become leaders and innovators in their communities, through virtual training and mentoring in three key areas: entrepreneurship, digital technology, and servant leadership for a period of three months (12 weeks), on cohort basis.



Closing ceremony

PLO MENTEEES CLUB



The PLO Lumumba Foundation via its PLO Mentees Club Project launched the PLO Africa Mentees Club for schools in the Northern Region of Ghana, on 24th February, 2026 at the campus of Savannah International Academy, Tamale, Ghana. The launched was attended by five schools, namely;

1. Savannah International Academy (host school)
2. Old Airport Ridge School
3. Abe Halperin School Ltd
4. David Abdulai Memorial School
5. Tamale International School.



The activity was coordinated by Mr.Razak Awudu, the Africa Mentorship Coordinator

PLO MENTEES CLUB

TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS

NO	PARTNER SCHOOL	LOCATION	BENEFICIARIES
1	PLO Africa Mentees Club – University of Education, Winneba Branch	Ghana	152 members
2	PLO Africa Mentees Club – University of Cape Coast Branch	Ghana	121 members
3	PLO Africa Mentees Club – University of Ghana Branch	Ghana	101 members
4	PLO Africa Mentees Club – Ghana Technology University Branch	Ghana	97 members
5	PLO Africa Mentees Club – Starford University Branch	South Sudan	108 members
6	PLO Africa Mentees Club – Upper Nile University Branch	South Sudan	58 members
7	PLO Africa Mentees Club – University of Juba Branch	South Sudan	63 members
8	PLO Africa Mentees Club – University of the Free State Branch	South Africa	46 members
9	PLO Africa Mentees Club – Morogoro University Branch	Tanzania	77 members

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS

NO	PARTNER SCHOOL	LOCATION	BENEFICIARIES
10	PLO Africa Mentees Club – Oda Senior High	Ghana	81 members
11	PLO Africa Mentees Club – Attafuah Senior High School	Ghana	91 members
12	PLO Africa Mentees Club – Akim Swedru Senior High	Ghana	70 members
13	PLO Africa Mentees Club – Swedru Senior High School	Ghana	86 members
14	PLO Africa Mentees Club – St. Francis Senior High	The Gambia	78 members

BASIC SCHOOLS

NO	PARTNER SCHOOL	LOCATION	BENEFICIARIES
15	PLO Africa Mentees Club – Savannah International Academy Branch	Ghana	122 members
16	PLO Africa Mentees Club – Pima International School	Burkina Faso	37 members
17	PLO Africa Mentees Club – Tamale International School	Ghana	69 members
18	PLO Africa Mentees Club – Abe Halperin School Ltd.	Ghana	57 members
19	PLO Africa Mentees Club – Old Airport Ridge School	Ghana	62 members
20	PLO Africa Mentees Club – David Abdulai Memorial School	Ghana	45 members

Total Beneficiaries: 1,621 members.

The Pan-African quiz competition

The Pan African Virtual Quiz Competition is a continental flagship program of The PLO Lumumba Foundation under the Africa Mentorship Program, which is organized yearly for young Africans and mentees of the Foundation. The objective of the Pan African Quiz competition is to provide a platform for young people to learn the history of Africa and share with their peers in a competitive manner. The quiz competition which commenced in 2018 has benefited sixty-eight direct participants from twenty-two countries, and impacted over two thousand young people via a live streaming platform. The Competition provides a platform for young Africans to learn and showcase their knowledge on Africa's history, culture, values, current affairs and aspirations. It seeks to challenge the participant's knowledge as a way of nurturing young Africans with Pan African ideals and principles.

FIRST EDITION: 2018 (Won by Nigeria Chapter)

SECOND EDITION: 2024 (Won by Zambia Chapter)

THIRD EDITION: 2025 (Finals to be held in mid-May, 2026, between Ethiopia, Uganda and Gambia)

NO. OF BENEFICIARIES: 62 Quiz Participants (who were issued with certificates)



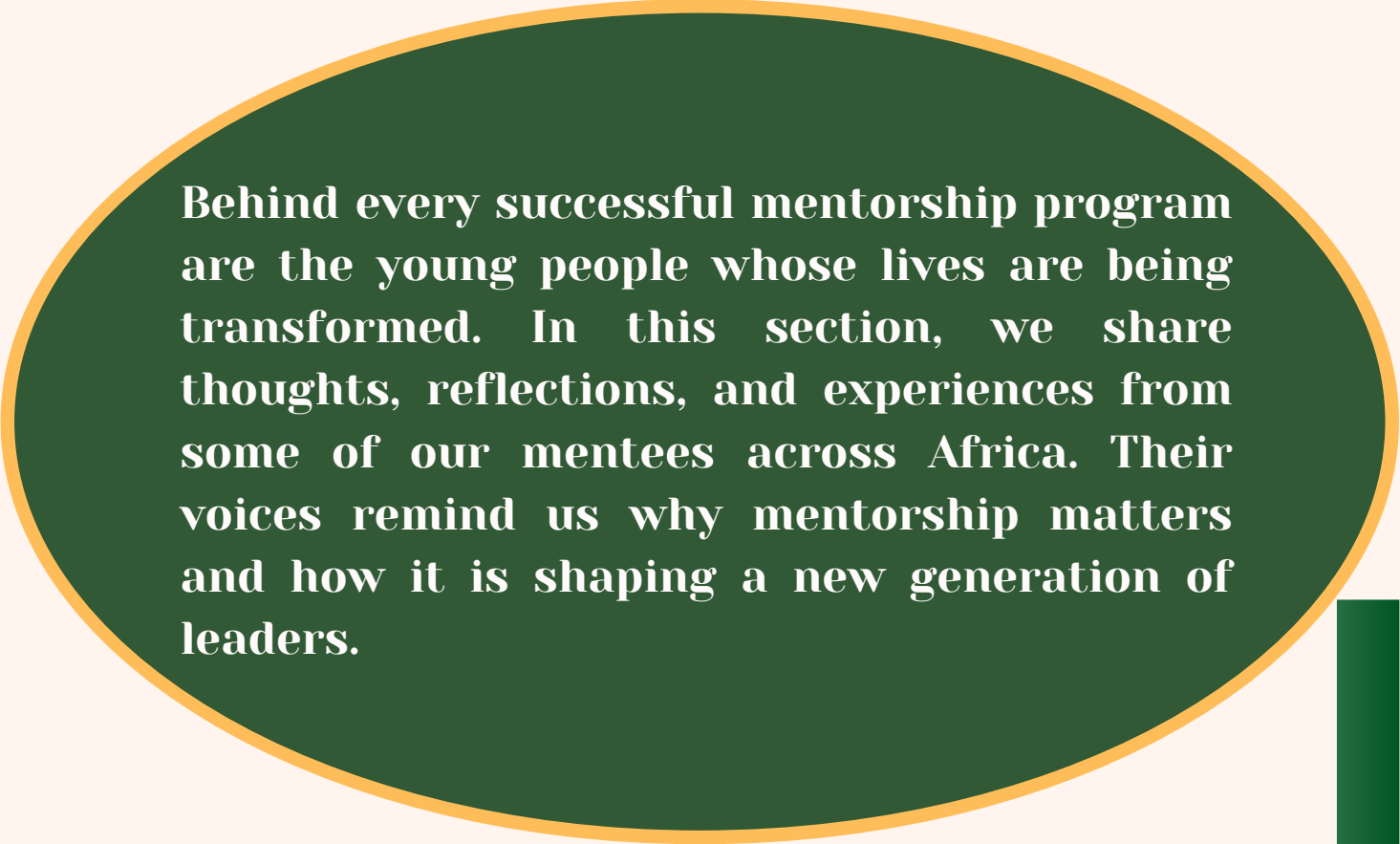
Upcoming 4th edition of the pan African quiz competition



TESTIMONIALS



ESSAYS



Behind every successful mentorship program are the young people whose lives are being transformed. In this section, we share thoughts, reflections, and experiences from some of our mentees across Africa. Their voices remind us why mentorship matters and how it is shaping a new generation of leaders.

My name is Wendy Kathurima, an Associate at Muma and Kanjama Advocates and a Project Officer at the Nairobi Legal Awards Secretariat. As Country Director of the Kenya Chapter of The PLO Lumumba Foundation, I have focused on extending mentorship beyond the legal profession to reach students, young professionals and the wider community. While my background as an Advocate informs my approach, my work centers on guiding individuals from diverse fields to navigate career paths, build confidence and develop practical skills. Through community interactions and mentorship forums, we continue to create accessible spaces for learning and meaningful engagement.



Wendy Kathurima
Country Coordinator
PLO Lumumba Foundation - Kenya

“

***I RISE BY MENTORING OTHERS AND HELPING THEM REACH THEIR
FULL POTENTIAL***

My journey with the PLO Lumumba Foundation has greatly transformed my thinking, leadership, and sense of responsibility as a young African. Through the Foundation and the Africa Mentorship Program, I have experienced what Prof. Lumumba calls a “mentality revolution” — learning to see Africa’s challenges as opportunities for self-conquest and home-grown solutions rather than dependency.

Through various mentorship programs, conferences, and Pan-African initiatives, I have developed skills in servant leadership, civic consciousness, and community engagement. These experiences have inspired me to actively participate in community outreach, leadership training, and sharing knowledge with fellow young people in Uganda.

The Foundation has taught me that leadership is not about positions, but about service, discipline, and commitment to society. Today, I see myself not as a spectator of history, but as a participant in shaping the future of Africa.



GUMA LUMUMBA
PLO LUMUMBA FOUNDATION -
UGANDA CHAPTER

“

Leadership is not about positions, but about service, discipline, and commitment to society.

The PLO Lumumba Foundation has had a profound and transformative impact on my life. It was the first Foundation that recognized the potential in my ideas, giving them life and helping me refine my understanding of leadership, governance, and mentorship through its impactful mentorship program.

Through the Foundation, I gained valuable knowledge, guidance, and exposure that have significantly shaped my personal and professional growth.

The mentorship program strengthened my capacity as a leader and deepened my commitment to the principles of good governance, ethical leadership, and service to society.

On a personal level, I have been privileged to build a meaningful connection with the Founder, Professor Patrick Loch Otieno Lumumba. His wisdom, vision, and unwavering commitment to Pan-Africanism have greatly influenced my life and leadership journey.

His teachings and example have inspired me to become a more dedicated young Pan-Africanist, activist, and advocate for good governance, African unity, and sustainable development across the continent.



**ALIYU SULEIMAN -
PLO LUMUMBA FOUNDATION
(NIGERIA CHAPTER)**

The Foundation has not only equipped me with knowledge and leadership skills but has also instilled in me the confidence and responsibility to contribute meaningfully to the advancement of Nigeria and Africa.

I remain deeply grateful for the opportunities, mentorship, and inspiration I have received through The PLO Lumumba Foundation.

Africa stands at a defining moment in its history. Despite its vast resources, culture, and human potential, the continent continues to operate below its true capacity due to systems built on dependency rather than self-sufficiency. For decades, Africa has exported raw materials, imported finished products, and relied heavily on external influence, limiting both economic growth and institutional confidence.

To move forward, Africa must transition from rhetoric to action. Leadership must focus on strong institutions, long-term development, and systems-driven governance instead of personality politics. Economically, the continent must shift from resource extraction to value creation by building industries, strengthening local capacity, and expanding intra-African trade.



**ALEXANDER EDET
(NIGERIA CHAPTER)**

Equally important is the transformation of mindset. Africa must overcome colonial conditioning, value local solutions, and embrace intellectual and economic independence. Above all, the continent must prioritize execution, accountability, and coordinated action.

The future of Africa will not be given. It must be built deliberately, strategically, and collectively. From dependency to dominance is not merely a slogan; it is a responsibility.

Africa stands at a defining moment in its history, where the strength of its future will depend not only on its natural resources, but on the mindset and actions of its young people. With a large percentage of the population being youth, the continent holds immense potential for transformation. However, this potential can only be realized if young people move from passive observers to active builders of their societies.

One of the greatest challenges facing many African communities today is the gap between knowledge and action. Many young people are educated, skilled, and aware of the issues affecting their societies, yet opportunities for meaningful engagement remain limited or underutilized. Unemployment, misinformation, and lack of mentorship continue to slow down progress. Despite these challenges, there is also a growing wave of innovation, creativity, and civic engagement among the youth.

To build a stronger Africa, there is need for intentional investment in youth empowerment through education, leadership training, and community involvement. Organizations such as The PLO Lumumba Foundation play a crucial role in nurturing Pan-African values, encouraging critical thinking, and promoting unity among young Africans.



**FRANK GUTO -
MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST
(KENYA CHAPTER)**

When young people are guided to understand their role in shaping society, they become powerful agents of change rather than victims of circumstance.

Ultimately, the future of Africa will not be determined by outside forces, but by how its youth choose to respond to the challenges of today. It is time to move beyond discussions and take action in our communities, however small. True transformation begins when each young person commits to being part of the solution.

Malawi stands at a critical inflection point, endowed with immense potential yet constrained by structural inefficiencies, weak institutional accountability and limited economic diversification. Sustainable progress will not be driven by policy rhetoric alone, but by a decisive shift towards ethical leadership, disciplined execution and citizen-driven development.

Across my experience in finance, operations and enterprise development, I have consistently observed a critical gap between strategy and execution. Institutions often articulate ambitious agendas, yet outcomes are undermined by weak systems, limited transparency and short-term thinking. Bridging this gap requires principled, accountable and results-oriented leadership, values that are powerfully championed by Prof. PLO Lumumba.

My work focuses on creating platforms that bring together entrepreneurs, policymakers and young professionals to foster actionable dialogue on investment, productivity and innovation.

These engagements are not merely symbolic. They are intentionally designed to catalyse partnerships, unlock opportunities and strengthen economic participation, particularly among young people. This aligns with a broader African imperative: transitioning from consumption to production and from dependency to self-reliance.



**EUNICE HAWARA -
(MALAWI CHAPTER)**

At the community level, my involvement in agriculture and empowerment initiatives underscores a fundamental strategic truth: inclusive growth is an economic necessity. Equipping young people and women with practical skills and access to opportunities directly enhances national productivity, strengthens resilience and fosters sustainable economic development.

Malawi's transformation will be defined by the integrity of its institutions and the intentionality of its leadership. The mandate is clear: to build systems that deliver, cultivate leaders who serve and develop an economy that creates value locally and sustainably.

For generations, our educational and societal frameworks have prescribed a singular, rigid path: from nursery to university, individuals are conditioned for a uniform outcome—study, graduate, secure employment, and repeat. While this predictable cycle historically provided structural stability, the foundational promise of this system is fundamentally fracturing for the contemporary youth. The institutional pressure to "fit in" to a failing model has yielded an environment where raw potential is systematically suppressed

The contemporary challenge does not stem from a deficit of ambition, but from a profound misalignment of purpose. When young creators and builders consciously step away from traditional employment models, it is a deliberate rejection of routines that drain creativity and limit human potential. This behavioral shift creates an inevitable generational friction; the traditional benchmarks of success—defined by predictable incomes and bureaucratic office spaces—fail to encompass the aspirations of a generation refusing to sleepwalk through a compromised existence.



LYDIAH NDUHIU
(KENYA CHAPTER)

To build a resilient future, institutions must recognize that a world devoid of risk-takers, artists, and innovators inherently stagnates into a safe, predictable mediocrity. Our communities are brimming with latent talent that remains ignored simply because it refuses to conform to traditional structural boxes. Organizations dedicated to mentorship and ethical governance such as The PLO Lumumba foundation, have a critical role to play in validating these unique capabilities, ensuring that the next generation is not forced to shrink their ambitions merely to be understood

The spirit of Ubuntu—the philosophy that "I am because we are"—is not just a cultural relic; it is the blueprint for Africa's future. Across the continent, from the bustling tech hubs of Nairobi to the rural farming cooperatives in the Sahel, we are witnessing a powerful shift. The narrative of Africa is being rewritten, not by external forces, but by the strength of our local communities.

In an era of rapid globalization, the African community remains our most resilient asset. We see this in the way neighbors mobilize to solve local infrastructure gaps or how young entrepreneurs build digital platforms to bridge the gap between justice and the common citizen. This collective agency is the engine of the African Renaissance. When a single village innovates a sustainable way to manage waste or share resources, it creates a ripple effect that contributes to the African Union's broader vision of an integrated, prosperous, and peaceful continent.

However, the "Africa as a whole" we dream of depends on the intentionality of our local actions. True progress is measured by how well we safeguard our environment for the next generation and how effectively we use modern tools to uphold our traditional values of equity and peace.



BAN ERICK
(KENYA CHAPTER)

As we move forward, let us remember that every local initiative is a brick in the foundation of a stronger Africa. By fostering transparency, embracing innovation, and maintaining our deep-rooted sense of community, we ensure that the continent's growth is not just statistical, but human-centric and enduring. We are the architects of our own destiny, and that architecture begins at home.

PHOTO GALLERY



Prof. PLO Lumumba at the launch of Pan African institute at Eden university, Lusaka - Zambia



University of Cape Coast (UCC) mentees club



Uganda chapter visit to Prof. PLO Lumumba in Nairobi-Kenya



Launch of The PLO Lumumba Foundation University of CapeCoast Chapter



Induction of University of Education Winneba Executives, Ghana



Launch of PLO Lumumba Foundation mentees club in Northern Ghana

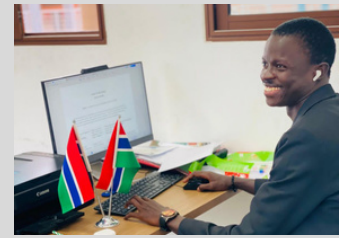
PHOTO GALLERY



Signing of MOU between The PLO Lumumba Foundation and The Sun Rays Foundation



Signing of MOU between The PLO Lumumba Foundation and Partners for Care



The PLO Lumumba Foundation - Edusa Printing Business in Gambia



The PLO Lumumba Foundation board members meeting at Sankara, Nairobi-Kenya



Prof. PLO Lumumba in Nasarawa State University



Prof. PLO Lumumba with the former president of Kenya H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta



Prof. PLO Lumumba at Kenya Defense Forces headquarters, Nairobi - Kenya



Razak Awudu awarding a Certificate of Project Completion to PLO Lumumba Foundation Africa Innovation Club members of Obuasi Senior High and Technical School, Ghana



PLO Lumumba in Bayelsa state in Nigeria on the occasion of the Nigerian Bar Association Week Celebration



Prof. PLO Lumumba in Wa, Ghana for a Public Lecture at the University of Business and Integrated Development Studies (UBIDS).



Prof. PLO Lumumba at Youth spark summit in Nairobi



Prof. PLO Lumumba at a youth summit in Nyeri



PLO Lumumba Foundation club Tamale International School



PLO club Old Airport Ridge School



Leadership Training by The Gambia Chapter

THE PLO LUMUMBA FOUNDATION



■ PRESENCE OF THE FOUNDATION

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Congo, DRC-Kinshasa, Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Equitorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States of America, Zambia, Zimbabwe

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