

Don Divin Niyukuri

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SUMMARY

Visionary leader with a proven track record in driving transformative projects and achieving breakthrough results in youth empowerment and climate action. Currently pursuing a Bachelor's in Entrepreneurial Leadership, I excel in strategic innovation and team mobilization to deliver impactful solutions on a global scale.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

African Leadership University – Kigali, Rwanda

May 2024 – Current

BSc (HNS) Entrepreneurial Leadership.

Relevant Coursework: Business Innovation and project management; Research on Global Challenges; Poverty Policy & Inequality; Ideas & Issues, Leadership Foundations, Strategic Thinking, Social Impact & Change.

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Founder & Program Manager

June 2019 – Present

English Proficiency Program for Refugee Youth (Mahama Refugee Camp, Rwanda)

- Established an English learning initiative benefiting 239 refugee students, as well as exploring other educational opportunities
- Improved academic performance and opened higher education opportunities for 93 students.

Lead Facilitator, Critical thinking and professional competencies.

July 2024 African Leadership University – Kigali, Rwanda

- Conducted critical thinking and professional skills sessions for university students.

Ambassador - Baobab

July 2024 – Present

Mastercard Foundation in Partnership with Arizona State University – Global

- Coordinated international events on social entrepreneurship and youth leadership.
- Mentored emerging leaders in project development and execution.

Project Lead

January 2022 – Present

Refugee Empowerment Initiative (Mahama Refugee Camp, Rwanda)

- Organized workshops to equip refugee youth with entrepreneurship and leadership skills.
- Secured partnerships for long-term program support

Mentorship Program Coordinator April 2021 – December 2021 Youth Empowerment Program (Mahama Refugee Camp, Rwanda)

- Designed and led a mentorship program for refugee youth, supporting academic and career development.
- Matched mentees with mentors, fostering growth and achieving personal goals.

Debate Team Founder & Mentor

August 2023 – Present

Mahama refugee Camp (Mahama refugee Camp, Rwanda)

- Founded Mahama's debate team, mentoring students in public speaking and argumentation.
- Led the team to success in regional competitions.

Certifications, Projects and Volunteerism

- Certified Debate Judge and Public Speaking Facilitator, iDebate Rwanda (Kigali, Rwanda).
- Certified as the Rise Challenge Global Winner, By Rise Global Scholarship

- Certified in Leadership by The John C. Maxwell Leadership Foundation, Beyond Success Program (Rwanda).
- Certified as the founder of Rusumo High School Public Speaking Program (Rwanda).
- Certified as the Coordinator for Refugee Students, at Maison Shalom International (Mahama Refugee Camp, Rwanda).
- Certified in Youth Impact Mission Leadership Course, Youth Impact Mission Rwanda (Rwanda).
- Certified Mentor for University Students in Critical Thinking and Professional Competencies, African Leadership University (Kigali, Rwanda).
- Certified in the Iteme Program, Kepler College (Rwanda).

EXTRACURRICULARACTIVITIES

Founder, Empowering Youth through Vertical Farming in Mahama Refugee Camp June 2021 – Present Mahama refugee Camp, Rwanda

- Launched a vertical farming initiative aimed at tackling food insecurity and promoting sustainable agricultural practices within the Mahama Refugee Camp, impacting over 80 refugees.

Ambassador, BAOBAB Platform July 2023 – Present Mastercard Foundation and Arizona State University

- Selected as a BAOBAB Ambassador for outstanding leadership skills, organizing youth-centered events and leading discussions on global challenges.

Global Winner, Rise Global Challenge

Year of 2024

- Selected as a winner in the Rise Global Challenge for myr leadership and innovation in community projects, including the youth empowerment, refugees education advocacy and vertical farming initiatives.

Participant, Mastercard Foundation Youth-Led SDG Action Grant Program

July 2024

- Proposed a youth-led project to address climate action, securing a micro-grant to support sustainable practices through the SDG grant program.

Influencer & Multiplier, John C. Maxwell Leadership Foundation Beyond Success Leadership Program

May 2021 – Present

- Mentor and guide emerging leaders in leadership development and community impact, leveraging John Maxwell’s principles to foster transformational growth and positive change.

International Youth Conference Delegate

October 2024

International Youth Conference 10 (New York, USA)

- Represented young leaders in global discussions on governance and youth empowerment.
- Collaborated on creating a guiding document for youth participation in international summits.

SKILLS

- **Technical Skills:** Leadership and strategic planning, public speaking and debating, critical thinking and professional competencies training, digital marketing and communication tools, youth mentoring and development, environmental and climate action planning.
- **Soft Skills:** Effective communication, creative problem-solving, team collaboration and coordination, attention to detail, reliability and professionalism, adaptability, and resilience.

INTERESTS

- Nature & Wildlife Conservation
- Women Empowerment
- Regional Development

LANGUAGES

- English – Expert
- Kirundi - Native
- Kiswahili - Intermediate
- French - Conversational