

Sena Agbodjah

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PROFILE

Dedicated to advancing Africa's development and contribution to global sustainability, I specialise in implementing impactful, targeted interventions, entrepreneurship and economic development projects, and education initiatives. I leverage my expertise in project/ program management, systemic revisions, education, capacity building, and youth skills development rooted in African-centred approaches. My passion lies in fostering equity for women and empowering African youth, particularly in critical areas such as financial independence, food security, healthcare, and sustainable development, to accelerate continental growth and enhance global relevance.

CONSULTING COMPETENCIES

Competencies: Entrepreneurship ecosystems architecture and development; Business improvement for corporate organisations and MSMEs; Intervention project/program conceptualisation, design, and implementation management; Learning and knowledge creation and management on programs/projects and in organisations; Impact measurement and assessment & monitoring and evaluation, needs assessment research, and market research; and Decolonization of educational content and developing/troubleshooting the academic affairs departments of higher educational institutions.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Vice President, Academic Affairs

Academic City University College | June 2024 – Present.

- Providing academic leadership and strategy.
- Spearheading curriculum development and enhancement, quality assurance and faculty development.
- Guaranteeing student success and support through teaching, learning, innovation, and research excellence.
- Driving partnership and outreach programs to promote faculty and student development, diversity, equity and inclusion.
- Reporting on academic affairs issues to the President, the board, and all internal and external stakeholders.

Head, Business Administration Department

Ashesi University | August 2020 – March 2024.

- Developed and aligned departmental strategy with the university's objectives and ensured its operationalisation.
- Developing and disseminating the department's activities and achievements through media, including a newsletter, stakeholder presentations, and engagements.
- Led the review of the Business Administration program, a new Economics major, and the redesign of capstones.
- Oversee general administration, program enhancement, budget development, faculty management, engaged stakeholders, and enriching student experiences while serving on key committees: Academic Council, Academic Programs Committee, Quality Assurance Committee, and Research Committee.
- Foster collaborations with external institutions and universities, cultivating networks and facilitating professional development while establishing an Industry/ Academia Advisory Council for the Business Administration department.

Volunteer, Office of the Provost, Academic Affairs Department

Ashesi University | March 2020 – October 2023.

- Supported establishing an executive education program from conceptualisation and strategy development through research and engagement, executive committee presentations, piloting, and general program design.
- Conducted research, feasibility studies, and needs assessments and engaged stakeholders to identify current business requirements to inform strategy, programs, decisions, and activities in regular times and crises while tracking performance.
- Developed communication strategies, wrote reports, developed summary presentations, and disseminated information to support board and executive committee updates while representing the provost in some high-level meetings.
- Supporting and sometimes coordinating, organising, and aiding to prioritise strategy, activity, and programs to advance priorities.

Co-Principal Investigator, Ashesi Health Initiative

Ashesi University | April 2023 – March 2024.

- Facilitated co-creation discussions with the funder, shaping the program's strategic vision while co-led the conceptualisation and strategy of the institution's initiative and aligning it to the institution and broader health collaborative goals.
- Led project implementation, team building, and management, reporting to the Principal Investigator (PI), reporting to funders, and supporting/ sometimes leading funder and executive committee meetings while keeping PI on top of all activities and progress.

Content Lead, Ashesi E-Learning Initiative

Ashesi University | February 2022 – February 2024.

- Co-led the development of program conceptualisation and strategy for the E-Learning Initiative, securing Executive and Board approval for project implementation.
- Served as co-PI responsible for managing programmatic activities, including program schedule, financials, risk assessment, personnel management, learning outcomes, stakeholder engagement, adaptation, and evaluation.
- Responsible for content needs, resource assessment, content design and development, team training, and instructional design.

Researcher & Community Engagement Lead, StopNCD Research Project

Ashesi University | October 2022 – March 2024.

- Led technical and financial proposal development for research and institutional capacity strengthening to prevent and manage non-communicable diseases (NCD) in Ghana, Mali, and Burkina Faso.
- Served on the Community Engagement Committee, driving a systematic NCD prevention and maintenance review, exploring innovations and systemic changes.
- Develop expertise in systematic review processes, understanding the NCD landscapes in Ghana, Mali, and Burkina Faso, and support the management of teams across Anglophone and Francophone Africa.

Project Lead, Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Development.

The Education Collaborative | August 2021 - December 2023.

- Conceptualization, strategy, and operational planning for the entrepreneurship ecosystems project for the Collaborative.
- Developed and managed the project implementation process, plan, risks, and budget while building a skilled team.
- Led a desk study to create a framework for designing active entrepreneurship ecosystems in higher educational institutions, fostering entrepreneurial mindsets, and driving innovation.
- Managed stakeholders from 45 African universities, facilitating active entrepreneurship ecosystems and promoting innovation.
- Disseminated findings to shape institutional-level entrepreneurship strategies and initiatives, leveraging diverse communication outlets while leading the establishment of a Community of Practice for Entrepreneurship stakeholders across sub-Saharan Africa.

Senior Lecturer

Ashesi University | September 2017 – March 2024.

- Led the development of new courses in Project Management, Creative/Entrepreneurship and Research Internship Non-Major Elective, and the Foundations of Design and Entrepreneurship program.
- Instruct courses, including Capstone Entrepreneurship, Applied Projects, Project Management, Real Estate Development, and Creative/Entrepreneurship and Research Internship, a Non-Major Elective.
- Managing the administration and logistics for the Entrepreneurship capstone, overseeing a team of faculty members, interns, and collaborators, including industry advisors, consultants, and professional institutions, while supporting Ashesi's Entrepreneurship Centre as an Entrepreneurship Faculty Lead from 2020 to 2022.
- Supervise 1-3 thesis projects annually, guide student clubs (Business, Agribusiness, Real Estate, and Project Management), and offer career advising and counselling to students.

Academic Strategy and Curriculum Development Consultant

The Education Collaborative | May 2018 – December 2020

- **Interim Provost:** Repurposed and restructured academic offerings at the African Development University, Niamey, Niger, recruiting faculty and facilitating faculty development. Ensuring continuity in academic operations (March to December 2020).
- **Professional Development Facilitator:** Developed a framework for course redesign and new course development for core and co-curricular activities, providing training to stakeholders (June 2019).
- **Higher-ed Institution Establishment Consultant:** Collaborated with faculty, students, and staff to co-create a two-year extended capstone option for students at the Palm Institute, Kordeabe, Ghana (February - July 2019). Assisted in strategising and developing the academic structure, organisational framework, and educational offerings for the startup Palm Institute, Kordeabe, Ghana (May 2018 - February 2019). [Palm University College - Educating Ethical and Excellent Leaders with Integrity.](#)

Program Lead, Ashesi Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Development

Ashesi University | January 2015 – December 2020

- Led a team of faculty members to conceptualise, design, and implement the transformation of Ashesi University's entrepreneurship education using a systemic approach.
- Designed and established an entrepreneurship ecosystem within Ashesi, including courses, co-curricular activities, and organisations, fostering an entrepreneurial culture on campus.
- Established and managed the Ashesi Enterprise Fund, raising funds to support an annual entrepreneurship education and training budget of USD20,000 on campus.

Project Lead, Next Generation Cocoa Youth Programme (MASO) Business Academy

Ashesi University | October 2015 – December 2020

- Collaborated with Solidaridad West Africa to conceptualise and develop the Next Generation Cocoa Youth Programme, aligning with the strategic vision of all consortium partners while program managing the business academy across 40+ communities in 5 regions.
- Developed a comprehensive entrepreneurial training and incubation curriculum, supervising a team of 6 curriculum developers, 4 researchers, and 3 project managers while leading the conceptualisation, design, and implementation of the MASO Business Academy, overseeing the training and incubation of 1000+ rural youth who established 400+ community-level businesses.
- Developed and run a rural enterprise incubation program, which included assessing the ventures' business modelling, technical competency, and financial service needs and providing these.

Pre-2015 roles are captured at www.senaagbodjah.com.

GRANTS AND FUNDING ACHIEVEMENTS

- Ashesi Agribusiness Collaborative: Secured \$8,252,396.84 over ten years.
- Ashesi Health Innovation Initiative: Secured \$8,059,444.28 over ten years.
- Global Health Research Centres for Non-communicable Disease Control (Stop-NCD): Obtained GBP 2,434,223.00 over five years.
- Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Development for Sub-Saharan African Universities: Secured USD 400,000.00 over three years.
- Content Development Lead, Ashesi's E-Learning Initiative: Managed funding of USD 1,117,000.00 over two years.
- C3 Grant making – Strengthening the Evidence Base Application: Obtained \$149,690.00.
- Mastercard Foundation Partners Research Fund: Secured \$249,774.00.
- “Cultural Creativity and Securitization” Research on COVID-19 Responses: Secured €50,000 across 6 African countries.
- Next Generation Cocoa Youth Program (MASO): Managed funding of USD 14,900,000.00 over five years.

EDUCATIONAL & PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D. in Building Technology (Human Resource Management in Construction Organisations & in Project Management)

Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana | February 2009

B.Sc. in Building Technology

Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana | June 2003

Professional Courses:

Project Management Professional Certification Course

Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA), Legon, Ghana | May 2009

Innovative Entrepreneurship – From Idea to Business

Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation (MASHAV) in collaboration with Young Americas Business Trust | Jan 2015

Leadership and Management for Integrity

Central European University (CEU) Summer School by TIRI Integrity Actions School, Budapest, Hungary | July 2012

Executive Diploma in Alternative Dispute Resolution: Mediation and Arbitration

Gamey and Gamey Academy of Mediation, Community 12, Tema, Ghana | November 2006

Leadership Roles:

Member of the Board of Directors

Wireko Asubonteng Farms | April 2024 – Date

Founder and Director

Fututorwo | January 2024 – Date

Co-founder and Director

Fahimta Africa Ltd. | January 2024 – Date

Member

Education Collaborative's Consulting Committee | January 2021 - December 2023

Advisory Council Member

Project Management Institute Ghana Chapter | January 2018 - December 2019

Co-Founder and Director

Enable-IT Company Ltd. | Apr 2012 – Dec 2019

Co-Founder and Director

Dzigua Enterprise | Aug 2016 – Mar 2018

Co-Founder and Director

Casabel Properties Ltd. | Jan 2010 – Dec 2015

Co-founder and Regional Director

West Africa Built Environment Research (WABER) Conference | January 2009 – June 2015

Founding Steering Committee Member

Project Management Institute - Ghana Chapter (PMI-Gh) | Apr 2009 – Sept 2010

PUBLICATIONS

Asante-Darko, D., Osei, V., & **Agbodjah, S.** (2024). A triple bottom line decision framework for sustainable business location in the retail sector: a developing country perspective. *Journal of Global Responsibility*. ISSN: 2041-2568.

<https://doi.org/10.1108/JGR-08-2023-0128>

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>

A comprehensive list can be found at www.senaagbodjah.com.

REFEREES

Available upon request.