



## Mandela Washington Fellowship Summit

AUGUST 3-4, 2021 | VIRTUAL

Leadership for the Future: Resilience and Inclusion

### Introducing the 2021 Leadership Impact Winner, Ian Tarimo

#### Speakers

- Brandy Walker, Academic Director, University of Georgia
- Jerry Geoffrey Mangena, 2019 Mandela Washington Fellow, Tanzania
- Ibrahima Kalil Gueye, 2020 Leadership Impact Award Winner, Guinea
- Ian Tarimo, 2021 Leadership Impact Award Winner, Tanzania

#### Session Transcript

**Narrator:** In 2013, Ian Tarimo co-founded Tai Tanzania, an NGO that inspires social behavior changes through 3D animations and media technologies. To increase positive outcomes in health, education, and social justice, he is using the lessons he learned during the 2019 Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders. The Fellowship is the flagship program of the Young African Leaders Initiative, funded by the U.S. Department of State.

**Brandy Walker:** Ian's drive and passion for his work has been inspiring – he truly epitomizes what it means to be a lifelong learner and educator. We are so proud of how he leverages storytelling to increase youth participation in addressing Tanzania's challenges, including teenage pregnancy, gender-based violence, and disability inclusivity.

**Narrator:** After Ian's Fellowship, he continued his commitment to education and advocacy while expanding his organization's impact, increasing the audience of Tai Tanzania by 1,000%. He remained connected to the U.S. Embassy in Tanzania and was selected to represent the embassy at the 2020 East African YouLead Summit in Arusha. Ian has coached Fellowship applicants, participated in Fellowship recruitment events, and mentored new Fellows.

**Ian Tarimo:** Storytelling has been the most effective way on how to pass information from one generation to another. It's also very useful in shaping the future of our community. And technology is the most powerful tool on how to reach the beneficiaries. So, at Tai, we use the power of storytelling and technology to create educational content, so that we can inspire the changes that we want to see in our community.

**Narrator:** In early 2021, he received grant funding from the U.S. African Development Foundation (USADF) to create *Nivushe*, an animated short film about a young girl determined to excel in the STEM field, despite the prejudice she faces as a person living with albinism. The film has been viewed more than 9,000 times. One of Ian's recent animations, "Tuishi Salama," raises awareness on COVID-19 prevention measures in Tanzania.





**Happy Kikwa:** Ian has been an active Alumnus and has worked so hard to inspire positive change through storytelling and technology. We commend his work finding innovative ways to raise awareness on important issues, especially amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Jerry Geoffrey Mangena:** Ian is a very self-driven person, and his work on storytelling and changing the narrative towards positivity has always created a different impact on people's life.

**Narrator:** Ian is an excellent representative of the impact of the Young African Leaders Initiative, as an Alumnus of the Fellowship and the YALI Regional Leadership Center in Nairobi.

**Ibrahima Kalil Gueye:** Congratulations, Ian, from your Mandela Washington Fellowship family. We look forward to seeing you succeed and empower youth across Tanzania and the continent.