

# Data, Technology and Digitalisation Series

# Webinar: Digital Skills for Youth of the Commonwealth

10 June 2021, 1100 - 1400 BST

The Commonwealth Secretariat is hosting a webinar in partnership with Microsoft Corporation on the skills young people need to be competitive employees, entrepreneurs, and digital citizens. About 60 per cent of the Commonwealth's 2.4 billion people are under the age of 30. The webinar is an opportunity for them to talk to industry experts about the digital skills market needs and challenges.

Discussions will start with opening remarks from Commonwealth Secretary-General The Rt Hon Patricia Scotland QC and senior leaders from Microsoft Corporation. The webinar will then have two panel sessions. One session will look at national initiatives on building digital skills of young people while the other will consider youth experiences and ideas in addressing the gaps.

# **Opening Session**

# Rt Hon Patricia Scotland QC

Secretary-General of the Commonwealth

#### **Chris Perkins**

General Manager Public Sector, Microsoft Corporation, UK

# Panel 1 on policy imperatives

## Yves N Iradukunda

Permanent Secretary for ICT and Innovation, Rwanda

# **Sylvia Poll**

Head of the Digital Society Division in the Telecommunication Development Bureau of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

## **Lee Jones**

Microsoft Public Sector Digital Skills Lead, UK

# Panel 2 on youth aspirations

## **Jubilanté Joanna Cutting**

Founder of Guyana Animation Network, CW Youth Award finalist, Attorney-at-law

# Jaya Rajwani

Award-winning social innovator, computer engineer, Femtech founder

# **Dr Chike Opara**

Medical doctor and digital product designer

## Shauna Tagaloa Katafono

Co-founder of Traseable Solutions

# **Dunola Oladapo**

Founder, Luton Lights, G(irls)20 Ambassador, UK Coordinator of CYPAN, Team member of Generation Connect at ITU

# **Benjamin Rommel**

Microsoft Business Program Manager, UK

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