# CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER | PRESIDENT | SVP

# Financial Services/Fintech | Agribusiness/Chemicals | Energy Technology | Industrials | Manufacturing

Masterful P&L restructurer with national profile and international experience in financial services, banking, manufacturing and entrepreneurship in the U.S., European Union, South and East Asia, and LATAM. Advocate for energy and agribusiness as drivers of economic growth and community strengthening. Board chairperson, board Audit Committees and former independent/non-executive board director of Fortune 215, 3,963 farmer equity owned/private company and nonprofit boards of directors, specializing in operations risk and banking security oversight. Thought leader who delivers profitable change. Fluent in English, Portuguese, Spanish, and French. Dr. Cacho's doctorate in Investment Decision-Making, and Corporate Finance: Brazil Agribusiness Growth, is a cornerstone of her dynamic strategy capabilities.

Visionary & Operational Leadership 

Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) 

Financial & Business Acumen

Corporate Governance 
Growth & Innovation 

P&L Strategy 
M&A Valuation Risk 
Sustainability/ESG Accountability

# **CAREER PROGRESSION**

#### ADINURA ADVISORY SERVICES, INC.

2012 – Present

Boutique strategy and accountability consulting firm for global corporations and public policy organizations. Founder & Chief Executive Officer

Applies scientific, financial, and economics background gained in operational and policy-making roles to propose and implement solutions anchored in assumptions that minimize risk and generate value.

- Integrated approaches for gender mainstreaming and youth in agriculture as Advisor, African Union Commission.
- Extracted potential business opportunities and projects to plan for and respond to climate change events after examining country operational plans in applications to African Risk Capacity (ARC), parametric insurance modeled on Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (CCRIF).
- Sharpened strategy of environmental and sustainability-driven investments and remediation plans for \$6B B2B chemical manufacturer's 2012 Sustainability Report.
- Established HR and Finance & Audit Committees as Series B company's gross sales reached \$25M (123% YOY growth) in 2023 as chairman of SISTEMA.bio's board of directors.
- Chief Judge, Inaugural US Business in Africa Awards, Wits Business School, University of the Witwatersrand (2022).

#### Independent Board of Director Service

Board Chair, SISTEMA.bio (Energy-bio), 2022–Present | Supervisory Board & Chair, Operations Committee, World Benchmarking Alliance, 2020–Present | Chair, Audit Committee, College of the Atlantic, 2021–Present; Member, Finance and Audit, Compliance and Bank Secrecy Act (BSA) Committees, Sunrise Banks, N.A. (CDFI; Certified B-Corp) 2018–2022 | Member, Operating, Audit, Nominating, and Governance Committees, Land O'Lakes, Inc. (Fortune 215) 2017–2019

#### **NOVUS INTERNATIONAL, INC.**

# *Japanese-owned scientific R&D, manufacturing, and commercialization of agribusiness / animal nutrition industry products.* **Global Chief Sustainability Officer**

Brought banking experience and Africa investment wins to lead \$1M, 3-year sustainability initiative. Reported to CEO.

- Transformed sustainability program by collaborating with executive leadership on embedding sustainability in business strategies and engaging international sustainability partnerships.
- Designed RFP and managed PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) contract implemented by 2 partners and international team to evaluate tactics for impact that led to 2010 Novus Sustainability Report: Innovation with Integrity.
- Boosted compliance GRI score from C to B+, reflecting expanded data to improve sustainability accountability.
- Amplified scope of public-private partnerships to underwrite AWARD Fellow research residencies, garnered company-wide support for childhood nutrition NGO in Haiti, and organized R&D investment in farmers in Vietnam.

# THE CORPORATE COUNCIL ON AFRICA

2007 – 2008

#### *Leading U.S. membership-based association to stimulate business and trade between the U.S. and the African continent.* **Director, Agribusiness Initiatives Program (AIP)**

**Recruited** to **negotiate**, **revamp**, and **lead** new **\$1M** grant from U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to **expand** African agribusiness investments by U.S.-based companies. Managed ad hoc teams and reported to president.

- Repositioned credibility of AIP and fundraised from Hewlett and Bill & Melinda Gates foundations.
- Secured sponsorship from Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) for U.S.-Africa Agribusiness Forum with 300+ attendees. Milestone: Established maize/corn Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) and CME futures contracts.

#### 2009 - 2012

### INDEPENDENT CONSULTING PRACTICE

Firm created in Nairobi, Kenya, to deliver laser-focused research and thought leadership.

#### Solo Practitioner

Laid groundwork for investments and agribusiness productivity to deepen financial markets and reduce poverty.

- Hired by Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to research and contribute insights about agribusiness supply-chain investment through European lens in Tunisia, Ghana, Uganda, and Mozambigue.
- Developed data strategy and spearheaded reaccreditation process for U.S. International University (USIU-Kenya) by Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC-USA).
- Revitalized USIU-Kenya's Alumni Association as pivotal to Institutional Planning and Development Department's growth strategy.
- Enabled \$7M investment to create Banco Terra (S.A.) in Mozambique and strengthen value chains in rural areas.

#### **RABOBANK INTERNATIONAL – NORTH AMERICA**

1997 – 2003

*One of 50 largest Tier 1 capital financial institutions operating in 38 countries.* ~\$678.8T in assets under management. **Executive Director, Global Policy Advisor | 2001 – 2003** 

## Vice President, Head of Strategic Research | 1997 – 2000

Handpicked to lead world's largest agribusiness and food bank's expansion of global research department with 4-person team. Recruited research managers for China, México, Brazil, and Argentina and managed budget of \$2.7M reporting to vice chairman, North America Wholesale Banking (Wholesale Clients, Corporate Banking, M&A, and Food & Agribusiness / Strategic Research and Advisory).

- Established Strategic Research Department and elevated profitability of corporate client relationships.
- Influenced CEO-Americas' strategic decision to acquire VIB Corporation, valued at \$212.5M, to enter U.S. market.
- Positioned Corporate Banking credits in Investment Banking Syndications, Financial Capital Markets to improve financial capital efficiency and regulatory compliance.
  - Strengthened credit structures became lead bank in North American Agribusiness credits and reference for top-tier multinational investment banks in their capital allocation diversification operations.
- Developed first-ever, fee-based advisory consultancy for Dow Jones Index / S&P 500 listed company through collaborations with strategists from China, Singapore, Brazil, México, and The Netherlands.
- **Appointed** to Agricultural Policy Advisory Committees (**APAC**) of the United States Department of Agriculture (**USDA**) and Office of the US Trade Representative (**USTR**).

# EDUCATION, CERTIFICATIONS & DESIGNATIONS

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Investment Decision-Making, Corporate Finance, and Agribusiness Growth (Brazil) UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI, COLUMBIA | Master of Science (MSc) in Commodity Marketing Policy & International Trade Competitiveness, VIRGINIA TECH / VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC AND STATE UNIVERSITY Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Economics and Computer Science, UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR, ONTARIO; CANADA

Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist – CAMS | Chartered Financial Analyst – CFA

Fellow, Board Leadership and Governance, National Association of Corporate Directors (NACD)

# ADVISORY ROLES & THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Reviewer, Directorship Certification, NACD | Faculty, ESG & Climate Change Certification, Competent Boards, Inc.; Climate Leadership Certification program, Diligent Institute | Advisor, Diversity in Corporate Governance Institute (DCGI), Silicon Valley Executive Center, Santa Clara University

# **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Professional Member, CFA Society New York, 2018 | Member, US Sustainable Investment Forum (US SIF), 2016 Member, Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists (ACAMS), 2015 Member, National Association of Corporate Directors (NACD), 2012

# AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

**50** Women to Watch for Boards 2023 from 50/50 Women on Boards | Power 300: Most Influential Black Corporate Directors from Savoy Magazine in 2017 and 2021 | Directors to Watch from Directors & Boards Magazine 2018

#### 2004 - 2007