

Dr. Akwasi Aidoo

Dr. Akwasi Aidoo is a philanthropy professional, human rights and peace advocate, and poet. He is currently a Senior Fellow at Humanity United and was the founding Executive Director of TrustAfrica – a foundation dedicated to promoting equitable development and democracy in Africa.

His previous positions include head of the health sciences program of the International Development Research Center in West and Central Africa, head of the Ford Foundation's offices in Senegal and Nigeria, and director of the Ford Foundation's Special Initiative for Africa.

Dr. Aidoo currently serves on the Boards of several international philanthropic organizations, including Human Rights Watch, International Development Research Centre (IDRC), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the African, African American and Diaspora Studies Center at James Madison University, and the Centre on African Philanthropy and Social Investment (CAPSI). He also previously chaired the Boards of the Fund for Global Human Rights, Resource Alliance, Africa Grantmakers' Affinity Group, Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA), and Open Society Foundations Africa Regional Office. Other Boards Akwasi has served on in the past include those of OXFAM America, Resource Alliance, Global Greengrants Fund, and the Global Network Committee of the Ash Institute at Harvard University. In 2015, Dr. Aidoo received the Africa Philanthropy Award in Tanzania.

In the 1970s and 1980s, Dr. Aidoo taught at universities in Ghana, Tanzania, and the United States. He was educated in Ghana and the United States and received a doctor of philosophy degree in medical sociology from the University of Connecticut in 1985.