



## **Fred O. Oladeinde, President**

### **The Foundation for Democracy in Africa (FDA)**

Fred Oladeinde is the President and Co-Founder of The Foundation for Democracy in Africa (FDA), a non –profit, non-governmental organization (NGO) founded in 1994 and focused on promoting participatory democracy, economic growth and sustainable development throughout Africa. As president of FDA, he serves as the thought-leader and has overall strategic and operational responsibility for the FDA’s staff, programs, development and execution of its missions.



Mr. Oladeinde has successfully led diverse projects for and in partnership with international, multilateral, and domestic organizations, and federal, state and local governments, such as, the African Union Commission, United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization, United Nations Development Program, the World Trade organization (WTO), the Governments of Benin, Malawi, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone and South Africa, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. Department of State, Miami-Dade County Government, and the like regarding matters related to democracy, economic policy reforms, development, trade, and civil society engagement.

Mr. Oladeinde also serves as the Chair of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) Civil Society Organization (CSO) Network Secretariat, an FDA initiative consisting of a grouping of civil society organizations in AGOA-eligible countries throughout Sub Sahara Africa (SSA) and the United States that work to optimize the benefits of the AGOA legislation as related to trade and economic development. The Secretariat also works with CSOs in providing capacity building and technical assistance to micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), NGOs, and civil society organizations. Prior to establishing the Network in 2003, Mr. Oladeinde testified before the U.S. Congress in 1999 in support of the AGOA Bill, and since 2001, he has worked closely with select US Government agencies in planning and facilitating the Civil Society Session of the AGOA Forum on US–Sub Saharan Trade and Economic Cooperation, also known as the AGOA Forum.

Prior to joining FDA, Mr. Oladeinde successfully ascended the career ladder of a US Certified Export Trading Company becoming Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer from 1990 -1994, and having successively served as Manager (1984-1986), and Regional Director (1986-1989).

He received both his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics (1980) and Masters in Business Administration Degree (1982) from Howard University, in Washington, DC, USA, and is the 2016 recipient of the Leadership Award in the Field of International Affairs from Howard University’s Alumni Association. He has published a wide range of articles in international journals on democracy, trade, the rural economy, agricultural technology, food security, migration and other related issues. Mr. Oladeinde is a frequent speaker at international meetings and summits, and on radio and TV shows, i.e., CNN, BBC, and Voice of America.

**THE FOUNDATION FOR DEMOCRACY IN AFRICA**

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