

## **BIO for Lawino Kagumba**

Dr. Lawino Kagumba has over 15 years industry experience in research and development of specialty polymeric materials, including synthesis, formulations, process optimization, and applications development. She has comprehensive start-up experience in tech transfer and successfully transitioning materials-based technologies from lab scale to commercial plants.

She has led and continues to lead applications and business development for Boston-USA based companies (Blueshift Materials, FRX Polymers) in the areas of flame retardants, thermal and electronic insulating materials including films, laminates, composites, foams, and coatings for electronic, automotive, and aerospace applications. She successfully interacted with a global customer base in North America, Europe, and Asia, where she built fruitful strategic partnerships with key industry players in high-value market segments.

Lawino holds over 20 global technology patents and has been awarded numerous grants including from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation under the Grand Challenges Exploration Program.

She is a co-founder of ZanaAfrica Group, the Kenyan-based social impact business that expands access to high quality, low-cost feminine hygiene products through the Kenyan marketplace. The products unique packaging provides access to reproductive health and rights resources for girls and women. Working with community-based organizations, policy makers and other key partners at a local and global level for over a decade, ZanaAfrica is a leading voice in elevating menstrual health management.

She holds a Ph.D. in Polymer Science and Engineering from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.