

## Biography



**Dr. Ishmael Nii Amanor Dodoo** or Ish as he is affectionately called is a young Ghanaian African leader and United Nations Diplomat. Ish holds First Class BSc. Honors degree in Natural Resources Management and an advance degree from Oxford University in Environmental Change and Management with specialization in policy and governance as it affects responsible use of natural resources. He is a Linacre Fellow, as well as, a Norman and Ivy Lloyd African Scholar of Oxford University where he trained. Ish has also been awarded two *doctoral Honorari* in political philosophy and public administration for outstanding contributions to African political intellectualism and diplomacy from Adams Smith University and John Dewey Universities of United States respectively.

Ish joined the United Nations in 2008 through the Leadership Development Programme (LEAD), a highly competitive programme aimed at selecting and grooming young professionals for future leadership in the UN(DP) system. He was selected among a top group of 15 chosen from over 4500 applicants worldwide; he was the only African in his cohort group. Since joining the United Nations, Ish has served in various leadership and management capacities; principally covering political and socio-economic affairs on Africa. Recently, Ish also served as policy and development affairs officer to the Executive Office of the UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-Moon. Prior to this Ish served as a Country Strategic Oversight Advisor to the Office of the Assistant Secretary General/ Regional Director for UNDP Africa. Currently, Ish is the Policy Adviser and acts as Chief of Office to the Office of the United Nations Secretary General for the Sahel, an assignment which aimed at coordinating the strategic efforts of the United Nations, development partners, stakeholders and governments to achieve lasting peace and prosperity for the Sahelian 10 countries (Burkina Faso, Cameroon, The Gambia, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal and Chad).

Prior to joining the United Nations, Ish worked for ProForest Ltd; a natural resources management Consultancy Company based in Oxford, UK. Apart from his core professional career, Ish is committed to course of the African Youth. He has spoken on many youth leadership forums across the continent and currently pioneers a Pan African Youth initiative aiming at grooming future leaders for various political, economic spheres in Africa. Ish's passion for seeing like-minded Africans distinguish themselves through leadership for the noble purpose of bettering different segments of African society is unwavering. As a future African leader, Ish is optimistic that we shall soon achieve the African dream albeit challenges the continent face!