PRESS KIT

David Jeng

Entrepreneur, Intellectual Property Expert and Business Consultant

Purpose | Diversity | Innovation



The Gambia · www.davidjeng.co · Updated October 2026

Bios

Three bios in the third person, ready for event programmes, articles and introductions.

Short bio (about 50 words)

David Jeng is an entrepreneur, intellectual property (IP) expert and business consultant based in The Gambia. He is the Founder and Managing Consultant of Bliss Executives, an IP and management consulting firm. In more than 15 years of practice, he has supported over 10,000 entrepreneurs and worked with MSMEs in more than 20 countries.

Medium bio (about 150 words)

David Jeng is an entrepreneur, intellectual property (IP) expert and business consultant based in The Gambia. He is the Founder and Managing Consultant of Bliss Executives, an IP and management consulting firm that helps African entrepreneurs grow, protect and commercialise their ideas, attract investment and build partnerships.

Across more than 15 years, David has supported over 10,000 entrepreneurs and worked with MSMEs in more than 20 countries, partnering with WIPO, the World Bank, IFC, UNDP and the International Trade Centre. He is Lead Consultant on WIPO's WACEMS programme for 100 women agripreneurs in Ghana and Nigeria. He also co-founded The Gambia Disability Impact Trust Fund, which has trained more than 600 persons with disabilities.

David holds a Master of Intellectual Property from Africa University, earned on a WIPO scholarship, and a PatentX certificate from Harvard Law School. A 2024 Mandela Washington Fellow, he serves on several boards, including the Gambia Chamber of Commerce and Industry and IGI Gamstar Insurance.

Long bio (about 300 words)

David Jeng is an entrepreneur, intellectual property (IP) expert and business consultant based in The Gambia. He is the Founder and Managing Consultant of Bliss Executives, an IP and management consulting firm, and a Director at SAS Consult GM Co. Ltd. His work has one aim: helping African entrepreneurs grow, protect and commercialise their ideas, attract investment and build lasting partnerships.

Across more than 15 years, David has supported over 10,000 entrepreneurs and worked with MSMEs in more than 20 countries, from West, East and Southern Africa to Latin America and the Caribbean. For WIPO, he leads WACEMS, a programme for 100 women agripreneurs in Ghana and Nigeria, and led mentoring for 48 young entrepreneurs from 20 Sub-Saharan African countries.

In The Gambia, he mapped the creative industries for IFC's Local Champions Initiative, serves as Business Development Expert on the World Bank-financed tourism project behind the Yokuté grants, and has contributed to national policy, including the country's Intellectual Property Act.

David co-founded The Gambia Disability Impact Trust Fund with the Gambia Federation of the Disabled. The fund has trained more than 600 persons with disabilities and given start-up capital to 50 entrepreneurs through a revolving fund.

He is a Board Director at IGI Gamstar Insurance, where he chairs the Finance and Investment Committee and the HR and ESG Committee, and at the Gambia Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Chapman Xpress Financial Services and Women Empowered International. He also sits on the boards of the President's International Award, The Gambia, and IoT4Ag at the University of Pennsylvania, and on The Gambia's National Intellectual Property Council.

David holds a Master of Intellectual Property from Africa University, earned on a WIPO scholarship, a BSc in Marketing and Finance from the University of The Gambia and a PatentX certificate from Harvard Law School. He is a 2024 Mandela Washington Fellow.

Fact sheet

David Jeng brings more than 15 years of work in innovation, entrepreneurship and IP, with over 10,000 entrepreneurs supported, MSMEs reached in more than 20 countries and more than 30 projects and programmes led across Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean.

Name	David Jeng
Title	Founder and Managing Consultant, Bliss Executives
Base	The Gambia, West Africa
Nationality	Gambian
Languages	English, Wolof, French
Countries of work	West Africa: The Gambia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Nigeria. East and Southern Africa: Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. Also the United States, and remote programmes across Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean.
Key partners	WIPO, the World Bank, IFC, UNDP, the International Trade Centre, UNCTAD, ARIPO, IFAD, the African Development Bank and the European Union
Mission	To drive African development by supporting entrepreneurs with growth, IP protection and commercialisation, investment facilitation and partnerships.

Current roles

Role	Organisation
Founder and Managing Consultant (since October 2018)	Bliss Executives, an IP and management consulting firm
Director (since February 2026)	SAS Consult GM Co. Ltd
Board Director; Chair, Finance and Investment Committee; Chair, HR and ESG Committee (since March 2026)	IGI Gamstar Insurance Company Limited
Board Director and Director of Youth (since September 2022; re-elected 2025)	Gambia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI)

Role	Organisation
Board Director (since January 2021; Managing Director until August 2026)	Chapman Xpress Financial Services and Bureau de Change
Board Member; Chair, Technical Working Group (since October 2024)	President's International Award, The Gambia
Board Director (since August 2025)	Women Empowered International, Philadelphia, USA
Member (since May 2022)	National Intellectual Property Council of The Gambia
Advisory Board Member (since September 2024)	Agricultural Systems Advisory Board, IoT for Precision Agriculture (IoT4Ag), University of Pennsylvania
Advisory Board Member (since September 2026)	Agri Farming & Innovation Holdings Ltd (Gambian Health & Wellness Farming Group)
Co-Founder (since May 2018)	The Gambia Disability Impact Trust Fund
National Master Certified Trainer (since 2014)	UNCTAD-Empretec
Founding Member (since 2020)	Africa Tech and Creative Group (MyAfCFTA)

Signature projects

Project	Role	Reach
WACEMS, WIPO's IP programme for women agripreneurs (IP for Her), Ghana and Nigeria	Lead Consultant	100 women agripreneurs; workshops in Accra, Kumasi, Tamale, Abuja and Lagos; IP diagnostic of 105 women-led SMEs (2026)
Empowering Youth in Innovation and Creativity (EYIC), WIPO	Lead Consultant	48 young entrepreneurs from 20 Sub-Saharan African countries; IP assessment of 49 SMEs and 33 brand identities; featured as a WIPO success story (2025 to 2026)
WIPO Division for Africa IP+ Accelerator Program, The Gambia	Lead Consultant, through Bliss Executives	50 SMEs, 95% women-led; 52 trademarks and The Gambia's first utility model in renewable energy by a female inventor (2024) (WIPO)
WIPO IP and branding coaching programme, Zimbabwe	International Consultant	50 small enterprises, with the Deeds and Companies Registry and the Ministry of Women's Affairs (2025)
IFC Local Champions Initiative: mapping of The Gambia's creative industries	Consultant, through SAS Consult	Identified local champion firms to inform IFC and World Bank support to the sector (2026)
Debt-for-climate and nature swaps, for Mbolo Association, national partner of IIED and UNECA	Lead Consultant	Engagement with the ministries of finance and environment; KPI framework with baselines and community consultation (2026)
TVET Centres of Excellence curriculum design, Ministry of Higher Education (World Bank-funded)	Industry and Employers Expert	National labour market and skills gap analysis; competency-based curricula aligned to the Gambia National Qualifications Framework (2026)

Project	Role	Reach
Tourism Diversification and Resilience in The Gambia Project, including the Yokuté grant programme (World Bank-financed)	Business Development Expert, Formalisation and Digitalisation	Up to 300 tourism MSMEs; 15 SMEs on the Yokuté Accelerator across three cohorts (since 2024)
Sierra Leone Economic Diversification Project (World Bank)	Marketing Expert	Business improvement plans, branding and investor pitch materials for selected SMEs (2025 to 2026)
IP training for GCCI members (EU-funded)	Lead Trainer	60 businesses across three cohorts, July to August 2026
Empretec entrepreneurship training (UNCTAD), The Gambia	National Master Trainer	Delivers Empretec entrepreneurship workshops and mentors new trainers; Empretec impact assessment 2017–2019 for GIEPA (since 2014)
ILO Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB)	Certified Trainer	Delivered all four modules, Formalize, Generate, Start and Improve Your Business, under ILO international master trainers (certified 2018)
Startup Incubator Gambia	Business Support Coordinator	Coordinated the incubator's programmes and business support for incubated start-ups (2015 to 2018)
The Gambia Disability Impact Trust Fund, with the Gambia Federation of the Disabled	Co-Founder	600+ persons with disabilities trained; 50 start-ups funded through a revolving fund

Education and credentials

- Master of Intellectual Property, Africa University, Zimbabwe (2022), on a full WIPO Academy scholarship
- BSc in Marketing and Finance, University of The Gambia (2014)
- PatentX: Patent Law and Global Public Health, Harvard Law School (2024)
- Leadership in Business, University of Notre Dame, as a Mandela Washington Fellow (2024)
- Fellow, Penn Center for Innovation, University of Pennsylvania (2024)
- Patent Drafting Program, ARIPO with the European Patent Office (2025)
- Certified trainer: UNCTAD-Empretec Master Trainer (2016), ILO Start and Improve Your Business (2018) and ITC Design Thinking (2017)

Recognition

- Mandela Washington Fellow, Young African Leaders Initiative, US Department of State (2024)
- Africa's Under 40 CEO Award (2025)
- 100 Most Influential Young Africans, Pan African Youth Leadership Foundation (2024 and 2025)
- Honorary Doctorate in Business Administration, Prowess University, USA (2025)
- Most Influential Global Leader of the Year, Pan African Youth Leadership Foundation (2023)
- Young Leader of the Year, West African Leadership and Empowerment Centre (2022)
- Fellow, Chartered Institute of Management and Leadership (FCIML) (2022)
- Next Einstein Forum Ambassador for The Gambia (2018)

- Youngest person ever to serve on the board of the Gambia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (WIPO)

Memberships

- AUTM International Strategy Committee, Africa region
- UN Business and Industry Major Group, through the International Organisation of Employers
- WIPO International Network for IP Education (WINIPE)
- ITCILO Alumni Network

Selected institutions trained

Through corporate training on strategic planning, corporate governance, AI and emerging technologies, customer service and HR management, David has worked with senior executives and staff at the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA), Gambia International Airlines (GIA), Gambia Ports Authority (GPA), National Water and Electricity Company (NAWEC), National Roads Authority (NRA), the Office of the President, Gambia Radio and Television Service (GRTS), Gambia Revenue Authority (GRA) and Gambia Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA).

Speaking

Speaking topics

David speaks on five themes, available as a keynote, panel contribution, workshop or full training programme.

- **IP as a business asset for African SMEs.** How small businesses identify, protect and earn from their trademarks, copyright, designs and trade secrets.
- **From informal to investable: business formalisation and IP.** Why registration, branding and IP protection form the foundation for finance, partnerships and growth.
- **Artificial intelligence, IP and Africa's technological catch-up.** How AI is reshaping intellectual property, and what African firms and policymakers must do to keep pace.
- **IP and the creative economy.** How African and Caribbean creators can manage, protect and monetise their rights, drawing on the Afro-Caribbean creative bridge.
- **Inclusive entrepreneurship.** Practical models for women agripreneurs and entrepreneurs with disabilities, from WIPO's WACEMS programme and The Gambia Disability Impact Trust Fund.

Selected speaking engagements

David has spoken at more than 30 conferences, forums and summits since 2017. Recent highlights:

Date	Engagement	Location
October 2026	ARIPO at 50: Symposium on Copyright and Related Rights Management, speaker	Kampala, Uganda
October 2026	Sierra Leone IP Week 2026, WIPO resource person	Freetown, Sierra Leone
September 2026	WIPO Cross-Regional Forum on IP and Music: Afro-Caribbean Creative Bridge, resource person and lead of the session on investment and financing models	Accra, Ghana
March 2026	WIPO Empowering Women in STEM: Pitch & Protect Conference, speaker	Kigali, Rwanda
February 2026	UK–Gambia Trade and Investment Mission, speaker	Bijilo, The Gambia

Date	Engagement	Location
November 2025	6th All Africa IP Summit, speaker	Dakar, Senegal
February 2025	Africa Tech and Creative Group 2025 Convening, Ministerial Roundtable on AfCFTA implementation	Abuja, Nigeria
December 2024	33rd session of WIPO's Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP/33), speaker	Geneva, Switzerland
November 2024	Ethiopia IP Week 2024, international IP expert	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
August 2023	Keynote speaker, launch of the 16th cohort of the Master of Intellectual Property programme, Africa University	Mutare, Zimbabwe

Publications and press coverage

David has been profiled by WIPO and The Point, and writes on IP, SME growth and innovation in Africa.

Publications

Title	Outlet	Date or status
Intellectual Property, Innovation and Economic Development in Nigeria: Challenges, Opportunities and Policy Pathways	SSRN	Published, July 2026
IP Diagnostic Assessment Report of 105 Women-Led SMEs in Ghana and Nigeria (WACEMS)	WIPO	2026
IP Assessment Report for 49 Youth-Led SMEs in Sub-Saharan Africa (EYIC Project)	WIPO	July 2025
Artificial Intelligence, Intellectual Property and Technological Catch-Up in Africa	IGI Global journal	In preparation
Trademark Exploitation by Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises in the Agricultural Sector of The Gambia	Master's thesis, Africa University	2022

Policy and strategy contributions

David has contributed to these national policy and strategy documents:

- The Gambia Intellectual Property Act, Ministry of Justice (2020)
- ICT for Development Roadmap 2020–2025, Ministry of Communications and Digital Economy (2020)
- Gap analysis of The Gambia's Nationally Determined Contributions and climate cost-benefit analysis, with ICLEI, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Natural Resources (2021)
- Impact assessment of the Empretec programme 2017–2019, Gambia Investment and Export Promotion Agency (2020)
- The Gambia National Entrepreneurship Policy Action Plan, Ministry of Trade, Industry, Regional Integration and Employment (2016)
- Private sector input to the World Bank's Business Ready (B-READY) assessments of The Gambia, 2024 to 2026, on business entry

Selected articles on davidjeng.co

- No Innovation Without Protection: David Jeng Champions Women in STEM in Rwanda, 26 March 2026
- From Dreams to Business: How WIPO Boosted 50 Young Entrepreneurs in Zimbabwe, 15 March 2026
- The Journey of Young African Innovators: Achieving Success Through WIPO's Intellectual Property Mentorship, 15 March 2026

Press coverage

Date	Outlet	Feature
10 September 2025	The Point	David Jeng re-elected as GCCI Board Youth Director
19 May 2025	The Point	David Jeng: The rising profile of a Gambian entrepreneur and intellectual property expert
December 2024	WIPO	Video interview following the FIT Japan IP Global Panel Discussion at WIPO Headquarters, Geneva
20 June 2024	WIPO Academy	WIPO Academy Alumni Spotlight: David Jeng

Testimonials

Selected endorsements from partners, mentors and programme participants, as published on davidjeng.co.

> "David from The Gambia, is a force of nature with boundless energy and optimism…"
> **Daren Tang**, Director General, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

> "David has quickly evolved to become a visionary leader in intellectual property. … I continue to be impressed by how he translates legal concepts into practical, actionable strategies for clients."
> **Outule Rapuleng**, Head, ARIPO-WIPO IP Center of Excellence

> "David is exceptionally intelligent and knowledgeable, with a broad range of experience spanning innovation, intellectual property, and entrepreneurship. His expertise and dedication were evident, and I recommend him to anyone looking for strategic guidance and leadership in the IP and innovation space."
> **Jennifer Langenberger**, Chief Operations Officer and Executive Director of Intellectual Property, Penn Center for Innovation, University of Pennsylvania

> "As the director of the Mandela Washington Fellowship at the University of Notre Dame, I saw David's leadership capacity in action, both among his cohort and through the insights and ideas he brought to the classroom."
> **Edward Jurkovic**, University of Notre Dame

> "He is an excellent speaker and is not hesitant to share his knowledge and expertise with the world."
> **Esohe Olajide**, Senior Legal Consultant, Integrated Legal Consultants

> "Through the WIPO regional conference for women in Agri-business, David provided exceptional mentorship, guiding me in registering my brand name 'KYIDOM' and developing crucial business policies."
> **Sarah Aidoo**, KIC Fellow; Founder and CEO, Jireh-Aidoo Ltd

Media contact

For interviews, speaking invitations and media enquiries, contact David directly.

Email	hello@davidjeng.co
Phone	+220 314 1106
Website	www.davidjeng.co
Book an interview or speaking engagement	davidjeng.co/contact
Location	The Gambia (GMT)
LinkedIn	davidjengofficial
X	@DavidJeng_
YouTube	@davidjeng_official
Instagram	@davidjengofficial
TikTok	@davidjengofficial
Facebook	davidjengofficial

Scan for all of David's links

Website, social channels and booking, in one place: linktr.ee/davidjeng

Use of photos and logos. All photos and logos in this kit are the copyright of David Jeng. They may be used for editorial coverage of David Jeng and his work, credited "© David Jeng"; any other use needs his written permission. The DJ monogram and the David Jeng signature word mark are separate marks and must not be combined, recoloured or altered.

www.davidjeng.co

Purpose | Diversity | Innovation