

SYLVESTER RENNER, MBA

Founder & President Develop Africa
Author, Mission to Systems™

CREDENTIALS

20+ Years
Institutional practice

\$3.3M
Deployed — 990 verified

\$857K
Raised — GlobalGiving

Superstar
GlobalGiving status

388 Pages
Practical frameworks

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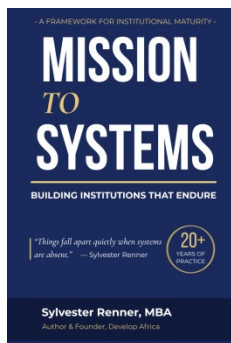
FORMAT
In-person & Virtual

RESPONSE
1–3 business days

AVAILABLE FOR

- ✓ Podcast interviews
- ✓ Keynote addresses
- ✓ Panel discussions
- ✓ Board workshops
- ✓ Written Q&A
- ✓ Feature articles

Press kit:
missiontosystems.com/press



SPEAKER ONE-PAGER · MISSION TO SYSTEMS™ · NONPROFIT GOVERNANCE

Mission to Systems™

Building Institutions That Endure

AUTHOR: Sylvester Renner, MBA
FORMAT: Paperback · PDF Digital Edition
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PURCHASE

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sylvester Renner, MBA is the Founder and President of Develop Africa, a U.S.-based 501(c)(3) operating in Sierra Leone since 2006. Over twenty years he deployed over \$3.3 million in documented program funding and raised \$857,000 through GlobalGiving as a Superstar-status partner. He made nearly every governance mistake this book teaches you to avoid.

Mission to Systems™ is the framework that emerged from two decades of real institutional decisions.

KEY TALKING POINTS

- 1. Passion starts nonprofits — systems sustain them.**
Most nonprofit failures are structural failures, not mission failures.
- 2. Documented practice from twenty years of real decisions.**
Every framework is drawn from Develop Africa's actual 990 filings, board minutes, and program history.
- 3. Founder dependency is a structural problem, not a personal failing.**
The 90-Day Absence Test™ reveals what breaks when the founder steps away.
- 4. The diaspora nonprofit experience is underrepresented in governance literature.**
Written for founders building across two continents — US-registered, Africa-focused.
- 5. Build something that outlasts the founder — at any stage, any size.**
Five stages of institutional maturity, applicable from year one.

SUGGESTED INTERVIEW TOPICS

- **Why nonprofits plateau — and what comes next**
- **Building across Sierra Leone and Tennessee**
- **From Operator to Architect™ — the founder transition**
- **How to define a program before fundraising for it**
- **The 90-Day Absence Test™ explained**
- **The Howe Street origin moment (2003)**
- **Governance mistakes founders make in years 1–5**
- **Dream Again Home — the Ebola orphanage story**
- **Financial credibility for nonprofit founders**
- **What 19 years of 990 data actually shows**

Mission to Systems™: Building Institutions That Endure

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