INSPIRING WOMAN AFRICA

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LUCY QUIST

FIRST-RATE CORPORATE AUTHORITY BUILDING RESPONSIVE ECOSYSTEMS AROUND PEOPLE

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**Beyond Promises:
26 Years of the UNSCR 1325
on Women, Peace and Security**



Welcome!

Dear Readers,

It is our pleasure to bring you another grand edition of IWA. Before we go further, let's ask you the most important question for now: Have you, your friends, family, company or team registered for Inspiring Woman Africa Conference Series 15? What are you waiting for? You will find all you need to know about it in this edition, including registration. Do so today.

Now, how do we begin to describe our cover guest for today? When a woman's impact is built on outstanding firsts and undeniable deliverables, trailblazing in rooms where few people like her have been before, and then raising the standard once she's there. She has to be LUCY QUIST! Have you heard her speak? When she does, hope rises!

We are endeared to how she carries herself with calm authority, composed under pressure and relentlessly focused on outcomes. Over and over again, she has demonstrated an exceptional aptitude to translate vision into reality and lead people to align. Whether as the Managing Director, Financial Services UK or as Founder, The Bold New Normal amongst others, she wears all hats of assignment with grace.

First Ghanaian woman to be CEO of Airtel Ghana and former senior executive of other multinationals...your typical professional example of what we mean when we say "Been there, done that..." and I dare to add "...and it shows in the standard." You know what? Enough said. Let's just leave the way so you sit, relax and enjoy every bit of this interview even better than we did.

Here are other articles in this edition:

HER POINT OF VIEW: The Failures Behind the Success: Why Every Leader Needs a Few Scars. By Chinyere Okorocha.

WOMAN EXECUTIVE: The Cost of Being "The Strong One": When Everyone Leans on You. By Wola Joseph-Condotti.

FINANCIAL AdviseHER: Earning More and Getting Poorer. By Sola Adesakin.

HOLISTIC LIVING: The Legs That Wouldn't Settle: Bimpe's Quiet Battle for a Peaceful Night. Dr. Maymunah Yusuf Kadiri.

GENDER INSIGHTS: Beyond Promises: 26 Years of the UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security ...the Urgency of Turning Commitments into Action. By Asmau Benzies-Leo.

WOMAN AT THE HELM: Rita Kavashe, Chair of the Board and Managing Director, Isuzu East Africa.

WE'VE GOT MEN: Kamal Budhabhatti, Group CEO of Craft Silicon.

We wish you a great week ahead.

See you soon!

Kemi Ajumobi

Founder/Group CEO, IWA Group
Publisher/Editor-in-Chief, IWA Magazine
www.theiwagroup.com
✉ contact@theiwagroup.com

COVER INTERVIEW

LUCY QUIST

FIRST-RATE CORPORATE AUTHORITY BUILDING RESPONSIVE ECOSYSTEMS AROUND PEOPLE

Kemi Ajumobi

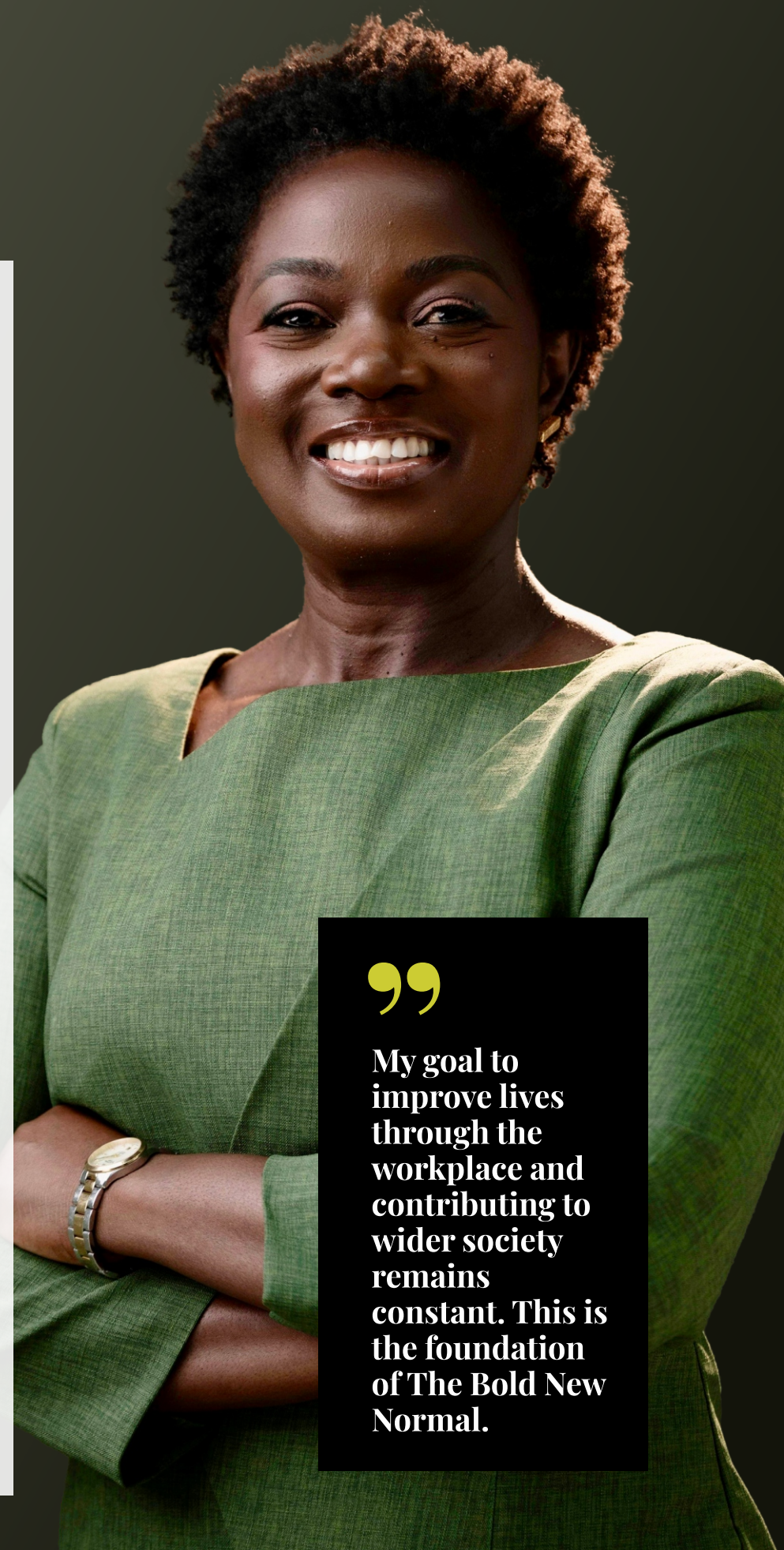
Lucy Quist is a financial services and tele-communications senior executive, board NED and author. She is Managing Director and Head of Transformation for Corporate Banking at Barclays in the UK. She favours collaborative leadership, making space for team members to succeed together and flourish while delivering results. She sits on the boards of INSEAD Business School, CSquared, and Margins ID Group.

Lucy is a chartered electrical and electronic engineer holding a first-class honours degree from the University of East London and an MBA from INSEAD. She speaks French as a second business language.

She authored The Bold New Normal and hosts a well-regarded annual conference and podcast under that name, each focused on fostering sustainable prosperity in Africa.

She served as Managing Director and Global Head of Firm Resilience at Morgan Stanley, directing business continuity and operational resilience after her role as Global Head of Change Leadership in Technology Transformation.

As the first Ghanaian woman to lead a multinational telecoms firm, she served as CEO of Airtel Ghana. She has held senior executive roles at Vodafone and Millicom International Cellular, following early positions at the Royal Bank of Scotland and Ford Motor Company. She advocates collaborative



> **My goal to improve lives through the workplace and contributing to wider society remains constant. This is the foundation of The Bold New Normal.**



> ***2014 marked a life-changing shift when I became CEO of Airtel in Ghana in May. Although my background in engineering and telecommunications had prepared me through infrastructure-focused and commercial roles, the national reaction was unexpected***

Lucy is a prominent thought leader and global speaker addressing leadership, technology, and transformation.
In January 2020, she moderated the UK–Africa Investment Summit hosted by the then British Prime Minister and attended by 21 African Heads of State. She has spoken on platforms such as TEDxEUSTON, the Wharton Africa Business Forum, the Sanford C. Bernstein Centre for Leadership & Ethics at Columbia Business School, McGill University, and INSEAD's Africa business forum. She also addressed the GSMA's Mobile World Congress in 2017.

In 2016, she appeared on the BBC's Power Women series as a leading businesswoman advancing.
Lucy is the Founder, The Bold New Normal; co-founder of the Executive Women Network and a founding investor in Moko Afrika. She describes her life as being shaped by her faith and enjoys travelling with her family.

leadership, making space for team members to succeed together and flourish while delivering business outcomes.

She served as the Vice President of FIFA's normalisation committee in Ghana. Her background in strategy, organisational design and business transformation, along with her board experience, makes her a valuable asset to the organisations she leads.

She has received several honours from respected organisations for her strategic insight, delivery of transformative business outcomes and commitment to developing people. Among these are the University of East London Alumni Change Maker Award, CIMG Marketing Woman of the Year, Telecom CEO of the Year, CSR CEO of the Year and the Corporate Leadership Award at the Ghana Legacy.

Leadership and its influence on your journey

My first reflection on leadership occurred at the age of nine, during a crucial period in Ghana. After the

"Ghana must go" movement from Nigeria, Ghana absorbed over one million returning citizens amid drought and other socio-economic pressures. My family was one of the families that returned to Ghana from Nigeria. From my childlike perspective, I reasoned that adults in charge, leaders, make collective choices for our lives. Displeased with the situation, I resolved to become someone whose decisions would benefit people. I was effectively laying the groundwork for my leadership journey.

Naturally, my outlook has grown since then. At any moment as a leader, I weigh governance, cost and benefit, context, and short- and long-term priorities to reach decisions; yet my goal to improve lives through the workplace and contributing to wider society remains constant. This is the foundation of The Bold New Normal.

Navigating barriers and challenges as first Ghanaian woman to head a multi-national telecoms company

2014 marked a life-changing shift when I became CEO of Airtel in Ghana in May. Although my background in engineering and telecommunications had prepared me through infrastructure-focused and commercial roles, the national reaction was unexpected. I was pleasantly surprised by how strongly business and social circles backed my appointment, which gave me renewed energy. Yet challenges arose. I had grown accustomed to being the only woman or one of few in a boardroom, but this context differed. Leading a team that had never been guided by a woman to reverse a business's decline was the first hurdle. I hold the view that ability is not tied to gender, so I, along with my board and shareholders, believed I could drive the change. Some team members needed persuasion, so I focused on demonstrating empathy because the situation was new for them. That empathy built a deep partnership, producing one of the strongest leadership teams I have known, and the turnaround results were clear to everyone, most importantly our customers. Likewise, some partners struggled with the idea that a woman held final authority over working with them. In those cases, competence and data-driven clarity removed their doubts. I was fortunate to find my tribe; other women whose first CEO role was in their firms. They offered vital support. We bonded well and decided that other professional women would benefit from similar support. Together we went on to found the Executive Women Network to inspire, empower and support professional women throughout their careers.



> ***I act as a player-coach, meaning I join analysis, problem-solving, and execution while guiding my team to flourish without micromanagement***

In financial services in the UK, you are a Managing Director and Head of Transformation for Corporate Banking, what are your core priorities and how are you executing this?

My focus in my current role is on reshaping how the Corporate Bank generates value for clients by building a more responsive ecosystem around

people, processes, and technology. My priorities include shifting collaboration across functions, moving from siloed departments to cross-functional teams that adopt new processes to meet shifting client and market demands. This shift helps teams speed up their use of innovative technologies, particularly AI. I take immense pride in working through my team. I act as a player-coach, meaning I join analysis, problem-solving, and execution while guiding my team to flourish without micromanagement.

Fostering cross-functional collaboration between technology, operations, and commercial teams to drive transformation

This extends my earlier point well. At its core, it concerns the culture you model by staying inclusive throughout a transformation, since shifting an organisation really means asking each person to adapt to change. Leading change cannot happen without empathy for others' viewpoints. It requires a shift in organisational culture built on a change in leadership behaviour. This applied especially when I directed the turnaround at Airtel Ghana. Uniting functions began with gathering their leaders in my team, listening, planning, and acting with shared vision and ambition.

Launching 'The Bold New Normal', and outcomes most proud of from the book, conference, and podcast

The Bold New Normal began in 2014 as a sequence of social media posts, initially without that title. Those posts aimed to reach young people through technology-driven mentorship. The content and speeches led to a TEDx Talk titled A Bold New Normal at Euston in London in 2016. Over the past decade, I have released the book (2019), launched an annual conference (2022), and a podcast (2025), all named: The Bold New Normal. I also introduced the French translation of the book, Le Nouvelle Norme Audacieuse, in 2025. The vision has stayed consistent: creating an Africa where everyone prospers. Within ten years, we have formed a community and engaged thousands through these channels. Our work has spanned continents, drawing many who are ready to shape their prosperous future. As we enter the next phase, execution through our five pillar HEART agenda is clear: Healthcare, Education, Agriculture, Real Enterprise, and Trade Beyond Borders. Further details are available on the website. The vision for TBNN is huge. More so, it encompasses Africa as a whole.



> *Leading change cannot happen without empathy for others' viewpoints. It requires a shift in organisational culture built on a change in leadership behaviour*

Ensuring continuity on positive results from the vision and goals TBNN stands for

This is a strong question. Consider that more than 1.3 billion people live on the continent, so driving transformation at scale is a massive task. Implementation must work both top-down through

leaders and bottom-up. As a platform, execution unfolds across several channels – book, conference, podcast – and we are maturing into communities of practice that gather real change makers in real time. Continuity arises from people sharing results and encouraging others to shift mindsets within their sphere of influence.

Practically speaking, how do you intend to help build accountability in all spheres from leaders, especially regarding governance and implementation of responsibilities they promised the citizenry to uphold?

Ultimately, we must move toward a future where leadership across the African continent is defined by responsibility and accountability, driving outcomes that foster prosperity. This shift also requires honest communication. Citizens naturally hold elevated expectations and are repeatedly promised change, yet they are rarely informed about their part in shaping the results they want, leaving dialogue one-sided.
We should examine the past seven decades since Ghana became the first sub-Saharan nation to gain independence, triggering a wave of liberation, and compare our original hopes with what has been realised. Humble reflection and openness to adjustment are essential for holding leaders to appropriate standards.

What role do you see for African fintech ecosystems in bridging financial inclusion gaps?

African fintech ecosystems do more than close the financial inclusion gap; I prefer to frame them around prosperous outcomes. Fintech is a business delivering essential services to both served and underserved groups. Yet, the terms served, underserved, or even inclusion, are limiting. Everyone fits into a market segment. Fintech segments the market much like a fast-moving consumer goods firm would, then offers services. I welcome how fintech builds systems where none existed. My first involvement was in 2008 while I worked for Tigo/Millicom, exploring mobile money

> *We must move toward a future where leadership across the African continent is defined by responsibility and accountability, driving outcomes that foster prosperity*

implementation. I do not remember hearing the word fintech then. Since then, I have observed a surge in entire ecosystems of fintech and payments across Africa. This reflects a sector centred on its clients, granting access to financial rails and enabling wider economic participation. The greatest achievement is that they challenged the accepted norm and produced the solutions we needed.

You serve on boards including INSEAD Business School, CSquared, and Margins ID Group. What governance principles guide your board work?

Board roles are rewarding responsibilities that demand focused attention. I treat governance with great seriousness. Beyond setting strategy and overseeing leadership, the board must ensure the institution prospers and stays sustainable. My method begins with time spent learning the business model and meeting the leadership, since understanding the context matters. I also stay active beyond full sessions; on each board I join, I serve on committees of which I chair two. I balance listening with meaningful input in discussions. I am known for tenacity, paired with patience and resilience, because some issues persist longer than expected yet must reach completion.

Advice to women aspiring to C-suite or board roles in traditionally male-dominated industries

To women aiming for C-suite or board positions in traditionally male-dominated sectors, my first point is to avoid dwelling on the gender imbalance; instead, define what success and excellence look like and shape your plan accordingly. I am not proposing that women adopt male traits; rather, they should observe the behaviours and achievements that receive recognition. In strong organisations, most effective leaders act authentically according to a high moral standard. Those who succeed commit more time than most to their work; women should identify ways to maximise their career-focused time while balancing other priorities. Secondly, if you face bias, recognise that it stems from the other person's socialisation rather than from you. You are not accountable for others' prejudices; you are responsible for presenting yourself with excellence and integrity. Finally, find ways to meaningfully enjoy your work, every day.

You are fluent in multiple domains (engineering, finance, technology). How do you keep your skills aligned with evolving industry trends?

As a chartered electrical and electronic engineer, I spent several years in product development and manufacturing within the automotive sector. This background shaped my approach to learning, fuelled by curiosity. I gain considerable fulfilment from my work, and the workplace remains my main site for learning. I look beyond my core duties to collaborate with others, which compels me to learn from them. I also read widely on emerging topics. Domain knowledge is vital; to lead, we must be credible, so I study leadership and the qualities needed for transformative change.



If you stood before a sea of discerning women who desire growth despite all life has thrown at them, and you are asked to speak to them to charge them up, what would you say?

I would begin by suggesting they read The Bold New Normal. We must turn that desire for growth into action, so I would offer a sequence of questions to explore. What is your vision for the future? Write it clearly, including details of how you wish to experience the realised vision. How do you speak to yourself? Make sure your internal dialogue matches your vision. Can you shift your mindset? Certainly. By changing conversation, you influence your thinking because you begin to connect with like-minded people. Can you carry out your vision? Absolutely. A changed mindset alters behaviour, and behaviour leads to who we become. Aligning what we do with the vision should produce growth. Achieving what we want from life demands dedication and commitment. It involves sacrifice, which I am sure each woman has made repeatedly, so I encourage each woman to find the capacity to sacrifice one more time.

Concrete steps organisations can take to advance the inclusion of women in technology and finance?

Organisations should be deliberate about the career opportunities they offer women. Roles must not be reserved for men alone, and demanding assignments should not be dismissed as excessive for women. Organisations should avoid attributing women's setbacks to gender; instead, they should recognise that no career is flawless. Together, these measures should create a playing field that is more inclusive to women.

How important is it to challenge the status quo to improve inclusive outcomes?

Research shows we are still centuries from a standard of economic equity for women. Imagine that; it lies beyond my lifetime or even my future granddaughter's. Much work remains to be done. Because women's economic success serves our shared interest, we have every reason to question current conditions. We cannot move slowly; instead, we must speed progress toward women's inclusion, so

> ***African fintech ecosystems do more than close the financial inclusion gap; I prefer to frame them around prosperous outcomes. I welcome how fintech builds systems where none existed***



> ***Board roles are rewarding responsibilities that demand focused attention. I treat governance with great seriousness***

everyone benefits from their involvement. This challenge demands deliberate action, not only because it is right but because it is essential.

How can traditional banks effectively partner with fintechs to scale impact and maintain trust?

In Africa, this used to be a challenge. I recall a period when traditional banks did not take Fintechs seriously, especially during the early phase of mobile money. That situation has changed. Partnerships now rest on a client's focus and a shared aim of meeting client needs. A common goal of delivering the best services forms the base for scaling impact and sustaining trust. Today, this is the foundation for most collaborations between traditional banks and fintechs.

Most critical skills for the next generation of leaders in financial services and technology

The next generation of leaders in financial services, technology and business face a world where uncertainty and change are accelerating. Customers expect responsiveness, shareholders expect relevance and profitability, and employees expect relevance and personal growth; the demands have shifted. These leaders must be adaptable and agile. They should maintain a clear long-term vision and ambition while staying flexible in how they achieve progress in the immediate term to meet expectations. This requires a high degree of humility to absorb the latest information and consider other perspectives seriously. Ethics will matter more than ever, as leaders guide organisations where their conduct will be seen as a reflection of values. Finally, their focus on client engagement must be sharper than ever.

What advice do you have for women on enjoying personal interests and "me time" while working hard to achieve set goals?

Life centres on balance. God fashioned the world in six days and rested on the seventh. Rest offers restoration that supplies energy for demanding work. Yet



> *You are not accountable for others' prejudices; you are responsible for presenting yourself with excellence and integrity*

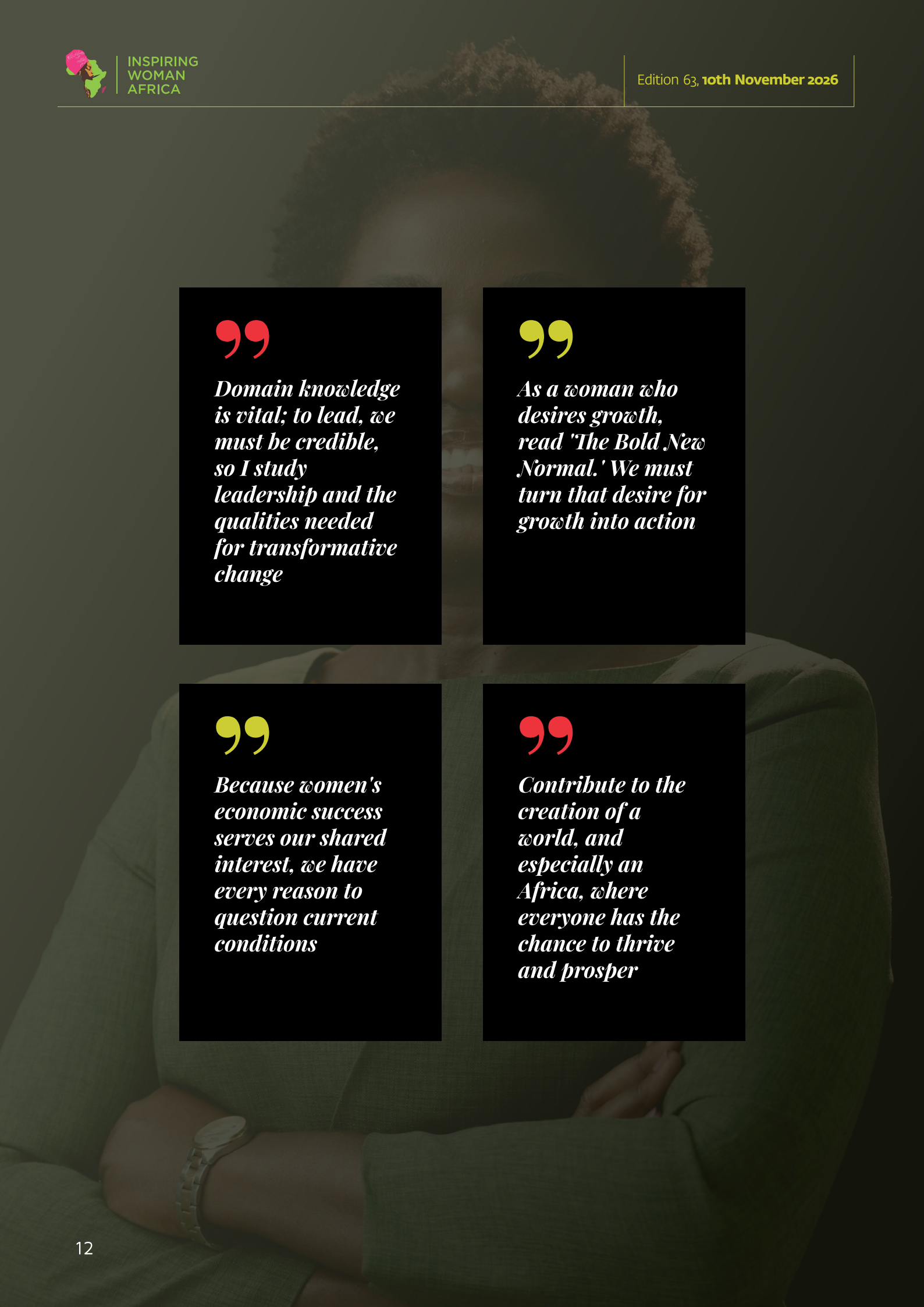
life is not solely about labour and reaching goals. So, strike a balance and ensure that you enjoy the blessings found in life's many facets.

Unforgettable day and why?

I have experienced many such days. I genuinely value life's significant moments, so I will share three: my wedding day and the days my two children were born. These occasions brought new, important people into my life, and I remain thankful for the chance to journey with them.

Concluding words

Life is a gift. Approach it with hunger and zeal. Pursue purpose beyond yourself and your needs, ensuring your life is not a zero-sum game where output serves only you and your family. Contribute to the creation of a world, and especially an Africa, where everyone has the chance to thrive and prosper.



> *Domain knowledge is vital; to lead, we must be credible, so I study leadership and the qualities needed for transformative change*

> *As a woman who desires growth, read 'The Bold New Normal.' We must turn that desire for growth into action*

> *Because women's economic success serves our shared interest, we have every reason to question current conditions*

> *Contribute to the creation of a world, and especially an Africa, where everyone has the chance to thrive and prosper*



The Cost of Being "The Strong One": When Everyone Leans on You

By Wola Joseph-Condotti

There is a woman many of us know very well. Some of us are her. She is the one everybody leans on. At work, she is the safe pair of hands, the one who steadies the room when things wobble. At home, she holds it all together, the schedules, the crises, the quiet emotional weather of everyone under her roof. In her wider family, she is the one they call when there is trouble. At church, she is the pillar, always serving, always capable, always there.

And she is tired in a way she has never quite found the words for.

Because here is the question almost nobody thinks to ask her. Everyone leans on her. But who does she lean on?

The Making of the Strong One

Nobody sets out to become this. It happens slowly, almost by accident.

You handle one hard thing well, and people notice. So they bring you the next one. You carry that too, and quietly, without anyone deciding it, you become the designated carrier. The strong one. The capable one. The one who does not need checking on, because she always seems fine.

And it is flattering, for a while. There is real dignity in being dependable, in being the one people trust with the heavy things. I would not pretend otherwise. But somewhere along the way, strength stops being something you offer and becomes something people simply expect. The gift hardens into an assumption. And the assumption, over time, becomes a cage.

When "Fine" Becomes a Performance

The hardest part of being the strong one is that people stop seeing you as someone who could ever not be okay.

So when you are not okay, there is nowhere to put it. You have trained everyone around you, without meaning to, to believe you do not break. And now, on the day you actually need to fall apart a little, you look around and realise there is no one holding the space for it. They are all still leaning. They do not even know they are doing it.

So you say "I am fine." Again. And "fine" slowly becomes a performance, a small daily act you put on because the alternative, letting someone see the cracks, feels almost unsafe. What if you put the weight down and the people depending on you panic? What if being human, just once, costs you the respect your capability earned?

That fear is the prison. Strength becomes a trap the moment it is the only thing people are allowed to see.

You Are Allowed to Not Be Okay

So let me say something plainly, to her, and perhaps to you. You are allowed to not be okay.

Being strong was never meant to mean being inexhaustible. Even the strongest among us were built to be carried sometimes, not only to carry. Needing help is not the failure of your strength; it is the honest limit of your humanity, and there is no shame in it at all.

Practically, this means a few brave things. Letting at least one or two people past the capable exterior, into the truth of how you actually are. Saying the words "I need help" before you are flat on the floor, not after. And building, deliberately, the one relationship, or two, where you are not the strong one. Where you get to simply be held.

Because a woman who only ever pours out, and is never poured into, will eventually run dry. That is not weakness. That is arithmetic.

A Word From Scripture

Even Moses, who carried an entire nation, could not hold up his own arms through the long battle. Scripture tells us in Exodus 17 that as long as his hands were raised, Israel prevailed, but his arms grew heavy. He could not do it alone, and he was never meant to.

So Aaron and Hur came, put a stone beneath him for him to sit, and stood on either side, holding up his hands until the sun went down. The deliverer of a nation needed two people simply to hold his tired arms.

Let that sink in. Even the strong one needed holding. There is no shame in being the one whose hands are held. It may, in fact, be how the battle is actually won.

Final Thoughts

If you are the strong one, your strength is a gift, and the world is better for it. Keep offering it. But do not let it become the whole of what people are permitted to see, until there is no room left for you to be human.

Find your Aaron and your Hur. Let someone hold your arms.

Because the goal was never to be the woman who never needed anyone. It was to be strong enough to keep going, and wise enough to let yourself be held while you do.



Wola Joseph Condotti

Chief Executive Officer,
Eko Power Limited.

Wola is the CEO of Eko Power Limited.

Prior to her current role, she was the Group MD/CEO of West Power & Gas Limited, the parent company of Eko Electricity Distribution PLC (EKEDP) and six other affiliate companies with interests in both conventional and renewable energy sectors.
In addition to this role, she serves as the Director of the Power and Renewable Division at the Women in Energy Network (WIEN) in a non-executive capacity.

Wola Joseph Condotti was also the pioneer Chief, Legal & Company Secretariat at EKEDP. During her tenure, she also held multiple key positions simultaneously including Head of Regulatory Compliance, Chief Human Resources and Administration Officer, Supervising Chief of the Customer Service Department, and Data Protection Officer. Her previous experience includes roles as General Counsel/Company Secretariat Lagoon Home Savings and Loans, and Legal Associate at Banwo & Ighodalo.

Wola holds a law degree from the University of Ibadan, an LLM in International Finance Law from Harvard Law School, and an MBA from INSEAD Business School. She is also an International Finance Corporation (World Bank) Board Evaluation Certified Professional and Corporate Governance Trainer.

Wola's achievements have earned widespread recognition. Most recently, she received the inaugural Leadership Excellence Award of the Year at the Legal Era Africa Awards 2024, be coming the first-ever recipient of this category. The award celebrated her historic transition from General Counsel to Group MD/CEO, a milestone applauded for redefining leadership pathways in the legal profession.

She is a member of the Institute of Directors and the Society for Corporate Governance Nigeria. Additionally, she is an associate member of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators of Nigeria, and Women in Management, Business, and Public Service.

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INSPIRING WOMAN AFRICA

FINANCIAL AdviseHER



Earning More and GettingPoorer

By Sola Adesakin

It sounds like a contradiction. How can someone who is making more money than they have ever made be worse off financially than they were five years ago? It does not make logical sense. More money should mean more progress. More income should mean more security. More earnings should mean more wealth.

And yet. I see it constantly. The woman who moved from N200,000 a month to N500,000 and somehow has less saved than she did at the lower income. The business owner whose revenue tripled last year but who still cannot point to a single asset built from the increase. The professional who got the promotion, the raise, the bonus, and is more financially anxious now than she was before any of it arrived.

This is not a story about irresponsibility. These are often disciplined, hardworking, intelligent women. The problem is not character. The problem is a pattern so common it should have a name. I call it the income illusion, the belief that earning more automatically means building more. It does not. Not without structure. And structure is the thing that almost nobody puts in place when the money increases. Here is what actually happens when income rises without structure.

The salary goes up, and within two to three months, the lifestyle follows. Not dramatically or recklessly, it just moves naturally. The apartment gets a little nicer. That is reasonable, you earned it. The car gets an upgrade. That makes sense, you can afford it now. The restaurants shift from casual spots to places with better ambiance. The wardrobe evolves. The holidays get slightly more expensive. The children move to a better school. The contributions to family and friends increase because you are now seen as the one who is doing well.

None of these decisions are wrong on their own. But here is what happens underneath them. Your cost of living, the number it takes to simply maintain your life each month, has risen right alongside your income. The gap between what comes in and what goes out, which is the only space where wealth is built, has not changed. In some cases, it has shrunk. You are on a bigger treadmill. The scenery is nicer. But you are not actually moving forward.

And then comes the part nobody talks about. At a higher lifestyle, the cost of a crisis is also higher. When something goes wrong at N200,000 a month, the recovery is uncomfortable but manageable. When something goes wrong at N500,000 a month with expenses calibrated to match, the fall is longer, harder, and more destabilising. You have more to lose because you have built more that depends on the income continuing uninterrupted.

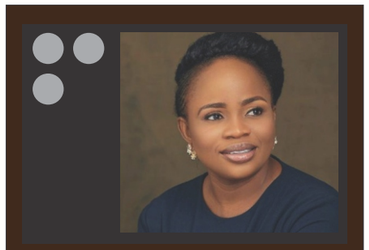
That is the trap. Earning more without building more means you have simply raised the stakes without improving your position.

So how do you break the pattern?
First, every time your income increases, apply the 50% rule. Whatever the raise, the bonus, the new contract is worth, commit at least half of the increase to savings or investment before your lifestyle absorbs it. If your salary moves from N400,000 to N550,000, that is a N150,000 increase. N75,000 goes directly into an investment account on payday. The remaining N75,000 is yours to enjoy however you choose. You have given yourself a raise and a future at the same time.

Second, recalculate your survival number every time your life changes. When you move apartments, change schools, or upgrade your car, your minimum monthly cost of living shifts. Know the new number. Because that number determines how many months your emergency fund actually covers, and you may find that the upgrade just cut your safety net in half without you noticing.

Third, track your net worth, not just your income. Income is what comes in. Net worth is what stays. If your income has doubled over five years but your net worth has not moved proportionally, the income is being consumed, not converted. The statement that matters most is not your payslip. It is your asset position.

Earning more is not the finish line. It is the starting material. What you build with it determines whether the increase was a genuine step forward or just a more expensive version of standing still.
More money is only more wealth if you make it so. Otherwise, it is just more spending with better packaging.
Check your gap, that is where the truth lives.



By Sola Adesakin

Founder and Lead Coach,
Smart Stewards

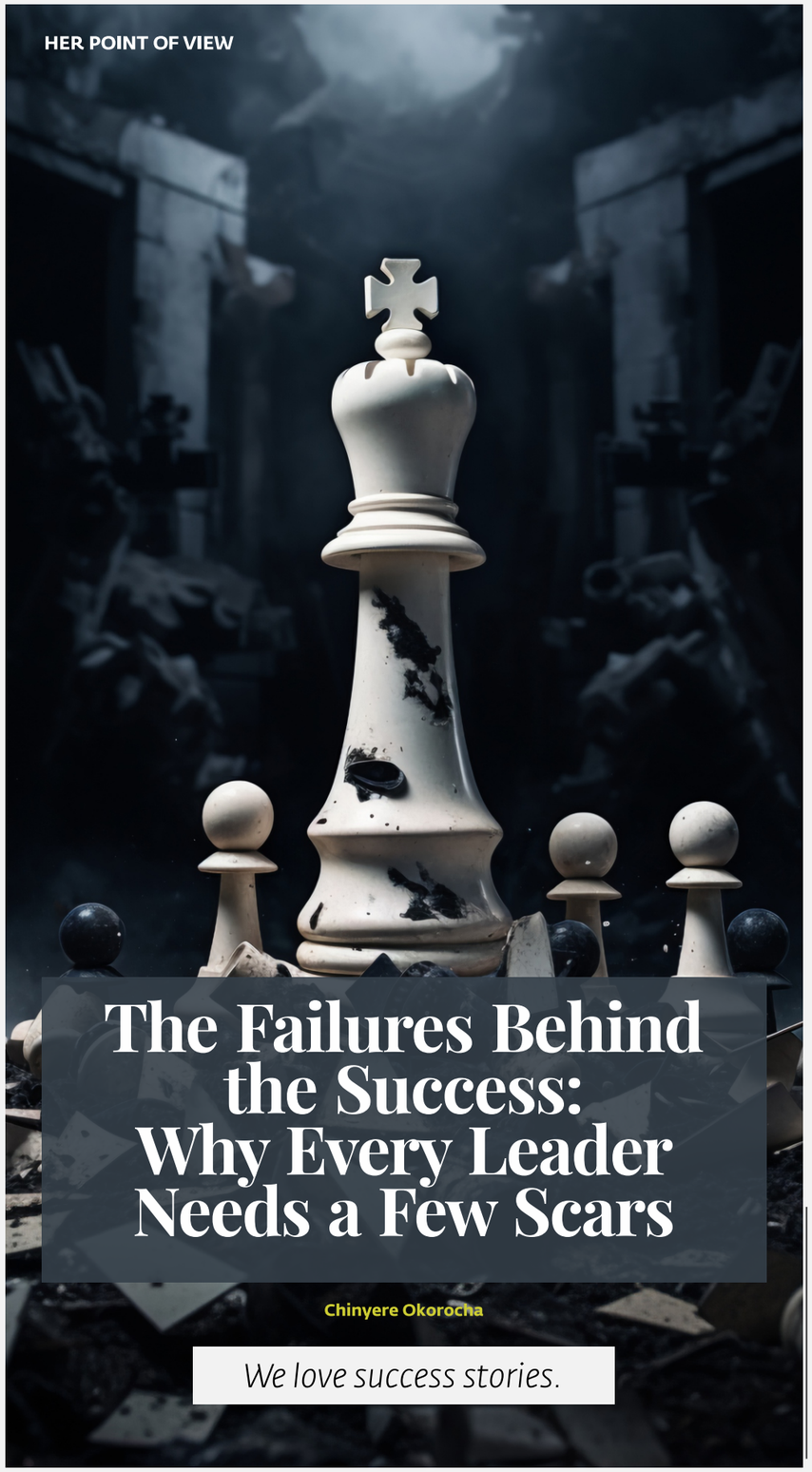
Sola Adesakin is a highly respected wealth coach and chartered accountant with over two decades of transformative impact in the finance industry. As the visionary founder of Smart Stewards Financial Advisory Limited and Smart Stewards Advisory LLC, she has revolutionized the financial wellbeing of countless individuals and businesses across 40 countries. Her methodical approach to 'make-manage-multiply' money principles has elevated many from financial stress to prosperity, and mediocrity to exceptional achievement.

Sola is a strong supporter of SDG5 and SDG10, as she seeks to close the gender gap and reduce inequality through financial education, financial technology, and access to funding. Sola's dedication to achieving gender equality and reducing inequality is evident in her work as an alumna of the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs, an initiative of the US Embassy in Nigeria, and the Cherie Blair Foundation's Road to Growth Program. She is also an alumna of Goldman Sachs 10,000 Women program and a member of the Select Global Women in Tech (SGWIT) Mentorship Network of the United States of America. Through the FRUIT Foundation, which she serves as Founder and CEO, she has partnered with the US consulate in Nigeria to champion the economic empowerment of women, assisting them to start and scale their business ventures.

Her impressive academic credentials include a BSc and an MBA degree from Oxford Brookes University and Edinburgh Business School, respectively. She is a fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN), the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants of the United Kingdom (ACCA), and a member of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada (CPA). In addition to her impressive credentials, Sola Adesakin is also a Certified Financial Education Instructor℠ and a member of the Personal Finance Speakers Association.

Edition 63, **10th November 2026**

INSPIRING WOMAN AFRICA



We celebrate the promotion, the appointment, the thriving business, the award, the corner office and the impressive career.

What we rarely see are the disappointments, wrong turns, rejected applications, failed projects and missed opportunities that came before them.

Yet, scratch beneath the surface of almost every successful leader and you will find a collection of failures behind the success. I certainly have mine.

Over the course of my career, there have been opportunities I wanted and did not get. There have been ideas that did not work as well as I imagined, professional disappointments that hurt, decisions I would make differently today, and moments when I questioned whether I was on the right path.

Looking back, however, I realise something important: some of my greatest career lessons came from the things that did not go according to plan.

Failure Is an Event, Not an Identity

One of the most dangerous things we can do is turn an unsuccessful experience into a statement about who we are.

You applied for the promotion and did not get it, so you decide you are not leadership material.

You started a business and it struggled, so you conclude that you are not entrepreneurial.

You made a poor decision and suddenly you begin questioning your competence.

But there is a huge difference between saying "I failed at this" and saying "I am a failure." The first describes an event. The second creates an identity.

Successful people learn to separate the two.

Women Can Be Particularly Afraid to Fail

Many professional women have been conditioned to believe that we must be exceptionally prepared before putting ourselves forward. We want to get it right. We worry about being judged when we don't.

The result is that sometimes we play too safely.

We don't apply until we meet every requirement. We hesitate to pursue the bigger role. We postpone launching the idea until everything is perfect.

But leadership requires risk, and risk carries the possibility of failure.

If you are determined never to fail, you may inadvertently build a career in which you never truly stretch yourself.

Some Failures Are Actually Redirections

There is another lesson experience has taught me: not everything that feels like failure is failure.

Sometimes the door that refuses to open forces you to discover another door you would never have considered.

A role you don't get may push you towards a different specialisation. A business idea that doesn't work may reveal what the market actually needs.

Being overlooked for an opportunity may force you to become more visible, intentional and strategic about your career.

At the time, these experiences can be painful. In retrospect, some become turning points.

That is why I have learnt not to judge the entire story from one disappointing chapter.

Don't Waste a Good Failure

Failure becomes valuable only when we learn from it.

When something goes wrong, after the initial disappointment, ask yourself:

What happened? Be truthful. Not every failure is someone else's fault.

What was within my control? Perhaps you were underprepared, ignored warning signs, chose the wrong people, failed to communicate or simply made a bad call.

What was outside my control? Sometimes you can do everything right and still not get the outcome you wanted.

What will I do differently next time? This is where failure becomes wisdom.

There is little benefit in repeatedly experiencing the same setback because we refuse to examine our own contribution to it.

Fail Forward

The most successful leaders I know are not people who have avoided failure. They are people who have developed the capacity to recover from it.

They regroup.

They learn.

They adjust.

And then they try again — usually with greater wisdom.

That resilience becomes increasingly important as your career grows because the stakes become higher. Leadership means making decisions without always having perfect information. Some will be right. Others will not.

The goal, therefore, cannot be perfection. The goal must be growth.

Your Failure File Belongs Beside Your Success File

We are encouraged to keep records of our achievements — promotions, qualifications, awards and milestones.

Perhaps we should also keep a mental record of the failures that shaped us.

The job you didn't get.

The opportunity you lost.

The project that went wrong.

The idea nobody supported.

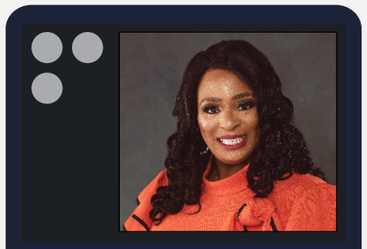
The mistake you never repeated.

They are part of your leadership education too.

So, when you next encounter someone whose career looks effortlessly successful, remember that you are probably looking at the polished front page, not the entire manuscript.

And when you experience your own setback, don't be too quick to conclude that your journey has gone off course.

Sometimes failure isn't the opposite of success. It is one of the rungs on the ladder towards it. Keep climbing.



Chinyere Okorocha

Partner in the Law Firm of JACKSON, ETTI & EDU

With over three decades of experience as a trailblazer in the legal profession, Chinyere Okorocha has established herself as a leading voice in law, leadership, and career growth for women. As a partner in one of the most prestigious law firms in the country, she has not only navigated the complexities of a competitive industry but has consistently broken barriers to become a sought-after leader, mentor, and advocate for women in the workplace.

Chinyere's career journey is a testament to her resilience, vision, and versatility. She has held numerous leadership positions, served as a director on multiple boards, and is widely admired for her strategic thinking and ability to inspire teams toward excellence. Beyond her professional accomplishments, she has also graced stages as a speaker, sharing insights on leadership, career growth, and the unique challenges women face in their professional lives.

A devoted wife and proud mother of three, Chinyere understands firsthand the challenges of balancing the demands of a thriving career with a fulfilling personal life. Through her own experiences, she has mastered the art of work-life integration, demonstrating that women can achieve extraordinary professional success without sacrificing the joys of family and personal well-being.

Her career development platform, Heels & Ladders, is dedicated to mentoring and guiding women who aspire to redefine success, achieve career mastery, and lead with purpose. Whether you're navigating leadership challenges, striving for balance, or looking to amplify your influence, Chinyere's expertise will help you transform ambition into achievement.

GENDER INSIGHTS

Beyond Promises: 26 Years of the UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security

...the Urgency of Turning Commitments into Action

Asmau Benzies Leo

On 31 October 2000, the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution 1325, marking a historic turning point in the global recognition of women's indispensable role in peace and security. For the first time, the international community formally acknowledged that sustainable peace cannot be achieved without women's full and meaningful participation in conflict prevention, peace negotiations, peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction. Twenty six years later, the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda remains one of the most transformative frameworks for advancing gender equality, human security and inclusive governance. Yet, its promise remains largely unfulfilled.



The adoption of UNSCR 1325 was more than a diplomatic milestone; it challenged deeply entrenched assumptions about power, security and women's place in decision making. It shifted the global narrative from viewing women primarily as victims of armed conflict to recognising them as agents of change, negotiators, mediators, peacebuilders and leaders. Subsequent additional UN Security Council resolutions further strengthened this framework by addressing conflict-related sexual violence, women's participation in peace processes and accountability for violations.

Over the past two decades, the WPS agenda has inspired national action plans, regional frameworks, institutional reforms and grassroots peacebuilding initiatives across continents. The African Union's Continental Results Framework, regional commitments and national implementation processes have provided important platforms for advancing women's participation in peace and security governance. Across conflict-affected societies, women-led organisations have mediated community disputes, supported survivors of violence, facilitated dialogue and sustained local peacebuilding initiatives, often under extremely challenging circumstances. However, the global security landscape presents a troubling contradiction. Armed conflicts, political instability, violent extremism, displacement, climate-related insecurity and emerging technological threats continue to deepen vulnerabilities. Women and girls bear disproportionate consequences, including sexual and gender-based violence, economic exclusion, loss of livelihoods and restricted access to essential services. More concerning is the persistent exclusion of women from formal peace negotiations and security decision-making. According to UN Women, women constituted only five per cent of negotiators across 57 peace processes reviewed in 2025. This is a sobering indication that international commitments have not translated into equitable representation.

In Nigeria, the relevance of the WPS agenda is particularly evident. The prolonged insurgency in the North East, banditry and communal conflicts across several regions have exposed women and girls to displacement, abduction, sexual violence and economic insecurity. Yet, Nigerian women continue to demonstrate extraordinary resilience and leadership through community mediation, early warning systems, humanitarian response and grassroots peace initiatives. Their contributions must extend beyond informal community interventions to meaningful representation in national security institutions, peace negotiations, governance structures and decisions affecting their communities.

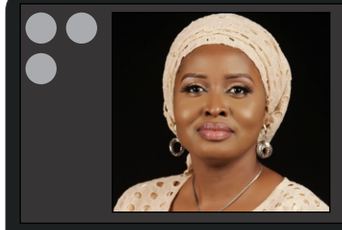
The challenge, therefore, is not simply to increase women's representation but to transform the structures that determine who exercises power, whose voices are heard and whose security matters. Gender responsive security sector governance must become central to national security reforms. This requires strengthening institutional accountability, increasing women's representation in the military, police and other security institutions, addressing sexual exploitation and abuse, and ensuring that security policies respond to the differentiated needs of women, men, girls and boys as in the case of the Armed Forces Gender Policy, the Nigerian Police Force Gender Policy and Nigerian Security and Civil Defense Corps.

Equally urgent is the question of financing. Women led and community based peacebuilding organisations remain chronically underfunded despite their frontline contributions. UN Women reports that funding supporting women's rights organisations in highly fragile and conflict-affected contexts declined from $215.4 million in 2023 to $167.9 million in 2024. UN Women. Governments and development partners must move beyond short-term project support towards predictable, flexible and sustainable financing that strengthens women's organisations and institutional capacity.

As the world commemorates 26 years of UNSCR 1325, the priority must be implementation, accountability and measurable results. National Action Plans must be adequately funded, supported by clear monitoring frameworks and integrated into national development, climate, humanitarian and security policies. Governments, the United Nations, regional institutions like the AU, ECOWAS and civil society organizations must also ensure that women from marginalised and conflict-affected communities participate meaningfully in decisions about peace and security.

It is important to note that peace cannot be sustainable when half of the population remains excluded from shaping it. The success of the WPS agenda should not be measured by the number of resolutions adopted, conferences convened or declarations issued, but by the lives protected, conflicts prevented, institutions transformed and women empowered to influence decisions.

Twenty six years after UNSCR 1325, the world must move beyond recognising women's contributions to actively redistributing the power, resources and opportunities required for them to lead. Women must not simply have a seat at the peace table; they must help shape the table, define its priorities and determine the future of peace. This is not a concession to gender equality. It is an indispensable condition for a safer, more just and peaceful world.



Dr. Asmau Benzies Leo

Executive Director,
Centre for Nonviolence and Gender Advocacy in Nigeria (CENGAIN)

Dr. Asmau Benzies Leo is a development practitioner with extensive national and international expertise in gender equality, peace-building, governance, and humanitarian action.

She holds a PhD in Public Governance and Leadership, a Master's degree in Conflict Management and Peace Studies, and executive certifications from leading institutions including Howard University, Harvard University and Glasgow Caledonian University.

As Executive Director of the Centre for Non-violence and Gender Advocacy in Nigeria (CENGAIN), she has led ground-breaking advocacy initiatives on women's political participation, gender-based violence prevention, and security sector reform across multiple World Bank, UN and EU-supported projects.

Internationally, Dr. Leo has represented civil society at the United Nations, contributed to regional dialogues on Women, Peace and Security, and partnered with global networks advancing gender justice and inclusive governance.

She is a UN Recognised Global Ambassador on Women, Peace and Security. Her expertise bridges grassroots action with policy advocacy, making her a respected voice in advancing gender equality and sustainable peace in fragile and conflict-affected contexts.



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INSPIRING WOMAN AFRICA

WOMAN AT THE HELM

Rita Kavashe

Chair of the Board/Managing Director, Isuzu East Africa

Rita Kavashe is the Chair of the Board and Managing Director of Isuzu East Africa Ltd (formerly General Motors East Africa, GMEA), the largest motor vehicle assembler in the region selling a wide range of Isuzu vehicles.

This is where her professional journey began in 1995. Over the past three decades, she has had the privilege of growing with the organisation, taking on various leadership roles that have shaped her career and perspective. In 2011, she became the first Kenyan to serve as Managing Director, and in 2017, she successfully led the company through a major transition to become Isuzu East Africa.

Prior to her current position, Rita held several key roles in sales and marketing organisations both in Kenya and South Africa, and participated in GM sponsored leadership programmes including the Harvard Business School Leadership Programme.

She has a Bachelor's degree in Education from Moi University and an MBA from the University of Nairobi. Rita is a certified Executive Coach through the Academy of Executive Coaches (AoEC) UK, a passion that complements her leadership journey by helping others grow.

Beyond the corporate world, she has proudly contributed to public service, having served as Chairperson of the Kenya Roads Board, a member of the Kenya Vision 2030 Delivery Board, and on the board of the Privatisation Authority of Kenya amongst others.

Currently, she serves on the boards of Safaricom Plc and BAT Kenya Plc (as Chairperson), both of which are listed on the Nairobi Securities Exchange. She is also an Advisory Council Member at the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA), a Board Member of the Palmhouse Foundation, and a Trustee of the University of Eldoret Endowment Trust.

In 2017, Rita was awarded a state honour, the Moran of the Order of the Burning Spear (MBS) for exemplary service to the country in her capacity as a business leader.



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WE'VE GOT MEN

Kamal Budhabhatti

Group CEO of Craft Silicon

Kamal Budhabhatti is widely recognised as one of Kenya's leading technology leaders, with contributions that have helped drive innovation across Africa's fintech and mobility sectors. As Group CEO of Craft Silicon, he guides a fast-growing software firm that supports fintech solutions used by more than 300 organisations across Africa and Asia.

Craft Silicon is a global fintech technology company providing advanced software solutions to banks, microfinance institutions, and financial organisations across multiple regions. They enable financial inclusion through scalable platforms that drive digital transformation and innovation in banking infrastructure.

Since Kamal joined the company's expansion, Craft Silicon has grown from delivering core systems for banking and microfinance to developing newer capabilities in digital payments and BNPL services.

A major highlight of his recent work is Spotit, Craft Silicon's buy-now-pay-later product. Spotit is designed to turn established banking relationships into a smoother credit experience for customers—while still enabling merchants to receive payments immediately. Budhabhatti frames the service as a practical way to broaden access to credit, helping more people participate in the economy through responsible, value-based financing.

Beyond financial technology, Budhabhatti has also played a foundational role in building Little, which began as a ride-hailing platform and has evolved into a multi-service super-app. Little connects users to transportation and delivery services, and it has expanded into added features such as entertainment and integrated payments.

In 2025, Craft Silicon introduced TouristTap, another initiative reflecting Budhabhatti's push toward inclusive, accessible payments. TouristTap allows visitors to pay Kenyan businesses using foreign cards. With an NFC-enabled phone acting as a payment interface, card transactions can be routed into local mobile money wallets or bank accounts, supporting reduced reliance on cash in the tourism economy and improving payment traceability for merchants.

Budhabhatti's broader impact is further reflected through the Craft Silicon Foundation, which supports underserved young people with free digital literacy and coding training. His long-term view centers on strengthening communities by building skills and creating opportunities for the next generation.

HOLISTIC LIVING

The Legs That Wouldn't Settle: Bimpe's Quiet Battle for a Peaceful Night

By Dr. Maymunah Yusuf Kadiri

Every night, as the rest of the world drifted into sleep, Bimpe found herself locked in a private war against her own body, an unrelenting urge to move her legs that refused to be ignored no matter how tired she was. The sensation crept beneath her skin like something alive, tingling and restless, pulling her from the stillness she craved and replacing it with a frustration few people around her could understand. Her experience with restless legs syndrome became, over time, not just a story about broken sleep but a broader lesson in what it takes to reclaim rest in a life that refuses to slow down.

The condition itself is often misunderstood as a minor annoyance rather than the genuinely disruptive force it can be. Bimpe's nights were fractured by an overwhelming compulsion to move the moment she settled into stillness, turning bedtime into a source of dread rather than comfort. Sleep deprivation followed inevitably, bringing with it a fog that clouded her days, a fatigue that no amount of coffee could fully mask, and a creeping toll on her emotional wellbeing as frustration, irritability, and a quiet sense of isolation began to seep into her waking hours as well.



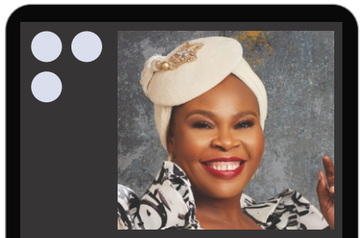
Her path back toward rest began with medical guidance, as doctors worked with her to understand whether an underlying iron deficiency or another treatable factor might be feeding her symptoms. For Bimpe, correcting that deficiency, alongside carefully considered medication where necessary, offered real relief, though she quickly learned that pills alone would not fully restore the peaceful nights she was chasing. The deeper transformation came when she began treating her evenings as a ritual worth protecting rather than simply the end of a busy day.

She cut caffeine and alcohol from her late hours, noticing almost immediately how much calmer her legs became without those stimulants working against her nervous system. A consistent sleep schedule, however imperfect some nights remained, gave her body a rhythm to anchor itself to, while gentle stretching and relaxation techniques before bed became a way of releasing tension that might otherwise announce itself as restlessness once she lay down. Massage and yoga entered her routine not as luxuries but as genuine tools, easing the muscular tension that seemed to amplify her symptoms and offering her body a language of calm it had forgotten.

What Bimpe discovered, much like so many others navigating conditions that disrupt sleep, is that rest is never purely a physical event confined to the hours between switching off the light and the alarm sounding. Her emotional world and her physical symptoms were deeply intertwined, each feeding the other in a cycle that only loosened once she began addressing both simultaneously. Cognitive behavioural techniques helped her manage the anxiety that crept in each evening as bedtime approached, replacing dread with a calmer, more accepting relationship to nights that might still be imperfect.

Community played its own quiet but essential role in Bimpe's healing. For a long time she suffered in silence, embarrassed by a condition that sounded strange when she tried to explain it to people who had never experienced anything like it. Opening up to friends, family, and eventually online communities of people living with the same restless nights lifted a weight she had not realised she was carrying, replacing shame with solidarity and isolation with understanding.

Bimpe's story is ultimately about far more than one sleep disorder; it is a window into how deeply our rest depends on the full architecture of our lives, our stress levels, our habits, our diet, our relationships, and our willingness to ask for help rather than suffer quietly. As she continues to manage her condition, she does so not by waiting passively for a perfect cure but by actively building a life whose rhythms support rather than sabotage her sleep. Her journey offers real comfort to the countless people lying awake tonight in similar restlessness: relief is rarely a single pill, but it is very often within reach through a patient, holistic rebuilding of how we live our evenings and, ultimately, our lives.



Dr. Maymunah Yusuf Kadiri
Psychiatrist-In-Chief at Pinnacle Medical Services

Dr. MAYMUNAH YUSUF KADIRI (aka DR. MAY) popularly referred to as "The Celebrity Shrink," is a multiple award winning Mental Health Physician, Advocate & Coach. She is the convener of "The Mental Health Conference" and the Medical Director and Psychiatrist-In-Chief at Pinnacle Medical Services, Nigeria's leading and foremost Psychology and Mental health clinic prominent in the application of innovative clinical approaches in the management/treatment of a wide range of psychological, emotional, and behavioral related disorders.

Dr. Kadiri is a dynamic Consultant Neuro- Psy chiatrist and a Fellow of the National Post Graduate Medical College of Nigeria (FMCPsych) with almost 20 years' experience as a practicing Physician. She is a trained and certified Rational Emotive and Cognitive Behavioural Therapist from Albert Ellis Institute, New York, USA. She is also a certified Trauma Counsellor and Neurofeedback Practitioner.

Dr. Kadiri has wide experience in psycho-therapeu tic techniques and has perfected her skills whilst in private practice and whilst working for a variety of organizations. She is a recognized radio and television guest Psychiatrist and Psychotherapist. She also contributes to articles published in magazines and newspapers.

She is the only Nigerian with the 14Ps.....Physician, Psychiatrist, Psychologist, Psychotherapist, Praeti tioner (NLP, BFB, NFB), Public Speaker, Published Author, Producer (movies), Proficient Coach, Parent, Philanthropist, People oriented, Public Health Advocate and Passionate about God and life.

The founder of Pinnacle Health Radio, African's #1 online health radio and a non for profit organi zation, "Pinnacle Medicals SPEAKOUT Initiative" which is geared towards creating Mental Health literacy in Nigeria and beyond.

The Executive producer of award winning movies, Pepper soup (focused on drug abuse) and Little Drops of Happy (focused on depression, postpartum depression and suicide) and creator of the most innovative mental health app in Africa, HOW BODI.

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Former Prime Minister, Togo.



H.E IMAAN SULAIMAN-IBRAHIM
Minister of Women Affairs & Social Development.



OYINKANSOLA BADEJO-OKUSANYA (SAN)
President, Nigerian Bar Association (NBA)



HON. JOSHUA AUDU GANA
Deputy Chairman, House Committee on Power, Federal House of Representative



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Woman Executive



Wola Joseph Condotti
Chief Executive Officer, Eko Electricity Distribution Company

When the Sector is Bigger Than You: Leading in Systemically Broken Industries

There is a kind of leadership burden of running a company inside a sector that is, honestly broken. You inherit ambitious targets. You put together a competent team. You write a credible strategy. And then you spend most of your week fighting problems you did not create, cannot fully fix, and will still somehow be blamed for when they land on the evening news.

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Her Point Of View



Chinyere Okorocha
Partner & Overall Head of Sectors at Jackson, Etti & Edu

The "Support Role Cycle". Why So Many Brilliant Women Are Overlooked at Work

Recently, I had a conversation with a female executive that stayed with me long after our meeting ended. On paper, she was exceptional.
Highly competent. Dependable. Intelligent. Hardworking. The kind of professional every organisation says it wants. responsibilities that were often beyond her job description.

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Financial AdviseHER



Sola Adesakin
Founder and Lead Coach, Smart Stewards

Live for the Right Things: A Smarter Financial Approach for 2026

Every New Year comes with pressure. New goals, expectations. New standards of "success" defined mostly by what people are showing online. But 2026 is going to be financially different for you, not be because you spent louder or tried harder impress. It will be because you lived for the right things.

Financial progress is less about dramatic reso and more about quiet alignment.

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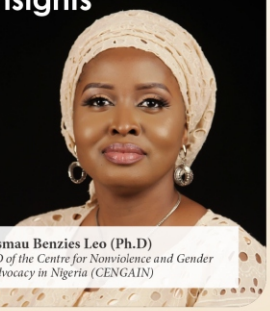
Gender Insights



Asmau Benzies Leo (Ph.D)
ED of the Centre for Nonviolence and Gender Advocacy in Nigeria (CENGAIN)

geria in 2026: ny True Security Must ve a Woman's Face

igerians step into 2026, one truth remains bidable: insecurity in Nigeria is not gender l. From banditry affected communities in the west to displacement camps in the Northeast nate stressed regions across the Middle Belt, nd girls are not merely collateral victims of ey are deliberately targeted, onately affected, and often left without justice.

e www.theiwagroup.com to read

HOLISTIC LIVING



Dr. Maymunah Yusuf Kadiri
MD/CEO Pinnacle Medical Services Ltd

Your Greatest Investment Is the Life You Build Every Day

When Maggie looked in the mirror, she believed the extra weight she had gained was her greatest problem. It was only the visible sign of a life that had quietly drifted out of balance. Stress had replaced rest, convenience had replaced nourishment, and survival had replaced intentional living. Her transformation began not with a miracle diet but with one decision care for herself differently. That single decision gradually changed her body, restored her confide lifted her mood, strengthened her relationships a gave her a renewed sense of purpose.

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VITH BES



Zainab Aderounmu
Youth Advisor & Ambassador Delegation of the European Union to Nigeria & ECOWAS

Nigeria in 2026: Why True Security Must Have a Woman's Face

The New Year has begun and making a sense of what you want may feel overwhelming. You may be tempted to 'see how it goes' instead of setting concrete goals, but I don't recommend because what you don't measure, you can't multiply. On that note, here's a step-by-step process of setting your goals for the new year.

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A Journey Through Traditional Beauty & Flavor

Inside Clay Food Shop & The Henna Place

"Together, Clay Food Shop and The Henna Place offer more than services. They offer belonging. A place where tradition is not just preserved, but honored, elevated, and shared"

Clayfoodshop

Clay Food Shop is more than just a restaurant, it's a cultural experience. Known for its traditional elegance and modern interpretations of Northern Nigerian cuisine, Clay is a destination for food lovers who seek authenticity in every bite.

From their signature ram suya to rich native sauces, tigernut juice, and wholesome masa, every meal evokes the comfort of tradition.

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The Henna Place

Established in 2014, The Henna Place is Nigeria's leading traditional spa, bringing centuries old Moroccan, Northern Nigeria and Arab beauty rituals into the general wellness market. Specializing in Moroccan hammam treatments, sugar waxing, herbal hair care, and intricate henna designs, the spa provides a deeply relaxing and culturally rich self care experience.

With multiple branches across Nigeria, including three branches in lagos, The Henna Place has become a go-to destination for brides, beauty lovers, and women seeking intentional, soul-restoring care from head to toe, it's a place to cleanse, unwind, and reconnect with yourself the traditional way.

@Thehennaplace
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