

237

"Changing the Narrative"

# WOMEN ON THE MOVE

N° 04 | 2024

THE  
**POWER**

List

5 Cameroonian  
women to look  
out for  
In 2024

JUST FOR  
THE BOYS?

AFRICAN WOMEN  
DEFYING  
CAREER STEREOTYPES



*Mitwa N'g'ambi*

**THE TRAILBLAZING EXECUTIVE**

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🌐 [www.237womenonthemove.org](http://www.237womenonthemove.org)



# EDITORS NOTE

Happy New Year 2024 and congratulations on starting this year with 237 women on the move.

When we re-branded and re-launched our Magazine 237 Women on the Move last year, we invited you all to join us to change the narrative on how women are represented and perceived in the media. We set out to turn the light on women's capabilities and how they use their opportunities to impact society.

We are quite excited to have stayed consistent in documenting and sharing these stories with you all. It has so far been a thrilling experience and we are grateful for your support.

what would compel anyone to start a magazine with no funding in the digital age? Well beyond the sheer sense of stubborn belief that this magazine simply had to exist, your support in purchasing copies has kept us going and we can never thank you enough. In this edition, you will read about some of the inspiring women on the African continent who have taken on "boy jobs" and are inviting you to do the same. You will also get to know the history of International Women's Day in Cameroon and how some Cameroonian women think this day should be commemorated.

We strongly believe that the stories we tell inspire lots of Cameroonian women and beyond and that is why we do the most we can to tell you thrilling stories. You will definitely love to read about the trailblazing CEO of MTN cameroon and why she won the MTN GROUP CEO of the year award, this edition has got you covered.



**LINDA NEH NGOBESING**  
**EDITOR IN CHIEF**

The power list provides information about 5 incredibly inspirational women in cameroon you may want to consider following in 2024.

We look forward to your feedback as usual. Share your stories with us, and we will be glad to tell them. Remember that stories have incredible power and if you do not write your story yourself, someone else will write it for you and they will omit or add.

Enjoy your reading and please stay in touch.





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# PRESS RELEASE

## COMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN



UN Women welcomes the adoption of robust blueprint to end women's poverty  
22 MARCH 2024

The 68th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW68) delivered today robust commitments by UN Member States to strengthen financing and institutions to eradicate women's and girls' poverty.

Globally, 10.3 per cent of women live in extreme poverty today, according to the report presented by the UN Secretary-General to the Commission, and progress towards ending poverty needs to be 26 times faster to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

The outcome document (or Agreed Conclusions) recognizes that women and girls living in poverty become 'shock absorbers' in times of crisis, and that further efforts are needed to increase resources to address women's and girls' poverty

Acknowledging that the international financial architecture is not fit for a crisis-prone world, the Commission called for reforms to enable countries to mobilize and invest resources in gender equality. These measures include debt relief and progressive taxation and ensuring that public resources are allocated to address the needs and rights of women and girls.

The Agreed Conclusions also recommend mobilizing financial resources from public and private sources, strengthening the international financial architecture, ensuring a gender lens in national budgeting processes, and preventing regressive taxation that disproportionately impacts women and girls with low or no income.

The outcome document also notes that official development assistance must be increased to address women's and girls' poverty.



# CSW69 10TH TO 21ST MARCH 2025

The share of total aid with gender equality as a policy objective decreased for the first time in a decade from 45 in 2019 to 43 per cent in 2020, per the latest data of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

The Commission also called for the implementation of gender-responsive economic and social policies, including increased women's representation, leadership and participation in economic institutions, enforcing core labour standards to ensure equal pay for work of equal value, and implementing policies to support women-owned businesses. Engaging and financing women's organizations is another key recommendation. Robust, flexible and multi-year financing for locally led feminist movements and women's rights organizations is critical to address poverty, as proven by existing mechanisms such as the UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women and the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund. The Agreed Conclusions also call to strengthen national capacities to collect and use disaggregated data on multidimensional poverty, and to adopt new development strategies towards sustainable economies. These include strengthening inclusive and gender-responsive social protection systems and scaling up investment in the care economy to reduce women's time and income poverty and expand their employment opportunities.

During the session, the Commission also adopted a resolution on HIV-AIDS led by the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), which calls to increase investment in gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the HIV-AIDS response.

The two-week session is the largest UN gathering on gender equality. CSW68 brought together world leaders – including two Heads of State, three vice-presidents and over 100 Ministers – and 4,800 representatives of civil-society organizations, marking the second-highest attendance in CSW records.

representatives of civil-society organizations, marking the second-highest attendance in CSW records.

On the sidelines of CSW68, approximately 270 side events were organized by UN Member States, intergovernmental organizations and UN entities; and more than 760 parallel events were organized by civil society and youth-led organizations as part of the NGO CSW68 Forum. The participation of young people, including adolescent girls, across the various sessions, including the Youth Forum, enabled youth delegates to exchange experiences, knowledge, lessons learned and good practices with an emphasis on the multiple dimensions of inequality which exacerbate how young women and girls experience poverty. The sessions, particularly the Youth Interactive Dialogue, demonstrated the importance of continuing with the practice of integrating critical youth perspectives in the official sessions of the CSW. Attention is now turning to next year's 30th anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Platform for Action. The 69th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW69) will take place from 10 to 21 March 2025 in New York.

## MEET THE AFRICAN WOMEN DEFYING STEREOTYPES!



*International Relations Specialist, Counter-terrorism Expert and Public Sector Management appointed defence minister in Liberia.*

Retired former deputy chief of staff of the Liberian Armed Forces, Brigadier General Geraldine Janet George has been appointed by President Joseph Boakai as Acting minister of defence.

General Janet George was appointed on February 12th after her predecessor retired Major Prince Charles Johnson II resigned following a protest by military wives in Monrovia over Low salaries and poor living conditions of their families in military barracks.

General George who becomes the first female to serve as minister of defence in Liberia has served in various capacities within the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL), including acting commander, military police company commander, deputy chief of staff and legal officer. She has also participated in peacekeeping missions in Mali as part of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA).

She holds a Master of Arts degree in International Relations from Webster University in the United States and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice from the African Methodist Episcopal Zion University College in Liberia's capital, Monrovia. The retired brigadier-general is also trained in intelligence, counter-terrorism, public sector management and administration of justice from institutions in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Italy.



## APPOINTED GLASGOW UNIVERSITY CHANCELLOR AT 32!



Dr. Imafidon is the founder and CEO of Stemettes, a social enterprise that encourages girls and young women to pursue careers in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). Stemettes has reached more than 45,000 girls across Europe through its events and programs.

In 2017, Imafidon was awarded an MBE (Member of the Order of the British Empire) for her services to young women and STEM sectors. She was also named the most influential woman in tech in the UK by Computer Weekly in 2018.

Dr. Imafidon is a sought-after speaker, and she has spoken at several international conferences, including the Web Summit, SXSW, and the Women of the World Festival. She is also a trustee of the Institute for the Future of Work and a member of the Council of Digital Economy and the Advisory Board of the Girl Guides.

She was appointed vice chancellor at Glasgow University in February 2024.

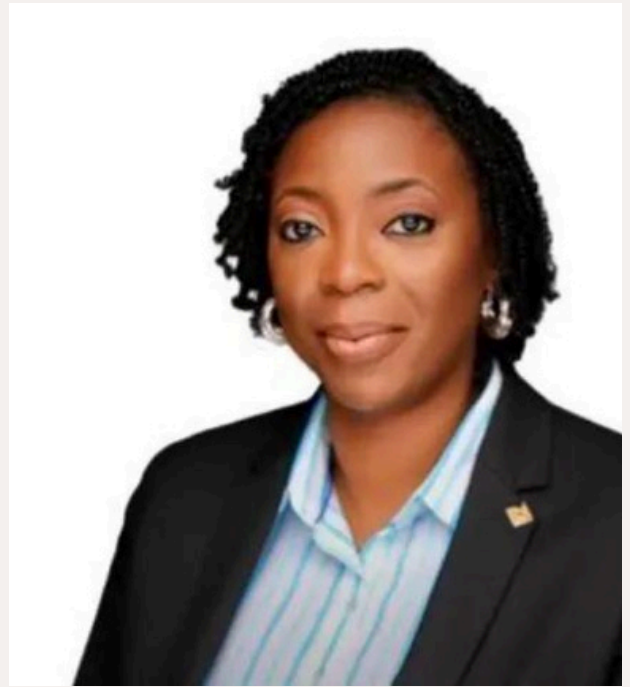
## ACCESS BANK NAMES FIRST FEMALE CEO

Boladji Agbede Has been named acting Group Chief Executive Officer of Access Bank Group. She succeeds the late Herbert Wigwe who died in a helicopter crash

Agbede whose appointment has been approved by the Central Bank of Nigeria holds 27 years in the banking sector with extensive expertise in human resource management, customer relationship management, and banking operations.

She commenced her professional career in Guaranty Trust Bank and served in various capacities including Relationship Manager and Vault Custodian. She diligently distinguished herself and swiftly rose from the grade of Executive Trainee in 1992 to Manager in 2001. Ms. Agbede subsequently served as the Chief Executive Officer of JKG limited in 2003 a business consulting outfit.

Ms. Agbede has journeyed to the top of Access Bank which she joined in 2003 as an Assistant General Manager responsible for managing the Bank's portfolio of chemical trading companies. She has also occupied several roles in the company including human resource Director since 2010. She holds a bachelors degree in Mathematics and Statistics from the University of Lagos (1990) and an MBA from Cranfield University (2002). Additionally, she is affiliated with the Chartered Institute of Management UK and Chartered Institute of Personnel Management of Nigeria.



*Ms Agbede joined Access Bank in 2003 and has nearly 30 years of experience in banking and business consultancy,*





## **HON.EMMA THEOFELUS, AFRICAS YOUNGEST MINISTER**

Multiple Award winner, activist and Honourable member of the Namibian Parliament Emma Theofelus has been named Minister of Information and Communications Technology of the Republic of Namibia

The 27-year-old activist who also serves as a board member of the Leadership Council of Africa REACH and council member of Nala the feminist movement began taking up significant Leadership roles at a very young age. She became the secretary General of the students union of the University of Namibia where she studied Law. She later served as the Deputy Speaker of the Youth Parliament of the Republic of Namibia, Board Member of the National council of Higher Education and the Junior Mayor of the City of Windhoek before being named Deputy Minister of Information and Communication of the Namibian Republic at the age of 23.

Hon.Emma was recognised as one of the BBC 100 Most Influential Women in the World 2021; named Avance Media's 100 Most Influential Young Africans in 2020, 2021 and 2022. She was also named one of the New African 100 Most Influential Africans of 2020 , reputation polls' 100 Most Reputable Africans 2020, named as the Emerging African Young Leader by the African Leadership Magazine 2022 and nominated for the One Young World Politician of the Year Award 2020 & in 2021. She holds an LLB Honours Degree from the University of Namibia, a diploma in Business management and a diploma in Afrikan Feminism and Gender Studies from the university of South Africa.



**39<sup>th</sup>  
INTERNATIONAL  
WOMEN'S DAY**



MESSAGE FROM *Madam Chantal Biya,*  
**FOUNDING PRESIDENT OF AFRICAN SYNERGY**



**Investing in women: accelerate progress.**  
It is on this theme that the international community is commemorating the 39th International Women's Day on 8 March. An important date to revisit the road travelled and salute the work accomplished by women in the conquest of their rights. It's also an opportunity to take stock of how far we still have to go to eradicate the inequalities that still persist between men and women.

**Quite a programme!**

First of all, I would like to reiterate my admiration for all those women, from all walks of life, who, through their commitment, dedication and sacrifice, are advancing the cause of women. To all of them, **I say thank you from the bottom of my heart!**

However, in a world facing multiple crises, women continue to pay a heavy price simply because they are women.

***The violence and intimidation to which they are subjected is increasing throughout the world.***

**For example, in 2022, about 89,000 women and girls were killed by their partners or a member of their family. A 20-year record!**

*This is unacceptable!*

Women are more discriminated against in recruitment, under-represented in the sciences and in senior decision-making positions. They have difficulty accessing funding.

Hence my appeal today to all women here and elsewhere to be bolder, more courageous and more united.

It is more than important to return to the essence of our struggle and the very essence of this Day.

We must seize every opportunity to advance the situation of women, without exception.

There are many challenges and nothing will be achieved easily

**Together we will be stronger!**

**Together, let's make the situation of women a priority on the political agenda of decision-makers and donors.**

By working hand in hand, we can make the world a better place for women and believe me, society as a whole will reap the rewards.

**Madam Chantal BIYA**  
First Lady of Cameroon  
Founding President of African Synergy



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## THE HISTORY AND IMPORTANCE OF INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY IN CAMEROON

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Every march 8th, more than 20,000 cameroonian women from rural and urban areas converge on the Nations political capital Yaoundé to parade before the first lady of the Republic of Cameroon Mrs. Chantal Biya.

At the level of the regional headquarters ,the Governors and their wives also preside over similar parades. However, so many women who take part in these parades do not know the origin of International womens Day in Cameroon and why this day is significant. Here are some basic facts every Cameroonian woman should know about International Women's Day in Cameroon.

## HAPPY 39TH INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY 2024

Cameroon started participating officially in the activities of the women day celebration at the 1985 conference in Nairobi, which was a follow-up to appraise and review the works of the United Nations decade for Women (United Nations 1985). During the United Nations (1995) in Beijing, twelve critical areas of concern were highlighted. They constituted women in armed conflict, women in power and decision-making positions, women and health, women and poverty, education, and training of women, amongst others.

The government of Cameroon, non-governmental organisation, as well as civil societies, have worked on these platforms developed at the Beijing conference through the signing of other treaties that promote women's rights, creating women empowerment centres, facilitating access to agricultural tools and inputs for women, easing access to credit and loan schemes, increasing the representation of women in public offices, capacity building, and training on trade and commerce, education of negative traditional practices like breast ironing and female genital mutilation just to name these.



On the International Day of the Woman therefore women are called to reflect on the twelve platforms of the Beijing declaration through a theme which is always suggested by the United Nations Women. The uniqueness of the Women's Day celebration in Cameroon is the solidarity in stitching a unique fabric and one can only hope that this solidarity would cut across all walks of life; from politics to the economy through agriculture, technology and education.



## CAMEROONIAN FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS PLATFORM KOREE RAISES \$200,000 IN PRE-SEED FUNDING TO EXPAND ITS TERRITORY.

The amount was raised with the lead support of Nigerian fintech Duplo and other private investors, including Cameroon Angels Network, Catalytic Africa, and Digital Africa. This capital is expected to enable Koree, founded by Cameroonian Magalie Gauze-Sanga, to support its expansion on the continent, particularly in French-speaking Africa. According to the CEO, Korée plans to use these funds to expand its network of marketers, expand its user base, and adapt the product to the market.

Koree is preparing to launch a new marketplace, which will allow users to retain rewards on their daily purchases. Its founder claims that consumers will now earn money when they shop on the application in 14 categories ranging from bakeries to supermarkets, fast food, cinema, and pharmacies. “ They shop as usual and earn a certain percentage of the amount they spent. The money that Koree users earn in their wallet is cash that they can exchange directly into their mobile money account ,” Magalie Gauze-Sanga explained.

This digital solution, accessible on iOS and Android, was designed to solve the problem of currency shortages in French-speaking Africa.



Since its launch in 2022, Koree claims to have already registered more than 13,000 users, processed more than 50,000 cash transactions for a total amount of \$400,000 (more than 240 million FCFA at the current value of the US dollar). The fintech also claims to have created 30,000 digital wallets since its inception. Winner of the Ecobank Fintech Challenge and the Orange Fab Cameroon Challenge in 2023, Koree has an established team in Cameroon, Senegal, Ivory Coast, Togo and Nigeria, and plans to open a physical office in Cameroon's economic capital Douala.



**Mitwa Kaemba Ng'ambi  
Awarded MTN Group's  
CEO Of The Year, 2023.**

***Congratulations!***



# MITWA -NG'AMBI THE TRAILBLAZING EXECUTIVE

*MTN -Group CEO of the year-2023*



## **MTN Cameroon scoops 5 prestigious awards**

On February 7, 2024, during a gala evening organized by the MTN Group in Johannesburg, South Africa, the CEO of MTN Cameroon Mitwa Kaemba Ng'ambi was named MTN group CEO of the year, following a competition established within the group to reward exceptional performance and encourage hardwork.

The visionary executive of Cameroon stood out among the 19 other CEOs of the MTN Group subsidiaries in Africa and the Middle East.

This distinction received by MTN Cameroon CEO was the icing on the cake for the electronic communications company, which also outperformed other MTN Group subsidiaries to win four other prizes in different categories.

MTN Cameroon came first in the “Customer Experience” and the “People and Culture” categories and also secured second place in the ESG and Compliance categories. In addition to the awards obtained at the gala, the company also distinguished itself earlier this year by winning four Y'ello Care awards for its most impactful community projects within the MTN group.







*"There is no leader without a team. There is no General Director without you. I am infinitely grateful for your support and for the remarkable work you do"*

These prestigious awards are proof of the incredibly powerful leadership of this female trailblazer. Over the years, Ng'ambi has dedicated her career to driving innovation and fostering sustainable digital initiatives on the African continent. In her role as CEO, she has led several innovative activities aimed at enhancing connectivity, bridging the digital divide, and empowering local communities.

Under her leadership, MTN Cameroon has embarked on ambitious infrastructure projects to expand network coverage, particularly in rural communities. As a leader who understands the potential of technology in contributing immensely to socioeconomic development, she champions initiatives to leverage mobile connectivity for education, healthcare, and entrepreneurship.

Ng'ambi is quite vocal on issues of gender equality, diversity, and inclusion, especially in the workplace.



Mitwa Ng'ambi took to social media to dedicate her distinction to all MTN Cameroon employees. "There is no leader without a team. There is no General Director without you. I am infinitely grateful for your support and for the remarkable work you do"

Born and raised in Zambia and formerly CEO of The MTN Rwandacell PLC, the Electrical and Electronics Engineering graduate from the University of Namibia also previously served as CEO for Airtel Tigo Ghana and Tigo Senegal.





# THE **Power** LIST

*5 Cameroonian women to look out for in 2024*

## **The forward-thinking woman king-HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF BATANGA**

Michèle Gaëlle Mahouve IV is a lone female paramount traditional ruler in Cameroon who became the first Queen of the Batanga Lohove group of the coastal region after 100 years. She was designated by the Council of Notables of the BATANGA LOHOVE Group as legitimate successor to the throne during the funeral of her late parents who passed away following a ghastly motor accident.

The frontline humanitarian and cultural activist dedicates her time to empowering children and youths to reclaim their cultural heritage. Through activities like theatre and dance, which she coordinates herself, children and young people of her clan within the age of 7 to 30 have gained knowledge and skills which they can use to expound on the cultural prowess of the BATANGA LOHOVE Group.

A strong believer that cross-cultural collaboration is a strength of the African people her majesty Queen MAHOUE IV has been seen actively participating in cross-cultural activities beyond BATANGA since her enthronement

On the sidelines of her cultural activities, she is also an engaged humanitarian who is deeply concerned about the well-being of vulnerable women and children, especially orphans. Over the years, she has provided food items and medication to these groups of people in Batanga and beyond. She specifically purchases and parcels presents for children in orphanages during festive seasons.

Queen MAHOUE IV is also a professional magistrate who doubles as the head of the litigation unit in the Division of Legal Affairs and Consumer Protection of the Telecommunications Regulatory Agency (TRB).



## *Adeline Sede K, Founder Fab Afrique media groupe*

Adeline Sede Kamga is the founder/CEO of FabAfric Media Group, a creative and innovative marketing and communication agency that started in 2013 as a lifestyle magazine to showcase different cultures across the African continent. Today, her media agency serves more than 220 companies with exceptional services.

Her over 17 years of expertise in the field of public relations, marketing, and communication services and her strong commitment to delivering high quality projects, have earned her a seat on the table of prominent Cameroonians contributing immensely to National growth.

Adeline is also a founding member of FEPPSAC (Women editors of Central Africa), a UN Central African Office initiative established to work with women in the print magazine industry. This group seeks to help drive the United Nations mandate of women, peace, and security in Central Africa. Her hands-on experience in human resource management enabled her to start a pan African Excellence In People Management initiative for change in 2016 called The Corporate Awards and The Corporate Women in Leadership program.

She has a BA in Corporate Communications, MA in Human Resource Management from Coventry University UK and professional qualifications such as CIPD, PRINCE2 and a Diploma in Business Administration.



## TELLING STORIES THAT MATTER

Rekiatu Musa Jingi is a multiple award winning journalist with over 10 years of experience working as an investigative journalist and human rights advocate.

She currently works for cameroons State broadcaster- CRTV, where she documents under reported stories of minority groups, notably refugees and migrants as well as women, with focus on women's sexual and reproductive health. She won the 2020 African Women in Media (AWIM) award, the Labour Migration Media Award in the gender category forr her incredibly powerful report on Gender Based Migration.

In 2022, she won the international labour organisation (ILO) global Media Award on Labour Migration and was selected same year to take part in the United Nation Reham al-Farra Memorial Journalism Fellowship as well as the Mandela Washington fellowship.

Rekiatu is the founder of Go Getters Women Africa and CEO of Roukys Delice a restaurant that trains girls, women, and refugees on culinary art while exploring the redistribution of cooked food and fresh groceries to help the needy.

She holds an MA in public policy and global communications from the Syracuse University of NewYork, United States of America a BSc from the advanced school of mass communication ASMAC Yaoundé. She is also an alumni of the Ghana Institute of Management and public administration



***Award winning journalist  
Rekiatu Musa Jingi***







## GWENDOLINE ABUNAW CEO-ECO BANK

Gwendoline ABUNAW is Managing Director of Ecobank Cameroon, a branch of the first pan-African banking group currently existing in 35 countries on the African continent. Since November 2021, she has been the CEMAC group head covering 6 Ecobank branches within the sub region. In June 2022, she became the first female president of the Association of Banking and Financial Institutions of Cameroon (APECCAM), the main entity which represents all banks and financial institutions in Cameroon.

With over 20 years of experience in the banking sector, she has held senior management positions since 2011.

She is a member of the boards of directors of Ecobank Cameroon, Ecobank Chad and E-process International (technology service provider of Ecobank), as well as chair of the boards of directors of Pan African Savings and Loans (member of the Ecobank group specializing in microfinance), EDC Investment Corporation (investment bank member of the Ecobank group) and EDC Assets Management.

Mrs. ABUNAW is also a frequent speaker at conferences on various topics, such as women in leadership and empowerment, innovation and digital transformation in the financial sector, and youth motivation and technology.

Gwendoline ABUNAW holds a bachelor's degree in banking and finance from the University of Buea (Cameroon) and an MBA from London Metropolitan University (United Kingdom). Before joining Ecobank Cameroon in 2011, she held several positions at Standard Chartered Bank and Citibank. She recently masterminded the creation of the first female focused eco bank branch in Cameroon "ellevate", launched in Douala in March 2024.



***Valérie NEIM***  
***MD-Brazza Transactions***

Valérie NEIM is the CEO and Managing Director of Brazza Transactions, a company specializing in wealth and wealth management consultancy, green financing and FOREX.

A business development mogul, entrepreneur, and external relations manager who is committed to the course for the emancipation of women visible through her work as ambassador for Jeune Afrique (Women Working For Change). She also founded an initiative known as INVICTAE, an international impact club that creates visibility for African women industry leaders while providing opportunities to international investors and partners.

She has been working for over ten years with multinationals and pan-African organizations in the financial sector, notably ABSA Bank (Santander Bank), UBA Bank, Fujitsu-Siemens and later as consultant for the German company TNT Logistics.

She is a holder of a BA in business administration, and an MSc in information systems management, Valérie NEIM, and also graduated from Brookes University in Oxford with an MBA in entrepreneurship




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## MEN FOR WOMEN: MEET DR.SAKAH BERNARD

Bernard Sakah Nsaidzedze(Ph.D.) is a human rights and gender activist with over 17 years of experience in human rights, gender, conflict resolution, and peace activism.

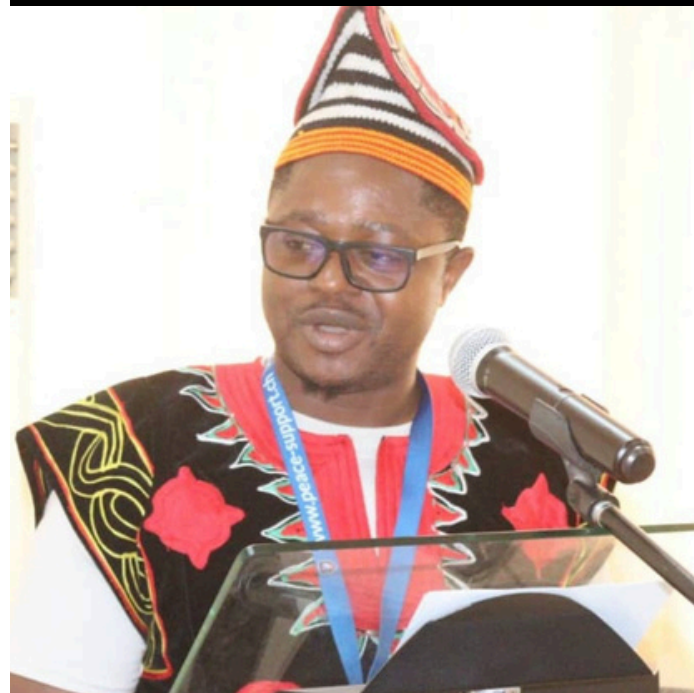
In 2020, Dr.Sakah was hired within the framework of the UN Women and the Ministry of Women Empowerment and the Family project dubbed "Second Chance Education project" as a consultant to facilitate the implementation of activities related to the implications of gender based violence in the Far North, Adamawa, and East Regions of Cameroon.

As Focal Person for the Centre Region during implementation of the project on "Building community action to end violence against women and girls in Cameroon" initiated by the ministry of Women Empowerment and the Family he spearheaded the organisation of 2 workshops for over 150 service providers, traditional rulers, religious authorities, police officers, municipal authorities, lawyers, medical personnel, and survivors of gender based violence in the Centre Region of Cameroon.

He has also successfully organised sensitization campaigns, reaching out to hundreds of women and youth on policy related issues and civic responsibility.

As the Managing Director of Big Steps outreach Network (BONET-Cameroon) he has coordinated the implementation of several projects geared towards improving the status of women in society including the SHE platform-BONET project 50/50 which provides micro loans to women from the trouble stricken North West and South West Regions to start up buisness.

He holds a Phd. in Governance and Regional Intergration from the Pan African university insitute of Governance, Humanities and Social Sciences and the University of Yaoundé II Soa , Masters in Governance and Regional Integration and a Bachelor of Science degree in sociology and anthropology from the University of Buea and has written over 15 research articles.





## WOMEN WING OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC FRONT PARTY STRATEGIZES AHEAD OF 2025 ELECTIONS



The women's wing of one of Cameroon's main opposition political parties SDF, has met to discuss innovative fundraising strategies to support female candidates running for political office in the 2025 municipal and legislative elections.

During the meeting in Cameroon's political capital Yaoundé on Friday, February 16th chaired by Dr Haoua Madeleine, the women discussed ways of advancing the women's agenda within the party.

In her opening statement, Dr Madeleine highlighted the increase in the number of women in the SDF as one of the meeting's priorities "We are here to strategize on how we can bring more women into the SDF" she said

She used the occasion to convince women who are not involved in politics to join the Social Democratic Front party. When quizzed on the calibre of women who can join, the former senator opined that there are no particular criteria to become a politician. "Politics is not just for the powerful, we all have needs, and ideas on how we want the country to evolve, and that is why we are calling on people on all levels to join the SDF and see how they can change the nation with their ideas" she explained.

The Republic of Cameroon is set to host the municipal, legislative and presidential elections in 2025.

# RUN WITH PURPOSE

Local and global opportunities for women and girls

## *Unesco prize for girls*

Applications are now open for the 2024 UNESCO Prize for Girls' and Women's Education. The UNESCO Prize for Girls' and Women's Education honours outstanding and innovative contributions made by individuals, institutions, and organizations to advance girls' and women's education. It is the first UNESCO Prize of this nature and is unique in showcasing successful projects that improve and promote the educational prospects of girls and women and in turn, the quality of their lives.

Funded by the Government of the People's Republic of China, the Prize is conferred annually to two laureates and consists of an award of US \$50,000 each to help further their work in the area of girls' and women's education. The Director-General of UNESCO awarded the Prize for the first time in 2016.

### Nomination Procedure:

Governments of UNESCO Member States via their Permanent Delegations to UNESCO and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in official partnership with UNESCO can make up to 3 nominations. Self-nominations are not accepted.



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# RUN WITH PURPOSE

## IWFM Elizabeth Neuffer Fellowship



**Elizabeth Neuffer Fellowship**

For women & nonbinary journalists committed to human rights & social justice reporting.

Apply by April 23  
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**IWFM** INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S MEDIA FOUNDATION

The Elizabeth Neuffer Fellowship offers women and nonbinary journalists who cover social justice and human rights with chances for academic and professional advancement. The Fellowship was established in honor of Elizabeth Neuffer, a Boston Globe correspondent and 1998 recipient of the IWFM Courage in Journalism Award, who passed away on May 9, 2003, while covering the war in Iraq. The IWFM launched this program in cooperation with Neuffer's friends and family in order to carry on her legacy and further her work in the social justice and human rights movements.

Organized by: International Women's Media Foundation (IWFM)

Application Deadline: April 21, 2024

Fellowship Duration: February to July 2025 (6 Months)

Hosting Institute: Center for International Studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

Locations: New York City and Cambridge, United

*Consult the website of IWFM for more*

*www.237womenonthemove.org*