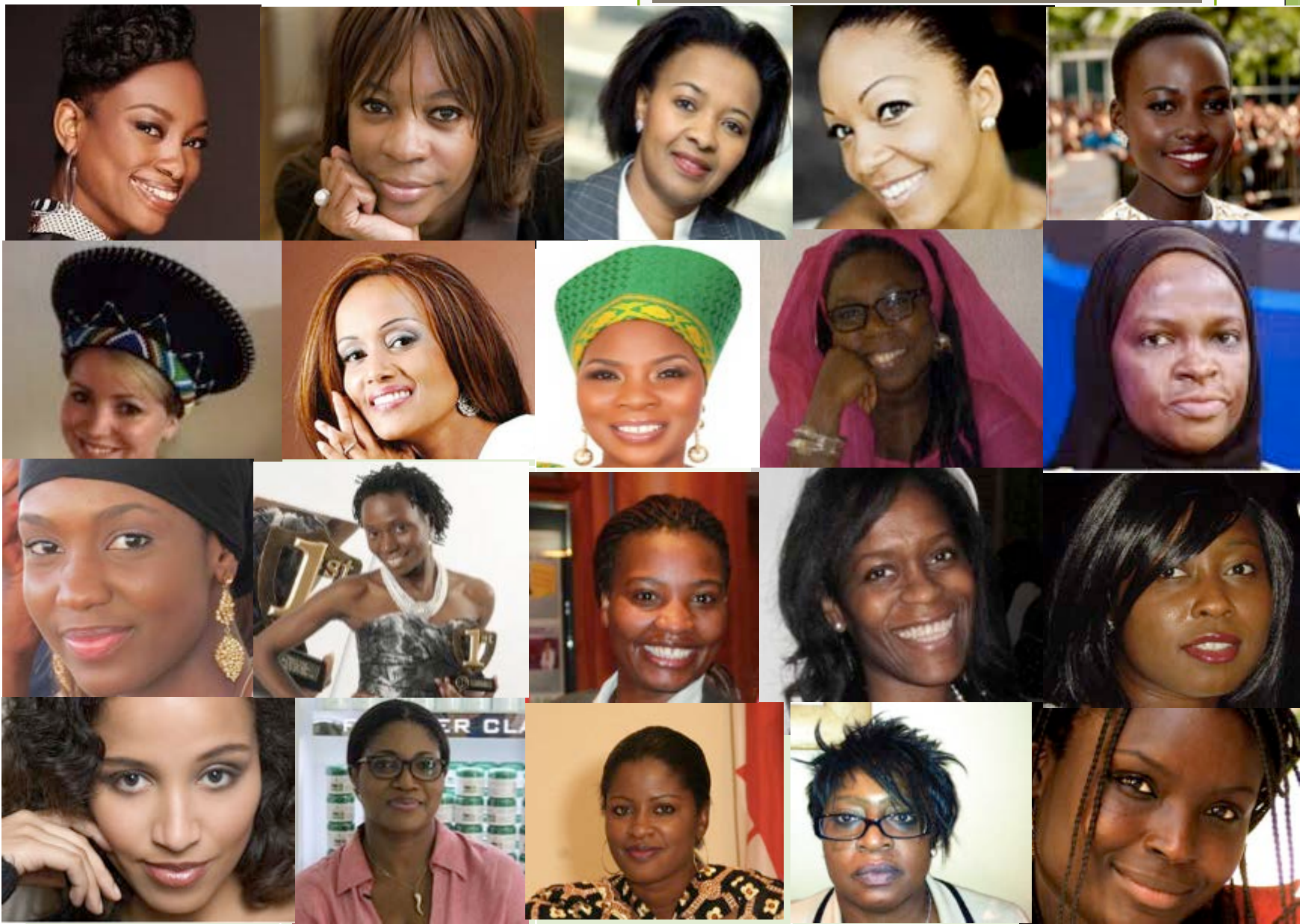


## Top 20 Inspirational Women list

# African Diaspora Professional Women in Europe (ADIPWE) 2014



# ADIPWE 2014



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Top 20 list of inspirational women



<http://adipwe.wordpress.com/>



## Femi Oke, Nigeria Television presenter and journalist

Femi Oke's work in Africa was recognised by The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the African Communications Agency when she received the "African Achievers Award 2007".

Femi picked up the Interaction media award in 2008 for her commitment to broadcasting the complex issues of Africa.

She hosts the interactive current affairs programme "The Stream" for Al Jazeera English.

<http://therealfemioke.com/>



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## Dambisa Moyo, Mozambique Economist and Author

Dambisa is an economist who often makes the headlines with macroeconomy analysis, foreign aid impact, and global affairs impacting Africa.

She is the author of the well-publicised 'Dead Aid', 'How the West Was Lost' and recently 'Winner Take All'.

She was named by TIME Magazine as one of the world's 100 most influential people.

<http://bit.ly/1cNfbXf>

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**Swaady Martin-Leke, Cote d'Ivoire**

**Founder & CEO YSWARA**

Swaady spent 11 years of her career with General Electric (GE) before she decided in 2011 to shift to something very different.

YSWARA was born to promote African luxury, change the world's perception of Africa and to produce a luxury brand that is truly African in origin, nature and tradition.

YSWARA Precious African Teas shows Africa in a new light.

<http://bit.ly/1eoA0TE>

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**Bella Ikpasaja, Nigeria**  
Founding Editor Zeitgeist Africa

ZeitgeistAfrica's blog showcases progressive developments in business, communities and cultures of Sub-Saharan Africa. It also profiles inspiring individuals - social entrepreneurs, business leaders, change makers connected with Africa.

Bella specialises in Business Development and enjoy working with organisations to grow their revenue, build client relationships and reputations.

[www.zeitgeistafrica.com](http://www.zeitgeistafrica.com)

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## Jessica Shelver, South Africa Campaigner

Jessica Shelver was named as Rising Star of the Year for the South African Chamber of Commerce Business Awards 2012.

She is network development and affiliations officer with Democratic Alliance (DA) Abroad.

DA Abroad aims to mobilise the 3 million South Africans living abroad to get involved in their country's future. Her goal is to make a positive difference and help South Africans by bringing widespread attention to the issues that matter in her country.

<http://bit.ly/1diOV7a>

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## Magatte Wade, Senegal Serial-entrepreneur

Magatte Wade, founder and CEO, is a serial-entrepreneur and formidable advocate of positive change in business, gender roles, and Africa.

She co-founded Adina World Beat Beverages in 2004 and recently launched her second company, The Tiossano Tribe, which produces high-end skin care products based on traditional Senegalese recipes.

<http://www.tiossan.com/magatte>



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## Lupita Nyong'o, Kenya

Actress, film and music video director

Lupita was widely acclaimed for her role in the film *12 Years a Slave*, earning her the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress, among numerous other awards and nominations.

Almost unknown a year ago, this young Kenyan has become an inspiration for millions of people.

In her Oscar's speech Lupita expressed her wish that her journey would inspire others: "No matter where you're from, your dreams are valid."

<http://bit.ly/1dMrotd>

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### Grace Amey-Obeng, Ghana CEO FC Group of Companies

From a Start-up capital of \$100 she is now running an Annual turnover of \$8-10 million

Grace is one of West Africa's most successful businesswomen, who made her fortune promoting products which emphasised the beauty of the black skin, at a time when many of her competitors were selling dangerous skin-bleaching formulas.

<http://bbc.in/1dMqyg2>

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## Amina Gerba, Cameroun President and Founder of Kariliss

In addition to running her cosmetics ventures, Amina is also president and CEO of Afrique Expansion Inc., a communication and international development firm she founded to promote business relations and partnerships between Canadian and African enterprises. She launched Forum Africa in 2003, a biennial business gathering intended to promote economic ties between the two continents.

<http://www.kariliss.com/>

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## Hannah Acquah, Ghana Economist, Social entrepreneur

Hannah Acquah leads Acumen's efforts to build a community of local supporters in West Africa.

Acumen is a non-profit that raises charitable donations to invest in companies, leaders, and ideas that are changing the way the world tackles poverty.

Hannah is the Founder of The Knowledge Channel (TKC), an e-learning platform that bridges the education gap through the gaining of practical and employability skills.

<http://adipwe.wordpress.com/>

<http://bit.ly/1i8YN2Q>



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**Hawa Dème, Mali**  
Chief Compliance & Internal Control Officer

Hawa Dème is a bright young professional and the President of Malian Graduates and Students Association in France.

She is an activist who campaigns for the Malian youth, migration, employability, entrepreneurship ... She is often heard on France24 English, RFI, Africa Numéro 1 and at conferences.

<http://bit.ly/1fmXCHW>

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**Sophie Ekoue, Togo**  
Journalist and author

Sophie Ekoué is one of the great voices of RFI (Radio France Internationale), the International French radio where she hosts 'Littérature sans frontières', a literature show that features writers from all over the world.

Her latest book "In the name of life", is a very informative book to discover the formal system of naming children in Africa as well as some more personal ways gathered from African writers.

<http://bit.ly/1fmWLH4>

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**Amina Odidi, Nigeria**  
Co-Chief Scientific Officer &  
Director, IntelliPharmaCeutics

Since 1984, Dr. Odidi has been developing and applying proprietary technologies to the development of controlled-release drug products for third-party pharmaceutical companies.

She has invented or co-invented various proprietary controlled delivery devices for the delivery of pharmaceutical, nutraceutical, biological, agricultural and chemical agents.

<http://bit.ly/1kJMuNj>

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**Agnes Giteau, Kenya**  
Trade Consultant - East Africa

Agnes Gitau is in charge of the global sales of the Eastern African Economic Chambers of Commerce (EA ECC) and advises business in Europe on investment opportunities in the Eastern Africa region.

She is also CEO of the London Africa Media Network (Lamn) whose focus is to lobby for a bigger presence of the Africa's media in the globe!

<http://adipwe.wordpress.com/>

<http://linkd.in/1glynKq>



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**Mina Salami, Nigeria**  
Award-winning blogger, writer  
and commentator

Minna Salami is the founder of MsAfropolitan, a multiple award-winning blog covering contemporary Africa and Diaspora society and culture from a feminist perspective.

She is also a contributor to the Guardian Africa Network. Her blog engage with readers on the complexities and journeys of people of African heritage.

<http://www.msafropolitan.com/>

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**Ada Maduakoh, Nigeria**  
Director /Managing Partner,  
Sandown Corporate Ltd

Ada is a qualified lawyer a management consultant with over 20 years experience and a social entrepreneur who has set up several companies. She is currently the Chief Executive and Principal Consultant of ProDiverse Global, an international development consultancy.

<http://adipwe.wordpress.com/>

<http://bit.ly/1g53vcU>

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**Pauline Long, Kenya**  
**Founder & Producer, BEFFTA**

Pauline Long started BEFFTA Awards, an awards ceremony to honour the best showbiz and entertainment personalities in the black and ethnic communities in the UK, USA, Africa, Caribbean, Canada and globally.

She has worked with many talented people in the industry who failed to be recognised despite their contributions. The awards ceremony also aims to inspire black and ethnic personalities worldwide to perform at the highest levels.

<http://bit.ly/PuuXM6>

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<http://adipwe.wordpress.com/>



## Sophia Bekele, Ethiopia Tech entrepreneur

Sophia left her successful Corporate Career in 2000 to focus on the transfer of technology to the emerging markets.

She is a serial entrepreneur and the Executive Director and Founder of DotConnectAfrica (DCA) Trust and CEO of DCA Registry Systems Kenya (Ltd).

<http://sophiabekele.com/>



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## Wendy Luhabe, South Africa Businesswoman & Author

Wendy is the co-founder of Women Investment Portfolio Holdings, the first female-owned company to be listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange and a globally renowned champion for the economic empowerment for women.

She was appointed Honorary Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order (LVO) in the 2014 in the UK and is also the author of the book 'Defining Moments'.

<http://www.wendyluhabe.org/>

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**Justina Mutale, Zambia**  
Social Entrepreneur & Speaker

Justina is the Founder & CEO of the multi-award winning, global organisation POSITIVE RUNWAY.

She is also a philanthropist, international speaker, humanitarian, philosopher, HIV/AIDS & Human Rights Activist and Advocate.

She sits on the Advisory Board of the World Leaders Forum and serves as patron, ambassador, trustee and board member of several other humanitarian, community and charitable organizations in the UK and overseas.

<http://justinamutale.com/>

# African Diaspora Professional Women in Europe

is an online forum with the aim to:

- Celebrate the success of African Women in Europe (and in the western world in general)
- Give visibility to those women who have achieved success in their own way but might still unknown by the wider public
- Inspire the new generation of African Women and share ideas to fulfil their potential
- Contribute to Africa rebranding and development by identifying opportunities to transfer the vast amount of knowledge gained in Europe

This forum is open to women of African Diaspora as well as to those who have a passion for Africa development.

# ABOUT US



Editor: Francine Beleyi, founder of African Diaspora Professional Women in Europe (ADIPWE), bilingual French/English business and communication strategist.

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- <http://Adipwe.wordpress.com>
- LinkedIn group <http://linkd.in/1gnU25l>
- Facebook <http://groups.to/adipwe/>
- Twitter <http://twitter.com/FrancineBeleyi>
- To stay in touch for the next edition, go to <http://wp.me/PSWtT-7a>



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