

6th
**FEMININE
GHANA
ACHIEVEMENT
AWARDS**



4TH SEPT. 2020 | ACCRA MARRIOTT HOTEL | 5:00PM

www.feminineghanaachievers.com

HONORARY AWARDEES



Hon. Cynthia Mamle Morrison Minister for Gender, Children & Social Protection

Hon. Cynthia Mamle Morrison is a prominent member of the governing New Patriotic Party (NPP), and is currently the Member of Parliament (MP) for the Agona West constituency. On 9th August 2018, Hon. Cynthia Morrison was appointed Minister for Gender, Children and Social Protection by President Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo, and subsequently approved by Parliament as required by the 1992 Constitution.

She contested and won the seat for Agona West Constituency in the Central Region during the 2016 general elections. Hon. Cynthia won the election by obtaining 32,770 votes out of the 56,878 cast, representing 58.03 percent of total valid votes.

She was the Executive Director and a Manager of her own company. She acquired a Teacher Training Certificate at the Maria Montessori Training School in 1992, and also in Hepziba Montessor. She also has certificates in catering.

She is a philanthropist and has donated items to the physically challenged and needy, including wheel chairs, walking coaches and crutches.

She is married to Mr. Herbert Morrison, and they have seven children. She is a devoted Christian. Cynthia Morrison was born on 17th January, 1964 in Elmina in the Central Region.



H.E. Claudia Turbay Quintero Colombia Ambassador to Ghana

The Embassy of Colombia to Ghana, under the leadership of Ambassador Claudia Turbay Quintero, has concurrent accreditation to a total of nineteen (19) West and Central African countries. Ambassador Turbay is currently the Ambassador of Colombia to eleven (11) of these countries, including ECOWAS.

In 2004, Ambassador Turbay Quintero authored a book of original poems entitled “De la Piel al Corazon” (From the skin to the heart). She has also been responsible for many different articles of an investigative nature, with reporting, personal and scientific interviews published in the Colombian daily newspaper “El Tiempo”.

Starting from the principle of contributing to the improvement of the living standards of Colombians and being part of Colombia’s necessary integration within the international

community, Ambassador Turbay Quintero has been busy promoting Colombia in the international arena, both bilaterally and multilaterally through the various positions she has held in Colombian public service.

Ambassador Turbay Quintero has studied at Fordham University, New York University and other notable institutions of higher learning, is a Journalist and a Business Promoter by training. Her diplomatic career began 14 years ago during which time she has served as Ambassador in Latin America, Europe and currently in Africa.

She has further developed activities across the political, social, economic, international trade and cultural spectrums, amongst others. Ambassador Turbay Quintero was the President of Proexport Coombia, currently ProColombia; the institution responsible for providing business opportunities, clear information on requirements, strategies for



Ambassador Maria Elisa Teofilo de Luna Brazil Ambassador to Ghana

Maria Elisa T. de Luna joined the Brazilian Foreign Service in 1981. After serving at the Ministry's headquarters for seven years, she was assigned to the Brazilian Embassy in the United Arab Emirates as Second Secretary in 1988 and to Cuba in 1990. In 1993, she served as Deputy Consul General in Milan, Italy, before moving three years later to occupy the same position at the Brazilian General Consulate in Asunción, Paraguay.

In 1998, Mrs. Luna returned to Brazil for a special assignment as International Adviser to the Ministry of Agriculture in Brasilia and afterwards, served as the Head of the Immigration Division at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Brasilia in 1999. She was also on special assignment at the Executive Secretariat of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP) in Lisbon, Portugal in 2000.

In 2001, she headed the Trade Section of the Brazilian Embassy in Panama City, Panama, after which she was given the opportunity in 2003 to head the Africa Division (West Africa) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Brasilia, Brazil. In May 2003, she participated in the preparation of the 1st Brazil – Africa Forum in Fortaleza, Brazil and in June 2006, in the 1st Conference of African and Diaspora Intellectuals in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil.

Prior to her appointment as Ambassador to the Republic of Ghana, she served as Minister Counsellor in Belgium in 2008, Ambassador of Brazil in Senegal in 2010 and Consul General at the Brazilian General Consulate in Montreal, Canada in 2015.

Originally from Rio de Janeiro, Maria Elisa T. de Luna was born in 1952. She holds a Law degree from the University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ) and is a graduate from the Diplomatic School of the Rio Branco Institute. Aside being a native speaker of Portuguese language, she speaks French, Spanish, English and Italian

H.E. Anne Sophie Avé, Ambassador of France to Ghana

H.E. Anne Sophie Avé was appointed the Ambassador of France to Ghana by decree of the President of the French Republic in September 2018. From 2016 to 2018, she was the Director of Human Resources at the Ministry of Defence. She was appointed the Social Counsellor in the Cabinet of Jean-Yves Le Drian (the then Minister of Defence) from 2012 to 2015.

From 2007 to 2012, she occupied the position of the General Delegate of Armateurs de France at the Ministry of Transport. Then H.E. Sophie Avé became the senior civil servant of the Head of the European and International Unit at the Directorate for Maritime, River and Road Transports at the Ministry of Transport from 2005 to 2007.

In 2003-2005, she was a student at the Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA) (Romain Gary class), while from 1997 to 2002 she was the Sales Director at Addeo multimedia. From 1991-1996, she was the consultant and vocation trainer at the Institut de Formation Professionnelle Appliquée (IFPA).

H.E. Sophie Avé was born on November 10, 1968 in Fontainebleau, France. She has been honored with the Knight of the Legion of Honor and the National Order of Merit.





H.E. Stephanie S. Sullivan, **U.S. Ambassador to Ghana**

Stephanie S. Sullivan arrived in Ghana as U.S. Ambassador on December 14, 2018. She previously served as the Political Chief at the US Embassy in Accra, from 1997 to 2001. Her other overseas assignments were in the Republic of Congo (also as Ambassador) and in Cameroon. Most recently, she was the Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of African Affairs at the U.S. Department of State.

After joining the State Department in 1986, she served multiple tours in the State Department's 24/7 briefing and crisis management center. Other Washington assignments include desk officer for Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso as well as management positions supporting colleagues in Africa, Europe, and the Western Hemisphere.

Ms. Sullivan was a Peace Corps volunteer in the Democratic Republic of Congo. She has degrees from Brown University and the National War College. She and her husband have two grown sons.



Mrs. Anne–Claire Dufay, **UNICEF Representative, Ghana**

Mrs. Anne-Claire Dufay has been working in Ghana since January 2018 as THE UNICEF Representative. She has twenty-two years of international professional experience. Prior to this assignment, she worked in East Jerusalem from May 2014 to December 2017 as UNICEF Deputy Special Representative. She was also UNICEF Deputy Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina from January 2009 to April 2014.

Mrs. Dufay served as UNICEF Chief of Child Protection in Myanmar (mid-2003 to 2008) and East Timor (2000 to mid-2003). She worked as UNICEF Child Protection Officer with the Bangladeshi country office from 1998 to early 2000. She worked with local NGOs in Guatemala (Casa Alianza and Proden) in the areas of Child Rights and Protection, and with the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Paris.

Mrs. Dufay holds a Post-Master Degree in Public International Law (Diplôme d'Etudes Appliquées en Droit des Relations Economiques Internationales et Communautaires et du Développement) from the Paris X-Nanterre University, France.

Mrs. Dufay was born in France. During her childhood, she lived in Algeria, Italy, Island of Reunion and Cote d'Ivoire. She is married, with two children aged 12 and 15 years. She speaks French, English, Spanish and Italian.

KNOW ABOUT FEMININE GHANA HALL OF FAME

Consecutively, The Business Executive Magazine Ltd. has organized and hosted the Feminine Ghana Achievements Awards from 2015 to 2019. During that period, over 100 very important female personalities have been honored with the awards.

The awardees include female Ministers of State, diplomats, top–notched CEOs, technology innovators, high–level public sector officials and private sector corporate executives and accomplished entrepreneurs.

The awards organizers realized it was prudent and beneficent to induct selected awardees into what is termed the Feminine Ghana Hall of Fame. The rationale for the concept is noble and enviable. The Hall of Fame will create a platform or forum for the inductees to combine their collective gravitas in order to leverage their special status for the good of all Ghanaians, as a consequent of the respect accorded them by Government, the media, the corporate and diplomatic communities, civil society and the international community in Ghana. This will enable the selected Hall of Famers to make invaluable contributions to public policy formulation that will support the current and successive governments to achieve economic growth and concomitant development in their efforts to improve the living standards of Ghanaians.

As role models, the Hall of Famers will train, coach and mentor young women and girls to aspire to be like them and later contribute their individual and collective quotas to overall national development.



SHE ACHIEVER

- SHE Achiever is an executive association with an embodiment of Top Female Executives, Top CEOs and Dignified past award winners that forms a platform where it is more easily reached out for assistance in a required field without incurring cost.
- The SHE Achiever initiative is to stand for women empowerment and will get the voices of women heard on certain important social matters. Below are some of the benefits that come the way of members or affiliates of the association.
-

OUTLINED BENEFITS

- An Opportunity to be inducted into the feminine Hall Of Fame
- Website for board room members
- WhatsApp Group for networking purposes.
- Dedicated spread in The Business Executive Magazine which will highlight profiles of members and views of members on certain related economic topics.
- Membership certificates
- Members brooches
- Engagement in fun related activities such as 'CEO'S COOK'S OFF'
- Opportunity to participate in our sporting activities such as the Board Room Olympics.
- A minute engagement of certain pertaining issues which will be exported to the media and clients.
- Networking dinners and cocktails
- Short docuseries on CEOs products and services to be broadcast on The Business Executive YouTube Channel.
- 10% Discount adverts after award ceremony for 1–3 months
- Free management course for general managers and chief operation officers (COO)
- Complementary tickets
- A framed picture of self/company's logo to be presented after the awards.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION LAW IS NEEDED NOW THAN YEARS AGO

A law on Affirmative Action in Ghana has been in the works for decades but the various governments have not marshalled the necessary political will to push Parliament to pass the various Bills that they have presented to the legislators.

Realizing that a law on Affirmative Action is needed now than the earlier years, some prominent women have convened a group of civil society organisations known as the Affirmative Action Bill Coalition to advocate for the passage of the Bill before the elections in December 2020.

Why is Ghana obligated to have an Act on Affirmative Action? In an interview with democracyinAfrica.org in March 2020, Sheila Minkah-Premo, the convener of the Affirmative Action Bill Coalition who has been in legal practice in Ghana for about 30 years with postgraduate law qualification, stated: "First, let's be clear that women are indeed under-represented in so many areas of public life, and this is a key part of the broader problem of mainstreaming gender throughout public policy, and tackling gender inequalities in the wider society. There is a large volume of research attesting to this under-representation, and consensus about the need to address it. This consensus was strengthened in 2004 through the Women's Manifesto for Ghana which is hosted by ABANTU-for-Development and supported by a broad coalition of women's groups.

"Secondly, the 1992 constitution of Ghana allows for Affirmative Action. Article 17 deals with equality and freedom from discrimination. Sub-article 1 stipulates the equality of all persons before the law. Sub-article 2 prohibits discrimination on grounds of gender (and certain other specified characteristics). Sub-article 3 defines discrimination. And sub-article 4 makes clear that nothing in article 17 should prevent parliament from enacting

laws that are 'reasonably necessary to provide for the implementation of policies and programmes aimed at redressing social, economic or educational imbalance.'

"Thirdly, Ghana has an international obligation to tackle the under-representation of women in public life. Since 1980, Ghana has been a signatory to the international Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, also known as the CEDAW. Article 4, clause 1, of the CEDAW clarifies that temporary special measures to accelerate the de facto equality of men and women should not be considered as discrimination.

Ghana is also a signatory to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights. Article 9 of the 2003 Maputo Protocol to this Charter calls on state parties to take specific positive action to ensure that 'women are represented equally at all levels with men in all electoral processes' and are equal partners with men in the development of state policies and programmes. Ghana is also a member-state of the United Nations, and we are thus committed to Sustainable Development Goal 5 on Gender Equality. So as a country, we are obliged to take steps to rectify the under-representation of women in the interests of achieving gender equality." An Affirmative Action is the act of supporting or recommending a cause of action to remedy a historical imbalance. An Affirmative Action is a temporary measure that is often instituted to redress the effects of past and current discrimination that is regarded as unfair and unjust. Affirmative Action is therefore used to correct issues regarding discrimination in the political, social, economic and cultural lives of any people.

Affirmative Action law in Ghana will promote equality in participation and representation in decision making processes which will enable women to protect and promote their rights and the country as a whole. According to ABANTU-for-Development, an NGO, higher gender inequality in decision making is associated with slower development of a country.

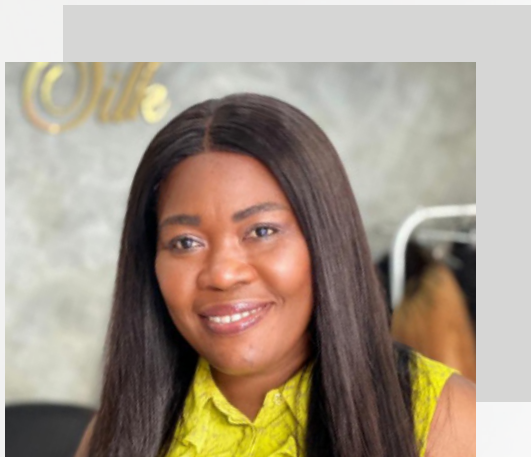
Ghana's Affirmative Action Bill defines Affirmative Action as "A set of measures adopted by the Government, public and private institutions to address a history of systemic discrimination and exclusion of women and to encourage their efforts towards addressing political, social, cultural, economic and educational gender imbalance in the public and private sectors in accordance with clause (4) of article 17 of the Constitution".

The Bill seeks to promote a progressive increase in active participation of women in public life from a minimum of 40% to a parity of 50% by 2030 in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Affirmative Action Bill when passed into Law, will ensure that a critical number of women are in key positions in governance and public life and in decision-making spaces that will improve the lives of women generally and will also lead to consequential changes in existing laws and policies to improve the lives of women.

Though various efforts have been made in Ghana to balance political representation and participation between women and men, these efforts have not yielded desired results, mainly due to the low commitment and the political will to back such initiatives.

Ghana began its quest for an Affirmative Action Law as far back as 1998, where guidelines on the Law were passed by the Cabinet. However, as at June 2020, the Bill has still not been passed. This





MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE IN TERTIARY EDUCATION

Professor Goski Alabi, President of Laweh Open University College

Prof. (Mrs.) Goski Alabi is an academic, a consultant and accomplished entrepreneur with over 17 years of experience in academia, consultancy, regulation, advocacy and business.

Prof. Alabi is currently a Co-Founder and the President of the Laweh Open University College, the first accredited open university in Ghana and the second in West Africa. Prior to that, she was a Full Professor in Quality Management and Leadership, Associate Professor, the Dean of the Centre for International Education and Collaboration and the Dean of the School of Research and the Graduate Studies, University of Professional Studies, Accra (UPSA).

She is a highly published academic who has over 70 scholarly journal publications, books, conferences and technical papers to her credit. In June 2019, Prof. Goski was “The Lecturer”, a keynote speaker at the prestigious Oxford University’s Sir David Watson Memorial Lecture. She is also the author of the seminal book “Managing for Excellence in the 21st Century, the Total Quality Approach,” which appeared in New York Times in August 2017.

She served as the founding Coordinator for the University Research Publications from 2006 to 2009; founding Chief Editor of the Journal of Business Research, an international peer-reviewed publication which was abstracted on the African Journals Online (AJOL) for seven years.

She is a certified Member of the Europe-Africa-Caribbean Liaison Committee. Prof. Alabi grew the graduate student population to about 1000 in six years with nine distinct graduate programmes, earning UPSA the Ambassador Status from the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programmes in the United States.

Prof. Goski has been involved in national and international policy formulation, and has participated in several International Policy and Standards meetings,

including: Several ISO technical meetings; four times National Delegate to World Health Assembly; twice delegate to Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses in Germany; West African Representative for the International Baby Food Action Network, an international advocacy group; and several others in Asia, Europe, America and Africa.

Prof. Alabi was the Member of the Board of the National Board for Professional and Technical Examinations (2009-2011); Member of the National Technical Committee for Petroleum Products – Ghana Standards Authority – (2011-2014); and served as an Academic Auditor for the National Accreditation Board.

She also offered several other consultancy services to the AAU, African Union Commission and European Union Commission, among others. Prof. Goski has also led and participated in several Work Bank, DFID and EU Commission projects successfully.

Prof. Goski is a chemist and educationist by training, with a Bsc. in Chemistry and a Diploma in Education from the University of Cape Coast (1996); and a food scientist by profession, with an MPhil in Food Science from the University of Ghana (2000). She holds Doctor of Business Administration from the Swiss Management Centre (2011), and a PhD in Business Administration from the Central University of Nicaragua (2014). Prof. Goski is also a quality professional who has the highest professional accolade CQP (Chartered Quality Professional) from the Chartered Quality Institute.

She was born on 28th April, 1970. She is married to Prof. Joshua Alabi, a former Vice Chancellor of the UPSA, and they have two children, Naomi and Joshua Alabi, Jr.

MOST PROMISING FEMALE ENTREPRENEUR

Blessed S Agyemang, Founder of the Herrada Africa Group

Blessed S Agyemang is the founder of the Herrada Africa Group. A Ghanaian citizen, Blessed is a consultant who has specialized in the areas of image consulting, personal branding, brand strategy, international social and business etiquette and protocol.

As a successful multifaceted entrepreneur and as a corporate African woman who continues to rise up the ranks in one of the largest international oil and gas companies in the world, Blessed passionately channels her multifaceted experience, values, ethics and network towards achieving the goal of her clients.



Formally trained and certified in her niche, Blessed began her career as a food scientist, and she established the need to work from inside out in relation to matters of clinical dietetics for a healthier lifestyle and translated this concept to the business world.

After half a decade of experience in the corporate world, Blessed understood the importance of image and brand of individuals and corporate entities in all facets of growth, development and revenue. Blessed founded her business entities that now stand as a group that works towards assisting individuals and corporate entities respectively to high end visibility and profitability.

MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE IN SKIN CARE

Israella Kafui Mansu, Founder and CEO of Mansuki Ghana Ltd.

Israella Kafui Mansu is a reputed young female entrepreneur who is the Founder and CEO of Mansuki Ghana Ltd. Since 2009, Israella has built a reputed brand with her company on the local and international market. As an entrepreneur, she researches into natural cosmetic products, designs and commercializes them. She started Mansuki Ghana Ltd. with a capital of GHS300 which she gathered from savings during her National Service exercise.

She started the company by using her kitchen as a laboratory where she formulated and prepared the first few cosmetic products. Her company's Made-in-Ghana cosmetic products are exported into other African, Asian, American and European markets. In 2012, Israella participated in Enablis Ghana's Business Launch Pad competition and Ghana Startup Cup where she placed second and first runner-up respectively. In 2013, she received awards in South Africa and at the European Women Inventors and Innovation Association in Sweden. In 2014, she participated in the launch of the YES initiative



by the government where she sat on right hand side of then President John D. Mahama. She was featured on television shows in Ghana, and in documentaries on Young Entrepreneurs in Ghana and Africa. She also participated in the US Embassy in Ghana programs. She was one the final six participants on the Ghana's 'Next Young Entrepreneurs' Reality Show on TV in Ghana.

Israella Kafui was born on 26th October, 1985 in Sogakope in the Volta Region, and later migrated to Liberia with her family while young. At age 6, she enrolled in Sogasco Primary in Sogakope, moved to Dabala Primary and JHS; and later St. Francis Demonstration JHS in Hohoe. She gained admission into Anfoega Senior High School, and was enrolled at the University of Ghana, Legon, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Consumer Science and Psychology.



MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE IN EDUCATION (GENERAL)

Dr. Elsie Effah Kaufmann, Senior Lecturer and Head of the Biomedical Engineering Department, University of Ghana

Dr. Elsie Effah Kaufmann is a Senior Lecturer and founding Head of the Department of Biomedical Engineering, University of Ghana. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Engineering (BSE), a Master of Science in Engineering (MSE) and a PhD in Bioengineering, all from the University of Pennsylvania, USA.

After her graduate studies, she received her postdoctoral training at Rutgers University, USA, before joining the University of Ghana in 2001. Dr. Effah Kaufmann was a member of the Planning Committee set up by the Academic Board of the University of Ghana to make proposals for establishing the Faculty of Engineering Sciences and was also a member of the three-person Implementation Committee set up by the Vice Chancellor following the submission and adoption of the Planning Committee's report.

She was appointed as the first Head of the Department of Biomedical Engineering in 2006 and served as Head for a number of years (2006-2012, 2014-2016). In 2010, she was elected to represent nonprofessorial academic staff on the highest decision-making body of the University of Ghana, the University Council, a position she held for four years.

In 2011 Dr. Effah Kaufmann was a winner of the prestigious International Women's Forum Leadership Foundation Fellowship. This Fellowship enabled her to acquire certificates in Leadership Development from the Executive Education Programs of INSEAD, Singapore and Harvard Business School, USA.

Dr. Effah Kaufmann's teaching and research focus are on Tissue Engineering, Biomaterials and Application of Biomedical Engineering concepts to the solution of problems in the Ghanaian context. She was the recipient of the University of Ghana's Best Teacher Award for the Sciences in 2009. She

is also keenly interested in Science Education at all levels and has been the Host/ Quiz Mistress of the Ghana National Science & Mathematics Quiz TV Programme since 2006.

Dr. Effah Kaufmann is the 2017 Impact Africa Summit Laureate for Education in

Ghana. The award recognises her "exceptional and continuous contribution to science education in Ghana and for being a role model and inspiration to many young girls, activities which are vital to achieving Sustainable Development Goals 4 and 5".

In 2018, Dr. Effah Kaufmann received the Leading Women Achievers Award from the Global Women Economic & Social Empowerment Summit (GWESES). She is also the recipient of the National Society of Black Engineers' 2018 Golden Torch Award for International Academic Leadership in recognition of her excellence in support of academics on an international level and exhibition of commitment to the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) fields.

In March 2019, she received the Ghana Women of Excellence Award for Tertiary Education (Science and Mathematics), conferred under the auspices of the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection in recognition of her contribution to the social and economic development of Ghana.

She is also Glitz Africa's Honouree for Excellence in Education, 2019. Dr. Effah Kaufmann is a member of the Scientific Programmes Committee of the Next Einstein Forum, a board member of the African Gifted Foundation Ghana (African Science Academy) and the British International School-Ghana.

She is also a Fellow of the Institute of Project Management Professionals, Member of the Ghana Institution of Engineering and the current President of the Ghana Society of Biomedical Engineers.



MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE IN MAKE UP

Valerie Lawson, CEO of CVL Beauty

Valerie Lawson is the Artistic Director for Maybelline NY, Ghana, the first Ghanaian to hold this position, and CEO of CVL Beauty Ltd., a budding beauty brand that focuses on beauty education through annual masterclasses and private classes. The organization creates tools out of the need for easily accessible, unique, quality and affordable beauty accessories.

Merging talent, professionalism, grit and generosity, Valerie is a multiple award-winning make up artist, educator and entrepreneur who is pushing the boundaries of beauty and the beauty landscape in Ghana and the rest of Africa beyond the horizon.

She believes that beauty tools are the channel through which creativity flows and emphasises the importance of an artist not compromising on their tools to avoid stifling efficiency and creativity.

She is involved in designing and creating digital and print assets that coherently represent the Maybelline NY brand identity and help in achieving business and creative objectives. She also collaborates with other creatives to ensure a consistent brand design across all forms of media and communications, as devised by our creative team.

She is into creating visual experiences, concepts and direct campaigns for brand product launches, seasonal launches, etc. that connect with the respective community.

Known for her simple yet sophisticated timeless looks, she has beautiful brides and loyal clients from various fields and countries such as H.E. Erna Solberg, Mrs. Reeta Roy, Maria Borges, Second Lady Samira Bawumia, Ms. Bozoma St. John and Mrs. Nicole Ari Parker, among other great and beautiful women.

Valerie's achievements and awards include Glitz Africa Make up Artist of the Year 2017; Make up Ghana Best Bridal Make up Artist 2018; Glitz Africa Make up Artist of the Year 2018; Make up Ghana Make up Artist of the Year 2019; Ghana Event Industry Make up Artist of the Year 2019; and Beauty Fest Africa Make up Artist of the Year 2020.

She has been involved in the Annual Masterclass between 2017 and 2020, and the Bridal Campaigns 2016-2020.



MOST OUTSTANDING GENDER CAPITAL INVESTOR

ADELINE AKUFO-ADDO KUFUR,
WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT AND
INVESTMENT GROUP (WEIG)

Adeline Akufo-Addo Kufur is the CEO of the Women's Empowerment and Investment Group, a women-led Ghanaian Investment Holding Company set up to efficiently channel capital into high-potential Small & Medium Scale Enterprises (SMEs) that prioritize female empowerment & entrepreneurship.

She is also the Co-Founder of The Lotte Accra, an African Luxury Concept Store which curates and houses high quality African luxury & lifestyle goods. The Lotte was founded as a platform to increase the visibility of luxury African brands. Through the different channels within which Adeline operates she truly believes that developing strong relationships is the foundation of everything she does, both professionally and personally. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Economics & Business and a Law degree



MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE IN ROAD SAFETY ADVOCACY AND AWARENESS

Dr. Mrs. May Amaki Akweley Obiri-Yeboah,
Director General, National Road Safety Authority

Ing. Mrs May Akweley Amaki Obiri-Yeboah was born on 3rd January, 1962 in Accra. She attended the Holy Child School from 1974 to 1981. In 1987, she obtained a first degree in Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST).

In 2003, she obtained a Master of Science in Transport Planning and Engineering from the University of Leeds, UK. She is a Civil Engineer and a Transport Planner by profession with over 30 years of experience in the road transport industry.

Ing. Mrs Obiri-Yeboah worked with the Department of Feeder Roads (DFR) for 16 years. She distinguished herself in this male-dominated profession and rose to become the first and only female engineer to head the Ashanti Regional office.

For over fifteen years, Ing. Mrs Obiri-Yeboah has worked tirelessly with the National Road Safety Commission (NRSC), now Authority and has contributed to its transformation into a proactive and data-led public agency that developed a road safety management model which has become the reference for Africa and developing economies. She is the first female Executive Director of the NRSC and the first Director-General of the National Road Safety Authority (NRSA).

Ing. Mrs May Obiri-Yeboah has contributed immensely to the development of a National Road Safety Policy document, National Road Safety Strategies II and III, Road Safety Action Plans, Road Safety books for Basic Schools, Policy Guidelines for mainstreaming road safety into Programmes and activities of Metropolitan, Municipal and Districts Assemblies (MMDAs), Road Traffic Regulation 2012 (LI 2180) and the NRSA Act 2019, Act 993.

She has successfully coordinated the activities of stakeholders and made Ghana gain the enviable position of being the lead country in Africa in executing

most of her Road Safety activities during the first half of the Decade of Action for Road Safety (2011-2020).

She is a Fellow of the Ghana Institution of Engineering (GhIE) and a former Vice President of Women in Engineering (WINE) of (GhIE). She served on the GhIE Council (2012-2014), and was Chair of Programmes Committee. She is also a member of American Society of Civil Engineers.

With over two decades of experience under her sleeves, the NRSA Director-General, as a Road Safety Practitioner has undertaken many training programmes locally and internationally and has trained and mentored many young engineers and Road Safety practitioners.

She has delivered papers both locally and internationally, including the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development, in Quito, Ecuador on October 2016. In 2012, Ing. Obiri-Yeboah was one of two people invited to represent Ghana at the UN to discuss the successes chalked in road safety management and share the experiences of the country with the rest of the world.

She has received several Awards and various Citations such as Obaa Mbo from TV Africa, Role Model in Civil Engineering – Transport from Women in Logistics and Transport (WiLAT), and Consistent Education of Motoring Public from the Association of Driving Schools. Ing. Mrs Obiri-Yeboah is the Vice President of the West African Road Safety Organization (WARSO) and serving on the governing boards of the NRSA and the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority (DVLA).

Aside her busy work schedule, she has been a philanthropist since 2010, and in conjunction with her twin sister, they have been donating to needy communities and homes.

Ing. Mrs Obiri-Yeboah is a Presbyterian who is married to Pharm. Samuel Obiri-Yeboah. The couple is blessed with three children



MOST OUTSTANDING MEDIA PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR

NATALIE FORT

Broadcast journalist at TV3

Natalie Fort is a Media Personality, Entrepreneur and Philanthropist. She is a Broadcast Journalist, on the International and General News Desk and lead News Anchor with the TV3 Network of Media General Group, anchoring its prime-time bulletin, News 360.

During the course of her four (4) year career in Media, she has received a number of awards including, Excellent Personality Merit Award, UN Gold Star Order of the Companion of Honor Award, Emerging Television Personality of the Year Award and has been nominated for the Radio and Television Personality (RTP) Award for the years 2017 and 2018.

Natalie further serves as a member of the Ghana Feminine Hall of Fame, Board Member of the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (Ghana) supporting grant and partnership, and Patron of the Ghana Philanthropy Forum.

Natalie is the Founder and Executive Director of the Fort Group: a lifestyle, business facilitation, media and humanitarian organization which today consists of the Fort Finishing School; Ghana's Etiquette and Protocol school for young women and female Executives looking to develop their personal and professional lives, Fort Art Gallery, which commits to promoting African art and creating opportunities for young African artistes, Fort & Fashion, Fort Jewellery &Co. and the Fort Foundation.

Guided by the concept that nobility extends beyond mere entitlements, the Fort Foundation, supported the Children's Ward of the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital on her flagship project by redesigning the Ground Floor and supporting few needy patients with financial aid.

Natalie is ultimately passionate about empowering young women to become industry leaders.



MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE PACESETTING BEAUTY AND COSMOTOLOGY SERVICES

Mrs. Faustina A. Adjagar, CEO of First Choice Hair & Beauty

Mrs. Faustina Adofo Adjagar is the founder and CEO of First Choice Hair & Beauty. Mrs. Adofo Adjagar used her over 20 years' experience in the beauty and cosmetology industry to lead First Choice Hair & Beauty to be the market leader in virtually every aspect of beauty treatment.

Under her stewardship, First Choice has become the largest and most capable one-stop shop beauty service provider in the country. It is now the most preferred choice of many discerning customers.

Mrs. Adjagar has not only established and nurtured Ghana's leading beauty salon which does the most astonishing total beauty make over's ever accomplished in this part of the world – she has also put up an excellent health spa too, thus making First Choice Hair and Beauty the most complete one stop shop for face and full body care in Ghana.

While her area of specializations are in hair styling, hair cutting, hair coloring, and hair treatment - indeed everything that has got to do with the health of hairs of all types – she also acquired and nurtured, for

She began her career with training at Top Model Beauty Salon as an apprentice in the early 1990's, after her secondary school education at Nkawkaw, in the Eastern Region of Ghana. After almost two years of working experience at Top Model Salon, she started her own salon she called First Choice Hair and Nail Designs, at Zongo Junction - off the Kaneshie Korle-Bu highway in Accra, Ghana, in August 1997.

She has been conferred with several awards, including the 2018 Most Outstanding Female Personality in Beauty and Makeover, and 2019 the Most Respected CEO in Cosmetology at the Ghana Industry CEO Awards by The Business Executive Ltd., and the 2018 Ghana Fashion Honors Award by the National Commission on Culture. She is also Noble award winner, this conferred on her by the West African Noble's Forum and a member of the Noble's Club 100.

She is also a member of the Professional Beauticians Association – PBA USA. She has trained and groomed about 600 beauticians over the past 20 years. Faustina's desire for and value placed on continuous education has led her to further get herself trained in new techniques in the beauty and cosmetology industry.

She has been trained in and learnt new techniques in maintaining good and healthy hair, hair cutting and styling techniques, hair coloring and treatment techniques and the likes in Germany, United Kingdom, Italy and the United States. She is a regular attendant of beauty trade shows, fair and summits such as the Bronner Bros International Beauty Show, Cosmoprof North America, IBS New York, Cosmoprof Worldwide Bologna etc.

Mrs. Adjagar is married to Mr. Marcus Adjagar and they have three children. She is a Christian by faith and devoutly worships at the International Central Gospel Church, Christ Temple in Abbosey Okai, Accra.



MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE IN CONTRIBUTING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT IN THE NATURAL RESOURCES SECTOR

LOURDES CAPOSSO FERNANDES COUNTRY DIRECTOR, LFC GROUP

Dr. Lourdes Caposso Fernandes is the founder and President of the LCF-Legal Counsel Firm Group. The Group comprises three units: a law firm she founded in 2008 called LCF- Legal Counsel Firm, a nonprofit unit called Associação Lei com Força.

On the 1st October, 2013, she founded a consultancy in the United States of America called Local Content Focus LLC. She founded the units of the LCF Group on a patriotic premise with a mission to contribute towards sustainable development by valuing Angolan human resources.

Dr. Lourdes wrote a book entitled 'Valuing Human Capital, Angolanization for Petroleum'. She is an international speaker, having spoken at various international forums and roundtable discussions. She is a registered attorney at the bar association of Angola and Portugal. Her areas of specialization include Oil & Gas law, Foreign Investment law, Labour law, Banking, Finance, Contracts, Ethics and Compliance.

She is also a member of the Association of International Petroleum Negotiators (AIPN) and a founding member of the Ethics institute of Angola. She and her firm are the exclusive representatives of FRAUDNET in Angola.

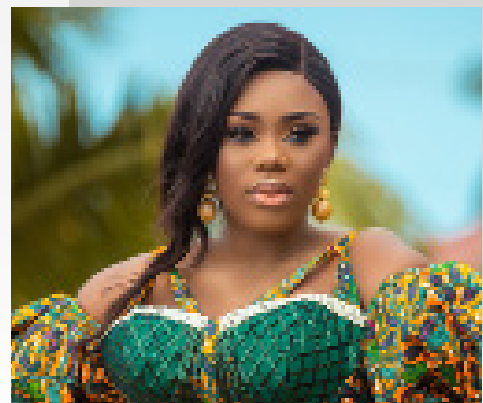
She is a qualified lawyer, and has a law degree from the University of Lisbon, a Master in International Commercial Law and an LLM from the University of Lisbon.

MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE IN MEDIA PRODUCTION AND MANAGEMENT

SALOMEY AKUA AMOAKOWAA MENSAH CEO, JAY & JAY COMPANY

Sally Akua is the CEO of Jay & Jay Co. Limited, a fashion import and export company based in Accra, and the founder of Street Aid Ghana. She first came to national attention in 2011 when she was crowned Ghana's Most Beautiful in the sixth season of the TV3 beauty pageant. She is one of the few celebrities who avoid controversy due to her honesty and humility.

A natural entrepreneur, she is the General Manager of Angel TV where she is a TV presenter who hosts the talk show, The Purple Room, since 2011. In



2018, Jay & Jay Co. Limited launched Miss Golden Stool, a beauty contest which aims to celebrate the rich culture of the Ashanti Region. She married the business mogul Dr. Kwaku Oteng, and together they have two sons, Jayden and Jason. She is a devoted Christian.



MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE PRIVACY PROTECTION PRACTITIONER (DATA PROTECTION)

PATRICIA ADUSEI-POKU,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DATA PROTECTION AUTHORITY

Patricia Poku has over 20 years' experience in the Public, Private and Charitable sectors internationally and locally. She is currently the Co-Chair (with UK ICO Commissioner, Elizabeth Denham) on the Common Thread Network of Commonwealth Data Protection Commission. She is the first Vice President of the African Network of Data Protection Authorities.

She is a Certified Practitioner in the European Union General Data Protection Regulation and Founder of the Certified Data Protection Supervisor (DPS) of the Privacy Practitioner Certification in Africa. She is a Council of Europe Expert on Data Protection and Anglophone Data Protection Lead for African Region.

Patricia successfully convened established Authorities in Africa and experts from the International Community for the 2019 1st African Region Data Protection and Privacy Conference in Accra. She was the Subject Matter Thought-Leader and International Panellist for the African Region on Data Protection.

She was the Head of Data Protection at the 2012 Olympic Games, and a Developing Country representative, World Bank Consultative Group for Assisting the Poor. She is the member of the Executive Working Group of the Global Privacy Assembly. She is also a Member (CIPM) of the International Association of Privacy Practitioners and Global Member – Women in Privacy.



MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE ENTREPRENEUR IN TRAVEL MANAGEMENT SERVICES

MRS. LINDA YEBOAH,
CEO of The Dynamite Travel Services Ltd.

Ms. Linda Nana Yeboah is the CEO of The Dynamite Travel Services Limited. She has been a pioneer of a number of reputable travel companies in Ghana.

Ms. Linda holds a Diploma in Travel and Tourism from the International Air Transport Association, and currently pursuing a degree programme in Human Resource at the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA). Ms. Linda has worked with many corporate organizations in Ghana, providing them with swift and efficient travel arrangements in both leisure and corporate travels.

MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE IN BANKING SECTOR

ANTOINETTE KWOFIE,
Executive Director, Finance, ABSA Bank Ghana Limited (previously Barclays Bank Ghana)



Antoinette Kwofie is an experienced Finance Professional and Banking Executive with a track record of creating value through the successful implementation of business strategy, driving change, managing risk and developing high-performing teams.

An award-winning business leader with over 20 years' experience in finance in Africa and Europe, her expertise spans Strategic Financial Management, Business Strategy, Audit and Financial Consulting, Change Management, Insurance and Banking.

Currently the Executive Director, Finance, at Absa Bank Ghana Limited (ABGL), her drive and leadership has contributed to the bank being the most profitable bank in Ghana for the last 3 consecutive years. Antoinette is a member of a number of boards, including ABGL and Minerals Income Investment Fund. She is also the immediate past Audit Committee Chair of Phoenix Insurance Limited.

She has a BSc in Agricultural Economics and is a Chartered Global Management Accountant and an Associate member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA UK). Antoinette has received extensive leadership training, including Barclays ILEAD and BANKSETA Africa Expansion Programme, both Executive Development programmes run by DUKE Corporate Education.

Antoinette is the Vice President of the CFO Network of the Ghana Association of Bankers, the Investment Committee Chairperson of the ABGL Occupational Pension and Provident Funds and the Diversity and Inclusion Lead and Chairlady for the Absa Bank Ghana Women Network Forum.

She has a number of Industry awards to her name, including the CFO of the year – Banking (2017), the Woman CFO of the year - 2018 and 2019, and one of the top 10 CFOs in Ghana - 2019.

She is passionate about the development of women and of young people. Her passion for the youth is evident in roles she plays as a mentor and occasional Lecturer at the University of Ghana Business School. She speaks at a number of forward-looking fora which include The Harvard Business School Africa Business Conference 2020, where she was a panellist.

Ultimately, she believes in the African dream and its ability to attain self-sufficiency, and is committed to the development of Africa, through growing indigenous businesses, the empowerment of women, unleashing the potential of the youth and leaving a lasting positive impact for the next generation.

MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE IN PUBLIC RELATIONS AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

NAFISA EWURAMA QUAINOO ,
External Relations and Inbound Logistics Manager,
FAREAST MERCANTILE COMPANY LIMITED



A versatile communications resource with 20 years experience, she is the External Relations and Inbound Logistics Manager of Fareast Mercantile Company Limited – an Imperial Logistics™ company. Fareast Mercantile Company Limited is a leading distribution company for Food and Non Food items in Ghana.

She has represented major global brands in her line of work, including but not limited to Mc vities, Mentos, Colgate, Dettol, Cadbury, Luna Popular Milk, MAC Cosmetics, Scan frost Appliances, Enchanteur, Mortein, Harpic, Airwick, Quaker Oats, Men Only, Ariel, Pampers, Gillette, Oral – B, Always, Safeguard, Heinz, Ovaltine, Huggies, FA, SMA Infant Formula etc. She has

had key stakeholder engagements with government and non-governmental agencies, including Regulators such as the FDA, Ghana Standards Authority, Ghana Energy Commission and Ghana Customs, as well as Shipping Lines, Journalists, Beauty editors, Advertising Clearance authorities, Medical, Dental, Engineering and Veterinary professionals, Environmental scientists, Consumer associations etc.

She is also a multiple award - winning maternal health and women empowerment advocate.



MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE AMBASSADOR IN PROTOCOL SERVICES

YOLANDA ARMSTRONG,
Protocol Assistant, COTE D'IVOIRE
EMBASSY

Mrs. Armstrong Yolanda is an Executive Protocol Assistant at the Embassy of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire in Accra, Ghana. She is a hard-working woman is fully committed to her consular duties.

She has excelled in her responsibilities and has been applauded by many persons who she has served. She is well known in Ghana, especially in the diplomatic community. She is also the President of the Office to the Ministries and Institutions in her country of origin. She is indeed an outstanding woman who is God-fearing woman and a lay Pastor. She is a mother of three (3) beautiful children.



MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE IN BEAUTY

MRS. PORTIA GYENI-BOATENG, EXECUTIVE DIR. CUTIES BRIDAL

Portia Gyeni-Boateng is the CEO of Cutie Bridal who has specialized in beautiful bespoke bridal makeup for clients of all skin tones.

Enhancing natural beauty is foremost in Portia's mind every time she works, the very reason she chose bridal makeup. Aside being a makeup artist, she is a semi-permanent brow artist, eyelash technician and a licensed beauty facilitator.

Cutie Bridal, since its inception in 2015, has become a one-stop shop for would-be brides. The shop is home to all the needed accessories to make a bride and her bridal train look gorgeous for the big day. Although she owns Cutie Bridal, it is handled by a



team of 10 chief make-up artistes and more than 20 sub make-up artistes.

Passionate about teaching, Portia established the Cutie Bridal Beauty School to train young people in pedicure, manicure, weaves, make-up and hairstyling. She is a graduate of Accountancy from the Central University. In her free time, she loves to do crafty things and inspire young entrepreneurs. Her favourite quote is: "Don't despise small beginnings".



MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE IN PHARMACEUTICALS

MRS. THERESA YAMSON, CEO of Phyto-Riker (GIHOC) Pharmaceuticals Ltd.

Mrs. Theresa Yamson is currently the Chief Executive Officer of Phyto-Riker (GIHOC) Pharmaceuticals Ltd, the first female to head a pharmaceutical manufacturing company in Ghana. She is also a member of the Board of Phyto-Riker Pharmaceuticals Ltd.

Theresa is a well-rounded business leader with 25 years' experience working in the fast-moving consumer goods industry for multinational companies, mainly Unilever PLC and Nestlé S.A. Her passion and enthusiasm to drive innovation and change has enabled her to excel in various roles, key amongst them being Research and Development, Innovation and Renovation, Business Category Management, Strategy Development and

Sales during her career. Prior to this position, Theresa was the Regional Nestlé Continuous Excellence Champion for Nestlé Central West Africa who was responsible for continuous improvement using LEAN Management principles to drive business growth and efficiencies throughout 22 countries in the region. Under her leadership, three major categories were able to identify opportunities to increase topline growth and consistently exceed turnover expectations for three years.

Theresa holds an MSc in Process Engineering and Management from Strathclyde University, Scotland; a Graduate Diploma in Management from Henley Management College, UK; and a BSc (Hons) in Chemical Engineering from Queen's University, Canada. Theresa is a member of the Ghana Institution of Engineers, as well as an Executive Member of the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Association of Ghana. She is also on the Executive Committee of the Executive Women Network.

MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE IN INTERNATIONAL AND LOCAL TOURISM MANAGEMENT

AMBASSADOR NANCY SAM, CEO of Staple Travel and Tours



Ambassador Nancy Sam Quartey is the Chief Executive Officer of Staple Travel and Tours, one of Ghana's leading company in the industry. Ambassador Nancy is currently the President of the Tour Operators Union of Ghana, a position she has held for two terms.

She is an honorary Tourism Ambassador for Zimbabwe in West Africa by Zimbabwe Tourism Authority (ZTA). Ambassador Nancy Sam Quartey was also the Financial Director for the Ghana Tourism Federation from 2013 to 2015, and from 2016 to 2018.

She has partnered with a lot of African and West Indian countries such as South Africa, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Sierra Leone, Ethiopia, Kenya and Surinam to promote outbound tourism from Ghana and other countries to Ghana. She was honored as the Surinam Tourism and Trade Ambassador for Ghana and the rest of West Africa, and heads the Surinam information center in Accra.

She has been spearheading the tourism sector in Ghana. As the President of the Women in Tourism (WIM) in Ghana, she drives a lot of women who operate in the sector to higher heights by empowering them through the activities of the WIM.

She was involved in organizing the 'Women in Tourism Summit,' an annual gathering that brings together leading tourism practitioners from around the globe to Accra to discuss the role of Women in Tourism Development.

She studied for her Executive Master degree in Tourism at the University of Cape Coast (2015-2017). She also attended the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA) from 2001 to 2002 where she obtained a Certificate in Women and Management.

In 1992, she obtained a Certificate in Tourism from Midwestern University Consortium for International Activity, before she bagged another Certificate in Tourism Development and Marketing Training organized by the United States Agency for international Development (USAID) in 2004.

Ambassador Nancy is a has a Skill Training Certificate in Applied Suicide Intervention from Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri in the United States (US) in 2003 and another Certificate in Alcohol and Drug Abuse Training in Marriage Enrichment Domestic Violence Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, US in 2003.

She was among top 100 African women who were recognized for their immense contribution to tourism growth as a vehicle for the development of Ghana and Africa in general. She attended the Africa Travel Market Conference in Nigeria where she was given an award in the travel and tourism sector.

She has won many awards between 2017 and 2018. The wards include African Travel Women wards in 2017; Top100 Tourism Personalities in West Africa 2018;

Tourism Hall of Fame Lifetime Achievement; Excellence Award from the Dean of Diplomatic Corps in Ghana in 2018; and Ghana Industry CEO Awards in December 2018.



MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE IN PHARMACY

ABIGAIL AMMA ABORA
CEO, AIDE PHARMACY

Abigail is differentiated by uncommon drive and expertise combined with strong business acumen to achieve success. She started Aide in Accra with three (3) outlets which has expanded into five regions with twenty two (22) outlets.

Abigail spearheads the AIDE Team through cooperate planning and is committed to building strong customer relations as well as driving and motivating the entire workforce.

She has over eight years of professional experience and holds a master's degree in Health Management coupled with a degree in Finance and Banking. She is also a certified international supply chain manager from the International Purchasing and Supply chain management Institute (IPSCM, Delaware) and holds a Diploma in Management Studies.

She is focused and purpose driven, and demonstrates so much passion and urgency for the needy and vulnerable in the society. Through the opening of these retail outlets, free health screening are being organized for communities in which its outlets are situated, these free health screening have an average of 600 people benefitting per location.



MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE IN REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT AND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

**MRS. EVA ANDOH-POKU,
CEO, NTHC PROPERTIES**

Mrs. Eva Andoh – Poku, is a Chartered Surveyor and a Member of both the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) in the United Kingdom (UK) and the Ghana Institution of Surveyors. She is the Managing Director on NTHC Properties Limited, a re-known Public Sector Real Estate Developer and Real Estate Services Provider.

She has over 17 years post-qualification and work experience in Property Management, Facilities Management, Asset Management and Valuation services. This wealth of experience has endowed Mrs. Andoh-Poku with the requisite skills to be able to set up new Departments and re-structuring of Companies, which have turned around the fortunes of these Companies.

Mrs. Andoh-Poku, has excellent knowledge of various Property Markets including the United Kingdom, Nigeria, South Africa, the United States of America and Ghana. She is therefore able to work with people of different backgrounds, which has given her the impetus to tailor solutions to meet varying needs and situations. She is goal-oriented, a great achiever and passionate about her work.

She holds a BSc. Land Management Degree (from the University of Reading, UK), with a Major in Investment and Finance. She also holds a Post-Graduate Diploma in Real Estate (Surveying). She is a devout Christian. She is married is blessed with three children.



MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE IN FOOD AND HOPITALITY MANAGEMENT (CONTINENTAL STANDARD)

**MAUD LINDSAY–GAMRAT, CEO,
ATLANTIC CATERING AND LOGISTICS LTD.**

Mrs. Maud Lindsay-Gamrat founded Atlantic Catering and Logistics Limited in 2014 where she currently holds the position of CEO. Atlantic Catering and Logistics Limited is an ISO certified catering, beverage and logistics company whose mission is to provide quality, healthy, nutritious, and hygienically prepared meals and beverages for its customers.

Mrs. Lindsay-Gamrat has special knowledge, expertise and experience in catering which makes her unique in the industry. These stem from her being a certified Food Safety Auditor who has over 20 years of experience in leadership and management positions. She has specialized in Remote Site and In-flight Catering and Hospitality Management. She has worked globally in the industry and has successfully built and managed international catering firms in Ghana for over two decades.

Maud is a very creative personality. In line with her passion, the vision of Atlantic Catering and Logistics Limited is to be a leading brand in the catering and hospitality industry in Ghana and beyond which is known for quality, reliability, uniqueness and creativity in product and service excellence.

She is on a mission to change the dynamics of catering in Ghana by using creative ways at every opportunity to educate and empower

caterers, the youth and operators in the hospitality industry at large about food safety and hygiene in food preparation and service. She also creates awareness about the importance of ensuring food safety to protect consumers and Ghana.

Maud holds a Master degree in Business Administration. Maud is married to Jeff and they are blessed with three beautiful female children. Under its event management and planning services, Atlantic Catering and Logistics Limited plans, coordinates and manages events for its clients by offering a total solution for their special programs. It takes delight in making such moments very special by focusing on detail for excellent results. For the house-keeping, cleaning and janitorial services, the company provides environmentally friendly sanitation services to businesses onshore and offshore to promote safe and healthy living.

The primary goal of Atlantic Catering and Logistics Limited is to assure service excellence in the catering and hospitality industry in Ghana, ensuring compliance to HACCP and the International Certification Standard. Atlantic Catering and Logistics Limited's customer portfolios are in the sectors of oil and gas, mining and corporate entities which operate in related areas.

MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE IN INTERNET SERVICE PROVISION AND MANAGEMENT

**MRS. YVETTE ATEKPE,
CEO, INTERNET SOLUTIONS**



Mrs. Yvette Adounvo Atekpe is a formidable female trailblazer in the ICT sector from its nascent stage in Ghana since 1995. She has been recognized on both national and international platforms for her exemplary leadership in the industry and for the promotion and advocacy for girls in ICT.

Under her able leadership as Regional Managing Director of IS Internet Solutions, the South African headquartered Organisation evolved into a leading brand in Ghana and the rest of West Africa for enterprise solutions and client support.

Mrs. Adounvo Atekpe is known by her team and business associates as quietly fierce, empathetic, a strong woman of faith, integrity and resolve to meet and exceed all internal and external client expectations. She is passionate about client service and the use of technology to make the world a better place.

A product of the Holy Child School, Mrs. Adounvo Atekpe is an alumna of the University of Ghana, Legon, and the Maastricht School of Management in the Netherlands.

She is a stickler for discipline and good governance who has served on various boards in Ghana and Africa.

MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE PACESETTER IN BEAUTY AND COSMETOLOGY SERVICES

MAD. FAUSTINA ADOFO ADJAGAR CEO, FIRST CHOICE HAIR & BEAUTY



Mrs. Faustina Adofo Adjagar is the founder and CEO of First Choice Hair & Beauty. Mrs. Adofo Adjagar used her over 20 years' experience in the beauty and cosmetology industry to lead First Choice Hair & Beauty to be the market leader in virtually every aspect of beauty treatment.

Under her stewardship, First Choice has become the largest and most capable one-stop shop beauty service provider in the country. It is now the most preferred choice of many discerning customers.

Mrs. Adjagar has not only established and nurtured Ghana's leading beauty salon which does the most astonishing total beauty make over's ever accomplished in this part of the world – she has also put up an excellent health spa too, thus making First Choice Hair and Beauty the most complete one stop shop for face and full body care in Ghana.

While her area of specializations are in hair styling, hair cutting, hair coloring, and hair treatment - indeed everything that has got to do with the health of hairs of all types – she also acquired and nurtured, for

She began her career with training at Top Model Beauty Salon as an apprentice in the early 1990's, after her secondary school education at Nkawkaw, in the Eastern Region of Ghana. After almost two years of working experience at Top Model Salon, she started her own salon she called First Choice Hair and Nail Designs, at Zongo Junction - off the Kaneshie Korle-Bu highway in Accra, Ghana, in August 1997.

She has been conferred with several awards, including the 2018 Most Outstanding Female Personality in Beauty and Makeover, and 2019 the Most Respected CEO in Cosmetology at the Ghana Industry CEO Awards by The Business Executive Ltd., and the 2018 Ghana Fashion Honors Award by the National Commission on Culture. She is also Noble award winner, this conferred on her by the West African Noble's Forum and a member of the Noble's Club 100.

She is also a member of the Professional Beauticians Association – PBA USA. She has trained and groomed about 600 beauticians over the past 20 years. Faustina's desire for and value placed on continuous education has led her to further get herself trained in new techniques in the beauty and cosmetology industry.

She has been trained in and learnt new techniques in maintaining good and healthy hair, hair cutting and styling techniques, hair coloring and treatment techniques and the likes in Germany, United Kingdom, Italy and the United States. She is a regular attendant of beauty trade shows, fair and summits such as the Bronner Bros International Beauty Show, Cosmoprof North America, IBS New York, Cosmoprof Worldwide Bologna etc.

Mrs. Adjagar is married to Mr. Marcus Adjagar and they have three children. She is a Christian by faith and devoutly worships at the International Central Gospel Church, Christ Temple in Abbosey Okai, Accra.

MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE HUMAN RESOURCE EXPERT AND CONSULTANT

DR. MRS. STELLA AGYENIM–BOATENG DIRECTOR, HUMAN RESOURCE, VOLTA RIVER AUTHORITY



Dr. (Mrs.) Irene Stella Agyenim-Boateng, a C-Suite Strategic Human Resource specialist, is the Director of Human Resource at the Volta River Authority (VRA). She has a total of 34 years' working experience, rendering dedicated service to the telecom, insurance, consultancy, education and energy sectors.

She is a product of University of Cape Coast where she obtained a Bachelor of Arts (Hon.) and Diploma in Education concurrently. Dr. (Mr.) Agyenim-Boateng holds a Master in Business Administration (HR Management) from University of Ghana Business School, and Master in Applied Business Research and Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration, with research work on "Effect of Leadership on Company Innovation Culture: A Case Study of the Service Industry in Ghana."

She also has Post Graduate Diploma and Post Graduate Certificate in Public Administration with Distinctions from Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA). She holds a certificate in HR Management from Bailbrook College, United Kingdom.

Besides these, she has various certificates from short courses attended in Ghana and other countries. She is a Fellow of the Institute of Human Resource Management Practitioners (IHRMP), Ghana.

Her duties encompass the overall HR strategy formulation, implementation and execution to achieve the "New VRA" agenda. Her achievements include the transformation and re-positioning of the HR Department, including building the capability of the team and providing transformational leadership in the management of employees.

Before joining the VRA, Dr. (Mrs) Agyenim-Boateng was the Group HR Director/Consultant for GLICO Group where she was responsible for the end-to-end HR activities for all the Group's subsidiaries. She was the Lead Consultant for Professional HR Consult. She is the immediate past HR Director of Vodafone Ghana and Ghana Telecom where she managed a diverse workforce of about 4,200 employees.

Dr. (Mrs) Agyenim-Boateng also has several personal awards to her credit. Some of these are: HR Practitioner of the Year 2015/2016 (HR Focus); Most Outstanding Corporate Executive in HR Award 2015 (Feminine Ghana Achievement Awards); and Top 10 Africa HR Tech in Leadership Award 2015 (World HRD Congress 2015). The rest are Top 50 Most Innovative Global HR Tech Leaders Award (World HRD Congress 2017); Life-Time Award for Consistency in HR Matters 2018 (The Business Executive); and Ghana Top 20 HR Leaders Award (Ghana Human Resource Innovation Awards).

She has been an adjunct lecturer (Strategy and Business Policy) at GIMPA and an occasional guest lecturer at Webster University, Ghana Employers Association (GEA), VRA Academy, among others. She is also a member of other professional bodies, including SHRM (Ghana Chapter) and Executive Women's Network.

She is a board member of Vodafone Ghana Foundation; a board member of the Adventist Volunteer Services Programme (AVSP) and the Chairperson for the HR Committee of the AVSP. She is a member of the IHRMP's Curriculum Review and Development Committee; and member of the GEA Governing Council.

For seven years, she has been a member of the GEA delegation to the International Labour Organization (ILO) conferences in Geneva, Switzerland. She is married with four children.

MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE EXPERT IN MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PROVIDERS

**MAAME EFUA HOUADJETO,
CEO. IMAGE CONSORTIUM**



Mrs Marilyn Maame Efua Houadjeto is results-driven personality and has a track record of successfully and consistently exceeding goals and objectives in event productions and project management.

She was elected the Deputy National Women's Organizer of the National Democratic Congress (NDC), the largest opposition party in Ghana. Maame Efua is the CEO of the Image Consortium Group which she founded in 2005, and occupies that position till date. She was the Managing Director/Creative Director of IE Design (Interior & Exterior Design Company) from October 2008 to the Present. She was also the Acting General Manager of MPLaza Hotel from February 2002 – January 2003; and the Room Divisions Manager from January 2000 to December 2001.

Maame Efua became the Head of Client Service of Charter House Productions March 1998 – September 1999; and the Client Service & Marketing Executive/PA to Executive Director of Media Touch from March 1996 to June 1998. She was the Client Service & Marketing Executive of StratComm Africa from February 1995 – January 1996. Prior to setting up her own companies, she did her National Service at the State Protocol Department (Office of the President).

Maame Efua is a product of Our Lady of Apostles (OLA) Girls Senior High School, Ho, where she did her GCE O'Levels and A'levels. She continued in her mother's footsteps and pursued a Diploma in Communications, Journalism and Marketing at Ghana Institute of Journalism.

She obtained a Post Graduate Diploma in Marketing at Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA). At Coventry University (UK), she pursued a Post Graduate course in Engineering Project Management. She is currently pursuing an MSc in Engineering and Management.

MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE IN TOURISM PROMOTION

MRS. DOROTHY OPARE
CEO, AFRIKIKO LEISURE LIMITED



Mrs. Dorothy Opare, the CEO of Afrikiko Leisure Ltd., started her company in 1978 in a kiosk at Teshie-Nungua Estate where she sold pastries and supplied them to shops nearby. In 1979, she approached the owner of the El-Wak Fuel Station who gave her space to operate a small open-air snack bar.

Later, she acquired a license from the Tourism Board to operate in the name of Dolsams until 1980 when the owner needed his space back. After scouting for some time, she spotted a piece of land near the Ghana Film Industry Corporation which was abandoned by the Department of Parks and Gardens, part of which she acquired and developed into an Open-Air Restaurant in 1982. This saw the birth of Afrikiko Gardens, which was later developed into Afrikiko Leisure Center after the introduction of a playground.

In 1986, Dorothy opened Coco Beach Resort in Nungua which offered its customers live band music, cultural and acrobatic displays to enjoy for 10 years. In 1998, Afrikiko River Front in Akosombo in the Eastern Region was started with four (4) chalets, a lot of trees and greenery. Now, it is a gorgeous resort by the Volta Lake which is patronized by all and sundry.

The three areas she made so much impact at Afrikiko Leisure Center and Afrikiko River Front are to use natural resources to work and ended up with an Open-Air Restaurant which has now become the order of the day for restaurants, cafes and eateries springing up in open air, making use of the trees, the sun and greenery.

She also promoted the various cultures of Ghana in everything that she did, encouraging Ghanaians settings in her restaurants and decors within and without. She contributed towards the development of the tourism industry in Ghana by training so many people who have also contributed to the industry.

For being an originator, she received two awards: in 1986, for Restaurant of the Year; and in 1989 for the First Open-Air Restaurant. "My impact in the tourism industry has been so great that every tourist knows the name Afrikiko which keeps on improving so much so that it now has various restaurants, café, pharmacy and other shops, all on its premises," she says.



MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE IN MAKE-UP ARTISTRY

MRS. VELMA OWUSU-BEMPAH, CEO, VELMA'S MILLINERY ACCESSORIES

Velma Owusu-Bempah is a Ghanaian creative visionary in the fashion industry who is celebrated home and abroad for her epochal creations.

Under her eponymous brand, Velma's Millinery and Accessories, she has rejuvenated the accessories space in the Ghanaian fashion industry by providing a classic luxury brand that specializes in intricate millinery, accessories and jewelry.

After obtaining a degree in marketing at the University of Ghana Business School, Velma joined her mother, Sarah Crossland, a fabric merchant in the family business. Velma, with the blessings of her beloved mother, applied to study Millinery, Bag designing and Communication at the Central St. Martin School of Arts in London, a constituent college of the University of the Arts, London where she trained under some of the world's most seasoned milliners.

In 2004, Velma began what has become a stellar career and thriving business from humble beginnings which has earned her an enviable position in the African fashion industry and place in the global market.

An expert craftsman, she has successfully experimented and worked with various materials to craft her pieces, ranging from Ankara fabrics to other fabrics like leather, plastic raw silks, organza skills, abaca, sinamay, cipro sisal straws, brocade, feathers, crystals, amongst others.

The Velma brand has contributed to some very inspiring fashion collaborations: the triad

collaboration of Velma Millinery and Accessories, Ophelia Crossland Designs and Swarovski West Africa made fashion history during the Glitz African Fashion Show and at the Swarovski Sparkling Contour in Dubai where Velma showcased an elaborate high fashion headpiece made from Swarovski crystals.

Her brand attained international heights at the Prince of Wales fashion show and Royal banquet held in honour of Prince Charles and Camilla during their visit to Ghana.

Velma's clientele Rolodex spans women of all walks of life all over the globe. She has created exclusive pieces for the First Lady of Ghana, Mrs. Rebecca Akufo-Addo, Second Lady Samira Bawumia, Senator Florence ita Giwa fashion icon for Nigeria, Ms. Tina Lawson, mother of pop singer Beyonce Knowles, and local celebrities. In 2018, Velma was selected as one of the milliners worldwide to showcase two strong headpieces at the Great Hat Exhibition 2018 organized by Xt Terrace fashion for London Hat week.

She is also the Principal of Velma's Millinery Academy, a prestigious fashion institution in Accra, which was established in 2018 to offer courses in millinery and accessories making. In 2019, she became the Most Outstanding Woman at the GO Awards for her outstanding work in Philanthropy and for Humanity.

For Velma, God, family and nature are her inspiration. She believes that her story of greatness has just begun.

MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE IN INDIGENOUS FOOD PROCESSING AND PACKAGING

MAD. FELICIA TWUMASI CEO, HOMEFOODS PROCESSING AND CANNERY LTD



Felicia Twumasi, the founder and Chief Executive Officer of Homefoods, is a graduate from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana; and a graduate of Harvard Business School, Boston USA. She is also a graduate and member of Stanford Institute of Innovation in Developing Economies, SEED.

Her motivation to start her own business began at an early age when she attended a Convent School in Elmina in the Central Region of Ghana. Seeing many of her friends drop out of school when their fathers died, Felicia vowed to herself to one day to be financially and economically independent to avoid having to put her own children through the misfortune of lack of formal education.

Hence, her passion to engage and train women out-growers and trade partners of HFPCL, therefore, empowering them to give better lives to their families. She has built a sustainable AGRO business based on reliable and transparent value chain, fair prices and concern for environmental, social and cultural values.

Homefoods core business is linked to improving Nutrition, Health, Agriculture and Productivity. Homefoods supply chain starts from the farm gate with more than 5,000 cooperative women members and counting.

After ending a teaching career that lasted over a year, she went on to set up what is now Homefoods Processing and Cannery Limited. Taking advantage of the emerging business climate of the free market system in Ghana at that time, she incorporated the company with a stated capital of \$500 and has been able to build and sustain the company for the past 22 years in a competitive, discrete and identifiable markets abroad and locally from £500 to a multi-million enterprise over the years.

Her passion motivated her to steer Homefoods Processing and Cannery Limited to be the multimillion dollar company that it is today, a landmark which earned her a place in the International WHO'S WHO of Professionals in August 2009.

She is a visionary and an architect when it comes to strategies. Her leadership skills also involve coaching and believe in multilateral cooperation than unilateral action when it comes to decision making.

Her associations include the following:

- Member of Chamber of Commerce of Ghana
- Beneficiary of EMPRETEC Ghana Programme
- Member of Association of Ghana Industries
- Member of the Ghana Chamber of Commerce
- A member of The Export Promotion Council
- The West African Trade Hub
- Board Member, Women Thrive - An Advocacy Group, Washington DC, USA
- Panelist for AGOA in Washington DC 2010, Chaired by Hilary Clinton.

Awards

Her quest to constantly increase volume of production of Homefoods while maintaining the highest quality and first-class standards are evident in the awards she and the company have received.

- The Otherways, Top Quality Customer Satisfaction Aptitude Seal for High Quality Performance & Best Customer Satisfaction, Switzerland, 2007.
- National Export Achievement Award (Silver Award Winner), 2007
- National Export Achievement Award (Golden Award Winner), 2008
- UNTACD Nominee for Entrepreneur Woman of the year, 2009
- 4th Ghana-Africa Business Award (Silver Award Winner), 2009
- GOLDEN Award for Business Prestige, Geneva, 2009
- Silver Award (9th Ghana-Africa) Business Award 2012
- Silver Award for Gari Export 2012
- Silver Award for Export Achievement with a Citation 2012
- Ernst & Young Finalist, Entrepreneur of the Year, West Africa 2014
- Millennium Agribusiness Award London, 2014
- MIGPS (Made in Ghana Product Services) Award Agro-Processed Palm oil of the year 2015
- African Brand leadership merit Award, 2016
- African Best Premium Food company, 2016
- TWARM (The West Africa Region Magazine) Award ,Business Leadership, 2016
- TWARM Award ,Business Innovation in the Food sector, 2016
- TWARM Award, Best Indigenous food in West Africa, 2016
- Agro Entrepreneur of the year 2016
- Agro Exporter of the year Ghana Chamber of Commerce 2016
- International Food and Beverage Award, Spain 2017
- Member of Global Trade leaders Club.

She is a mother of three children, a daughter and twin boys.

MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE IN HEALTH AND SAFETY SECURITY (FOOD AND DRUGS)

DELESE MIMI DARKO
CEO, FOOD AND DRUG AUTHORITY



Mrs. Delese Mimi Darko graduated with a Bachelor of Pharmacy from the KNUST and a postgraduate Masters degree in Business Administration from the University of Northampton. Her 28 year carrier encompasses the regulation of food and drugs including clinical trials regulation, marketing authorization and post approval safety monitoring of medicines and (allopathic and herbal) cosmetics, household chemicals and medical devices.

She has risen through the ranks of the Food and Drugs Authority (FDA) to become the first female Chief Executive Officer in 2017.

The FDA process of designation by the NEPAD/ African Medicines Regulation Harmonization (AMRH) as a Regional Centers of Regulatory Excellence was led by her in 3 very critical areas, namely, Medicines Safety (pharmacovigilance), Clinical Trials and Drug Registration. During her service she contributed to the growth of research and of the local manufacturing industries in Ghana

Mimi Chairs the WHO African Vaccines Regulatory Forum (AVAREF) and serves on

several international and local advisory committees and bodies including the CIOMS Vaccine Safety Working Group, The WHO Scientific Advisory Group for the Blueprint on Research and Development Preparedness, CEPI SAC, Brighton Collaboration SB, Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV) Expert Scientific Advisory Committee (ESAC), The Steering Committee for West African Medicines Regulatory Harmonization project and The Steering Committee for Medical Products Regulatory Systems Strengthening and Harmonization Initiatives in Africa.

She has received several awards for her exemplary and commendable work. Notable amongst them are the United Nations (UN) Inter-Agency Task Force (UNIATF) award on the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases in New York, the GLiTZ Africa's award for Ghana Women of the Year Honours 2019 (Excellence in Health) Ghana Business Standard Awards for the Female Business Leader of the Year 2019 and the Advertising Association of Ghana Special Recognition award for her role in regulating the advertisement of FDA regulated products.

Mimi is a devout Christian and is married with two children.

MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE PHILANTHROPIST IN CHARITABLE SERVICES

MRS. CATHERINE TWUM-AMPOFO CEO, Mother of Many (MOM) FOUNDATION



Catherine has an education and experience that combines major techniques for business growth and improvement i.e. strategy formulation and deployment, application of Lean thinking and six sigma, establishment of Management Systems and implementation of Total Quality Management (TQM). Catherine thus provides a rare complementary mix for industry. She is also a Productivity and Competitiveness Analyst and Implemented Business Improvement Techniques in both the manufacturing and service sectors across UK and in Ghana.

Starting her carrier in Materials Science and Engineering, she worked as process and quality control supervisor and rose through the ranks to become the Management Representative and Chief of Quality Control of an aluminium cold rolling plant. She assisted the company to achieve international recognition by leading it to attain ISO 9000 certification.

Catherine carried out her MSc program in Quality Management at the University of Paisley, Scotland and was the first in the history of the University to complete with a distinction in the masters program at the Quality Centre. While carrying out her MSc thesis at Siemens in Lincoln, UK, Catherine assisted the company to implement Lean and six sigma program and delivered major projects including coaching a six sigma black belt to achieve a £250k annual saving to the line on a stub shaft project. Her contributions to the growth of the small gas turbines business was recognised and awarded by the company before returning to Ghana.

While still in Ghana she was recruited by a renowned UK consultancy firm to carry out business improvement in SMEs across England.

In the UK she supported circa 700 people in achieving Levels 2 and 3 NVQ qualifications in business improvement techniques, directly delivering the recommendations from major pieces of government policy such as those laid out in the Leitch Report. Some of these companies include Ford Motor Company, Servomex, Delphi Diesel

Systems and Kesslers International to mention a few. She is an approved trainer for the UK National Skills academy and has assisted them to develop capable capacity through training, assessment and certification of trainers while setting up an NVQ assessment centre.

In Ghana Catherine worked on a USAID funded project to develop SME capacity for the oil & gas industry. She lectured in Total Quality Management at the Chartered Institute of Administrators and Management Consultants (CIAMC), consulted for the Skills Development Fund (SDF) of COTVET to evaluate proposals from SMEs for capacity building grant approvals and also worked as Chief Executive Officer for a Foundation that ran ICT programmes for members of the Security Services in Ghana.

Catherine is a practitioner of the UK Chartered Quality Institute and a member of Society for Education and Training. She is management systems lead auditor, a business improvement expert and a trainer.

Catherine is the General Manager of BAJ Freight & Logistics Limited, where she is responsible for strategy development and deployment, establishment of integrated management system (ISO 9001, 14001 & 45001), ethics and compliance and corporate social responsibility (CSR), while overseeing operations.

As CEO of Mother of Many (MOM) Foundation, Catherine has partnered with Archbishop Beck Catholic Sports College in Liverpool to carry out a charity project named Project Ghana. She has managed this project since 2012 as the Distribution Team Leader, where educational items from schools in Liverpool are shipped to Ghana and distributed to orphanages and deprived schools. She is currently undertaking a project in Sustainable Livelihood for Community Empowerment (SLICE).

Organizers



www.thebusinessexecutive.net