

HABITAT

Magazine

LEADERSHIP POWER LIST 2025



ARCHITECTURE | REAL ESTATE | LIFESTYLE

Special Edition

LEADERSHIP POWER LIST 2025

Leadership in 2025 was defined less by visibility and more by responsibility, the ability to influence outcomes, steward institutions, and navigate Nigeria through economic uncertainty, technological change, and global realignment.

The Habitat Magazine Leadership Power List 2025 recognises individuals whose decisions shaped markets, strengthened institutions,

expanded opportunity, and elevated Nigeria's standing locally and internationally. Spanning public service, private enterprise, finance, technology, energy, media, and development, these leaders exercised power with consequence.

This list is not about popularity or rhetoric. It reflects measurable influence, institutional authority, and long-term impact, leadership that mattered in 2025.

CULTURAL IMPACT & INFLUENCE



Burna Boy
Nigerian Afro-fusion superstar whose 2025 album No Sign of Weakness and global collaborations cemented his dominance on the world stage.



Wizkid
Afrobeats icon whose 2025 features and international tours continued bridging African sounds with global pop culture.



Davido
Music powerhouse whose 2025 releases and philanthropy reinforced his reputation as Nigeria's cultural ambassador.



Tems
Grammy-winning artist whose 2025 collaborations and festival appearances expanded Africa's creative footprint.



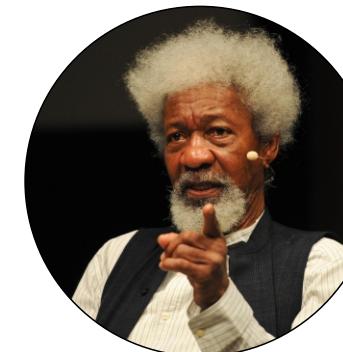
Tiwa Savage
Afrobeats trailblazer whose music and 2025 brand partnerships defined female empowerment in entertainment.



Rema
Gen-Z sensation whose 2025 global hits redefined Afrobeats' appeal among young audiences.



Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
Author and thought leader whose 2025 lectures and essays continued to shape global narratives on feminism and African identity.



Wole Soyinka
Nobel Laureate whose 2025 interventions in art and politics reinforced his voice as a moral compass for Nigeria.



Ben Okri
Poet and novelist whose storytelling in 2025 continued promoting African spirituality and imagination worldwide.



Funke Akindele
Actress, producer, and filmmaker whose 2025 film projects and civic engagements expanded Nollywood's social reach.



Kunle Afolayan
Director and producer whose 2025 cinematic releases strengthened Nigeria's global film presence.



Mo Abudu
Founder of EbonyLife Media, whose 2025 global co-productions redefined African storytelling.



Chioma Ude (AFRIFF)
AFRIFF founder whose 2025 festival edition empowered a new generation of African filmmakers.



Kemi Adetiba
Filmmaker whose 2025 productions spotlighted women's narratives and African excellence.



Yinka Ilori
Designer whose 2025 installations merged bold colour, architecture, and social storytelling in public spaces.



Lisa Folawiyo
Fashion innovator whose 2025 collections fused heritage prints with global couture trends



Deola Sagoe
Legendary designer whose 2025 showcases and mentorship programs advanced African luxury fashion.



Mai Atafo
Menswear designer whose 2025 brand innovations bridged contemporary tailoring and African identity.



Hilda Baci
Chef and entrepreneur whose 2025 ventures expanded Nigerian cuisine's global recognition.



Falz (Folarin Falana)
Rapper, actor, and activist using his 2025 art to challenge injustice and inspire civic action.



Mr Macaroni (Debo Adebayo)
Actor and comedian who leveraged satire in 2025 to address governance and social reform.



Andrea Iyamah
Designer and entrepreneur whose 2025 global expansion positioned Nigerian fashion for the luxury market.



Nike Davies-Okundaye
Textile artist and cultural matriarch whose 2025 exhibitions celebrated Nigerian craft traditions.



Alex Okosi
Managing Director of Google Africa, spearheading 2025 programs supporting digital creators across the continent.



Martins Vincent Otse (VeryDarkMan)
The leader of the Ratel Movement, whose outspoken form of online policing has helped reshape Nigeria's civic discourse in 2025.



Broda Shaggi
Digital creator and comic actor whose 2025 performances defined the evolution of Nigerian online humor.



Kaffy (Kafayat Shafau)
Choreographer and wellness coach promoting youth development through dance in 2025.



Steve Babaeko
CEO of X3M Ideas, whose 2025 campaigns and thought leadership defined Africa's creative-industry narrative.



Linda Ikeji
Blogger and entrepreneur whose 2025 media empire continued empowering women and shaping online culture.



Toke Makinwa
Media personality and businesswoman using her 2025 platforms to promote women's confidence and cultural pride.



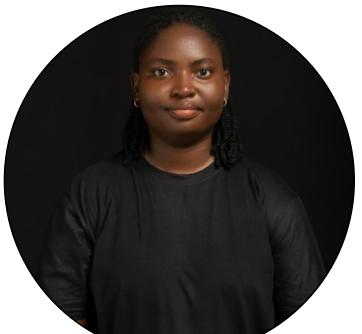
Mr Eazi
Music entrepreneur whose emPawa initiative supported emerging African artists across markets in 2025.



Temiloluwa Otedola
Actress and influencer whose 2025 fashion and media projects represented modern Nigerian youth culture.



Charity Ekezie
Journalist and creator whose 2025 digital reporting amplified diverse Nigerian cultural stories.



Nora Awolowo
Cinematographer and director whose 2025 documentaries spotlighted youth, identity, and technology.



Yemi Alade
Singer and UNDP ambassador blending pop music with advocacy for gender equality in 2025.



Don Jazzy
Producer and Mavin Records founder nurturing Afrobeats' next global generation in 2025.



Ben Enwonwu Foundation
Cultural institution preserving Nigeria's visual-arts legacy through 2025 exhibitions and mentorships.



Chioma Ikokwu (Chioma GoodHair)
Entrepreneur and advocate using fashion and philanthropy to drive empowerment in 2025.



Bisi Alimi
Human-rights advocate advancing inclusion and equality across Africa through 2025 campaigns.



Tobi Amusan
World champion hurdler whose 2025 victories inspired a new era of African athletics.



Asisat Oshoala
Barcelona forward whose 2025 mentorship initiatives uplifted young African female athletes.



Victor Osimhen
Nigerian striker for Galatasaray SK, whose 2025 performance and philanthropic outreach continue to inspire millions across Africa and Europe.



Segun Awosanya (Segalink)
Civic influencer promoting digital-rights awareness and governance reform in 2025.



Adebola Williams
RED | For Africa co-founder using storytelling and strategic communication to mobilize African youth in 2025.



Chichi Adubiaro
Diaspora curator connecting African creatives to international markets and institutions in 2025.



Kelechi Iheanacho
International footballer whose sportsmanship and outreach strengthened Nigeria's image abroad.



Yinka Shonibare
British Nigerian artist whose 2025 exhibitions interrogated identity, colonialism, and belonging.



Helen Oyeyemi
Award-winning novelist whose 2025 literary projects expanded narratives on migration and womanhood. (theguardian.com)



Seyi Adekunle (Seyi Vodi)
Founder and Chairman of Vodi Group, whose 2025 leadership in luxury menswear, cultural fashion diplomacy, and craftsmanship elevated Nigerian bespoke fashion on the global stage.



Pheelz (Phillip Kayode Moses)
Music producer and artist whose 2025 hits and collaborations helped define Afrobeats' evolving global sound

LEADERSHIP



Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala
Director-General of the World Trade Organization, advancing fair trade and digital inclusion for African economies.



Aliko Dangote
Africa's richest man, whose Dangote Refinery and industrial projects continued to redefine Nigeria's economic landscape in 2025.



Tony Elumelu
Economist and philanthropist empowering thousands of African entrepreneurs through the Tony Elumelu Foundation's 2025 cohort.



Olayemi Cardoso
Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria, whose 2025 monetary reforms and fiscal-stability policies strengthened investor confidence and steered Nigeria's economy toward renewed growth.



Iyinoluwa Aboyeji
Co-founder of Andela and Future Africa, whose venture ecosystem investments continued powering African tech in 2025.



Olugbenga Agboola
CEO of Flutterwave, driving fintech innovation and cross-border payments across 30+ African markets in 2025.



Shola Akinlade
Co-founder of Paystack and owner of Sporting Lagos FC, blending entrepreneurship with sports development in 2025.



Tayo Oviosu
CEO of Paga, expanding digital-finance access and financial literacy in underserved Nigerian communities in 2025.



Femi Otedola
Business magnate and philanthropist whose energy and education initiatives continued shaping Nigeria's corporate landscape.



Mike Adenuga
Founder of Globacom, whose telecommunications reach remains pivotal to Nigeria's digital inclusion story.



Folorunsho Alakija
Billionaire entrepreneur and philanthropist supporting women's empowerment and creative industries through the Rose of Sharon Foundation.



Aigboje Aig-Imoukhuede
Co-founder of Access Holdings and Aig-Imoukhuede Foundation, promoting good governance and leadership training in Africa.



Chikwe Ihekweazu
WHO Assistant Director-General, advancing global health-security frameworks and pandemic preparedness in 2025.



Prof. Francisca Nneka Okeke
Physicist and former Dean at UNN, championing women's participation in STEM fields across Nigeria.



Dr. Ola Orekunrin Brown
Founder of Flying Doctors Healthcare Investment Group, improving healthcare logistics and medical financing across Africa.



Peter Obi
Former governor and political reform advocate whose thought leadership on governance accountability remained widely followed in 2025.



Yemi Osinbajo
Former Vice President and founder of Future Perspectives, fostering youth leadership and ethical governance initiatives.



Didi Esther Walson-Jack, OON
Head of the Civil Service of the Federation, leading Nigeria's public-sector transformation through workforce digitization, efficiency reforms, and institutional accountability in 2025.



Atiku Abubakar
Businessman and political figure maintaining significant influence over Nigeria's democratic and economic discourse.



Zainab Shamsuna Ahmed
Economist and fiscal-policy expert recognized for her continued role in economic reform and financial governance.



Hajia Bola Shagaya
Businesswoman and philanthropist supporting female entrepreneurship and cultural development initiatives



Dr. Stanley Uzochukwu
Founder of Stanel Group, promoting youth empowerment and business mentorship through his enterprise and foundation.



Jim Ovia
Founder and Chairman of Zenith Bank, whose scholarship foundation and digital-economy advocacy continue transforming Nigeria's private sector.



Walter Akpani
Managing Director and CEO of Providus Bank, who successfully led the 2025 merger between Providus Bank and Unity Bank, creating one of Nigeria's most innovative mid-tier financial institutions focused on digital banking and SME growth.



Segun Aina
Founder of Fintech Associates and African Fintech Network, strengthening financial-technology policy and capacity building.



Wale Tinubu
Group CEO of Oando Plc, spearheading renewable-energy initiatives and oil-sector transparency efforts.



Benedict Peters
CEO of Aiteo Group, investing in energy sustainability and youth development programs.



Dr. Ngozi Okoli
Executive Director at NNPC Ltd, pioneering transparency and efficiency in Nigeria's oil operations in 2025.



Babatunde Fashola
Former Minister of Works and Housing, recognized in 2025 for infrastructure consultancy and public-sector leadership mentoring.



Ndidi Nwuneli
Co-founder of Sahel Consulting and LEAP Africa, promoting sustainable agriculture and ethical leadership across Africa in 2025.



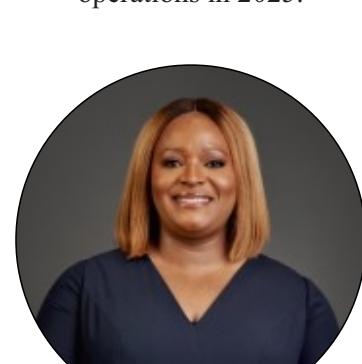
Ifedayo Durosinmi-Etti
Founder of Herconomy, empowering women entrepreneurs and driving gender-inclusive economic opportunities.



Uzoma Dozie
Founder of Sparkle Microfinance, redefining digital banking for individuals and SMEs in 2025



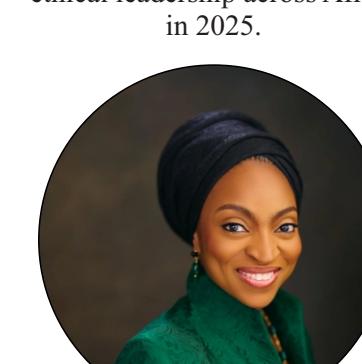
Dame Adaora Umeoji
First female Group Managing Director/CEO of Zenith Bank Plc, advancing inclusive leadership and corporate philanthropy.



Temie Giwa-Tubosun
Founder of LifeBank, expanding healthcare logistics and blood delivery systems across West Africa in 2025.



Deola Art Alade
Founder and CEO of Livespot360, whose leadership in experiential marketing and live entertainment in 2025 reshaped Africa's creative and brand engagement economy.



Jumoke Oduwole
Special Adviser on Ease of Doing Business, recognized globally in 2025 for her reforms improving Nigeria's investment climate.



Bismarck Rewane
Economist and CEO of Financial Derivatives Company, shaping Nigeria's macroeconomic policy debates in 2025.



Mitchell Elegbe
CEO of Interswitch Group, promoting digital-payments expansion and Africa-wide fintech education initiatives.



Ijeoma Nwogwugwu
Managing Director of Arise News Channel, recognized in 2025 for leadership in global media representation.



Adenike Ogunlesi
Founder of Ruff 'n' Tumble, recognized for expanding youth employment and Made-in-Nigeria apparel exports in 2025.



Adedeji Tajudeen Adeleke
Business magnate, philanthropist, and founder of Adeleke University, whose continued investment in education and youth development underscores his quiet yet profound leadership influence in Nigeria's private sector. He is also the CEO of Pacific Holding Limited



Omobola Johnson
Former Minister of Communication Technology and current Senior Partner at TLcom Capital, leading major investments in Africa's digital-innovation ecosystem in 2025.



Kabir Rabiu
Group Executive Director of BUA Group, driving regional industrial development and trade logistics in 2025.



Adewale Adeyemo
U.S. Deputy Secretary of the Treasury, continuing to represent Nigerian excellence in global financial leadership



Amina J. Mohammed
Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, advancing the global sustainable development agenda.



Mrs Ngozi Ekeoma
Group Managing Director, Nepal Energies, whose leadership in Nigeria's downstream energy sector in 2025 strengthened fuel supply reliability, corporate governance, and indigenous participation in the energy value chain.



Boye Olusanya
Group CEO of Flour Mills of Nigeria Plc, whose 2025 industrial and food-security initiatives reinforced Nigeria's manufacturing resilience.



Allen Onyema
CEO of Air Peace, whose 2025 expansion across African routes strengthened Nigeria's aviation competitiveness.



Benedict Oramah
President of Afreximbank, advancing Africa's trade finance and industrialization agenda in 2025.



Doyin Salami
Economist and former Presidential adviser, providing strategic fiscal insights that guided business policy in 2025.