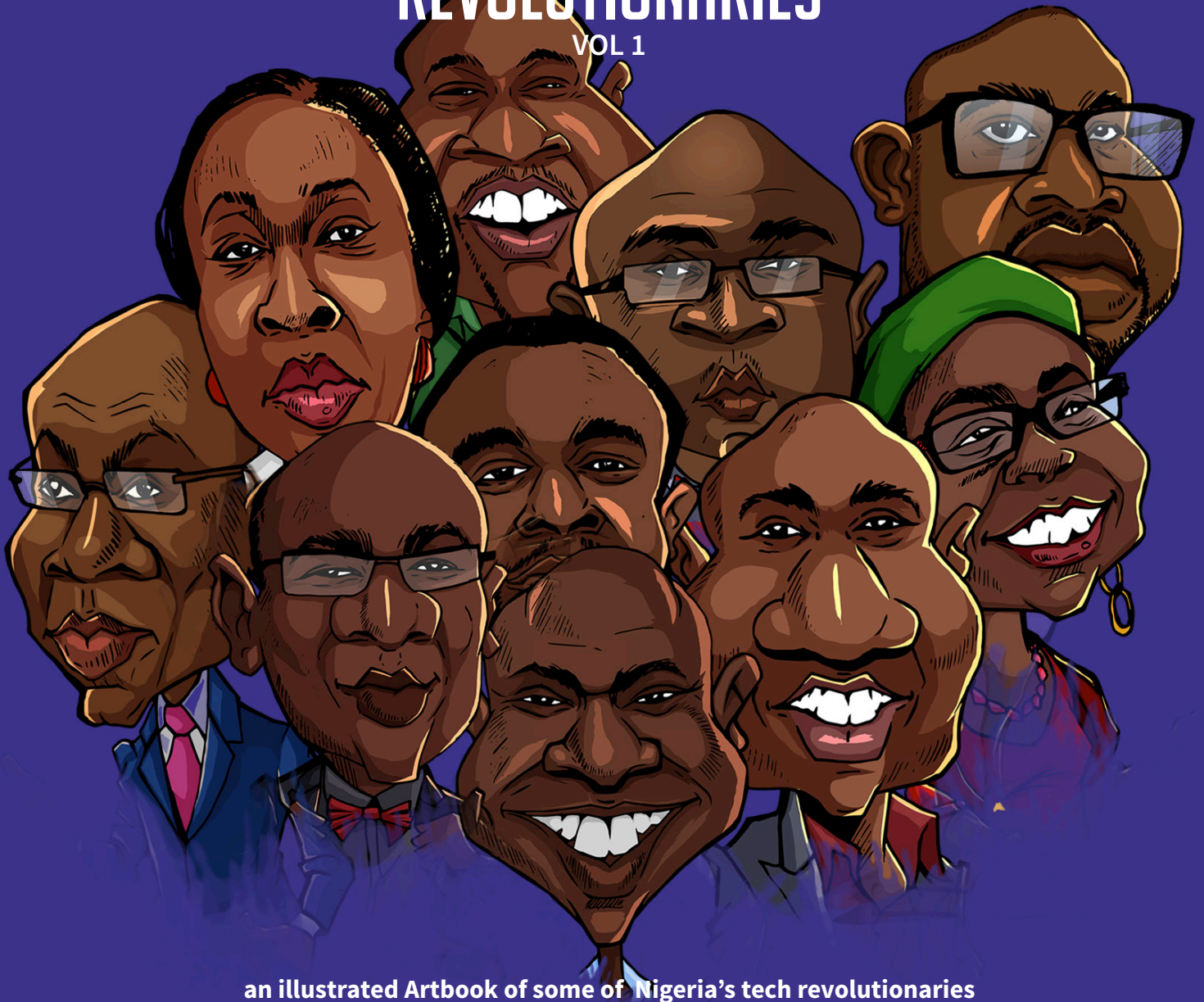


NAIJA'S TECH REVOLUTIONARIES

VOL 1



an illustrated Artbook of some of Nigeria's tech revolutionaries

NAIJA'S TECH REVOLUTIONARIES

Nigeria has always been a populous country filled with industrious people.

The history of many tribes and cultures that make up the country is replete with individuals who, through ingenuity, birthed new industries that inspired many after them. But somewhere along the line we became a country of over-night successes, people whose rise to prominence became inexplicable. Wealth was still present, but no longer tied to industry.

Nigeria is a nation of paradoxes. We are hard working people, but also the world's shorthand for fraud. Nigeria's elite class is filled with people who will stammer when asked to reveal how they became who they are, but also now consists of a growing class who through extreme industry, and a desire to provide solutions where they erstwhile didn't exist, have created a marked trail that others can follow. That new class is spread across all spheres of life including and perhaps most prominent in technology.

For some this was achieved by bringing in products that offered customers what their competitors deemed impossible. Others did more with their precocity than become whizkids who enrich themselves. They became big bosses who changed the lives of their employees. Some through bullish consistence, charted pathways through economic blockades. While others apply a soft but assured confidence in themselves to mentor generations after them. They've created spaces for conversations where they didn't exist, and brought solutions that many thought were impossible to implement in Najia.

Through aggressive innovation and a tenacity to succeed in a country that many have now written off – and perhaps rightly so – as resistant to growth and development, they have all built and continue to strengthen the pillars of Nigeria's tech industry, which is now the toast of the world.

Nihinlola AyoOluwa | Digital Artist



DEDICATION

The project is specially dedicated to the late
Engr. Mrs. Florence O. Seriki, MFR Chief Executive Officer and Group
Managing Director of Omatek Ventures Plc.

she passed on Friday, March 3, 2017, her innovation and hard work
will always to be remembered and also to every individual that as
contributed or still uplifting the Nigerian Technonolgy industry.







SIM Shagaya

Sim is a Nigerian entrepreneur and business mogul. He is the founder and former C.E.O of one of West Africa's largest electronic commerce website Konga.com and he is also the executive chairman of DealDey, a daily deal website. In 2014, he was named in Forbes' list of "10 Most Powerful Men In Africa".

He was born in Nigeria where he served in the Nigerian Army after completing the Nigerian Military School. He completed most of his education in the U.S. He is a graduate of George Washington University and Dartmouth College, he also holds an M.B.A. certificate after graduating from Harvard Business School in the early 2000s.

Prior to the establishment of DealDaey and Konga.com, Sim worked as a banker in South Africa under Rand Merchant Bank. He later moved to Nigeria where he became Google's head for Africa and went on to found a Lagos-based billboard advertising business called E-Motion in November 2005.

Before Sim started DealDey and Konga.com, he created several websites like Alarena, Jobclan, Gbogbo and iNollyWood which were relatively unsuccessful. He founded Konga.com with a capital from Swedish investment firm Kinnevik. According Sim Shagaya, the primary aim of Konga.com is to "aggregate the youngest and fastest-growing market that was dispersed, underserved and that traditional retailers were simply failing to reach".



sim
SHAGAYA



Sim Shagaya is a Nigerian businessperson who is recognized as the founder of Konga.com and DealDey.

AWARDS / RECOGNITION

- 2013 CNBC/All Africa Business Leaders Award in West Africa Entrepreneur of the Year
- 2014 The Leadership Conference/ Awards Leadership CEO of the Year



SERIKI Florence

Engr. Mrs. Florence O. Seriki, MFR served as Chief Executive Officer and Group Managing Director of Omatek ventures Plc. Engr. Mrs. Seriki is a notable Entrepreneur and Industrialist who started Omatek Ventures Plc 22 years ago. She is the founder and Chief Executive Officer of the first Completely knocked down Computer Factories in Nigeria and Ghana. She serves as a Director of Omatek ventures Plc. She served as a Non-Executive Director of Vitafoam Nigeria Plc since October 1, 2009 until July 13, 2017. She is a fellow of the Nigerian Society of Chemical Engineers, Nigerian Computers Society (NCS) and the Institute of Directors.

She holds a Bachelors of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from University of Ife (now Obafemi Awolowo University).



Seriki
FLORENCE



Engr. Mrs. Florence O. Seriki, MFR served
as Chief Executive Officer and Group
Managing Director of Omatek ventures Plc.

AWARDS / RECOGNITION

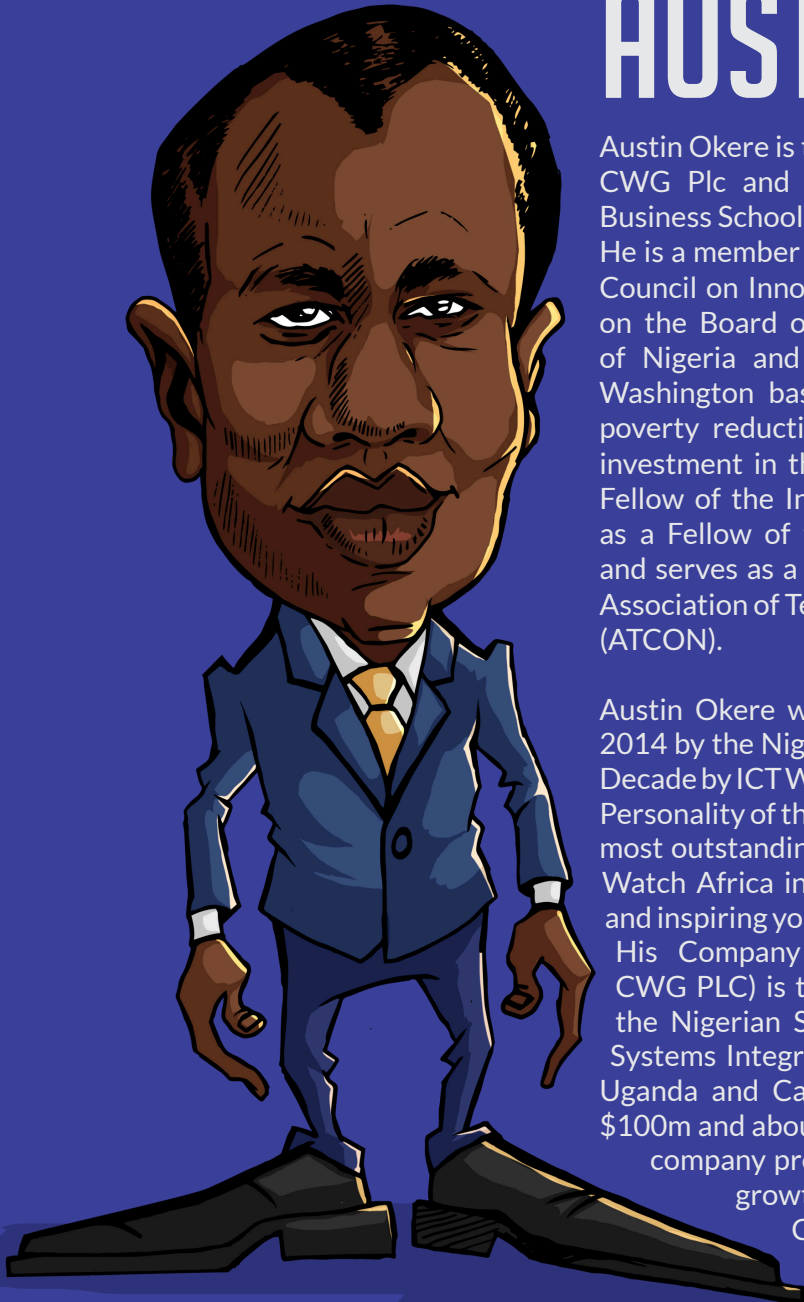
- Fellow of the Nigerian Society of
Chemical Engineers

AUSTIN Okere

Austin Okere is the Founder & Executive Vice Chairman, CWG Plc and Entrepreneur in Residence, Columbia Business School, New York.

He is a member of the World Economic Forum Business Council on Innovation and Intrapreneurship. He serves on the Board of the National Competiveness Council of Nigeria and Initiative for Global Development, a Washington based nonprofit organization that drives poverty reduction by catalyzing business growth and investment in the developing world. Austin Okere is a Fellow of the Institute of Directors of Nigeria, as well as a Fellow of the Nigerian Computer Society (NCS), and serves as a member of the Advisory Council of the Association of Telecommunication Companies of Nigeria (ATCON).

Austin Okere was named ICT Personality of the year 2014 by the Nigerian Computer Society, ICT Man of the Decade by ICTWatchAfrica Digital Network in 2012; ICT Personality of the year by Technology Africa in 2010; and most outstanding ICT Personality of the Decade by ICT Watch Africa in 2010. His interests include mentoring and inspiring young people to achieve their full potential. His Company Computer Warehouse Group (NSE: CWG PLC) is the largest security in the ICT sector of the Nigerian Stock Exchange. CWG is a Pan-African Systems Integrator with operations in Nigeria, Ghana, Uganda and Cameroon with annual turnover of over \$100m and about 650 employees across the Group. The company provides technology solutions that enable growth with aspiration to be the number one Cloud Platform Provider in Africa by 2020.





Austin
OKERE



Computer Warehouse Group

Austin Okere is the Founder & Executive Vice Chairman, CWG Plc and Entrepreneur in Residence, Columbia Business School, New York.

AWARDS / RECOGNITION

- ICT Personality of the year 2014 by the Nigerian Computer Society
- CT Man of the Decade by ICT Watch Africa Digital Network in 2012
- ICT Personality of the year by Technology Africa in 2010
- most outstanding ICT Personality of the Decade by ICT Watch Africa in 2010



MITCHELL Elegbe

Mitchell Elegbe is the founder and CEO of Interswitch Limited, and he maintains the leadership role since conceiving the idea in 2001. Prior to setting up Interswitch he was the Head, Group Marketing and Business Solution in Telnet Nigeria; there he conceived the idea and led a team of young Nigerians to build and implement Nigeria's first on-line, real-time transaction switching and payment processing infrastructure to enable the electronic circulation of money. This was at a time when the general view was that such a system was not possible given the infrastructural challenges in Nigeria.



Mitchell
ELEGBE

Interswitch 
Payment Gateway

Mitchell Elegbe is the founder and CEO of Interswitch Limited, and he maintains the leadership role since conceiving the idea in 2001.

AWARDS / RECOGNITION

- 2008 Archbishop Desmond Tutu Leadership Fellow

MIKE Adenuga

Mike Adenuga junior was born April 29, 1953 in Ibadan, Nigeria, his full names are Micheal Adeniyi Agbolade Ishola Adenuga he is a Nigerian business tycoon. He is regarded as one of the richest black people in the world. Oloye Adenuga, a school teacher, is the father of Mike. His mother, Juliana Oyindamola Adenuga (Nee Onashile of Okesopin, Ijebu Igbo) is a business woman of royal Ijebu descent.

He is a man with humble beginning, he had his secondary school education at the Ibadan grammar school Oyo State. He worked as a taxi driver and security guard to support his education while studying at the university. He graduated from Northwestern Alva Oklahoma State university and pace university New York, with a degree in business administration. Adenuga means different things to different people; he is a husband, father, team leader, role model, an entrepreneur.

Currently the second richest man in Africa, with net worth of \$4.6 billion, Mike Adenuga is the founder of Globacom.

Globacom was registered as the fourth mobile operator in Nigeria in 2003, and swiftly rose above other telcos in Nigeria to battle with MTN. It has been credited with driving down the cost of telecommunication services in the country.

Glo is also the very first company to roll out the submarine fibre optic cable from the UK. The project cost more than \$800 million.



Mike
ADENUGA



Glo is also the very first company to roll out the submarine fibre optic cable from the UK. The project cost more than \$800 million.

AWARDS / RECOGNITION

- In 2012, he was made Grand Commander of the Order of Niger by the government of Nigeria.
- African Entrepreneur of The Year at the first African Telecoms Awards (ATA) in August 2007.



FUNKE Opeke

Funke Opeke is a Nigerian electrical engineer, founder of Main Street Technologies and Chief Executive Officer of Main One Cable Company, a communications services company based in Lagos State, south-western Nigeria. She obtained a Bachelor and master's degree in Electrical Engineering from Obafemi Awolowo University and Columbia University respectively. After she graduated from Columbia University, she followed with a career in ICT in the United States as an executive director with the wholesale division of Verizon Communications in New York City. In 2005, she joined MTN Nigeria as chief technical officer (CTO). She served as adviser at Transcorp and chief operating officer of NITEL for a brief period.

Funke started MainOne in 2008 when she noticed the low internet connectivity in Nigeria. MainOne is West Africa's leading communications services and network solutions provider. The company built West Africa's first privately owned, open access 7,000-kilometer undersea high capacity cable submarine stretching from Portugal to South Africa with landings along the route in Accra, Ghana and Lagos, Nigeria.



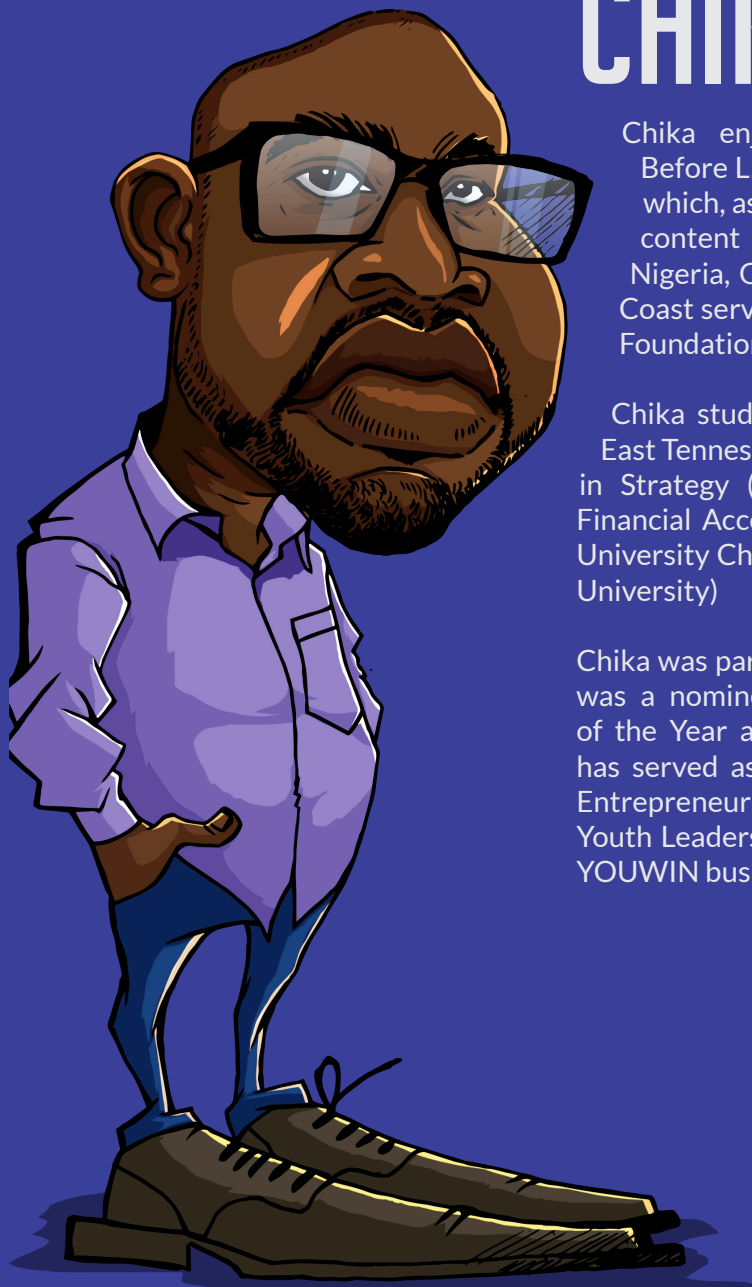
Funke
OPEKE

MainOne
cable company

Funke Opeke is a Nigerian electrical engineer, founder of Main Street Technologies and Chief Executive Officer of Main One Cable Company

AWARDS / RECOGNITION

- 2012 CNBC/All Africa Business Leaders Award in West Africa
Businesswoman of the Year award
- 2012 CNBC/All Africa Business Leaders Award in West Africa
Businesswoman of the Year award



CHIKA Nwobi

Chika enjoys developing people and products. Before L5Lab, Chika was co-founder of MTech PLC which, as CEO, he led to become the largest mobile content company in Africa with operations in Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Ivory Coast serving the likes of MTN, Glo, Airtel, IFC, Ford Foundation and Nokia.

Chika studied Economics and Computer Science at East Tennessee State University and has taken courses in Strategy (INSEAD), Corporate Finance (INSEAD), Financial Accounting (INSEAD), HR Strategy (Tsinghua University China), Agile Software Methodology (Oxford University)

Chika was part of the Nigeria 2025 Scenarios Team and was a nominee for the Future Awards Entrepreneur of the Year and Young Person of The Year, 2007. He has served as a Mentor for Fate Foundation Aspiring Entrepreneurs Program and as a judge for LEAP Africa's Youth Leadership Awards and the Federal Government YOUWIN business plan competition.



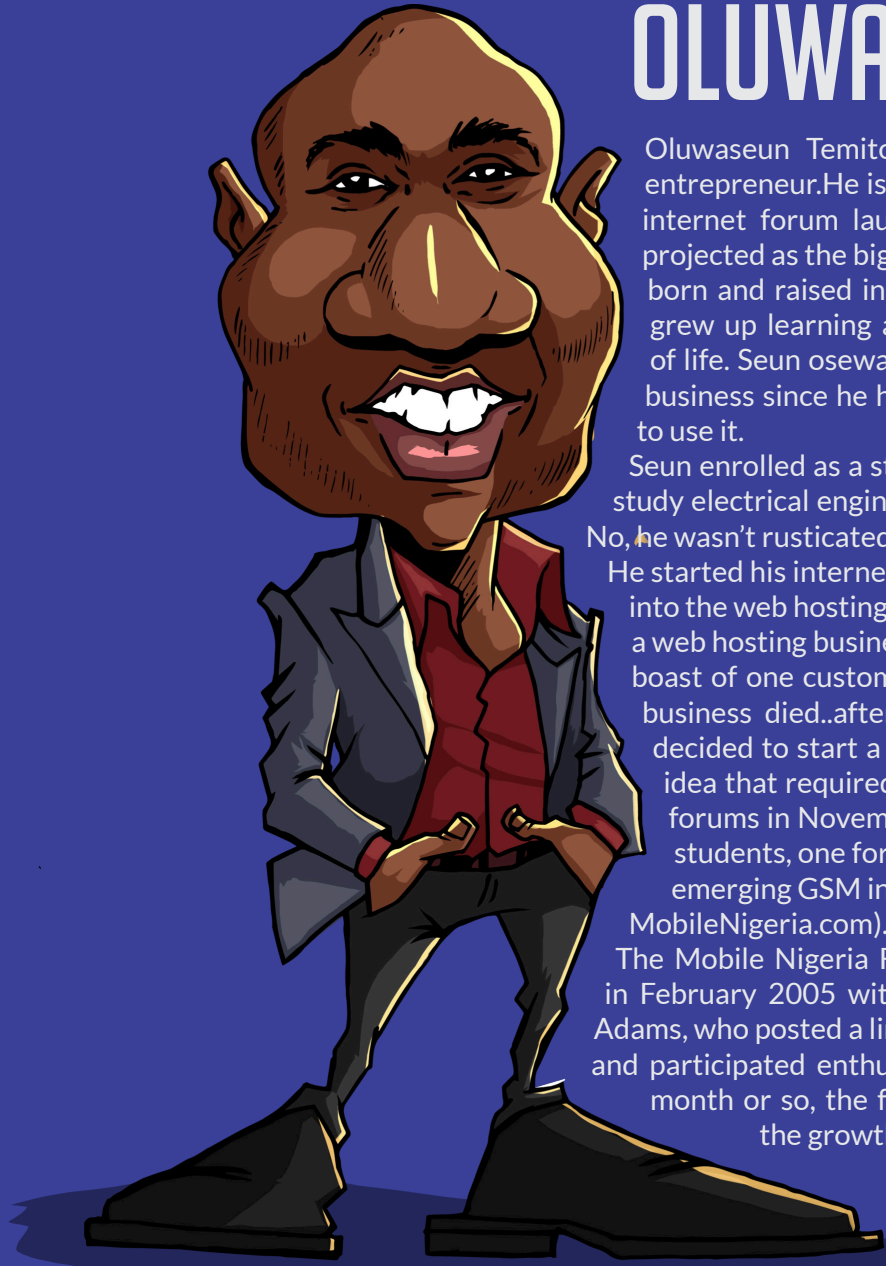
Chika
NWOBI



Chika is the co-founder and CEO of MTech
PLC and L5Lab

AWARDS / RECOGNITION

- nominee for the Future Awards
Entrepreneur of the Year and Young
Person of The Year, 2007



OLUWASEUN Osewa

Oluwaseun Temitope Osewa is a Nigerian internet entrepreneur. He is the founder of Nairaland, a popular internet forum launched in March 2005, which was projected as the biggest African forum by Forbes.

born and raised in Sango Ota Ogun State Nigeria. He grew up learning and knowing the technological part of life. Seun osewa has been interested in the internet business since he has known what internet is and how to use it.

Seun enrolled as a student in the University Of Ile Ife to study electrical engineering in 1998 but he did not finish. No, he wasn't rusticated.

He started his internet career in the year 2003 after going into the web hosting business. He had attempted to start a web hosting business, but after 3 months he could only boast of one customer, so he ran out of capital and the business died..after several ideas and other trials he decided to start a web forum, because it was the only idea that required no additional capital. He created 3 forums in November 2003 (one for higher institution students, one for IT discussions, and one to cover the emerging GSM industry; the Mobile Nigeria Forum at MobileNigeria.com).

The Mobile Nigeria Forum took off, so he relaunched it in February 2005 with the assistance of Mr. John Sagai Adams, who posted a link to the forum on his mailing list and participated enthusiastically in those early days. In a month or so, the forum had about 300 members, but the growth potential didn't satisfy him.

He decided to start Nairaland when he noticed two odd things about MobileNigeria.



Oluwaseun
OSEWA

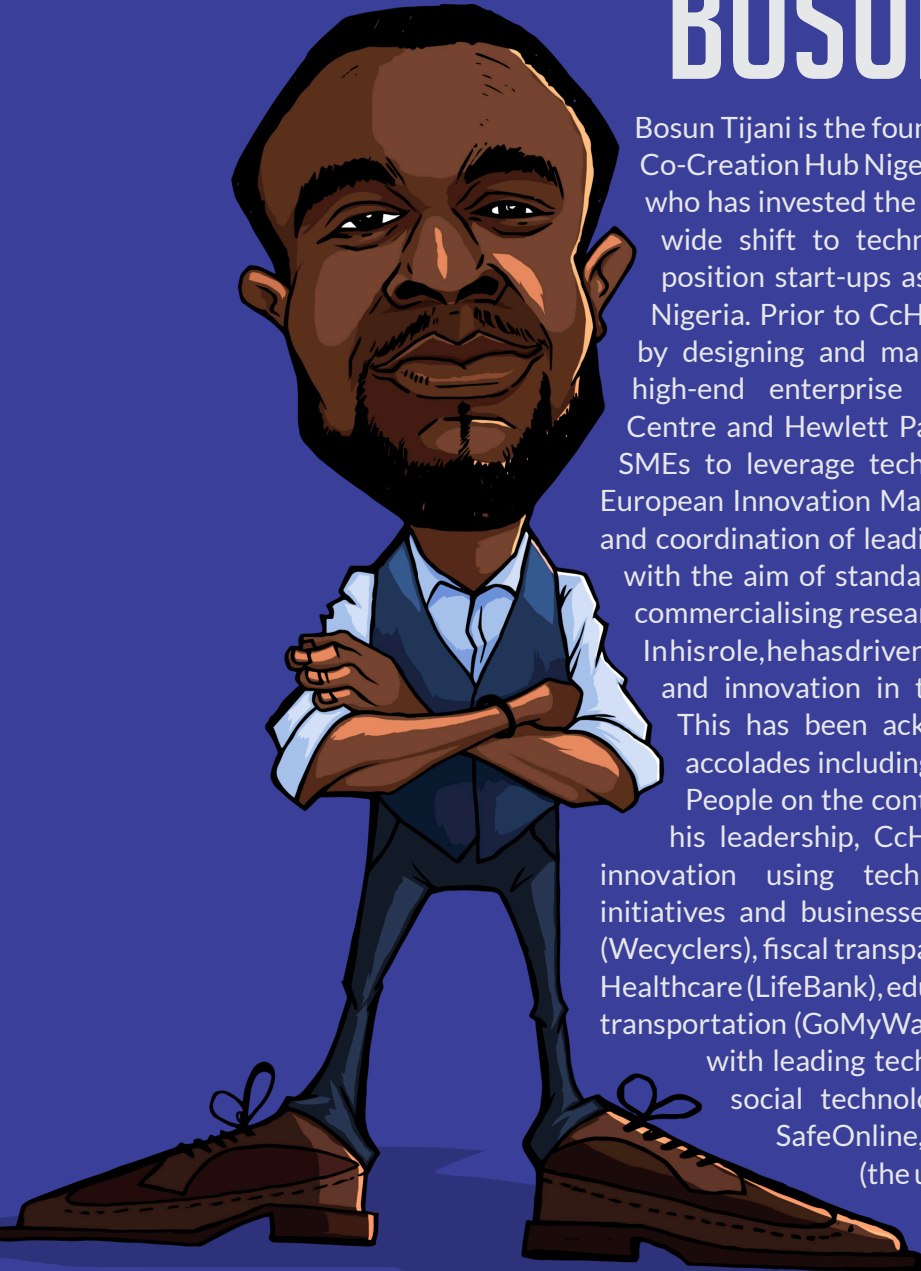
Nairaland Forum

Oluwaseun Temitope Osewa is a Nigerian internet entrepreneur, a popular internet forum launched in March 2005

AWARDS / RECOGNITION

- **YNaija**
Most innovative Nigerians in technology
- **T.I.N Magazine 2015**
Top 10 most influential Nigerian online entrepreneurs
- **Forbes 2013**
Among best African successful entrepreneur under 30

BOSUN Tijani



Bosun Tijani is the founder and Chief Executive of Co-Creation Hub Nigeria (CcHUB). He is an innovation expert who has invested the last 15 years evangelising an industry-wide shift to technology innovation, which has helped position start-ups as the anchor of the tech ecosystem in Nigeria. Prior to CcHUB, he honed his depth of experience by designing and managing profitable business models for high-end enterprise solutions with International Trade Centre and Hewlett Packard on projects supporting African SMEs to leverage technology to grow their businesses. As European Innovation Manager at PERA; he led the networking and coordination of leading innovation agencies across Europe with the aim of standardising the varying methodologies for commercialising research results.

In his role, he has driven the rapid advancement of collaboration and innovation in the technology landscape in Nigeria. This has been acknowledged locally and globally with accolades including the most recent 100 Most Influential People on the continent by New Africa Magazine. Under his leadership, CcHUB has driven the growth of social innovation using technology, producing ground-breaking initiatives and businesses that have influenced; environment (Wecyclers), fiscal transparency (BudgIT), e-commerce (Traclist), Healthcare (LifeBank), education (re:learn), wellness (Truppr) and transportation (GoMyWay). CcHUB led by 'Bosun in partnership with leading technology giants is responsible for many social technology projects including the GoVOTE, SafeOnline, Lagos Innovation Hotspots and i-HQ (the umbrella initiative for Yaba – the fastest growing tech cluster in Africa).



Bosun
TIJANI



Bosun Tijani serves as a Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer at Co-Creation Hub.

AWARDS / RECOGNITION

- 100 Most Influential People on the continent by New Africa Magazine.

JASON Njoku

Jason Chukwuma Njoku is a Nigerian entrepreneur, film magnate and African start-up investor. He is the co-founder and CEO of iROKOTv, one of the early video-on-demand movie platforms for Nigerian movies (also known as Nollywood)

A self-proclaimed serial entrepreneur, iROKOTv is Njoku's 11th attempt at starting a business. He came up with the idea of launching a new distribution platform for Nollywood whilst living at home with his mum, aged 30, after a number of failed enterprises.

In August 2013, alongside his business partners Bastian Gotter and Mary Remmy Njoku, Njoku launched a \$2 million investment vehicle for Lagos-based Internet start-ups called Spark. The company initially invested in 11 companies, including a drinks distribution company called Drinks.ng, a real-estate and property online letting agency called ToLet.com.ng, and a hotel room booking site, called Hotels.ng, which has gone on to raise \$1.2 million in VC investment from EchoVC Pan-Africa Fund and Omidyar Network.

In 2015, Jason Njoku in a blog post officially announced they're letting go of four startups considered failed businesses: Bus.com.ng (an online bus ticketing service), Insured.ng (an insurance comparison platform),

Giddimint.com.ng (an online fashion store) and Christians.ng, an online dating platform for Christians.





Jason
NJOKU

IROKO^{TV} SPARK

Jason Chukwuma Njoku is a Nigerian entrepreneur, film magnate and African start-up investor.

AWARDS / RECOGNITION

- **Forbes Africa 2017**
Ten Young African Millionaires to Watch!
- **CNBC All Africa Business Awards 2013**
Young Leader of the Year for West Africa
- **Fast Company**
Top 1000 Most Creative People in Business.



LEO stan ekeh

Leonard “Leo” Stanley Nnamdi Ekeh is a Nigerian philanthropist, businessman and chairperson of Zinox. In addition to Zinox, he has been involved with companies Task Systems, Technology Distributions Limited, ICT Brokers, TD Plus, ICT Connect and Buyright AFRICA Dotcom.

Leo Stan Ekeh set up Zinox Technologies Limited in 2001 to manufacture computers. He ensured that at launch Zinox Computers already had the WHQL certification, the first in sub-Saharan Africa, consolidated 5 years later with the attainment of the NIS ISO 2000: 9001 QMS Certification. In October 2013, the company announced the production of its computer tablet line named Zipad.

Zinox is rated the among the best Integrated ICT solutions Group in Africa and their main interests includes Computer Hardware Manufacturing, Distribution,, Critical ICT Solution, Telecom, and world-class after Sales Support.

In quest to expand his business Leo Stan acquired e-commerce giant company, Konga.

Zinox Group, one of Africa’s biggest technology group would assume ownership of the e-commerce platform, Konga.com which remains as one of the biggest players in the sector; KOS-Express, the world class logistics arm of the business and KongaPay, the company’s integrated mobile money payment channel with over 100,000 subscribers. Some years ago Zinox launched BuyRight Africa.com but was hampered that time due to the absence of credit card and e-payment infrastructure.



Leonard
STANLEY NNAMDI EKEH

Zinox®



Leonard “Leo” Stanley Nnamdi Ekeh is a Nigerian philanthropist, businessman and chairperson of Zinox.

AWARDS / RECOGNITION

- Officer of the Order of the Federal Republic
- Fellow Nigeria Computer Society
- Fellowship of NPAN
- Distinguished Fellow of the Nigeria Law School
- Life Membership of the Institute of International Affairs
- over 15 Honorary fellowship awards from Federal and State Polytechnics
- and many more



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NIHINLOLA AYOO LUWA

DIGITAL ARTIST

I am a Graphics artist, illustrator and digital art enthusiast. I currently serve as the Design head at Gamsol (one of African's biggest gaming start-up), in charge of Illustration, animation, GUI and motion graphics for the company, I also double as the creative director at E5 Studioz.

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CREDITS / ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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Special thanks to Olaoluwatomiwa Olumide, IfeOluwa Nihinlola, Oseni Oluwaseun, Akanbi Wale for their support and contributions.

Thank you
- AyoOluwa Nihinlola

BIOGRAPHY REFERENCES



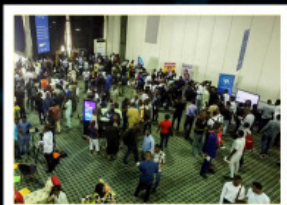
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