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African BUSINESS

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The rise of Africa's THINK-TANKS

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African Business is proud to be associated with the Choiseul Institute of France in publishing the inaugural ranking of Africa's most promising business leaders under the age of 40.

Africa's Top 100 Young Business Leaders

The Choiseul Institute of France has put together a ranking of the 100 most promising African business leaders under the age of 40. The think-tank is an independent research centre dedicated to policy analyses and global economic governance. Its mission is to promote the reach and influence of France on the international scene.

This ranking, which will become an annual event, has been inspired by the exceptional growth of African countries and the transformations taking place within the continent, says the organisation's president, Dr Pascal Lorot.

"Today, we are witnessing the awakening of Africa," he says. "It is imposing itself as one of the long-term major driving force of global growth." He says that with its dynamic and thriving companies in every sector, Africa is being transformed and is reinventing itself.

The continent has moved beyond the mere exploitation of raw materials and is today becoming "a more mature and diversified economy. Therefore, all around the continent," says Dr Pascal Lorot, "great programmes are being launched, projects are being developed, and growth levers are being created."

He argues that this new paradigm has been made possible by the flood of financing coming from everywhere, but "also and more importantly from those men and women who are main actors of this Africa which is moving forward, which is growing."

Dr Lorot says that nothing would be possible without "the relentless will, and the

impressive competences of those whose actions shape the destiny of their own countries and of the continent".

"The Choiseul 100 Africa," he says, "aims to identify those men and women who are 40 years old and below, who are successful and have the ambition of lifting Africa to its highest level of economical, societal and cultural development."

The institute publishes an annual ranking of the top 100 young business leaders in France but this is first time for Africa. In addition to the top 100 list, there is another one with rankings from 100-200.

Most of the young men and women in the list are heads of companies, investors or initiators of large-scale projects. Antoine Hillion, head of Studies and Innovation at the institute, said entry into the list was not determined solely on the basis of wealth.

"Although these people represent the continent's young economic elite, what we were looking for really was social influence. These are the people that we believe will shape the contours of the future Africa. What they all have in common is commitment to excellence, innovative approaches and the willingness to make sacrifices in pursuit of their dreams."

This was a major, year-long project for the institute. It began in the summer of 2013 and the cut-off point was autumn this year. They roped in experts and specialists to help identify candidates for the listing and spent a lot of time and energy checking out facts, figures and claims. They built up a network of

volunteers in various African countries. "All together," says Hillion, "some 25-30 people worked on the project. We had to set out the methodology of the study, search for and identify suitable profiles and work out the rankings."

To be eligible for consideration, candidates had to be citizens of one of the 54 African states, be 40 years old or younger on 1st January 2014 and be making an active contribution to the economic development of Africa.

Several weighted criteria were taken into account. These included considerations such as: image and reputation, background and skills, power and function, influence and networks, potential and leadership.

The total of the scores obtained in the different categories of criteria determines the position of each laureate in the final ranking.

To produce the ranking, the Institute was supported by companies such as RATP, Yves Rocher, Roland Berger, Necotrans, Eiffage Construction, Groupe BPCE, Clyde & Co and Louvre Hotels Group.

Trends:

42 out of Africa's 54 countries are represented in the listing. Countries with the largest number of laureates on the list include: Kenya, 18; Nigeria, 18; Morocco, 17; South Africa, 17; and Cameroon, 10. Algeria, Tanzania, Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal are also well represented.

The sectors that are best represented include finance, agribusiness, ITC but energy, transport and construction are not as well represented as the potential suggests.



1. IGHO SANOMI 39 NIGERIA
Chief Executive Officer
TALEVERAS GROUP
University of Jos
Executive Director,
Sarian Oil (2000-01)



2. MOHAMMED DEWJI 39 TANZANIA
Chief Executive Officer
METL
Georgetown University
METL (since 1999)



3. HISHAM EL KHAZINDAR 40 EGYPT
Chief Executive Officer
CITADEL CAPITAL
American Uni in Cairo,
Harvard, ED Invest.
Bkg., EFG Hermes



4. ISABEL DOS SANTOS 40 ANGOLA
Chairman
UNITEL INTERNATIONAL
HOLDING
King's College London.
General Manager,
Urbana (1999-01)



5. TIDJANE DEME 40 SENEGAL
Office Lead
Francophone Africa
GOOGLE
Polytechnique Paris.
Senior Consultant,
CommonSys (2002-08)



6. NOMKHITA NQWANI 39 SOUTH AFRICA
Chief Executive Officer
ABSA CAPITAL
Rhodes University.
GM, Alex. Forbes Fin.
Services (2008-10)



7. MEHDI TAZI 39 MOROCCO
Chief Executive Officer
SAHAM ASSURANCE
MAROC
Telecom ParisTech, IN-
SEAD. Gen. Sec. Saham
Finances (2013-2014)



8. MARLON CHIGWENDE 40 ZIMBABWE
Co-head Sub-Saharan
Africa
THE CARLYLE GROUP
Southampton Univ.
Head of Africa Princip.
Fin., StanChart (2007-11)



9. ASHISH THAKKAR 33 UGANDA
Chief Executive Officer
MARA GROUP
Autodidact.
Mara Group
(since 1996)



10. JANINE DIAGOU WODIÉ 40 CÔTE D'IVOIRE
General Manager
NSIA BANQUE
University of Essex.
Chief Financial Officer,
NSIA, (2005-12)



11. MARK SHUTTLEWORTH 40 SOUTH AFRICA
Founder
CANONICAL
University of Cape Town
Chief Executive Officer,
Canonical (2004-10)



12. KEN ETETE 40 NIGERIA
Chief Executive Officer
CENTURY GROUP
LSE, Harvard. Country
rep. Bluewater Offshore
Nigeria (2000-01)



13. JEAN-PAUL MELAGA 39 CAMEROON
Head of Africa
BANK OF
TOKYO-MITSUBISHI
ESCP Europe.
Head Fr Africa, Renais-
sance Capital (2007-08)



14. SÉBASTIEN KADIO-MOROKRO 34 CÔTE D'IVOIRE
Chief Executive Officer
PETRO IVOIRE
University of Paris.
Deputy CEO, Petro Ivoire
(2008-10)



15. PAUL-HARRY AITHNARD 40 TOGO
Head of Asset
Management
ECOBANK
Univ. of Paris, HEC Mon-
tréal. Dir. of Investments
BBSP (2007-08)



16. ROSARIO MBASOGO NGUIDANG 35 E. GUINEA
Vice-President
CEMAC
Univ. of Moscow. Mem-
ber Community Cell,
CEMAC (2006-10)



17. PETER NJONJO 40 KENYA
General Manager
COCA-COLA EAST
AFRICA
Strathmore College, USIU.
General Manager, Kenya,
Coca-Cola (2009-11)



18. HASSANEIN HIRIDJEE 39 MADAGASCAR
President
DTS-MOOV
MADAGASCAR
ESCP Europe.
CEO, First Immo
(1999-2005)



19. SAAD SEFRIOUI 32 MOROCCO
Deputy Chief
Executive Officer
ADDOHA
University of Paris,
HEC Montréal. Op. Mgr.,
Addoha Groupe (2011)



20. MARIEME JAMME 40 SENEGAL
Chief Executive Officer
SPOTONE
University of Lyon,
EM Lyon.
SpotOne (since 2001)

21. ROLAND AGAMBIRE 40 GHANA
 Chief Executive Officer
 RLG COMMUNICATIONS
 Ghana Inst. Mgt. Pub. Admin. CEO Roagam Links (2001-04)

22. DELPHINE MAIDOU 40 BUKINA FASO
 Chief Executive Officer
 ALLIANZ GLOBAL CORP. & SPECIALITY OF AFRICA
 Univs. of Pittsburgh and Boston. Head Mkt. Mgt, AGCS Canada (2009-12)

23. JUSTIN STANFORD 31 SOUTH AFRICA
 General Manager
 4Di GROUP
 Autodidact. 4Di Group (since 2001)

24. PASCAL HOUANGNI-AMBOUROU 37 GABON
 General Manager
 BOURSE DES VALEURS MOB. D'AFRIQUE CEN.
 Univ. Abertay Dundee, IDRAC. Mgr. Mkt and Devlpt., BVAC (2007-12)

25. JOSHUA OIGARA 39 KENYA
 Chief Executive Officer
 KENYA COMMERCIAL BANK
 Univ of Strathmore, Univ. of Perth. CFO, KCB (2011-13)

26. CLARE AKAMANZI 34 RWANDA
 General Manager
 RWANDA DEVELOPMENT BOARD
 Univ. of Makerere, Univ. of Pretoria. Dep. CEO, Rwanda Dev. Bd (2006-11)

27. DENIS SASSOU-NGUESSO 39 REP. CONGO
 Chief Executive Officer
 SNPC DISTRIBUTION
 Général Leclerc Military School. Gen. Administrator, Cotrade 2005-09)

28. FATIHA CHARRADI 40 MOROCCO
 Chief Executive Officer
 OCP INNOVATION FUND FOR AGRICULTURE
 Mohammedia Eng. Sch, Ponts Paris Tech. EO at presidency, OCP (2008-10)

29. ADRIEN DIOUF 39 SENEGAL
 General Manager
 AGENCE UMOA TITRES
 Univ. of Paris, McGill. Head Treasury Services, AfreximBank (2013)

30. VERA SONGWE 40 CAMEROON
 Country Director (SEN, CPV, GMB, GNB, MRT)
 WORLD BANK
 Catholic Univ. Louvain, Univ. Michigan. Gen Mgr Adv., World Bank

31. GENEVIEVE SANGUDI 37 TANZANIA
 Deputy General Manager,
 Sub-Saharan Africa
 THE CARLYLE GROUP
 Macalester College, Columbia. Gen. Mgr, ECP Nigeria (2004-11)

32. MOULAY ABASS 37 MAURITANIA
 Chief Executive Officer
 BMCI
 Univ. of Nouakchott. Chair, Mauritanian Football Fed. (2003-07)

33. KAMAL BUDHABHATTI 37 KENYA
 Chief Executive Officer
 CRAFT SILICON
 Autodidact. Craft Silicon (since 2000)

34. SAHBI OTHMANI 36 ALGERIA
 General Manager
 NCA-ROUIBA
 ESC Tunis, EDHEC Nice. Sales Manager, NCA-Rouiba, (2001-10)

35. BADR ALIOUA 34 MOROCCO
 Chief Executive Officer
 WAFA GESTION
 Poly. Paris, Ponts Paris Tech. Bus. Analyst, Attijariwafa Cap Mkts

36. BONY DASHACO 36 CAMEROON
 Chief Executive Officer
 ACMAR MEDIA GROUP
 London Sch. of Bus. and Fin. Univ. Ibadan. Acmar Media Group (since 2002)

37. KEN NJOROGE 38 KENYA
 Chief Executive Officer
 CELLULANT
 University of Strathmore. Chief Executive Officer, 3mice (1999-2003)

38. JASON NJOKU 32 NIGERIA
 Chairman
 IROKO PARTNERS
 University of Manchester. Iroko Partners (since 2010)

39. MOHAMED BRIDAA 39 TUNISIA
 General Manager
 MICROSOFT TUNISIA
 University of Tunis El Manar. Sales Mgr, Microsoft N. Africa (2008-11)

40. HADEEL IBRAHIM 31 SUDAN
 GENERAL MANAGER
 MO IBRAHIM FOUNDATION
 Bristol University. Mo Ibrahim Foundation (since 2006)

41. ERIC MBOMA 40 DRC
 Chief Executive Officer
 STANDARD BANK GROUP DRC
 ESCP Europe, Harvard. Head Africa Comm, BHP

42. SALIM REBRAB 37 ALGERIA
 General Manager
 NUMIDIS
 King's Coll., Univ. of Lancaster, INSEAD. Gen. Mgr. Cevital Food

43. HYND BOUHIA 40 MOROCCO
 Strategy and Development Director
 CDG DÉVELOPPEMENT
 Univ. Casablanca, Centrale Paris, Harvard.

44. GACHAO KIUNA 37 KENYA
 Chief Executive Officer
 TRANSCENTURY GROUP
 Imperial College London, Cambridge. Head SSA, McKinsey (2003-09)

45. WILLIAM NKONTCHOU 40 CAMEROON
 Investment Director
 EMERGING CAPITAL PARTNERS
 Poly. Paris, Mines Paris Tech, Harvard. Invest. Dir., Sindicatum (2005-08)

46. LADI DELANO 33 NIGERIA
 General Manager
 BAKRIE DELANO AFRICA
 Autodidact. CEO, Solidarnosc Asia (2004-11)

47. SAMI MAINICH 39 ALGERIA
 General Manager
 Maghreb
 DOW CHEMICAL
 Univ. Haute-Alsace, ECPM Strasbourg. Dep. CEO, ACA (2006-11)

48. KHANYI DHLOMO 39 SOUTH AFRICA
 Chief Executive Officer
 NDALO MEDIA
 Univ. of Witwatersrand, Harvard. Head France, S Africa Tourism (2003-07)

49. SAFIA HACHICHA 39 TUNISIA
 General Manager
 SWICORP TUNISIA
 G. Washington Univ., John Hopkins Univ. EO, Finance Min., Tunisia (2011-12)

50. GABRIEL CURTIS 39 GUINEA
 General Manager
 APIP-GUINEA
 McGill, Columbia. Risk and Capital Manager, BNY Mellon (2013-14)

51. MICHAEL KING'ORI MACHARIA 39 KENYA
 Chief Executive Officer
 SEVEN SEAS TECHNOLOGIES
 Strathmore Univ. Sales and Mkt Mgr, Comtech Systems (1998-2000)

52. ELSIE KANZA 38 TANZANIA
 Head of Africa
 WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM
 Univ. Strathclyde, USIU. Econ. Adviser, President of Tanzania (2006-11)

53. KARIM HASSAN SADEK 40 EGYPT
 General Manager
 CITADEL CAPITAL
 Univ. of Reading. General Manager, Arab Investment Company (2009-12)

54. LAMIA TAZI 39 MOROCCO
 General Manager
 SOTHEMA
 Univ. Liège. Director attached to Chairman's office, Sothema (1997-2000)

55. SIM SHA GAYA 39 NIGERIA
 Chief Executive Officer-
 KONGA ONLINE SHOPPING
 G. Washington Univ., Dartmouth, Harvard. CEO, E-motion (2006-12)


56. CYRIL ACHCAR 37 MALI
 General Manager
 GROUPE ACHCAR MALI INDUSTRIES
 ESC Rouen. Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Achcar Group (2001-04)

57. YOLANDA CUBA 37 SOUTH AFRICA
 Strategy Director
 SABMILLER
 Univ. of Cape, Univ. KwaZulu-Natal. CEO, Mvelaphanda (2007-11)

58. YOUSSEF CHRAIBI 38 MOROCCO
 Chief Executive Officer
 OUTSOURCIA
 HEC Paris. Senior Consultant, Umanis Consulting (2002-03)

59. CHARLES NJENDU 39 KENYA
 Strategy Director
 DIMENSION DATA ASIA-PACIFIC
 Univ. of Mississippi, MIT, Harvard, Wharton. Dir. ASEAN Bus., IBM


60. CHAMS DIAGNE 39 SOUTH AFRICA
 Head of Africa
 VIADEO
 ESIG Paris, IGS, Univ. of Lille. Bus. Devlpt. Dir, Viadeo Europe



61. AMY JADESIMI 39 NIGERIA
General Manager
LADOL
Oxford, Stanford. Head Mergers & Acq, Goldman Sachs (2000-03)




62. ESKANDAR TOOMA 37 EGYPT
Chief Financial Officer
ORASCOM
DEVELOPMENT HOLDING
American Univ. Cairo, Univ. Adelphi Brandeis. Mkt Mgr. Orascom DH




63. MAGATTE WADE 38 SENEGAL
Chief Executive Officer
TIOSSAN SKIN CARE
ESG, Columbus Univ. CEO, Adina World Beat Beverages (2004-09)




64. YEMI BABINGTON-ASHAYE 39 NIGERIA
Director of the Global Shapers Communities
WEF
E. Woolf Coll., Harvard, MIT. Project Mgr., GE Capital London (2011)




65. ISMAEL KONE 37 CÔTE D'IVOIRE
General Manager
ARMAJARO TRADING GROUP
University of Toulouse, ESG. Bus. Mgr., Bridge Bank Gp. C.I. (2005-07)




66. JAMES MWORIA 36 KENYA
General Manager
CENTUM INVESTMENT COMPANY
Univ. Strathmore, Univ. of Nairobi. Invest. Dir., Transcentury (2007-08)




67. ADNANE OUSSIDHOUM 37 ALGERIA
General Manager
AVENDIS GROUP
HEM, IAE Toulouse. Country Mgr. Algeria, Procter & Gamble




68. ADNANE OUSSIDHOUM 27 R. CONGO
Chief Executive Officer
VMK
Ass. Degree Computer Science. Advisor, Min. of Posts & Tel, R. Congo



69. ERIC KACOU 39 CÔTE D'IVOIRE
General Manager
ESPARTNERS
HEC Montreal, ESSEC, Wharton, Harvard. Gen. Mgr, OTG Gp. (2004-10)




70. MOATLHODI LEKAUKAU 38 BOTSWANA
Chief Executive Officer
STANDARD CHARTERED BANK BOTSWANA
Univ. of Cape Town. Head Mergers & Acq, Deloitte Touche S Africa (2000-12)



71. ALASSANE DOUMBIA 38 CÔTE D'IVOIRE
Investments and Projects Director
SIFCA
ISC Paris. Projects and Finance Director, Sifca (2008-13)



72. MINOUSH ABDEL-MEGUID 38 EGYPT
Chief Executive Officer
UNION CAPITAL INCORPORATED
American Univ. Cairo, Wharton, Harvard Advsr. to Chair, Cap Mkt Auth.




73. RAISIBE LEPULE 37 SOUTH AFRICA
General Manager
TRANSNET PROPERTY
Univ. KwaZulu-Natal, Univ. Stellenboch. Dep. GM, Transport Ent.




74. MAJID IRAQI 37 MOROCCO
General Manager
TAQA NORTH AFRICA
University of Michigan. CFO, CMS Energy Morocco (2005-07)



75. MONICA KALONDO 38 NAMIBIA
General Manager
STIMULUS PRIVATE EQUITY
Univ. of Namibia. Head of Advisory Services, Ned-bank Capital (2003-05)




76. AMINE BERRADA-SOUNNI 40 MOROCCO
Chairman
FENAGRI
Duke. General Manager, Cafés Ennasr (1997-2002)




77. JOSÉ FILOMENO DOS SANTOS 36 ANGOLA
Chairman
FSDEA
Univ. Westminster. Chair, African Innovation Foundation (2010-13)



78. SAMIR KAROUM 38 ALGERIA
Chairman
ALSTOM ALGERIA
ESTP Paris. Gen. Mgr, Areva T&D Algeria (2009-11)




79. TIAAN BAZUIN 38 SOUTH AFRICA
Chief Executive Officer
NAMIBIAN STOCK EXCHANGE
Univ. of North-West. Listings Manager, NSE (2011-13)




80. NURADIN OSMAN 37 SOMALIA
General Manager Middle East and Africa
AGCO CORPORATION
Univ. of Mogadishu. Asst. to Chairman, AGCO Corp. (2007-12)




81. RACHID KETTANI 33 MOROCCO
Chief Financial Officer
ATTJARIWAPA BANK
Centrale Paris. Strategy and Development Director, AWB (2008-11)




82. V. DA LUZ GUEBUZA 33 MOZAMBIQUE
General Manager
FOCUS 21
University of Maputo. Focus 21 (since 2001)




83. FRED SWANIKER 36 GHANA
Chief Executive Officer
AFRICAN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY
Stanford. Consultant, McKinsey & Co (2001-05)




84. OLIVIER AVOA 40 IVORY COAST
Country Manager
SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS IVORY COAST
Univ. Abidjan, ESC Abidjan, Hult. Dep. CEO, Afri Xpress (2012-13)




85. MONICA MUSONDA 37 ZAMBIA
Chief Executive Officer
JAVA FOODS
Univ. of Zambia. Univ of London. Gen. Counsel, Dangote Gp. (2008-11)




86. ADELANE MECELLEM 38 ALGERIA
Chief Executive Officer
AXA ASSURANCE ALGERIA
Univ. of Cape Town, Poly. Alger and Paris. Gen. Mgr., AXA (2009-11)




87. MOREMI MARWA 38 TANZANIA
Chief Executive Officer
DAR ES SALAM STOCK EXCHANGE
Univ. of Dar Es Salam. CEO, Tanzania Securities (2010-13)



88. BETHLEHEM ALEMU 34 ETHIOPIA
General Manager
BOSTEX PLC
University of Addis Ababa. Bostex PLC (since 2004)




89. A. KNOTT-CRAIG JR 36 SOUTH AFRICA
Chief Executive Officer
PROJECT ISIZWE
Univ. of Port Elizabeth. Chief Executive Officer, WOA (2010-12)




90. NIDI NWUNELI 39 NIGERIA
General Manager
LEAP AFRICA
Wharton, Harvard. General Manager, FATE Nigeria (2000-02)




91. PATRICK NGOWI 28 TANZANIA
Chairman
HELVETIC GROUP
University of Dezhou. Helvetic Group (since 2007)




92. VINNY LINGHAM 35 SOUTH AFRICA
General Manager
GYFT
University of Cape Town, Damelin College. CEO, Yola Inc. (2007-11)




93. MAMADOU TOURE 36 CAMEROON
Chief Executive Officer
AFRICA 2.0
EDHEC Lille. Investment Director Sub-Saharan Africa, IFC (2004-11)



94. ORI OKOLLOH 37 KENYA
Director of Investments
OMIDYAR NETWORK
Univ. of Pittsburg, Harvard. Strategy Dir., SSA, Google (2011-13)




95. ANTENEH ASSEFA 39 ETHIOPIA
General Manager
ETHIOPIA COMMODITY EXCHANGE
Univ. of Addis Ababa, Univ. of Paris. Op. Mgr., Bank of Abyssinia




96. AKIN MONEHIN 37 NIGERIA
Head of Logistics Strategy
SHELL NIGERIA
Univ. Lagos and Dundee, Chicago Booth. Head Land Log., Shell Nigeria




97. TARA FELA-DURUTOYE 36 NIGERIA
Chief Executive Officer
HOUSE OF TARA INTERNATIONAL
Univ. of Lagos. House of Tara International (since 1999)



98. ALFRED OMBUDO K'OMBUDO 35 KENYA
Coordinator,
EAC Common Market
WORLD BANK
Univ. of Nairobi, USIU. Assoc. Dir., Prosperity Capital Mgt. (2008-09)



99. GREG MARCHAND 39 ZAMBIA
Chief Executive Officer
GIZMOS SOLUTIONS ZAMBIA
Morehouse College. Chair, American Chamber of Commerce Zambia



100. SIBONGILE SAMBO 39 SOUTH AFRICA
Chief Executive Officer
SRS AVIATION
Univ. Zululand, Univ. S. Africa. Hum. Res. Dir., De Beers Mines (2003-04)