

2025

Monthly Newsletter

MARCH EDITION



*The Countdown Begins!
Who will feature in the
Power of 100 Africa?*

Interesting Topics

- Accelerate Action! Speak up, Speak out, Own your Power
- Some Fearless and Phenomenal Women Who Have Shaped Africa
- Navigating Motherhood with Grace

[Click Here to Read](#)

For more information, contact
womenbankingteam@accessbankplc.com

 **access**

more than banking

Table of Contents

Page 2 - Accelerate Action! Speak up, Speak out, Own your Power

*Page 6 - Some Fearless and Phenomenal Women who
Have Shaped Africa*

Page 10 - Navigating Motherhood with Grace

Page 12 - Girl, You Deserve this Self-Care Bingo

Page 13 - Events Corner

*Page 14 - The Countdown Begins! Who will feature in
the Power of 100 Africa?*



Hello Ladies

Happy New Month! We hope your February was filled with love, joy, and beautiful moments! But beyond the flowers, chocolates, and grand gestures, the most meaningful love story is the one you create for yourself. That's why this year's Heart 2 Heart with W, themed "Hey, I Fell in Love with Myself," was all about embracing self-love, prioritising personal growth, and recognising your own worth. Now, you already know what season we are in, it's the International Women's Month! Beyond a celebration, it is a powerful reminder of our strength, resilience, and the incredible impact we make in every sphere of life. This March, we are lifting each other up, amplifying our voices, and embracing the essence of our femininity.

You know W always has something special in store for you. This newsletter edition is loaded with inspiration, empowerment, and exciting updates to make this even more meaningful. Grab a cup of tea, get comfortable, and let's dive into all the goodness of your Newsletter!



01

*Accelerate
Action!*

Step up, speak out, own your power

This March, our mantra is clear: *“We are not waiting for change; we are making it happen.”* On March 8, we will celebrate International Women’s Day (IWD) by striking the Accelerate Action pose and sharing our solidarity on social media and other platforms. But beyond the hashtags and photos, we must ask ourselves, what actions are we truly taking to drive change? The theme, “Accelerate Action,” is a call to move beyond conversations and step into bold, intentional efforts. We have broken barriers, built businesses, and fought for our rights, but progress remains too slow. The reality is, change does not happen on its own, we must push forward, faster and stronger, not just for ourselves but for the next generation of women. **The time to act is NOW.**

How Can We Accelerate Action?

Accelerate Action: Step Up, Speak Out, Own Your Power

Own Your Space and Voice

As an entrepreneur, career woman, mother, and advocate, you are capable of incredible achievements. The only permission you need to grow, lead and shine is the one you give yourself.

Step into your power. Speak up in rooms where decisions are made. Advocate for yourself, ask for that raise, take on leadership roles and negotiate for better opportunities. And just as you rise, lift other with you by mentoring, recommending, and elevating the women around you.



Secure the Bag: Build Wealth & Financial Independence

Financial empowerment means freedom, security and limitless opportunities. Learn to save, invest, and grow your income. Support women-owned businesses; shop from them, invest in them and amplify their impact. Demand equal pay and financial inclusion, no compromises, no excuses.

Most importantly, strive for excellence in your field. When you excel, you open doors not just for yourself, but for others coming after you.

Prioritise Your Growth & Well-Being

Ladies, you can't pour from an empty cup. Prioritise your mental, emotional and physical well-being. Also Set boundaries. Say no to what drains you and yes to what fills you. Invest in yourself, take that course, attend that event, and bet on your growth. Redefine success on your own terms, your journey, your rules. Comparison steals joy. Stay focused on your path, embrace your journey and celebrate your progress.



Tell Your Story and Make an Impact

We have been inspired by the stories of powerful women like Ibukun Awosika, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, and Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. Now, it's time to tell your own story. Your journey, experiences and expertise have the power to uplift others. When you share, you inspire. So, we challenge you: build your brand and speak up. Whether on social media, at work, or in your community, let your voice be heard. Celebrate your wins big or small, they all matter. And as you rise, lift others too, recommend a woman for an opportunity, mentor, and support.

Your story matters. Tell it boldly.



Join a Thriving Women's Community like W

When one woman rises, a generation is impacted. Be part of a community that challenges you to become the best version of yourself and provides opportunities to help you grow. At the W Initiative of Access Bank, our community members have access to the Womenpreneur Pitch-a-ton program - Get access to business grants and an IFC Mini-MBA, Health Loans, W Power Loan, monthly Newsletters and Webinars and so much more! Our newly revamped website also presents you with easy access to these opportunities. Kindly visit www.thewcommunity.com to sign up now.

Ladies, This Is Our Moment!

No more waiting. No more shrinking ourselves. What bold action will you take today? How will you invest in your financial and personal growth? Which woman will you support and uplift this month?

We are capable, worthy, and unstoppable. This IWD, let's turn our words into action and create the change we want to see.

Together, we ride when we accelerate action.



Chizoma Okoli

DMD, Access Bank PLC

Women have always been at the forefront of change, leading, innovating, and shaping the future. Yet, we continue to face barriers that challenge our progress. But if history has taught us anything, it is that we are unstoppable when we stand together, lift each other up and remain focused on our goals. As we commemorate the International Women's Month, we recognise all that you do to break barriers and shatter ceilings in your industry. But we can always be MORE. Your voice matters, your contributions are valuable, and your dreams are valid. True progress happens when we rise together, so let's create spaces where every woman can thrive by supporting and uplifting one another. Do not accept limitations; challenge the norm, push boundaries, take bold steps and redefine what is possible. And above all, prioritise yourself. Self-care is not selfish; your well-being is essential to everything you do.

Happy International Women's Month! Keep striving, keep leading, and never stop believing in the power within you. Accelerate Action.



02

**SOME FEARLESS
AND
PHENOMENAL
WOMEN WHO
HAVE SHAPED
AFRICA**



SOME FEARLESS AND PHENOMENAL WOMEN

Who Have Shaped Africa



Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti (Nigeria) The Powerhouse Activist

Before Fela Kuti made waves in music, his mother, Funmilayo, was shaking up Nigeria! A fearless activist, she led the charge for women's rights and fought against colonial rule, becoming the first woman to drive a car in Nigeria. Talk about breaking barriers!



Yaa Asantewaa (Ghana) The Warrior Queen

When British forces threatened the Ashanti Kingdom in 1900, Yaa Asantewaa didn't wait for a man to step up, she led the resistance herself! As the Queen Mother, she commanded an army and fought to protect her people's land and culture.



Wangari Maathai (Kenya) The Green Queen

The first African woman to win a Nobel Peace Prize, Wangari Maathai was a force of nature, literally. Through her Green Belt Movement, she planted over 50 million trees, empowering women and protecting Kenya's environment.



Miriam Makeba (South Africa) The President Who Paved the Way

A Grammy-winning singer, Miriam Makeba used her music to fight apartheid. She was exiled for nearly 30 years but never stopped using her voice, both in song and activism to call for justice.



Ellen Johnson Sirleaf (Liberia) The Voice of a Revolution

The first female President in Africa, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf led Liberia from 2006 to 2018. A Nobel Prize winner, she championed women's rights, economic growth, and peace in a country recovering from war.

SOME FEARLESS AND PHENOMENAL WOMEN

Who Have Shaped Africa



Tara Fela-Durotoye (Nigeria) The Beauty Business Pioneer

Before beauty entrepreneurship was a thing in Nigeria, Tara Fela-Durotoye was paving the way. She founded House of Tara, Nigeria's first makeup brand, and trained thousands of beauty entrepreneurs, proving that passion and purpose can build an empire.



Joke Silva (Nigeria) The Queen of Stage & Screen

For decades, Joke Silva has been a powerhouse in Nollywood, delivering legendary performances and mentoring the next generation of actors. She's a true advocate for the arts and a role model for women in the entertainment industry.



Onyeka Onwenu (Nigeria) The Elegant Voice of Change

A singer, actress, journalist, and activist, Onyeka Onwenu used her platform to push for women's rights, political awareness, and social change. Her music, often called "elegant and powerful," has influenced generations.



Bolanle Austen-Peters (Nigeria) The Creative Powerhouse

If you've ever watched a world-class Nigerian stage play, chances are Bolanle Austen-Peters had something to do with it. She founded Terra Kulture, Nigeria's leading cultural center, and produced iconic plays like *Saro the Musical* and *Fela & The Kalakuta Queens*.



Navigating Motherhood with Grace

Motherhood is a journey like no other; beautiful, demanding, fulfilling and sometimes overwhelming. There are moments of pure joy and moments when you wonder if you're getting it right. But let's pause for a moment and remind you of this simple truth: You are doing well. Every hug, every meal prepared, every sleepless night, every encouraging word and every sacrifice, matters. You may not always see it, but the love and effort you pour into your child(ren) shape their world in ways that words cannot express. Motherhood doesn't call for perfection, it is about presence, love, and learning as you journey. Here are some ways to navigate the journey while giving yourself grace:

Embrace Imperfection

No mother has it all figured out, and that's okay. Let go of unrealistic expectations and focus on doing your best. Your love is enough.

Take Care of Yourself Too

You cannot pour from an empty cup. Prioritise self-care, rest, eat well, spend time with friends, and do things that bring you joy. A healthy, happy mom is a stronger mom.

Ask for Help and Accept It

Motherhood is not meant to be done alone. Lean on your support systems your partner, friends, family, and even fellow moms. Seeking help is a sign of strength, not weakness.

Create Routines That Work for You

Find rhythms that make life easier for you and your family. Whether it's meal planning, bedtime routines, or quiet moments for yourself, structure brings balance.

Celebrate Small Wins

Every day, you are achieving something, whether it's calming a fussy baby, helping with homework, or simply making it through the day. Acknowledge your wins and be proud of yourself.

Give Yourself Grace

There will be hard days, but they don't define you. You are not just a mother, you are a woman with dreams, strength, and purpose. Honor your journey, and be kind to yourself.

To every mother reading this: You are incredible, you are shaping the future, one day, one lesson, and one act of love at a time. Even on the days when you feel unseen, know that your efforts matter.

Keep going, keep loving, keep showing up. You are doing an amazing job.





out with blackouts Switch to solar



Enjoy a variety of benefits such as

Enjoy uninterrupted energy for your home or business with our affordable Solar finance option.



Access up to
N50m for a
solar panel



Flexible
repayment plan
up to 48 months



Equity
contribution as
low as 10%



Wide array of
vendors to
choose from

Available to both salary earners and business owners

Click [HERE](#) to get started

Banking with Access: Branch | ATM | online | mobile | contact centre



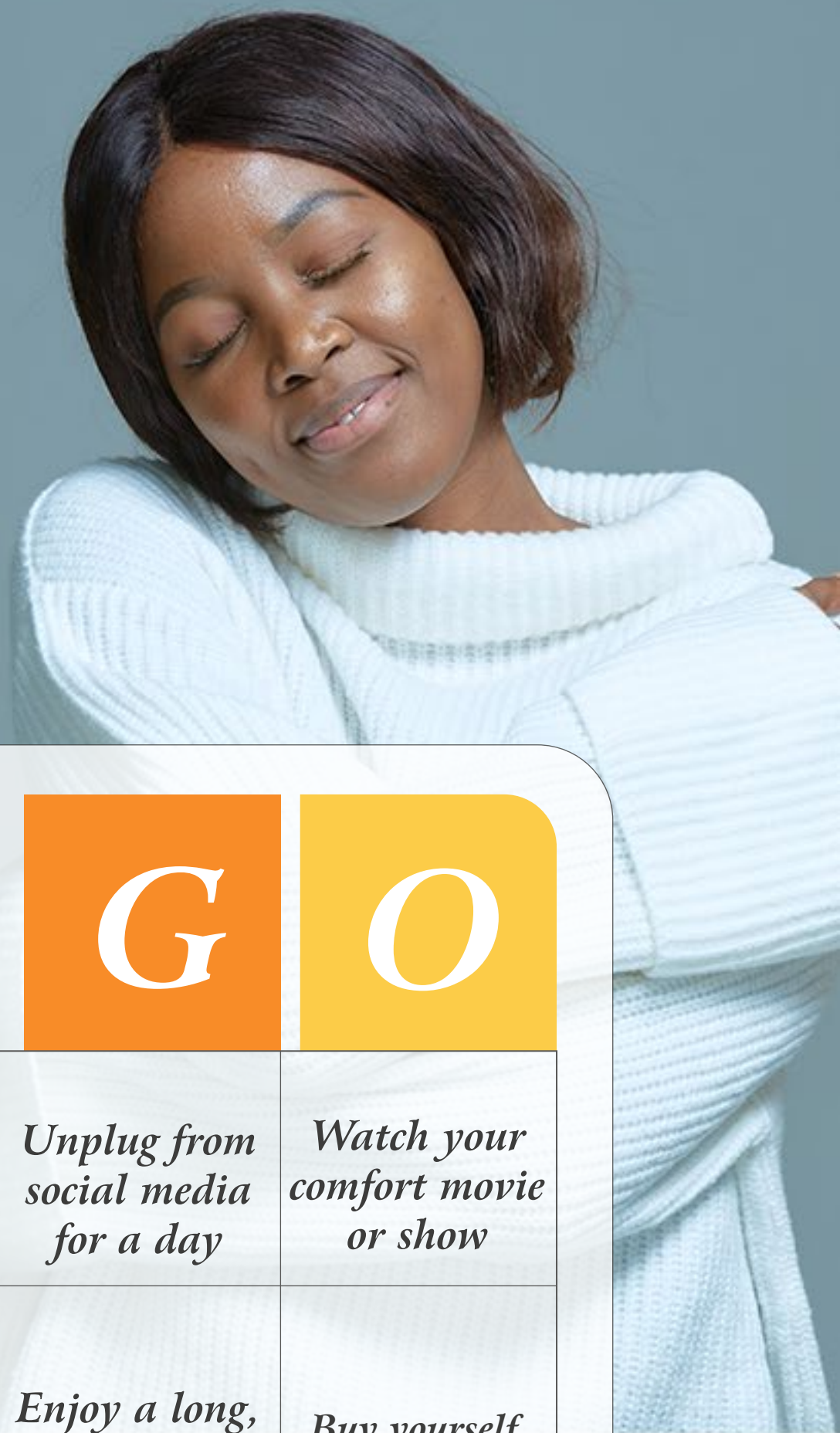
Access Bank will never ask for your complete card number, PIN, or One-Time password in our emails. If you lose your phone, dial *901*911#. Links within our page will only take you to information pages on our website.

More information:
contactcenter@accessbankplc.com
0700-300-0000
01-271-2005-7



accessbankplc.com

Girl, You Deserve This Self-care



B	I	N	G	O
<i>Take yourself on a date</i>	<i>Say no without guilt</i>	<i>Dance like nobody's watching</i>	<i>Unplug from social media for a day</i>	<i>Watch your comfort movie or show</i>
<i>Try a new hobby just for fun</i>	<i>Spend time in nature</i>	<i>Compliment yourself in the mirror</i>	<i>Enjoy a long, relaxing bath or shower</i>	<i>Buy yourself flowers</i>
<i>Journal about what makes you amazing</i>	<i>Wear an outfit that makes you feel confident</i>	<i>Listen to your favorite hype song</i>	<i>Take a nap no guilt, just rest</i>	<i>Set a boundary and stick to it</i>
<i>Cook (or order) your favorite meal</i>	<i>Do absolutely nothing and enjoy it</i>			

The goal is to get BINGO by completing five in a row, or challenge yourself to complete the whole card! Because you deserve rest, joy, and love, starting with the love you give yourself.

EVENTS CORNER

Road show



She is Included



EVENTS CORNER

W Visit to the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs



W Each One Bring One Campaign

Heart 2 Heart with *W*





04

The Countdown Begins! Who will feature in the Power of 100 Africa?

Ladies, it is happening again! The Power of 100 is back for its second edition, and we are beyond excited! Nominations are officially closed, and we can not wait to unveil the incredible women who have been selected this year. In the first edition of the W Power of 100, we honoured some of the most remarkable women shaping industries, inspiring generations, and leaving lasting legacies. Outstanding women like *Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Joke Silva, Bolanle Austen-Peters, Bukola Elemide (Asa), TY Bello, Tara Fela-Durotoye, Taiwo Ajai-Lycett, Stella Okoli, and many more.* These women have broken barriers, redefined excellence, and paved the way for others. From literature to entertainment, business to healthcare, they have made their mark and continue to inspire countless others to dream bigger and do more.



Who's Next in Africa? The Second Edition is Loading...

This year, we asked you to nominate women who are making a difference and you delivered! A huge thank you to everyone who took the time to recognise the powerhouses in their communities, workplaces and industries. The stories of resilience, innovation, impact and leadership we have received about them are super inspiring! Now, we are gearing up to unveil this year's Power of 100 Africa, another set of extraordinary women who are leading change, challenging norms, and shaping the future.

Stay Tuned!

The big reveal is coming soon, and we can't wait for you to meet the phenomenal women on this year's list. Until then, let's continue to celebrate, support and uplift one another—because when women rise, the world moves forward.

Note

From a W Team Member

Here is to the women who break barriers, shatter ceilings, and dance on the glass shards. From boardrooms to classrooms, from home offices to operating rooms, women are leading, innovating, and inspiring. Today, I tip my hat and even my glass to the incredible women who juggle more roles than a circus performer on a unicycle. Women are the ultimate multitaskers- proving that ***“Don’t worry” is just a fancy way of saying, “I can handle chaos.”*** To the women who hustle hard, laugh louder, love fiercely, and lift others along the way, this day is yours! Let’s celebrate courage without compromise, strength without surrender, and elegance without apology. Today, I honor every woman who’s ever been told she couldn’t but has shown the world she could such as Kafayat Sanni Nigeria’s first female fighter pilot Raise your voice, break the mold, and keep writing your story, one bold chapter at a time. The world awaits our manifestation.

***Happy International Women’s Day!
#IWD2025 #Accelerating Action,
Inspiring Generations.***



Bimpe Gisanrin
Unit Head, Women Banking Team

Think ...
Accelerate Action



**to those
whose actions
shape the world**

Happy International Women's Day.

**#AccelerateAction #IWD2025
#InspiringGenerations**

More Information:

01-271-2005-7, 0700-300-0000

accessbankplc.com



[Facebook.com/accessbankplc](https://www.facebook.com/accessbankplc) | [Twitter.com/myaccessbank](https://twitter.com/myaccessbank)
[Youtube.com/accessbankplc](https://www.youtube.com/accessbankplc) | [LinkedIn/accessbankplc](https://www.linkedin.com/accessbankplc)
[Instagram/myaccessbank](https://www.instagram.com/myaccessbank)



 **access**

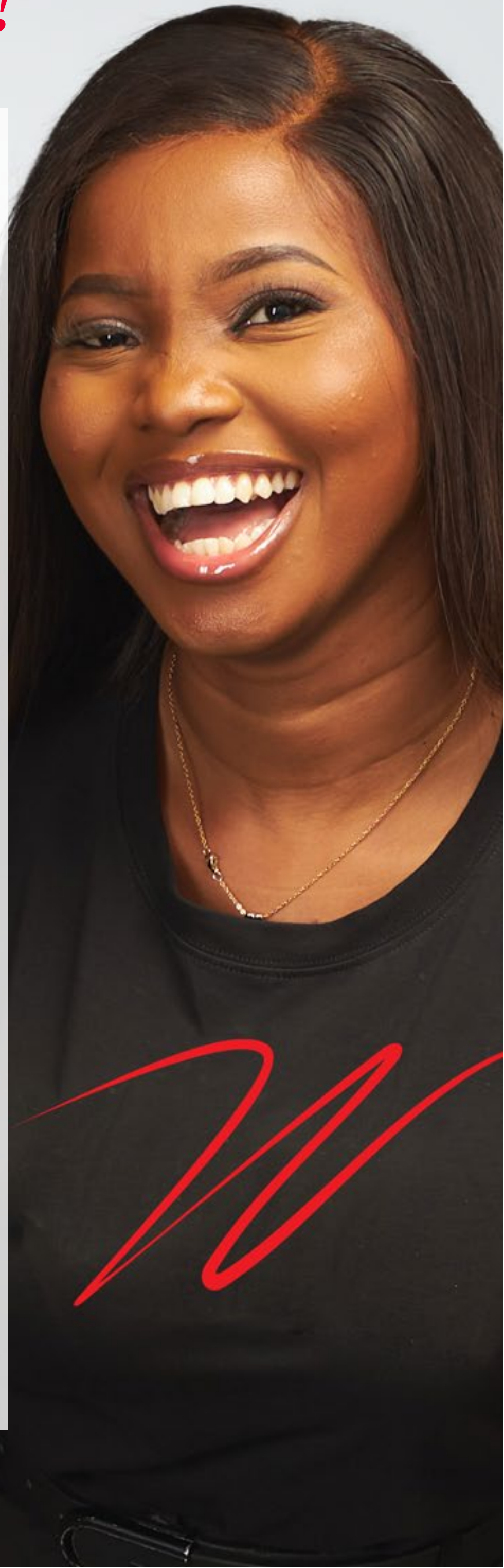
more than banking

Goodbye Ladies!

As we wrap up this special Women's Month, remember that celebrating each other doesn't end in March. It is a year-long campaign. Take bold steps in your career, support other women, and make self-care a priority because every action we take fuels the movement for change. At The W Initiative, we remain committed to championing women, creating opportunities, and ensuring that every woman has the resources to thrive. Did you participate in our Each One, Bring One campaign? How many women did you tell about the mind blowing opportunities we offer at the W Initiative? We say a big kudos and well done to you for participating in the campaign.

Together, let us push boundaries, break barriers, and uplift one another. Stay inspired, stay empowered, and keep making things happen!

Until next time, keep shining!





• *Inspiring* • *Connecting* • *Empowering*