# Nigeria2Equal

## GENDER EQUALITY IN NIGERIA'S PRIVATE SECTOR:

A Gender Gap Assessment of 30 Leading Companies listed on the Nigerian Exchange.

#### Equileap Scorecard™



#### **CATEGORY A**

- Gender Balance in Leadership and Workforce
- L. Board of Directors
- **2**. Executives
- 3. Senior Management
- 4. Workforce
- 5. Promotion and Career Development

#### **CATEGORY B**

- Equal Compensation and Work-Life Balance
- 6. Living Wage
- 7. Gender Pay Gap
- 8. Parental Leave
- 9. Flexible Work Options

#### **CATEGORY C**

- Policies promoting Gender Equality
- 10. Training and Career Development
- 11. Recruitment Strategy
- 12. Freedom from Violence, Abuse and Sexual Harassment
- L3. Safety at Work
- 14. Human Rights
- 15. Social Supply Chain
- 16. Supplier Diversity
- **17**. Employee Protection

#### **CATEGORY D**

- ommitment, Transparency and Accountability
- **18**. Commitment to Women's Empowerment
- **19**. Gender Audit



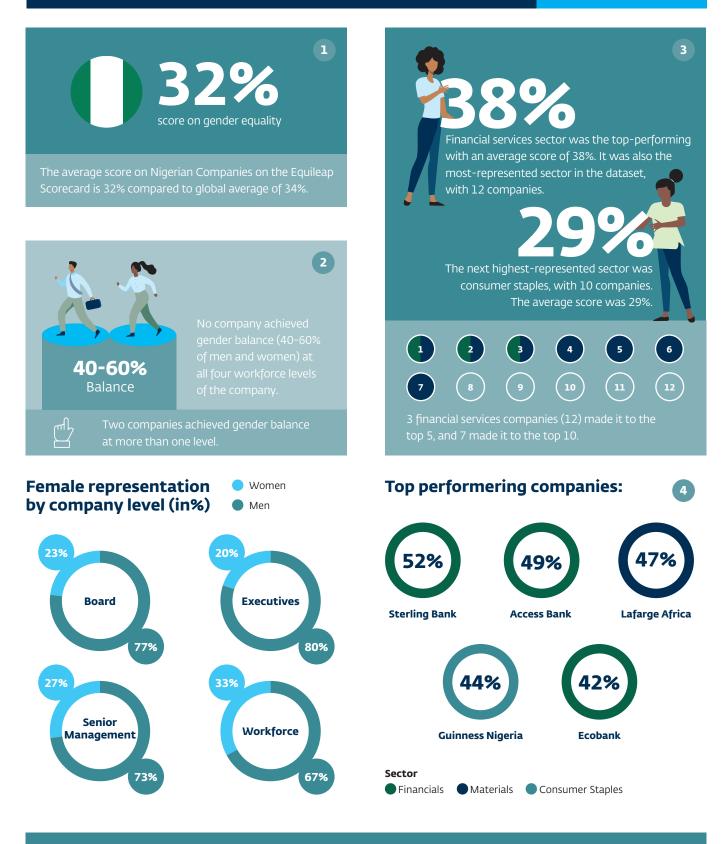
#### **ALARM BELLS**

Equileap Scorecard also monitors gender controversies including class actions individual cases and official rulings dealing with gender-based violence and discrimination.

The global averages and findings referenced in this report are sourced from Equileap's 2020 global dataset, which consists of over 3,700 public companies from 23 developed markets with a market capitalisation of USD 2 billion and greater.

## **KEY FINDINGS**

30 most capitalized companies listed on the Nigerian Exchange were assessed by Equileap using the Equileap Scorecard.

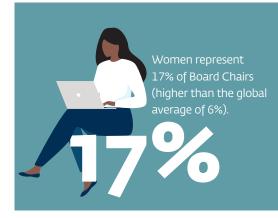


#### Limited Transparency:

No company discloses gender segregated pay information. 60% of companies (18) do not disclose the gender composition of the senior management team. Nearly half of companies (47%) do not publish an Anti-Sexual Harassment policy

## **CATEGORY** A

Gender Balance in Leadership in Nigeria



#### Women in Top Positions

#### In Nigeria:

Women represent **7%** of CEOs (in line with the global average of **7%**). Women represent **17%** of CFOs (higher than the global average of **13%**). One company has a female Board Chair and CFO: NASCON Allied Industries. No company has both a female CEO and CFO.

#### **Board of Directors**

The average percentage of women at the board level is 23%. This is close to the global average of 25%.

13%

of companies (4) achieved gender balance (40%-60% women or men) at the board level: Lafarge Africa; NASCON Allied Industries; Stanbic Ibtc Holdings; Transnational Corporation Of Nigeria; .

#### **Executive Team/Management Board**



The average percentage of women at the executive level is 20%. This higher than the global average of 17%.

40-60%

Balance

10% of companies (3) achieved gender balance (40%-60% women or men) at the executive level: Guinness Nigeria; Fidelity Bank; Total Nigeria.



#### **Senior Management**

The average percentage of women in senior management is 27%. This is higher than the global average of 24%. However, 60% of the dataset did not publish a figure for women in senior management, meaning this average only covers 40% of companies (12).

#### Workforce



The average percentage of women in the workforce is 33%. This is lower than the global average of 37%.

- Access Bank
- Ecobank Transnational Incorporated
- FCMB Group
- Fidelity Bank
- Guaranty Trust Bank
- Stanbic Ibtc Holdings
- Sterling Bank
- United Bank For Africa
- Zenith Bank

#### Career Development and Promotion

The percentage of women at workforce level is higher than senior management level, indicating barriers to women's advancement to higher levels of leadership.





No company achieved gender balance at the senior management level.

## **CATEGORY B**

Equal Compensation and Work-Life Balance

#### Living Wage

17%

of companies (5) have a living wage policy: FBN Holdings; International Breweries; Nestle Nigeria; Nigerian Brew; Unilever Nigeria. 4

of these companies use their parent company's policy.

# 13%

of companies (4) have a living wage policy that covers their supply chain.

#### **Parental Leave Context**



#### 3 companies meet Equileap's standards for both primary carer and secondary carer leave<sup>\*</sup>.

Guinness Nigeria stands out for offering 26 weeks fully paid maternity leave and 4 weeks of fully paid paternity leave, demonstrating the best practices in the dataset.

#### 5 companies offer 14 weeks or more of parental leave for the primary carer paid at $\frac{2}{3}$ to full salary:

Access Bank, Guinness Nigeria, Unilever Nigeria, International Breweries, and Nestle Nigeria.

#### 3 companies offer 2 weeks of parental leave to secondary carers paid at <sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> or in full:

Guinness Nigeria, Unilever Nigeria, and International Breweries.

Other companies published information on the topic of parental leave, but did not specify if the leave is paid or the length of leave is below the required number of weeks.



## Flexible Work Arrangements

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#### 10% of companies (3) offer both flexible hours and locations:

Sterling Bank, Unilever Nigeria, and MTN Nigeria.

#### 20% of companies (6) offer flexible hours:

Sterling Bank, Lafarge Africa, Ecobank, Transnational Incorporated, Unilever Nigeria, MTN Nigeria, and Nestle Nigeria.

### 17% of companies (5) offer flexible locations:

Sterling Bank, Guinness Nigeria, Unilever Nigeria, Union Bank Nigeria, and MTN Nigeria.



### Gender Pay Gap

No company publishes gender-segregated pay information (numerical) or a strategy to close the gender pay gap.

\* Equileap's minimum parental leave requirements:

14 weeks of <sup>3</sup>/<sub>3</sub> to full paid leave for primary carers. 2 weeks of <sup>3</sup>/<sub>3</sub> to full paid leave for secondary carers.

## CATEGORY C

#### Policies Promoting Gender Equality

80% of companies (24) published a human rights policy and 73% (22) published a social supply chain policy.

### **Policies Findings**

# 40%

#### of companies (12) had developed 7 out of the 8 policies in the category:

Access Bank, FBN Holdings, Guinness Nigeria, Lafarge Africa, MTN Nigeria Communications, Nestle Nigeria, Nigerian Brew, Okomu Oil Palm, Sterling Bank, Total Nigeria, Unilever Nigeria, and Zenith Bank.

# The vast majority of companies published

80%

 100%
 Health & safety policy.

 97%
 Gender non-discrimination

97%

Gender non-discrimination in recruitment policy.

Employee protection policy.

Only one company published a supplier diversity programme including women-owned businesses: Sterling Bank. Despite not quite meeting the criteria for this question, many banks have lending policies aimed at the economic empowerment of women-owned businesses.

of companies published career development policies.

Some were particularly impressive and gender-responsive, showing an awareness of the barriers women often face in reaching high positions (e.g. Stanbic IBTC Holdings and Access Bank).

#### **Freedom from Sexual Harassment**

53% companies (16) publish an anti-sexual harassment policy. While low, this is somewhat better performance than the global average of 49%.



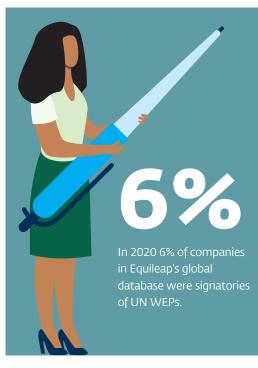




No company publishes all 8 policies for Category C.

## CATEGORY D

#### Commitment, Transparency, and Accountability



#### UN Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs)

- One company (3%) is a current UN WEPs signatory: Access Bank.
- 5 parent companies to companies in the dataset were signatories, but not the Nigerian subsidiaries:

Total, Unilever, Nestle, Guinness Nigeria (Parent company Diageo signed), and International Breweries (Parent company AB InBev signed).

• For 3 companies, other entities in their company group have signed on, but not the Nigerian entity Equileap was evaluating:

FBN Holdings (First Bank Nigeria signed), MTN Nigeria Communications (MTN South Africa signed), and Lafarge Africa (Lafarge Canada signed).





### **Gender Diagnostic**

None of the companies we researched had undertaken a gender diagnostic.

## RECOMMENDATIONS



#### Category A:

Gender Balance in Leadership and Workforce

- **Leadership championing:** The board, CEOs, and senior management should set the tone and champion the gender equality issues by creating a company culture that embraces gender equality and is backed with measurable targets
- **Targets:** Set targets to increase the representation of women at all company levels in the boardroom, at the executive, in senior management, and the workforce levels. Aim to achieve gender balance of between 40 to 60 percent of women and men company wide.
- Adopt Proactive Approaches: Address barriers to women's advancement into boardrooms and the C-suite by prioritizing diversity, equity and inclusion throughout the organization, providing professional development opportunities for women, conducting unconscious bias and emotional intelligence training, increasing transparency and disclosure on gender indicators (setting Key Performance Indicators), and holding managers accountable for progress towards diversity goals.

#### **Category B:**

Equal Compensation and Work Life Balanc

- Provide increased transparency by publishing information on living wage commitments and gender-disaggregated pay information.
- Put in place a policy and strategy to close the gender pay gap.
- Invest in family friendly workplace policies and practices such as companysponsored childcare, top-up's to statutory maternity leave, flexible work arrangement policies covering both hours and locations that are permanent, especially in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic (IFC 2019) (IFC 2020).

**Category D:** Commitment, Transparency, and Accountability

- Sign up to voluntary principles such UN Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) to access best practices and about changing trends and strategies to address gender gaps.
- Conduct gender audits to identify gaps, priorities actions and invest for impact.
- Make targets public and report on progress.

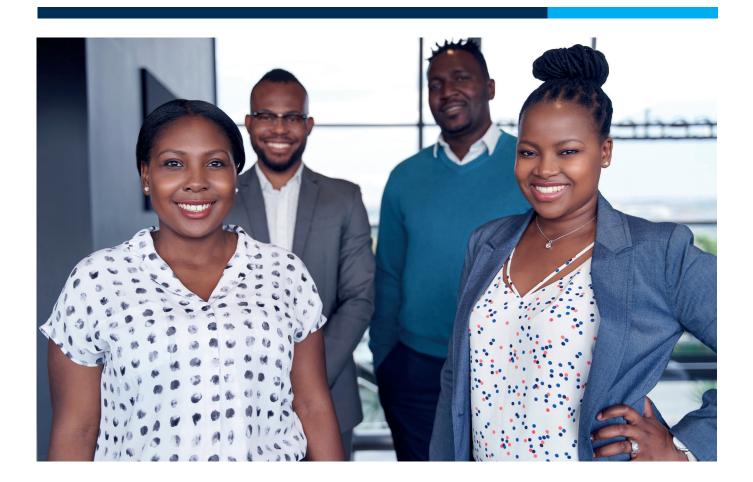


Category C:

Policies Promoting Gender Equality

- Support women's career progression through talent management, recruitment, retention, promotion, mentoring, formal education opportunities, and career development and leadership programs.
- Develop and implement more robust parental leave policiesfor both parents, flex-work policies regarding time and location, as well as childcare support programs are the starting points.
- Create safe workplaces for both
   women and men. Companies
   need to deploy strong anti sexual harassment policies
   coupled with frequent training
   and communications campaigns
   and support employees affected
   by domestic violence
- Implement supplier diversity programs that include womenowned businesses.

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