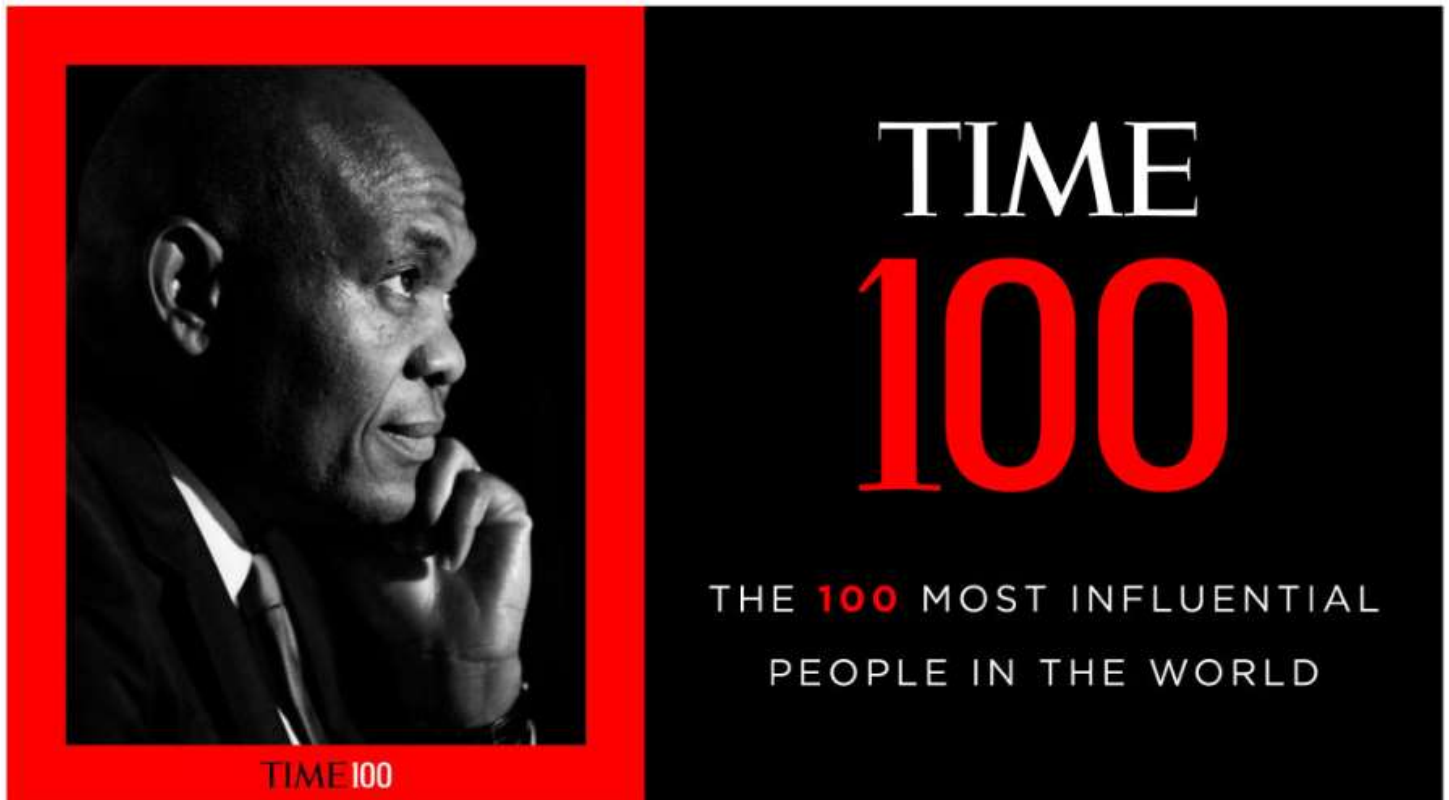


TONY ELUMELU NAMED AMONG THE 100 MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE OF 2020



A true strong son of Africa Tony Elumelu stands strong again and distinguishes himself as one of the **TIMES Magazine 100 Most Influential People of 2020**.

The serial entrepreneur and philanthropist who is notably the Chairman of United Bank for Africa Group and the Tony Elumelu Foundation among others positions, has remained relevant not only on the continent but around the world as true ambassador of Africa. He is [a leading proponent of “Africapitalism,”](#) a belief that Africa’s private sector can and must play a leading role in the continent’s development through long-term investments, as well as [entrepreneurship and regional connectivity](#).

After deepening the financial market in Africa, he has found an equally important niche: giving a voice of hope to millions of youths across Africa. Tony has harnessed Africa’s youth bulge to catalyze development and protect the future, [committing to investing \\$5,000 each in 1,000 young entrepreneurs per year across 54 countries in Africa](#).

More than 450 Cameroonians entrepreneurs have benefited from training and funding. Speaking as a guest of the HOS Paul Biya at the Invest in Cameroon Summit in Yaounde, Tony Elumelu called on government to be a true partner of the private sector by providing an enabling environment for entrepreneurs.

According to Tony Elumelu, “Our rejection of the status quo propelled us to fund, mentor and train 10,000 entrepreneurs and counting, creating a digital ecosystem of support for over one million Africans. The results have been phenomenal. Across tech, agriculture, retail, fashion, education, healthcare and countless others, our beneficiaries are launching and growing businesses that are transforming their cities and countries. Organisations including the United Nations Development Programme - UNDP , the International Committee of the Red Cross and leading European development agencies are working with us to reach thousands more – because what we do is pretty unique – we give capital, training and mentorship to those who can make a difference – at scale. But the work remains just as urgent, this is no time to rest.

Young Africans should not be disadvantaged by their heritage and place of birth. They should not be forced to leave our continent. It is the responsibility of all of us – private sector peers and colleagues, the global development world, policy makers home and abroad and all stakeholders – to identify and invest in the next generation of Africans as the world has done for their counterparts elsewhere for so many years.

African entrepreneurs deserve the global spotlight today and every day after.

This is a great day – I am proud, thankful, touched – thanks TIME”.

#AfricanEntrepreneurs #AfricanBusiness #Time100 #TOEWay