

'GBENGA SESAN

SHORT PROFILE

'Gbenga Sesan, an Ashoka Fellow, is the Executive Director of **Paradigm Initiative Nigeria** (PIN), a social enterprise that connects underserved people-groups with ICT-enabled opportunities. PIN's projects include *Ajgunle.org* (a capacity development initiative that connects the community's youth with training, internship and mentorship opportunities) and *MISSPIN* (the social campaign that is tackling cybercrime issues in Nigeria). 'Gbenga serves on the board of *Adroyte Global Solutions*, *Alliance of Change Empowerment Speakers*, *Digital Divide Network*, *International Young Professionals Foundation*, *Jobberman.com* and *Women's Technology Empowerment Centre*, among others. Originally trained as an Electronic & Electrical Engineer at **Obafemi Awolowo University**, 'Gbenga completed Executive Management training at **Lagos Business School**, **New York Group for Technology Transfer**, **Oxford University**, **Harvard University** and **Stanford University**. His consulting experience includes assignments completed for numerous institutions, including *Microsoft*, *Harvard University*, *United Nations Economic Commission for Africa*, *Res Publica*, *Computer Aid International*, *Heinrich Boll Foundation* and the *International Telecommunications Union*.

Beyond Nigeria, 'Gbenga has consulted and made presentations in various countries, including **Austria**, **Benin Republic**, **Burkina Faso**, **Canada**, **Egypt**, **Ethiopia**, **Germany**, **Ghana**, **Greece**, **India**, **Italy**, **Kenya**, **Malaysia**, **Mali**, **Morocco**, **Qatar**, **Rwanda**, **Senegal**, **South Africa**, **Sri Lanka**, **Switzerland**, **Togo**, **Tunisia**, **Uganda**, **United Kingdom** and **United States**. A member of the **United Nations Committee of eLeaders on Youth and ICT**, he is an **Archbishop Desmond Tutu Leadership Fellow**, **Ashoka Fellow** and **Our Common Future Fellow**. 'Gbenga was **Nigeria's first Information Technology Youth Ambassador** and also served as the Vice Chair of **United Nations Economic Commission for Africa's African Technical Advisory Committee**, voluntary adviser to numerous youth-led nonprofits and pioneer Program Manager of Lagos Digital Village. In 2006, he was appointed as the youngest member of the Nigerian **Presidential Task Force on**

the Restructuring of the Nigerian Information Technology and Telecommunications Sectors. 'Gbenga is an author and regular feature on some of Nigeria's popular television shows. His latest book, **In My Own Words**, was published by *Imprimata UK* in September 2009.

'Gbenga has been honoured with the 2010 *Our Common Future* Fellowship award, 2009 *OAU Distinguished Alumni* award, 2009 *National Youth Merit* award, 2008 *OAU Ife EEESS Distinguished Alumni* award, 2008 *FGC Idoani Alumni* award, 2007 *Nigerian Youth Leadership* award, 2007 *The Future Youth Advocacy* award, 2006 *International Telecommunications Union YES Scholarship* award, 2006 *Ondo State Sunshine* award, 2006 *The Future Best Use of Technology* award, 2005 *Stockholm Challenge* Champion honour, 2004 *NiPRO Excellence in Information Technology* award, 2003 *JCI Ten Outstanding Young Persons (TOYP) in Nigeria* award, 2002 *JCI Ten Outstanding Great Ife Alumni (TOGA)* award, 2002 *Journalists' Frontier of Technology in Nigeria* award, and the 2001 *International Telecommunications Union's African Youth Fellowship* award. 'Gbenga Sesan has been profiled as an **Icon of ICT in Nigeria** and he keeps a personal website at www.gbengasesan.com. 'Gbenga is married to **Temilade**, a PhD scholar with research interests in Renewable Energy Policy and Implementation for developing economies (especially Nigeria and Kenya).