
LONG BIO — COURTNEY ASHLEY VAUGHAN



Courtney Ashley Vaughan has more than two decades of experience leading and supporting high-level initiatives across 40 countries, multiple sectors, and various types of organizations. She is an out-of-the-box thinker who advises private sector and government on strategies to support financing for growth and economic development. She is an effective coordinator, due diligence expert, and negotiator who understands how organizations and markets work. She has led several missions to Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, and the Middle East for the World Bank and private sector stakeholders, serving in various capacities, including as Special Economic Advisor, Transaction Advisor, Chief

Financial Officer, and Lead Financial Advisor to take projects from concept to market.

Ms. Vaughan previously served as an economist and Managing Director of a Washington-DC based full-service economic consulting firm. Over the last two decades, she has leveraged her Wall Street and international development banking experience to bring resources to support major investments in developing countries' financial sector and infrastructures.

Ms. Vaughan is the founder of a 17-year-old Washington-DC based, boutique strategy-consulting firm that specializes in sector development, cross-border risk management, and highly complex infrastructure transaction advisory services. She currently serves as the principal advisor. She previously served four Wall Street-based financial institutions, including Chase Manhattan Bank and Bank of New York where she provided operational-level support for billions of dollars in syndicated loans and contributed to the restructuring of sovereign debt for Latin American countries under the Brady Bonds Guidelines. She also participated in working out a portfolio of syndicated loans for one of the largest retail establishments that filed bankruptcy during the 1990 housing sector downturn in New York City and provided back-office support to an off-Wall Street brokerage firm during the 1987 stock market crash.

Ms. Vaughan has served the World Bank as a consultant in the Private and Financial Sector Development units of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and Europe and Central Asia (ECA) regions. She also served in the Energy Department. In those capacities, she developed the baseline reports assessing the macroeconomic and financial sector vulnerability of eight countries in ECA after Russia defaulted on its domestic debt in 1998. She drafted the first comprehensive private and financial sector development report for seven countries in MENA. She served as a co-anchor for MENA during the formation of the Global Development Gateway and participated in the preliminary digital readiness assessment of several MENA countries. She single-handedly developed the five-year strategic plan (2006-2011) and subsequent three-year business plan (2006-2009) to institutionalize a 14-country power pool, now the largest power pool in the world (West African Electric Power Pool 'WAPP') under the Public-Private Infrastructure Facility (PPIF) at the World Bank. This business plan serves as the building block that supports all subsequent business plans at WAPP since it began operation in 2006 in the Republic of Benin.

Ms. Vaughan has participated as a speaker as well as moderated several panels about strategy, investment, capital markets, international trade, energy sector development, and economic transformation over the last two decades, including offering perspectives about capital market development on a panel that was hosted by the Institute of Caribbean Studies and another that was sponsored by Corporate Council on Africa. She has also led high-level discussions, offering solutions to some of the complex economic, infrastructure, and financial sector development issues to heads of state, including a former President of Nigeria. She has represented private sector stakeholders to key catalytic institutions in Washington, including but not limited to World Bank, Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC), and United States

Export Import Bank (EXIM). She has hosted, led, and facilitated discussions between African governments and Hill staff, including a discussion with Senator Biden's Office and the Justice Minister of Equatorial Guinea on human rights issues; developed and presented a housing sector development plan to the President of Equatorial Guinea on behalf of a US developer; hosted and led a round-table discussion on innovative technologies to strengthen central bank infrastructure with five director-level personnel from the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) on behalf of United States Trade and Development Agency; developed a housing sector development program for a rural state in Nigeria, and coordinated and facilitated discussions with the Government of Nigeria (GON) and key personnel in the U.S. Department of Transportation, as well as key personnel at the World Bank and other Washington catalytic institutions on behalf of both public and private sector stakeholders. Ms. Vaughan has also led strategic discussions with the commissioners for Nigeria's pension and insurance industry as well as director level personnel at the CBN during a due diligence mission to Nigeria to support the acquisition of a Nigeria-based bank.

Ms. Vaughan is currently an executive and board member of Women in Housing and Finance (WHF), a 40-year old Washington DC-based, 500-member organization of which more than 90 percent of the membership comprises financial industry specialists, financial sector supervisors and regulators. The remaining membership is made up of industry stakeholders mainly from the banking sector, and top consulting and law firms.

Having completed a two-term board seat as a director of WHF, Ms. Vaughan was elected Secretary of WHF Board of Directors and Chief Communications Officer for the 2017 through 2018 term. She also serves on WHF Executive, Programming, and Symposium Committees as well as WHF Strategic Planning Focus Group. She leads the WHF Communications Committee. Ms. Vaughan previously chaired both WHF Membership and Partnership Committees. She served two terms as chairperson of WHF Membership Committee (2015-2016 and 2016-2017), while serving as the Chair of WHF Partnership Committee in 2015-2016, and Vice Chair in 2016-2017. In her capacity as Chair for the Membership Committee, she established a 20-person unit as well as the WHF Mentorship and Young Professional Subcommittees, and Monitoring and Evaluation Task Force. The WHF Mentorship Program was successfully launched under her leadership.

Ms. Vaughan is the founder of Straight Talk on Cybersecurity Critical Infrastructure™. She was instrumental in launching the Cybersecurity Critical Infrastructure and the Financial Sector breakfast discussion forum at WHF, prior to serving on WHF Board. She served as moderator on the five-person private sector panel. She also moderated a "one-on-one" discussion with a senior vice president and deputy general counsel of the Conference of State Bank Supervisors during a WHF brown-bag lunch on Virtual Currency and the Regulatory Fabric and recently moderated a three-person panel for WHF Mentorship Program called, "There Is More To Law Than Lawyering" focusing on the financial services industry.

Ms. Vaughan is a member of the Board of Advisors of Emerald Planet International Foundation. She is a frequent guest on The Emerald Planet TV. She previously served as a member of the Advisory Council for Natural Partners. She is a past board member of the University of the West Indies, Washington DC Alumni Chapter. She taught college level mathematics at State University of New York, Maritime College, and Finance at George Washington University. Ms. Vaughan holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Fordham University, and Master of Public Administration in Advanced Policy Analysis Techniques from Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs. She studied graduate-level economics at Fordham University, Columbia University, and New York University. She also studied Transportation Management in the Graduate School of Management at Maritime College and holds a certificate in Managing Fiscal Risks from World Bank Institute.

