



Empowering Women Entrepreneurs: African Bank and Lighthouse Foundation Unite for 'Empowering HER' 2024

In a powerful collaboration, African Bank and its brand ambassador, renowned actress and philanthropist have joined forces with the Nomzamo Lighthouse Foundation to amplify women's voices and drive entrepreneurial growth at the 'Empowering HER' 2024 event on Saturday, 14 September at Inanda Country Club in Sandton.

Building on the success of past editions, Empowering HER 2024 aims to connect over 300 women with top business leaders and provide access to mentorship programmes that have transformed countless small businesses.

Empowering HER 2024 is a women's empowerment seminar and business awards ceremony, offering professional women and entrepreneurs the opportunity to gain valuable insights and forge meaningful connections. Nomzamo Mbatha, known for her humanitarian efforts globally, brings her passion for women's empowerment to this initiative, aiming to create lasting change in South Africa's business landscape.

In addition to the dynamic programming, a select group of from African Bank's Women Enterprise and Supplier Development program will be showcasing their products and offerings at the Summit, providing attendees with a firsthand look at the innovative solutions and businesses emerging from this support initiative. At African Bank, we are constantly seeking tactics to support women-owned businesses beyond personal and business banking products and solutions. It is our aspiration to contribute towards building an inclusive and thriving economy by investing in areas that have a meaningful impact to women, providing them with the best guidance and support to start, launch, commercialise and scale their businesses.

African Bank's decision to partner with this initiative is an extension of its commitment to gender equality and women economic inclusion, particularly in the realm of small business development. This collaboration aligns with the Bank's transformation strategy, which focuses on empowering women entrepreneurs through mentorship, financial resources and business development support.

Sbusiso Kumalo, Chief Marketing Officer at African Bank, highlights the importance of initiatives like Empowering HER in addressing persistent gender disparities: "For us, empowerment is not just about financial success; it's about creating opportunities for women to thrive and overcome systemic barriers. We are committed to helping bridge the gender gap by providing access to financial resources, training and mentorship, so women can take their businesses to the next level."



African Bank has a robust transformation department specifically designed to uplift and support small businesses, particularly those led by women. Through initiatives such as enterprise supplier development programmes and financial literacy workshops, African Bank helps women entrepreneurs gain the skills and confidence needed to grow and sustain their businesses.

“We have seen firsthand how women, especially those from marginalised backgrounds, face additional hurdles in the business world. African Bank has committed itself to real, lasting change by providing not only financial services but also the mentorship and support necessary to build successful and sustainable businesses,” says Kumalo.

Empowering HER 2024 will feature keynote addresses and panel discussions that explore topics critical to women’s professional and personal growth, including financial empowerment and operational efficiency. Attendees will have the opportunity to network with industry leaders and participate in discussions aimed at driving economic growth for women entrepreneurs.

The summit is also a celebration of women’s achievements across industries. The day will feature enriching seminars and insightful discussions on topics ranging from financial empowerment to operational efficiency. The awards segment will recognise women entrepreneurs who excel in their fields.

Nomzamo Mbatha, UN Global Goodwill Ambassador and champion spokesperson for the initiative, emphasises the significance of the event: “Empowering HER celebrates, educates and empowers women. Through dynamic panels and keynote speeches, we will explore crucial themes such as financial empowerment, operational efficiency and branding for growth.”

African Bank looks forward to joining forces with industry leaders and entrepreneurs to empower the next generation of women in business.

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About African Bank

African Bank Limited is a personal and business bank offering a range of financial products and services, serving both private and business customers. The bank is rated the overall leader in customer satisfaction in the banking industry and has a countrywide branch distribution network and a full digital channel offering, as well as sales, collections, and customer service contact centres. African Bank is a scalable, diversified, and sustainable business focused on its heritage journey of being a bank for the people, by the people, serving the people - with a clear vision and strategy, strong leadership, and an audacious drive to deliver on the promise of its founders.