

Creating a new narrative for female agripreneurs

Presented by Bianca Clarke

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in partnership with





Who is AWIA?



OUR VISION

To capacitate women's access to the agri-ecosystem, driving socio economic impact through disruptive virtual and physical communities

OUR STRATEGIC IMPERATIVE

To build the agricultural ecosystem



AWiA

African Women in Agriculture

• Grounded in success •

AWiA's WHY.....

- Create change
- Empower women
- Impact hunger and poverty
- Give back to the community
- Make a difference
- Develop a new model or a new cool narrative
- Drive aspiration
- Create an ecosystem,
- Giving women access



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- **AWiA's Lwazi Incubator**
- **Building the capacity of female agri-preneurs**
- **Learning through doing**

Background

Women farmers are faced with challenges in the agricultural market, they make up a significant portion of the agricultural labour force, constituting an average of 43 percent in developing countries; making up approximately 50 percent in Sub-Saharan Africa. However, these farmers are often faced with challenges when trying to access the agricultural market.



Women have limited access to finance, agricultural inputs such as seeds, farming implements and transport. They are impacted by a lack of agricultural skills and infrastructure, and the majority of them are involved in small-scale farming due to limited resources.

They additionally have limited knowledge and use of farming technologies. closing this gap in knowledge and resources by empowering women.



Women Armed With Tenacity



As a group of women seasoned in entrepreneurship, with a passion for agriculture, the founding cohort believed that we could make an impact in this space. The founders were determined that the focus be agri-business.

Armed with tenacity and belief, AWiA was founded in 2018. In the two-plus years since our incorporation, we've discovered that the tenacity is an absolute requirement.

We've also learned that gathering the right people around this organisation, is key.





We lease a portion of arable land for our veggie garden at TLC Children's home in Johannesburg South and donate some veggies



Meet Thandeka
AWiA's first young
Agripreneur in
training



AWiA and IDC's LWAZI INCUBATOR

Practical off-take
experience



Recruitment with
an intake of 12
women every six
months

Hydroponic set up
and training



Farm
administration and
agri-business
training



Organic set up and
training



Soft skills
training



AWiA advisory board



Jean Chawapiwa
Country Director,
WEConnect
International in South
Africa



Dr Dana Gampel
Corporate Specialist,
Strategy and Business
Development, Eskom



Patricia Lumba,
Senior Knowledge
Manager, African
Union InterAfrica
Animal Resource Unit



Dr. Naudé Malan,
Senior Lecturer,
Development Studies,
University of Joburg
(founder and curator,
Izindaba Zokudla)



Remigio Mahonde,
former project manager,
IDC



Carolien Samson,
Executive: Strategy
and ESG, GroBank



Sizwe Kuzwayo,
Development
Management at
Skypower Global.

Our Advisory Board

Jean Chawapiwa

- Jean is the Country Director, WEConnect International in South Africa
www.weconnectinternational.org.
- She is also the Founder & Managing Director, Win Win Solutions 4 Africa
www.solutions4africa.com
- Consultancy, www.solutions4africa.com and a member of the Advisory Council of Mining Dialogue 360 www.miningdialogue360.com

Our Advisory Board

Dr Dana Gampel

- Dana has specialised in developing strategic responses and positions to socio-economic and political challenges for over 25 years.
- Her areas of specialty include:
- Competition and how to attain *and* sustain competitive advantage
- Strategic methodologies; techniques and tools
- The energy sector globally and specifically in Africa and Southern Africa
- Political economic developments in Africa

Our Advisory Board

Patricia Mweene Lumba

- Patricia Mweene Lumba is a Zambian has more than 20 years professional experience in the international development sector as a Knowledge Management, Information and Communication specialist.
- She is currently working as Senior Knowledge Management Officer for the African Union InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR), a technical directorate under the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture of the African Union

Our Advisory Board

Dr. Naudé Malan

- Naudé is Senior Lecturer in Development Studies at the University of Johannesburg and serves as Member of Council on the Agricultural Research Council of South Africa.
- He was a visiting research fellow at Wolfson College, Cambridge and the Centre of African Studies. He convenes iZindaba Zokudla (Conversations about Food), a multi-stakeholder engagement project that aims to create opportunities for urban agriculture in a sustainable food system in Soweto.

Our Advisory Board

Carolien Samson

- Carolien started her career in policy-making roles in the South African government.
- A stint working on land reform redistribution policy resulted in a long-term move to focus on agricultural finance both in development finance and commercial banking environments.

Our Advisory Board

Sizwe Kuzwayo

- Sizwe has over 15 years' experience in the renewable energy, climate change and sustainability space, over 10 years of which have been spent in management and leadership roles.
- During this time he has worked in projectized environments which afforded him the opportunity to lead diverse project teams in constantly changing business environments.

AWiA management executive



Janice Scheckter,
Chairperson



Agnes Hove,
Finance



Bianca Clarke,
Secretary



Sibongile Cele,
Stakeholder Relations

AWiA management



Veronica Aswani, Vice
President, African
Association for Vertical
Farming



AWiA Management Team

Janice Scheckter – Chairperson

- Janice's education has included B Journalism (Rhodes), an International Advertising Diploma (AAA School of Advertising), a Public Relations Diploma (Damelin), a Wine Diploma (Cape Wine Academy) and Advance Wine Appreciation and Judging (Stellenbosch) and Master Facilitation Diploma and Design Thinking (GIBS).
- While her career saw her start out as a journalist, Janice has been an entrepreneur for close on 30 years, and been involved in some landmark projects such as the ANC Manifesto Launch in April 1994, and the launch of Levi Strauss in South Africa among other. Janice has founded several companies and currently heads of Indigo Africa (Pty) Ltd.

AWiA Management Team

Agnes Hove – Finance

- Agnes holds a Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA), Thames Valley University, UK and a Master of Science in Strategic Management, University of Derby, UK as well as a Post Graduate Certificate in Business Leadership: Wits Business School among other qualifications
- Agnes serves on the board for Youth for Christ (YFC), is the founder and managing director of Sequor Consulting (Pty) Ltd, founded in 2004.

AWiA Management Team

Sibongile Cele – Operations

- Sibongile holds a qualification as Commercial and Financial Accountant (CFA.SA). Sibongile Cele's experience in the corporate world started at the Deloitte & Touche in 1992 where she trained as accountant and an auditor.
- This is where Sibongile developed her interpersonal skills with clients and the acquired business management skills she later moved to Kwenta Media as the financial manager for the Mamas & Papas magazine.

AWiA Management Team

Veronica Shangali-Aswani – Stakeholder Relations

- Veronica has a B.Sc. business administration (cum laude) and is currently completing an MBA. She is the vice president for the African Association of Vertical Farming (AAVF) and CEO and co-founder of Wavunow.
- Veronica has over 13 years' experience in marketing, management and operations in multinationals, in the automotive, commodities and property industries across southern and east Africa.
- Veronica co-founded Wavunow in 2013 as social enterprise to sustainably fight poverty.

AWiA Management Team

Bianca Clarke – Secretariat

- Bianca holds a qualification in Human Resources, a Business and Executive Coaching Certificate from Wits Business School and is an Expert in Personal, Team and Leadership Development
- She.....
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Thank you



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