

THE WOMAN DRIVING ONE OF THE BIGGEST EMPLOYERS IN SOUTH AFRICA

Mpumi Madisa, the CEO of Bidvest, has climbed to the top of the corporate world, establishing herself as one of South Africa's leading chief executives to read more on how she reached the top,

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to INpower men and women with the mental and physical strength to make the right choices in today's challenging world.

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NELSON MANDELA UNIVERSITY

WOMEN'S MONTH 2024

Prof Christi van der Westhuizen, her views on recent events and pioneering women

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FINDING Person IN MEL

'changing lives and building futures'



WOMAN
I AM

WOMAN I AM.

BLEED I DO.

SCARS I BEAR.

TOLERANCE
I NEED.

VOICE I HAVE.

BRAVE I FEEL.

STRONG
I STAND

LOVE I SHARE.

LIFE
I CREATE.

WOMAN
I AM.

*Happy
Women's
Month
2024*

[Click here for inspiration for the journey through womanhood](#)

THE IMPACT OF WOMEN IN THE WORKPLACE

Women have become an indispensable force in the modern workplace, driving innovation, fostering collaboration, and enhancing organisational culture. Their contributions are not just a matter of equality but a powerful asset that shapes the success of businesses across industries.

Diversity of Thought

One of the most significant impacts women bring to the workplace is diversity of thought. Different perspectives lead to better problem-solving and more creative solutions. Research consistently shows that teams with gender diversity perform better, as they can approach challenges from multiple angles. Women often bring unique insights and approaches that can drive innovation and help companies stay competitive in an ever-changing market.

Leadership and Collaboration

Women in leadership roles often emphasise collaboration, empathy, and mentorship, fostering a workplace environment where team members feel valued and supported. This approach not only enhances team dynamics but also contributes to employee satisfaction and retention. Women leaders tend to prioritise open communication and inclusivity, creating a more cohesive and motivated workforce.

Economic Growth

The economic impact of women in the workforce is profound. Studies have shown that gender-diverse companies are more likely to outperform their peers financially. When women are given equal opportunities to succeed and lead, businesses benefit from a wider talent pool and increased innovation, which can translate into higher profits and sustainable growth.

Workplace Culture

The presence of women in the workplace also positively affects the overall culture. Women often champion policies that promote work-life balance, diversity, and inclusion. These policies not only improve the quality of life for all employees but also contribute to a more equitable and respectful work environment. A workplace that values and respects all employees is one where creativity and productivity thrive.

Breaking Barriers

Women in the workplace are also role models, breaking barriers and challenging stereotypes. Their achievements inspire future generations of women to pursue careers in fields where they have traditionally been underrepresented. This, in turn, helps to further close the gender gap and create a more equitable society.

The difference women make in the workplace is profound and far-reaching. Their presence fosters diversity of thought, enhances leadership and collaboration, drives economic growth, and improves workplace culture. As businesses continue to recognise and embrace the value women bring, the impact will only grow, benefiting companies, employees, and society as a whole.