



AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP

Dr. Akinwumi Adesina

President of the African Development Bank



***When women win,
Africa wins.***

***Truth be told,
women run Africa.***

African Women Heads of State Initiative

March 23, 2022



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A famous proverb says that 'no bird can fly with one wing'. Women must therefore be at the center of all efforts to improve society. Women are the custodians and guarantors of our future.



Ms. Bajabulile "Swazi" Tshabalala
Senior Vice President

Dr. Beth Dunford

Vice President, Agriculture, Human and Social Development



Digital business networks such as the 50 Million Africa Women Speak platform have enormous potential to boost African women's businesses.

We encourage women worldwide to support this platform that links women-led businesses to global markets, builds their resilience and provides a gateway to greater economic security and personal empowerment.



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Ms. Yacine FAL

the Acting Vice President, Regional Development, Integration and Business Delivery

At last, the world is waking up to the power and resilience of African women entrepreneurs - backbone of society and one of the largest portion globally.

The AfDB has enhanced its toolkit to accompany you to scale up your impact on the African continent as we believe that an opportunity for a woman, is an opportunity for us all.





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Mrs. Nnenna Lily Nwabufo

Director-General, East Africa Regional Development and Business Delivery Office



African women entrepreneurs have demonstrated great resilience and passion. But they need the right skills and resources to thrive in this complex world.

The AfDB is committed to ensuring that women business owners have equal access to all available opportunities to thrive and rise up to any challenges

Ms. Atsuko Toda

Director, Agricultural Finance & Rural Development

When Africa's women entrepreneurs grow, Africa's economies grow. Access to resources and financing is critical for African women entrepreneurs to grow.

In Africa, the informal sector employs 85% of all labour. Women in Africa are starting businesses at a faster rate than men.

They own over 30% of all registered small and medium sized businesses.

Women entrepreneurship is key.

