

The Accountant & International Accounting Bulletin Young Accountant of the year Award Nominees 2016



Thuto Masasa, director, Nkonki Incorporated (Kreston International)



Thuto Masasa is a Director at Nkonki Incorporated, a member of Kreston International, the global network of independent accounting firms, in South Africa. Founded 23 years ago, Nkonki is one of the largest black empowerment assurance and advisory firms in South Africa. The firm currently has more than 40 partners and over 400 staff across the region.

Thuto is one of the leading practitioners advising South African organisations on the development of their Integrated Reporting and is actively involved with the International Integrated Reporting Council (IIRC). Also a member of the Integrated Reporting Council (IRC) Working Group in South Africa, Thuto also represents Nkonki in the IIRC's Business and Public Sector Pioneer Networks.

A qualified Chartered Accountant with over 10 years' experience in commerce, assurance and corporate advisory services, and training, Thuto has led on engagements and advised clients within the transportation, aviation, telecommunication, construction, agriculture, manufacturing, media, and development finance industries.

Before joining Nkonki, Thuto worked for Cummins, a Fortune 500 company, and Deloitte. While at Deloitte, Thuto facilitated training in Africa,

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Asia and Europe.

One of Thuto's passions is her participation in the Spirit of the Youth Programme, a youth dialogue and leadership programme. Established by the Gordon Institute of Business Science, Thuto worked for three consecutive years in 2010, 2011 and 2012 as a volunteer facilitator. In 2012 and 2013 she also participated in several entrepreneurship programmes of the African Leadership Academy, which mentors young people to realise their entrepreneurial potential. In 2013 Thuto served on the Board of Beyond the Lemonade Stand, a non-profit organisation aimed at changing young people's mind-sets and creating experiential learning opportunities. Thuto also holds non-executive directorships at various companies.

Thuto was part of a panel of experts at the inaugural Integrated Reporting Convention held at London's Waldorf Hilton Hotel in 2015. The event, which was hosted by the IIRC and sponsored by the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA), attracted delegates from 27 countries.

The convention included strategic, networking and practical workshop sessions focusing on the evolution and innovation of corporate reporting and inclusive capitalism. Thuto lead a breakout session focussing on Connectivity, which explored how companies can use Integrated Reporting and Integrated Thinking to improve connectivity between business departments, the six capitals and a company strategy.

Other members of the esteemed panel included Lady Lynn Forester de Rothschild, CEO of E.L Rothschild, instrumental in her work with inclusive capitalism and endorsed by HRH the Prince of Wales, and senior representatives from organisations including the IIRC Australasia, Marks and Spencer, PwC, Nestle,

World Bank, EY, HSBC, AIG and International Federation of Accountants (IFAC).

Nkonki also had the opportunity to sponsor the event, setting up a branded exhibition which showcased their Integrated Reporting thought leadership material and membership of Kreston International.

Thuto was instrumental in catapulting the Nkonki annual State Owned Companies (SOC) Integrated Reporting survey results to the IIRC global webinars. Now in its fourth year, the report provides insights into the extent into which South Africa SOC's have applied the IIRC International Framework to their reports.

Thuto has consistently contributed to Kreston's understanding of Integrated Reporting over the past few years and also won the International Service Line Development Award at the 2015 Kreston World conference in Rio, for driving the adoption of Integrated Reporting.

Earlier this year, Thuto hosted a Kreston International webinar on the subject of Integrated Reporting, which proved very popular with Kreston members. Thuto explained how Integrated Reporting is designed to assist organisations to communicate a clear, concise, integrated story that explains how all of their resources are creating value. She also covered how Integrated Reporting is helping businesses to think holistically about their strategy and plans, make informed decisions and manage key risks to build investor and stakeholder confidence and improve future performance.

Thuto is an enthusiastic and extremely proactive member of the Kreston network and is an asset to our membership.