



Throughout March, as a follow-up to International Womens Day, we are continuing to spotlight the amazing women here at Kasada!

Buhle Ndlovu joined Kasada in July 2019 and is a Vice President within Kasada's Investment Team where her responsibilities include "leading transactions, investment analysis and project management of ongoing transactions".

Buhle feels privileged to have had extensive international exposure from a young age, having lived, studied, and worked in the United Kingdom, Canada, the USA, Kenya and China. This has directly contributed to her view of the world and her keenness to problem solve.

What does she like most about her job? "Observing in real time how your investments create positive economic outcomes. For each single direct job created in the hotels we develop, several other indirect jobs are created. In this sense it's amazing seeing how far 'hospitality' really stretches.

Aside from this I also get to work on a vast array of transactions and concepts – few days are ever alike."

To get to where she is today, Buhle had to overcome obstacles, including the fact that in her first job, women accounted for only 5% of the workforce. "This not only led to a lack of diversity of opinions when finding solutions for critical problems, but also a lack of visibility. How can you be something that you don't see represented around you?" She gained an important insight during this period: "I learned that sometimes your biggest advocates look nothing like you, lean into that. In earnest, I'd say I overcame some of these obstacles by building good relationships across my teams; I'm thankful that I've had such supportive people around me."

Today Buhle is fully committed to inclusion at work, dedicating her time to ensuring that every meeting room is a representation of the real world. "I also mentor females coming up in the industry and within my immediate spheres of influence," she adds.

Finally, if she had any advice to give to all those who wish to follow the same path, this is what she would tell them: "Know yourself and be clear about what you want to do. This is a highly rewarding industry, but it also requires a lot of hard work and sacrifices. Be intentional with everything you do to ensure you really are doing something you're passionate about. Practically, when you get into the industry, be versed in a lot of different subjects because this is what makes you an all-rounder; however, ensure you strengthen your analytical skills. Be it modelling, markets etc. Nothing is as important as having a strong foundation which you can build on."

Determined, inspiring and committed, we are proud to have Buhle as one of our own.