

Agenda - Speaker Bios



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Marjorie Mabambo

Senior Specialist: Corporate Foreign Exchange Sales, Absa CIB

With 20 years of experience in the financial markets, Marjorie Mabambo specialises in foreign exchange risk management and treasury solutions for corporate clients. Prior to joining Absa, she spent 12 years at Standard Bank, developing deep expertise in financial markets and client advisory. Marjorie holds a Degree in Investment Management, a Postgraduate Diploma in business management, and is currently completing her MBA at GIBS. She works closely with corporate clients to develop tailored FX risk management and hedging strategies in an evolving global market.



Welcome and Opening

Jonathan Burnett

Managing Executive: Global Markets, Absa CIB

Jonathan Burnett runs the Global Markets division for the Absa Group. The division has a Pan Africa footprint with Global connectivity through presence in London and New York. Global Markets provides Absa clients with trading, hedging, investment and financing services across all major asset classes. Jonathan joined the Absa Corporate and Investment Bank team in 2010 initially as Head of Credit Trading. In his time at Absa, he has had positions running Structured Trading, FICC Trading & Financial Resource Management teams. Prior to that, he worked in London for the UK branch of ABN Amro Markets division as a Structured Credit & EM trader having spent time in IT, Finance and Risk roles before that. Jonathan holds a B.BusSc degree from the University of Cape Town.





Global Insights

Nick Nelson
Head of Research, Absolute Strategy Research

Nick Nelson heads up ASR's Research team, he joined ASR after 17 years at UBS Investment Bank, most recently as Managing Director, Head of European Equity Strategy. He regularly contributes to media, such as Financial Times, CNBC, Bloomberg TV, WSJ, and cross-asset media roundtables.



Andrea Cicione
Head of Multi-Asset Strategy, Absolute Strategy Research

Andrea Cicione brings more than 20 years of experience in macro strategy, asset allocation and portfolio construction across the buy side, sell side and independent research. Most recently, he led cross-asset investment strategy and designed multi-asset model portfolios for institutional clients at TS Lombard.



SA Insights

Miyelani Maluleke
Senior Economist, Absa CIB

Miyelani Maluleke joined Absa in June 2013 as an economist in the South Africa macro team. Prior to joining Absa, Miyelani worked as an economist at the National Treasury's economic policy division. Previously, Miyelani worked at the South African Bureau for Economic Research as a trainee economist where his responsibilities included South Africa and international macroeconomic analysis. He is a master's candidate in Economics at Wits University. He also holds a BCom (Hons) from the University of South Africa.





SA Insights

Mike Keenan

Senior Fixed Income & Currency Strategist, Absa CIB

Michael Keenan is a Fixed Income and Currency Strategist within the Absa Research team. Michael has been a sell-side research analyst for the past twenty-five years, holds an Honours degree in Econometrics and has been awarded fixed income and currency analyst of the year at both the Financial Mail and JSE Spire awards for the past six consecutive years.

Panel discussion



Hemant Desai

Head of Client Solutions Group for South African Corporates, Absa CIB

Hemant Desai has more than 17 years of experience in global markets, advising corporate clients on structured risk management, hedging, funding, and investment strategies across foreign exchange, interest rate, commodities.

Prior to joining Absa, Hemant held senior leadership roles at Standard Chartered Bank and Standard Bank, where he worked extensively with leading corporates across the industrials, power and infrastructure, and mining sectors throughout Southern Africa. He is known for developing client-centric solutions that help businesses manage financial risks and achieve their strategic objectives.



Panel discussion



Nombulelo Sibanda

SA Corporate Derivatives Sales & Structuring:
Real Estate Sector Lead, Absa CIB

Nombulelo Sibanda is the Real Estate Sector Lead within Absa CIB's Corporate Derivatives Sales & Structuring team. She specialises in developing risk management solutions with corporate clients, focusing on interest rate, foreign exchange and balance sheet risks, including those arising from cross-border transactions, structured funding and project financing. Her experience spans the Real Estate, Project Finance, Renewable Energy, Healthcare, Leisure & Hospitality and Diversified Industrials sectors. Nombulelo holds a Bachelor of Business Science from the University of Cape Town and a Master's in Management from Wits Business School.



Phathu Netshapapame

Senior Specialist Corporate Foreign Exchange Sales,
Absa CIB

Phathu Netshapapame is a Corporate FX Sales Dealer at Absa, where he helps corporate clients navigate currency risk through market insights and tailored hedging solutions. His career in foreign exchange has spanned retail, commercial and corporate markets, giving him a unique perspective on how shifts in the macroeconomic environment filter through to businesses and their risk-management decisions. His experience covers FX execution, client advisory and derivative solutions, with a particular interest in the forces driving currencies and broader financial markets. Phathu is passionate about making sense of complex market dynamics and translating them into practical, actionable insights for clients. For him, markets are not just about where the next move comes from, but how businesses position themselves for whatever comes next.





Panel discussion

Serena McGinn
Treasurer Sappi Southern Africa Ltd

Serena McGinn is a Chartered Accountant with 23 years experience in the manufacturing industry and is currently the Treasurer of Sappi Southern Africa. Serena has experience in Financial Accounting, Management Accounting, Regulatory Reporting and 13 years in Treasury. She currently serves as a board member of the Association of Corporate Treasurers of South Africa (ACTSA) and has been a member of a number of committees including a pension fund, investment, treasury and disclosure committees. Serena is a highly driven, disciplined individual with a strong focus on risk management and cashflow forecasting.



Ben Hlatshwayo
Head Capital Markets and Execution, DBSA Treasury

Ben Hlatshwayo is currently Principal for Capital Markets at the DBSA, responsible for listed debt, liquidity management and trading.
He has 20 years of experience of experience in the financial markets, having worked as an FX and Interest rate trader at two of the biggest banks in South Africa.

There after Joined National Treasury as Director foreign debt, Transnet as Manager Structured Finance, before joining DBSA.
He hold an MBA from the University of London, an Honors degree in Finance from UNISA and an associate diploma in Banking from the institute of bankers in South Africa.





Guest Speaker

Chris Gardner

Internationally acclaimed entrepreneur, bestselling author and inspiration behind The Pursuit of Happyness

Chris Gardner is an entrepreneur, international best-selling author and an awardwinning film producer. Gardner's autobiography, The Pursuit of HappYness became a New York Times #1 best seller and has been translated into over forty languages, including six (6) dialects of Chinese and recently into Arabic. Gardner's book, The Pursuit of HappYness was the inspiration for the critically acclaimed film in which Will Smith received the Golden Globe, Screen Actors Guild and Academy Award nominations for his performance. His second book, "Start Where You Are" also a best seller was published in 2009. Gardner's new book "Permission to Dream" was selected as "Book Of The Month" by the Wall Street Journal upon its publication.





Closing

Saloshni Pillay

Managing Executive: CIB South Africa, Absa CIB

Saloshni Pillay Managing Executive: CIB South Africa Saloshni joined Absa Group on 17 July 2026 as Managing Executive, Corporate and Investment Banking South Africa. She brings more than 25 years of Corporate and Investment Banking experience across Global Markets and Investment Banking. Prior to rejoining Absa, Saloshni served as Chief Executive Officer and Chief Country Officer of Deutsche Bank South Africa, as well as Head of the Investment Bank for Sub-Saharan Africa, where she led the strategic repositioning and profitable growth of the franchise while strengthening key client and regulatory relationships.

She has previously held positions at Absa and Citigroup South Africa. Saloshni is recognised for her strong client focus, broad product expertise and proven leadership across complex financial services environments. She is committed to strengthening the South African franchise, deepening client primacy and supporting sustainable growth across CIB South Africa. Qualifications: UNISA: BCom specialisation Harvard: Executive Leadership program INSEAD: Franchise Leadership program Economic.