



FROM THE — **CEO'S DESK**

Dear Colleagues

Looking back to some of the key highlights and events that took place during October, I think it is safe to dub it **"Transformation Month"**.

We kicked off the month with our first ever Women Empowerment and Gender Equality (WEGE) webinar on 5 October under the theme 'Shattering the Glass Ceiling.' At the centre of our discussion was: How do we generate sustainable, innovative, and inclusive solutions for women in the built environment? The webinar was hailed a success. We had over 300 delegates from around the world in attendance which included countries such as Kenya, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, United States of America, United Kingdom, and Germany. Local media houses took an interest in the event and covered it on various platforms. **Wow!** It's great to see CBE placed on the world map!

It was a privilege to have our Honourable Deputy Minister, Ms Noxolo Kiviet, present at the webinar as the keynote speaker. She emphasises that attracting, supporting, and retaining more women in the built environment benefits everyone by increasing the potential to develop inclusive, innovative solutions for the complex challenges our country is facing. I relished the informative presentations by respected speakers and the insightful deliberations. Thank you to the Council, CBE staff, and the industry at large for your continuous support in achieving the CBE's mandates.

Whilst we acknowledge the slow pace of transformation in our sector, I am excited about the recent appointments of the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA)'s new Chief Executive Officer, Dr Bridget Ssamula and the South African Council for the Quantity Surveying Profession (SACQSP)'s Registrar, Ms Onwaba Tselane. Join me in celebrating their appointments and wishing them well in their new roles. This speaks to the primary objectives of the WEGE Transformation Collaborative Committee (TCC). **Women Forward**, indeed!

It is the mandate of the CBE to continuously engage with stakeholders and forge partnerships; in this way, transformation of the built environment can be realised. On the 6th to 7th October, I represented CBE at the 12th Annual Public Sector Asset and Land Management Conference under the theme Understanding Trends in Public Sector Asset & Land Management. This provided an opportunity for me to reinforce our legislative mandate as well as to drive the transformation message across. We want to create opportunities for skilled built environment professionals, and expedite the empowerment of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities.

Additionally, I delivered the keynote address at ECSA's 1st Annual General Meeting on 20 October 2022. Top of the agenda is the need for robust action from all six Councils for the Built Environment Professions (CBEP) to transform their professions through race and gender representation, but more importantly through ensuring registered candidates are equipped for professional registration and ensure progress in this value chain.

October concludes our Fifth Term Council's term of office. Four years have gone by so quickly, and the activities ran at an incredible pace. The institutionalisation of the Transformation Collaborative Committees (TCCs) was finally realised in 2022; these committees are gaining momentum and remain in place as a legacy of the Fifth Term Council. Thank you again to the Council for their strategic direction, contributions, commitment, and hard work.

"Doing the best at this moment puts you in the best place for the next moment" – Oprah Winfrey.

Kind regards



Msizi Myeza

