

DOROTHY MASEKE

GROUP HEAD OF RISK AND
COMPLIANCE, ICEA LION GROUP



From where does your organization feel the most pressure to undertake the climate transition?

For us, it's largely innate. So I cannot say that we've received pressure from our regulators or, you know, investors. It's more driven by our mission and vision. We have been here since 1895. We are over 100 years old, and we intend to be here for the long haul. And so that basically means that for us to continue being in business, for us to continue serving our clients, for us to continue serving our communities, then whatever we do, we need to make sure that they are all resilient.

How are you managing the risks and opportunities from your transition efforts?

Having a clear, you know, description of these specific risks, speaking about these risks internally and externally, and then, more importantly, working out processes or solutions to address the risks is the first step. From the opportunities side, and maybe the more exciting side is looking at new solutions to address transition risks because transition is actually a must, you know, a just transition for us, especially in Africa, is critical. But then the transition also presents significant new opportunities. That even as an institution, we are looking at new thinking and specifically things that have been ignored for years. You know, nature is one of those. Not much focus has been given to nature, yet you cannot separate nature from climate.

Are recent geopolitical and macroeconomic events impacting your transition journey?

COVID-19, of course, presented significant challenges to the country, more importantly to our clients who are also building back. But the growth and the resilience of the country has also been amazing. So much as it took us back a couple of years, what we can see is that, you know, waking up and realizing that there is a lot that you can contribute to as a financial institution to support our clients, to support our communities, even as they build back and even as they recover.