



FINANCE GURUS

Succeeding in the world of finance needs more than a number-crunching ability. You also need management acumen, quick problem-solving skills and a willingness to keep learning. These four women have excelled in this challenging sector, rising through the ranks to become leaders in their careers. By **HELEN GRANGE**.



TOTSIE MEMELA-KHAMBULA, 53, is the CEO of Eduloan, which provides finance for tertiary education. As such, she plays a key role in the economic empowerment

of students entering the job market, as well as those who are already in it. She is also the chairperson of Memela Pratt and Associates, an international executive search firm, and is the director of Cadiz, a financial services group.

In 1978, she was responsible for anti-apartheid political recruitment in Swaziland. In 1988, she managed the office of the Department of Manpower and Development in Zimbabwe before returning to South Africa in 1991 to be administration co-ordinator in the office of the former Secretary-General of the ANC, Cyril Ramaphosa.

Her previous positions include CEO of Post Bank, MD of the Land Bank, Regional Manager of People's Bank and Branch manager at Nedcor. She was a fellow with the International Women's Forum and is currently a member of the South African chapter of the International Women's Forum and the Institute of Directors.

To get ahead in the world of finance, Memela-Khambula recommends one thing: education. Her own education includes a BA in Social Science from the University of Swaziland and a Masters in Public Administration from

the University of Zimbabwe. She's also completed a range of executive programmes at Wits Business School, the former Rand Afrikaans University, New York's Graduate School of Management and Urban Policy, as well as Wits/ Harvard Business School.

"You have to stay on top of your game by constantly improving your ABCs: attitude, behaviour and competencies. They are essential to succeed."