FINANCIAL SECTOR TRANSFORMATION COUNCIL

QUARTER 2 RECAP

28.07.2026

NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our Quarterly Review Newsletter, showcasing FSTC's stakeholder engagements in the second quarter of 2026. With five engagements lined up, from government to industry bodies and private invitations, it was a busy and impactful quarter for the FSTC. We remained committed to placing advocacy and awareness at the centre of our work.
Happy reading.

From left to right: Ms. A Swart (BEE123), Ms. N Mlandu (FSTC), Ms. A Khomunala (FSTC)

Event 1: BEE123 Opening webinar: BEE a Leader Executive Series

To get the engagements started, on 16 April 2026, BEE123 hosted the opening episode of its three-part "BEE a Leader Executive Series" webinar for financial services entities. Hosted by Ms Andrea Swart, BEE123's Head of Research, Methodology and Communities, the session brought together Ms Mlandu, CEO of the FSTC, and Ms Khomunala, Reporting and Research Manager, to help kick off the series.

Designed as a practical, peer-level webinar, episode one focused on benchmarking for strategic enablement and transformational leadership. It centred on real execution and gave participants an overview of the financial sector transformation regulatory ecosystem, alongside direct perspectives on what has driven transformation in the industry.

Through three-way presentations and interactive slots, the webinar highlighted trends, challenges, and opportunities for banks, life offices, short-term insurers, and other financial institutions. The discussion helped participants interpret current industry performance and understand emerging transformation priorities.

Event 2: Enterprise and Supplier Development (ESD) Policy Stakeholder Consultation on Access to Finance for Small Enterprises

On 7 May 2026, the Department of Small Business Development (DBSD) invited the FSTC to join discussions with government, industry representatives, and financial sector stakeholders to delve into financial access in the sector as part of co-creating an ESD policy. The programme included a panel discussion on access to finance within the financial sector, which was moderated by Ms Mlandu, CEO of FSTC.

From left to right: Ms. L Saungweme (ASISA), Mr. M Mhlambi (BASA), Ms. N Mlandu (FSTC) & Ms. Gigaba (SAIA)

Featuring industry representatives from the Association for Savings and Investment South Africa (ASISA), the South African Insurance Association (SAIA), and the Banking Association South Africa (BASA), the panellists focused on the practical challenges encountered with implementing the ESD scorecard, as well as the role of financial institutions in supporting meaningful enterprise development.

Event 3: Frank Dialogue on The Transformation of the Financial Sector

Themed under "Transformation of the Financial Sector," it was time for the FSTC to be "frank" about transformation. On 8 May 2026, Prof JJ Tabane, CEO and Convenor of Frank Dialogue Holdings, brought together industry leaders to engage in those difficult-yet very important discussions on the progress, challenges, and future of economic transformation in South Africa.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Event 1: BEE123 Opening webinar Series: BEE a Leader Executive Series

- The discussion highlighted the importance of data-driven transformation initiatives, regulatory alignment, and continuous stakeholder collaboration in advancing transformation outcomes across the sector.

Event 2: Enterprise and Supplier Development (ESD) Policy Stakeholder Consultation on Access to Finance for Small Enterprises

- The need for stronger collaboration between government, financial institutions, industry bodies, and Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETAs) was the key theme emerging to enable constructive stakeholder discussions and support efforts to contribute to sustainability, transformation, and a resilient SME sector.

Event 3: Frank Dialogue on The Transformation of the Financial Sector

- Emphasis was placed on the Council's role in promoting accountability, monitoring compliance with the Financial Sector Code, and facilitating collaboration among stakeholders to advance transformation objectives.
- Effective procurement practices can create opportunities for black-owned businesses and contribute to broader economic inclusion.
- Discussions highlighted that transformation in banking and the broader financial services sector remains an evolving process requiring continued attention.

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From left to right: Mr. M Ndlovu (BMF) Ms. N Mlandu (FSTC), Ms. P Nkoma (WECONA), Mr. G Crouse (Institute of Race Relations), Mr T Matona (B-BBEE Commission), and Prof. JJ Tabane (Frank Dialogue)

Ms Mlandu presented on the findings of the FSTC's latest transformation report while Mr Nkuhlu, FSTC's Council Chair, engaged in a fireside chat with Prof. JJ Tabane on banking transformation.

From left to right: Mr. M Nkuhlu (Council Chair, FSTC) &, Prof. JJ Tabane (Convenor, Frank Dialogue)

The thought-provoking dialogue also featured an interactive session that allowed participants, seated at their respective tables, to engage deeply with the core themes.

Event 4: Batseta Winter Conference

The momentum continued into June, with Ms Mlandu addressing the retirement industry at the Batseta Winter Conference 2026, held from 1 to 3 June 2026.


Ms. N. Mlandu (CEO, FSTC)

Following the keynote address by Finance Minister Enoch Godongwana - which highlighted the use of pension funds in financing infrastructure and development in South Africa and the continent at large - Ms Mlandu took the stage, emphasising the strategic role retirement funds play as custodians of long-term capital that shape decisions of transformation outcomes. With over 4,000 registered retirement funds, they are key levers for economic transformation, driving equitable wealth creation. Hence, their B-BBEE submissions and active transformation outputs matter.

Ms Mlandu later contributed to a panel discussion on prioritising inclusive capital to women-led funds across the continent.

Event 5: The Measurement of Black Ownership on the JSE during the first three decades of democracy.


Mr. D. Gqubule (The Transformation Lens)

Acknowledging that Black ownership has been a "hot topic", on 8 June 2026, the FSTC honoured the invitation to attend the launch of "*The Measurement of Black Ownership on the JSE during the first three decades of democracy*". This report, tabled by Mr Gqubule, argued the manner in which ownership is calculated and scored, calling for its review to accurately account for black ownership.

Mr Matona, the B-BBEE Commissioner, emphasised that B-BBEE has a wider lens and cannot be reduced to ownership alone, as other elements in the codes are also pathways to transformation.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Event 4: Batseta Winter Conference:

- Finance Minister Enoch Godongwana emphasised the significant role that pension funds play in financing infrastructure and broader development initiatives, supporting economic growth and investment across South Africa and Africa at large.
- The FSTC highlighted the importance of retirement funds submitting their B-BBEE reports in assessing the industry's transformation efforts and impact.
- The discussion reinforced the importance of increasing access to capital for women-led funds as a means of promoting greater inclusion, diversity, and participation within the investment landscape.

Event 5: The Measurement of Black Ownership on the JSE during the first three decades of democracy.

- The event highlighted the significant amount of work that still needs to be done in educating people on B-BBEE and ensuring that true ownership is achieved.
- The following were recommended:
    - A thorough legislative and policy review, critical to modernise B-BBEE, especially regarding ownership structures;
    - Developmental goals for financial institutions that drive inclusive economic participation;
    - Transformation efforts that are multidimensional, integrating racial, gender, and structural elements; and
    - Entities or companies must get recognition for past transactions on a sliding scale that falls to zero after three years to create liquidity in empowerment finance.

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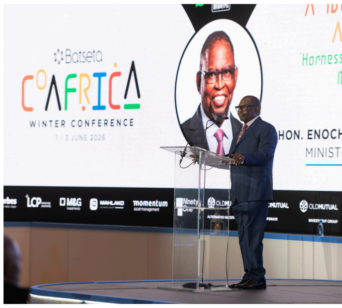

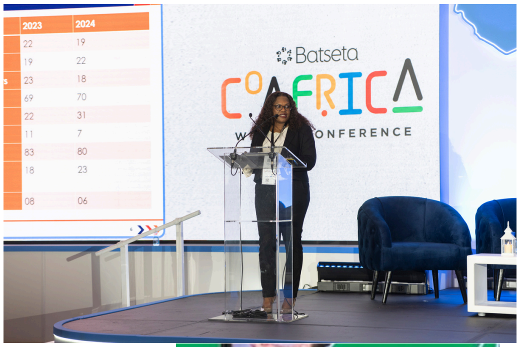

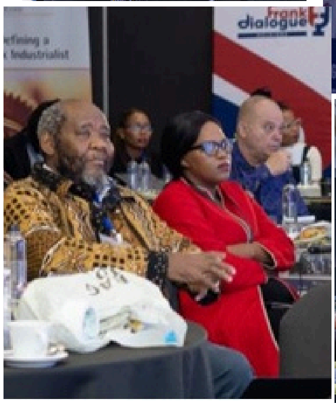

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Strengthening stakeholder engagements remains central to advocating and creating awareness for the mandate of the FSTC.

THANK YOU FOR INCLUDING US IN YOUR JOURNEY.

We recognise the responsibilityof the financial sector as a significant contributor to South Africa's economy, and remain committed to the broader transformation objective.

Address:

Financial Sector Transformation Council (FSTC)

Kopano on Empire, Suite 3

30 Wellington Road, Parktown

Johannesburg, South Africa

Contact details

Tel: 087 062 5950

General enquires **email**: info@fstc.org.za

Reporting **enquires**: reporting@fstc.org.za

www.fstc.org.za

Follow us on social media for the latest updates:

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Consolidated by:
Reporting and Research Team