

# Diversity and inclusion are vital in a purpose driven economy

Amelia Beattie, Liberty Two Degrees Chief Executive

Gender equality is intrinsically linked to sustainable development and value creation.

At Liberty Two Degrees (L2D), one of the leading South African retail focused REITs, we believe that business without bias drives growth. We therefore stand behind the #ChooseToChallenge initiative and strongly agree that a challenged world is an alert world.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the pre-existing inequalities prevalent in society, compounding risks to progress towards gender equality. This however cannot be used as an excuse, we are all responsible for our own actions and truly, it starts with our individual behaviours.

We are for policies that; strengthen women's agency, place gender equality at their centre and embrace a more cohesive and all-rounded environment. We #ChooseToChallenge not just to rectify long-standing inequalities, but to build a more resilient and inclusive world for all.

L2D has committed to gender diversity and inclusivity across the company, from Board level and filtered down into the rest of the organisation. For us, it is not just a tickbox exercise but something we have incorporated into our business culture and our strategy. We consider diversity and inclusion an asset in the business, as the intrinsic value of empathy results in a better understanding of our stakeholders. By embracing the differences in society, we can firmly challenge assumptions, inspire change and continue to innovate.

We *#ChooseToChallenge*.

*#IWD2021*



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