



# SHARING

## Her Story



**MARIKE WILSON**  
Governance and  
Reporting Executive

*This Women's Month we are celebrating the strength and resilience of the phenomenal women we work with across the Transaction Capital group. For the duration of August, we will be sharing their unique and inspiring stories with you in our series Sharing Her Story. Up first we profile Transaction Capital's Marike Wilson.*

After completing articles at Deloitte, Marike joined Transaction Capital as the Head Office Accountant in 2011. She progressed through the finance team, first as Financial Manager and then leading the team as Head of Finance from 2016 to 2019. Head of Finance included the integrated and sustainability reporting role, which had become more demanding as the focus on our environmental, social and governance (ESG) performance increased.

"Two beautiful babies later, I re-evaluated my own definition of success and started looking for an opportunity where I could be more flexible with my time while still contributing meaningfully at a senior level", says Marike. "TC was more than willing to engage and in line with the expanding sustainability role, created a new role which aligned with my passion and accommodated my personal circumstances."

**Based on your experience what progress have you seen in terms of female empowerment in your field?**

I think at a grass-roots level there are equal opportunities available to female CA(SA)s in South Africa. Recruitment strategies, a greater focus on closing the gender pay gap and promoting more flexible working arrangements are encouraging. There is, however, work to be done in ensuring the younger female talent pool converts into a better representation of women in leadership roles.

Unfortunately, there is still a very long way to go to achieve full equality of rights and opportunities between men and women in South Africa, with an urgent need to end the multiple forms of gender-based violence and to secure equal access to quality education.

**What advice would you give to a young woman considering a career path in your field?**

My current role in sustainability has taught me to keep an open mind, that the only constant is change and the ability to step outside of my comfort zone. Anyone considering this field will have the opportunity to contribute to the global agenda towards building an inclusive, sustainable and resilient future for people and the planet. These efforts include actions to tackle poverty, empower women and girls and address the climate emergency.

**As a mother as well as being a professional what does the concept of 'me time' mean to you? Particularly in the time of working from home, is this something you are able to achieve and how?**

Self-care is so important for our overall health and wellness, as well as our relationships with family, friends and colleagues. I try to make time for regular exercise, a walk with a friend or just to listen to a good podcast – easier said than done most days!