Women Leading The Charge In Innovation And Technology
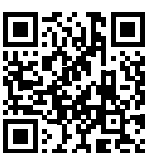
> *"Any society that fails to harness the energy and creativity of its women is at a huge disadvantage in the modern world."* – Tian Wei, China Central Television

In a world where technology is transforming the way we live and work, we celebrate some of the talented, creative women at the forefront of innovation and change.

- **Tebogo Mokwena** is the founder of Akiba Digital, a South African company providing alternative credit scoring infrastructure for small businesses and underbanked consumers.
- **Thembiso Magajana** is using her organisation, Social Coding, to bring technology and digital education to rural communities in South Africa, teaching young black girls to code.
- Blazing a trail in artificial intelligence and machine learning, **Dr Fei-Fei Li**, co-director of Stanford University's Institute for Human-Centered AI, is involved in cognitively inspired AI, deep learning, computer vision, AI+healthcare and robotic learning.
- **Dr Lisa Su** is CEO of Advanced Micro Devices, a US company at the forefront of computing development.
- Making healthcare more accessible for women in Africa, **Thato Schermer** and **Dr Nonhlanhla Sitole** started Zoie Health Technologies, offering an app that connects users to healthcare practitioners for virtual consultations, and provides a contraceptive subscription service.

Bottom line

Research shows that, when women are part of a team, companies benefit from more creative products and solutions, improved performance and better problem-solving. The emergence of more female leaders in various modern fields is encouraging an increase in programmes that develop and inform female skillsets, propelling women to brighter futures, and benefiting society as a whole.

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