

SHARED INTEREST

2022 Notable Impact Highlights



Overview

Shared Interest advances economic, racial and gender justice in Southern Africa by empowering Black-owned small and medium-sized enterprises with the resources they need to improve livelihoods, create jobs, and build healthy, sustainable communities. We do not make direct loans but instead provide guarantees that catalyze the region's own lenders to extend credit to entrepreneurs, farmers, women, and other excluded borrowers, thereby creating sustainable solutions to address the region's growing economic inequality and to achieve long-term growth and impact.

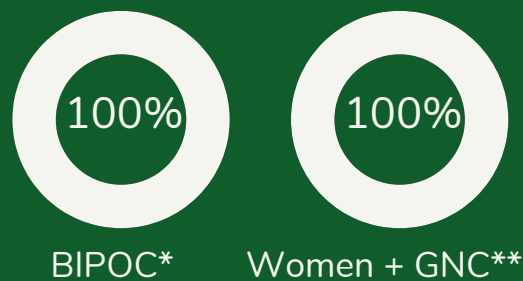
Challenging "Business As Usual"

Empowering Black/women business owners to build businesses that generate wealth for their own communities, to counteract the growing inequality in the region, and working with a broad array of lenders to encourage mainstream commercial banks to overhaul their processes and compete to provide adequate, appropriate services to these borrowers.

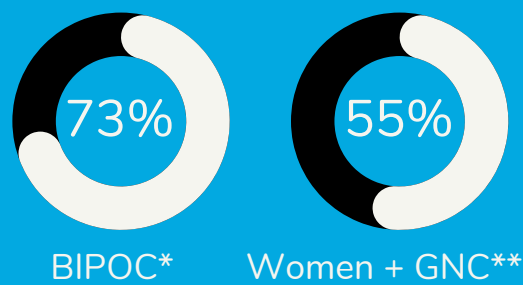
Community Engagement

We recently added a new South African board member who was a previous recipient of a Shared Interest guarantee to help ensure that borrowers' and communities' voices are represented in governance. We have also conducted extensive borrower listening exercises to gather feedback and deeper insight into our communities' current needs, and we respond by adjusting program designs and introducing new services, like a Covid-19 grants program to assist with extraordinary costs.

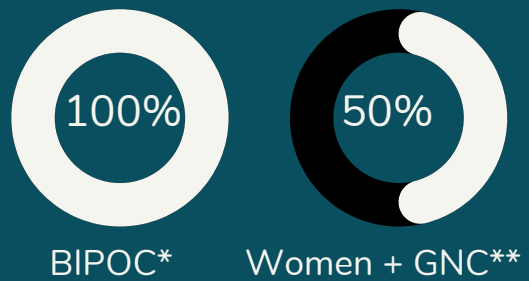
Leaders



Workforce



Borrowers



Development of Diverse Talent

We participate in funded internship programs for first-generation, low income college students and collaborate with HBCUs and international student programs (focusing on South/Southern Africa) to provide education and employment opportunities for students; we also provide specific training and development opportunities for women and BIPOC staff members to help them grow in their roles. In Africa, we have been actively seeking out women staff (less common in the banking/finance sectors) and elevating them to key program leadership roles.



*BIPOC = Black, Indigenous, People of Color. **GNC = Gender Nonconforming

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