



THE
BOARDROOM
AFRICA

Executive Education

Open Doors

Accredited Certificate in Company Direction

Our Partnership with the Institute of Directors (IoD)



"Get the benefit of a 120-year history in driving corporate governance leadership globally."

The Boardroom Africa and the IoD formalised their partnership in 2019 with a joint mission to reshape leadership in Africa by empowering women leaders to champion effective corporate governance. This collaborative effort gave rise to the Open Doors programme, aptly named to symbolise the act of opening doors and dismantling obstacles for women aspiring to enter and thrive in boardrooms. Fast forward four years, the partnership has successfully overseen 12 cohorts, graduating over 250 women leaders in Africa and across the globe and paving the way for more African women Chartered Directors.

The UK IoD has been at the heart of business since its formation in 1903. The Royal Charter, awarded in 1906, charged the IoD with promoting free enterprise, lobbying the government and setting standards for corporate governance. Today, the IoD remains the authority on entrepreneurialism, professionalism in business and good governance globally.



Overview



When a woman fills a board seat, there's a 32 per cent chance she's already served as a director at another company; when a man does, there's a 23 per cent chance he's already held a seat. Our survey of 50 executives and board directors identified board training as an effective way to bridge the gender gap in board appointments.

Open Doors is our flagship programme and the **first globally recognised and accredited** director certificate programme designed for female leaders across Africa and the diaspora.

Created in partnership with the Institute of Directors, UK (IoD), with a carefully designed holistic curriculum to make female directors more competitive for board roles and to enhance their effectiveness while serving as directors.

The programme leads to the **Certificate in Company Direction**, a bachelor's level (SCQF) qualification in its own right awarded by the IoD, enabling participants to receive a globally recognised credential from the oldest institution in the world setting standards for corporate governance.

Qualifying graduates may use the designation **CertIoD** in official communications and on their public profiles.



Programme Highlights

Intensive and enriching learning experience,
covering all the key elements of company direction

Lecture format with discussions, group breakouts,
and bonus virtual workshops

Case-study based Board Simulation

Build and grow your network with delegates from
across the continent and globe



Why choose Open Doors?

Accredited
certificate

Globally
recognised

Degree-level
equivalent

Taught by seasoned
practitioners



Path to Chartered Directorship

The Open Doors programme is **the first of three stages** in the path towards a Chartered Directorship, an internationally recognised qualification. The first stage is the Certificate in Company Direction (which is covered by the Open Doors programme). The second stage is the Diploma in Company Direction, an intensive three-day course with simulated boardroom challenges. The final stage, the Chartered Director Qualification, is achieved following a successful interview and assessment of business experience.

1

Certificate in Company Direction

2

Diploma in Company Direction

3

Chartered Director



Syllabus



International Role of the Director & Board

This module provides a thorough insight on a director's duties and legal responsibilities and the board's role in corporate governance and risk management. It also explores the emergence of corporate governance as a core feature of the modern international business environment and the business and economic benefits of corporate governance as identified by recent research.

Finance for Directors

This module looks at the director's role and responsibilities to finance and examines the relationship between financial strategy in relation to corporate strategy. It also explores financial and corporate risk management and the board's role in risk management. It is highly recommended for both finance and non-finance professionals.





Syllabus cont'd

Strategy for Directors

This module explores the relationship between strategy, governance and risk. Delegates will learn how to use tools and frameworks that support strategic thinking and decision-making. The module also provides practical insights into delivering their current business objectives while futureproofing their organisation.

Leadership for Directors

The module assesses different leadership and decision-making techniques. It helps delegates determine how to build and sustain high-performing teams and evaluate how these can be applied to their organisation to contribute to its increased success.



Syllabus cont'd



Board Simulation

A scenario-based board simulation focused on group dynamics and resolving conflicts at the board level. At the end of the exercise, delegates receive feedback on their decisions during the simulation, with further recommendations for application in practice.

Virtual Workshops

We offer three supplementary workshops in addition to the core programme modules; an ontological leadership workshop helps delegates tap into their deep self by exploring some of the most fundamental components of their unique qualities. A board committees workshop looks at the need for board committees and their role in corporate governance and board effectiveness. And a board conflicts workshop explores how conflict impacts the board's functionality.



Prerequisites

This programme aims to support and empower professional women who possess the necessary leadership skills and qualifications to serve on boards.

Proficiency in English is a requirement as all lectures, course material, discussions, and workshops are conducted in English.

The programme is ideal for:

Senior Management and C-level Executives

Pivot from an operational to a strategic board leader mindset

Board Members

Enhance your ability to serve effectively at the board level

Aspiring Board Members

Prepare yourself for the boardroom and engage with existing and seasoned board members



Testimonials

This training is not at all theoretical, and the value in that is learning from others' experiences and trying to internalise what these examples mean in my life.



– Marjorie Ngwenya
External Member of the Bank of England's
Prudential Regulatory Committee

Open doors brought to my attention the hard and soft skills required of an effective director. It validated my experiences on a board and made me more aware of the value I bring as a director. Learning with peers was a plus and I now have a network of people I feel I can reach out to, and not feel alone on this journey.



– Maryanne Ochola
Managing Director
Endeavour Kenya

The Open Doors programme delivered a powerful mix of first-class teachings and insightful, actionable advice.



– Christine Kamugisha
Senior Legal Counsel
Multichoice





Consolidating influence in any boardroom: Tokunboh Ishmael's journey to Chartered Director

Completing the journey towards achieving the Chartered Director qualification, even after sitting on various boards and committees for a number of years, has been valuable. It has strengthened my conviction on the necessary processes and value of proper governance and provided additional language and frameworks to enable me to be an effective board director and chair.

I had a sense that challenging the management of our portfolio companies on governance matters was an essential part of my role as a director, but I had much pushback from management and some fellow directors. In one case, I had to go up against the chair of a board and fellow directors to ensure proper processes for governance and decision-making were followed.

It was lonely and hard. For this reason, professional development and to maintain my sanity on difficult boards, I decided to pursue the CDir, going beyond the initial certificate through Open Doors and the Diploma in Company Direction.



Some of our past delegates have
come from:



Stanbic IBTC

A member of Standard Bank Group



Unilever



imaginable
futures



mastercard
foundation



Course Lecturers



Janhavi Dardarkar

Janhavi is a Governance and Strategy Advisor, Legal and Risk mitigation specialist, Recognised author & speaker. She's an establishing Corporate and Media law specialist, and successfully led the UK legal division of the MLS Group until its merger in 2015. She now runs her consultancy as a Governance and Intellectual Property Specialist, with clients spanning from top multinationals to start-up entrepreneurs. Legally sound principles and strategies are at the core of her advisory work and training, but just as important is a personal, commercial insight from someone with vast experience as a director and adviser in a broad range of industries.



Deborah Morton Dare

Deborah is the current finance programme lead at the IoD, UK. She is widely credited with the ability to translate and communicate complex technical subjects and information simply and clearly with the emphasis on practical application – why do you need to understand this, and how will you apply it in your role? Deborah's training experience over many years encompasses a diverse range of organisations including corporate clients, financial institutions as well as public sector bodies and charities, both in the UK and internationally. Examples include the Bank of England, LinkedIn, Microgen, Morgan Stanley, IBM, a number of Stock Exchanges and Westminster Council.



Talita Ferreira

Talita is an experienced C-Suite executive, who has led and implemented award-winning cultural transformation programmes in multiple industries. She is a Non-Executive Director, consultant, author and international speaker with the rare combination of finance, risk, people (human resources) and change leadership experience in the automotive and regulated financial services sectors. She has more than 25 years of corporate experience with global brands in multiple countries, including KPMG, Investec Bank, BMW and Ford Credit Bank Europe Plc.

Guest Lecturers



Rachel Adams

Rachel Adams is the founder of Narachi Leadership, a boutique consultancy that equips leaders with unique tools for transformational leadership. She merges research and practice from neuroscience, psychology, biomimicry and ontology to give clients a holistic opportunity for their's and their followers' continued development. In this work, she offers her expertise as a leadership training facilitator, ontological coach, advisory partner and speaker. She works with corporates, entrepreneurs, teams and individuals. Some of her corporate clients include Discovery, ABSA, Dalberg, L'Oreal, Danone, Cellulant and Nedbank. Rachel has received numerous awards for leadership and academic excellence including: the Desmond Tutu Leadership Fellowship; the Mandela Rhodes Scholarship; the Mellon Mays Leadership and Service Award; the Mellon Mays Scholarship and the Felix Scholarship.



Marjorie Ngwenya

Marjorie is an experienced coach, author and non-executive director for firms in a wide range of sectors such as insurance, finance, not-for-profit, and more. She was recently appointed as an External Member of the [Bank of England](#)'s Prudential Regulatory Committee and is also the chairperson of a social justice not-for-profit organisation and a trustee of another. She is a Past President of the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries (IFoA) and was the first person of colour to hold office in the organisation's 160 years history and also its youngest. She was the founding Executive Director of the African Leadership University's School of Insurance. Her prior roles include being a member of the Group Executive Committee of Liberty Group in South Africa and Chief Strategist and Chief Risk Officer of Old Mutual's African Operations.



Kieran Moynihan

Kieran is the Managing Partner of Board Excellence, a specialist international board consultancy practice, supporting & enabling boards of directors and individual directors to excel in the areas of effectiveness and performance. He has over 20 years of experience serving on boards as a CEO & Executive Director, Non-Executive Director and Board Chair. Kieran is an internationally-recognised thought leader in the area of board dynamics, effectiveness, performance and corporate governance.

2024 Sessions



In-person Cohort

Cohort 16

18 - 23 November 2024

The in-person programme commences with a virtual Meet and Greet and Coaching Workshop, followed by six days of in-person sessions. A Board Simulation and two additional workshops take place virtually.

The fee covers accommodation, meals, airport transfers, course fees, virtual workshops, and access to the course Virtual Academy and materials. **Flights and examination fees are not included.**

The course fee worth over £12,000 has been heavily subsidised to ensure that the training is accessible to as many women leaders as possible.

Email: opendoors@theboardroomafrica.com for more information.

Sessions

Dates

Meet & Greet	Thu 7 November 2024
Leadership Workshop	Wed 13 November 2024
Role of the Director 1	Mon 18 November 2024
Role of the Director 2	Tue 19 November 2024
Finance for Directors 1	Tue 19 November 2024
Finance for Directors 2	Wed 20 November 2024
Finance for Directors 3	Thu 21 November 2024
Strategy for Directors 1	Thu 21 November 2024
Strategy for Directors 2	Fri 22 November 2024
Strategy for Directors 3	Fri 22 November 2024
Leadership for Directors 1	Fri 22 November 2024
Leadership for Directors 2	Sat 23 November 2024
Board Simulation	Thu 5 December 2024

*Six days in person & three virtual sessions

Non-member \$8,500

Member \$7,500



Accommodation & Conferencing

We will be lodging at the Arabella Golf & Spa hotel located in the Kogelberg Biosphere, one of the world's richest floral reserves and just 90 minutes from the heart of Cape Town





Start your certified director journey today.

Schedule a call with a Programme Advisor

[Schedule a call](#)

Apply today.

[**Apply**](#)

