

MEDIA
PROFILE

20
24



BOIKANO
SIKWANE

BUSINESS
WOMAN
ENTREPRENEUR

About Me

Boikano Sikwane – Entrepreneur, Foodie, and Passion Pusha, Co-Founder and CEO of Chuck Chilli Foods and Kanos Eyewear

Boikano matriculated at St Lukes in 1993. She went on to study Financial Management at Damelin. She then worked in a number of corporates such as Du Point, investec, Mweb, Tiscali and Hahn & Hahn Attorneys where she took up roles in Corporate Administration and Debtor Management. It was at the end of 2014 that she decided to hang up her gloves and take a break from corporate to become a homemaker. It was during this time that she connected with a passion for food and revived her love for reading.



About The Business

It was at the beginning of 2019 that she started playing around with a chunky chilli recipe in her home garage that led to the birth of Chuck Chilli Foods. Chuck Chilli was started in a home kitchen and very quickly gained popularity among friends and family and flea-markets. In March 2019 a small factory space was acquired started supplying online platforms, retailers, spice shops, butcheries and restaurants. Today this business supplies over 150 retailers (including all major Food Lover's Market stores in SA, selected Checkers and Spar). Chuck Chilli has also grown into a 150 square meter factor that is food safety certified and employs 12 people and creates many other jobs indirectly. Chuck Chilli has a unique taste that is now loved by thousands which differentiates it from other similar products on the market. No artificial preservatives are used and it is Halaal approved. Chuck Chilli has ambitions of growing into all major retailers and become a brand that is well known in all chilli loving households.

Boikano has also completed a Bachelor of Consumer Science through Unisa and has completed the Small Business Enrichment Programme at the University of Johannesburg

Boikano's love for fashion also inspired the creation of Kanos Eyewear. Kanos Eyewear celebrates cultural heritage through designs of spectacle and sunglass frames that are themed in South African traditional patterns. The young and upcoming range currently boasts design in Tshivenda, Setswana, Ndebele and Xitsonga with Zulu and Xhosa in still on the works. The Afrocentric designs aim to allow fashionistas match their vision with their heritage. The range is currently available on Takealot and kanoseyewear.co.za and will be launching at a number of optometrists and clothing stores.

Boikano has also received the following recognition:

- Top 10 Finalist Food Lovers Market - Seed of Change (2021)
- Inductee into Food Accelerator and the Small Enterprise Development Agency Food and Beverage Localization programme (2021).
- Runner Up – Job Creation Award – The 2022 Black Industrialists and Exporters Awards.
- JCCI and City of Joburg Exporter Development Programme 2023 Inductee
- African Bank ESD Capacity Building Programme 2023 Inductee



Boikano is known as a collaborative leader who values the input of her team members as well as those of her consumers. Her vision for the business is that it outlives her generations and continues to offer the best quality products. This is a vision that drives her decisions at all levels of the business

Looking ahead, Boikano sees herself leading Chuck Chilli Foods and Kanos Eyewear to be household brands in South Africa and the rest of the continent, and eventually to reach the rest of the world. She is determined to grow her business' product offerings, continue to seek the most effective and efficient processes to achieve sustainable profits for all present and future stakeholders, and have a positive impact on the communities it operates within



Being born and raised within a family that lived the values of uplifting others so we can all reach higher; she has found it natural and almost compelling to run a business with a conscience. She is uncompromising on the importance of youth employment and skills development for the young people in her employment. The future of South Africa lies within the minds and hearts of young South Africans, and it is in this space that she wants to have great impactn