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What attracted you to banking, and what inspired you to focus specifically on transactional services?

My journey in banking began through a graduate programme, which gave me the unique opportunity to rotate across different areas of the bank and gain a holistic view of banking operations. Over time, I transitioned through various roles, from commercial to corporate banking, covering a wide range of sectors and geographies, including mining and metals, oil and gas, power and infrastructure, the government sector, as well as transport and logistics. This experience gave me a solid foundation and the chance to contribute meaningfully by structuring complex financial transactions and delivering impactful banking solutions. My path into transactional services, where we collaborate with corporate treasurers and chief financial officers to structure treasury and working capital solutions, was driven by my interest in the evolving digital landscape and the opportunity it presents. The ever-changing digital environment enables the bank to partner with corporates through their digital journeys by leveraging emerging technologies and delivering innovative solutions. My master's research study was also based on this topic, and I investigated the effects of digitalisation on the competitiveness of banks in the digital era.

What did you want to become when you were a child?

My choices were influenced quite a bit by my upbringing. Both my parents were

in the sciences, so naturally, I leaned towards that world. As a child, I spent a lot of time with my dad in the lab during weekends and school holidays, and I saw myself following a similar career path. I even enrolled for microbiology and biotechnology in my first year at university, but realised it wasn't for me. I made the switch to financial information systems in my second year, and that's what opened the door to banking. What really drew me in was the interconnectedness between banking and information systems, especially in digital banking. I was fascinated by how data and systems come together to create solutions for clients. That blend of tech and finance is what sparked my interest and ultimately led to a career in transactional services.

What attracted you to Nedbank?

Nedbank has really given me the opportunity to grow and fully immerse myself in the world of banking. As a market leader in sustainable financing, Nedbank Corporate and Investment Banking offered me the chance to be part of a team that's constantly delivering groundbreaking solutions to our clients. I've always loved a good challenge and enjoy problem solving, which is at the core of what we do in Transaction Services. We're always looking for new ways to lead – especially in areas like infrastructure, finance, and renewable energy, where our work has earned us significant recognition.

How do you deal with challenges?

It hasn't always been smooth sailing. One of the key lessons I've learned along the way is the importance of understanding and navigating corporate dynamics. It's a skill that doesn't come naturally to everyone, but it's one you have to develop as you grow in your career.

How do you maintain a work-life balance?

Finding a balance is quite difficult – there's rarely a perfect harmony. There are times when trade-offs are necessary, but it's incredible how much one can get done with limited time. What has helped

me is being systematic and intentional with my time: compartmentalising, staying disciplined, and giving my best to each commitment. Even with a packed schedule, I also prioritise time with family and take care of my wellbeing. I've recently returned to boxing, which has been a fantastic outlet.

What is your advice to aspiring young women who want to become investment bankers?

Resilience is something you need to start building early in your career. Get comfortable with discomfort; it's where growth happens and grit is formed. Take the time to develop expertise and aim to become a well-rounded banker. Find your voice, assert yourself, and don't shy away from owning your space. Identify mentors who've walked the path before you; their insights are invaluable. And through it all, don't forget to have fun.

How do you see the future of transactional services evolving over the next decade?

Transactional services are being reshaped by the rapid evolution of the payments landscape. As innovation and technology continue to advance, we can expect to see faster, smarter, and more integrated payment systems. The competitive environment is shifting too, opening up exciting opportunities for collaboration, whether it's with fintechs, mobile network operators, or through the development of new products and services. Of course, this also brings heightened cybersecurity risks that we need to stay ahead of. But amid all this change, one thing remains constant. Clients still want to engage with someone who understands their unique needs. Human connection continues to be at the heart of what we do.

