

MEN'S MONTH EDITION JULY 2025

# STREET LEGACY

NEWSLETTER 2025/07



## SIBUSISO MNTAMBO

LEGAL ASPIRANT, ENTREPRENEUR, SPEAKER

# STREET LEGACY

## LEADING FORWARD: A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD



**Dear Partners, Change-makers, and Friends of Street Legacy,**

This month, we honour the resilience, innovation, and hustle of the men who, despite limited resources, continue to build and sustain our local economies from the ground up. Whether it's the street vendor perfecting their trade, the township mechanic keeping families on the move, the young student entrepreneur crafting tech solutions in his dorm room, or the rural farmer creating sustainable livelihoods, these men represent more than informal enterprise; they represent legacy.

At Street Legacy Foundation (SLF), we believe these men are not only economic contributors but community builders.

They carry forward the stories of struggle, perseverance, and bold entrepreneurship that inspire others to rise.

Too often, these stories go undocumented, and their impact overlooked. That's where we step in. This month, we are committed to highlighting their journeys, connecting them to broader opportunities, and amplifying their voices in a world that too frequently overlooks the informal sector.

Through storytelling, capacity-building, and partnerships, SLF stands as a platform where these entrepreneurs are seen, heard, and empowered. Richard Branson once said, ***"Business opportunities are like buses, there's always another one coming."*** To every man building a legacy with his hands, heart, and hustle we salute you.

You are not just navigating the margins you are reshaping them. Your legacy matters, and at SLF, we are proud to walk beside you. Let this month be a celebration and a call to action. Let us invest, support, and elevate the men who are turning sidewalks into store fronts and dreams into daily livelihoods.

**In solidarity and purpose,  
Ashley Malebe  
Chairman of the Board  
Street Legacy Foundation**



# JULY EDITION

# VOL.002

# NEWSLETTER

Inflation - SMME's	04
Sibusiso Mntambo	05
Tiktok for Businesses	07
ReViva Designs	08
Legal Considerations	09



## STREET LEGACY FOUNDATION

Street Legacy Foundation (SLF) is a dynamic, youth-led non-profit organisation committed to recognizing, documenting, and empowering informal entrepreneurs. From resilient street vendors and township businesses to innovative student entrepreneurs and rural hustlers, SLF tells their stories, connects them to opportunities, and amplifies their voices in the economic landscape.

We believe informal entrepreneurs are not just survivors of hardship, but builders of communities and drivers of local economies. SLF exists to celebrate their legacy and inspire a new generation of grassroots change-makers.



# Why Small Businesses Must Understand Inflation?

By Awethu Magobongo



**Watch  
inflation or  
watch your  
profits  
disappear**

**—Awethu Magobongo**

Due to the recent increase of inflation rate from 2.8% in May to 3.0% in June 2025, signaling a slight upward trend that small business owners and informal traders should not ignore. For young entrepreneurs many of whom turn to small businesses or the informal sector due to South Africa's high youth unemployment rate this rise in inflation brings real challenges that can threaten the survival of their businesses.

Inflation leads to higher prices for essentials like ingredients, electricity, and transport. For informal traders working with tight budgets and serving low-income communities, these rising costs can't always be passed on to customers without losing sales. This squeezes profit margins and increases the risk of losses. Additionally, inflation reduces consumer purchasing power, meaning people buy less, and sales drop directly impacting informal businesses that rely on daily transactions.

What makes inflation even more dangerous is its unpredictability. Without a good understanding of how inflation works, entrepreneurs may struggle to budget, price their products, or plan ahead. This can result in poor decisions, such as overstocking, underpricing, or borrowing money when interest rates are high.

That's why it is critical for every entrepreneur, especially those in the informal economy, to understand inflation and its effects. Being financially aware helps small business owners make smart choices: adjusting prices appropriately, planning stock purchases, managing cash flow, and staying resilient even when costs rise. It also helps them avoid common mistakes, like saving in cash that loses value over time.

In a country where many young people depend on small businesses for survival, economic awareness is just as important as business skills. Knowing how inflation affects your business could be the difference between growing your hustle and losing it. Awareness is power stay informed, stay prepared.



At just 21 years old, Sibusiso Cedrick Mntambo is proof that age is not a barrier when purpose and drive are present. Born and raised in Johannesburg, South Africa, and currently completing his final year of a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) degree at the University of Mpumalanga, Sibusiso is not just a student he is a rising force in youth entrepreneurship. His journey into business didn't start with funding or a detailed strategy, but rather with a deep hunger for growth, leadership, and community impact.

In 2023, during his second year of studies, Sibusiso joined Enactus University of Mpumalanga seeking nothing more than exposure and personal development. He began his journey serving under the Secretary-General's subcommittee, where he learned the value of discipline, developed strong administrative skills, and discovered his voice through public speaking. That environment sparked something within him a calling to do more than just participate. It was the beginning of his entrepreneurial path.

By 2024, he had risen to the position of Enterprise Coordinator within Enactus, a role that allowed him to support and advise student-run enterprises. This experience opened his eyes to the challenges that students face, particularly around logistics and storage during recess periods. What began as a solution to a simple student problem quickly

evolved into a powerful business idea and Mntambo and Malebe Storage (Pty) Ltd was born.

Mntambo and Malebe Storage officially launched in early 2024, offering secure, affordable, and convenient storage solutions to students and the local Mbombela community. The business, which currently operates as a hybrid model with online booking and a physical base in Mbombela, provides services such as safe student storage during university recess, local removals, on-demand delivery, and packaging materials. Sibusiso's vision was clear from the start to create a youth-led solution, designed by students for students, that not only solves problems but also creates opportunities.

Within just a few months, the business had grown to employ over 15 young people on a part-time and full-time basis. It became more than a company it became a platform for empowerment and job creation in a town battling high youth unemployment. Sibusiso's leadership and business acumen didn't go unnoticed.







Through his leadership in Enactus, he has nurtured young leaders, developed innovative community projects, and inspired students who once lacked direction to find their calling in social entrepreneurship.

Looking into the future, Sibusiso envisions Mntambo and Malebe Storage expanding to campuses across South Africa, offering tailored moving and storage services to tertiary students nationwide.

He also plans to enter the private removal and logistics industry, providing tech-savvy, youth-led alternatives to traditional services. To other young people with big dreams, his message is simple but powerful: ***“Your background is not your limitation it’s your launchpad. Start where you are. You don’t need to be perfect, just intentional. Choose impact over applause and never stop learning.”***

Sibusiso Cedrick Mntambo represents the spirit of a new generation bold, resilient, and purpose-driven. His story is one of transformation, not just for himself, but for every young South African daring to believe that change is possible when led by the youth, for the youth.

In 2025, he made history by becoming the first President of Enactus University of Mpumalanga to lead the team to victory at the Enactus South Africa National Exposition a win that earned the university the honour of representing South Africa at the Enactus World Cup in Bangkok, Thailand.

His list of achievements continues to grow. In addition to leading Enactus UMP to national recognition, Sibusiso has become a respected voice in university-led dialogues around youth innovation and entrepreneurship. His journey is a shining example of how vision, consistency, and grit can transform not only personal circumstances but entire communities.

But his rise has not come without sacrifice. Sibusiso openly shares the cost of his success long nights, missed family time, and the emotional weight of leadership. Yet, through it all, he remains deeply grounded in purpose, determined to speak for the voiceless and to build something greater than himself.

Beyond business, his commitment to youth development is unwavering. Mntambo and Malebe Storage is intentionally structured to uplift others by creating jobs, offering skills development, and fostering entrepreneurial training. It fills a real gap in the market while investing in the human potential that often goes unnoticed in townships and university towns like Mbombela.



# How Can Small Businesses Use TikTok to Grow Their Businesses

In the twenty-first century, everything is going digital, and allowing innovation is the only way to stay relevant in the business sector. Innovative marketing tools are essential for small businesses to thrive in the current competitive business environment. Additionally, TikTok is a potent instrument that provides inexpensive promotion.

With about 1.59 billion monthly active users globally, TikTok provides more than just comedy or dance skits; it is a dynamic platform that allows small businesses to create their own communities and engage with their audience through storytelling.

One of the most genuine and useful social media platforms for small businesses to display their behind-the-scenes content is TikTok. These genuine moments, which could include showing prospective customers how the product is created, packing orders, or presenting the individuals involved in the entire process, establish a personal connection. People clearly like and value seeing the human side of businesses, and TikTok's relaxed and unpolished aesthetic is ideal for this.

Another useful technique that small businesses might explore is taking notes on popular and trending sounds, hashtags, and challenges on TikTok. Entrepreneurs can use viral content to increase their awareness while keeping the business twist in mind. For instance, a street vendor selling vegetables may utilise a popular sound to show us what goes on behind the scenes when growing or stocking veggies.

One of the advantages that small businesses can achieve by using TikTok is the effective way engaging and growing their business by sharing business tips, how-to or advice related to their niche with other businesses within their niche. For example, a street vendor selling vegetables can do a cooking video using their vegetables. This builds authority and trust, positioning the business as both a service provider and a knowledgeable resource.

Sharing business tips, how-tos, or advice relevant to their expertise with other businesses in their niche is an efficient method for small businesses to engage with TikTok and develop their business. For instance, a vegetable street vendor might use their vegetables and do a cook with me video. This builds authority and trust, establishing the business as a service provider as well as people centred.

Last but not least, TikTok just introduced ads that small businesses may use to precisely target their potential clients. This feature is more realistic; thousands of potential customers are likely to see well-written sponsored content. When paired with natural content, this establishes a powerful presence that fosters expansion.

In conclusion, TikTok is a more accessible, engaging and authentic platform where creativity drives success. Small businesses willing to expand their business must engage with trends, this will be a game changer in building brand awareness, driving sales, and growing an online community.

# From Friendship to Founders – Meet the Brains Behind ReViva Designs



Meet Felix Thwala (26) from Pienaar and Mcolisi Shongwe (22) from Nhlazatje, friends, business partners, and founders of ReViva Designs, a proudly youth-led startup that's turning glass waste into beautifully crafted eco-tiles. Felix and Mcolisi, both master's candidates in Development Studies, were drawn to action by the growing issue of glass bottle pollution in their communities. Instead of sitting on the sidelines, they asked themselves a powerful question: How can we repurpose this waste into something valuable and impactful?

That question gave birth to ReViva Designs in 2024, a manufacturing business based at the University of Mpumalanga's Center for Entrepreneurship and Rapid Incubation (UMPCFERI).

Today, ReViva Designs is making waves with its unique offering: durable, high-quality tiles made from recycled glass and special polymers. These tiles are not only environmentally conscious but also aesthetically pleasing, appealing to households and green-minded individuals looking to beautify their spaces sustainably. The duo is also prototyping other home and design products that extend the lifecycle of glass waste while reducing environmental harm.

Though still in the early stages, their journey has already captured national and international attention. In May 2025, they placed in the top 10 of the Ford C3 Building Sustainable Communities competition, earning \$671.29 in funding.

Just a month later, they went on to win the entire Cycle 11 round of the competition, receiving a \$5,000 grant, a huge milestone that affirmed their vision and gave their startup the boost it needed.

Looking ahead, their vision is crystal clear. Within five years, they hope to open a larger production facility in their township, capable of upcycling at least 10 tons of glass per month and employing over five young graduates full-time. They also plan to work with local waste collectors and recycling partners to drive community involvement and create sustainable employment opportunities across Mpumalanga.

When asked what keeps them going, their answer is simple but profound: ***“We wanted to be changemakers that’s what inspires us every day.”*** Their advice to fellow young entrepreneurs? ***“Start with what you have. Even small steps can open doors to recognition, funding, and partnerships. Make noise about your business and build connections.”***

Felix and Mcolisi's journey are a powerful reminder that with purpose, passion, and a good friend by your side, anything is possible. ReViva Designs isn't just changing how we view waste, it's changing lives.





# Entrepreneurial Dreams Turn into a Legal Commitment: The Unseen Contract of Business Ownership in South Africa

By Sibusiso Mntambo

Behind every small business in South Africa lies in a deeply personal story, of dreams nurtured in silence, of ambition fuelled by circumstance, and of boldness born from necessity. From the aspiring township techpreneur to the woman-led wellness spa, entrepreneurs across the country are rewriting their futures with courage. Yet, amid the excitement of brand names, logos, and first customers, lies a sobering truth: starting a business is not just a pursuit of passion, it is a binding legal commitment.

In South Africa, the act of registering a business is more than a bureaucratic step; it is the moment when a dream becomes subject to the law. The Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC), guided by the Companies Act 71 of 2008, regulates the formation and governance of companies. Entrepreneurs must first choose a business structure, whether a sole proprietorship, a private company, or a non-profit entity. Each option carries distinct legal implications regarding liability, governance, and tax.

A private company, for instance, grants limited liability but demands strict compliance, from submitting a Memorandum of Incorporation (MOI) that outlines shareholder rights and director duties, to filing annual returns and maintaining financial transparency. Overlooking these obligations is not merely an oversight, it's a legal risk with consequences ranging from penalties to deregistration.

Equally significant is the Shareholders' Agreement, a document often neglected in the early euphoria of business partnerships. When illness, death, or disputes arise, as they inevitably do,

it is this agreement that preserves dignity, clarity, and fairness. Without it, a once-thriving enterprise can quickly unravel into litigation and emotional distress.

Furthermore, legal compliance encompasses far more than the initial act of registration. Small businesses must register with SARS for income tax, VAT (if turnover exceeds R1 million), PAYE, and the Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF) if employing staff. Sector-specific licences, whether a liquor licence, health practice accreditation, or B-BBEE affidavit, may also be necessary, especially for entrepreneurs seeking inclusion in corporate and public procurement supply chains.

It is here, where legal obligation intersects with entrepreneurial spirit, that the weight of business ownership is truly felt. For many, the law can feel intimidating, inaccessible, or secondary to survival. But the reality is clear: to operate legally, sustainably, and competitively in South Africa's economy, the dreamer must also become a legally informed decision-maker.

The support of commercial lawyers, legal clinics, or business development agencies is not a luxury, it is a necessity. Proper legal groundwork does not stifle entrepreneurial vision; it protects it. It provides structure where there is uncertainty and stability where there is risk.

Because in the end, building a business in South Africa is not just about profit margins or personal fulfilment. It is about honouring the legal framework that allows that business to exist, grow, and thrive.