

**Overview:** Published as a professional leadership commentary on **LinkedIn.** **Core Theme:** Dr. Msomi challenges the traditional corporate diversity narrative of simply "earning a seat at the table." She argues that true empowerment involves moving past passive inclusion to wielding genuine influence and structural authority. The article serves as an executive call-to-action for established leaders to intentionally build, expand, and open organizational pathways for marginalized entrepreneurs and women in STEM and agriculture.