



THANDO NJOKO

**SOCIAL PERFORMANCE AND SOCIOECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**

KUMBA IRON ORE

Thando Njoko leads the Social Performance and Socioeconomic Development function at Kumba Iron Ore, driving initiatives that create lasting value for host communities. With a background in advisory services at PwC and extensive experience in mining, she has been instrumental in shaping sustainability strategies across Anglo American Group since 2018.

Her passion for sustainability began in the NGO sector, where she designed programmes focused on sexual and reproductive health for young people. Transitioning to the mining industry in 2008, she has since tackled complex social challenges, including artisanal mining, land access, resettlement, and corporate social investment.

Thando played a key role in developing Kumba's Social Impact Mitigation Programme, launched in 2024 to address potential community impacts from business reconfiguration. This programme focuses on job creation, skills development, enterprise growth, and supplier support. While still in its early stages, each project within the programme is guided by a theory of change and measurable impact indicators.

Currently, Thando is leading the review of Kumba's Thriving Communities strategy, ensuring that social closure and long-term sustainability remain at the core of mining operations. She believes in co-creation, emphasising that strategic stakeholder engagement is critical for meaningful and sustainable impact.

A strong advocate for diversity, Thando encourages women in sustainability to bring their full selves to the table, promoting innovation and problem-solving in a field where results take time. Her leadership continues to shape an industry that prioritises both business success and community resilience.

**WOMEN
IN MINING**
SUSTAINABILITY
HEROES
2024
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