

Welkom resident shares excitement on being one of Africa's first women Master Butchers



Lydia Thithi, from Welkom in the Free State, became one of the first 13 women on the continent to join the global club of certified Master Butchers when she graduated from the Shoprite Group's Master Meat Artisan Programme in July 2023.

This elite butchery learning programme, underwritten by the United Kingdom's Institute of Meat, provides participants with extensive knowledge in meat processing practices from farm to fork. To qualify, butchers are required to build a substantial portfolio of evidence that includes modules on butchery expertise, business acumen and food hygiene and safety, among others.

Lydia worked in clothing retail for two years before joining Shoprite Boitumelo Junction in 2011 as a General Assistant through the Group's Meat Market learnership programme. She held various positions before being promoted to Meat Market Manager.

"My favourite aspect of the Meat Market Artisan Programme was learning about agriculture and the journey that meat takes from farm to table. I aspire to become better in business by bringing new and improved ideas for the growth of the butchery and continue to improve my skills as a manager" said Thithi.

The Group is the only company in Africa to provide this exclusive and highly specialized butchery learning programme. It aims to boost the development of a scarce and sought-after skill, provide career opportunities for its employees and put the Group on the map as world-class specialists in meat processing.

END

Keep up to date with the Shoprite Group's latest news: [sign up](#) to receive all the latest [news](#) published on the Shoprite Holdings website, or follow us on [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#).