

TSHIFHIWA JOSHUA MAUMELA

Dr. Tshifhiwa Joshua Maumela is a trailblazing AI researcher and machine learning expert with over a decade of experience spanning banking, logistics, telecommunications and academia. He holds a PhD in Artificial Intelligence and is a registered Professional Engineer. Dr. Maumela is best known for co-inventing the Ulimisana Optimisation Algorithm, Africa's first AI algorithm inspired by Ubuntu philosophy and mechanism design.

He has successfully led the development of several first-in-continent AI solutions, including Standard Bank's customer-facing Deep Learning-powered anomaly detection and recommendation systems. He also served as a Technical Lead for AI and Machine Learning at Vodacom and chairs the Computing Chapter of the South African Institute of Electrical Engineers (SAIEE) where he lead the design and development of a large deep learning recommendation system development and deployment capability.

Dr. Maumela holds advanced degrees in AI and Economics from the University of Johannesburg and Waseda University in Tokyo. He is currently a Councillor at ICASA.

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