



Fourth Annual

Women in Emergency, Disaster Management and Fire Service Leadership Conference 2025

Empowering Women Leaders
for A Resilient Tomorrow



Dates
August 07-08
2025

Venue
The Southern Sun
Hotel, Rivonia Road,
Sandton

Driven By
Eminence
Corporate
Solutions

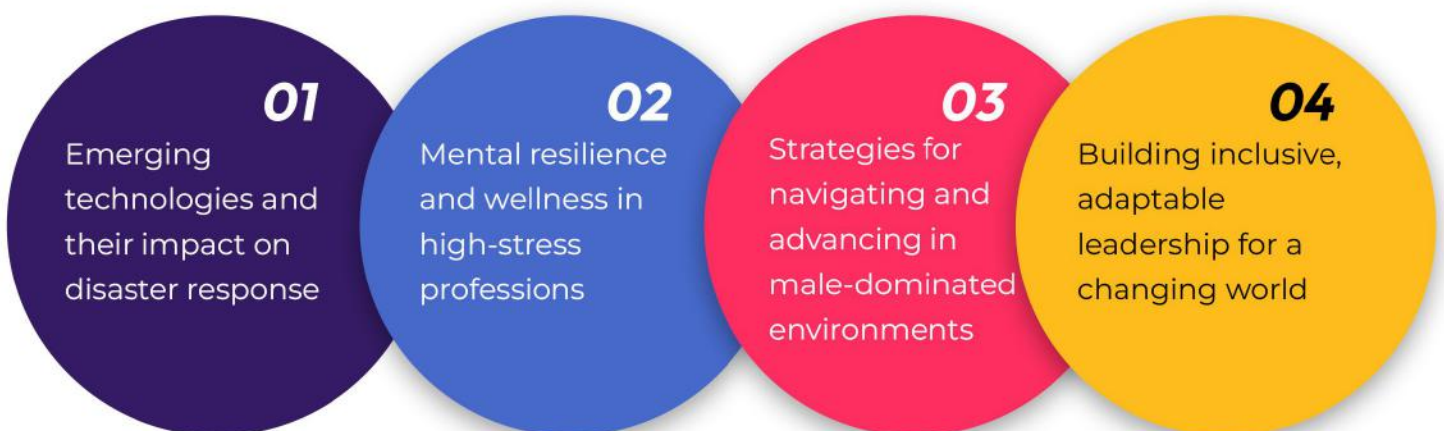
Overview

The 4th Annual Women in Emergency, Disaster Management, and Fire Services Leadership Conference is a premier platform dedicated to celebrating, inspiring, and empowering women leaders in high-pressure sectors. As more women break barriers and step into pivotal leadership roles, this year's theme — “Empowering Women Leaders for a Resilient Tomorrow” — places a strong focus on resilience, innovation, collaboration, and transformative leadership in an increasingly complex world.

Spanning two impactful days, the 2025 edition brings together a powerful mix of keynote presentations, expert-led sessions, interactive workshops, and live simulations. These elements are carefully curated to equip attendees with practical tools and insights in areas such as crisis decision-making, leadership development, AI-driven disaster response, climate resilience, and mental wellness.

This year, the conference also places a spotlight on the experiences of women with disabilities in EMS, disaster, and fire services—championing inclusive leadership and addressing the unique challenges they face in the field. Through thoughtful dialogue and representation, the event reinforces its commitment to ensuring all women, regardless of physical ability, are empowered to lead with confidence and impact.

Key Sessions



Beyond the content, the conference serves as a dynamic networking hub—fostering meaningful connections, peer learning, and collaborative opportunities that drive positive change in emergency and disaster leadership.

Package

R7999 Per Delegate

The Delegate Package includes:

- Conference Drinks – Evening Reception Networking Event
- Delegate Pass for 2 Day Conference
- All Refreshments & Snacks During Conference Breaks Including Buffet Lunches
- Discounted Accommodation Rates at Venue Hotel (subject to availability)

"Strong women don't wait for the storm to pass; they *lead through it*, turning crisis into opportunity and adversity into *strength.*"

Benefits of Attending

- 01 Leadership Development** – Enhance your leadership and crisis management skills with expert insights and strategies.
- 02 Networking Opportunities** – Connect with a global network of women professionals and industry leaders.
- 03 Expert Insights** – Gain knowledge from seasoned executives, first responders, and disaster relief professionals.
- 04 Innovation and Strategy** – Explore emerging technologies and strategies shaping emergency and disaster management.
- 05 Gender Inclusivity** – Learn about initiatives promoting gender diversity and empowering women in leadership roles.
- 06 Mental Resilience** – Develop tools to manage stress and well-being in high-pressure environments.
- 07 Personal Growth** – Overcome industry-specific challenges with confidence and strategic leadership techniques.

List of Attendees

- Health care executives
- Hospital administrators
- Medical and health services managers
- Nursing home managers
- Health care managers
- Administrative managers
- Industrial Fire Chiefs
- Municipal Fire Chiefs
- Senior Fire Fighters
- Fire Engineers
- Firefighters
- Driver engineers
- Lieutenants
- Captains
- Battalion chiefs
- Assistant chiefs
- Fire chiefs
- Group Medical Directors
- Specialist Surgeons
- Policy Makers
- Regulators
- Contact Centre's Managers
- Fire Engineers
- Fire Safety Consultants
- Fire Risk Consultants
- Occupational Safety Managers
- Process Safety Managers
- Safety & HSE Managers
- HSEQ Managers
- Risk Managers
- Security Managers
- Ops Managers
- Doctors
- Medical Superintendents
- Industrial Safety and Training Managers
- Emergency Medical Responders
- Emergency Medical Technicians
- Call Handlers
- Emergency Medical Dispatchers
- Paramedics
- Audit, Risk & Compliance Managers
- Fire Area Managers
- Communications and Marketing Executives
- GIS Reporting & Data Analysts
- Health Information Technicians
- Offshore Medics
- Industrial Medics
- Flight Paramedics
- Registered Nurses
- EMS Pilots

August **07-08, 2025**

The Southern Sun Hotel, Rivonia Road,
Sandton, Johannesburg

Project Coordinator: Pheello Semase



Panel of Speakers



Nomantu Nkomo-Ralehoko

MEC for Health,
Gauteng Province,
Public Sector Leader,
Advocate for Equitable
Health Systems,
Champion for Women
in Crisis Response



Dr. Christine Peta

Global Disability
Rights Advocate,
PhD in Disability
Studies, Expert in
Inclusive Disaster
& Emergency
Management



Bridgette Zungu

Director: EMS,
KZN Provincial
Government,
Emergency Services
Strategist, Leader
in Public Health
Readiness, Advocate
for Gender-Inclusive
EMS



Charlotte Pillay

COO Health Tech
Leader, Clinical
Coordinator, Female
Healthcare Programme,
Adjunct Lecturer, Regent
Business School,
Advocate for Women
in EMS & Fire



Melony Shimane

Chief Fire and
Disaster Manager,
Lekwa Local
Municipality,
Trailblazer in Fire
& Disaster
Management,
Mentor for Women
in Emergency
Services, Emergency
Leadership Advocate



Debbie Bester

Founder and CEO
of Parys Medix,
Chairperson of
Fezile Dabi Road
Incident
Management,
Advocate for
Emergency
Medical Services



Tash Lachenicht

Managing Director,
Epic Emergency
Medicine



Jabulephiwe Mpitso

Manager: Fire &
Rescue, O.R. Tambo
International Airport,
First Chief Fire woman
for an Airport in
South Africa

Panel of Speakers



Madelyne van Emmenis

Training Coordinator,
Sustainability,
Exxaro Resources



Lebogang Mosotho

Disaster
Management Officer,
Capricon District
Municipality,
President for Disaster
Management
Institute of
Southern Africa
(DMISA)



Dr. Tlou Raphela-Masuku

Senior Lecturer,
DiMTEC – UFS,
Academic Researcher
in Disaster Risk
Science, Thought
Leader in Resilience
& Disaster Policy,
Advocate for Women
in Academia



Shakira Cassim

General Manager:
Contact Centre, ER24,
Advocate for Excellence
in Emergency Medical
Response



Tshidi Lemeko

Deputy Disaster
Manager: Disaster
Management,
Fezile Dabi District
Municipality,
Municipal Emergency
Strategist, Champion
for Women's
Representation in
Disaster Leadership



Sanky Mahlangu

Head of Safety:
Transnet Rail
Infrastructure
Manager (TRIM),
SHERQ Expert,
Hazmat &
Emergency Services
Strategist, Advocate
for Resilient
Leadership in High
Risk Industries



Natasha Chetty

Director: Cross
Fire Management,
Fire Protection
Specialist



Nomathemba Mtshali

Director: Strategic
Support EMS, City of
Johannesburg, Urban
EMS Specialist, Champion
for Innovation in
Emergency Response

Agenda

Day 1: Leadership, Innovation, and Global Collaboration

08:00 - 08:30 | Registration and Networking Breakfast

Attendees check in and connect with peers over light refreshments.

08:30 - 08:45 | Welcome and Opening Remarks

- An introduction to the conference theme, highlighting the importance of resilience, leadership, and collaboration in emergency services, disaster management, and fire services.

08:45 - 10:00 | Keynote Address 1: The Power of Women's Leadership in Crisis Management

- An exploration of how women-led teams are driving adaptive, resilient solutions in emergency response, backed by global research.

10:00 - 10:30 | Coffee Break & Networking

10:30 - 11:15 | Session 1: Leadership in Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

- The evolving role of female leaders in EMS
- Building efficient response teams under pressure
- Leadership strategies for improving patient outcomes

11:15 - 12:00 | Session 2: Gender Inclusivity in Emergency and Disaster Management

- Challenges and opportunities for women in disaster response
- Policy development for gender-sensitive crisis management
- Creating pathways for female leadership in disaster recovery

12:00 - 12:45 | Session 3: The Future of Fire Services - Women Leading the Way

- Overcoming barriers in a traditionally male-dominated field
- Tactical leadership for fire response and prevention
- Strengthening mentorship for young women in fire services

12:45 - 13:45 | Lunch Break & Expo Visit

Continued on next page

13:45 - 14:30 | Session 4: The Power of Diverse Leadership in Emergency and Disaster Management

- How women-led teams drive adaptive, resilient solutions in crisis management
- Insights from the latest research by UNDRR and Harvard University on the effectiveness of women in leadership roles during disasters
- Strategies for fostering inclusive leadership in emergency and disaster response

14:30 - 15:15 | Session 5: Resilience & Mental Wellness in High-Stress Professions

- Addressing burnout and trauma in emergency responders
- Self-care strategies for long-term leadership sustainability
- Creating workplace support systems for women in crisis management

15:15 - 15:45 | Afternoon Refreshment Break

15:45 - 16:30 | Women Leading Global Crisis Solutions

- How women leaders are influencing global crisis management strategies
- Strengthening international partnerships in emergency response
- Collaborative approaches to knowledge-sharing

16:30 - 17:00 | Wrap-Up and Reflections

Day 2: Leadership Strategies, Crisis Response, and Mental Resilience

08:00 - 08:30 | Morning Networking Session

An opportunity to connect with peers, facilitators, and exhibitors.

08:30 - 09:30 | Keynote Address 2: Crisis Leadership in Action - Lessons from Women in the Frontline

Keynote address: Sharing real-world experiences in crisis management and leadership

09:30 - 10:00 | Coffee Break & Networking

10:00 - 10:45 | Session 6: Crisis Decision-Making Under Pressure

- Rapid assessment techniques in high-risk situations
- Strategies for leading effectively in unpredictable crises
- Lessons from real-world case studies

Continued on next page

10:45 - 11:30 | Session 7: Emergency Services Leadership - Navigating Challenges & Growth

- Essential leadership skills for EMS professionals
- Policy changes impacting the emergency services sector
- Career advancement strategies for women in EMS

11:30 - 12:15 | Session 8: The Intersection of Climate Change & Disaster Management

- How climate change is reshaping disaster preparedness
- Leading sustainable crisis management initiatives
- The role of women in climate resilience planning

12:15 - 13:15 | Lunch Break & Expo Visit

13:15 - 14:30 | Session 9: Using AI & Real-Time Monitoring for Disaster Response

- How AI is reshaping crisis prediction and management
- Implementing real-time monitoring in emergency services
- Ethical considerations for AI in disaster management

14:30 - 15:15 | Group Discussion: Innovations in Disaster Risk Reduction & Preparedness

- Strengthening disaster prevention strategies
- Community-based disaster resilience models
- Enhancing collaboration between government and private sectors

15:15 - 16:00 | Interactive Leadership Simulation: Managing a Multi-Hazard Crisis

- A hands-on crisis response exercise where participants will work in teams to manage a simulated emergency scenario.

16:00 - 16:15 | Closing Remarks & Future Outlook

- Final reflections, key takeaways, and a look ahead to the future of women's leadership in emergency services, fire and disaster management.

16:15 - 16:45 | Networking & Farewell

An opportunity to strengthen professional connections and foster future collaborations.



Women in EMS, Disaster and Fire Service Leadership Conference 2025

Empowering Women Leaders for A Resilient Tomorrow



AUTHORIZATION DETAILS

FIRST NAME _____ LAST NAME _____

JOB TITLE & DEPARTMENT _____ EMAIL _____

COMPANY _____ NATURE OF BUSINESS _____

BILLING INFORMATION/ ACCOUNT NUMBER

FIRST NAME _____ LAST NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

COUNTRY _____ TELEPHONE _____

MOBILE _____ FAX _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

DELEGATE ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

TITLE	DELEGATE NAME & SURNAME	POSITION	EMAIL

R7999 *Physical Attendance
Per Delegate*

Payment Details

First National Bank
Account Number: 62870215673
Branch Code: 250665

- Electronic Transfer Payment
- Direct Deposit Payment
- Cheque Payable to ECS
- Cash Payment

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

A substitute delegate is always welcome with written notification. No substitution fees will be charged provided notification is provided at least one week prior to the event. For standard registrations, in the event you wish to cancel your registration more than 20 days prior to commencement of the event, you agree to pay a cancellation fee of 10% of the event fee. If you cancel your program registration less than 20 days before commencement of the Program, you agree to pay a cancellation fee of 30%. Registrations made at an "early bird" or otherwise discounted rate are non-refundable. If you wish to cancel your registration more than 20 days prior to the event, you will be provided credit towards an alternative event and you are liable to pay 100% of the fee.

Due to circumstances outside of our control, it is possible we may need to cancel, reschedule, or change the venue of an event. We will make all reasonable efforts to inform attendees of any such changes with as much notice as possible. Should your Program be rescheduled or cancelled by us, all fees you have paid will be credited towards an alternative event or refunded to you.

You acknowledge and agree that, to the extent the law allows, our liability is limited to the event fee and we will not be liable for any costs, damages or expenses incurred by you as a result of a cancellation, deferral, reschedule or change of venue. None of the above is intended to compromise your rights under South African Consumer Law. Photos and/or video may be taken by us at the event and as required.