



35<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
YEARS



**Admassu Tadesse**  
**Group Managing Director and Chief Executive**  
**Eastern and Southern African Trade and**  
**Development Bank (TDB)**

Admassu Tadesse is an international banker and business leader with experience at board and executive-levels globally and in Africa.

He is currently the Group Managing Director and Chief Executive (President Emeritus) of the Eastern and Southern African Trade and Development Bank (TDB Group) – formerly the PTA Bank. Specialized in trade and corporate finance as well other areas of development finance and asset management, TDB covers 22 Member States and has 41 shareholders, both sovereigns and financial institutions, including the AfDB, BADEA, Denmark’s IFU, the People’s Bank of China, the OPEC Fund, as well as several pension funds, and insurance companies.

Since he joined the Bank in 2012, Mr. Tadesse has launched new business operations, centres of excellence in risk management and treasury as well as critical institutional reforms which have led TDB to transform its ownership, geographical scope and organizational structure. The TDB Group currently comprises TDB (the Bank), TDF (the Trade and Development Fund – TDB’s soft window), ESATF (the Trade Fund), the TDB Academy and TCI (the TDB Captive Insurance).

Over the past decade, the TDB Group has grown its assets from USD 1 billion to well over USD 7 billion, driving wider and deeper impact. During this period, TDB’s capital and funding have multiplied over five-fold, alongside sharp growth in its shareholder base, and portfolio. With several credit ratings upgrades, the Bank is now investment grade-rated and one of the leading and impactful financial institutions in the region, with half of its portfolio now contributing to SDGs. In 2020, TDB was recognized as by African Banker Awards as ‘African Bank of the Year’.

Previously, Mr. Tadesse was Executive Vice-President at the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), where he served for some 10 years, and was responsible for international finance and corporate strategy among others. He has also worked as a senior advisor and specialist with various funds and international organizations globally.

He serves on several boards and industry bodies in Africa and internationally, including the International Development Finance Club (IDFC), and the Mauritius Institute of Directors (MIoD), and is a recipient of several distinctions, including of the 2019 ‘African Banker of the Year’ award by African Banker Awards. He holds an MSc from the London School of Economics, and an MBA from Wits Business School. He is also an alumnus of Harvard Business School and Western University in Canada.