

STEPHEN MAKAU

Chief Finance Officer | Strategic & Operational Finance Leader

Nairobi, Kenya • +254 711 186 438 • stevemaundum@gmail.com • [LinkedIn](#)

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Finance executive with over 13 years across corporate finance, internal audit, risk and Big-4 assurance, including a CFO mandate at a venture-backed manufacturing business. Combines strategic financial leadership with deep controls expertise to drive fundraising, turnaround, capital allocation and governance. Trusted advisor to CEOs, boards and investors, with a track record of closing multi-million-dollar financing, uncovering material misstatements, and building finance functions that scale. CPA(K) and Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) with an Executive MBA from Strathmore Business School.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Financial Strategy & Planning • Fundraising & Investor Relations • Capital Allocation • Financial Modelling & FP&A • Treasury & Cash-Flow Management • Working Capital Optimization • Business Turnaround • Risk, Compliance & Governance (ERM) • Internal Controls Design • Financial & Management Reporting • Audit & Assurance • Stakeholder & Board Engagement • Team Leadership

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Chief Finance Officer

Mr. Green Africa Trading Limited — plastics recycling & manufacturing, Nairobi **Oct 2024 – Oct 2025**

- Led and closed a **USD 6M bridge financing round** from new and existing shareholders within the first three months in the role.
- Uncovered a **decade-long margin misstatement (reported 20% vs. actual 5%)**; findings triggered a strategic repositioning and turnaround of the business.
- Identified and corrected flawed business-model logic that had **overstated cash runway by more than 12 months**, restoring credibility of investor forecasts.
- Re-engineered finance reconciliations and general-ledger posting to deliver **month-end close by the 7th working day**.
- Owned the full finance agenda: FP&A, treasury and cash-flow, working capital and Opex oversight, statutory and management reporting, regulatory compliance, and enterprise risk and governance.
- Served as strategic advisor to the CEO and executive team; led investor management, reporting and due diligence.

Head of Internal Audit, Risk & Compliance

Mr. Green Africa Trading Limited, Nairobi

May 2022 – Oct 2024

- Developed and operationalized a **KES 2 billion Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) framework** for the business.
- Identified and rectified a flawed commission-based sourcing model responsible for **KES 10M in commission losses** over six months.
- Partnered with the CFO to improve the cash conversion cycle, driving a **30% increase in revenue collections**.
- Led remediation of IT application-control gaps that had cost the business **KES 1M over three months**; closed double-purchasing loopholes spanning systems and people.
- Advised on a **USD 13M scale-up project**, establishing new processes and controls; optimized working capital by aligning sourcing volumes with plant production capacity.

Audit Manager — Internal Audit

Liberty Kenya Holdings Plc — insurance & investment group

Apr 2018 – Apr 2022

10 subsidiaries across Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda & Malawi

- Identified **KES 35M in revenue leakage** at Heritage Insurance Kenya from unmonitored exchange-rate fluctuations.

- Flagged **TZS 256M of unsupported facultative premium revenue** and **UGX 183M of unsupported intangible assets** across the Tanzania and Uganda subsidiaries.
- Surfaced operational irregularities at Charter Malawi that led to forensic investigation, **revealing fraud and technical insolvency**; enabled the Group to take remedial action and protect shareholder value.
- Identified missing receipt numbers in the premium-receipting tool (Heritage Tanzania), prompting a management forensic investigation; flagged withholding-tax non-compliance and built an Excel-based compliance model for Heritage Kenya.

Audit Senior

KPMG Kenya

Sep 2013 – Mar 2018

- Promoted to Senior Auditor within two years of joining via the graduate programme; rated **“Highly Effective”** in every annual review.
- Led the 2016 and 2017 KCB Group Plc audits, including detailed reviews, group reporting coordination and recommendations to the Board Audit Committee under the new group structure.
- Accredited L&D trainer; facilitated technical training across the audit department, notably the IFRS 9 implementation project.

Key clients: KCB Group, HF Group, UAP Insurance, Old Mutual, Jubilee Insurance, Sameer Africa, BOC Gases, East African Breweries, De La Rue, Accenture EA, Philips EA, Pfizer Laboratories, Opportunity Kenya and Finlay's Horticulture.

EDUCATION

- **Executive MBA** — Strathmore Business School
- **BCom, Finance** — Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture & Technology (2013)

CERTIFICATIONS & PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- **Certified Public Accountant — CPA(K)**, ICPAK member no. 20883
- **Certified Internal Auditor — CIA**, Institute of Internal Auditors (Kenya Chapter), member no. 2189168

REFERENCES

Available on request.