

GLOBAL WOMEN LEADERS SUMMIT 2022

World Business Angels Investment Forum
2022 World Congress, Nirvana Cosmopolitan, Antalya
26 October 2022, Wednesday, Canopus Hall

10.00 Opening Ceremony

Welcome Speech

Lucy Chow, Secretary General - WBAF Global Women Leaders Committee

Keynote Speeches

Prof Rudy Aernoudt, Senior Economist, European Commission

Fostering economic development by involving more women in early-stage and post-early stage equity markets

H.E. Majlinda Dhuka, Minister for European Integration, Albania

The increasing role of women in foreign policies of countries

10.45 Roundtable 1

Exploring the real reasons for the gender-based funding challenge

One might think that gender plays no role in the realm of investing in early-stage companies. Investors make calculated decisions that are (or should be) based on business plans and projections. Moreover, a growing body of evidence shows that organisations with a higher percentage of women in leadership roles outperform male-dominated companies. Unfortunately, however, women-owned companies do not receive the same level of financial backing as those funded by men.

The panel will explore the real reasons for the gender-based funding challenge, ways to overcome the challenge, ways that women founders – while lobbying for long-term change – can operate intelligently in the current ecosystems. It will also discuss how women can be coached on the realities of the market and which institutions should play a more active role in easing access to finance for women entrepreneurs.

Moderator

Olatokunbo Ige, Founder Livingstones Eco-Village and Utrader, Togo

Leyla Alaton, Board Member - Alarko, Turkey

Laura Aldone, Vice President of Vilnius Chamber of Commerce - Industry and Crafts, Lithuania

Bola Olabisi FRSA, Chief Executive Officer - GlobalWIIN, UK

Deborah Walliser, CEO - Got Produce Franchising Inc, Namibia

11.30 Roundtable 2

Board Room: Empowering the world economy by to promoting a culture in organisations that will encourage and support diversity and inclusion.

Organisations with the ability to innovate quickly and reach new customer bases faster have one thing in common; their board reflects the world around them. These organisations tend to be few and far between. A case in point: despite making up half the population, women continue to be poorly represented in the boardroom. As a result, we are finding that organisations and their boards are overlooking a strategic opportunity to drive value.

This panel will explore innovative ways to encourage all relevant parties to take the necessary steps to achieve diversity. It requires, for instance, a commitment from company leadership, investors and policy-makers alike. It will raise and aim to answer questions about how organisations can identify qualified women and create opportunities early in their career for sponsorship, mentoring and advancement, and equally important, how to promote a culture in organisations that will encourage and support diversity and inclusion.

Moderator

Lorina Misku, Advisor to the Chief Negotiator, Albania

Pegah Golmohammadi (Gol), Founder and CEO of Glasswing Consulting, UAE

Nambula Kachumi, Chair - African Women in Energy and Power AWEaP, Zambia

Miranda Thakur-Deen, Senior Managing Partner The Atlantic Ventures Holding, Guyana

Yolanda Díaz Villarrubia, Founder Idea BE Hubs, Spain

12.15 Roundtable 3

Women emerging as strong leaders in the 21st century

Women have, for long years, succeeded in their careers by virtue of their ability to adjust to the male-dominated culture and field-specific business processes. They play by the existing rules in the workplace and have the additional hurdle of society's perceptions of how women should act and be seen. While education and practice have reduced some of the invisible angst of being a woman in a leadership role, there are challenges nevertheless. Current women leaders have a responsibility to embrace a role-model status and address those challenges head-on with action and execution.

To that end, more and more women in leadership positions are pushing the boundaries of gender equality by capitalizing on their leadership qualities and their skills, knowledge, experience and insights. They are actively pursuing what they want from their job and their career, not waiting for it to come to them.

The panel will aim to identify key steps that can produce women who are strong leaders in business, in arts, in politics — in any area male-dominated. They will also define the characteristics of strong women leaders, their mindsets and their action plans that help them overcome challenges of male-dominated industries.

Moderator

Lucy Chow, Secretary General - WBAF Global Women Leaders Committee

Barbara Dietrich, President - Diplomatic World Magazine, Belgium

Emine Erdem, President - Turkish Women Entrepreneurs Association, Turkey

Saadia Lakehal, President World Association for SME, Canada

Feryal Nass, WBAF High Commissioner, Bahrain