

## Dear friends and colleagues

Welcome to the summer edition of our newsletter.

This quarter we are delighted to present to you our innovative Mentoring Women in Business Programme, aimed at building capacity, confidence and capital through virtual mentoring of women entrepreneurs. In other news, preparation is now underway for the second annual Women Mean Business Conference to be held in Mumbai this December, focusing on the role of web and mobile technology in business growth. Also, since we launched our gender gap report on mobile phone ownership, we have been busy developing a three-year programme aimed at supporting women entrepreneurs to start and expand their businesses using mobile technology. Watch this space for news about the upcoming launch.

If you would like any additional information on our work, please don't hesitate to contact us. We look forward to hearing from you!

  
Henriette Kolb, CEO

## Mentoring Women in Business



We are pleased to announce our [Mentoring Women in Business Programme](#) in partnership with Google, involving 33 mentors and 26 mentees from Bangladesh, India, Israel and Palestine. This unique programme combines e-mentoring, access to web applications, ICT training and peer support to unlock the potential of women who want to start or develop their businesses. The programme starts off with a 9-month pilot phase aiming to demonstrate that there are measurable and tangible benefits from partnering entrepreneurial women in developing and transition countries with successful mentors using Google's online applications, such as Sites, Docs, Chat and Gmail, via an e-platform: [www.cbfwmentoring.org](http://www.cbfwmentoring.org)



The pilot began in July with the mentors' training held at Google's London offices. The training covered technical aspects of the platform, mentoring concepts and the development of the mentoring relationship. Project Manager Giulia Corinaldi also went to Palestine to train the first mentees, who are now meeting their mentors on-line and networking on the Forums. The feedback we have received has been very positive and we are optimistic about the programme's potential to effectively support women entrepreneurs in developing and transition countries. [Read more](#)

## Sunny Money for Women



We have some interesting updates on our Sunny Money for Women project in Malawi. A group of women in the Luwinga Township near Mzuzu city are using profits from the sales of their solar products to help feed an orphanage of 120 children twice a week. We are also pleased to report that the Como Foundation is lending their support to this project, enabling these women to continue to scale up their solar businesses over the coming year. [Read more](#)

## Nyanza Women's Economic Empowerment



Following our commitment made at the mid-year Clinton Global Initiative meeting, we are working in partnership with [CARE](#) to train 4,000 Kenyan women entrepreneurs in business management skills, connecting them with financial institutions using mobile phone technology. Our goal is for these women to have better access to formal banking services in order for them to expand their businesses. [Read more](#)

## Women Mean Business Conference



We welcome General Electric as our diamond sponsor and Exhibitions India Group as our conference managers for this year's conference to be held in Mumbai. The theme will centre on ICT as a tool for women to start and expand their businesses and there will be a particular focus around mobile services, web-based technology, technological learning such as e-mentoring, and social media for business. For programme updates or to register your interest, please visit: [www.cbfwconference.org](http://www.cbfwconference.org)

## Nablus Women Entrepreneurs



Last quarter, we reported on the participants' graduation from their business training course. Now, the second phase of the programme will see coaches work with the ten participants whose business plans stood out the most. They will be working to advance their proposals and determine the kind of support required. If you haven't already, please visit [TYO's blog](#) for regular project updates, pictures and video. [Read more](#)

## Support us



We rely on your donation to develop and continue projects with the aim of strengthening the capacity of women entrepreneurs in countries where they lack equal opportunities. [Please give generously and help us make a difference.](#)

If you would like to get directly involved or want more information on our work, please [contact us](#).