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#### WeEmpowerAsia Bulletin

A YEAR OF RESILIENCE

# In this edition, we're bringing you a small selection of some of our most exciting stories of 2020.

So take a little time this holiday season to sit back and explore our highlights as you enter the new year inspired.

The WeEmpowerAsia Team





#### **A BUSINESS EDGE**

## Winners revealed of new UN Women award for gender equality in business

On 15 December, the first edition of the UN Women Asia-Pacific Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) Awards was celebrated at a high-level ceremony in Bangkok. Eighteen finalists were announced regional winners after a four-month long competitive selection process with more than 400 qualifying applications from 17 countries. These outstanding companies and individuals included large multinationals to SMEs and financial services organizations that have made an impact on gender equality despite the pandemic. The national chapters of the WEPs Awards ceremonies were held in the Philippines, China, Indonesia, Viet Nam and India between November 11 to December 1.

Read more | Watch the regional ceremony



#### **RALLYING WITH PURPOSE**

## Top companies in Europe to empower women through amfori-UN Women partnership

Global business association amfori and UN Women are engaging 16 companies in Europe to enhance their impact on gender diversity and inclusion through the 10-month WEPs Activator programme. In Malaysia, the programme co-led by LeadWomen launches in January 2021 and will provide training to 300 selected companies.

#### Read more



#### **KEY DISCOVERIES**

### Creators of solutions to stem COVID-19 honoured in India

Eleven outstanding female entrepreneurs, scientists and change-makers were recognized in the "Shri Shakti" Challenge, which received 1,265 entries country-wide focused on leveraging technology in bioinformatics, data sets and application programs to strengthen the fight against the pandemic.



#### THE FUTURE OF FASHION

### Ramping up for sustainability: Our 20 bootcamp graduates have big ambitions

We introduced the Industry Disruptor Incubator Initiative (India) in May to help 80 women entrepreneurs develop ideas for a more sustainable fashion industry, with 6 major innovative business ideas generated. Now, we're thrilled to announce two dozen new graduates from our Europe chapter are ready to take-off.

#### Learn more



#### THE NEW NORM IN BUSINESS

## Beijing conference discusses how companies can narrow the gender gap in and outside the office

The potential that companies can create a next generation of women leaders as decision makers in business practice, is unprecedented.

#### Read more

#### What's next



#### **GENDER LENS INVESTING ON THE RISE**

## How are 40 leading Indonesian women defining the next phase of impact investing?

Explore how equal access to capital is enabling more women to thrive and changing the wider ecosystem of financing and entrepreneurship.

#### More insights



#### **PATH TO PROSPERITY**

### ASEAN countries urged to support women-led businesses

Female CEOs and their supporters have called on the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations to help women-owned business and entrepreneurs gain greater access to financing, new technologies and other resources.

#### Read more



#### **WEATHERING THE STORM**

#### UN Women Leads Humanitarian Response to Typhoon Ulysses in Luzon, Philippines

Around 1,500 families in Waterways Communities located in Barangay Tanza Dos in Navotas City continue to deal with the impacts of both the COVID-19 pandemic and the typhoon. Learn about our pilot collaboration with the humanitarian and private sectors in emergency response.

#### Read more



#### **VOICE FROM THE VILLAGE**

## UN Women and Dharma Life Foundation join to help marginalized women in rural India

The new cooperation seeks to increase awareness about gender-based violence and discrimination in rural India and help find and create livelihoods for low-income rural women, particularly the most vulnerable individuals in remote areas.

#### Read more



#### **REBOOTING THE ECONOMY**

### Achieving gender equality key to restoring economic resilience in Asia

Top priority must be given to empowering women if we are to recover from the economic damage of the coronavirus pandemic.

#### Read more



#### **LESSONS FROM LOCKDOWN**

### Helping women entrepreneurs in Asia and Europe to thrive through crisis

The COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the critical role of collaboration in creating gender-inclusive ecosystems where women can emerge and thrive.

#### More insights

#### **FEATURED RESOURCES**



#### KNOWLEDGE AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

#### Noteworthy publications

We published several reports and thematic studies to help the WeEmpowerAsia community understand the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on women and business, analyze major trends in their markets and anticipate upcoming challenges and opportunities for gender-sensitive recovery.

Explore WeEmpowerAsia publications



#### **EQUALITY MEANS BUSINESS**

### Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) Introduction for companies in the Asia-Pacific

In many ways, the WEPs can help improve the bottom line of businesses. We believe companies can boost sustainability and growth through practices that advance gender equality and create equal opportunities and outcomes.

Join over 4,000 companies taking action now

#### **LATEST VIDEOS**



Asia-Pacific WEPs Awards 2020: National Winners, China



Asia-Pacific WEPs Awards 2020: National Winners, India



Asia-Pacific WEPs Awards 2020: National Winners, The Philippines



Asia-Pacific WEPs Awards 2020: National Winners, Viet Nam



**UN Women WEPs Awards Ceremony (Indonesia)** 



UN Women WEPs Awards Ceremony (India)



**UN Women WEPs Awards Ceremony (Philippines)** 

#### **COMING UP**

WEPs Activator Launch (Malaysia)

January 14, 2021 REGISTER NOW

'WEPs into Action' Signature Ceremony (Thailand) & CEO Roundtable

February 2021

NITI Aayog Investor Consortium (India)

Cohort-level workshop & Pitching session January 2021

Interweave Webinars (India)

TBD January 2021

WEPs Learning Series (Indonesia)

WEPs Principles 6 & 7 January 13 / January 20, 2021

Super Girls in Tech Workshop Series (Indonesia)

Creating Technology-based Financial Inclusion Solutions for Women's Empowerment TBD February 2021

Forum on Women and STEM (The Philippines)

In partnership with PhilRobotics Association TBD February 2021

Get in touch with the WeEmpowerAsia team:

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