



FACTSHEET: Women's Global Development and Prosperity (W-GDP) Fund Announces \$122 Million in Progress and Partnerships

Launched in February 2019, the [White House-led Women's Global Development and Prosperity \(W-GDP\) Initiative](#) is the first-ever whole-of-government effort to advance global women's economic empowerment. W-GDP seeks to reach 50 million women in the developing world by 2025 through focusing on three pillars: women prospering in the workforce, women succeeding as entrepreneurs, and women enabled in the economy. In its first year, W-GDP reached 12 million women through a series of U.S. government activities, public-private partnerships, and the innovative W-GDP Fund.

NEW W-GDP Fund Programs and Partnerships Announced:

In August 2020, Advisor to the President Ivanka Trump and USAID Deputy Administrator Bonnie Glick, joined by Deputy Secretary of State Stephen Biegun, National Security Advisor Ambassador Robert O'Brien and Ambassador for Global Women's Issues Kelley Currie, announced \$122 million in W-GDP Fund progress and partnerships. Highlights include:

- **\$34.6 million: W-GDP Incentive Fund**
Invests in promising and creative partnerships globally with the private sector, locally-led organizations, U.S. government partners, and local host governments, with a focus on W-GDP Pillar Three. This round of the W-GDP Incentive Fund supports 16 awardees in 43 countries.
- **\$23 million: W-GDP Invest in Women Portfolio**
Promotes systemic reforms in financial systems to unblock access to finance for women and assist in reducing barriers that keep private capital from participating in blended capital solutions. Works with leading partners such as Care, Deloitte, Kiva, and others to overcome obstacles to grow women-owned businesses, and supports activities that mobilize and encourage private sector investment in women through innovative market-based approaches.

- **\$10 million: W-GDP New Partnerships Initiative**
 Increases women's economic empowerment in conflict prevention and recovery activities focused on issues such as at-risk and marginalized women, in Guatemala, Mexico, Honduras, and the Philippines. Recovery activities will include job creation, workforce and vocational training, innovative financial tools, and access to capital, with a focus on working with new or under-utilized partners.
- **\$7.4 million: W-GDP Interagency Fund**
 Enables Interagency partners to promote women's economic empowerment through programs highlighting their strengths and expertise:

 - Millennium Challenge Corporation: establishes a women's data lab in Côte d'Ivoire to support women entrepreneurs with technology, training and assistance in growing their companies;
 - Peace Corps: deploys basic digital literacy training to close the digital gender divide around the world; and
 - Department of State, Secretary's Office of Global Women's Issues: brings together women's coalitions from Central Asia to remove restrictions on women's economic empowerment through Women's National Business Agendas.
- **\$7 million: W-GDP Women's Land Rights**
 Strengthens women's land rights in contexts where customary systems predominate and disadvantage women in Malawi, Mozambique, Ghana, Zambia and India. Effortswill include activities to strengthen and support national and community legal and land resource governance reforms around women's land rights.
- **\$5 million: Women's Economic Empowerment Global Development Alliance with USAID and PepsiCo**
 Builds upon a five-year, shared-value partnership that focuses on developing and demonstrating the business case for private sector investments in women's empowerment in agriculture supply chains. This work will provide women with technical and leadership skills, strengthened land rights, and income generation opportunities, while simultaneously building the capacity of local PepsiCo staff to more directly include and work with women in their supply chain.
- **\$5 million: W-GDP Grand Challenge: Women Enabled in the Economy**
 Addresses the problem of women's access to commercial finance, which is often restricted by barriers in laws, regulations, policies, and practices. This multi-year

challenge is designed to break these barriers and facilitate women's access to commercial finance.

- **\$5 million: W-GDP Microsoft Women's Digital Inclusion Partnership**
Supports Microsoft's Airband Initiative, which aims to significantly increase the number of women around the world with internet coverage by July 2022, by investing in locally-owned and operated internet and communications technology companies serving rural areas in Colombia, Ghana, Guatemala, India, and Kenya.
- **\$4 million: W-GDP WomenConnect Challenge (WCC) Round Three**
Supports private sector-led approaches that close the gender digital divide, expands business opportunities, and empowers women to reach their full economic potential in an increasingly digital world. The next round of the W-GDP WCC will focus on increasing private sector and donor investment in programs that have a target reach of one million women. W-GDP will also partner with the Reliance Foundation to create an India-specific Women Connect Challenge and incorporate the lessons of previous W-GDP WCC Rounds.
- **\$3.6 million: WEConnect International**
Establishes an alliance with SAP Ariba, IBM, ExxonMobil, Procter & Gamble, and Accenture to develop the WECommunity, a multifunctional and multilingual global online platform to help women-owned businesses connect with participating multinational corporate buyers.
- **\$3.3 million: W-GDP Mastercard Partnership**
The W-GDP Mastercard Start Path Project Partnership improves women entrepreneurs' access to grow and scale their businesses in Colombia. The W-GDP Mastercard Micro Credit Program Partnership will empower small-scale retailers run by women in India to prosper and become part of the digital economy that will help them and their communities gain access to training and financial services.
- **\$3 million: Engendering Utilities**
Scales the Engendering Utilities program to partner with new companies, continue support to existing partners, and expands to new traditionally male-dominated sectors, such as the water sector, to create tangible economic opportunities for women, including jobs, promotions, and career development.
- **\$3 million: Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs and Visa Foundation - Innovation Grant Making**
Scales globally the Advancing Women's Empowerment Fund, a catalyst fund that

originated in South and Southeast Asia to help close the financing gap for women-led businesses. The partnership includes a \$1 million investment by the Visa Foundation and will provide support to women entrepreneurs and help them grow their businesses.

- **\$2 million: Self-Empowerment and Equity for Change Initiative**

In partnership with Johns Hopkins University, this initiative scales proven empowerment training with women entrepreneurs and employees to strengthen core skills that advance their own professional goals and provides access to resources and opportunities with companies around the world.

- **\$2 million: Women Empowered in Recycling and Waste Management**

Supports women working throughout the waste recycling value chain - from waste collectors to women business leaders - to strengthen women's economic empowerment throughout USAID's global flagship program to combat ocean plastic pollution.

- **\$1.5 million: Women Powering Africa**

Scales women's economic empowerment through the expansion of the Women in African Power network, which provides women professional advancement through networking events and skills development training including internships with private sector partners in the energy sector.

- **\$1.4 million: W-GDP Partnership to Train Kenyan Women Entrepreneurs in Collaboration with UPS**

Helps women in Kenya launch, fund, or scale their businesses and build their capacity with a focus on training, mentorship, investment, and direct connections to American small and medium-enterprises.

- **\$1 Million: Women Entrepreneurs Amplifying Ventures and Economies**

Strengthens, scales, and replicates tested models for women's entrepreneurship development in Indonesia and Vietnam to reach 15,000 women. This innovative, digital, cross border programme builds on successful services created by the Cherie Blair Foundation for Women with Qualcomm Wireless Reach™ and the ExxonMobil Foundation.

For more information, visit: www.WGDP.gov