global platform for action on sourcing from women vendors
JOIN THE GLOBAL PLATFORM FOR ACTION

Investing in women and girls has a multiplier effect on productivity and sustained economic growth...Investing in women is not only the right thing to do, it is the smart thing to do.

Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General, United Nations

The Global Platform for Action on Sourcing from Women Vendors aims to increase the share of corporate, government and institutional procurement secured by women vendors for the ultimate purpose of bringing greater economic benefit to women and their communities.

The initiative is led by the International Trade Centre (ITC) with the support of WEConnect International, a non-profit trade support organization, and a global network of leading organizations and individuals committed to women’s economic empowerment.

45 multinational corporations have joined the Global Platform with the direct benefit of linkages to women business owners across multiple sectors and countries. Women’s organizations including the International Federation of Business and Professional Women, have joined to link members to markets.

Signatories to the Global Platform commit to:

1. Create shared value by sourcing from women vendors that offer competitive products and services;

2. Promote the benefits of sourcing from women vendors, educating multinational corporations on the business case and return on investment;

3. Share knowledge on policies and practices to increase sourcing from women vendors;

4. Support, initiate or improve efforts to integrate women vendors into value chains; and

5. Report to the Platform for Action Steering Committee on activities and impact via an annual survey.

Join the Platform along with other corporations, women business owners, governments and institutions. Apply at www.intracen.org/womenandtrade
There is an increasing demand for goods and services supplied by women business owners: Over 90% of Fortune 500 companies have a supplier diversity programme under which they actively seek to source from women. As sourcing is no longer local or national, this presents an enormous opportunity for women across the world, including in developing countries, to sell into global supply chains.

In response to the need to link buyers and sellers, ITC, WEConnect International, the Chongqing Foreign Trade and Economic Relations Commission, the International Federation of Business and Professional Women, the International Women’s Coffee Alliance, SPINNA and Quantum Leaps are pleased to invite you to apply to participate in the Women Vendors Exhibition and Forum.

What: Exhibition and conference, with tailored business matching plus site visits
When: 27 – 29 September, 2011
Where: Chongqing, China (the largest trade hub in South-West China: Population 32 million)
Why: Meet and do business with prospective buyers and/or suppliers in select sectors
How: To register please go to www.intracen.org/womenandtrade
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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