

**WE LEAD**



**WOMEN  
LEADERSHIP  
LOUNGE**

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM ANNUAL MEETING 2025

**PROGRAMME**

21 January - 23 January 2025

**W e - L e a d L o u n g e , P r o m e n a d e 5 5**

RSVP

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Tuesday, 21st January 2025



1115–1215 Hrs

## The Future of Work: How Remote Jobs and the Gig Economy are Empowering Women

This session will explore how remote work, the gig economy, and freelancing are transforming the landscape of economic opportunities for women. With the rise of digital platforms, women are gaining unprecedented flexibility and control over their work-life balance, breaking free from traditional employment constraints. We will discuss how these new avenues allow women to access diverse job opportunities, overcome geographical and social barriers, and build careers that align with their personal and professional goals. The session will also address the challenges women face in these sectors, including income instability, access to benefits, and gender biases, and explore solutions to ensure equitable and sustainable participation.

### Speakers:

**Luana Ozemela**, Chief Sustainability Officer & Vice President of Impact and Sustainability, iFood

**Sherielysse Bonifacio**, Director, Public Affairs, Grab

\***Phuthi Mahanyele-Dabengwa**, CEO, Naspers Limited

\***Elizabeth Jarvis-Shean**, Chief Corporate Affairs Officer, DoorDash

### Moderator:

**Prajna Khanna**, Global Head of Sustainability, Prosus Group and Naspers Limited

\* *Invited*



 1445–1530 Hrs

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## The Next Frontier: Technology, Ethics and the Power of Skilling

The panel will focus on how the future of technology can be shaped to promote ethical progress and inclusive, responsible growth across the globe. The discussion will also delve into the challenges and opportunities of balancing innovation with ethics, examining the impact of AI on business, media, and human rights. A key focus will be the relevance of skilling women in these emerging fields, ensuring they are empowered to lead and thrive in a rapidly evolving digital world.

### Speakers:

**Smriti Zubin Irani**, Founder & Chairperson, Alliance for Global Good Gender Equity and Equality

**Inderpreet Sawhney**, Chief Legal Officer and Chief Compliance Officer, Infosys

**Angela Baker**, Chief Sustainability Officer, Qualcomm

**Aparna Bawa**, Chief Operating Officer, Zoom

**Viktoria Degtar**, Global Chief Commercial Officer, TIME

### Moderator:

**Ms Archna Vyas**, Director, Policy and Communications, Gates Foundation

 1600–1700 Hrs

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## The Heart of the Matter: Women in the Workplace

This session will explore the pipeline of women's representation in India, Nigeria, and Kenya. It will consider the policies and practices that drive greater representation, and the steps organizations can take to make real progress towards parity, building on insights from McKinsey's annual Women in the Workplace report. The panel will also address critical data gaps and explore strategies to collectively overcome this challenge.

### Speakers:

**Suman Mishra**, CEO, Last Mile Mobility, Mahindra Group

**Alice Usanase**, Head of Country Relations and Equity Mobilization, Africa Finance Corporation

### Moderator:

**Mayowa Kuyoro**, Partner, McKinsey & Company





Wednesday, 22nd January 2025



1100–1200 Hrs

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## Quantum Leadership: Women Redefining Networks to Shape the Future of the World

This panel will push the boundaries of traditional leadership discussions by exploring how women leaders are taking a quantum leap in reimagining the concept of networking in a rapidly evolving global landscape. It will dive into visionary approaches to collaboration, innovative strategies for driving systemic change, and the role of women in leading through complexity and uncertainty. Panelists will discuss how to create transformative alliances across industries, cultures, and geographies to address humanity's most pressing challenges, from climate change to technological disruption.

### Speakers:

**Clara Zoé Richter**, Founder, Women With Impact, Switzerland

**Iryna Papusha**, PhD, President & Co-Founder, Women Leaders For Ukraine, Belgium

**Vinita Jain**, Biotique, Chairman & MD

**Asha Jadeja**, Founder, Motwani Jadeja Family Foundation

**Alyse Nelson**, President & CEO, Vital Voices Global Partnership

**Tetiana Petrukha**, Founder, Evolve (Training and Consultancy)

**Mihaela Gjorcheva**, Member of the Management Board, International Slavic University

### Moderator:

**Stuti Jalan**, Founder Crosshairs & Women Inspiring Network Advisory, Women Inspiring Network, India







1615–1715 Hrs

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## Digital Health for Women: Expanding Access, Overcoming Barriers, and Unlocking Economic Opportunities

This session will highlight how digital health can expand women's access to healthcare, the obstacles women face in tech-driven healthcare, and potential economic gains from inclusive health innovation. Panelists will discuss the role of businesses in overcoming barriers to tech-driven healthcare adoption and how inclusive health innovation can drive workforce productivity and economic participation.

### Speakers:

**Smriti Zubin Irani**, Founder & Chairperson, Alliance for Global Good Gender Equity and Equality

**Helga Flores Trejo**, VP, Special Envoy for Sustainability and Multilateral Affairs, Bayer, USA

**Lucy Pérez**, Senior Partner, McKinsey & Company, USA

**Carol Cruickshank**, Regional Chair of Americas and Health Leader, A.T. Kearney Limited, UK

### Moderator:

**Pranjal Sharma**, Contributing Editor, Business world, India





1730–1815 Hrs

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## Women Powering Progress: Transforming the Energy Landscape

The Panel Discussion comes at a critical juncture where global leadership faces unprecedented challenges. From addressing climate change and energy security to advancing social equity and economic resilience, the 21st century demands leaders who are adaptive, visionary, and inclusive. As women leaders at the forefront of their respective domains, their journeys reflect resilience, innovation, and a commitment to driving positive change. This session will explore their leadership stories, discuss the evolving landscape of effective leadership, and examine how multilateral collaborations can empower women in leadership roles in critical sectors like energy.

### Speakers:

**Smriti Zubin Irani**, Founder & Chairperson, Alliance for Global Good Gender Equity and Equality

**Dr Mukesh Aghi**, President and CEO, US- India Strategic Partnership Forum

**Vaishali Nigam Sinha**, Co-Founder, ReNew

**Chandrajit Banerjee**, Director General of the Confederation of Indian Industry

### Moderator:

**Chandra R. Srikanth**, Deputy Executive Editor, Moneycontrol





Thursday, 23rd January 2025



1030–1130 Hrs

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## Women, Climate and Capital: Investing in a Sustainable World

This session will delve deep into women's green entrepreneurship and explore the business case for supporting women-led businesses in green or climate-related sectors. It will also examine challenges and potential financing solutions for different categories of women green entrepreneurs, and focus on core challenges and opportunities to promote climate resilience.

### Speakers:

**Tea Trumbic**, Manager, Women, Business and the Law, Global Indicators Group, Development Economics

**Dr. Joël Ruet**, Président, The Bridge Tank, France

**Luana Marques Garcia Ozemela**, Vice-President, Sustainability and Social Impact, iFood, Brazil

**Jane Burston**, Founder and CEO, Clean Air Fund

### Moderator:

**Beth Bovis**, Senior Partner and Global Head of Sustainability, Kearney



 1430–1530 Hrs

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## Funding Equity: Unlocking Systemic Business Value through Gender-Focused Philanthropy

This session will explore how business and philanthropy can enable transformative change by addressing systemic inequities and accelerating gender equitable growth and wellbeing. It will examine gender-focused interventions such as women's leadership, as well as innovative funding models such as collaborative philanthropy and impact investing, that catalyse gender equity and prosperity. Women's leadership in critical sectors such as healthcare and AI can accelerate progress and achieve the triple bottom line while also helping close critical gender gaps outlined in the SDGs. Private sector financing is vital in identifying and supporting innovations that can scale with states and markets, support governments achieve policy goals and innovate financing models. Panelists will showcase innovative solutions from hyperlocal geographies including India with global implications; and explore how integrating equity, inclusivity and gender into various sectors such as health, AI, and sustainability can drive positive outcomes. Through real-world examples of forward-thinking practices, the leaders' panel aims to inspire dialogue and knowledge-sharing, provide actionable insights for diverse contexts and foster a collective movement for an inclusive and sustainable economy.

### Speakers:

**Seema Chaturvedi**, AWE Funds

**Beth Thompson**, Executive Director for Policy and Partnerships, Wellcome Trust

**Dhivya O'Connor**, Cherie Blair Foundation for Women

### Moderator:

**Shailja Mehta**, Dasra

