



Gates Foundation



WE LEAD



WOMEN LEADERSHIP LOUNGE

PROGRAMME

20 JANUARY – 22 JANUARY 2026

PROMENADE 73, DAVOS

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To Register, RSVP:

Aarti Maurya | +91 99588 90372 | aarti.maurya@cii.in



Gates Foundation



Your engagement in the **We-Lead Lounge** over the past two years has helped transform the Alliance into a dynamic force for change.

IN THE PAST 2 YEARS, THE ALLIANCE CATALYZED EFFORTS ACROSS KEY AREAS

**12 policy papers
published**

**Engaged with 5000
international delegates**

**Engagement 12000
industry partners**

JOIN US IN FORMULATING THE ALLIANCE'S GLOBAL AGENDA @

WE-LEAD Women Leadership Lounge

THE WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM 2026

20 JANUARY – 22 JANUARY | PROMENADE 73, DAVOS

PROGRAMME

20
JANUARY 2026

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Shifting Forces: Navigating the Future of Economic Security

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM

Unlocking Women's Economic Participation: Drivers, Enablers, and Pathways to Inclusion

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Strategic Leadership in the Bio Revolution: Innovating for Global Solutions

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Who Powers the Next Economy? Entrepreneurship, Capital, and Global Impact in an AI-Driven, Sustainable World

21
JANUARY 2026

08:00 AM – 08:45 AM

Intelligence for Inclusion: Transforming Women's Health through AI (Ice Village, Dome 1, Zone S)

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

The Climate - Workforce Equation: Care, Capacity & a Warming World.

11:45 AM – 12:30 PM

Blooming Leaders: Poland India Women Blueprint.

12:45 PM – 1:15 PM

Designing Catalytic Capital Pathways for Enterprise Scale SPARK

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

From Dialogue to Impact: Innovating for Better Health at Work

4:15 PM – 5:00 PM

Sustainability, Capital & Communities

22
JANUARY 2026

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

The Performance Advantage How Women's Leadership Strengthens Health Systems and Markets

11:00 AM – 12:00 NOON

Parity to Prosperity: The Next Frontier of Women Leadership

12:15 PM – 1:15 PM

Unlocking the Brain Economy

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

The Bio-Logic of Her: Redefining the Wellness Genome





Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Shifting Forces

Navigating the Future of Economic Security



10:30 am – 11:30 am

Overlapping global challenges—from conflict and economic uncertainty to climate change—are reshaping progress on gender equality, often affecting women's economic security most. In fragile and crisis-affected settings, women face greater risks to livelihoods and rising care responsibilities, while access to jobs, finance, and protection remains uneven. This session explores the gendered economics of global instability and highlights practical solutions—including inclusive finance, gender-responsive climate adaptation, and women's leadership—to strengthen resilience and support more inclusive, sustainable growth.

SPEAKERS

Amy Hepburn

CEO
Investor Leader Network

Dr Anino Emuwa

Managing Director and
Founder 100 Women
@ Davos

Carol Cruickshank

Head, Americas
Kearney

Neera Nundy

Co-Founder and Partner
Dasra, India

PhuthiMahanyele- Dabengwa

South Africa CEO and
Executive Director
Naspers Limited



Unlocking Women's Economic Participation

Drivers, Enablers, and Pathways to Inclusion

 12:30 pm – 01:30 pm

Women's participation in the economy is shaped by a complex interplay of structural, social, and institutional factors. While education and skills development remain foundational drivers—expanding aspirations, employability, and access to emerging sectors—these alone are insufficient without complementary enablers such as safe workplaces, access to finance, supportive care infrastructure, and gender-responsive policies.

This session will explore the key drivers and enablers of women's economic participation across the life cycle, with a focus on education, skilling, entrepreneurship, and access to decent work. It will examine how educational pathways can move beyond traditional roles, how entrepreneurship can serve as both a necessity and an opportunity for women, and how ecosystems—spanning policy, industry, finance, and social norms—can either accelerate or constrain women's economic agency.

SPEAKERS

Dr. Vidya Yeravdekar

Pro Chancellor
Symbiosis International
University, India

Mamta Verma, IAS

Additional Chief Secretary
Department of Industries & Mines
Government of Gujarat

P Bharathi

Secretary, Department of
Science and Technology

Kanika Tekriwal

Co-founder & CEO
JetSetGo Aviation Services
Pvt. Ltd., India

Nidhi Dinesh

Foreign Correspondent –
Doordarshan Kendra
Founder –
Mother's Network
Switzerland

Strategic Leadership in the Bio Revolution

Innovating for Global Solutions

 02:00 pm – 03:00 pm

Biotechnology is one of the world's fastest-growing sectors, driven by advances in gene editing, synthetic biology, and personalized medicine, with major investments targeting health, food, and climate challenges. Yet women remain underrepresented, holding fewer than 20 percent of senior leadership roles and receiving a small share of venture funding. This session brings together scientists, entrepreneurs, investors, and policymakers to explore how women are shaping biotechnology—and how equitable participation can accelerate innovation, investment, and global impact.

SPEAKERS

Smriti Irani

Founder and Chairperson
Alliance for Global Good
Gender Equity and Equality

Sally Paul

Managing Director and Founder
Regeneron Pharmaceuticals

Viswa Colluru

CEO
Enveda Biosciences

Dr Shuchin Bajaj

Founder
Ujala Cygnus Hospitals



Who Powers the Next Economy?

Entrepreneurship, Capital, and Global Impact
in an AI-Driven, Sustainable World

🕒 04:00 pm – 05:00 pm

Session Sponsor - Womennovator

This session will bring together women leaders and entrepreneurs to discuss how women-led enterprises are redefining business models, access to capital, and leadership in a global context. The conversation will explore real-world experiences, challenges, and opportunities for women entrepreneurs in building scalable, impact-driven ventures across geographies.

SPEAKERS

Marta Zeiba-Szklarska

International business leader
and advocate for women
entrepreneurship

Vandana M. Jagwani

Founder and Partner
Vandals & Creative Director
Mahesh Notandass

Tripti Shinghal Somani

Founder
Womennovator &
Gvriksh Foundation

Deepak Kumar

Infrastructure & Industrial
Development Commissioner,
Government of UP

Dr Asif Iqbal

President
Indian Economic Trade Organization

Kalpna Murmu Soren

Member of the Jharkhand
Legislative Assembly





Wednesday, January 21, 2026

Intelligence for Inclusion

Transforming Women's Health through AI

 08:00 am – 08:45 am

Davos-Klosters, Ice Village, Dome 1 (Zone S)

SPEAKERS

Smriti Irani

Founder and Chairperson
Alliance for Global Good
Gender Equity and Equality

Dr. Christopher Elias

President, Global Development
Gates Foundation

Nishma Gosrani OBE

Partner
Bain & Company, UK

John Giusti

Chief Regulatory Officer / President,
GSMA Mobile for Development
Foundation, UK

Dr. Nino Enukidze

Rector -Business and
Technology University

The Climate-Workforce Equation

Care, Capacity & a Warming World

 10:30 am – 11:30 am

In partnership with ReNew

As global temperatures rise, so do the challenges faced by women—especially those in vulnerable communities and frontline roles. This session explores the intersection of climate change, gender equity, and corporate responsibility, highlighting how heat stress, resource scarcity, and displacement disproportionately affect women's health, productivity, and safety. The session will also examine how businesses can build climate-resilient workplaces, invest in gender-responsive infrastructure, and support women-led adaptation strategies.

SPEAKERS

Smriti Irani

Founder and Chairperson
Alliance for Global Good
Gender Equity and Equality

Joel Ruet

President
The Bridge Tank;
Member- WEF

Vaishali Nigam Sinha

Co-Founder
ReNew

Justin Worland

Senior Correspondent
TIME



Blooming Leaders

Poland India Women Blueprint

🕒 11:45 am – 12:30 pm

In partnership with Vital Voices

This interactive panel will introduce Bloom: a joint concept for a cross-border initiative aimed at building a practical benchmark for women-focused acceleration programs, designed to support women leaders and women-led organizations at different stages of growth.

The panel examines a shared challenge visible across fast-modernizing economies such as Poland and India: while women participate widely in entrepreneurship and early leadership, their representation drops sharply at growth, scale-up, and senior decision-making levels.

Bringing together perspectives from corporate leadership, entrepreneurship, and women's empowerment ecosystems, the discussion will focus on where momentum is lost at critical transition points — and what actually enables women to move from participation to leadership, ownership, and scale.

SPEAKERS

Smriti Irani

Founder and Chairperson
Alliance for Global Good
Gender Equity and Equality

Joanna Średnicka

Co-Founder & CEO
Game Changers Academy &
Assimilate

Ela Raczkowska

CEO
Vital Voices Chapter Poland

Dr Vidya Yeravdekar

Pro Chancellor
Symbiosis

Designing Catalytic Capital Pathways for Enterprise Scale

🕒 12:45 pm – 1:30 pm

In partnership with SPARK Collective

The Alliance for Global Good – Gender Equity and Equality is pleased to invite you to a curated session at the World Economic Forum on the role of catalytic capital in scaling women, youth, and rural-led enterprises, a segment critical to inclusive and sustainable economic growth globally yet persistently underserved by growth-stage finance.

SPEAKERS

Smriti Irani

Founder and Chairperson
Alliance for Global Good
Gender Equity and Equality

Saachi Bhalla

Deputy Director
Gates Foundation

Romal Shetty

CEO
Deloitte South Asia, India

Chandra R Srikanth

Executive Editor
Technology & Startups
Moneycontrol, India

Vaishali Nigam Sinha

Co-Founder
ReNew

Swati Agarwal

Partner
Deloitte

From Dialogue to Impact

Innovating for Better Health at Work

🕒 03:00 pm – 04:00 pm

In partnership with ReNew

Women's health is a public health priority—and workplaces are critical spaces for change. This session explores how corporate environments can become platforms for advancing women's health through thoughtful, inclusive policies and innovative practices. From menstrual health and mental wellbeing to maternal support and chronic condition management, the session will examine how policy can be translated into meaningful action, how organizations can collaborate with public health systems, integrate gender-sensitive approaches, and foster cultures of care that support women across all life stages.

SPEAKERS

Prof. Iris Bohnet

Director, Women and Public Policy Program
Harvard Kennedy School of Government
USA

Olivia Onyemaobi

Founder & CEO
Pad-Up Creations Ltd

Jennifer Robertson

MD, Board Matters

Nivedita Bhagat

Group CFO, Capgemini

Vaishali Nigam Sinha

Co-Founder
ReNew



Sustainability, Capital & Communities

🕒 04:15 pm – 5:00 pm

In partnership with LXME

Climate change and rising socio-economic inequities are reshaping global priorities, making inclusive finance and resilient communities essential to a just and sustainable future. India, with its vulnerable populations and ambitious climate goals, sits at the centre of this global transition.

This session aims to highlight how inclusive capital, multi-stakeholder partnerships, and community-centric models are becoming central to building resilient, future-ready economies. The discussion will convene global financiers, corporate leaders, and international collaborators to accelerate momentum for inclusive solutions focused on emerging markets and vulnerable communities.

SPEAKERS

Smriti Irani

Founder and Chairperson
Alliance for Global Good
Gender Equity and Equality

Priti Rathi Gupta

Founder, Lxme
Promoter, Ex-MD
Anand Rathi Group

Cara Williams

Global Head of
Sustainability and
Sovereign funds Mercer

Nivruti Rai

CEO
Invest India

Seema Chaturvedi

Founder & Managing
Partner of Achieving
Women Equity
(AWE) Funds



Thursday, January 22, 2026

The Performance Advantage

How Women's Leadership Strengthens Health Systems and Markets



10:00 am – 11:00 pm

In partnership with Dasra

This panel will bring together senior leaders from hospital and pharmaceutical companies to examine the business and market case for advancing women into leadership in healthcare. Beyond outcomes, the discussion will focus on the specific organisational interventions, systems, and leadership choices that are enabling women to advance—and how these are translating into stronger performance across patient outcomes, workforce retention, and innovation. Speakers will share practical examples of what has worked inside their organisations, as well as the market and talent pressures shaping these shifts. Given your leadership at Apollo and the organisation's demonstrated commitment to advancing women's leadership, we would greatly value your perspective on what it takes to move the needle at a sector level.

SPEAKERS

Sangita Reddy

Joint Managing Director
Apollo Hospitals

Shikha Pillai

Head of Sustainability
Siemens Healthineers

Dr Shuchin Bajaj

Founder
Ujala Cygnus Hospitals

Pranjal Sharma

Economic Analyst
Author, Journalist

Christelle Beneteau

Chief Peoples officer
Ferring Pharmaceuticals



Parity to Prosperity

The Next Frontier of Business Leadership



11:00 am – 12:00 pm

In partnership with Primus Partners

The roundtable will focus on moving from intent to action in advancing gender equality as an economic imperative. It will explore how policy, finance, and industry can collaborate to dismantle barriers to women's leadership, entrepreneurship, and participation in high-growth sectors. Discussions will address closing the digital divide, unlocking capital for women-led enterprises, and creating measurable inclusion strategies that position women as equal architects of the next phase of global growth.

SPEAKERS

Thelma Ekiyor

Global CEO for Women for
Women International

Philippine de T'Serclaes

Chief Sustainability Officer
Dassault Systèmes SE

Nicole Rycroft

Founder & Executive Director
Canopy Planet

Pratibha Jain

Head of Strategy and
Group General Counsel
Everstone Group

Charu Malhotra

Co-Founder and MD
Primus Partners

Sunita Mohanty

Managing Director
Primus Partners

Unlocking the Brain Economy

🕒 12:15 pm – 1:15 pm

In partnership with The Brain House

Women's brain health represents an underexplored yet essential dimension of women-led development—one where health equity, research innovation, and economic participation converge. This panel will explore sex-specific risk factors and hormonal influences across the lifecycle—from adolescence through reproductive years, menopause, and aging—addressing critical gaps in research that has historically overlooked women's brain health. The discussion will examine how women's social roles as both patients and caregivers intersect with policy imperatives, and how targeted innovation in research, early detection, prevention, and care access can unlock women's full cognitive and economic potential.

SPEAKERS

Dr. Antonella Chadha

CEO
Women's Brain Project

Rym Ayadi

Founder and President
@ Euro-Mediterranean
Economists Association

George Vradenburg

Chairman
Davos Alzheimer's Collaborative

Zul Merali

Founder
Aga Khan Brain and Mind Institute

Bio-Logic of Her

Redefining the wellness genome

🕒 02:00 pm – 03:00 pm

The roundtable will focus on reimagining women's health as a strategic driver of innovation, inclusion, and economic growth. It will examine how closing the research gap in women's biology, integrating frontier technologies with cultural wisdom, and shifting from reactive to preventive care can unlock trillion-dollar opportunities. Discussions will centre on building equitable, measurable, and future-ready health ecosystems that position women's wellness as a catalyst for resilience, productivity, and scientific progress.

SPEAKERS

Smriti Irani

Founder and Chairperson
Alliance for Global Good
Gender Equity and Equality

Saurabh Gaur

Secretary
Health Medical & Family Welfare
Government of Andhra Pradesh

Charu Malhotra

Co-Founder and MD
Primus Partners

Mary E Stutts

CEO
Healthcare Businesswomen's Alliance

Yuthika Gokaraju

Assistant Vice President
Laila Nutraceuticals

