



PAKISTAN WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS NETWORK FOR TRADE (WE-NET) Newsletter

Launch of WE-NET

Pakistan Women Entrepreneurs Network for Trade (WE-NET) was launched on November 9, 2017 in Karachi, Pakistan, creating the first national, representative platform of women entrepreneurs in trade of goods and services.



WE-NET is a nation-wide network that aims to engage women entrepreneurs nationally, with the objective of building partnerships with both the public and private sectors in Pakistan, whilst creating a sustainable forum for exchange of knowledge and best practices for women led businesses. Attendees of the launch event included the diplomatic community, renowned women entrepreneurs, heads of bilateral trade associations, senior businessmen and members of the media.

JICA Apparel Export Workshop

On invitation from TDAP and Ministry of Textile Industry, Pakistan Women Entrepreneurs Network for Trade (WE-NET) attended the JICA Apparel Export Workshop. The WE-NET delegation expressed interest in collaborating with JICA to organize future events that would benefit women entrepreneurs in Pakistan. Representatives from Pakistan's fashion industry accompanied the WE-NET delegation to attend the informative seminar.



Pakistan WE-NET attends FCEM Congress Rome



The 65th Femmes Chefs d'Enterprises Mondiales (FCEM) World Congress was held in Rome, Italy from November 20 - 22, 2017. Delegates from WE-NET engaged in networking opportunities with women entrepreneurs from across the world, including Eva Cavalli, Partner, Roberto Cavalli, Sharjah Business Women Council, Association of German Women Entrepreneurs, Jordan Forum for Business & Professional Women, KAGIDER, Monaco Business Women Association and others.

WE-NET is the first representative body from Pakistan that has been granted membership to FCEM. WE-NET delivered a presentation on its objectives, the importance of women's participation in economic development and the unique potential of women entrepreneurs in Pakistan. The presentation was deemed exemplary by the FCEM committee, thereby leading to WE-NET's exemption from the mandatory membership waiting period of two years.

OICCI & UN WOMEN



Pakistan WE-NET was invited by OICCI to attend a session held jointly by UN Women and Overseas Investors Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OICCI) in an effort to promote gender diversity in companies. Sadiqa Tayebaly (Board member) and Aliza Qaisar (Project Coordinator) attended the session on behalf of Pakistan WE-NET. The Chamber organized a CSR Event on Women Empowerment/Gender Equality under the title "OICCI Women: Empowering for a Brighter Tomorrow," in collaboration with UN Women Pakistan. The event brought together leading

foreign investors and gender specialists to discuss strategies and good practices on women's empowerment and representation in the corporate sector. The Pakistan WE-NET delegation used the opportunity to engage with attendees introducing WE-NET and to explore opportunities to collaborate.

Strategy Session for WE-NET

Pakistan WE-NET Board members held a strategy session on December 15, 2017, facilitated by Advisory Council member, Qashif Effendi. Issues discussed included collaboration, knowledge sharing, advocacy and the development of WE-NET's database of women led SMEs.



South Africa, Pakistan and Conservation

On the invitation of Pakistan Customs Director General, Mr. Tariq Huda, Pakistan WE-NET delegation comprising of Yasmin Hyder (Founder & President, WE-NET), Aliza Qaisar (Project Coordinator) and Aimun Mustafa (Project Analyst) attended a talk on "South Africa, Pakistan and Conservation" hosted by Pakistan Customs, to support CSR in Karachi.

The talk was deemed as a stepping stone towards highlighting and encouraging conservation efforts by both public and private sector to create a bigger impact. The WE-NET delegation also met with Ms. Anna (Consul of Italy).

Mentoring and Coaching

WE-NET aims to support young entrepreneurs through mentoring, coaching and providing access to a vast database of information. In this regard, Pakistan WE-NET Board member Sadiqa Husain Tayebaly engaged in a mentoring session with Farea Khan of 'Jooti Kapra Makaan' to explore opportunities for business expansion.

E-mail: secretariat@pakistanwenet.org
Website: <http://pakistanwenet.org/>

