A message from the Chairman

Last year I had the privilege of travelling to Rwanda to visit the Foundation’s Skilling for Change project. One of the women I met was Yvonne, the owner of an internet café in Kigali. Yvonne had worked hard to rebuild her life after surviving the genocide, and joined the project to find a mentor to help her build a robust business strategy. She was matched with Barbara, the head of business operations at a global broadcasting company in London, and together they worked on generating new business for Yvonne’s cyber café. Over the course of a year, Yvonne increased her turnover by 17%.

Meeting Yvonne was a powerful reminder that we urgently need to do more to bring women into our global workforce. With the right support and tools, women entrepreneurs can be an unstoppable force for growth and development.

The Cherie Blair Foundation for Women is driven by this belief. Now in our seventh year, we have established a strong base on which to build for the future. Our model of using technology to empower women entrepreneurs has been tried and tested, and we have engaged a growing network of donors and partners who share our passion, values and aims.

I am proud that we have extended our reach even further over the last year, establishing our first mobile technology project in Latin America, expanding our global community of mentees and mentors and launching new enterprise development projects across the Middle East, Africa and Asia.

Our work is not without challenges. Many of the areas where we operate are affected by political and economic instability, with restrictions on trade, movement and growth taking a heavy toll on women’s businesses. In Lebanon, for example, we developed risk management training to equip women with the skills and tools they need to fortify their businesses against volatility caused by ongoing conflict and the continued influx of refugees across the Syrian border.

We know that our work is touching lives across the world. This is largely thanks to the dedication and support of our Founder, Cherie Blair, my fellow trustees, our CEO and staff, and our loyal network of donors and partners. I am honoured to work alongside them to unleash the full potential of women entrepreneurs across the world.

Martin Kaye
Chairman

“Giving women the chance to become financially independent and make the most of their talents is the key to higher living standards and stronger economies.”

Cherie
A message from the CEO

Women’s empowerment is an issue that affects us all – men, women, children, communities, companies and economies. Proof of this is evident in the new Sustainable Development Goals, which were launched in 2015 as a means of driving global development on an ambitious scale, and which place gender equality front and centre.

The work of the Cherie Blair Foundation for Women sits at the heart of this new agenda. We focus specifically on women’s economic empowerment because we believe, first and foremost, that women deserve to participate in our economies on an equal footing with men. We also believe – and research proves – that women who are financially independent are better able to invest in their families and communities, generating benefits for all.

The past 12 months mark the first year of our five-year strategy, which sets out our ambition to empower 250,000 women by the end of 2019. Over the past year we have made good progress on this aim by growing the work of our three core programmes, launching six new projects in the Middle East, Africa, Asia and Latin America, and supporting an additional 18,000 women. To date, we have touched the lives of over 136,000 women in more than 90 developing and emerging economies.

Increasing women’s access to financial services continues to be a key focus of our work. We have forged strong links with financial institutions in Nigeria, Rwanda, India, Lebanon, Palestine and Sierra Leone, bringing them into direct dialogue with the women entrepreneurs we support. We also launched an exciting new project focused on building the financial literacy skills of Nigerian women entrepreneurs through a ‘blended learning’ approach which combines classroom training with e-learning.

We have also sought to ensure that we are not only growing our reach, but also deepening our impact. Last year we developed a robust new monitoring and evaluation system which will allow us to understand and improve the quality of our work. And we have continued to use our voice to call for greater collaboration between public and private sectors to accelerate progress on women’s economic empowerment.

Our own work proves that this model works. We continue to be inspired by the support of our wide range of partners, from private sector organisations and financial institutions to NGOs and government bodies. This support has enabled us to take one step closer to our vision of a world where women entrepreneurs have the confidence, capability and capital they need to thrive.

Sevi Simavi
CEO
We formed 12 partnerships with global companies, foundations and institutions, strengthening the international network of organisations committed to empowering women entrepreneurs.

To date, we have empowered over 136,000 women in more than 90 countries.

Our results in 2014-15

- **Empowerment**: Across our three programmes, we empowered 18,155 women around the world.

- **Confidence**: 97% of mentees supported by our Mentoring Programme increased their confidence.

- **Capital**: We improved the financial literacy skills of 14,000 women.
  - We supported 3,579 women to open a bank account.
  - We supported 1,312 women to access a loan.

- **Capability**: 95% of women who graduated from our projects increased their business skills.

- **Businesses**: 3,196 new businesses have been created.

- **Jobs**: 2,208 jobs have been created through women’s businesses.

- **Advocacy**: We championed women's economic empowerment at 11 high-level events around the world.

Our activities in 2014-15

- **Projects**: 56 new projects launched in Nigeria, India, Lebanon, Palestine, Israel, and Mexico.

- **Partnerships**: We formed 12 partnerships with global companies, foundations and institutions, strengthening the international network of organisations committed to empowering women entrepreneurs.
Women from our Skilling for Change project in the Rulindo district of Rwanda  
Photo by William Hartle

Enterprise Development

The Enterprise Development Programme works with women entrepreneurs in developing and emerging markets who have the ambition to transform their micro to small businesses into thriving enterprises. It harnesses innovative methods to foster women's economic empowerment, including face-to-face training and technology-enabled learning, as well as projects focused on promoting women's financial inclusion. To date, the programme has reached over 18,000 women.

Last year we designed and launched five new projects in the Middle East, Africa and Asia. We also began piloting an exciting new model to deliver training on financial literacy and business management skills to 500 Nigerian women entrepreneurs, via a 'blended learning' approach, which combines in-class training with a custom-built e-learning tool.

In addition to enhancing women's business skills, we have also highlighted and advocated for the removal of barriers to women's entrepreneurship. For example, we commissioned a policy paper to explore solutions to the difficulties Lebanese women entrepreneurs face in gaining access to markets. We also produced research in collaboration with the International Finance Corporation and the African Foundation for Development – Sierra Leone, in order to understand the factors that inhibit access to finance for women-owned businesses in Sierra Leone, and to find solutions to these challenges.

Financial inclusion continues to be an ever-growing priority for the Enterprise Development Programme. In the last year, we improved the financial literacy skills of 14,000 women, supported 3,579 women to open an account at a formal financial institution, and helped 1,312 to access a loan. Looking ahead, the programme will continue to boost the financial skills of women entrepreneurs, increase their access to financial services, and encourage financial institutions, both globally and locally, to better meet the needs of women entrepreneurs.

Claudette's story

In 2012, Claudette took a small loan from her Village Savings and Loan Association and started her own business in the Rulindo district of Rwanda, selling sorghum to support her four children. But, with limited business skills Claudette struggled to manage her enterprise and, over time, it collapsed.

Undeterred, Claudette joined our Skilling for Change project in 2014. Our enterprise development training gave her the confidence to establish a new business, purchasing milk from local farmers, boiling it and selling it on at a higher price. Our financial literacy training taught Claudette to access small loans as her profits grew. She also learnt about the importance of diversifying her business, which led her to start selling manure to traders and farmers.

After joining the project, Claudette’s income increased gradually from RWF 40,000 ($50) to RWF 60,000 ($80) per month. Diversifying into selling manure also doubled her client base and Claudette now makes a net profit of over RWF 180,000 ($240) per month. She hopes to use this income to send her daughter to university.

Claudette is also working as a mobile banking agent, helping to provide access to savings and loans for people in her community. So far, Claudette has opened bank accounts for three individuals through the mobile banking platform and plans to serve many more.

In 2014-15...

14,580 women reached
1,500 new jobs created in Rwanda
93% of women in Lebanon increased their business skills
65% of women in India accessed new business networks
18,000 women reached to date

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Enterprise Development highlights

**Road to Women's Business Growth in Nigeria**

**Partners:** Accenture Foundation, Enterprise Development Centre of Pan-Atlantic University, Areva S.A., World Connectivity.

This project is funded by the United States Government through USAID, and is implemented by Accenture Foundation and Enterprise Development Centre of Pan-Atlantic University. The project focuses on increasing access to finance, training and information for women entrepreneurs in Nigeria.

In 2016, this project provided business management training to 120 women entrepreneurs, with training focused on supply chain management, working capital management, access to markets, building business models and financial literacy. Over the last year, 65% of these women accessed new financial services.

**Driving Women’s Business Growth in India**

**Partners:** Indian Women’s Development Foundation, Accenture.

This project is funded by the United States Government through USAID. It is implemented by the Indian Women’s Development Foundation and Accenture.

In 2016, this project provided business management training to 120 women entrepreneurs, with training focused on marketing, operations, financial planning and access to finance. Over the last year, 60% of these women accessed new financial services, including mentoring, peers, suppliers and customers.

**Lebanon: Women Entrepreneurs**

**Partners:** Lebanese Women Entrepreneurs Organization, Enterprise Development Centre of Pan-Atlantic University.

This project is funded by the United States Government through USAID. It is implemented by the Lebanese Women Entrepreneurs Organization and Enterprise Development Centre of Pan-Atlantic University.

In 2016, this project provided business management training to 120 women entrepreneurs, with training focused on marketing, operations, financial planning and access to finance. Over the last year, 60% of these women accessed new financial services, including mentoring, peers, suppliers and customers.

**Women’s Economic Empowerment in Lebanon**

**Partners:** U.S. Department of State and the Lebanese Women Entrepreneurs Organization.

This project is funded by the United States Government through USAID. It is implemented by the U.S. Department of State and the Lebanese Women Entrepreneurs Organization.

In 2016, this project provided business management training to 120 women entrepreneurs, with training focused on marketing, operations, financial planning and access to finance. Over the last year, 60% of these women accessed new financial services, including mentoring, peers, suppliers and customers.

**Advancing Palestinian Women’s Businesses**

**Partners:** Tawfiq Foundation, Oxfam, Near East Foundation and Women’s Wealth Foundation.

This project is funded by the United States Government through USAID. It is implemented by Tawfiq Foundation, Oxfam, Near East Foundation and Women’s Wealth Foundation.

In 2016, this project provided business management training to 120 women entrepreneurs, with training focused on marketing, operations, financial planning and access to finance. Over the last year, 60% of these women accessed new financial services, including mentoring, peers, suppliers and customers.

**Business Acceleration for Women Entrepreneurs in Northern Israel**

**Partners:** Pratt Foundation and Western Galilee College.

This project is funded by the United States Government through USAID. It is implemented by Pratt Foundation and Western Galilee College.

In 2016, this project provided business management training to 120 women entrepreneurs, with training focused on marketing, operations, financial planning and access to finance. Over the last year, 60% of these women accessed new financial services, including mentoring, peers, suppliers and customers.
Mentoring Women in Business

In 2014-15...

- 575 women mentioned
- 97% of mentors gained business skills
- 97% of mentors built confidence
- 80% of mentors accessed new markets
- 200 women mentored in over 90 countries to date

Combining technology with mentoring, the Mentoring Women in Business Programme has pioneered a new way to support women entrepreneurs from developing and emerging economies. Since its pilot in 2010, the programme has supported over 2,000 women entrepreneurs in 90 different countries.

The one-on-one mentoring relationship is at the heart of this programme. Technology enables participants to forge bonds across thousands of miles. Using simple online tools, a woman entrepreneur and her mentor can hold a strategy session, collaborate on projects, brainstorm solutions to challenges and celebrate achievements as if they were in the room together.

Over the course of a year, each mentee and mentor meet for at least two hours each month to work on an action plan that focuses on the mentee’s business goals and professional development needs, as well as the mentor’s expertise and learning objectives. As a supplement to their mentoring relationships, mentees and mentors also become part of a global community of committed, ambitious entrepreneurs who share knowledge and access a range of resources, trainings, webinars and community forums through our online platform.

Of mentees to graduate in the last financial year, 97% gained business skills, 97% built confidence, 80% found ways to access new markets and 33% were able to keep their business from failing due to participation in the programme.

Of mentors to graduate in the last financial year, 96% benefited personally from participation in the programme, including by gaining knowledge of a new culture, building communication, leadership or mentoring skills, expanding networks, boosting their own confidence, building motivation and even being inspired to launch their own businesses.

Van Dang’s story

Van Dang established her software development company, Savvycom, in Hanoi in 2009. Although already a successful entrepreneur, she joined the programme to gain additional support to manage her growing team and achieve her ambitious growth plans. She was matched with Manisah, a mentor from Malaysia who co-founded a consulting firm which supports emerging brands.

Van Dang worked with Manisah to improve her branding and marketing, and build strategies to secure new clients. Manisah shared valuable insights on brand strategies and even visited Van Dang in Hanoi to celebrate Savvycom’s fifth anniversary. The pair remain great friends today.

Van Dang was also active on the programme’s online platform. The global forum enabled her to network with other women entrepreneurs while the resource library helped her access a range of knowledge on marketing and branding, and HR management skills, which proved pivotal in supporting her to manage her growing organisation and delegate tasks to her leadership team.

During her year in the programme, Van Dang was able to write a marketing plan and revise her business strategy. As a result, her business revenue has grown by over 100%, and she has hired more than 23 new employees. Passionate about sharing her knowledge, Van Dang is set to become a mentor in our next intake and continues to mentor her own team in Hanoi.
Mentoring Women in Business highlights

Our programme model revolves around providing bespoke matching and personalised support to participants, and the Foundation’s dedicated team is on hand to provide support and resources throughout the mentoring relationship.

In the last financial year we provided online training to over 575 more women entrepreneurs, matched them with dedicated mentors and ushered them into our global community as they began their mentoring relationships.

In tandem with bringing our community together online to learn from business experts through webinars, we also hold in-person events for mentees and mentors around the world, including in London, Lagos, Kuala Lumpur, Kigali, Delhi and Dar es Salaam. These events provided a further platform for mentees and mentors to share knowledge and build links with one another. At the event in Kuala Lumpur, Datuk Professor Jimmy Choo OBE shared his entrepreneurial journey and tips for resilience with our mentees, which provided a great source of learning and inspiration.

The work of the programme is only made possible through our partnerships and the commitment of our mentees and mentors. We work with a range of corporate partners to embed the mentoring opportunity in their leadership and CSR schemes and invite outstanding employees to become mentors. We also forge strong links with local organisations, working with them to identify and nominate pioneering women entrepreneurs as mentees.

We would like to thank those organisations which have supported the programme over the last year, including Bank of America, Asian Development Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Qualcomm® Wireless Reach™, Accenture, Dell, Marsh & McLennan Companies, Tune Talk Mobile Prepaid, McGraw Hill Financial, Sparrow Mobile and many more.
Mobile Technology

Mobile technology is a crucial development tool with enormous potential to transform both individual lives and communities around the world. This belief underpins the work of the Mobile Technology Programme, which harnesses the power of mobile phones and services to support women entrepreneurs in becoming successful business owners.

Since its inception in 2010, the programme has reached over 116,000 women worldwide. All of our work is delivered in close collaboration with mobile network operators, device manufacturers, platform providers, local NGOs and thought leaders. Working in this way allows us to leverage the networks, technology and funding we need to reach more women and deliver services which make a real difference to their lives.

The work of the Mobile Technology Programme fits broadly into three models:

- Delivering customised mobile applications to address challenges facing women entrepreneurs in developing economies
- Increasing the participation and capacity of women in mobile and banking agent networks
- Ensuring financial inclusion by providing mobile financial services to women entrepreneurs

In the past financial year, we began work on an enhanced version of our award-winning Business Women mobile learning tool, which will be rolled out in Mexico, and we continued to develop our existing projects in India and Nigeria. Our Founder, Cherie Blair, also spoke about the work of the Mobile Technology Programme at GSMA’s seminar on ‘Opportunities for Innovation in Mobile for Development’ at Mobile World Congress 2015.

Saberaben’s story

After marrying at the age of 17, Saberaben took on sewing jobs with the Self Employed Women’s Association (SEWA) of India to earn money to educate her four children. She continued working as a tailor for SEWA before becoming a ‘Rudiben’, a saleswoman with an agricultural cooperative known as RUDI.

The cooperative sells produce that has been sourced from local farmers and processed by the women. This work involved long hours for Saberaben – travelling to place her order, then travelling to collect her order, before going door-to-door to sell the produce. After Saberaben received training and started using our RUDI Sandesha Vyavhaar app on her mobile phone, she was able to place orders and track her inventory quickly and easily via SMS, reducing her workload considerably.

After using the app, Saberaben’s sales increased from INR 5,000 ($75) to INR 50,000 ($750) over a period of two years. Her transport costs and other expenses were also reduced. Saberaben scaled up her business and now takes larger orders for marriage celebrations and from other small business owners. She also became a member of the Executive Committee of SEWA’s District Association, and says, “I have become the owner and manager of my work and feel very proud as I have become a dignified member of my society and have gained respect among my family members.”

Women from our mobile technology project with SEWA and the Vodafone Foundation in India

Photo by Matthew Strickland
Supply Chain Management Solutions in India

Partners: Vodafone Foundation in India, Self Employed Women’s Association (SEWA) and GSMA

We developed RUDI Sandesha Vyavhaar (RSV), a mobile-based management information system designed to support the operations of a women-led agricultural cooperative based in Gujarat, India. The RUDI cooperative faced challenges with its paper-based management system, with the saleswomen (known as ‘Rudibens’) often having to travel for up to seven hours to place orders at processing centres. Our user-friendly application allowed the Rudibens to place stock orders, track inventory and generate sales reports via SMS, using simple mobile handsets.

In April 2015, we launched RSV 2.0, an enhanced version of the application which included a streamlined ordering process, order confirmation messages and an improved reporting system. At the close of the project in October 2015, over 1,880 Rudibens had been successfully trained on the updated application. The women reported significant increases in their monthly sales – as much as threefold in some instances.

Business Women Mexico

Partner: Angelica Fuentes Foundation

Based on the success of our award-winning Business Women application, a mobile learning tool which delivered business training via SMS to over 100,000 women in Nigeria, Tanzania and Indonesia, we began work on a second-generation application for women entrepreneurs in Mexico.

The application will include enhancements based on the feedback from the evaluation of the original Business Women service. It will also be informed by research on understanding the needs and experiences of Mexican women entrepreneurs. The RUDI platform will allow users to track inventory and generate sales reports via SMS, using simple mobile handsets.

In April 2015, we launched RUDI version 2.0, an enhanced version of the application which includes a streamlined ordering process, order confirmation messages and an improved reporting system. At the close of the project in October 2015, over 1,880 Rudibens had been successfully trained on the updated application. The women reported significant increases in their monthly sales – as much as threefold in some instances.

Mobile Financial Services for Women in Nigeria

Partners: Visa Inc., First Bank Nigeria and Youth for Technology Foundation

Thanks to support from Visa, we are training 2,500 women entrepreneurs in how to become branchless banking agents for FirstMonie, the mobile banking platform of First Bank Nigeria Limited (FBN).

The women agents have received tailored training in capacity building from our partner organization, Youth for Technology Foundation, on key business skills, such as financial management and managing customer relationships.

The project delivery is supported at all stages by FBN’s agent network managers, who lead on recruitment and provide training on the technical aspects of the agency business. The project is currently live in ten states across Nigeria.

Since it launched, 2,500 women have been trained and over 1,000 of these women have registered as FirstMonie banking agents. These women will, in turn, provide banking services to thousands of Nigerians, enabling them to register accounts, make deposits and pay bills via a simple mobile handset.

Accelerating Women’s Financial Inclusion through Training Mobile Money Agents

Partners: OII & Mobile Gender Foundation

In July 2015, the Cherie Blair Foundation for Women received a planning grant from the OII & Mobile Gender Foundation to develop a research project to explore how recruiting and training women as mobile money agents can bring more women customers into the formal financial system.

The findings from the research will be used to influence mobile network operators to train a greater number of women as mobile money agents in order to reach more women customers.
Global advocacy

Empowering women to establish and grow businesses is one of the smartest investments we can make. Financial independence gives women choices. It enables women to spend more on their families, drive growth in their economies and inspires others in their communities.

Over the last year we have continued to amplify this message at the highest possible levels, through the tireless advocacy efforts of our Founder, Cherie Blair, and our CEO, Sevi Simavi, and the work of the whole Foundation team.

We have championed women’s economic empowerment to policy-makers, government bodies, financial institutions, funders and thought leaders, ensuring that this issue remains high on the global development agenda.

Our message is clear: women’s economic empowerment is non-negotiable. It is the only way we will create a safer, more equal world for generations to come.

We have advocated for a range of solutions which will catalyse women’s economic empowerment, including:

- Harnessing the power of technology to unlock economic opportunities for women
- Dismantling the barriers which prevent over one billion women worldwide from accessing financial services
- Challenging restrictive attitudes and norms around gender roles
- Closing the gender gap in mobile phone ownership across the globe

2014-2015

During the past year we have participated in a number of high level events around the world, including:

- Women in Leadership Economic Forum, Dubai
- Mobile Learning Week, Paris
- Mobile World Congress, Barcelona
- Milken Institute Global Conference, LA
- World Assembly for Women, Tokyo
- EY Women in Leadership Summit, Monaco
- Dell Women’s Entrepreneur Network Summit, Berlin
- G7 Forum for Dialogue with Women, Berlin
- Clinton Global Initiative, New York
- The Bush Centre’s Global Women’s Network Summit, Berlin
- The Rome Conference on the Nexus of Agriculture, Nutrition and Enterprise, Rome
- The Women’s Empowerment Roundtable: Solutions at the Nexus of Agriculture, Nutrition and Enterprise, Rome

- **Women’s Empowerment Roundtable: Solutions at the Nexus of Agriculture, Nutrition and Enterprise, Rome**
- **Closing the gender gap in mobile phone ownership across the globe**
- **Challenging restrictive attitudes and norms around gender roles**
- **Harnessing the power of technology to unlock economic opportunities for women**
- **Dismantling the barriers which prevent over one billion women worldwide from accessing financial services**

- "Delivering change for women on a grand, global scale will only happen if we work together - and by ‘we’, I mean businesses, governments, financial institutions and NGOs."  
  Cherie Blair, Huffington Post

- "Empowering women to access credit will be a powerful driver of development, increasing the growth of women owned enterprises and delivering knock-on benefits to their wider communities."  
  Sevi Simavi, CEO, Huffington Post

- "Enabling women to access credit will be a powerful driver of development, increasing the growth of women owned enterprises and delivering knock-on benefits to their wider communities."  
  Sevi Simavi, CEO, Huffington Post

- "Women make up the majority of the world’s ‘unbanked’ population. The lack of concerted efforts to eliminate the systemic barriers which prevent access to capital is rooted in many unfair social and cultural factors."  
  Giulia Corinaldi, Strategy Director, panel discussion on gender and development hosted by the Guardian newspaper

- "Today, over one billion adults in the developing world are financially excluded. The report states that of the international agenda not tabled on the international agenda, we will be focusing on the following key barriers - factors that exclude rural and under-served women."  
  Allison Kahn, Women in Business Programme Director, interview with Global Girls Project

- "Enhancing women’s access to capital will be a powerful driver of development, increasing the growth of women owned enterprises and delivering knock-on benefits to their wider communities."  
  Sevi Simavi, CEO, Huffington Post

- "Delivering change for women on a grand, global scale will only happen if we work together - and by ‘we’, I mean businesses, governments, financial institutions and NGOs."  
  Cherie Blair, Huffington Post

- "Women’s Empowerment Roundtable: Solutions at the Nexus of Agriculture, Nutrition and Enterprise, Rome"
Our team

The Cherie Blair Foundation for Women is committed to supporting women entrepreneurs around the world. Based in London with a global reach, the Foundation is run by a dedicated team of staff overseen by a board of trustees.

Innovative
We are dedicated to developing innovative methods to foster women's economic empowerment.

Skilled
Our team has over 175 combined years of international development experience.

Global
Our staff speak 14 different languages and have experience of working in 74 countries.

Impactful
Our projects make a life-changing difference to women entrepreneurs across the world.

Collaborative
We work with a global network of partners, enabling us to reach over 136,000 women in more than 90 countries.

Founder and Patron
Cherie Blair

Trustees
Martin Kaye, Chair
Sara Candido
Jessica Geamond-Criqui
Lesley Robinson
Joana Schiellermann

Chief Executive Officer
Savi Simani

Innovative

Impactful

Global

Collaborative

Staff
Annabel Azim
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Margaret Burgess
Nick Chadwick-Williams
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Martha Dempsey
Claudia Dickers
Les Detrich
Elizabeth Fraser
Katy Gallagher
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Allison Kahn
Silvia Kornelova
Awa Mboob
Alba Magrini
Deepika Malik
Aliaa Malouf
Emily Marshall
Sofia Olsson
Marion Ouyao
Koatea Smith
Laura Stilberg
Sarah Stockwell
Matthew Strickland
Katharine Tengto
Robyn Vernon-Harcourt
Henna Wang
Lucy White

Innovative

Impactful

Global

Collaborative

Members of the Cherie Blair Foundation for Women visit Gloria Kamanyi Uwizera, founder of Glo Creations textile design and printing company in Rwanda.

Photo by William Hirtle
Financial overview

Since the Cherie Blair Foundation for Women was established in 2008, we have raised over £14 million for women’s economic empowerment. We are very grateful to the individuals, corporations, institutions, trusts and foundations which have supported our cause. Their contributions of funding, expertise, pro bono services and mentoring support have enabled us to reach over 136,000 women entrepreneurs in more than 90 countries across the world.

In the last financial year 86% of our expenditure went directly towards charitable activities. The Enterprise Development Programme accounted for 60% of this expenditure, while 26% was spent on the Mentoring Women in Business Programme and 14% on the Mobile Technology Programme.

This information was taken from our audited financial statements, which can be accessed in full at www.cherieblairfoundation.org.

Income in £’000’s

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<td>Revenue</td>
<td>671</td>
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Breakdown of Total Expenditure

- Governance 1%
- Fundraising 13%
- Charitable expenditure 86%

Breakdown of Charitable Expenditure by Programme

- Enterprise Development 60%
- Mentoring 26%
- Mobile Technology 14%
Thank you

We are enormously grateful for the generous support received from a range of donors and partners. We would like to thank our key supporters listed here, as well as others who choose to remain anonymous.

Asian Development Bank
Mr and Mrs Tony and Cherie Blair
John Catsimatides
Financial Women's Association
Hemraj Goyal Foundation; Arvind and Anita Goyal
Legacy Venture
naseba
Sunit Patel
Preetinder and Nicky Singh
SNR Denton
Taylor Wessing
The Hospital Club
Visionary Women

Global Honorary Board
Pascale Decaux
Yasmin Ghanderian
Badi Jafar
Francine Lefrak and Rick Friedberg
Atalanta Moquette
Sarah and Ross Perot, Jr.
Judith Scooby-Daoy

Membership Community
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Paul Baird
Paolo and Gabriella Basirico
Lady Kitty Tie Blair
Tina Brown
Ann and David Gising
InMaut Foundation
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Lord Raji and Lady Venita Loomba
Chas Maloney
Amy Christiansen Si Ahmed
Nurhan and Zheuna Sulaimanberdin
Sir David Tang
The Giving Back Foundation; Neera Gandhi
Bruno Wang

Olfat Teryaki, owner of a food production business in Beirut, Lebanon

Photo by Tamara Hadi
About the Cherie Blair Foundation for Women

The Cherie Blair Foundation for Women provides women with the skills, technology, networks and access to capital they need to become successful small and growing business owners, so that they can contribute to their economies and have a stronger voice in their societies.

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