

# WEAVE: Collaborating With Local Partners

## Essential Localisation

The Cherie Blair Foundation for Women brings a wealth of experience in entrepreneurship and women's economic empowerment across numerous countries and uses our lessons learned to shape each iteration of our programme delivery. Our local partners are central to our work and play a crucial role in ensuring we provide a training programme that is tailored to the local context and addresses women entrepreneurs needs.

In the international development sector, in-country partners are essential to the successful delivery of programmes. Their nuanced understanding of the context, target programme participants' needs, insight into the wider international development ecosystem, and extensive networks are central to building and delivering relevant programmes.

## Expert Partners on a Shared Mission

The Foundation was eager to identify local partners to lead our in-country programmatic activities. We were particularly interested in identifying partners with a strong track record implementing entrepreneurship and women's economic empowerment programmes across Indonesia and Vietnam. Additionally, we wanted to work with partners that shared our organisational values and passion for women's economic empowerment.

Through WEAVE, we collaborated with early-stage venture capital organisation Kinara Indonesia in Indonesia, and women's entrepreneurship non-profit organisation WISE in Vietnam. Both have extensive experience building women entrepreneurs' business knowledge and skills.

## Close Collaboration

We fostered a culture of regular lesson sharing, learning and reflection together with Kinara Indonesia and WISE throughout WEAVE conducting cross-programme lesson sharing sessions during key programme activities. While some lessons were specific to the Indonesian and Vietnamese contexts, many insights on what aspects could be enhanced were applied across both countries. This enabled quick pivoting where required. We tweaked the way we delivered our training and the complementary support to women entrepreneurs based on feedback we received from entrepreneurs who participated in WEAVE early on.

## Thousands of Women Supported

Our strong partnerships with Kinara Indonesia and WISE enabled us to support and empower over 12,000 women entrepreneurs on the WEAVE programme, despite operating during the pandemic. Kinara Indonesia and WISE's close relationships with the women entrepreneurs supported through WEAVE, and their understanding of the wider context, have been instrumental in shaping our thinking on how we can strengthen our delivery in future iterations of WEAVE.



**Bringing an internationally designed program to a local context required a lot of adaptation and customization, and we were happy to receive timely and valuable support from the Foundation's team to ensure that the WEAVE trainings are tailored to the Vietnamese context."**

**Diep Ngo, COO, WISE**

