**WOMEN’S GLOBAL INITIATIVE**

**PROFILE**

The Women’s Global Initiative (WGI) is a woman-owned business advisory & consulting organization committed to advancing the economic and political empowerment of women around the world by identifying, exploring and supporting the implementation of profit generating approaches, including business friendly and pro-woman policies. The collective experience of WGI leadership represents a broad knowledge, understanding and high-level expertise in international and local business development, market identification and development, channel development, distribution strategies, and marketing strategies for all types of products and services.

We thrive from the knowledge provided by our members, who in turn are exposed to the world to share their businesses, events and newsletters via a platform built on integrity, mutual respect and growth for all.

**WGI LEADERSHIP STATEMENT**

Millions of women – a significant majority of which are women of color – live in poverty. This situation is cultivated by the marginalization of women socio-cultural, political and economic processes which yield a significant negative impact on global literacy, health and economy. The current models being used to address these issues often perpetuate the very issue it hopes to counter, thus making it very profitable but highly ineffective. The problem with the current models being used to address these issues can claim success in keeping women alive. These models also keep these same women impoverished and politically impotent. The time has come to identify and adopt other approaches that make lifting women out of poverty is more lucrative than keeping them mired in powerlessness.

WGI look to reinvigorate and accelerate the way women do business by incorporating webinars, summits and special events to heightened the prestige for the members of WGI.

**WGI MISSION STATEMENT**

The Women’s Global Initiative (WGI) is in the business of creating sustained wealth and empowering women desiring knowledge about start-ups, crowd funding, and those looking for partners to grow their businesses. We also want to life up those women living in poverty around the globe through commercial profit driven approaches. It is more importantly about helping to growth the businesses of women entrepreneurs via strategic partnerships and through group funding sources.

WGI is established to inspire, support and enlarge the vision of the woman who feels as if she is on a solo pilgrimage in her quest to have sustainable business growth or empower those communities for which she has compassion and concern.

**WGI VISION**

The WGI vision is a world in which girls and women all over the world have equal access to resources, education, healthcare, and the political process so that they may thrive, rather than endure.

**WGI CONSULTANCY GOALS**

The WGI goals are as follows:

* Assist foreign and domestic government entities in developing and executing economic and political policies and processes that foster a women’s ability to sustain economic growth and civil participation.
* Provide consulting services and resources to targeted foreign and domestic government entities, businesses and organizations to develop and launch profit generating products and services throughout the world that foster the economic and political empowerment of women.
* Our members are welcome to join our consultancy membership with approval for executive board.

WGI offers an array of services across multiple disciplines. The primary services include the following:

* Development of strategic plans and blue prints for use by governments to manage and apply its resources to help women escape poverty.
* Arranging access to government entities, dignitaries and other decision makers
* Identifying and fostering relationships with potential partners and investors.
* General business consulting activities for entrepreneurial clients interested in providing profitable services and products that foster the economic and political empowerment of women. Specific activities include, but are not limited to:
  + Market Research
  + Channel Distribution and Development
  + Sales/Market Representation
  + Project-Based Market Research
  + Information Forum Events
  + Business Plans
  + Marketing Plans
* Workshops and Seminars

**WGI PRICIPLES**

The WGI principles are as follows:

* The economic empowerment of women and children around the world is thwarted by uninformed and unenlightened decisions at the level of national and regional policy; unexamined practices at the level of local culture that are perpetuated within communities and reinforced within genderized households.
* Innovative business models that specifically engage the disadvantaged populations are profitable endeavors that can simultaneously alleviate the poverty in which so many women and children live around the world.
* Poverty can only be truly addressed by meeting the following four conditions: if you meet four conditions.” They are as follows:
* Efforts to reduce poverty must occur on a huge scale to reach the billions who are in poverty.
* Solutions must be enduring and last over generations.
* The solutions must be truly effective and make a difference.
* All of the above must happen efficiently.

**WGI CORE COMPETENCIES**

The WGI core competencies are as follows:

* A sensitive, investigative interdisciplinary approach to problem solving that involves review of all levels of government policy and programs, and sensitive assessment of local culture and circumstance in order to design and implement mindful and appropriate assistance.
* Access to the global leaders and decision makers that are important to exploring and launching profitable business opportunities that foster economic and political empowerment for women.
* Comprehensive interdisciplinary expertise and networks of support and partnership, which serve as a powerful and extensive base from which to pursue the WGI mission to alleviate poverty for women while sustaining economic growth for those women already in business.

**WGI INTERDISCIPLINARY EXPERIENCE/EXPERTISE**

The services offered by WGI are enhanced by its interdisciplinary experience and expertise in the following segments: (1) Health and Sanitation, (2) Education, (3) Economics and Workforce Development; and (4) Governance and Civil Participation. Each of these segments is a critical factor in identifying profit generating opportunities that alleviate poverty for women. A summary of these segments is below.

Health & Sanitation: From girlhood to womanhood, females in many societies are fed last and least. Hunger increases children’s vulnerability to micronutrient deficiencies, infectious diseases and common diseases such as measles, diarrhea, respiratory infections and malaria, often leading to permanent mental and physical impairment or death. Malnutrition often follows an intergenerational cycle, with many women entering pregnancy malnourished. Mothers who are poorly nourished face an increased risk of maternal death, stillbirth, and early neonatal death; their infants are at increased risk of low birth weight, premature birth and/or cognitive impairments.

Education: While the “gender gap” in education has narrowed over the last decade, in many countries female children still do not have the same access to education, literacy and training as do males. Females account for 60 percent of children out of school, while two out of every three illiterate people in the world are women. Female children are often taken out of school at an early age to perform household duties, care-giving responsibilities and economic tasks or for other social factors.

Economics and Workforce Development: While women’s employment has increased in the last two decades around the world, considerable differences persist with regard to the quality, job security, and conditions of pay between female and male workers. Women often work in the informal sector where there is greater insecurity and lower earning capacity. In all sectors, women often earn less than men for the same work, and have fewer opportunities to improve their skills. Meanwhile, women’s increased involvement in paid work has not significantly reduced their share of unpaid domestic responsibilities. Unpaid work ranges from care of children, the elderly and the sick to fuel, water and fodder collection, and subsistence agriculture. While this work is not economically valued, it is a crucial element in sustaining family livelihoods and managing ecosystem diversity.

Governance and Civil Participation: Persistent gender inequalities continue to leave women without an equal voice in the decision-making processes that impact their lives and their environment. Increasing workloads as well as gender biases exclude women’s participation in decision-making processes from local levels to the ranks at which national and international development policies are determined. WGI recognizes these grave inequities and has thus created programs that address the critical areas of women’s lives, enabling them to better overcome these challenges.

**WGI CORE ADVANTAGE**

The WGI core advantage is its international relations strength, presence in Washington, DC, and the united expertise and networks of support and partnerships. This combination serves as a powerful and extensive base from which to pursue the WGI mission to support profitable business development and policy reform that fosters the economic and political empowerment of disadvantaged women around the world.

**WGI MARKETS**

WGI markets its services and expertise to foreign and domestic governments, businesses, and institutions of higher learning, and associations in search of ways effectively allocate its resources, identify investment opportunities, and expand access to or introduce new products or services that will be both profitable, sustainable and foster the improvement of women’s lives.

Centre For Economic and Leadership Development (CELD)’s Second International Conference on African Women Development (Paris)

**PARTNERS (will provide later)**

**WGI TEAM**

The WGI Team is comprised of multidisciplinary professionals that possess immense expertise and broad knowledge of the approaches, strategies, and policies that will foster and capture profitable opportunities that also enhance the economic and political position of disadvantaged women around the world.

*Marcia Dyson – WGI Founder and President and President*

Ms. Dyson, WGI Founder and President, is a noted and respected international women's advocate and distinguished associate for the Georgetown University Center for Social Justice, Teaching and Research; and Vice President and Executive Director, \_\_\_\_\_.  She has been hailed one of United States’ foremost religious figures, spiritual writers and noted civic-social activist.

**WGI EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

WGI believes firmly that information sharing and collaboration is a critical driver of social change and reform. Accordingly, WGI strives to coordinate forums and other avenues to advance the exchange of ideas, opportunities, and best practices for its existing and future clients. One such activity is the launch of the WGI non-profit organization (NPO).

WGI NPO is a membership organization that was created to pursue and identify solutions related to alleviating global poverty and building wealth for women and to advocate for and directly assist women in communities throughout the world. WGI NPO initiates – and collaborates with existing – programs and projects determined to be sustainable high-impact solutions at the community level that can be replicated or expanded regionally to ultimately reach hundreds of thousands of people.  Additionally, WGI NPO works closely with a network comprised of WGI clients and other corporate, government, university, faith-based and NGO partners with similar or complementary missions to create and support innovative new programs and to help extend effective existing efforts to those most in need.  Though separate entities, the work of WGI NPO informs the consulting services provided by WGI, resulting in an optimal outcome for WGI clients profit-generating endeavors.

Other activities offered by WGI are seminars on women leadership, lecture series on relevant issues, networking opportunities for minority women entrepreneurs interested in exploring global investment opportunities and capital ventures, and hosting world class social events.

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