INVESTING IN WOMEN & GIRLS

Find out how programs like Goldman Sachs 10,000 Women are changing lives.

DEDICATING RESOURCES TO A SINGLE WOMAN HAS A RIPPLE EFFECT ON HER ENTIRE COMMUNITY

“When you educate a girl, that girl becomes a woman who understands the value of an education and educates her children.”

Oprah Winfrey
Founder of the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls—South Africa
More on page 14

Melinda Gates
A commitment to women and children’s health

Maternal mortality
Saving the women who lose their lives giving life

5 STEPS TO CHANGE THE WORLD

Find out how programs like Goldman Sachs 10,000 Women are changing lives.
I sat in the audience that day, listening to the voices of women from around the world who explained how they had overcome seemingly insurmountable challenges. I was moved by their stories, which had the power to inspire and empower others. The Global Goals have the power to bring about such change, and I believe they can make a difference in the world.

In the context of the Millennium Development Goals, the one that has seen the most progress is in reducing poverty. According to the 2018 Global Hunger Index, more than 821 million people are hungry today, compared to 1.02 billion in 1990. This is a significant reduction, and it is due in large part to the efforts of organizations like CARE.

CARE is a humanitarian organization that is dedicated to fighting poverty and hunger around the world. They work with communities to help them overcome their challenges and build a better future for themselves. CARE is led by President and CEO Helene D. Gayle, who is a former White House aide and National Security Council staff member.

CARE works with communities to help them overcome their challenges and build a better future for themselves. They are known for their innovative approach to poverty alleviation, which includes providing access to financial resources, education, and health care. CARE is committed to empowering women and girls, who are among the world's most marginalized groups.

In CARE's latest report, “When Women Thrive, Everyone Thrives,” they highlight the importance of investing in women and girls. They note that women and girls are among the world's most vulnerable groups, and that investing in them can have a ripple effect on entire communities. For example, when women have access to education and health care, they are better able to support their families and communities.

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Providing women with opportunities to improve their economic condition. Investing in girls’ education. Helping lift women and their families out of poverty.

Our Foundation is working to create opportunities so people can live better. To learn more visit www.walmartfoundation.org
Every year, as many as 500,000 girls and women around the world die from pregnancy-related causes. Between 25 and 35 million women suffer severe or lasting illnesses or disabilities caused by complications during pregnancy and childbirth.

In 2000, the United Nations set out to change the plight of these women through its Millennium Development Goals, an international effort to combat extreme poverty. A key Millennium goal is to reduce maternal mortality by three-fourths by 2015.

The number of women in developing countries who die during pregnancy and childbirth is one too many,” says Richard Waldman, MD, president of the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. “Most maternal deaths can be prevented, and yet women continue to die needlessly. We must make a commitment to get those important services and adequate resources to the women who need them most.”

Many women in developing countries never see a doctor during pregnancy, says Kathleen Peterson, MD, professor and chairman of the Department of Maternal and Child Health at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill.

Ideally, all pregnant women should have access to prenatal care, skilled care at birth, and immediate postnatal care for both mother and baby. “Prenatal care is an important component of the solution,” Peterson says. “Most of the benefit can be included in as few as four visits.”

Women also need access to safe abortion, says Shefl ield. “According to the U.N., an estimated 48,000 women die every year from unsafe abortions, and millions more suffer long-term disability. Abortion should be done by trained health care providers in sanitary conditions and followed up with proper care that includes family planning counseling.”

“We know what to do to prevent maternal deaths, but we need to understand better how best to do it in the low-resource settings where most of these deaths occur. Then we need to make sure our translate that knowledge into action,” Peterson says.

Providing access to contraception has an enormous ripple effect, according to a report by the Guttmacher Institute and the United Nations Population Fund. Consider this:

The world currently invests $1.8 billion in contraceptive services, which enables 600 million women to prevent 160 million unintended pregnancies each year. Preventing these pregnancies results in 112 million fewer abortions every year and 154 million fewer unplanned births.

While most cases of maternal mortality occur in developing countries, the US is not immune. According to the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), the US rate is one of the highest in the developed world. “One woman who dies during pregnancy or in childbirth is too many,” says Richard Waldman, ACOG President.

“Most disturbing,” Waldman says, “is the racial gap. Among African-American women, there are 34X deaths for every 100,000 live births, compared with 16.2 for Hispanic women and 4.1 for white women. ACOG has the ability and a responsibility to play a strong role in guiding maternity care,” says Waldman.

Access to family planning, we could prevent more than 70 percent those complications will be life-threatening.”

“The number of women in developing countries who are dying are women who are unable or are not able to access to family planning services, and follow up with proper care,” says Shefl ield. “If we could get modern contraception to those women who lack access to family planning, we could lower the number of unintended pregnancies by more than two-thirds, prevent more than 30 percent of maternal deaths, and reduce the number of unsafe abortions,” she says.

Access to skilled care

Protecting maternal health also involves providing skilled obstetric care. Many women in developing countries rely on relatives or other women in their village for most medical training to deliver their babies. Shefl ield estimates that 40 percent of all pregnancies involve a complication, and in 15 percent those complications will be life-threatening.

“The number of women in developing countries who are dying while pregnant or giving birth is unacceptable,” says Peter-Hill.

“The ability to plan pregnancy and Good care

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Your ob-gyn is your partner in health.

Ob-gyns are dedicated to helping you have a healthy and successful pregnancy and a positive birth experience. We provide comprehensive health care and see you through every phase of life—from adolescence, through the reproductive years, and into menopause and beyond.

We’re here to keep you healthy for a lifetime.
"A businesswoman makes her own money to support herself and change her life—but it wasn’t just to have my own business. I knew that if I had a successful business, I could help the poor people around me."

Masooma Habibi grew up in a refugee camp in Iran. As a young girl, she spent 12 hours a day weaving carpets to make ends meet for her family. After the fall of the Taliban, Masooma and her family moved back to Herat, Afghanistan looking to return to the lives they once knew.

“When we returned, the situation in Herat was very bad for women. They couldn’t leave the house. They couldn’t go shopping in the markets. This situation was causing women there to burn themselves,” said Masooma.

Seeking work, Masooma and her father moved to Kabul. But Masooma wanted more than work. She wanted the opportunity to build a better life for herself and her family. She wanted the opportunity to be independent and in control of her destiny. She wanted to build a business that would give her the freedom and autonomy.

“A businesswoman makes her own money to support herself and change her life—but it wasn’t just to have my own business. I knew that if I had a successful business, I could help the poor people around me.”

As an Afghan woman, there was the constant threat of discrimination and violence. And she had never had the opportunity to learn the basics of how to run a business. But in Kabul she learned about the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Women program, a global initiative to provide business and management education to women in developing and emerging markets. The program is based on research from Goldman Sachs, the World Bank and others that found investing in women can have significant impact on economic growth.

The program, which was taught at the American University in Afghanistan in partnership with the Thunderbird School of Global Management, she learned practical skills like accounting, human resources management, and marketing.

After graduating from the program in 2009, Masooma launched an electrical engineering firm called Check Up. Her company began as a technical group, specializing in wiring, as well as generator and distribution panel board installation. Early on, many laughed at Masooma and her business because engineering is an industry traditionally reserved for men. They told her she should marry, and people in her community ridiculed her family for allowing her to pursue her business.

“As an Afghan woman, there are few places to turn to for safety. We face threats and challenges almost every day we go to work.”

Masooma continues to face challenges as she works to make her business a success. It is difficult for her to compete for electrical contracts with male-owned competitors because of the cultural and security environment in Afghanistan. Despite these setbacks, Check Up has grown under Masooma’s newfound confidence and leadership and employs up to 22 employees depending on project needs, 21 of which are men. Increased profits mean that she is able to take better care of her family.

Now, her goal is to start an electrical laboratory to ensure quality of her products and hopes to start a nonprofit organization centered around creating job opportunities for all Afghan women who are interested.

Masooma believes in the opportunity for increased entrepreneurship in Afghanistan. She says, “Entrepreneurship is a road to rebuilding Afghanistan and women-owned businesses play a great part in this. We know our work is important to our family and our country. Entrepreneurs create jobs and more jobs mean a better way.”

How I Made It

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10,000 Women is a five-year, global initiative to help grow local economies and bring about greater shared prosperity and social change by providing 10,000 underserved women with a business and management education.

Launched in 2006, 10,000 Women is founded on research conducted by Goldman Sachs, The World Bank and others that suggests women’s labor force participation is a key source of long-term economic growth. Research also suggests that an investment in female education can have a significant multiplier effect, leading not only to increased revenues and more employees for businesses, but also to healthier, better-educated families and, ultimately, more prosperous communities and nations. Put more simply, helping to transform the lives of promising women entrepreneurs transforms the lives of those around them.

In the first two years, 10,000 Women is generating measurable results in the businesses and lives of the program’s participants. Program graduates are already showing promising preliminary results—70% have increased their revenues, and 50% have added new jobs.

10,000 Women is active in more than 20 countries, including Afghanistan, Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Rwanda and the United States. This program is rapidly building momentum, and over five years will create a worldwide network of 10,000 women, each with unique challenges, experiences and aspirations, but alike in their determination to succeed and to make an impact far beyond themselves.

Please visit 10000women.org to learn more.

Goldman Sachs 10,000 Women is proud to be a part of the Clinton Global Initiative. 10,000 Women scholars are attending the CGI Annual Meeting in New York City this week. Please join us in welcoming them.
Women and men have a shared responsibility to end violence against women.

Therescia needs to change, to adapt to today’s challenges and crises, to search for new, innovative and sustainable solutions that’s a fact. Men have expressed their willingness to change society, men are ready to follow that path. But women have a very narrow space to act here.

In the past, women have too often been left behind. We did not take advantage of their position as the main users of this violence and women need to be trusted and be empowered. Figuring out how women need to actively participate in a new world.

Some of the most influential women in the world, along with well-known men, have come together to work hand in hand at the 6th Edition of the Women’s Forum for the Economy and Society to look for answers, directions, and solutions to one question: “Change, how to make it happen?”

Women and men of the Women’s Forum of Davos, France (October 14-16) are not simply delegates of a conference, they are engaged together to think about ways to improve dialoque and to challenge ideas. Women and men have to be part of this brainstorm together: They have a voice and responsibilities to make change happen, whether it is about policies, the environment, health or business issues.

Moreover, studies and examples have shown that empowering women economically and promoting women’s leadership at the highest and leadership positions impact both the economy of a country and the performance of a private corporation or any type of organization. Widening the possibility for women to shape power and to create wealth will ultimately benefit wealth tomorrow.

For more information on the 6th edition of The Women’s Forum for the Economy and Society in Deauville, France, October 14-16, see www.womens-forum.com.

AUX DE THAIN
President and founder of The Women’s Forum for the Economy and Society

SPECIAL THAKNS
Together we can end sex trafficking

The Horrors
Violence against women is rampant across the globe, especially in war and conflict zones, according to Heidi Lehmann, director of the gender-based violence unit at the International Rescue Committee, which helps people survive and rebuild their lives. “Often rape of women is a reward for soldiers,” she explained.

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Did you know at least one out of every three women around the world has been beaten, coerced into sex, or otherwise abused in her lifetime?

The Other Side
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Violence against women includes everything from rape to so-called honor killings.
So she can see a world free of violence against girls and women.

An aunt brutally punished for being RAPED.

A friend forced into PROSTITUTION.

A cousin SOLD INTO MARRIAGE at age 12.

A sister BURNED WITH ACID for going to school.

Thank you to Senators John Kerry, Barbara Boxer, Susan Collins and Olympia Snowe and Representatives Bill Delahunt, Ted Poe and Jan Schakowsky for sponsoring the International Violence Against Women Act.
G rowing up female is a challenge in itself, particularly so in Nigeria where only one in four young women is taught about the correct time to have a child, as recently observed by Verité. Nigeria ranks among the lowest in the world with only 12% of适龄 women having received information on menstruation before marriage. Girls who have received this information are three times more likely to use modern family planning methods, thus delaying childbearing, reducing the risk of unsafe abortion, and also having better health and education outcomes. Providing girls with this information can potentially change the course of their lives, and the lives of their future generations, significantly.

When San Francisco businesswomen recognized that women leaders in developing countries were failing to prioritize gender equality, they took action. They came together to create a global network of gender advocates, called the Gender Equality Principles (GEP) Initiative, to foster the advancement of gender equality through best practices for gender equity. Roundtables with 20 of the Bay Area's largest companies were hosted to discuss the role of businesses in shaping a better future for gender equality. Participants were encouraged to create and adapt the CWP to the local context, with input from partners in the field.

In this article, we will explore how the Gender Equality Principles Initiative (GEP), developed by Calvert, an investment management firm, and the United Nations Development Fund for Women—the first global fund of corporate advocate focused on empowering, advancing, and investing in women—has encouraged companies to translate the Equality Principles into practical policies, guidelines, indicators, and other performance tools for direct implementation of the standards.

Youth are the future of the world, and it is crucial to invest in them. By empowering girls to make informed decisions about their health and education, we can break the cycle of poverty and ensure a brighter future for all. As Melinda Gates stated, "The moment when I introduced each of our partners at our annual meeting, I felt a connection with each person—men and women, from our core belief that all lives matter. By investing in women and girls, we can change the world."

To know more about the Gender Equality Principles Initiative and how to get involved, visit www.genderequalityprinciples.org.
THESE ARE THE THINGS YOU NEED TO BAKE A CAKE. FORGET ONE, AND THE RECIPE WILL FAIL.

WOMEN’S HEALTH ALSO REQUIRES SEVERAL INGREDIENTS:
sex education, birth control, care during pregnancy and childbirth,
safe abortion, prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted infections
including HIV, and human rights protections.

Provided together, these ingredients prevent unwanted pregnancies and HIV,
and help women give birth safely. The International Women’s Health Coalition
knows the recipe for women’s health—and we’re helping governments use it.

When you achieve health for women and girls, you transform families,
communities, and economies.

TOGETHER, WE WILL SECURE A JUST AND HEALTHY LIFE FOR EVERY WOMAN AND GIRL. Visit www.iwhc.org today to learn more and
to support the International Women’s Health Coalition.
In recent years, the idea that improving the lives of women and girls is a powerful tool for global development has taken hold. And it’s not just another parrot note from foreign aid proponent or the human rights community that thinks so. Increasingly, the global development community is realizing that empowering women in developing countries is good for the bottom line, that it provides new markets and can build whole industries. That realization has created an industry of women and girls who are entrepreneurs and technically skilled, stronger and far more.

Inventors in women and girls not only live the lives of those most directly affected, it offers families, entire communities, and even whole nations the visibility. When women have access to opportunities and resources, they can take control of their lives, and their social value increase—and both contribute to strengthening the local community. In short, societies where women are empowered are economically stronger and far more.

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“Women as half of all workers changes everything.”

– THE SHRIVER REPORT: A WOMAN’S NATION, Study by Maria Shriver and The Center for American Progress

JONES NEW YORK

EMPowering YOUR CONFIDENCE

JNY.COM/empowerment
The powerful force for change

This month millions of girls will go back to school.

Unfortunately, 60 million girls, mostly in developing countries, won’t be joining them. Imagine the economic and social catastrophe of every single child enrolled in public school in the United States suddenly wasn’t. That’s how many girls we’re talking about here.

This is bad news for a girl and her family. And it’s a complete disaster for the world.

That seemingly mythical girl—the one you don’t know who lives thousands of miles away—is the world’s most powerful force for change. She alone has the power to put an end to intergenerational poverty.

To live up to her potential, all the needs are a few key assets: She needs to be healthy, educated and safe. Sounds pretty straightforward, right? The problem is, in poor families, these three things are lacking. By adolescence, a girl’s day can easily turn into fetching water or doing the household chores. She can’t go to secondary school, can’t learn about her rights, and can’t be married off.

Take a look at Sanchita, who lives in Bangladesh. Her family is extremely poor. There’s a good chance she’ll be married off by the time she’s 12. But when she does decide to have kids, they’ll be healthier, better nourished, and better educated. With economic opportunity, she’ll be able to transform herself and her family. Everyone’s lives improve as a result.

I believe that education is the most important gift you could ever give anyone, which is why my team and I help build 60 schools internationally and granted numerous scholarships both in the United States and abroad. I’ve made it my life’s mission to give back and believe that each of us can play a role in making a difference in the world through service to others.

So start with where you are and do what you’ve been empowered and blessed to do. Educate one girl or two or ten. Something as simple as paying for a uniform and school supplies can make a world of difference.

Be willing to ask the question, “What can I do?” And the answer will show itself.

Sanchita had a chance to take out a loan and start a small business. Allowing her to invest in her own education.

INSPIRATION

Educating a new generation

Inspiration

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The powerful force for change

The powerful force for change

The powerful force for change
Women and girls face challenges across the globe, but especially in Africa. In Sub-Saharan Africa, more than 25 million girls are out of school. Although literacy rates have improved throughout Africa, one out of every two women over the age of 25 is illiterate.

There are myriad reasons why so many girls are not being educated (many girls are married and raising families as young as age 13), but there are compelling reasons to change the tide. Educated girls in Africa will earn 25 percent more than those who are not schooled, they will have healthier families and educated women will be three times less likely to contract AIDS/HIV. When girls get an education and earn an income, they put 90 percent of their earnings into their families, versus only 40 percent of men, according to Camfed.

Donations go far in Africa

“When you go to Africa, you realize very quickly that educating girls is key to Africa’s future,” said Barbara Alison Rose, executive director for Aid for Africa. Aid for Africa is a partnership of nonprofit organizations dedicated to helping children, families and communities throughout Africa. It is a grassroots effort involving organizations that are deeply knowledgeable and trusted by local communities. Its African Girls Scholarship Fund is designed to empower girls with the most effective tool for a brighter future—an education.

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African Girls Scholarship Fund is designed to empower girls with the most effective tool for a brighter future—an education. What’s striking is how a small amount of money can stretch so far in Africa. While U.S. kids gear up for school spending hundreds of dollars on everything from iPods to skinny jeans, just a $10 donation can mean school supplies for a girl in Africa. People ask me how they can possibly help when there are so many in need. When you think that as little as $250 will send a girl to one year of elementary school and $500 will send a girl to high school for a year, it is clear that anyone can make a difference in an African girl’s life,” added Rose.

The average cost of sending a girl to high school in the U.S. is about $7,750 versus $650 on average in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. That means 12 girls can go to school for the price of one in America.

We don’t just talk about investing in women and girls—we make things happen. At AAUW, we:

Give
Through our philanthropy, AAUW provides more than $3.5 million annually in fellowships and grants for women scholars and programs that give women and girls opportunities for a lifetime of success.

Research
We deliver cutting-edge research and real-life strategies to improve the quality of education for women and girls.

Advocate
From Capitol Hill to state houses to your community, we champion educational and economic equity on matters affecting the lives of women and girls.

For 130 years, AAUW has not just talked about the issues but provided funding, knowledge, solutions, strategies, and action. AAUW. The power of KNOWLEDGE. The power of ACTION.

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