



**FINANCIAL  
ALLIANCE  
FOR  
WOMEN**

Annual  
Summit  
2025

# ACCELERATING ENABLING ENTREPRENEURIAL ECOSYSTEMS



HOSTED BY



NATIONAL BANK OF RWANDA  
BANKI NKURU Y'U RWANDA



SUPPORTED BY



International  
Finance Corporation  
WORLD BANK GROUP



**Bank**



THE WORLD BANK  
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**Wednesday, May 28, 2025**

**PUBLIC EVENT**

## WE Finance Code Rwanda Launch



**8.00AM – 9.45AM** FOYER

**WELCOME BREAKFAST,  
REGISTRATION & NETWORKING**

**10.00AM – 10.10AM**

– Fiona Muthoni, Emcee

**SUMMIT OPENING**

**10.10AM – 10.30AM**

**WELCOME REMARKS**

- Soraya Hakuziyaremye, Governor, National Bank of Rwanda
- Inez Murray, CEO, Financial Alliance for Women

**10.35AM – 11.15AM**

**WE Finance Code: National Champions**

**MODERATOR**

- Jean Bosco Iyacu, CEO, Access to Finance Rwanda

**DISCUSSANTS**

- Toni J. Weis, Financial Sector Specialist, World Bank Africa Gender Innovation Lab
- Dr. Diane Karusisi, CEO, Bank of Kigali, Rwanda
- Pitchette Kampeta Sayinzoga, CEO, Development Bank Rwanda
- Valence Kimenyi, Executive Director, Financial Sector Development and Conduct, National Bank of Rwanda

**11.15AM – 11.25AM**

– Guest of Honor

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

**11.30AM – 11.35AM**

**Introduction to the WE Finance Code Rwanda**

- Video

**11.35AM – 11.50AM**

**SIGNING CEREMONY**

**Signatory Introductions:**

- Ingrid Cyuzuzo, Senior Principal Analyst & Manager, Financial Innovation, National Bank of Rwanda

**SIGNATORIES**

- |  |                              |
|--|------------------------------|
| – Ministry of Trade and Industry                     | – Development Bank of Rwanda |
| – National Bank of Rwanda                            | – Bank of Kigali             |
| – Access to Finance Rwanda                           | – Equity Bank                |
| – Rwanda Bankers Association                         | – I&M Bank                   |
| – Association of Microfinance Institutions in Rwanda | – Ecobank                    |
|  | – BPR Bank Rwanda            |
|  | – Access Bank                |
|  | – GT Bank                    |
|  | – Bank of Africa             |
|  | – NCBA Bank                  |
|  | – Zigama CSS                 |

**11.55AM – 12.25PM** **COFFEE AND NETWORKING**

**12.30PM – 1.10PM**

**WE Finance Code: Insights from Global Champions**

**MODERATOR**

- Wendy Teleki, Head, We-Fi Secretariat, World Bank, United States

**DISCUSSANTS**

- Dalma Hernandez, Manager of Social Banking, Bankers Association of the Dominican Republic
- Temitope Akin-Fadeyi, Head, Financial Inclusion Delivery Unit, Central Bank of Nigeria
- Khaled Bassiouny, General Manager, Financial Inclusion Department, Central Bank of Egypt

**1.15PM – 1.20PM**

**CLOSING REMARKS**

- Prudence Sebahizi, Minister, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Government of Rwanda

**1.20PM – 2:10PM**

**LUNCH AND NETWORKING**



PRIVATE EVENT

# Annual Summit: Accelerating Enabling Entrepreneurial Ecosystems

Annual  
Summit  
2025

2.15PM – 2.20PM

## WELCOME REMARKS

- Inez Murray, CEO, Financial Alliance for Women

2.25PM – 3.15PM

## Unblocking Debt Finance for Women Entrepreneurs in Africa

This panel explores key success factors, business results and remaining challenges for banks to fully serve WMSMEs.

### MODERATOR

- Greta Bull, Director, Women's Economic Empowerment, Gates Foundation, United States

### DISCUSSANTS

- Naomi Ndele, Head of SME and Agribusiness, Kenya Commercial Bank, Kenya
- Beatrice Lugalambi, General Manager Corporate Communications and Marketing, Centenary Bank, Uganda
- Henry Chinedu Obike, Chief Innovation Officer, I&M Bank, Rwanda

3.20PM – 4.10PM

## Harnessing Capital Markets to Finance Women MSMEs

Panelists explore the role of gender bonds and other capital markets instruments to unlock financing for women entrepreneurs.

### MODERATOR

- Jessica Schnabel, Global Head of Banking on Women, International Finance Corporation

### DISCUSSANTS

- Marcia Diaz, Head of Strategy - SMEs and Corporates, Banco Pichincha, Ecuador
- Beatrice Mwambije, Senior Manager Liability Products, NMB Bank, Tanzania
- Siongo Kisoso, Managing Director, BK Capital, Rwanda

4.10PM – 4.35PM

## AFTERNOON TEA AND NETWORKING

4.40PM – 5.30PM

## Leadership Forum: Leading Through Change

C-Suite Executives discuss how they are handling the most pressing issues facing the business, including the DEI backlash and the climate emergency.

### MODERATOR

- Inez Murray, CEO, Financial Alliance For Women

### DISCUSSANTS

- Aishah Ahmad, CFA, OFR, Finance & Policy Strategist and Former Deputy Governor, Central Bank of Nigeria; Board Member, Financial Alliance For Women
- Lindelwe Zwane, Chief Compliance Officer, ABSA CIB, South Africa
- Carine Umutoni, Managing Director, Ecobank, Rwanda

5.35PM – 6.05PM

## CHAMPIONS OF THE FEMALE ECONOMY AWARDS 2025



6.10PM – 6.20PM

## SUMMIT DAY 1: CLOSING REMARKS

- Jean Bosco Iyacu, CEO, Access to Finance Rwanda

6.30PM – 7.45PM

## ALLIANCE SUMMIT 2025 COCKTAIL RECEPTION & NETWORKING





## Thursday, May 29, 2025

# Accelerating Enabling Entrepreneurial Ecosystems

8.30AM – 8.55AM

**WELCOME BREAKFAST & NETWORKING** FOYER

9.00AM – 9.05AM

**OPENING NOTES**

– Fiona Muthoni, Emcee

9.05AM – 9.10AM

**WELCOME REMARKS**

– Inez Murray, CEO, Financial Alliance for Women

9.15AM – 10.05AM

### Scaling Women's Entrepreneurship Through Non-Financial Services

This panel explores critical non-financial services for female entrepreneurs: financial education, recognition, and access to networks and markets. Panelists will discuss which programs are most effective and what works at scale.

#### MODERATOR

– Anna Gincherma, Partner, ConsumerCentriX

#### DISCUSSANTS

- Naomi Kirungu, SME Partnerships Lead, African Management Institute
- Karen Licurse, Managing Director, Digital Boost, United Kingdom
- Sarah Lubega, Manager of Women's Banking, Stanbic, Uganda
- Alice Nkulikiyinka, Country Director, Business Professionals Network (BPN) Rwanda

10.10AM – 11.00AM

### Fast Growth Start Up Enablers

This panel explores early-stage needs, what is different for female founders and what needs to happen to get more female founded fast growth start-ups.

#### MODERATOR

– Malik Shaffy Lizinde, Serial Entrepreneur, Rwanda

#### DISCUSSANTS

- Susan Nakami, Regional Lead – Africa, Village Capital, Kenya
- Maryanne Ochola, Regional Manager Sub-Saharan Africa & Managing Director, Endeavor Kenya
- Paradis Imfura Nishimwe, Founder and Managing Director, Wood Habitat, Rwanda
- Sharon Akanyana, Founder and Managing Director, Ishyo Foods, Rwanda

11.00AM – 11.25AM **COFFEE AND NETWORKING**

11.30AM – 12.20PM

### Gender Intelligent Digital Financial Services

This panel explores how fintechs and incumbents have adapted their sales funnels to reach and support more women at each stage of the client journey.

#### MODERATOR

– Carine Fersan, Director Peer Learning, Financial Alliance for Women

#### DISCUSSANTS

- Sairee Chahal, Founder, Mahila Money, India
- Faria Shahid, Head Affluent Segments, HBL, Pakistan
- Carole Karema Jeni, Chief Information Officer, Equity Bank, Rwanda

12.25PM – 1.00PM

### Gender Inclusive Climate Solutions

Africa's women farmers are on the frontline of climate change. Industry leaders share strategies for integrating gender-responsive approaches into climate finance.

#### MODERATOR

– Inez Murray, CEO, Financial Alliance for Women

#### DISCUSSANTS

- Teddy Mugabo, CEO, Rwanda Green Fund
- Catherine Gitonga, CEO, Smart Regional Consultants, Kenya

1.00PM – 1.45PM

**LUNCH AND NETWORKING**



1.50PM – 2.40PM

**Scaling Women's Markets Programs: A Life Moments Strategy**

This panel will explore how Alliance members are expanding their strategies for women entrepreneurs by addressing broader life cycle needs.

**MODERATOR**

- Karyl Akilian, Director, Marketing & Business Development, Financial Alliance for Women

**DISCUSSANTS**

- Rashidat Adebisi, Chief Client Officer, AXA Mansard, Nigeria
- Elizabeth Rojas, 2nd VP Women's Business Strategy, Banco BHD, Dominican Republic
- Lizzy Mogale, Managing Executive, Insights and Advisory - Retail and Business Banking, Nedbank, South Africa

2.45PM – 2.55PM

**CLOSING REMARKS**

- Karyl Akilian, Director, Marketing & Business Development, Financial Alliance for Women

2.55PM – 3.25PM

**AFTERNOON TEA AND NETWORKING**

3.30PM – 6.00PM

**WFID Community of Champions Workshop  
Unlocking WMSME Finance - Data Policy and Practices**

The WFID Community of Champions is a platform for financial system policy makers to share experiences and best practices for increasing the collection and use of sex disaggregated data to drive women's financial inclusion.

In this fourth annual in-person meeting, WFID members will share data driven policies that enable women's entrepreneurship.

**MODERATORS**

- Inez Murray, CEO, Financial Alliance for Women
- Anna Gincheran, Partner, ConsumerCentriX

**DISCUSSANTS**

- Sophia Abu, Head of Gender, Financial Inclusion Delivery Unit, Central Bank of Nigeria
- Paola Mariana Vivas Arango, Financial Inclusion Group Lead, Financial Superintendency of Colombia
- Karina Villanueva Aritzemendi, Area Director, Ministry of Finance and Public Credit (Hacienda), Mexico
- Mr. Khaled Bassiouny, General Manager – Financial Inclusion Department, Central Bank of Egypt
- Ingrid Cyuzuzo, Manager Financial Innovation, National Bank of Rwanda
- Shayema Islam, Director, National Financial Inclusion Administrative Unit, Bangladesh Bank
- Milly Nalukwago Isingoma, Director of Statistics, Bank of Uganda
- Fizza Khalid, Assistant Director, Financial Inclusion Division, State Bank of Pakistan
- Christine Waita, Data Specialist, Kenya Bankers Association

6.00PM

**END****Engage with us on LinkedIn:****@FAforWomen**

#AllianceSummit2025

#ChampiontheFemaleEconomy



For questions, please email:

[summit@financialallianceforwomen.org](mailto:summit@financialallianceforwomen.org)[info@financialallianceforwomen.org](mailto:info@financialallianceforwomen.org)For more information [visit our website](#).**FINANCIAL  
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