



## **La Pietra Coalition Asks G20 to Set New Policies for Women's Economic Opportunity**

La Pietra Coalition is a membership of non-governmental organizations, foundations, corporations, governments, academic and international institutions, entrepreneurs and media -- who have come together out of a common conviction and commitment that women's equal economic participation is a necessity for the common good. We recognize that women's full contribution in the economy is the only way that societies will develop and prosper. We believe, over the next decade their impact on the global economy as producers, entrepreneurs, employees and consumers will be at least as significant as that of China's and India's one billion-plus populations, if not greater.

Specifically, we seek a broad-based government commitment to the financial inclusion of women at all levels of finance and development to help alleviate poverty and foster greater economic growth for nations and communities.

The Coalition aims to serve as advocates, mobilizers and partners to help pave the way so that women worldwide – the third billion – are prepared to meet the global economy's need for human capital and talent and to take their place in the economic mainstream over the next decade. This "third billion" is made up of women, in both developing and industrialized nations, whose economic lives have previously been stunted, underleveraged, or suppressed.

We advocate for government policies and private sector engagement and investment that create positive growth opportunities for women in the areas of entrepreneurship, labor policy and practice, legal and social status, access to finance, education and training. We accomplish our work through the collective impact of our influential and diverse membership.

To this end, La Pietra Coalition asks that the Group of 20 (G20) broaden the work launched at its Pittsburgh and Seoul Summits regarding financial inclusion. As the world's most important industrialized and developing economies, the G20 is the premier forum for our international economic growth and development across the globe. Now is the time for the G20 to recognize the critical role that women play – as producers, consumers, employees, and entrepreneurs – in the global economy and call for their inclusion in it to ensure that women have:

- Access to finance
- Access to markets
- Access to ownership of land and property as a requisite for economic stability
- Access to education and training to prepare them for today's economy

These goals will require accurate data that separate statistics on men and women—gender disaggregated data.

To achieve these goals we urge the G20 to:

- Ensure that the Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion include a seat for representation of women.
- Urge Central Banks and other national financial authorities, working in collaboration with commercial banks, to develop systems and methods for the collection and dissemination of



gender disaggregated data for women by checking account, savings account, and business loans in the formal sector.

- Commission a polling survey of access to finance to determine reasons for being unbanked.
- Call for incentives and specific goals for increased procurement by governments of goods and services from women-owned enterprises (SMEs) within their countries.
- Call on the G20 to work to identify critical and actionable limitations to implementing existing legislation designed to protect women's property rights and to encourage national level policies that leverage women's property rights for increased agricultural productivity and incomes for women.