WE Finance Code

Unleashing Finance For Women Enterprises
The Importance of Collecting on Sex-Disaggregated Data

400 million women entrepreneurs with unmet financing needs

$1.7 trillion growth opportunity for financial service providers

The $1.7 trillion finance gap for women-led MSMEs is limiting their potential to add $5-6 trillion in economic value to the global economy.

Data can narrow these gaps and is essential for uncovering:
- Who is excluded.
- Which financial products are used, and by whom.
- The impacts of financial inclusion interventions on development.
- How women’s financial needs differ from men.
- Why products need to be accordingly adapted.
Piloting the Women Entrepreneurs Finance Code at the Country Level

**WE Finance Code is a multi-stakeholder effort to close financing and data gaps for women-led MSMEs**

- Engage leaders who will prompt action inside and outside of their organizations
- Catalyze new financial and non-financial mechanisms to meet the needs of WMSMEs
- Mainstream the collection, analysis and use of supply-side data on financing of WMSMEs
- Improve standards, policies and regulations to address data gaps and financing constraints
- Mobilize capital for financing and technical support for WMSMEs
The WE Finance Code encourages voluntary commitment by FI Signatories in three areas:

- **Leadership**: Designate a senior member of the organization to champion access to finance for women entrepreneurs.
- **Data**: Expand the quality and quantity of data that is tracked and reported on the level of direct financing provided to women-led firms.
- **Activities**: Introduce measures that will promote women entrepreneurs’ access to tools, resources and finance.

- National bodies commit to championing a Code at the national level
- MDBs, standard setting bodies, NGOs, donors incentivize FSP adoption and support implementation
- Global annual reports showcase overall results and ensure accountability, learning and action.
Participants identify how they will support the Code’s three pillars

- A generic menu of activities helps participants identify activities that are relevant for them, based on their area of domain expertise, capacity and networks.
- More details are collected through an onboarding process within 1-2 months of signing.

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<tr>
<th>Leadership</th>
<th>Data</th>
<th>Action</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Identify leadership around Code-related activities, and work to champion the Code with others</td>
<td>Mainstreaming the collection and reporting of sex-disaggregation of MSME finance data</td>
<td>Other activities within the organization’s relevant domain to address constraints and close finance gaps for W-MSMEs</td>
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<td>Designate a senior leader as champion</td>
<td>Collect &amp; Report the Code’s key indicators</td>
<td>Develop new financial and non-financial services for W-MSMEs</td>
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<td>Create awareness and encourage partners to participate in the Code</td>
<td>Use indicators for analytics, decision-making and reporting</td>
<td>Establish business case, set targets, strategies, policies, standards to expand financing for women-led enterprises.</td>
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<td>Act as a champion for a National Code</td>
<td>Develop tools and support others to collect, analyze and report key indicators</td>
<td>Increase volume of finance for W-MSMEs, inc. bonds, credit lines, equity, trade, etc.</td>
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<td>Provide assistance to National Code champions to roll out the Code.</td>
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<td>Promote peer learning and documenting use cases.</td>
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Country Champions can provide critical leadership for Country Pilots

National Codes can be championed by leaders in the public and/or private sector and should have four common characteristics:

➢ **A public declaration of intent** to introduce a national Code that conforms to the minimum guidelines of the global Code

➢ **Governance** through a national coalition that oversees local adoption of the Code and ensures accountability

➢ Designated **coordinator** to oversee local Code implementation and interface with and report to the global Code

➢ **A mechanism to aggregate data** with integrity and in a format that will facilitate mainstreaming over time and can be reported globally

Progress will be tracked through an annual global report; Annual Country Reports are encouraged.
20+ countries supported by We-Fi to participate in the pilots

**EBRD:** Egypt, Morocco,
Balkans (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia)
Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan)

**IDB:** Dominican Republic

**ADB:** Indonesia (with **IsDB**), Fiji, Sri Lanka

**WBG:** **WB:** Madagascar, Mozambique, Rwanda, Kenya, Somalia, Cote d’Ivoire, Nigeria, Senegal.
**IFC:** TBD

**AfDB:** TBD

The WE Finance Code is a flexible framework that all countries will have access to. Peer learning will incorporate other countries that are introducing the Code.
Global Coordination to Accelerate Implementation and Learning

- Guidance for IP Leads
- Technical Notes/Tools
- Data Aggregation
- Global Annual Reports

- Elevate Leaders Voices
- Build Momentum Globally
- Share Success Stories
- Local Media Kit

- Workshops, Training
- Collaborative learning
- Communities of Practice
- FSP Data Learning Series

- Implementation support
- Expertise & research
- Resources & Funding
- Signatory Commitments

Coordination will be led by the We-Fi Secretariat in collaboration with Financial Alliance for Women and OECD, and in coordination with IPs.
Goal to launch country pilots in March 2024 (International Women’s Day)

Oct 2023 – March 2024

**Country Code Launch Phase**

- Work with Country Code Champions on Vision
- Identify a public-private coalition for the Code
- Customize the commitment mechanism
- Agree on definitions, indicators & reporting path
- **Launch Code with key champions (March ’24)**

**Global Coordination**

- Guidelines & Peer Learning with FAW
- Data collection mechanism with OECD
- Communications to build engagement
- Elevate & empower champions (esp. female)

April 2024 – April 2026

**Country Roll-out Phase**

- On-board FSP Signatories
- Collect baseline & annual data (1 year grace)
- Global survey to track commitments
- Data working group & learning series
- Mainstream data collection, analytics & use

**Global Learning & Reporting**

- Share learnings and tools
- Build Code dashboard with analytics capabilities
- Expand framework to cover FinTechs, Equity
- Strategic communications and advocacy
- Track progress via annual reports & dashboard
Thank you!

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