

If you cannot read this email, please [click here](#)

January 2020

WOMEN IN SOCIAL FINANCE

For member distribution only - please do not forward

Dear Rachel,

Happy new year! We hope all of you had a restful break and are excited about the new year. Here at WISF, we have been working hard to bring in new members and we expect to have 10 new members joining us by February. This newsletter we have featured one of the new members!

Next Tuesday we have first meeting of the year, hosted by Gemma Rocyn Jones at the National Lottery Community Fund. RSVP now if you haven't and let Bonnie know if you want time on the agenda. By the end of this month, we will be unveiling the meeting schedule up to June. If you can offer your office for our meetings, please let Bonnie know.

In the new year, we will be changing to having one newsletter per month, but with more quality content. Please go to Groupsite where we post jobs and opportunities regularly!

We also want to congratulate two of our members on their achievements:

- Tara Sabre Collier was chosen as a Social Entrepreneur in Residence at the Skoll Centre! She just wrote a blog post about how to leverage impact investing to reach the SDGs quicker: <http://skollcentreblog.org/2020/01/14/a-new-decade-of-impact-investment-three-tactics-to-accelerate-towards-the-sdgs/> Reach out to Tara (Tara.sabre@gmail.com) if you want to find out more.

- Karen Ng and Joanna Heywood from Big Society Capital have been to incubate the Women in Safe Homes fund and it was end of last year: <https://resonance.ltd.uk/get-investment/social-enterprise-property/women-in-safe-homes-fund> Come to the meeting next Tuesday to find out more, or reach out to Karen (Kng@bigsocietycapital.com).

In the new year, we are looking for ways to share more news and enhance collaboration among members. If you have specific things you need help with, please let Bonnie know.

Finally, thanks to those who have paid their membership dues - don't forget to pay so we can keep the important work for the network going!

WISF Steering Committee
Suzanne, Monica, Caren, Servanne and Bonnie

Collaborate on WISF & our members' Initiatives

Climate Finance Needs a Gender Strategy. Here's How We Get Started.

Suzanne Biegel & Rebecca Fries are both completely committed to mitigation, adaptation and resilience around the climate crisis, and believe gender inclusion is a key driver for this.

Read Suzanne and Rebecca's fantastic article [here](#) where they explore six things investors and financial thought leaders who care about climate and gender can be doing to drive greater impact in both of these arenas, and to drive impact in them simultaneously.

YOUR FEEDBACK IS REQUESTED Draft Methodology Report for the Gender Equality & Women's Empowerment Benchmark (GEWEB)

GEWEB seeks to measure, compare and incentivise corporate impact on gender equality & women's empowerment across the entire value chain. Their work starts with a spotlight on the apparel industry. This [draft methodology](#) is the result of WBA's continuous stakeholder engagement process, building on roundtables in Mumbai, Vancouver and Bangalore as well as on conversations with companies, investors, civil society, academics and governments.

GEWEB kindly invite you to provide any feedback you may have on the draft methodology via this [link](#). Your input will help immensely, ensuring that their work reflects the expectations of a broad set of stakeholders and is as meaningful and impactful as it can possibly be.

If you have any questions/comments please email info.gender@worldbenchmarkingalliance.org

NEW MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT!



Jessica Espinoza

**Senior Investment Manager & Global Gender Finance Lead
DEG/KfW**

Link to Bio [here](#)

We asked Jessica some questions for the New Members Spotlight!

Q: what are you happy to help with:

- Network & contacts in the impact investing, esp. gender-smart investing space
- Sharing experience with gender-smart investing, tools and resources

- Sharing career opportunities and advice
- Sparring partner for investment opportunities
- Anything else I can help with

Q: What would you like help with:

- Private equity: exchange experience, expand network, discuss latest trends, role of women as investors
- Board and IC opportunities

Q: Why did you joined WISF:

I joined WISF as it is an amazing opportunity to connect with likeminded women in the field of impact investing, share experiences, career opportunities and collaborate to catalyze social impact.

Welcome Jessica!

Join the discussion

News articles, publications, blog posts, industry research and discussions started within the WISF network



**CONSCIOUS
COMPANY**

43 WORLD-CHANGING WOMEN IN CONSCIOUS BUSINESS

An interesting article by Conscious Company presented by Kate Spade New York, celebrating the incredible needle-moving, envelope-pushing mission-driven leaders in conscious business. Since the 2019 World-Changing Women list, not much has changed when it comes to gender equality in the private sector. The number of Fortune 500 companies that have a female CEO is still abysmal, and women are still underrepresented in all levels of business. But, while acknowledgement is made there are plenty more steps to take and to look back and appreciate just how far we've come.



PIONEERS POST

From grants to investing – and back again?

What happens when a philanthropic foundation decides to offer repayable finance for the first time? Anything from stronger relationships with investees to “awful situations”, as the Pioneers Post heard in a workshop exploring this question at the EVPA annual conference in November.

About three years ago, a grantee of the UK-based Rank Foundation posed an unexpected question: is there scope to repay our grant?

It was the prompt, says deputy CEO Caroline Broadhurst, for an approach that the 50-year-old foundation has since been testing: offering what they call ‘repayable grants’, which average

According to the National Association of Women Business Owners, there are a total of 12.3 million women-owned businesses in the US. This number becomes even more incredible when you realize that there were only 402,000 women-owned businesses in 1972. During the decade between 1997 and 2007, women-owned businesses added half a million jobs to the US economy. In 2018, women started a net total of 1,821 new businesses every day; 64 percent of those businesses were started by women of color. Businesses run by women produce \$1.8 trillion a year, according to the Women's Business Enterprise National Council. All this to say: we're getting somewhere.

[READ MORE](#)

around £100,000. One of these was repaid in full earlier this year, and payments for the others are "looking good", according to Broadhurst, who was sharing her experience at last November's EVPA Annual Conference in The Hague. Pioneers Post digs a little deeper...

[READ MORE](#)

Jobs, Board positions & other opportunities

Opportunities from within the community network. Click on the opportunity for more details and to communicate with the relevant member



Senior Operations Officer

The Senior Operations Officer will be part of the Gender Business Group senior management team and will report to the Gender Business Group Manager. The successful candidate will lead the strategic growth and delivery of the women's insurance program, (including program implementation, supervision reports, M&E, knowledge management, and client engagement) as well as lead business development initiatives and partnerships to further the business case for increasing access to insurance for women in emerging/developing countries and create income generating opportunities for women as insurance agents/employees. The Senior Operations Officer is expected to work proactively and with autonomy to

spearhead the Women's Insurance team across regions – in close coordination with colleagues from industry departments, as well as external partners and stakeholders.

[READ MORE](#)

B Corp Finance & Operations Coordinator

An exciting new role in a fast-growing organisation working with responsible businesses to change capitalism. The B Corp movement encourages businesses to manage their impacts on society and the environment with as much rigour as they manage their profits. The Finance and Operations Coordinator will support in the areas of HR, office management and financial bookkeeping. Strong candidates will bring experience in similar roles alongside a demonstrated willingness to get involved with a small and dynamic organisation.



[READ MORE](#)

B Corp Community Engagement Manager

Exciting new community engagement role in a fast-growing organisation working with responsible businesses to change capitalism. The B Corp movement encourages businesses to manage their impacts on society and the environment with as much rigour as they manage their profits. B Corp are expanding our amazing team and searching for an inspired, motivated, enthusiastic person looking to change the world. The successful candidate will work closely with the Director of Programmes and Engagement and Community Coordinator to maintain and build an engaged community and raise awareness of the B Corp movement.



[READ MORE](#)

B Corp Certification Manager

The B Corp movement in the UK is continuing to grow at pace, with the recent certifications of The Body Shop and The Guardian as well as increasing interest from multinational companies. This is an exciting operational position inside a dynamic organisation that will play a pivotal role ensuring that B Lab UK is set up for scale.



The Certification Manager will create processes and provide business support to deliver an exceptional client journey through B Corp certification and assist a small team with big ambitions.

[READ MORE](#)

Industry Events: UK and Global

Events happening over the next few months across the globe.
Click for further details and RSVP.

[WISF January Meeting](#) - 21 January 2020

[HSBC & SheEO present: An Evening of #RadicalGenerosity](#) - 23 January 2020

[Gender-Smart Investing Summit](#) - 27-29 April 2020

[Contact WISF team](#)

[WISF Homepage](#)

This email is for members only and should not be forwarded.

If you have any suggestions, feedback or queries regarding this email,
please contact our Coordinator, *Bonnie Chiu*.

If you don't wish to receive updates, please [unsubscribe](#)

This email was sent to rachel.perkins@me.com

why did I get this? [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Women in Social Finance · London · London, London · United Kingdom

