

Economic Empowerment of Women

Economic empowerment of women entrepreneurs- Develop business models specifically for women owned businesses and to encourage entrepreneurship as a route to women's economic empowerment. Activities PRIA Global is currently engaged in include:

a. New York Building Congress Council of Women's Organizations in the Built Environment was created with the efforts of PRIA Global Inc. in conjunction and with the sponsorship of the New York Building Congress, the oldest construction industry organization in the US to:

- Promote the role of women owned firms in the construction industry & promote women into strategic positions in construction industry in public & private sectors and NGO's involved in the construction industry
- Provide an information exchange forum for women in the construction industry to maximize opportunities, build capacity, educate and develop resources for women to increase their market penetration and ultimately create an exchange of women owned companies focused on sustainable design and construction.



Appointed Chair of the Council, Ms. Porie Saikia-Eapen is developing strategies to collaborate and combine the efforts of women's organizations to promote the role of women owned firms in the construction industry.

Photo: Porie Saikia-Eapen with Jennifer Raab, President, Hunter College, NY, Diana Taylor, Chair, Hudson River Park Trust NY and MD Wolfensohn & Co., Richard Anderson, President, New York Building Congress.

b. ITC/WVEF –United Nation's International Trade Centre sponsored Women Vendors Exhibition & Forum. This forum was created by UN/ITC to promote small to medium women entrepreneurs in developing as well as developed countries. Delegates attending the Women Vendors Exhibition and Forum 2012 held at Mexico's Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Mexico City had struck more than 60 business deals with a total value of more than US\$6 million. PRIA Global's role was to define, design and conduct and chair this annual international program for its Built Environment sector. Over 25 of the total deals were facilitated & mediated by Porie Saikia-Eapen of PRIA Global Inc. along with co-chair Tess Mateo of CxCatalyst.



c. Creation of a Women's Business Exchange in India (ECONEST) to develop a complete women owned supply chain for the eco-tourism industry in the remote areas of North East India. Programs include guiding, assisting & bringing business through the exchange to women entrepreneurs of North East India with the goal of creating economic independence for women. PRIA Global Inc. initiated, developed and currently leading the team's operation.

