When women have control over their income, they invest in the health, education and well-being of their families. They also tend to reach out to propel other women forward, creating a powerful multiplier effect that benefits all of society.

Since 2005, ExxonMobil and the ExxonMobil Foundation have helped women in more than 90 countries to fulfill their economic potential and drive economic and social change in their communities. To date, we have invested more than $80 million to help community-based and global partners implement programs directly benefiting tens of thousands of women.

We are focused on three program areas:
- Developing women entrepreneurs and business leaders.
- Supporting research to identify effective interventions.
- Deploying technologies that accelerate women’s economic advancement.

Working with both local and international partners, we are moving closer to a world where women are full participants in both the social and economic spheres of society.

exxonmobil.com/womensinitiative
Our partners

ExxonMobil and the ExxonMobil Foundation work together with community-based organizations, global NGOs, universities and government agencies to advance economic opportunity for women in developing countries and emerging markets.

ADPP: ADPP’s Women Farmers’ Clubs organize and train women subsistence farmers in the Kwanza Sul province of Angola to increase their agricultural production. With our support, the program has trained 1,500 women to apply more efficient and sustainable technologies to obtain better prices for their produce, and become more successful farmers and entrepreneurs.

Africare: Africare provides targeted development support to African women and addresses gender issues across its work in health and HIV/AIDS, water and sanitation, food security and agriculture, and emergency assistance. We support a program in rural Chad that improves economic opportunities in agriculture-based businesses for women.


Cherie Blair Foundation for Women: The Cherie Blair Foundation for Women works globally to provide women entrepreneurs access to business development support, networks, finance and technology. We supported research on how mobile phone technology can advance women’s economic opportunities and the development of the award-winning Business Women mobile phone application, which reached more than 100,000 women. We continue to provide training to women entrepreneurs in Nigeria, Indonesia and Tanzania.

Council on Foreign Relations Women and Foreign Policy Advisory Council: The Council on Foreign Relations is an independent nonpartisan membership organization, think tank and publisher dedicated to being a resource on foreign-policy choices facing the United States and other countries. We support the organization’s Women and Development series.

Harvard Kennedy School Women and Public Policy Program and the Women’s Leadership Board: The Women and Public Policy program works to improve the lives of women and their families through research, teaching, training and global impact. We support the Closing the Global Gender Gap Initiative and are a member of the Women’s Leadership Board, a council that advances teaching and research on women.

KickStart: KickStart promotes sustainable economic growth and employment creation by developing and promoting technologies that can be used by entrepreneurs to establish and run profitable small-scale enterprises. We partner with KickStart to integrate manually powered irrigation pumps – which enable poor farmers to grow high-value crops throughout the year – into our existing women’s farming programs in Angola and Chad.

Kopernik: In partnership with Kopernik, we’re supporting Indonesian women to become micro-social-entrepreneurs, boosting their income and making eco-friendly, money-saving, health-improving technologies like solar lanterns, water filters and fuel-efficient cookstoves available in remote communities in Indonesia.

Plan International USA: In partnership with Plan International USA, we support the Centre for Development and Population Activities (CEDPA) Global Women in Management Program (GWIM), which provides intensive training and skills development for women community leaders in developing countries. We’ve supported the CEDPA GWIM program since 2005, providing training workshops to more than 600 women globally.

Solar Sister: Using a neighbor-to-neighbor distribution system, Solar Sister provides women entrepreneurs with the business training and necessary skills and tools to deliver solar technology solutions to their communities. With our support, Solar Sister has grown to a thriving network of Solar Sister Entrepreneurs who have brought the benefits of clean energy to communities across Uganda, Nigeria and Tanzania.

Thunderbird: Thunderbird is an international business school that provides emerging leaders with the skills to create real, sustainable value for their organizations, communities and the world. Teams of Thunderbird graduate students provide on-the-ground business consulting support to our partners, helping them to strengthen their organizations.

United Nations Foundation: The UN Foundation builds public/private partnerships to address the world’s most pressing problems, and broadens support for the UN through advocacy and public outreach. We collaborated with the UN Foundation on a comprehensive research initiative, A Roadmap for Promoting Women’s Economic Empowerment, which identified proven, promising and high potential interventions that increase women’s productivity and earnings in particular economic and country contexts.

Vital Voices: Vital Voices identifies, invests in and brings visibility to extraordinary women around the world by unleashing their leadership potential to transform lives and accelerate peace and prosperity in their communities. With our help, Vital Voices is supporting regional businesswomen’s networks in Africa, the Middle East, North Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, with an aim to expand the number of women succeeding as entrepreneurs and business leaders.

WEConnect International: WEConnect International supports the education, self-registration and certification of growth-oriented businesses that are at least 51 percent owned, managed and controlled by one or more women. Our support is focused on supplier development and training initiatives for women-owned enterprises in countries such as Mexico, Nigeria and Indonesia.

Printed on 100% recycled paper.