

Live. Virtual.



10th Asian Women in Leadership Summit 2021

Building Back a Better Future

Post Event Report

Gold Partner



Silver Partners



Partners



UN Women has adopted “Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world” as a theme for 2021. The theme celebrates the tremendous efforts by women and girls around the world in shaping a more equal future and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Singapore has adopted 2021 as a year of “celebrating women”.



Female leaders have been praised for their roles in response to COVID-19, but remain under-represented in decision-making. Women have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic; working from home and closure of schools gave them one another role: teacher and educator. This pandemic affected service industries that led to higher job losses among women. The resulting marked increase in inequity – in income and wealth – creates further challenges, especially for women.

AWLS Summit provides a credible platform for business leaders and policy makers to exchange ideas on challenges faced by women leaders and how some of the individuals and organizations who have overcome these challenges, learn from their experiences to create a corporate culture that promotes gender diversity in a sustainable way and leads to the greater success of women in the executive leadership and board level roles. AWLS also provides an excellent platform for leaders- men and women to network with likeminded professionals across industries.

Key statistic: 10th Asian Women in Leadership Summit had 1272 registered delegates from 49 different countries, spanning across 6 continents.

The prestigious AWLS 2021 started with a keynote presentation on **Resilience – How do we bounce forward?** By **Dr. Sven Hansen, Founder, The Resilience Institute**. He stressed on the importance of Resilience for individuals and from an organizational perspective. He then explained how resilience can be used to move ahead, grow, connect and discover flow in all walks of life.

10th Asian Women in Leadership Summit

Definition

AWLS
#accelerating.change

the resilience institute

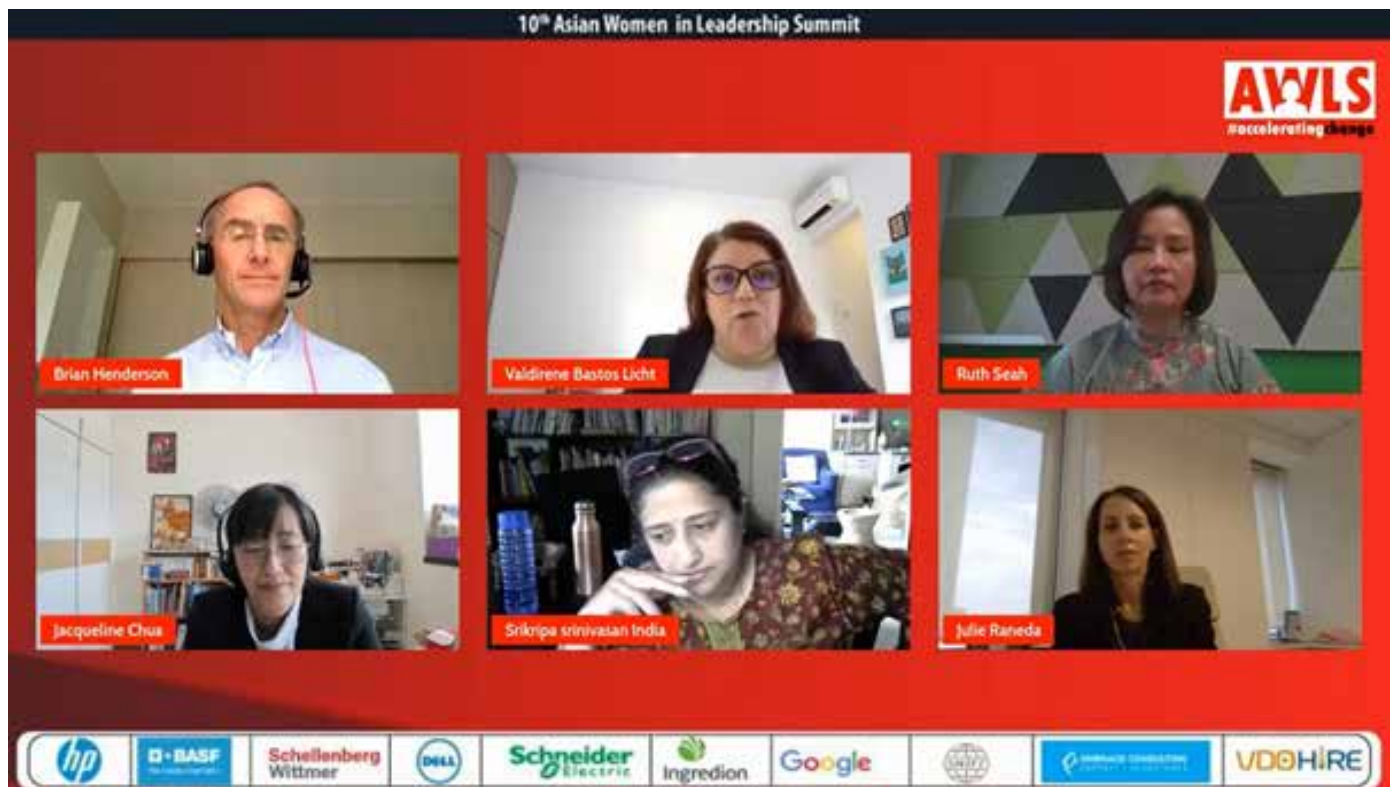
hp | BASF | Schenck | Dell | Schneider Electric | Ingredion | Google | Veeva | Veeva

The next keynote was '**Leading with Ambition and Agility**' by **Jamie Neo, Director – Ink Supply Operatorions, HP Inc.** The session started with a short video on how HP is bringing about change and showcased their culture. Jamie laid down the three leadership principles which have helped her become a better leader.

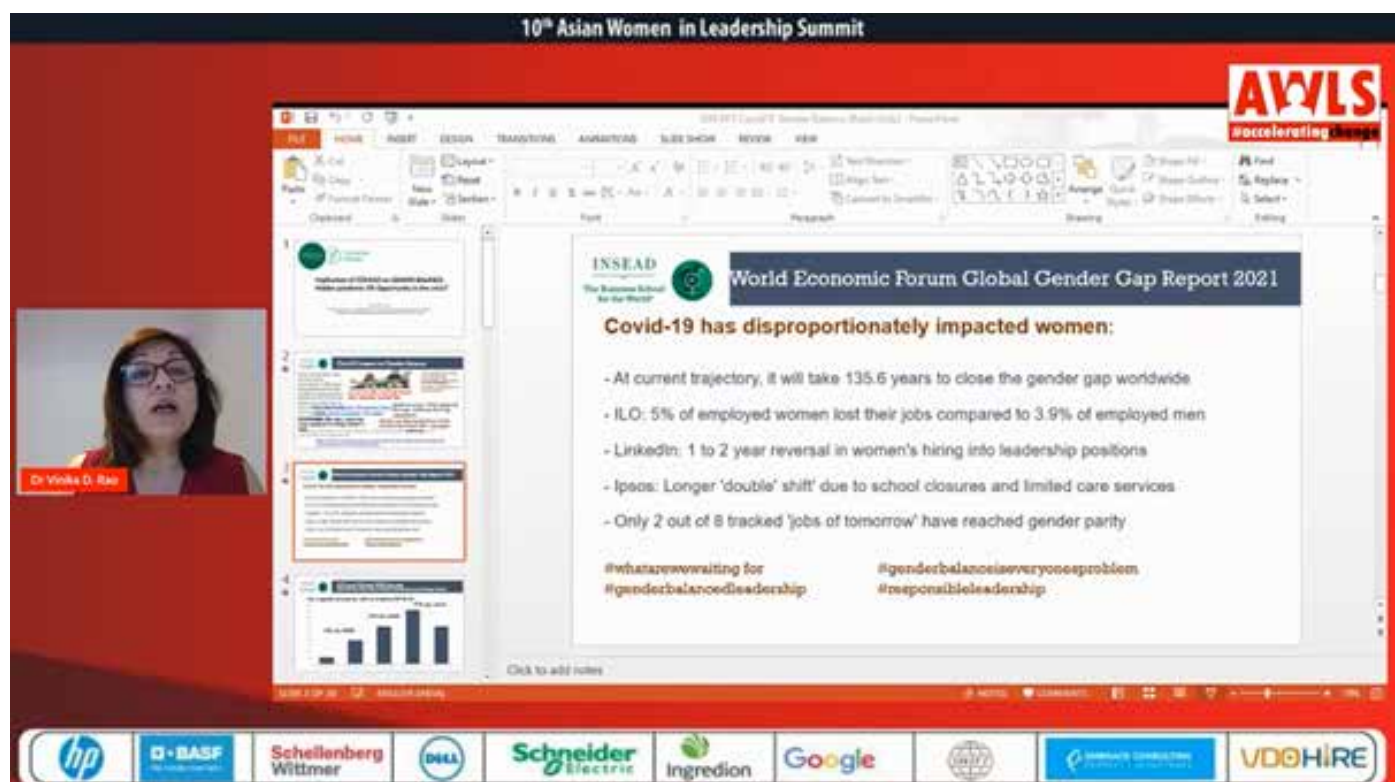


Next session was the first Panel Discussion of the day on the topic – Successful Women Leaders, moderated by **Brian Henderson**, Founder, Whole Business Wellness Limited, with successful leaders **Valdirene Bastos Licht**, President Asia Pacific and Global Business Head of Pharma and Personal Care, Ingredion, **Ruth Seah**, Vice President - Strategy & BD, Schneider Electric, **Julie Raneda**, Partner, Schellenberg Wittmer, **Srikripa Srinivasan**, Vice President, Dell Global Analytics, **Jacqueline Chua**, Director of New Product Introductions (NPI), HP Inc.

The session was started by **Brian** where he quoted research from various sources about senior female leaders feeling burned out, exhausted, considering to leave the workforce and the impact of the pandemic. **Valdirene** expressed the importance of sharing results, communication with the teams as a leader and understanding what they feel about working remotely and how grieving the loss of loved ones can be handled. **Ruth** shared her experience during the pandemic and how she worked on her mental and physical health. **Julie** shared her challenges on keeping the team motivated as a leader and lift the team up during the crisis. **Srikripa** described her experience with handling her home along with her work, organizing fun activities for her team and helping the team go through trauma. **Jacqueline** shared her experience of her team on balancing their work life, and HP spirit program.



The next session was a keynote presentation on the topic '**The impact of Covid-19 on gender balance and how that will impact building back for a better future**' by **Dr. Vinika Rao, Executive Director, Gender Initiative, INSEAD**. The presentation shed light on the research of **Dr. Rao** on how the gender balance will be relative in the future to the pre Covid-19 time, the challenges and what aspiring women leaders can do to mitigate them.

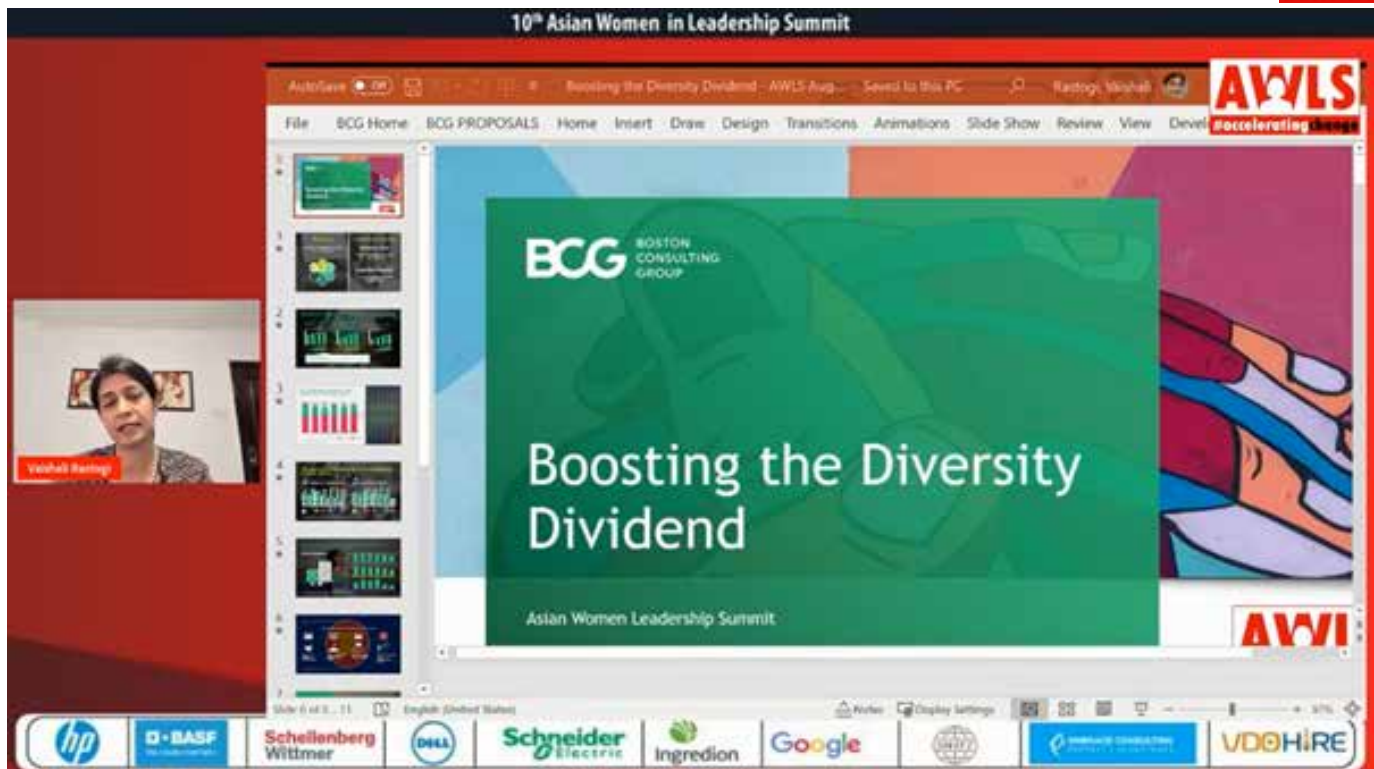


The next panel discussion was the highlight of the day, **CEO Panel - Breaking Barriers - What role can women leaders play?** The session was moderated by **Michael Jenkins**, CEO, Expert Humans and the panel included experts **Mohammed Naciri**, Regional Director – APAC, UN Women, Renee McGowan, President, Asia, Middle East & Africa, Mercer, Shrijeet Mishra, Chief Innovation Officer, Aditya Birla Group, Farhan Syed, Partner and Head of Advisory, Middle East and South Asia, KPMG, Sanjeev Chatrath, Global Executive & Business Leader, Deepali Khanna, Managing Director- Asia Region, Rockefeller Foundation.

The panel started with Michael sharing some insights on what women leaders can do to break the glass ceiling and engaging the audience with a poll on what do they see as the key factor in enabling women leaders to play a role in breaking barriers? Mohammad explained the importance of achieving gender parity for an organization and how the United Nations have been working towards an inclusive leadership. Deepali shared how the NGOs with Women leadership were more successful in the space and still lack women in senior leadership positions. Shrijeet shared his thoughts on Diversity in the organization, seeing the people before their gender and said “Diversity is how you feel”. Sanjeev explained why Women should get excited about the new technologies and embrace the change to reach new heights. Renee spoke about inclusive leadership, how the trend is being accelerated by the pandemic and shared traits. Farhan laid the most important point of how bringing up children at home can impact their thinking and create more diverse people and avoid biases in the workforce future.



The next session was on a keynote on the topic **“Boosting women in technology”** by **Vaishali Rastogi**, **Managing Director and Senior Partner, Boston Consulting Group**. The session was based on the research by Vaishali, highlighting points on the Diversity programs and how one can approach recruiting and retaining Women in technology and the workforce.



The next panel discussion focused on the topic **"How has the pandemic changed our D&I thinking? What will be done differently?"** This was moderated by **Shruti Swaroop**, Founder, Embrace Consulting with experts **Yolyn Ang**, Managing Director- Business Development, APAC, Google, Gustavo Palerosi Carneiro, SVP - Agricultural Solutions and Chairman of BASF's "Women in BASF" initiative, APAC, BASF, **Simona Catanescu**, Director of Securities Strategy, SWIFT, **Rana Karadsheh**, Regional Industry Director Manufacturing, Agribusiness and Services Asia Pacific, IFC and April Hu, Founder, Swando Company & Director, Zigen Fund.

The session started with **Shruti** laying the points on how the pandemic has been a major disruption in all walks of life and rounding the introductions with the panel members. **Yolyn** shared her experience on how her team contributed during the crisis and along with her thoughts on D&I. **Rana** highlighted the experience with her team working through multiple time zones and how the organization took to creative solutions to increase inclusions. **Gustavo** shared the importance of showing strong solidarity towards all employees and showing vulnerability as a leader. **Simona** shared how SWIFT has policies for allowing the employees to bring their authentic selves at work and her experience on redefining the roles for her team. April shared her thoughts on why self-awareness is important and how that can help solve challenges faced by organizations with diversity and inclusion.

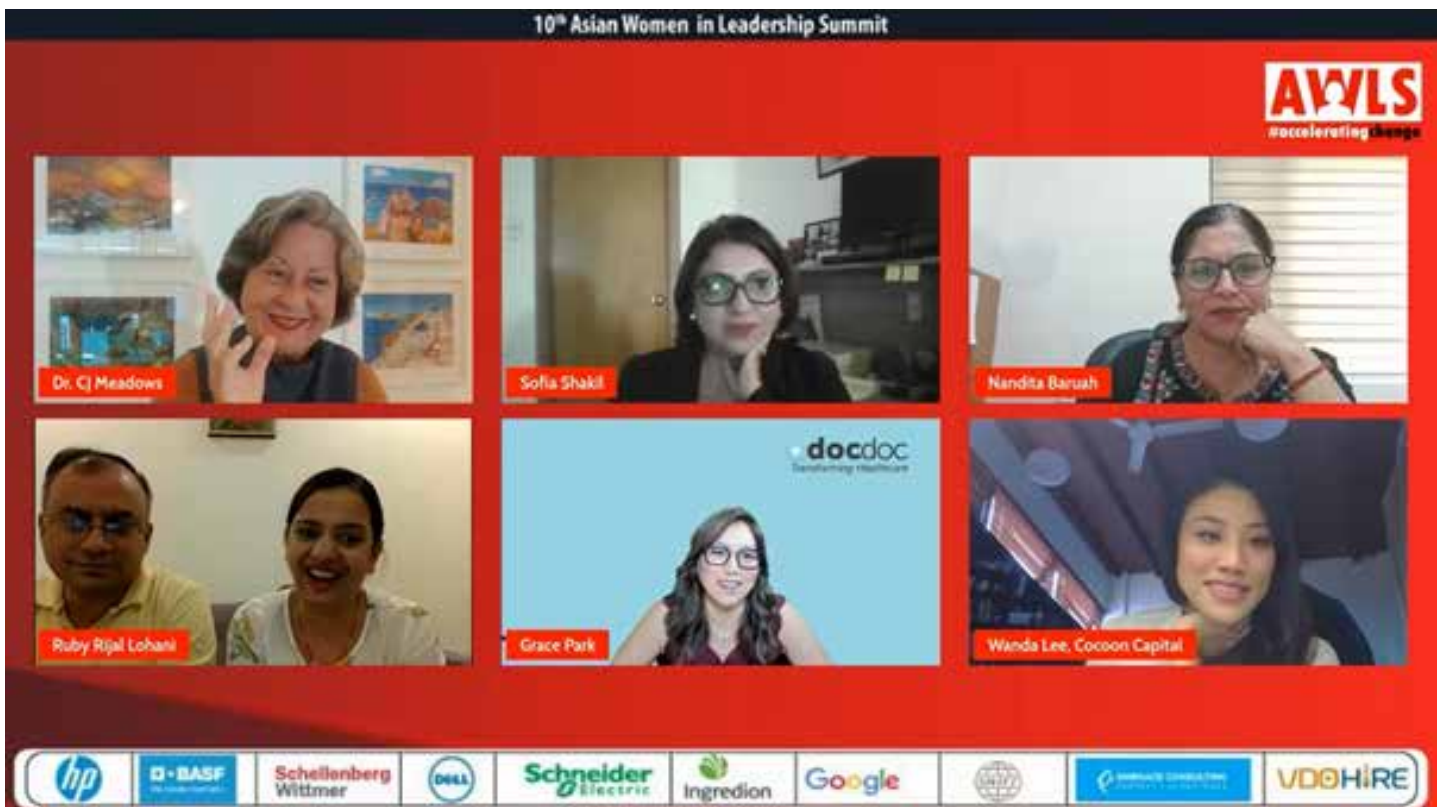


The next session took us on **“The Journey of Women Tech Entrepreneur in Mongolia: Challenges and Lessons learnt”** by **Khulangoo Amarsanaa**, Founder and CEO, Geru Application. **Khulangoo** highlighted the challenges faced by Women entrepreneurs and how certain organizations help and provide the push forward.



The last panel of the day was based on the topic **“What do the aspiring women entrepreneurs need? What are the most effective models for jump starting?”** and moderated by **Dr. CJ Meadows**, The Innovation & Entrepreneurship Center, SP Jain School of Global Management with experts Nandita Baruah, Country Representative - India, **Sofia Shakil**, Director, Economic Programs, Asia Foundation, Ruby Rijal Lohani, Founder, and **Sailesh Lohani**, Managing Director, www.socheko.com & Melange Store, Grace Park, Cofounder and President, DocDoc, **Wanda Lee**, Investment Director, Cocoon Capital.

The panel started with **Dr. Meadows** highlighting points on what Women entrepreneurs and leaders need to do to build organizations. **Nandita** and **Sofia** introduced the Asia Foundation and shared how they support Women empowerment, entrepreneurship and their access to various resources. **Wanda** shared her perspective from both sides of the table i.e as an investor and a founder at a high growth startup. Grace laid down the important points on what aspiring entrepreneurs need and shared her experience in creating a successful startup. **Ruby and Shailesh** shared an inspiring story of how they overcame all the challenges and started their business from scratch with a low capital. **Dr. Meadows** summarized the key points and engaged the audience with polls, sharing the results and concluding the panel.



The next session was a call to action and help by the NGO Educate Girls, supported by AWLS. **Maharshi Vaishnav**, COO, Educate Girls, described how they are changing lives of young girls in the rural areas in India and shared an inspiring story of Monica (young girl from a village).



The closing remarks were preceded by an inspiring speech from **Amiya LanSingh**. The 9 year old put forth a strong message which quoted, "If you want to see change in both your life and society, don't wait for someone else to do it, you can do it, so do it now."

Speakers



Sven Hansen
The Resilience Institute
Founder



Jamie Neo
HP Inc.
Director - Ink Supply
Operatorions



Ruth Seah
Schneider Electric
Vice President - Strategy &
Business Development,
Global Field Services



Valdirene Bastos Licht
Ingredion
President Asia Pacific and
Global Business Head of
Pharma and Personal Care



Julie Raneda
Schellenberg Wittmer
Partner



Srikripa Srinivasan
Dell
Vice President, Dell Global
Analytics



Jacqueline Chua
HP Inc.
Director of New Product
Introductions (NPI)



Vinika Rao
Insead
Executive Director



Mohammed Naciri
UN Women
Regional Director - APAC



Michael Jenkins
Expert Humans
CEO



Renee McGowan
Mercer
President - Asia, Middle East
and Africa



Sanjeev Chatrath
Global Executive, Business
Leader



Shrijeet Mishra
Aditya Birla Group
Chief Innovation Officer and
Head Group Services



Deepali Khanna
Rockefeller Foundation
Managing Director - Asia
Region



Farhan Syed
KPMG
Partner, Head of Advisory



Vaishali Rastogi
Boston Consulting Group
MD and Senior Partner

Speakers



Yolyn Ang
Google
Managing Director
- Business Development,



Simona Catanescu
SWIFT
Director of Securities Strategy



Gustavo Palerosi Carneiro
BASF
SVP - Agricultural Solutions
Asia Pacific, Chairman of
BASF's "Women in BASF"



April Hu
Founder, Swando,
Zigen HK & Director
NINEby9



Shruti Swaroop
Embrace Consulting
Founder



Rana Karadesh
IFC
Regional Industry Director
Manufacturing, Agribusiness
and Services Asia Pacific



CJ Meadows
SP Jain
Director The Innovation &
Entrepreneurship Center



Ruby Rijal Lohani
www.socheko.com
& Melange Store
MD



Sailesh Lohani
www.socheko.com
& Melange Store
MD



Grace Park
DocDoc
Co-Founder and President



Nandita Baruah
Asia Foundation
Country Representative
- India



Sofia Shakil
Asia Foundation
Director - Economic
Programs



Wanda Lee
Cocoon Capital
Director - Investments



Khulangoo Amarsanaa
Geru Application
Founder

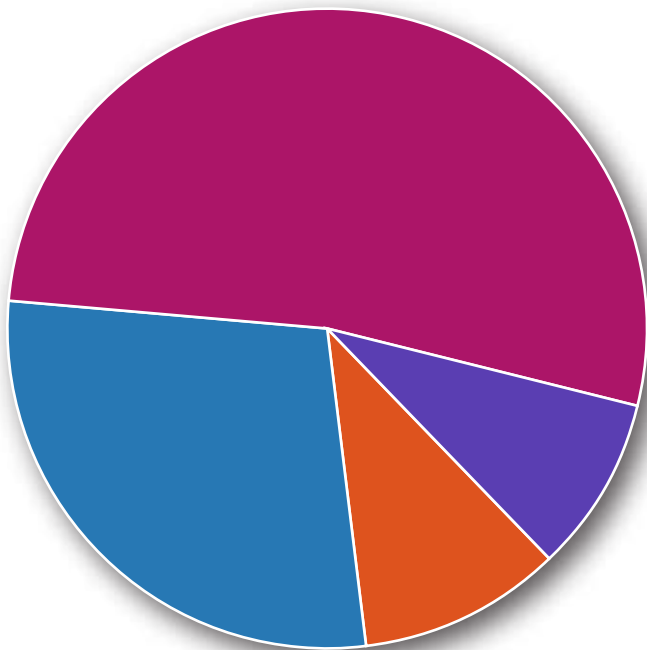


Maharshi Vaishnav
Educate Girls
COO



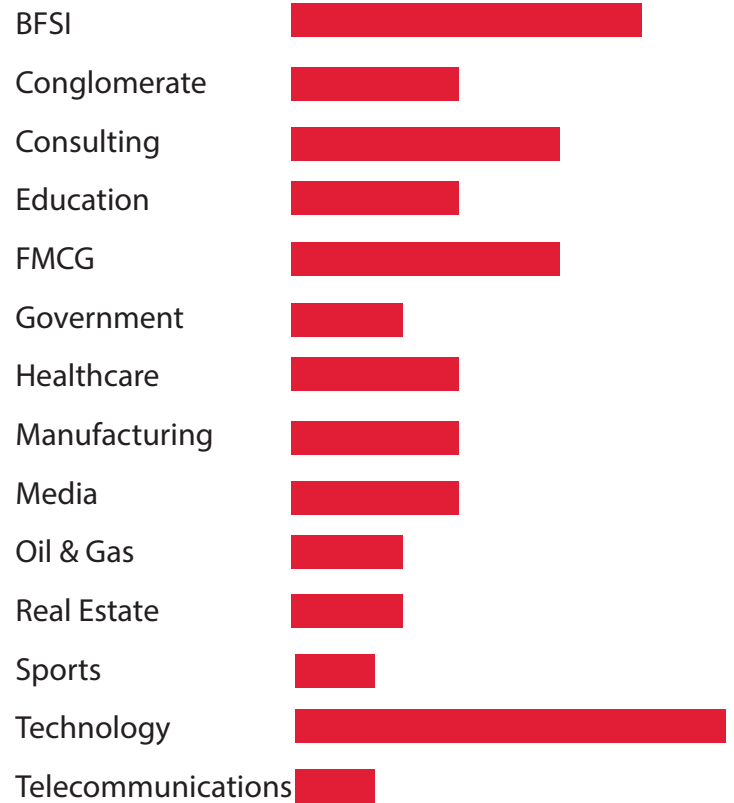
Michael (J) Rosenthal
Investment & Economic
Enterprises
Business Community
Chairman

Delegate Profile



■ Senior Management ■ CXO
■ Middle Management ■ Others

Participating Industries



Key Stats from AWLS 2021 Virtual Summit

1272 registered delegates

8011 Attendees

Average attendees rating

8.2

One-to-one meetings

560 total meetings

427 networking meetings

Average Time Spent In Event
Per delegate

191 minutes

Some Of The Companies That Have Supported AWLS in the Past

3M

VISA

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for the World®

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Capgemini

citi

**CNBC
TV18**

Cognizant

Deloitte.

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EY
Building a better
working world

facebook

FINASTRA

Google

**FROST
&
SULLIVAN**

HAYS
Recruiting experts
worldwide

here

Imagination

**I.R.B.
LAW LLP**
ADVOCATES & SOLICITORS

JLL

**McKinsey
& Company**

MobiKwik™

Nestlé
Good Food, Good Life™

Telstra



VDHIRE

**SHELLENBERG
WITTMER**

we work



Johnson & Johnson

Thank You
Speakers, Attendees and Sponsors for making
AWLS 2021 Big Success!

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