



IORA Women Mean Business

A joint initiative between the Australian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Indian Ocean Rim Association, *Women Mean Business* aims to mobilise and galvanise chambers of commerce across the Indian Ocean rim region on issues relating to women's economic empowerment.

Women's economic empowerment is a cross cutting priority for the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), of which Australia is its current chair. Subsequently, ACCI is leading an ambitious project, working directly with chambers of commerce in Indonesia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and South Africa to support and develop culturally relevant programs based around women in business.

If you would like more information about the initiative, please email wmb@acci.asn.au to receive updates and opportunities for involvement. You may also find some photos of the launch of this initiative here: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/international-chamber-of-commerce/sets/72157654644405701>

You can also join our [Woman Mean Business LinkedIn Group](#) to network with international chambers, industry associations and businesses who are all committed to making a difference within their own spheres of influence.

About the Indian Ocean Rim Association

[The Indian Rim Association \(IORA\)](#) was established in 1997 and now includes 20 member countries (Australia, Bangladesh, Comoros, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Seychelles, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, UAE and Yemen) and six dialogue partners (China, Egypt, France, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States).

The region is home to approximately two million people, nearly a third of the global population. It includes five G20 nations and 10 fast growing economies, as well as less-developed and war-ravaged countries. It is rich in precious minerals, metals and other national resources including marine and energy. It has abundant agricultural wealth and boast the thirds largest ocean, carrying half of the world's container ships, a third of the bulk cargo traffic and two-thirds of the world's oil shipments.