



**FOURTH UNITED NATIONS
CONFERENCE ON THE
LEAST DEVELOPED
COUNTRIES**
PRIVATE SECTOR TRACK

**Global Business Partnership Forum Event
Fourth UN Conference on Least Developed Countries (LDCs)**

**“The Business and Development Cases for
Engaging Women in Global Value Chains”**

10 May 2011, 8:00 – 10:00 AM

Macka Room, Istanbul Convention Center (ICC)

Organized by

**Turkish Industry and Business Association (TÜSİAD), International Trade Centre (ITC),
UN Women and the UN Global Compact Office**



United Nations Global Compact

Empowering women to participate fully in economic life across all sectors and throughout all levels of economic activity is essential to: build strong economies; establish more stable and just societies; achieve internationally-agreed goals for development, sustainability and human rights; improve quality of life for women, men, families and communities; and propel businesses' operations and goals.

Procurement practices and the value chain provide a key opportunity for business to empower women. However, business policies and practices often overlook gender. In particular, economists increasingly acknowledge the contribution that women-owned businesses make to the growth of the global economy. Yet, this resource is hardly tapped by the private sector. It is estimated that the top 13 multinational corporations that purchase over \$1 billion each year from various suppliers, spend only 2.2% on women-owned businesses.

This interactive event will explore the benefits of and challenges to engaging women in global value chains from a range of perspectives and looks at the application of the global Women's Empowerment Principles in this context. In particular, participants will consider the relevance of Principle 5, which calls on businesses around the world to implement enterprise development, supply chain and marketing practices that empower women.

AGENDA

8:00-8:30	OPENING SESSION
	<p>KEYNOTE REMARKS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Michelle Bachelet, Under-Secretary-General, Executive Director, UN Women Ms. Ümit Boyner, President, Turkish Industry and Business Association (TÜSİAD)
8:30 – 9:30	PANEL PRESENTATIONS AND INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION
	<p>MODERATOR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Ekrem Yener, Chief Expansion Officer of Turkcell & Vice Chair of the Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD (BIAC) Ad Hoc Group on Africa <p>PANELISTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Meg Jones, Women and Trade Programme Development Manager, International Trade Centre (ITC) Ms. Florence Kata, Executive Director, Uganda Export Promotion Board Ms. Nur Ger, President of Suteks Textile & Chair of TÜSİAD’s Gender Equality Working Group <p>DISCUSSION QUESTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the business and development cases for engaging women in global value chains? What are some best and emerging practices for engaging/integrating women in global value chains? What are some of the main challenges and constraints? What actions are needed to ensure that women producers/entrepreneurs/smallholders in LDCs – particularly rural women – have improved access? What stakeholders and complementary interventions – from business, government, international organizations and others – are needed?
9:30 – 9:45	CLOSING SESSION
	<p>CLOSING REMARKS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Güler Sabancı, Chairman, Sabancı Holding <p>CEO STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR THE WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT PRINCIPLES SIGNED BY MS. SABANCI (FOR SABANCI HOLDING) AND PRESENTED TO MS. BACHELET (REPRESENTING THE UN WOMEN AND UN GLOBAL COMPACT PARTNERSHIP)</p>