

Womens Business Agendas (WBA) are vital tools that advocate for women in business by mobilising business communities and civil society stakeholders.

In Papua New Guinea (PNG) and around the world women entrepreneurs face legal, regulatory, and social barriers to conducting business, including laws and policies that restrict their access to credit, markets, and other financial opportunities.

The Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE) believes that equal participation by women in the economy strengthens both free markets and democracy.

As part of CIPE's approach to Women's Economic Empowerment in PNG, CIPE is working on promoting structured advocacy, for women in the business space and the policies that represent this environment, through investments made by the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL) at the U.S Department of State.

Thursday 27th February 2020, CIPE successfully held the first WBA meeting, *Women's National Business Agenda (WNBA) Orientation and Coalition Building Workshop* at the Hilton Hotel in Port Moresby. The primary goal of this first meeting was to provide education around a WNBA and how a WNBA could improve the business landscape for women in PNG.

The meeting was facilitated by Center for Women's Economic Empowerment Director, Barbara Langley and CIPE PNG Country Director Eli Webb, with a total of 36 participants attending and representing; various Business chambers, Business councils, Women representing Council of Churches, Women advocating for women in politics, Women SME's in Hearing Impaired community and Donor partners.

Media representatives were also present to capture the event; please see link: <http://emtv.com.pg/womens-national-business-agenda/>

**#CIPE #DRL #WNBA #WomensEconomicEmpowerment #entrepreneurship #empowerment #business #SME #MSME**



Picture2: Some of the participants from the first WBA meeting with CIPE PNG and USA team members)