

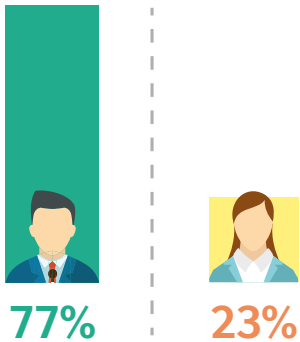


***Activist to
entrepreneur:***

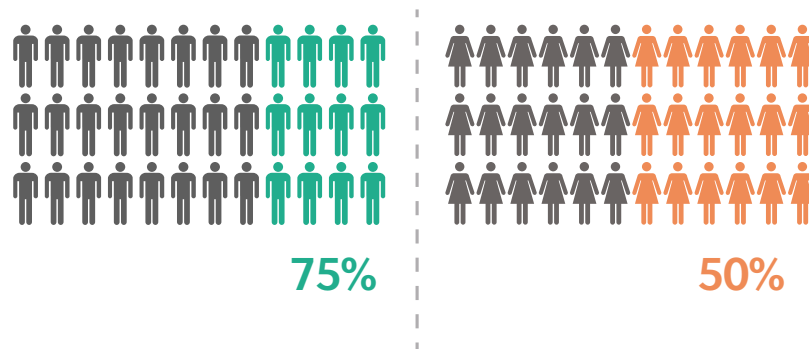
The role of social enterprise in supporting
women's empowerment

Gender inequality exists...

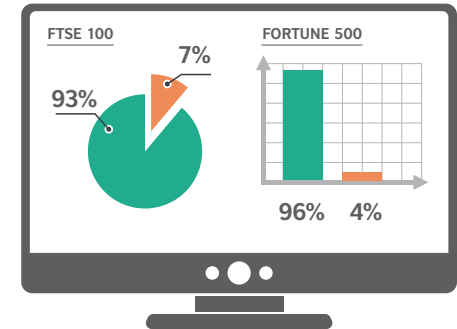
...in politics, where only 23 per cent of members of parliaments are women



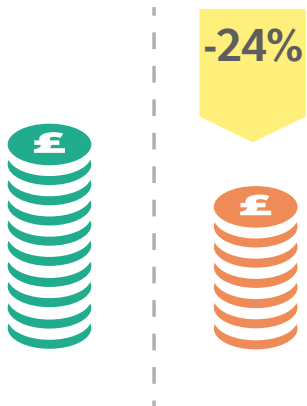
...in work, where only 50 per cent of women are in the labour force compared to 75 per cent of men



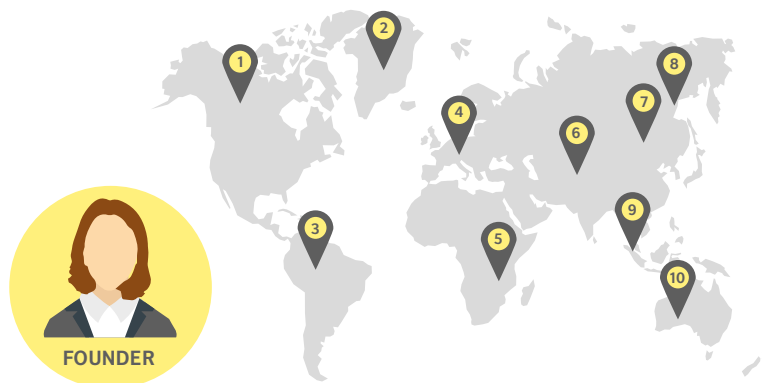
...in business, where just 7 per cent of FTSE 100 and four per cent of Fortune 500 companies are led by women



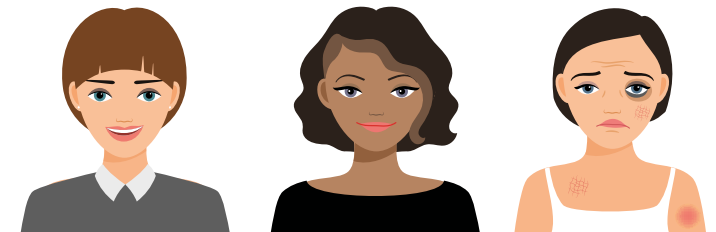
...in pay, where, on average, women earn 24 per cent less than men



...in entrepreneurship, where there are only ten countries in the world where as many women start businesses as men

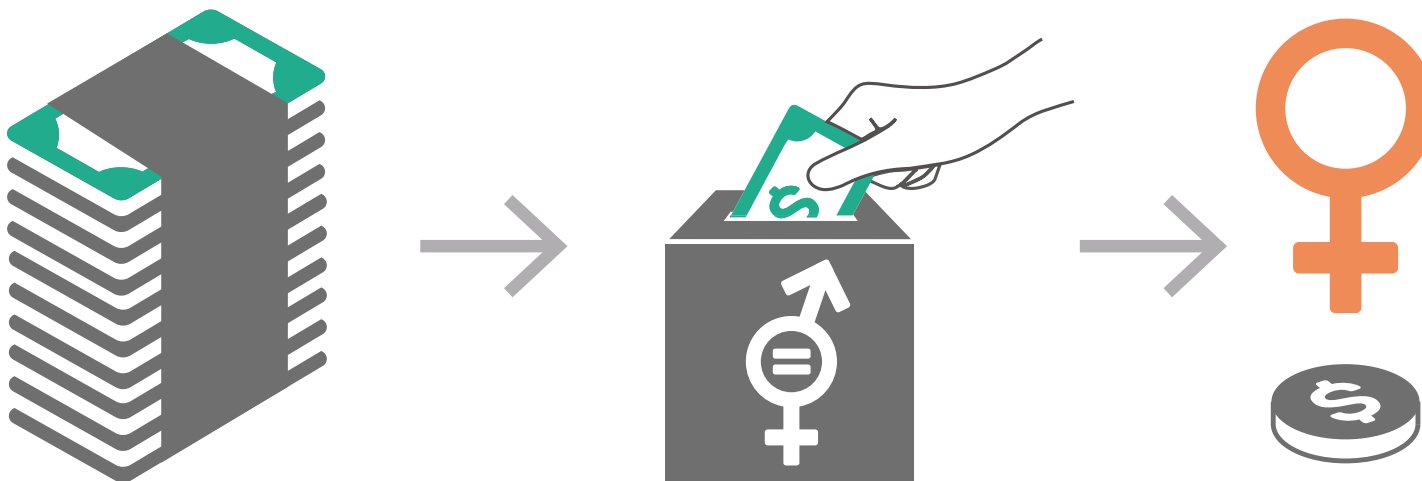


...in society, where one in three women experiences physical or sexual violence



Organisations fighting gender inequality are under-funded – particularly at the grass roots

Less than five per cent of OECD members' aid budgets go towards projects that explicitly target gender equality and women's empowerment, and of this only 0.5% goes to women's rights organisations. The median income of women's rights organisations is just \$20,000.



29%

Globally, only 29 per cent of women's rights organisations use income generation activities. Many lack the knowledge, skills, assets and resources to take advantage of social enterprise.

Social entrepreneurs are the R&D lab for women's empowerment...

GLOBALLY

THERE ARE AN ESTIMATED

210 Million
social entrepreneurs,

ALL DEVELOPING AND TRYING
DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO
SOLVE THE WORLD'S
SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL

CHALLENGES

IN THE UK 4%

OF SOCIAL ENTERPRISES
FOCUS ON WOMEN'S
EMPOWERMENT

IN INDIA

THIS FIGURE IS **33%**

Even when not explicitly focussed on women’s empowerment the social enterprise sector is providing greater opportunities in employment than the wider economy:

	Brazil	India	Pakistan	UK	USA
Women (% of total workforce)	43%	24%	22%	46%	46%
Women (% of social enterprise workforce)	55%*	25%	37%	66%	65%

* Estimated based on surveys, leadership statistics, and non-profit sector statistics

And more opportunities for Women’s leadership than the for-profit sector:

	Brazil	India	Pakistan	UK	USA
Women (% leaders in for-profit sector)	43%	9%	5%	18%	31%
Women (% leaders in social enterprise)	25%	24%	20%	40%	55%

And women starting a social enterprise is itself contributing to women's empowerment:

75%

REPORTED AN
INCREASED
SENSE OF
SELF-WORTH

64%

REPORTED
INCREASED
CONFIDENCE

56%

SAID IT HAD MADE
THEM FEEL LIKE
THEY COULD MAKE
**THEIR OWN
CHOICES**

UN'S SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 5:

“ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY
AND EMPOWER
ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS”

Social enterprise both challenges and reflects gender inequalities in wider society. Governments, funders, social enterprises and women's organisations need to **work together to realise the potential of social enterprise**

BUT, in the five countries considered for this research, the social enterprise sector still has a long way to go before it can claim gender equality

46% OF WOMEN
SAID THEY ENCOUNTERED
BARRIERS IN RUNNING
THEIR SOCIAL ENTERPRISE
BECAUSE OF THEIR
GENDER

WOMEN ARE
UNDER-REPRESENTED
IN LEADERSHIP
OF SOCIAL ENTERPRISE
IN 4/5
COUNTRIES STUDIED

AND THIS IS WORSE
THE LARGER
THE ORGANISATION

DATA FROM THE UK
SUGGESTS THE
PAY GAP
BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN
IN SOCIAL ENTERPRISE
IS 24%

THE SAME AS THE
GLOBAL AVERAGE