

# Women Changemakers



## STANDING UP FOR THE SELF!

"I belong to a world which is continuously setting new benchmarks for development, and simultaneously witnessing female feticides. This fragile place needs 'women of substance'. Every day, we, as women, should take a stand for ourself. I do, and hope other women do it too."

**Amba Mukherjee**  
Senior Research Associate,  
Research, Monitoring  
and Evaluation



## A WOMAN OF SUBSTANCE!

"The essence of a 'woman of substance' lies on four strong pillars - Compassion, Confidence, Pride, and making a positive difference in the life of others. It's the possession and application of these traits and qualities that make a woman a 'woman of substance'."

**Pooja O. Murada**  
Director, Communications



## BEING OPEN TO IDEAS!

"Creativity means being adaptable, open to ideas, able to take risks, and challenge the status quo. When I took over the role of director, Projects, this was a new role for both me and the organization. Creativity was and is the key for me and my team."

**Anjali Godyal**  
Director, Projects and  
Fundraising (North)



## THE POWER WITHIN!

"The power of a woman lies within her; what is needed is to harness this power. Once this is done, it will manifest itself in providing strength and confidence to women..This belief relates to who I am and the work I do in rural communities."

**Anjali Makhija**  
Director, Strengthening Village  
Level Institutions



## EMPOWERING WOMEN IS THE KEY!

"Many women continue to suffer from lack of economic opportunity, inadequate health and education, and discrimination. Women should be empowered by facilitating safe spaces, providing access to basic rights and justice, building self-esteem and confidence."

**Aparna Mahajan**  
Director, Projects and Fundraising  
(South)



## SIMPLE IS BEAUTIFUL!

"I feel being in the field of communications helps me be creative all the time. As the nature of my work entails adding value to what is given, it is fun! There is creativity in being simple: simplicity of thought, word, and presentation."

**Arti Manchanda Grover**  
Program Leader, Communications



## BEING ME!

"As a woman, so often, we are at crossroads with societal expectations: to confront the same and firmly establish one's own ground takes patience and courage. This is what applies to my journey and makes me the woman I am today."

**Malvika Khitha**  
Assistant Program Leader,  
Strengthening Village Level  
Institutions



## UNDERSTANDING MYSELF, AND OTHERS!

"When I was studying, I read about the eric perspective, which motivated me to be empathetic. I cultured this quality over time, and I am still working on it; it has helped me overcome many problems."

**Richa Saxena**  
Research Associate, Research,  
Monitoring and Evaluation



## TALK TO YOURSELF!

"You have the potential to make this world a better place. I believe in this; you should too."

**Sonia Chopra**  
Associate,  
Communications



## I AM PRIORITY!

"The independent woman of today is in a constant flux to arrange her priorities with respect to the expectations from her. I feel today's woman should break stereotypes and free herself from the shackles of expectations, giving herself more 'me' time."

**Bhawna Mangla**  
Senior Research Associate,  
Research, Monitoring and  
Evaluation



## PROUD TO BE A WOMAN!

"Womanhood is a gift. Being created a woman bestows on me the attribute of nurturing, and transforming the world around me into a space that is inclusive and empowering, and that is my very mission."

**Niti Saxena**  
Director, Development  
Research and Policy  
Initiatives



## WOMAN - THOU HAVE MANY NAMES!

"The words that come to my mind, which, I feel, are synonymous to women are: strength, intelligent, protector, responsible, compassionate, altruistic, accommodating, progressive, patient, majestic... For me, this describes half of what my mother is; that is also how it applies to me."

**Devika Batra**  
Manager, CSR and  
Fundraising



## STRIKING THAT ELUSIVE BALANCE!

I follow the policy of "prioritization" in order to strike a balance in my life. In my personal life, I prioritize "what is important" based on what ultimately gives me pleasure, whereas in my professional life, I prioritize based on "what is urgent."

**Susmita Guru**  
Social Scientist, Research,  
Monitoring and Evaluation



## CREATIVITY AND I ARE INTERCHANGEABLE!

"Creativity should be there in every perspective in order to be successful. I strongly believe research is the biggest platform for creativity, innovation and originality. In my life, I always have perceived dance as a creative art - an inevitable portion of my soul."

**Aparna Radhakrishnan, PhD (Agril. Extn)**  
Senior Research and Policy Associate  
Development Research and Policy



## STANDING-UP FOR EQUALITY!

"Breaking gender stereotypical roles at home and at the workplace is the one thing I have fought for in my life, and the one thing that I want my daughter to learn. I have always tried to promote equal roles."

**Debika Goswami**  
Program Leader, Good Governance



## STANDING UP FOR OTHERS!

"For me 'a woman of substance' is a woman who stands up for the greater good of society while maintaining her individuality. It is tough, but this is what I strive to be. Always."

**Sarah Berry**  
Communications and Media  
Consultant



## I BELIEVE IN ME!

"The biggest challenge faced by women today is the internalization and normalization of oppression. We have been conditioned to believe that we are inferior. Hence, I feel it is important to first believe in ourselves; once that is done, half the battle is won."

**Shipra Baduni**  
Project Coordinator,  
Strengthening Village Level  
Institutions