



2024 IWEF Awards Application

The International Women Entrepreneurial Challenge was established in Barcelona in 2007, with the goal of connecting small & mid-size women business owners globally - those who are already in the global marketplace & want to expand or are ripe to get into the market and learn from other women leaders. Also, an important aspect of IWEF awardees is their commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility programs in mentoring, board participation, community outreach, sustainability, etc.

The Barcelona Chamber of Commerce, Federation of Chambers of Commerce in India/FLO (FICCI-FLO) and Manhattan Chamber of Commerce originated this initiative along with The US State Department and all were quickly joined by The Cape Chamber of Commerce and soon after, The Confederation of Asia Pacific Chambers of Commerce & Industry Women Entrepreneurs Council (CWEC). Each year a new country/chamber is added to the roster and currently we have representation from chambers from countries such as: Spain, US, India, Sweden, Peru, Bolivia, Central Asian countries, Turkey, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, South Africa and other African countries. Each of the chambers may choose up to three awardees to participate annually. In addition, several women's business associations & global business organizations are engaged with IWEF and also nominate one awardee-such as: Women Presidents Organization, WeConnect International, Taiwan Women's Entrepreneurs Association, International Trade Center, Association of Business Women from Serbia, Bahrain Business Women's Society, and United Success.

In 2023 the conference was held in Turin, Italy, hosted by the Turin Chamber of Commerce & Industry. This year's **the 2024 IWEF 17th Annual Conference will be held in Barcelona, Spain From Feb. 9-11th, 2025.**

The 2024 awardees will be presented with the awards during the event. Conferences to date have been held in Barcelona, New York City, New Delhi India, Cape Town South Africa, Lima Peru, Stockholm Sweden, Istanbul Turkey, Brussels, Belgium and Seattle, Washington/US, Madrid Spain and Shanghai, China.

Why should you apply?

If chosen, you have the opportunity to:

- *gain further international recognition for your business
- *network with potential strategic partners and clients
- *share and learn from best practices to help your business grow globally
- *share your corporate responsibility/mentorship programs and learn of others from awardees
- *connect with a network of other awardees/chambers and be a part of the IWECC family

The Awards Criteria:

- Must be a woman-owned, for-profit business and must be actively involved in importing or exporting goods or services or be a successful company ready to begin global business
- Applicant must be majority stakeholder of the company (or if handed down through a family, a woman must be the president, CEO or managing director for at least three years) actively involved in the day-to-day running of the business
- Business must be a for-profit entity in services or manufacturing (excluding performing arts)
- Business must be in existence at least three years
- Business must have a minimum annual revenue equivalent to US \$1.5 million
- Applicant agrees to be involved with IWECC by:
 - becoming active participants in the IWECC network:
 - attending the annual conferences
 - participating in other activities designed to promote the goals of IWECC and your company
 - using local press & social media
 - inviting other successful women business owners to participate in the conferences
 - interacting with your chamber or woman's group to promote the IWECC brand and network
 - making introductions to corporations to become IWECC Partners
 - potentially make a financial contribution to IWECC to support the organization's growth or having your company become an IWECC partner
- Company must be run ethically that express our values and standards that guide our conduct – must exhibit a commitment to honesty, fairness, objectivity and responsibility.
- Must be able to attend the annual conference to accept the award