



NAWEM GALA DINNER & AWARDS NIGHT 2023

*30 Years
of Empowering
Entrepreneurship*

National Association of Women Entrepreneurs of Malaysia

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of Entrepreneur
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What's Inside

A Message of Congratulations

I am delighted to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the National Association of Women Entrepreneurs of Malaysia (NAWEM) as they celebrate their remarkable 30th anniversary.

SMEs are the lifeblood of our nation's economy, and women entrepreneurship has emerged as a powerful catalyst within this sector, driving not only economic growth but also fostering innovation and inclusivity. Over the past three decades, NAWEM has been at the forefront of championing women entrepreneurs who have, in turn, played an indispensable role in shaping the landscape of small and medium-sized enterprises.

The journey of women in business has evolved into a testament to resilience, innovation, and the indomitable spirit of women. NAWEM has played an instrumental role in transforming the fortunes of women entrepreneurs, paving the way to opportunities, and breaking down barriers that once seemed insurmountable.

Membership in an association like NAWEM is more than networking and collaboration; it is about harnessing collective strength and wisdom to uplift the fortunes of SMEs led by women. Through NAWEM, you have gained access to a vibrant community that not only nurtures your entrepreneurial dreams but also amplifies your voice in shaping policies that significantly impact women in business.



As we celebrate this significant milestone and honour the exceptional achievements of the NWEA recipients, let us renew our commitment to fostering women entrepreneurship within the SME sector. Your success stories serve as a beacon of inspiration, not only to your peers but also to future generations of women leaders. Together, we can ensure that women entrepreneurs continue to thrive in the world of business, making substantial contributions to our national economy while carving out their distinctive place on the global stage.

Once again, my warmest congratulations to NAWEM on 30 years of empowerment, growth, and advocacy, and to all the women entrepreneurs who continue to be the driving force behind our nation's economic prosperity.

Sincerely,

YB Senator Puan Saraswathy Kandasami

Deputy Minister of Entrepreneur and Cooperatives Development



Message From

Our Patron

Hearliest Congratulations on the 30th Anniversary of NAWEM, and the holding of the Conference on ESG.

As Economic activities everywhere continue to expand, they continue to take a toll on the Environment, possibly even negating the benefits on the Economic activities in the long run.

As such those responsible for those activities, must fully understand the Impact on the Environment, and undertake mitigating efforts to make reparations, and to “heal” the Environment. This has to be done along the Entire Value Chain, to ensure that there is no damage to the Environment.

Care for the Environment is THE Ethical thing to subscribe to, and to effectively undertake.

In this Context there must continue to be that Awareness of areas of direct and indirect Responsibilities amongst Businesses, to ensure Responsible care for the Environment.

Tan Sri Rafidah Aziz

Patron, NAWEM



Message From

Inaugural President of NAWEM

As the inaugural president of the National Association of Women Entrepreneurs of Malaysia (NAWEM), I am immensely proud and delighted to extend my warmest congratulations on this momentous occasion—the celebration of NAWEM's 30th anniversary.

Three decades of dedication, passion, and empowerment have made NAWEM an outstanding institution for women entrepreneurs in Malaysia. The journey from its inception to this significant milestone has been marked by countless achievements and the unwavering commitment of its members.

I am thrilled to witness the continuous growth and impact of NAWEM in shaping the entrepreneurial landscape for women in Malaysia. Your resilience and dedication have paved the way for numerous success stories, and I have no doubt that the coming years will bring even greater accomplishments.

May the spirit of NAWEM endure and continue to empower women entrepreneurs, fostering prosperity and equality. Congratulations once again on this remarkable achievement, and here's to the next 30 years of inspiring success.

Warm Regards,

Tan Sri Shahrizat Abdul Jalil

Inaugural President of NAWEM

*Dear Esteemed Guests,
Members and Friends,*

It is with great joy and immense pride that I welcome you to this momentous occasion—the Gala Dinner celebrating the 30th anniversary of the National Association of Women Entrepreneurs of Malaysia (NAWEM). Tonight, we come together not only to honor our remarkable journey but also to celebrate the successes that have shaped us into the dynamic organization we are today.

This evening holds a special significance as it coincides with the successful execution of the ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) Conference held on the 3rd and 4th of October at the Malaysia Exhibition & Convention Center (MECC). The conference showcased our commitment to sustainability, responsible business practices, and the vital role women entrepreneurs play in advancing these principles.

As we gather here, we also eagerly anticipate the presentation of the NAWEM Women Entrepreneur Award (NWEA) 2023. These awards recognize the outstanding achievements of our members who have demonstrated excellence, innovation, and a profound commitment to their businesses and communities. It is a testament to the incredible talent and resilience of our women entrepreneurs.

Throughout our three-decade journey, NAWEM has been a catalyst for empowerment, a platform for growth, and a beacon of inspiration



Message From **President of NAWEM**

for women entrepreneurs across Malaysia. We have collectively shattered glass ceilings, forged meaningful connections, and paved the way for countless women to realize their entrepreneurial dreams.

In an ever-evolving business landscape, NAWEM remains committed to providing unwavering support, fostering innovation, and championing gender equality in entrepreneurship. Our work extends beyond mere celebration; it is a promise to continuously empower women to excel in their entrepreneurial pursuits.

Tonight, as we come together in celebration and recognition, let us also look forward to the future with renewed vigor. May we continue to break new ground, inspire change, and create opportunities for generations of women entrepreneurs yet to come.

To our members, sponsors, partners, and well-wishers, I extend my heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support. Together, we are shaping the future of women entrepreneurship in Malaysia.

Thank you for being a part of NAWEM's incredible journey, and here's to the next 30 years of success, growth, and transformation!

Warm Regards,

Mdm Sarojini Ruth

President, NAWEM

Our Appreciation

We would like to express our deepest thanks, appreciation and heartfelt gratitude to our PARTNERS, SPONSORS, COLLABORATING ORGANISATIONS and Everyone who played a role, directly or indirectly, in our ESG Conference / Masterclass and Gala Awards Dinner. Your unwavering support and invaluable contributions are greatly appreciated

MAIN SPONSORS



PARTNERS



COLLABORATING ORGANISATIONS



OTHER SPONSORS



...and FINALLY, our sincere appreciation and gratitude to our distinguished PANEL OF ADJUDICATORS, SPEAKERS, PANELISTS and MODERATORS for your support, contribution and participation in making the event a huge success.

We would also like to congratulate all the NWEA23 FINALISTS and WINNERS. Your achievements are admirable and inspiring!

THANK YOU EVERYONE

NAWEM GALA DINNER & AWARDS NIGHT 2023

Program

7.30pm

Arrival of Guests

8.00pm

Arrival of
Guest-of-Honour
YB Senator Puan
Saraswathy Kandasami
Deputy Minister
of Entrepreneur
and Cooperatives
Development

8.05pm

National Anthem
Doa Recital

8.15pm

Salutations by Emcee

8.20pm

Welcome Address by
Mdm Sarojini Ruth
President of NAWEM

8.30pm

Speech by YB Senator
Puan Saraswathy
Kandasami
Deputy Minister of
Entrepreneur and
Cooperatives Development

8.50pm

Presentation of
Recognition Plaque to
Partners and Sponsors
by YB Senator Puan
Saraswathy Kandasami
Deputy Minister of
Entrepreneur and
Cooperatives Development

9.00pm

Dinner

10.10pm

Speech by Puan Mariam
Tun Sulaiman
Chairman of the
Adjudication Committee

10.20pm

Awards Presentation
by YB Senator Puan
Saraswathy Kandasami
Deputy Minister of
Entrepreneur and
Cooperatives Development

11.00pm

Ends

History of NAWEM



**NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION
OF WOMEN
ENTREPRENEURS
OF MALAYSIA**

In July 1990, PENIAGAWATI (Persatuan Wanita Bumiputra Dalam Perniagaan & Profesyen Malaysia) organised a three-day National Symposium on Women Entrepreneurs of Malaysia. This conference was launched by YAB Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, the Prime Minister of Malaysia and sponsored by CIDA (Canadian International Development Agency).

About 350 businesswomen and professionals attended this conference and the idea of a national association that would include women entrepreneurs of different ethnic groups was mooted. It was envisaged this association would assist in mentoring and building capacity amongst women who own and operate businesses. This would be undertaken through conducting workshops, training programmes and conferences to facilitate the development of critical business skills amongst women entrepreneurs.

After the Symposium, a few dedicated and committed women entrepreneurs led by Puan Hajjah Faridah Shamsuddin, then President of PENIAGAWATI, got together and formed a pro-tem committee with Hajjah Faridah as the Pro-tem President. Several brainstorming sessions were held and by the end of 1991, the draft Constitution was ready. It was submitted to The Registrar of Societies and in May 1993, the National Association of Women Entrepreneurs of Malaysia or NAWEM was finally approved.

A soft launch of NAWEM to invite women entrepreneurs to join as members and to inform the public of the existence of NAWEM was held in July 1993 at the Equatorial Hotel, Kuala Lumpur. It was officiated by YB Datuk Napsiah Omar, then Deputy Minister of National Unity. NAWEM held its inaugural Annual General Meeting in January 1994. YB Dato' Seri Rafidah Aziz, graciously agreed to be the Patron and YB Dato' Seri Shahrizat Abdul Jalil was elected President for the first term (1994 – 1996).

On 5 September 1994, YB Dato' Seri Rafidah Aziz officiated the formal launch of NAWEM and the Installation of the First Committee at the Istana Hotel, Kuala Lumpur. At this function, NAWEM's theme song "We're In This Together" was presented.

In April 1996, YB Dato' Seri Shahrizat, who had successfully contested and won a Parliamentary seat in Lembah Pantai was nominated Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Youth and Sports. Consequently, at the end of her term, YB Dato' Seri Shahrizat stepped down as President and Puan Mariam Tun Sulaiman was nominated and held that position for two terms (1996-2000). Puan Mariam was succeeded by Dr Bien Mei Nien and in 2005 passed the baton to Puan Shamsimar Mohd Yusof.

In 2010 Puan Shamsimar handed the leadership over to Puan Sarojini Ruth Rajahser who is the fifth and current President.

Our Vision

To unite
**Malaysian Women
Entrepreneurs** through the process
of **nurturing their skills and
by helping them realise their
dreams**

Our Mission

To provide the **leadership and
inspiration to act as a conduit
to the transformation of the
role of women in business**
into a dynamic force

To harness and realize underutilized resources in the women sector.

To conduct seminars, workshops, training programmes and conferences and provide counselling and consultancy services to propagate and enhance women's capabilities and potential.

Aims & Objectives

To promote and develop the efforts and activities of women entrepreneurs.

To act as a liaison between members and the Government of Malaysia, State and Local Agencies, Civil Societies as well as international Not for Profit Organisations.

To develop leadership amongst business and professional women.

To invest and deal with the monies of the Association through strategies approved by the Executive Committee.

To encourage and support women who own and operate businesses.

To facilitate the administration of funds, grants, donations of cash, property or services that will contribute to the benefit of members.



To borrow or raise money in ways the Association may think fit.

Who We Are

NAWEM was founded on the firm belief that the full realisation of the human potential is limited only by the acquisition of skills and knowledge, and, the availability of information and opportunities. The organisation is an excellent platform for women entrepreneurs, with NAWEM providing the leadership to influence and shape policies which will benefit women in business in particular, and, the nation, in general.

Conscious of our ever changing and demanding environment, NAWEM aspires to be the inspiration to stimulate innovation and creativity in the development of businesses that will be sensitive to local values and customer needs. We also recognise the need for cohesiveness in forging business relationships. To this end, NAWEM acts as the conduit to transcend differences, and to nurture cooperation and mutually satisfying business environment within and outside our national boundaries.

In summary,

- 1 NAWEM as a non-governmental organization is best placed to successfully undertake any venture pertaining to women entrepreneurship.
- 2 We were established in 1993 and since inception, have represented women entrepreneurs from small to medium to even large organizations.
- 3 Our members' businesses cover a wide cross-section of sectors such as manufacturing, IT, financial services, education, aerospace, trading, food & beverage and engineering.
- 4 We are multi-ethnic entrepreneurs from various parts of Malaysia.
- 5 We maintain a high-level of integrity and proper governance.
- 6 We adhere to our vision and mission to provide leadership to nurture women entrepreneurs realise their dreams.

Our goal is that NAWEM members will be acknowledged as catalysts to growth, development and enhancement of women in business in Malaysia. They will also be the motivating force, providing leadership and support to all Malaysians to exploit their full potential whilst upholding the values of mutual respect.

What We Do

In NAWEM, we work to create an environment that enables personal and professional development of women entrepreneurs in Malaysia. Women who have joined the Association have expectations and it is our responsibility to ensure that all efforts are taken to give the members a platform to further succeed in their business.

What we offer:

- **Personal Growth**
The opportunity to participate in workshops and seminars conducted by experts and professionals in various fields of business and entrepreneurship that enhances members' skills in leadership, management, presentation, communication, marketing, and other related areas.
- **International Opportunities**
Participation in international trade fairs, trade missions, conventions, overseas delegations and world conferences, and exposure for members to business networks.
- **Business Collaboration**
Sharing of experiences with other women in business, and explore possibilities of collaboration. Organising meetings to give members the chance to get direct access to government officials, and business leaders.
- **Social and Community Contributions**
Members can work with NAWEM to assist the less fortunate and have a sense of fulfilment as coaches, teachers and donors, or they can be mentors to nurture budding entrepreneurs.
- **Friendship and Fun**
Cultivation of friendship by sharing personal and professional experiences and being the helping hand of a 'sister' for members. Having fun and camaraderie during social activities.



NAWEM'S Social & Nation Building Programmes

In the early nineties, NAWEM actively played a pivotal role in participating in Government's initiatives for the creation of women entrepreneurs and introduction of information technology in their businesses.

The Government and the private sector have recognized NAWEM's unique representation as being the only multi-racial business women association and hence supported NAWEM's training of women for entrepreneurship.

Here are some of the key training programmes conducted:

A

With Government Sponsorships:

- i. HAWA Training for Women Entrepreneurs funded by Kementerian Pembangunan Wanita, Keluarga dan Masyarakat' (1998-2000)
- ii. SEKATA Capacity and Capability Building (CB2) Programme (2012) funded by LPPKN
- iii. NAWEM for Sustainability (NAWEM 4S) – an introductory training programme for transforming businesses towards eco and business sustainability (2012) funded by 'Jabatan Pembangunan Wanita' (JPW)
- iv. NAWEM for Sustainability Phase 2 (NAWEM4SP2) – the intermediate level of our sustainability initiative to assist SMEs to transform businesses using sustainability tools and framework (2013-2014) funded by JPW
- v. Smart Domestic Manager Project -- to train marginalized Malaysian women to provide home/office cleaning services funded by JPW (2015)
- vi. NGO Management Certification training funded by JPW (2015)
- vii. GST seminars funded by MOF (Kuala Lumpur in 2014 and Kuching, Sarawak in 2015)

B

With the Private Sector Sponsorships:

- i. Skills training programme for marginalized women funded by Star Foundation (2005 -2007)
- ii. Capacity and Capability Building (C2B) Programme (2010 and 2011) sponsored by HSBC

C

On the international front, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and United Nations Council for Trade and Development (UNCTAD) have recognized NAWEM as a reliable trainer for entrepreneurial development. As such, NAWEM is the implementing partner for both UNHCR and UNCTAD in its Malaysian presence.

- i. For UNHCR livelihood programme for refugees - NAWEM provides hard skills training in cooking, sewing and soft skills in English language proficiency and accounting knowledge, branding, selling and marketing skills.
- ii. For UNCTAD's EMPRETEC training programme - NAWEM provided the platform to train women entrepreneurs by upgrading their skills to assist Malaysia towards achieving developed status.

Another international body, The Asia Foundation (TAF) has worked with NAWEM to deliver town hall presentations, women leadership programmes, focussed group conversations for gender sensitisation in the workplace, and public seminars for the project "Promoting 21st Century Gender Related Labour Practices in Malaysia". This project ended in October 2017.

Over the last 10 years, in collaboration with many local and international partners, NAWEM has assisted more than 1000 women to raise their standard of living by enhancing their skills, business acumen and awareness of rights in the workplace.

TABUNG AMAL NAWEM (TAN)

TAN was set up in August 2000 with the aim of fulfilling NAWEM's social obligations by assisting the needy and less fortunate women in our society, through the granting of funds and seed money to start a new business.

The principal objective of TAN is to enable economically challenged women to be financially independent through entrepreneurial endeavours.

TAN was established with initial donations and pledges amounting to RM20,000 from NAWEM members. The sum continues to grow with generous donations received over the past two decades. It is the plan of the Board of Trustees to continue its fund-raising efforts so as to put TAN on a firm financial footing prior to the disbursement of funds.

TAN Board of Trustees

1 YBhg Puan Sri Datin Seri Dr Susan Cheah
Chairman

2 Puan Mariam Tun Sulaiman
Trustee

3 Dr Bien Mei Nien
Trustee

4 Dato' Shamsimar Mohd Yusof
Trustee

5 Mdm Sarojini Ruth Rajahser (President)
Trustee

6 Ms Sandra Anne Ghouse (VP Membership)
Co-Trustee

NAWEM TOASTMASTERS' CLUB



NAWEM Toastmasters Club was chartered in February 2014 to educate and empower NAWEM members in public speaking skills to build their confidence in presentation and delivery that will enhance their business. This is strictly, an all ladies toastmasters club.

Meetings are held on the first and third Mondays of the month at NAWEM secretariat at Lot 13, Rumah Puspanita, 5171 Jalan Hose, 50460 Kuala Lumpur from 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm. Our meetings are enriching and members are known for their warm and friendly hospitality. We also enjoy the collaboration of the other toastmasters' clubs in the Klang Valley

Members are encouraged to speak on table topics which is similar to giving an impromptu speech of two minutes. This encourages you to think on your feet when you stand in front of a crowd. There are 10 project speeches where members prepare a topic and deliver them with finesse. When a member gives the first speech called, "The Ice Breaker", she is given a standing ovation which motivates and takes away stage fright. All in all, to achieve the highest award, Distinguished Toastmaster, a member would have to make at least 46 speeches, besides holding several positions of leadership to promote Toastmasters. Mentorship is an integral part of Toastmasters' learning philosophy.

Members who are interested to join can contact NAWEM secretariat at 03-21423325 and fill in the application form.

KOPERASI NAWEM BERHAD



Koperasi NAWEM Berhad (KNB) was officially registered with Suruhanjaya Koperasi Malaysia (SKM) on 5th May 2015 under registration no. W-6-1044. KNB members are the members and staff of National Association of Women Entrepreneurs of Malaysia (NAWEM) with minimum shareholding of RM1000. Currently KNB have more than 50 members.

KNB is also a registered member of Angkatan Koperasi Kebangsaan Malaysia Berhad (ANGKASA).

Vision

To be the leading and prestigious women cooperative with excellent business growth.

Mission

To promote NAWEM members' economic interdependence, sustainability and to empower women as well as underserved communities.

This mission to be achieved through the following key result areas:

Good Corporate governance by adopting the SIAT (Stewardship, Integrity, Accountability and Transparency) strategy.

Capacity building by empowering and enhancing entrepreneurial competencies of members and society.

Providing income and wealth creation platforms.

Activities

KNB's current registered activities are in the following sectors:



Agricultural

Training & Event promoting



Retail Business in household & personal products



NAWEM WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS AWARD 2023

NAWEM Women Entrepreneurs Award 2023: Celebrating Excellence in Women's Entrepreneurship

NAWEM Women Entrepreneurs Award (NWEA) 2023

marks a momentous occasion in our organisation's history. First organised in 2006, this year we decided to bring back NWEA to honor and celebrate outstanding achievements among our members. This award recognises the best of the best, individuals who have demonstrated exceptional entrepreneurship while upholding high standards and stringent criteria.



A Tribute to Resilience

Acknowledging the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, we take pride in the tenacity and adaptability displayed by many of our members. Some have reimagined their businesses, embracing technology and innovation to thrive in 'the new normal.'

30 Years of Empowerment

As NAWEM celebrates its 30th Anniversary in 2023, we are delighted to showcase and recognize women who have exhibited resilience, innovation, and consistent growth in their respective fields and industries.

Award Categories

There are 2 awards categories, namely:

1 The Emerging Entrepreneur Award

- Recognizing women entrepreneurs who have demonstrated exceptional skills and achievements in the early stages of their businesses (minimum 3 years in operation).

2 The Extraordinaire Entrepreneur Award

- Honoring women entrepreneurs who have excelled in entrepreneurial skills, innovation, and success in their fields. They have made significant contributions to their industries, demonstrated remarkable leadership, and achieved extraordinary levels of business growth and impact (minimum 5 years in business).

Aims and Objectives



Recognition Criteria

The finalists and winners have undergone a comprehensive selection process led by our esteemed panel of judges. They were evaluated based on criteria such as innovation, business success, leadership, social impact, adaptability, and influence and recognition within their industries.

Benefits of Winning

Winning the NAWEM Women Entrepreneur Award brings numerous advantages, including recognition, credibility, increased visibility, networking opportunities, business growth, and personal development.

NAWEM the Last 3 Decades

“

From humble beginnings to today, it's been a remarkable journey. NAWEM's success is a testament to the dedication and passion of every individual embodying inclusiveness. Thirty years have shaped NAWEM into the premier hub for fostering women leaders, driven by technology, thriving on collaboration, and embracing inclusiveness. It's the top choice for esteemed international organisations in Malaysia.

Tan Sri Shahrizat Abdul Jalil (2023)
1st President 1994 - 1996

”

“

The success of any organisation largely depends on the commitment and support of its members. I strongly urge all our members to take a more positive role by participating in all our activities.

Puan Mariam Tun Sulaiman (1996)
2nd President 1996 - 2000

”

“

We must capitalise on our capabilities and demonstrate that we are able to rise to any business opportunities and be worthy business partners. We have to form strategic partnerships and alliances that will enable us to compete more effectively in a world largely dominated by large businesses.

Dr Bien Mei Nien (2001)
3rd President 2000 - 2005

”

“

The accomplishments of NAWEM today are reflections of the dynamic leadership of our past Presidents with the excellent support from the Executive Committee and our members. NAWEM has grown over the years to be an association of repute and standing in the community, championing the causes and advancement of women entrepreneurs.

Dato' Shamsimar Mohd Yusof (2006)
4th President 2005 - 2010

”

“

NAWEM's reputation has made us the first choice when reputable international organisations seek partners in Malaysia. I am cognizant that this has been due to the work done by my predecessors and NAWEM members who have put the association first before their own businesses. Let's continue to add to the achievements of NAWEM in the ensuing years.

Madam Sarojini Ruth (2018)
5th President Since 2010

”

Appreciating the past to build a greater future for the organisation. NAWEM would not have been able to achieve this significant milestone without the support of our aspiring leaders and devoted members.

“

The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.

- Lao Tzu

”

Take a stroll down the memory lane by reliving our journey over the last 30 years.

1993



The National Association of Women Entrepreneurs of Malaysia or NAWEM was officially established in May 1993.

1994



NAWEM held its inaugural Annual General Meeting in January 1994 and YBhg Tan Sri Shahrizat Abdul Jalil was elected President for the first term (1994 – 1996).



YBhg Tan Sri Rafidah Aziz, the then Minister of International Trade and Industry graciously agreed to be the Patron of NAWEM.

1995

Organised a series of Networking Visits to the Ministries and Captains of the Industries - CEOs of GLCs and PLCs.



1995



1996

The opening of NAWEM Office at Lot 11 Rumah Pusp Anita on 11 March 1996 by YBhg Tan Sri Rafidah Aziz.



1997

Yang Amat Berhormat Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim, the then Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia launched NAWEM's website (www.nawem.org.my).

1998



HAWA Training for Women Entrepreneurs funded by The Ministry of Women, Family & Community Development was organised from 1998 to 2000.



1999

NAWEM Entrepreneurs Conference "Risk Management" at Genting Permai Park & Resort in Genting Highlands.

2000



Tabung Amal NAWEM (TAN) was established on August 2000 to assist marginalised women in our society through the granting of funds and seed money to start a new micro business.

2001



Organised "Wanita Cemerlang" Celebrating Women of Distinction in April at Sunway Resort Hotel with guest-of-honour, YBhg Tan Sri Rafidah Aziz.



Organised a series of ICT Training Programmes to improve the knowledge and computer literacy among NAWEM business owners.



2002

NAWEM Charity Food & Fun Fair in October held at Sek Keb Bukit Bandaraya, Kuala Lumpur. RM100,000 was successfully raised from this event which was donated to several charities namely Rumah Wake, Orang Asli Darul Falah Perkim and Persatuan Ibu Tunggal.



2003

NAWEM Members' Day 2003 at Citron Café, Lorong Stonor, Kuala Lumpur.



2004

NAWEM's 10th Anniversary Celebration Dinner in February held at Sunway Convention Centre with more than 400 members attended the event.



2005

Joint Trade Exhibition between NAWEM and IWAPI was held at the Crown Princess Hotel in December.

Organised a series of skills training programme for marginalised women between 2005 and 2007 funded by The Star Foundation.



2006

NAWEM Women Entrepreneurs Award (NWEA) 2006 was held in July, recognising successful women entrepreneurs and women achievers within the members of NAWEM.

2007

Tea Talk with NAWEM members, in conjunction with the "new office" opening celebration. NAWEM moved from Unit No 8 to a bigger Unit No 13 at Rumah Puspanita.

Launching of Skills Training Programme for Marginalised Women (KeMP) by the Minister of Women, Family and Community Development in December at the Kg Kerinchi Community Centre. The courses include basic floral designs, baking, beaded jewellery, facial and hairstyling.

2008

NAWEM Captain of the Industry Visit to SMIDEC in February hosted by the CEO, YBhg Dato' Hafsa Hashim.

2009



NAWEM Penang Chapter was established on 14 November. Ms Ong Swe Ee was elected as the first Chairperson to lead the chapter.



Commenced ground work to form NAWEM Kuching Chapter which was officially established on 8 September 2014. Ms Ivy Lau Ee Nee was elected as the first Chairperson to lead the chapter, giving an opportunity to NAWEM members to network and attend the chapter's events held within Sarawak.



2010

Organised Capacity and Capability Building (C2B) Programme between 2010 and 2011 sponsored by HSBC. The cheque for the amount of RM150,000 and skills training certificate presentation was held on 30 March 2011 at the Ballroom, Royal Selangor Club.

2011

Organised Sri Lanka Trade Mission from 22 to 26 May 2011, to explore possibilities of developing strategic alliances. In return, a group of delegation from Sri Lanka came to visit NAWEM in Kuala Lumpur from 10 to 15 August 2011.

2012

Organised SEKATA Capacity and Capability Building (CB2) Programme funded by Lembaga Penduduk dan Pembangunan Keluarga Negara (LPPKN).

NAWEM for Sustainability (NAWEM 4S) – an introductory training programme for transforming businesses towards eco and business sustainability funded by Jabatan Pembangunan Wanita (JPW).

2013

NAWEM for Sustainability Phase 2 (NAWEM4SP2) – the intermediate level of our sustainability initiative to assist SMEs to transform businesses using sustainability tools and framework between 2013 and 2014 funded by Jabatan Pembangunan Wanita (JPW).

2014



NAWEM Toastmasters Club (NTMC) was chartered on 14 February 2014 with 20 members.



NAWEM's 20th Anniversary Dinner in March was held at Berjaya Times Square Hotel.

2015



Inspire Women in Business Conference – NAWEM's Penang 6th Anniversary Conference was organised at The Eastin Hotel Penang. Total 111 participants attended the conference, with pre-recorded opening speech by YBhg Tan Sri Rafidah Aziz, NAWEM's Patron.



Koperasi NAWEM Berhad was incorporated in May 2015 with the objective of creating a business entity for NAWEM for profit generation.

2016



EMPHATIC Home Baking Business – funded by HRDF to empower women with baking and business skills.

2016

GENDER21 – in collaboration with The Asia Foundation (TAF) to promote 21st Century Gender-Related Labour Practices in Malaysia from 2016 to 2017 by improving the quality of women's labour force participation.

NAWEM Sharx Tank – entrepreneurs were exposed to various non-institutional funding and investment mechanisms currently available in Malaysia.



2016



Family Business Management (Cohort 1) – a 6-day program held at the University of JAÉN, Spain, to learn how to plan and manage a successful family business.

2017



MOU signing with L'Oreal Malaysia and launching of L'Oreal-NAWEM Women In Business Social Enterprise to women from the B40 community to earn supplementary income.

2017

STEM Women Leadership Conference – 318 delegates attended the event with 2 keynote speakers from Japan, namely Ms Haruno Yoshida of BT Japan and Dr Naoko Iwasaki, Professor from the Institute of e-Government Waseda University. Ms Yoshida has been selected as one of the 50 World's Greatest Leaders by Fortune Magazine for 2017.



2018



1MOC HDRF Drive Programme – 2 United Nation Master Trainers from Brazil were engaged as trainers during the 6-days EMPRETEC training, followed with mentoring and coaching sessions and business linkages talks with MATRADE, SME Corp, TEKUN, SIRIM, Teraju, MDEC and MAGIC.

NAWEM SEDIC : Women in Digital – a government funded programme to assist women micro entrepreneurs in the B40 segment to use social media and other digital tools to promote their businesses. Total of 250 women were trained in 10 locations in Peninsular Malaysia.



NAWEM Penang : Captain of the Industry Talk – Working Your Networks – the event was held at Hotel Jen, Penang gathered by 66 attendees featuring 3 NAWEM industry leaders to speak on their experiences.

2019



IR 4.0 AND THE FUTURE OF WORK CONFERENCE 2019 – “Growing Malaysia’s Digital Economy & Talent” in Kuala Lumpur and Kuching. It was aimed to engender awareness and enable people, particularly women; and organisations to learn and take action on workplace transformations with the unfolding of IR4.0.



NAWEM & Women Leaders in the Palm Oil Industry – afternoon hi-tea at Mandarin Oriental endorsed by YB Teresa Kok, Minister of Primary Industries, graced by the attendance of YTM Raja Dato’ Seri Azureen Almarhum Sultan Azlan Muhibbuddin Shah Al-Maghfur-Lah.



2020

Tech4Her@NAWEM programme conducted from 2020 to 2021 is to support women’s economic security and advancement by assisting women to successfully transition and grow their businesses online.



SAKTEE – Skills Agility with Knowledge for Transformation in Employment and Empowerment. A government-funded programme in employability skills for those who did not have the opportunity to complete formal education. 80 women graduated from this scheme.



2021

EMPRETEC Training Workshop & LLE Training of Trainers (TOT).

2022



MOU signing with SIRIM Berhad.



MOU signing with Malaysian Palm Oil Council (MPOC).

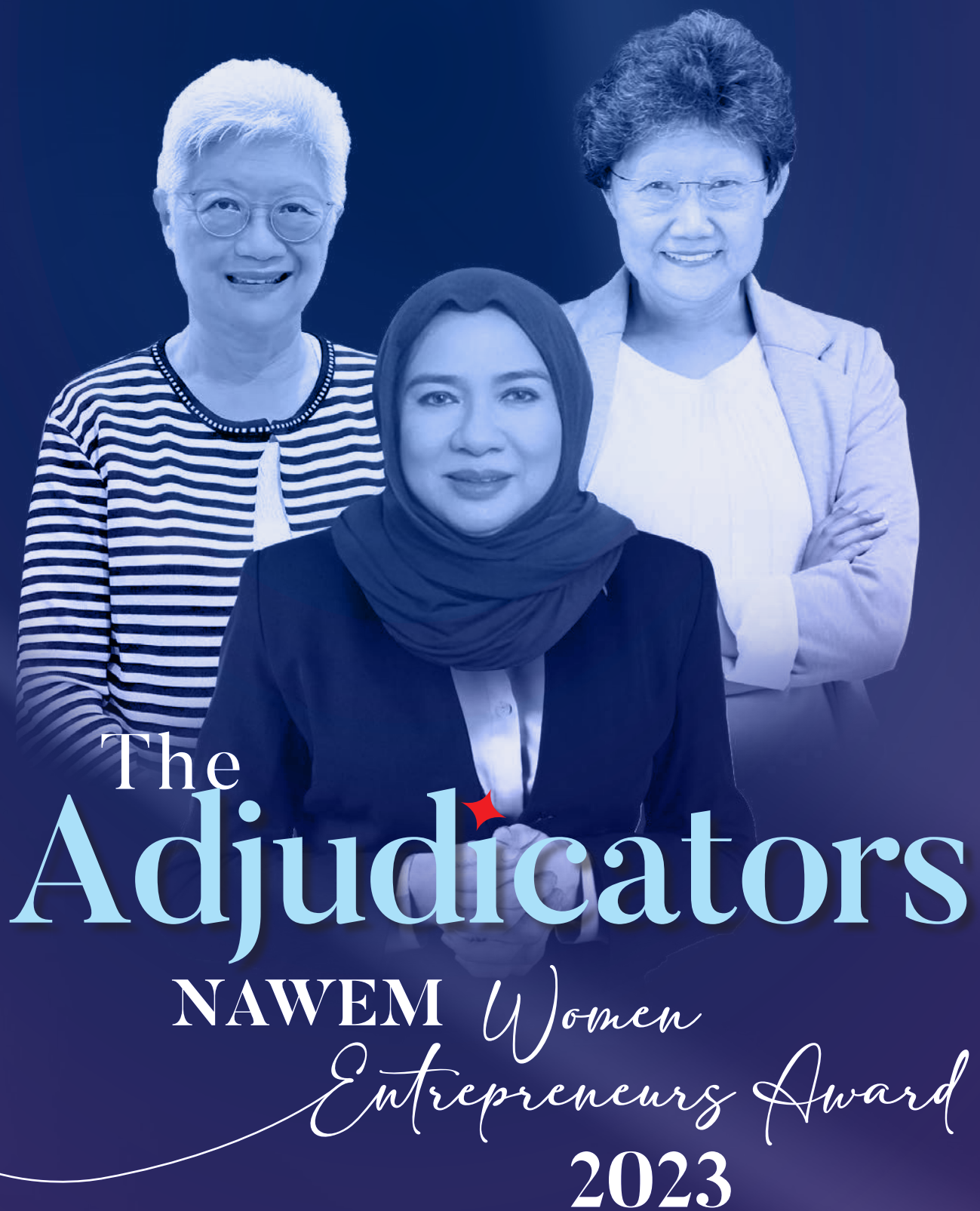
2023



MOU signing with Binary University – MyBinary Unity Scholarship for entrepreneurship students.



MOU signing with Standard Chartered Bank Malaysia Berhad.



The Adjudicators

NAWEM *Women*
Entrepreneurs Award
2023

YIP JIAN LEE

Jian's professional journey is a testament to her diverse expertise and extensive experience. Her career path began with a commitment to becoming a chartered accountant, which led her to undertake internships covering a wide range of industries, including shipping, insurance, auction houses, retail, manufacturing, and more. Her audited clients spanned both large and small companies, providing her with valuable insights into various sectors.

A significant highlight of Jian's career was her unique opportunity to work in Kiribati (formerly known as Gilbert & Ellis Island) for six months. During this time, her clients included copra plantations, fisheries, and trading companies, adding a global perspective to her professional repertoire.



After a successful decade in the United Kingdom, Jian returned to Malaysia and embarked on a new chapter with Price Waterhouse Tax Services. Subsequently, she dedicated 16 years to the Institute of Bankers, where she served as the Director, contributing her wealth of knowledge to the field.

Since the late 1980s, Jian has taken on crucial roles as an Independent Non-Executive Director (INED) in several companies, with some of these appointments representing Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB) on the Board. Her vast experience and expertise make her a sought-after professional in the corporate world.

Currently, Jian continues to excel as an INED, serving on the boards of three public listed companies. Her biodata is a testament to her enduring commitment to the corporate sector, her expertise in finance and governance, and her invaluable contributions to the companies she serves.

The Adjudicators

NAWEM *Women Entrepreneurs Award 2023*

MARIAM TUN SULAIMAN

Mariam's entrepreneurial journey is a testament to her remarkable spirit and commitment to innovation. In 1983, she co-founded The Body Shop franchise outlets in Malaysia, marking her entry into the world of business. Subsequently, she ventured into pioneering service office concepts in the vibrant Klang Valley in 1996, showcasing her keen eye for unique opportunities.

In 2003, Mariam embarked on crafting festive gift baskets and hampers filled with traditional cookies, gracing major shopping malls in the Klang Valley and blending tradition with modern celebrations.

Her entrepreneurial endeavors have earned her numerous accolades, including the 1993 Entrepreneur of the Year Award from the Association of Bumiputera Women in Business & Profession. Her alma mater, Tunku Kurshiah College Old Girls' Association, also bestowed upon her the prestigious Golden Award in the Business Category in 1997.



Beyond business success, Mariam's commitment to community and advocacy shines. Her involvement in non-governmental organizations began in 1990 with Peniagawati, followed by active participation in NAWEM from 1993. She served as NAWEM's President for two terms from 1996 to 2000 and was elected as the Chairman of the Federation of Women Entrepreneur Associations Malaysia in 2001.

Although Mariam retired from the business world in 2013, her dedication to empowering women entrepreneurs remained unwavering. She served as an advisory panel member for women entrepreneurs at SME Corp Malaysia from 2013 to 2015. Even at the age of 70, Mariam continues her active engagement in social work, collaborating with various NGOs to leave a lasting impact on society.

Mariam's biodata reflects her entrepreneurial spirit, commitment to women's empowerment, and enduring dedication to making a positive difference in her community.

DR BIEN MEI NIEN

Dr Bien Mei Nien is an outstanding figure who has made significant contributions to both education and community service. As a founding member of NAWEM (National Association of Women Entrepreneurs of Malaysia) and its Third President from 2000 to 2005, she played a pivotal role in advancing the organization's mission.

In 1981, Bien's commitment to education led her to establish the PAAC Business Institute, a distinguished private college specializing in Professional Accountancy. Here, she took immense pride in mentoring and guiding countless students, enabling them to excel in their professional examinations with prestigious bodies such as MICPA, ACCA, and ICAEW.

Bien's passion for education reached new heights when PAAC became the first and only college to collaborate with The Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen. This groundbreaking partnership allowed the institution to train multiple cohorts of Nurses in a specialized degree program focused on Occupational Health and Safety, significantly contributing to advancements in healthcare practices.



During her tenure as Vice-President and subsequently President of NAWEM, Bien championed professional development. In collaboration with Bank Simpanan Nasional (BSN), NAWEM selected and recommended small business owners for micro-credit loans, fostering entrepreneurship and economic growth. In support of micro-credit loan recipients, Bien organised a diverse range of training programs, encompassing computer competency and small business management. She even extended these courses to Sarawak, empowering businesswomen in the state.

Even in retirement, Bien's dedication to community betterment endures as she actively collaborates with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and devotes her time to her church. Her lifelong commitment to education and humanitarian causes stands as a testament to her unwavering determination to create a positive impact on society.



The Finalists



NAWEM
*Women
Entrepreneurs
Award*
2023

The Finalists

NAWEM *Women Entrepreneurs Award 2023*



Jennifer Ong
HAPA® Group Sdn Bhd

Jennifer Ong is the driving force behind HAPA® Group, a prominent player in the hospitality industry. Her remarkable journey commenced 29 years ago when, at the age of 22, she founded Hospitality Asia, a specialized magazine. Through unwavering dedication to excellence, her company evolved into a comprehensive eco-system hospitality platform, encompassing Media, Awards, Events, and Training. HAPA® Group's core strengths revolve around Driving Excellence, Defining Excellence, and Recognizing Excellence, achieved through collaborative efforts with industry partners to elevate standards. Jennifer's innovative leadership led to the consolidation of five distinct brands under HAPA®, including HAPA® TV, HAPA® Awards, HAPA® Events, and HAPA® Academy. She also introduced the exclusive No Address Society by HAPA®, fostering entrepreneurial networking.

A pivotal achievement in her career is the prestigious HAPA® Awards, launched in 2002, which celebrates excellence in the Asian hospitality industry. Her dedication garnered nominations for the Malaysian Prime Minister's Award for Women Entrepreneur of the Year in 2011 and the EY Entrepreneur of the Year in 2014. In response to the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020, Jennifer initiated HAPA® TV, a platform showcasing hospitality, dining, travel, and lifestyle experiences. She also launched JENN TV, featuring candid conversations on life and reality.

Jennifer's diverse journey extended into the realm of Neuro-Linguistic Programming (NLP), where she became a certified NLP Trainer and Master Coach, establishing The MIND Academy to empower lives through NLP training. Simultaneously, she pursued a Master's in International Hospitality Management, demonstrating her unwavering commitment to continuous learning.



Puan Sri Nisa Bakri
NJB Innari Sdn Bhd

Puan Sri Nisa Bakri, a versatile and innovative entrepreneur, has achieved remarkable success through her unwavering commitment to various ventures. After starting her career in finance, she boldly entered the competitive fashion industry by launching Zelucci handbags, gaining international recognition with a feature at Harrods London in 2008.

In 2010, Nisa founded Accuwest Sdn Bhd, supplying portable chargers to the US market. Subsequently, in 2011, she established DDDR Ltd UK, which led to the successful launch of Leather Love, specializing in premium leather product cleaning solutions, now present in 12 countries with 62 stores worldwide.

However, her most transformative journey began in 2014 with NJB Innari Sdn Bhd, giving rise to Nisa Bakri Gourmet. Nisa's contributions were recognized when she

received the "Most Outstanding World Gourmet Ambassador" award from the World Top Gourmet Awards in 2018.

Beyond entrepreneurship, Nisa is a Bespoke Culinary Chef with a substantial global following on social media, advocating for Malaysian Cuisine. Her culinary expertise has been showcased through her cooking show, "Selera Nisabakri," in 2021, and appearances on cooking episodes in Malaysia, Brunei, and Indonesia. With her academic foundation and HRDF-certified TTT trainer status, Nisa mentors budding entrepreneurs, particularly in the F&B sector, emphasizing the significance of culinary experiences in global trade.

Nisa's journey reflects her relentless pursuit of knowledge, highlighted by degrees in Business Administration, Advanced Business Management, Economics, and Finance with First Class Honors.



Datuk Noraini Soltan

Sipro Plastic Industries Sdn Bhd

Datuk Noraini Soltan, Founder and Managing Director of Sipro Plastic Industries Sdn Bhd (Sipro), has forged a remarkable path in the plastic molding industry.

Sipro's journey began humbly in 1992, with just 2 machines and 3 employees operating from a small factory in Shah Alam. Under Datuk Noraini's visionary leadership, the company has expanded its footprint to three locations in Malaysia, boasting over 400 team members and 60 injection machines. Today, Sipro serves as a trusted vendor to renowned brands like Perodua, Proton, Toyota, Konica Minolta, and Panasonic, with products reaching global markets in Europe, South America, and Asia. Driven by Sipro's motto, "Passion for Innovation," the company relentlessly pursues customer satisfaction through continuous improvements.

The company's commitment to excellence has garnered numerous recognitions and awards, including the Enterprise 50 Award (2006), Women Entrepreneur of the Year by

Ernst & Young (2008), Best Quality Award by Perodua (2014), and Best New Model Development by Boon Siew Honda (2022).

Beyond business success, Datuk Noraini actively contributes to various government agencies, associations, and universities, holding positions such as Board Member of Malaysia Productivity Corporation (MPC) and Vice President for Malaysian Plastic Manufacturers Association (MPMA).

Furthermore, Sipro is deeply committed to community welfare, organizing initiatives such as Foodbank drives, Blood Donation Day, and educational support through Back to School Kits.

Datuk Noraini aspires to lead Sipro towards becoming a global industry player while championing sustainability and contributing to a greener future. Her journey reflects a legacy of success, community engagement, and a commitment to innovation and excellence.



Dato' Hajah Nor'ashikin Taib

Marvel Management Communication Sdn Bhd

Dato' Hajah Nor'ashikin Taib is a Managing Director, of Marvel Management Communication Sdn Bhd or well known as MMC Sdn Bhd. Marvel Management Communication Sdn Bhd is an organizer for Bumiputera Property Exhibition Expo of the brand name BPEX. BPEX is the platform for all property developers in Klang Valley to promote their bumi quota lots to the Malay/Bumiputera market. To date we are the only Bumiputera company showcasing this prestige property event. Our BPEX expo are recognised and supported by Ministry of Local Government Development. We have helped 400 developers in Klang Valley to sell their bumi lot properties and till to date we managed to secure more than 2 billion sales for them.

Dato' Hajah Nor 'ashikin is a go getter person. For her, failure is not an option. An experienced senior executive in a corporate company with a superior results in a variety of challenging and multicultural environment made her this far. She also has excellent negotiating and problem solving skills and a proven ability to manage and complete the tasks or projects to the highest standard. She is a dynamic entrepreneur who utilizes creativity, leadership and teamwork, analytical and versatile too. She loves socializing with people and very passionate towards work. She is a person with goals, aspirations and professionalism and always motivated to achieve the best results.

The Finalists

NAWEM Women Entrepreneurs Award 2023



Nurhazwani Shaari

Dita Selia Sdn Bhd

Wani Shaari, a finalist at the esteemed NAWEM Women Entrepreneurs Award 2023, boasts a 13-year career in the IT sector, showcasing unwavering dedication to excellence. At 41 years old, she holds a distinguished Master's Degree in Corporate Communication from UPM.

In her role as Executive Director at Dita Selia Sdn Bhd, Wani shines as a strategic thinker with a knack for dissecting complex scenarios and identifying opportunities and threats. Her decision-making prowess is deeply rooted in a clear understanding of her company's objectives, ensuring alignment with its mission and vision.

Wani's standout attribute lies in her adaptability and eagerness to embrace change. She readily pivots when necessary, fine-tuning strategies to remain competitive. When faced with tough decisions, she excels in making well-informed choices, driven by confidence in her decision-making abilities and a willingness to take calculated risks.

Established in 2011, Dita Selia Sdn Bhd, a local Bumiputera value-added System

Integrator, reflects Wani's entrepreneurial spirit and commitment. The company specializes in providing comprehensive internet and network solutions to diverse clients, including SMEs, MNCs, corporate enterprises, and government sectors.

Dita Selia's service policy centers on delivering optimal solutions and support to valued customers. The company has been instrumental in revolutionizing technology for numerous corporations, boosting their competitiveness. As a Web Hosting and Designer, the company adheres to industry best practices and standards. Dita Selia takes pride in serving over 15 government agencies, more than five banking and financial institutions, and more than ten large corporations.

Wani Shaari's journey symbolizes resilience, innovation, and unwavering commitment to excellence. Her recognition as a finalist at the NAWEM Women Entrepreneurs Award 2023 reflects her remarkable contributions to the field and her dedication to advancing technology and business competitiveness in Malaysia.



Olivia Quah Hooi Pin

Asian Integrated Medical Sdn Bhd (iElder)

Olivia Quah is a remarkable entrepreneur, serving as the co-Founder and Executive Director of iElder.asia, an integrated healthcare operator founded in 2012. iElder provides comprehensive healthcare services, including Western Medicine Clinic, Traditional Chinese Medicine, and an Acupuncture Centre.

Beyond healthcare, Olivia has strategically expanded the business to encompass the export, import, and distribution of elderly care products and services, all licensed by the Medical Devices Authority. These offerings cater to a wide spectrum of clients, from hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, and pharmacies to corporate partners and individual consumers.

iElder's commitment to holistic well-being is further demonstrated through the operation of a senior care center (nursing home).

Olivia's impact extends beyond the corporate realm as she holds vital positions in various NGOs. She serves as the Secretary of the

Malaysian Coalition On Ageing (MCOA), Vice Chairman of the Association for Residential Aged Care Operators of Malaysia (AGECOPE Selangor), and Assist. Secretary of AGECOPE National. Olivia also plays a pivotal role as the Secretary General of the Nursing Care Association Selangor (NCAS) and is a Life member of the National Association of Women Entrepreneurs of Malaysia (NAWEM). Additionally, she is a Lifetime member of the University of Third Age (U3A) Petaling Jaya and holds the prestigious title of an HRDF Certified Trainer.

Olivia's exceptional journey has garnered international recognition, with appearances at prestigious events such as the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the International Labour Organization (ILO). She received the esteemed Resilience 30 Women Awards in 2022.

Olivia Quah's biodata is a testament to her unwavering dedication to healthcare, entrepreneurship, and advocacy.



Dr. Puvaneash Subramaniam

Kagayaku Logistics (M) Sdn Bhd

Dr. Puvaneash Subramaniam's remarkable journey within the industry reflects her ascent as a distinguished woman entrepreneur who has not only gained extensive hands-on experience but also excels as a CEO, adept at guiding others in honing their professional skills.

Her impressive qualifications include an Accounting LCCI from Wong Institute, Port Klang, a Master's degree from the Oxford Centre for Leadership in 2007 (UK), and the prestigious distinction of being awarded a Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work in 2019 from The International University of Peace.

With over three decades of experience in the Logistics and Transportation industry, Dr. Puvaneash currently holds the position of CEO in two reputable companies, Kagayaku Logistics (M) Sdn Bhd and Integrate Distribution Services Sdn Bhd. These companies are renowned for their comprehensive logistics services and innovative solutions, experiencing remarkable growth, particularly in the manufacturing and automotive sectors. Her

expertise extends to the niche domain of heavy lift and project cargo movements, where she has established herself as a formidable presence.

Beyond her corporate roles, Dr. Puvaneash actively engages in various associations, NGOs, and social work initiatives, encompassing critical areas such as Environmental Issues, social networks, and Good Governance. Her efforts and successes have catapulted her into the role of a sought-after guest speaker, not only in broadcast media like BFM but also at international and local events organised by various associations.

In her multifaceted career, Dr. Puvaneash Subramaniam continues to inspire with her achievements and dedication to professional excellence, making her a noteworthy figure in the industry and the broader community.



Puvanesvari Subramaniam (Buvna)

Q4 Tech Asia Sdn Bhd

Buvna is a visionary leader with 17 years of experience in the IT industry, known for her profound dedication to digital inclusion, agile coaching, and technological innovation. Buvna has been a passionate advocate for digital inclusion, aligning her efforts with Sustainable Development Goals 4, 5, 7, and 8. Her advocacy reached a remarkable milestone with the DIGITAL DEWI program, an initiative exclusively for B40 women.

Buvna is a qualified trainer with accreditation from HRD Corp and recently taken on the role of a trainer for PERKESO's Kerjaya Madani program. Her vital roles as Co-Founder and Managing Director of Godigital Production, CEO at QF4 Tech Asia Sdn Bhd, and Founder and CEO of Aathav Technologies reflect her commitment to advancing technology and effecting positive change in the industry

while nurturing talent and imparting knowledge to future generations. Her passion for adopting Agile WOW (Agile Way of Working) has led to innovative and efficient practices across industries.

Buvna's academic achievements complement her practical expertise, creating a unique blend of skills that have shaped her transformative journey. She embodies the true spirit of innovation and service, emerging as a driving force in our ever-evolving industry. Her unwavering and enduring dedication serves as a testament to the transformative power of passion and purpose. Buvna is a remarkable leader who has made a significant impact on digital inclusion and corporate transformation, making her a deserving candidate for recognition and the Woman Entrepreneur Award.

The Finalists

NAWEM *Women Entrepreneurs Award 2023*



Rohanna Ramli

RHR Hospitality
Sdn Bhd

Rohanna Ramli as she is fondly known is the Managing Director / CEO of the RHR Group. She received her training in Hotel Management at the Career Development Institute Queen Elizabeth Hilton in Montreal, Canada. In 1975, with a 13-year stint at Hilton International Hotel. She then joined the Pan Pacific Hotel in Kuala Lumpur as the Director of Sales and Marketing and was one of the pioneers in the pre-opening stage of the Hotel. Subsequently, she was promoted to the position of National Director of Marketing for Pan Pacific Hotels and Resorts Malaysia's Central Marketing Office, having to market and expand the Pan Pacific Hotels in Malaysia.

In 1995 Rohanna Ramli joined RHR Hospitality and in the same year, she was appointed as a Member of the Tourism

Board by the Minister of Culture, Arts & Tourism for a period of 2 terms. With over 40 years in the Hospitality and Tourism Industry Rohana brings with her a wealth of experience and an excellent track record.

Our Unique Selling Point is our Human Capital, whereby we have numerous staff members who are loyal and dedicated and who have been with us for over 15 years. This is due to our focus on Training and Development as well as treating the Employees like our Family and Caring for them is our priority.

As an innovation, Jointly with Bank Negara Malaysia, we distributed our Buffet Leftover food to the Soup Kitchen by 6.00 pm daily. This program lasted for 2 years.



**Sabrina
Tang Suat Boey**
Sweatspa®

Sabrina Tang, the visionary founder of Sweatspa® Infrared Sauna Therapy, is a trailblazing entrepreneur who has redefined relaxation and holistic well-being. With a profound background in health and an unrelenting passion for innovation, Sabrina embarked on a mission to revolutionize the world of wellness.

Sweatspa® Infrared Sauna Therapy stands as a testament to Sabrina's commitment to holistic wellness. Her vision was to create a sanctuary where individuals could experience the transformative benefits of infrared heat. Sweatspa® sets itself apart by harnessing the power of innovative technology, penetrating the body's core to promote deeper relaxation and more effective detoxification compared to traditional saunas.

Sabrina's dedication ensures that everyone can partake in the journey towards well-being. The brand's inclusive approach has opened doors for individuals from all

walks of life to experience the profound benefits of infrared sauna therapy.

Sabrina's ingenious fusion of tradition and technology has elevated Sweatspa® to new heights. While honoring the ancient practice of sauna therapy, she has harnessed the power of infrared technology, offering a wellness experience that is effective, enjoyable, and accessible to a diverse range of individuals.

In recognition of her pioneering efforts in the wellness industry, Sabrina Tang is a deserving candidate for the Woman Entrepreneur Award. Her vision, dedication, and commitment to accessible wellness have not only transformed the lives of countless individuals but have also empowered others to embark on their journeys towards holistic well-being. Sabrina Tang is an inspiration, a visionary, and a true trailblazer in the field of wellness entrepreneurship.



Sharala Axryd
CADS

Sharala Axryd stands as an exemplary leader, the driving force behind ASEAN's groundbreaking data-driven transformation and skills intelligence platform, CADS. Her passion for data science and unwavering dedication to catalyzing transformative change have made her a prominent figure in the region since 2015.

Sharala's illustrious journey has been punctuated by numerous accolades and awards, firmly establishing her as a leader in her field. She has been recognized as one of the Strong Women in IT in 2021, earned the prestigious SEBA 2018 Woman Technopreneur of the Year title, and was celebrated as the 2017 EY Woman Entrepreneur Of The Year in Malaysia.

Notably, Sharala holds esteemed positions as a member of Digital News Asia's Digerati 50 and has played a pivotal role in bringing The Data Incubator (USA) to Malaysia. Her visionary leadership

extends to the realm of education, where she launched ASEAN's first data science accelerator program in 2016, setting the stage for future innovators in the field.

Moreover, Sharala's impact resonates globally, as she has led collaborations with renowned institutions, including Boston's Harvard Business School, furthering Malaysia's position as a hub for Big Data Analytics in the region. Her latest accolade is being recognized as a Cool Vendor in the August 2023 report titled, "Cool Vendors in Data and Analytics Programs and Practices by Gartner.

Sharala Axryd's journey is a testament to her relentless pursuit of excellence, her dedication to innovation, and her profound impact on the world of data science and technology. We celebrate her as a true luminary in her field.



**Vivian
Tan Nai Huang**
Wellness Concept (M)
Sdn Bhd

Vivian, originally from Penang, possesses a strong educational foundation, having attended the prestigious Penang Chinese Girl High School and later becoming a certified accountant with ACCA. During her early career, Vivian worked as an Accountant at both Berjaya Group Berhad and Low Yat Group Berhad from 1995 to 1998, gaining valuable experience in financial management. Her commitment to promoting health and wellness led her to serve as an Ambassador for Barleygreen from 1999 to 2002, where she advocated for the benefits of natural nutrition.

In 2003, Vivian embarked on her entrepreneurial journey by founding Wellness Concept (M) Sdn Bhd, a holistic health company that has been serving the community for nearly two decades.

Recognizing the importance of expanding her reach, she also established Wellness Group in 2005, further solidifying her commitment to holistic well-being.

With a clear vision in mind, Vivian's

companies provide an array of services, including Nutritional Consultation, Customized Wellness Programs for Corporates, and Online Wellness Webinars and Workshops.

In addition to services, her businesses offer a range of products such as Organic Nutrition Supplements, Natural Skincare Solutions, and cutting-edge Hydrogen Alkaline Water Machines and Devices.

Vivian's vision for the future is ambitious yet clear: to become the leading holistic wellness company in Asia, striving for better health and well-being.

What sets her businesses apart is their 20 years of specialized experience in the health and wellness niche, supported by a team of Certified Nutritionists who ensure top-notch customer service, and a holistic wellness approach that encompasses the physical, mental, and nutritional facets of health.



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2023



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