

**INDIA'S NATIONAL
BUSINESS CHAMBER
FOR WOMEN**

WICCI

Women's Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (WICCI)

**Global Impact & Empowerment for
Women Entrepreneurs, Businesses
and Professionals.**

www.wicci.in



About WICCI

Women's Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (WICCI) has been established based on our experience of ALL Ladies League (**ALL**) and Women Economic Forum (**WEF**), wherein women entrepreneurs have greatly benefitted with women's networking, exchange and collaborations.

As a National Business Chamber for Women, WICCI further strengthens women's entrepreneurship and boosts businesses through greater engagement with government, institutions and global trade.

WICCI enables fundamental changes in governmental policies, laws and incentives with a view to robustly encourage and empower women in business, industry and commerce across all sectors.

As a Nation, India is envisaging a 5 trillion USD economy. This can easily be achieved and exceeded by the active inclusion of women entrepreneurs, businesses and professionals in all walks of life: **by empowering our influence on decision-making**

WICCI Councils

WICCI and its manifold sectoral and multisectoral Councils at **International, National, Regional, State, City** levels suggest from time to time concrete steps and recommendations to relevant government authorities and institutions to effect policy changes and empower women-owned businesses to become more competitive.

The Councils representing 150+ Sectors develop different areas of focus to mainstream women's voices and uphold women's interest in policy making at multiple levels.

The Councils connect women-to-women businesses across India and Internationally, boosting business-to-business interaction and economic activity.

Councils are flexibly structured, enabling them to work with diversity of individuals and organisations. They can cooperate with corporates and governments (via grants and funding from them), for conducting important research studies, support skill development, deliver mentorship programs et al.

Councils hold programs with experts especially around how to: raise funds, structure businesses, increase market share, drive sales, and improve branding.

Councils across India/Internationally collaborate with one another in mutual exchange and shared goals.

COUNCILS & OFFICE BEARERS

WICCI has a powerful network of 250,000 women globally in 120 countries, including 60,000 in India.

With a massive outlay of 7000+ office bearers across 150+ sectors across India and Internationally, each Office Bearer represents the voice of 100,000 women: a great responsibility and rare opportunity to lead and shape a more inclusive future for All.

The office bearers hold honorary positions as Presidents, Vice Presidents, and Council Members in the **following categories of councils**: (details on website)

- **Bilateral Business Councils** in different countries based both in that country and India;
 - **National Sector Councils** in 150+ sectors;
 - **Regional Councils** that coordinate (4 for Eastern/Western/Southern/Northern India);
 - **State/UT Councils** that coordinate (36 in the 36 States/UTs);
 - **State/UT Sector Councils** in 150+ sectors;
 - **City Councils (not sector specific)** for grassroots endeavours/engaging with city administrations;
- apex **National Council** with ex-officio presidential representation of all the councils, and including nominated industry members and others.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

WICCI Organisational Structure is as below.

A) National Council:

The apex National Council comprises: National President along with ex-officio members viz. Regional Presidents and Regional Vice Presidents of the 4 regional councils (Northern, Southern, Eastern & Western), National Presidents & National Vice-Presidents of the National Sector Councils, State Presidents & State Vice-Presidents of the State/UT Sector Councils, State Presidents & State Vice Presidents of the State Councils, Presidents & Vice Presidents of the Bilateral Business Councils, City Presidents and City Vice Presidents; Director General, WICCI will be the Member Secretary, Founder President of WICCI and Past National Presidents will be permanent members.

B) Regional Councils (Northern, Southern, Eastern, Western):

Each of the 4 Regional Councils shall comprise: President, Vice-President, 20 nominated Council Members. The Presidents & Vice Presidents of all the State/UT Sector Councils and all the State/UT Councils in the respective regions will be ex-officio members of the corresponding regional council. The Eastern Region consists of: Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Odisha, Sikkim, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland. The Western Region consists of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Goa, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu. The Northern Region consists of: Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Chandigarh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh. The Southern Region consists of: Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Telangana, Kerala, Puducherry, Lakshadweep, Andaman & Nicobar.

Regional Councils are Coordinating Councils and not sector specific.

C) National Sector Councils:

Each of the National Sector Councils shall comprise: President, Vice-President, and 20 nominated Council Members for each of the designated sectors. The Presidents and Vice-Presidents of each of the State/UT Sector Councils and the State/UT Councils will be ex-officio members of this council.

National Sector Councils are Sector Specific.

D) State Councils & Union Territory (UT) Councils:

Each of the State/UT Councils will comprise: President, Vice-President, 20 nominated Council Members. The President & Vice-Presidents of the State Sector Councils in that State will be ex-officio members. The President & Vice Presidents of the City Councils in that State will also be ex-officio members.

State/UT Councils are Coordinating Councils and not sector specific.

E) State/UT Sector Councils:

Each of the State/UT Sector Councils shall comprise: President, Vice-President, plus 20 nominated Council Members, for councils in each of the designated sectors.

State/UT Sector Councils are Sector Specific.

F) City Councils:

Each of the City Councils shall comprise: President, Vice-President, plus 20 nominated Council Members from select cities/towns/villages of India.

City Councils are not sector specific, but rather cross-sectoral. In addition to business development, they can develop grassroots endeavours and work in alignment with local administration.

G) Bilateral Business Councils:

Each of the Bilateral Business Councils will comprise: President, Vice-President, plus 20 nominated Council Members. There will be counterpart councils in both countries for developing exchange.

Bilateral Business Councils develop business opportunities for their members globally. They are not sector specific, but rather cross-sectoral.

President of a Council

The key role and responsibility of the President of a Council is to constitute and build a robust team comprising a Vice President and minimum 20 WOMEN as Council members. You can have more than 20 as well. Members should be from related region/sector of the Council and largely from business and industry. Youth and Interns are welcome in addition.

TOGETHER, ALL WILL tap into diverse team strengths, leverage respective networks and drive goals with participatory/distributed leadership with a spirit of sisterhood.

While Men are Not Members in Councils, we welcome you to engage with He-for-She Champions as honorary advisors/external partners toward strengthening our mandate.

Council Workings include:

- collaborate with government bodies, ministries, chambers, universities and non-profits.
 - make suitable representations and recommendations for any incentives, concessions, policy, legislative and structural changes.
- organise delegations and exchange with public platforms, industry forums, and other business chambers.
- work with corporates/government for studies & projects with grants and funding from them. (All the various councils in India and abroad find their own funds and do what is possible within those.)
 - self-determine agenda in local context & serve members' interests.
 - Schedule Weekly/Monthly Council Meetings.
 - Plan Annual Calendar of Meetings/Roundtables/Actions/Events.
- Sign MOUs of general cooperation with Chambers, Ministries, Corporates CSR etc.(draft MOU of general cooperation is available with the Secretariat)
 - Publish/Voice Council recommendations in the Media.
- Drive Business-to-Business Connections with Women Worldwide via 500+ National/State/City Councils of WICCI across 150+ Sectors in India and Bilateral Business Councils in 90+ countries.
- Be Active on Social Media: Follow WICCI main pages, make your Council specific page, and share actively about Members and Events.
- Sample Council Activities (Online/Offline)include: Conferences, Training, Consulting, Reports & Publications, Trade Fairs/Expos, Annual Business Forums, (Bilateral/Sectoral), Webinars, Hackathons, Business Networking, Press & Publicity.

CODE OF CONDUCT

- 1) To do all acts for the improvement of the business environment and socio-economic ecosystem for women and help them expand and grow in a true She-for-She spirit of sisterhood and bonding; and not to bring into any of our acts, any elements of religion, dogma, politics or negativity.
- 2) WICCI Councils do not interfere nor make any statement on matters of geo-political nature, and leave it to the wisdom of diplomatic and government channels.
- 3) WICCI Councils do not interfere nor make any recommendations for issuance of visas, and leave it to the wisdom and policies of respective governments and immigration authorities.
- 4) We have a One Person - One Post Policy. Kindly make sure you/ council members are not part of any other WICCI Councils.
 - 5) In case you are including family/relatives/members from same organisation in a Council, it requires prior declaration and Secretariat approval.
 - 6) Councils cannot support or endorse the awards of another organisation.
- 7) Councils cannot issue awards in the name of WICCI. (Policy for WICCI Awards will be available soon.)
 - 8) Councils cannot fundraise for another organisation.
- 9) When helping underserved communities with their livelihood creation activities/trade fairs, then all proceeds should go directly to them.
- 10) Social media sharing should be done from the respective WICCI Council handle. Wherever the WICCI logo is used in any graphic/content, it should carry with it the name of the specific council. WICCI logo must be placed prominently. Logos of external event associates or sponsors (where applicable) should be placed separately in smaller size or in the footer section.
- 11) Use of personal company logos of Office Bearers is not encouraged unless their company is supporting a particular event by way of sponsorship or as knowledge associates. Prior to any such association, please consider: is the association serving the council mandate - are the members' /women benefitting - is the associate partner also working in a non-profit spirit - what is the quid pro quo for the WICCI council - among others.
- 12) Admins/Passwords of Council pages on social media or any websites set up should be shared with WICCI Secretariat and also seamlessly transferred to incoming Council Presidents.
- 13) Proposed Council projects for any programs/studies proposed to be conducted, and funded by government/corporates, need to be vetted and approved by the Secretariat. (Such projects can only be in the nature of skilling/mentoring/advisory/conducting studies for policy suggestions for women.)
 - 14) Recommendations and Representations to Government/authorities must only sent by the Council President. In this dossier, the Council President should enclose About WICCI, respective Council endeavours, along with the full list and profiles of council members sharing their overall experience and knowledge. This comprehensive representation will then have more context and weightage.
- 15) Any interpersonal issues of a council/ members must be resolved internally and amicably among the Office Bearers. We have zero tolerance for defamatory/disputatious content/communication. We stand for sisterhood with a culture of positive energy and exchange.
- 16) In case of violation of code of conduct, office bearers may be removed/replaced, and/or are at liberty to resign from the nominated roles.

SUPPORTED BY

WICCI is supported by the massive women's global networks of ALL Ladies League (ALL), Women Economic Forum (WEF), and SHEconomy.



SHECONOMY

ALL is a movement of 'Sisters Beyond Borders.'

WEF is a conference platform for 'Business Beyond Borders.'

SHEconomy is a free community platform for 'Commerce Beyond Borders.' For women worldwide in both Goods & Services.

www.aall.in

www.wef.org.in

www.sheconomy.in

WOMEN ECONOMIC FORUM

Worldwide Web of 250,000 Women in Mutual Support and Business Exchange in 120 countries

40 Global Editions in 25+ countries (2015-2020)

COUNCIL FAQs

1. In Bilateral Business Councils, with which government do we work with?

You can reach out to governments in both countries with specific asks.

2. Is this specifically policy-focused work?

Policy-focus is a major aim. Additionally, you can set your agenda based on local contexts and members' interests especially for business-to-business networking.

3. Who are the Councils reporting to?

Councils are flexibly structured with great empowerment for self-determination. All Councils are led by Council Presidents and connected to the coordinating hub of the WICCI Secretariat/Headquarters.

4. Are there specific guidelines on Council Workings?

Yes. See sections on Role of President Council Workings, Code of Conduct.

5. What is the process of Council Formation?

Follow the given process of setting up a Council (wherein Council President nominates and invites VP and minimum 20 women leaders as Council Members). With participatory leadership and inputs from all, council evolves its own unique roadmap for sector-specific strategies and actionable agenda/annual calendar.

6. Is WICCI a governmental or non-governmental organisation?

It is registered as a public charitable trust in India (NGO).

7. Where would funding for the council's activities come from?

Unlike other associations, which charge hefty membership fee, WICCI does not charge any of its members. Therefore, it expects each council to fund its own activities via its members or their companies. This is in line with its entire concept of distributed leadership. Expenses of the WICCI Secretariat and the headquarters are funded by the Founder President.

8. Do all activities of the council need to be 'not for profit'?

Yes, Not-for-profit. If you have a surplus, it is to be used for general good of society.

9. Are all activities supposed to be business and trade oriented?

Yes. Activities viz. mentoring and training are also part of business-oriented activities.

10. Can the Councils Abroad be registered/incorporated locally?

Councils are informal groups under our parent NGO in India. *Councils in India can neither be registered locally, nor can they open or operate any bank accounts. The central account at the secretariat functions as the nodal point for any external project based funding to be received/dispensed on behalf of the council.*

However for Bilateral Business Councils based Abroad, these can be registered in the respective country as an NGO and Non-profit entity to receive and spend local funds/sponsorships in pursuance of the WICCI bilateral business council mandate. WICCI Secretariat will need to issue a 'No Objection' for using the word WICCI in your locally registered Council entity name. Please note that in this case, this registered council will be fully liable and responsible for local compliances, rules and regulations.

Countries Represented

Albania, Angola, Armenia, Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, Ghana, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hong Kong, Hungary, Italy, Israel, Ireland, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Malta, Netherlands, Nigeria, Nepal, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Paraguay, Portugal, Peru, Puerto Rico, Philippines, Qatar, Romania, Russia, Rwanda, Serbia, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, South Africa, South Korea, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, UK, Uruguay, Venezuela, Vietnam, Virgin Islands (US), UAE, USA, Uzbekistan, Zimbabwe

National & State Councils in 150+ Sectors

Advertising Council, Aerospace Council, Agri Commodities Council, Agriculture Council, Angel Investment Council, Anti-Corruption Council, Anti-Domestic Abuse Council, Anti-Sexual Harassment Council, Architecture Council, Artificial Intelligence Council, Arts Leadership Council, Asset Management Council, Automobiles Council, Aviation Council, Ayurveda Council, Ayush Council, Banking & Credit Council, Biotechnology Council, Brand Creation & Marketing Council, Business for Peace Council, Capital Markets Council, Child & Elder Council, Child Care Council, Coaching Council, Commodities Council, Construction Council, Consultancy Council, Corporate Communication & Advocacy Council, Corporate Governance Council, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Council, Corporate Workplace Council, Culture & Heritage Council, Culture & Tourism Council, Cybersecurity Council, Defence Forces Council, Defence Personnel Council, Design Council, Digital Consultancy Council, Digital Design Council, Digital Media Council, Diversity & Inclusion Council, Drugs Control Council, 3D Printing Council, Eco Packaging Council, E-Commerce Council, Education Policy Council, Elementary Education Council, Entertainment Media Council, Entrepreneurship Council, Environment & Reforestation Council, Ethics Council, Exports Council, External Affairs Council, Farming Council, Fashion Council, Films Council, Food & Nutrition Council, Food Processing Council, Funding Advisory Council, Green Fuels Council, GST Council, Handicraft Council, Handloom Council, Health & Fitness Council, Healthcare Council, Higher Education Council, Holistic Wellness & Resorts, Home & Security Council, Homepreneurs Council, Hospitality & Tourism Council, Hotels & Restaurants Council, Human Resource Council, Human Rights Council, Human Values Council, Information & Broadcasting Council, Information Technology Council, Innovation Council, Innovative Energy Council, Insurance Council, Intellectual Property Council, Interiors & Home Furnishing Council, IT Services Council, Jails Reform Council, Judicial Reforms Council, Legal Awareness Council, Life Skills Council, Lifestyle & Fitness Council, Luxury Council, Manufacturing Council, Marketing Council, Media & Communication Council, Mediation & Dispute Resolution Council, Medical Tourism Council, Mental Health Council, Mentoring & Soft Skills Council, Mergers & Acquisitions Council, Microfinance & Rural Credit Council, Mines Council, Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFC) Council, Non-Profit NGOs Council, NRIs Council, Organic Farming Council, Organisational Human Resources, Parity in Defence Council, Parity in Pay Council, Parity in Politics Council, Parity on Boards Council, Pharmaceuticals Council, Police Reform Council, Precious Metals Council, Print Media Council, Public Relations & Digital Marketing Council, Public Safety & Security Council, Public Service Council, Publishing Council, Railways Council, Real Estate Council, Renewable Energy Council, Retail & Trade Council, Roads & Highways Council, Rural Financial Inclusion Council, Rural Tourism Council, Sanitation & Hygiene Council, Science & Technology Council, Skill Development Council, Smart Cities Council, SME & MSME Council, Social Media Council, Social Service Council, Spa & Resorts Council, Special Needs Council, Spirituality Council, Sports and Recreation Council, Start Up Council, Steel Council, STEM Education Council, Sustainable Businesses Council, Taxation Council, Television Council, Textile Council, Tobacco Control Council, Travel and Tourism Council, Trade & Commerce Council, Training & Development Council, Transport Council, Tribal Nature Medicine Council, Tribal Welfare & Entrepreneurship Council, Vedic Education & Values Council, Waste-to-Energy Council, Water Resources Council, Water Ways Council, Wellness & Wellbeing Council, Yoga Council.

SHEconomy

Join our FREE E-Commerce platform SHEconomy. Create instantaneously your FREE website/webstore. Upload your goods and services. Grow your business globally.

Email: Sellers@sheconomy.in

Zero Fee. Zero Commissions.

www.SHEconomy.in

Join our **Group on Facebook**

To connect to 20K women worldwide, join

<https://m.facebook.com/groups/2348126312126503?ref=share>

For specific details on Doing Business in India, visit: www.investindia.gov.in

Connect

Facebook: @wicciindia

Twitter: @wicciindia

LinkedIn: @wicciin

Instagram: @wicci_india

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WICCI is a public charitable trust (NGO) registered in India.