



Women and girls of Australia —Photos courtesy of Tourism Australia and Descendance

ENDING POVERTY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS THROUGH ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

The Australian UN Women's theme for International Women's Day 2014 is Ending Poverty for Women and Girls through Economic Empowerment.

On 4 March the Hon Julie Bishop MP, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Senator the Hon Michaelia Cash, Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women, put out a joint media release advising that "the Australian Government is marking International Women's Day with a focus on our efforts and progress towards gender equality for women and girls around the world."

"Empowering women is one of the best ways to promote economic development and growth, and to achieve peace and security. This is why around half of Australia's aid budget is spent on initiatives, policies and programs that have at their heart a significant focus on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls."

To read the full release click [here](#)

AUSTRALIA'S TOP 30 FEMALE ENTREPRENEURS

As we mark International Women's Day, SmartCompany has compiled its annual list of Australia's Top 30 Female Entrepreneurs.

Each year, we celebrate the Australian female business owners who have been exemplary in their industries, are trailblazers and demonstrate inspiring and aspiring business journeys. This year the list generated a combined revenue of \$6.127 billion.

Read more: <http://www.smartcompany.com.au/leadership/35921-australia-s-top-30-female-entrepreneurs-2014.html#>

AUSTRALIAN MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, JULIE BISHOP

The empowerment of women and girls is one of the most effective ways to achieve higher economic growth and better living standards among the millions of people in developing countries in our region.

Read the Minister's full article:

www.croatia.embassy.gov.au



**International
Women's Day**



Wine Glass Bay Tasmania—Photo courtesy of Tourism Australia

DID YOU KNOW?

- ◇ 70 per cent of the world's poorest people are women
- ◇ Women perform 2/3 of the world's work, yet they earn less than 10 per cent of the world's wages
- ◇ Women produce half the world's food but own only one per cent of its farmland
- ◇ Women are far more likely than men to live in poverty because of discrimination and lack of access to education, employment and financial services.

Read more: <http://www.care.org.au/international-womens-day>

WOMEN IN GLOBAL BUSINESS

Women in Global Business is a joint Australian, State and Territory Governments initiative

Businesses owned and operated by women are one of the fastest growing business segments. This national program supports more businesswomen to take their products and services to the world.

The Women in Global Business program aims to increase female participation in international trade and deliver greater economic benefit and job creation. To women in business it offers a central source of information and resources, support and connection.

Read more click the
Women At Work sign:



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