



Women in the Suame Trust Group in Ghana gather each week to repay their Opportunity loans and receive training on such topics as business management, leadership skills and social development.

# WON



WOMEN'S OPPORTUNITY NETWORK

The Women's Opportunity Network (WON) is a dynamic network of women supporters and staff committed to helping Opportunity International reduce poverty in the developing world. WON's mission is to invest in the lives of women around the world, giving them access to financial services and training that transform their lives, their children's lives and their communities.

## Why Women?

- > Women represent 70 percent of those living on less than \$2 a day.
- > Women suffer inequitably from the chronic effects of poor nutrition, insufficient healthcare and limited educational opportunity.
- > Women do 66 percent of the world's work and receive only 10 percent of the pay.
- > Women spend 90 percent of their income on their families, while men typically spend only 35 percent.
- > Women who contribute to family finances have greater decision-making power, resulting in better nutrition, health and education for their children. When family needs are met, women are more likely to invest in their communities.

## Why Opportunity?

Opportunity's innovative microfinance programs and unique banking model have helped millions of women living in poverty create or grow small businesses — from market shops to private schools. In addition to loans, Opportunity offers:

- interest-bearing savings accounts that give clients a secure place to save and grow earnings
- training that helps women build successful businesses and develop as community leaders
- affordable insurance that keeps families healthier and provides a safety net

## Why WON?

WON connects mothers, daughters and sisters who are working their way out of poverty with women around the world who want to make a difference. Current areas of focus include:

- UGANDA FUND — supports the expansion of Opportunity banking services to Ugandan women, including those in rural areas
- BANKING ON EDUCATION CAMPAIGN — provides loans to entrepreneurs to expand neighborhood schools for children living in poverty
- ONE HEN OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM — brings the lessons of microfinance to life in U.S. classrooms

To join the WON movement, contact Ruth-Anne Renaud, Vice President, Women's Philanthropy, at [won@opportunity.org](mailto:won@opportunity.org).

To learn more, visit [opportunity.org](http://opportunity.org)

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