

## **Feedback - WEPS national event in Paris, France (Dec 7th)**

Dear Freda,

We are pleased to give you a short feedback regarding **our national event on December 7 to promote the WEPS** and 2 pictures attached :

--> **80 representants from small and big companies** have attended the WEPS conference organized by BPW France on Dec. 7, at Bouygues headquarters in Paris.

--> **UN Global Compact French Coordinator** Mr Konrad Eckenschwiller and **UN Women French Coordination Representant** (in progress for being created) Ms Pascale Braque were there to support these 7 Principles.

--> Three international large companies have presented how inclusive business practices drive change towards realizing the WEPS : **Alcatel Lucent, PPR Group and CapGemini**.

--> **Five panelists** have share with the audience their views regarding WEPS and how the gender equality can be achieved in the workplace : Medef (member of OIE), Laboratoire de l'Egalité (Olga Trostiansky), Observatoire de la Responsabilité Sociale des Entreprises, Observatoire de la Parentalité en Entreprise, Le Défenseur des Droits.

### **Key Learnings :**

- The panel discussion highlighted the increasing importance of gender diversity & inclusion for a sustainable economic development.

- Corporations are more and more focusing on an international approach, and try to involve men also. The issue of unconscious biases and stereotypes and work/life balance remain key challenges : innovative partnerships with the communities and the public sector are part of the solution.

- So far, 3 new companies have decided to sign up the WEPS including a small one (200 employees; €80M Turnover). We will gather the new signed CEO Statement of Support than send them to UN-WEPS major point of contact.

However, it is difficult to measure the ROI, since some companies willing to sign may do it outside of France, considering that their headquarters may be in other countries. Nevertheless, we have asked them to keep us posted and we are convinced that this event has raised awareness of the WEPS.

**Odile Gibier-Rambaud** ([odile.rambaud@gmail.com](mailto:odile.rambaud@gmail.com)) has coordinated this successful event with 6 other active BPW members.

Best regards,  
Karin