



# Retracing and Rebuilding the Silk Roads: Opportunities for Women

**Dr. JENNY LIND ELMACO**

Secretary-General, Association of Christian Universities and Colleges in Asia

Marie Curie Country Representative, Philippines



# BIGGER OPPORTUNITIES

"It is a very sad thing that nowadays there is so little useless information." – Oscar Wilde<sup>1</sup>

DATA, DATA, EVERYWHERE

**1 BILLION GB**  
**= 1 EXABYTE**



**2.5**  
EXABYTES  
*are created every day!*<sup>2</sup>



**THAT NUMBER**  
**DOUBLES EVERY MONTH**



**90%**

of the world's data was  
created in the last **two years**<sup>3</sup>

# From humanity's history to Angry Birds

An example of  
Exponential Growth...  
5 Exobytes = 5 Billion  
Gigabytes  
From the start of  
time ~ 2003  
in 2010 ~ 2 Days  
in 2013 ~ 10 minutes



George Bray  
@GeorgeBray



Your mobile phone has more computing power than all of NASA in 1969. NASA launched a man to the moon. We launch a bird into pigs.

50+  
RETWEETS

50+  
FAVORITES



4:12 PM - 22 Mar 11 via web · Embed this Tweet

[Reply](#) [Retweet](#) [★ Favorited](#)



We live in a **VUCA** World  
Volatile. Uncertain. **C**omplex. **A**mbiguous.

Convergence vs. Divergence

Interconnected. Interdependent. Interrelated.

# GENDER EQUALITY: WHERE ARE WE TODAY?

## POLITICS

The percentage of women in parliament **has doubled** in the last 20 years.



But this only translates into **around 23%** of women in parliament today.



## CONFLICT

In 2000, the pioneering UN Security Council resolution 1325 recognized that war impacts women **differently** and stressed the need to increase women's participation in peace talks.



But from 1992 to 2011 **only 9%** of negotiators at peace tables were women.



## WAGES

**Around 49%** of the world's working age women are in the labour force, compared to over 75% of working age men.



And globally women earn **23% less** than men.



\* Age 15 or over

## VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

In 1993, the UN General Assembly **Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women** provided a framework for action on the pandemic.



But more than 20 years later, **1 in 3 women** still experience physical or sexual violence, mostly by an intimate partner.



## SENIOR MANAGEMENT

**24 women** CEOs



But this is only **5%** of all CEOs



## MAPPING THE BELT AND ROAD INITIATIVE'S PROGRESS



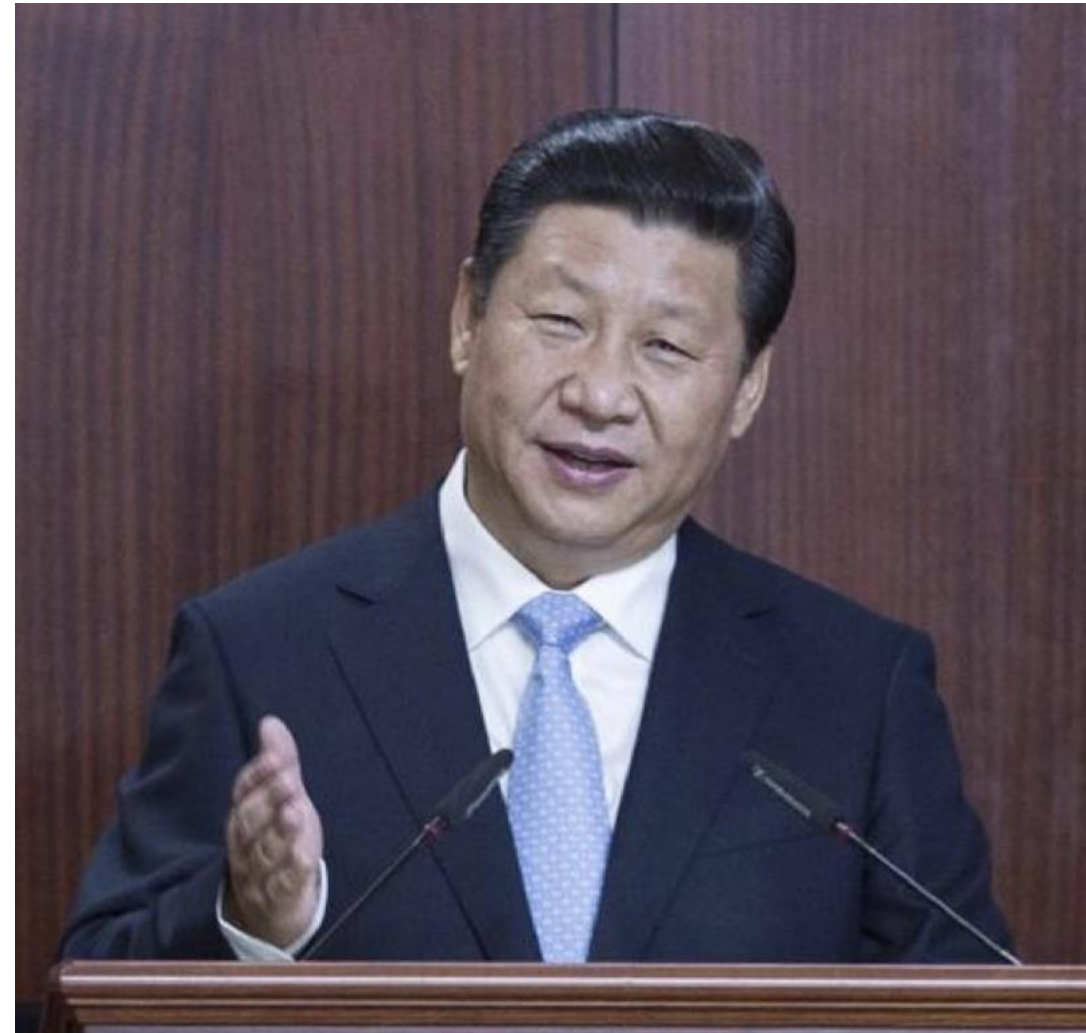
- Belt: Silk Road Economic Belt (Overland silk roads)
- Road: 21st Century Maritime Silk Road
- The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is an ambitious effort to improve regional cooperation and connectivity on a trans-continental scale.
- The initiative aims to strengthen infrastructure, trade, and investment links between China and some 65 other countries that account collectively for over 30 percent of global GDP, 62 percent of population, and 75 percent of known energy reserves.

The Belt and Road Initiative  
One Belt, One Road



# Belt and Road Initiative proposed by President Xi Jinping of China

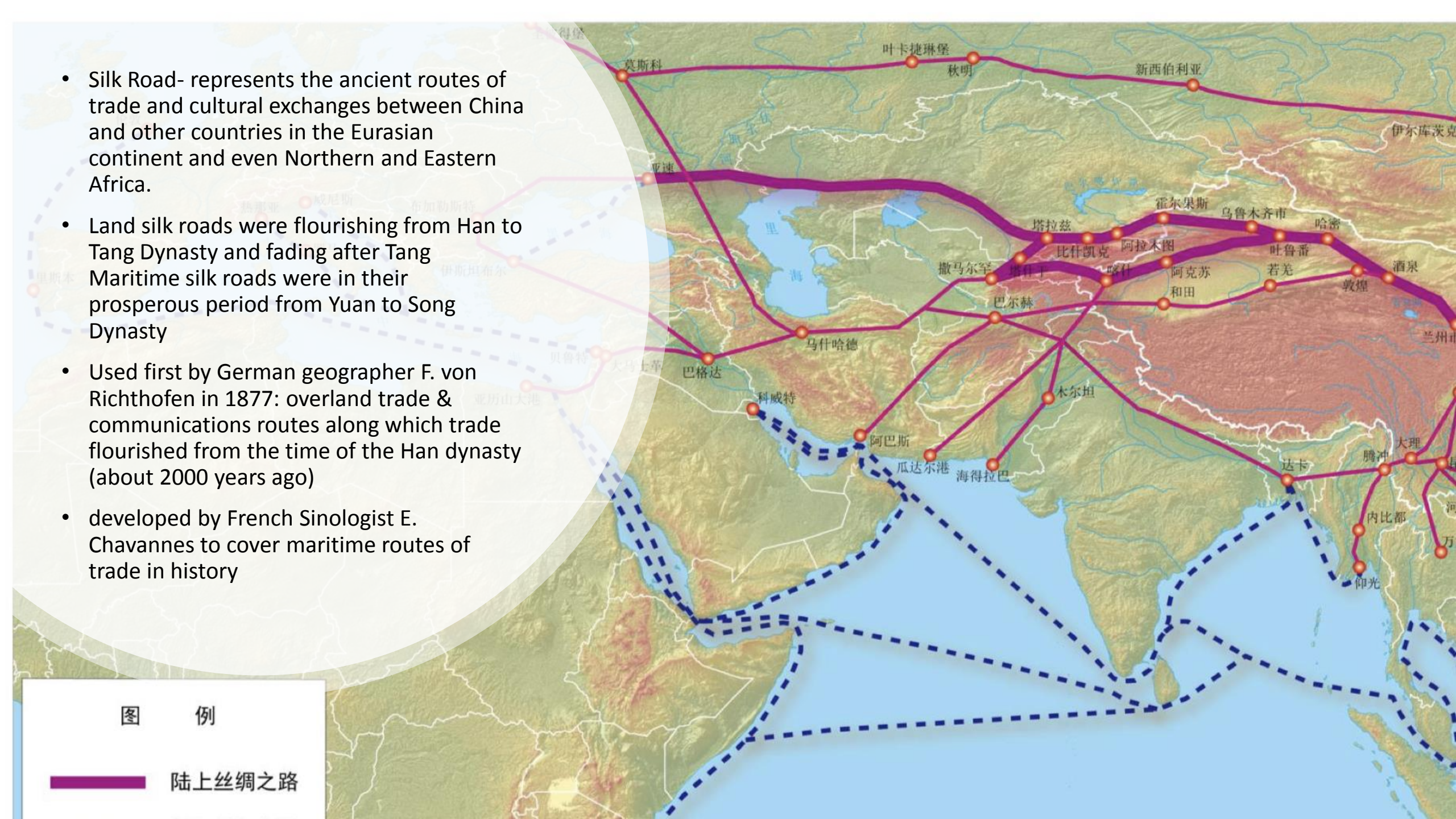
- Jointly building Silk Road Economic Belt with Central Asian countries- (2013, Kazakhstan)
- Jointly building the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road with ASEAN countries (2013, Indonesia)



- Silk Road- represents the ancient routes of trade and cultural exchanges between China and other countries in the Eurasian continent and even Northern and Eastern Africa.
- Land silk roads were flourishing from Han to Tang Dynasty and fading after Tang  
Maritime silk roads were in their prosperous period from Yuan to Song Dynasty
- Used first by German geographer F. von Richthofen in 1877: overland trade & communications routes along which trade flourished from the time of the Han dynasty (about 2000 years ago)
- developed by French Sinologist E. Chavannes to cover maritime routes of trade in history

图 例

陆上丝绸之路



## Mapping the Belt and Road Initiative's progress



| Status                              | Project  | Cost                            |                                       |
|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Completed                           | HUNGARY<br>Huawei logistics center                                 | \$1.5bn                         |                                       |
|                                     | IRAN<br>Rudbar Lorestan hydropower dam                             | \$578m                          |                                       |
|                                     | KAZAKHSTAN<br>Khorgos dry port                                     | \$245m                          |                                       |
|                                     | PAKISTAN<br>Gwadar Port construction of breakwaters                | \$123m                          |                                       |
|                                     | SRI LANKA<br>Hambantota deep sea port Phase I, II                  | \$1.3bn                         |                                       |
|                                     | CAMBODIA<br>National Road No. 214, Stung Treng-Mekong River Bridge | \$117m                          |                                       |
|                                     | INDONESIA<br>Sumsel-5 power plant                                  | \$318m                          |                                       |
|                                     | NORTH KOREA<br>New Yalu Bridge                                     | \$350m                          |                                       |
|                                     | Under construction   | BANGLADESH<br>Payra power plant | \$1.65bn                              |
|                                     |  | LAOS<br>China-Laos railway      | \$5.8bn                               |
| Started                             |  | ISRAEL<br>Haifa Bay port        | \$1.16bn                              |
|                                     |  | Announced/under negotiation     | MONGOLIA<br>Tavan Tolgoi rail project |
| TURKEY<br>Third nuclear power plant | \$25bn   |                                 |                                       |
| Unknown                             | UKRAINE<br>Kiev metro's fourth line                                | \$1.3bn                         |                                       |

Source: CSIS Reconnecting Asia Project ([reconnectingasia.csis.org](http://reconnectingasia.csis.org))



The Dreams of Gwadar – the Next Dubai? Or a state within a state?

---

# Potential Problems and Current Concerns



a lack of participation by local workers and banks



unmanageable debt



From a report of the Center for Strategic and International Studies' Reconnecting Asia Project:



**Project delays** After initial fanfare, projects sometimes experience serious delays. In Indonesia, construction on a \$6 billion rail line is behind schedule and costs are escalating. Similar problems have plagued projects in Kazakhstan and Bangladesh.



**Ballooning deficits** Besides Pakistan, concerns about owing unmanageable debts to Beijing have been raised in Sri Lanka, the Maldives and Laos.



**Sovereignty concerns** In Sri Lanka, China's takeover of a troubled port has raised questions about a loss of sovereignty. And neighboring India openly rejects the BRI, saying China's projects with neighboring Pakistan infringe on its sovereignty.

# ONE BELT, ONE ROAD

- Silk Road: both a history of trade and a metaphor
- part of the trade and cultural history of all the major countries in the Eurasian continent and Africa, connecting multiple civilizations and facilitating religious, scientific, technological and cultural exchanges
- a common cultural heritage shared by many Eurasian countries
- a symbol of peace, friendship & win-win; a historical basis for better cooperation



# Belt and Road Initiative

- An overall proposal for promoting socio-economic cooperation among countries along the Belt and Road, MORE THAN just building roads, railways & port facilities, though a key part of BRI
- A core theme: peace, cooperation, development and win-win
- Five priorities of cooperation:
  - Policy coordination; facilities connectivity; free trade; financial cooperation; and people-to-people bond
- Three targets:
  - Building a community of shared interests, destiny and responsibility, which features economic integration and cultural inclusiveness

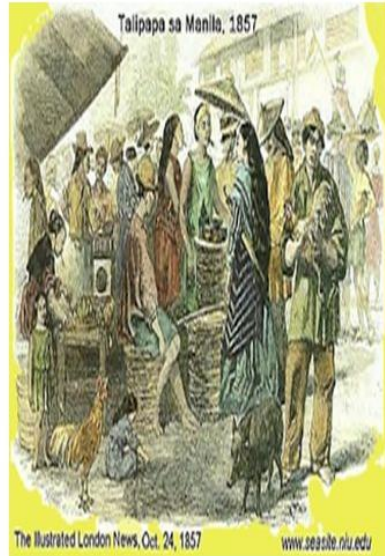




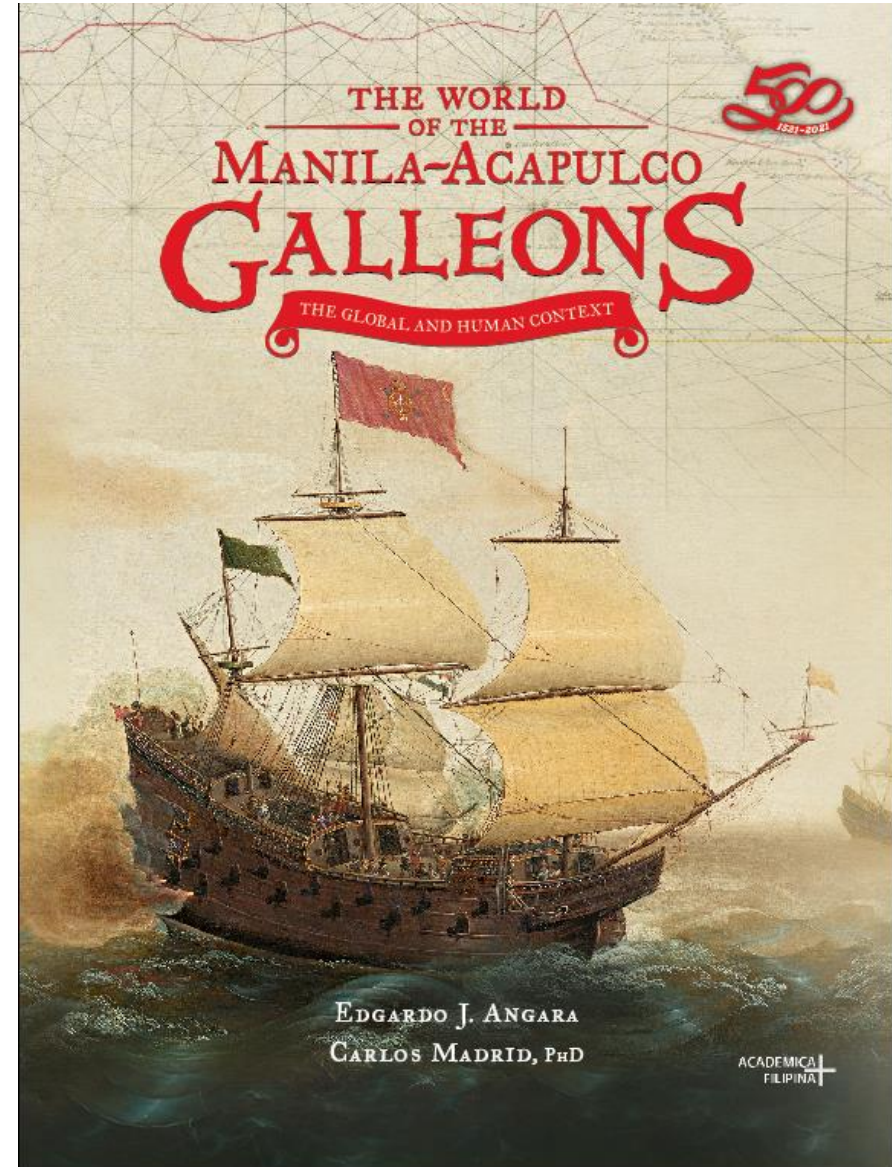
## La Nao de la China (The Other Silk Route)

- The China Galleon regularly sailed between Acapulco, and other Mexican ports, and Manila, in the Philippines, and today's Taiwan, China where it would load up on Chinese spices and silks, and other goods.
- Fabricio Antonio Fonseca, a researcher at the prestigious Colegio de Mexico, says the initial encounter between Mexico and China occurred when the galleon first sailed into a Mexican port. The discovery of new maritime routes linking Asia, the New World and Europe in the 15th and 16th centuries launched an era of unprecedented global trade and cultural exchange. Evidence even shows that starting in 1565, the return trips to Mexico were manned by Chinese crews.

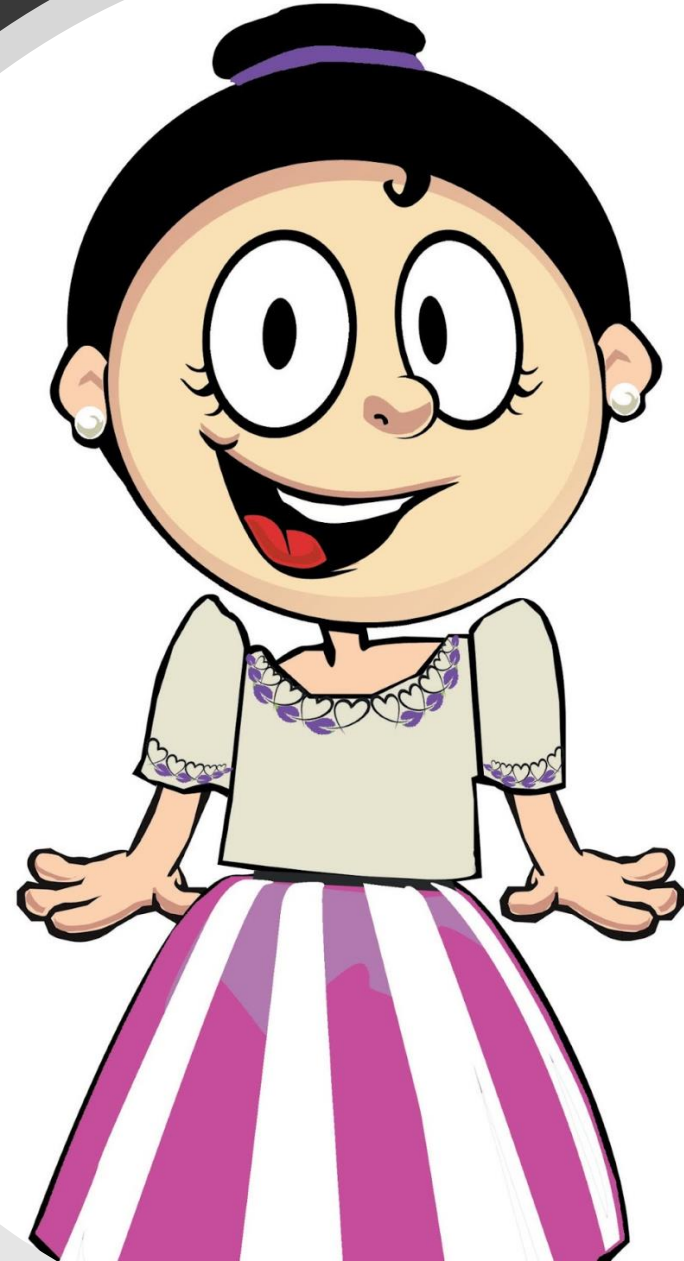




- The Manila-Acapulco Galleon Trade was the main source of income for the colony during its early years. Service was inaugurated in 1565 and continued into the early 19th century.
- The Galleon trade brought silver from New Spain and silk from China by way of Manila. This way, the Philippines earned its income through buy and sell - that is, they bought silk from China for resale to New Spain and then bought American silver for resale to China.



Filipina Entrepreneurs Navigating:  
Opportunities and Challenges to  
Women Running Businesses  
Along the Belt and Road



# Eve - volution



# DATA DIVAS

- Intuition
  - Good listening skills
  - Empathy and compassion
- 
- driving change and delivering value



## China, Philippines Agree to Upgrade Ties, Jointly Build Belt and Road

November 21, 2018

Editor: Liu Yang

  Share



# Main Questions



how does gender factor into the strategies, operations and impact of women-led enterprises in the Philippines with export operations along the Belt and Road Initiative?



What are the modes of women's engagement in the governance of enterprises with markets along the Belt and Road Initiative?

# Women and the Economy

**a positive correlation between gender equality and a country's level of competitiveness, its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita, and its rank in the Human Development Index – World Economic Forum**

**Women represent today's most powerful consumer group— making up a market whose growth potential is greater than that of China and India's combined.**

**the most important commercial opportunity in our lifetime – Boston Consulting Group**

**21 percent more likely than other firms to report above-average profitability - McKinsey**

**companies with three or more women on their executive committees scored higher on organisational health, on average, than companies with no women at this level - McKinsey**

Women leaders are **role models for other women**

•

Women add independent thinking to decision-making to yield **more innovative results**

•

An increase in women has been linked to a **group's effectiveness in solving difficult problems**

•

Gender-inclusive leadership is associated with **increased corporate social responsibility**

• © Catalyst 2013



## **BENEFITS TO EMPLOYEES AND TEAMS**

- Greater career satisfaction and commitment
- Increased perceptions of fairness
- Better relationships with managers and colleagues

## **BENEFITS TO ORGANIZATIONS**

- Reduced costs (e.g., absenteeism and turnover)
- Attracting top talent as an employer of choice
- Increased productivity, profitability, and engagement
- Tapping new markets and building customer loyalty

# WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT PRINCIPLES

**EQUALITY  
MEANS  
BUSINESS**



- 1** Establish high-level corporate leadership for gender equality.
- 2** Treat all women and men fairly at work – respect and support human rights and nondiscrimination.
- 3** Ensure the health, safety and well-being of all women and men workers.
- 4** Promote education, training and professional development for women.
- 5** Implement enterprise development, supply chain and marketing practices that empower women.
- 6** Promote equality through community initiatives and advocacy.
- 7** Measure and publicly report on progress to achieve gender equality.



United Nations Global Compact



## Female business leaders



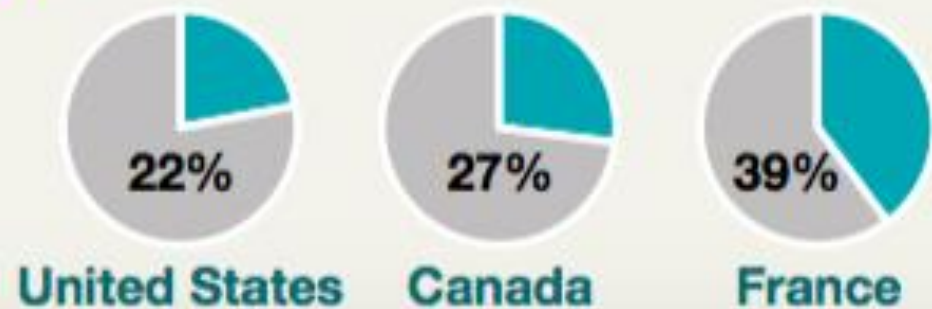
Women's representation in leadership has improved, but there is still a gender gap

Women's representation in boards has improved in Asia Pacific . . .

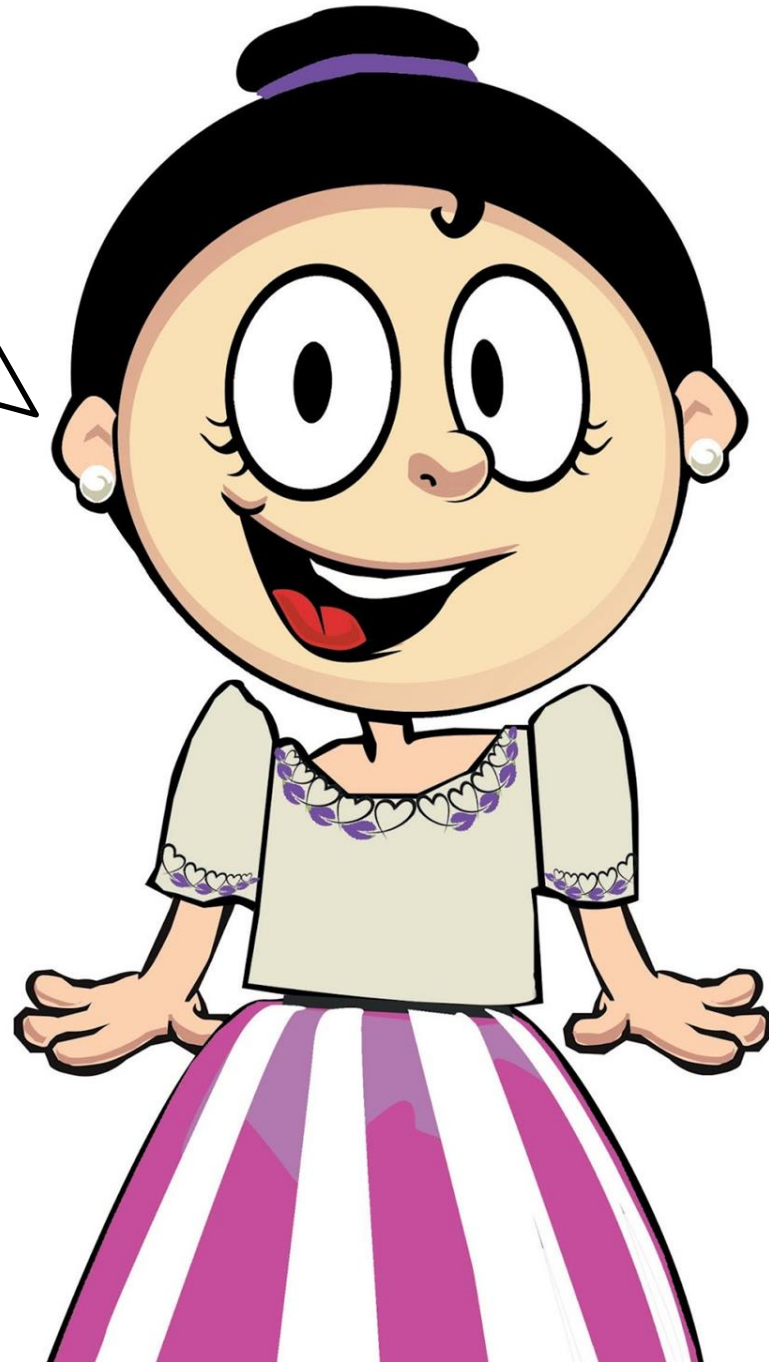


. . . but is still lower than Western counterparts (2016 estimates)

**28%** Average of most Western countries



How about Filipinas?



Leadership positions is low across

|                | Country     | Female population, 2016<br>Million | Leadership positions<br>Female/million |
|----------------|-------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Oceania        | Australia   | 11.9                               | 0.58                                   |
|                | New Zealand | 2.3                                | 0.67                                   |
| East Asia      | China       | 671.2                              | 0.20                                   |
|                | Japan       | 65.2                               | 0.15                                   |
|                | South Korea | 24.9                               | 0.12                                   |
| Southeast Asia | Indonesia   | 125.6                              | 0.30                                   |
|                | Philippines | 50.0                               | 0.96                                   |
|                | Vietnam     | 46.8                               | 0.35                                   |
|                | Thailand    | 34.3                               | 0.48                                   |
|                | Myanmar     | 27.6                               | 0.40                                   |
|                | Malaysia    | 15.5                               | 0.26                                   |
|                | Cambodia    | 7.9                                | 0.45                                   |
|                | Singapore   | 2.8                                | 0.52                                   |
|                | India       | 612.2                              | No data                                |
| South Asia     | Pakistan    | 90.0                               | 0.03                                   |
|                | Bangladesh  | 78.4                               | 0.13                                   |
|                | Nepal       | 14.5                               | 0.22                                   |
|                | Bhutan      | 11.0                               | 0.33                                   |

High  
Low



## There are bottlenecks throughout the talent pipeline in each country





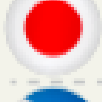


Percentage of women<sup>1</sup>

Tertiary educated graduates

Entry-level professionals<sup>2</sup>

Senior management<sup>3</sup>

Board members

|  | Tertiary educated graduates | Entry-level professionals <sup>2</sup> | Senior management <sup>3</sup> | Board members   |
|--|-----------------------------|--|--------------------------------|-----------------|
|  <b>Australia</b>     | 56                          | 44                                     | 21                             | 18              |
|  <b>China</b>         | 53                          | 51                                     | 11                             | 10              |
|  <b>India</b>         | 43                          | 25                                     | 4                              | 11 <sup>4</sup> |
|  <b>Indonesia</b>     | 52                          | 45                                     | 13                             | 5               |
|  <b>Japan</b>        | 46                          | 49                                     | 1                              | 3               |
|  <b>Philippines</b> | 53                          | 43                                     | 33                             | 15              |
|  <b>Singapore</b>   | 53                          | 49                                     | 25                             | 8               |



## Global Outlook

Top 10 of the Global Gender Gap Index

| rank            | AVG | score |
|-----------------|-----|-------|
| 1. Iceland      |     | 0.878 |
| 2. Norway       |     | 0.830 |
| 3. Finland      |     | 0.823 |
| 4. Rwanda       |     | 0.822 |
| 5. Sweden       |     | 0.816 |
| 6. Nicaragua    |     | 0.814 |
| 7. Slovenia     |     | 0.805 |
| 8. Ireland      |     | 0.794 |
| 9. New Zealand  |     | 0.791 |
| 10. Philippines |     | 0.790 |

Source: Global Gender Gap Report 2017, World Economic Forum

Note: \*2017 rank out of 144 countries

# ANNUAL GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT (GAD) PLAN AND BUDGET

FY \_\_\_\_\_

Agency/Bureau/Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Department (Central Office): \_\_\_\_\_

Total GAA of Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

| Gender Issue and/or GAD Mandate<br>(1) | Cause of the Gender Issue<br>(2) | GAD Result Statement/<br>GAD Objective<br>(3) | Relevant Agency MFO/PAP<br><br>(4) | GAD Activity<br><br>(5) | Output Performance Indicators and Target<br><br>(6) | GAD Budget<br><br>(7) | Source of Budget<br><br>(8) | Responsible Unit/Office<br><br>(9) |
|--|----------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|-----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
|  |                                  |   |                                    |                         |   |                       |                             |                                    |

**TOTAL**

**XXXX**

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_





## Entrepreneurship as planned by DTI

### DTI GAD Outcome: Competitiveness of women owned businesses increased

#### Better Business Environment

- WEs are able to produce product aligned to standards
- WEs are able to access institutional and export markets
- WEs are able to register their business in reduced processing time
- WEs are able to access investment info
- Investment inflows are sensitive to needs of women in the labor market
- WEs able to participate in business policy making and implementation of programs

#### Productivity and Efficiency

- WEs are able to access increasingly greater amount of finance
- WEs are able to acquire and apply skills on entrepreneurship and production technologies
- WEs are able to access and use relevant info and linkages such as trade fairs, subcontracting and market matching

#### Value for Money

- Consumer welfare policies are responsive to needs and conditions of both men and women and motivate WEs to produce better products and services attuned to market demands

#### Good Governance

- DTI is able to build up its organizational structure where inputs to policies, policy making process and its staff and governance system are gender responsive
- Improved transparency, efficiency, accountability and integrity in government system and transactions



# BELT AND ROAD SUMMIT

**Collaborate for Success**

28 JUNE 2018 (THURSDAY)  
Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre

Action through Collaboration: Case Studies on Signature Belt and Road Projects

## Thematic Breakout Forums

A1: Risk Mitigation in Infrastructure Financing  
A2: Digital Silk Road

B1: Chinese Infrastructure Investment Trends and Opportunities  
B2: Green Finance  
B3: Hong Kong as the Deal Maker and Dispute Resolver -  
Part I: Deal Maker in International Cross-Border Transactions  
B4: Women Entrepreneurship on the Belt and Road

C1: Sharing by Young Business Leaders on Belt and Road Opportunities  
C2: Using HK as a Centre for Risk Management of the Belt and Road Projects  
C3: Hong Kong as the Deal Maker and Dispute Resolver -  
Part II: The Dispute Resolver: Hong Kong's Dispute Resolution Services

## Project Pitching

Session 1: Energy, Natural Resources & Public Utilities  
Session 2: Transport & Logistics Infrastructure  
Session 3: Rural & Urban Development

## One-to-one Business Matching Meetings

HOME / WORLD / NEWS

## China-Arab forum calls for women to help build Belt, Road

People September 26, 2016 16:57

## Women of Silk Road Nations Discuss Opportunities, Challenges

Countries along the Silk Road have abundant resources and diversified cultures, and the thriving cooperation among them has made the region a potential world leader in development





FILIPINA WOMEN Entrepreneurs  
for the Belt and Road Initiative







# LIKhang PILIPINA

WOMEN'S MARKETPLACE

*Provides a platform for budding Filipina entrepreneurs to help them showcase their creativity & entrepreneurial skills; the market is an opportunity for them to offer their products to the public.*

LEVEL 2 ALI MALL, ARANETA CENTER,  
CUBAO, QUEZON CITY





## GREAT WOMEN BRAND

Powered by ECHOstore Sustainable Lifestyle

A collection of limited production women's bags, fashion accessories, and home textiles handwoven by indigenous women from cultural communities in the Philippines.

The textiles are developed under the GREAT Women Platform, an integral and inclusive model of development and social enterprise of ECHOstore and its ECHOsi Foundation. GREAT Women is the acronym for *Gender Responsive Economic Action for the Transformation of Women*. The aim is to economically empower women while striving to keep a living culture, sustainable.





中国妇女（英文）网  
www.womenofchina.cn

All-China Women's Federation 中华全国妇女联合会





WE ARE ALL WONDERWOMEN!



**MARAMING  
SALAMAT !**

