

## Julie R. Weeks

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**President and CEO, Womenable**  
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### Profile

- One of the world's leading experts on the field of women's entrepreneurship, with experience in both the private and public sectors in the areas of research, public policy and program management
- Experienced researcher, with expertise in primary research, quantitative and qualitative analysis, and environmental assessments
- Accomplished oral and written communicator, with proven ability to translate data and complex information into clear, concise, and actionable knowledge
- Well-traveled, works effectively with people of diverse backgrounds, cultures and levels of authority
- Skilled manager of people and programs

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### Professional Experience

#### Research

- Led local, state, national and international research efforts from design through execution, analysis and presentation of findings
- Worked with international teams to conduct research and policy analysis projects, as well as business environment assessments, in countries around the world
- Skilled in survey research, large database analysis, environmental assessments and analysis, program monitoring and analysis, and qualitative work such as focus groups and case studies
- Skilled not only with research design, execution and analysis, but with summarizing key research findings in ways that are understandable and actionable
- Developed requests for proposals and managed sponsored research with contractors and outside providers in both the public and private sectors

#### Management

- Managed small entrepreneurial teams, temporary project-focused efforts and long-term career professional staff
- Vast experience with project management, from individual projects to \$1,000,000+ annual budgets
- Experience working with and managing subcontractors and vendors

#### Public Policy

- Directly involved in public policy support and advocacy for women's enterprise development, both in government and in civil society, in the US and internationally
- Written, prepared and delivered Congressional testimony
- Consulted with governments and non-governmental organizations on women's enterprise development policy issues

**Communications**

- An accomplished writer, with skill in translating complex information into actionable intelligence
- Experienced at oral presentation – as a speaker, moderator, and panelist
- Skilled at developing messages and communicating both upward to key decision makers and leaders and outward to important constituencies and audiences

**Training and Program Design, Monitoring and Evaluation**

- Spoken at numerous international conferences on issues related to the elements necessary for sustainable support for women's enterprise development
- Designed and executed program monitoring and evaluation efforts
- Designed and delivered women's enterprise leadership and business training
- Conducted business-enabling environmental assessments with a gender lens

**Work History****President and CEO**

Womenable, Empire, MI 2005 – present

**Executive Director**

National Women's Business Council, Washington, DC 2002 – 2005

**Managing Director & Director of Research**

Center for Women's Business Research, Washington, DC 1993 – 2002

**Deputy Chief Counsel for Statistics & Research**

U.S. Small Business Administration, Washington, DC 1990 – 1993

**Vice President, Politics and Public Affairs**

Market Strategies, Southfield, MI 1990

**Vice President, Political Group**

Market Opinion Research, Detroit, MI 1980 – 1989

**Education****Leadership Development Program**

Center for Creative Leadership 2001

**Master of Arts in Political Science**, University of Michigan

concentration in research methods, course work at the 1981

Inter-University Consortium on Political and Social Research (ICPSR)

**Bachelor of Arts in Political Science**, University of Michigan

concentration in American politics and public opinion, minor in economics 1979

**Boards/Civic Engagement****Association of Women's Business Centers**

Board of Directors (Chair in 2011-12) 2011 – 2013

Co-chair, Public Policy Advisory Council 2006 – 2010

**Enterprising Women Magazine**

Member, National Advisory Board 2005 – present

**Global Banking Alliance for Women**

Board of Directors (Executive Cmte. 2011-13) 2011 – 2015

**International Council for Small Business**

Board of Directors 2009 – 2011

Vice President, Women's Entrepreneurship Committee 2006 – 2009

**International Journal of Gender and Entrepreneurship**

Member, Editorial Advisory Board member 2010 – present

**Leelanau Conservancy**

Board of Directors 2011 – present

**National Association of Women Business Owners**

National Board of Directors 2007 – 2010

**WEConnect International**

Advisory Board 2012 – present

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**Selected Publications and Presentations****Selected Publications**

- “The American Express OPEN State of Women-Owned Businesses Report” (2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015)
- Global Women Entrepreneur Leaders Scorecard (2015, co-author)
- “Loan Characteristics and Performance Among Women- and Men-Owned MSMEs in Ecuador: An Analysis of ProCredit Lending Data, 2001-2013” (2014, for IADB Multi-Lateral Investment Fund)
- “Innovation and Women’s Entrepreneurship: An Exploration of Current Knowledge” (2010, for UNCTAD)
- “Assessing Business-Enabling Environments: How Gender Changes the Equation” (2010)
- “Rwanda: Investing in the Empowerment of Women in Business” (2009)
- “Women Entrepreneurs in the Middle East and North Africa: Characteristics, Contributions and Challenges” (2007)
- “Mapping the ‘Missing Middle’: Determining the Desire and Dimensions of Second-Stage Women Business Owners” (2007)
- “The Performance, Progress and Promise of Women’s Business Centers in the United States: A Summary of Three Research Studies” (2006)
- “Support for Women’s Enterprise Development in the United States: Lessons Learned” (2002)
- “Women-Owned Businesses: Breaking the Boundaries, The Progress and Achievement of Women-Owned Enterprises” (1995)

**Selected Presentations/Major Addresses**

- Moderated a panel discussion among global awardees of Enterprising Women magazine’s Enterprising Women of the Year award (2014 & 2015)
- Reflected on trends in the women’s entrepreneurship movement in the United States on the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Women’s Business Ownership Act of 1988 at the Women’s Business and Enterprise Conference, Scotland, May 2013
- Testified on important trends in the women’s entrepreneurship movement in the United States at a U.S. Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship hearing, November 2012
- Spoke to numerous stakeholders in the public, private and third sectors on women’s entrepreneurship issues on a U.S. State Department-underwritten speaking tour in Kosovo and Macedonia, March 2012
- Participated in a panel discussion concerning policies and programs to encourage growth-oriented women’s enterprise development at the “We Own It Summit” in London, June 2011
- Addressed a national conference of women’s enterprise supporters and ambassadors on international trends in women’s enterprise development at a conference organized by Tillväxtverket in Stockholm, Sweden, April 2010
- Presented the findings of a 5-country study on women business owners in the Middle East and North Africa at a launch event attended by Her Majesty Queen Rania in Amman, Jordan, June 2007
- Spoke and moderated a panel presentation at “Accelerating Women’s Entrepreneurship Forum” held in conjunction with an OECD SME Ministerial meeting in Istanbul, Turkey June 2004