



## GLORIA KWATEMA ALABI

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### Women in International Trade

#### Abstract:

Women are a powerful engine for international trade and economic growth. As workers, small-scale traders, entrepreneurs, and producers, their engagement in export activities has the potential not only to elevate overall productivity and competitiveness in the international market but also to reduce poverty. However, women encounter multiple obstacles and legal barriers when participating in trade, hindering the full realization of economic gains that can be achieved through trade liberalization. This Brief analyzes women's participation in international trade and impediments to gender equality in national laws measured in the Women, Business and the Law index. Specifically, in 2024, 504 legal provisions across 145 economies are identified as creating unequal conditions between men and women to take part in international trade. Drawing from examples around the world, the Brief further discusses the role of trade instruments, especially preferential trade agreements, in eliminating legal barriers that discriminate against women, and enhancing their involvement in export-related activities to reap the benefits of trade on global welfare.

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#### Biography

Gloria Kwartema Hansen Alabi – Member of the business council for Women in International Trade Gloria Kwartema Hansen Alabi stands as a beacon of innovation and dedication in the vocational education and business consultancy sectors. As the Founder of the Affluence Skills Acquisition Program (ASAP Education), Gloria has carved a niche for herself and her organization in providing practical, skillbased learning aimed at equipping students for immediate employment. Under her leadership, ASAP Education has transcended traditional academic paradigms to focus on hands-on training and real-world application, making it a cornerstone for students aiming to transition smoothly into their chosen professions. Gloria's journey into the vocational training arena was sparked by a keen observation of the skilled labor shortages in various industries. Holding a Bachelor's degree in Operations Management and Human Resources, Special Executive Master's Program (SEMP) @Metropolitan School of Business & Management UK coupled with a Certificate in Customer Relationship from GIMPA, she leveraged her academic foundation to address these gaps through targeted skill development programs. Her initiative has seen the launch of instructional courses that prioritize practical skills over theoretical knowledge, preparing students for specific job functions and trades