

The Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) is pleased to announce the speakers for the upcoming workshop, ***Expanding Horizons: A Workshop About Investing Overseas for Minority and Women-Owned Businesses***, to be held on **Thursday, November 15** at the **Crowne Plaza Union Square** in San Francisco, California. Event is from 8:45 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., with the afternoon devoted to one / one meetings and networking.

Welcoming Remarks

Mr. John Simon; Executive Vice President; Overseas Private Investment Corporation
Mr. Ronald Langston; National Director; Minority Business Development Agency, U.S. Department of Commerce
Ms. Margaret Mankin Barton; Executive Director; National Women's Business Council

Government Panel

U.S. Small Business Administration: Mr. Jerry Avila; Senior International Trade Specialist
U.S. Department of Commerce, Commercial Service: Mr. Rod Hirsch; Director; U.S. Export Assistance Center, Oakland
Export-Import Bank of the U.S.: Mr. Jim Lucchesi; Senior Business Development Officer; Ex-Im Bank Western Regional Office

OPIC Programs

Political Risk Insurance: Mr. Iman Kennerly; Small Business Development Insurance Officer; Overseas Private Investment Corporation
Small & Medium Enterprise Finance: Ms. Lynn Tabernacki; Senior Investment Officer; Overseas Private Investment Corporation
Housing Program: Mr. Bruce Cameron; Director, Housing Programs; Overseas Private Investment Corporation
Franchising Program: Ms. Alison Germak; Public Information Officer; Overseas Private Investment Corporation

Keynote Luncheon

Ms. Lucia Leonard; President/CEO; Leonard Gonzalez Enterprise Inc.

To attend ***Expanding Horizons***, please register in advance at www.trademeetings.com.

Expanding Horizons, is the seventh workshop in a series that has drawn representatives of more than 700 minority and women-owned businesses to learn how products and services offered by OPIC and other government agencies can help them expand into emerging markets overseas. ***Expanding Horizons*** is held in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency and the National Women's Business Council.

If you have any questions about the event, please contact Alison Germak at Alison.Germak@opic.gov / 202-336-8651 or Judyth Gilbert at jgilbert@opic.gov / 202-336-8641. We look forward to seeing you in San Francisco!

Website: www.opic.gov

"Supporting Organizations" for this event include the Asia Foundation; California Asia Business Council; Greater San Jose Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; San Francisco Chamber of Commerce; Monterey Bay International Trade Association; Centers for International Trade Development - Bay Area, Chico, East Bay, Fresno, Merced, Sacramento, and Silicon Valley; Bay Area World Trade Center; City of Oakland- Office of Real Estate & International Trade; City of San Francisco - Office of Small Business; The San Francisco Global Trade Council; Northern California World Trade Center; and the Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center.