

Rotary  
District 3300



district action  
group  
WOMEN  
EMPOWERMENT



# WOMEN EMPOWERMENT SYMPOSIUM

*Ignite Your Vibes*

13<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023

THE PEARL HOTEL, KUALA LUMPUR

**Souvenir  
programme book.**

Rotary  
District 3300



district action  
group  
WOMEN  
EMPOWERMENT



# WOMEN EMPOWERMENT SYMPOSIUM

*Ignite Your Vibes*

13<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023

THE PEARL HOTEL, KUALA LUMPUR

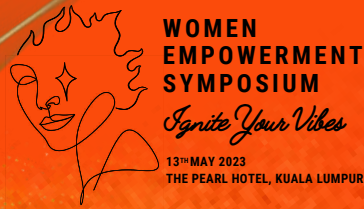
It's time to awaken the fire within you at the first **Women Empowerment Symposium** and **let your brilliance shine.**

You are **strong, powerful, and capable of achieving anything you set your mind to.**

You have **the power to make a positive impact on the world** and **inspire those around you.**

It's time to **embrace your unique qualities** and **embrace your feminine energy.** Don't let anyone dim your light or tell you that you're not enough. **You are enough, and you are worthy of love, respect, and success.**

So, let's **ignite our vibes,** and **empower each other** and **lift each other up.**



# About WOW Symposium.

## Overview

Women EmpoWerment (WOW) Symposium, organised by Rotary International District 3300 Action Group for Women Empowerment aspires to bring women together from all walks of life, to inspire and empower them to follow their personal aspirations and professional dreams, and subsequently play important roles in building their communities.

## Objectives

We have lined up dynamic and inspiring trailblazers to share their stories and insights to **ignite the vibes** of the participants – by inspiring and empowering them to:

- understand and be cognizant of issues that have important impacts on girls and women
- ponder and reflect on their lives and be true to their life purpose
- create change and speak up for what they believe
- break rules and take calculated risks, and embrace seemingly insurmountable challenges

## Symposium Navigation and Takeaways

### Panel Discussion

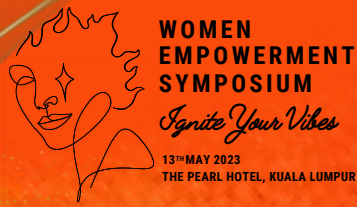
Obtain different professional viewpoints and perspectives while being cognizant of issues impacting girls and women

### Breakout Sessions

- Relate to the scenes drawn by the session leaders
- Engage in the workshops led by the facilitators
- Map action items to be implemented/applied (based on the breakout tracks)

### Personal Sharings and Sessions

- Be inspired by the sharing and motivated to take positive actions for self-improvement
- Be "jolted" to awakening by new knowledge gained



# IvY Awards nominations.

Women, like the **evergreen IvY**, are able to rise and thrive under difficult circumstances. The spirit of women is a source of nourishment for other women to reach greater heights. The **IvY** is versatile and ornamental, but some species are poisonous and like women, must be respected.



Ms Juliana Teh Beng Choo



Ms Tania Lee



Ms Navi Indran Pillai



Ms Millie Yong



Dato Dr Florance Manoranjitham Sinniah



Rachel Yeoh Li Wen



Dr. Nithiya Thiahhan



Dato' Shyamala Alagendra Khan



Nik Nasha Damia



Ms Kalavathy Raman



Ms Puspavali Mahalingam



Madam Su Se Hwa



Ms Prema Thiyagu



Ms Selvamalar Selvaraju



Puan Sri Siew Yong Gnanalingam



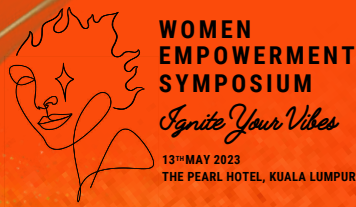
Ms Sarojeni V. Rengam



Ms Yogeswary S Veloo



Datin Emeritus Professor Dr Lucy Lum Chai See



# Foreword by the guest of honour.

It is an honour to gather with you all as we celebrate the incredible women who have made a difference in our communities.

As an esteemed global service organisation with a strong track record of humanitarian efforts, **Rotary International District 3300** has been making a significant impact in empowering women. Particularly noteworthy is the work of the **District Action Group on Women Empowerment**, which has been instrumental in organising this event and introducing the Ivy Award to honour the unsung heroines who have significantly contributed to serving others.

In this context, it is heartening to note that the **Malaysia Madani** initiative of promoting women's empowerment aligns with Rotary International's efforts. By recognising women's important role in society, both Rotary International and Malaysia Madani are committed to providing women with equal opportunities for economic and social advancement.

The theme of this conference, **Ignite Your Vibes**, encourages us to tap into the energy within ourselves and unleash our full potential. As women, we often underestimate the power we hold and the impact we can make. But when we come together, we create an unstoppable force.

Throughout this conference, we will hear from women who have blazed trails in their respective fields, broken down barriers, and overcome obstacles to make a difference in the world. We will learn from their experiences, gain inspiration, and leave with renewed purpose.

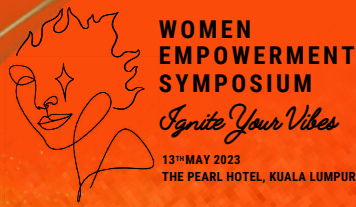
I encourage you to embrace this opportunity to connect with like-minded women and celebrate the incredible achievements of the unsung heroines in our communities.

Let us ignite our vibes and create a brighter future for all..

## **YBrs. Dr. Wan Nur Ibtisam binti Wan Ismail**

*Director General  
Department of Women Development  
Ministry of Women, Family, and  
Community Development, Malaysia*





# The Program (morning).

**8.30 am** • Registration

**9.00 am** **SYMPOSIUM OPENING**

- **Welcome Address** by MS KIRENJIT KAUR / *Chair, District Action Group on Women Empowerment and Past District Governor, Rotary International District 3300*
- **My Story - Against All Odds** by MS NEROSHA KRISHNAN / *Rotary WoW Inspiration Recognition Recipient*
- **Award Presentation** by DATO' BINDI RAJASEGARAN / *Past District Governor, Rotary International District 3300*
- **WoW Projects – Empowering Women** by MS SUSAN TU / *Chair, WoW Funding with Yayasan Kelab-Kelab Rotary Malaysia*
- **Officiating Address** by YBRS. DR. WAN NUR IBTISAM BINTI WAN ISMAIL / *Director General, Department of Women Development, Ministry of Women, Family, and Community Development, Malaysia*

**10.15 am** **HELLO!COFFEE**

**10.45 am** **PANEL DISCUSSION**

Building Resilience - Creating A Positive Environment

**Moderator:** MS ANNIE TAN / *Inspirational Speaker, Trainer, Coach & Author*

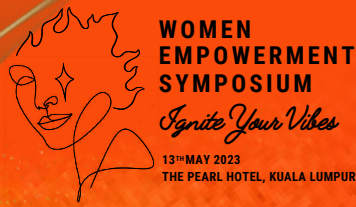
**Panelists:**

- DATO' DR HARTINI ZAINUDIN / *Founder, Yayasan Chow Kit Child-Crisis Center*
- DR ZAHURIN MOHAMED / *Entrepreneur & Women Empowerment Advocate*
- MR EDWARD KHOO / *District Governor-Nominee Designate, Rotary International District 3300*
- MS FU-EN YEE / *International Celebrity, Psychotherapist, Speaker & Author*

**11.45 am** **THE WORLD OF CYBERCRIMES: THE GOOD, BAD AND UGLY**

**Session Leader:** MS GEETHA RUBASUNDRAM CA (M) ACMA. CGMA MSC./ *Director-Governance and Sustainability, Advicecube Consultancy*

**Moderator:** MR POO CHING LOONG / *Exco Member, Rotary International District Action Group on Women Empowerment*



# The Program (afternoon).

## 12.15 pm **IGNITE YOUR VIBES WORKSHOPS**

<p><b>TRACK 1: ENTREPRENEURSHIP</b>  <b>Empowering Yourself and Making Yourself a Priority</b></p> <p><b>Session Leader:</b> MS CELINA JOSEPH / <i>Entrepreneur, Self-Taught Culinary Wizard and National Association of Women Entrepreneurs (NAWEM)</i>  <b>Moderator:</b> MS RAJI RATNAM / <i>District Action Group on Women Empowerment</i></p>	<p><b>TRACK 2: WORKPLACE</b>  <b>Building Resilience during Challenging Times</b></p> <p><b>Session Leader:</b> MS SIAMY TAN / <i>Architect turned Community Leader, Personal Development Trainer and Corporate Team Building Coach</i>  <b>Moderator:</b> MS ALICE IMM / <i>District Action Group on Women Empowerment</i></p>
<p><b>TRACK 3: YOUR BRAND</b>  <b>Connecting Your Heart and Your Mind</b></p> <p><b>Session Leader:</b> MS ADELIN HAYDEN / <i>Chief Corporate Consultant, Rantau PR</i>  <b>Moderator:</b> MS VANESSA CHONG / <i>District Action Group on Women Empowerment</i></p>	<p><b>TRACK 4: BEING A WOMAN</b>  <b>Be the Woman You Choose to Be</b></p> <p><b>Session Leader:</b> DATO' DR FLORANCE MANORANJITNAM SINNIAH / <i>Founder/President, Pertubuhan Kebajikan Snehama Malaysia, Board of Directors, Penang Women's Development Corporation</i>  <b>Moderator:</b> MS YOGES VERASUNTHARAM / <i>District Action Group on Women Empowerment</i></p>

## 1.15 pm **NETWORKING LUNCH**

## 2.15 pm **CHALLENGING THE NORM – DEDICATION TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

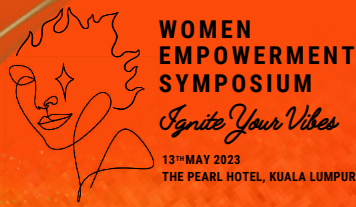
**Session Leader:** DCP DATO' SASIKALA DEVI A/P SUBRAMANIAM / *Deputy Chief Police Officer, Selangor*

**Moderator:** DATO' AZLIN AHMAD SHAHARBI / *Managing Partner, Azlin Shahrabi & Associates. and Founder, SembangLegal.com*

## 2.45 pm **THE SILENT STRUGGLE – MAINTAINING A BALANCE**

**Session Leader:** Dr AMEER SIDDIQUE / *Consultant Psychiatrist, Department of Psychological Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya*

**Moderator:** MS HERY DEHAAN / *District Action Group on Women Empowerment*



# The Program (afternoon).

3.15 pm

## PANEL DISCUSSION

Empowering Girls through Education and Volunteerism

**Moderator:** MS SAMANTHA TANG / *Community Manager of Women Will Penang (a Grow with Google Program)*

### Panelists:

- DATIN DR (H.C) HARTINI BINTI OSMAN / *G100 Global Chair for Philanthropy Business and Poverty Eradication, President and Group Managing Director of Prihatin Group of Companies*
- MS ANJA JULIAH ABU BAKAR / *Board of Studies, Albukhary International University, Adjunct Professor-Social Entrepreneurship, UNITAR, International Fellow-Women Studies, Universiti Sains Malaysia*
- MR GURMEET GILL / *Charter President, Rotary Club of Mont Kiara Gateway, Rotary International District 3300 Youth Leadership (RYLA) Chairman*
- MR HANK KHOO / *Founder and CEO of HANKidz; and Chief Trainer, Transforming Children to Leaders*

4.15 pm

## PRIORITISING DIGITAL LITERACY AMONG WOMEN

**Session Leader:** MR CHARLES SANTIAGO / *Former Klang Member of Parliament*

**Moderator:** MS TERESA BENEDICT / *District Action Group on Women Empowerment*

4.35 pm

## SYMPOSIUM CLOSING

- **Conference Review** by MS SITI SUBAIDAH MUSTAFFA / *Symposium Programme Director and Past District Governor, Rotary International D3300*
- **Lucky Draws**
- **Closing Address** by DR KRISHNA KUMAR / *District Governor, Rotary International District 3300*

5.00 pm

## EVENT ENDS - NETWORKING TEA



## Words of Wisdom

“

Ladies, don't ever let  
anyone tell you  
you are past your  
prime.

”

**Tan Sri Michelle Yeoh**  
Best Actress Oscar  
Winner 2023



**WOMEN  
EMPOWERMENT  
SYMPOSIUM**

*Ignite Your Vibes*

13<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023

THE PEARL HOTEL, KUALA LUMPUR

# About District Action Group on Women Empowerment.

## Overview

District Action Group for Women Empowerment was established on 22 February 2022. However, it all started with a women fellowship group Voice of Influence (VOI) under the District Committee for Women Empowerment.

The first major endeavor was in establishing the Women Empowerment Funds, with funds raised totaling to RM102,500 and supported by Yayasan Kelab-Kelab Rotary Malaysia (YKKRM) on 27 March 2022.

As at October 2022, 18 Rotary Clubs, corporations and individuals have contributed a total of RM104,500.00 to Women Empowerment Funds (WEF) since the launch.

## Objectives

- Expand Rotary's outreach to change lives by supporting more projects benefitting girls and women especially abused women, single mothers and needy community.
- Engage Rotarians, Rotary Clubs, public, etc. to support our mission of empowering girls and women by contributing to WEF/YKKRM.
- Encourage corporations to carry out big CSR projects with Rotary Clubs nationwide by contributing to WEF/YKKRM.
- Engage with Ministry of Women, Family & Community Devt, NGOs, etc. with Rotary Clubs to carry out projects empowering girls and women.

## Our Strength

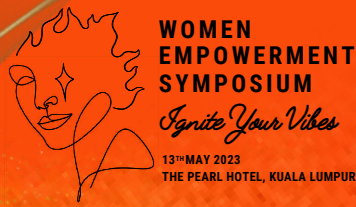
- Under **Rotary International District 3300** only (which is covering half of Rotary Malaysia's total population), there are >2,200 Rotarians. Out of this, **500 (or 25% of the Rotary population) are women.**
- **District 3300 has 88 Rotary Clubs** in Negeri Sembilan, Kuala Lumpur, Selangor, Perak, Pulau Pinang, Kedah, Perlis, Pahang, Terengganu and Kelantan



**WOMEN  
EMPOWERMENT  
SYMPOSIUM**

*Ignite Your Vibes*

13<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023  
THE PEARL HOTEL, KUALA LUMPUR



# Our Journey & Funding Avenues.

## Milestones

### 14 FEBRUARY 2022

Yayasan Kelab-Kelab Rotary Malaysia supported the Women Empowerment Funds with District Action Group on Women Empowerment's RM100,000 donation

### 22 FEBRUARY 2022

District Governor Dato' Bindi Rajasegaran approved the establishment of District Action Group for Women Empowerment (DAG-WOW)

### 24 FEBRUARY 2022

Fund-raising mobilised in full steam!

### 4 MARCH 2022

DAG-WOW FB group was set up and in 4 days garnered 500 members

### 27 MARCH 2022

Launching Women Empowerment Funds with its first RM100,000.

The journey continues in changing the lives of children and women.....

## Resources



### WOMEN EMPOWERMENT GRANT

Project Value: Less than or up to RM10k



### ROTARY GLOBAL GRANT

Project Value: RM150 k - 200k



### CIMB GRANT

Project Value: Up to RM50k



### JABATAN PEMBANGUNAN WANITA (JPW)

Project Value: To propose within JPW focus areas

# Women Empowerment Projects by Rotary Clubs.

## UNDER THE WOMEN EMPOWERMENT FUNDS WITH YAYASAN KELAB-KELAB ROTARY MALAYSIA

### **Accounting & Tax Planning Course by the Rotary Club of Cheras**

Partnering with Pusat Wanita Berdaya Balakong, ADUN Balakong and Excellent CFO Sdn Bhd, this project will benefit 30 committed women.

### **Beauty and Spa Diploma by the Rotary Club of Bandar Utama**

This is a guaranteed job placement by BG Wellness Sdn Bhd and stands to empower 10 aspiring women.

### **WAO Grub Hub Project by the Rotary Club of KL City Centre**

Targeting 15 dedicated women to develop their confidence and entrepreneurship with Women Aid Organisation as the project partner.

### **Sewing Classes for Single Mothers by the Rotary Club of Teluk Intan**

Training 15 talented women with guaranteed employment at Nyok Lan Garments Sdn Bhd.

### **WOW Symposium BEST Skills Training by the Rotary Club of Central Damansara**

With training partners Microsoft Malaysia, Brickfields Asia College (BAC) and National Coalition for Mental Wellbeing (NCMW), BEST aims to train 50 ambitious and committed women.

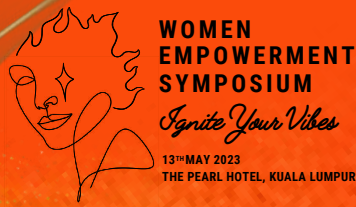


**WOMEN  
EMPOWERMENT  
SYMPOSIUM**

*Ignite Your Vibes*

13<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023  
THE PEARL HOTEL, KUALA LUMPUR





# Special Mention and thank you.



## Trustee Chairman Dr Paul CK Lee & Yayasan Kelab-Kelab Rotary Malaysia

Supporting in the establishment of the Women Empowerment Funds (WEF) and also projects undertaken by Rotary Clubs through WEF.



## Edward Khoo Rotary Club of KL City Centre

Contributing RM10,000.00 to event organising.



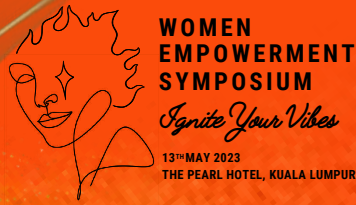
## Shereen Bon Rotary Club of Royal Dhaka

Contributing RM5,100.00 to event organising and the production of the souvenir bags



## Rotary Club of Damansara

Partnering with District Action Group on Women Empowerment in organising WOW Symposium as the Project Partnership Club.



# Acknowledgment and appreciation.

## Heartfelt gratitude to partners and sponsors.

**DATO' JIMMY LIM**

Rotary Club of KL DiRaja @ RM2,000.00

**KSI STRATEGIC INSTITUTE FOR ASIA PACIFIC** @ RM1,000.00

**KHOO BOON HAN**

Rotary Club of Bukit Bintang @ RM1,000.00

**DATO' DR SIVA ANANTHAN**

Rotary Club of Greater Kuala Lumpur @ RM1,000.00

**MAPLE SIM**

Rotary Club of Cheras @ RM500.00

**SUSAN TU**

Rotary Club of Cheras @ RM500.00

**JUDY CHONG**

Rotary Club of Bandar Utama @ RM500.00

**ALLISON FONG**

Rotary Club of Bandar Utama @ RM500.00

## Sincerest appreciation

**YBRS. DR. WAN NUR IBTISAM BINTI WAN ISMAIL**

Director General, Department of Women Development  
Ministry of Women, Family, and Community Development, Malaysia

**DR. KRISHNA KUMAR & PUSHPA**

Rotary International District Governor and First Lady

**SPEAKERS**

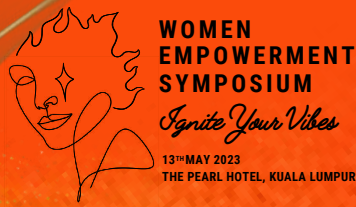
**PANELISTS**

**MODERATORS**

**EXHIBITORS**

**THE PEARL, KUALA LUMPUR**

**And most importantly thank you to all our  
wonderful and amazing participants**



# Behind closed scene and stage.

## District Action Group on Women Empowerment

Chair:

**Kirenjit Kaur**

Honorary Treasurer:

**Premjeet Kaur**

Deputy Treasurer:

**Muges**

Honorary Secretary:

**Yasmin Yusof**

Deputy Secretary:

**Alison Tan**

Fundraising Coordinator:

**Susan Tu**

Deputy, Fundraising:

**Stephanie Wong**

Projects Coordinator:

**Judy Chong**

Deputy, Projects:

**Fong Seow Kai Chuan**

NGO Liaison:

**Siti Subaidah Mustaffa**

Deputy, NGO Liaison:

**Cordelia Tan**

Government Liaison:

**Henry John**

Public Image/IT:

**Poo Ching Loong**

Deputy, Public Image/IT:

**Alison Tan**

## Symposium Working Committee.

Organising Chair:

**Thilagavathy Pillai**

Advisor:

**Kirenjit Kaur**

Program Director:

**Siti Subaidah Mustaffa**

IvY Award Director:

**Dato' Bindi Rajasegaran**

Sponsorship:

**Susan Tu**

Accounts & Finance

**Premjeet Kaur & Muges**

Secretarial, Design and Publications:

**Alison Tan**

Media:

**Hery Dehaan**

Emcees:

**Mahendran & Bronya**

Floor Managers:

**Alison Tan & Yoges Verasuntharam**

Stage Managers:

**Raji Ratnam & Cordelia Tan**

Breakout Rooms:

**Sangkari, Fong, Angelina & Muges**

Front Desk – Registration and Reception:

**Michelle, Vivian & Ily**

Table Setting and Ushering:

**Teresa, Ghaurry & Shanthi**

Decor, Theme and Booths:

**Angelina**

AV Controls:

**Poo Ching Loong**

Mementos:

**Fong & Ghaurry**

Videography and Photography:

**Johnson Wey**

Rotaractors and Volunteers:

**Raji Ratnam**

**Rotary**  
District 3300



district action  
group  
WOMEN  
EMPOWERMENT



# WOMEN EMPOWERMENT SYMPOSIUM

*Ignite Your Vibes*

13<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023

THE PEARL HOTEL, KUALA LUMPUR

stay connected at  
[rotarywow.org](https://rotarywow.org)