Dell 2018 Women Entrepreneur Cities Study

Rating Global Cities’ ability to attract and support High Potential Women Entrepreneurs
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PART 1:
Scoring 50 Global Cities
Overview

The Dell Women Entrepreneur Cities Index (WE Cities) is

- a measure of a city’s ability to attract and support high potential women entrepreneurs (HPWE) i.e., women that want to grow and scale their business.

50 ranked cities chosen for
- their reputation as established or emerging hubs of innovation and entrepreneurship;
- geographic diversity was also a criteria in city selection.

Cities included in the WE Cities rankings are already strong in commercial entrepreneurship
- **Strength in entrepreneurship, though, is not necessarily strength for women entrepreneurs**

We provided additional detailed analysis:
- **10 City Blueprints** that look at areas of strength and opportunity to provide city leaders and policy makers with data-driven research and recommendations on how to foster HPWEs. Blueprint cities include: Amsterdam, Austin, Boston, London, Mexico City, Sao Paulo, Singapore, Tokyo and Toronto
- **Deep Dive Analysis on HPWE’s**
  - Access to Capital
  - Access to Technology
Almost all pillars contain a Policy sub-category that captures many of the important policies that help level the playing field for women entrepreneurs.
The rating is meant to highlight relative strengths and weaknesses

- Robust data-driven analysis covering a multitude of factors, which can help cities leverage their strengths to improve areas where they are less competitive.
- Indicators measure the inputs (or drivers) that attract and support HPWE rather than outcomes (the presence of HPWE in the city)

A tool for cities that helps provide insight to develop actionable strategies for improving cities’ ability to attract and support HPWE.

The rating has 72 indicators. Of these:

- Almost two-thirds (45) have a gender-based component.
- The vast majority (93% or 67 indicators) were specific to the city/MSA level (rather than country-level).
- All Indicators use the most current data available, much of it 2016-2017.*
- The Index incorporates unique data indicators constructed from sources such as: IHSM Smart Cities IoT Intelligence Service, Crunchbase, Github, WEConnect International, Twitter and LinkedIn.

*Data is 2014 or newer except in a few instances where data was not available and older data was used to inform the indicator for the city.
WE Cities Index

PILLARS AND SUB-PILLARS

**OPERATING ENVIRONMENT**

- **Markets**
  The Markets category measures whether the female entrepreneur operates in a market with sufficient **size** such that scale can be achieved, the **cost** of being a profitable business in that market, the transparency and clarity of steps or ladders to gain **access** to potential customers in that market and the local **policies** that help level the playing field for women owned businesses.

- **Talent**
  The Talent category measures both the likelihood of finding **women with the training and experience required to run and scale a business** and the availability of a **local labor force with the skills and education necessary** for a woman entrepreneur to build a well functioning team.

- **Capital**
  As financial Capital is fundamental for businesses seeking to scale but is often particularly hard for women entrepreneurs to access, this category measures the **frequency and value of funding** received by women led businesses, the **proportion of funding** that businesses run by women (compared to men) receive, and the **capital base** that women can draw on.

**ENABLING ENVIRONMENT**

- **Culture**
  A city’s Culture, while less tangible, is believed by women entrepreneurs to be a critical enabler for their participation in commerce. This category measures the prevalence of relevant **mentors, networks, and role models**, the predominant **attitudes & expectations** of that society toward women entrepreneurs that help shape their own expectations, and the **policies** that enable women to assume leadership positions and business success.

- **Technology**
  Often taken for granted until it is not there, Technology has become critical for running nearly all business operations. This category measures women entrepreneurs’ global **connectivity** via the internet and social media channels, the **cost** of staying connected, and the **policies** that enable women to access and utilize information, data and technology.
**Dell Global WE Cities Rankings 2017**

**CITIES IN RANKING ORDER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>City</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Washington, DC</td>
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<td>Toronto</td>
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<td>Vancouver</td>
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<td>Seattle</td>
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<td>Sydney</td>
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<td>Hong Kong</td>
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<td>Nairobi</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Jakarta</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Dublin</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Dell WE Cities Score ranges from 23.00 to 54.00.*
Dell Global WE Cities 2017

TOP 10

New York City
Bay Area
London
Stockholm
Los Angeles
Washington, D.C.
Singapore
Toronto
Seattle

OPERATING ENVIRONMENT

ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

Markets Top 10
New York City
Bay Area
London
Chicago
Kuala Lumpur
Tel Aviv
Berlin
Washington, DC
Bangalore

Talent Top 10
Washington, DC
Paris
BOSTON
Minneapolis
London
New York City
Barcelona
Beijing

Capital Top 10
Bay Area
New York City
London
BOSTON
Los Angeles
Nairobi
Singapore
Chicago
Stockholm
Beijing

Culture Top 10
New York City
Sydney
Toronto
Los Angeles
Singapore
Bay Area
Melbourne
Amsterdam
Amsterdam

Technology Top 10
Austin
London
Stockholm
New York City
Hong Kong
Seattle
Bay Area
Miami/FT. Lauderdale

*Cities highlighted in bold are cities not in the top 10 overall ranking. Cities in all CAPS were added in 2017
HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE RATING:
Things to Note

1. In the top 10 cities overall, 6 are in the U.S., 2 are in Europe, 1 is in Canada, and 1 is in Asia.

2. Of the top 10 cities overall, NYC, the Bay Area rank in the top 10 on all 5 pillars.

3. 41 of the cities in this index are in the top 5 for at least one pillar or sub-category; 34 of the cities are in the bottom 5 for at least one of the pillars or sub-categories – demonstrating the competitiveness of these 50 cities.

4. Of the cities in the top 10 cities overall, only NYC and D.C. rank in the bottom 5 on any pillar or sub-category (NYC for cost of Market access and NYC and D.C. for cost of Technology).
HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE RATING: View of the top

**TOP 5**

1. **NYC**
   - ranks 1st overall among the 50 cities for its ability to attract and support HPWE with a top-ranked Operating Environment and an Enabling Environment. While NYC ranks first for Markets, and within that, Access and Policy, it is 6th in Talent, and 2nd in Capital, trailing only the San Francisco Bay Area. It is 1st in Culture, though 4th in Technology.

2. **THE BAY AREA**
   - (consisting of the San Francisco and San Jose metro areas)
   - ranks second overall, ranking 2nd for Operating Environment and 7th for Enabling Environment. It ranks 1st for Capital, 2nd for Markets, 8th in Talent, 6th in Culture, and 7th in Technology.

3. **LONDON**
   - ranks 3rd overall and in Operating Environment, performing 3rd for Markets and for Capital. It ranks 4th in Enabling Environment, with a 2nd place, to Austin, in Technology and 11th in Culture.

4. **BOSTON AND STOCKHOLM**
   - round out the top 5 in the overall ranking.
   - Boston is 4th in Operating Environment, reaching 3rd in Talent and 4th in Capital.
   - Stockholm ranks 2nd in Enabling Environment, reaching 3rd in Technology and 4th in Culture. It also ranks 10th in Talent and 9th in Capital.
HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE RATING: View of the top TOP 10

**LOS ANGELES**
(6th overall) ranks 5th for **Capital** and 7th for **Culture** and 8th for the overall **Enabling Environment**.

**WASHINGTON, DC**
(7th overall) excels in the **Operational Environment** foundational pillar (5th), ranking 1st for **Talent** - topping the list for **Women’s Skills & Experience** and 9th for **Market**.

**SINGAPORE**
(8th overall) ranks 7th in **Capital**. It is 6th in **Enabling Environment**, with a 5th in **Culture** and 10th in **Technology**.

**TORONTO**
(9th overall) ranks 3rd in **Culture**, 4th for related **Policy**, It also ranks 5th in **Cost of Markets** and 7th in **Women’s Capital Base**.

**SEATTLE**
(10th overall) ranks 6th in **Markets** and 4th for **Market policy and Connected Technology**; it ranks 8th for **Culture and Value** and **Number of Funding for Women Entrepreneurs (Capital)**.
HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE RATING:
Cities to Watch

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Rank Overall</th>
<th>Highlights</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHICAGO</td>
<td>(13th overall)</td>
<td>ranks 7th for Connected in Technology, ranking 4th for Markets, driven by its 4th place ranking in Market Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KUALA LUMPUR</td>
<td>(41st overall)</td>
<td>ranks 5th in Markets, ranking 1st in Cost and 6th in Access. It ranks 8th in Women's skill &amp; experience (Talent).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARIS</td>
<td>(12th overall)</td>
<td>ranks 2nd in Talent, ranking 1st in Access to Qualified Personnel. It ranks 7th for Operating Environment, ranking 4th in Market Access.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEL AVIV</td>
<td>(24th overall)</td>
<td>ranks 7th in Markets, led by 7th in Policy. It also ranks 9th in Value and Numbers of Funding (Capital) and women get a proportionate amount (ranking 4th).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BERLIN</td>
<td>(21st overall)</td>
<td>ranks 8th in Markets, led by 5th in Access. It ranks 3rd in Technology Cost and 13th in Attitudes &amp; Expectations (Culture).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MINNEAPOLIS</td>
<td>(14th overall)</td>
<td>ranks 2nd for Mentors &amp; Role Models and for Women’s skill &amp; experience.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAIROBI</td>
<td>(33rd overall)</td>
<td>ranks 6th in Capital; although Nairobi ranks on the lower side for Women’s Capital Base (48th) it makes up for it in Gender Proportion in Funding (1st).</td>
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## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE RATING: Strengths to Leverage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Overall Rank</th>
<th>Potential Leverage Areas</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MIAMI</strong></td>
<td>32&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; overall</td>
<td>Ranks 4th in terms of its technology policy, notably it is one of the few cities to collect gender level data on technology use.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GUADALAJARA</strong></td>
<td>47&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; overall</td>
<td>Ranks 3rd for Market Cost and 11&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; in Technology Cost. It can leverage these strengths by improving policy in these two pillars where it ranks 43&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; and 49&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; respectively.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LIMA</strong></td>
<td>46&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; overall</td>
<td>Ranks lowest in Capital, ranking in the bottom 10 for all the Capital categories. It can perhaps leverage its relatively good access to markets (13&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;) to attract more talent (43&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;) and capital.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DELHI</strong></td>
<td>46&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; overall</td>
<td>Despite ranking 49&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; overall can leverage its Market Size (ranking 3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;) and low cost of technology (ranking 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;) to help improve its talent base (where it ranks 50&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WARSAW</strong></td>
<td>35&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; overall</td>
<td>Ranks 3rd in Women’s Skill &amp; Experience, but is held back with a ranking of 27&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; in Access to Qualified Personnel. It can leverage its 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; place rank in the cost of technology to attract talent and grow its market size (33&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;) if it can improve its policies that enable women access to markets (48&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;).</td>
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Outline of Capital Deep Dive

• Introduction
  – Motivation and approach for the capital deep dive study
  – State of funding for women entrepreneurs

• Dell WE Cities Capital Results:
  – Analysis of the overall capital scores
    › Distribution of Capital Scores overall
    › Distributions of Capital Sub pillars
  – City Case Studies
    › Identify unique cities in capital and conduct qualitative/quantitative research to identify forces that drive funding in these cities
  – Industry Analysis
  – Correlations

• Summary
  – Summary of the capital deep dive study
  – Future of Funding for Women Entrepreneurs
Motivation

• Capital is critical for scaling; in our research we heard and learned that this is often the limiting factor and women face unique challenges when it comes to raising capital.

• Whereas other research has helped document the barriers for women, this research will contribute to a discussion on solutions. Specifically, what is working (or effective) for women entrepreneurs when it comes to accessing capital.

• The research also uncovers:
  1. How women entrepreneurs are accessing capital
  2. Do women in different regions access different sources of capital?
  3. What industries do women entrepreneurs gravitate towards and how does this affect capital access?
  4. How does capital access differ across leading cities?
State of Funding for Women Entrepreneurs

• 2017 was a great year for progress in gender equality. Movements against sexism, sexual harassment, and wage inequality were put in motion in a significant way.

• However, there was little to no improvement in the state of women entrepreneurship. The number of companies with at least one female founder has remained stagnant for past 5 years at 17% (TechCrunch). Moreover, there was not much improvement to the amount of funding these firms receive.

• TechCrunch reported that “for the first two quarters in 2017, startups with a female founder raised $332 million in seed investment, or around 15 percent of all seed funding dollars. Approximately $6.5 billion has been invested in female-founded companies, representing more than 11 percent of all dollars invested in the first two quarters of 2017.”
• The stagnation in funding is attributed primarily to the lack of progression in women’s roles as investors. However, there have been minute improvements in this area in recent years.

• The CrunchBase Women in Venture Report reports that the percentage of women partners at the top 100 VC firms increased 17%. Furthermore, there was a 25% increase in women partners at accelerators and women also founded 16 micro-venture funds in the last three years.

• The rate of inclusivity of women partners is becoming more prevalent at new firms; The study finds that the frequency of women partners is nearly three times in new firms compared to the top 100 firms.

• The increase of female partners in VCs, although small, is a positive sign for both women entrepreneurs seeking funding and the emergence of women’s roles in investment positions.
Approach

• We analyzed the 2017 WE Cities data to identify which cities are leading in capital and what indicators within those categories are setting them apart.

• After identifying benchmark metrics and leading cities, we will do qualitative research into those cities to better understand what specific policies and practices are in place that are enabling greater access for high potential women entrepreneurs.

• The research will also uncover, what high potential women entrepreneurs are doing well in terms of accessing capital.

• For example: 1) How are women entrepreneurs accessing capital? 2) Do women in different regions access capital differently? 3) Do women in different industries have varying access to capital? 4) How does capital access differ across leading cities?

• Members of the Dell Women’s Entrepreneur Network (#DWEN) shared their real world stories of accessing capital for this study.
• All in all, the San Francisco Bay Area is the winner of the capital pillar
• Out of the top 10 cities, 5 are North American, 2 European, 2 Asian, and 1 African
• Tel Aviv – in the Middle East region, was just outside the top 10 at number 11
• The Latin American region lags the most in the area of capital
Obtaining capital to start or expand a business is one of the biggest obstacles for women entrepreneurs. It comes as no surprise that capital has a highly skewed distribution and the lowest average indicator score among the pillars measured.

The heavy skew in the distribution demonstrates that there is still a long way to go in the area of capital for women entrepreneurs.

The distribution of capital shines a light on the overperformers as well as the underperformers, identifying cities that standout for better or worse.

The San Francisco Bay Area significantly outperforms the other cities, Nairobi presents a unique case for being the only African city to make it in the top 10, and Sao Paulo, among the majority of Latin American cities, is in the bottom 5.
Capital Sub pillar Scores Distributions

- All sub-pillars are skewed to the low end.

- Encouragingly, the gender proportion in funding is the least skewed of the capital sub pillars. Demonstrating that progress is being made in the area of women’s access to capital relative to their male counterparts.

- Low capital scores are not simply due to biases, they are a complex function of cultural, economic, talent and technology.

- Working on some of these factors, can create a virtuous cycle where strengthening the other pillars can attract capital and more capital can strengthen the other pillars for women entrepreneurs.
Benchmark City: San Francisco Bay Area

- The San Francisco Bay Area is the leader of the capital pillar. It ranks in the top 10 in all the capital sub pillars and benchmarks 6 out of the 14 indicators.

- It comes as no surprise that the Bay Area ranks 1st in value and frequency of funding. There is more venture capital investment on an aggregate and per capita basis than any other region in the world.

- The area’s strengths in funding come down to sheer numbers. The area is home to 16 of the 62 most active, globally ranked VC firms, notably Intel Capital and Google Ventures. Furthermore, roughly 19 billion dollars of VC funds were given to businesses with at least 25% women executives, and there are 1450+ female founders or executives in 2nd round of funding or higher.

- The abundance of funding in the Bay Area does not necessarily translate into equitable funding for women. The area shows weakness in gender proportion of funding. The percent of VC funds going to women entrepreneurs is approximately 19% and the percent of businesses with a female founder or partner in the second round of funding or higher is 16%. Moreover, there is room for improvements of women’s presence in investment positions, as the percentage of total investment companies with at least one female executive is 35%.

**Practices/Policies for success:** Networking is essential for obtaining capital. In analyzing the Dell WE cities data we found that cities with a large entrepreneurial network tend to score higher on capital. An advantage of living in the Bay Area is that the area is geographically small and allows for a higher interconnectedness of individuals. Our interview with Rose Broome, founder of HandUp, highlighted the areas open and optimistic culture. Furthermore, she emphasized that there is a culture of founders helping founders, which was significant in launching her business.

The Bay Area investors, compared to investors with financial services backgrounds, tend to have more experiences in launching startups themselves. Furthermore, they are more apt to take risks than other investors. This attitude leads to more investment in shorter periods of time. According to RocketSpace, raising funds in the Bay Area "typically takes 2-3 month, for both seed rounds and Series A/B.

**Practices/Policies need for improvement:** The significant "bro culture" mentality in Silicon Valley can explain the gender gap in funding. Our interview with Amy Norman, founder of Little Passports, described the entrepreneurial environment in the Bay Area as “male entrenched”. There are more male VC founders and only a handful of female CEOs. The lack of women role models and women in investment positions lead to unconscious bias which affect funding opportunities for women. Recent news on sexual harassment allegations which led to the firing of Uber’s former CEO, Travis Kalanick, and the forced resignation of venture capitalist Justin Caldbeck, are further instances that the area has ways to go in improving the entrepreneurial atmosphere for women.

There still a significant wage gap in the Bay Area. According to the census, “women in San Francisco earn 84 cents for every dollar that their male counterparts make” (Fortune). However, the city is making strides to combat this issue. In summer of 2017, Mayor Ed Lee announced that employers won’t be allowed to ask applicants about their previous salaries.
Benchmark City: Nairobi

- Nairobi is an emerging hub for technology start ups and is rightfully recognized as Africa’s “Silicon Valley”. The city ranks 6th in Capital overall, 40th in Value and Frequency of Funding, 48th in Women’s Capital Base, and 1st in Gender Proportion of Funding.

- Nairobi leads the gender proportion of funding sub pillar. Roughly 67% of VC funds were given to businesses with at least 25% female executives. Moreover, there is a higher presence of women in investment roles relative to the other cities; 42% of investment companies have at least 1 female executive. The city ranks 1st in the percent of city businesses in 2nd or higher round of funding, coming in at 35%.

- However, strengths in equitable funding between men and women does necessarily speak on the availability of funding for entrepreneurs. Nairobi scores on the lower end for both women’s capital base and value and frequency of funding. The city is however making strides to make Nairobi more attractive location for investors. Initiatives such as the Konza Technopolis is Kenya’s attempt at building a smart city. Konza is located approximately 60 kilometers outside of Nairobi, and it’s purposed to “be a world-class technology hub, home to leading companies in education, life science, telecom, and BPO/ITES.”

**Practices/Policies for success:** The success of women entrepreneurs in the Information Communication Technology (ICT) sector, although slow, has been more prevalent in Nairobi. University of Nairobi, largest university in Kenya, has been actively partnering with technology hubs and incubators to promote entrepreneurial development in the ICT sector; often, with the special focus of encouraging women into ICT. These initiatives are supported by the high rate of return among the Kenyan diaspora, who have professional and academic experience in STEM fields from the US, UK, and Europe. These entrepreneurs are typically responsible for finding new companies because they have experience in finding and persuading funders to finance new projects in Kenya. This is especially important as private funders are typically risk averse when providing start-up capital in sub-Saharan Africa.

Regionally, Kenya has a comparative advantage in the quality and reach of the ICT infrastructure throughout the country; especially via broadband and mobile networks. In 2017, internet penetration overall was around 85% nationwide. This is largely facilitated by mobile internet utilizing telecommunications infrastructure that has been rapidly developed by the market dominant Safaricom, in which the government retains a major ownership stake. For this reason, Kenya has experienced the fastest growth in mobile payment and transfer systems in sub-Saharan Africa, as well as the adoption and use of social media platforms. Since a new political party gained power in 2013, the government has exploited these comparative advantages by partnering with various technology hubs and incubators in Nairobi. This trend is expected to continue with development of the Konza Technopolis.

**Practices/Policies need for improvement:** The availability of funds for women entrepreneurs is lacking in the city. Although women have had relatively more success with microfinances, they are not sufficient to sustain their business. According to an IFC report, “women entrepreneurs who have outgrown microfinance loan limits have a hard time obtaining loans as small KSh1 million from commercial banks.” Furthermore, banks tend to discriminate against women entrepreneurs. The same report, noted that “bank official tend to ignore [women] and prefer speaking to their husbands or male business partner.”
Benchmark City: Sao Paulo

- Sao Paulo ranks among the bottom 5 cities for capital. The city ranks 50th in Gender Proportion of Funding, 37th in Value and Frequency of Funding, and 15th in Women’s Capital Base.

- Sao Paulo ranks the lowest in Gender Proportion of funding. This comes as no surprise as a survey by Sebrae and Dieese found that only 10% of all women founded organizations in Brazil receive outside funding. Roughly 3.5% of VC funds were given to businesses with at least 25% female executives. Moreover, only 5% of women founded businesses were in the second or higher funding round. The presence of women in investment positions also lacks in the city, only 13% of investment companies were found to have at least one female partner.

- The city also lacks in sheer numbers when it comes to funding opportunities for women entrepreneurs. Sao Paulo scores on the lower half in value and frequency of funding. The low score stems from the total amount of funding going to businesses with at least 25% female executives and the lack of major VC firms in the city. However, the city does particularly well in Women’s Capital Base. Crowdfunding is just starting to become an option to some businesses and Sao Paulo ranks 29th in the index for the number of projects on crowdfunding sites. Just as an example, Catarse, the main crowdfunding site in Brazil, has moved around only BRL 32 million (about US$ 10 million) in more than its five years in existence. And, no significant data exists to show crowdfunding options for women enterprises in Sao Paulo alone.

**Practices/Policies for success:** Sao Paulo offers generous **paid maternity leave** to women. The city ranks 10th in terms of maternity leave policies. The Brazilian law guarantees 120 days of paid maternity leave for mothers, and this can be extended for another two months following an agreement between companies and the unions. This level of support both during and after the baby is born provides women with stability at work.

The Sao Paulo local town hall is striving to encourage women to venture into new businesses. The local town’s **partnership** with Google and Rede Mulher Empreendedora is an instance of a project with the intent to support women interested in investing in the tech sector—an area mainly dominated by men. This in turn helps Sao Paulo mobilize its women’s capital base, where it ranks in the top half.

**Practices/Policies need for improvement:** Due to the **lack of outside funding**, women entrepreneurs tend to use their own savings and or get help from family members to start their business. However, direct bank loans, often secured against property, remain by far the most common way to finance new enterprises in Sao Paulo. One interviewee pointed out that the “the credit model in Brazil is still an old credit model, which only provides credit for someone who has a property. If the woman does not have a car or a house in her name, then she has less access to credit than men. Her situation is worse than men’s to get the money in the banks.” This has disabled most businesses in the city to find cheap funding, and business owners have to negotiate with bank managers on rates that are usually very high. However, the recovery from the recent recession in Brazil, should enable the Brazilian Central Bank to cut interest rates to ameliorate the situation, at least in the medium term.
Industry Analysis

Leveraging data from CrunchBase, we identified the industries that men and women entrepreneurs tend to gravitate towards. This was done by aggregating the organizations with majority women executives. Furthermore, we color coded the industries by the average amount of funding raised.

About 20.39% of organizations with majority women executives fall into the commerce and shopping sector, yet on average the biotechnology sector has raised the most amount of VC funds.

Even among the industries that women gravitate towards, they raise less VC funds on average compared to their male counterparts.
Non-Capital Factors that drive Funding in WE Cities

Correlations between capital and non-capital indicators provide insight into outside forces that drive funding in WE cities.

We calculated correlations between the capital scores and non-capital indicators listed the top 3 highest correlated indicators:

**Accelerators**
- Accelerators provide entrepreneurs with the proper network, investment and mentorship to start their business. Naturally, cities with higher number accelerators tend to provide better access to capital.

**Entrepreneurial Network (population with entrepreneurial experience)**
- Through our interviews and research we found that women entrepreneurs often noted networking to be a key factor in their success. Although networking does not guarantee funding, access to the right network can provide guidance to ensure that women are equipped with the right tools when pitching their businesses to investors.

**Presence of role models: # of globally recognized successful WE**
- The presence of role models in a city provides more than just inspiration for women entrepreneurs, they are a reflection of the environment. Thus, cities with a higher presence of role models tend to have a more inclusive and accepting culture, which can lead to less bias when it comes to funding.
SUMMARY
ACCESSING CAPITAL
Summary of the Capital Deep Dive

• The Dell WE Cities capital results and the city case studies show there are still major gender gaps in traditional investment channels e.g., VCs and banks.

• Recent research by Harvard Business Review, finds that there is bias in VCs approach to the questions posed to male and female entrepreneurs. The study finds that in the US “67% of the questions posed to male entrepreneurs were promotion-oriented.” Meaning, the questions focused on achievements and hopes of the entrepreneurs.

• While, “66% of [the questions] to female entrepreneurs were prevention-oriented”. These questions were more concerned with safety, responsibility and security. The study finds that entrepreneurs who were asked the prevention-oriented questions tended to raise less capital on average than those with the promotion-based questions.
Future of funding for women entrepreneurs: crowdfunding

• The difficulty of raising funds through traditional investment channels has led women to partake in new sources of funding. Crowdfunding has become a thriving source of capital for women entrepreneurs. A recent study of Kickstarter found that although women set lower funding goals, “they have been better able to raise funds in excess of their original funding goals, even in [male-dominated] categories, such as technology”.

• Women’s success in crowdfunding is global. PWC finds that globally, “22% of campaigns led by women reached their target, compared to the 17% of those led by men”. Furthermore, “on average each individual backer contributes $87 to women compared to $83 to men.” The gap widens to $10 in the UK and US. Women’s success in crowdfunding is attributed to the even gender-level playing field for the backers. Unlike, the male-dominant traditional investment channels, crowdfunding allows for a diverse pool of investors.
Outline of Technology Deep Dive

• Introduction
  – Motivation and approach for the technology deep dive study

• Summarize Dell WE Cities Technology Results:
  – Analysis of the overall technology scores
    › Distribution of Technology Scores overall
    › Distributions of Technology Sub pillars
  – Benchmark Cities
    › Identify the top cities in technology and analyze the metrics that set these cities
    › Qualitative/quantitative research to identify outside forces that drive technology use in these cities
  – Correlations

• Identify the top cities in Technology
  – Analyze the metrics that set these cities apart
  – Qualitative/quantitative research to identify outside forces that drive technology access in these cities
  – Real world stories of women entrepreneurs
    › Women using technology to scale businesses
    › Women starting/scaling tech businesses
    › Women who have found technology to be a barrier to scaling (i.e., where/how does lack of technology pose a constraint?)
Motivation

• Based on the 2017 Dell WECities Index that ranked 50 cities for their ability on attracting and retaining women entrepreneurs, we found that many women entrepreneurs have difficulty talking about technology in general.

• They understand what they use, but many do not fully consider technology that is available that they may not be using, or how it can help them scale a business.

• This study is aimed at gaining insight into how women entrepreneurs use technology to scale businesses and how the technology ecosystem of a city can aid in that scaling.
Approach

- We analyzed the 2017 WE Cities data to identify which cities are leading in technology and what indicators within those categories are setting them apart.

- After identifying benchmark metrics and leading cities, we will do qualitative research into those cities to better understand what specific policies and practices are in place that are enabling greater access for high potential women entrepreneurs.

- The research will also uncover what high potential women entrepreneurs are doing as well in terms of accessing and using technology (including what technologies and platforms women may be leading on).

- For example: 1) How are women entrepreneurs accessing and using and/or driving technology? 2) Do women in different regions access and use different technology platforms? 3) Do women in different industries use different technologies?

- With input from Dell and DWEN the studies will include real world stories from women entrepreneurs on their experience accessing and using technology.
Rankings of the Technology Pillar

- Austin, Texas is the top city in the technology pillar
- Out of the top 10 cities, 6 are North American, 2 European, and 2 Asian
- Middle East, African, and Latin American cities lagged far behind in this pillar
Technology Scores Distribution

- Access and use of technology varies widely across cities, creating a relatively normal distribution.

- This wide variation is spread fairly evenly across the cities in this study, suggesting that local policies and practices can make a significant difference.

- In general, Western cities and highly developed Asian cities fall on the upper half of the distribution.

- Austin only just outperforms other Western cities such as London, Stockholm, and New York in this category, while cities like Istanbul, Delhi and Lima lag far behind.
Technology Sub pillar Scores Distributions

- The distributions of the sub-pillar scores are very different from each other, giving an interesting picture of where disparities exist.

- The ‘Connectedness’ sub-pillar is highly skewed to the right-hand side, suggesting that high scoring cities are achieving relatively average levels of connectedness, with the others lagging far behind.

- ‘Cost’, on the other hand, is quite left-hand skewed, suggesting that cost is a category that could be improved across the board.

- Finally, ‘Policy’ has a wide, relatively flat distribution, suggesting that policies impacting the technology sector vary widely and can have a big impact on the pillar as a whole.
Benchmark City: Austin

The Austin Metro Area is the highest-scoring city for Technology. It ranks 2nd in Policy, 7th in Costs and 2nd in Connectedness out of 50 cities. Austin is an important tech hub that is well-positioned to provide female entrepreneurs with the knowledge to utilize new technologies.

Austin has a thriving tech network with women-oriented organizations and events that spread knowledge about technology. It ranks 1st in technology training, providing centers for women entrepreneurs across all sectors that enable them to improve their operations and scale up their businesses. The availability of mentoring is a meaningful factor driving the adoption of technology, as they encourage women to increase key technical skills and implement more advanced tools. Austin ranks 26th in the number of business organizations for women, many of which provide tech resources. Tech-specific ventures find well-funded start-up incubators and opportunities for collaboration with other women in the technology space.

Despite Austin’s promising technology ecosystem, women entrepreneurs face a significant barrier in the form of high costs. The city ranks 42nd in mobile rates and 41st in standard internet rates. The 2015 study “Digital Inclusion in Austin” revealed that 61% of the city’s 50,000 non-internet users agreed that costs were too high, and that they tended to be older, less educated and female. Efforts to expand cutting-edge telecommunications infrastructure, such as 5G and small-cell technology, are important to keeping up with Austin’s booming growth.

Practices/Policies for success: Austin is one of the few cities that collects and publishes data on access to technology by gender and other demographics. This data enables the public, private and non-for-profit sectors to improve digital inclusion and address disparities that hold back women entrepreneurs of all backgrounds.

Tax incentives, grants and publicly-funded programs facilitate access to technology. These include a sales tax exemption on software and equipment employed in R&D, and the Grant for Technology Opportunities Program that awards funding and devices to projects that create digital opportunities for the community. The Texas’ Skills Development Fund also provides training for employees through technical colleges.

Practices/Policies need for improvement: Austin ranks 1st both for the percent of women using the internet and using smart phones. However, investment in infrastructure to support next-generation technology, such as mobile broadband and high-speed optic fiber, lags behind the city’s pace of growth. Reliable connectivity is crucial to supporting the business application of the internet of things and cloud computing.

Moreover, the development of interactive online sales platforms and streaming for retail promotion, as well as the ability to employ customer data insights in a smart-business ecosystem, require improved connectivity speeds that are relatively expensive in Austin compared to other cities.

Affordable internet access that can support emerging technologies would allow new and existing women-owned businesses to modernize, become more cost-effective and expand into global markets.
Benchmark City: London

Greater London is ranked 2nd on Technology, with an international tech scene that has grown significantly over the past 5 years. It scores 1st in Policy, 16th in Cost and 30th in Connectedness out of the 50 cities studied.

London stands out for its ready availability of networking and professional development opportunities. A rich calendar of tech-related events enables women to access coaching schemes and establish cross-sector business relationships in a welcoming environment. The city ranks in the top 5 for mentoring programs for women entrepreneurs. Government initiatives, such as the Go to Grow program, offer mentoring, workshops and even access to trade missions to help businesses improve their use of technology and expand globally.

However, London scores low in the Connectedness category due to its lagging rates of smart phone ownership and social media usage compared to other large cities. It ranks 20th in the percentage of women who own a smart phone, at 89%. In addition, London ranks 35th on women’s use of social media platforms such as LinkedIn, for which the ratio of women to men is only 76:100. While London scores 16th in Cost overall, it ranks 28th for the cost of mobile phone plans and 23rd for internet rates. This poses a significant barrier to internet access for women entrepreneurs.

In an effort to boost digital connectivity, the Mayor of London announced the creation of a Digital Infrastructure Fund to improve internet coverage in areas with poor provision in 2017. Moreover, the government launched an initiative to install free Wi-Fi in over 80 public buildings around the city in 2018.

Practices/Policies for success:

London ranks 7th for technology training, with a variety of formal and informal educational opportunities that are specifically designed for women. The city is host to many of the world’s top universities and business schools, offering a wide range of courses on technology-driven innovation and the use of digital tools. Many of these programs provide scholarships for aspiring female entrepreneurs. Community initiatives such as Code First: Professional Women organize workshops for women in all sectors to understand the role of digital tools and improve their practical tech skills.

The city's technology-friendly policy environment attracts investment from multinational companies and fosters the emergence of start-ups. London houses the regional headquarters of Google and Facebook, and in 2017 it received more venture capital funding for tech companies than all other major European cities put together. The importance of the tech sector creates a unique business ecosystem for women entrepreneurs to engage with emerging technologies.

Practices/Policies need for improvement:

London views data as an important part of its infrastructure, and has launched an ambitious plan to create a centralized City Data Market aimed at reducing data-sharing frictions. Nevertheless, the city could do more to ensure that gender-based disparities in technology utilization can be identified and rectified by expanding the scope of data collection efforts at the gender level.
Benchmark City: Sydney

Greater Sydney is an emerging global entrepreneurship center and ranks 23rd in the Technology pillar. The government actively seeks to promote innovation and gender diversity. The city ranks 24th in Policy, 34th in Cost and 22nd in Connectedness in the 2017 WE Cities Index.

The city ranks 18th in technology training organizations and provides a growing number of networking opportunities for entrepreneurs. The new Sydney School of Entrepreneurship, a government-funded NGO, brings together 12 universities and technical schools with the purpose of keeping the next generation of innovators in Australia. It hosts regular events aimed at expanding opportunities for women and spreading knowledge about the adoption of new technologies. Sydney is also home to some unique technology-oriented education initiatives. For example, the company Teacup Techies imparts personalized home lessons to help senior women use technology more effectively.

On the interviews conducted with female entrepreneurs for this study, a consistent theme amongst those operating in Sydney was the dichotomy between relying on technology to expand globally due to Australia’s relative geographic isolation, and the relatively high barrier to leveraging that crucial technology.

Sydney has taken important steps towards improving internet access in recent years. The number of high-speed fiber connections rose to 1.4 million between December 2016 and December 2017, a 122% increase. In spite of this, the city ranks 44th in mobile rates and 35th in standard internet rates. Even though 89% of women in Sydney use the internet and own smart phones, a relatively high percentage, their ranks are only 20th and 21st respectively.

Practices/Policies for success:

Australia offers some of the most generous tax incentives to start-ups in the world. These include a 10-year exemption on capital gains tax, a 20% tax offset for qualifying investments below 200,000 per investor per year, and a 10% tax offset on capital invested through early stage venture capital limited partnerships. Furthermore, in 2018 the government expanded the annual cap on cash refunds for early start-ups from AUD$2 million to AUD$4 million, and increased the R&D expenditure threshold for tax incentives from AUD$100 million to AUD$150 million.

The government of New South Wales opened the Sydney Startup Hub in 2018 to bring entrepreneurs together, along with investors, incubators and accelerators. It houses startups both within and outside the tech sector, providing a space for innovation, collaboration and knowledge transfer on cutting-edge technologies. Thanks to visionary projects such as this one, Australia is now in 1st place in the 2018 Economist Intelligence Unit’s Technological Readiness Ranking along with Singapore and Sweden.

Practices/Policies need for improvement: Like other global cities looking to attract and support women entrepreneurs, Sydney would benefit from improving data collection initiatives. The Australian Bureau of Statistics gathers some gender-level data, but Sydney does not systematically collect data by gender or make it publicly available. Disaggregated data would facilitate the analysis of gender disparities in technology use and the design of policies that help empower women to reach their potential.
Non-technology Factors that drive technology access in WE Cities

- Correlations between technology and non-technology indicators provide insight into outside forces that drive technology access in WE cities.

- We calculated correlations between technology and non-technology indicators, focusing on the top 5 highest positively correlated non-technology. Then, we counted the frequency these indicators appeared in the top 3.

- The top 3 highest correlated indicators with technology are:
  - Top Ranked University in that City (out of 1000 globally) (inverted)
  - Ease of starting a business
  - Presence of city and/or national level policy advocacy organization specifically for women’s equality issues
SUMMARY

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACCESSING TECHNOLOGY
Summary of Technology

• The Dell WE Cities technology analysis and the city case studies highlight the importance of connectivity, training and support networks.

• The cost of accessing the internet is a significant factor that affects how women use technology. Innovations that require high-speed connectivity strain telecommunications infrastructure and increase prices when investment can’t keep up. Investing in improved connectivity can lay the groundwork for women entrepreneurs to derive tangible benefits from technological advancements.

• Mobile phone use and maintaining an active online presence are fundamental to scaling any business in today’s fast-paced global economy. In some cities, there is a large gender gap in smartphone ownership, the frequency of mobile transactions and the use of social media platforms that magnify business visibility. Fostering parity is an important step towards empowering women entrepreneurs to improve their business outcomes.

• Technical skills training isn’t just important to attract women into tech start-up hubs. Organizations that improve computer literacy in a judgement-free environment can enhance women’s ability to use technology effectively regardless of what sector their business is in.
Summary of Technology

• Benchmark cities reveal the importance of mentoring networks to bolster the adoption of new technologies. Local and nationwide groups providing opportunities to ask for guidance from experienced entrepreneurs encourage business owners to implement more advanced systems.

• Tax incentives for investors and entrepreneurs play a prominent role in the development and acquisition of digital tools. Government schemes, including grants and cash refunds, can also help women entrepreneurs access the necessary technology infrastructure to expand their operations worldwide. This conclusion is supported by women interviewed across cities as part of this study.

• Reliance on technology for scaling a business beyond the local market means that high cost and restricted access to technology can have a disproportionate impact on women entrepreneurs scaling their business.

• Public access to data on technology use by gender can support the appropriate targeting and monitoring of policy interventions and community initiatives. Some of the top-ranking cities in the Dell WE Cities index have already begun to collect data on digital inclusion as part of their strategy to spur innovation and economic growth. Governments around the world can do more to make these indicators publicly available at regular intervals.
“Access to capital and technology, as well as cultural and political barriers, continue to limit the success of women-owned businesses. With the release of the WE City Deep Dives and Blueprints, leaders and policymakers can confidently move from ‘analysis to action,’ accelerating positive change that allows women entrepreneurs to thrive – which benefits local communities, wider society and the global economy.”

- Karen Quintos, executive vice president and chief customer officer, Dell
We believe that access to and development of financial and human capital is essential to fostering women’s entrepreneurship; this can be supported through:

- Incentives for individuals and organizations to invest in women-owned companies through venture funds, corporate venture, private equity and social capital.
- Modernization of existing government certification, grant and loan programs that help women-owned businesses compete to reflect changing investment models.
- Promotion and marketing of existing government programs to encourage broader awareness and use.
- Continuing to or start to foster small-business lending programs.
- Creating new sources of capital such as crowdfunding and impact investments.
- Encouraging enterprise corporations, federal departments and state/local contracts to increase supplier diversity with a percentage of contracts being awarded to women-owned businesses.
- Considering a shortening of government payment cycles from 90 days to 30 days for small women-owned suppliers.
- Expanding access to family-friendly policies including access to high-quality, affordable child care, care-giving and paid family leave policies.
As women entrepreneurs and business owners turn to each other for help, we believe that local governments and business leaders can help facilitate connections by increasing access to local and global networks and markets, by:

- Supporting trade agreements that further liberalize trade and open new markets for businesses of all sizes.
- Promoting global and open standards, and reliable mechanisms for cross-border data transfers and business support services and networks, while providing sufficient protections for privacy and information security.
- Supporting mentorship efforts through financial support and encouragement of multiplier platforms such as accelerators, continuing education and training programs, and facilitated networking events.
- Encouraging conscious placement of women on boards, in venture partnerships and on executive teams.
- Promoting positive success stories of female founders and business owners through the media, conferences and leadership movements.
We see technology-driven implications for both government and business. Government and business leaders can help women entrepreneurs thrive in the changing face of technology, through:

- Streamlining the process of partnering and applying for government resources,

- Emphasizing Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and digital literacy in education and early training programs.

- Working with business leaders and educators to encourage technology training programs to end unconscious biases in the STEM fields, government, corporations and institutions.

- Enabling access to broadband globally.

- Increasing awareness of options women have to the hardware, software and digital resources they need to scale their companies.
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