

Diane Girard

Founder and President, Global Links Network

Diane is the founder and president of Global Links Network, an international trade facilitation firm that specializes in international marketing, training and technology. With over 25 years experience in the international marketplace, Diane has been involved in a variety of projects in over 50 countries in North America, Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and Latin America.

Global Links is comprised of a team of international trade facilitators with expertise in a wide range of markets, sectors and disciplines. Clients include international development organizations such as the United Nations and other development agencies, government trade promotion agencies, sector associations, business support organizations, educational institutions and small and medium-size enterprises.

Diane is first and foremost an entrepreneur. For the past 10 years, Diane and her team have focused their efforts on making the international business environment more user-friendly for other entrepreneurs. Private sector development and capacity-building of trade promotion organizations and business support organizations have become the hallmark of the company's work in developing and transitional economies.

Global Links Network is paving the way for the future world of trade and development - a world which increasingly involves technology, the export of services, and is driven by new global traders such as micro-enterprises, women, and young entrepreneurs. Diane's presentations seek to inspire, empower and engage these audiences in becoming more actively involved in crossing and bridging borders.

Diane holds the world-recognized designation of Certified International Trade Professional (C.I.T.P.) designated by the Forum for International Trade Training. She serves on the national Board of the Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters, and is a Senior Associate of TFO Canada. She is a member of several associations: the Forum for International Trade Training, the Canadian and African Business Women's Alliance, and the Canadian Professional Sales Association.