



## Naila Chowdhury

CEO, Pillars 4 Dignity

Naila Chowdhury is a transformational leader. Her areas of expertise include women's economic empowerment, social impact, human rights, inclusive growth, public private partnerships, and identifying new sources of funding. Her roles include peace ambassador, global connector, consummate networker, strategic partnership builder, women empowerment advocate, change maker, social entrepreneur, UN SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) Ambassador, and global telecom expert.

She envisions a world where impact leaders, entrepreneurs and innovators can access the resources they need to create deep and irreversible social impact, leaving no one behind by addressing the issues of poverty, human rights, equity, connectivity for all, access to finance, inclusion, and education to improve quality of life, especially for the underrepresented communities in the world. She began her career at UNICEF, then the Marie Stopes Clinic (UK), which sparked her life-long interest in women's rights, economic empowerment and human rights. She is firmly committed to the UN Sustainable Development Goals and Women's Empowerment Principles.

She has many advanced degrees, including a Master's & Executive MBA from Stockholm School of Economics; Senior Executive Leadership Development Diploma from National University of Singapore; and Telecom Fraud Analyst from Cambridge University.

Naila worked in several countries in Southeast Asia and Europe with Telenor, the state-owned Norwegian Telecom giant. With Nobel Peace Prize recipient Dr. Muhammad Yunus, she oversaw the eponymous women's empowerment project of GrameenPhone, economically empowering minority women.

She sits on several boards of prominent organizations in the U.S., and with the UN, including WEP (Women's Empowerment Principles) Leadership Team Member, UN Global Compact, and formerly UN Women in an advisory, capacity focusing on empowerment of the disadvantaged and vulnerable, especially women. Chowdhury is one of the founders of Fashion4Development, working with First Ladies of the World. She actively supports the Annual First Ladies Luncheon in New York during UN General Assembly. She serves in advisory and leadership capacities with the San Diego International Film Festival, Impact Leadership 21; San Diego Union Tribune; Mission Driven Finance, Women4Empowerment, Alliance4Empowerment and Coalition for Hope.

Naila Chowdhury is an independent thinker. She is a TriBeCa Film Disruptor Fellow for a reason: She thinks outside the box, and she is an innovator. Her goal is to leave behind a better world for the next generation; be the source of change.