

**Amanda Ellis**  
**Special Advisor to the President**  
**East-West Center**

A passionate proponent of the positive role business can play in promoting gender equality and inclusive growth, Amanda Ellis previously managed the World Bank President's Global Private Sector CEO Leaders Forum to promote women's economic empowerment. She led the World Bank project that created 'Women business and the law', designed the 'Gender and growth' diagnostic for Ministers of Finance and collaborated with the EIU to produce the Women's Economic Opportunity Index. A founding member and past chair of the Global Banking Alliance for Women, Ms Ellis proved the business case for investing in women and gender equality when her Women in business team at Westpac Banking Corporation grew revenues from a standing start to over half a billion dollars in just three years.

A winner of TIAW's lifetime Achievement Award for promoting women's economic empowerment, Ms Ellis is now working with the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on new growth models to ensure the contributions of the private sector to gender equality are fully realized.

Ms Ellis was most recently New Zealand's Head of Mission and Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva. She also served concurrently as the Prime Minister's Special Envoy to Francophone Africa. Prior to that Ms Ellis was Deputy Secretary International Development and Head of the New Zealand Aid Program managing an annual budget of some \$600million.