

# Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) — Organising Informal-Economy Women for Full Employment, India

Gender Equality · Good practice · India

Quality score: 85/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

## Summary

SEWA, founded in Ahmedabad in 1972, is the world's largest trade union of informal-sector women. With 3.7 million members across 20 Indian states, it integrates organising with microfinance, insurance and training, raising member incomes and reducing domestic violence.

## Key dimensions

| Dimension                       | Score |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Transferability / replicability | 2/3   |
| Impact on gender equality       | 1/1   |
| Effectiveness                   | 1/1   |
| Efficiency                      | 0/1   |
| Evaluated outcomes              | 1/1   |
| Sustainability                  | 1/1   |
| Achievement / evidence          | 1/1   |
| Gender-mainstreaming embedding  | 1/1   |
| Curator validation              | 1/1   |

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

## Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-06-23

[Self Employed Women's Association \(SEWA\)](#) — accessed 2026-06-23

[World Bank evaluation \(2005\)](#) — accessed 2026-06-23

[ILO: SEWA — Chapter 7](#) — accessed 2026-06-23

[SEWA official website](#) — accessed 2026-06-23

---

Cite this — Evidoria. *Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) — Organising Informal-Economy Women for Full Employment, India*. Persistent ID: 1922b9d8-e21a-444c-a102-06a904efa1da.