Artisan Entrepreneur Dialogues: Exploring Business Models and the Lifecycle of an Artisan Business
Panelists

Nilda Callanaupa Alvarez
Center of Traditional Textiles of Cusco

Rangina Hamidi
Kandahar Treasure

Janet Nkubana
Gahaya Links

Moderated by: Peggy Clark
Alliance for Artisan Enterprise
CENTER FOR TRADITIONAL TEXTILES OF CUSCO

• Established in 1996 by Nilda Callañaupa

• Dedicated to preserving the textile traditions of the Cusco region of the Andes.

• Works with Quechua weavers and their families and has formed partnerships with nine communities.

Aims to improve the quality of life in the communities it works with by promoting skills-building and community development, and encourages the passing down of weaving knowledge from elders to new generations.
Established after the Rwandan Genocide of 1994, when the founders, sisters Janet Nkubana and Joy Ndunguste, returned to the city of Kilgali after living in a Ugandan refugee camp and opened a hotel.

Began selling hand-woven baskets made by local women to guests at the hotel.

Eventually Gahaya Links began teaching weaving skills to small groups of women.

Gahaya Links sell products made by over 4,000 rural weavers all across Rwanda.
Kandahar Treasure

- Founded 2003 by Rangina Hamidi after returning to Afghanistan

- Employing female artisans to produce embroidered clothing, home décor and accessories.

- Kandahar Treasure helps elevate the value of women in their homes and their independence by providing them with a steady income to support themselves and their families, and increasing their economic independence.