



GENDERHOPES
WORKING TO END GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

**Interview of the Month
Dr Sam Collins, Founder and CEO,
Aspire Trailblazing Women
December 2014**

- 1. *GenderHopes: As the Director of the Aspire Foundation for Women, can you tell us what inspired you to create the organisation and briefly describe what it does?***

Dr. Sam Collins: I was inspired to start Aspire in 2000 when I was 30 years old. I wanted to create a business that made a difference and a positive impact in the world as well as providing me the flexibility and financial security I wanted to start a family.

We are a social business that works with trailblazing women who want to make a difference in their life, workplaces and the wider world. We do this through events, workshops, coaching and a pro-bono mentoring programme that operates in 80 countries.

- 2. *How does the work of Aspire create a positive impact?***

We are told that we are 'life changing'. It's all about inspiration and empowerment -when women are empowered, amazing and fantastic things happen, personal growth, business growth, communities evolve and world issues are solved.

- 3. *As a global foundation working with women in 80 countries, where are the biggest proportion of your mentees based?***

UK, USA, Africa

- 4. *Are there any countries that you would specifically like to expand the number of mentees in and why?***

Dubai, India, Brazil, China – the potential for women in these countries is immense and we would love to be part of it



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5. *How can our readers support Aspire?*

We have just set ourselves a goal to make a difference to 1 billion women by 2020. We need ideas, support and collaboration. Sign up to be part of our community on www.aspirewomen.com

6. *What is your vision for the future of Aspire?*

I'd like to see Aspire as a hub for women to connect locally and internationally. Also, organising events globally and achieving our 2020 goal. Help, we're gonna need it!