

Dianne Calvi

President and CEO, Village Enterprise

Dianne Calvi is President and CEO of Village Enterprise (www.villageenterprise.org). Working in rural Sub Saharan Africa, Village Enterprise's mission is to end extreme poverty through entrepreneurship and innovation. Village Enterprise has started over 39,000 businesses, trained over 156,000 new small business owners and transformed the lives of over 850,000 women, men, and children in Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania. Village Enterprise's group based, community led Graduation program equips people living in extreme poverty to start small businesses, increase household income and savings, and improve standards of living.

Since joining Village Enterprise in 2010, Dianne has significantly grown the size and depth of the organization's impact by focusing on strategic partnerships, innovation and technology, rigorous monitoring and evaluation, and building a highly qualified East African team.

During her tenure, Village Enterprise has been recognized by The Life You Can Save, the Rockefeller Foundation, Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA), ImpactMatters, Classy, and received top ratings from Charity Navigator (4-star charity) and Guidestar (Platinum). The organization has also been recognized for:

- The first development impact bond for poverty alleviation in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Rigorous mobile monitoring and evaluation and positive evaluation results from an RCT implemented by Innovations for Poverty Action
- Highly qualified and dedicated East African team
- Innovation and improvement as the essence of program delivery. VE was awarded a Rockefeller Foundation's 100 Next Century Innovators award.

Before coming to Village Enterprise, she held leadership positions in NGOs, technology companies and on several nonprofit boards. She graduated with a BA from Stanford University and an MBA from Bocconi University (Milan, Italy) on a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship.