

Acknowledgments

I acknowledge with gratitude and interest the support of the staff at Edward Elgar Publishing. I would also like to acknowledge the financial sponsorship to cover the traveling costs for this book, which was provided by the then Dean of my college, Dr Jim Nolan, who awarded me an endowed faculty position, the Hickey Chair. Special thanks are due to Siena students Christopher Reardon, Jessica Jowrey, Melissa Infante and Joshua Leone, who assisted me with this book in various capacities. I am deeply indebted to the participation of women entrepreneurs worldwide who agreed to be part of this study and to have their voices heard. Their agreement to participate and their commitment to this book were deeply moving.

I record with pleasure the patience and support of my husband Andrew and my kids Jacob, Jared, Joshua and Gabrielle who all traveled with me on many trips to the various countries and allowed me the time needed to conduct my research. Their unwavering support, consistent patience and understanding was more than I could have asked for. Thanks also to my mother, Daphne Heslop Smith, who died on 5 June 1988; the ability to persevere, which she taught me early in life, was particularly helpful as I journeyed through the countries to research and complete this book. I hope that wherever she is tonight, she is aware of all that I have done and she is proud of who I am. Finally, I would like to acknowledge my indebtedness to organizations and individuals who allowed their work to be used in this book to enhance and create a more complete product.

