

Laura A. Parkin

Chief Executive Officer



Laura is the Co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of the National Entrepreneurship Network, India's largest, most vibrant entrepreneurial community. NEN is India's leader in entrepreneurship education, creating and supporting the country's next generation of high-growth entrepreneurs. Since its founding in 2003, NEN has grown to include over 500 top-tier academic institutes across 30 cities in India. NEN is helping develop a pool of over 1,200 entrepreneurship faculty members, has over 70,000 individual members, and reaches more than 500,000 students.

In addition, NEN runs the annual Entrepreneurship Week India, the country's largest campaign to build awareness and support for entrepreneurs. This year, E Week India featured more than 4,000 events, engaging more than 600,000 participants across the country.

Laura is a serial entrepreneur, having founded four companies, and a former venture capitalist at Highland Capital Partners in Boston, Massachusetts, where she invested in health care companies. In the early 90's she successfully helped established a merchant bank in Moscow on behalf of the investment firm Aldrich, Eastman and Waltch. Just prior to co-founding NEN, Laura was a Vice President at Ashoka, an organization that identifies and supports social entrepreneurs across the world.

Currently, she is on the Advisory Boards of Acumen Fund's Water Portfolio; Proto.in, a non-profit supporting product-based startups in India; and the SIDBI Business Incubator at IIT-Kanpur. Laura was born and brought up in Hong Kong, and holds a B.A. from Harvard University.