

Clare O Connor

Invictess



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Clare founded Invictess, the only organisation in Ireland solely dedicated to working with and advocating for females challenging stereotypes in STEM and non-traditional roles. Invictess strives to build stronger foundations for female leadership and talent pools globally; to engage, attract and retain female talent through equitable opportunity in our organisations.

Clare spent ten years travelling the world as a Marine Engineering Officer in the Merchant Navy, and for nine months of one year, did not see another woman or a child, she did not have another female colleague for a period of 18 months and never had a female superior. In Irish history, only a handful of women had achieved the same qualification by the time she sat her Chief Engineers exams. Clare became the first woman to take an engineering position in not one, but two Irish companies.

Clare has lived the experience - of not having a readily available community surrounding her, of trying to navigate an unfamiliar world without another female mentor or guide. Of wanting to and striving for the opportunity to succeed in her dream job, without a sisterhood behind her. Clare found that the supportive environment of the ACORNS community gave her this and much more. It provided a platform to test her ideas and develop her business offering to where she wanted it to be.

Now she has created the one thing she needed in her career, a space that advances individuals and industries to foster a community of courageous Female Champions and Leaders. Her client base consists of individuals, businesses, schools and associations.

Providing early stage female entrepreneurs, living in rural Ireland, with the knowledge, support and networking opportunities to meet and even exceed their current aspirations.



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine