



**MAC CHUNG LYN, 38,**  
CEO OF NANDO'S MALAYSIA

When Mac Chung Lynn brought in the international Nando's chain to Malaysia 13 years ago, many sceptics foretold her business would last no more than a few years in the local dining scene. "I was brought up with the belief that hard work comes first. There was no room for failure and I had to work through to take the business all the way to success. I was determined to push Nando's to the top of the pecking order," says Chung Lyn, who was trained as an architect.

She makes no secret of her drive to excel and inspire her staff to excel as well. Today, the brand has plenty to crow about,

with 38 restaurants nationwide in Kuala Lumpur, Penang, Malacca, Johor (and counting!), plus two new outlets in Singapore.

Chung Lyn adds, "As people grow increasingly health-conscious, I believe Nando's will be a preferred name for those seeking healthier dining options. This is because our fresh, quality chicken is flame-grilled, rendering it low in fat and salt, without any MSG or added preservatives."

As well as nurturing her business, Chung Lyn also engages and supports emerging artists and students to come up with Nando's inspired art pieces as part of the brand's global art initiative.

**ANGELA YAP, 30,**  
FOUNDER & DIRECTOR, AKASAA

When an employer encountered financial difficulties and stopped paying her salary for eight months, Angela Yap realised how even the most heavily regulated system was not foolproof against unethical practices. "I saw how human greed can ruin lives, but I felt that business still held potential to change lives."

Combining her experience and knowledge as a corporate strategist, she set up Akasaa, a publications, communications and consulting specialist that does business with a difference – it helps companies execute business strategies with a conscience. "I wanted Akasaa to become the change I hope to see in global business – by managing finances well, putting people before profits and creating strategies that will always be a force for good," she explains.

"We just need to do great work, with great sincerity and keep the courage to think different." Angela contributes her knowledge on a diverse range of social, historical and economic issues by co-authoring or editing critically acclaimed books.



**EBBY LOO, 49,**  
MANAGING DIRECTOR,  
EURO-ATLANTIC

At a time when her husband had difficulty finding the right candidate to steer Euro-Atlantic Sdn Bhd back in 1991, when fresh produce was a nascent industry, Ebby Loo had no qualms taking on the role despite having no experience – her previous job was a banker.

Predictably, the early years were tough. "As a young company, we had little experience so it was a steep learning curve. While managing the A to Z of the company, I had to juggle being a mother to my two young daughters."

From a single packing factory, they expanded to three companies with a 150-strong workforce. Not only driven by profit, the company practises Corporate Social Responsibility (SCR) actively through collaborative relationships with Malaysian AEON Foundation and Shangri-La's Charity annual programme "Embrace Gift of Life".

Ebby attributes her company's success to its staff. "You can't succeed on your own," she says firmly. "In any successful business, there should always be room and opportunity for its people to develop and grow."

