

Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA)

BIDA's support for women entrepreneurs extends through multiple channels, helping women integrate into Bangladesh's evolving business landscape. Here's a more comprehensive look at their offerings:

1. **Training and Capacity Building:** Through the **Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Project (ESDP)**, BIDA provides structured training and skill development for potential entrepreneurs, including a substantial focus on women. The project aims to train over 24,000 individuals nationwide, with a special emphasis on **business management, financial literacy, and market access**. The initiative offers women entrepreneurs the opportunity to develop practical skills and transform innovative ideas into sustainable businesses.

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2. **Mentorship Programs:** In addition to technical training, BIDA facilitates mentorship through **networking events and strategic partnerships**. This includes connecting women with experienced entrepreneurs, investors, and business advisors. One notable event is the **International Women Entrepreneurs' Summit**, which fosters relationships between Bangladeshi women entrepreneurs and their global counterparts, enabling them to explore international business opportunities and partnerships.

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3. **Access to Funding:** Many women entrepreneurs struggle with securing financial backing, and BIDA addresses this challenge by partnering with financial institutions and development organizations. Initiatives such as BIDA's collaborations with the **World Bank** help provide easier access to **loans, grants, and other funding options** for women-led startups.

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Additionally, BIDA's role in promoting innovative ideas and startups helps female entrepreneurs develop their business plans to attract local and international investments.

4. **One-Stop Service (OSS):** BIDA's **One-Stop Service (OSS)** is a critical platform that simplifies business registration and other bureaucratic processes. Women entrepreneurs can benefit from **online registration, licensing, and other business-related services** through OSS, reducing the administrative barriers that often impede business establishment

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5. **Promotion of Gender Inclusivity in Key Sectors:** BIDA has also identified key sectors where women entrepreneurs can make significant contributions, such as **IT services**,

healthcare, packaging, and pharmaceuticals. By highlighting these opportunities and offering support through sector-specific programs, BIDA encourages more women to enter traditionally male-dominated industries.

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BIDA's multi-faceted approach not only promotes women's entrepreneurship but also integrates them into the broader economic development of Bangladesh. Through training, funding, mentorship, and streamlined services, BIDA is fostering an environment where women entrepreneurs can thrive.