



# Empowering Women & Girls

## Empowering first-generation women entrepreneurs

### Transform lives through mentorship: Volunteer to empower first-generation women entrepreneurs

In Bangladesh, Malawi, Mozambique, Sri Lanka, and Pakistan, brilliant women with groundbreaking business ideas face a unique challenge: they're the first in their families to venture into entrepreneurship. They're building not just businesses but breaking generational cycles of economic dependency. Without the safety net of inherited business knowledge or established networks, these pioneers are charting unknown territory with remarkable courage and determination.

This is where the experience of mentors becomes the catalyst for others' success. Mentorship offers more than guidance—it provides a strategic foundation that can mean the difference between a struggling startup and a thriving enterprise capable of transforming entire communities.

#### Why the impact of mentorship is greater than often recognized

**Create ripple effects beyond business growth:** Mentoring a first-generation woman entrepreneur, is not just helping one person—its empowering families, inspiring communities, and creating economic opportunities that extend far beyond a single business venture. These women often become the economic anchors for their extended families and role models for other women in their communities.

**Share knowledge that actually changes trajectories:** The mentor's hard-earned expertise in navigating market challenges, managing cash flow, scaling operations, or building customer relationships becomes the strategic advantage these entrepreneurs need to accelerate their growth and avoid costly mistakes.

**Join a purpose-driven network:** Connecting with fellow professionals who understand that success isn't just measured in profit margins, but in the lives transformed and barriers broken. This isn't just volunteering—it's participating in a global movement toward women's economic independence and equity.

**Experience the profound satisfaction of true impact:** There's something uniquely fulfilling about watching someone implement a mentor's guidance and seeing their business flourish as a direct result of their investment.

#### We're Seeking Mentors With Real-World Expertise In:

- Business Strategy & Operations
- Financial Planning & Literacy
- Digital Marketing & E-commerce
- Product Development & Scaling





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### Your time investment, their life transformation

Over a six-month period, you can commit to a few hours per month or have a more intensive involvement. We will work with your schedule to ensure your mentorship is both impactful and sustainable.

### Flexible engagement options:

- One-on-one strategic guidance sessions
- Group sessions

### The women you'll mentor

The Empowering Women and Girls (EWG) project, an initiative of the Commonwealth of Learning in collaboration with its partners, has supported the training of women and girls who aspire to become successful entrepreneurs. These individuals represent a new generation of leaders, changemakers, and innovators—many of whom are taking their first steps toward economic independence and personal empowerment. Through mentoring, experienced professionals can play a pivotal role in nurturing their growth, building their confidence, and helping them navigate the challenges of entrepreneurship. The guidance provided by mentors can accelerate progress, inspire bold thinking, and enable these women and girls to contribute meaningfully to their communities and local economies.

### Ready to make an impact that matters?

Your entrepreneurial journey has equipped you with invaluable insights. If you have time, this may be an opportunity to share your knowledge to create lasting change in the lives of women who are courageously building their economic future. Join us in creating a world where woman entrepreneurs have access to the role model and guidance they need to succeed.



**Want to be a mentor?**  
**[Click here to apply.](#)**