

## Overview

The **USAID Responsible Investment and Trade Activity** welcomes five aspiring and current women directors to participate in a seven-month **Women Directors Program** to enhance their knowledge and skills, meet mentors, and increase their visibility in the private sector in Myanmar and South East Asia.

The USAID Responsible Investment and Trade Activity is a five-year (2020–2025) activity that contributes to strengthening inclusive economic growth in Myanmar by expanding its responsible and transparent private sector. Two primary interests of the Activity are building capacity to improve corporate governance and supporting women leaders in business.

Dr. Marcella Lucas, an innovation strategist and prior CEO of LeadWomen, will lead the program. Marcella has co-created and delivered trainings, workshops, and conferences in the leadership and innovation space, addressing topics, such as Blue Ocean Strategy and inclusion & diversity for managers, senior managers, senior leadership, C-level leaders, and boards of directors.



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

# WOMEN DIRECTORS PROGRAM

USAID RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT AND TRADE ACTIVITY



**APPLICATIONS DUE September 1, 2022**

## Program Objectives

- Understand where your board leadership is now
- Imagine and define what you want your board leadership to be
- Prioritize and take the necessary actions to elevate your board leadership to the next level
- Obtain support from peers and experienced board directors
- Increase your visibility and network among key decision makers

## Program Benefits

- Reflect on your own board leadership aspirations
- Obtain insights into the board leadership culture and gain experiential knowledge on how to be an effective board director
- Receive advice and support from experienced board directors
- Enhance your visibility and network within Myanmar, ASEAN, and beyond

## Program Focus Areas



### Awareness and Reflection

Reflection and self-awareness to set a baseline to move forward



### Capacity Building

Identify and address the challenges, obstacles, and common concerns of women leaders



### Safe Space

Provide a safe space to have open discussions on ways to overcome your vulnerabilities



### Mentorship

Learn from experienced board directors and chairs about board leadership and dynamics



### Women Directors Network

Network and connect with mentors and potential sponsors to identify career-progression options

## Eligibility Criteria

Participants must satisfy one of the following eligibility criteria:

- A current **director** on a listed company, private company, or NGO board in Myanmar
- A **senior executive** in a company either as a C-suite executive, as a line manager with profit and loss accountability, or as a senior leader in finance, operations, IT, marketing, or human resources
- A **senior professional advisor to boards** of large companies, at partner or director level in a law firm, accounting firm, investment bank, or venture capital business
- A **business owner/entrepreneur** of a business with an annual revenue of at least USD 350,000 and with directorship responsibilities

## Applications

Apply at:

<https://forms.gle/VXjx6oatCNScEMf59>

Application deadline:  
September 1, 2022

Questions? Email:  
[womendirectorsprogram@dai.com](mailto:womendirectorsprogram@dai.com)

**There is no application fee or tuition.**



# Mentoring

In addition to the workshops, participants will receive guidance and support from a mentor:

- Mentors will serve as a soundboard and trusted adviser sharing their knowledge and advice based on their own experiences.
- Each mentee will have one mentor.
- Mentors are experienced directors and chairs.
- The Meet-the-Mentor session will take place during the program kickoff.
- Mentor-mentee pairs will set their own goals and milestones.



# Ongoing Networking and Capacity-building During and Post-program

As part of the Women Directors Program, participants will have access to a dedicated LinkedIn group for participants, mentors, and alumni of previous cohorts. The objective is to provide participants and alumni with continuous knowledge and skills development, as well as to enhance their network and visibility among key stakeholders in the region.

Participants and alumni will have the opportunity for quarterly engagements with partner organizations across the region.

## KICKOFF

This half-day workshop will include the following:

- Program objectives and guidelines
- The roles and responsibilities of mentees and mentors
- Keynote address by a guest speaker
- Meet-the-mentor breakout session

Optional one-on-one session with the facilitator

## CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOPS

A series of monthly workshops designed to elevate your journey to the board

- Self-aware Leadership
- Board Dynamics
- Board Profiling
- LinkedIn & Executive Communication
- Additional Topical Workshops

## REFLECTION & CONCLUSION

This half-day workshop will include the following:

- A closed-door reflection and sharing by participants
- Sharing by mentor-mentee groups
- Introductions to the post-program alumni platform
- Keynote address by a guest speaker

ONGOING NETWORKING AND CAPACITY-BUILDING POST-PROGRAM