

Breaking gender barriers in the World of Work

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The 15 women featured in this book illustrate how they are breaking barriers in the world of work and the difference that their inclusion in formal skills-training has made.

The ILO has been working closely with the Government of Bangladesh to achieve a more gender-sensitive skills development policy and to correct gender imbalances in the formal training system. In 2014, the Canadian Government teamed up with the Government of Bangladesh and the ILO to fund the Bangladesh Skills for Employment and Productivity (B-SEP) Project and, through it, reached out to women of all ages – not just youth – and especially those living in

remote and marginalized areas with skills training in non-traditional (male-dominated) occupations, followed by assistance with finding jobs that rely on those skills. The training included carpentry, furniture making, automotive mechanics, electronics, electrical trades, tour guiding, baking and food processing. The 15 women featured in this book illustrate how boundaries have been broken and the difference that their participation in basic skills-training programme has made. These are young women disadvantaged at birth by location or circumstance who have benefited from an unusual door opening to them.

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