

## Microsoft #BuildFor2030 Initiative

**Gender Equality** 



# Diversity enables innovation



### Enabling women-led innovation and solutions that support gender equality.

As a partner to the United Nations, Microsoft has pledged to support the <u>Sustainable Development Goals</u> (SDGs), a set of 17 ambitious Global Goals adopted by member states for peace and prosperity for people and the planet by 2030.

We know that companies with greater diversity generate more innovation<sup>[1]</sup> and better financial results.<sup>[2]</sup> Yet, less than 2% of enterprise software startups in the U.S. have women founders.<sup>[3]</sup> Moreover, the COVID-19 pandemic has—and will continue to—disproportionately affect women across the globe, increasing the time it will take to close the global gender gap by a generation—from 99.5 years to 135.6 years.<sup>[4]</sup>

Through the <u>Microsoft #BuildFor2030 Initiative</u>, we support <u>SDG 5</u>: achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls; and we are proud to feature solutions supporting gender equality and from women-led tech businesses, solving industry challenges and making a difference.

#### Explore and amplify.

Discover #BuildFor2030 <u>featured solutions</u> supporting gender equality and from women-led businesses, solving industry challenges and driving positive business outcomes.

Read the blog on enabling and celebrating women-led innovation through the Microsoft partner and startup ecosystems.

<sup>[2]</sup> How diversity, equity, and inclusion (DE&I) matter | McKinsey

<sup>[3]</sup> Female Founders in Short Supply at Enterprise Tech Startups – WSJ

<sup>[4]</sup> Global Gender Gap Report 2021 | World Economic Forum (weforum.org)

#### Learn more about the SDGs that support this theme

- SDG 5: Gender Equality
- SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
- SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities
- SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Communities

### Building a solution for impact?

The <u>Microsoft #BuildFor2030 Initiative</u> is a call-to-action for Microsoft partners to accelerate innovation, <u>changemaking</u>, and collective impact, helping to advance the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

We help you to skill up for impact, publish to the Microsoft commercial marketplace, and accelerate growth with Go-To-Market benefits.

Focused on the themes of gender equality, accessibility and disability inclusion, climate action and sustainability, enabling nonprofits, and empowering communities, we're proud to support partners making a difference.

#### Join us today!

#### Related technical and program resources

- Toolkit: Gender Equity Toolbox | Gates Foundation
- Overview: <u>Responsible Al</u>
- Overview: Azure Machine Learning
- Resource Hub: <u>Azure Machine Learning</u>
- Video: <u>Transparency in Machine Learning | Microsoft Research</u>
- Toolkit: Al Fairness Checklist
- Toolkit: <u>AI (HAX: Human-AI eXperience Toolkit)</u>