



## EQUALS DIGITAL SKILLS FUND

Managed by the World Wide Web Foundation and supported by BMZ, the **EQUALS Digital Skills Fund** will support a range of capacity building trainings to advance women's digital skills, active citizenship, and civic participation through technology. These trainings will be targeted specifically at women and girls from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds, and will aim to maximise impact and increase visibility of the proven and possible ways to enhance digital inclusion and skills, with the ultimate goal of narrowing the digital gender divide.

At this stage, the **EQUALS Digital Skills Fund** will provide financial resources to local initiatives providing gender-sensitive skills training across countries in the Global South.

### Specifically, the proposed fund will aim to:

- **Identify and scale support for grassroots women leaders** and activists to use ICTs for social change and entrepreneurship, and/or support them to become trainers themselves.
- **Support women-led movements** and organisations (these might include faith-based organisations, market women's associations, etc.) to make greater use of ICTs in their work.
- **Support and promote female role models** and internet users within communities.
- **Conduct gender-sensitive skills trainings** and build collaboration across grassroots initiatives in digital skills.
- **Mainstream gender-responsiveness and sensitivity** in the planning and execution of local initiatives and investments in digital skills.

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Grants will be awarded to existing initiatives, housed within a registered organisation or entity, to scale up their digital skills programs and trainings and to work to ensure a lasting impact beyond the lifecycle of the grant and the initiative.

Distribution of the grants will kick off in late 2018/early 2019, with initial funding generously provided by BMZ. We aim to continue to grow the EQUALS Digital Skills Fund in order to further much-needed digital skills training for women and girls across low- and middle-income countries, and hope you will consider joining us in supporting and bolstering this important initiative.

## GET INVOLVED



Nominate an initiative at  
[webfoundation.org/  
digitalskillsfund](http://webfoundation.org/digitalskillsfund)



Contribute  
financially to  
the fund



Provide  
in-kind support

Please get in touch with us at [digitalskillsfund@webfoundation.org](mailto:digitalskillsfund@webfoundation.org) to learn how you can be a part of this effort to break down the digital skills barrier to internet access and ensure more women and girls have the opportunity to access and use the internet.

For more updates about the Fund, please visit  
[www.webfoundation.org/digitalskillsfund](http://www.webfoundation.org/digitalskillsfund)



### The role of the Web Foundation:

The World Wide Web Foundation will serve as the fund coordinator. The overall management of the fund, including the setting up of the criteria, the evaluation of the proposals, the subgranting processes and the evaluation will be under the responsibility of the Web Foundation. Any additional funds from external partners would be contributed directly to the Web Foundation as the fund manager. To learn more, please visit: [www.webfoundation.org](http://www.webfoundation.org)



### About EQUALS:

EQUALS is a ground-breaking global partnership of corporate leaders, governments, non-profit organizations, communities and individuals around the world working together to bridge the digital gender divide – by bringing women to tech, and tech to women – and in so doing, bettering the lives of millions worldwide. Join us and be part of the digital revolution: [www.equals.org](http://www.equals.org)



### The role of Germany:

As the coalition co-leader with UNESCO, Germany is allocating initial funding to the Fund. In order to continue the #eSkills4Girls initiative as part of the former G20 Presidency, Germany is working very close to the EQUALS partners in order to make progress in the area of the gender digital divide. To learn more, see: [www.bmz.de/giz-en](http://www.bmz.de/giz-en)