



Call for Applications

Empowering Female Potential Board Members

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About FSD Ethiopia

Established in 2022, FSD Ethiopia (FSDE) is an agency dedicated to fostering the development of accessible, inclusive, and sustainable financial markets for economic growth and human development. As a market facilitator, FSD Ethiopia supports market actors in addressing the root causes of financial system failures. Our primary focus is on achieving accessible, inclusive, and sustainable, thereby supporting Ethiopia's long-term development objectives.

Our key responsibilities include identifying the underlying causes of financial system failures, facilitating collaboration among market actors to overcome these challenges, and actively contribute to the establishment of a functional and efficient financial sector that benefits a broad range of individuals and businesses in Ethiopia. FSD Ethiopia collaborates with various stakeholders in the financial sector - including the government, private sector, civil society organizations, and other development partners in the areas of financial inclusion, access to capital, and climate finance.

FSD Ethiopia's interventions are closely aligned with national and regional policies as well as priorities for financial sector reform. Aligning with the national economic reform agenda, FSD Ethiopia's work centred around three thematic areas across the financial sector landscape.

1. Financial inclusion: Driving increased access, usage, and quality of financial services for individuals, households, and MSMEs - including savings, payments, credit, insurance, and investment.



2. Access to capital: Expanding access to and breadth of efficient long/short-term financing options for private businesses of all scales, and the public sector, including equity, bonds, working capital, etc.
3. Climate finance: Mobilizing domestic and international capital to fund climate adaptation and mitigation projects and needs of government, businesses, and households, such as green bonds, carbon credits, and insurance.

About the Program

FSD Ethiopia in collaboration with IFC is excited to announce a third round comprehensive Corporate Governance Training tailored for female professionals aspiring to become board members. This program seeks to equip participants with the skills, knowledge, and tools necessary to lead with integrity, transparency, and accountability in board-level roles.

The training will focus on developing leadership skills while incorporating Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles. Participants will learn how to lead organizations toward responsible and sustainable practices, preparing them to be effective and ethical leaders in their future roles on boards. With an ever-increasing demand for gender diversity and inclusion in leadership roles, this initiative is designed to empower women to take up governance positions in a sector where their expertise and perspectives are crucial for sustainable development, innovation, and advancing ESG frameworks.

Objectives

- **Equip** female professionals with best practices in corporate governance.
- **Enhance** understanding of board roles and responsibilities
- **Develop** leadership and decision-making skills for board-level engagement.
- **Foster** gender diversity and inclusion in the financial sector.



Who Should Apply

We invite applications from women professionals in different sectors who are aspiring to serve on boards, particularly within financial institutions and investment firms. Applicants should meet the following criteria:

- **Experience:** Minimum 12 years of professional experience in business, investment or finance related fields.
- **Leadership:** Demonstrated leadership skills and a commitment to advancing corporate governance.
- **Education:** Bachelor's degree or higher in finance, economics, business, or any other field.
- **Commitment:** Willingness to participate fully in the training and contribute to the development of the sector.

Program Benefits

- **Comprehensive Training:** Gain insights into key governance frameworks, ESG risk management, and ethical leadership.
- **Networking Opportunities:** Connect with leading professionals, mentors, and peers.
- **Certification:** Receive a certificate of completion from FSD.
- **Mentorship:** Access one-on-one mentorship from experienced board members and governance experts.

Expectations for Selected Applicants

Individuals accepted into the program will be expected to:

- Notify their employers about their participation in the program.
- Submit a professional development plan outlining their career path and future professional goals.
- Fully participate in all scheduled capacity-building training sessions and continuous mentorship activities.



- Actively participate in discussions, workshops, and networking opportunities to optimize learning and contribute perspectives.

Submission Requirements

Applications should include the following information:

- Organizational Details: Contacts information such as Address, phone number, and email for the applicant's employer.
- Personal Information: Full name, phone number, email address and position title of the applicant.
- Professional Background: A brief summary of the applicant's professional experience and qualifications.
- Motivation Statement: A motivation letter outlining the applicant's interest in the program, how it supports their career goals and what they hope to gain from board experience.

Submission Process

- Deadline for Submission: 26 July 2025
- Submission Method: Interested applicants should fill out an online form via the link <https://forms.office.com/r/yhyrVmXSwd>. They are also required to submit their CV in a compiled PDF file via email to bids@fsdethiopia.org. The email subject line should read: "Application for Women's Leadership Program, Third Cohort"

Selection Process

Submitted applications will be evaluated based on the eligibility criteria and the quality of the information and materials provided. Selected applicants will be notified of the status of their application via email and/or phone.