



Women in Tech Cohort 8

Take your business to the next level

Delivered by INNOVentures Global, with support from Village Capital and funding from Standard Chartered Foundation continues to support women entrepreneurs building tech-enabled businesses.

Across Pakistan, more women are stepping into entrepreneurship, building tech-enabled businesses that respond to real market needs and everyday challenges.

These ventures are not only creating solutions, but also opening up new markets and reaching communities that are often underserved. As the ecosystem evolves, there is increasing recognition of the value these businesses bring — both economically and socially.

Evidence continues to show that female-founded, tech-enabled ventures can deliver strong outcomes. In many cases, they generate up to 2–3x more revenue per dollar invested, demonstrating both efficiency and resilience in how they grow.

With the right support — from mentorship and networks to access to funding — these businesses have the potential to scale sustainably, strengthen local economies, and contribute to a more inclusive and balanced innovation landscape.

Program Highlights:

Following an initial due diligence and pitch process:



Selection Process

After a detailed due diligence and pitch process, 30 female founders will be chosen to join Cohort 8



Capacity Building

The selected founders will go through a week-long capacity-building program, during which their ideas will be evaluated for the Validation Phase



Validation Phase

10 founders from the Cohort will each receive PKR 1,000,000 as a validation grant to support their businesses during a 2-month mentoring phase.



Scale-Up Phase

3 founders will be chosen for scale-up grants based on performance: PKR 5 million, PKR 3.5 million, and PKR 2 million.

Who we are looking for?

We are seeking to recruit the best entrepreneurial minds — female-led businesses with teams of two to three people who are driving innovation through technology. Applicants from across Pakistan are welcome.

Eligibility Criteria:

- The business must be female-led, with substantive business equity.
- The woman founder(s) must have been actively involved in the business for at least six months.
- The venture should be either a technology business or a traditional business seeking to grow significantly through the use of technology, with a focus on ventures that show significant growth and/or impact potential.
- Applicants must have an initial scaling plan ready, or be technologically enabled to scale using the seed grant, mentoring, and support offered by the program.
- **Founders are typically between 18–35 years of age, in line with programme criteria.**
- The business must be able to present a two-part scaling strategy:
 - **Part A:**
A plan that can be validated using the Standard Chartered Validation Grant, showing early evidence of scalability.
 - **Part B:**
A comprehensive strategy that includes Part A and demonstrates how the venture can achieve substantial growth using Standard Chartered's catalytic capital, in the form of grant prizes.
- The business must be a registered entity (private limited company, non-profit, or sole proprietorship) with a valid NTN, operating for:
 - No less than six months at the time of application.
 - No more than five years old at the time of application.

**Eligible Women Founders must apply by:
30 April, 2026**

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