Bridge for Billions: Detailed Information

How does this programme work?

Biniyog-Briddhi: Scaling Impact Enterprises of Bangladesh has secured a number of licenses from Bridge for Billions. The programme itself is providing these licenses, free of charge, to qualified incubators and accelerators, who can count on Bridge for Billions as a technology and implementation partner during the duration of their incubation.

What is the focus of the programme?

The Programme is based on a structured methodology, the support of a personal mentor, and an international community of entrepreneurs to share experiences with. Founded by entrepreneur and Ashoka Fellow Pablo Santaeufemia, Bridge for Billions has so far supported 3700 enterprises in 98 countries.

Selected incubators will be awarded licenses to access the highly-structured platform of Bridge for Billions. Incubators then can decide which entrepreneurs they would like to offer the licenses and hence gain to structured resources and mentorship opportunities unique in the Bangladesh incubator ecosystem.

Programme Timeline and Content

Selected incubators will be onboarded by early May 2022. Thereafter, you will have the flexibility to implement the Bridge for Billions Programme as you see fit:

1. You may choose to integrate it in an ongoing onsite incubation Programme that you have already developed and tested;
2. You may choose to use it as a standalone offer to impact enterprises that you would not have been able to incubate if it were not for Bridge for Billions' platform.

One of your key roles will be to recruit mentors for this Programme. In addition, you will also, as with any of your normal programmes, be responsible for recruiting a cohort of impact enterprises. It is critical to emphasise that you are responsible for successfully stewarding your enterprises through the programme - as with any other programme of support, your leadership is critical to ensuring that enterprises successfully navigate this programme.

If you are a mentor or an impact enterprise, you will apply to work with specific incubators. This application will also be hosted on Bridge for Billions's own platform.

The actual Programme will begin in summer 2022- the exact dates are to be determined based on the timing of the cohort in question, which is a decision made by the incubator hosting the cohort. Licenses will be valid through the end of December 2022. The Programme itself, however, will not take this long. As an incubator, you should plan on four months to complete the full online incubation cycle as envisaged by Bridge for Billions. In this way, you have the flexibility to use the license at a time that makes the most sense for your existing programmes. Because of this, not all participating incubators will use the Bridge for Billions license concurrently.

One key aspect of the Bridge for Billions methodology is mentor support. Impact enterprises will be matched with individual mentors recruited and vetted by the incubators. Over the course of the Programme, mentors will provide individual support and meaningful feedback on the work that impact enterprises produce. Incubators, for their part, will benefit from exposure to a more structured and standardized approach to capacity building and from a more efficient use of their time and money.