

# British Embassy Ashgabat: supporting entrepreneurship in Turkmenistan

Promoting entrepreneurship and empowering women in various areas, including business, is at the forefront of the British Embassy's engagement and economic policy priorities.

As it continues to support and encourage entrepreneurship and innovation across Turkmenistan, the Embassy is pleased to announce that, through its project funds, it will provide a grant to a young, local company Akyllly Tilsmiat to implement an entrepreneurship project titled Men Telekechi (I am an entrepreneur).

Developing and implementing a business venture can be exciting and rewarding. Being a successful entrepreneur takes knowledge, skills, business planning resources, and mentoring relationships. It also takes time, planning, patience and flexibility. This project aims to help young entrepreneurs, especially women and start-ups to choose their business areas and develop the framework and skills to honestly evaluate and begin implementing their business ideas. This project will help connect young entrepreneurs and start-ups with resources available in Turkmenistan and learn more about entrepreneurship.

The entrepreneurship culture in Turkmenistan is developing and a new generation is emerging with great potential. The robust schedule of events and opportunities of Men Telekechi like training sessions, forums, networking, and investment matchmaking, with participants from around Turkmenistan, will create new collaborations and launch new initiatives while also reducing barriers inhibiting women from business participation.

British Ambassador Thorda Abbot-Watt attended the contract signing ceremony at Akyllly Tilsmiat's office, and expressed her happiness to support a project such as Men Telekechi not only because this project aligns with the Embassy's strategic goal of improving the economic and business environment in Turkmenistan, but also because it pays special attention to empowering women.