



Kelly O'Dwyer MP
Minister for Jobs and Industrial Relations
Minister for Women

Media Release

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COALITION BUILDS OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION

The Coalition Government is determined to see more women in work in Australia's building and construction industry, our nation's third largest industry.

Minister for Jobs and Industrial Relations and Minister for Women, the Hon Kelly O'Dwyer MP, announced on International Women's Day funding of \$675,000 for Women Building Australia, a construction industry led program to increase the participation of young women working in the sector.

"The construction industry is Australia's third largest industry and employs more than one million Australians," Minister O'Dwyer said.

"With an additional 300,000 people needed to enter the industry over the next decade, there are great professional and career opportunities for Australian women in the sector."

"Whilst the sector has traditionally been male dominated, statistics have shown that women working in the building and construction industry leads to better business performance and workplace morale, and a decrease in mental illness rates."

"By introducing more Australian girls to the industry, and supporting Australian women already in the industry, we can build a great future for women working in building and construction."

Through a national mentoring program and a national career expo program Women Building Australia will promote, retain encourage and empower women to enter and remain in the building and construction industry.

Today's announcement follows a successful 12-month trial of the Women Building Australia program.

The funding will be provided as part of the Coalition Government's Women's Leadership and Development Program.

"Whilst there are more women in work than ever before, with women's full time employment and the female participation rate reaching record highs last month, we want to see even more women active in the workforce, including in the building and construction industry," Minister O'Dwyer concluded.

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