BIOGRAPHY OF THE SPEAKERS

Current situation in the MED region

CAWTAR | Soukaina Bouraoui
Director Centre of Arab Women for Training & Research

Dr. Bouraoui is a founding member of the International Forum of Mediterranean Women (1992), which actively fosters dialogue between Arab women and Euro-Mediterranean women and promotes networking among different social groups as key to sustainable development. Since 1999, she has been Executive Director of the Center of Arab Women for Training and Research (CAWTAR), a regional organization established in 1993 and based in Tunisia which mandate is to promote the status and role of women in development in the Arab region.

She was head of the Department of Civil Law & Criminal Sciences from 1987 to 1991. During that time she introduced the “Environment Diploma”, covering an area of interest in which she had long worked before obtaining a doctorate with a particular focus on development and urban planning. Her areas of expertise are criminal law, civil law, environmental law, human rights, gender justice and globalization. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Tunisian Association of Criminal Law, the International Association of Economic Law (AIDE) and the International Centre of Comparative Environmental Law (CIDCE). Since 2000, she has been a member of the International Court of Environmental Arbitration and Conciliation (ICEAC).

From stints at IBM, Jawwal, Birzeit University, and the Rawabi Tech Hub, to her service as a mentor teaching young girls to code and providing scholarships and cross-cultural exchanges with Relief International, her career is one of growth, and social impact.

 Creation of a one stop shop for women entrepreneurs

TechWomen | Nadia Sabaneh
Innovation Catalyst and Agent of Change

Nadiah Sabaneh has been recognized by 500 Startups, the Palestinian Higher Council for Innovation and Excellence, and the Technovation Challenge for her visionary leadership, her success supporting start-ups in the MENA region, her commitment to empowering women entrepreneurs, and her dedication to solving major social challenges while managing entrepreneurial ecosystems. She was one of the top 5% of global applicants for the US State Department’s TechWomen program.

From stints at IBM, Jawwal, Birzeit University, and the Rawabi Tech Hub, to her service as a mentor teaching young girls to code and providing scholarships and cross-cultural exchanges with Relief International, her career is one of growth, and social impact.

Women entrepreneurs in the MENA region

Womenpreneur | Sana Afouaiz
Founder & Director

Sana is an award-winning, gender expert, women advocate. In 2016, she established Womenpreneur Initiative, an organisation with a community of 15,000 across 23 countries, that aims to advance women’s place in the entrepreneurial scene, technology, innovation & society. Through her work, Sana reached thousands of women, to drive visibility, social impact, and resources for women in the ecosystem and beyond: https://womenpreneur-initiative.com

For the past 7 years, Sana advised the United Nations, European Commission, corporate institutions and organisations on gender issues. She was heavily involved in SDGs discussions, she helped draft several resolutions and recommendations on gender in New York, Bali, Geneva, and Paris and presented them to UN representatives.