

"Digital Transformation and Innovation from Inclusiveness to Sustainability" Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's Side Event Concept Note (CSW67)

Introduction:

No one can deny the impact of science, technology and innovation in various aspects of our lives, ranging from personal well-being, to education and participation, and environment and social life. Bringing access and participation of women in STEM fields is important, as it will not only help improve their daily lives, but will also be the source of radical change and paradigm shift.

Digital transformation provides new pathways and opportunities for qualitative leaps to empower women economically. Enhancing women's capacities to access, benefit, develop, and influence in these sectors will directly impact the achievement of our goal of "Planet 50:50" by 2030, as well as achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

Believing in the right competencies and working to develop them and give them fair opportunities is one of the main pillars of modern societies and prosperous economies. The contribution of both men and women to the progress of societies and economies is critical. Countries, international organizations, the G20, and private sector companies have committed themselves to ending discrimination against women by 2030. Moreover, many of these pledges have been accompanied by concrete and remarkable actions to achieve this goal.

Similarly, Saudi Arabia has committed in its Vision 2030 by affirming that: "Saudi women are an important element of our strength, constituting more than 50% of the total number of university graduates. We will continue to develop their talents, invest their energies and enable them to have the right opportunities to build their future and contribute to the development of our society and economy" (Vision 2030).

In the past ten years, the status of women in Saudi Arabia has been enhanced through a number of policies and initiatives aimed at empowering them. This has been crucial in bringing about a transformative societal change in the role of women, as the Kingdom's Vision (2030) sought to digitally localize, govern, manufacture, and develop smart tools and business models, creating solutions such as: artificial intelligence, robotics, cloud computing technologies, future tools, and others. This is achieved through cooperation with Digital transformation partners, and keenness to achieve inclusiveness, fairness and gender equality in the field of digital transformation and innovation. This is to accelerate and enable transformation in the Kingdom and achieve digital national achievements, so that women today are among the contributors to achieving the desired goal.

Review Subject:

"Digital Transformation and Innovation from Inclusivity to Sustainability"

Session Objectives

- Highlighting national efforts to empower women in innovation, technological change and education in the digital age.
- Highlighting national efforts in empowering women in the ICT sector.
- Monitoring the relationship between the goals of sustainable development and the empowerment of women in science and technology.
- Highlighting the efforts of civil society organizations in empowering women in the field of science and technology.

Topics:

- Empowering Women in the Communications and Information Technology Sector
- Empowering Saudi Youth to Lead the Next Digital Transformation: Leaving No One Behind
- Artificial Intelligence in Sustainable Projects for NGOs to Support Women in Saudi Arabia



Participants:

Moderator: Secretary General of the Family Affairs Council

Speakers are representatives of the following entities:

- National Cybersecurity Authority
- Ministry of Communications and Information Technology
- Salam Project for Cultural Communication
- Artificial Intelligence Society
- ITU
- UNSG's Envoy on Technology
- UN Women

Results:

Participant recommendations on digital transformation and innovation from inclusivity to sustainability

Side Event Information:

Date: March 8, 2023

Time: 10:00 - 11:15 AM

Location: Conference Room A - Conference Building