The "Women in Technology" (WIT) Program

WIT Program Overview

Women in Technology (WIT) for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Region is funded by the Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) of the U.S. Department of State, managed by the Institute of International Education (IIE) West Coast Center, and implemented in collaboration with local partners in seven countries: Egypt, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.

Program Components

The WIT MENA program delivers five core activities to WIT Partner Organizations and participants:

- ▶ Professional Development Workshops
- ▶ IT Training through Microsoft's Unlimited Potential (UP) Curriculum
- ▶ Business Planning for Sustainability
- ▶ Women's IT Clubs
- ▶ Professional Exchange and Capacity Building

By partnering with a range of organizations—such as Chambers of Commerce, NGOs, women's associations, universities and colleges—the program will explore multiple avenues through which women can gain access to new training opportunities and resources. The primary goals of WIT MENA are:

- ▶ To provide substantial capacity building to Partner Organizations to expand their reach, sustainability and ability to serve women.

- ▶ To create a strong base of women with vital IT and Professional Development skills, allowing them to gain access to new careers and training opportunities.

- ▶ To empower WIT Participants to play an integral role in shaping their country's future.

WIT MENA

Bulls*Eye*

Women In Technology Mission Statement

Women in Technology (WIT) strives to empower women and expand their participation in the workforce by providing Partner Organizations, and the women they serve, with cutting-edge curricula and training opportunities in Business Planning, Professional Development and Information Technology (IT).

Community Technology Center (CTC) Initiative

The CTC project is intended to assist organizations in:
- ▶ Providing access and opportunity to women in an effort to enhance their marketable skills, gain economic independence and increase the power of the private sector in building a democratic society.
- ▶ Increasing the level of women's participation in building pluralistic societies through civil society strengthening

Additional outcomes for partner organizations would include:
- ▶ Achieving a sustainable business model for delivering IT and soft skills training to women
- ▶ Increasing the number of low- middle income women who are trained and entering the workforce
- ▶ Providing a professional development network to a diverse group of women who actively participate