

Concept Note

GIRLS IN ICT DAY 2022 **In the Arab region**

28 April 2022

11:00 to 12:00 CET time

By

The ITU Regional Office for the Arab States



1. Background

For girls to thrive in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), they need the knowledge, support, and empowerment of their communities. Therefore, responding to this demand, the International Girls in ICT Day is created and celebrated worldwide every year on the fourth Thursday of April (as 28 April in 2022). The establishment of Girls in ICT Day provides a great opportunity for girls and young women to see and be exposed to the benefit of ICT in enabling their career and aspiration. To date, over 377,000 girls and young women have taken part in more than 11,400 celebrations of International Girls in ICT Day in 171 countries worldwide. And this year we will gatherer around under the theme of “Access and Safety” to attract more attention on

2. Why “Access & Safety” for Girls in ICT

This year, the Girls in ICT Day 2022 will follow the theme of “Access and Safety.” According to ITU's latest data, the proportion of women using the Internet globally amounts to 48 percent, compared to 55 percent of men. In relative terms, this means that the global Internet user gender gap stands at 12.5 percent. If women are unable to access the internet and feel unsafe online, they are unable to develop digital skills and participate in digital spaces, diminishing their opportunities to pursue a career in STEM fields.

Hence, we promote the 2022 Girls in ICT Day, and in the meanwhile, it marks a launching point for a new model of Girls in ICT year-long activities to encourage girls and young woman to pursue studying STEM, enhance their level of digital skill, and raise awareness on meaningful and safe use of ICT.

To celebrate the international day in 2022, there will be a High-Level Panel organized by ITU headquarters within the framework of the WSIS - World Summit on the Information Society – Forum 2022. There is also the objective of having a regional event in all 6 regions to celebrate the day possibly within the 24 Hours. Regional events on April 28th is organized in coordination with the regional Networks of Women for World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC). The audience for the event will be young girls and women identified through regional connections.

3. Objectives of the Girls in ICT Day 2022

The objectives of the Girls in ICT Day 2022 are to:

- Encourage girls and young women to pursue STEM education
- Inspire girls and young women to work in STEM careers and enhance their level of digital skills
- Engage the community and promote collaboration through partnerships
- Raise awareness on meaningful and safe use of ICT.

4. ARAB REGIONAL GIRLS IN ICT EVENT

The celebration is organized by the ITU Regional Office for the Arab States and powered by the Network of Women for World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) in the Arab region (NoW4WTDC-ARAB). It will be held online via Zoom platform on 28 April 2022.

The 28th April Regional Event aims to encourage girls and young woman to pursue studying STEM, shed light on digital skills training programs, raise awareness on meaningful and safe use of ICT, and then invite guests to share personal experiences to inspire participants.

Draft agenda (GMT+2 Cairo time):

[Please refer to the updated agenda found online at the event page]

For more information, visit the event page at:

<https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/ArabStates/Pages/Events/2022/GirlsinICT/GirlsinICT.aspx>

Registration:

To register, you can complete the online form using the following link:

<https://www.itu.int/net4/CRM/xreg/web/Login.aspx?src=Registration&Event=C-00011303>

Date and venue/ How to participate

The event will be held virtually via the Zoom platform on **28 April 2022**. A Zoom meeting invite and details will be sent via email to all registered participants closer to the event date. For more information on how to use Zoom, please visit <https://us04web.zoom.us/>

When joining meeting, please use the ID in the following template
"Yourname_Organization"

Event Organizers

ITU Regional Office for the Arab States

Network of Women for WTDC for the Arab region (NoW4WTDC- ARAB)

MCIT of (TBD)

Event Coordinator

Contact ITU Regional Office for the Arab States Focal point: Ms. Rouda AlAmir Ali, *Programme Officer* (rouda.alamirali@itu.int)

Social Media

This event will be promoted via ITU Social Media platforms. Follow us and join us to promote this celebration through your network.

[Twitter @ITUArabStates](#)

Visit here: <https://www.itu.int/net4/ITU-D/GICT/2022/index.asp> for more details about Girls in ICT Day 2022.

We look forward to you joining us for this online meeting.