



MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

NEWSLETTER | APR - JUN 2023



CHRISTINE FRANCIS
LLWB'S SECRETARY OF THE BOARD

Dear LLWB Valuable Members and Esteemed Partners,

Throughout the years, LLWB has played an essential role in advocating and supporting the Lebanese women, leaders, entrepreneurs, business owners, and freelancers through its 360-degree approach and will continue to do so. Our systematic approach that is governed by the 4 pillars is going to be our way forward to ensure the sustainability and impact we aim to achieve through our vision and mission.

As all the projects are still ongoing, we are continuously working on different fronts to serve our members, stakeholders, and community needs. Entrenched in our focus on the 4 pillars focusing on Transformational Learning and Development, Access to Business Networks, Community Development, and Social Change and Advocacy.

We are happy to share with you that progress is being made on different fronts specially to advance Women's Economic Empowerment and Gender Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Lebanon with our networks and partners. The Board and the Executive Director have visited our chapters in the Beqaa and the North to engage with our community there and to better understand their needs. We are in the process of establishing a new chapter in the South to ensure our regional coverage and impact.

We are engaging with business associations counter parts to push for the women on board quota of 30% by 2030, based on the drafted law that we have presented and recently updated. We will be engaging other CSOs in the advocacy and the awareness journey of the Women on Board mission.

We are also in discussion with key players from the educational sector to strengthen our first pillar and improve our offerings for both individual leaders and organizations just to name a few.

As always, LLWB will keep working hard towards its mission and continuous collaborations to tap into the collective resources available in Lebanon. We are always counting on the support of our members, partners, and donors without whom we cannot achieve our goals, and for that, we are grateful to them.

Wishing you all a prosperous and fulfilling quarter ahead.
Warm regards,

رسالة من مجلس الإدارة

النشرة الإخبارية | نيسان - حزيران 2023

كريستين فرنسيس أمينة سر مجلس إدارة الرابطة اللبنانية لسيدات العمل



حضرة عضوات وأعضاء الرابطة اللبنانية لسيدات العمل (LLWB) والشريكات والشركاء المحترمين،

اضطلعت الرابطة اللبنانية لسيدات العمل، على مرّ السنين، بدور أساسي في مناصرة المرأة اللبنانية ودعمها في دورها كقائدة ورائدة أعمال وصاحبة مشاريع وعاملة مستقلة من خلال منح على نطاق 360 درجة وستستمر في القيام بذلك. ويمثل نهجنا المنهجي الذي تحكمه الركائز الأربع طريقنا إلى الأمام لضمان الاستدامة والأثر الذي نهدف إلى تحقيقه من خلال رؤيتنا ورسالتنا.

وبما أنّ كافة المشاريع لا تزال جارية، فإننا نعمل باستمرار على جبهات مختلفة لخدمة عضواتنا وأعضائنا، وصاحبات وأصحاب المصلحة، واحتياجات المجتمع، مركزين على 4 ركائز تتمحور حول التعلم والتطوير التحويلي، والوصول إلى شبكات الأعمال، والتنمية المجتمعية، والتغيير الاجتماعي، والمناصرة.

ويسعدنا أن نشارككم بهذا التقدم الذي يتم إحرازه مع شبكاتنا وشركائنا لا سيما لتعزيز التمكين الاقتصادي للمرأة، والتنوع والانصاف والشمول الجنساني في لبنان. وقد زار مجلس الإدارة والمديرة التنفيذية فروعنا في البقاع والشمال للتواصل مع المجتمعات هناك لفهم احتياجاتهم بشكل أفضل. ونعمل حاليًا على إنشاء فرع جديد في الجنوب لضمان التغطية والأثر الإقليميين.

كما نتواصل مع نظرائنا من جمعيات الأعمال في محاولة لرفع نسبة النساء في المجالس إلى 30% بحلول العام 2030 استنادًا إلى مشروع القانون الذي قدمناه والذي حدّثناه مؤخرًا.

كما سنقوم بإشراك منظمات المجتمع المدني الأخرى في رحلة الدعوة والتوعية الخاصة بمهمة "نساء في مجلس الإدارة". ونتناقش كذلك مع جهات فاعلة رئيسية في قطاع التعليم لتعزيز ركيزتنا الأولى وتحسين تقديماتنا للقادة الفرديين وللمنظمات، على سبيل المثال لا الحصر.

كعادتها، ستواصل الرابطة اللبنانية لسيدات العمل عملها الدؤوب لتحقيق مهمتها والتعاون المستمر للاستفادة من الموارد الجماعية المتوفرة في لبنان. ونعتمد دومًا على دعم أعضائنا وشركائنا وجهاتنا المانحة الذين لا يمكننا تحقيق أهدافنا من دونهم، ولذلك، نحن ممتنون لهم.

أتمنى لكم جميعًا فصلًا مزدهرًا ومليئًا بالإنجازات.
مع أطيب التمنيات،

Christine Francis



"EVERY PROJECT
STARTS WITH A
STORY"



IMQAN PROJECT INTRODUCTORY EVENT WITH BMZ AND GIZ



The IMQAN Introductory Event marked the beginning of an exciting new project aimed at upskilling women led MSMEs in Beirut and Mount Lebanon area to improve their performance and create new job opportunities supporting local socio-economic development. The event was designed to introduce the project to the participants, get to know more about their businesses, and establish connections between them and their trainers.

The Training phase of the IMQAN project was initiated by LLWB with a tailored content that triggers three areas: E-commerce and Digital Marketing, Business growth, and Financial Forecasting.

IMQAN is implemented by the Lebanese League for Women in Business – LLWB in partnership with Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and it is financed by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

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ISRAR PROJECT PITCHING SESSIONS | WITH EU AND SPARK



ISRAR Pitching Sessions kicked off the project by conducting two pitching sessions in the North and Beqaa areas, where aspiring business owners showcased their innovative ideas to a panel of industry experts.

This phase was followed by one-on-one training sessions for the 20 finalist startups.

ISRAR is part of the "From Innovation To Creation" program funded by the European Union and implemented by LLWB in partnership with SPARK.



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QEWA - Qualifying and Empowering Women in Agriculture



LLWB in partnership with UN Women under the PSDP, has extended QEWA project to target an additional 90 women to participate in the trainings of component 1 and 5 MSMEs to benefit from component 2 on the Women Empowerment Principles. In this quarter, LLWB conducted trainings for 64 women working in the agri-food sector in the North area, on soft skills: Business Context, Leadership, Managerial Skills, Women Do Business, and Personal Development, in addition to training on sexual harassment.



CODRA PROJECT



Implemented by
giz
Technische Zusammenarbeit
für Unternehmen in
Entwicklungsländern (GIZ GmbH)

*The Food Heritage
Foundation*



CODRA

CONSOLIDATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEVELOPING RESILIENT AGRI-FOOD SYSTEMS BY SUPPORTING MSMEs

LLWB has partnered with the Food Heritage Foundation (FHF) under CODRA project, and has provided training to 20 MSMEs in the Beqaa and Chouf regions on the following topics: Finance, Forecasts, and Business Operations ,Marketing and Sales, and E-commerce Business & Digital Marketing

Moreover, one-on-one coaching sessions tailored to the 20 MSMEs are being conducted to develop an individualized business plan to each MSME after identifying its business strengths, gaps, and challenges, as well as the support needed for implementation.

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UN WOMEN VISITS



LLWB was honored to host the UN Women delegation represented by Ms. Gielan el Messiri, Head of UN Women Lebanon office, Mrs. Suzane Mikhail, UN Women Regional Director, and Ms. Maya Hajj, Gender Equality Advisor at UN Women.

LLWB was represented by Mrs. Corine Kiame, LLWB President; Mrs. Abir Chebaro, LLWB Vice President; Ms. Nisreen Deeb, LLWB Executive Director and a group of LLWB valuable entrepreneurs and members.

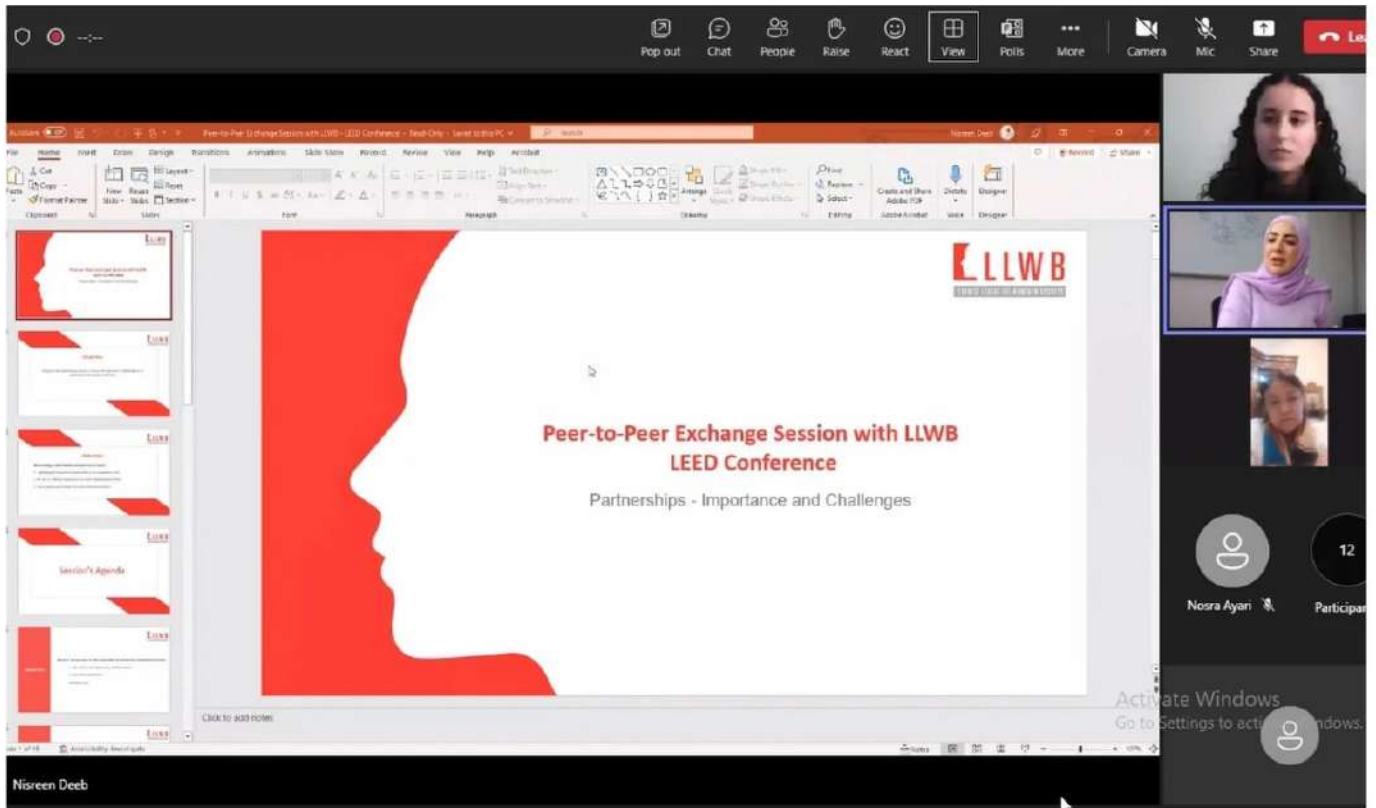
The roundtable discussion took place at LLWB main office, and it revolved around the topic of women economical empowerment and the ways to move forward.

Needs and challenges were also discussed to draft suitable strategies to empower women economically in Lebanon.





LEED CONFERENCE



Under the LEED Conference, LLWB conducted a peer to peer exchange session titled: "Partnerships - Importance and Challenges."

The objective of this brainstorming session was to discuss the importance of partnerships in an organisation and its impact on the work.

Ms. Nisreen Deeb, LLWB Executive Director, moderated this interactive session and shared her experience while answering the participant's questions.



WOMENTUM REGIONAL CONFERENCE

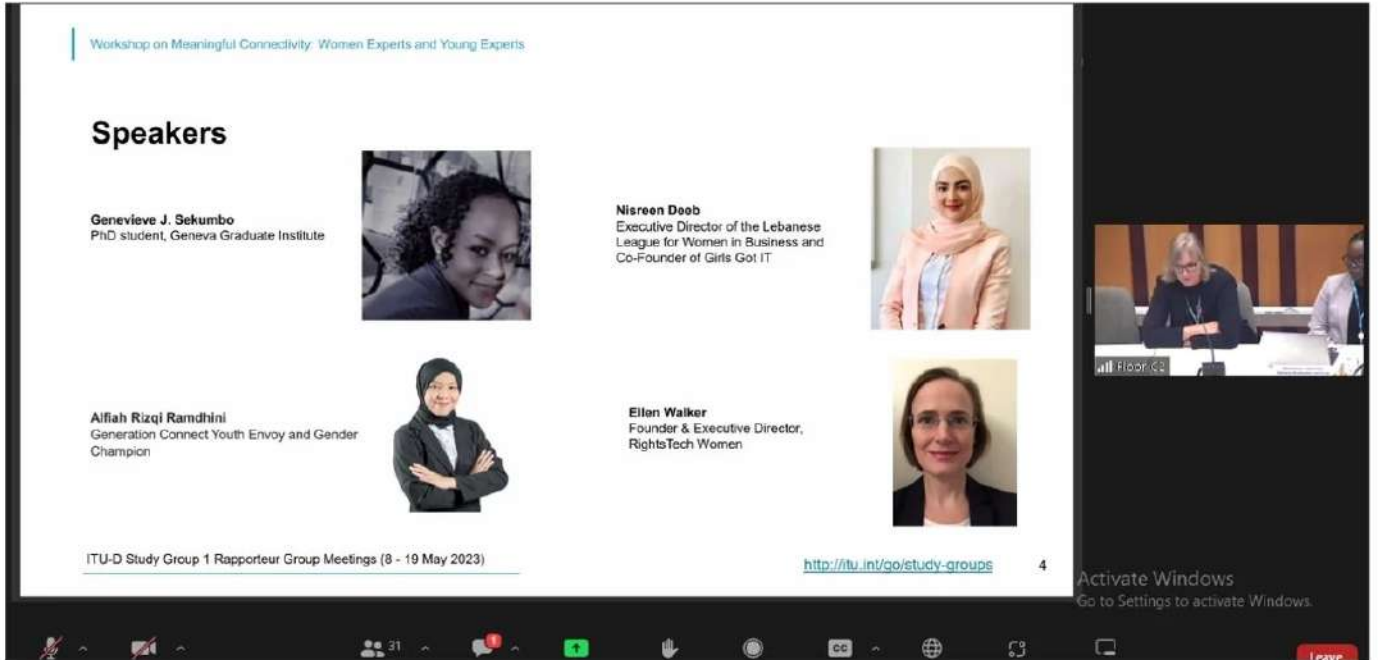


LLWB participated at the WOMENTUM Regional Conference in Tunisia which aimed to discuss women's political participation in conflict zones and developed action plan for the next five years.

Ms. Nisreen Deeb, LLWB Executive Director, was among the panelists and shared her experience and perspective under the theme of "How are Movements and Initiatives Changing the Feminism Landscape in the MENA Region, and Why they are Important".

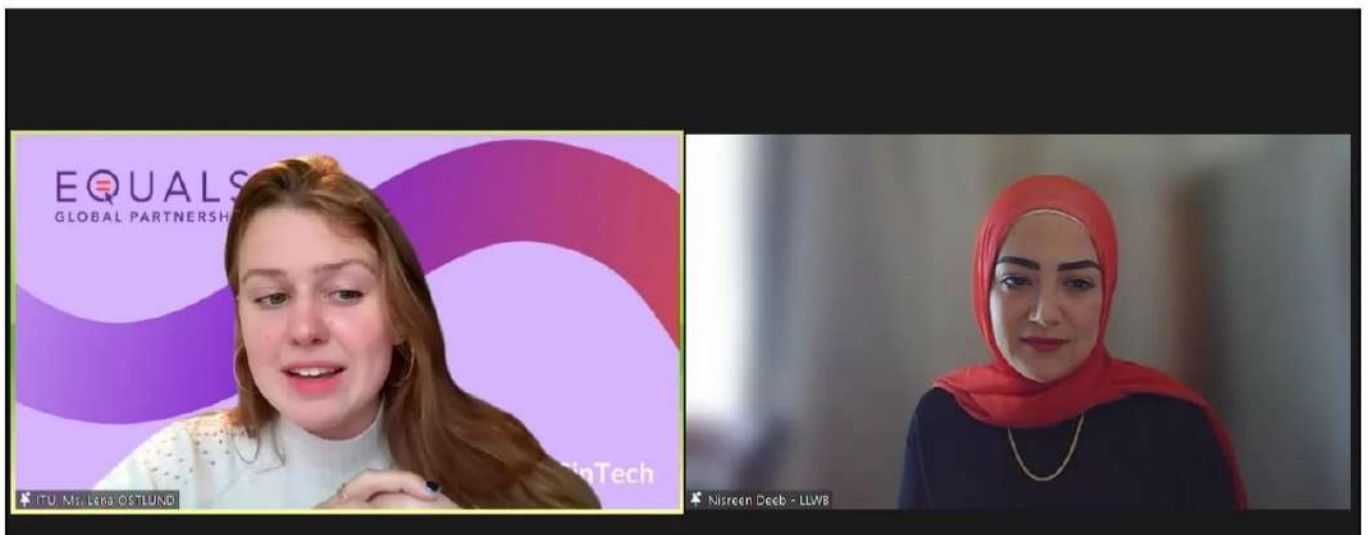


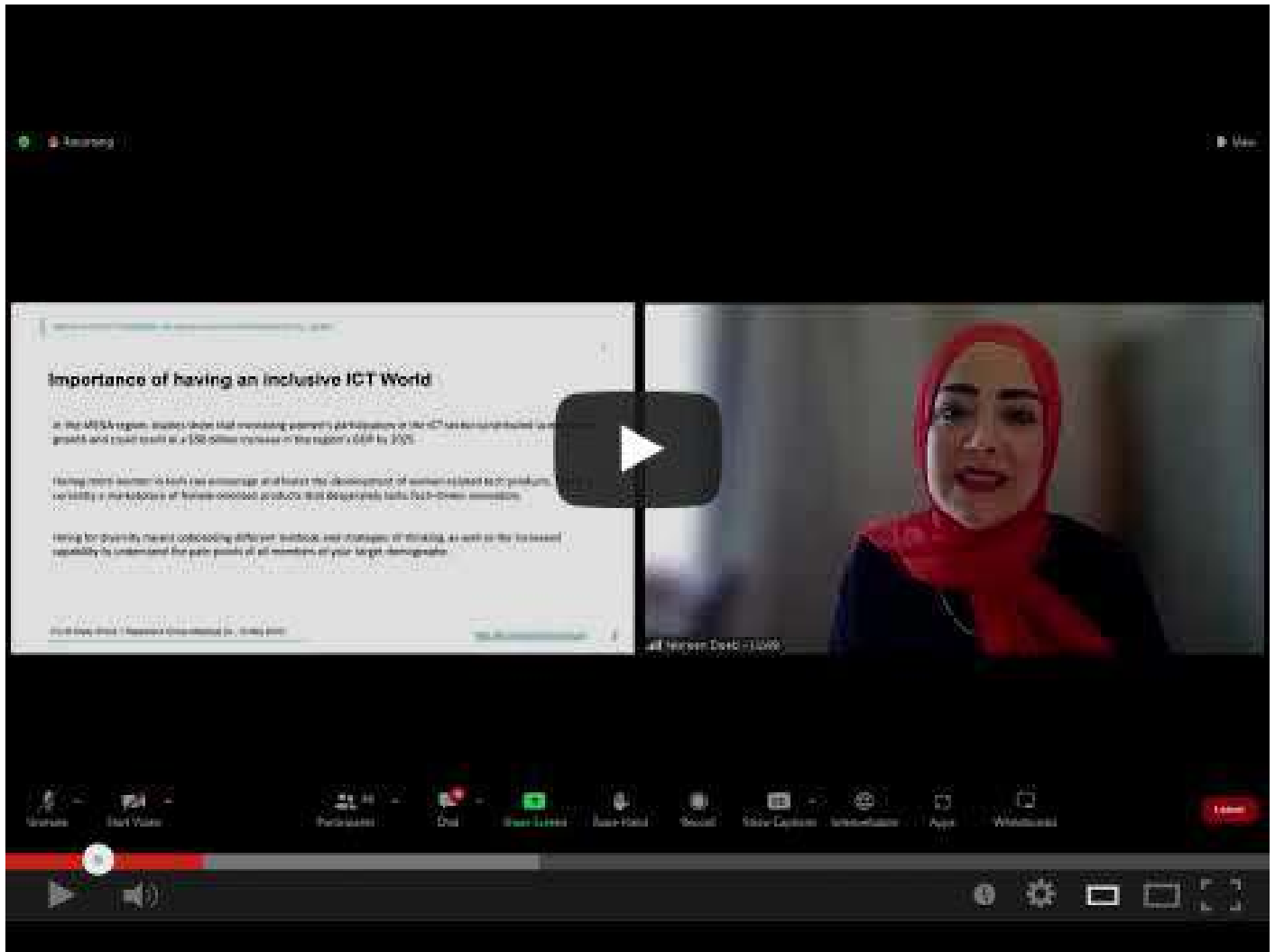
ITU-D PUBLIC WORKSHOP



LLWB participated in the ITU-D Study Group 1 public workshop, which aimed to examine specific topics of importance to developing countries to support them achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

Ms. Nisreen Deeb, LLWB Executive Director, was among the speakers and shared her vast experience in the field and triggered the topics related to telecommunications/ICTs for rural and remote areas and its accessibility to enable inclusive communication, especially for persons with disabilities.





DIGITAL SUPPORT SERVICES FOR EXPORTING MSMES | A MED MSMES PROGRAMME EVENT



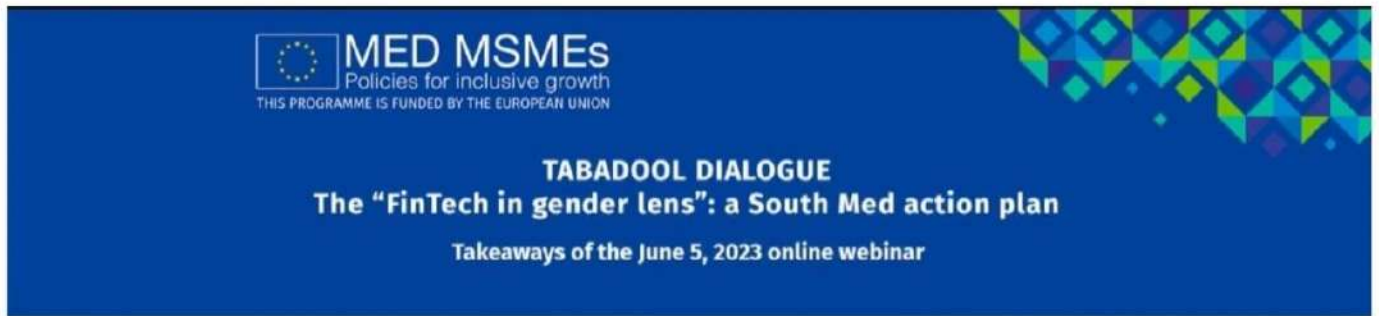
LLWB participated in this regional event in Italy, Rome which is part of the MED MESMEs Programme by GOPA and funded by the EU.

This programme is dedicated to the exchange of experience and good practices in terms of support services for exporting SMEs through digitisation. On this occasion, participants were also informed of the progress of the EuroMed Trade Helpdesk facility.

Ms. Nisreen Deeb, LLWB Executive director, was among the speakers in this event and discussed the topic of Women in Fintech.



"TABADOOL" WEBINAR - MED MSMEs PROGRAMME



Christophe MALHERBE
MED MSMEs Programme



Ms Leila BELKHRIA JABER
CNFCE Tunisia



Ms Abeer Haridi
BWF Palestine



Ms Nisreen DIB
LLWB Lebanon



Dr. Amira KADDOUR
MED MSMEs Programme



Mrs Douja GHARBI
MED MSMEs Programme



Ms Noha SHAIKER
EFA Egypt



Mrs Huda RAWABDAH
WF Jordan



LLWB participated at the "Tabadool" webinar which aimed at raising awareness among export players in the region on the latest developments in policies, programs and approaches for the development of e-commerce in general, and cross-border e-commerce in particular.

Ms. Nisreen Deeb, LLWB Executive Director, was present in this event and shared her valuable insights.

WOMEN IN DATA SCIENCE | WIDS AUB 2023



LLWB participated at the Women in Data Science (WiDS) event at AUB.

This initiative aimed to inspire and educate data scientists, regardless of gender, and support Arab women in the field.

This one-day technical webinar provided an opportunity to hear about the latest data science research in different fields, learn how leading-edge companies are leveraging data science for success, and connect with potential mentors, collaborators, and others in the field.

The event was directed towards business practitioners, researchers, and students.

LPSN | LAUNCH OF THE NATIONAL MOVEMENT FOR JOB CREATION INITIATIVES



LEBANON WORKS

LLWB participated at the second flagship event, Lebanon Works, organised by the Lebanese Private Sector Network (LPSN).

During this conference, LPSN aimed to launch its national movement and rally stakeholders to showcase actual and potential job creation initiatives, education and training offers, as well as business-enabling services.



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SHETRADES ACCELERATOR BSO - ITC WORKSHOP



LLWB participated at the workshop under SheTrades: Accelerator Programme for Women Entrepreneurs in the Apparel, Accessories and Home Décor sector, in Jordan.

This project aims to support income generation and job creation for women owned businesses in the Apparel, Accessories and Home Décor sector by creating a more supportive ecosystem of partners and institutions to help the growth of women's economic empowerment initiatives and activities.



UNPAID CARE WORK WORKSHOP



The project WoMENA in cooperation with the Arab Women Organization conducted the second workshop of the series on Unpaid Care and Domestic Work - Reducing barriers for women to participate in public life and employment in Amman, Jordan.

LLWB and all working groups presented their action plans and reflections in the group as well as the progress they made with all participants since the first workshop conducted in 2022. Moreover, the workshop included exchange over country specific and regional challenges, in addition to an advocacy training and how we can implement advocacy strategies in our communities.



SEMD | SESTs TRAINING BOOTCAMP , EGYPT



LLWB participated at the SESTs Training Bootcamp in Egypt as part of the SEMD project.

The training took the form of a 4-day bootcamp with full day activities and engaged participants from Egypt, Jordan, and Lebanon to ensure optimised exchange of valuable experiences and networking amongst the participants.

Four main topics were covered in the training bootcamp: Impact Measurement & Management (IMM) ,Social Enterprises (SEs) Scaling Models ,Coaching SEs, and Training and Facilitation Skills.

Ms. Nisreen Deeb, LLWB Executive Director, participated in this training.



LEBANON'S FEMINIST CIVIL SOCIETY PLATFORM RETREAT



LEBANON'S FEMINIST CIVIL SOCIETY PLATFORM



LLWB participated in a retreat activity organised by Lebanon's Feminist Civil Society Platform . This activity aimed at creating more synergies between the platform members, agree on the role of the platform, facilitates the elaboration of 2-year action plan for the platform and document internal decision-making mechanisms for the platform.

Ms. Nisreen Deeb, LLWB Executive Director, participated in the activities and discussions sharing her valuable insights.

PANEL DISCUSSION ON RE-ENTERING THE LABOUR FORCE: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES | ILO



International Labour Organization

LLWB participated at the International Labour Organization (ILO) panel discussion titled: Re- entering the Labour Force: Challenges and Opportunities .

Ms. Nisreen Deeb, LLWB Executive Director, was among the speakers to discuss and share a presentation on the skills needed by women to return the workforce in Lebanon and the challenges that might face LLWB in conducting capacity building and upskilling women.

PERMAH & INTERNATIONAL COACHING WEEK WITH ICF

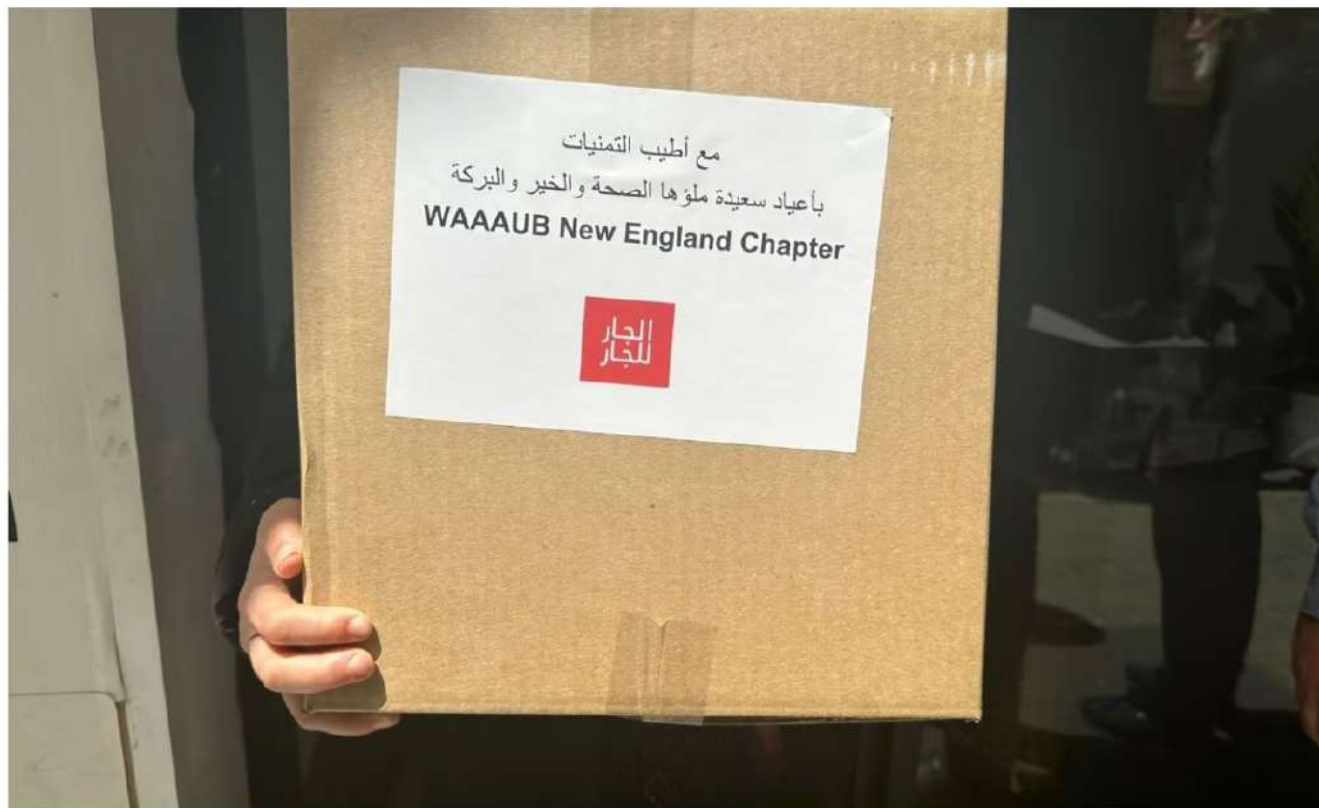
On the international coaching week, LLWB team participated in a coaching session conducted by the International Coaching Federation (ICF).

The coaching sessions started by a group session to explain what is PERMAH and followed by one-on-one sessions to discuss the wellbeing in the workplace.





AUB NEIGHBOURHOOD INITIATIVE



LLWB has proudly supported the AUB Neighborhood Initiative by distributing local products from local women producers such as mouneh.. supplied through the Food Heritage Foundation , and homemade maamoul from Ruwwad Al Tanmeya to 150 vulnerable families in Ras Beirut, through the Al Jar Lil Jar program.

This initiative was made possible by donations from the WAAAUB-New England Chapter and was supported by Aramex Lebanon , who helped in the distribution process as well.

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"EVENTS LEAVE A
LASTING
IMPRESSION"



ESDU - KEEPERS OF OUR HERITAGE EVENT, AUB



Mrs. Asmahan Zein, LLWB Advisor to the Board, was a keynote speaker at the Keepers of Our Heritage event and gave a speech on women in agriculture, food security, the value of networking, and partnering with stakeholders.

Mrs. Zein highlighted the importance of group work and how it can help build a positive and engaging learning community through peer learning and teaching.

The event also had a small exhibition with ESDU's project coordinators where they presented their work and impact in booths to highlight results and milestones.



ROTARY CLUB ZAHLE EVENT



LLWB participated in the event organized by the Rotary Club Zahle - Beqaa titled: "Women's Empowerment Towards Social Security".

Ms. Nisreen Deeb, introduced LLWB to the guests in the presence of Mrs. Coirne Kiame, Mrs. Zakie Karam, LLWB team, members and representatives from the Rotary Club in Zahle.

At the end of the event, three LLWB entrepreneurs were recognised by the Rotary Club, Mrs. Daluli El Orra, Mrs. Iman Al Masri and Mrs. Rana Hindi.







LLWB MEMBERS AT THE HORECA SHOW



LLWB valuable entrepreneurs who graduated from QADIRAT project, have participated in the Horeca Show under the Women's Global Development and Prosperity initiative by USAID.

Our entrepreneurs showcased their products in the presence of USAID representatives and the Lebanese Government.

SHEMADEIT AFRICA




SheMadelT
AFRICA



INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION OF FEMALE LEADERS

 **Eva Aouad El Turk**

Partner Manager at Sport Evasion | Former Secretary General of the Lebanese League for Women in Business LLWB

On behalf of



LLWB valuable member, Mrs. Eva Aouad El Turk represented LLWB in the SheMadelT event in Côte d'Ivoire, where she shared her outstanding journey and presented LLWB's STEM activities including Girls Day and Girls Got IT (GGIT), providing female students with insightful advises and in-depth knowledge on the STEM field.

LLWB SOCIAL HUB



LLWB'S eco-friendly outdoor space is designed for you to relax, unwind, and connect with your community.

The space is designed to host meetings, workshops, events, and social gatherings. Whether you're looking to host a small get-together with friends, a corporate event, or a community workshop, we've got you covered.

The Rooftop Social Hub is available for use.

Please refer to Ms. Ghada Salibi for the booking process and guidelines, you can contact her via email: program.manager@llwb.org or via mobile: 71 455 155.

we look forward to welcoming you on LLWB's rooftop!"



[Read More](#)

If you're interested in becoming an LLWB Member, please contact Ms. Ghada Salibi on program.manager@llwb.org or by visiting our website and clicking on [Become a Member](#).

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Lebanese League for Women in Business, Mount Lebanon, Sin el Fil, Aramex Building, 2nd floor, Sin el Fil , Lebanon

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