

جنّاح
المسأة
WOMEN'S
PAVILION

presents



المجلس العالمي للمرأة
WOMEN'S WORLD MAJLIS

in collaboration with



المملكة العربية السعودية
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
EXPO 2020 DUBAI



KNOWLEDGE AND LEARNING WEEK

132 million girls: Tackling gender disparities in access to education

Women's Pavilion Programming, in partnership with World Majlis

Session Agenda



**KNOWLEDGE
AND LEARNING
WEEK**

12 - 18 DECEMBER 2021

**HOW DO WE ENSURE
OUR EDUCATION SYSTEM
DELIVERS FOR WOMEN
AND GIRLS?**

Co-curation	Dubai Cares, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Pavilion, and United States of America Pavilion,
Date	Monday December 13 th , 2021
Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meet at 10:30 AM at the Women's Pavilion Majlis• Discussion on stage 11:00-12:30 PM Dubai Time• Women's Pavilion tour 12:45 PM – 1:15 PM Dubai Time
Venue	Women's Pavilion Majlis

If you educate a woman, you educate a family, if you educate a girl, you educate the future. Sadly, we still have 132 million girls out of school today.

Twice as many girls as boys will never start school, according to UNESCO. Today only 49 per cent of countries have achieved gender parity in primary education. Threats to girls' education range from poverty, child marriage, gender biases, poor infrastructure, and conflict, to a lack of gender-responsive pedagogies, policies, data, budgets and more.

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the entire education sector. The increased drop-out rates disproportionately affect girls, which further entrench gender gaps in education and lead to increased risk of sexual exploitation, forced marriage, early pregnancy. The world also faces challenges in updating our educational system and infrastructure to provide e-learning for tomorrow.

Overview and

Key Questions

Investing in girls' education is investing in economic growth, a healthy workforce, lasting peace and a sustainable future for our planet. One additional year of schooling increases a woman's return from education by 12 percent compared with 10 percent for men. Gender-equitable education could add up to \$12 trillion USD to global growth. It can also cut the risk of violent extremism in half. To have a healthy, prosperous and sustainable society, we must guarantee girls' education.

- How do we guarantee every girl goes to school?
- What are the best practices for promoting gender-inclusive classrooms and learning?
- What is the future of education? How do we ensure that e-learning is gender-responsive?

Please join us in this Women's World Majlis to share your insights and collectively contribute to building a more gender-equitable future.

Opening speech (10 min) from 11:00 to 11:10

HE Dr Tariq Al Gurg

Chief Executive Officer and Vice-Chairman, Dubai Cares, UAE

HE Dr Tariq Al Gurg was appointed as Chief Executive Officer of Dubai Cares in 2009 and as Vice-Chairman in July 2021.

Al Gurg has been a primary driver behind the organization's success. He has enabled Dubai Cares to contribute to the evidence-base in education, leverage funding and invest in strategic relationships and programs that support the global education agenda. His focus has been to develop Dubai Cares as a recognized best-case practitioner and a global leader in education program design and innovation that is grounded in a philosophy of continuous monitoring and evaluation and rigorous research.



Globally, Al Gurg has been a key champion of Education in Emergencies, as well as a vocal advocate for an increased focus on youth empowerment. He is a founding member of the High-Level Steering Group of 'Education Cannot Wait' – a global fund for education in emergencies, as well as Generation Unlimited, UNICEF's flagship youth initiative, where he also sits on its Board of Trustees and Global Leadership Council. Al Gurg is also a high-level Champion of the World Economic Forum's Reskilling Revolution, a member of the advisory board of UNESCO's Futures of Education Commission, as well as the Regional Champion of the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) in the Middle East. Locally, Al Gurg is a Co-chair of the Global Council on SDG 4, a board member at the Digital School initiative, the Commissioner General of the Dubai Cares pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai and a member of the UAE Committee for the Coordination of Humanitarian Aid headed by the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MoFAIC).

Key opening message (video) (10 min) from 11:10 to 11:20

HE Maruja Gorday de Villalobos

Minister of Education, Panama

Gorday graduated as a comprehensive teacher of Special Education with specialisation in Early Stimulation, Vision, Hearing and Language from the Higher Institute of Specialisation. She was representative of the Ministry of Education (MEDUCA) in the Permanent Multisectoral Council for the Implementation of the Dialogue for Education (COPEME), representative of MEDUCA in the Table of the Dialogue Commitment to Education, candidate to the United Nations Committee of Experts on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.



She has participated in various conferences, training and professional development courses such as the workshop on exchanges of experiences in the implementation of learning assessment systems (MEDUCA), conference on educational policies to promote quality and the culture of Educational Assessment and the Franklin Covey's Strategic Planning course. Gorday participated in the preparation of the document 'A Call to Action: National Commitment to Education: Let's Take the Next Step' and was part of the team of collaborators of the first statistical model to establish educational indicators.

Panel discussion (50 min) from 11:20 to 12:20

Dr Fanta Aw – Moderator

Vice President of Campus Life, American University (Washington D.C.), USA



Dr Fanta Aw is Vice President of Campus Life at American University in Washington D.C. She has spent 28 years in higher education administration, most recently as Assistant Vice President of Campus Life. She advises American University leadership on matters related to campus internationalization, issues of inclusion, diversity and equity, and student engagement.

Dr Aw is also the School of International Service's Hurst Senior Professorial Lecturer; she teaches graduate courses related to immigration, internationalization of higher education, and international higher education policy.

She is the 2013 recipient of the University Award for Outstanding Teaching in an Adjunct Position.

Yasmine Sherif – Panelist

Director, Education Cannot Wait (ECW) United Nations



Yasmine Sherif is the Director of Education Cannot Wait (ECW), a global fund for education in emergencies and protracted crisis, established at the World Humanitarian Summit and hosted by UNICEF.

A human rights lawyer with 30 years of experience in international affairs, including 20 years in management & leadership, she graduated with an LLM from Stockholm University in 1987 and joined the United Nations in 1988.

She has served in New York, Geneva and in crisis-affected countries in Africa, Asia, Balkans and the Middle East. She has in-depth knowledge and first-hand experience of the UN humanitarian, development and political system, crisis/post-crisis and the humanitarian-development nexus. She has also served with NGOs and as Adjunct Professor at Long Island University.

Dr Mounira Jamjoom – Panelist

CEO & Saudi Entrepreneur, Aanaab Holding, Saudi Arabia



Dr Mounira Jamjoom is a Saudi entrepreneur, education expert and author who specializes in building and improving teacher capacity.

Jamjoom is the co-founder and CEO of Emkan Education, a consultancy and education development company which provides services to public and private institutions, including school operators, educators and investors.

She also founded Aanaab.com, a digital platform with resources and training courses for teachers and educators in the Arab world.

Jamjoom has a wealth of experience in education in Saudi Arabia and has written extensively on the subject, including two books.

She is a member of the sixth class of Middle East Leadership Initiative Fellows and the Aspen Global Leadership Network. She previously served as assistant governor in the Kingdom for the Evaluation, Training and Education Commission.



Raya Bidshari – Panelist

Founder and CEO, School of Humanity, UAE

Raya Bidshahri is a serial education entrepreneur, keynote speaker, and award-winning educator. Raya is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of the School of Humanity, a revolutionary online high school with a progressive model and skill-based curriculum. Raya serves as an advisory board member to multiple EdTech companies and is a member of the Bett Future Education Council. Featured by the BBC as one of the most influential and inspiring women globally, she is a global thought-leader on the future of work and education.



Safeena Husain – Virtual participant

Founder and Executive Director of Educate Girls (EG), India

Safeena is the Founder and Executive Director of Educate Girls (EG), an Indian non-profit that mobilises communities toward girls' education in some of the hardest-to-reach villages. Under her leadership, EG has enrolled 950,000+ girls in schools till date, impacted over 11.5 million+ beneficiaries, expanded operations to 20,000 villages through a 15,000+ strong team of community volunteers.

An LSE graduate, Safeena has worked extensively with underserved communities in South America, Africa and Asia. She is known for her efforts to bridge the gender and literacy gaps through tech-driven interventions, pioneering the world's first Development Impact Bond in education and EG becoming the first Audacious project in Asia, that aims to bring 40% of India's out of school girls back to education.

Q&A Session (10 min) from 12:20 to 12:30

Appendix

Expo 2020 Dubai, the Women's Pavilion and the World Majlis programme

EXPO 2020 DUBAI

Since the first Great Exhibition held in London in 1851, Expos have connected people and provided special spaces to spark dialogue amongst those who are curious about the future.

Running from 1 October 2021 to 31 March 2022, Expo 2020 Dubai will bring the world together to imagine, design and build a more sustainable, dignified and prosperous world. One that is cleaner, safer and healthier. One inspired by collective action around shared challenges, and in which future generations will flourish. Under the theme of "Connecting Minds, Creating the Future" and our three sub-themes of Sustainability, Mobility and Opportunity, Expo will be a platform for positive, collaborative change.

THE WOMEN'S PAVILION AT EXPO 2020 DUBAI

Our Women's Pavilion, under the exhibition title 'New Perspectives', is a critical component of this vision and will be curated by Expo 2020 Dubai in collaboration with Cartier. In highlighting the positive contributions of women, we will demonstrate that when women thrive, so too does all of humanity.

The UAE has dedicated itself to ensuring that issues related to gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE) are centrally addressed in everything we do at Expo 2020 Dubai. By shining a light on women past and present, known and unknown, the Women's Pavilion challenges the misconceptions that women still frequently face, seeks out new perspectives on the impact women bring to our world, explores new approaches to creating a more equal world, and identifies ways in which we, together, can create new perspectives, change deep-rooted perceptions, and adjust mindsets.

Through different modes of convening, our goal is to highlight that the only way to peace, prosperity, and sustainability is through the full and equal participation of women.

WORLD MAJLIS PROGRAMME

Deeply rooted in the traditions of the UAE, the Majlis is one of the cornerstones of Emirati civilisation. In Arabic, "majlis" means 'place of sitting' and refers to both a social gathering space and a formal legislative assembly for government. A place where people meet to hear informed opinions and shape decisions on subjects that matter to the community. The host of the majlis and his guests sit facing one another and engage in respectful but vibrant conversation, with the view of better understanding issues and exploring solutions.

The majlis has been inscribed in the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. It defines majlis as a "sitting place" where community members gather to discuss local events and issues, exchange news, receive guests, socialise and be entertained."

The World Majlis aims to be one of the most engaging and thought-provoking dialogues ever held at an Expo. It is a space for ideas and conversations to make important and complex topics relatable to the general public. It brings together diverse points of views across geographies and generations. It invites open and informed exchanges between its participants with the objective to generate new insights and start meaningful connections between people and new ideas.

WOMEN'S WORLD MAJLIS

The Women's World Majlis is a key programming series at the Women's Pavilion in partnership with the World Majlis. In ten sessions, we will look into ten Expo Thematic Weeks' topics through a gender lens by recognizing and celebrating women's role and positive contributions in advancing sustainable development adapting a free-flowing conversation format.
