**Media Advisory**

**International Day of Women and Girls in Science: Expo City’s Women’s Pavilion hosts interactive programme to inspire and upskill**

**DUBAI, 5 February 2025 – The Women’s Pavilion at Expo City Dubai will host an engaging, hands-on programme to mark International Day of Women and Girls in Science on 11 February, aiming to empower women and girls in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), ignite curiosity and inspire innovation.**

**The ‘Innovators of Tomorrow’ programme reflects the Women’s Pavilion belief that when women thrive, humanity thrives, and demonstrates its commitment to curating inspiring events and initiatives that celebrate the contribution of women and girls to shaping society.**

**Panel: Breaking barriers – inspiring the next generation of women in STEM**

**Trailblazing women from different STEM fields will explore their personal journeys, the challenges they have overcome, and strategies to create a more inclusive future in STEM. Audiences will gain insights from Marwa Al Mamari**, the UAE’s first aerospace engineer; **Fatima AlKaabi**, a computer engineer recognised in 2015 as the youngest Emirati inventor; **Perihan Abouzeid**, Founder and CEO of UAE-based FemTech startup PeriCare; and **Arabella Willing**, Head of Conservation Outreach & Citizen Science at Emirates Nature–WWF. The session will be moderated by **Ryma Affani, Emirates Soil Museum Curator, International Centre for Biosaline Agriculture.**

The panel is free to attend and will take place from **1000-1200**. Tickets are on a first-come, first-served and can be secured at [expocitydubai.com](https://www.expocitydubai.com/en/things-to-do/events-and-workshops/innovators-of-tomorrow/).

**Science and tech workshops**

**Students from schools across the UAE will spend the morning enhancing their STEM skills through interactive learning activities organised by the Expo School Programme and its partners, in line with the city’s commitment to delivering educational and cultural experiences that inspire and empower the next generation.**

More than 300 students from 7-16 years will engage in a range of hands-on learning experiences, in collaboration with Lab of Future and Blockworks. Older students will explore inclusive urban planning using Minecraft as a design tool, prioritising the needs and safety of women and girls; another group will build and race mini drones, construct functional rocket models and assemble robotics components; while the youngest students will focus on designing energy-efficient robotics solutions.

**FemTech Hackathon launch**

**The Women’s Pavilion, in partnership with PeriCare and the Next Gen of Immunology Consultancy (NGIG), will announce details of the FemTech Hackathon to take place from 12-13 April.**

**The hackathon will task male and female students aged 16-18 to develop solutions that tackle real challenges faced by women in the UAE by leveraging FemTech. Winners will gain internship opportunities with leading startups in the FemTech space, teaching them new skills in STEM fields.**

**Further details will be shared on** [education.expocitydubai.com](https://education.expocitydubai.com/en/femtech-hackathon/)**.**

**-ENDS-**

**About Expo City Dubai**

Expo City Dubai, the legacy city of Expo 2020 Dubai, is an innovation-driven, people-centric community rooted in the belief that collaboration can propel sustainable progress. Its prime location and world-class connectivity place it at the centre of Dubai’s future – the lynchpin between Dubai Exhibition Centre, Al Maktoum International Airport and Jebel Ali Port and a key driver of Dubai’s Economic Agenda (D33)

* A world-class free zone, it is home to a thriving business community that supports cross-sector collaboration and provides a springboard for businesses of all sizes to scale and grow, enhancing Dubai’s position as a global centre of trade and reinforcing the UAE’s development and diversification ambitions
* Its residential communities redefine urban living, exemplifying best practice in innovative, environment-friendly design with a focus on wellbeing and happiness
* An incubator for innovation, it is a testbed for solutions and a platform for groundbreaking ideas that benefit both people and the planet
* Packed with educational, cultural and entertainment offerings, with more than 30 indoor and outdoor venues attracting globally significant events, it celebrates human creativity and ingenuity and inspires future generations
* Designed as a blueprint for sustainable urban living and one of five hubs on the Dubai 2040 Urban Master Plan, its roadmap to achieving net zero by 2050 and its broader decarbonisation targets raise the bar on responsible urban development

 **For media enquiries, please contact** **press.office@expocitydubai.ae**

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