



launch of Girls in ICT Day 2023 Palestine
"Digital Skills for Life"
27 April 2023



Background:

The International Telecommunication Union celebrates the Girls in ICT Day on the fourth Thursday of April with the objective of encouraging girls to enter and study technology, and to reduce the gender gap in this field.

The Ministry of Telecommunication and Information Technology (MTIT) in Palestine with the support of ITU has been participating in this event for four consecutive years as national initiative that engaged all stakeholders in Palestine, with the goal of empowering girls in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. The Ministry aims to identify the factors that enable girls to acquire necessary skills for critical and design thinking, problem-solving, and innovation, including access to the Internet, skills learning, digital tools training, community support, storytelling sessions, and inspirational female experiences.

As part of the of the activities conducted for International Girls in ICT Day initiative in Palestine in the last year 2022, a national competition was held, targeting girls aged 11 years and above in the information technology sector. They were able to showcase their projects and encourage other girls to enter the information technology and communications sector and compete locally for the opportunity to participate in international competitions and conferences by posting an introductory video on the joint Facebook page (Girls in ICT Palestine) with the Ministry of Education and Palestinian local partners which represent all sectors. A total of 75 young girls and 33 older girls participated and were evaluated by the committee responsible for the competition. The results have been announced at the beginning of 2023. Two girls from the older age group won and qualified to participate in the Global Youth Summit (Delivering the Unconnected) in Kigali, Rwanda.

About the event:

As part of Palestine National Girls in ICT Day Event 2023, MTIT will collaborate with different stakeholders to organize different activities throughout the year including events, competitions, and trainings that contribute to encourage girls in consider and excel in the ICT field.



The launch event is organized by the **MTIT** in collaboration with the **ITU** and national stakeholders and will take place on Thursday the 27th of April 2023 from 10:00 to 12:00 AM (9:00 to 11:00 AM Geneva Time) in Palestine in hybrid format. The event aims to promote the engagement of girls and women in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector. The ceremony will be attended by over 100 participants from various backgrounds including industry leaders, policymakers, educators, and students.

MTITI has invited representatives from partner organizations to serve as guest speakers. These representatives will have the opportunity to share their expertise and insights with the audience, providing valuable knowledge and perspectives. Additionally, a round table discussion is planned with Girls in ICT Day's steering committee, during which they will address the attending girls in attendance, offering words of encouragement and serving as positive role models. Therefore, providing opportunities for young girls to hear from successful professionals and leaders which in turn could have a powerful impact on their aspirations and goals.

Agenda:



Agenda for the launch of Girls in ICT Day 2023

"Digital Skills for Life"

27 April 2023

Palestine time 10:00 - 12:00



Item	Time
Opening speech	10:00- 10:45
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - H.E. Dr. Ishaq Sidr, Minister of Telecom & Information Technology - Ms. Doreen Bogdan-Martin, ITU Secretary-General - H.E. Eng. Adnan Samara, Chairman of the Higher Council for Innovation and Excellence - H.E. Dr. Marwan Awartani, Minister of Education 	



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - H.E. Dr. Amal Hamad, Minister of Women's Affairs - Dr. Safa Nassereldin, Presidential Secretary General at Al-Quds University - Dr. Maysoon Ibrahim, President of Palestinian Information Sciences and Technology Syndicate - Mr. Tamer Baransi, Chairman of The Palestinian Information Technology Association of Companies 	
Recorded message from the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, ITU / Dr. Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava	
10:45 – 10:50	
Round table discussion	
10:50 – 11:40	
Session Facilitator: Ms. Amal Barghouti Co-facilitator: Ms. Tayma Abdulhadi	Ms. Rania Jaber / Ministry of Telecom & Information Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ About Girls in ICT in Palestine Panel Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eng. Rouda AlAmir Ali / International Telecommunication Union • Dr. Mona Al-Dumaidi / Al-Najah National University • Dr. Lama Shanti / Paltel Group • Ms. Amani Moadi / PITA • Ms. Hana' Omran / Ministry of Education • Ms. Rand Safi / Gaza Sky Geeks • Ms. Nadia Sabaaneh / Founder and CEO of "Finomena"
Testimony from young professional	
11:40- 12:00	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private Sector: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ms. Amani Abutair • Ministry of Telecom & Information Technology 	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Eng. Nour Nassar○ Eng. Nahawand Abu-Afifah● Higher Council for Innovation<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Ms. Razan Nasr● The Winner in the Girls in ICT 2022 competition<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Ms. Karmel Shehada, Generation Connect Arab Youth <p style="text-align: center;">Envoy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Teachers and School students representative
Lounge & Hospitality	

