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Global programme builds AI Skills for girls across the globe

6 November 2025, Geneva, Switzerland - A global initiative led by the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau and the global EY organization is helping girls and young women build foundational skills in artificial intelligence (AI) and emerging technologies, with over 820 participants trained to date.

The AI Skills Accelerator for Girls is closing in on its target of reaching 1000 participants through in-person workshops across multiple countries. The effort is designed to foster digital inclusion by equipping young women with the technical, ethical, and entrepreneurial skills needed to engage with AI and apply it to local development challenges.

"This programme is demonstrating that partnerships deliver with impact, especially in areas that matter such as digital inclusion," said Dr Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava, Director of ITU's Telecommunication Development Bureau. "Through collaboration with EY and national ministries, these workshops are helping young women build the confidence to engage with artificial intelligence in ways that support inclusive development and local innovation."

AI Skills Accelerator for Girls workshops have already taken place in Egypt, India, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Malta, and Paraguay, and Uzbekistan.

Each event includes hands-on training, expert mentoring, and sessions on topics such as neural networks, recognition technologies, cyber safety, and the ethical use of emerging technologies.

"This collaboration is opening pathways into the tech sector for young women who too often face limited access to digital education. Thank you to the ITU for their collaboration to create meaningful experiences that go beyond foundational AI skills to spark long-term ambition," said Gillian Hinde, EY Global Corporate Responsibility Leader. "Together, we're laying the groundwork for more inclusive participation in the technologies shaping our future."

The most recent workshops were in October at the Egypt University of Informatics in Cairo (in Arabic), and in September at INHA University in Uzbekistan (in Russian and English). These introduced young women to the fundamentals of artificial intelligence

and other emerging technologies and included discussions on topics such as ethics and inclusion.

Participants received hands-on training and expert mentoring throughout the day. The first session introduced basic AI concepts, including neural networks and recognition technologies for speech, image, and video.

The second session focused on large language models and explored prompt engineering and ethical considerations, including bias, privacy, and deepfakes. The final session covered cyber safety and entrepreneurship, encouraging participants to consider how AI can be used to address real-world problems.

In surveys following AI Skills Accelerator for Girls events, participants reported having deepened their understanding of key technological concepts and gained confidence to pursue further learning.

Resources and background information

For more information on the "AI skills accelerator for girls", please visit the [programme website](#).

About the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the United Nations agency for digital technologies, driving innovation for people and the planet with 194 Member States and a membership of over 1,000 companies, universities, civil society, and international and regional organizations. Established in 1865, ITU coordinates the global use of the radio spectrum and satellite orbits, establishes international technology standards, drives universal connectivity and digital services, and is helping to make sure everyone benefits from sustainable digital transformation, including the most remote communities. From artificial intelligence (AI) to quantum, from satellites and submarine cables to advanced mobile and wireless broadband networks, ITU is committed to connecting the world and beyond.

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