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# FINAL REPORT

High-Level Webinar on the Occasion of  
**International Women's Day 2026**

*“Her Leadership... Her Future”*

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Date: 13 March 2026 | Time: 10:00 PM – 12:00 AM (KSA)

Platform: Zoom Webinar | Report Date: 18 March 2026

Organized by:

**Arab Youth Sustainable Development Network (AYSND)**  
**Al-Amal Foundation for Training and Entrepreneurship (REYADAH)**

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## 1. Executive Summary

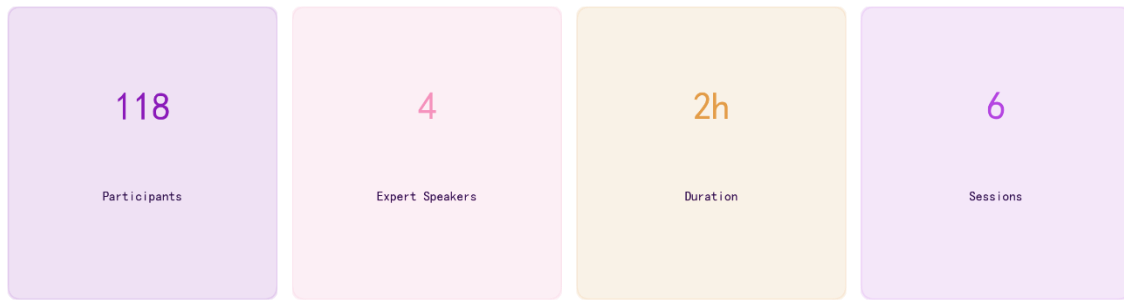
*On 13 March 2026*, the Arab Youth Sustainable Development Network (AYS DN), in strategic collaboration with the Al-Amal Foundation for Training and Entrepreneurship (REYADAH), hosted a landmark regional high-level webinar commemorating International Women’s Day 2026 under the compelling theme “*Her Leadership... Her Future.*” This event brought together a distinguished assembly of policymakers, academics, civil society leaders, youth activists, and development practitioners from across the Arab region, creating a vibrant platform for dialogue, knowledge exchange, and collective action on gender equality and women’s empowerment.

The webinar attracted a **total of 118 participants, comprising 74 females (62.7%) and 44 males (37.3%)**, reflecting both the event’s strong appeal to women leaders and the encouraging engagement of male allies in the gender equality discourse. Participants represented a diverse cross-section of stakeholders, including youth leaders from AYS DN’s extensive network, government officials, representatives from international organizations, academics, private sector partners, and civil society activists. This diverse participation enriched the discussions and ensured that multiple perspectives were considered in the development of recommendations.

Throughout the two-hour session, four distinguished speakers delivered compelling presentations covering critical dimensions of women’s empowerment: **Dr. Ahed Mohammed Salem Ja’sous**, Minister of State for Women’s Affairs in Yemen, addressed economic and social development; **Dhekra Ahmed Mohammed Al-Gabri**, Executive Director of REYADAH, focused on mentorship and entrepreneurship; **Dr. Alromissa Hussain Yaqoob**, a prominent Human Rights Advocate and Legal Researcher, explored inclusive justice systems; and **Necla Basata**, Programs and Partnerships Coordinator at AYS DN, discussed governance and youth leadership.

The discussions emphasized the structural challenges affecting women’s participation in economic, political, and social life across the Arab region. Speakers highlighted the urgent need for policy reforms, inclusive governance mechanisms, digital justice platforms, expanded market access, and enhanced financial inclusion. The webinar concluded with a comprehensive set of consolidated recommendations aligned with **AYS DN’s 2026–2028 Strategy and REYADAH’s** mission to empower women and youth, providing a clear roadmap for action in the months and years ahead.

#### Event at a Glance



## 2. About the Organizers

The success of this webinar was built upon the strong partnership between two organizations that share a deep commitment to empowering women and youth across the Arab region. AYS DN and REYADAH bring complementary expertise, networks, and resources that together create a powerful platform for advancing gender equality and sustainable development. Their collaboration exemplifies the kind of cross-sectoral partnership that is essential for achieving meaningful and lasting change.

#### About the Organizers



### 2.1 Arab Youth Sustainable Development Network (AYS DN)

AYS DN is a pioneering youth-led regional platform founded in 2018, dedicated to advancing the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) across the Middle East and

North Africa (MENA) region. The organization was established in response to the growing recognition that young people must be at the center of development efforts, not merely as beneficiaries but as active agents of change. Since its founding, AYSDN has grown into a dynamic network spanning multiple Arab countries, engaging thousands of young people in programs focused on capacity building, policy advocacy, and community development.

At the heart of AYSDN’s work is the belief that sustainable development cannot be achieved without the meaningful participation of youth, and that gender equality is a prerequisite for progress across all dimensions of development. The organization’s 2026–2028 Strategy identifies gender equality as a core strategic pillar, with an ambitious target of empowering 4,000 young women through targeted training, mentorship, and leadership development programs. This strategy reflects AYSDN’s recognition that investing in young women is not only a moral imperative but also a strategic investment in the future of the region.

AYSDN’s programs are designed to address the multifaceted barriers that prevent young people, particularly young women, from fully participating in society. These include capacity building workshops, policy dialogue forums, cross-border exchange programs, and advocacy campaigns that amplify youth voices in national and regional policy discussions. The organization has established partnerships with governments, international organizations, civil society, and the private sector, creating a robust ecosystem for youth empowerment.

## 2.2 Al-Amal Foundation for Training and Entrepreneurship (REYADAH)

**REYADAH**, established in 2013 in Yemen, is a leading organization specializing in livelihood enhancement, entrepreneurship development, and Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprise (MSME) growth. The foundation was born out of a deep understanding of the challenges facing Yemeni communities, particularly women and youth, in accessing economic opportunities and building sustainable livelihoods. Over the past decade, REYADAH has implemented more than 20 projects reaching over 48,550 beneficiaries across Yemen, demonstrating an extraordinary commitment to building resilient communities through economic empowerment.

REYADAH’s programs are distinguished by their practical, hands-on approach to economic empowerment. The foundation provides comprehensive support to aspiring and existing entrepreneurs, including financial literacy training, business planning assistance, access to microfinance, vocational skills development, and market linkage services. A particular focus is placed on supporting women-led enterprises, recognizing that women entrepreneurs face unique barriers including limited access to capital, restrictive social norms, and inadequate business networks.

The foundation’s work is particularly significant in the Yemeni context, where years of conflict and economic instability have created unprecedented challenges for women and youth. Despite these challenges, REYADAH has consistently demonstrated its ability to deliver high-quality programs that create tangible impact. The foundation’s approach combines direct service delivery with systemic advocacy, working to address both the immediate needs of individuals and the structural barriers that perpetuate poverty and inequality.

### 3. Background: International Women’s Day 2026

**International Women’s Day (IWD)**, celebrated annually on March 8, is a global day recognizing the social, economic, political, and cultural achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. IWD has been observed since the early 1900s—a time of great expansion and turbulence in the industrialized world that saw booming population growth and the rise of radical ideologies. The earliest Women’s Day observance was held on February 28, 1909, in New York, organized by the Socialist Party of America at the suggestion of Theresa Malkiel.

**In 1975**, during International Women’s Year, the United Nations began celebrating International Women’s Day on March 8. Two years later, in December 1977, the General Assembly adopted a resolution proclaiming a United Nations Day for Women’s Rights and International Peace to be observed on any day of the year by Member States, in accordance with their historical and national traditions. Since then, the day has grown into a global movement, with events, campaigns, and initiatives taking place in countries around the world.

The 2026 international themes reflect the urgency and comprehensiveness of the global gender equality agenda. The theme “Give To Gain” promotes the compelling message that investing in women is not merely an act of social justice but a strategic driver of societal progress. Research consistently demonstrates that gender equality is associated with improved economic growth, better health outcomes, more stable societies, and more effective governance. When women thrive, communities thrive, nations thrive, and the world thrives.

The complementary theme “Rights. Justice. Action. For ALL Women and Girls” addresses the persistent legal and systemic gender disparities that continue to limit women’s potential across the globe. This theme underscores the importance of legal reforms, institutional change, and collective action in creating a world where every woman and girl can exercise her rights and fulfill her potential. The theme is particularly relevant in the Arab region, where significant progress has been made but where substantial challenges remain.

A critical statistic underscores the urgency of this work: women currently hold just **64% of men’s legal rights globally**. This gap represents not only a violation of fundamental human rights but also a significant barrier to sustainable development. Closing this gap requires sustained effort across multiple fronts, including legal reform, institutional change, cultural transformation, and economic empowerment.

## IWD 2026 International Themes



## 4. Objectives of the Webinar

The webinar was designed with four strategic objectives, each carefully crafted to address specific dimensions of women’s empowerment and to contribute to the broader **goals of AYSDN and REYADAH**. These objectives were developed through extensive consultation between the organizing teams and reflect the most pressing priorities identified through their ongoing work with communities across the Arab region.

**1. Present AYSDN’s 2026–2028 Strategy on Empowering Women:** The first objective focused on officially launching and presenting AYSDN’s new strategic framework for gender equality. This strategy, developed through extensive consultation with stakeholders across the region, articulates a comprehensive vision for empowering young women through targeted programs, policy advocacy, and institutional partnerships. The presentation provided participants with a clear understanding of AYSDN’s strategic direction and invited feedback and collaboration opportunities.

**2. Discuss Challenges Facing Young Women in the MENA Region:** The second objective sought to create a space for honest and informed discussion about the structural barriers that limit women’s participation in economic, political, and social life. By bringing together diverse perspectives from government, civil society, academia, and the private sector, the webinar aimed to develop a nuanced understanding of these challenges and to identify actionable solutions that can be implemented at multiple levels.

**3. Highlight Regional Role Models in Leadership, Entrepreneurship, Governance, and Justice:** The third objective recognized the power of representation and storytelling in inspiring the next generation of women leaders. By featuring accomplished women from diverse professional backgrounds, the webinar aimed to showcase the breadth of women’s contributions to society and to provide tangible examples of what is possible when women are empowered to lead.

**4. Produce Actionable Recommendations Supporting SDG Attainment:** The fourth and final objective was to translate the discussions into a concrete set of recommendations that

could guide future action. These recommendations are designed to be actionable, measurable, and aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 5 (Gender Equality) and its interlinkages with other goals including SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).

## 5. Target Audience

The webinar was strategically designed to engage a diverse audience of stakeholders committed to gender equality and women’s empowerment. The target audience was selected to ensure that the discussions were informed by multiple perspectives and that the resulting recommendations would have broad relevance and applicability across different contexts and sectors.

The primary audience included youth from AYSDN’s extensive network and partner organizations, who represent the next generation of leaders and change-makers. These young women and men bring energy, creativity, and a deep understanding of the challenges facing their communities, making their participation essential for developing solutions that are both innovative and contextually appropriate.

The secondary audience encompassed civil society activists and NGO representatives who work on gender issues at the grassroots level. These organizations possess invaluable field experience and community trust, making them essential partners in implementing the recommendations emerging from the webinar. Government representatives formed another critical audience segment, as they hold the institutional power to enact the policy reforms needed for systemic change.

Additionally, the webinar targeted private sector partners who can drive change through corporate policies, investment decisions, and partnership initiatives. Academics and development practitioners rounded out the audience, providing evidence-based insights and best practices from their research and programmatic experience. This multi-stakeholder approach ensured that the discussions were comprehensive and that the resulting recommendations reflect a truly collective vision for change.

Youth from AYSDN and partner organizations – the next generation of leaders and change-makers

Civil society activists and NGOs – grassroots organizations with invaluable field experience

Government representatives – institutional actors with the power to enact policy reforms

Private sector partners – drivers of change through corporate policies and investment

Academics and development practitioners – providers of evidence-based insights and best practices?

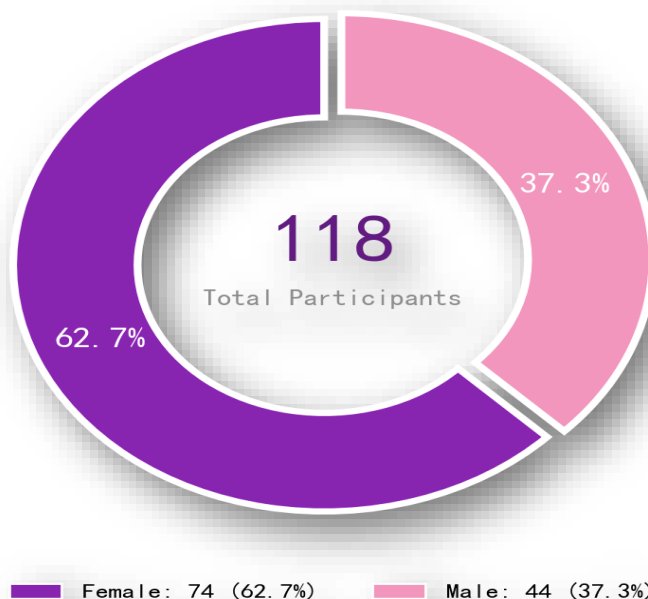
## 6. Attendance Overview

The webinar attracted a total of 118 participants, demonstrating strong interest in the theme of women’s leadership and empowerment across the Arab region. This level of participation, achieved despite the event being organized with only five days’ notice, reflects the urgency and relevance of the topic and the strength of AYSDN and REYADAH’s networks. The attendance figure exceeded initial expectations and underscored the growing demand for platforms where gender equality issues can be discussed openly and constructively.

The gender breakdown reveals a healthy majority of female participants at 74 (62.7%), with 44 male participants (37.3%). This distribution is significant for several reasons. First, it demonstrates the event’s success in reaching and engaging its primary target audience of women leaders and activists. Second, the substantial male participation reflects the encouraging trend of men engaging as allies in the gender equality discourse, which is essential for achieving sustainable and inclusive change. Third, the near two-to-one ratio suggests that the event created a safe and welcoming space where women felt empowered to participate actively.

Participants represented a wide geographic spread across the Arab region, with strong representation from Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Jordan, and other countries. This geographic diversity enriched the discussions by bringing in varied national contexts and experiences, allowing participants to learn from each other’s successes and challenges. The professional backgrounds of participants were equally diverse, spanning government, academia, civil society, the private sector, and international organizations.

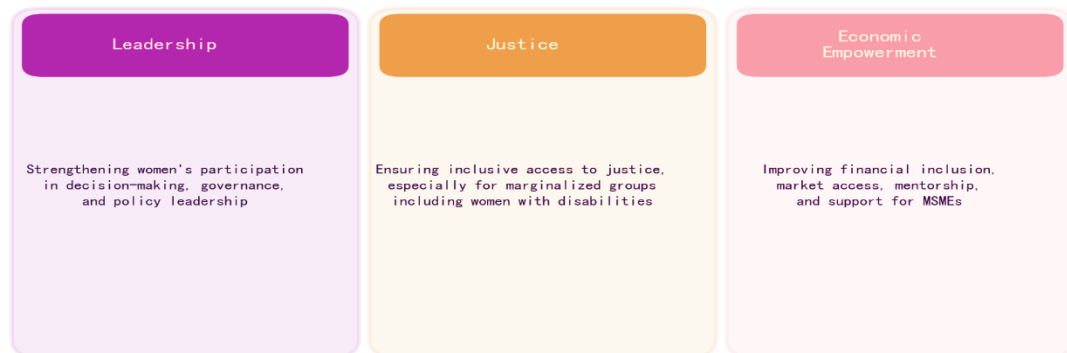
### Attendance Distribution



## 7. Key Themes

The webinar was structured around three interconnected themes that reflect the multidimensional nature of women’s empowerment. These themes were carefully selected through consultation between **AYSND and REYADAH** to address the most pressing issues facing women in the Arab region and to provide a comprehensive framework for discussion and action. Together, they represent a holistic approach to gender equality that recognizes the interconnections between political participation, economic opportunity, and access to justice.

### Three Key Themes



### 7.1 Leadership

The Leadership theme focused on strengthening women’s participation in decision-making, governance, and policy leadership across all levels of society. Discussions highlighted the significant progress made in recent years in increasing women’s representation in political institutions, corporate boards, and civil society leadership, while acknowledging the substantial gaps that remain. Speakers emphasized that women’s leadership is not only a matter of rights and representation but also a driver of better governance, more inclusive policies, and more sustainable development outcomes.

The discussions explored the structural barriers that prevent women from ascending to leadership positions, including discriminatory laws and practices, unequal access to education and professional development, the double burden of unpaid care work, and deeply entrenched social norms about gender roles. Speakers shared examples of successful initiatives that have helped women overcome these barriers, including mentorship programs, leadership training, quota systems, and advocacy campaigns that challenge stereotypes about women’s capabilities.

## 7.2 Justice

The Justice theme addressed the critical importance of ensuring inclusive access to justice for all women, with particular attention to the needs of marginalized groups including women with disabilities, rural women, refugee and displaced women, and women living in conflict-affected areas. Speakers provided compelling evidence of the barriers that prevent women from accessing justice, including discriminatory legal frameworks, high costs, geographic distance, lack of legal awareness, and social norms that discourage women from asserting their rights.

A particularly innovative aspect of the discussion was the emphasis on digital justice platforms as a means of expanding access to justice for women. Speakers described how technology can help overcome traditional barriers by providing online legal information, remote legal consultation, and digital case management systems. This approach is especially relevant in the Arab region, where mobile phone penetration is high but physical access to justice institutions may be limited, particularly for women in rural and conflict-affected areas.

## 7.3 Economic Empowerment

The Economic Empowerment theme explored strategies for improving women’s economic participation and financial independence through expanded market access, enhanced financial inclusion, targeted mentorship programs, and robust support for women-led micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs). Speakers presented data showing that women’s economic empowerment is one of the most powerful drivers of poverty reduction, economic growth, and social development, making it a strategic priority for governments, international organizations, and the private sector.

The discussions went beyond traditional approaches to women’s economic empowerment to explore innovative models including digital financial services, social entrepreneurship, impact investing, and value chain integration. Speakers emphasized the importance of addressing the full ecosystem of challenges facing women entrepreneurs, including access to capital, business skills development, market linkages, networking opportunities, and supportive regulatory environments. The role of mentorship was highlighted as particularly important, with speakers sharing personal experiences of how mentoring relationships helped them overcome barriers and achieve their professional goals.

## 8. Webinar Agenda

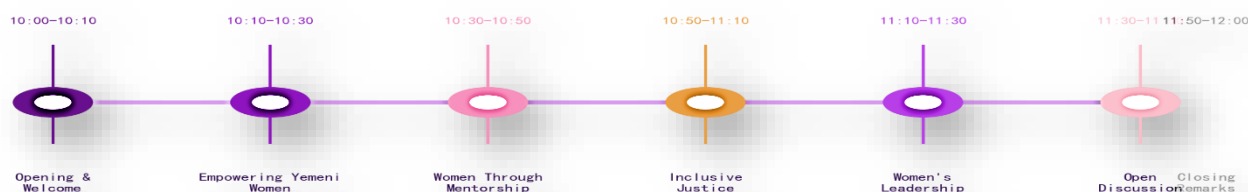
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The webinar featured a carefully designed agenda that balanced keynote presentations with interactive discussion, ensuring that participants had the opportunity to both learn from expert speakers and contribute their own perspectives. Each session was allocated 20 minutes to ensure in-depth coverage of each topic while maintaining audience engagement throughout the two-hour event. The agenda was structured to build logically from context-setting to specific thematic discussions to collective deliberation and conclusion.

Time	Session / Activity	Speaker / Moderator
10:00 - 10:10 PM	Opening & Welcome Strategy 2026-2028 overview, Speaker introductions	Welcome remarks, AYSND Salma Khalid
10:10 - 10:30 PM	Empowering Yemeni Women and Their Role in Economic and Social Development	Dr. Ahed M.S. Ja'sous
10:30 - 10:50 PM	Empowering Women Through Mentorship, Opportunities, and Resources	Dhekra A.M. Al-Gabri
10:50 - 11:10 PM	Inclusive Justice With No One Left Behind	Dr. Alromissa H. Yaqoob
11:10 - 11:30 PM	Women's Leadership and Decision-Making	Necla Basata
11:30 - 11:50 PM	Open Discussion, Audience Interventions & Recommendations	Audience
11:50 - 12:00 AM	Closing Remarks	Salma Khalid

Table 1: Webinar Agenda Schedule

#### Webinar Agenda Timeline



## 9. Speaker Summaries

The webinar featured four distinguished speakers, each bringing unique expertise, experience, and perspective to the discussion. Their presentations provided a comprehensive overview of the challenges and opportunities for women’s empowerment in the Arab region, covering government policy, entrepreneurship, human rights, and youth leadership. The diversity of their backgrounds—spanning government, civil society, and youth-led organizations—ensured that multiple perspectives were represented and that the discussions reflected the complexity of the issues at hand.

### Distinguished Speakers

<p>Speaker 1</p> <p><b>Dr. Ahed M. S. Ja'sous</b></p> <p>Minister of State for Women's Affairs – Yemen</p>	<p>Speaker 2</p> <p><b>Dhekra A. M. Al-Gabri</b></p> <p>Executive Director REYADAH</p>
<p>Speaker 3</p> <p><b>Dr. Alromissa H. Yaqoob</b></p> <p>Human Rights Advocate &amp; Legal Researcher</p>	<p>Speaker 4</p> <p><b>Necla Basata</b></p> <p>Programs &amp; Partnerships Coordinator – AYSAN</p>

## 9.1 Dr. Ahed Mohammed Salem Ja'sous

Minister of State for Women's Affairs – Yemen

Dr. Ja'sous delivered a powerful presentation highlighting the critical roles that Yemeni women play in community resilience, economic development, and social reform. Drawing on her extensive experience in government and her deep understanding of the Yemeni context, she provided a nuanced analysis of the challenges facing Yemeni women and the strategies that have proven effective in supporting their empowerment. Her presentation was particularly moving in its emphasis on the resilience and strength of Yemeni women, who continue to make extraordinary contributions to their communities despite the immense challenges posed by years of conflict and economic instability.

A central theme of Dr. Ja'sous's presentation was the importance of transitioning micro-businesses into sustainable enterprises. She argued that while micro-enterprises provide essential livelihoods for many Yemeni families, the true potential of women's economic participation can only be realized when women are supported to grow their businesses beyond the micro level. This requires access to larger pools of capital, business development services, market linkages, and a supportive regulatory environment that recognizes and supports women entrepreneurs.

Dr. Ja'sous also emphasized the critical role of inclusive governance and gender-responsive national policies in creating an enabling environment for women's empowerment. She shared examples of policy reforms that have been implemented in Yemen, including the establishment of the Ministry of State for Women's Affairs, and called for continued efforts to mainstream gender considerations across all government ministries and agencies. She stressed that sustainable change requires both top-down policy reforms and bottom-up community mobilization.

## 9.2 Dhekra Ahmed Mohammed Al-Gabri

Executive Director – REYADAH

As the Executive Director of REYADAH, Dhekra Al-Gabri brought a wealth of practical experience in designing and implementing programs that empower women economically. Her presentation focused on the comprehensive ecosystem of support that women entrepreneurs need to succeed, drawing on REYADAH’s extensive experience working with over 48,550 beneficiaries across Yemen. She provided concrete examples of how targeted interventions can help women overcome the multiple barriers they face in starting and growing businesses.

Al-Gabri’s presentation highlighted the importance of financial inclusion as a cornerstone of women’s economic empowerment. She described REYADAH’s innovative approaches to expanding women’s access to financial services, including the development of tailored financial products such as Product Eve, which is specifically designed to meet the needs of women entrepreneurs. She emphasized that financial inclusion is not just about access to capital but encompasses financial literacy, savings mobilization, insurance, and digital payment systems.

A particularly impactful aspect of Al-Gabri’s presentation was her discussion of mentorship as a catalyst for women’s entrepreneurial success. She shared stories of women who, with the support of REYADAH’s mentorship programs, have transformed their small businesses into thriving enterprises that create jobs and contribute to local economies. She called for the creation of women’s professional networks and business clubs that can provide ongoing peer support, knowledge sharing, and collaborative opportunities.

## 9.3 Dr. Alromissa Hussain Yaqoob

Human Rights Advocate & Legal Researcher

Dr. Alromissa’s presentation provided a compelling and evidence-based analysis of the barriers that prevent women from accessing justice, with particular attention to the situation of marginalized women including those with disabilities. As a human rights advocate and legal researcher, she brought both scholarly rigor and practical advocacy experience to her analysis, grounding her arguments in international human rights frameworks while also drawing on real-world examples from across the Arab region.

A key theme of Dr. Alromissa’s presentation was the concept of inclusive justice—the idea that justice systems must be designed to serve all members of society, including those who face multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination. She argued that current legal frameworks in many Arab countries fail to adequately protect the rights of women with disabilities, who face both gender-based and disability-based discrimination. She called for comprehensive legal reforms that address these intersecting inequalities and ensure that justice is truly accessible to all.

Dr. Alromissa’s advocacy for digital justice platforms was particularly innovative and timely. She described how technology can be leveraged to overcome traditional barriers to justice, including geographic distance, cost, lack of legal awareness, and social stigma. She presented examples of successful digital justice initiatives from around the world and called for their adaptation and implementation in the Arab region. Her presentation also stressed the importance of women’s participation in peacebuilding and constitutional dialogues, arguing

that sustainable peace requires the meaningful inclusion of women in all aspects of conflict resolution and governance.

## 9.4 Necla Basata

Programs & Partnerships Coordinator – AYSDN

Necla Basata’s presentation focused on the critical importance of strengthening women’s participation in governance, youth leadership, and inclusive decision-making structures. As the Programs and Partnerships Coordinator at AYSDN, she brought firsthand experience of working with young women across the Arab region and understanding the barriers they face in accessing leadership opportunities. Her presentation was both inspirational and practical, combining a compelling vision for change with concrete strategies for achieving it.

Basata highlighted AYSDN’s approach to empowering young women through a combination of training, mentorship, and the creation of platforms for their voices to be heard in policy discussions. She described specific programs that have been successful in building young women’s leadership capacities, including cross-border exchange programs, policy dialogue forums, and digital advocacy campaigns. She emphasized that investing in young women’s leadership is not only the right thing to do but also a strategic investment in the future of the region.

A central argument of Basata’s presentation was the importance of building institutions that support gender equality from the ground up. She argued that sustainable change requires both bottom-up grassroots mobilization and top-down institutional reform, and that these two approaches must be mutually reinforcing. She called for the creation of institutional mechanisms—such as gender units within organizations, gender-responsive budgeting processes, and regular gender audits—that embed gender equality into the DNA of institutions rather than treating it as an add-on.

## 10. Key Findings

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The webinar discussions revealed several critical findings that reflect the current state of women’s empowerment in the Arab region. These findings are based on the collective insights of the speakers, moderator, and audience participants, and they provide a foundation for the recommendations that follow. They represent a consensus view that emerged through open dialogue and constructive engagement among diverse stakeholders.

Structural barriers, not just individual-level challenges, limit women’s empowerment. These include discriminatory laws, social norms, economic inequalities, and institutional practices that systematically disadvantage women. Addressing these barriers requires systemic reforms that go beyond individual capacity building to transform the structures and systems that perpetuate gender inequality.

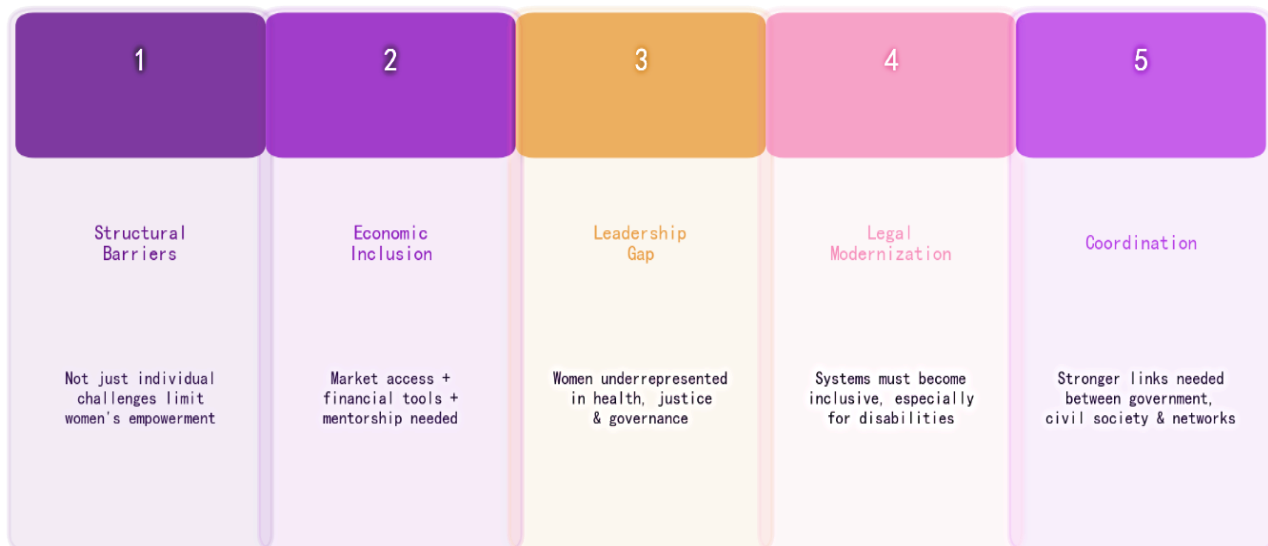
Economic empowerment must encompass a comprehensive ecosystem of support including market access, financial inclusion, and mentorship. Speakers emphasized that providing women with capital alone is insufficient; they also need the skills, networks, confidence, and supportive regulatory environment to build sustainable businesses that create jobs and contribute to economic growth.

Women’s leadership in health, justice, and governance remains essential yet significantly underrepresented. Despite notable progress in some countries, women continue to face substantial barriers to participation in decision-making at all levels, from local community councils to national parliaments and international bodies.

Legal systems require comprehensive modernization to ensure inclusivity, particularly for women with disabilities. Current legal frameworks often fail to address the specific needs and challenges faced by women with disabilities, who experience intersecting forms of discrimination based on both gender and disability.

Stronger coordination is urgently needed between government bodies, civil society organizations, and women-led networks to create a comprehensive and effective approach to gender equality. Fragmented efforts, while valuable, cannot achieve the transformative change that is needed; what is required is a coordinated, multi-stakeholder approach that leverages the complementary strengths of different actors.

### Five Key Findings



## 11. Challenges

Despite the overall success of the webinar, the organizing team faced several significant challenges that are worth documenting for future reference. These challenges tested the team’s resilience, adaptability, and professionalism, and the manner in which they were addressed provides valuable lessons for future event planning and implementation. Transparency about these challenges also demonstrates the team’s commitment to continuous improvement and organizational learning.

Challenge	Details & Resolution
<b>Speaker Availability</b>	One planned speaker was unable to attend. The team adapted promptly and communicated the change to all participants, ensuring a seamless experience.
<b>Technical Access</b>	Some speakers faced difficulties joining Zoom before their scheduled time. Issues were resolved quickly through proactive technical support from the media team.
<b>Limited Preparation Time</b>	The webinar was organized within only five days. Despite this, the combined efforts of the moderation, program management, and media teams ensured professional delivery.
<b>Platform Limitations</b>	Zoom webinar format limited real-time audience interaction. The team mitigated this by dedicating 20 minutes for open discussion and using Q&A features effectively.
<b>Time Zone Coordination</b>	Coordinating across multiple Arab time zones required careful scheduling. The KSA timing was chosen as it aligned with the widest range of participants.

Table 2: Challenges Encountered and Resolutions

The challenge of limited preparation time deserves particular attention, as it highlights the team’s extraordinary capacity to deliver professional-quality events under tight constraints. The five-day preparation period required rapid coordination across multiple teams, including content development, speaker management, technical setup, marketing and communications, and participant registration. The fact that the event was executed to a high standard despite these constraints is a testament to the team’s experience, dedication, and collaborative working culture.

## 12. Recommendations

The webinar produced a comprehensive and actionable set of recommendations organized into four strategic categories. These recommendations reflect the collective wisdom of the speakers and participants and are designed to be implementable, measurable, and aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals. They represent a consensus view of what needs to be done to advance women’s empowerment in the Arab region, recognizing that progress requires coordinated action across multiple fronts simultaneously.

### 12.1 Policy & Governance

Develop a comprehensive policy brief summarizing all recommendations for distribution to policymakers and stakeholders across the region, ensuring that the insights from the webinar reach decision-makers who can act on them.

Implement gender-inclusive governance mechanisms at local and national levels, including gender-responsive budgeting, gender audits of government programs, and the establishment of gender focal points in all ministries.

Enforce disability employment quotas to ensure equal opportunities in the workforce and to address the specific challenges faced by women with disabilities in accessing employment.

### 12.2 Economic Empowerment

Expand women-focused financial tools like Product Eve to reach more women entrepreneurs, particularly those in rural and underserved areas who currently lack access to formal financial services.

Support women’s MSMEs transitioning from informal to formal markets through targeted assistance programs that address the specific barriers to formalization, including regulatory complexity, tax obligations, and documentation requirements.

Create women’s professional networks and business clubs to facilitate knowledge sharing, mentorship, and collaborative opportunities that can help women entrepreneurs grow their businesses and access new markets.

### 12.3 Justice & Protection

Digitalize women’s access to justice through online platforms and mobile applications that can overcome traditional barriers including geographic distance, cost, and social stigma.

Strengthen protection frameworks for vulnerable groups, particularly women with disabilities and those in conflict-affected areas, through legal reforms and institutional capacity building.

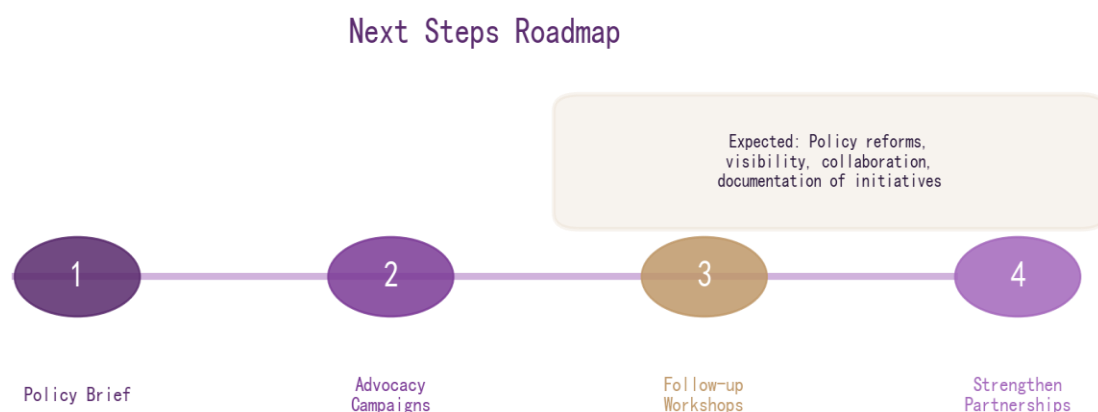
### 12.4 Advocacy & Awareness

Launch campaigns to counter discrimination and stereotypes that limit women’s participation in society, using media, social media, and community engagement to shift social norms.

Increase women’s participation in peace processes and constitutional dialogues to ensure their voices are heard in critical decision-making forums that shape the future of their communities and nations.

## 13. Next Steps & Expected Outcomes

Building on the momentum generated by the webinar, AYSDN and REYADAH have outlined a clear set of next steps to translate the discussions and recommendations into concrete action. These steps represent a commitment to maintaining the engagement generated by the event and ensuring that the ideas shared during the webinar lead to tangible outcomes for women and girls across the region. The roadmap includes immediate, medium-term, and long-term actions that will be implemented collaboratively.



Develop a policy brief summarizing all recommendations for distribution to stakeholders across the region, ensuring accessibility in both Arabic and English.

Launch advocacy campaigns highlighting women’s leadership stories to inspire action and raise awareness about the importance of gender equality.

Organize follow-up workshops in priority governorates to deepen the discussions and build local capacity for implementing the recommendations.

Strengthen partnerships with regional and international organizations to amplify impact and ensure the sustainability of initiatives.

**Expected Outcomes:** Enhanced gender-responsive policy reforms, increased visibility for women leaders across the region, improved collaboration between stakeholders from different sectors, comprehensive documentation of successful initiatives that can serve as models for

replication, and measurable progress toward the empowerment targets set in AYSDN’s 2026–2028 Strategy.

## 14. Conclusion

The International Women’s Day 2026 High-Level Webinar successfully consolidated regional knowledge and inspired collective action toward women’s empowerment. The event brought together a diverse and engaged group of stakeholders who shared their expertise, experiences, and unwavering commitment to advancing gender equality in the Arab region. The quality and depth of the discussions demonstrated the wealth of knowledge and experience that exists within the region and the strong appetite for platforms that enable meaningful dialogue on gender issues.

Speakers emphasized the critical importance of structural reforms, inclusive governance, and women’s central role in development and peacebuilding. Their presentations provided both inspiration and practical guidance, illustrating what is possible when women are empowered to lead and when institutions are designed to support gender equality. The recommendations produced during the webinar provide a comprehensive and actionable roadmap for advancing women’s empowerment across multiple dimensions, from policy and governance to economic opportunity and access to justice.

AYS DN and REYADAH reaffirm their unwavering commitment to promoting gender equality, expanding leadership opportunities for women and girls, and building sustainable empowerment pathways across the Arab region. This webinar represents an important milestone in their ongoing efforts to create a more just, equitable, and prosperous future for all. The organizations look forward to continuing this vital work and to deepening their partnerships with all stakeholders who share their vision of a world where every woman and girl can realize her full potential.

## 15. Annex: Event Photos

*The following section documents the International Women’s Day Seminar through photographs captured before, during, and after the event. These images serve as a visual record of the event and demonstrate the engagement and participation of speakers, moderators, and attendees throughout the webinar.*

### Section A: Before the Event

This section includes photos published prior to the seminar, documenting the speakers and the facilitator as they prepared for the event.

... Arab Youth Sustainable Development ...

نرحب بكم في الندوة رفيعة المستوى بمناسبة اليوم العالمي للمرأة 2026! المزيد

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**ندوة رفيعة المستوى بمناسبة اليوم العالمي للمرأة 2026**

التسجيل

13 / مارس / ٢٠٢٦ | ١٠ مساءً | عبر منصة Zoom

انضموا إلى الحوار الرقمي

د. الرميضاء يعقوب | د. فصي شله | د. عهد جعسوس | ذكري الجبري | نجلاء بساطة

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us06web.zoom.us  
Welcome! You are invited to join a meeting: High Level Webinar on the ...

تعرف على المزيد

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**ندوة رفيعة المستوى بمناسبة اليوم العالمي للمرأة 2026**

13 / مارس / ٢٠٢٦ | ١٠ مساءً | عبر منصة Zoom

نبذة عن مسيرة الندوة

ناثية مدير البرامج في الشبكة مسيرة بخبرة واسعة في إدارة الورش التدريبية والجلسات النقاشية والبيئية. بسرت العديد من الجلسات الوطنية والدولية، تشغل منصب المدبرة التنفيذية لمنصة “عدلي كاست”. وفادت العديد من المشاريع الإعلامية والمجتمعية والتنمية التي عززت مشاركة الشباب في القضايا العامة، ناشطة في مجال التنمية المجتمعية وتمكين الشباب، وتمتد خبرتها لأكثر من 5 سنوات كمدرسة في بناء القدرات. كما عملت كمدرسة في مجال بناء السلام وتحليل النزاعات المجتمعية.

سلمى خالد

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– Individual Portraits of Speakers (Pre-event) Individual photos of each speaker highlighting their participation.

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13 / مارس / ٢٠٢٦ | ١٠ مساءً | عبر منصة Zoom

نبذة عن المتحدث

وزيرة الدولة لشؤون المرأة في اليمن، حاصلة على دكتوراه في إدارة الأعمال من جمهورية السودان. تولت مناصب قيادية في وزارة الخدمة المدنية والتأمينات، وزارة الشؤون الاجتماعية والعمل، وصندوق الرعاية الاجتماعية، وأسهمت في تعزيز تمكين المرأة وتنمية المرأة العاملة. ساهمت في برامج إنسانية ومجتمعية متنوعة، وهي مدربة في مجالات السلام، حل النزاعات، والتسويق وريادة المشاريع.

المحور الذي سوف نتحدث عنه

تمكين المرأة اليمنية ودورها في التنمية الاقتصادية والاجتماعية

د. عهد جعسوس

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نبذة عن المتحدث

ذكري أحمد هي المدبرة التنفيذية لمؤسسة الأمل للتدريب وريادة الأعمال (ريادة)، حيث تقود جهود المؤسسة نحو بناء نموذج تنموي متكامل للتمكين الاقتصادي في اليمن يجمع بين تطوير القدرات، دعم ريادة الأعمال، وتعزيز الشمول المالي. تمتلك خبرة تمتد لأكثر من عشر سنوات في تصميم وإدارة البرامج التنموية، وقيادة الشراكات مع الجهات المانحة والمؤسسات المالية والقطاع الخاص لتمكين الشباب والنساء من الوصول إلى الفرص الاقتصادية المستدامة.

المحور الذي سوف نتحدث عنه

تمكين النساء عبر الإرشاد والفرص والموارد

ذكري الجبري

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**ندوة رفيعة المستوى بمناسبة اليوم العالمي للمرأة 2026**

نبذة عن المتحدث

Zoom | ١٣ / مارس / ٢٠٢٦ | ١٠ صباحاً | عبر منصة Zoom

باحثة دكتوراه في القانون الدولي الإنساني ونشطة حقوقية. تتمتع بخبرة واسعة في مجال بناء السلام وتمكين الشباب والمرأة، والدفاع عن حقوق الفئات الأقل تمثيلاً خاصة الأشخاص ذوي الإعاقة. تشغل منصب رئيس الشبكة الوطنية لمناصرة حقوق الأشخاص ذوي الإعاقة، كما تعمل محبراً عاماً لدائرة حقوق الإنسان في الوزارة، حيث تساهم في تعزيز السياسات الحقوقية والعدالة الاجتماعية.

المحور الذي سوف نتحدث عنه  
العدالة الشاملة ودمج النساء المهمشات في مسارات الحقوق وبناء السلام

**د. الريمياء يعقوب**

**ندوة رفيعة المستوى بمناسبة اليوم العالمي للمرأة 2026**

نبذة عن المتحدث

Zoom | ١٣ / مارس / ٢٠٢٦ | ١٠ صباحاً | عبر منصة Zoom

مנסقة البرامج والشراكات في شبكة الشباب العربي للتنمية المستدامة، متخصصة في العمل الإنساني والتنمية. عملت مع عدد من المنظمات الأممية والدولية في تصميم وإدارة برامج الحماية وتمكين النساء والشباب مع تركيز خاص على مشاركة المرأة في الحوكمة والمناصرة وصنع القرار. خبرتها تعكس التزاماً راسخاً بتعزيز العدالة الاجتماعية والتنمية المستدامة.

المحور الذي سوف نتحدث عنه  
القيادة النسائية وصنع القرار

**نجلاء بساطة**



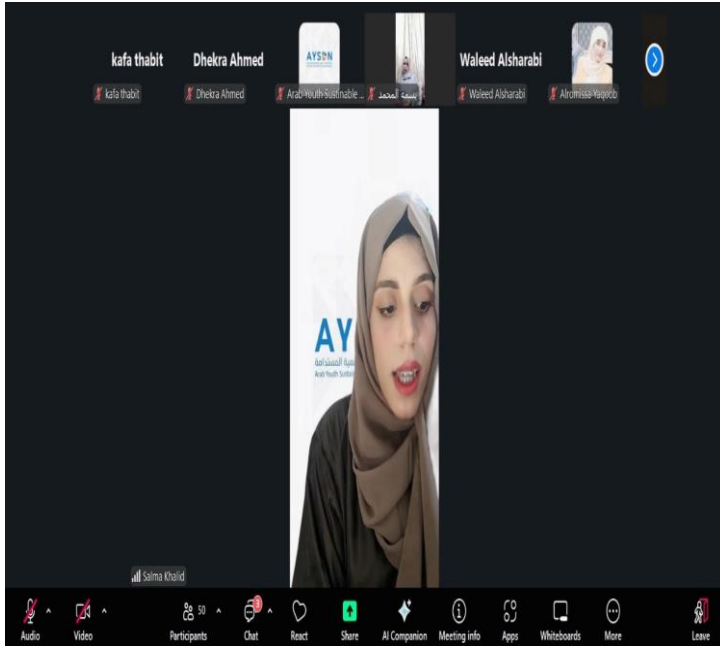
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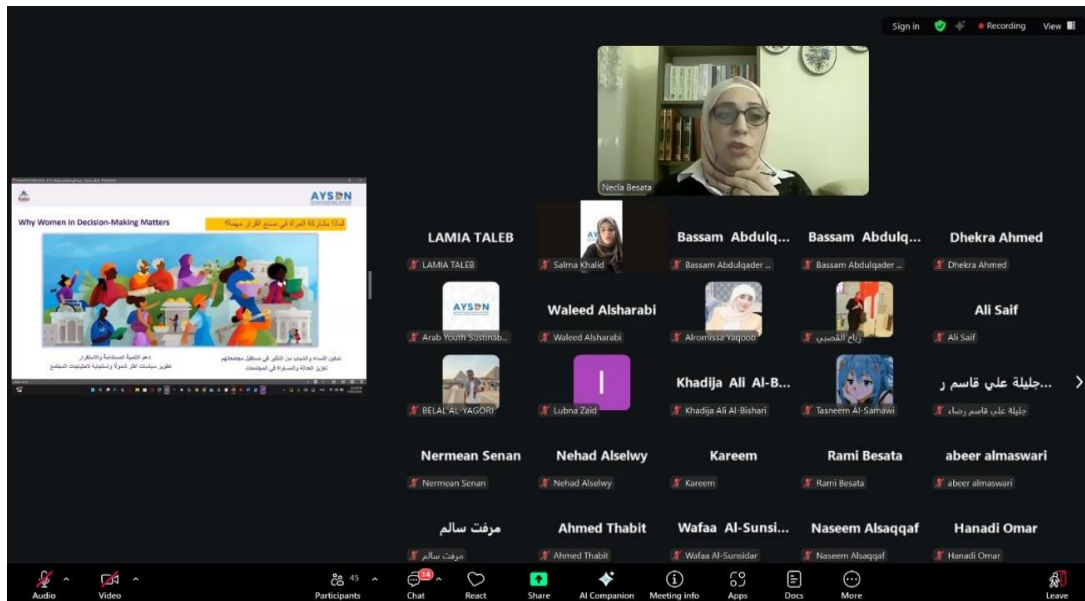
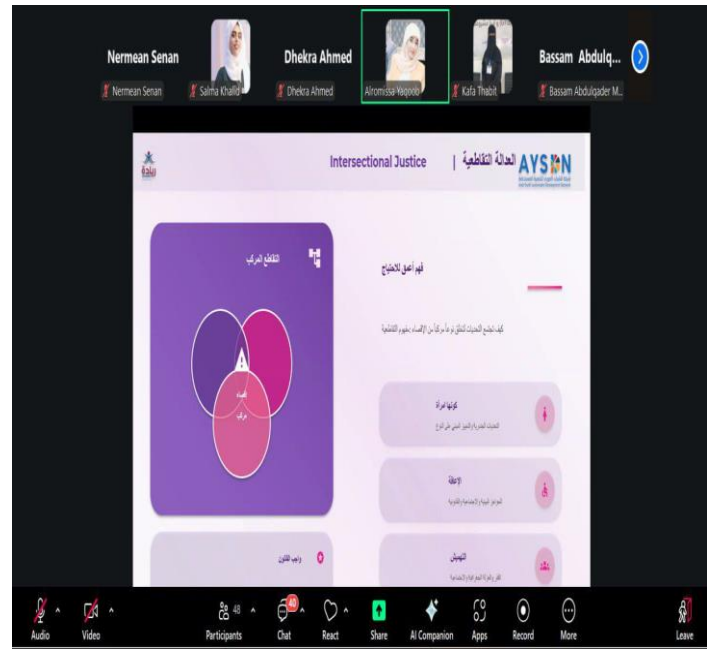
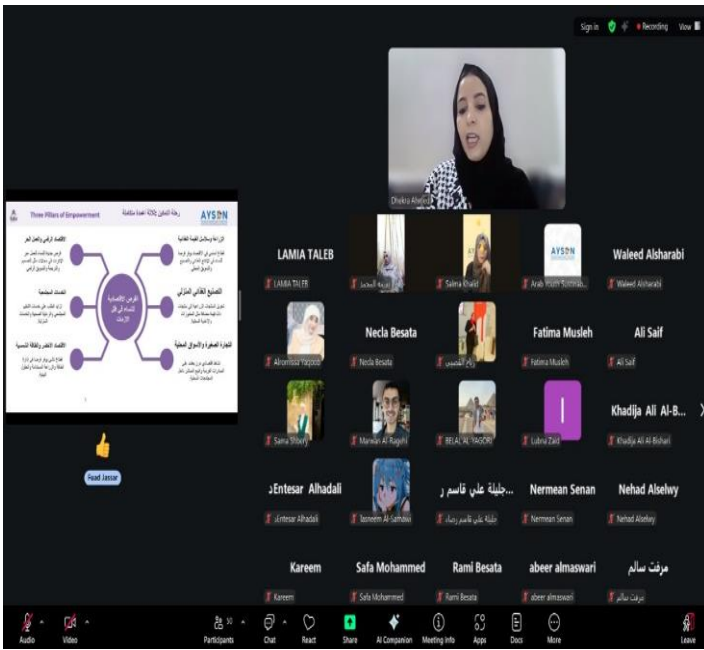


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## Section B: During the Event

This section includes screenshots captured from the Zoom platform during the seminar, showing the facilitator and speakers delivering their presentations.





## Section C: After the Event

This section includes photos and media materials published immediately after the seminar, documenting quotes and highlights from the speakers.

- **Speaker 1 Quotes (Post-event)**



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نريد أن نصل إلى تعليم نوعي مستلهم من تجارب الدول الأخرى للرفع من كفاءة المرأة اليمنية  
We aspire to promote quality education inspired by international experiences in order to enhance the skills and capacities of Yemeni women.

د. عهد جيسوس

AYSUN ريادة  
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"التمكن الاقتصادي يساعد المرأة أن تكون قوية، ويزيد من توسع المشاريع ويزيد من عدد النساء العاملات."  
Economic empowerment strengthens women, expands entrepreneurial opportunities, and increases women's participation in the workforce.

د. عهد جيسوس

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المرأة عندما تتمكن من تحقيق أهدافها تسهم في حماية النسيج الاجتماعي من خلال الأسرة والمجتمع.  
When women are able to achieve their aspirations, they play a vital role in strengthening the social fabric through their contributions to both the family and the wider community.

د. عهد جيسوس

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• **Speaker 2 Quotes (Post-event)**

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عدم تمكين المرأة يعني تهيمش أكثر من 50% من المجتمع عن المشاركة في الاقتصاد المحلي

Failing to empower women means marginalizing more than 50% of society from participating in the local economy

ذكري الجبري

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ندوة رفيعة المستوى  
بمناسبة اليوم العالمي للمرأة 2026

تمكين المرأة اقتصادياً لم يعد مجرد خيار للعدالة الاجتماعية، بل هو مشاركة حقيقية نحو اقتصاد أكثر شمولاً وناعياً

Women's economic empowerment is no longer merely a matter of social justice; it represents a genuine step toward building a more inclusive and effective economy

ذكري الجبري

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• **Speaker 3 Quotes (Post-event)**

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بمناسبة اليوم العالمي للمرأة 2026

العدالة التي تشمل المرأة هي عدالة للمرأة المهمشة والريفية والنازحة وذات الإعاقة في كل مكان

Justice that includes women means justice for all women — including those who are marginalized, living in rural areas, displaced, or living with disabilities

د. الرميضاء يعقوب

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بمناسبة اليوم العالمي للمرأة 2026

المرأة ليست حالة رعاية أو إحسان، بل شريك كامل في الحقوق والفرص وصناعة المجتمع

Women are not subjects of charity or charity-based support; they are full partners in rights, opportunities, and in shaping society.

د. الرميضاء يعقوب

AYSON ريادة  
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• **Speaker 4 Quotes (Post-event)**

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«LIVE ZOOM»  
ندوة رفيعة المستوى  
بمناسبة اليوم العالمي للمرأة 2026

لا يمكننا الحديث عن التنمية المستدامة أو العدالة الاجتماعية إذا كانت النساء مستبعدات من مواقع اتخاذ القرار  
“We cannot speak about sustainable development or social justice if women are excluded from decision-making positions.”

نجلء بساطة

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«LIVE ZOOM»  
ندوة رفيعة المستوى  
بمناسبة اليوم العالمي للمرأة 2026

وجود النساء في صناعة السياسات ليس وجوداً شكلياً، بل هو وجود يرفع جودة القرارات ويجعلها أكثر شمولاً لاحتياجات المجتمع  
Women's presence in policymaking should not be merely symbolic; it is essential for improving the quality of decisions and ensuring they better reflect the needs of society.

نجلء بساطة

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# AYSND & REYADAH

*“Her Leadership... Her Future”*

International Women's Day 2026

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