



# Women and Development in the Gulf

November 6-7, 2019

Bringing together experts to discuss and present research and professional expertise regarding solutions and pathways to overcoming the challenges and obstacles to women's professional development in the Gulf States.





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From	To	
09:30	10:00	Registration and Networking
10:00	10:30	<p>Opening and Introduction</p> <p><b>Amnah Ibraheem</b>, PhD Candidate, Comparative Politics &amp; International Relations, University of Tennessee</p> <p><b>Sh. Nayla Al Khalifa</b>, Director of Communications &amp; Knowledge Management, Derasat</p>
10:30	12:00	<p><b>Session 1: Panel on Female Labor Participation in the Gulf</b> (Moderated by Allison Critcher)</p> <p><b>Speaker #1: Dr. Fatima Al Hewail</b>, Assistant Professor, School of Law, Kuwait University (KUSL) Schizophrenic Planning &amp; Reality: Gender sensitive National Plan &amp; Discriminative National Policy imbedded in the Primary Education Curricula; SDGs 2030 and New Kuwait 2035 prospective</p> <p><b>Speaker #2: H.E. Mona Yousuf Almoayyed</b>, Shura Council Member; Managing Director, YK Almoayyed &amp; Sons Women's empowerment and their active role in sustainable development in the Kingdom of Bahrain</p> <p><b>Speaker #3: Dr. Amani Bu-Qammaz</b>, Assistant Professor, Civil Engineering, Kuwait University Understanding the Challenges of Empowering Young Female Engineers in Kuwait</p>
12:00	13:30	Lunch Break
13:30	15:30	<p><b>Session 2: Panel on Gender Parity in Academia: Shattering the Glass Ceiling</b> (Moderated by Nourah Shuaibi)</p> <p><b>Speaker #1: Dr. Dunya Ahmed</b>, Development &amp; Planning Advisor, Supreme Council for Women Bahraini Women and Education: Early Brings and National Leadership</p> <p><b>Speaker #2: Dr. Fatima Alsalem</b>, Assistant Professor, Mass Communication, Kuwait University Women's Political Empowerment in Kuwait</p> <p><b>Speaker #3: Dr. Muna Saffar</b>, Assistant Vice President, Planning; Founder, Institutional Development Office, Kuwait University The Renaissance of Gender Equality in Academia</p> <p><b>Speaker #4: Allison Critcher</b>, PhD. Candidate, Political Science Department, University of Tennessee Education, Leadership, and Gender: Towards a Gulf Praxis of Education</p>
15:30	15:45	Coffee Break
15:45	17:15	<p><b>Session 3: Panel on Women in the Bahraini Economy</b> (Moderated by Dr. Fatima Alsebaie)</p> <p><b>Speaker #1: Ghada Abdulla</b>, Research Analyst, Derasat</p> <p><b>Speaker #2: Dr. Karen Young</b>, Resident Scholar, American Enterprise Institute (AEI)</p> <p><b>Speaker #3: Jehan AlMurbati</b>, United Nations Development Program representative</p>
17:15		Close of Day 1

From	To	
09:00	09:15	Coffee and Networking
09:15	11:10	<p><b>Session 4: Panel on The Past and Future: Diversity in the Energy Sector</b> (Moderated by <a href="#">Amnah Ibraheem</a>)</p> <p><b>Speaker #1: Dr. Ellen Wald</b>, Energy Historian and Consultant; President, Transversal Consulting <b>Surprising Empowerment: How the Global Energy Industry's Struggles with Gender Enlightenment Created Opportunity for Women in the Gulf</b></p> <p><b>Speaker #2: Dr. Aisha Al-Sarihi</b>, Research Associate, Climate and Environment Department, KAPSARC <b>The Low Carbon Energy Transition and the Dynamics of Women Participation in the GCC Energy Market</b></p> <p><b>Speaker #3: Dr. Hanan Albuflasa</b>, Assistant Professor, Renewable Energy, University of Bahrain <b>The Global Role of Women in Clean Energy</b></p>
11:10	11:30	Coffee Break
11:30	12:30	<p><b>Presentation on International and Local Advocacy and Governance</b></p> <p><a href="#">Nourah Shuaibi</a>, PhD Candidate, Political Science Department, University of Tennessee <b>Presentation on Global Outreach Leaders nonprofit work</b></p> <p><b>Keynote Speech by Sh. Deena R. Al-Khalifa</b>, Director-General for Policies and Development, Supreme Council for Women, Bahrain</p>
12:30	13:30	Lunch
13:30	15:00	<p><b>Public Forum: What's Next? Setting the Narrative for Women</b> (Moderated by <a href="#">Amena Bakr</a>, Deputy Bureau Chief, Energy Intelligence, Dubai)</p> <p><a href="#">Sh. Deena R. Al-Khalifa</a>, Director-General for Policies and Development, Supreme Council for Women, Bahrain</p> <p><a href="#">Dr. Fatima Alsebaie</a>, Research Analyst, Derasat</p> <p><a href="#">Jehan AlMurbati</a>, Portfolio Manager, Sustainable Growth, Energy and Environment and Gender, United Nations Development Programme</p>
15:00	15:10	Closing Remarks: Mr. Katadah Zaman, Executive Director, Derasat
15:10	16:00	Networking and Reception





**Amnah Ibraheem** is a PhD Candidate in Comparative Politics and International Relations at the University of Tennessee. Her research explores correlations between domestic political pluralism and governmental energy-related policies among Arab Gulf states. Previously, Amnah worked with national labs in the US and in the future aims to one day serve as a policy liaison between organizations focused on nuclear nonproliferation and Gulf governmental agencies. Amnah Ibraheem is a Middle East Next Generation of Arms Control Specialists (MENACS) fellow. Her home country- Kuwait, has proven itself as a leader in regional diplomacy and Amnah hopes to be able to contribute to Kuwait's great legacy.



**Sh. Nayla Al Khalifa** is an experienced communications strategist, with extensive professional management experience in the public and private sectors. She has been engaged in community, government and media relations; corporate communications; events and communications planning; and crisis management. Prior to joining Derasat, Nayla held various leading roles within the Central Bank of Bahrain and was part of national media relations efforts for several Government projects. She has 14 years of Central Banking Communications experience and provided PR counsel for major financial and strategic events held in Bahrain and abroad. She earned a Master's degree in Marketing with a thesis on cultural differences in media and a Bachelor of Arts in Mass communications with a Minor in Psychology from Regent's University U.K.



**Allison Critcher** is a Ph.D. Candidate at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, USA. She is currently a Teaching Assistant in the Political Science Department at the University of Tennessee where she teaches courses on the Middle East, political science, comparative politics, and gender. She received her Master's Degree from Appalachian State University in Comparative Political and International Relations, where she also taught classes on comparative politics. Her research focuses on the Middle East and North Africa, the Gulf, political agency, gender, and inequality.



**Dr. Fatima Al Hewail** is an Assistant Professor at the School of Law, Kuwait University (KUSL) and is also a Board member in the Women's Cultural & Social Society, Kuwait. She holds a PhD in International Private Law from the University of Essex, England and a Masters of Law (LLM) in International Private Law from Indiana University, USA as well as a Bachelor of Law from Kuwait University. Her areas of research interest include: Law & Interdisciplinary studies, Nationality Law from a gender perspective, Conflict of laws and Women & Gender studies.

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**H.E. Mona Yousuf Almoayyed** is a Businesswoman, Philanthropist, Environmentalist and Women's Rights Campaigner who is the Managing Director of one of Bahrain's oldest conglomerates Y.K Almoayyed and Sons. A Bachelor of Business Administration, Mona has been instrumental in overseeing the business endeavours of the Y K Almoayyed group, leading it meticulously towards its desired destination. Voted the third most influential Arab Women's List in the MENA region by Forbes Middle East for 2013, Mona is a member of the board of directors for BMMI and Ebda Bank besides other companies. She is well known for her charity work and frequently speaks about the role of women in building a better society today. Mona has been a firm believer of 'Business with a Conscience' principle and is involved in many charitable institutions.



**Dr. Amani Bu-Qammaz** is an Assistant Professor in Civil Engineering at Kuwait University. She received her Ph.D. degree in Civil Engineering from The Ohio State University (USA – Ohio) in 2015. Her M.S. is in Civil Engineering from the Middle East Technical University (Ankara – Turkey) in 2007 and B.S. in Civil Engineering from Kuwait University in 1999. Prior to pursuing her graduate studies, Bu-Qammaz joined a specialized training program for fresh graduate engineers and then spent 12 years working for The Ministry of Public Works – Kuwait, she was a specialist engineer when she left the MPW to join Kuwait University. Her research interests are in construction management, risk management, contract claims and extension of time, international construction and decision-making analysis. In addition to her academic activities.



**Nourah Shuaibi** is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville in the Political Science Department and a Kuwait University Scholarship Associate. Ms. Shuaibi focuses her research on Conflict Resolution, Gender and International Political Economy. Her research interests are in international trade, foreign investment and its effects on women's capital and human development, and state and non-state actors' monetary incentives to fund conflict. She received her Masters of Arts from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill in Transatlantic Studies focusing on terrorism and the media in the EU. Ms. Shuaibi received three Bachelors of Arts degrees from the University of Missouri-Columbia in Political Science; International Relations; Interdisciplinary Studies in Peace and Conflict Resolution.



**Dr. Dunya Ahmed** is an assistant professor and lecturer in the Department of Social Sciences at the University of Bahrain & Strategic Planning & Development Adviser in Supreme Council for Women. In addition, she is Scientific Committee Chairperson in Institute of Inspiration Economy, EU & MENA. She completed her PhD in social work at the University of Warwick. She is the first and only person hold a PhD in social work in Bahrain, specialized and concentrates mainly on equity and the rights of women and people with disabilities. She is co-founder of Inspiration Economy concept, Journals, projects & institutions globally. She is also Editorial Board of several international scientific journal. In addition of being an active member of several NGOs & Chairperson of Inspiration Economy Society in Bahrain.



**Dr. Fatima Alsalem** holds a PhD in mass communication from Indiana University and a Masters degree from Florida International University in the USA and earned the student of the year award. Dr. Alsalem is currently working as an assistant professor of mass communication at Kuwait University where she is committed to supporting students and trying to boost tolerance and acceptance of others among Kuwaiti youth. An avid researcher, she has published many studies on public opinion and new media effects in Kuwait's top daily newspaper, Al-Qabas. She has also participated in many local and regional conferences where she represented Kuwait with her outstanding research. She recently published a chapter at the Social media in the Arab world about Kuwaiti women's political participation online. ALSalem has worked in various research projects with the Kuwaiti government.



**Dr. Muna Saffar** is the Assistant Vice President for Planning and the founder of the Institutional Development office at Kuwait University. She is a faculty member of Economics at Kuwait University since 2008. Her research covered a wide array of topics including gender differences in education, health economics, and renewable energy in Gulf Cooperation Council States; in particular, with a focus on applied economics and policy making. She teaches courses in econometrics, mathematical economics, and introductory Economics. She is also the delegate for Startup Kuwait Project.



**Dr. Fatima Alsebaie** is an Analyst in Bahrain Center for Strategic, International and Energy Studies (Derasat). Her research interests fall into two main areas: firstly, women in the IT field, and secondly, topics related to the future technologies, like Blockchain, artificial intelligent and their economic or social aspects, and also the cybersecurity and IT issues in the GCC countries. Her analyses in different topics related to her research interests have appeared in a number of news outlets, and she published one of her works on women in the IT field in a peer-reviewed journal. She contributed in reviewing a research paper for the Information Technology & People journal. She had been invited as a speaker in a number of seminars on AI, Blockchain and women and Tec, and served in writing and editing chapters of some books related to women in Bahrain.



**Ghada Abdulla** is a researcher at the Bahrain Center for Strategic, International and Energy Studies. She holds a BSc in Economics and Finance from the University of York and an MSc in Economics from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). Her main research interests are in education and the knowledge economy.

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**Dr. Karen Young** is a resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI), where she studies the political economy of the Middle East, with a special focus on the states of the Gulf Cooperation Council. She is a professorial lecturer at George Washington University and leads a seminar on the emerging markets of the Middle East and North Africa at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. Before joining AEI, she served as senior resident scholar at the Arab Gulf States Institute, a research and visiting fellow at the Middle East Centre of the London School of Economics and Political Science, and an assistant professor of political science at the American University of Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates.



**Jehan AlMurbati** has more than 23 years of experience working in the United Nations, private sector and the government. For the past 12 years, Mrs. Jehan had an outstanding career with the United Nations Development Programme, responsible for a diverse portfolio in the areas of sustainable growth, energy and environment, water governance, private sector development, trade and economic development and gender as well as capacity building. She is responsible for providing top-quality advisory services to the Government, facilitating knowledge management, developing strategic partnerships and implementing resource mobilization strategy as well as the implementation of programme strategies.



**Dr. Ellen Wald** is an energy historian and consultant, focusing on the intersection of energy and geopolitics. She is president of Transversal Consulting. As a female-owned business in the energy industry, Transversal brings vital expertise on the particulars that drive regional and global situations in the energy market today. Dr. Wald is the author of "Saudi, Inc." a history of the Saudi oil industry. She regularly writes about the Gulf region and energy in popular media, including the New York Times, Bloomberg, and the Washington Post. She also writes three weekly columns: a geopolitical guide for oil traders in Investing.com, an analysis of the energy markets for general audience in Forbes, and a column on global understanding in Arab News. She is regularly cited in major financial media and has appeared on TV and radio discussing energy issues on three continents.



**Dr. Aisha Al-Sarihi** is a research associate at KAPSARC's Climate and Environment Department. She is also a non-resident fellow at the Arab Gulf States institute in Washington. She previously served as a visiting scholar at Georgetown University's Center for Contemporary Arab Studies; a visiting scholar at the Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington and a research officer at the London School of Economics and Political Science's Middle East Centre. Dr Al-Sarihi holds a PhD from the Centre for Environmental Policy at Imperial College London, and MSc and BSc, with distinction, in environmental science from Sultan Qaboos University. Her areas of research interest include environmental sustainability, energy policy, renewables and climate policies, with a focus on the Arab region.

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**Dr. Hanan Albuflasa** is an assistant professor at the Department of Physics, University of Bahrain. Albuflasa has a Ph.D. and M.Sc in Renewable Energy from Centre of Renewable Energy System Technologies, CREST, Loughborough University, UK. Albuflasa is Bahrain representative for the GCC Technical Standard Committee on Renewable Energy and Energy Storage Systems, Participating member of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) for TC 82 and TC 88, National GHG inventory team member and the GLOBE NENA representative in the Evaluation Working Group. She is the Principal Investigator of UK-Gulf institutional grant with Loughborough University in the UK. Also Principal Investigator for the three years joint research project between University of Bahrain and Aston University and Four years joint project with University of Oxford.



**Sh. Deena R. Al-Khalifa** has an academic background in organizational management, whereby, she holds an MBA with a specialization in finance as a core specialty from University College Bahrain in the Kingdom of Bahrain. Starting off her career in academia, Ms. Al-Khalifa was a career / academic counselor, for four years, to high school students; moving from secondary to higher education in preparation for the labor market.



**Amena Bakr** is Deputy Dubai Bureau Chief, as well as an award-winning correspondent for Energy Intelligence. Ms Bakr covers energy and politics related to Saudi Arabia and other OPEC countries. Prior to that, she was an energy correspondent for Reuters news agency for six years, posted in Dubai, Doha and Riyadh. Leveraging a decade of experience in the Mideast Gulf, Ms Bakr is currently part of the team that monitors and reports on OPEC for Energy Intelligence's 15 publications. In 2017, Ms Bakr was rated 13th on business information website Marketwatch's ranking of the top Twitter accounts for investors to follow. The influential website praised Ms Bakr for her coverage of OPEC, noting that «if there is an OPEC meeting going on, she's all over it.» Ms Bakr holds a BA in business administration from the Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport in Egypt, with a major in management information systems.



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مركز البحرين للدراسات الاستراتيجية والدولية والطاقة  
Bahrain Center for Strategic, International and Energy Studies

Derasat is a think tank in the Kingdom of Bahrain that analyses and researches strategic developments on a national, regional and global scale that have relevance to Bahrain's stability, prosperity and sustainability. We are dedicated to encouraging the use of research and dialogue to inform policy makers and interest groups and to increase understanding of current and emerging international issues. In today's rapidly changing world of opportunities and challenges, we aim to build bridges between differing perspectives, create forums for open debate, use strategic insight to enhance understanding and promote new thinking that can generate creative solutions for our future peace, security and stability.



Founded in 1903, the American Political Science Association (APSA) is the leading professional organization for the study of political science and serves more than 11,000 members in more than 100 countries. With a range of programs and services for individuals, departments, and institutions, APSA brings together political scientists from all fields of inquiry, regions, and occupational endeavors within and outside academe to deepen our understanding of politics, democracy, and citizenship throughout the world.



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