

Youth Engagement in Governance: Experiences from Awam Foundation - Yemen



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Welcome!

الترحيب

As we wait for people to join, we invite you to introduce yourself in the chat.

بينما ننتظر انضمام المدعوين الآخرين، ندعوك لتقديم نفسك في الدردشة.

Please share your:

شاركونا:

1. Name
2. Occupation
3. Country of origin
4. Why you joined today's meeting

1. الاسم
2. الوظيفة
3. الجنسية
4. لماذا انضممت إلى اجتماع اليوم



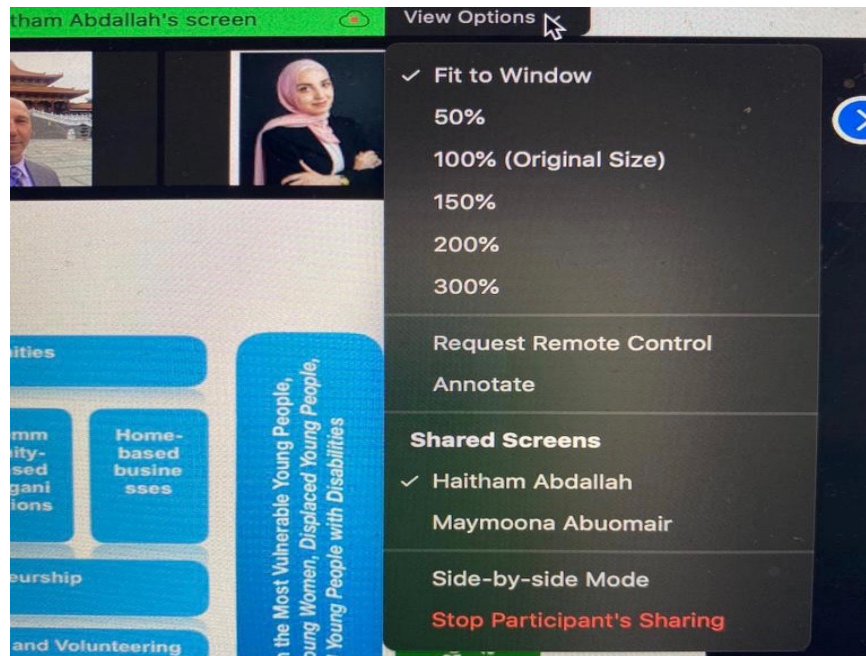
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For English Presentation

للعرض التقديمي باللغة الانجليزية

- Click on View Options
- Choose "Hanan's Screen"



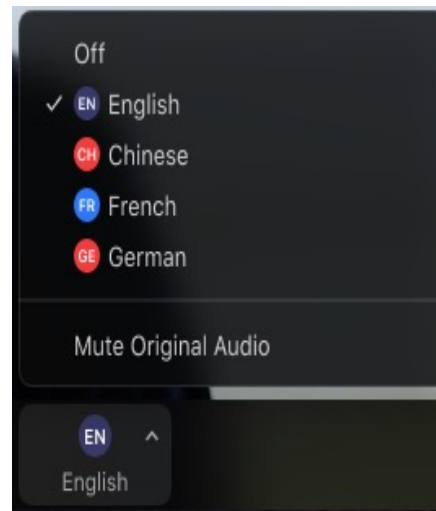
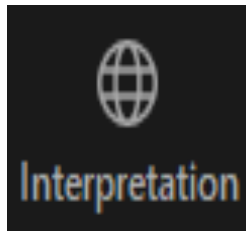
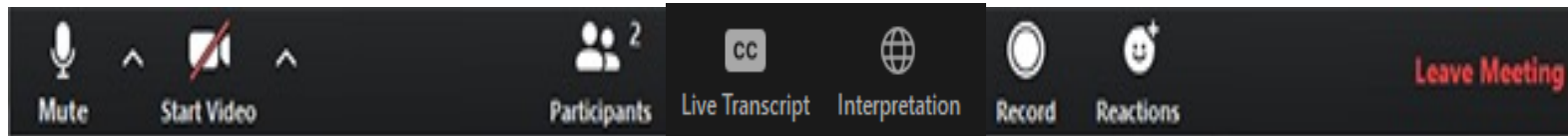
- الضغط على View Options
- اختيار Hanan's Screen



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Interpretation Instructions



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Agenda

Time	Topic	Speaker
4:00-4:10	Introduction	Haitham
4:10-4:40	Youth Participation in Governance and Peace-building	Dr. Balqis Nuha Damag
4:40-5:00	Breakout groups	Haitham Hanan Maymoona Alex
5:00-5:10	Summary from breakout rooms	Haitham Hanan Maymoona Alex
5:10-5:25	Q&A	Hanan Maymoona
5:25-5:30	Closing	Hanan Haitham Maymoona



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What are our goals for today?

- The importance of the participation of young men and women in governance and building peace
- Learn about the most important tools AWAM uses when working with young people to enhance their participation in governance, anti-corruption, and building peace
- Learn about the best practices, lessons learned and challenges facing youth participation in governance and peacebuilding

Positive Youth Development



- Positive Youth Development programs recognize the inherent rights and gains of young people, the ability to benefit from those assets (the ability to act), and the ability to contribute to positive change for themselves and their communities, by surrounding them with an enabling and supportive environment.
- <http://www.youthpower.org/positive-youth-development>



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Our Speakers for today!



Nuha Damag

**Project and Program Manager
Awam Developmental and Cultural
Foundation**



Dr. Balqis Abu Esba'

**Executive Director
Awam Foundation for Development and
Cultural**



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Introduction

Youth Engagement in Governance and Peacebuilding in the Middle East Yemen experience



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AWAM Developmental and Cultural Foundation

1. A civil society organization, a cultural, human rights, voluntary, non-profit training, awareness and research organization
2. AWAM works on enhancing the participation of women and youth in governance (peace building, anti-corruption, and human rights) through:
 - Organizing training courses, workshops, seminars, conferences and building alliances and networks.
 - Conducting scans and research on development issues and conducting awareness campaigns by publishing brochures, pamphlets, posters and periodicals.
 - Planning and leading advocacy campaigns and mobilizing public support.
 - Mediation and conflict resolution.



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I. Governance

- Governance: its definition and its most important elements

Anti-corruption

1. Position of Arab countries in the Corruption Perceptions Index
2. Legislative and legal framework to combat corruption in Yemen
3. The importance of involving youth and women in the fight against corruption

The role of the Awam Foundation in anti-corruption

Awam Foundation has implemented a number of projects as follows:

- Comics corruption: preparing a number of youth initiatives to discuss the culture of corruption by using the art of comics.
- Preparing several campaigns to "strengthen popular monitoring in the fight against corruption" in several Yemeni governorates and designing a citizen's card for popular control of corruption.
- Supporting the outcomes of the Good Governance Team in the National Dialogue Conference 2013-2014, by producing short awareness films on good governance and its importance for development, printing brochures and posters on good governance.
- Raising the level of awareness among the members of the National Dialogue working on combating corruption by giving several lectures on this topic
- The establishment of the Yemeni Anti-Corruption Alliance by a number of civil society organizations aims to unify the efforts of organizations working in the field of anti-corruption.

The role of the Awam Foundation in anti-corruption

- In partnership with the Supreme National Anti-Corruption Authority, a legal matrix was prepared to harmonize the various local laws with the Anti-Corruption Law, align local laws with the International Convention against Corruption, measure the extent of their application, and submit periodic reports to the United Nations.
- Training judges and specialists in anti-corruption mechanisms.
- Contribute to the establishment of the Arab Network for Integrity and Anti-Corruption.
- Awareness of university youth about the importance of combating corruption and its impact on development.
- Until the war broke out in the year 2015, it can be said that the fight against corruption stopped in Yemen, where corruption became one of the engines of the war.
- Awam is currently working on a study on fighting corruption in conflict countries.

2. Peacebuilding

Peacebuilding: Definition

- The importance of involving women and youth in peace-building (UNSCR 1325 and 2250)
- The role of women and youth in peace in Yemen
- The Revolution of Change 2011
- The National Dialogue 2013-2014
- In peace-building and stopping the war (humanitarian response, building alliances and networks, mediating and releasing prisoners and detainees, and raising the voices of Yemenis demanding an end to the war)

The role of the Awam Foundation in Peacebuilding

- Preparing several documentaries aimed at supporting the inclusion of women and youth in peacebuilding.
- Implementation of the “Click” campaign to support and advocate for women and youth in the Comprehensive National Dialogue Conference, 2013, 2014, which displays images and phrases to support women and youth in an electronic window when the Internet is launched on the Habbani Net system.
- Advocating for constitutional articles that include the rights of women and youth in the outcomes of the National Dialogue Conference and raising awareness of its results in a number of governorates, by conducting a study of the constitutional texts and comparing them with the National Dialogue Document, producing animation, calling for the new electoral system, conducting a number of field visits to five governorates, Training of ten participants from five governorates.

The role of the Awam Foundation in Peacebuilding

- Strengthening the youth, peace and security agenda in Yemen by preparing five advisory papers on youth and their role in activating UNSCR 2250 and producing a comprehensive study on this issue and then presenting it to stakeholders and decision-makers.
- Women's Leadership for Peace Project: This project aims to represent the needs and voices of conflict-affected women in Yemen at the local, national and international levels to ensure inclusive and gender-sensitive peace building through initiatives to enhance civil society and community effectiveness.

Nuha Damag

- Head of the Strategy and Project Management Department at the Awam Foundation for Development and Culture.
- Master's degree in Finance
- She has more than 7 years of experience in project management with multinational companies and non-profit organizations in Yemen, Malaysia and Canada.
- She participated in many democracy, governance and peace building initiatives



Lessons learned and recommendations for promoting the inclusion of youth in governance

1. Factors such as gender, socioeconomic background, and ethnicity all influence young people's access to equal resources and opportunities, and their influence on decision-making positions.
2. The importance of positive excellence
3. Make investing in the personal and professional development of young people in current and future leadership roles a priority
4. Early involvement of youth in the development, programming and implementation of governance policies such as anti-corruption and sustainable peace building; And this has to:
 - Empowers policy makers, legislators, standard-setters and current practitioners to benefit from the innovative approach that young people can contribute
 - Stimulates the early imbibing of governance concepts such as integrity and accountability to guide the citizens and leaders of tomorrow in their stages of growth and behavior

Lessons learned and recommendations for promoting the inclusion of youth in governance

5. The importance of the role of youth in development and humanitarian work
6. Praise international, regional and national efforts to engage youth in governance
7. Establishing Arab youth forums in which Arab youth gather to promote concepts of governance to raise the voice of youth and push the wheel of change

Groups Questions

1. What do you think are the governance mechanisms to enhance integrity and combat financial and administrative corruption?

- Develop clear and applicable national programs to combat corruption
- Accountability
- Participation and non-discrimination
- Judicial justice
- Transparency
- Financial inclusion to enhance monitoring

2. What is the importance of harmonizing, adapting and subjecting local laws to international laws, covenants, charters and declarations with regard to human rights and peacebuilding?

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- Four Geneva Conventions
- Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Groups Questions

3. What is the importance of establishing a quota for the participation of youth and women in decision-making councils and government bodies?

- Youth and women represent more than 80% of the population of some countries
- The importance of involving youth and women in building sustainable peace
- Youth and women as a source of different views and experiences that are no less important than others

4. What are the mechanisms for maintaining civil peace, shielding the elements of war and building sustainable peace?

- Bringing different groups together to build trust and promote interest
- Supporting formal peace processes - Promoting democracy and inclusive politics
- Involving youth and women in peacebuilding processes
- Improving justice systems and fighting corruption

Q&A



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Thank you!!

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