

Women in Technology

Wafa Damani, Senior Engineer

Middle East DNS Forum

22-23 May

Cairo, Egypt

Introduction

- Tech is a men-dominated field
- The number of women in tech field is still few not only in the MENA region but also globally moreover having more inclusiveness of women is still challenging.
- The long-standing dichotomy of rational versus emotional is still pervasive and lends credence to the suggestion that women are just not as cut out to work in tech as men
- Some statistics suggest that girls outperform boys in STEM subjects at school
- A study made by DDI consulting firm found that the top 20% of the top-performing companies had more than 27% of women in key leadership position while the bottom 20% companies had less than 19% women in these roles.

Projects & achievements

- Proposed a National IPv6 migration and deployment plan
- Participated in the National Counter Violence extremism strategy
- Proposed and directed the DNSSEC project
- Proposed and directed the anycast DNS project
- Led the working group on the ".tn" reform, working on the development and implementation of policies and legal, procedural and technical frameworks related to management of the ".tn" ccTLD in accordance with international best practices.
- Directed the online domain names registration projects with registrars
- Took part in the various updates of registry registrar conventions aiming at satisfying the expectations of Tunisians and promoting domain names industry.
- Introduced more than often, technical or outreach presentations, in major national and international conferences, including IPv6, DNS, Tunisian cctlds, domain names industry.

Involvements

- ICANN : ALAC member (one of the three members representing the african Region) and member of some working groups within ccnsa and middle east strategy working group
- AFRINIC : AFTLD excom member and Chair of the Governance Committee
- Vice-Chair MAG national IGF
- Member of Tunisian ISOC chapter

Women in tech : an opportunity

- ✓ Harvard Business School produced research showing that teams with women, and diversity in general, produce better results and are more collaborative in nature.
- ✓ the fact that diverse teams achieve better results should encourage tech companies to increase representation within their ranks.