

TECHWOM@N

Mentorship & Exchange Program
for Women Leaders in STEM



The Power
of International
Education

Katie Zee

Director, TechWomen
IIE

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/kandavis/>



The goal: To **empower** and **connect** the
next generation of **women leaders** in
science, technology, engineering and
mathematics (STEM) from **Africa,**
South and Central Asia and the **Middle**
East



What is TechWomen?

- Managed by the Institute of International Education (IIE), on behalf of the US Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA).
- An annual five-week mentorship and exchange program taking place in San Francisco, Chicago and Washington, DC.
- TechWomen Emerging Leaders engage in cultural exchange, collaborate with professional mentors and develop Impact Projects to be implemented after the program.



Life is not about finding yourself, it's about creating yourself.
TechWomen inspired me to create myself."

– Dhelal Shorman,
2017 fellow of Jordan

The TechWomen Network

- 1,135 fellows (program alumnae) from 22 countries.
 - Algeria, Cameroon, Egypt, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Palestinian Territories, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Yemen and Zimbabwe
 - Expanding to Albania and Montenegro in 2025!
- Over 1,200 volunteer mentors representing 195 companies in Silicon Valley, Chicago and beyond.



A Closer Look...



[WATCH VIDEO](#)

Zaria Qadafi

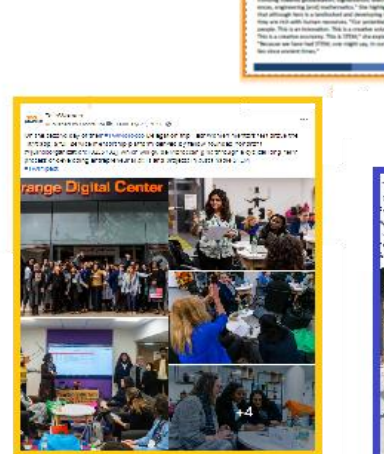
Communications and Impact Analyst, TechWomen
IIE

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/zaria-qadafi/>

TechWomen's Global Impact - #twimimpact

TECHWOMEN'S GLOBAL IMPACT

Click on the map to learn about TechWomen's impact. Since 2011, 1,041 women from 22 countries have participated in the program, in addition to 1,187 mentors from 179 companies in the Bay Area and Silicon Valley. Read the stories below to learn how TechWomen fellows and mentors are affecting change in their communities.



Impact: Kenya

- **Norah Magero, CEO and Co-founder of Drop Access Limited**, a non-profit focused on rural energy access
- Led the development of Vaccibox, a cold chain solution for delivering heat-sensitive medications to rural communities.
 - Portable, solar-powered refrigerated box
 - Can be wheeled by hand or mounted on vehicles, including motorcycles, boats and pack animals.
 - It features a proprietary printed circuit board that monitors the interior temperature, battery storage, location of the box and more
- **ACTION:** Visit Drop Access at dropaccess.org to learn more about their other programs and donate, or reach out to techwomen@iie.org if interested in getting in touch with Norah to collaborate.



Norah was featured in a [video](#), "Ingenious Solutions for Rural Health: The Story of Vaccibox in Kenya," by Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance

Norah Magero
TechWomen 2019

Impact: Egypt



Nermin Salah
TechWomen 2013

- Nermin Salah, Program Manager for the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research's Innovators Support Fund (ISF).
- Launched “Bio-iChallenges,” which recruits undergrad in STEM to work on real industrial challenges offered by Egyptian top industries.
 - Focused on: food and beverage, cosmetic, pharmaceutical, and biotech industries.
- Awarded an Erasmus+ student and staff higher education mobility grant will be utilized at the computational chemistry department of the German University in Cairo
- **ACTION!** Reach out to Nermin if you're interested in collaborating on Bio-iChallenges or research pursuits at: nermin.salah@guc.edu.eg

Impact: Turkmenistan

- **Merjen Saparmyradova, Co-founder and director of Sanly Bilim**, bringing the first tech bootcamps to Turkmenistan
- Currently leading Salesforce Developer Bootcamp for Women
- Led Cybersecurity Bootcamp for IT Specialists
- **ACTION!** Contact Merjen (merjenbibi@gmail.com) if you have online/remote opportunities for bootcamp alumni or if you are seeking partners in Central Asia.



This [video](#), showcases the Dreamforce Pitch Day organized by Sanly Bilim, where Merjen serves as founder and director.

[Merjen Saparmyradova](#)
TechWomen 2019

Impact: Nigeria



[Abiola Ilupeji](#)
TechWomen 2015

- **Abiola Ilupeji, Founder of STEM on Web:**
<https://www.stemonweb.com/>
 - An online platform that connects students, teachers and their parents for educational purposes; users can upload videos of science experiments and also showcase their inventions.
 - Leverages social media for the benefit of education, promotes access to resources, and connects teachers and students through study groups
- **ACTION!** Share video content showcasing a science experiment or experimental techniques.

Contact: info@stemonweb.com

Impact: Uzbekistan

- **Zebo Isakova, Project Manager for the Saiga Conservation Alliance**
- Recently presented "Eco-STEAM Outdoor Learning Environments (Eco-STEM OLE)" and "STEAM Interactive Lab Spaces (SILS)" to the "Innovative STEAM Education Club".
 - **ACTION:** Organizations or individuals committed to STEAM education are encouraged to connect with Zebo about partnership opportunities.
- Exploring how AI tools can streamline project management in the civil sector.
 - **ACTION:** Share your experiences and insights to contribute to a broader understanding of AI applications in civil services.



Zebo Isakova
TechWomen 2019

Impact: Lebanon



Jessica Obeid
TechWomen 2012

- **Jessica Obeid, Founding Partner at New Energy Consult:**
- President of the Organization for Petroleum and Energy Sustainability (OPES)
- Contributed a chapter entitled “The Next Big Thing in MENA Power – Grids and Energy Storage” to the Middle East Institute Policy Series book, “Energy Transitions in the Middle East.”
- Contributor to the Middle East Institute (MEI) report, “Economic Diversification, Energy Transition, and the Labor Market in Iraq and the Gulf.”
- **ACTION!** Contact TechWomen if you'd like an introduction with Jessica to collaborate on Middle East energy and clean transition

Contact: techwomen@iie.org

Impact: Nigeria

- **Binta Moustapha, Founder of Cabinet Zinder Hub**
- Recently Launched Climate Innovation Challenge: Empowering Female Entrepreneurs in West Africa
 - Aims to accelerate climate financial innovations led by female entrepreneurs, and will foster collaboration, provide support, and recognize ventures that drive sustainable solutions and empower women in the fight against climate change.
- **ACTION!** Share with your networks in West Africa - call for female-led ventures begins July 31.
- **ACTION!** Seeking seed capital funding for selected ventures.

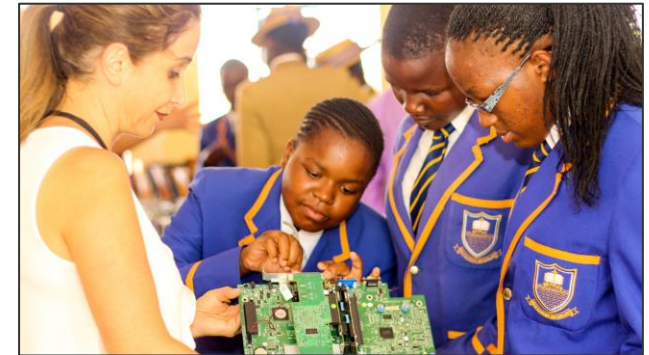
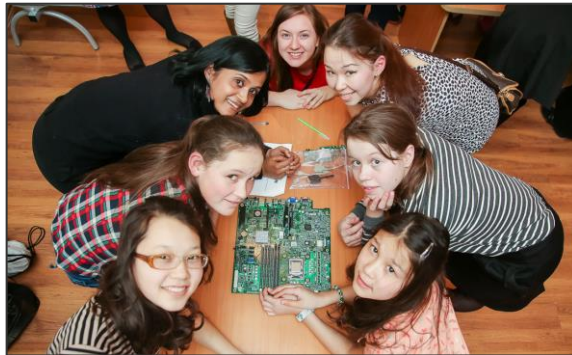
Contact: binta.moustapha2010@gmail.com



[Binta Moustapha](#)
TechWomen 2014

Next Steps

- Visit our [Impact Map](https://www.techwomen.org) on www.techwomen.org
- Follow @techwomen social media for more impact and updates!
- Email techwomen@iie.org for introductions, to support an impact project or initiative, or to let the community know about an employment or grant opportunity.



Thank you!

TECHWOM@N

#techwomen

