



Performance Report



Members of the Board of Trustees having contributed to the 2021 Action Plan

- Arab Gulf Program for Development (AGFUND)
- Government of Tunisia
- International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) - Arab World Regional Office
- UN Women
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Projects implemented in 2021

Funder	Projects
AGFUND	Arab Young Women & Financial Inclusion
MEPI	Enhancing youth and women engagement in the political life in Tunisia; toward an active participation and a better representation in the next elections.
AECID	Transformative leadership for inclusive local governance
Forum of federations - Canada	Strengthening MPs' Transformative Leadership Skills For better participation of women in local governance
Open Society foundation	Preventing Gender-Based-Violence in public space/s: From Knowledge to Action towards Change
TRANSGANG	Conflict resolution in street youth organizations in Southern Europe, North Africa and the Americas
University of Finland	“What works? Youth transitions from education to employment in the Middle East and North Africa”
Saoudi Fund for Development	Empower Syrian women refugees in Lebanon and Jordan
Kvina till Kvina	Empowering Women towards Gender Equality in the MENA Region through Gender Mainstreaming in economic policies and Trade agreements.
InnovAgroWoMed	Social Innovation in the Agri-food sector for Women's Empowerment in the Mediterranean sea basin
HANDS ALONG THE NILE	Activating Private Sector for Women's Economic Rights in Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia
EBSOMED	Enhancing Business Support Organisations and Business Networks in the Southern Neighbourhood
World Food Program	The Implementation of A Partnership Program under the Country Strategic Pplan- TUNISIA (2020 - 2021)
SCBF AGFUND	Regional elearning platform on financial education (SCBF AGFUND)
UNDP	Ensuring Innovative Women's Participation in Political and Economic Decision-Making
AGFUND	Women and technology: a fundamental pillar for achieving 2030 agenda and facing the post-Covid-19 challenges

CIPE	Regional elearning platform on financial education (SCBF AGFUND)
OXFAM	Gender Up CAWTAR FP
ONFP	SIDA & Paludisme
IPPF	Women's SDG's and Data
Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa "BADEA"	economic empowerment of rural women in Africa
FFEM	zoom meeting
UNWOMEN trust funds	pour que l'invisible soit visible
ES MAROC	FLOWER : Fostering local market opportunities for women empowerment & resilience
Orange	Reinforcement of the digital houses program in tunisia
HAPA	The High Authority of the Press and Audiovisual - Mauritania

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Introduction

In 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic continued to affect the work of all national, regional and international institutions, making it necessary for them to change their working methods and even their strategies.

As the present report shows, CAWTAR has managed to carry out all its planned projects and activities, in accordance with the schedule submitted to the meeting of its Board of Trustees, held virtually on April 5th, 2021, under the chairmanship of HRH Prince Abdulaziz bin Talal bin Abdulaziz. CAWTAR has not only succeeded in respecting its work schedule, but has also managed to mobilize the full resources for the 2022 activities, thanks to the trusted relationship it enjoys with its funders and partners, as well as the confidence placed in it by the President and members of the Board of Trustees.

Deeply proud of this confidence, particularly in these circumstances, CAWTAR expresses its most sincere thanks to the Board's president and members as well as to all its funders and partners, looking forward to pursuing efforts within an institutional environment based on mutual respect and trust.

The pandemic has actually made it indispensable for CAWTAR to reconsider its priorities, executive plans, working methods, and types of intervention, with more focus on groups most affected by the pandemic, all in coordination and consultation with partners and funders.

The year 2021 was the final year of CAWTAR's Strategic Plan 2017-2021 for which the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development served as a frame of reference. The health crisis has, in fact, necessitated a reconsideration of this strategy with a view to evaluating its impact and key achievements, while also working to define the strategic directions for the coming period (2022-2025) in light of regional and global changes, and in line with the needs of the target groups of CAWTAR's programs.

In 2021, CAWTAR has made significant progress at various levels, including in the following areas :

A. Digitization

CAWTAR has moved further ahead in terms of digitization. It has placed the 8th "Arab Women Development Report" under the theme of "Arab Women and Digitization". It has also worked to digitize its training contents and materials, and make them available on its online platform for remote training.

CAWTAR has established an integrated remote training platform that includes a large number of its training manuals on various themes, including : "Gender Equality in the 2030 Agenda" (9 modules), "Transformational Leadership" (4 modules), and "Reproductive and Sexual Health and Rights" (3 modules). The Center has, in fact, created a significant training dynamic that has encouraged several institutions and organizations to plan, upon their request, training for their members and affiliates from Bahrain, Yemen, Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia, Mauritania, Algeria, and Oman, along with members of @NGED Network from 17 countries (over 300 trainees). The Center has thus become present in these countries through the members of its network.

B. CAWTAR Clearinghouse on Gender and Development

Work has been undertaken to further develop the CAWTAR's Clearinghouse as a virtual space that supplies information and knowledge about Gender and development issues. The electronic platforms available in the Clearinghouse provide partners and all relevant stakeholders with data, interactive maps, laws and guidelines for various groups of women and youth.

Many specialists, researchers, students, and professionals have recognized the importance of the "Clearinghouse on Gender" as a space where knowledge produced by CAWTAR and its partners is assembled and made available to all those interested in Gender issues. This achievement is the culmination of years of intensive work to build cumulative knowledge in an electronic format, including published and unpublished data/information and products.

C. Arab Network for Gender and Development - @NGED

With the pandemic having imposed, more than ever before, the need to work remotely, @NGED Network has undertaken a key role in implementing the Center's programs, in line with the established priorities. The Center has worked to support the Network, by restructuring it, updating the data relevant to its members, classifying them according to their areas of interest and action and the quality of their productions, while developing innovative mechanisms (such as regular virtual meetings, WhatsApp group...) that enable the continuous sharing of information, and build a space that can truly support comprehensive empowerment efforts for women across the region.

One of CAWTAR's strategic directions for the coming period is to work toward making member institutions and organizations engaged in mobilizing resources for enhancing the Network's role and scaling up its effectiveness as a space for joint work, serving as a support for the Center's programs and projects.

With 2021 being the final year of the Strategic Plan 2017-2021, the Center has begun to define the broad lines of its new Strategic Plan, taking into consideration the new challenges and obstacles in the region, which continue to hamper the true advancement of women. These include the persistence of Gender-based violence (GBV), poor access to economic opportunities and resources, along with other obstacles that stand in the way of women's comprehensive empowerment. The Center will explore new fields of action in terms of research, advocacy and training, such as the promotion of women's entrepreneurship, the improvement of the business environment, and women and digitization. Groups with specific needs (persons with visual impairments, refugee women and girls,...) will be targeted at a greater scale, in line with the "No-one-left-behind" imperative of the 2030 Agenda.

Key qualitative performance indicators

Training

(18 training sessions
and 750 beneficiaries).

Progress in digitizing training
materials and developing a
self-learning online platform.

18 face-to-face and online
training sessions.

Over 750 beneficiaries

Research (19)

A regional report and 3 country studies on
"Transformational Leadership".

A regional report on "Gender-Based
Violence during COVID-19".

2 regional reports, 12 country reports/
surveys, and a quantitative study on
women entrepreneurs, market trends, and
food security (in progress)

Arab Women Development Report on
"Women and Digitization" (in progress)

Enhancing media role in
supporting women's
issues

5 issues of
"CAWTARIYAT"
newsletter

25 issues of the Audio
Magazine

30 articles (Best Press
Article Award)

Workshops and meetings: 71
(virtual/face-to-face)

15 face-to-face meetings,
6 virtual workshops/seminars,
Participation in over 50 Zoom
meetings

Strategic Partnerships :

14 new partnership
agreements at country
and regional levels

Documentation and information-sharing

5770 new documents and new specialized windows in
CAWTAR Clearinhouse on Gender and Development

Executive summary

The main mission of CAWTAR is to contribute to enriching knowledge about the participation of women, equally with men, in the sustainable development of their countries, as well as to promoting Arab women's empowerment and leadership in all fields.

In 2021, the world continued to suffer the repercussions of COVID-19, with resulting challenges that have disrupted national economies and made it indispensable for organizations and institutions to reconsider their work programs and adapt them to the emerging changes and challenges.

This period also witnessed increased violence against women and girls in most countries of the world, especially domestic violence, despite the fact that women working in agriculture have borne a significant part of the burden of ensuring food security during the COVID-19 crisis.

The Center has successfully managed to adapt its activities and to secure funding for most of its projects.

Political and social empowerment and combating violence against women

1 - Political and Social Empowerment



- 1.1. Producing and launching the regional report on “Women and Transformational Leadership”. This report, prepared based on three country studies conducted in Tunisia, Morocco and Jordan, enables a better understanding of the concept of “female transformational leadership”, by focusing on the paths of change pursued by women in their local communities. The input collected for this report will be leveraged to enrich CAWTAR's relevant training materials;
- 1.2. Conducting and releasing three (3) country studies on “Women and Transformational Leadership”. These studies were conducted in the interior regions of Tunisia, Morocco and Jordan. Field interviews were held in partnership with local institutions, which helped define the concept of “female transformational leadership” and highlight the paths toward achieving social recognition for ordinary women who did not formally exercise power, but were identified as leaders thanks to their skills and ability to change their own conditions, and accordingly those of their communities, for the better;

- 1.3. Producing a publication that includes 20 profiles of women leaders from Jordan, Tunisia and Morocco (covered by the regional study) who stood out in their communities in various fields. A journalistic style was adopted in this publication to help media professionals in writing articles on local female leaders;
- 1.4. Strengthening the capacities of local media professionals, activists and women leaders in municipal/local councils, for more effective contribution to bringing about change.

2 - Combating Gender-based violence (GBV)



- 2.1 Releasing a report on “Gender-based violence during a health crisis: the case of COVID-19”. The report was launched in a virtual regional symposium and as part of a media campaign during the celebration of the International Women’s Day (March 8, 2021);
- 2.2 Developing the smart application “*SafeNess*” for visually impaired women. This application is already available in Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia;
- 2.3 Organizing an online awareness campaign on the adverse consequences of GBV, and conducting advocacy for changing behaviors and developing anti-GBV policies;
- 2.4 Producing four (4) videos on combating digital violence against women and girls.

3 - Economic Empowerment, Financial Education, and Entrepreneurship

In 2021, CAWTAR worked to develop knowledge about financial inclusion and entrepreneurship, by producing relevant reports and studies, especially in view of the scarcity of knowledge in this regard.

3.1 Studies and Reports

- Producing a qualitative study and a quantitative study, from a Gender perspective, on livelihoods, social security protection, as well as food and livelihood security for women during crises (such as COVID-19). Both studies demonstrate the significant role of women in achieving food security in times of crisis;
- Elaborating a regional report on “Empowering Women Entrepreneurs Towards Equal Access with Men to Business and Trade Markets” in Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia. The report will be launched as part of the celebration of International Women’s Day on March 8, 2022);
- Preparing a regional report and 6 country reports (Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia) on market trends in light of COVID-19 impacts;
- Conducting a regional study on Business Support Organizations (EBSOMED) : “Women and Digitization” (in progress). This study explores the challenges and adverse impacts of COVID-19 on women entrepreneurs, and identifies mitigation measures taken by women entrepreneurs to cope with the negative effects of the pandemic. It also highlights the potential opportunities produced by the pandemic in terms of digitizing women-run businesses.

3.2 Training



- Developing the regional financial education platform “*Amwalna*” and 10 self-learning modules. The platform will be launched early 2022;
- Elaborating a training-of-trainers manual in the field of financial inclusion in Saudi Arabia for the “Women’s Committee for Community Development” in Riyadh;
- Developing three (3) self-learning hubs for nearly 1200 women involved in digital homes, Orange Tunisia;
- Implementing four (4) training-of-trainers sessions in financial education for nearly 102 beneficiaries from Tunisia, Morocco and Jordan;
- Supporting 35 ceramics craftswomen within the “*Jneh Khotifa*” Association, a group of craftswomen within the “*Dhafaer*” Association, and a group of female farmers working in tomato cultivation within a women’s agricultural development grouping.
- Providing, for the first time, production tools and equipment that help women and families in marginalized areas to launch sustainable projects, which helps bring about the desired change in their lives and the life of their communities (350).

4 – Enhancing women’s role in achieving the 2030 Agenda



To promote a better understanding of the Sustainable Development Agenda, CAWTAR continues, as part of its five-year strategy, to work on raising the level of knowledge of the SDGs and enhancing the ownership of partners in the region, especially @NGED members, of the Agenda and its goals.

To that end, CAWTAR has launched a self-learning series on Gender Equality in the 2030 Agenda, in partnership with a number of institutions, associations and structures from @NGED members. This has enabled the conduct of trainings for media professionals and civil society activists from different countries of the region.

5 – Enhancing the role of the media in supporting women’s issues

- Preparing a monitoring report on the presence of women and men in the news media, as part of the Global Media Monitoring Project (GMMP);
- Granting prizes to four (4) journalists from Yemen, Palestine, Jordan and Syria in the best press article contest (out of 30 participants in the contest);
- Releasing issues No. 80, 81, 82 and 83 of CAWTARYAT newsletter on the themes of “Arab Women and Digitization”, “Female Transformational Leadership”, and “Arab Women and Asylum”;
- Producing 25 issues of the Audio magazine “*Dima Maa Baadhna*” (“Always Together”) designed for people with visual impairment.

6 – Provision and sharing of information

- Bringing the number of documents available in CAWTAR’s Clearinghouse on Gender up from 5500 in 2020 to 5770 documents in 2021;
- Developing an “electronic single window for trade and market access”, designed to familiarize users with the procedures for launching businesses in the countries covered by the project.

7 – Strengthening regional strategic partnerships

Fourteen (14) partnership and support agreements were concluded with:

- AGFUND (Arab women and digitization post-COVID-19; Support for institutional building; Women’s economic empowerment);
- IFFP - Arab World Regional Office (Women and the 2030 Agenda);

- BADEA (Economic Empowerment of Women in Côte d'Ivoire)
- “Taysir Consultation” Association, Municipality of Zarzis (Tunisia), and “MANAR Thon” company (Promoting women’s economic participation in rural areas in Tunisia);
- “Orange” Company (Financial inclusion; Women and digitization);
- Tunisian Ministry of Women, Family and the Elderly (A Framework Agreement to implement a joint work programme for the economic and social empowerment of women and girls and for combating all forms of discrimination against women);
- Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE) (MoU to build partnership toward ensuring balanced Gender representation and enhancing women’s voices in the process of promoting good governance and transparency in the health sector in Tunisia);
- Jordanian National Committee for Women Affairs, National Commission for Lebanese Women, ENROOT and OPEN TUNISIA (Project on “Empowering women entrepreneurs towards equal access with men to business and trade markets”).



FIRST: PROGRESS IN PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH CAWTAR'S STRATEGIC PILLARS

Strategic Pillar 1 : Enhanced political, social and economic empowerment of women

CAWTAR contributes to the comprehensive empowerment of women, by strengthening linkages between political, social, and economic empowerment. Its approach in this regard involves research, training, and advocacy work, in addition to addressing obstacles to women's empowerment, including GBV, Gender discrimination in legislation, and youth's low engagement in public life.

1 – Political and social empowerment of women and youth

Implemented projects:

- “Women Empowerment for Leadership Roles in the MENA Region” - Forum of Federations
- “Strengthening Women and Youth Capacities in Political Participation” - MEPI
- “Transformational Leadership for Inclusive Local Governance” - AECID
- “Combating GBV in public spaces, with focus on Universities” - OSF
- “Combating GBV against deaf, dumb, blind and visually impaired women and girls : Making the Invisible Visible” – UN-WOMEN

Key project outcomes

❖ In terms of research :

- Disseminating the results of 3 country studies and the regional study on Female Transformational Leadership in the interior regions of Tunisia, Morocco and Jordan;
- Producing a publication including profiles of women leaders: Paths of change;
- Developing a policy paper on Transformational Leadership;
- Producing four (4) reports/surveys : Identifying development priorities and monitoring indicators of political and civic participation among women and youth in Tunisia;
- Issuing a regional report on “Gender-based violence during a health crisis: the case of COVID-19” (in 7 countries) : The report was launched in three (3) virtual regional symposiums as part of the celebration of International Women's Day (March 8, 2021);
- Conducting a quantitative study, from a Gender-based perspective, on livelihoods, social security coverage, and food and livelihood security for women members of an Agricultural Development Grouping, especially during crises such as COVID-19 (in partnership with the World Food Programme - WFP).

The report includes :

- **Introduction** : Issue, hypotheses and objectives of the rapid assessment;
- **Part 1** : documentary analysis; summary of general context; terminology and indicators; legal and policy frameworks (national, regional and global), methodology, assessment tools, and implementation process;
- **Part 2** : Types and forms of violence before, during and after the lockdown period, with an evaluation of other variables;
- **Part 3** : Circumstances and impacts of GBV on women and girls, including economic impact;

– **Conclusion** : conclusions, expectations, and recommendations.



❖ **In terms of capacity-building**

- Elaborating a distance learning program on transformational leadership from a Gender perspective. The program involves four (4) training themes : 1/ Gender and transformation, 2/ Gender-based violence and transformation, 3/ Transformational leadership: definitions and concepts, 4/ Transformational leadership at the individual and institutional levels;
- Developing the skills of 51 female municipal councilors (from several Governorates) and 20 representatives of local associations on transformational leadership for making a real impact within municipal councils, and promoting networking with civil society structures;
- Strengthening the skills and knowledge of 14 journalists from associative and regional radio stations on the production of Gender-unbiased media content and on the use of modern technologies to support local female leaders (9 videos were prepared and broadcast);
- Developing the skills of 80 women and young persons representing 10 political parties and 20 associations in the formulation of local development projects and the search for funds and support for their implementation.

❖ **In terms of awareness-raising and networking**

- Raising the level of awareness and knowledge of 84 representatives of governmental and non-governmental structures from 5 countries, who participated in the online symposium on female transformational leadership, designed to present the outcomes of country studies/regional study and to discuss recommendations for strengthening women's leadership;
- Raising the level of awareness and knowledge of 63 representatives of governmental and non-governmental structures and media institutions from Tunisia, who participated in the workshop on women and local transformational leadership, designed to identify

persisting challenges and obstacles facing female leaders, and the ways and means to overcome them;

- Raising awareness of 30 representatives of associations and local authorities as well as media professionals, through participation in a workshop to discuss the relevant policy paper and enrich recommendations on transformational leadership toward achieving fairness and equality;
- Supporting the implementation of 20 youth initiatives for the production of an artistic work on political participation;
- Organizing five (5) roundtables for dialogue with local actors, attended by 56 participants, with the participation of representatives of 10 political parties, 12 associations, and 10 municipal councils;
- Developing the smart application “*SafeNess*” designed for women with visual impairments. The application is now available in Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia;
- Conducting an online campaign to raise awareness of the adverse consequences of GBV, with advocacy for changing behaviors and developing anti-GBV policies;
- Producing four (4) videos on combating violence/digital violence against women and girls;
- Preparing nine (9) photo press reports on local female leaders (broadcast on local media and online platforms).

2 – Economic empowerment of women and youth

CAWTAR pursues work toward promoting the economic empowerment of women and youth in the Arab region and beyond.

Implemented projects:

- Economic Empowerment Projects for Rural Women in Côte d'Ivoire - BADEA
- Economic Empowerment Project for Syrian Refugee Women and Girls in Lebanon and Jordan – SFD
- Female Transformational Leadership for Inclusive Local Governance” – AECID
- Empowering Women Entrepreneurs in the MENA Region toward Equal Access with Men to Trade and Business Markets - Kvinna till Kvinna
- Strengthening Business Support Organizations and Business Networks in the Southern Mediterranean Region - EBSOMED
- Social Innovation in the Agri-Food Sector for Women Empowerment in the Mediterranean (InnovAgroWoMed)
- Regional Financial Education Platform – AGFUND - SCBF
- Financial and digital inclusion for Women – Orange Tunisia
- Financial Education in Tunisia – GIZ
- Enhancing Women’s Access to Local Markets – GIZ/UPM



Key outcomes:

<p>Promoting financial education and inclusion for women and youth</p>	<p>1. Regional Financial Education Platform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Developing the regional financial education platform, finalizing the preparation of 10 e-training modules, and designing the associated evaluation form; ▪ Finalizing the trainers' manual and developing three (3) for training video scenarios; ▪ Providing training for 60 staff members of the National Microfinance Bank on how to use the “Amwalna” platform; ▪ Developing a training-of-trainers manual on financial inclusion in Saudi Arabia for the Women's Committee for Community Development in Riyadh. <p>2. Digital Financial Inclusion for Women</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Designing three (3) e-training modules on digital empowerment and financial education; ▪ Providing training for 22 trainers on digital financial inclusion for women. <p>3. Financial Education in Tunisia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Analyzing demand in terms of financial education on digital financial services in Tunisia; ▪ Developing a national platform for financial education and the related training content; ▪ Establishing a national network of financial education ambassadors; ▪ Organizing a training-of-trainers academy in the field of financial education; ▪ Conducting an awareness campaign on digital financial services.
<p>Developing income-generating activities for</p>	<p>1. Economic empowerment of women in Africa through income-generating economic initiatives :</p> <p>Launching two new projects for the economic empowerment of women in Côte d'Ivoire :</p>

<p>poor and vulnerable women</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “Supporting the economic empowerment of rural women and girls in <i>Gbaki</i> : production, transformation and marketing of agricultural products”, benefiting 100 rural women and girls in 3 regions; ▪ “Supporting the economic empowerment of rural women and girls in <i>Alibay</i> through income-Generating activities: sewing and hairdressing”, benefiting 70 rural women and girls in a poor semi-urban region. <p>2. Economic empowerment for Syrian refugee women and girls in Lebanon and Jordan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Completing the project in Lebanon (in partnership with the Arab Open University). The project targeted : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 50 refugee women and girls who benefited from four (4) training courses in informatics and accounting; - 20 kindergarten teachers who benefited from 40 hours of learning; - 121 Syrian mothers who participated in six (6) dialogue and coaching sessions on proper family upbringing; <p>42 refugee women were involved in the impact assessment of this project supported by the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD).</p> <p><u>Key results of the project’s impact assessment:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training sessions were “excellent” or “very good” for 83% of the respondents, “good” for 14% of them, and “just average” for one respondent. - For 92.8% of the respondents, the training has improved their knowledge and abilities, and increased their chances of getting a job. - 27 of the beneficiaries have already got a job, 9 have moved up to a better job, 10 are still searching for work (they consider that their nationality hinders their access to employment), and 6 have not yet started looking for a job due to special family circumstances. - 86% of the respondents consider that the training they received has boosted their self-confidence. - 100% of the respondents consider that the training they received has significantly motivated them to work for improving their and their families’ living conditions. - All the beneficiaries assert that the opportunity offered to them, through the project, to strengthen their abilities cannot be provided today to women and girls in Syria. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Launching the project in Jordan in partnership with the Higher Population Council. Action was coordinated between the Higher Population Council in Jordan and the official bodies and organizations working on refugee issues. A preparatory meeting was held in November with the parties on the ground who are involved in the implementation of the project’s training and educational activities, with the aim of developing the detailed program of activities, defining practical goals, and dividing roles and responsibilities. <p>3. Female Transformational Leadership for Inclusive Local Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strengthening the skills, knowledge and abilities of female farmers and artisans (direct support for 30 women/ indirect support for 60 women) from
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	<p>women's groupings and structures in the Governorate of Nabeul (Tunisia) :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategic planning for elaborating work programs and improving production quality and access to markets; - Enhancing the quality of products and improving marketing: training courses on the updating, diversification and digital marketing of products, the use of Social Media platforms to publicize products, communication skills between individuals and the collective leadership, planning/preparation of work programs, hygiene techniques in tomato production and drying...; - Launching the establishment of two official structures for women artisans: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “<i>Dhafa'er</i> Association” in the city of Menzel Horr, for artisans producing palm-leaf handbags • “<i>Jneh Khottifa</i> Association” in the city of Nabeul, for artisans producing ceramics, - Purchasing equipments and machines for sewing and leather-cutting, a ceramic oven, machines for the transformation of agricultural products, computers and printers, raw and packaging materials ... in order to support the economic independence of the beneficiary farmers/artisans at all production and marketing stages; - Developing stores for the display and marketing of products of women artisans in Menzel Horr and Nabeul, and supporting them to be able to participate in national and regional exhibitions (19 days of product display and sale); - Supporting and building partnerships between women artisans and local government structures.
<p>Enhancing the investment and entrepreneurship environment for more effective participation of women and youth</p>	<p>1. Empowering Women Entrepreneurs in the MENA Region Towards Equal Access with Men to Business and Trade Markets – Kvinna Till Kvinna</p> <p>CAWTAR is working on a regional report on the situation of women in national economies, with focus on Gender and trade. This project involves conducting a survey of active economic institutions, and analyzing Gender-responsive value chains for a number of sectors (agriculture, light industries and services), with the aim of assessing the obstacles that hinder the work of female and male entrepreneurs and to identify/compare their productive and competitive abilities.</p> <p>In 2021, significant progress was made in achieving the following outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conducting a rapid assessment of the needs/challenges of male and female entrepreneurs in six (6) Arab countries (Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Lebanon, Egypt and Jordan); - Working on developing an “electronic single window for trade and market access”, designed to familiarize users with the procedures for launching projects/businesses in the countries covered by the project, as well as to help women entrepreneurs meet the requirements/trends of national, regional and global markets; - Launching work for designing a specialized window related to the project, to be included in the Clearinghouse on Gender; - Launching work for designing an online map of economic and commercial actors in the six (6) countries covered by the project, which enables users to access the contact details of governmental and non-governmental institutions concerned with economy and trade at the national, regional and international levels; - Promoting the strategic extension of the project by concluding partnership agreements with national parties/structures to be involved in the

	<p>implementation of activities. In this regard, a MoU was signed with “OPEN-Tunisia” organization.</p> <p>2. Strengthening Business Support Organizations and Business Networks in the Southern Mediterranean Region – EBSOMED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preparing a regional study on entrepreneurship/business support institutions for “Women and Digitization”, with a view to identifying the potential challenges and negative effects of COVID-19 on women entrepreneurs, and highlighting potential opportunities produced by the pandemic in terms of digitization of women-run businesses; - Developing an electronic training module on project management for business support organizations (BSOs); - Holding an online training session on “Cybersecurity” for nearly 70 beneficiaries representing BSOs targeting women entrepreneurs in 8 Arab countries (in partnership with “<i>Womenpreneur-Initiative</i>”). <p>3. Social Innovation in the Agri-Food Sector for Women’s Empowerment in the Mediterranean – INNOVAGROMED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preparing a training course (in the fields of employment and entrepreneurship) as part of the project on “Social Innovation in the Agri-food Sector for Women’s Empowerment in the Mediterranean (600 hours of virtual/face-to-face training for 35 female entrepreneurs in the agro-food sector); - Concluding two framework partnership agreements (with Taysir Association, Zarzis Municipality and Manar-Thon Company) aimed at enhancing the economic participation of women in rural areas and promoting their economic and social integration; - Launching an awareness campaign on the development of micro-businesses and employment in the agri-food sector, and producing a radio spot and other communication materials. <p>4. Enhancing Women's Access to Local Markets - FLOWER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forming a nucleus of 20 trainers (10 in Tunisia and 10 in Morocco) to provide guidance for women in agricultural development groupings; - Designing training tools/programs for trainers (communication, governance/management of agricultural development groupings, and financial education) in charge of providing training/guidance to female members of agricultural groupings in Morocco and Tunisia.
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Strategic Pillar II : Enhanced role of women in achieving Sustainable Development Goals

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has drawn attention to the need for more action toward achieving Gender equality and eliminating all forms of discrimination against women and girls. This is a prerequisite for speeding up the achievement of sustainable development. In this regard, CAWTAR has sought to make sure its actions in terms of research, awareness-raising, advocacy and capacity-building are of a qualitative nature.

1 – Strengthening the capacities of @NGED members toward achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals – AGFUND

CAWTAR has completed the implementation of its regional project on “Strengthening the capacities of @NGED members toward achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals”, in terms of activities, training and advocacy (October 2018 - March 2021).

While COVID-19 has negatively affected progress in implementation in line with the pre-established schedule, it nevertheless offers an opportunity to better leverage technology for enhancing knowledge production, increasing the number of trainees, and promoting interaction among the Network’s members, especially that AGFUND has provided flexibility allowing the Center to modify some of the scheduled activities after obtaining approval.



Key project outputs

- An online platform for self-learning;
- 9 self-learning training modules on “Gender Equality and the 2030 Agenda”;
- Advocacy Guide for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- 10 policy papers;
- 9 scientific papers on Women, the 2030 Agenda, and the Challenges of Digitization;
- A publication on “Arab Women, the 2030 Agenda, and the Challenges of Digitization”;
- A face-to-face regional Workshop;
- A virtual regional workshop;
- 6 national roundtables (3 face-to-face and 3 virtual).
- A simplified video about the 2030 Agenda.

Partner Capacity Support Program

To ensure the sustainability of the project, and to expand the range of beneficiaries from the training modules, CAWTAR has launched a self-learning series on Gender equality in the 2030 Agenda, in partnership with institutions, associations and structures from @NGED members (Mauritania's Press and Broadcasting High Authority; Algerian Observatory for Women; Bahrain Women Union), with the aim of holding trainings for various groups of media professionals and civil society activists from different countries of the region. As part of this series, five (5) self-learning courses were held (Mauritania, Algeria, Bahrain , Yemen) with the participation of about 100 trainees.

The training program included the following training modules:

- Gender equality in the 2030 Agenda: Introductions
- Gender equality in the 2030 Agenda: Overall introduction to the concept of development
- Gender equality in the 2030 Agenda: Why a new agenda ?
- Agenda 2030: Characteristics and focus areas
- Gender equality in the 2030 Agenda
- Media and Gender equality in the 2030 Agenda
- Civil society and Gender equality in the 2030 Agenda
- Gender Equality in Agenda 2030: Measuring change in the Arab Region

2 – Women and digitization: an essential foundation for achieving the 2030 Agenda post-COVID-19 (AGDUND)

Since the launch of its 7th Report on “Gender Equality in the 2030 Agenda: The Role of Civil Society and the Media” in late 2019, with support from AGFUND, CAWTAR has suggested to the members of the Board of Trustees that the theme of its 8th Report be : “Women and Digitization”, in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals and the comprehensive empowerment of women.

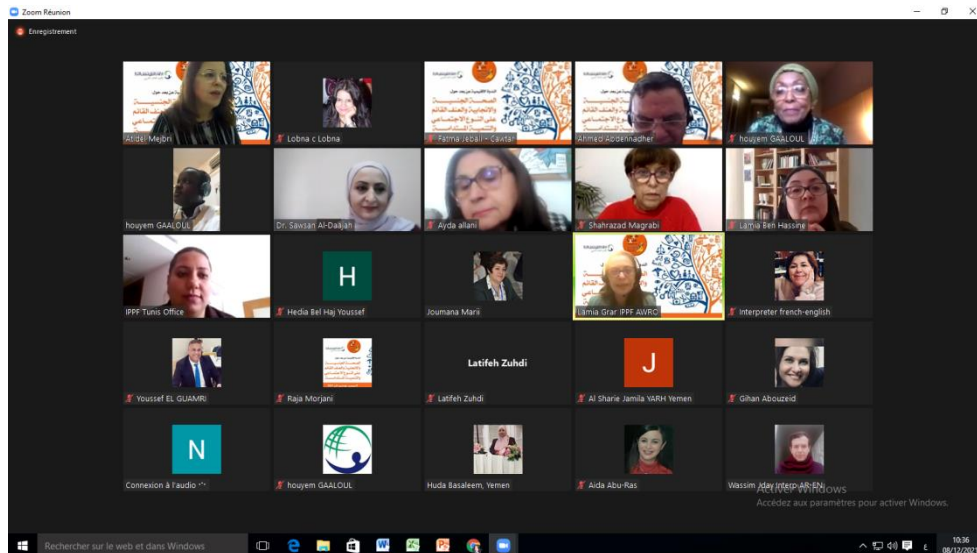
The report will focus on the vital role of digitization in improving the lives of women and their communities, being a development mechanism that helps women in vulnerable situations to overcome crises and challenges, especially those related to the pandemic. It will be essentially based on case studies and experiences related to the adoption of digitization for achieving the 2030 Agenda.

3 – Sexual and Reproductive Health, Gender-Based Violence, and Sustainable Development (IPPF)

CAWTAR and IPPF (Arab World Regional Office) have launched a training project on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Sexual and Reproductive health, and Combating GBV. The project's action plan includes two main components :

1. Designing a digital self-training module on “Reproductive Health and the 2030 Agenda”;
2. Holding a (virtual) regional symposium on “Reproductive Health and Sustainable Development.

The symposium, held in December 2021, was designed to gain a deeper understanding of the current state of sexual and reproductive rights in relation to sustainable development in the Arab region, and to highlight the contribution of anti-GBV programs, as one of reproductive health components, in achieving the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda.



4 – Strategic Partnerships

Civil Society Platform for Sustainable Development (ANND)

In partnership with the Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND), CAWTAR has conceived a training program designed to develop CSO capacities to monitor partnerships for effective development in the region, in line with a Gender and human rights perspective. The key components of this program include preparing a study to monitor needs, developing online training materials, holding business meetings, identifying beneficiary organizations, and conducting trainings.

As a partner in the Civil Society Platform for Sustainable Development, CAWTAR attended:

- The Consultative Meeting, held on February 23, 2021, to discuss the agenda of the preparatory meeting and review updates on efforts to monitor progress in the 2030 Agenda;
- The preparatory meeting for the Arab Forum on Sustainable Development, held on March 25-26, 2021;
- The Arab Forum for Sustainable Development, designed to accelerate work toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, in light of responses to COVID-19, to discuss relevant priority issues, and to review country and regional follow-up actions, including voluntary national reviews.

Prince Talal International Prize for Human Development

The Executive Director of CAWTAR participated in the ceremony during which the winning projects of “Prince Talal International Prize for Human Development” (2019 edition) in “Clean Water and Sanitation” (SDG6) were honored. This event was held virtually on June 16, 2021, under the patronage of HH Prince Abdulaziz bin Talal Al Saud, President of AGFUND and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of CAWTAR.

The Prize embodies the noble humanitarian goals and principles embraced by the late Prince Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, which AGFUND is striving to serve through its valuable efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda.

On its part, CAWTAR has always worked to promote the Prize among the members of @NGED Network as well as among its partners and all interested stakeholders.

SECOND : PROMOTING CAWTAR'S INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS

1 – Media Training Center

The Media Training Center is one of CAWTAR's working mechanisms. It supports the implementation of programs and projects, being in charge of the media component for all the Center's research, training, awareness-raising, and advocacy activities. It also implements its own programs targeting multiple groups, including :

- **Women**, to strengthen their ability to deal with the media;
- **Media professionals**, to ensure Gender equality is mainstreamed in all media productions;
- **Young men and women**, to strengthen their engagement in processes of change toward achieving equality.

The activities of the Media Training Center for the year 2021 involved the following :

❖ Global Media Monitoring Project

CAWTAR has issued the 3rd country report for Tunisia, as part of its involvement in the Global Media Monitoring Project (GMMP), held every five years with the participation of over 130 countries around the world. Thirteen (13) journalists, including members of @NGED Network, were involved in the monitoring process carried out by CAWTAR. They were trained by the Center on media monitoring skills from a Gender perspective to monitor and analyze the presence of women and men in the news.

The report is available on the following website: <https://whomakesthenews.org/>

❖ "CAWTARIYAT" newsletter



In 2021, five (5) issues of CAWTARIYAT were released :

- Issue No. 80: “Arab Women and the Challenges of Digitization post-COVID-19” (with support from AGFUND);
- Issue No. 81: “Female Transformational Leadership (with support from the Canadian Forum of Federations);

- Issue No. 82: “Female Transformational Leadership (with support from the Canadian Forum of Federations);
- Issue No. 83: “Arab Women and Asylum” (with support from the Saudi Fund for Development);
- Special issue (in French) : “Adolescence and Youth” (prepared as part of an internship offered to two young students).

Journalists from @NGED Network contributed articles to the newsletter.

Newsletter link: <http://www.cawtar.org/en/cawtaryat>

❖ **Results of “Najiba Hamrouni Best Press Article on Women’s Issues” Contest (16th edition)**

This competition is held periodically by the Center with support from the IFFP Arab World Regional Office.

- The first prize (US\$2000) was awarded to the Yemeni journalist Samah Al-Shaghdari for her article entitled: “Women of the Moon... Refugees and Migrants Pull off the Impossible”.
- The second prize (US\$1000) was awarded jointly to the Palestinian journalist Sayed Ismail, for his article entitled “Lina Al Muzaini.. and the Thousand-Mile Journey to Success in Hamburg,” and to the Syrian journalist Mawada Bahah, for her article entitled “Because of Displacement and Collective Housing... Syrian Women Have Lost their Privacy and Sense of Femininity.”
- The third prize (US\$500) was awarded to the Jordanian journalist Alaa Al-Amleh, for her article entitled “Syrian Refugee Women in Jordan : Dreams .. but..!”.

The Award Jury set up by CAWTAR included members of @NGED network :

- Dr. Soumaya Abdellatif, Assistant Professor at Ajman University, UAE ;
- Dr. Hanan Youssef, Dean of College of Language and Communication, Egypt;
- Mr. Nashwan Al-Sumairi, Media Consultant and Trainer, Yemen.

Journalists from Jordan, Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon, Palestine, Yemen, Syria, Algeria, Sudan and Morocco participated in the competition.

❖ **Audio magazine “*Dima Maa Baadhna*” (“Always Together”) for people with visual impairment**

As part of its partnership with “IBSAR Association for Culture and Leisure for Blind and Visually Impaired People”, CAWTAR has continued to produce the audio magazine designed for persons with visual impairment during and after lockdown periods.

72 issues of the audio magazine have so far been released and are available on CAWTAR’s YouTube channel.

Link to the audio magazine: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xzNZ2Fhzuto>



❖ Publicizing CAWTAR’s activities on Social Media

CAWTAR is keen to enhance its presence on Social Media, via its Facebook and Twitter pages. It has developed a plan to further publicize the various programs and projects it undertakes in the Arab region and elsewhere.

Social Media platforms have actually played a significant role in facilitating communication and interaction between CAWTAR and the target groups benefiting from its programs and actions. CAWTAR is increasingly leveraging these platforms to strengthen its position, increase its visibility, and enhance the value of its work.

The number of CAWTAR’s Facebook page followers significantly increased from 1674 in 2014 to 43303 till October 2021. This remarkable evolution was made possible thanks to a long-term, multi-stage, and multi-purpose strategy designed to promote the Center’s visibility and publicize its work. The media team in charge of managing the Center’s Social Media pages is diligently working to enhance the place of CAWTAR among similar and partner institutions, especially those acting in the areas of Gender, human rights and development

❖ Strengthening the role of “@NGED” as a space for networking and joint development action

- Forming a WhatsApp group: 70 members
- Increasing the members’ participation in the Center’s activities
- Designing and sending membership cards
- 45 new members from Tunisia, Mauritania, Morocco, Yemen and Algeria
- Two partnership agreements with the “Climate Action Network - Arab World” and “Al-Massar Center for Human Studies and Research” in Morocco.

2 – Clearinghouse on Gender and Development

The Knowledge and Database Management Unit continues to support the Center’s projects and programs at all stages: from design and implementation to the publication of outputs on CAWTAR’s Clearinghouse.



The Unit constantly works to improve the design of the Clearinghouse and add new windows, while ensuring quick access to information and enabling partners and members of @NGED and of other networks to interact with and benefit from the content of the website.

The Unit also contributes to the implementation of some of the projects’ outputs, including the following :

- Supervising the development of the smart application “*SafeNess*”, designed to protect women and girls in general, and blind and visually impaired women in particular, from GBV and harassment in public places in Tunisia, Morocco and Jordan;
- Supervising and contributing to the elaboration of the online training manual on transformational leadership from a Gender perspective;
- Supervising and contributing to the preparation of the audio magazine “*Dima Maa Baadhna*”.

❖ Clearinghouse on Gender and Development

The design of CAWTAR’s Clearinghouse has been improved and new windows have been added : “@NGED Network”, “Agenda 2030”, “GBV in Universities”, and “Gender and Trade”. To further enrich the Clearinghouse, Core Themes and Sub-themes were created, and others were updated :

- **Core themes:** “Gender and COVID-19”; “Arab Women, Peace and Security”; “Gender and Trade”; “Arab Women and Sustainable Development Goals”; “Arab Women, Environment and Climate Change”; “Gender and Migration”.

- **Sub-themes:** “National Action Plans for the implementation of UNSCR 1325”; “Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security”; “GBV in Universities”, “Forced Migration”, “Internal Migration”, “Illegal Migration”.

The Clearinghouse database is being constantly developed and enriched with new documents in Arabic, French and English, including reports, studies and videos on 16 key topics, including “Women and Economic Participation” and “Women and Political Participation. New windows have been created, covering various themes including “Gender and Trade”.

Work is also under way to develop a “Single Window on Trade and Access to Foreign Markets” for six Arab countries.

290 documents (reference documents, reports, studies, videos) were added, bringing the number of documents available on the Clearinghouse up to **5790** in 2021, compared to **5500** in 2020.

❖ Specialized databases and bibliographies

- **Database of institutions, experts and resource persons in Gender and Development**

To enrich databases and provide beneficiaries and all relevant actors with accurate and updated information,

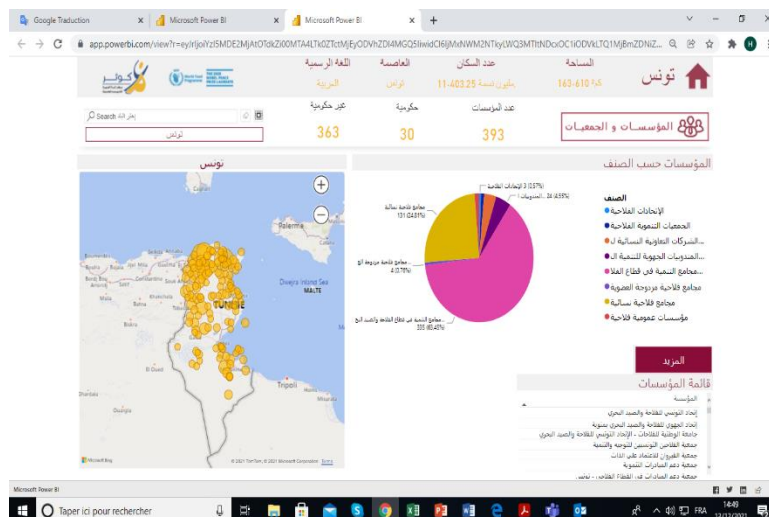
1. The database of institutions was enriched with **712** new entries in Arabic and English
2. The database of experts and resource persons in “Gender and Development” was enriched with **480** new entries in Arabic and English.
3. The data relevant to **1470** institutions and over **450** experts was updated.

2019 : **17085** → 2020 : **18810** → 2021 : **20000**

- **Interactive online maps:**

In 2021, two additional online maps were produced:

1. The online map of women’s agricultural development groupings and cooperatives (393), as part of a partnership program with the World Food Programme and the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries;
2. The online map on “Combating GBV in the Arab countries”.



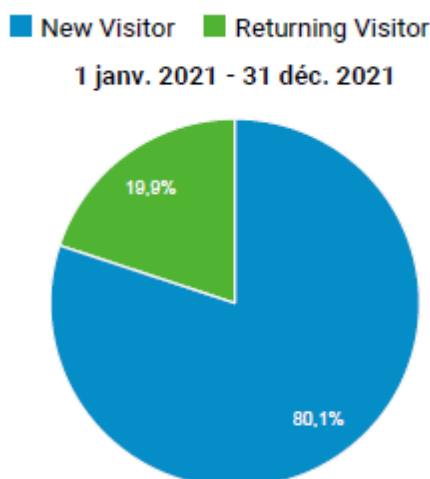
▪ Portal of Legal and Human Rights for Women and Men

The Knowledge and Database Management Unit regularly updates the portal with new laws and indicators.

▪ “WRCATI” electronic system (Supporting Women and Children’s Rights through Information Technology in Tunisia)

The **WRCATI** system has been updated and developed to include laws pertaining to various issues (GBV, human trafficking...), along with legal questions/answers related to protection and access to justice.

In 2021, the number of “WRCATI” visitors reached over **232889**, an increase by 35% compared to 2020. The percentage of new visitors is estimated at over 80%.



▪ CAWTAR Website

The number of CAWTAR’s website visitors reached **15613** in 2021, an increase by 26.69% compared to 2020.

▪ **Visitors to CAWTAR Clearinghouse**

Till the end of December 2021, the number of CAWTAR Clearinghouse visitors reached 8000. It is to be noted that the Clearinghouse website experienced technical difficulties as a result of the fire that destroyed the Strasbourg Data Center in March 2021.

Most of the visitors are between 25 and 44 years old, and most of them are young people. The percentage of male visitors, which now exceeds that of women, is estimated at 52.6% of the total visitors.

▪ **E-CAWTAR : “Smart management”**

A private company has been contracted to download all CAWTAR’s data, databases and websites to Cloud storage. Access to files and data stored on computers has been made available for purposes of remote work via the Virtual Private Network Code. A code for remote work will be provided to project coordinators and management starting from January 2022.

3 – Regional Center for Financial Education

A key priority of CAWTAR is to promote financial inclusion for women and youth, by strengthening the capacities of financial and non-financial service providers and their clients in terms of financial education.

As one of CAWTAR’s institutional mechanisms, the Regional Center for Financial Education contributes to developing advanced tools to enhance financial knowledge. It also provides technical advice and support on financial education programs, and conducts relevant studies that provide the needed knowledge to influence decision-making.

4 - Administrative and Financial Affairs

In 2021, the Administrative and Financial Unit undertook the following activities :

- Contribution to the preparation of the 21st meeting of the Board of Trustees, held in April 2021 under the chairmanship of HRH Prince Abdulaziz bin Talal Al Saud;
- A general internal financial audit and a comprehensive financial and administrative audit by an external audit office;
- Obtaining certification of accounts for the year 2021;
- Preparation of the budget and action plan for the year 2022;
- Physical inventory of property, movables and stocks;
- Administrative and financial supervision of ongoing projects, with emphasis on enhancing administrative efficiency and increasing the Center’s own financial resources;
- Preparation of the financial reports of ongoing projects;
- Periodic preparation of all financial reports for projects under implementation;
- Reconciliation of bank statements;
- Adoption of digital payments and online financial transactions.