



Safaa Ahmad Al-Kahaly

On September 25, Safaa Ahmad Al-Kahaly completed the Women in Technology (WIT) Unlimited Potential (UP) training at the Takfaul social services center in Taiz. Additionally, Safaa is currently in her fourth year in University, where she studies sociology. Safaa hopes to work towards her Masters degree. Her hobbies include reading and discovery of all things new.

Originally from the Nadera area, Safaa currently lives in Taiz. She heard about WIT through local advertisements, and she decided to participate because of the program's various advanced offerings.

Before joining the WIT program, Safaa had a limited knowledge of computer and word processing, so all modules of the training program were helpful to her—particularly the one on Excel. Now, Safaa is more informed on practical computer programs, and she hopes that the WIT program will continue to evolve and keep up with the fast pace of software development.

Financial challenges have sometimes posed a challenge for Safaa in pursuing training programs such as the WIT course, but her family has never stood in her way. Safaa's family runs a business in which they use computers on a daily basis—so they are quite experienced in, and familiar with, information technology. Her family encourages girls in the family to study a range of subjects; they provide her with all her educational needs in order to help her gain useful skills.

Through her participation in the program, Safaa hopes to broaden her career options and find meaningful work. She thinks that the ideal job would be one that matches her academic qualifications and leads her to use the skills she has learned through the WIT program.

Safaa believes that it is very important for Yemeni women to be educated and trained to use computers. She encourages other women in her community to participate in the program so that they can stay up to date in this technological age. "Women need to have at least a basic understanding of computer fundamentals in this age of advancement and technology," she says.

Safaa points out, "Each generation is different than the other. During my mother's generation there were no computers but there were many handcrafts. In the next generation after mine, things will be even more advanced, and computers will be involved in all aspects of life"

Safaa's role model is Safaa Yasmin Al-Shibani—the program coordinator in the Takfaul center—because of her strong personality, ambition, love of knowledge, and her ability to persuade others.

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WIT MENA delivers five core activities to Partner Organizations and Participants, including **Professional Development Workshops**, **IT Training through Microsoft's Unlimited Potential (UP) Curriculum**, **Business Planning for Sustainability Workshops**, **Professional Development Networks for Women** and **Professional Exchange and Capacity Building**.

For more information on the WIT program, please visit www.witmena.org

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