



## Yemeni women seeking employment find guidance and support with the Women's Forum

For decades Yemeni women wishing to enter the job market have lacked the necessary support to take this bold step. With the creation of WIT Professional Development Networks (PDN), women across Yemen are at last finding the assistance needed to take on what is often seen as an overwhelming challenge.

PDNs are established at each WIT partner organization, comprised of WIT alumni and participants, who gather together monthly to offer encouragement and build upon the skills learned in WIT. These meetings also allow women to network and assist each other in finding employment. In Sana'a, the PDN, known as the Women's Forum, is at the forefront of this pioneering initiative and works diligently to provide women with a number of ways to enter the job market.



One of the Women's Forum's major accomplishments is a database created for female computer science graduates, including WIT participants, which provides women with effective and culturally appropriate access to the labor market. The database, available to private businesses, government agencies and academic institutes, facilitates the recruitment of IT graduates and improves their access to the labor market. Forum members also publish newsletters and career resources which circulate widely among WIT participants and alumni and provide valuable networking opportunities.

As a direct result of the Forum's efforts, an ever-increasing number of local companies express interest in the WIT program, offering jobs and internships. Yemeni women are now approaching the once daunting labor market with the skills and confidence to succeed.