



MEPI



The American University in Cairo



## MEPI-TLG Second Annual Conference SDGs

June 3, 2022  
8:30 am–5:30 pm

June 4, 2022  
9:00 am–1:30 pm

AUB Campus,  
Munib and Angela  
Masri Building,  
ELH Auditorium



The U.S.-Middle East Partnership Initiative Tomorrow's Leaders Graduate (MEPI-TLG) Program  
*Achieving UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)  
Through Theoretical and Empirical Studies*

## Day 1: Friday, June 3

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|------------------|--|
| 8:30 – 9:00 AM   | <b>Registration + Morning Coffee</b>   |
| 9:00 – 9:30 AM   | <b>Welcome Remarks - AUB President/Provost Office, US Embassy, AUB MEPI TL, MEPI TLG Program</b> |
| 9:30 – 10:00 AM  | <b>Keynote Speaker - Ms. Rachel Dore-Weeks, Head of UN Women in Lebanon</b>                      |
| 10:00 – 10:30 AM | <b>Coffee Break</b>  |
| 10:30 – 1:00 PM  | <b>Student Presentations (Session 1 + Session 2)</b>   |
| 1:00 – 2:30 PM   | <b>Lunch Break – Buffet on site</b>  |
| 2:30 – 4:30 PM   | <b>Student Presentations (Sessions 3 + 4 /in parallel/ Sessions 5 +6)</b>                        |
| 4:30 – 5:30 PM   | <b>Concluding Remarks + Networking</b>   |

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## Day 2: Saturday, June 4

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|-------------------|--|
| 9:00 – 9:30 AM    | <b>Morning Coffee + Regroup</b>                                  |
| 9:30 – 10:30 AM   | <b>Student Presentations (Session 1 /in parallel/ Session 2)</b> |
| 10:30 – 11:00 AM  | <b>Coffee Break</b>  |
| 11:00 – 12:00 PM  | <b>Student Presentations (Session 3 /in parallel/ Session 4)</b> |
| 12:00 – 1:00 PM   | <b>Closing Remarks – Dr. Jordan Srour (LAU)</b>                  |
| 1:30 PM – Onwards | <b>Road trip with guests from AUC (TBD)</b>                      |

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## Sessions Details

Each session is 60 minutes and will include 4 student speakers.

Each student speaker will have 10 minutes for presentation, and 5 minutes for discussion and Q&A.

### Day 1: Friday, June 3

| Session 1: Gender and Equality      |     |  |   |
|-------------------------------------|-----|--|---|
| 10 :30                              | AUB | Naji AlFateh                                       | A Narrative Literature Review on Sexual Harassment in Higher Education in the Middle East from a Feminist Framework Perspective |
| 10 :45                              | LAU | Mohammad Al Abbas                                  | The gendered reality of authorship in the Middle East: American policies and patriarchal cultures.                              |
| 11 :00                              | AUC | Farah Mohammad Qonaish                             | Changing Gender Roles After Refuge: A case study of Syrian Refugees in Jordan   |
| 11 :15                              | AUB | Rima Wehbe, Layan Moussa, Reinde El Hourri El Homs | Women's Economic Empowerment – Lebanon  |
| <i>Chair: Ms. Sarah Kouzi (AUB)</i> |     | <i>Co-Chair: Nouran Moram (AUB)</i>                |   |

| Session 2: Education and Literacy    |     |  |   |
|--------------------------------------|-----|--|---|
| 11 :35                               | AUC | Sumood Abdulhadi   | E-Learning Strategy to improve Quality Education for Refugees in Jordan: Benefits and Challenges      |
| 11 :50                               | LAU | Diana Al Farran, Hiba Dirani, Rayan Al Tulyani, Suad Akkad         | Factors affecting girls' lack of interest in STEM subjects at school                                  |
| 12 :05                               | AUC | Shaima Adel Abdo Abdllah Al-Monefie, Reem Yaseen, Sumood Abdulhadi | Students Hand in Hand Initiative: Advocating for educating the underprivileged youth.                 |
| 12 :20                               | AUB | Leen Dirani, Rayane El Masri, Nura Habbaba, Nouran Moram           | Computer Illiteracy for Public School Students and its Impact on the Academic Performance "Let's IT!" |
| <i>Chair: Dr. Darine Salam (AUB)</i> |     | <i>Co-Chair: Azd Al Kadasi (AUB)</i>                               |   |

**Session 3: Environmental protection and sustainability**

|  |     |  |   |
|--|-----|--|---|
| <b>2 :30</b>                             | AUB | <b>Ghumdan Al-Sabahi</b> ( <i>Online</i> ) | Quantifying Gender Bias in The Lebanese Media   |
| <b>2 :45</b>                             | AUC | <b>Amina Sabour</b>                        | Teaching for Sustainability in the MENA Region  |
| <b>3 :00</b>                             | AUB | <b>Reem El Chakik</b>                      | Heavy Metal Contamination in Agricultural Soils in Lebanon: Comparative Assessment of Pollution Using Atomic Absorption and Hyperspectral Imaging |
| <b>3 :15</b>                             | AUB | <b>Tia Hajjar</b>                          | Treated Wastewater Reuse for Irrigation in Bekaa, Lebanon: Quality Assessment and Public Reception  |
| <b>Chair: Dr. Fatima Abu Salem (AUB)</b> |     | <b>Co-Chair: Nour Osman (AUB)</b>          |   |

**Session 4 (Parallel): Social Protection – Health**

|                                     |     |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|-----|--|--|
| <b>2 :30</b>                        | AUB | <b>Dalia Mosleh</b>                          | Combining Convolutional Neural Network and Graph Convolutional Network for Breast Cancer Detection using 2D and 3D Mammography |
| <b>2 :45</b>                        | AUB | <b>Maya El Gharib</b>                        | Detecting Gender Bias Pattern in Children's Stories and Books  |
| <b>3 :00</b>                        | AUB | <b>Nour Al Bidewe</b>                        | People with Disabilities in the Tech Field   |
| <b>3 :15</b>                        | AUB | <b>Aya Bou Fakhreddine</b> ( <i>Online</i> ) | Risk of Subsequent Preterm Delivery Following C-section Births   |
| <b>Chair: Dr. May Massoud (AUB)</b> |     | <b>Co-Chair: Sajeda Khattab (AUC)</b>        |  |

**Session 5: Social Protection – Technology**

|                                      |     |                                     |   |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>3 :35</b>                         | AUC | <b>Reem Yaseen Al-Sulaimani</b>     | Teachers' Awareness of Educational Neuroscience: An Action Research                       |
| <b>3 :50</b>                         | AUC | <b>Sana Ammar Gasmi</b>             | Labor reforms in Qatar and its impact on labor migration ahead of the 2022 FIFA World Cup |
| <b>4 :05</b>                         | AUB | <b>Jawad Haidar</b>                 | Optimal Spatial-Spectral Input for Real-Time Hyperspectral Image Classification           |
| <b>4 :20</b>                         | AUC | <b>Hiba Belhadj</b>                 | Regional Inequality in Tunisia and International Migration.                               |
| <b>Chair: Dr. Tania Haddad (AUB)</b> |     | <b>Co-Chair: Marah Khalid (AUC)</b> |   |

**Session 6 (Parallel): Displacement and Gender**

|                                     |     |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|-----|--|--|
| <b>3 :35</b>                        | AUC | <b>Adam Eddous</b>                     | Gender Migration in Egypt: Bringing Egyptian Female Migrant Experiences into Theory and Practice.            |
| <b>3 :50</b>                        | AUC | <b>Sajeda Khattab</b>                  | The contribution of displaced Syrians to the Egyptian Economy  |
| <b>4 :05</b>                        | AUC | <b>Ola Subhi Al Daieh</b>              | The Impact of Exile on the Syrian Women  |
| <b>4 :20</b>                        | AUB | <b>Sarah Al Bouery</b>                 | The Impact of Institutions on The Representation of Lebanese Women in Senior Public Administration Positions |
| <b>Chair: Dr. Ahmad Tolba (AUC)</b> |     | <b>Co-Chair: Doaa Al Shahary (LAU)</b> |  |

## Day 2: Saturday, June 4

| Session 1: Environmental protection and sustainability |     |   |  |
|--|-----|---|--|
| 9 :30  | AUB | <b>Sara Badran, Oussama Bou Daoud, Jana Chazbeck, Reem El Chakik</b>        | Environmental Sustainability: E-Waste in Beirut  |
| 9 :45  | AUB | <b>Alice Abou Chacra, Rafic Al Ayyas, Assaad Al Halabi, Maria Mouzannar</b> | E-Waste Mismanagement in Lebanon   |
| 10 :00   | AUB | <b>Rania Bou Said</b>   | Socio-economic and Hydro – Climatic Assessment of the Water-Energy-Food System in Kherbet Qanafar            |
| 10 :15   | AUC | <b>Dalia Mohamad Kanaa</b>  | Water pollution with fluoroquinolones and the innovative solutions for their removal based on nanotechnology |
| <b>Chair: Dr. Mazen Saghir (AUB)</b>                   |     | <b>Co-Chair: Rami Hammoud (LAU)</b>   |  |

| Session 2 (Parallel): Gender and Equality |     |  |  |
|---|-----|--|--|
| 9 :30                                     | AUC | <b>Shaima Adel Abdo Abdllah Al-Monefie</b> | Achievements and Challenges in Female Education; A comparative study between Yemen and India |
| 9 :45                                     | AUB | <b>Maha Wiss (Online)</b>                  | Automated detection of women dehumanizing depiction in English                               |
| 10 :00                                    | AUB | <b>Zahraa Berjawi</b>                      | Benevolent Sexism Detection in Text  |
| 10 :15                                    | AUB | <b>Hussein Darwish</b>                     | Lebanese Sexual Harassment Law: Towards an Effective Implementation at the Workplace         |
| <b>Chair: Dr. Jordan Srour (LAU)</b>      |     | <b>Co-Chair: Sana Gasmi (AUC)</b>          |  |

**Session 3: Gender and Equality (2)**

|                                     |     |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|-----|--|--|
| <b>11 :00</b>                       | LAU | <b>Maha Abdelmonaem Shaheen</b>        | The long-term effect of gender-based violence on women epigenetics   |
| <b>11 :15</b>                       | AUB | <b>Rita Hajinazarian, Khawla Hamdi</b> | Women on Boards: A Systematic Review & Comparison between Developed vs. Developing Countries                 |
| <b>11 :30</b>                       | AUB | <b>Shaima Bin Othman (Online)</b>      | Women's Political Participation from Research into Practice in Hadramout pre- and post-Unification           |
| <b>11 :45</b>                       | AUB | <b>Rahme Hilal</b>                     | The Effect of Managerial Attitudes on the Efficacy of HR Policies against Sexual Harassment in the Workplace |
| <b>Chair: Dr. Hans Muller (AUB)</b> |     | <b>Co-Chair: Jessica Halimeh (AUB)</b> |  |

**Session 4 (Parallel): Technology and Automation**

|                                      |     |  |   |
|--------------------------------------|-----|--|---|
| <b>11 :00</b>                        | AUB | <b>Yasmine Abu Adla, Christopher Farah, Hazar Shamas, Nour Osman</b> | Artificial Intelligence for Covid-19 Awareness: Raising Awareness in Syrian Refugee Camps                         |
| <b>11 :15</b>                        | AUB | <b>Mohsen Shamas</b>   | Investigating Meta-learning Algorithms for Improving Arabic Conversational Chatbots                               |
| <b>11 :30</b>                        | AUB | <b>Mohamed Sofiane Timtaoucine</b>                                   | Analysis of Algeria's migration policy of 'Reconduite A la Frontiere' and its impact on sub-Saharan migrant women |
| <b>11 :45</b>                        | AUB | <b>Nouha Abardazzou, Malek Ben Abdallah</b>                          | Using Artificial Intelligence to Combat Cyberbullying   |
| <b>Chair: Dr. Wael Khreich (AUB)</b> |     | <b>Co-Chair: Safa Difi (LAU)</b>                                     |   |