



**WORLD
network**

**WOMEN RIGHTS LEADERSHIP
& DEVELOPMENT NETWORK**

Digital Booklet

- Network Member NGO's
& Participants
- Capacity Building Program
Speakers' Information (Page 34)



Women & Democracy Association (KADEM)

Türkiye

kadem.org.tr/en

*"Equality in Existence, Equity in
Responsibility"*

The Women and Democracy Association, KADEM, was founded on International Women's Day, March 8th 2013, as a non-governmental and non-profit organization working for the empowerment of women. KADEM is engaged in advocacy in order to deliver the human dignity women deserved and has a mission of carrying out solution-oriented best practices to solve the issues and barriers that inhibit women's most basic rights. KADEM works continuously with its professional team of 100 bright individuals and is even stronger with 5400 members and more than 5000 passionate volunteers tirelessly working at all 50+ representative offices across Türkiye to ensure gender justice and women's rights within the family and community.

Our Vision:

To be a leading and accessible NGO with our national and international activities based on the principle of equality in existence and equity in responsibility as they pertain to issues about women.

Our Mission:

To build a safe society and just future where women can live with honor.

Topics of Interest

KADEM mainly focuses on the social and economic empowerment of women, women's human rights, combating violence against women, family empowerment, social inclusion and women's active participation in social life. In order to provide knowledge to society, raise awareness and address these issues, KADEM carries out the following key activities and more:



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- Projects,
- Campaigns,
- Events (International & National),
- Publications,
- Civil Activism,
- Academic Events (Workshops & Training & Conferences)
- Youth Activities.

The key projects currently being conducted by KADEM are as follows:

- Women in Innovation Project
- Job for The Future Project
- Women Support Centers Project
- Mosques Are For All of Us Project
- WORLD Network Project

Each representative office is implementing its own projects

KADEM extends its work to the international stage and has the following international activities:

- As KADEM, we have been participating in the **UN Commission on the Status of Women** and organizing thematic side events every March since 2014. These side events presents out efforts, best practices and projects on a platform attended by governmental bodies, international organizations and non-governmental organizations from all over the World.
- We are one of the founding NGOs of the **Women20**, official engagement group focused on gender equity. KADEM, a member of the W20 Türkiye delegation consisting of three NGOs, participates in the W20 Summit with its delegates every year and contributes to the jointly prepared communique since 2015.
- Since 2017, we have held a special consultative status at the **UN ECOSOC**.
- Every two years, we organize the **International Women and Justice Summit** within the framework of selected thematic topics related to women. The objective of the International Women and Justice Summit is to address matters related to women, family and society within a global context, detect problems, and proposes solutions.



Sümeyye Erdoğan Bayraktar

Chairwoman of the Board of Trustees

Sümeyye Erdoğan Bayraktar was born in Istanbul in 1985. After completing Kadıköy foreign language intensive Imam Hatip High School, she completed her undergraduate studies at the School of Public and Environmental Affairs in Indiana University. After studying Arabic at Jordan University, Bayraktar completed her master's degree on NGOs and Development at London School of Economics, Department of Social Policy. She worked as an expert in the Statistical, Economic and Social Training and Research Center (SESRIC) affiliated to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in Ankara. Bayraktar voluntarily worked as political counsellor of Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of Türkiye, who was the Prime Minister at that period. Currently, she continues her work as the Chairwoman of the Board of Trustees of the Women and Democracy Foundation, where she was involved in its establishment. Bayraktar is married and is mother of one child.



Assoc. Prof. Saliha Okur Gümrukçüođlu

Chairwoman of the Executive Board

She was born in Istanbul in 1975. She completed her primary education in Belgium and high school education in Istanbul. She graduated from the Faculty of Theology at Marmara University in 1998, and completed her Master's Degree in the "Islamic Law" department of the same university, with her thesis entitled "Legal Analysis of Reversal Decisions in Islamic Religious Law".

She completed her PhD studies in 2011 at the Law School of Marmara University with her work entitled "Ottoman Law and its Implementation in the Light of Complaint Books". From 2011 to 2014, she served as chairman and lecturer at the Islamic Law Department of the Law School of Istanbul Medipol University.

During this period, she sat on the board of directors of various associations and foundations, and played a role in panels and workshops in her field of specialization. She is currently working as a lecturer at the History of Law Department at the Law School of Istanbul Medeniyet University and acts as Chairwoman of the Executive Board of KADEM (the Women and Democracy Association).

Gümrukçüođlu speaks English and Arabic and is married with three children.



Dr. Sevim Zehra Can Kaya

Vice Chairwoman of the Executive Board

Kaya is vice chairperson of KADEM's (Women and Democracy Foundation) board of directors. She specializes in sociology of literature, modern Turkish literature, discourse analysis, women's studies and rights advocacy field studies. She serves as Doctor Lecturer at the Istanbul Sabahattin Zaim University. Throughout her career Can Kaya participated in voluntary activities in various human rights organizations. She published several academic papers and opinion pieces and took part in civil society projects. Can Kaya is married with three children.



Atty. Canan Sari

Vice Chairwoman of the Executive Board

Born in 1975 in Çanakkale Bayramiç, Canan Sari completed her primary and secondary education in Çanakkale and high school education at Trabzon Beşikdüzü Anatolian Teacher High School. In 1998, she graduated from Istanbul University Faculty of Law. After completing her internship as a lawyer at the Istanbul Bar Association, she has been practicing law as an independent attorney.

Sari pursued a master's degree in International Law at Istanbul Commerce University. Subsequently, she received French language education at the University of Strasbourg in France. Currently, she is continuing her doctoral studies at Istanbul Medipol University Institute of Social Sciences, working on her thesis titled 'Criminal Liability in Sports Competitions.'

Attorney Sari, involved in various civil society organizations, is fluent in French and English. She is married and the mother of three children.

KADEM-WORLD Network Organization Team



Elif Ceren Aly

External Relations and Projects Specialist

Elif Ceren Aly was born in Balıkesir, Türkiye in 1998. She graduated with honors from the Business Administration program at Istanbul Medipol University on a full scholarship. Currently, she is in the thesis stage of her master's degree in Management Information Systems at Ankara Science University.

Actively involved in volunteer work across various countries and civil society organizations, Elif Ceren played a key role in organizing international programs such as MUN, MOIC and Turkish Model of Diplomacy (TÜDİK). She also organized visits to international institutions like the European Court of Human Rights, OECD, UNESCO, European Parliament, IEA, and IMF.

Elif Ceren completed internships at Turkish Airlines, the Foreign Economic Relations Board (DEİK), and ICYF Young Business Hub. In 2019, she acted as the professional advisor to Dr. Ravza Kavakçı Kan, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union Türkiye Group and Member of Parliament for Istanbul, for approximately two years.

Since 2021, Elif Ceren has continued her career as an external relations and projects specialist at the KADEM. She actively contributes to KADEM's projects, particularly the "Women in Innovation" project, and holds the position of WORLD Network coordinator.

KADEM-WORLD Network Organization Team



Sümeyye Koman

External Relations and Projects Consultant

Sümeyye Koman was born in Istanbul in 1996. She is Istanbul University Faculty of Law graduate who completed internships at law firms, TRT World, and the Ministry of Justice, General Directorate of International Law during her student years. She also held leadership roles in university clubs and youth NGOs. Currently, she pursues graduate studies in Law of War and Armed Conflicts at the National Defense University, concurrently working as a research assistant at Istanbul Medeniyet University Faculty of Law's Department of International Law.

Before assuming an academic role, Sümeyye worked in civil society as a project and foreign relations specialist at KADEM, a Türkiye-based women's rights NGO, and currently continues to provide consultancy in this field. She managed international and domestic grant projects, notably EU-funded ones, and organized international events in Türkiye and abroad. She established collaborations with global institutions, including the UN. Sümeyye represented Türkiye as a W20 delegate during Italy's, Indonesia's, and India's G20 presidencies. She produces podcasts, creates content on social media, and is fluent in English with intermediate proficiency in German. Her specialties include international law, foreign relations, and women's and girls' rights.



Jerusalem Center for Women (JCW)

Palestine

j-c-w.org

"Empowering Palestinian Women for a Better Future"

JCW is dedicated to empowering Palestinian women, protecting their rights, and advocating for a more equitable society. Through training, advocacy, and partnerships, they work towards a future where women play a vital role in building a just and peaceful Palestine.

Vision:

JCW envisions an empowered Palestinian society where women and men stand united, with women contributing to a free and egalitarian Palestinian society.

Mission:

JCW's mission is to empower marginalized Palestinian women in Jerusalem. They aim to create resilient change-makers by providing resources for personal and community development.

Goals:

- Protect Palestinian women's rights.
- Empower women for active community and political involvement.
- Foster positive change through youth and women.

Key Activities:

- Training on women's rights and gender-based violence.
- Child protection and campaigns against violence towards children.
- Raising awareness about human rights violations.
- Environmental preservation efforts, including food waste reduction.
- Capacity building for women's economic participation.



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Programs:

1. Capacity Building & Empowerment:

- Empower women to participate in the workforce and civil society. Cultivate skills, confidence, and young leaders for women's rights and democracy.

2. Advocacy & Human Rights:

- Monitor international law in local contexts.
- Provide legal aid and counseling on various issues.
- Raise awareness and advocate for Palestinian women's rights.

3. Peace Building & Conflict Resolution:

- Promote women's role in peace-building.
 - Provide conflict management and negotiation training.
 - Support gender mainstreaming and women's networks for peace.
- Partnerships: JCW collaborates with organizations like the European Union, UNDP, UNESCO, and others to advance their mission.

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Fadwah Khawjah

Head Of Board

As a social and political activist with over 30 years of experience in the Palestinian development sector, Fadwa has contributed development of several women and social associations and attended several national and international conferences related to this sector. Her political career extends over 20 years being a member of the PLC and an active member in the national committee to advocate UN resolution 1325 while taking part in the Oslo peace process. Her previous positions were Head of the International Relations Department in the Higher Council for Youth and Sports, prior she was a General Director of Non-Governmental Organizations & Public Affairs at the Ministry of Interior for eight years. She has a Master's Degree in International Studies and a Bachelor Degree in Middle Eastern Studies & Political Science both from Birzeit University.

Professional Experience

- Orient house: Head of Documentation and Information Center. (1985 – 1994)
- Coordinator for foreign NGOs– Jerusalem.
- Member of Multi-Sector Review (MSR) Project in Jerusalem
- Jerusalem representative for the ICCP
- Head of project committee for the Palestinian microfinance project –Jerusalem
- (Oslo) peace agreement Technical Committees coordinator. 1994-2000
- General Director of the non-governmental organizations and Public Affairs / Ministry of Interior. (2004-2012)
- Director General of Administrative and Financial Affairs at the Palestinian higher council for youth and sports /2012
- Head of General administration for International relations at the higher council for youth and sports .2013-2014
- Policy Consultant in the anti-corruption committee 2014 till 2018



Siham Fayyad

Hello, My name is Siham Fayyad, a Palestinian woman living in Jericho, Palestine, holding a master's degree in international cooperation and development. I am single, living in my family's house. I share the house with my younger sister and her family. I help raise the kids and support my working sister and her husband in the challenge of raising two teenagers and one toddler. I believe in the value of opportunity and freedom of choice. My professional focus is on peace building, organizational development, conflict transformation, community organizing, women leadership, gender, and conflict sensitivity. My work is designing and facilitating safe spaces for unheard voices to grow and develop into active members of intended nonviolent action towards a life of equality, peace, and freedom. As an accomplished Project Manager with extensive experience spanning multiple roles at forumZFD, Arab Development Society, and as a freelance consultant, I have consistently demonstrated a strong record of accomplishment of successful project management, planning, monitoring, and evaluation in the development aid sector. My expertise includes amplifying women's participation in social and political transformation, designing robust monitoring and evaluation systems, and fostering cross-sector collaboration. I have also contributed significantly to the development of organizational strategies, curriculum, and resources, while my dedication to the Do No Harm framework underscores my commitment to ethical practices. As a dynamic public speaker and committed volunteer, I have actively advocated for gender equity and conflict transformation. My comprehensive skill set, leadership capabilities, and passion for sustainable development make me an invaluable asset to any development aid program.

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Tamkeen

Palestine

It is a feminine youth initiative that supports and empowers women in conflict areas in scientific, social, legal and practical fields by providing support and development to enhance their professional and social lives through Tamkeen social platform to emerge different women's competencies with opportunities.

The initiative is led by a team of young female academics and researchers who believe in the existence of alternatives through which they can achieve the sustainable development and the advancement of their society by enhancing the role of human beings and the main core of any society, family. They also believe that society is the perfect place to solve the problems a society is suffering from, and they try to involve women in finding solution as they are an intrinsic part of the society.

Serve the Public of Tamkeen

- Access to opportunities published about conferences and scholarships by announcements annually.
- Provide access to logistic support to attend events, including courses, conferences, and international events as well, annually that support ambitious youth females.
- Link profitable project proposals related to women with businessmen and companies.
- Scholarships for researchers in different fields.
- Print and publish creative works annually.
- Implement courses and workshops annually.
- Rehabilitate young females for freelance work market.
- Prepare young females for leadership skills periodically.
- Empower distinguished women in different fields through the Golden Women Award

Tamkeen Programs

- Preparing and Qualifying Young Women Leaders Program
- Researchers-Support Program
- Enterprise and innovations Support Program
- Tamkeen Freelance
- Online Courses and Workshops
- Printing and Publishing Program
- Golden Women Award
- Logistic Support Program



Dalal Bajes

I am a researcher and the president of Tamkeen Foundation, which is a feminine youth initiative that supports and empowers women in conflict areas. I received my B.A. in Arabic Literature from Birzeit University in 2007 and my M.A. in International Relations in 2010 from the same institution. I am now in the final process of completing my PhD in Sociology at the Ibn Haldun University in Türkiye. I have received many awards and research grants, including the MERC Grant in 2012 for the best summary of a PhD Dissertation on the Middle East. I have also written many books about social movements, including student movements and women issues.

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Association "Medica" Zenica

Bosnia and Herzegovina

What is "Medica" Zenica?

Association "Medica" Zenica is a specialized women's organization which for three decades, has been working on the territory of whole Bosnia and Herzegovina and striving to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable categories in society. Those are women and children survivors of war rape and sexual violence, peacetime violence, and other forms of domestic violence and violence in the community as well as survivors of trafficking in human beings.

"Medica" Zenica, during its long-term work, has developed a comprehensive, multidisciplinary, and interdisciplinary approach following individual needs and participation of survivors, fostering feminist and international standards.

"Medica" Zenica provides the following services:

- Safe house – shelter for women and children available 24/7
- Psychological counseling center
- SOS line for survivors of domestic violence – 1265
- Unique telephone line for support and help to survivors of war sexual violence and their family members - 080 02 23 34
- Legal counseling center
- Daily center – a safe place for every child
- Economic and psychosocial empowerment
- Outreach work
 - Psychosocial support
 - Legal support
 - Educational -preventive work

"Medica" Zenica based on the long-term experience and direct work develops comprehensive models of education and training in the field of trauma and stress, gender-based violence during the war and post-war period, trafficking in human beings, stress and trauma-sensitive approach, communication and non-violent conflict resolution, building sustainable peace and reconciliation, interreligious dialogue, training skills, life skills, mental health protection, and self-care, burn out prevention, supervision, etc.

Achievements of Medica Zenica in the last 30 years:

- In 30 years, 10,950 days of providing support, protection and care for women and children, survivors of war and post-war trauma and violence;
- Over a million of different services provided
- 2,549 women and girls were cared for in Medica's Safe House;
- 7,649 people provided with psychological counseling;
- 1,432 people in the legal counseling center;
- 2,530 children in the children's day center;
- 1,839 people completed training for life skills and economic empowerment;
- 5,075 calls made to the SOS help line and unique telephone line for BiH;
- 17,675 participants trained in the field of trauma, gender-based violence, human rights - women's rights, non-violent communication and conflict resolution, applying sensitive approach to stress and trauma, interreligious dialogue, reconciliation, peace and coexistence;
- Over 130 different promotional, educational, scientific and professional publications published.

Medica has:

- developed psychosocial models for working with survivors of psychological trauma and gender-based violence based on survivor's individual needs;
- developed a methodology and established referral mechanisms for the prevention of domestic violence and violence in the community;
- developed a methodology and established institutional networks to support survivors of war related sexual violence;
- produced and distributed 50,000 face masks during the pandemic;
- hosted over 5,000 visitors from BiH and worldwide.

Contact information

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Telephone: +387 32 463 920; +387 32 463 930

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Web: www.medicazenica.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/medicazenica>



Sabiha Husić

Sabiha Husić is a psychotherapist, Islamic theologian and interreligious peacebuilder, and the director of NGO „Medica“ Zenica in Bosnia-Herzegovina (BiH). Husić obtained PhD Degree in Gender Studies at the University of Sarajevo. For the past 30 years she has been advocate for the rights of women, gender equality and societies with zero tolerance towards violence. In her extensive 30th experience, Sabiha Husić has initiated, developed and implemented with government institutions and NGOs, many initiatives for positive gender legislation, policies and harmonization of the practices with the international standards of women's rights, human rights and gender equality. Some of the milestone achievements in Bosnia and Herzegovina that Sabiha Husić greatly contributed to through her participation in working groups, expertise and practice and advocacy work both on national and international level are:

- Legal recognition of survivors of war rape and sexual violence within the Law as a special category of civilian victims of war. For the first time in the history survivors of war rape and sexual violence were recognized as civil victims of war with special status in BiH
- Criminalization of domestic violence
- Development of Gender Plan of Zenica and sharing experiences in other parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Also, Sabiha Husić initiated, developed methodology and established first in BiH and in the region institutional networks for support to survivors and survivors witnesses of war crimes, sexual violence and other criminal offenses. She has been working as a psychotherapist for the 30 years directly with survivors of war and post-war sexual and gender-based violence. Sabiha Husić in 2007 made a training program for rural women. Up-to-date thousands of women attended the training in more than 50 villages as well as got empowered for political participation in their village boards but also municipal structures and wider.

She is an author and co-author of many publications, training manuals on the topic of psychosocial work with survivors, human rights and women's rights, gender-based violence, gender equality, communication, non-violent conflict resolution, peacbuilding and reconciliation. Sabiha has received many awards for her engagement, commitment and dedicated work, such as:

International awards:

- Woman of the World Award (2014),
- a Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice Women Peacemaker (2013)
- Active Citizens of Europe Award, by Volonteuroppe (2009)

Awards in Bosnia and Herzegovina

- Nagrada Zenice – The City of Zenica Award (2016)
- Snaga Žene Award by the Association of Women Enterprenuers of BiH (2015)
- recognition by citizens of BiH as one of its 11 women peacemakers (2012)

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- recognition by citizens of BiH as one of its 11 women peacemakers (2012).

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Irma Šiljak

Irma Šiljak, received B.Sc. degree in English Language and Literature at the Pedagogical Faculty of the University of Zenica. After that she enrolled into Master's Program of the European Studies at the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies of the University of Sarajevo. In 2019, she was a UNU-GEST Fellow (United Nations University Gender Equality Studies and Training) at the University of Iceland in Iceland.

Within additional education she was trained on the topics of working with children, volunteers, interreligious dialogue, gender based violence, democracy, human rights and elections and she applied the acquired knowledge in practice through educational workshops organized on given topics. Irma Šiljak was a student/participant of the three-year cycle of European Project for Interreligious Learning (EPIL) and was a facilitator for the Bosnian team. Irma Šiljak has been employed in women's Association "Medica" Zenica as a program officer since 2008.

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Amra Beganović

Amra Beganović, completed Secondary school of professional training medical school. She has been working with Medica Zenica as a nurse since 2004. Amra Beganović, possess long-term experience and knowledge in providing medical assistance and support to survivors of gender-based violence accommodated in the Safe house of Medica Zenica as well as through outreach work. Amra completed various additional trainings in the field of protection and prevention of gender-based violence as well as gender equality.

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Fatima Čajlaković

Fatima Čajlaković, social pedagogue, received Master's degree in social pedagogy in 2022. She first started working with Medica Zenica in 2011 and worked as a social pedagogue until 2015. Fatima Čajlaković Mešanović join the team of Medica Zenica for the second time in 2020 and started working on the project related to youth and prevention of gender-based violence. Fatima completed various additional trainings in the field of protection and prevention of gender-based violence as well as gender equality.

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The Federation of Muslim Women's Associations in Ghana (FOMWAG)

"Allah's Guidance is the only True Guidance"

The Federation of Muslim Women's Associations in Ghana (FOMWAG) is a Faith-Based Non-Governmental Organization, registered in December, 1997 under the Ghana Company Code 1960 Act 760 with the Registrar General.

It is a Member of the Federation in the West African Sub Region namely, Nigeria, Togo, Sierra Leone, La Cote d'Ivoire.

FOMWAG is made up of Muslim women groups and individuals in Ghana coming together under one umbrella, to have a common voice. Its headquarters is based in Accra and has a Constitution as well as Board of Trustees.

The Organization has National, Regional and District offices throughout the country and at each level it has its executives who work independently. The regional offices report to the National Secretariat and the district offices reports to the regional office.

Aims and Objectives;

- To adhere strictly to the teachings of Islam through the Qur'an and the Hadith.
- To bring all Muslim women groups under the umbrella of FOMWAG.
- To advocate through Islamic teachings, to do away with cultural and traditional practices that hinder the progress of Muslim women and children especially girls. (Early and forced marriages, Female Genital Mutilation.
- To serve as a mouthpiece for Muslim women in Ghana as well as liaise between Muslim women and the Government on policies and Programmes.
- To advocate for the education of Muslim children in general and especially girls.
- To empower Muslim women in their socio economic, religious and political activities through trainings and religious teachings.
- FOMWAG has and will continue to support women the girls since they are the target of discrimination in our homes and in the communities.



Ummu Zakari

I am a Principal State Attorney at the Office of the Attorney General and Ministry for Justice, Ghana, entrusted and dedicated to upholding and ensuring the rule of law in our nation. With years of experience in the legal field, I have had the privilege of serving my country in various capacities. As a member and Chairperson for the School Project committee of the Federation of Muslim Women Associations in Ghana (FOMWAG), I am committed to advocating for gender equality and empowering women in our society where every individual's rights are protected and respected.

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Hafsa Obeng

Holds a BA Communication Studies from the Ghana Institute of Journalism, and currently works as an Editor with the Ghana News Agency. Hafsa Obeng has been a member of the Federation of Muslim Women's Associations in Ghana (FOMWAG), for the past 20 years and is currently the President of Young FOMWAG and the National PRO for the Federation. She loves writing, watching movies and engaging in volunteering and social works.

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Kabirat Ahmed Salihs

I am a school principal at Fatima Farida Academy, a personal development coach, and a mentor to over 50 girls. I have a master's degree in education. I am also the president of a Muslim women's association that leads various initiatives for women empowerment in the region. I write and speak on topics related to women in Islam and motivation. I enjoy what I do and I have a vision of creating a better world for women and girls.

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Angelica Naa Fofo Djanie

A sustainable entrepreneur and a development communications specialist with focus on women empowerment, youth leadership and rural communities' development. She is the President of the Advocate Development Network.

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PurpleLily Social Association Kuching Malaysia

PurpleLily Social Association Kuching (PurpleLily) is a Sarawak-based non-profit organization that is committed to “inspire and empower women to thrive and shine” by providing financial literacy and life skills training for women. We cater predominantly for women who are considered the working poor. These women have skills and potential however they are nevertheless restricted by their low incomes. We feel they are often the forgotten clientele. PurpleLily was first started in 2012 by Madam Ginette Collin, who was a professional trainer on her career break in Sarawak. PurpleLily was official registered with Registrar of Society in 2014 after almost two years in operation.

The first few years Purplelily operating cost was covered by individual donors and some crowdfunding activities. Later Purplelily managed to secure some fundings to expand operation into the rural areas and started to have more workshops.

PurpleLily started with Financial Literacy, Building Self-Confidence, Motivation, Effective Communication, Stress Management, Positive Thinking and Self-Esteem. Goal Setting, Sexual Reproductive Health and Mental Health awareness was added to our portfolio.

The Girl's Camp (GC) was started in 2017 with the objectives to develop communication skills and self-confidence among girls/youth and to encourage the girls to speak up against any abuses or sexual harassment in their circle of friends. Combination of workshops and outdoors team building activities motivates the girls to have goals in life, build team work and spirit to prepare the girls for their future career. For the first three years (2017-2019) the camp was supported by Cahya Mata Sarawak Sdn Bhd as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) program.

PurpleLily collaborated with other NGOs, government agencies including Lembaga Penduduk Pembangunan Keluarga Negara (LPPKN) to conduct SmartStart program and collaborate in SmartBelanja and parenting program.

During the Pandemic, PurpleLily was unable to conduct face to face workshops, but conducted few online programs in collaboration with NGO Perkumpulan Pertubuhan Wanita Sarawak (PPWS). The GC was also affected and was only conducted back in 2022, this time through Mitsubishi Corporation sponsorship.



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KADEM

More than 500 food baskets were delivered by PurpleLily around Kuching, Bau, Lundu and Samarahan to those affected by Covid-19 Pandemic. All food baskets are donated by various individuals, corporate bodies and international organization.

At national level, Purplelily is part of the Sustainable Development Goals Civil Society Organization Alliance (CSO-SDG Alliance), Gender Budget Group (GBG), CSO Platform for Reform and Pantau Wang Kita project with Institute of Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS).

In 2021, PurpleLily received the Sarawak Chief Minister Award during the Sarawak Women's Day celebration. The award has motivated us to do more empowering workshops for women in Sarawak. Committed volunteers and committee member continue to be our strength and pillars as we strive stronger after the Pandemic.



Suraya Binti Bujang

Suraya binti Bujang has been the Chairperson of Purplelily since its registration in 2014 and actively involved in setting up the NGO since 2012.

She holds a degree in Social Science with a major in Economics and a minor in politics. Later, she pursued her studies in Corporate Master in Business Administration. Suraya has diverse career experience, including working in the banking sector and as an academician at a local institute of higher learning. She took a career break to dedicate herself full-time to NGO work.

In her role, Suraya is responsible for translating and preparing all workshop materials in the local language. She has developed new workshops on healthy relationships, sexual reproductive health, and parenting. Suraya is the main facilitator for most Purplelily workshops and serves as a trainer for new volunteers.

Apart from workshop-related tasks, she actively writes proposals, secures funding, and advocates for women/human rights. In 2021-23, she was appointed as the Protection Officer under the Anti-Trafficking in-Person and Smuggling of Migrants (ATIPSOM) Act by the Ministry of Internal Affairs Malaysia.

Suraya co-chairs the CSO-SDG Alliance Sarawak Chapter interim committee and organized the first state-level CSO-SDG meeting. Her active involvement at the national level in Gender Budget Group (GBG) and CSOP4R has expanded Purplelily's network. Despite various challenges, her passion and perseverance in addressing women's issues have kept Purplelily resilient over the years.

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Suwiti Abdul Ranee

Suwiti Abdul Ranee, from Kuching, Sarawak, is a dedicated educator with an impressive educational background. Holding double diplomas in Computer Science Engineering and Education, complemented by a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science Multimedia, she has a teaching career spanning over 16 years.

Specializing in teaching English, Science, and STEM to primary school students, Suwiti instills knowledge and curiosity in young minds. Beyond her professional accomplishments, she is a mother of five boys and a passionate advocate for women's empowerment.

Since 2017, she has been actively volunteering, making a positive impact on her community.

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Siti Radiah Aaini

Siti Radiah Aaini, holding the post as Secretary of Purplelily, is a creative and articulate individual with artistic ability. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Mass Communication with a major in Advertising and has a professional background in public relations, event management, tourism, and hospitality.

After a career break due to relocating abroad with her family, she established a home-based custom cakes business, catering even to high-profile customers like the King of Malaysia. In 2019, she became a certified trainer under the Malaysia Human Resources Development Corporation (HRDF) to support her commitment to professional development.

As a single mother, she is passionate about empowering women and making a positive societal impact. Purplelily provides her with a platform to give back and contribute to causes she deeply cares about, reflecting her commitment towards helping the less fortunate in the community.

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Lydia Ann Anak Bill

Lydia Ann currently works as a research officer at the Malaysian Institute of Economic Research (MIER) based in Kuala Lumpur. Previously, she worked for PurpleLily as an office manager for 3 years, supporting outreach programs and the company's communication and media. She had her internship at UNDP Malaysia and contributed to an article about Malaysia's sustainable ecosystem.

She pursued and obtained a master's degree in Development Studies from the Faculty of Economics and Business at the University of Malaya. During her free time, she continues to volunteer for PurpleLily to support the work of women empowerment.

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Capacity Building Program Speakers' Information



REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE
MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND TOURISM

C*TIKA

KADEM



Dr. Intissar Kherigi

Sinan Wren Foundation

Communication and Advocacy
Strategies for NGOs

Dr. Intissar is a Research Associate at Sciences Po University Paris and Assistant Professor in Political Science and Law at the Southern Mediterranean University.

She holds a PhD in Political Science from Sciences Po Paris, a Masters in Human Rights from the London School of Economics, and a Bachelors in Law from Cambridge University. She also holds a Diploma in United Nations Studies from Long Island University in New York, USA, and a Diploma in Public Policy Evaluation from Oxford University. She has worked at the UK House of Lords, the United Nations Security Council in New York and the European Parliament in Brussels.

She is active in Tunisian civil society and is the co-founder of Jasmine Foundation, a "think and do tank" in Tunisia specialising in local governance, citizen participation in decision-making and youth empowerment through the application of action research.

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Yavuz Yiğit

Team Management and Leadership

Yavuz Yiğit, who identifies himself as a "Youth Worker," is the President of the Debate and Oratory Association, and the founder of SchoolOut and Organized Crazyies. He is also the director of the Harmony Project, which designs migration and social integration programs. He has designed and implemented intellectual youth games such as the Goodness Championship, Debate School, and Messim. He produces youth and education-themed projects for universities, companies, ministries, and municipalities.

He studied International Trade and Business Administration at Yeditepe University and pursued his undergraduate studies at Antwerp University in Belgium. As part of an international project he was accepted into, he received training in social entrepreneurship and social leadership from the world's leading civil society organizations at the University of Cambridge. He has participated in more than 1000 conferences, debates, and congresses in 15 different countries. Yavuz Yiğit and his students have achieved great success in national and international debate tournaments. Actively involved in over 200 national and international projects, Yavuz Yiğit has taught social entrepreneurship, debate, oratory, and social leadership to nearly 100,000 students in more than 400 schools in Türkiye.

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Prof. Dr. Ömer Çaha

Civil Society as a Force in Public Opinion

Ömer Çaha, professor of political science, graduated from the Department of Sociology at the Middle East Technical University in 1989, and completed his master's and doctoral studies at the Department of Political Science at Bilkent University in 1993. He is currently teaching at Istanbul Ticaret University, Department of Political Science and International Relations. Specializing in areas such as Turkey's political structure, civil society and democracy, women's movement, voter behavior and political parties. He has published many books and articles on these fields. "Women and Civil Society: Women's Movements in a Muslim Society" (Taylor and Francis) and "Strong State and Plural Society in Turkey" (Rowman and Littlefield) are his two books published in English.

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Halil İbrahim İzgi

Turkish Red Crescent

Volunteering and Volunteer Management

Halil İbrahim İzgi graduated from the Faculty of Communications at Marmara University in 2000. He started his career as an editor at Computerworld magazine. In the PR sector, he provided communication consultancy services to many domestic and foreign companies at Ogilvy. İzgi, who worked as a communication manager at institutions such as Daily Sabah and Üsküdar Municipality, made efforts to establish a culture of digital diplomacy on The New Diplomacy platform that he co-founded. In this context, he gave postgraduate courses at Bahçeşehir University and wrote columns as a columnist for Yeni Şafak newspaper on the same subject. Starting as the Corporate Communications Manager at Kızılay in 2017, İzgi served as a manager at Kızılay Arts & Culture, Kızılay Investment between 2019-2021. İzgi, who has been with Kızılay since 2021 as the Director of Corporate Communications and Event Management, has now taken on a new role as the Director General of Community Relations. This department encompasses three directorates, namely the Corporate Communications and Event Management Directorate, Fundraising Management Directorate, and Volunteer Management Directorate. İzgi, who speaks German and English, is married and has two daughters. He has published eight books so far.

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Ambassador Tuba Nur SÖNMEZ

Women in Diplomacy

Ambassador of Türkiye to The State of Kuwait Tuba Nur Sönmez was born in Ankara. She was graduated with a bachelor's degree in Political Science from the International Islamic University Malaysia. Ambassador Sönmez worked in the SETA Foundation in the field of foreign policy.

She took charge at the Civil Society Forum of the 5th UN LDCs Conference that was hosted in Türkiye in 2011. She worked in media sector for a while and took active roles in civil society initiatives. Being one of the founding members of AK Party Youth Branch, later on she served at Party's Chairmanship of Foreign Affairs, and then as a Minister Advisor at the Ministry of EU Affairs.

From 2014 until she was appointed as Ambassador in 2022, Ambassador Sönmez served as the Presidential Advisor in the fields of foreign policy and public diplomacy. She also served as the Rapporteur of the Security and Foreign Policies Council of the Presidency. Meanwhile she performed as the African Culture House Project Coordinator, which was under the auspicious of the First Lady, H.E. Emine Erdoğan.

Ambassador Tuba Nur Sönmez who has successfully represented Türkiye in various international forums and meetings, speaks English, Arabic, Persian and Malay.

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Dr. Fadila Grine

Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF)

International Networking

My primary areas of expertise and passion revolve around strategy, leadership, and the empowerment of women and youth. I possess a diverse background that spans across academia, intergovernmental, and non-governmental organizations. Over the years, I've transitioned from scholarly contributions to actively mentoring, coaching, and designing impactful training programs. My overarching mission is to unlock the potential of emerging leaders, establish robust networks, and catalyze positive societal transformations.

Presently, I am the Senior Adviser at the Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum in Istanbul and serve as the Deputy Chair of the Algerian Women's Foundation. In the past, I assumed the role of Director of Family and Social Affairs at The Organization of Islamic Cooperation, where I addressed critical social and family issues within the Muslim world. I am a member of several international committees, including the UN NGO Social Development Committee.

My written works cover a wide range of topics, from multicultural education to exploring Islamic spirituality, all approached through a Quranic lens. My dedication to lifelong empowerment, mentoring, and advocacy manifests through my work in areas such as Family and Marriage, Youth Policy, and Women's development.

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Dr. Nursem Keskin Aksay

KADEM Board Member

Research Methods in Civil Society Work
& Social Impact Measurement for NGOs

She got her bachelor's degree in Sociology and Philosophy with honors from Boğaziçi University in 2009 and received a full scholarship to Koç University Comparative History and Society Studies Master's Program. She worked as a lecturer and research assistant at Koç University and gave Sociology, Anthropology, and History courses. She completed her master's dissertation titled "Moral Guardianism at the Intersection of the Household and the Workplace: Women Factory Workers in Denizli" in 2012. Later, she received her Ph.D. from the Berlin School of Muslim Cultures and Societies, Freie Universität, Department of Political and Social Sciences, with the highest degree in 2017 with her thesis titled "The Discursive Emergence of 'Islamic Bourgeoisie' and Middle Class Veiled Muslim Women in Istanbul." She was awarded the DFG (German Research Foundation) doctoral research grant between 2012-2017. During her doctoral research process, she provided lectures on gender, class, anthropology of Islam, urban anthropology, and secularism at Freie University, Humboldt University, and European University Viadrina. In 2015 and 2016, she coordinated research projects as a Research Assistant at Üsküdar University Postcolonial Studies Research Center (PAMER). The research center she coordinated completed the research projects "Postcolonial Traces in Daily Life" ("Gündelik Hayatta Sömürge Sonrası İzler"), "Citizenship Concepts in Turkey and European Countries" ("Türkiye ve Avrupa Ülkeleri-Vatandaşlık Kavramları") and "Perception on Refugees" ("Mülteci Algısı") along with published articles and exhibitions. Nursem Keskin Aksay has been the Deputy Head of the Department and a lecturer in the Department of Sociology at Ibn Haldun University since 2019, and she currently gives lectures on Social-Cultural Anthropology, Social Theory, Qualitative Research Methods, Gender and Space, and Ethnography of Space. She is also working on the scientific research project titled "Experiences of "Islamist" Women from the 1960s to the Present in a Religious, Social and Emotional Context."



Dr. Esra Albayrak

Chairwoman of the Board of NUN
Education and Culture Foundation

Born in Istanbul in 1983, she completed her middle and high school education at Kadıköy İmam Hatip High School in 2000. In 2003, she obtained her undergraduate degree in sociology and history from Indiana University, Bloomington. In 2006, she completed her master's degree in sociology at the University of California, Berkeley, and in 2016, she earned her Ph.D. in the same field from the same university. She continues her academic and civil society work on topics such as the relationship between religion and the state, civil society, women's participation in the social sphere, and education. Actively contributing to civil society organizations that add value to our country's social life, she is a member of the academic board of KADEM, a board member of Yeşilay and TÜRGEV, and the chairperson of the board at NUN Education and Culture Foundation. Dr. Esra Albayrak is married and the mother of four children.



Setenay Demir

Force&Brothers Consultancy

Resource Development: International
Grant Information for NGOs

Setenay graduated from the Department of International Relations at Yalova University in 2015 and completed her master's degree in the Department of Political Science at Marmara University. With five years of work experience, she has served as a Project Assistant & Specialist at various consultancy firms and worked as the Director of EU Programs at Investurco. Following her role as a Project Management Specialist at MIA Technology Inc., she joined the Force&Brothers team in 2023 as a Project Development Specialist, continuing her work in the field of international funding mechanisms.

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