

**Women in Technology Programme in Iraq
Grand Graduation Ceremony
For participants in Women in Technology programme
Pharmacists Hall-Baghdad**

October 18th, 2008

Iraqi AlAmal Association (IAA) - The Leading partner for Women in Technology (WIT) programme in Iraq- in conjunction with Institute for International Education (IIE) and Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI), celebrated the graduation of four Batches (10th, 11th, 12th, 13th) of the programme classes in Baghdad, where 27 female and 13 male students, finished 45 days of training on the programme. The ceremony event was attended by nearly 80 participants, from graduates, their folks and friends, students in the currently on going WIT classes, representatives of civil society organizations and private sector, universities' faculties, and media.

WIT programme is implemented in the Middle East and North Africa since 2005, in 9 Arab states, of which Iraq is one of them, the graduates were handed certificates signed by Microsoft and IIE, musical band played songs in celebration of the event,

Ms. Basma AlKhateeb, Iraq WIT Programme manager in IAA, briefed on the main curriculum of WIT programme, which is the Microsoft Unlimited Potential (UP), aimed to better serve people, combining advanced technologies and strong partnerships with governments, international organizations, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), educational institutions, and technology and service partners. **With a mission to enable sustained social and economic opportunity for those at the middle and bottom of the world's economic pyramid—the deprived 5 billion people.**

In the short term, Unlimited Potential aims to reach people by exploring solutions in three key interrelated areas. Each is crucial to developing sustained economic opportunity:

- Transforming education
- Fostering local innovation
- Enabling jobs and opportunities

on these three areas, 11 Baghdad trainers of the programme: 4 females, and 7 male trainers, age between 19-23 years, shared their rich and short experience during the past three months of training in WIT Programme, also stories of success by graduates was shared with audience,

The curriculum delivers eight modules in Office and Windows, as follows: Computer skills, Windows, Digital Media, Word, Power Point, Excel, Access, Internet and emails, and front page, in addition to "Professional Skills" Curriculum prepared by IIE in San Francisco,

The Presentation covered the **work plan for the WIT programme** in Baghdad and other provinces: Kerbala, Hilla, Erbil, Saladdin, where the programme was implemented successfully during 2007-2008, in cooperation with the Departments of Education, Human Rights, and city councils. The programme announced the **launch of Najaf, Mosul, and Kirkuk centers**, to reach larger numbers of women in the under privileged areas, where most of the Women still fear to use computers, in addition to reaching youth from both genders in determination of promoting their Information, professional and technical capacities

Photos of the graduation event

