The Center of Arab Women for Training and Research
WHO ARE WE?

The Center of Arab Women for Training and Research (CAWTAR) was created in 1993, in response to the desire expressed by a number of Arab stakeholders, including local, regional and international institutions as well as governments, to establish a center of academic research and field studies relating to the status of women. In addition to collecting data, indicators and statistics on women’s economic, social and political conditions, CAWTAR significantly contributes in sharing knowledge, building partnerships and reinvigorating policy dialogue and advocacy in order to improve the lives of women in the Arab world.

Vision

We seek to establish equal rights, both in law and in practice, for women and men in all regions of the Arab world, in order to overcome the gender gap and allow women and men to maintain equality for the prosperity of the community. CAWTAR is committed to the empowerment of women based on human rights and gender-equality principles.

Mission

Our mission is to contribute to empowering Arab women to fully exercise their human rights. We aim at doing this by generating knowledge in order to produce accumulated evidence to enhance the capacity of Arab institutions in promoting and advocating for gender equality and the promotion of women to decision-making positions.

Objectives

CAWTAR aims to achieve the following:

- Empower women for the attainment of gender equality
- Contribute to reducing gender gaps in order to help achieve sustainable development

UNIQUENESS

CAWTAR remains one of the few regional research and training institutions dedicated to the issue of the relationship between women and development in the Arab region. Among the Center’s unique characteristics:

- A special status as an International NGO working in the Arab region, with a unique make-up of its Board of Trustees which provides a space in which governmental institutions, regional and international organizations can interface with each other.
- An extended regional coverage through activities implemented across the 22 Arab states.
- An influential network - the Arab Network for Gender and Development (@NGED) – which covers the Arab region and beyond and counts among its members: experts, decision-makers, journalists, national and regional research centers, NGOs, various institutions, etc. @NGED contributes to CAWTAR’s work, and acts as a platform for advocacy on gender issues and policy dialogue.
• An ability to leverage resources through strategic partnerships thereby fostering synergies of joint programming, funding and implementation.

WHAT DO WE DO?

CAWTAR adopts a gender and human rights-based approach in implementing all of its activities and programs, which fall under three main pillars:

**Pillar 1:** Economic, Political and Socio-Cultural Empowerment of Women

**Pillar 2:** Women in Water Resources Management

**Pillar 3:** Policies and Mechanisms to Improve Women’s Status in the Arab Region

In addition, the Center delivers technical assistance in its areas of expertise on demand.

Our Main Topics of Focus

• Women Participation in the Economic Sphere
• Women and Decision-Making
• Women’s Political Participation
• Women and Legislations
• Gender Based Violence
• Adolescence
• Gender and Water Resource Management
• Women and the Media
• Mainstreaming and Human Rights Approaches in Development Advocacy Processes for Women’s Rights

HOW DO WE WORK?

CAWTAR believes that an integrated approach combining both a thematic and a functional basis, in which research feeds into training and both feed into advocacy, is more effective than a narrow approach focusing on only one basis at a time. Themes in development work should be conceived as interdependent and mutually supportive.

Our Methodology

Each of the focus areas identified is translated into a full-fledged implementation program, based on the Arab Woman Development Reports (AWDRs). CAWTAR’s implementation program includes the following elements:

• Policy-Oriented Research
• Advocacy
• Networking and Partnership
• Capacity-Building and Training
• Media and Information
• Documentation and Databases

CAWTAR’s activities are therefore designed to enlighten and inform, renew commitment, engage relevant stakeholders, advocate rights, raise awareness, build capacities, support partner organizations, ensure continuing outreach, and contribute to building a knowledge-based society.
OUR GOVERNANCE

CAWTAR’s institutional structure and work are based on the principles of transparency, accountability and good governance. The governance of the Center is ensured through:

The Board of Trustees
The Board, headed by HRH Prince Talal Ibn Abdulaziz, meets periodically. It establishes overall policy guidelines and monitors their implementation.

The Executive, Technical and Advisory Bodies
- The Executive Director implements the policies defined by the Board of Trustees and assumes the management of the Center.
- The Technical Committee assists in defining the strategic objectives and operational orientation of CAWTAR.
- The Scientific Advisory Committee advises on technical issues related to the Center’s programs and activities, insuring the quality of the Center’s outputs.
- Expert Committees are set up for specific programs and projects

Our Organizational Structure

CAWTAR boasts a capable and experienced staff with a proven track record in managing important projects, programs, and budgets, and the ability to mobilize regional expertise and efforts.

CAWTAR is working in the 22 Arab countries in addition to 5 non-Arab countries through 450 members of the ANGED Network

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