



## **Training for MENA CSOs and Iraqi CSO and activists the intersection WPS and climate**

Call for Applications

### **Training on the Intersection on**

Project: "Women Taking the Lead"

Organisation: elbarlament e.V.

Location: Online

Language: Arabic

Dates: August - September 2025

Target Audience: The training is designed for 30 participants who are members of CSOs working on climate and WPS and activists and environmental practitioners from Iraq and MENA

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### **Background and Rationale**

The "Women Taking the Lead" project is an 18-month project which will be implemented by elbarlament. It seeks to enhance women's political and social participation in Iraq. Building on the successes of the previous 4-year project, "Women Talking Peace", this project places particular emphasis on strengthening the capacities of key state institutions to effectively implement the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda in line with UNSCR 1325.

A central goal of the project is to strengthen the influence and advocacy capacities of the Environmental Justice Group (EJG) and the MENA Feminist Task Force (FTF) of the Women & Gender Constituency (WGC), empowering them to shape climate action that responds to the distinct needs of women and men while addressing security challenges in the region. The MENA Feminist Task Force brings together women's rights activists, feminist advocates, and climate change leaders who act as vital bridges between local communities, regional networks, and the international climate policy arena. Over the past year, the Task Force has engaged in sustained organizing and mobilization efforts leading to a shared set of regional demands for effective, inclusive climate action.

Inclusivity and collaboration remain at the heart of this process. The FTF's priorities reflect a collective vision endorsed by nearly 180 feminists from across the Middle East and North Africa, demonstrating the depth and breadth of regional engagement.

This training is specifically designed to continue building the capacities of EJG and FTF members, with a particular focus on those who could not participate in the first round of training. Additionally, the training is open to other civil society organizations (CSOs) working on climate advocacy, environmental issues, and the Women, Peace, and Security agenda. By broadening participation, the project aims to foster new connections, strengthen regional networks, and promote shared learning across diverse groups working toward climate justice.

Through practical sessions on advocacy, policy development, and resource mobilization, the training will equip participants with concrete skills to influence climate policy and promote approaches that

center women's needs and leadership. By supporting these networks and organizations, the project seeks to amplify women's roles in climate action and peacebuilding at both national and international levels.

### **Objective of the training**

The primary objectives of the training are to:

- Enhance thematic knowledge regarding the policies responsive to the needs of women and men, climate, and security nexus within the MENA region.
- Equip EJG and FTF members with skills in policy advocacy, proposal writing, and project management.
- Facilitate knowledge exchange and networking among participants to strengthen collaboration on shared goals related to climate justice and equality between women and men.

### **Expected Outcomes**

The anticipated outcomes from the training include:

1. **Improved Knowledge**
2. **Strengthened Advocacy Skills**
3. **Network Building**

### **Overview**

This training program is designed to enhance the capacity of climate activists and environmental CSOs in Iraq and the Middle East. Over one month, participants will gain practical skills in networking, advocacy, research, and climate law, with a focus on the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) and climate nexus. The training combines live sessions, interactive activities, and homework-based research.

### **Program Structure**

- **Duration:** 1 month
- **Frequency:** 2 sessions per week
- **Session Length:** 2.5 hours each
- **Participants:** 30 MENA climate activists and members of environmental CSOs
- **Methodology:** Interactive online sessions, case studies, group work, and self-paced research assignments

### **Curriculum and Schedule**

#### **Week 1: Communication, Stakeholder Engagement, and Negotiation**

- Effective Communication and Stakeholder Identification
- Negotiation and Conflict Resolution in Environmental Initiatives

#### **Week 2: Advocacy Fundamentals and Campaign Design**

- Introduction to Environmental Advocacy
- Building an Advocacy Campaign (including Managing Risk, Campaign Implementation, and Narrative as a Tool)

#### **Week 3: Digital Security, and WPS and Climate Nexus**

- Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) and Climate Nexus
- Digital Security Basics

#### **Week 4: Proposal Writing, Research Skills, and Monitoring**

- Proposal Writing
- Research Skills and Monitoring

#### **Outcomes**

By the end of this program, participants will:

- Build strong networks and effective communication strategies.
- Develop actionable advocacy plans.
- Understand and leverage the WPS and climate nexus.
- Enhance their research and documentation skills, including using SPSS.
- Gain foundational knowledge in climate law and apply it to local contexts.

#### **Participant Selection**

Participant selection for this training will follow the same approach used in the first round. We will share an open call for applications online and circulate it directly in the existing WhatsApp group created for the previous training cohort. This will ensure that former participants are informed and can share the opportunity widely within their networks and with their peers, helping us reach new participants who would benefit from the program, especially those working on climate advocacy, environmental issues, and Women, Peace, and Security.

The call will be open to Iraqi women as well as women from across the MENA region who are engaged in climate advocacy and Women, Peace, and Security work, and extended members of FTF and EJG.

#### **How to Apply**

To apply, applicants must fill out the google form [[Here](#)]. Applications must include:

1. A brief statement (max 300 words) on your interest in the training and how it aligns with your work.
2. A short summary of your relevant experience and/or current projects.
3. Your commitment to attending all sessions and completing assignments.

Application Deadline: 10 August 2025

For questions or additional information, please contact:

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