

Women in Tech Global Awards 2025

Categories

1. Aspiring Teen Award

Recognizes young girls (13–21) with a passion for technology, celebrating their innovative projects, tech skills, and potential to inspire peers. This award encourages young women to pursue STEM careers and acknowledges their early achievements in tech.

2. Best Ally Award

Honors individuals of all genders who actively support and advocate for women in technology. This award highlights efforts in creating inclusive environments, championing gender equity initiatives, and promoting diversity within the tech community through tangible actions and advocacy.

3. Most Impactful Initiative Award

Recognizes programs or initiatives that significantly promote diversity and inclusion in tech.

This category focuses on measurable impacts, sustainable change, and initiatives that empower women and underrepresented groups in the tech industry.

4. Most Disruptive Award

This award recognizes a woman who has made a significant impact in the technology sector through groundbreaking innovation. The recipient has introduced revolutionary ideas, products, or services that challenge the status quo and drive positive change in the industry.

5. Woman in Web3 Award

Acknowledges women making notable contributions to Web3 technologies, such as blockchain, decentralized applications, and cryptocurrency. This award celebrates leadership and innovation in the rapidly evolving field of decentralized technologies.

6. Start-Up Award

Celebrates women-led technology startups that have demonstrated market viability and growth potential. This award recognizes innovative companies that are actively generating revenue and in the scaling phase of their development. Nominees should

showcase sustainable business models, customer traction, and the potential for significant market impact under female leadership.

7. Tech Diplomacy Award

This award recognizes a woman who excels in connecting technology with international relations. The recipient demonstrates exceptional skill in fostering global cooperation and partnerships in the tech sector.

8. Global Leadership Award

This award honors a woman who has demonstrated exceptional leadership on a global scale in the technology sector. The recipient has made significant contributions to advancing the role of women in tech worldwide, inspiring and empowering others across cultures and Borders.

9. Lifetime Achievement Award

The most prestigious category, recognizing a woman's lifelong dedication to the tech industry. This award highlights her achievements, influence, and long-term impact on the field, celebrating a career of sustained excellence and leadership in technology.

Women in Tech Global Awards 2025

Finalists

Aspiring Teen Award

Recognizes young girls (13-21) with a passion for technology, celebrating their innovative projects, tech skills, and potential to inspire peers. This award encourages young women to pursue STEM careers and acknowledges their early achievements in tech.

Nisa Thomas | North America

Organization: Scratch Youth Advisory Board

Position: First Teen Co-Emcee of International Scratch Conference, Founder of Project:Decode

Nisa Thomas serves as the first teen co-emcee of the International Scratch Conference and member of the Scratch Youth Advisory Board, supporting over 140 million users in the world's largest coding community for children. As a TEDx speaker and app developer, she has created youth-centered applications promoting mental wellness, sustainability, and digital safety. Thomas founded Project:Decode, introducing children to computer science through creative programs, and established Brave Not Perfect, a high school club empowering students to embrace growth mindset. Her achievements include the Women in Tech North America Aspiring Teen Award, Society of Women Engineers "STEM in Action" International Award, and Gold Volunteer Service Award. She has conducted computational biology and data science projects recognized at regional symposia and continues cybersecurity exploration as a CyberPatriot competitor, blending creativity with technology to inspire future changemakers through systematic community engagement and educational innovation.

Chanchal Kuntal | APAC

Organization: PeerHire

Position: Co-founder & COO

Chanchal Kuntal is a 20-year-old student entrepreneur and Co-founder & COO of PeerHire, a DPIIT-recognized startup providing blockchain-verified work opportunities for student freelancers. Currently pursuing B.Tech in Chemical Engineering at Banasthali Vidyapith, she also serves as Azure Developer Lead, mentoring students in cloud innovation initiatives. Despite her non-computer science background, Kuntal completed 15+ internships with global organizations including Microsoft, Meta, and Bobble AI while leading national developer communities. Her innovative projects include CleanMap Pro (AI-based waste tracking) and MentalWellness.AI (emotion and sentiment recognition), demonstrating commitment to leveraging AI for social good. Named Asia-Pacific Winner of Women in Tech Global Aspiring Teen Award 2025, she speaks at international tech summits hosted by Google Developer Groups, Open Source Summit, and Microsoft, advocating for youth empowerment, women in tech, and responsible innovation across the region.

Relebogile Lebitsa | Africa

Organization: Asambe

Position: Founder

Relebogile Lebitsa is a South African technologist and founder of Asambe, a mobility platform revolutionizing South Africa's taxi ecosystem by transforming payment methods, travel experiences, and local business connections. She developed Ubuntu Connect, a telemedicine application linking patients with doctors online, integrating chatbot assistance and enabling medicine delivery to improve healthcare access in underserved communities. Her leadership has earned multiple accolades including Women in Tech Aspiring Teen Award (Africa), MTN MoMo Hackathon Winner, International Sustainability BusIT Hackathon Winner, and BRICS Women's Startup Contest Finalist. Lebitsa led development of an AI-powered gender-based violence prevention app showcased at the EmpowerHer AI Conference. Beyond innovation, she mentors young people in townships, leads coding masterclasses, and nurtures the next generation of African tech talent, guided by her belief that "technology should feel human, solve, connect, and empower," demonstrating systematic approach to community-centered technology development.

Amina Chukenova | CCA

Organization: Nazarbayev Intellectual School

Position: A-level Student, Founder of Engineering Voices

Amina Chukenova is an A-level student from Kazakhstan focused on engineering, AI, and science education accessibility through international collaboration. She founded Engineering Voices, a global student-run platform featuring 100+ STEM articles from over 10 countries, and co-founded Guardis, an AI-driven initiative improving digital safety for elderly people in Kazakhstan. As Ambassador for International Astronomy and Astrophysics Competition and International Computer Science Competition, she has led STEM outreach events engaging 400+ students through workshops, hackathons, and mentoring. Her research on technological shortages in education was completed under PhD supervision, and she won the Horizon Academic Excellence Award 2025, placing among the top 10 students worldwide. Chukenova developed SIMUL8, an interactive physics simulation website adopted by several schools, and has grown a 50,000+ social media audience by producing educational content bridging science and creativity while promoting international collaboration in STEM education.

Tringa Ibrahimi | Europe

Organization: Georgia Institute of Technology, Harvard Medical School

Position: Founder of Miket, Co-founder of Fotoel

Tringa Ibrahimi is an Albanian from Kosovo studying Biomedical Engineering as an honors student at Georgia Institute of Technology while contributing to research at Harvard Medical School, developing machine learning models for medical imaging. She founded Miket, a global digital platform and NGO building community for young people in technology, and co-founded Fotoel, a smart bin that automatically separates waste and converts food waste into electricity. Her work in software development and innovation with various technology companies has been recognized with more than 40 awards, reflecting commitment to meaningful projects. Growing up in Kosovo instilled the importance of giving back, driving her aim to contribute positively to society through developing medical devices and technologies that improve lives. Her diverse portfolio spans technology entrepreneurship, biomedical research, environmental innovation, and community building, demonstrating multifaceted approach to using technology for social impact and human advancement across multiple sectors and international contexts.

Aurora Delgado Camones | LATAM

Organization: Warmitech

Position: Founder

Aurora Delgado Camones is an 18-year-old youth activist from Peru's Áncash region who founded Warmitech, the first Girl Up club in Peru offering leadership, science, and technology workshops in Quechua and Aymara languages. Growing up in a Quechua-speaking community, she witnessed educational and technological barriers faced by girls in rural areas. Warmitech operates two programs: Líderes Científicos, reaching over 350 students in school sessions, and Campeonas, a national initiative developed with Microsoft Peru impacting more than 400 girls designing projects addressing indigenous languages, environmental challenges, and gender equality. Recognized as Bicentennial Youth of Peru 2024 by the National Youth Secretariat, she was among the first three TechGirls from Peru selected by the U.S. Department of State. Aurora served as delegate for Teach For All at the 80th UN General Assembly, speaking during the 30th Anniversary of the World Programme of Action for Youth, advocating for inclusive education and equitable STEM access for underrepresented communities.

Amira Alqabbaa | MENA

Position: Tech Innovator

Amira Alqabbaa is a young innovator from the MENA region addressing societal challenges through technology solutions focused on housing instability, digital equity, and mental health. She developed an AI-powered Early Warning System for Rent Defaults preventing evictions among vulnerable families and contributed to smart housing allocation models promoting fairness in government distribution. Her health technology work includes designing personalized digital support tools for individuals with speech disorders, transforming her personal stuttering experience into empowerment platforms, and creating tools assisting people with bipolar disorder through data-driven mood pattern monitoring for early intervention. In July 2025, she led a technology program for gifted students through the Mawhiba Foundation, teaching advanced innovation skills, and trained youth at Saudi Digital Academy in Arduino and game development. As founder of Adel Kashreem, focused on inclusive innovation, and tech influencer on Platform X, she bridges digital gaps for Arabic-speaking audiences, publishing 22 original tech projects in 12 weeks while demonstrating systematic approach to purpose-driven technology development.

Best Ally Award

This category honors individuals of all genders who actively support and advocate for women in technology through tangible actions and advocacy. This document presents all 7 regional finalists in a standardized, neutral format for jury evaluation based on factual achievements, current roles, and measurable impact.

Daryl Hammett | North America

Organization: Amazon Web Services (AWS)

Position: Director of Global Delivery (GDO), AI Platforms and Security for Professional Services

Daryl Hammett serves as Director of Global Delivery for AI Platforms and Security at AWS Professional Services, managing seven teams including Delivery, Product Solution Delivery, and Security divisions. Previously, he held the role of Director of Global Demand ML/AI & Operations, leading seven global sub-teams and four functional teams supporting Machine Learning, Artificial Intelligence, and Predictive Analytics across AWS operations. His executive experience spans decades in global operations, supply chain, and technology leadership. Hammett previously served as Vice President of Global Solutions at Coupa Software and as Chief Operations Officer and General Manager of ConnXus, a supplier relationship software startup where he was a major investor and led a successful exit with Coupa. He also held senior leadership positions at Luxottica, managing sales, marketing, operations, logistics, and product development for the billion-dollar brand. Recognized as Top COO by Cincinnati Business Courier, he holds certifications in Supply Chain Management, Third-Party Risk Management, and Intelligent Software Automation, while serving as a Certified Business and Executive Coach supporting Amazon leadership development.

Ayu Shahirah Salem | APAC

Organization:bp

Position: Experience Designer

Ayu Shahirah Salem serves as Experience Designer at bp, focusing on technology design grounded in empathy, accessibility, and equity to ensure representation of women and underrepresented users in global systems. With over 170,000 followers across LinkedIn and TikTok, she amplifies women's voices, simplifies complex tech topics, and creates pathways for digital career advancement. Recognized as Malaysia's #2 Most Influential LinkedIn Creator, Favikon's Top Tech Creator 2025, and Meta Oil & Gas's No.1 Energy

Influencer, she stands at the forefront of inclusive innovation. Her advocacy work includes leading 300+ empowerment programs and founding Let's Linked-In, a networking platform for women in tech. Honored by WeAreTechWomen UK as an Inspirational Woman in Tech, she was named among LinkedIn's Top 10 Voices in Asia and featured in bp's global "Women of Impact" campaign. As one of bp's Ambassadors for One Young World, she represents Malaysia globally, championing women's rights and inclusive digital transformation. Currently pursuing a PhD in Information Technology focusing on Artificial Intelligence, she works to reduce bias and advance inclusive AI systems for future technological leadership.

Allan van der Meulen | Africa

Organization: Zlto

Position: Co-founder

Allan van der Meulen co-founded Zlto, a blockchain-powered rewards platform providing dignity and opportunity for young people across South Africa. Growing up in Mitchells Plain, he transformed personal adversity into purposeful innovation through Zlto, which enables users to earn digital rewards for learning, volunteering, and positive behaviors, redeemable for essentials including food, transport, and mobile data. The platform has benefited over 2 million users, providing access to basic needs and opportunities for advancement. During COVID-19, Zlto's "Stay Home, Keep Safe" initiative rewarded safe behaviors, supporting vulnerable communities during crisis periods. The platform's impact earned recognition when Zlto won the UNDP-UNICEF Big Think Challenge, securing USD 200,000 to scale operations and extend reach. Allan was named Social Innovator of the Year 2022 by the Schwab Foundation at the World Economic Forum, acknowledging his contribution to demonstrating how technology, when rooted in community needs, can break cycles of poverty and exclusion. His work embodies authentic allyship through creating scalable, dignified solutions that empower young people to thrive while addressing systemic barriers to opportunity and advancement.

Dmitriy Pak | CCA

Organization: EPAM Systems

Position: Global ESG & Sustainability Program Lead and Head of ESG Programs for Europe and Central Asia

Dmitriy Pak leads global ESG and sustainability initiatives at EPAM Systems, collaborating with UN Women, UNICEF, UNDP, and UN Global Compact to deliver high-impact programs empowering women in technology across all continents. He spearheaded EPAM's endorsement of UN Women's Empowerment Principles and manages reporting on gender equity commitments. His key achievements include establishing IT-Aiel in Kazakhstan, the country's first national IT education program for women, partnering with Astana Hub, TechnoWomen, and the National Women's Commission to train over 2,600 women in digital and soft skills. He coordinated "500 Women in Tech in Georgia" in collaboration with UN Women and Business and Technology University, providing professional IT training and mentorship to 500 women. In Uzbekistan, he integrated EPAM's IT education into state school curricula, reaching thousands of students annually. Pak organized regional UN Women forums across Central Asia to spotlight women leaders and elevate dialogue on gender equity in STEM fields. He leads Tech for Good solutions including cancer prevention chatbots, charity donation systems, and rocketry education platforms developed with nonprofit and governmental partners globally, demonstrating systematic approach to structural change in women's technology participation.

Ivo Haase | Europe

Organization: PeHa GmbH

Position: General Manager

Ivo Haase serves as General Manager of PeHa GmbH, a company he co-founded over 22 years ago, bringing entrepreneurial leadership and educational expertise to supporting women's advancement in technology across Central Asia. With over 16 years of experience as a professional trainer and coach, he is certified as a Management 3.0 Facilitator and "Training from the Back of the Room" specialist, reflecting commitment to participant-centered learning methodologies. His educational leadership includes conducting Management 3.0 Foundation Workshop in Almaty and introducing Training from the Back of the Room methodologies to Uzbekistan, bringing together participants from Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan. These workshops strengthen Women in Tech Chapters across Central Asia and develop foundational concepts for sustainable Women in Tech Academy initiatives. His community investment includes supporting Women in Tech Uzbekistan with backpacks with school materials for children

in need and supporting Women in Tech Tajikistan providing 50 packages of school materials for underprivileged children. His methodology puts participants at the center of their learning journey, embodying empowerment through education and representing international collaboration, educational innovation, and genuine commitment to gender equality in technology.

Nadja Cooper | LATAM

Organization: RIGSA

Position: Vice President

Nadja Cooper serves as Vice President of RIGSA, a leading technology and energy company in Panama with over 30 years of history focused on innovation and sustainability. With more than 25 years of experience, she has led RIGSA's transformation into a national reference in smart energy solutions, solar technologies, automation, and robotics. Her achievements include launching Panama's first Smart Flower solar system, delivering solutions to major clients such as Nestlé Guatemala, and introducing innovative energy technologies across Central American markets. Her leadership demonstrates integration of technical innovation with sustainable development objectives while championing women's advancement in technology and energy sectors. Cooper's approach to allyship emphasizes mentorship, professional development, and organizational culture transformation, actively supporting women colleagues through career advancement opportunities, technical training programs, and leadership pathway development. Her initiatives address systemic barriers affecting women's progression in energy and technology sectors. Her influence extends beyond organizational boundaries to include industry advocacy and policy development supporting women's participation in renewable energy and technology innovation, contributing to sustainable business practices while promoting gender inclusion across Panama's technology ecosystem through systematic advocacy and institutional transformation.

Noor Sweid | MENA

Organization: Global Ventures

Position: Founder

Noor Sweid is founder of Dubai-based growth-stage firm Global Ventures, currently the only Arab woman in the Middle East running a VC fund. She made history as the first woman to lead an IPO in the region when interior contracting company Depa listed on the

London Stock Exchange and NASDAQ Dubai. Previously, she served as chief investment officer of Dubai Future Foundation and founding partner of Leap Ventures. Beyond venture capital, Sweid founded the largest chain of yoga and pilates studios in the Middle East, which she sold in 2014. She serves as Chairwoman of MEVCA and was a founding board member of Endeavor UAE. Her board positions include MIT Sloan, Arrow Labs, Proximie, MUNCH:ON, Clue, Tribal Credit, and Ogram. Recognition for her leadership includes Forbes' World Top 50 Women in Tech and Arabian Business 100 Most Powerful Arab Women List. Her career demonstrates systematic breaking of barriers in male-dominated industries while creating pathways for future women leaders in venture capital, technology, and entrepreneurship across the MENA region through direct investment, mentorship, and institutional leadership roles that advance women's participation in technology and innovation sectors.

Most Impactful Initiative Award

This category recognizes programs or initiatives that significantly promote diversity and inclusion in tech, focusing on measurable impacts and sustainable change. This document presents all 8 finalists in a standardized, neutral format for jury evaluation based on factual achievements, current roles, and measurable impact.

Reema Rachel Khithani | North America

Organization: The Hira Collective

Position: Founder

Reema Rachel Khithani founded The Hira Collective in 2025, a Canadian wellness tech platform connecting users with trauma-informed, culturally rooted practitioners while centering equity and ancestral integrity. The initiative has vetted 250+ practitioner applications with a 17% acceptance rate, onboarding 36+ paid members and facilitating 100+ bookings in its first 12 weeks. Built with input from 900+ participants, Hira's design prioritizes trust, cultural alignment, and inclusion. The platform has hosted sold-out events, been selected as a Web Summit Impact Startup, and featured in BetaKit and Bold Journey. Its impact includes redistributing wealth, supporting historically excluded practitioners, and replacing exploitative wellness models. By rejecting 83% of applicants through strict vetting, Hira ensures ethical practice and safety. The platform represents a systemic intervention reshaping wellness tech through community-informed standards, ethical infrastructure, and measurable outcomes that prioritize accessibility and cultural integrity in technology-enabled healthcare services.

Badamtsetseg Lkhagvasuren | APAC

Organization: Momade Community Mongolia

Position: Founder & CEO

Badamtsetseg Lkhagvasuren founded and leads MoMade Virtual Agency, a social-impact enterprise empowering Mongolian mothers to access global digital work opportunities. What began as a small online community during the pandemic has grown into a movement of over 7,500 trained women, with nearly 500 mothers each month earning income through MoMade Agency and MoMade Academy. Her approach demonstrates that motherhood and professional growth can thrive together through flexible remote jobs, digital-skills training, and international collaborations. Currently, she leads the "Empower Women Together" initiative, aiming to deliver free digital literacy training to 20,000 women across Mongolia, helping them join the global digital economy. By transforming unpaid care work into recognized digital contribution, she demonstrates that empowering mothers represents both social mission and strategic investment in inclusive economic growth. Her work redefines the future of work through systematic approach to women's economic empowerment, proving scalable models for integrating motherhood with professional advancement in technology sectors.

Joanna Jacqueline Govender | Africa

Organization: Empire Partner Foundation (EPF) and EPF Tech Fund

Position: Visionary Leader

Joanna Govender leads Empire Partner Foundation (EPF) and EPF Tech Fund, driving technology, social impact, and innovation across South Africa. With over 19 years of experience in business strategy, technology development, and social entrepreneurship, she leverages technology for economic empowerment and sustainable development. Her leadership bridges gaps between government, business, academia, and civil society, ensuring homegrown technology solutions address South Africa's pressing challenges. Under her direction, EPF has become a key enabler of tech-driven social impact, empowering youth, supporting startups, and fostering innovation in critical sectors including education, justice, and entrepreneurship. Her influence extends beyond EPF as a thought leader in public-private partnerships, corporate social investment, and digital transformation strategies. She champions mentorship, ecosystem building, and unlocking opportunities for South African innovators to scale their impact. EPF continues pioneering

initiatives positioning technology as catalyst for change, ensuring African innovation achieves global recognition, local impact, and sustainable development through systematic approach to technology-enabled social transformation.

Salome Mgeladze | CCA

Organization: re:school

Position: Co-Founder and CEO

Salome Mgeladze co-founded and leads re:school, one of Georgia's most transformative education initiatives, established in 2022. Re:school turns technology users into creators and equips young people and vulnerable groups with digital and entrepreneurial skills needed to thrive in the modern economy. With a mission to combat youth unemployment and brain drain, she leads a movement blending tech education with emotional intelligence, leadership, and creativity, preparing students for 21st-century careers. As part of re:invent, Georgia's largest venture studio with over 55 startups, re:school connects students directly to real career opportunities. Under her leadership, the platform has trained over 1,000 young people, including youth in occupied territories, women, and minor prisoners, empowering them through web development and design skills and integrating them into the workforce. Her advocacy for education, innovation, and democracy redefines inclusive tech education in Georgia and beyond, proving that with appropriate tools and courage, anyone can reinvent their future through systematic access to technology education and career pathways.

Mercedes Serrano (FemCoders F5) | Europe

Organization: Oracle/Factoría F5

Position: Iberia Cloud & AI Country Leader / Advisory Board Factoría F5

Mercedes Serrano leads Oracle's Cloud and Artificial Intelligence business across Spain and Portugal as Iberia Cloud & AI Country Leader, with more than three decades of technology industry experience. She drives adoption of next-generation cloud and AI solutions enabling secure, efficient, and responsible innovation. Previously holding senior

leadership roles at Hewlett Packard Enterprise, she managed international teams and large-scale digital transformation programmes across Europe. As Advisory Board member of Factoría F5, she actively supports FemCoders F5, Spain's first inclusive tech school network offering free, high-quality, practice-based training in web development, cloud, and cybersecurity for women in vulnerable socio-economic situations. FemCoders F5 has achieved nearly 500 graduates with a 75% positive employment rate, becoming a national benchmark for bridging the digital gender gap and empowering women to thrive in technology sectors. Throughout her career, she has championed technological talent development and women's advancement in tech, mentoring and supporting initiatives opening doors to underrepresented communities while promoting responsible AI and inclusive innovation that serves people first.

Cynthia Zanoni | LATAM

Organization: WoMakersCode / Microsoft

Position: Founder of WoMakersCode / Global Cloud Advocate at Microsoft

Cynthia Zanoni serves as Global Cloud Advocate and leads the Gender Equity Committee at Microsoft, supporting tech communities in learning new skills and building inclusive, sustainable careers. With over 14 years of Software Engineering experience, she has developed expertise in open source, accessibility, semantics, and community engagement, focusing on improving developer experience for women and underrepresented groups. In 2015, she founded WoMakersCode, one of Latin America's largest communities of women in tech, now operating as a global NGO that has impacted over 300,000 women through education, mentorship, career opportunities, and advocacy for equity policies in the tech industry. The organization has been recognized by the Mozilla Foundation (2016), is a signatory of the United Nations Global Compact (Brazil chapter), and was awarded the Racial Equality Seal by São Paulo City. Named one of the "Top 50 Hackers to Follow" (2021–2023) by Gama Academy and awarded "Most Engaged CEO" in 2024 by UN Brazil's "Race is a Priority" movement, her work combines technical leadership, social impact, and systematic commitment to advancing gender equity in technology industry.

Luceny Montanez Hernandez | LATAM

Organization: DataSchool LATAM

Position: Founder and CEO

Luceny Montañez is an engineer, extrajudicial conciliator, and specialist in educational law who founded and leads DataSchool LATAM, driving financial sustainability of educational institutions across Latin America with the purpose of preventing school dropout and ensuring educational continuity for thousands of children and adolescents. Through DataSchool, she created EduScore, the first educational credit scoring system in the region, using big data, predictive analytics, and LegalTech-EdTech technologies to transform information into strategic decisions that strengthen financial management, promote sustainable payment habits, and protect the right to education. Her mission focuses on building sustainable educational ecosystems where technology serves human purpose and enables social progress. As a member of eTrade for Women of UNCTAD, she actively participates in formulating public policies for Educational Vision 2036, contributing from the intersection of engineering, law, and innovation to create more equitable and sustainable future for education in Latin America through systematic integration of technology, legal frameworks, and educational access initiatives.

Maya Moussa | MENA

Organization: All Girls Code

Position: Co-Founder

Maya Moussa co-founded All Girls Code in 2017 with Aya Mouallem, a Lebanese volunteer-led initiative ensuring girls of all socioeconomic backgrounds can explore and develop interest in technology for good in Lebanon, the Arab World, and the Global South through free tech-immersive leadership programs. Based at the Maroun Semaan Faculty of Engineering & Architecture at the American University of Beirut, all programs and events are offered free of charge by motivated volunteers. Since inception, All Girls Code has reached more than 2,500 girls aged 10–22 across 9+ countries, helping participants gain confidence, develop digital skills, and build support networks. In September 2025, All Girls Code was selected by UNESCO as laureate of the 2025 UNESCO Prize for Girls' and Women's Education, recognizing successful projects improving and promoting educational prospects for girls and women. Previously awarded the 2018 HP Girl Rising Challenge from 900+ submissions and selected for international fellowships including Stanford SHE++, Stanford AMENDS, and Women Deliver, the initiative plans expanding

accessibility across Lebanon, the Arab region, and Global South while creating tailored, culturally-relevant free resources.

Most Disruptive Award

This category recognizes women who have made significant impact through groundbreaking innovation, introducing revolutionary ideas that challenge the status quo. This document presents all 7 regional finalists in a standardized, neutral format for jury evaluation based on factual achievements, current roles, and measurable impact.

Erin Bradner | North America

Organization: Autodesk Inc

Position: Director of Strategic Foresight

Erin Bradner serves as Director of Strategic Foresight at Autodesk Inc in San Francisco and Adjunct Professor in Strategic Foresight at the California College of the Arts. Her research helps organizations navigate change, seize opportunities, and mitigate risk through intelligent foresight. She co-founded the Generative Design initiative at Autodesk ten years before Generative AI and LLMs made their public debut, and led Robotics research shaping early AI-mediated robotic control. Bradner has led strategic research partnerships with U.S. Livermore National Laboratory and NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab, executing hundreds of research projects focused on amplifying innovation through actionable foresight. She has published academic papers with collaborators at Autodesk, University of California, and IBM Research, and co-authored numerous patents in advanced design. Her work has been recognized for lasting impact in Human Computer Interaction, including foundational research on how digital communication tools mediate trust and persuasion. She holds a PhD in Information & Computer Science from UC Irvine and is a dual citizen of Canada and the U.S.A.

Priyanka Kamath | APAC

Organization: 100 GIGA

Position: Founder and CEO

Priyanka Kamath is recognized as a Top 100 Women in Web3 & AI and internationally awarded technology leader focused on mitigating bias in algorithms. Her extensive global experience includes solution-oriented technology consulting roles at Novartis (New

Jersey), World Bank IFC (Washington DC), and PepsiCo (TX/Toronto), working on automation workflows and cybersecurity for applications worth up to \$600 million that have shaped her enterprise journey. Her expertise spans cognitive vision explorations at PepsiCo to NLP recommendation engines in her first startup, encapsulating 12 years of engineering and consulting experience. Transitioning from an executive role at a Fortune 500 company in Corporate America to AI-Tech startup founder in India, she has embarked on a thriving entrepreneurial journey focused on building one million micropreneurs in India. Her work demonstrates systematic approach to leveraging technology for economic empowerment while addressing algorithmic bias and promoting inclusive technological advancement across global markets through strategic consulting and innovative AI solutions.

Adriana Marais | Africa

Organization: Foundation for Space Development Africa

Position: Director, Head of Science

Dr. Adriana Marais has a background in theoretical physics, with PhD and postdoctoral research focused on quantum effects in biology and origins of life's building blocks in space. Since 2017, she serves as Director at the Foundation for Space Development Africa and Head of Science for the Foundation's Africa2Moon mission, recently selected for launch to the lunar south pole with China's Chang'e-8 mission. Africa2Moon will be Africa's first lunar mission and the first lunar radio telescope of its kind, performing new science not possible from Earth. In 2019, she left her position as Head of Innovation at SAP Africa to found Proudly Human, currently leading the organization's Off-World Project in preparation for extreme conditions on Earth and beyond. Marais is also a researcher at the University of Stellenbosch and National Institute for Theoretical and Computational Sciences in South Africa, expert at Singularity University in California, and committee member on Space Resources of the Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipator. Her book "Out of this world and into the next" is published by Profile Books, demonstrating systematic approach to space exploration and innovation.

Leyla Aliyeva | CCA

Organization: Central Bank of Azerbaijan

Position: Head of Division for Fintech and Innovations

Leyla Aliyeva serves as Head of Division for Fintech and Innovations at the Central Bank of Azerbaijan, where she leads national fintech strategy and spearheads transformative initiatives shaping digital finance's future. With over a decade of experience in fintech and digital payments, she has driven disruptive innovation in banking and technology sectors. One of her most significant achievements was serving as Product Manager for the Instant Payment System (IPS), a real-time payment infrastructure processing over 85 million AZN annually and onboarding 30+ banks nationwide. The system reduced processing costs by 2 million AZN per bank annually, increased financial accessibility, and helped boost the country's cashless payments share from 11% to 30% in three years. Previously holding product and leadership roles at Andersen and Interexy, she led fintech and healthtech solution development, optimized delivery processes using Agile methodologies, and achieved high client satisfaction. She actively supports ecosystem growth through policy advocacy, fintech workshops, and university outreach, hosting 8+ industry events and delivering financial literacy sessions at 7+ universities while engaging with 30+ fintechs and the Azerbaijan Fintech Association.

Dr. Georgia Fleet | Europe

Organization: Zonova

Position: Co-Founder and CEO

Dr. Georgia Fleet is a scientist turned entrepreneur focused on tackling hospital infections, one of healthcare's biggest challenges. She co-founded and leads Zonova as CEO, a company developing antimicrobial technology that prevents bacteria growth on medical devices, helping protect patients and reduce antibiotic use. With a PhD in Materials Science, she founded Zonova in 2023 on International Women's Day to drive a global shift from treatment to prevention in healthcare infection management. Her scientific innovation and leadership have earned her the Innovate UK Women in Innovation Award 2024/25, recognizing not only her technical contributions but also her passion for creating meaningful impact and opening doors for more women in STEM and entrepreneurship. Fleet's work represents systematic approach to addressing critical healthcare challenges through advanced materials science, demonstrating how scientific research can be translated into practical solutions that improve patient outcomes while reducing

healthcare costs and antibiotic resistance, positioning Zonova at the forefront of preventive healthcare technology innovation.

Britney Y. Valoy Becker | LATAM

Organization: STEAM Girls 360°, Tech Horizons

Position: General Coordinator and Creator

Britney Valoy Becker is a Panamanian data scientist and technology innovator passionate about using artificial intelligence to drive inclusive progress. Her work integrates data science and machine learning into healthcare and banking systems, leading national-scale projects that improve access, efficiency, and equity through technology. As general coordinator of STEAM Girls 360° and creator of Tech Horizons, she designs programs inspiring and training youth and women across Latin America. Through Tech Horizons, she has extended opportunities to indigenous communities in Panama's comarcas, combining AI education with long-term mentorship and English learning to ensure lasting impact. She has collaborated with major companies, banks, and institutions committed to digital transformation and diversity. Her vision blends innovation and inclusion, empowering the next generation to see technology as both a tool for excellence and a path to equality. Her work embodies disruption with purpose, transforming complex systems into human-centered solutions that reshape how societies learn, heal, and grow through systematic integration of AI technology and inclusive education methodologies.

Nidaa Awawda (Mona Almehaid) | MENA

Organization: HUMAIN (PIF company)

Position: Vice President

Mona Almehaid serves as Vice President of HUMAIN, a PIF company empowering the future of AI from leading AI infrastructure to advanced intelligence systems. She is an experienced executive with over 24 years of expertise in driving change, redefining possibilities, and implementing digital transformations within healthcare systems across various entities, including MNGHA and MOH. Her consulting experience spans international companies, and she holds a graduate degree in pharmacy and master's degree in health informatics. Her key strengths lie in strategizing and leading cross-functional teams to effect fundamental changes and improvements in strategies and processes. She has successfully introduced Artificial Intelligence into the healthcare domain and integrated it into organizational workflows, unlocking potential value and facilitating realization of

embracing new technologies. Her leadership demonstrates systematic approach to AI implementation in healthcare, positioning HUMAIN at the forefront of AI-driven healthcare innovation while bridging traditional medical practice with advanced artificial intelligence capabilities for improved patient outcomes and operational efficiency.

Woman in Web3 Award

This category acknowledges women making notable contributions to Web3 technologies, blockchain, decentralized applications, and cryptocurrency innovation. This document presents all 7 finalists in a standardized, neutral format for jury evaluation based on factual achievements, current roles, and measurable impact.

Elena Sinelnikova | North America

Organization: CryptoChicks, MetisDAO Foundation

Position: Co-founder

Elena Sinelnikova co-founded CryptoChicks, a nonprofit making blockchain education accessible for women across 56 countries, and MetisDAO Foundation, creating Ethereum Layer 2 infrastructure solutions. She holds a Master's in Computer Science from National University of Electronic Technology in Russia, specializing in full-stack programming, cybersecurity, and blockchain technology. CryptoChicks, founded in Toronto in 2017, expanded globally through hackathons, workshops, and educational conferences, helping thousands of women learn blockchain and build careers. As co-founder of Metis Foundation, she led development of fast, secure, low-cost enterprise-grade transaction support. Under her leadership, METIS achieved \$500M TVL within eight weeks of launching their Andromeda Layer 2 network. Winner of Canada's Top Woman in Blockchain Award and Top Women in FinTech recognition, she continues as international speaker and blockchain educator, championing diversity and opportunity for women in Web3 through appearances at ETHWomen 2025 and Blockchain Futurist Conference.

Hinza Asif | APAC

Organization: Blockza, Asia Web3 Alliance Japan

Position: Founder & CEO, President

Hinza Asif is Founder & CEO of Blockza, an AI-powered, decentralized Web3 directory platform enabling creators, startups, and journalists to connect, verify, and grow. She serves as President of Asia Web3 Alliance Japan, driving global partnerships with JETRO,

METI, and international stakeholders, and is a Forbes Web3 Business Council Leader. With over 7 years in Web3, she has built a 200,000+ community reach through media and campaigns. Under her leadership, Blockza addresses key Web3 challenges including trust, discovery, and connection using AI-driven media visibility, verified team support, and CRM tools. Her platform rewards meaningful, on-chain engagement, amplifying underrepresented voices, especially women. As the first woman to lead a government-funded Web3 startup program in Japan, she has won awards such as the JETRO & ICP Hackathon for decentralized journalism. She balances entrepreneurship with motherhood, embodying resilience and inclusion, and advocates for a diverse, equitable, and impact-driven Web3 future across international markets.

Oluchi Enebeli | Africa

Organization: Wio Bank, Web3Ladies

Position: Principal Engineer (Crypto), Founder

Oluchi Elizabeth Enebeli, known as Nigeria's first female blockchain engineer, serves as Principal Engineer (Crypto) at Wio Bank, where she contributes to shaping next-generation blockchain-driven financial systems in the UAE. Over nearly a decade, she has built an exceptional career at the intersection of Blockchain, AI, and Product Strategy, contributing to leading organizations including Binance, Crypto.com, Liquidity (Consensys-incubated), Nestcoin, and Alluvial Finance. Her technical work spans secure wallet infrastructures, DeFi systems, and large-scale protocol design serving millions of users globally. Beyond engineering, she is Founder of Web3Ladies, Africa's largest women-in-Web3 community, empowering over 20,000 women with skills and mentorship to thrive in emerging technologies. Recognized among the Top 10 Women in Web3 Changemakers (NEAR Foundation) and as a Rising Woman in Crypto (Wirex & The Cryptonomist), she embodies bold leadership, resilience, and a vision for an inclusive tech future where innovation empowers people everywhere through systematic community building and technical excellence.

Leyla Baghirzade | CCA

Organization: Swiss Alternative Financing AG, Global Oracle Association for Leaders (GOAL)

Position: Founder and CEO, Founder and President

Leyla Baghirzade is an executive leader with over 15 years of experience in investment banking, consulting, and financial innovation. She holds advanced degrees in Corporate Finance, Management Economics, Blockchain and Distributed Ledger Technology, Trade Diplomacy, International Relations, and Sustainability. As Founder and CEO of Swiss Alternative Financing AG (Geneva), she specializes in blockchain, tokenization, pre-financing, corporate formation, and wealth management. She founded and leads the Global Oracle Association for Leaders (GOAL), an international Geneva-based platform connecting leaders for strategic partnerships aligned with UN SDG 17, leveraging blockchain and AI for secure, transparent agreements focused on sustainable development. She serves as Board Member and Head of the Azerbaijani Chapter at the Joint Chamber of Commerce for Switzerland–Central Asia, Eastern Europe, and South Caucasus, and as Board Member at the Association of International Chambers of Commerce in Geneva spanning over 25 countries. A featured speaker at the World Economic Forum in Davos and mentor for UNDP Women in STEM initiative, she represents systematic approach to blockchain innovation and international collaboration.

Ella Cullen | Europe

Organization: Minespider

Position: Co-founder & Chief Marketing Officer

Ella Cullen is Co-founder & Chief Marketing Officer of Minespider, a leading blockchain platform creating Digital Product Passports to verify the origin and sustainability of minerals across supply chains. Companies such as Minsur, Microvast, Renault, Ford Otosan, and ABB use Minespider to track carbon emissions, critical documentation, and end-to-end material histories. Her work focuses on blockchain traceability solutions that enable transparency and accountability in global supply chains, particularly in the minerals and automotive sectors. As a UNECE expert in blockchain traceability, she contributes to international standards and best practices for supply chain transparency. She also mentors at DLT Talents and the CV Labs Incubator, supporting the next generation of blockchain entrepreneurs and innovators. Her leadership at Minespider demonstrates practical application of blockchain technology to address real-world challenges in supply chain verification, sustainability tracking, and corporate

responsibility, positioning the company at the forefront of blockchain-based transparency solutions for multinational corporations seeking to verify the ethical sourcing and environmental impact of their materials and products.

Carmen Esther Ocampo Mayor | LATAM

Organization: BlockchainDC

Position: Founder

Carmen Esther Ocampo Mayor represents visionary blockchain leadership with over 18 years of experience in solution design, innovation, and digital transformation across Latin America. As systems engineer and master's student in Strategic IT Management, she has dedicated her career to bridging advanced technology with sustainable social and business development. She founded BlockchainDC, leading projects with environmental, financial, social, and entrepreneurial ecosystem impact through blockchain, artificial intelligence, and data analytics integration. She was finalist in Women in Tech LATAM Awards 2024 in Women in Web3 category and trained more than 250 companies in Bogotá through Hub Blockchain program, which she led from District Secretariat for Economic Development Mayor's Office of Bogotá. Her developments include milk traceability solutions in Colombia through Agrotrack platform in collaboration with ICT Research and Development Center, green finance ecosystems tracking fund investments through smart contracts, and blockchain-based notarization of impact evidence. Her leadership extends beyond technical contributions to active mentorship of women in technology, promoting collaborative networks aimed at reducing gender gaps while fostering ethical collaboration in Web3 innovation.

Maia Zennie | MENA

Organization: Ava Labs

Position: Tech Ecosystem Builder

Maia Zennie is a tech ecosystem builder helping shape the future of innovation across the MENA region. She works with startups, investors, and governments to grow the Web3 and AI landscape, focusing on building sustainable technology ecosystems that support regional development and global connectivity. Having worked with over 100 founders, she brings extensive experience from accelerators and venture programs where she helped early-stage teams move from idea to traction, providing strategic guidance on business development, market entry, and scaling operations. She is passionate about helping

founders gain clarity, build confidence, and access the right networks to scale across the region. Her work at Ava Labs involves developing strategic partnerships and fostering innovation within the Web3 ecosystem, particularly in emerging markets. Through her role, she connects regional talent with global opportunities, facilitates knowledge transfer, and supports the development of blockchain and decentralized technology applications that address local market needs while maintaining international standards. Her systematic approach to ecosystem building emphasizes sustainable growth, inclusive innovation, and collaborative development across diverse stakeholder groups.

Start-Up Award

This category celebrates women-led technology startups demonstrating market viability, growth potential, and sustainable business models. This document presents all 8 finalists in a standardized, neutral format for jury evaluation based on factual achievements, current roles, and measurable impact.

Lianna Genovese | North America

Organization: ImaginAble Solutions

Position: CEO & Founder

Lianna Genovese is CEO & Founder of ImaginAble Solutions, a women-led social impact company based in Hamilton, Ontario, creating assistive technology to improve quality of life for people with hand disabilities. She is a biomedical and mechanical engineer and inventor of Guided Hands®, the company's 44-time internationally award-winning assistive device enabling people with limited hand mobility to paint, write, draw, and communicate independently using touch-screen devices. She built the first prototype at 19 to help a friend with Cerebral Palsy paint again, and now at 25, Guided Hands® has become life-changing technology promoting self-expression, communication, and independence, used in schools, hospitals, and homes across 25 countries. Her dedication to disability innovation has earned international recognition, including Forbes 30 Under 30, the James Dyson Engineering Award, and the 2024 Muhammad Ali Humanitarian Award. Genovese believes self-expression is a human right accessible to everyone and is committed to creating a more inclusive and accessible world for the disability community through systematic technological innovation.

Jayantika Soni | APAC

Organization: Resync Technologies

Position: Co-Founder and CTO

Jayantika Soni is a power and energy engineer with a PhD in Electrical Engineering from the National University of Singapore, where her research focused on control algorithms for energy and power systems. As Co-founder and CTO of Resync Technologies, she leads technical development of an AI-driven intelligent energy cloud platform integrating IoT, machine learning, and advanced control systems to optimize energy efficiency in smart buildings and distributed energy resources. Resync has achieved significant milestones, including securing \$2 million in Series A funding, being recognized as an Extreme Tech Challenge finalist, and expanding across Asia. The platform reduces energy costs and carbon footprints for clients, with focus on smart cities and renewables. Soni has been featured in Forbes Asia for her startup's potential and contributions to sustainability, and she remains active in entrepreneurship networks and professional societies like IEEE. Her work demonstrates systematic approach to addressing energy challenges through innovative technology solutions that combine academic research with practical business applications for sustainable development.

Suzette Ferreira | Africa

Organization: Proto Care (Pty) Ltd

Position: Founder and CEO

Suzette Ferreira is a visionary nurse, entrepreneur, and HealthTech founder from South Africa with over three decades of healthcare experience. Her career encompasses midwifery, paediatric cardiac ICU nursing, and leading complex Electronic Health Record implementations across Africa, the Middle East, Asia, and Europe. As Nursing Informatics Manager at the Ministry of National Guard Health Affairs (MNGHA), she co-developed and implemented the award-winning iCARE module within Saudi Arabia's BESTCare EHR, an intelligent clinical bedside e-documentation system recognized nationally and internationally for innovation in clinical excellence, with patents granted in both Saudi Arabia and the United States. As Founder and CEO of Proto Care (Pty) Ltd, she leads a pioneering, patient-centred digital health ecosystem empowering patients, nurses, and doctors through intelligent design, centered around Suzie AI™, a compassionate virtual nurse bridging care and technology with empathy. A published co-author of "Health Information Systems in Nursing" and Women in Tech award winner, she redefines nursing in the digital age, believing technology should restore dignity and amplify patient voices.

Makpal Orakkyzy | CCA

Organization: MacDent

Position: Founder and CEO

Makpal Orakkyzy is a tech entrepreneur from Kazakhstan and founder and CEO of MacDent, a cloud-based CRM platform for dental clinics addressing the gap left by Western solutions that fail to consider local regulations. After graduating with honors from EKSTU and becoming a certified SAP consultant at KazZinc JSC, she launched MacDent in 2019, which is now used by over 1,000 clinics across 18 cities with more than 5,900 administrators and doctors using the platform daily. The platform provides comprehensive practice management solutions specifically designed for the regional market, incorporating local regulatory requirements and business practices that international solutions often overlook. Her systematic approach to understanding local market needs and developing tailored technology solutions has established MacDent as a leading healthcare technology platform in Kazakhstan's growing digital health sector. Orakkyzy's entrepreneurial journey demonstrates the importance of localized innovation in technology, showing how understanding specific market requirements can create successful, scalable business models that serve previously underaddressed market segments through culturally and regulatory appropriate technological solutions.

Ala Presenti | Europe

Organization: Investre / Moniflo

Position: Co-Founder

Ala Presenti is co-founder of Investre, the first licensed Controlling Agent under Luxembourg's Blockchain Law, and driving force behind Moniflo, the impact-driven investment app making sustainable finance accessible to everyone. A finance executive turned fintech builder, she has spent over a decade bridging regulation, technology, and purpose. At Investre, she helped build a fully regulated investment firm from the ground up, pioneering blockchain-native fund infrastructure that transforms how funds are issued, managed, and distributed. In 2025, Investre became Luxembourg's first Controlling Agent, setting a new benchmark for compliant tokenisation in Europe's largest fund hub. Through Moniflo, her mission is to flip the finance narrative, eliminating gatekeepers and jargon while providing transparent, responsible investing for people who care about both planet and portfolio. She defines herself as a systems thinker and endurance builder, a

marathoner who thrives on turning complexity into clarity. Her story demonstrates courage, innovation, and conviction, proving that the future of finance belongs to those bold enough to rebuild it through systematic regulatory innovation and inclusive financial technology.

Manel Chikh | Europe

Organization: MyBubbleHealth

Position: Serial Entrepreneur

Dr. Manel Chikh Besnard is a visionary serial entrepreneur whose career embodies the fusion of science, leadership, and purpose. With more than two decades of experience in healthcare and biotechnology sectors, holding senior leadership positions in multinational companies across Europe and the Middle East, she has consistently challenged conventions to create solutions that transform industries and lives. Her expertise spans strategic business development, innovation management, and organizational transformation in complex, regulated environments. A recognized leader across Europe and the Middle East, her influence extends far beyond entrepreneurship through deep commitment to mentoring the next generation of innovators, particularly women founders navigating challenges of leadership, funding, and growth. Through speaking engagements, workshops, and advisory roles, she shares her journey with authenticity and courage, providing strategic guidance for emerging entrepreneurs. Her systematic approach to building sustainable businesses in healthcare and biotechnology demonstrates how scientific expertise can be translated into meaningful commercial impact while maintaining commitment to social responsibility and inclusive innovation across international markets.

Monica Anai Ramos Li | LATAM

Organization: Musa

Position: Co-Founder and Chief Operating Officer

Mónica Ramos is Co-Founder and Chief Operating Officer of Musa, a Peruvian EdTech company recognized by MIT Solve, the World Economic Forum, and Expo City Dubai for its innovative approach to inclusive education. Under her leadership, Musa has empowered over 500,000 frontline workers, migrants, and community members across Latin America through microlearning programs delivered via WhatsApp and AI-based assistants. Her approach demonstrates how technology can be leveraged to reach traditionally

underserved populations through accessible platforms and culturally appropriate content delivery methods. Passionate about social innovation and women's empowerment, she continues championing scalable, human-centered learning solutions that make quality education accessible to everyone, particularly focusing on economic empowerment for vulnerable communities. Her work at Musa exemplifies systematic approach to educational technology that prioritizes accessibility, cultural relevance, and measurable impact on learners' lives and economic opportunities. The company's recognition by leading international organizations reflects the innovative methodology and sustainable business model she has helped develop for democratizing education through technology across Latin American markets.

Nour Taher | MENA

Organization: Various

Position: Co-Founder and CEO

Nour Taher has diverse work experience spanning multiple companies and entrepreneurial ventures. Starting in 2013 as Customer Experience Associate at Bank-al-Etihaad, she progressed through senior associate and manager roles in customer experience before becoming a self-employed Business Strategy Consultant in 2018, providing freelance services to various organizations. In 2019, she joined Altibbi as Senior Customer Experience Manager and later assumed the role of Director of Business Development for the MENA region, demonstrating systematic career progression in technology and healthcare sectors. Most recently, in 2021, she co-founded and became CEO of a technology startup, leveraging her extensive experience in customer experience, business development, and strategic consulting to drive innovation in the MENA market. Her career trajectory demonstrates expertise in understanding customer needs, developing business strategies, and scaling operations across diverse industries. Her entrepreneurial journey reflects systematic approach to identifying market opportunities and building sustainable business models that address regional market needs while maintaining focus on customer-centric innovation and strategic growth across multiple sectors in the Middle East and North Africa region.

Tech Diplomacy Award

This category recognizes women who excel in connecting technology with international relations, demonstrating skill in fostering global cooperation and partnerships. This document presents all 7 regional finalists in a standardized, neutral format for jury evaluation based on factual achievements, current roles, and measurable impact.

Rebecca Finlay | North America

Organization: Partnership on AI

Position: CEO

Rebecca Finlay serves as CEO of Partnership on AI, a global nonprofit bringing together a cross-sectoral community of over 100 partners in 17 countries to ensure AI developments advance positive outcomes for people and society. With an influential career at the intersection of technology and society, she has held leadership roles in civil society, research organizations, and industry. Prior to Partnership on AI, she founded the AI & Society program at global research organization CIFAR, one of the first international, multistakeholder initiatives on AI's societal impact. Her insights have been featured in books and media including The Financial Times, The Guardian, Politico, and Nature Machine Intelligence. She speaks at venues such as SXSW, Wall Street Journal, OECD, and FTC, demonstrating systematic approach to bridging technology policy and international cooperation. Her leadership at Partnership on AI facilitates collaboration between diverse stakeholders to address AI governance challenges, promoting responsible AI development through diplomatic engagement and cross-sector partnership building across multiple countries and regulatory environments.

Eunji Gil | APAC

Organization: Microsoft Korea

Position: Security Cloud Solution Architect

Eunji Gil serves as Security Cloud Solution Architect at Microsoft Korea, where she specializes in developing and implementing cloud security solutions for enterprise clients across the Asia-Pacific region. Her role involves bridging technical expertise with international business development, working closely with government agencies,

multinational corporations, and regional partners to advance cybersecurity initiatives. Gil's work encompasses designing secure cloud architectures that comply with various international regulations and standards, facilitating technology transfer and knowledge sharing between Microsoft's global teams and local Korean organizations. Her expertise in cloud security has positioned her as a key liaison in fostering technology partnerships between Korea and international markets, particularly in areas of digital transformation and cybersecurity collaboration. Through her technical leadership and cross-cultural communication skills, she contributes to advancing cloud security adoption in the region while maintaining alignment with global security standards and diplomatic technology initiatives. Her work demonstrates systematic approach to technology diplomacy through practical implementation of secure cloud solutions across international boundaries.

Nathalie Kienga | Africa

Organization: National Cyberdefense Council, DRC

Position: Deputy Coordinator

Nathalie Kienga serves as Deputy Coordinator of the National Cyberdefense Council in the Democratic Republic of Congo, where she plays a crucial role in developing and implementing the country's cybersecurity strategy and international cyber diplomacy initiatives. Her position involves coordinating with international organizations, regional bodies, and global cybersecurity agencies to strengthen the DRC's cyber capabilities and foster cross-border cooperation in cybersecurity matters. Kienga's work encompasses policy development, stakeholder engagement, and capacity building in cybersecurity at both national and regional levels. She collaborates with international partners to establish frameworks for cyber threat intelligence sharing, incident response coordination, and cybersecurity capacity development across Africa. Her leadership contributes to advancing Africa's position in global cybersecurity discussions and ensuring that continental perspectives are represented in international cyber governance forums. Through her systematic approach to building cybersecurity partnerships and diplomatic relationships, she helps bridge the gap between technical cybersecurity requirements and international policy coordination, promoting regional cyber resilience and cooperative security frameworks.

Ayazhan Mukanova | CCA

Organization: Ministry of Digital Development, Kazakhstan

Position: Former Director of the Department of International Cooperation

Ayazhan Mukanova formerly served as Director of the Department of International Cooperation at the Ministry of Digital Development, Innovations and Aerospace Industry in Kazakhstan, where she led the country's digital diplomacy initiatives and international technology partnerships. In this capacity, she coordinated bilateral and multilateral agreements on digital transformation, cybersecurity cooperation, and technology transfer with various countries and international organizations. Her work involved developing strategic partnerships for Kazakhstan's digital development agenda, facilitating international collaboration on emerging technologies, and representing the country in global digital governance forums. Mukanova played a key role in advancing Kazakhstan's participation in international technology initiatives, promoting cross-border digital innovation, and establishing frameworks for technology cooperation across Central Asia and beyond. Her systematic approach to international technology cooperation helped position Kazakhstan as an active participant in global digital transformation discussions while ensuring that national interests were balanced with international collaboration objectives. Through her diplomatic and technical expertise, she contributed to building sustainable international partnerships that support Kazakhstan's digital development goals and regional technology integration.

Henna Virkkunen | Europe

Organization: European Commission

Position: Executive Vice-President for Tech Sovereignty, Security and Democracy

Henna Virkkunen serves as Executive Vice-President for Tech Sovereignty, Security and Democracy at the European Commission, where she leads the EU's strategic approach to technology governance, digital sovereignty, and international technology cooperation. Her role encompasses developing and implementing policies that strengthen Europe's technological independence while fostering international partnerships in digital innovation, cybersecurity, and emerging technologies. Virkkunen oversees initiatives that balance technological advancement with democratic values, ensuring that EU technology policies align with broader foreign policy objectives and international cooperation frameworks. Her work involves coordinating with global partners on technology standards, digital trade, and cyber governance while protecting European interests and values. She plays a crucial role in shaping the EU's approach to technology diplomacy, including relationships with the United States, China, and other major technology powers. Through her leadership, she advances European digital sovereignty initiatives while maintaining constructive international engagement on technology governance issues. Her systematic approach to technology diplomacy helps position the EU as a leading voice in global

discussions about responsible technology development and democratic governance of emerging technologies.

Maria Moreno Muracco | LATAM

Organization: International Organization for Migration

Position: Former CEO of USA for IOM / International Partnerships Officer

Maria Moreno Muracco serves as International Partnerships Officer at the International Organization for Migration, having previously held the position of CEO of USA for IOM. Her work focuses on leveraging technology to address global migration challenges while fostering international cooperation on digital solutions for humanitarian issues. In her current role, she develops strategic partnerships between international organizations, governments, and technology companies to advance digital innovation in migration management, humanitarian response, and cross-border mobility. Moreno Muracco's expertise encompasses building diplomatic relationships that facilitate technology transfer, knowledge sharing, and collaborative development of digital solutions for complex international challenges. Her systematic approach to international partnership development helps bridge gaps between humanitarian needs and technological capabilities, promoting innovative approaches to migration governance and international cooperation. Through her work at IOM, she contributes to advancing global discussions on digital identity, cross-border data governance, and technology-enabled humanitarian response. Her leadership in international partnerships demonstrates how technology diplomacy can be applied to address pressing global challenges while maintaining focus on human rights and international cooperation principles.

Tufool Aldhahab | MENA

Organization: Oman Foreign Ministry

Position: Technology and Digital Economy Expert

Tufool Aldhahab serves as Technology and Digital Economy Expert at Oman's Foreign Ministry, where she specializes in advancing the country's digital diplomacy initiatives and international technology cooperation. Her role involves developing and implementing strategies that leverage technology for diplomatic engagement, economic development, and international partnership building. Aldhahab works on initiatives that promote Oman's digital transformation agenda through bilateral and multilateral cooperation, facilitating technology transfer and knowledge exchange with international partners. Her expertise

encompasses digital economy development, emerging technology governance, and cross-border digital cooperation frameworks. She contributes to regional and international discussions on digital policy, cybersecurity cooperation, and technology-enabled economic development. Through her work at the Foreign Ministry, she helps position Oman as an active participant in global digital transformation initiatives while ensuring that international technology partnerships align with national development objectives. Her systematic approach to technology diplomacy focuses on building sustainable partnerships that advance both technological innovation and diplomatic relationships, demonstrating how digital expertise can be effectively integrated into traditional diplomatic frameworks for mutual benefit and regional cooperation.

Global Leadership Award

This category honors women who have demonstrated exceptional leadership on a global scale in the technology sector, making significant contributions to advancing women in tech worldwide. This document presents all 7 regional finalists in a standardized, neutral format for jury evaluation based on factual achievements, current roles, and measurable impact.

Titi Akinsanmi | North America

Organization: Google

Position: Global AI Policy Team Lead

Titi Akinsanmi serves as Global AI Policy Team Lead at Google, where she spearheads policy development for responsible AI across global markets. Her expertise lies in building bridges between governments, private sector, and civil society to harness digital opportunities while mitigating risks and fostering collaboration. Previously, she held regional government affairs and public policy roles at Google, engaging with policymakers on critical issues including privacy, data governance, and internet policy. Her global experience spans public and private sectors, academia, and international institutions. As a former Berkman Klein Fellow at Harvard Law School, advisor for the World Economic Forum's Global Future Council on the Digital Economy, and member of WEF's Digital Identity strategy team, her insights are sought after by leading organizations and governments. She serves as Board Member at Access Employment Canada and Junior Achievement Nigeria. A published author of academic and non-academic papers, she holds a Master's in Public Policy and Development Management from University of

Witswatersrand and Master of Laws in Privacy and Cybersecurity from Osgoode Hall Law School.

Anju Gill Mangal | APAC

Organization: USAID Pacific Digital Connectivity and Cybersecurity Initiative

Position: Chief of Party, Cadmus Group

Anju Mangal serves as Chief of Party for the USAID Pacific Digital Connectivity and Cybersecurity Initiative, strengthening digital infrastructure, enhancing cybersecurity measures, and promoting workforce development across the Pacific. Previously, she served as Regional Head of Asia and Pacific at the Alliance for Affordable Internet (A4AI) and Digital Transformation Specialist at the Pacific Community (SPC). Her influence spans critical leadership roles as Vice Chair of the Asia Pacific Internet Governance Forum (APrIGF) and Vice Chair of the Pacific Islands Chapter of the Internet Society. She became the first Pacific Islander elected to the UN Internet Governance Forum's Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG), elevating regional voices globally. Her contributions have earned prestigious recognition including the Obama Foundation Leadership Fellowship and U.S. State Department International Visitor's Leadership Programme on Digital Economy and Cybersecurity. She won the Women in Tech Fiji "Digital Visionary" award in 2023 and is a founding member of Pacific Women and ICT. She holds a Master of Arts in Governance and Bachelor of Science in Information Systems with certifications in Internet Governance and Business Analysis.

Jeniffer Ramnath | Africa

Organization: Independent

Position: Independent Executive Advisor and Board Contributor

Jeniffer Ramnath has over 27 years of global experience at the intersection of technology, business, and leadership, specializing in helping organizations unlock value through IT strategy, digital transformation, and business growth initiatives. Her career spans diverse industries including Telecommunications, ICT, Financial Services, Mining & Energy, and Consumer Goods, where she has partnered with C-suite leaders to shape and execute strategies that drive profitability, enable innovation, and deliver measurable impact. As a former senior executive leader with the Mastercard Foundation, she advanced programs empowering young people in Africa and indigenous youth in Canada with access to dignified, meaningful, and future-ready work opportunities. She serves as an independent

executive advisor and board contributor, working with organizations to navigate digital disruption, build resilient operating models, and deliver large-scale technology transformation. A passionate advocate for Women in Technology and STEM, she uses her platforms as mentor, keynote speaker, and thought leader to advance diversity and inclusion while coaching and empowering women and young professionals.

Yekaterina Rekhert | CCA

Organization: Microsoft

Position: Microsoft Most Valuable Professional (MVP)

Yekaterina Rekhert became the first woman in Kazakhstan's history to receive the Microsoft Most Valuable Professional (MVP) award in 2021 and the second MVP in the country's history. Microsoft MVP is an award given to fewer than 3,000 professionals globally to recognize their expertise, leadership, and impact on technical community. Since 2021, she has successfully renewed her MVP award four times and is currently the only 4-time MVP in Kazakhstan's history. The Microsoft MVP program recognizes exceptional technical community leaders who actively share their expertise with the community through various channels including speaking at conferences, mentoring, writing technical content, and contributing to technical discussions. Her sustained recognition over multiple years demonstrates consistent contribution to the technical community and leadership in advancing technology adoption and knowledge sharing. Her achievement as the first woman MVP in Kazakhstan represents a significant milestone for women's representation in technology leadership in Central Asia, inspiring other women to pursue technical excellence and community leadership roles in the region's growing technology sector.

Debola Ibiyode | Europe

Organization: CarbonAI

Position: CEO and Founder

Debola Ibiyode is CEO and Founder of CarbonAI, a pioneering domain-specific AI platform transforming carbon markets, ESG, and sustainability through adaptive RAG, graph-based intelligence, and real-time data for actionable insights on carbon pricing and climate projects. She architected CarbonAI's multi-agent intelligent system powering both conversational interface and advanced analytics engine, deploying large language models that drive innovation toward a low-carbon future. She partnered with a top global

carbon trading firm to build a live, production-grade carbon market data and pricing platform now trusted by leading exchanges such as CME and Bloomberg. With over two decades of experience, she has built and scaled transformative products from Nigeria's first online A-Levels and GCSE equivalent result checkers to enterprise-grade AI systems advancing sustainability intelligence. A long-time Microsoft Certified Solutions Developer with MSc in Computer Engineering (Distinction, Syracuse University) and certifications from Harvard and Oxford, she combines deep technical expertise with mission-driven vision. She runs weekend coding sessions teaching children to code and leads a thriving YouTube channel democratizing AI knowledge for professionals and learners worldwide.

Arletty Pinel | LATAM

Organization: Genos Global

Position: Founder

Dr. Arletty Pinel has dedicated her life to transforming technology into a force for inclusion and human progress. A psychiatrist and global health strategist, she has led digital health and development initiatives in more than 100 countries, providing high-level technical and financial assistance and serving in senior leadership roles at the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Geneva) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in New York. As Founder of Genos Global (Panama), she is internationally recognized for pioneering the Silver Economy in Latin America. Her award-winning ecosystem E-Silver, honored by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) as one of the region's top social health innovations, reimagines aging as a driver of social and economic revitalization. Through her startup Silver Guardian, she extends this vision digitally, empowering adults 50+ with autonomy, purpose, and dignity. As Editor of the forthcoming Elsevier volume "Digital Transformation and Equitable Global Health," she spearheads a conceptual model for future-ready, agentic health systems where technological intelligence is guided by human empathy.

Eman AlKuwari | MENA

Organization: Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT), Qatar

Position: Director of Digital Innovation

Eman Al Kuwari serves as Director of Digital Innovation at the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT) in Qatar, playing a central role in driving national strategies for AI adoption, smart infrastructure, and digital ecosystem growth, ensuring innovation becomes a catalyst for economic and social development. Her leadership has been instrumental in positioning Qatar as a regional hub for innovation through initiatives such as the TASMU Smart Qatar Program, which integrates cutting-edge technologies to enhance urban living, sustainability, and public services. She advocates for cross-sector collaboration between government, academia, and private sector, promoting an environment where emerging technologies like AI, blockchain, and IoT are developed responsibly and inclusively. Her influence extends beyond national borders as an active voice in international forums, including the EU-GCC Business Forum, representing Qatar in global dialogues on digital cooperation, sustainability, and responsible AI governance. Her expertise bridges technology and policy, demonstrating how innovation can solve real-world challenges from managing large-scale events such as the FIFA World Cup using AI-driven systems to building resilient digital ecosystems that empower local talent.

Lifetime Achievement Award

This is the most prestigious category, recognizing women's lifelong dedication to the tech industry, highlighting achievements, influence, and long-term impact on the field. This document presents all 7 regional finalists in a standardized, neutral format for jury evaluation based on factual achievements, career highlights, and lasting impact.

Julie Godin | North America

Organization: CGI

Position: Executive Chair

Julie Godin serves as Executive Chair of CGI, a global IT consultancy with 96,000+ partners across 40 countries approaching its 50th anniversary in 2026. Her strategic vision encompasses 306 metropolitan markets worldwide, maintaining CGI's balanced approach of 50% organic growth and 50% acquisitions while overseeing \$2.6 billion in available capital and \$2 billion annual free cash flow. She champions CGI's data-driven "What gets measured gets done" philosophy through the innovative "triangle" stakeholder

model balancing shareholders, partners, and customers. Godin personally oversees comprehensive client engagement, surveying 1,800 customers quarterly and conducting in-depth two-hour strategic discussions annually to understand evolving IT challenges across global markets. Her 16-year journey from wellness entrepreneur to executive chair demonstrates exceptional business acumen, starting with CGI's \$1 acquisition of her company Oxygen in 2009 and progressively managing human resources, strategic planning, cybersecurity, and all enterprise functions. Her leadership embodies humility-based governance, fostering continuous improvement while preserving CGI's legacy of sustainable growth and operational excellence across four decades.

Nyema Zam | APAC

Organization: Samuh Meditech

Position: Founder & CEO

Nyema Zam is founder and CEO of Samuh, Bhutan's first OTT and Pay TV platform, with over two decades of experience in broadcast and media sectors. As a communication and media specialist, she has dedicated her career to working at the intersection of art and technology, passionate about the creative sector and believing in the unique potential of Bhutanese and Himalayan films to reach wider global audiences. She is winner of the UK RISE Business Awards 2022 and Ngultrum Entrepreneur of the Year Award 2022. Her startup Samuh has won several accolades, including the South Asia Startup ICT Award 2023, "Best Initiative to Grow Local Industry" Makers & Shakers Award UK 2022, JICA Global Awards 2022, and multiple National film awards in 2022, 2023, and 2024. Zam serves as Board Director of the Royal Securities Exchange of Bhutan and Executive Member of the Bhutan Olympic Committee. She is also Board of Trustee of Organization of Youth Empowerment, a Civil Society Organization in Bhutan. Her leadership demonstrates systematic approach to building media technology infrastructure while preserving and promoting cultural heritage through innovative digital platforms.

Nompumelelo Zikalala | Africa

Organization: Kumba Iron Ore

Position: CEO

Nompumelelo "Mpumi" Zikalala made history in 2022 as the first woman CEO of Kumba Iron Ore, one of South Africa's largest mining corporations, breaking barriers in a traditionally male-dominated industry. Her leadership quickly delivered outstanding

results: Kumba's market capitalization rose to \$6.3 billion, net profit surged by 51.6% to \$1.66 billion, and assets nearly doubled to \$5.2 billion by FY 2024, showcasing exceptional strategic and operational acumen. Beyond financial performance, she has redefined mining through a vision of sustainability and innovation, aligning Kumba with Anglo American's ambitious goal of carbon neutrality by 2040. She has spearheaded eco-conscious investments and operational efficiencies, positioning the company as a leader in responsible mining. A champion of mentorship and inclusion, she actively supports emerging talent, especially women in STEM, fostering cultures of trust, diversity, and leadership excellence. With over two decades of experience at De Beers and Kumba in roles spanning General Manager, Managing Director, and Deputy CEO, she is recognized as a leading authority in mining operations, logistics, governance, and stakeholder relations.

Saida Beknazarova | CCA

Organization: Tashkent University of Information Technologies named after M. Khwarizmi

Position: Professor, Doctor of Technical Sciences

Professor Saida Sabullayevna Beknazarova is a Doctor of Technical Sciences and Full Professor at the Tashkent University of Information Technologies named after M. Khwarizmi. She defended her Doctor of Science degree at age 29 and became Professor at 34, milestones reflecting her deep commitment to advancing science, education, and leadership. Her academic portfolio includes 623 publications, 16 monographs, 8 manuals, and 41 registered software tools. Her research focuses on video technologies, multimedia systems, and video and image processing, where she has developed several innovative algorithms contributing to the field's progress. Beyond scientific achievements, she is a leading advocate for women's and youth empowerment in technology and innovation. She co-founded and actively leads initiatives such as the Women's Organization "Innovation woman," Head of Youth Academy under "Olima," Digital Girls the Center for Innovative Women of Uzbekistan, IT Ladies, and Women in Tech networks. Through these platforms, she has mentored and supported more than 1,000 women and young innovators. Her dedication has been recognized through numerous national and international honors, including the Shukhrat Medal, Woman of the Year Grand Prix, and Best Innovator in Science and Education 2023.

Carme Artigas | Europe

Organization: Harvard Kennedy School Belfer Center

Position: Senior Fellow / Former Secretary of State for Digitalization and AI (Spain)

Carme Artigas is a Spanish executive and entrepreneur with over 30 years of experience in Big Data, Artificial Intelligence, Cybersecurity, and Technology Innovation, recognized as an international leader in AI regulation and governance. Currently Senior Fellow for the Belfer Center at Harvard Kennedy School researching AI and Geopolitics, she served as Co-Chair of the United Nations AI Advisory Body (2023-2025), reporting to Secretary General Antonio Guterres and leading the report "Governing AI for Humanity" adopted by the UN General Assembly in September 2024. She has witnessed and led through four technology revolutions: internet, 3G, big data, and artificial intelligence, holding CEO, Board Advisor, and Chairman roles in several companies. She co-founded and served as CEO of Synergic Partners, a pioneering European Big Data company acquired by Telefonica Group in 2015. In January 2020, she was appointed the first Secretary of State for Digitalization and Artificial Intelligence for the Government of Spain until December 2023, culminating her role leading negotiations and approval of the EU AI Act during the Spanish Presidency of the EU. Her career includes executive positions at Procter & Gamble, Director of Business Incubators at the City of Barcelona, and CEO of Ericsson Innova.

Lucia Acurio | LATAM

Organization: Various

Position: EdTech Pioneer and Education Innovator

Lucia Acurio is an economist who entered the EdTech field in 1996 by bringing the FutureKids–Computer Learning Centers franchise to Ecuador, introducing for the first time in the country a methodology helping children starting at age four develop computational thinking and ability to create solutions through algorithmic programming. She extended this initiative to schools and Ministries of Education in Ecuador and Peru, viewing technology as a powerful ally for teachers and teachers as key agents of a new paradigm opening opportunities for everyone to access quality education. One of her landmark projects, "Maestros.com," launched in Ecuador in 2000, marked a turning point in teacher development in educational technologies, training and certifying 10,000 teachers who became the first generation to integrate technology into the classroom. Throughout nearly three decades of dedication to identifying the most effective technologies to achieve educational milestones in Latin America, she has remained committed to inclusive progress. During her time as Director of Technological Innovation at Peru's

Ministry of Education, she designed the National Strategy for Digital Technologies in Education. Today, she continues working on various initiatives and serves as member of multiple boards, committees, and advisory councils focused on technology, innovation, digital inclusion, and future-proof economies.

Einas AlEissa | MENA

Organization: Ministry of Education, Saudi Arabia / Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University

Position: Deputy Minister of Education / Former President of PNU

Einas Al-Eissa is the current Deputy Minister of Education in Saudi Arabia, appointed in May 2025, and former President of Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University (PNU) since March 2019. She holds a PhD in Anatomy and Neurobiology and has held previous positions at King Saud University, including Vice President for Female Student Affairs. Her leadership at PNU and now at the Ministry of Education has been marked by initiatives promoting women's empowerment, such as establishing the National Observatory for Women. Throughout her academic and administrative career, she has published over 50 academic articles and has been recognized for her contributions to health rehabilitation and educational advancement. Her systematic approach to educational leadership has positioned her as a key figure in Saudi Arabia's educational transformation, particularly in advancing opportunities for women in higher education and research. Her transition from university leadership to national educational policy demonstrates her sustained commitment to educational excellence and women's advancement in academic and professional spheres. Her work represents a significant contribution to educational innovation and policy development in the Middle East region.