

# INTERNATIONAL VISITOR LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

## WOMEN AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP A Multi-Regional Project

These visitors are invited to the United States under the auspices of the Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program. Their program is arranged by FHI 360.

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**Accompanied By:** Mr. Todd ROSE, International Visitor Liaison

**March 20 - April 7, 2017**

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### PROFESSIONAL OBJECTIVES

The Department of State has outlined the following specific objectives for the project:

- Provide examples of entrepreneurial efforts in the U.S, particularly those initiated by women;
- Illustrate the essential role of non-governmental and grassroots organizations in supporting and empowering the development of women-owned businesses;
- Highlight the social, economic, and political factors that influence and encourage the development of private enterprise in the U.S.;
- Observe the effectiveness of the business sector in creating jobs and alleviating poverty worldwide;
- Discuss societal barriers facing entrepreneurs, especially women and other disadvantaged groups, and best practices in overcoming these restrictions; and
- Explore various business models, exposing participants to support mechanisms and innovations such as micro-lending, multi-level marketing, the use of the Internet, mentoring programs, and others.

## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

### **Argentina**

#### **Ms. Ornela Paola PRIOTTI**

Training Director, Adviser on Research and Development, and Founding Member, CREA FabLab

### **Belarus**

#### **Ms. Aliaksandra LAMACHENKA**

Product Manager, KUKU.io and GanttPRO

### **Chile**

#### **Ms. Camila Alejandra TAPIA MORALES**

National Director, DreamBuilder Project

### **Czech Republic**

#### **Ms. Petra KUBALKOVA**

President, cats2cats

### **Egypt**

#### **Ms. Rania Reda Aly ABDELSALAM**

Founder and CEO, IT-Qan for Smart Solutions

### **Iraq**

#### **Ms. Samaher Fathi Jasim AL SAGER**

Sourcing and Properties Leader, General Electric

### **Israel**

#### **Ms. Elena DONETS**

CEO, Tel Aviv University Innovation Center, StarTAU

### **Japan**

#### **Ms. Haruko MINAMI**

Representative, Midsummer AB Japan

## BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

### **Argentina**

*Name:* **Ms. Ornela Paola PRIOTTI**

*Present Position:* Training Director, Adviser on Research and Development, and Founding Member, CREA FabLab

*Education/Training:* Post-Graduate Degree, Management of Creative Enterprises, National University of Cordoba  
Post-Graduate Degree, Adversity and Sustainability, National University of Cordoba  
B.A., Architecture, National University of Cordoba

*Address:* Mariano Castex 118 - 2E  
Alberdi  
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Email: ornelapriotti@creafablab.com

*Languages:* Spanish (primary), English

*U.S. Travel:* No previous U.S. travel

*Professional Background:* Ms. Priotti is Training Director, Advisor, and Founding Member of CREA FabLab, the first digital fabrication lab in Cordoba Province. She develops educational programs, trains teachers, designs outreach strategies, and implements new projects in digital fabrication. She also provides access to new technologies to women and youth. Ms. Priotti is interested in discussing best practices in entrepreneurial leadership and business models, and in discussing strategies for including social entrepreneurial components into traditional business models, such as providing free educational programs to at-risk youth.

## **Belarus**

*Name:* **Ms. Aliaksandra LAMACHENKA**

*Present Position:* Product Manager, KUKU.io and GanttPRO

*Previous Positions:* Marketing Manager and Founder, Coffee Point 2014 - 2015  
Marketing and Product Manager, Melesta Games, 2013 - 2015  
Launch Manager and Founder, LLC N-Fab, 2013  
Marketing Manager, SCA Hygiene Products, 2012

*Education/Training:* B.A., International Marketing and Linguistics, Belarusian State Economic University

*Publications:* Various online articles on entrepreneurship, start-ups, and marketing

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Minsk 220123  
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*Languages:* Russian (primary), English, French

*U.S. Travel:* Illinois

*Other Travel:* Czech Republic, France, Germany, Ireland, People's Republic of China, Russia, Ukraine

*Professional Background:* Ms. Lamachenka is Product Manager at KUKU.io and GanttPRO, technology start-ups that allow clients to manage multiple social media networks simultaneous and utilize Gantt charts for project management activities.

## **Chile**

*Name:* **Ms. Camila Alejandra TAPIA MORALES**

*Present Position:* National Director, DreamBuilder Project

*Previous Positions:* Head, Entrepreneurship Initiative, Regional Secretariat of the Ministry of Women Affairs of the Atacama Region, 2010 - 2014

*Education/Training:* Business Degree, Valparaiso University  
Certificate Degree, Management Control, Catholic University

*Address:* Chile  
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*Languages:* Spanish (primary), English

*U. S. Travel:* Arizona, California, Florida, Hawaii, Nevada

*Other Travel:* Argentina, Ecuador, Peru

*Professional Background:* Ms. Tapia Morales is the National Director of the DreamBuilder Project, a free online program for aspiring Spanish-speaking women entrepreneurs. The program was originally designed to support women from mining communities in Chile, but now is available to women all over Latin America. She develops training programs, and also coordinates outreach programs to reach women in indigenous, impoverished, and underserved communities.

## **Czech Republic**

*Name:* **Ms. Petra KUBALKOVA**

*Present Position:* President, cats2cats

*Concurrent Positions:* Owner, C2C Solutions Group

*Previous Positions:* Congress Manager, Women's Congress, 2014 - 2016  
Program Coordinator, Counseling Center for Citizenship, 2014 - 2015  
Gender Auditor and Project Manager, APERIO, 2011 - 2015

*Education/Training:* B.A., Information Studies and Librarianship, Institute of Library and Information Science, Charles University

*Memberships:* Czech Women's Lobby  
Government Council for Gender Equality

*Publications:* Various publications on women in business, entrepreneurship, and gender issues

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*Languages:* Czech (primary), English

*U.S. Travel:* New York

*Other Travel:* Costa Rica, New Zealand, various European Union countries

*Professional Background:* Ms. Kubalkova is President of cats2cats and is an advocate for providing equal opportunities for women, minorities, people with disabilities, and the Roma community. She primarily focuses on supporting women in the economic sphere through programs such as microfinance and networking groups, having created WomenUP!, an online networking platform for women entrepreneurs. She has also organized conferences on equal opportunity and economic development to support women entrepreneurs.

## **Egypt**

*Name:* **Ms. Rania Reda Aly ABDELSALAM**

*Present Position:* Founder and CEO, IT-Qan for Smart Solutions

*Previous Positions:* Technical Manager, Online Technical Services, 2010 - 2013  
Business Analysis Head, Amiral Management Corporation, 2008 - 2010  
Business Analysis, Misrya System and Information Technology, 2002 - 2008  
IT Manager, United Arab Shipping Company, 2002  
Assistant Supervisor, MIBank and QNB Alahly Bank, 1996 - 2001

*Education/Training:* B.Sc., Engineering, Alexandria University

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*Languages:* Arabic (primary), English

*U.S. Travel:* New York

*Other Travel:* Germany, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Taiwan, United Arab Emirates

*Professional Background:* Ms. Abdelsalam is the Founder and CEO of IT-Qan for Smart Solutions, an organization she founded after taking online courses and local entrepreneurial training programs. She additionally leads workshops and training sessions for budding entrepreneurs to help them develop their ideas, and volunteers to help visually disabled girls develop computer skills.

## **Iraq**

*Name:* **Ms. Samaher Fathi Jasim AL SAGER**

*Present Position:* Sourcing and Properties Leader, General Electric

*Previous Positions:* Operations Manager, General Electric, 2012 - 2014  
Human Resources Manager, Save the Children, 2012  
Construction Specialist, Save the Children, 2011 - 2012  
Project Technical Manager, Alsakhra Alhamra Co., 2009 - 2010  
Operations Manager, Nata Group, 2008 - 2009  
Administration Manager, Zakurat Ur Company, 2005 - 2007

*Education/Training:* B.S., Electrical Engineering, University of Basrah

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*Languages:* Arabic (primary), English

*U.S. Travel:* No previous U.S. travel

*Other Travel:* United Arab Emirates

*Professional Background:* Ms. Al Sager is the Sourcing and Properties Leader at General Electric. She also spearheaded the General Electric Women's Virtual Network, a platform for Iraqi women to share best practices, information, and experiences in developing leadership skills and advancing career opportunities. Ms. Al Sager conducts outreach with women's groups, student organizations, and government officials to expand the reach of the Network, and to share her experience with women in the country.



**Israel**

*Name:* **Ms. Elena DONETS**

*Present Position:* CEO, Tel Aviv University Innovation Center, StarTAU

*Concurrent Positions:* Co-Founder and COO, StartIsrael

*Education/Training:* B.Sc., Mechanical Engineering

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*Languages:* Russian (primary), English, Hebrew

*U.S. Travel:* No previous U.S. travel

*Professional Background:* Ms. Donets is CEO of StarTAU, an entrepreneurship training and development center. She is interested in learning U.S. best practices in supporting women entrepreneurs, particularly those from disadvantaged communities.

## **Japan**

*Name:* **Ms. Haruko MINAMI**

*Present Position:* Representative, Midsummer AB Japan

*Concurrent Positions:* Freelance Business Consultant

*Previous Positions:* Freelance translator and interpreter, 2008 - 2013  
Commercial Assistant, Consulate General of Belgium, 1998 - 2007  
Secretary, Sumisho Computer Systems, 1997 - 1998

*Education/Training:* B.A., French Literature, Kwansei Gakuin University

*Memberships:* Belgian and Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce in Japan  
Swedish Chamber of Commerce in Japan

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*Languages:* Japanese (primary), English

*U.S. Travel:* Hawaii, New York, Washington

*Other Travel:* Belgium, Sweden, United Arab Emirates

*Professional Background:* Ms. Minami is a Freelance Business Consultant and the Japanese Representative of Midsummer AB, a Swedish firm that provides technology and equipment for manufacturing flexible solar cells. She manages overall sales and marketing and develops sales strategies for the company in Japan. In addition, she serves as a mentor for university-aged women as part of the TOMODACHI - MetLife Women's Leadership Program.