This is the third issue of the UNITAR Division of Prosperity quarterly newsletter. The newsletter will update you on the progress of our various programmes and initiatives. It will be available through the UNITAR website and social media and shared via email. To subscribe or send us questions/comments, please email prosperity_communications@unitar.org.

Major News

Financial Inclusion: New Joint Project with Partner AGFUND

AGFUND and UNITAR signed a new agreement in February 2022 to establish the Global Partnership Hub. The hub aims to enhance education, research and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and accelerate financial inclusion for low-income countries. UNITAR Executive Director Nikhil Seth and Director of Division for Prosperity Mihoko Kumamoto joined the signing ceremony in Saudi Arabia.
**360-Degree Virtual Tours Bring Hiroshima to The World: UNITAR Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Training**

UNITAR Division for Prosperity will add [360-degree virtual tours](#) to its training programme on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. The latest round of the programme will be held online from 25 February to 18 March 2022. The 3D technologies will help bring powerful on-site experiences to learning via laptops and mobile devices. Experiencing [Hiroshima](#) in person was at the heart of the programme before the COVID-19 pandemic forced UNITAR to move online.

**UNITAR Social Entrepreneurship with Digital Health: Empowering Women and Youth to Accelerate Prosperity and Close the Digital Divide in Healthcare**

UNITAR Division for Prosperity in partnership with [Columbia Business School](#) is launching a 2-week online course to upskill (1) women and youth entrepreneurs who are interested in digital health and (2) women and youth healthcare professionals (such as medical practitioners, hospital administrators, and medical sales representatives). Financial support comes from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency through the UNITAR Strategic Framework Fund for its Afghanistan learners, Hiroshima Prefecture for Iraqi learners, and the Government of Japan for the Sahel region.

**UNITAR 2021 Disaster Risk Reduction Programme Concludes with Public Webinar**

On 26 January 2022, UNITAR concluded the 2021 Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Training Programme with a [public online panel discussion](#) on Pacific women’s leadership. Panellists included representatives from the Samoa Red Cross Society, Fiji National Disaster Management Office, and Welfare and Disaster Prevention Community Association from Japan. They discussed the urgent and complex disaster risks that small island developing states and Japan face, as well as how gender perspectives could be better integrated into DRR policies and practices. [Read more alumni stories...](#)

**Young South Sudanese Inspired To Bring Prosperity To Country**

From March to May 2021, government officials from Jordan and Lebanon participated in UNITAR’s online course to learn about women’s empowerment and ways to build capacity for gender equality through government policy.
Pursuit to bridge the educational gap in Cameroon

UNITAR Response to COVID-19 Crisis: Empowering the Sahel Region through Digital Reskilling and Upskilling training programme alum Mohamadou Bello is passionate about enhancing educational opportunities for youth and women. He is developing a multilingual online learning platform in Cameroon.

Road to a Greener Iraq through Social Enterprises

Mustafa Musa Jaber and Mohammed Majid Ibraheem Al Hakeem learned from the Iraqi Youth Entrepreneurship Training Programme the knowledge and skills to implement their respective initiatives – recycling plastics and planting trees – to combat the rising environmental problems in Iraq.

Integrated Online Training Programme on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation

Diplomats gathered for the UNITAR Hiroshima Training Programme on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation. Among them was Mongolian diplomat Amaraa Erdenebaatar, who is dedicated to serving as a negotiator from a nuclear-weapon-free country. UNITAR commemorated the 76th anniversary of the Hiroshima atomic bombing on 6 August 2021 with a public webinar.
Youth Mobilize Creative Forces to Make a Better World

Four UNITAR Youth Ambassadors in Asia and the Pacific – Alvin Wong, Anna Wei, Bella Li and Jane Poon – won awards for their projects to achieve the SDGs. The projects address issues in the Youth Ambassadors’ communities through music, online platforms, and networking solutions. Youth Ambassadors in both Hiroshima and the Asia-Pacific are tackling climate change and pursuing their goals for a better world.

Announcements

UNITAR to host online conference on digital infrastructure and literacy

UNITAR Division for Prosperity will host a one-day online conference “Closing the Digital Divine: Strengthening Digital Literacy and Infrastructure in the Sahel Region, Iraq and Afghanistan” on 24 March 2022, from 10:00 to 15:40 CET. The conference will be in English and French. RSVP at: https://unitar-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_cZxezyjITRGCGHj5t88NhA

UNITAR to develop a training programme with Central Bank of Hungary

UNITAR Division for Prosperity and Central Bank of Hungary (Magyar Nemzeti Bank – MNB) launched a new partnership to develop a training programme on the digitalization of the financial sector. The new programme will focus on central banks’ role in supporting digital finance and sustainable development. It will primarily target financial professionals and regulatory authority officials. Topics will include digitalization of the financial sector, the fintech ecosystem, payment innovation, digital currencies, and digital transformation. MNB will also be an official partner for UNITAR’s annual Digital Finance Conference.

Call for applications: Blockchain, AI, and other digital technologies

Apply for the 5-week online course Blockchain, AI, and other Digital Technologies: Applications and Implications for Sustainable Development! The course will start on 28 March 2022. You will learn about four impactful digital technologies with the biggest potential to improve our accelerating world: artificial intelligence (AI), blockchain and other distributed ledger technologies, robotics and automation, and the Internet of Things (IoT). To learn more about other upcoming online courses on FinTech, trade, and finance, please visit here.

If you have any questions, please email us

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