

BUILD Equality

Building Leadership and Employment Pathways for Women in Construction
Empowering women to break barriers and lead change in the construction sector across Jordan and the UK.



Northumbria University
NEWCASTLE



Funded by



About the Project

BUILD Equality is a British Council-funded partnership between Northumbria University (UK), Hashemite University, and Philadelphia University (Jordan). Through 2025, we are delivering transformative workshops, training activities, and peer-learning opportunities to help shape a more inclusive future for the construction sector

Our Mission

To empower women in Jordan and the UK to advance into leadership and technical roles in the male-dominated construction sector by providing the necessary skills, opportunities, and support.

Our Objectives

- * Developing Leadership Skills
- * Breaking Down Barriers
- * Creating Sustainable Pathways

Our Workshop Series

Transforming the Construction Sector Through Education and Empowermen

Workshop 1: Understanding Barriers and Fostering Collaboration

Kick-Off Workshop

Of Our Online Specialized Training Program

Meet the Speakers

Tue. September 9th

11:00 AM - 01:00 PM

Session 1

Dr. Hazel Ponton

Construction & Education Professional

The emotionally intelligent leader



Dr. Mais M. Aldwaik is an Assistant Professor of Structural Engineering at Philadelphia University, Jordan. She earned her PhD in Civil Engineering from The Ohio State University, focusing on cost optimization of reinforced concrete high-rises. Her research covers sustainable and resilient design, earthquake engineering, structural optimization, and building rehabilitation.

Session 2

Dr. Mais M. Aldwaik

Sustainable Construction Researcher

Value engineering, optimization, sustainability, and gender roles



Session 3

Dr. Shadan Dwairi

BIM and Digital Construction Innovator

Guest stories: women in BIM



Dr. Shadan Dwairi is a Principal Consultant in BIM and Digital Engineering at Costain, UK, with a PhD in BIM from the University of the West of England. She previously earned her BSc and MSc in Architectural Engineering from Jordan University of Science and Technology. She has taught Architecture and BIM in the UK and Jordan and published in the fields of BIM and automation in construction. Dr. Dwairi has also led BIM teams on major projects, including Yorkshire Water, the Houses of Parliament, and HS2

Interactive workshops, not traditional lectures

Build Equality

Workshop 2: Preparing for the Professional Work Environment

Building Employability Skills

Of Our Online Specialized Training Program

Meet the Speakers

Mon. August 11th

11:00 AM - 01:00 PM

Session 1

Sandeep Sethi

Marketing Lead

CV writing Tips & LinkedIn strategy



Session 2

Prateek Bahl

Director-Turner & Townsend

Workplace Skills - Employer's Perspective



Session 3

Maram Alkhamaireh

BIM & Cost Engineer | Specialist in Digital Design Integration

Portfolios as Empowerment Tools: Confidence-Building for Women in Male-Dominated Fields



Session 4

Jessica Hawkins

Talent Acquisition Partner - CBRE

Jessica plays a key role in the global partnership between CBRE, Project Management and Turner & Townsend, leading strategic talent acquisition across EMEA. She specializes in sourcing top passive talent through innovative recruitment methods.



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Workshop 3: Addressing Workplace Barriers

Navigating Mid-Career Challenges

Of Our Online Specialized Training Program

Meet the Speakers

Tue. August 26th

01:00 PM - 03:30 PM

Session 1

Prof. Dr. Amani Ghazi Jarrar

Political Education & Peacebuilding

Professional Etiquette and women in leadership



Session 2

Dr. Dalila Al-Tarazi

Sustainability and Well-Being Specialist

Sustainable Construction: Trends, Impacts and Certification



Session 3

Abdelrahman Azmi

Design Leadership Specialist

Workplace Skills - Employer's Perspective



Session 4

Dr. Lubna Alawneh

Urban Planning Strategist

Workplace Skills - Employer's Perspective



Dr. Lubna Alawneh holds a PhD in Architecture and Urban Planning from Bauhaus University Weimar, Germany. She also earned a Master's in Spatial Planning and a Bachelor's in Architectural Engineering from the German Jordanian University, graduating top of her class. Her academic and professional work emphasizes human-centered approaches to urban futures.

Interactive workshops, not traditional lectures

Build Equality

Workshop 4: Developing Essential Skills for Career Longevity

Skills for Leadership and Technical Excellence

Of Our Online Specialized Training Program

Meet the Speakers

Tue. August 26th

01:00 PM - 03:30 PM

Session 1

Prof. Dr. Amani Ghazi Jarrar

Political Education & Peacebuilding

Professional Etiquette and women in leadership



Session 2

Dr. Dalila Al-Tarazi

Sustainability and Well-Being Specialist

Sustainable Construction: Trends, Impacts and Certification



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Workshop 5: Presenting Findings and Future Collaboration

Date: November 2025 | Format: Hybrid (In-person in UK)

This closing workshop will bring together all participants to review key outcomes, discuss strategies for sustaining partnerships, and celebrate achievements with certificate presentations.

Meet the Team

Leading Experts in Construction and Gender Equality



Dr. Ahlam Ammar Sharif
Co-Investigator
The Hashemite University, Jordan



Dr. Ala'a Alshdiefat
Co-Investigator
Philadelphia University, Jordan



Arch. Noor Alhuda Abu Ghunmi
Research Associate
Jordan



Dr. Amit Kant Kaushik
Principal Investigator
Northumbria University, UK

About This Project

UILD Equality is funded by the British Council through the Going Global Partnerships programme. The project runs from January to December 2025 and represents a collaboration between Northumbria University (UK), The Hashemite University (Jordan), and Philadelphia University (Jordan).

We are committed to creating lasting change in the construction sector by empowering women to break barriers and advance into leadership and technical roles.