



Women and Intellectual Property in Arab Countries

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Gender Equality and Innovation in the United Nations

- Gender equality is a human right
- In the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), which was adopted by the UN General Assembly including WIPO's Member States, gender equality is:
 - A stand-alone Goal 5: Gender equality and women's empowerment
 - Mainstreamed in all Goals, including Goal 9 on Innovation



WIPO is increasing its efforts to promote gender equality - Examples

■ Leadership

- WIPO Director General, Mr. Francis Gurry, is an International Gender Champion since 2015 and has made concrete and public commitments

■ Capacity Building

- More than half of some 50,000 participants of WIPO Academy's distance IP learning courses are women
- The Arab Bureau organized an innovation workshop in 2017 targeting women in the Arab region

■ Awareness Raising

- WIPO's webpage on gender equality and IP; Side events of the WIPO Assemblies on Women, Innovation and Intellectual Property since 2015
- Regional meetings on women, innovation and intellectual property (LAC 2017, Africa 2017, Arab region 2018)

■ Accountability

- Reporting progress to Member States and posting on website

WIPO Policy on Gender Equality (issued in Aug 2014)

- Integrating a gender perspective - Gender Mainstreaming in WIPO policies and programs
- Promoting gender equality within WIPO's workplace, including staffing
- Commitment required from all staff
- Gender and Diversity Specialist – coordinate implementation
- Program Managers – responsible for gender mainstreaming as applicable and gender equality in the workplace
- Gender Focal Points – assist Program Managers



Powering change: Women in innovation and creativity

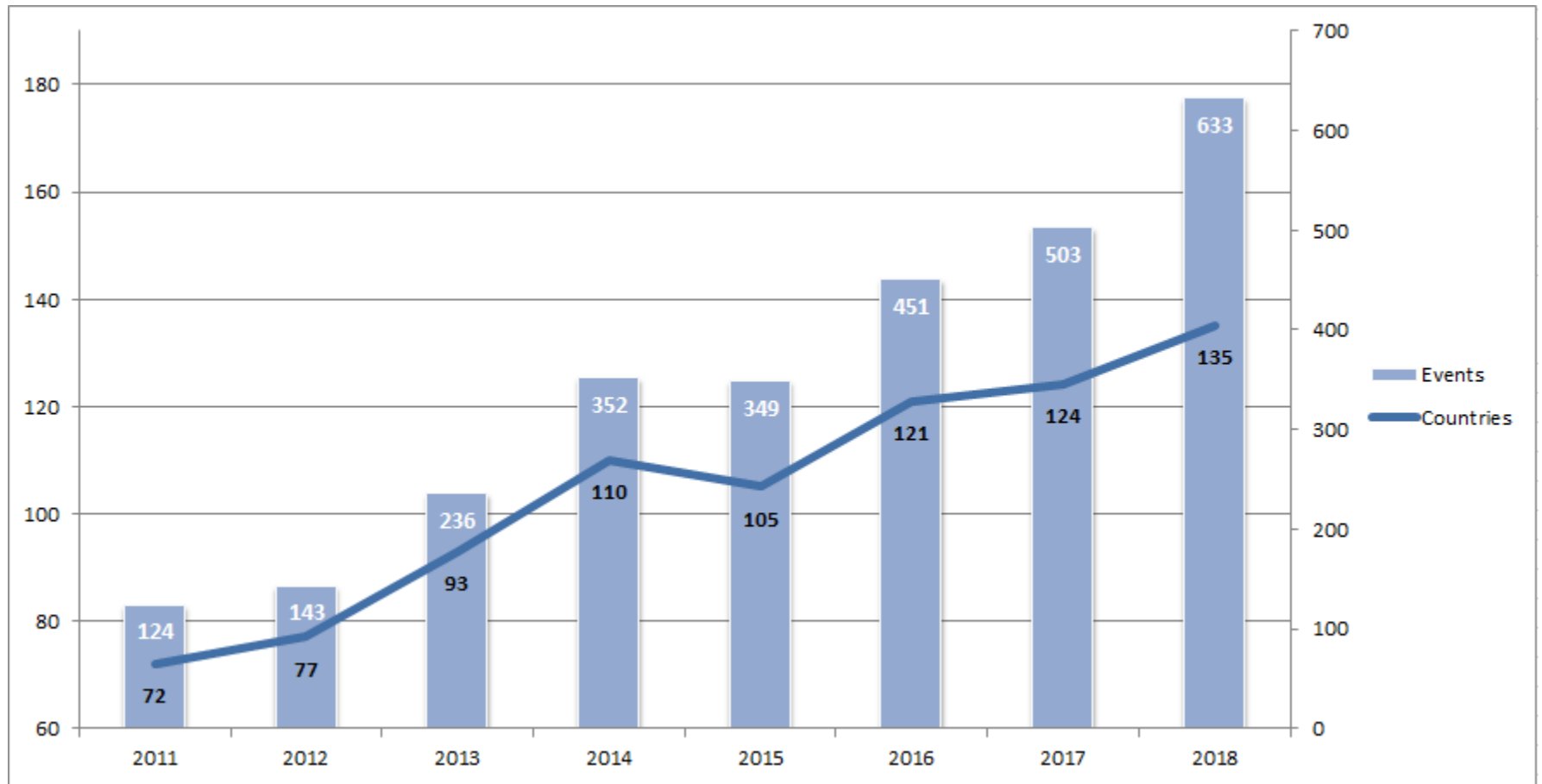
**World Intellectual
Property Day 2018**

April 26



#worldipday
wipo.int/ipday
youtube.com/wipo

World IP Day 2018: record engagement





630+ events in 135 countries/territories

Overview of the Regional Bureau for Arab Countries activities on Gender Mainstreaming (2017/2019)

- Arab Regional Conference on Encouraging Women and Innovation, organized in collaboration with World Women Inventors and Entrepreneur Association (WWIEA) and the League of Arab States (LAS), May 7-10, 2017.
- One day session on “*Encouraging Innovation and Creativity of Women for Economic Development*”, on the margins of the 8th Regional Meeting of Directors of Industrial Property Offices, Cairo, Egypt, April 12, 2018.
- Participation in the LAS celebrations of World IP Day under the theme “*Empowering Change: Women in Innovation and Creativity*”, April 23-24, 2018.
- A special session on “*Gender, IP and Economic Development*”, in the Arab Subregional Meeting on the role of Intellectual Property in Achieving Economic Development, Cairo, Egypt , October 30-November 1, 2018.
- Panel Discussion on “*Intellectual Property and Women Entrepreneurs*” , in the national workshop on *Effective Intellectual Property Asset Management by Small and Medium - Sized Enterprises (SMEs)*, Dubai, March 19 and 20, 2019.
- A “*Regional Meeting on Intellectual Property and Women Entrepreneurship*” hosted by the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, in cooperation with WIPO’s diversity specialist and SESD Division, July 2019.

Eighth Arab Regional Coordination Meeting for Heads of Industrial Property Offices, April 10-12, 2018

CAIRO DECLARATION

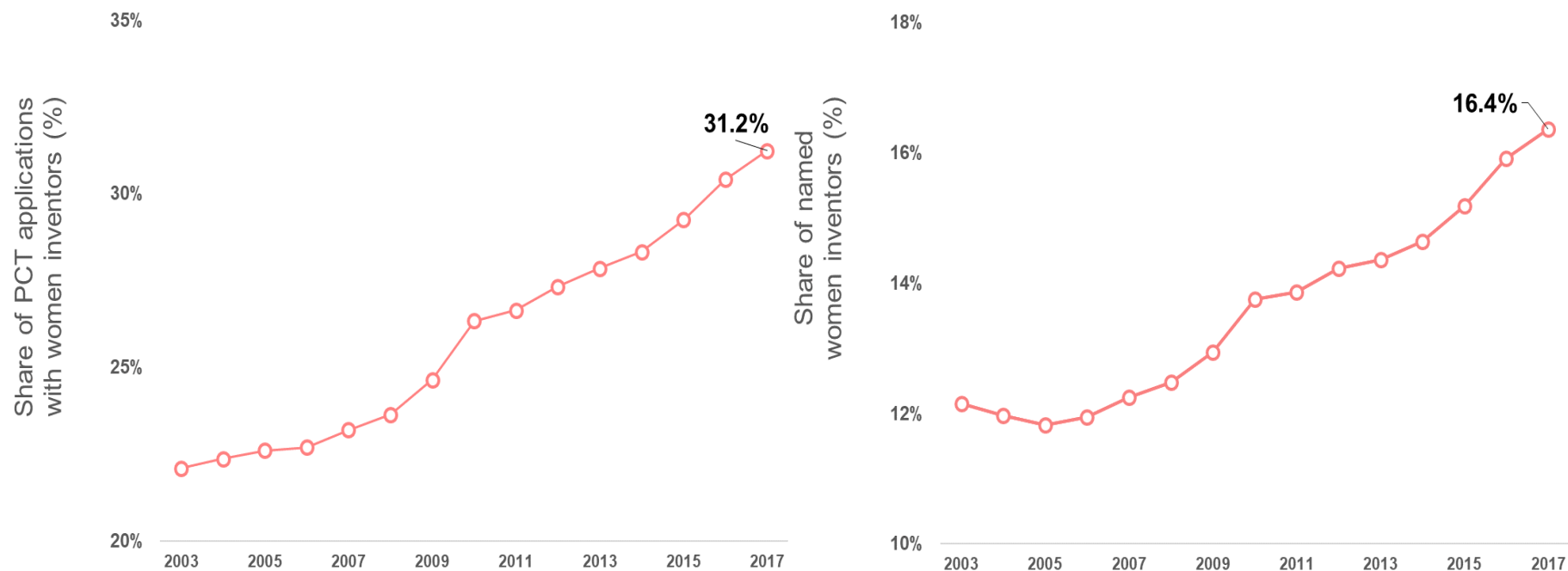
Sixth Recommendation:

“Recognizing the important and vital role of women inventors and creators in further developing the national economies, participants praised WIPO for its efforts of encouraging women inventors and creators; particularly through dedicating the theme of the 2018 World IP Day to ‘Empowering Change :Women in Innovation and Creativity’. Participants also recalled with appreciation WIPO/LAS cooperation over 2017 in this area, and called for further enhancing Arab cooperation with WIPO in this area.”

PCT applications by gender

In 2017, 31.2% of all PCT applications included women inventors.

A22. Share and number of PCT applications with women inventors, 2003–2017

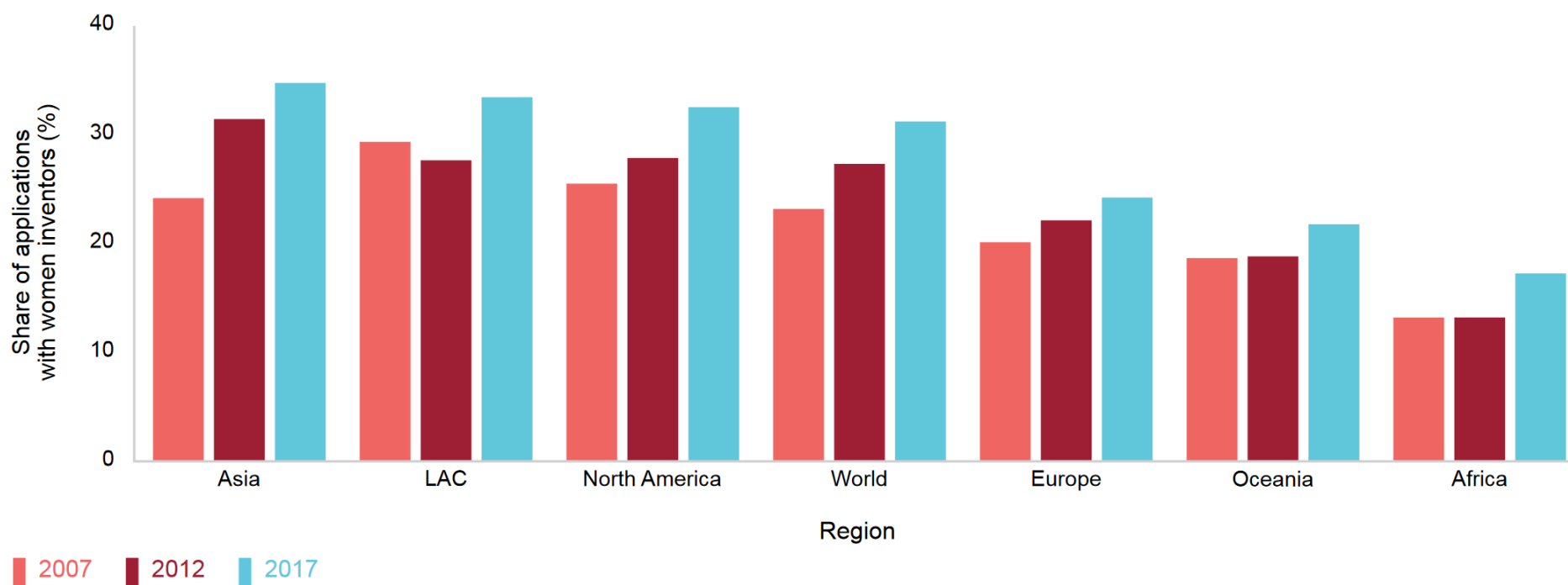


Note: For further details on methodology, refer to Martínez, G.L., J. Raffo and K. Saito (2016). Identifying the Gender of PCT Inventors. *WIPO Economic Research Working Paper No. 33*. Geneva: WIPO. Available at: www.wipo.int/publications/en/details.jsp?id=4125&plang=EN.

Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2018.

The share of PCT applications with women inventors has risen in each geographical region in the world between 2007 and 2017.

A23. Share of PCT applications with women inventors by geographical region, 2007, 2012 and 2017



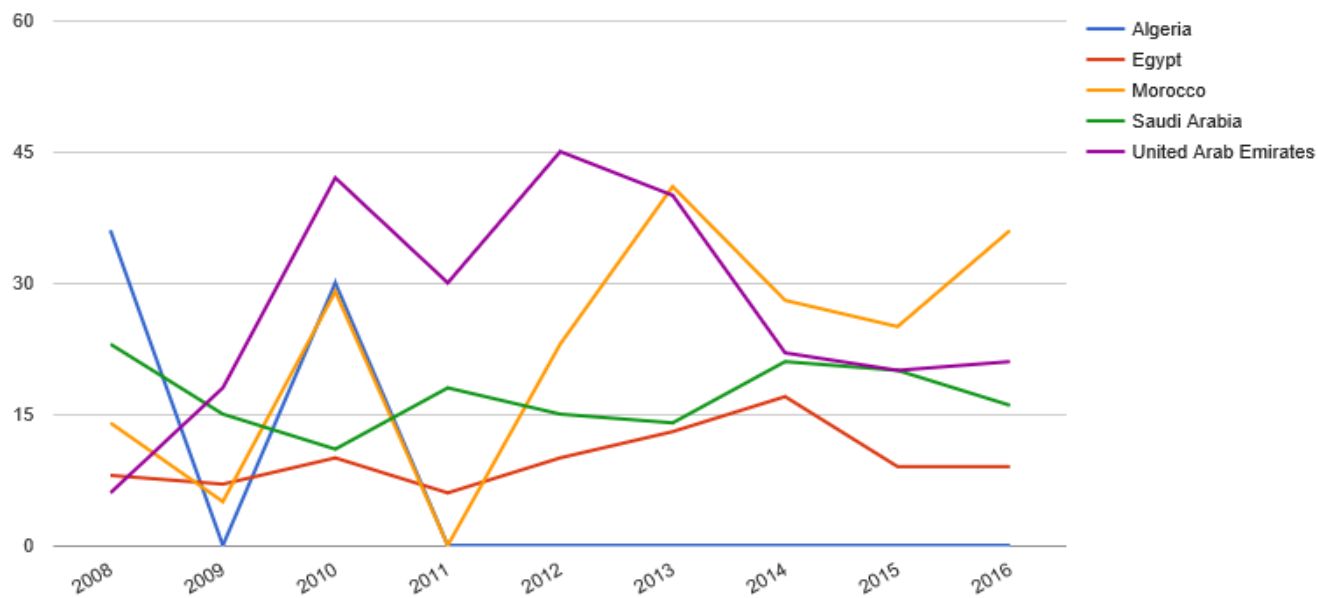
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Source: WIPO Statistics Database, March 2018.

Share of PCT applications with at least one women inventor in selected Arab Countries (2008-2016)

Reporting type : Yearly statistics

Indicator : 13 - Share of applications with at least one women inventor (yearly statistics)



*Source: WIPO IP Statistics Data Center

**Females constitute 50% of staff
working in national IP Offices in the
Arab Region.**

Regional Arab Meeting on Intellectual Property and Youth, Cairo, Egypt, November 7-8, 2018.



WHO-WIPO-WTO Regional Workshop on Public Health, Intellectual Property and Trade, Kuwait City, Kuwait, November 18-21, 2018.



Conclusions

- **WIPO is increasing its efforts to promote gender equality** in innovation and intellectual property – the initiatives range from leadership, capacity building to awareness raising and accountability
- Women's participation in the IP system **is getting better**. Progress is observed in most countries, in all technical fields and in both academic institutions and companies
- However, it remains **far from balanced** and women's participation in patenting is not equally distributed across countries, technologies and sectors
- **Women participate actively in patenting in the Arab region**. In the United Arab Emirates, Morocco, Saudi Arabia and Quarter (where more than 100 PCT applications were filed in the last 5 years), the share of PCT applications with women inventors is better than some of the top 20 origins of PCT applications.



Thank you ...

Questions ?