



**CSW60**  
**Join the Italian Association for Women in Development - AIDOS**  
**at the Parallel Event**

**“Virtual Business Incubators to promote women’s economic empowerment in the Middle East, Asia and Africa: AIDOS field experience”**

The panel will present the field experience and strategies of virtual business incubators for women’s micro and small enterprises implemented in different contexts in the Middle East (Palestine, Jordan, Syria), Asia (Nepal) and Africa (Tanzania). It will highlight how, through a holistic methodology and a gender approach, the incubators can stimulate social and cultural changes and promote women’s human rights and the achievement of the SDG #5. The speakers will be representatives of AIDOS partner NGOs at local level and international organizations, which supported the initiatives.

**Welcome & Opening Remarks: Italian Government representative**

Panelists:

**Clare Bishop Sambrook**, IFAD Lead Technical Specialist, Gender and Social Inclusion, “Women’s economic empowerment is crucial to gender equality”

**Paola Cirillo**, AIDOS Vice President, “Virtual business incubators for women’s enterprises: one of the possible strategies for women’s economic empowerment”

**Elena Bardasi**, Senior Economist in the World Bank Independent Evaluation Group, “Indicators of women’s economic empowerment and evaluation of WB supported incubator in Tanzania”

**Asma Khader**, Lawyer and women’s rights activist, Jordan, “Effects of economic empowerment on women’s rights”

**Maria Grazia Panunzi** AIDOS President will moderate the panel

**Date: Tuesday, 15th March 2016 - 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM**

**Venue: Thai Cultural Center (TCC), 310 44th St. Suite #L**

You are invited to register by sending an e-mail to [p.cirillo@aidos.it](mailto:p.cirillo@aidos.it)