



SPRINGBOARD LICENSING CONFERENCE COMES TO THE MIDDLE EAST



Red Sea Mall where the event was held, and volunteered to put the final touches to the painting.

In Dammam, renowned artist and art teacher Abdulazim Al-Damen contributed by inviting his art group to take part in the event at Rashid Shopping Mall.

At Gharnata Mall in Riyadh, artist Mohamed Al-Muqbel depicted the British Council on a backdrop of blue skies.



Nine women from several organisations across Saudi Arabia attended the first ever Springboard Licensing Conference in the Middle East, held in Beirut from July 12 to 20.

The conference was aimed at building capacity and licensing the trainers to enable them to offer women's development programmes in their organisations, communities and societies. It was the first activity in the Springboard regional project to be rolled out by the British Council, with the aim of contributing to the development of the role of women in social and economic life.

The women from Saudi Arabia represented organisations including Al -Nahda Philanthropic Society for Women, Riyadh Schools, Prince Sultan Funds for Women's Development, Fatat Al-Qassim and Dar Al-Hikma Colleges.

During the conference, the participants learnt about the

programme and how to deliver it. Now that they are back in Saudi Arabia, each of them will be running self-development programmes inside their organisations.

Speaking at the end of the conference, Jenny Daisley, the joint CEO of Springboard Consultancy, said, "Springboard is approaching 'her' 21st birthday in 2010. Now 'she' has an amazing variety of diverse new, fresh, energetic, wise Springboard 'aunties' – that is, Springboard trainers across the Middle East. They will take her now to new places, reach new women and help these women to change their lives for the better."

Diana, a newly licensed Springboard trainer, said, "It was an amazing and inspiring feeling to meet around 30 women from different cultures, races, religions, nationalities, ages and experiences with one common interest: Women's Development. I'm proud of meeting such women at the conference."

