

# RADWA ROSTOM

## Hand Over

2016 Climate Fellow



### BIG BOLD IDEA

Create durable and resilient houses and community buildings in underprivileged communities by empowering architects, civil engineering students, and local residents using sustainable construction.

### ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

Hand Over is an award-winning social enterprise that utilizes sustainable construction for the sake of community development, by building houses and structures that are beneficial for unprivileged communities. Hand Over tackles climate change by using local and earth materials as the main building components. Hand Over empowers and trains architecture and civil engineering students and connects them with the local community so they can work jointly on the designs and the implementation of the new buildings. At the same time, Hand Over collaborates with local NGOs and private-sector companies to facilitate the process. Hand Over strives to upgrade and empower underprivileged communities through environment-friendly techniques.

### PERSONAL BIO

Radwa Rostom is the founder and CEO of Hand Over, an award-winning social enterprise that utilizes sustainable construction for the sake of community development. After she graduated, Radwa worked in several positions, such as structural engineer, project engineer in an environmental consulting firm, and CSR specialist in a solar energy company. She explored several fields, such as energy efficiency, energy management systems, and green buildings. Currently, Radwa works as a business developer at WeForest, an organization that fights climate change through reforestation and land restoration projects. She was a United Nations volunteer and worked on online projects supported by Architecture for Humanity and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). In April 2014, Radwa was granted a fellowship from The DO School in Hamburg, Germany, to launch her startup. Radwa was selected as a young leader in the Westerwelle Foundation conference held in December 2014. In April 2015, Radwa was ranked by Arabian Business magazine as number 30 of the 100 most powerful Arabs under 40. In September 2015, Radwa was awarded a grant from the World Bank for the Women for Resilient Cities competition. She holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Ain Shams University.

#### Issue area

Environment

#### Organization/Fellow Location

Cairo, Egypt

#### Impact Location

Africa

Egypt

#### Organization Structure

Hybrid

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