Rethink what is often said, told and understood about feminism, gender equality, and gender-based violence.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

#ElephantInTheRoom  #16DAYS  #30for2030

ADDRESSING THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM
## EVENT AGENDA

It’s time to address the Elephant In The Room. We’re hosting a safe space to answer all your questions about the F-word, FEMINISM.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FRIDAY 25TH NOVEMBER</th>
<th>TIMEZONE: THA / UTC +7</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>11:00 AM - 11:05 AM</strong></td>
<td>Intro &amp; Privilege Game</td>
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<td>Find out how privileged you are in this quick game facilitated by our MC, Cindy Sirinya Bishop, and our Campaign Lead &amp; 30for2030 member, Lauralyn (Laura). You might be surprised by the results!</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Meet Cindy</strong></td>
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<td>Actress, Artist, and Advocate for Gender-Based Violence and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>11:05 AM - 11:45 AM</strong></td>
<td>Chat with Cindy &amp; the panel</td>
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<td>Ready your coffee &amp; tea as you listen to our MC chat with her guests – Dr Elise and Norul Mohamed Rashid, Policy Advisor on Governance and Peace &amp; Security for UN Women Asia and the Pacific.</td>
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<td><strong>Meet Dr. Elise</strong></td>
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<td>30 for 2030 Network Member, Researcher, Entrepreneur, LGBTQ+ Leader, and amazing all-rounder.</td>
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**FRIDAY 25TH NOVEMBER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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| 11:45 PM - 12:50 PM | **Stories & Conversations (Safe Space)**  
Listen to a diverse & amazing line-up of storytellers from Asia-Pacific share personal experiences within their areas of interest/expertise. They'll answer questions from you to help you think about what is being said/told/understood about feminism, gender equality, and gender-based violence.  
This is your chance to hear vulnerable stories of struggle & solidarity and have open conversations with our storytellers. There will be 13 breakout rooms for each area of interest/expertise, and you’ll get 60 minutes to listen to 2 storytellers (15mins for story + 15mins for discussion per storyteller).  
We’ll do a simple grounding technique to help you manage any distress at the end of this session. |
| 12:50 PM - 01:00 PM | **What’s Next: Beyond the Event**  
Some final words from our MC, Campaign Lead, and Melissa Alvarado (Ending Violence against Women Programme Manager for UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific) to show thanks and share simple actions you can take beyond what you’ve experienced in the event. |

**REMINDER!**  
This is a safe space. There is no obligation to actively interact in the discussion. Come curious & be kind.

**TIMEZONE:**  
THA / UTC +7

Visit our web-page, to register and learn more! **THIS EVENT HAS A TRIGGER WARNING.**
MEET THE MC

CINDY SIRINYA BISHOP

ACTRESS | ARTIST | ADVOCATE
UN WOMEN GOODWILL AMBASSADOR

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THE STORYTELLERS

UN WOMEN GOODWILL AMBASSADOR

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Ms Norul Mohamed Rashid has more than 26 years' professional experience in the areas of human rights, development, gender, governance and the rule of law in conflict-affected countries, as well as at UN Headquarters.

She is currently the Policy Advisor for UN Women on Governance, Peace and Security for the Asia-Pacific region, based in Bangkok. Among her UN posts, Ms Rashid worked on international law and transitional justice for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda. As a Policy and Programme Advisor at UN Women HQ, Ms Rashid worked with the UN system on integrating the Women, Peace and Security agenda in justice and rule of law initiatives in crisis contexts. She managed the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq’s human rights office in Northern Iraq and has worked in Libya and Indonesia on governance, peace and security programming.

She last served with the UN Executive Office of the Secretary-General where she supported strategic and high-level policy development and implementation of organizational vision and strategies in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals, peace and security and emerging global challenges such as climate change and new technology. Prior to joining the United Nations, Ms Rashid was a State Counsel in Singapore. She graduated with a law degree from the National University of Singapore and a LLM in International Law from the University of London, United Kingdom.
Dr. Elise Stephenson is a multi-award-winning gender equality researcher, Asia-Australia strategist and social entrepreneur from rural New South Wales, Australia. Elise is currently a Research Fellow at the Global Institute for Women’s Leadership, Australian National University. She has worked over 75,000kms by road across remote Australia, plus internationally in the region, on gender equality in international affairs, diversity in (outer) space, national security and intelligence, and feminist climate justice movements.

Dr Elise Stephenson’s career is littered with seemingly unrelated projects and pursuits. Only, they are related. Elise seeks to find critical junctures across industries and portfolios – all for the sake of research, practice or policy interventions that can help to ensure equality (gender, sexuality, cultural, etc.) in various aspects of international affairs.

About Dr. Elise
Dr Elise Stephenson is a multi-award-winning gender equality researcher, Asia-Australia strategist and social entrepreneur from rural New South Wales, Australia. Elise is currently a Research Fellow at the Global Institute for Women’s Leadership, Australian National University. She has worked over 75,000kms by road across remote Australia, plus internationally in the region, on gender equality in international affairs, diversity in (outer) space, national security and intelligence, and feminist climate justice movements.
About Lauralyn
Lauralyn (Laura) is a Filipina third-culture individual, sex-positive, intersectional feminist, and advocate from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Lauralyn is a professional in persuasion – sales, marketing, advocacy. When not at her day job, she returns to her technical foundation and offers writing and multimedia design services to social causes. Constantly learning/unlearning/relearning, Lauralyn acknowledges the power of mass communication and is a strong advocate for Women’s Rights, LGBTQ+ Rights, Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights, preventing Gender-Based Violence, and Health & Wellbeing.

"Yes, I’m Angry And Have A Right To Be: Telling girls they can’t be angry is just as harmful as telling boys they can’t cry. This is my story of how repressing my anger affected my trauma response towards certain types of GBV & how tapping into it has helped me advocate for others."
MEET THE 16 DAYS CAMPAIGN TEAM

30 FOR 2030 MEMBERS
16 DAYS CAMPAIGN TEAM

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Melissa Alvarado is the Ending Violence against Women (EVAW) Regional Programme Manager at UN Women, Asia-Pacific Regional Office. Melissa has been working specifically on ending violence against women and children for 25 years, through programme management and design, policy and legislation development and implementation, direct service, developing interagency response systems, technical assistance, capacity building, advocacy and research.

Prior to joining the Asia-Pacific office, Melissa managed UN Women’s Ending Violence against Women portfolio in the Pacific Islands; provided dedicated technical assistance to the UN Women Afghanistan office; engaged in global policymaking through the Policy Division at UN Women headquarters on EVAW; managed gender-based violence programmes in Darfur, Sudan with UNFPA; and supported refugees and people affected by conflict with international NGOs in Thailand and Kosovo. Melissa has experience in addressing violence in adulthood and child abuse, including multi-disciplinary approaches to prevention, response and investigation of child sexual abuse, violence against women and fatalities. From the United States, Melissa holds a Master’s degree in Social Work and a Bachelor’s degree in Psychology. Her work is informed by years of experience advocating for and directly supporting survivors of violence against women and children in crisis.
MEET THE STORY-TELLERS

SARO IMRAN

PROGRAM MANAGER
KHAWAJA SIRA SOCIETY

TOP VOICES ON GENDER EQUALLY, AUSTRALIA & WORLDWIDE

“TURNING PAIN INTO POWER”

I was a victim of GBV, sexual abuse, mental harassment and physical violence. I promised myself that I will not be a victim, or just a survivor, but a fighter. A fighter for, not only my rights, but also for the rights and justice of all transgender women in Pakistan and globally. - Saro

About Saro
Saro is a Young Transgender Activist and social entrepreneur for the socio-economic development of marginalized communities. Since 2013, she has been working on furthering transgender rights and SRHR. She has worked with various national and international organizations; Youth Lead, IVAFP, Global Fund for Children, Commonwealth Youth Network for gender equality, Rutgers, Youth Voice Count, Accountability Lab, SPDG, CEDAW Institute.

KARISHMA ALI

FOUNDER
KARISHMA ALI FOUNDATION

GIRLS AND SPORTS, PAKISTAN

“SPORTS FOR GENDER EQUALITY: SPORTS HAS HELPED CREATE SOCIAL CHANGE IN SOME OF THE MOST REMOTE REGIONS OF PAKISTAN.”

About Karishma
Karishma Ali is a football and social entrepreneur from Chitral, Pakistan. In 2016, she represented Pakistan in the International Jubilee games; in 2017, she was part of the first female team from Pakistan to participate in the AFL International club Melbourne.

Ali has dedicated her life to breaking barriers for women in sports and ensuring that girls have more opportunities to play sports.
MEET THE STORY-TELLERS

HUSNA NALEER | CONTENT WRITER
ENABLE LANKA FOUNDATION

**AN INSIGHT INTO THE DEAF WORLD IN SRI LANKA**

"DID YOU KNOW 1 IN 5 WOMEN IN THE WORLD HAVE A DISABILITY?"

GBV is caused by discrimination and the lack of awareness against women with disabilities. It is time to make protecting disabled women and girls a global priority.

About Husna
Husna Naleer, a young deaf woman, a graduate of the University of Colombo, is currently engaged as a Content Writer at Surge Global. Husna represented the youth of Sri Lanka at the Commonwealth Youth Forum (CYF), which ran in parallel to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Kigali, Rwanda. Husna is an integral part of Enable Lanka’s projects, and she advocates for the rights of young women and girls with disabilities through creative mediums.

SHALEEN CHRISANNE | CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST
MALAYSIA

**INEQUALITY IN THE MENTAL HEALTH FIELD IN MALAYSIA**

"FEMINISM IN MENTAL HEALTH"

How we can apply the feminist framework within mental health? Listen to how the LGBTQ+ community can be a leading example of this.

About Shaleen
Shaleen Chrisanne is an LGBTQ+ affirming clinical psychologist based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

I am passionate in advocating for mental health, LGBTQ+ rights, women’s rights, and rights of all marginalised groups (and the intersections of them all). My practice is guided by a feminist framework that highlights the systemic issues that influences our mental health and aims to give back a sense of agency.

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MEET THE STORY-TELLERS

ALLAN BALL | NATIONAL DIRECTOR
WHITE RIBBON AUSTRALIA

TOP VOICES ON GENDER EQUALLY, AUSTRALIA & WORLDWIDE

"CONNECTING MEN TO WOMEN'S SAFETY"

We will continue to get the same outcomes if we keep doing the "same old."

By involving males in the movement rather than calling them out, we need to change the way we have been engaging with men.

About Allan
Allan is a highly sought-after educator who places a strong emphasis on social policy as a crucial component of local solutions to challenging social problems.

Among Allan’s influencers are Julie Gillard, Jim Ifs, Missy Elliott, and his father. As a public speaker on issues like consumer engagement, gender equality, community development, change management, and children and youth issues, Allan is in high demand.

ROSE SINGH | GENDER & HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST
KATHMANDU SCHOOL OF LAW

REDUCING PERIOD POVERTY IN RURAL NEPAL

"THE COST OF BEING A MENSTRUATING INDIVIDUAL SURPASSES THE COST OF BEARING PHYSICAL PAINS."

About Rose
As a law student, advocate, and writer, Rose is committed to bridge the gap between law and gender equity through means of legal advocacy to vulnerable women.

She has worked with organizations to reduce period poverty in rural sectors of Nepal through policy measures through lobbying with Ministry of Women and Development, Nepal.

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MEET THE STORY-TELLERS

SONAL DHANANI | FOUNDER
PARINDEY

PEACE AT THE PEOPLE-TO-people LEVEL IN PAKISTAN

“INNER PEACE FOR OUTER ACTION”

Based on my own life experience when a graduate shot 47 people of my community, one of which was my loved one.

About Sonal

Sonal Dhanani is a creative professional, NeuroLinguistic Programming (NLP) practitioner & facilitator keen on promoting education, mental health initiatives and social action.

She sees art as a unifying force between people. In 2015, she started an initiative called Parindey which focuses on enhancing increasing mental health access, countering & preventing violent extremism through the soft approach of introducing mental health & peacebuilding programs.

JOSHUA TEH | SENIOR PROTECTION ASSOCIATE (POLICY & ADVOCACY - GBV & CHILD PROTECTION)
UNHCR MALAYSIA

THE IMPORTANCE OF SAFE SPACES

“THE PANDEMIC AMPLIFIED THE RISKS OF GBV, INEQUALITY, AND DISCRIMINATION FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE IN SOCIETY. REFUGEE WOMEN AND NGOS CAME TOGETHER TO CREATE SAFE SPACES FOR THESE VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES.”

About Joshua

Joshua Teh is a passionate women’s rights advocate. A lawyer by profession, in 2014 he was appointed Advocacy Officer for Women’s Centre for Change, an SGBV-focused women’s rights NGO. There, he ran a ground-breaking survey on rights and facilities available to vulnerable victims in criminal court. In 2016, he was awarded a Chevening Scholarship to pursue an LLM in Human Rights from SOAS University of London. Joshua currently works with UNHCR Malaysia, specializing in gender-based violence, child protection, and refugee rights. He is also the Sexual Exploitation and Abuse focal point.

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MEET THE STORY-TELLERS

**YU REN-CHUNG**
DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
WOMEN’S AID ORGANISATION (WAO)

*Gender Equality and Why Men Should Care*

“Gender based violence, gender equality, and why men should care”

About Ren
Yu Ren-Chung is Deputy Executive Director with Women’s Aid Organisation (WAO). Working with colleagues, partners, and with the larger civil society movement, he has led and co-led initiatives resulting in policy reforms relating to domestic violence and gender equality – including amendments to the Domestic Violence Act, increased public funding for GBV response services, the establishment of the National Domestic Violence Committee, the creation of paternity leave in employment laws, and tabling of anti-stalking laws.

**DEA AMIRA**
CEO & CO-FOUNDER
RENTIQUE

*Women & Entrepreneurship in South East Asia*

“Women-preneurs play a huge part in the economic growth and landscape of Southeast Asia.”

About DEA
Dea Amira is the CEO & Co-Founder of Rentique, Indonesia’s 1st fashion rental and resale app. Her passion towards empowering women and sustainability led her to create Rentique with a mission to revolutionize Indonesia’s Fashion Industry. She’s an honoree of Forbes 30 under 30 Indonesia 2022 & an author of Indonesia’s best selling book: #MillennialInvestor

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MEET THE STORY-TELLERS

HUDA BHURGRI  ADVISOR GENDER & INCLUSION  GIZ - PAKISTAN

FEMINISM, AND THE MOVEMENTS THAT WORK AGAINST IT

“FEMINISM FOR THE 99% - HOW TO BUILD MOVEMENT IN THE FACE OF RESISTANCE.”

About Huda
Huda Bhurgri is a feminist activist and development professional with more than ten years of experience in gender advocacy for women’s inclusion in democratic processes. Huda has significantly contributed to Pakistan’s feminist movement as a key organizer of the Women’s March in Islamabad since 2019 and was a part of many progressive feminist resistance movements. She actively engages senators, parliamentarians, and the general public on policy reforms concerning women’s political participation in decision-making processes.

AMY ASTILL  COUNCILLOR OF THE CITY OF KALGOORLIE-BOULDER

LIFE AS A FEMINIST IN RURAL AUSTRALIA

“THE OUTBACK WAY”

About Amy
Amy Astill is a 21-year-old woman who has grown up in regional Australia. Having worked in a variety of industries including not-for-profits, health, tourism, animal welfare, politics, unions, and mining sectors, Amy has a wealth of knowledge and experiences.

Living as a feminist in rural Australia has ignited Amy’s passion to work in the political sphere and advocate for the less fortunate, for minority groups, and for equal opportunities and treatment for all.

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AYEsha Amin

BREAKING TABOOS AROUND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH IN PAKISTAN

“...I have a lot of friends reaching out and saying, ‘We never thought menstrual health was a problem... that there’s a need to talk about it.’

About Ayeesha
Ayeesha is the Founder of Baitak - Challenging Taboos - a non-profit organization that works for women’s access to their sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) in Pakistan. She has 10 years of experience in leading social impact initiatives especially in the fields of women empowerment and gender justice. Her most recent project is called ‘Gul’, and is an AI powered voice chatbot to educate young men and women in rural communities about reproductive health in local languages using WhatsApp. Gul is expected to reach around 500k+ young people in Pakistan by 2023.

PRIYAl KENI

SPORT FOR SUSTAINABILITY IN INDIA

“...I asked them a very simple question, what’s your favourite sport? Silence. What sport do you play everyday after school? Silence.

About Priyal
An International Rifle Shooter, Chartered Accountant and Social Entrepreneur, Priyal has been a strong advocate of Sport for Sustainability and Women Empowerment. After winning over a hundred medals and representing India for 7 years as a member of the Indian rifle shooting team, she set out on a transformative journey to start her own social enterprise, through which she has impacted thousands of underprivileged children over the last 4 years.

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AYSHA SHUJAAT | COUNTRY LEAD - PAKISTAN PROJECT GIRLS FOR GIRLS

FROM AVOIDING FEMINISM, TO BE SAVED BY IT

JOURNEY OF FEMINIST A WAKENING

Seeing the real face of patriarchy up close would have drowned me if I didn’t learn about feminism - to understand how society operates and depersonalize my experiences with a feminist lens. - Aysha

About Aysha
Aysha is a development professional, focusing on democracy, rights and electoral governance. In earlier years of her career, she has led missions for some of the most historic post-conflict elections including Afghanistan, Iraq and Libya.

More recently, she consults with international and local non-profits as an advocate for gender and social inclusion, with an emphasis on youth leadership and political participation of women and marginalized groups.

NET SUPATRAVANI J | CO-FOUNDER ILA (ALLY APP)

SOCIAL INNOVATION & GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN THAILAND

USING TECH FOR GOOD: TACKLING GENDER VIOLENCE

With our app ALLY, we turn bystanders into trained allies to spot and stop harassment. Social innovation is key to targeting systemic issues that are deeply rooted in society, especially one like Thailand that still stigmatizes gender violence. The role of private and public sectors alike is crucial in creating an ecosystem of accountability.

About Net
Net Supatavani is the Co-founder of ila. She is passionate about using innovative business models to tackle gender inequalities. With ila’s app ALLY, she envisions a smarter, safer world for women. She started off her career in marketing at Ogilvy & Mather Singapore. Net is the winner of the UN Women Youth Leadership award for Thailand 2021, recipient of Thailand’s Department of Women’s Affairs Outstanding Woman of the Year 2022 and currently sits on the advisory board of B Corp’s B Lab UK. She graduated with her BSc from New York University and received her MSc from The London school of Economics.

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KIRTHI JAYAKUMAR
FOUNDER
THE GENDER SECURITY PROJECT

"FROM THE PERSONAL TO THE POLITICAL: WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY EVERYWHERE"

About Kirthi
Kirthi Jayakumar is a feminist researcher working in the areas of Women, Peace, and Security, Transitional Justice, and Feminist Foreign Policy. She founded and runs The Gender Security Project, and set up the GHG Observatory, which documents conflict-related, systemic, and mass sexual violence across time and space. She formerly coded an app for survivors of GBV called Saahas, and has trained over 7,000 individuals in bystander intervention, over 20,000 children and 1,000 teachers on child sexual abuse prevention and response.

MAI HUYNH
FOUNDER
EMPOWERMENT FOR CHANGE

"A FEMINIST LEARNER - A JOURNEY THROUGH INTERSECTIONALITY"

About Mai
Mai Huynh is an Intersectional Feminist, Gender Justice and Human Rights Advocate passionate for SRHR & Justice and GBV of all forms. Prevention. Mai is currently serving as one of the Coordinators at Y-PEER Viet Nam. Following the Community Solutions Program Fellowship by The U.S. Department of State & IREX in Women & Gender Issues Thematic Area, Mai founded and has been working on Empowerment For Change project. The project aims to empower the youth and young girls in all their diversity in rural areas of the Mekong Delta Viet Nam through feminist and gender-based approaches.

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AM I A FEMINIST

Friday, 25th November
11:00 AM - 01:00 PM (THA)
Online Event via Zoom

REGISTER NOW