

UN Women Centre of Excellence for Gender Equality

NEWSLETTER

Volume 1 (May 2023)

About the Centre

UN Women, established in 2010, is a United Nations entity focused on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls worldwide. The Centre, established in Seoul in 2022 with support from the Republic of Korea (ROK)' s Ministry of Gender Equality and Family, aims to address gender inequality in Asia and the Pacific. The Centre serves as a knowledge hub for research, education, training, innovation sharing, networking, and multi-stakeholder partnership development. It offers specialized training programs, conducts research, promotes gender statistics, and facilitates partnerships at national and regional levels.



Photo: Un Women/AJ. Lee

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Latest Developments

UN Women Deputy Executive Director meets Korean Minister for Gender Equality and Family

October 2022



Photo: Courtesy of Minister of Gender Equality and Family, Republic of Korea

The Centre held its first Steering Committee meeting to review the 2022 work plan. The Steering Committee was composed of: the Director General of the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family, Departments Heads of UN Women Headquarters, UN Women Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific region, the Centre' s Director, and Researchers of the Korean Women's Development Institute.

The First Steering Committee Meeting

October 2022

The Centre held its first Steering Committee meeting to review specific business plans for the Centre in 2022 on key areas such as ending violence against women, humanitarian action and disaster risk reduction, and gender statistics. The Steering Committee was composed of: the director general of the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family, departments heads of UN Women Headquarters, UN Women Regional director for Asia and the Pacific region, the Centre's director, and researchers of the Korean Women's Development Institute.



Photo: UN Women/Jaeki Kim

Opening Celebration of the Centre

November 2022



Photo: UN Women/Jaeki Kim

More than 100 partners and guests gathered in Seoul to celebrate the formal opening of the new office of the Centre. The reception was attended by government officials, members of the diplomatic community, representatives of UN agencies, civil society leaders, and experts from the ROK and other countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

Expert Consultation on Women and Technology Data

December 2022



Photo: UN Women/Jaeki Kim

The Expert Consultation on Women and Technology Data hosted by the Centre brought together 26 leading gender and data experts from UN Women, the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the International Labour Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization, Pulse Lab Jakarta, academia, civil society organizations and national statistics offices to discuss gender differences in human interaction with technology and conceptualize ways to measure such differences.

First International Women's Day Celebration

March 2023

The Centre hosted its first International Women's Day celebration in Seoul. More than 100 diplomats and international development experts from almost 60 countries, including some 30 ambassadors and heads of international organizations based in ROK, gathered to reflect on the importance of gender equality and to reaffirm their support to UN Women's mission.



Photo: UN Women/Jeong Jae Yeon

Ring the Bell for Gender Equality.

March 2023



Photo: UN Women/Jeong Jae Yeon

The stock exchange in the ROK dedicated its opening bell-ringing ceremony to promoting gender equality in the technology and innovation sector, as part of the latest -“Ring the Bell for Gender Equality” - campaign. The event is held to raise awareness about the role and opportunities for the private sector to advance gender equality and sustainable development.

Meeting with the former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon

March 2023

The Director of the Centre met with the former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and received his support for the Centre’s future work. Ban made the gender equality a cornerstone of the UN during his years, from increasing the number of women in senior leadership positions at the UN to consolidating four different UN entities together under UN Women in 2010.



Photo: UN Women/ A.J. Lee

Second Steering Committee Meeting

March 2023



Photo: UN Women/A.J. Lee

The Centre held its second Steering Committee meeting to review the Centre’s achievements in 2022 and to deliberate on its 2023 work plan. In 2023, the Centre plans to implement strategic research, training and partnership activities on key themes such as gender-based violence, technology and innovation, humanitarian assistance, women’s economic empowerment, and women, peace and security.

Training Workshop on Mainstreaming Gender in Humanitarian Action

March 2023

The Centre jointly hosted the Training Workshop on Mainstreaming Gender in Humanitarian Action with the International Organization for Migration mission in Seoul. The training brought together 42 representatives from non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, government institutions, and other relevant organizations based in the ROK with backgrounds in humanitarian action



Photo: International Organization for Migration

The Women's Empowerment Principles Workshop for Korea

April 2023

Almost 60-private-sector representatives attended ROK's first workshop on the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs), hosted by the Centre in partnership with the UN Global Compact Network Korea. The workshop served as a valuable platform for interaction and knowledge sharing, offering participants the opportunity to discuss the challenges, share success stories, and learn from each other's experiences in implementing the WEPs. "The Centre aims to help and communicate with companies' efforts to promote gender equality, starting with this event," said Centre Director Jeongshim Lee.



Photo: UN Women/Jeong Jae Yeon

Policy Forum: Agreed Conclusions of the 67th session of the Commission on the Status of Women

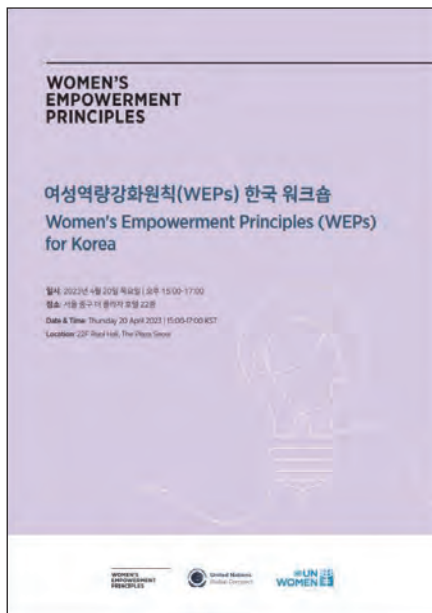
April 2023

The Centre hosted its First Policy Forum on Advancing the Agreed Conclusions of the 67th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW67). More than 70 central and local government officials, academia, civil society organizations, and experts from development partners gathered to review the outcomes of the CSW67 and discuss how governments and other relevant stakeholders can work together to advance the implementation of the agreed conclusions from CSW67 in ROK and beyond.



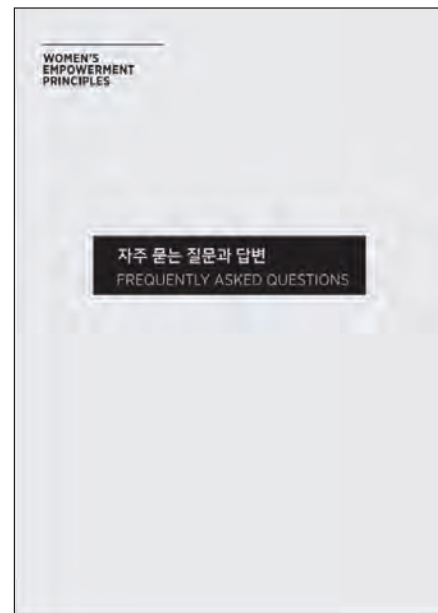
Photo: UN Women/Jeong Jae Yeon

Knowledge Products



Introduction to WEPs in Korean

The Centre has produced a Korean version of the WEPs guidance book. It provides a comprehensive overview of the seven principles, offering guidance on how to promote gender equality in the workplace, market, and community.



FAQ on WEPs in Korea

The Centre has developed a Korean version of the WEPs FAQ (frequently asked questions) document, to lower the barrier to signing the WEPs for the Korean private sector.