

UN Women Centre of Excellence for Gender Equality

NEWSLETTER

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Latest News

Policy Forum Explores Climate Change, Gender, and Technology Nexus

Sep 2023



Photo: UN Women/Kwanju Kim

The Centre hosted a policy forum on 4 September addressing the impact of climate change on gender inequality and the role of science and technology in mitigating it. The forum gathered over 70 participants, including government officials, academics, UN experts, and civil society organizations, to discuss gender mainstreaming practices, climate technology cooperation, and the importance of women's involvement in green technology and climate action. As women and girls suffer disproportionately from climate change, often worsening their lives, health, and safety, the forum emphasized the urgency of innovative climate technology and the importance of women's participation and leadership in its development. [Read more.](#)

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Accelerating Action for Gender Transformative Disaster Risk Reduction

Sep 2023

From 6 to 8 September, a regional training workshop took place to advance gender-transformative disaster risk reduction (DRR), with government representatives and experts from countries across Asia-Pacific participating. The workshop highlighted the significant human and economic losses in the region due to natural disasters and how marginalized groups, especially women, have limited access to resources and decision-making in disaster prevention and preparedness, increasing their vulnerability. Co-hosted by the Centre and the Asia-Pacific Regional Office, the training aimed to enhance gender analysis and mainstreaming skills for policymakers and activists in the field of disaster risk reduction. [Read more.](#)



Photo: UN Women/Kwanju Kim

Promoting Women's Full, Equal, and Meaningful Participation in Peace Processes

Sep 2023



Photo: UN Women/Seungwha Lee

In collaboration with the Republic of Korea Ministry of National Defense (MND), the Centre co-hosted the “Korea Peacekeeping Forum for Women’s Empowerment” on 22 September, which gathered over 200 military officials, diplomats, and UN staff to celebrate and promote women's full, equal, and meaningful participation in peacekeeping. The former UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, gave a keynote address. Distinguished military speakers from Korea and 10 countries, including two former Force

Commanders of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP), Major General Cheryl Pearce from Australia and Major General Ingrid Gjerde from Norway, spoke about critical contributions women military officers make in peace operations, despite gender stereotypes that still exist, and made concrete recommendations on how to attract and enable more women to serve and thrive in UN peace operations. The event also featured a "HeForShe for Peacekeeping" session with high-level men military officers, who spoke about the importance of this agenda based on their extensive field experiences. The Forum took place on the last day of the Women’s Military Peace Operations Course (WMPOC), an initiative of UN Women, supported by Member States and the Integrated Training Service of the UN Department of Peace Operations. This year, the course was hosted in Korea by the MND with support from UN Women Centre of Excellence; and it trained over 20 women military officers from 12 different countries, including from Asia and the Pacific. [Read more.](#)



Photo: UN Women/Chanyoung Park

Global Experts Convene in Seoul to Tackle Femicide: Standardizing Definitions and Data Collection

Sep 2023



Photo: UN Women/Kwanju Kim

The Centre jointly organized an international conference on ending gender-related killings of women and girls with the UNODC-KOSTAT Centre of Excellence in Seoul from 25-27 September. Over 60 international experts from government, academia, and civil society across Asia-Pacific, Europe, and Latin America came together to discuss standardizing the definition and statistical approaches to measuring femicide. During the conference, government focal points on violence against

women and homicide worked alongside international experts and specialists from UN Women and UNODC to exchange current practices on collecting, disaggregating, analyzing, and reporting data related to femicide while addressing associated challenges. Experts stressed the need for national data systems to record details about the relationship between perpetrators and victims and the circumstances of intentional homicides of female victims, emphasizing the importance of enhancing the collection and use of administrative data on violence against women and girls and establishing monitoring mechanisms. [Read more.](#)

Training on Preventing Violence Against Women, the “RESPECT” Framework

Oct 2023



Photo: UN Women/Kwanju Kim

A regional workshop held on 26 October brought together 48 government representatives and experts from 10 countries in Asia and the Pacific to discuss and strengthen evidence-based, ethical, and effective prevention of violence against women (VAW). The workshop emphasized the importance of prevention as a means to address the structural causes and risk factors associated with VAW. The workshop explored seven strategies outlined in the RESPECT Women Framework, including promoting respectful relationships and transforming social norms. It also introduced the RESPECT Implementation package, which

offers practical tools for implementing the framework. The workshop provided a platform for cross-country learning, sharing promising practices, and strengthening policies and programmes for VAW prevention at country level. UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and the Centre have been actively involved in promoting evidence-based policy and programming guidance to end violence against women. [Read more.](#)

Empowering ASEAN Nations through Enhancing Gender Statistics for SDG Monitoring

Nov 2023

The Centre, with support from the UN Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (UNSIAP) and Statistics Korea (KOSTAT), hosted a Subregional Training on Gender Statistics for Monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) from 30 October to 3 November. A cohort of 21 representatives from 10 ASEAN countries convened. The program's central goal was to define and enhance the utilization of gender data sources crucial for SDG monitoring, including surveys like Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) & Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS), as well as data from sources such as the SDG Global Database. Furthermore, it aimed to significantly bolster participants' statistical analysis skills using the R programming language and elevate their data visualization expertise, providing a substantial boost to their respective in-country research. The event also facilitated a dynamic exchange of best practices, with each participating country sharing its unique methods for monitoring and disseminating SDG gender-related data. [Read more.](#)



Photo: Courtesy of Statistics Korea

Breaking Gender Barriers for a Better Future of Key Industries: The Inaugural Seoul Gender Equality Dialogue

Nov 2023



Photo: UN Women/Hanju Lee

The inaugural Seoul Gender Equality Dialogue (SGED), hosted by the Centre, took place in Seoul, Republic of Korea, on 2 November. The event revolved around the theme 'Breaking Gender Barriers for a Better Future of Key Industries,' marking the first annual SGED. This significant event brought together a diverse gathering of over 300 participants, emphasizing the critical need to address the under-representation of women in key industries such as infrastructure, technology, and finance. The dialogue featured prominent women leaders who have shattered gender barriers in their respective fields, sharing their inspirational journeys and providing advice to the next generation. Speakers from leading global companies such as Samsung, Google, Intel, POSCO E&C, and GSMA shared the strategies to create an environment where women join, stay on, and thrive in under-represented industries. The Centre organized a Special Expert Group Meeting on 3 November, immediately following the SGED, to facilitate impactful discussions based on the insights shared during the Dialogue. More than 40 gender experts and industry professionals, representing sectors where women are underrepresented, gathered to explore effective strategies for transforming the work environment and enhancing women's participation and leadership. The SGED's resounding message was clear: it's time to shift the focus from making women prove their worth to dismantling systemic barriers and fostering gender equality in these key industries. [Read more.](#)