

UN WOMEN CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR GENDER EQUALITY



With support from



Ministry of Gender Equality
and Family



ABOUT UN WOMEN

UN Women, The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, is the UN entity dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women. A global champion for women and girls, UN Women was established to accelerate progress on meeting their needs worldwide.

In July 2010, during the tenure of the former UN Secretary General Ban Ki moon, the UN General Assembly created UN Women, by bringing together the work of four previously distinct parts of the UN system, to focus exclusively on gender equality and women's empowerment.



"We will not wait the estimated 286 years to close gaps in legal protection and remove discriminatory laws. We will not accept another day of ubiquitous violence against women or health inequality or child marriage. (...) We will not accept that women are excluded from peace tables, climate negotiations, and decision-making spaces. We will not—and we cannot wait."

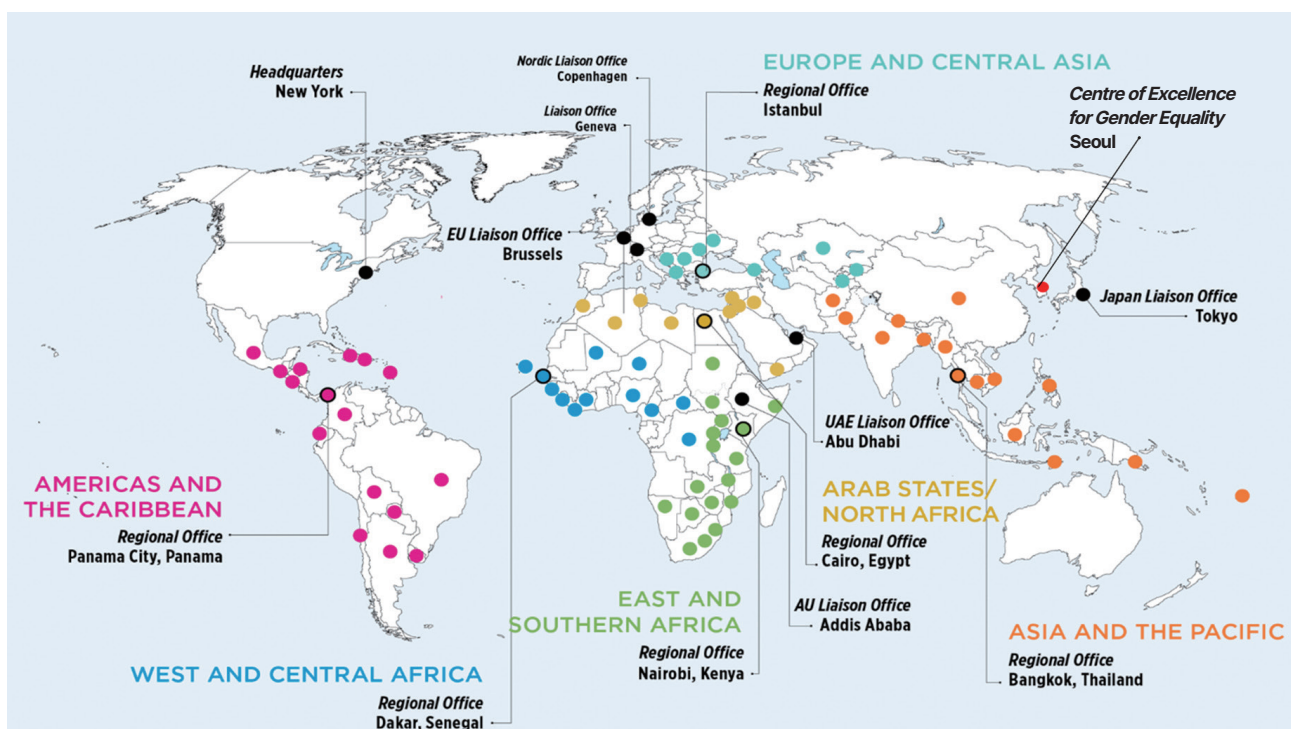
– Sima Bahous, UN Women Executive Director



"Without women's empowerment, you cannot say that we are living in a world where human rights are established or respected."

– Former UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon

UN Women supports UN Member States as they set global standards for achieving gender equality and works with governments and civil society to design laws, policies, programmes and services needed to ensure that the standards are effectively implemented and truly benefit women and girls worldwide. It works globally to make the vision of the Sustainable Development Goals a reality for women and girls and stands behind women's equal participation in all aspects of life, focusing on four strategic priorities: Women lead, participate in and benefit equally from governance systems; Women have income security, decent work and economic autonomy; All women and girls live a life free from all forms of violence; and Women and girls contribute to and have greater influence in building sustainable peace and resilience, and benefit equally from the prevention of natural disasters and conflicts and humanitarian action.





ABOUT UN WOMEN CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR GENDER EQUALITY

Established in 2022 with the support of the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family of the Republic of Korea (ROK), the UN Women Centre of Excellence For Gender Equality is the first UN agency present in the country with a dedicated mandate on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. Aspiring to function as a knowledge and partnership hub for the Asia-Pacific region, the Centre collaborates closely with both Korean and regional stakeholders. It strives to engage in meaningful activities that highlight the importance of gender equality and enhance the capacities of policymakers and practitioners in both the public and private sectors.

2024 FOUR PRIORITY AREAS

In 2024, the Centre will prioritize four key thematic areas: Women's economic empowerment; ending violence against women; climate change; and women, peace, and security. Within each thematic area, the Centre will facilitate a diverse range of activities, including training sessions, policy



"I believe achieving gender equality and empowerment of women and girls is critical for creating a better future for everyone. I am a firm believer in international cooperation, and I am ready to support whatever is necessary to help achieve UN Women's mandate in Korea and beyond."

– Eun Mee Kim, National Goodwill Ambassador for UN Women in the Republic of Korea

dialogues, international forums and advocacy initiatives while generating knowledge products based on these activities. Additionally, the Centre will provide support to research initiatives and the production of gender statistics to advance the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. Throughout the activities, the Center aims to strengthen its partnerships and forge collaboration with diverse stakeholders representing governments, civil society, international organizations, the diplomatic community, and the private sector.

CONTEXT: KEY STATISTICS ON THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

The Asia-Pacific region is home to 60 per cent of the world's population and accounts for more than 40 per cent of the global gross domestic product (GDP). Along with economic growth, the region has seen significant progress in laws and policies that support the promotion and protection of gender equality over the past decade. However, significant gaps between policy and practice remain in intersecting issues.



It is estimated that women held only 38 per cent of all salaried jobs in the Asia-Pacific region in 2015 (ILO: KILM 9th edition, 2015). Women in formal jobs earn much less than men – gender wage gap ranges from 1.5 per cent to 49.6 per cent in the Asia-Pacific region (ADB and UN Women, 2018). On a normal day in Asia-Pacific, women spend 4.1 more times – in some countries up to 11 times – on unpaid care work at home than men (ADB and UN Women, 2018).

In 2021, with an estimated 17,800 victims, the Asia-Pacific region recorded the largest number of reported female intimate partner/family-related killings (UNODC and UN Women, 2021). Globally, 85 per cent of women have experienced online violence or know someone who has, and this per centage rises to 88 per cent in the Asia-Pacific region (The Economist Intelligence Unit, 2021).



Asia- Pacific is the world's most disaster-prone region and women have less access to information, resources, finance, and technologies, leaving them with greater challenges in coping and rebuilding after a crisis.

Women in the security sector across Asia-Pacific are significantly underrepresented – with only 3 per cent of military in UN peacekeeping missions (UN Women, 2015).



BRIEF OVERVIEW OF 2023 ACTIVITIES

Women's Economic Empowerment	
Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) Workshop for Korea	Seoul Gender Equality Dialogue (SGED): Breaking Gender Barriers for a Better Future of Key Industries
Third Policy Forum: Advancing Women's Economic Empowerment through Gender Pay Equality	
Ending Violence Against Women	
Cross-Country Learning on Empowering Youth to Address Online Gender-based Violence	Ending Online Gender-Based Violence
International Conference on Ending Gender-related Killings of Women & Girls	In-Person Training on Essential Services Package for Women and Girls Subject to Violence
Capacity-Building for Front-Line Service Providers on Coordinated Quality Services for Women Living with HIV as Victims of Gender-based Violence	Cross-Country Exchange and Learning on Violence against Women Prevention and the RESPECT Framework
Climate Change, Disaster Risk Reduction, and Humanitarian Action	
Training Workshop on Mainstreaming Gender in Humanitarian Action	Cross-Country Learning Workshop Enhancing Capacity from Design to Action: Gender-responsive Rights-based Climate Action
Second Policy Forum: Exploring Climate Change, Gender and Technology Nexus	Regional Training on Gender-transformative Disaster Risk Reduction
Women, Peace, and Security	
Women, Peace and Security Learning Sessions	Women's Military Peace Operations Course
Korea Peacekeeping Forum for Women's Empowerment	
Gender Statistics and Data	
Subregional Training on Gender Statistics for Monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for ASEAN Countries	Subregional Training on Gender Statistics for Monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for Pacific Island Countries
Expert Consultation on Women and Technology Data	Online Training on Using Gender Statistics for Monitoring the SDGs
Public Engagement Activities	
International Women's Day	First Policy Forum: Advancing the Agreed Conclusions of the 67th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW67)
Ring the Bell for Gender Equality Campaign	16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence Campaign: Engaging Men for Ending Gender-based Violence



WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Equal pay for women and men for work of equal value is central to realizing gender equality and women's economic empowerment, reducing poverty and promoting economic growth. Along with the *Third Policy Forum: Advancing Women's Economic Empowerment through Gender Pay Equality* hosted in 2023, the Centre advocates for increased pay transparency, comprehensive pay analysis, and the necessary legal and programmatic interventions to close the gender pay gap. The ongoing conversation on care work and the care economy will be also addressed aiming to explore how these factors affect gender gaps in labor outcomes, including the gender pay gap.

The Centre works to increase representation, leadership, and well-being of women in the private sector. The Centre pays particular attention to under-represented industries such as infrastructure, technology, manufacturing, and finance. The Centre also promotes the *Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs)* through various workshops and organizes targeted activities for professionals to become inclusive leaders. *The annual Seoul Gender Equality Dialogue (SGED)* provides an exciting platform to exchange insights and inspirations from thought leaders in the private sector.

THE SEOUL GENDER EQUALITY DIALOGUE

The Centre hosts the annual Seoul Gender Equality Dialogue, its flagship event in the year to convene experts to tackle key challenges that inhibit women's economic empowerment. In 2023, the topic was "Breaking Gender Barriers for a Better Future in Key Industries." By presenting success stories, the Dialogue delivers inspiring stories from trailblazing women who have broken glass ceilings and now serve as role models for the next generation.



Kyunghee Kim, Secretary General, National Economic Advisory Council (Deputy Minister of Economy and Finance)



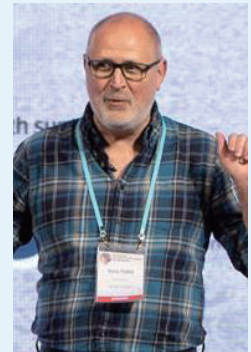
Sujin Ahn, Corporate EVP, Memory Business Division, Samsung Electronics



Misun Ahn, Vice President, POSCO E&C



Mike Kim, Head of Google for Startups, APAC



Gary Ford, Co-founder of Men for Inclusion, Author of "The Accidental Sexist" & Former Managing Director at JPMorgan



Over 300 participants joined the 1st Seoul Gender Equality Dialogue: Breaking Gender Barriers for a Better Future of Key Industries. Photo: UN Women/Hanju Lee

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT PRINCIPLES

The Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) are a global initiative established by UN Women and UN Global Compact in 2010. It provides a holistic framework for companies to advance gender equality and women's empowerment in the workplace, marketplace, and community. As of February 2024, about 9,300 CEOs across 160+ countries have committed their companies to advance gender equality and women's empowerment by signing the WEPs.

9000+
SIGNATORIES

Advancing gender equality in the workplace, marketplace & community.

United Nations Global Compact | UN WOMEN

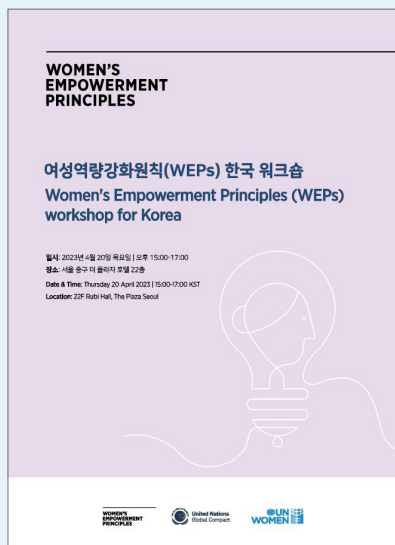
1 PRINCIPLE High-level corporate leadership	2 PRINCIPLE Treat all women and men fairly at work without discrimination	3 PRINCIPLE Employee health, well-being and safety	4 PRINCIPLE Education and training for career advancement	5 PRINCIPLE Enterprise development, supply chain and marketing practices	6 PRINCIPLE Community initiatives and advocacy	7 PRINCIPLE Measurement and reporting
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QR codes for weps.org, LinkedIn, and YouTube.

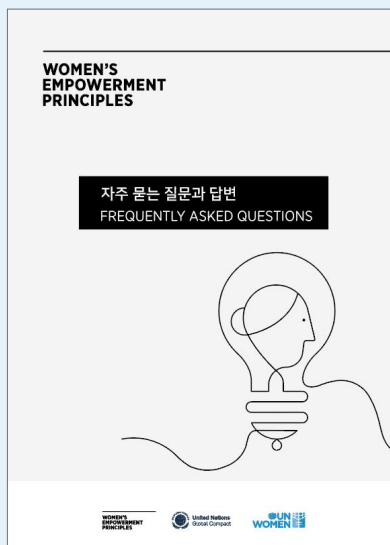
By joining the WEPs community, the CEO signals commitment to this agenda at the highest levels of the company and to work collaboratively in multistakeholder networks to foster business practices that empower women. These include equal pay for work of equal value, gender-responsive supply chain practices and zero tolerance against sexual harassment in the workplace.

In 2023, the Centre, in partnership with the UN Global Compact Network Korea, organized the *WEPs Workshop for Korea* to discuss concrete ways to advance gender equality in the private sector through the implementation of the WEPs. As the first of its kind in the Republic of Korea, the workshop brought together business representatives responsible for human resources as well as corporate diversity, equality, and inclusion strategies.

The Centre also produced Korean versions of the WEPs guidance book and the FAQ to facilitate the signing of the framework for Korea-based private companies. Also published a summary report to share the insights and promising practices presented during the workshop.



WEPs Guidance Note



WEPs FAQ



[Brief] WEPs Workshop for the Republic of Korea



ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Recognizing the critical need for accurate data, the UN Statistical Commission endorsed a statistical framework in March 2022, jointly developed by UN Women and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), to measure gender-related killings of women and girls (Femicide). To further the implementation of this framework, the Centre provides technical guidance to produce the data on gender-related killing of women and girls. In 2023, the Centre organized the *International Conference on Ending Femicide* in partnership with UNODC-KOSTAT Centre of Excellence. Participants from Asia and the Pacific countries gained extensive knowledge of femicide prevention, measurement and data collection. Building on the acquired normative knowledge, the Centre will initiate pilot studies in the Asia-Pacific region aimed at implementing the global statistical framework for measuring Femicide, starting in 2024.

With a similar approach, the Centre is supporting the collection of accurate data for technology-facilitated violence against women (TF VAW). It is also working to establish a regional working group -following the international conference- to measure TF VAW, bringing together national stakeholders and experts in the region to collect and compile national practices on the production of data related to TF VAW.



Young leaders and experts from 13 countries in the Asia-Pacific region are taking a group photo. Photo: UN Women/Kwanju Kim

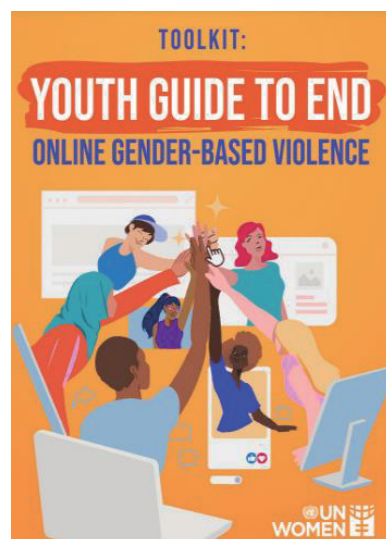
Pilot Studies on Implementing the Statistical Framework for “Measuring the Gender-related Killing of Women and Girls (femicide)”

UN Women Centre of Excellence for Gender Equality and UNODC-KOSTAT Centre of Excellence are piloting the Statistical Framework for “Measuring the Gender-related Killing of Women and Girls” in Mongolia and Fiji. The pilot studies aim to identify a standardized approach to measuring femicide that goes beyond existing limitations. Through the pilot exercise, relevant stakeholders in Mongolia and Fiji will have the opportunity to identify data gaps, if any, enhance their coordination efforts in data collection, production, analysis, and dissemination of information on various forms of gender-related killings, and improve criminal justice practices.



Variables in the statistical framework for measuring gender-related killing of women and girls (femicide)

The Centre also hosted a *Cross-Country Learning on Empowering Youth to Address TF VAW*, engaging with the youth leaders from the 30 for 2030 Network established by UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. The workshop facilitated an exchange on existing tools, knowledge and lessons learned on addressing TF VAW, and enabled participants to develop country-specific plans of action for implementation. It resulted in the production of the second edition of the toolkit: *Youth Guide to End Online Gender-Based Violence (OGBV)*.



Drafted by young decision-makers, the toolkit provides practical guidance for all key stakeholders, including governments and tech companies, on how to take action against all forms of OGBV, highlighting its multifaceted consequences to and beyond survivors.

Toolkit: the Youth Guide to End Online Gender-Based Violence



CLIMATE CHANGE, DISASTER RISK REDUCTION, AND HUMANITARIAN ACTION

The Centre is actively strengthening capacity development of regional and national actors for gender-responsive national climate action. In 2023, the Centre organized various trainings at the regional level for this purpose.



Government representatives and experts gathered to exchange knowledge and experiences on gender and climate change in Asia. Photo: UN Women/Seung Jae Kim

The three-day workshop, *Cross-Country Learning Workshop Enhancing Capacity from Design to Action: Gender-responsive Rights-based Climate Action*, provided a platform for government officials from eight Asia-Pacific countries to share national lessons on gender mainstreaming in mitigation and adaptation efforts. Furthermore, *the Regional Training on Gender-Transformative Disaster Risk Reduction* brought together policymakers and activists working in the field of disaster risk reduction with the aim of strengthening their skills and capacities on gender analysis and gender mainstreaming. The Centre also contributed to the generation of new knowledge products for the Asia-Pacific region, including the new training module on gender-responsive disaster risk reduction.

Using UN Women's existing training materials and other materials developed during the trainings by the Centre in 2023, the Centre plans to organize an in-depth training at country level to strengthen the capacity of government officials, civil society organizations and other stakeholders in *mainstreaming gender in climate change mitigation and adaptation policies and programmes*.



Participants from diverse regions collaboratively draft the regional and national action plan for gender-responsive DRR. Photo: UN Women/Kwanju Kim

Simultaneously, the Centre aims to enhance the understanding of gender-responsive climate action through official development assistance (ODA) projects. A *regional policy training workshop on gender responsive nationally determined contributions (NDCs) and other national climate policies* will be organized to facilitate the exchange and discussion on promising practices in the region. This effort is expected to deepen stakeholders' understanding of the nexus between gender and climate change, garnering their sustained support for gender-responsive climate action in ODA projects.



When disasters strike, women are less likely to survive and more likely to be injured due to long standing gender inequalities that have created disparities in information, mobility, decision-making, and access to resources and training. Photo: UN Women/Mohammad Rakibul Hasan.



WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY

The Centre supports women's full, equal, and meaningful participation in all levels of peace processes and security efforts. In 2023, the *Women's Military Peace Operations Course (WMPOC)* was hosted in Seoul by Ministry of National Defense and the Republic of Korea Peacekeeping Operations Center with the support from the Centre. The course trained over 20 women military officers from 12 different countries.

The WMPOC is an initiative of UN Women, supported by Member States and the Integrated Training Service of the UN Department of Peace Operations. It is specifically designed and targeted to prepare selected women military officers for deployment to UN Peacekeeping operations.



Group photo of participants of the Women's Military Peace Operations Course. Photo: UN Women/Chanyoung Park

The *Korea Peacekeeping Forum for Women's Empowerment* was hosted with over 200 participants to affirm the critical importance of the women, peace and security (WPS) agenda in the Republic of Korea and beyond, following the country's election as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council for the 2024-2025 term. As the keynote speaker, Ban Ki-moon, former UN Secretary-General recounted his appointment of Major General Kristin Lund as UN's first-ever woman military chief in 2014.



Former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon delivers a keynote speech at the Forum. Photo: UN Women/Seungwha Lee

Prominent women military leaders spoke about 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 and to develop their careers.



From left to right: Major General Cheryl Pearce, Major General Ingrid Gjerde, Colonel B. Wood. Photo: UN Women/Seungwha Lee

The Centre also took proactive steps to showcase the UN Women campaign #HeForShe, effectively disseminating its messages to military entities. Men military leaders powerfully made their case as to why having more women in peace operations is necessary and important, based on their own on-the-ground experience leading peacekeeping forces.



From top-left corner, clockwise: Major General Shahadev Khadka, Colonel Moon Dongsu, Colonel Hugo T. Lloyd, and Captain Corey Braddock. Photo: UN Women/Park Chan Young

#HeForShe Campaign



HeForShe is a campaign for men and people of all genders to stand in solidarity with women to create a bold, visible and united force for gender equality. In 2014, Emma Watson, UN Women Goodwill Ambassador, brought attention to the campaign by inviting men to support gender equality.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

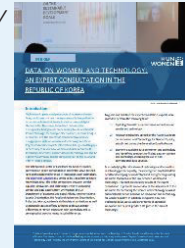
International Women's Day



In celebration of International Women's Day, the Centre hosted over 100 diplomats and international development experts from nearly 60 countries based in Korea. Under the theme for 2023: "DigitALL: Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality," the Centre jointly organized "Ring the Bell for Gender Equality" campaign with the Korea Exchange (KRX), UN Global Compact Network Korea (UNGC) and the International Finance Corporation (IFC) to promote gender equality in the finance and technology sectors.

Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)

The Centre organized the *First Policy Forum on Advancing the Agreed Conclusions of the 67th Session of the CSW and the Second Policy Forum on Exploring Climate Change, Gender and Technology Nexus*. The Centre also published the knowledge product on utilizing non-traditional data sources to measure gender differences in the interaction with technology following the *Expert Consultation on Women and Technology Data*.



[Brief] *Data on Women and Technology: An Expert Consultation in the Republic of Korea*

16 Days of Activism Against GBV



The Centre hosted a special dialogue on "Engaging Men for Ending Gender-based Violence (GBV)" as part of its *16 Days of Activism against GBV* campaign. On the occasion of the first-year anniversary of the Centre, the event drew public attention to addressing the root causes of violence, by engaging men as allies in prevention efforts.

Support to Regional Work on Disabilities



[Brief] *CLOSING THE JUSTICE GAP RESEARCH STUDY FOR WOMEN WITH INTELLECTUAL AND/OR PSYCHOSOCIAL DISABILITIES IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC*

The Centre supported the legal needs survey and associated knowledge products for the research project "*Closing the Justice Gap for Women with Intellectual and/or Psychosocial Disabilities in Asia-Pacific*," gathering evidence that illustrates the justice gap faced by women with intellectual and/or psychosocial disabilities in the Asia-Pacific region.

COMMUNICATIONS



Website



Newsletter



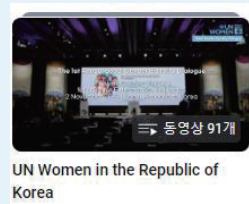
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Media Coverage



X



UN Women in the Republic of Korea

YouTube



LinkedIn



Naver Blog

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND GENDER

The Centre's projects and priority areas share a common objective: the advancement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). A key strategy for achieving these goals is the through utilization of the Centre's unique expertise in Gender Statistics.



21 participants from 10 ASEAN countries gathered to participate in the 2nd Subregional Training on Gender Statistics for Monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals. Photo: Statistics Korea

The Centre has been dedicated to enhancing the capacity of government officials in the region to generate gender data that will contribute to advancing gender equality. The Centre organized an online training session on gender statistics, followed by two in-person trainings for Pacific Island nations and ASEAN Member States. The trainings strengthened the capacity of 102 gender focal points across national gender machinery and national statistics offices. Participants gained skills to identify gender data gaps crucial for monitoring and reporting the progress toward achieving the SDGs in their countries.



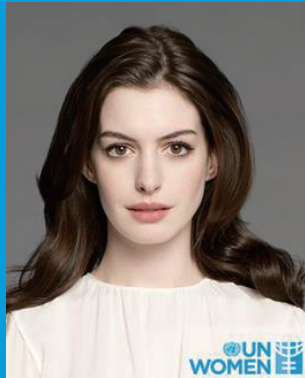
Participants from the Pacific Island nations received training on gender statistics for monitoring the progress in SDGs. Photo: UN Women/Kwanju Kim

In continuation of the gender statistics trainings conducted for monitoring the SDGs in 2023, the Centre will organize *trainings on crime statistics from a gender perspective*. They will address key concepts in crime statistics, with a particular focus on technology-facilitated violence against women and femicide to enhance evidence-based policymaking. In partnership with UNODC and the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific, the Centre will update an existing e-Learning course on crime statistics from a gender perspective with the aim of launching it in 2025.

The Subgroup on Gender Statistics Training, a subsidiary organization under the Network for the Coordination of Statistical Training in Asia and the Pacific, has recently updated the Gender Statistics Training Curriculum. Against this backdrop, the Centre will conduct a *training of trainers on gender statistics for monitoring the SDGs* to equip trainees with the skills to independently organize and implement further training courses, multiplying the effects of the Centre's training efforts in gender statistics.

Lastly, the Centre will contribute to developing a *projection model that tracks SDG progress with a focus on gender, climate change and other relevant external shocks*. This model will utilize cutting-edge methods like AI, big data, and econometrics to offer policy recommendations, data, evidence, and knowledge. It can provide analytical tools to assess diverse poverty and food insecurity scenarios under various policy interventions, including gender and climate-specific measures. The primary goal is to strengthen UN Women's global SDG monitoring and gender analysis capabilities.





"Women's participation and equal power are fundamental to progress for everyone. I'm sure you are aware of the evidence, which shows conclusively that equality between women and men makes us all safer, happier, more prosperous, and more successful. And yet, the reality in which we find ourselves is that at the current rate of progress, it may take another 300 years to achieve gender equality. I hope we all agree that these three centuries are too long."

- Anne Hathaway, UN Women Goodwill Ambassador

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