

# UN WOMEN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC NEWSLETTER | JANUARY-JUNE 2019

# WOMEN E



## GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP TO EMPOWER FEMALE WORKERS IN APPAREL INDUSTRY

#### JAPAN

Fast Retailing Co., Ltd., parent of the Japanese global apparel retailer UNIQLO, and UN Women announced today a global partnership to champion women's rights and empowerment in the apparel industry. This is the first formal alliance between UN Women and a clothing company based in Asia. *Read more* >

#### UN WOMEN INCOMING DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANITA BHATIA SEES HOW A UNITED NATIONS PROJECT CAN HELP PROTECT FEMALE MIGRANT WORKERS IN THAILAND

#### THAILAND

The visit to Mae Sot district in Western Thailand was to see a United Nations programme which addresses prevention oftrafficking and works to mitigate the harmful impacts of the migrant flow to Thailand. About 120,000 migrants from Myanmar now live in Mae Sot, two decades after the first Thailand-Myanmar Friendship bridge opened. A second bridge just opened in April, amid growing prosperity along the border areas. *Read more* ►

# APPOINTMENT OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

#### ASIA-PACIFIC

Mohammad Naciri has been recently appointed as the Regional Director of UN Women for Asia and the Pacific. From 2015 to 2018, he was the Regional Director of UN Women in the Arab States. From 2012 to 2015, Mohammad Naciri was the Deputy Regional Director for UN Women in the Arab States. Mohammad has extensive experience in the region and in gender and development issues. *Read more* >



# THINK EQUAL BUILD SMART INNOVATE FOR CHANGE

# INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 8 MARCH 2019 | #WomensDay





The theme for International Women's Day (8 March) this year, "Think Equal, Build Smart, Innovate for Change", puts innovation by women and girls, for women and girls, at the heart of efforts to achieve gender equality.

Achieving a gender-equal world requires social innovations that work for both women and men and leave no one behind. From urban planning that focuses on community safety to e-learning platforms that take classrooms to women and girls, affordable and quality childcare centres, and technology shaped by women, innovation can take the race for gender equality to its finishing line by 2030. *Read more* ►

# FEMALE STUDENTS DEVELOP BUSINESS IDEAS TO IMPROVE SOCIETY

#### BANGLADESH

Female students take part in three-day "business bootcamps", where they discuss problems in their communities, including violence, sexual harassment and violent extremism. They then learn about the concept of social entrepreneurship and gain essential business skills, such as marketing, sales, customer service and fundraising strategies. Using this knowledge, mentors guide student groups into developing their own ideas for small social enterprises that could work in their communities. *Read more* ►

## REGIONAL PREPARATORY MEETING IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION PRIOR TO CSW63

ASIA-PACIFIC

The Meeting served as an opportunity to engage member States in preparations for the Asia-Pacific High-Level Meeting on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment: Beijing+25 Review, which will be convened by UN ESCAP in cooperation with UN Women and with the support of the TWG-GEEW, in November 2019, Bangkok. *Read more* ►

#### #CODE4PEACE HACKATHON REVOLUTIONIZES THE WAY AFGHAN WOMEN VOICE THEIR PRIORITIES FOR PEACE

#### AFGHANISTAN

Twelve teams competed in Afghanistan's largest, and first ever hackathon on Women, Peace and Security aiming to innovate a national platform for rural and urban women to voice their priorities for peace. The hackathon, called #code4peace, was held by UN Women from 17-20 June 2019 in Bamyan Province of Afghanistan. *Read more* ►







# **GENERATION EQUALITY BEGINS NOW**

#### ASIA-PACIFIC

In 2020, it will be 25 years since the Beijing Platform for Action set out how to remove the systemic barriers that hold women back from equal participation in all areas of life, whether in public or in private. UN Women stands at the centre of mobilizing governments and civil societies to keep the promises of the Beijing Platform for Action to all of society. In everything it does, it is committed to making gender equality a lived reality for all women and girls who have historically been marginalized and who have waited long enough. This is a vision of a more prosperous, peaceful and fair world that is ultimately better for both women and men alike. *Read more* ►

#### SIMPLY GIVING ASIA-PACIFIC

Often, we receive messages asking how you can support UN Women. Now, we have an opportunity for you to engage in our work! Join our first-ever fundraising campaign and become an advocate for gender equality!

One of our prominent campaign supporters is the Thai top fashion designer Vatanika Patamasingh who joined UN Women's campaign to empower women and girls in need and raised USD 80,000 for them. *Read more* ►

## ENHANCING STAFF CAPACITY TO DELIVER MORE EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY

ASIA-PACIFIC

Programme and project management is a balancing act. Recognising the challenging nature and the importance of this work, programme and project managers from regional offices joined representatives of Programme Division HQ in Bangkok to participate in training to refine practices. *Read more* ►

#### UN WOMEN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018

#### ASIA-PACIFIC

As this annual report repeatedly demonstrates, UN Women is well positioned in the region to help link people and issues, and catalyse lasting results towards the globally agreed goal of achieving gender equality by 2030. At UN Women, we support and create spaces for women and men around the region who are determined to realize a different future— one where all women, without exception, are able to realize their rights and full potential. *Read more* >

UN Women is the UN organization 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. Operating in 32 countries in Asia and the Pacific region, UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific focuses on ensuring gender equality and rights-based approach for ending violence against women, preventing violent extremism, women's economic empowerment, gender in humanitarian action, and HIV/AIDS response that can unlock progress across the board.

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