

ANNUAL REPORT

2015-2016

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.

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 implement these standards. It stands behind women’s equal participation in all aspects of life, focusing on five priority areas: increasing women’s leadership and participation; ending violence against women; engaging women in all aspects of peace and security processes; enhancing women’s economic empowerment; and making gender equality central to national development planning and budgeting. UN Women also coordinates and promotes the UN system’s work in advancing gender equality.



UN Women works globally to make the vision of the Sustainable Development Goals a reality for women and girls.

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FAST FORWARDING TO THE FUTURE WE WANT

FOREWORD BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Above: In Cape Town, South Africa, UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka meets girls involved in the Grassroots Soccer SKILLZ programme, a grantee of the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women.

2015 was UN Women's fifth year. As we marked this milestone, the United Nations celebrated 70 years of fostering human rights, and governments and civil society assessed 15 years of implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, and of Security Council resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security. Informed by these reviews, we looked ahead to the world we want with the Paris Agreement on climate change, and saw the transformative power of women and girls set at the heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In 2016, the first year of the new Agenda, we have set the expiry date for gender inequality and are focused on the areas of impact to accelerate progress. This means achieving substantive equality and transformative change by 2030.

We know that the big vision for ‘people, planet and prosperity’ will be brought to life locally. This year’s annual report illustrates our maturing structure of resourceful and enterprising country offices. It highlights our coordination role within the United Nations and successful programmatic work last year in 93 countries, from helping to boost women’s income through climate-resilient agriculture in Morocco, engaging religious leaders to increase women’s leadership and participation in peace processes, to working with partners to develop a comprehensive framework for the prevention of violence against women and girls. With the continuing strong support of civil society and a rapidly growing network of partners in both public and private sectors, UN Women is ready to take this impact to scale.

At the 60th Commission on the Status of Women, Member States agreed on what action was needed to make the 2030 Agenda a reality for women and girls and acknowledged UN Women’s central role in its implementation. One of the ways we will do this is through the large, multi-stakeholder Flagship Programmes developed in 2015. These high-impact, scalable programmes focus on strengthening the voice of women and girls to remove the structural barriers to gender equality and women’s empowerment, and are geared to achieve life-changing results.

We are also tackling the major structural obstacles to gender equality through new instruments such as the Secretary-General’s new High-Level Panel on Women’s Economic Empowerment, locating what will most effectively support women’s greater participation in the workforce and boost their productivity.

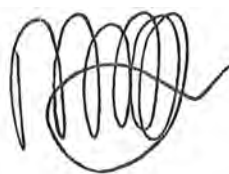
The collective commitment to the Agenda 2030 vision to ‘leave no one behind’ through the pursuit of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals was further backed by the individual pledges made by Heads of State and Government at our Global Leaders’ Meeting on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment: A Commitment to Action in 2015. To date 93 governments have made concrete commitments to action that will support key facets of the Sustainable Development Goals, and Goal 5 in particular. In making these pledges they drew on their national findings from the 2015 reviews, using

“We need to frontload progress, so that by 2020 we are already seeing results among the most vulnerable and marginalized, so that we can, as Agenda 2030 promises, leave no one behind.”

the understanding of the gaps and failures in progress to commit to change. Crucially for sustained progress, they committed to finance the pursuit of gender equality as agreed in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, with targeted actions and investments.

Together, working closely with Member States on national implementation, we will build the ways in which women and girls can operate as solution makers, peace builders and change agents for more resilient communities. This role in solutions is increasingly pressing as we face the stresses and challenges of violent extremism, climate change and mass displacements of populations.

UN Women will continue to push for swift and effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda, increased investment in gender responsive budgeting, the collection of quality sex-disaggregated data, and stepped-up partnerships with civil society, business communities, the media, academia, men and boys, and youth. We need to frontload progress, so that by 2020 we are already seeing results among the most vulnerable and marginalized, so that we can, as Agenda 2030 promises, leave no one behind.



Dr. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka
*United Nations Under-Secretary-General
and Executive Director*

PUTTING WOMEN AT THE CENTRE OF GLOBAL TRANSFORMATION

Photo: President of Kenya Uhuru Kenyatta, UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka and President of China Xi Jinping at the Global Leaders' Meeting. 72 Heads and Deputy Heads of State and Government at the event followed UN Women's call to announce concrete commitments to Step It Up! for gender equality.



Global negotiations among governments result in commitments that raise standards and accelerate national and international action on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. UN Women provides evidence and leads advocacy to put women's rights and needs at the centre of these processes. We bring together partners from government, civil society, the UN system and academia; provide expertise and analysis; and highlight good practices from different countries and regions. In 2015, our efforts helped drive a series of landmark global agreements with breakthrough provisions on women's empowerment and created consensus to step up the pace to reach gender equality by 2030.

AN AGENDA FOR GENDER EQUALITY BY 2030

Agreed by all UN Member States in 2015, "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" is the first global agreement on sustainable development with goals for all countries, both developing and developed. It aims at an ambitious shift in development to meet people's rights and needs, while respecting our planet.

Critically important, the Agenda acknowledges that gender equality is a precondition to turning its trans-

formative vision into reality. Its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) include one stand-alone goal on achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls (SDG 5), and a second on reducing inequalities within and among countries. Targets under the gender equality goal guide countries to end all forms of discrimination and violence and ensure that women, in every sphere of life, have equal voices, choices, opportunities and access to resources, among other provisions. Eleven other goals—on topics as diverse as poverty eradication and employment, health, water and sanita-

tion, just societies and sustainable cities—include targets explicitly related to achieving gender equality.

UN Women advocated prominently for gender equality and women's empowerment at all stages leading to the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and in support of Member States' aspirations. We engaged with governments and other UN organizations to build early consensus around the gender equality goal, worked closely with women's groups and civil society, and mobilized media and the public to lend broad support. We called for global recognition—now affirmed by Member States in the 2030 Agenda—that gender equality is a feasible accomplishment within the next 15 years.

Following adoption of the Agenda, the United Nations Statistical Commission agreed on a robust set of 230 unique indicators to monitor progress in achieving the SDGs. UN Women played a role as a convener, working with other UN agencies and consulting with global women's rights civil society organizations to identify indicators that would reflect the ambitions of the goals. A quarter of the indicators address gender equality, covering core issues such as unpaid care and domestic work, sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, land ownership and gender pay gaps.

As part of early moves to establish regional and sub-regional systems for tracking the SDGs, UN Women has already joined Caribbean countries in developing and rolling out the CARICOM Gender Equality Indicators Model. It will fill gaps in the collection of sex-disaggregated data and will be used to measure and steer consistent progress on health, education, leadership, economic opportunities and human rights.

A HISTORIC MEETING OF GLOBAL LEADERS

With only one day to go before the formal adoption of the 2030 Agenda, UN Women seized the moment to propel its implementation forward. To mark the end of the 20th anniversary celebrations of the UN Fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing and the launch of the Agenda, we exercised our global convening power to organize the first-ever meeting of Heads of State and Government on gender equality. The historic Global Leaders' Meeting on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment brought together an extraordinary number of more than 70 world leaders at the United Nations for one powerful purpose: to commit to eliminating gaps in gender equality.

GLOBAL LEADERS' MEETING ON GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT IN NUMBERS

76

64 Heads of State and Government, 8 Deputy Heads of State and Government and leaders of 4 regional organizations made commitments.

By mid-2016,

93 countries

have made commitments to Step It Up for gender equality

The hashtag #Planet5050 was used in 42,000 tweets by 19,000 different users, and reached

76 million unique users

700 news clippings

spanning

80 countries

in major international, regional and national media outlets

All commitments and more information about the Step It Up for Gender Equality campaign can be found at: <http://www.unwomen.org/en/get-involved/step-it-up>.



Above: The Paris Agreement on Climate Change includes a pivotal reference to women's empowerment. Women like Salote Tubuna in Fiji, whose house was destroyed during cyclone Pam, have been able to count on UN Women's support.

Leader after leader took the podium to announce what they would do in their countries and globally to achieve gender equality by 2030 through the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the 2030 Agenda. News of the momentous event flashed around the world reaching 76 million people through social media and via 700 articles in 80 countries and major international media outlets.

The bold political move of the Global Leaders' Meeting has quickly gained traction with a total of 93 countries and counting stepping forward to announce concrete commitments to promote gender equality.

AGREEMENTS ON FINANCING AND CLIMATE CHANGE

In 2015, the Third International Conference on Financing for Development defined the pace and parameters of spending on development for the coming generation. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda, issued by the Conference, commits to drawing on all sources of finance—domestic and international, public and private—to achieve the high aspirations of the SDGs.

As called for by UN Women, the Agenda unequivocally reaffirms that achieving gender equality, empowering all women and girls, and fully realizing their human rights are essential to achieving sustainable development. It reiterates the call for prioritizing investments in gender equality across all financial, economic, social and environmental policies. The Agenda stresses women's participation and leadership in economic decision-making. It also calls for eliminating gender-based violence and discrimination.

The 2015 Paris Agreement marked a global turning point for responding to climate change. It sets out a global action plan to limit global warming and its damaging consequences. UN Women called for gender-responsive climate actions across areas such as emissions mitigation, adaptation and technology transfer, and climate finance. The final agreement

includes a pivotal reference to factoring human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment into all future measures to realize it.

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Carrying the momentum of the 2030 Agenda forward at the 60th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), Member States committed to its gender-responsive implementation, including through stronger laws, policies and institutions, better data, scaled-up financing, and women's full and effective leadership and participation. The Commission also emphasized UN Women's central role in supporting Member States, coordinating the UN system and mobilizing civil society organizations, private sector and other partners for the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the 2030 Agenda. In one of the Commission's largest sessions, more than 80 government delegations were led by ministers and around 4,100 non-governmental representatives participated on behalf of more than 540 organizations.

WORLD HUMANITARIAN SUMMIT

In 2016, governments and other actors discussed how to manage the global escalation of humanitarian crises at the first World Humanitarian Summit. Active throughout preparations for the meeting, UN Women organized one of the Summit's main events. Through our ministerial roundtable on women and girls in humanitarian situations, we urged world leaders to commit to the actions required to engender the humanitarian response in line with international agreements including: involving women as leaders in the humanitarian response; protecting women and girls from gender-based violence; and providing access to sexual and reproductive health services. The commitments that emerged reflect our insistent call for all forms of humanitarian action to not only respond to women's needs but to also uphold their rights—and represents an important shift away from the current emphasis on protection to one of empowerment and equal opportunity.

VOICES OF PARTNER GOVERNMENTS

“Allow me to highlight the critical role of UN Women in facilitating the exchange of best practices that could help us learn from each other's successes and collectively promote the advancement of women's rights.” *- Statement by Brazil*

“UN Women worked actively to organize “Beijing+20” commemorative activities (...) and pushed for the integration of gender equality and women's empowerment in the Post-2015 Development Agenda (...). These efforts have achieved positive results, for which China wishes to express its appreciations.” *- Statement by China*

“We truly appreciate the effort of UN Women: the programmes [in Egypt] are very well-functioning, very relevant, very successful and nationally owned. (...)” *- Statement by Egypt*

“A key result [of UN Women's inter-governmental work] was a united African voice rooting for a standalone goal on gender in the post-2015 Agenda.” *- Statement by Kenya*

“Let me convey Norway's deep appreciation to your work and our commitments to UN Women. (...) Because of the work you are doing, the Syrian women will be present in the peace talks in Geneva.” *- Statement by Norway*



LEADING THE WAY FOR GENDER PARITY IN POLITICS

Above: A first in Moldova: Laura Bosnea is one of two Roma women to be elected as local councillor in the town of Rascani after receiving UN Women-supported training.

As Heads of State and CEOs of corporations, as parliamentarians, civil servants and at the helm of civil society organizations, women have moved into prominent leadership roles around the world thereby changing how decisions are made. Gender balance in leadership, however, remains elusive; just 1 in 5 parliamentarians globally is a woman.

UN Women is a powerful advocate for parity at all levels in political, economic and public life by 2030 and in line with commitments affirmed in the SDGs. We are making equality a reality around the world by backing constitutions, laws and policies that guarantee women opportunities to lead, including through temporary special measures. We assist national stakeholders to manage gender-aware elections, whether that means ensuring all women can reach a ballot box or protecting women candidates from electoral violence. New leadership skills equip women who serve in parliament, civil society or elsewhere as highly effective champions of change.

ROMA WOMEN MAKE HISTORY

In the 25 years since independence, not a single Roma woman had ever run for office in the **REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA** until history was made in 2015. Two Roma women won seats in local elections and a record seven ran for office. One successful candidate was 28-year-old Laura Bosnea. When she first decided to run, local political party leaders advised her not to bother as women were better suited to be home with their children or working in the bazaar rather than in politics. While the Roma are highly marginalized as a community, Roma women also face deep gender discrimination.

Bosnea, who had earlier left law school after marrying, had aspirations of her own. Already active as a community leader, she turned to a UN Women-supported pre-election training programme to learn skills related to public speaking, fundraising and image management. “I thought it would be difficult to run...,” she says. “But with the encouragement of the programme it was much easier than I expected.”

She and the other new councillor, Varvara Duminica, 54, are enthusiastic about what they can achieve in their four-year terms. They speak of better educating youth and ensuring people can make a decent living. The councillors intend to take every opportunity to raise awareness around gender equality and get more women into decision-making to improve life for all Moldovans.

A REGION COMMITS TO GENDER PARITY

The Parliament for **LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**, known as the PARLATINO, has put its region on track for ‘parity democracy’. After three years of advocacy and expertise provided by UN Women, the assembly, representing 20 countries and three territories, drafted and approved in November 2015 a new regional provision guiding national parliaments to achieve gender equality and parity in decision-making. The resolution defines a new model of an inclusive state aimed at ending all forms of inequality and exclusion. For example, it will require countries to eliminate remaining gender biases in legislation, provide resources to close gender gaps and ensure that men and women are equally represented in parliaments, the judiciary and the executive.

MEXICO has already moved toward gender parity, applying a constitutional provision requiring it among congressional candidates for the first time in its 2015 elections. UN Women mobilized women’s groups nationwide to advocate for full implementation, and issued briefs backing electoral court and Supreme Court rulings upholding the new law. This effort helped establish new and important legal precedents and brought a record number of women into office—42 per cent in the national Congress and 43 per cent in 17 local congresses.



8
gender-
responsive
constitutional
reforms

were completed and

32
new laws
were adopted in 2015 alone

15 new gender
equality
committees

in parliaments were created
in countries where UN Women
works*

* Data refer to results obtained in collaboration with partners during the period 2014-2015.

INNOVATION IN ELECTIONS

Since 2011, UN Women has supported the implementation of Women’s Situation Rooms in Africa with various partners, including the Angie Brooks International Centre. The Women’s Situation Room is a comprehensive citizen engagement effort that focuses on the role of women and youth in keeping elections peaceful and participatory. During 2015, in **NIGERIA**’s Women’s Situation Room, 40 youths answered over 2,700 calls from the public over two days. In addition, 300 women were deployed to 10 states and reported nearly 5,000 incidents of election-related unrest, gender-based violence or voting complaints. Eight nationally renowned women leaders mediated by engaging political leaders and security personnel to respond. Police and electoral commission officials were stationed in the Women’s Situation Room to immediately resolve many of the issues that arose.

In **MYANMAR**, continuing political transition since 2011 has provided scope for embedding gender equality in new democratic institutions and processes, including elections.



In Myanmar, UN Women works to embed gender equality in new democratic institutions and processes, including elections.

UN Women’s sustained support for women’s participation in the peace process, coupled with extensive training for women leaders, culminated in a nationwide ceasefire agreement in October 2015 that made explicit commitments to non-discrimination and women’s inclusion in political dialogue. A subsequent framework for political dialogue echoed these principles, and set a minimum of 30 per cent for women’s participation in ongoing talks to shape the future of

this fledgling democracy. For the 2015 elections, UN Women reached out to diverse groups, including influential Buddhist monks in Mon State, to promote the election of more women. The monks then encouraged people in surrounding communities to consider voting for women candidates and—as well-respected advisers—they also agreed to call on political parties to adopt policies to boost the number of women in their ranks.

UN WOMEN FLAGSHIP PROGRAMMES



LEADERSHIP AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

WOMEN’S POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT AND LEADERSHIP



WOMEN’S ACCESS TO JUSTICE



FROM WHERE I STAND

“I ran as a candidate and I won! The process has been really successful... with seven women reaching city halls.”



“I was scared to become a candidate [in the Department of Nariño, Colombia], despite all my years of experience as a lawyer.

Fear paralyses you. The fear that male councillors will raise their voices, the fear of not being capable, of being in men’s territory. More is demanded of us and we are fewer, because we have fewer opportunities. You can feel the weight of the machismo—I feel it!

UN Women’s project gave us insight into the reality of women’s participation in local politics, through figures and statistics, highlighting why there are no women in the Assembly, why in the Pasto Municipality Council there is only one and in a number of municipalities in the Department [State] there are none, and why we only have one female senator and one representative in Parliament. The different socioeconomic causes: fear and that ingrained sense of absolute responsibility for the home as if we didn’t have partners. These are all preconceptions that can be broken!

I ran as a candidate and I won! The process has been really successful in Nariño, with seven women reaching city halls. We didn’t manage to get any into the Provincial Assembly but we must now push for the Senate too and strengthen existing leaders. Local authorities should support this process in their development plans, generating spaces for female participation. The law should be changed—there should be 30 per cent participation of women elected, not just on lists. If not, there’s no difference. Knowledge and freedom of speech will help us break the chauvinist tendencies that are so powerful in our country.”

LUCÍA DEL SOCORRO BASANTE



Courtesy by Lucía del Socorro Basante

Lucía del Socorro Basante, 60, is a lawyer and the only woman Councillor in Pasto, in the Department of Nariño, Colombia. She was elected in October 2015, shortly after obtaining the Political Leadership with a Gender Perspective diploma developed by UN Women and provided to 143 people, primarily women, in the municipalities of Pasto, Ipiales and Tumaco. Her work is related to SDG 5, which seeks to ensure full and effective participation of women and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.



EMPOWERING WOMEN TO BOOST ECONOMIES

Above: In Morocco, UN Women helps women cope with climate change-induced livelihood threats. We support economic interest groups like the Annama Association, whose members grow medicinal and aromatic plants in Errachidia.

Women make contributions to economies, from the local to the global, that mount into the trillions of dollars. Despite this fact, women in all regions continue to be overrepresented in low-paid and vulnerable jobs. At the current pace, it will take 70 years to close the gender pay gap. In addition, shouldering the bulk of unpaid care work limits women's opportunities.

Through economic empowerment, women can overcome these barriers. UN Women emphasizes reaching and supporting the poorest and most marginalized women—many of whom increasingly face emerging challenges such as climate change and migration. We support laws and policies that strengthen women's economic opportunities and advocate for equitable access to services that enhance their livelihoods such as water, energy, transport and green technology. To set the right framework for progress, UN Women calls for all economic policies and poverty eradication strategies to embrace gender equality as a central aim.

ADAPTING TO CLIMATE SHIFTS

MOROCCO's already arid deserts have come under increasing pressure from climate change. For women in oases in the south-eastern province of Errachidia, the encroaching desert puts prospects for making a living under serious threat. UN Women helps women find ways to adapt to this livelihood risk. Many are now growing medicinal and aromatic plants that require little water, can survive increasingly harsh conditions and yield a higher profit than more traditional crops. Such adaptation also helps keep the oases healthy and resistant to the desert.

Creating economic interest groups has brought women together to manage their production and marketing, building on collective strengths. For instance, the Annama Association started with a hectare of land, some seeds and, importantly, the decision to use drip irrigation propelled by an environmentally friendly solar pump.

Association members—many of whom were illiterate and had barely dreamed of such a possibility in the past—soon saw their incomes grow enough to open bank accounts and aspire to bigger plans. After only two years, the Association purchased a second hectare and intends to acquire more to boost production. “Women work hard because they are struggling for a more dignified life,” says association president Massaoudi Lkbire.

SUPPORTING THE RIGHT TO SAFE MIGRATION

While **MEXICO** sends many migrants north, it also receives many across

its southern border, the latter typically fleeing the hardship and strife of parts of Central America. Over half are women, and while they are seeking safety, they often find more danger instead in the form of sex traffickers and in marginal, hazardous jobs. UN Women is leading a major effort to raise awareness of the plight of these women. We advocate for safe migration that fully reflects women's human rights.

UN Women has generated a wealth of new research and data to underpin action, such as an assessment of the compliance of Mexican migration law with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the international bill of women's rights and a guide on developing gender-responsive legislation. A conference on the human rights of women migrant workers along the southern border became the basis for working with local authorities to regularize the status of women migrants through a residence permit—a step that opens the door to legal and other forms of protection. Engagement with the national Congress led it to formally petition the executive branch to close existing gaps in policies to protect women migrants, even as Members of Congress have embarked on the same goal for national legislation.

UN Women's leadership on gender and migration issues extends from the national to the **global** arena. In 2016, Heads of State and Government from around the world will gather for the High-Level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants, the most important UN Summit on the issue in many years. Through a report of the



29 countries
with a combined population
of over
770 million
women and
girls
have adopted a gender-
responsive policy framework
for women's economic
empowerment*

For the first time, in 2016
UN Women chairs the
Global Migration
Group

UN Women hosts the first UN
High-Level Panel
on Women's
Economic
Empowerment

* Data refer to results obtained in collaboration with partners during the period 2014-2015.

UN Secretary-General, UN Women has helped shape recommendations to take full account of the gender dimensions of large movements of refugees and migrants.

More broadly, the greater integration of gender equality in international debates around migration has come in no small part through UN Women's leadership. In 2016, we chair the Global Migration Group, which brings together 17 UN agencies and the International Organization for Migration and works closely with the intergovernmental Global Forum on Migration and Development. Preparations for the Forum to convene in 2016 pay prominent attention to gender dimensions, such as through a call for comprehensive sex-disaggregated data to underpin gender-responsive migration strategies.

UNLEASHING THE ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT

In the **ARAB STATES**, UN Women, the European Union and the League of Arab States launched a regional network of public, private and social sector institutions under the name of "Khadija". Members of the network work to influence national policymakers in their respective countries and institutions to provide better work environments for women, protect them from vulnerable employment and increase women's representation in leadership positions. The network was created as part of Spring Forward for Women, a joint regional programme between UN Women and the European Union.

FOSTERING AGREEMENT AMONG MAJOR ECONOMIES

G20 countries, representing the world's major economies, stepped up their commitment to women's economic empowerment in 2015 by creating Women 20 (W20). Under **TURKEY's** leadership and supported by UN Women, the group comprises senior representatives from each country. Together, they are poised to influence decisions, making economic growth more inclusive and empowering millions of women around the world. On the agenda: closing gender gaps in the workforce and easing the burden of unpaid care work.

UN WOMEN FLAGSHIP PROGRAMMES



ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

WOMEN'S ACCESS TO LAND AND PRODUCTIVE RESOURCES FOR CLIMATE-RESILIENT AGRICULTURE



STIMULATING EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS THROUGH AFFIRMATIVE PROCUREMENT, INVESTMENT AND SUPPLY CHAIN POLICIES



INCOME SECURITY THROUGH DECENT WORK AND SOCIAL PROTECTION FOR WOMEN



WOMEN'S SUSTAINABLE ENERGY ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND ACCESS (PIPELINE)



KHATEEJA MALLAH



UN Women/Faria Salman

Khateeja Mallah (Durdana), 31, is a widow from Pakistan's Dadu District in Sindh Province. She is one of 1,214 landless women farmers who have received land tenancy rights through a programme being implemented by UN Women, FAO and ILO. Through tenancy agreements, feudal and tribal male landlords lease their terrain to women farmers for an agreed period of time, giving them access to the land, a place to live, and the chance to run the farms and receive a portion of the profits from the crops grown. This initiative is directly related to SDG 1, on ending poverty, which includes targets on land ownership and control, as well as SDG 2, on sustainable agriculture, which includes secure and equal access to land.

FROM WHERE I STAND

“This land, as far as the eye can see, is mine—this paper says so.”



“I first began working in the fields with my father when I was 10 years old and after that with my husband, to whom I was married off when I was 13. I became a widow nearly three years ago and have to support eight children—seven daughters and one son. I was landless with no entitlement to the crops or land where I work.

Farming is all that I know and my only source of income. It is really hard work especially the harsh weather [summers] we face. Being a woman, there are a lot of things which I did not like, such as bargaining for my work rights or enduring harsh words from landowners. At times I get frustrated with my life but when I look at my children, I decide to cover my helplessness and be strong—I have to face everything, good and bad, to better their future.

Having legal access to land, a place to live, and receiving a share of the crops that I plant and harvest was simply unimaginable. [Until] I learned of my rights as a landless farmer and the benefits of tenancy agreements and landholding through the [UN Women] trainings I attended. The sessions taught me that I had valuable farming knowledge and experience, and most of all, that I had rights.

Now, for the first time in my life I can say something is mine. This land, as far as the eye can see, is mine—this paper says so. This is my land and I am its queen! I am excitedly waiting for my tough farming days to pay off—for the day when my children are older and earning a good living. That will be the day when I sit down and take a relaxed breath, and start to enjoy life.”

ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

Below: Quezon City in the Philippines is one of 23 municipalities globally where UN Women works with local governments to make public spaces safe. This includes preventing sexual harassment on public transport.

Right: A young trafficking survivor in Albania, where UN Women works to provide economic opportunities for affected women and engaged media to raise awareness on the crime.

Around the world, violence against women and girls denies them their rights and leaves a devastating trail of trauma, injury and death, as well as lost opportunities to thrive through work or an education. One in three women will experience some form of physical and/or sexual violence in her lifetime.

UN Women assists countries in developing laws and policies that are effectively implemented and help establish integrated services responding to survivors' needs for health care, legal assistance, psychological and socioeconomic support.

In many countries, progress in enacting laws, developing policies and establishing services has proceeded at a rapid pace, allowing UN Women to increasingly shift its focus to preventing violence from happening in the first place. Our programmes identify discriminatory behaviours, attitudes and norms that foster violence and work to engage new ways of thinking and acting among people, from all walks of life—political figures, men journalists, religious leaders, sports champions and many others.



KEEPING CITIES SAFE

In an impoverished area of **QUEZON CITY**, in the Philippines, “Teresita” accompanies her 26-year-old daughter to the local tricycle stand every morning on her way to work and meets her every evening to accompany her home. The risk of sexual harassment on the streets here is very real—men even grope women and girls while robbing them.

For a long time, this was simply the reality that women had to live with. But change is coming through UN Women’s Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces Global Flagship Initiative. It has helped Quezon City take the first step towards safer streets: a scoping study that collects information on violence against women and girls in public spaces.

The study, drawing in part on safety audits, where women and men, girls and boys walk through neighbourhoods to identify safe and unsafe spaces, revealed a number of issues that had long remained unnoticed, such as insufficient legal protection and fear of retaliation from reporting crimes. Police were not recording cases of sexual harassment in public spaces because the current anti-harassment law mainly covers places of employment and education. Local officials are now fully aware of the steps they need to take to create a safer city and are moving to revise laws and policies.

Quezon City is just one of 23 cities around the world working with UN Women, local governments, women’s rights organizations and other partners to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls in public spaces. Other cit-



26 countries
with a combined population of
over
**1 billion women
and girls**
have strengthened their
legislation to address all forms
of violence against women

26 countries
with a combined population
of over
**466 million
women and
girls**
have adopted National Action
Plans or strategies in this area

ies include New Delhi, Rabat, New York, Medellin, Port Moresby and, more recently, **BRUSSELS** in 2015. **KIGALI** enhanced the capacities of public transport workers to prevent sexual harassment.

A global conference in **NEW DELHI** in 2015 brought together over 140 participants from 24 countries. Based on accumulating experiences and evidence of strategies that work, they agreed on a series of recommendations, such as to include gender across all public safety and public transport policies, to broaden women’s access to technology to prevent and respond to violence in public spaces, and to promote changes in attitudes and behaviours among men and boys.

COMBATting TRAFFICKING

Economic opportunities are scarce in rural **ALBANIA**, making women and girls acutely vulnerable to the

Data refer to results obtained in collaboration with partners during the period 2014-2015.

human trafficking that feeds the sex trade. UN Women has worked with civil society groups, the Government and media to stop this crime and assist survivors. A national campaign has raised awareness, including through a powerful anti-trafficking video broadcast on national television. A 30-member Advisory Media Forum supports professional and ethical reporting among journalists by providing information and training and by tracking gaps in accuracy of reporting.

Since employment or a small enterprise can be among the most critical

elements of successful reintegration for trafficking survivors, UN Women has helped service providers in shelters stress economic empowerment as the core of their assistance.

FRAMEWORKS FOR ACTION

With the Sustainable Development Agenda committed to ending all forms of violence against women and girls, UN Women has led an initiative involving six other UN entities to create the Framework to Underpin Action to Prevent Violence against Women. It maps evidence-based and emerging prac-

tices in preventing violence with a focus on addressing root causes, risk and protective factors. A global essential services package—jointly developed by UN Women and four other UN entities—builds on leading global expertise in health, police and judicial systems and social services, and is currently undergoing field testing in 10 countries.

In **SOUTH-EAST ASIA**, UN Women was closely involved in a process that resulted in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) adopting its first Regional Plan of Action on the Elimination of Violence against Women. Endorsed by Heads of State and Government, the plan carries strong political momentum. Concrete actions to be taken by 2025 are designed to keep progress on track.

Online in 2016, UN Women revamped its Global Database on Violence against Women, part of a newly created Global Knowledge Platform on Violence against Women. The database offers a comprehensive picture of measures taken by governments to stop violence and will further contribute to monitoring the implementation of this target area in the SDGs.



Women at an ASEAN conference. In 2015, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations adopted the first regional action plan on ending violence against women.

**UN WOMEN
FLAGSHIP
PROGRAMMES**



ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

PREVENTION AND ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL SERVICES TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

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SAFE CITIES AND SAFE PUBLIC SPACES

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DESIRÉE AKPA
AKPRO LOYOU

World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts

WAGGGS

FROM WHERE I STAND

Desirée Akpa Akpro Loyou, 37, is a social worker and Deputy Commissioner General responsible for training, for the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) in Côte d'Ivoire. In January 2016, she participated in a regional training event in Togo organized by UN Women and WAGGGS to teach Girl Guides how to deliver the non-formal education curriculum, Voices against Violence. The efforts are connected with the new SDGs. SDG 4 seeks to ensure inclusive and quality education for all, including through education for human rights and gender equality; while SDG 5 has among its targets that of eliminating from public and private life all forms of violence against women and girls.

“When you raise awareness in schools, this results in reduced violence.”



I was abused twice. The first time was when I was in primary school and was 8 or 9 years old. A teaching assistant tried to touch me. After that, I withdrew within myself and distrusted all men and boys. It is obvious that violence can prevent girls from pursuing their studies, especially if such acts are committed by their guardian or teacher. This will have an impact on their academic results.

I was 21 years old when I became a Girl Scout. I was very shy and withdrawn, but as Guides we can do things we would not manage to do on our own. Now, I am a social worker for the Government and Deputy Commissioner General for training for the Girl Scouts, under the Ministry of Youth. I conduct awareness-raising campaigns in schools and organize trainings for key people, both male and female, in the fight against gender-based violence. Education plays a vital role.

When I speak in front of 400 students and am standing on the podium, and when I talk about violence in schools and the risk factors, I share the experiences that I survived. When you raise awareness in schools, this results in reduced violence. When we talk with students, several cases of abuse emerge, especially among girls. Such acts are often committed by teachers responsible for their education. The story of my life captures their attention. I want to reach out to girls and tell them to speak up and not be silent.”



ADVANCING THE DRIVE FOR PEACE

Above: In Burundi, Rose Nyandwi is one of 500 mediators in the UN Women-supported Network for Peace and Dialogue. By their own count, the women have addressed over 5,000 local conflicts last year.

Right: In Mali, UN Women supported women religious leaders and secular advocates in their quest for peace and gender equality.

Women have been historically relegated to the margins of peace processes, but this longstanding exclusion has begun to shift. The percentage of women in mediation teams and at peace tables and the number of those benefitting from reparations and peacebuilding funds have grown since the creation of UN Women.

Among peace agreements signed in 2010, only 22 per cent included explicit commitments to women's rights, participation and protection. In recent years, this share has climbed to half of all peace agreements and reaches much higher when the United Nations is involved.

A growing number of countries have national action plans that detail exactly how to make gender equality and women's empowerment integral at all points along the road to peace, security and justice. National and international courts and commissions of inquiry are paying more attention to gender-based crimes. UN Women has played a central role in all of these advances.

MEDIATING LOCAL CONFLICTS

BURUNDI's civil war from 1993 to 2005 cost 300,000 lives. Strife that erupted in 2015 sent more than 230,000 people fleeing across the border. Despite the difficulties, women have not given up on their communities or, indeed, their country.

One such person is 59-year-old Rose Nyandwi, who lost both her father and her husband to conflict. Refusing to bow to despair, she became a mediator with the Women Network for Peace and Dialogue, established and organized with the support of UN Women. Its more than 500 members are active in all 129 municipalities of Burundi. Mediators like Nyandwi have initiated dialogues aimed at preventing violent outbreaks. By the women's own count, in the last year alone they've directly addressed over 5,000 local conflicts that might otherwise have become politicized and therefore destabilizing.

Employing skills honed through UN Women training sessions, the women tackle family, social and land-related clashes and counter rumours and exaggerated fears with accurate information. They also help survivors of violence seek justice in court. At times, they mediate between protesters and security forces.

ENGAGING RELIGIOUS LEADERS

Protracted peace talks were finalized in a peace accord in **MALI** in 2015, but Malian women leaders knew that some divisions still ran deep in their communities. In sessions organized by UN Women to analyse the accord for its responsiveness to gender, they decided to take to the streets—in a march for peace. Thousands of women joined, carrying banners that proclaimed women were together in solidarity behind the peace process and a uni-



UN Women served as the Secretariat of the Global Study on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325. The study informed the High-Level Review at the Security Council where an unprecedented **113 interventions** were made and **resolution 2242** adopted

18 countries have adopted new National Action Plans on women, peace and security, **67%** of all National Action Plans have indicators to monitor progress*

* Data refer to results obtained in collaboration with partners during the period 2014-2015.



fied country. Spearheading the event were women religious leaders.

The peace process over the last year has brought women religious leaders into closer relationship with more secular advocates for gender equality and women’s rights. With the accord relatively low in references to gender, women collectively and successfully advocated for a law passed by the end of the year and stipulating that no less than 30 per cent of elected and nominated public positions can go to one sex.

In **SOUTH SUDAN**, UN Women has partnered with the Council of Churches to train 200 women religious leaders in 10 states on transformational leadership. After drawing attention to the fact that all members of the faith-based group participating in the South Sudan peace talks were men, they began a successful campaign that resulted in new appointments of women as half the total members. Female religious leaders mobilized with a diverse coalition of other women, including the South Sudan Women’s Peace Network, to push for substantial gender provisions in the 2015 peace agreement. These provisions guarantee women’s continued participation in the peace process and commit to new efforts to empower women eco-

nomically. Women religious leaders and other gender advocates are now engaged in backing implementation of the agreement.

COMMEMORATING 15 YEARS OF A LANDMARK RESOLUTION

In 2015, the UN Security Council marked the 15th anniversary of its landmark resolution 1325 on women, peace and security with a high-level review. The process culminated in the unanimous passage of resolution 2242, which stresses the crucial importance of the women, peace and security agenda, including to address current global challenges such as violent extremism. The resolution also sets an ambitious new target to double the number of women in peacekeeping in the next five years. To inform the review, UN Women supported an independent global study on resolution 1325 implementation that was commissioned by the UN Secretary-General and led by Radhika Coomaraswamy, former Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict. The study provides an invaluable compendium of good examples, while drawing global scrutiny to key implementation gaps. Co-chaired by Canada, Chile, Ireland, Japan and Namibia,

the Group of Friends of the Global Study on resolution 1325 provided implementation advice and support.

COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM

Security Council resolution 2242 requested key counter terrorism bodies to integrate gender across their activities, backed by adequate financing. The UN’s Counter Terrorism Implementation Task Force, supported by UN Women, is now developing a specialized tool to track the funds. The goal: ensuring by 2020 that a minimum 15 per cent goes towards projects that primarily address women’s needs and empowerment.

In **IRAQ**, UN Women has convened 230 women’s organizations and networks from across different religious and ethnic backgrounds to work together on national reconciliation, and countering radicalization and violent extremism. The women are developing an advocacy platform to advance their agenda, highlighting issues such as protection for women and girls in areas liberated from fundamentalist forces and the integration of reconciliation concepts in school curricula. They also advocate expanded roles for women in preventing and countering violent extremism and in national reconciliation.

UN WOMEN
FLAGSHIP
PROGRAMMES



PEACE AND SECURITY

WOMEN’S ENGAGEMENT IN PEACE, SECURITY AND RECOVERY

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MARUTI JOSHI

Courtesy of Maruti Joshi

“Women play an extremely important role in conflict situations, especially since women and children are the most affected.”

Maruti Joshi, 43, from Jaipur, India, has worked as a police officer for 18 years and served as a UN peacekeeper in South Sudan. Ms. Joshi is currently working with UN Women to train women peacekeepers to address sexual and gender-based violence in conflict. Her work is connected to the SDGs, including SDG 5, which targets ending all forms of violence against women and girls, and SDG 16, which aims to promote peaceful and inclusive societies and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

FROM WHERE I STAND



When I joined the Indian police force in 1997, I was the first and only female officer in a batch of 35 male

officers. I was doing routine police work then. In 2011, I got an opportunity to join a new United Nations Mission in South Sudan. I went to Juba for a year. As police peacekeepers, we were mentoring and training the local police there on handling violence cases. My unit dealt with women and children, and other vulnerable people affected by violence. There were a lot of challenges because the country was in the process of conflict resolution. I had to drive alone and sometimes it was late in the evening. You feel unsafe because you are not armed—anything can happen.

Despite these challenges, I had a good experience in Juba because a very beautiful thing happened. As soon as I joined the mission, there were a few female peacekeepers and we created an all-women’s network to share our experiences. For peacekeepers, it’s very difficult to leave your family behind. It’s not only the family that needs us, but it’s the other women, for whom we are role models. Women play an extremely important role in conflict situations, especially since women and children are the most affected. Through the network and my unit, we also acted as a channel between local women police officers and their authorities, since some faced trouble and were not always safe.

I have a one-year-old daughter now, so have opted for an office posting. I am currently a Superintendent of Police in Jaipur. I also lead workshops on gender mainstreaming and budgeting. For the last year, I’ve been working with UN Women on an induction-training programme for female military officers that are supposed to be deployed to peacekeeping missions. When I went on mission, I didn’t have any specific gender-oriented pre-deployment training. We [now] train them to handle violence against women in a conflict situation before they leave. I feel very honoured and happy that I connect with women working [in this field]. It’s something very close to my heart—a passion!”

MOBILIZING HUMANITARIAN ACTION FOR WOMEN

Photo: Manal fled the conflict in Syria with her three children. She now teaches English in UN Women's "Oasis" safe spaces in Za'atari camp, Jordan, and is paid under a cash-for-work programme. Some 5,000 visitors come to the "Oasis" centres every month to socialize and learn new skills.

Women and girls are disproportionately affected by crises. They are exposed to increased risk of violence, more likely to die than men in natural disasters and have less access to resources. Girls in conflict settings, for example, are 2.5 times more likely to be out of school than those in countries at peace. Furthermore, women are often excluded from the decision-making processes that shape humanitarian planning and programming and as a consequence their specific needs are inadequately addressed.

UN Women is leading the move to close this deficit. Our mandate is to support and enable the humanitarian system to integrate gender equality and women's empowerment throughout all aspects of planning and programming. Our core actions for women and girls in humanitarian situations are to facilitate coordination and provide leadership, build the capacity of planning and implementing agencies, ensure response planning is evidence-based and to implement targeted actions wherever gaps are identified. We are committed to ensuring equality between women, men, girls and boys as partners and beneficiaries of humanitarian action.

SUPPORTING REFUGEES AND ACTORS FOR PEACE

Terrified by the advance of ISIS in Hama, **SYRIA**, 48-year-old Sawzan sold her business, told her husband good-bye, and fled with her daughter. Conflict coupled with blatant gender-based violence left them little choice but to join almost 5 million Syrians who had fled their country by early 2016. Despite the fact that half of all Syrian refugees are women, most could expect little in the way of humanitarian assistance for needs distinct from those of men.

A UN Women assessment conducted in **SERBIA** and the **FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA** broke down different issues by gender to make these gaps visible and galvanize a response. The study compellingly documented the harm caused when women go without services for health care and protection against gender-

based violence, among other core concerns.

In **JORDAN**'s largest refugee camp, Za'atari, UN Women has taken action by providing services for women's economic empowerment and protection. Three "Oasis" safe spaces receive 5,000 visitors a month who come to socialize and learn new skills. Cash-for-work opportunities include tailoring school uniforms, teaching and working as security guards. With many refugees now confined to the camp for over three years, the centres provide a rare break from despair and isolation while also providing the chance to earn an income to meet basic household expenses.

While UN Women responds to the immediate needs of women fleeing from Syria, we also push for their inclusion in ongoing peace negotiations. For the peace talks held under the aegis of the United Nations in early 2016, we helped create the Syrian Women's



UN Women carried out humanitarian work in **34 countries** in 2015, a **183% increase** from 2014

In 2015, **42%** of intergovernmental outcome documents on humanitarian action included specific gender provisions.

UN Women led the High Level Leaders' Roundtable
"Women and Girls: Catalyzing Action to Achieve Gender Equality"
at the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit

Advisory Board. Encompassing 12 independent members of women’s civil society organizations, it was formally included in the talks for the first time, charged with raising missing issues, providing solutions and brokering consensus positions on topics related to gender equality and beyond. As the quest to negotiate a peace agreement continues, the Advisory Board recognizes, in unequivocal terms, that whatever direction the negotiations take, women must be heard.

QUAKE RECOVERY CENTRES ON WOMEN

Two powerful earthquakes devastated **NEPAL** in 2015, and UN Women responded immediately, convening UN partners and women’s groups to assist women and girls. Five multi-purpose centres and three information centres ensured that nearly 43,000 women accessed a wide range of services for recovery including: psychosocial counselling; legal assistance for gender-based violence survivors; and cash-for-work programmes. In seven of the hardest hit districts, UN Women distributed thousands of dignity

kits for basic hygiene as well as solar lanterns and radio sets, ensuring these items reached the hands of women directly.

By 2016, with the worst of the immediate crisis past, the multi-service centres expanded their roles to advocate for making gender-responsiveness integral to local disaster preparedness and response plans. In the three most-affected districts, UN Women has helped form networks of particularly marginalized women to collectively develop new livelihoods and lobby for local budget choices to reflect their priorities. Nationally, our assistance ensured that the post-disaster needs assessment to guide longer term recovery planning has a dedicated gender equality and social inclusion chapter. Full recovery will take years but this time women will be at the centre of the process and not on the sidelines.

A CAMPAIGN RAISES AWARENESS ON ZIKA

The sudden rise of the Zika virus spread concern in **BRAZIL**, particularly among women of reproduc-

tive age. The virus carries the risk of nervous system disorders for people in general, and can cause infants to be born with microcephaly, a serious condition lasting a lifetime.

As the extent of the epidemic became clear, UN Women joined forces with the UN Population Fund, the Pan American Health Organization, the World Health Organization and national officials to make sure that women had correct information to protect themselves, including on the right to decide to get pregnant. The campaign began with the mass distribution of social media cards, flyers and posters urging pregnant women to understand the risks. UN Women Brazil’s National Ambassador, actress Camila Pitanga, helped spread the word by appearing on the posters. Radio personalities, as well as gender and health experts, promoted women’s health and rights in programmes disseminated to 2,000 radio stations.

UN WOMEN FLAGSHIP PROGRAMMES



HUMANITARIAN ACTION

WOMEN’S LEADERSHIP, EMPOWERMENT, ACCESS AND PROTECTION (LEAP) IN CRISIS RESPONSE



ADDRESSING THE GENDER INEQUALITY OF RISK AND PROMOTING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE TO NATURAL HAZARDS IN A CHANGING CLIMATE



FROM WHERE I STAND

“UN Women gave me hope, motivation and empowerment.”



This is my second time living in communal camps, second time running away from civil war to protect myself. What made me leave [Burundi] was the problem of random people invading others' homes, attacking those without husbands. They would enter with knives. Before they kill you, they would first rape you. When I saw those attacks, and people dying, I left with my one-year-old son. I didn't have the chance to get all my children because it was a case of everyone for themselves, running for their lives.

When I got to the Lusenda Camp [in the Democratic Republic of the Congo], I had no hope. UN Women gave me hope, motivation and empowerment. After some time, I was appointed committee member of the women's group. I found a job [through a cash-for-work programme] and that money helped me cross back to get my children. I have five children—four girls and one boy.

Camp life is another challenge. Two of my children have now matured into young women. When they go walking around, I remain in constant fear, because at any time they could get raped. The food is also insufficient and gets depleted even before the next ration.

I survive by farming to get a little cash. Women farm together, growing several types of crops. Once they are ready to be harvested, we sell the produce. One must always think about how you can get your hands dirty to attain your goals and feed your family. Happiness begins with you.



NAHIMANA FAINESI

UN Women/Catianne Tijerina

Nahimana Fainesi [Finess], 30, fled her native Burundi in July 2015 and has since been living in the Lusenda refugee camp in Fizi, Democratic Republic of the Congo. She works as a farmer in a UN Women cash-for-work programme. Her work is directly related to SDG 2, which seeks to end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular people in vulnerable situations, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food; and SDG 16, on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development.

PLANNING AND BUDGETING TO CLOSE THE GENDER GAP

Progress on gender equality and women's empowerment largely depends on making the right plans and investments. Both national and local development plans must adopt gender equality as a central goal backed by specific actions to achieve it. Financing needs to be sufficient to implement plans and, more generally, to uphold the rights of women and girls to have public services that fully respond to their needs.

With UN Women's sustained support, dozens of countries have begun to dramatically improve their track record in planning and spending to reach gender equality. We work with national officials to develop technical tools such as gender markers and with women's advocates to keep attention trained on women's top priorities. We support greater transparency so that countries can track whether or not funds and plans reach intended aims and women can hold governments accountable for the commitments they make.

Photo: Maria Rosa Suquilanda sells her produce at the Agro Entrepreneurs Market in Cuenca, Ecuador. More market space for women was provided when they were consulted on their top priorities for public spending.



TRACKING SPENDING TO ACHIEVE EQUALITY IN ECUADOR

María Rosa Suquilanda used to struggle on the margins of bare subsistence. When she went to public spaces to sell her produce, authorities would push her away and destroy her goods because she lacked the right permits. But no more. Today, she and other women like her operate in the well-organized Agro Entrepreneurs Market, in the city of Cuenca, nestled high in the mountains of southern **ECUADOR**. “We can go to market because the provincial government gave us spaces to sell our produce,” she says, standing proudly amid piles of maize, beans, peas and fresh vegetables.

Run by the provincial government of Azuay, the market has long sold local agricultural products but it took the Women’s Agenda to carve out enough space for women. The Agenda, a document integrated into the provincial budget, comprises the top priorities for public spending as identified by local women—such as better opportunities to earn an income. Azuay has applied a Women’s Agenda to budgeting since 2012; formulating the budget involves over 1,000 women from across the province. UN Women has assisted at all stages—from supporting women’s organizations in creating the Agenda to helping the Province gain related technical skills.

The change in Azuay has come through a long-standing alliance among UN Women, the provincial government and women’s organizations. Nationally, UN Women,



Photo: Indonesian volunteers light candles during World AIDS Day in Jakarta. In 2015, UN Women supported the review of the national AIDS strategy to strengthen the incorporation of women’s rights.

through its predecessor organization, has been at the forefront of encouraging gender-responsive budgeting since 2007, when we supported the Ministry of Finance and Economy in making gender equality a central criterion for evaluating national spending choices. We later helped develop Women’s Agendas in provinces and municipalities around the country. By 2010, the Ministry had adopted a budget classifier to provide a full view of investments in women’s economic empowerment, leadership, elimination of violence and so on.

Using the classifier is mandatory at the national level, where it showed at least USD 364 million spent on gender-related programmes in 2015—a figure up from just USD 34 million in 2011. As of 2016, all provinces and municipalities are obligated to apply the classifier.



31 countries
have increased budget
allocations for gender equality
commitments

Nearly
**15,000 civil
servants**
have been trained on gender
mainstreaming and gender
issues

Data refer to results obtained in collaboration with partners during the period 2014-2015.

REQUIRING A GENDER-RESPONSIVE BUDGET

Gender-responsive budgeting in **UGANDA** took a leap forward through the 2015 Public Finance Management Act. It stipulates a mandatory Gender and Equity Certificate—each government agency at the national and district levels must obtain it for their annual budgets. The certificate judges whether or not budgets have paid adequate attention to gender equality, using a set of performance measures and minimum standards. Budgets that fall short must be revised in order to obtain the certificate and be approved by the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development. Among other benefits, the certificate will allow legislators to systematically hold government agencies accountable for their record of support for gender equality and women’s empowerment.

In **ALBANIA**, ministries are now obligated to factor gender equality

principles into budgets, as required by the Ministry of Finance and advocated by UN Women. Ten ministries and two state institutions have dedicated budgets to achieve gender equality targets, spending nearly USD 62 million each year from 2016-2018. The Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth, for instance, has channeled 9.4 per cent of its funds towards the achievement of gender equality, such as through integrating more women into the labour market.

INCORPORATING WOMEN’S RIGHTS INTO AIDS STRATEGIES

In **INDONESIA**, UN Women supported the review of the national AIDS strategy to strengthen the incorporation of women’s rights. Our assistance included forming a Gender Forum that brought together diverse groups: women living with HIV, women injecting drug users, female sex workers, transgender people and men having sex with men.

Participation in the forum increased understanding of gender equality and human rights principles. The forum also increased the engagement of key affected populations in decision-making on HIV and exerted a strong influence on the national strategy. As a result, gender equality is now a key principle of all HIV programmes and budgets, and highlights the need to improve both prevention and treatment services and to expand outreach to overlooked groups of women.

MONITORING INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

The integration of gender equality into the national development plan of the **STATE OF PALESTINE** led to the first national marker to monitor the gender responsiveness of international development assistance. Today, the Government can accurately gauge how much assistance flows into gender interventions and for which activities.

UN WOMEN FLAGSHIP PROGRAMMES



GOVERNANCE AND NATIONAL PLANNING

TRANSFORMATIVE FINANCING FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT



BETTER PRODUCTION AND USE OF GENDER STATISTICS FOR EVIDENCE-BASED LOCALIZATION OF THE SDGs



DEMANDING RIGHTS TO REPRODUCTIVE, MATERNAL, NEWBORN, CHILD AND ADOLESCENT HEALTH SERVICES (PIPELINE)



PELIN ASLANTAS



UN Women/Gizem Yarbil

FROM WHERE I STAND

Pelin Aslantas, 43, is the only female bus driver in the city of Edirne, Turkey. Edirne was one of the 11 pilot municipalities in Turkey where UN Women provided training on gender-responsive budgeting (GRB). As a result, women bus drivers were recruited for Edirne’s public transport system for the first time. Edirne also enacted legislation encouraging women to participate in this sector. UN Women’s work on GRB in Turkey is geared towards achieving SDG 8, which promotes sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all; and SDG 11, which focuses on making cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable, including by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of women.

“I am the only woman bus driver in the city, among 202 men drivers.”



“I am the only woman bus driver in the city, among 202 men drivers. I’ve always wanted to drive big vehicles. I learned how to drive when I was 10 with my father’s four-wheel-drive, but it was my mother who taught me how to drive.

One day, my son noticed the municipality’s call for applications for women bus drivers online. I was very interested but I had to get a special license for public transportation, which is 10 times more difficult than getting a regular driver’s license. My male colleagues were taken aback by me in the beginning. They started a rumour among themselves that I would have an accident or would quit in no time. But after a while, they became convinced that I’m a good driver.

This is an incredibly demanding job. We work very long hours and have only one day off. For my male colleagues, their work ends here and when they go home, they can rest. But when I arrive at home, I wash my hands and head straight to the kitchen. I feel like I’m resting more in the bus while driving.

I love what I’m doing, it would have been impossible to do this job otherwise. My only rule in life is to continue what I start. I’m not a quitter, and I will go on doing my job for as long as I can.”

UN TRUST FUND TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Photo: Ndyandin Dawara from Gambia will not subject her daughter to female genital mutilation. She took this decision after training facilitated through a grant by the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women.



Ndyandin Dawara made a momentous decision to break with long tradition in her community in **GAMBIA**. She would not subject her toddler daughter to female genital mutilation (FGM), a violation that can usher in a lifetime of debilitating health and other consequences. Dawara's choice came after she attended training on ending the practice held by GAMCOTRAP, an advocacy group. It is just one of the organizations around the world making a difference in the lives of

women and girls through support from the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women.

The training showed Dawara how other women, coming from the same background, had decided to abandon FGM. That gave her strength. "We need to work to change people's mindsets," she says, stressing that all women and girls should live free from this harmful practice. Even her husband is now involved, intent on protecting his own daughter and all other girls in

their community. He also attended the training, and speaks out in the community and to other men about the damage FGM causes.

GAMCOTRAP has now mobilized heads of villages in 58 communities to support the abandonment of FGM. It has organized training for community leaders and workshops empowering over 300 women to claim their rights and those of their daughters. Among young mothers, 64 per cent said they would not subject their daughter to the prac-

tice, while community leaders are, for the first time, discussing how to protect girls and their communities. In 2015, Gambia passed legislation to criminalize and prohibit FGM, a major achievement stemming in part from GAMCOTRAP's long-term advocacy.

These accomplishments join a long legacy celebrated in 2016 as the UN Trust Fund marks its 20th anniversary. It remains the only global grant-making mechanism dedicated exclusively to addressing all forms of violence against women and girls. Managed by UN Women on behalf of the UN system, the UN Trust Fund to date has supported 426 initiatives in 136 countries and territories with grants totaling USD 116 million. In 2015, the Fund awarded USD 12.86 million through 33 grants covering 29 countries and territories, with bringing benefits to at least one million women, girls, men and boys.

Building on two decades of strong results and evidence, the UN Trust Fund has fine-tuned its strategies to deliver the greatest impacts and to respond to evolving challenges. Increasingly, it emphasizes preventing violence against women and girls—often through community interventions that challenge the gender discrimination underpinning violence. The Fund focuses on initiatives that promise lasting change, including by being institutionalized in official national programmes to prevent and end violence.

In 2015, other grantees included The Story Kitchen in **NEPAL**, implementing the “SAHAS (Courage) for Justice” project in 10 districts. It helps women survivors of conflict and violence acquire new skills to access justice, including through testifying

at the national Truth and Reconciliation Commission. During workshops, women survivors share their stories and in the process grow more comfortable talking about issues long kept locked within themselves. As one participant recalls: “I had forgotten to smile after seeing 15 people killed in front of my eyes. After coming to this workshop and meeting with other sisters, the smile has returned.” Complementary efforts include enhancing the quality of media reporting on violence against women and girls. New guidelines help journalists cover the issue in conflict settings in more sensitive and accountable ways, bolstered by a national consultation that has developed a broader set of standards on ethical reporting.

Najoti kudakon, another UN Trust Fund grantee, has extended a lifeline to rural women in **TAJIKISTAN** by improving access to basic protection services and helping to implement new legislation on domestic violence. In addition to running the only shelter for survivors of domestic violence in the country, Najoti kudakon helps expand networks for assistance by setting up women's support groups in remote areas. Participants have become active community mobilizers, organizing events, and creating and sharing information about the new law and women's rights. Moreover, the groups have quickly become efficient referral mechanisms for survivors of violence, improving access to a variety of services, including legal aid to help take cases to court.

The full list of 2015 UN Trust Fund grantees is at: www.unwomen.org/en/trust-funds/un-trust-fund-to-end-violence-against-women/grantees.



The UN Trust Fund marks its 20th anniversary

In
20 years
it supported
426 initiatives
in
136 countries
with grants totaling
USD 116 million

In 2015, it awarded
USD 12.86 million
through
33 grants
covering
29 countries,
benefiting
one million
women, girls, men and boys

The full list of 2015 UN Trust Fund grantees is at: www.unwomen.org/en/trust-funds/un-trust-fund-to-end-violence-against-women/grantees.

UN WOMEN'S FUND FOR GENDER EQUALITY

Photo: Ana Isabel González participates in the Hackatón Femenino, part of an initiative in Costa Rica that encourages young women to take up technology. It is supported through UN Women's Fund for Gender Equality.



When Pamela Araya was a young girl in rural **COSTA RICA**, she enjoyed taking computers apart. As she grew up, she realized she wanted to create computer programmes. Araya went to study computer engineering at the Costa Rica Institute of Technology in the northern area of San Carlos. Coming from an impoverished rural area, social pressure on her to pursue a “more feminine” career was intense. But Araya refused to back down. Today, the 22-year-old has an internship in a software engineering company as a junior software developer. “I feel powerful, like I am able to do a lot of things,” she says proudly.

Pamela’s path to empowerment in the male-dominated world of technology was eased by the Techno-

logical Café, an event organized by the Cooperative Sulá Batsú, through support from UN Women’s Fund for Gender Equality. It drew together a host of dynamic women entrepreneurs and technology leaders to mentor young women like Pamela. Inspired to pursue her own dreams, she now participates in an ongoing series of Technological Cafés as a leader and mentor in her own right. “It is hard to know other women studying technology because there are so few of us. Having the chance to meet and talk is wonderful. There is nothing a woman cannot do; those are myths from the past.”

Particularly in rural areas, Cooperative Sulá Batsú has engaged students, parents, teachers, ICT professionals, entrepreneurs and

academics in northern Costa Rica in challenging stereotypes that prevent girls and women from pursuing technology-related studies or professional careers. Besides the Technological Cafés, it has sponsored Central America’s first female Hack-a-thon, where nine groups of young women, testing their skills in a 36-hour programming marathon, developed software and apps to address the social problems that confront rural women and girls. By organizing public debates and outreach activities, a network of women and girls from the programme promotes rural women’s involvement in ICT.

As a global grant-making facility, the Fund for Gender Equality backs the economic and political

empowerment of women around the world. It finances high-impact initiatives by women-led organizations that deliver concrete results, especially for the most marginalized women and girls. In 2015, the Fund disbursed USD 7.6 million to 53 active programmes, and awarded USD 7.3 million in 24 new grants after a rigorous selection process involving 1,400 applications. The Fund's total portfolio now includes 120 programmes worth USD 64 million. An expanded geographical reach to 80 countries includes activities launched for the first time in Albania, Armenia, Benin, Haiti, Honduras, Mali, Samoa and Turkey.

Programmes in 2015 reached 218,000 beneficiaries. They strengthened women's leadership and political participation; enhanced skills for quality employment; facilitated access to land rights, credit and social protection; and bolstered abilities to influence public policies and programmes. As a strong proponent of civil society's transformative role in achieving sustainable development, the Fund provides continuous assistance that helps grantees pursue more efficient, results-oriented initiatives.

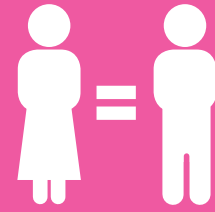
Other recent achievements by grantees include the 50 peer support groups established by KWIECO in **TANZANIA**. Through them, 1,155 women have been able to pool their savings and take loans to start small businesses. A portion of the savings is reserved for emergency needs, such as medical treatment. By the end of 2015, the groups had saved nearly USD 673,000 and provided more than 3,500 loans. Over 950 women had increased their income. Women have also improved their understanding of their rights

and legal protections, with 200 of them able to move forward in filing legal claims, such as to resolve land disputes and secure child maintenance in divorce cases.

The Salheya initiative—led by **EGYPT**'s Ministry of Manpower in collaboration with the American University in Cairo—has prompted the establishment of a specialized unit in the Ministry to conduct gender audits of private and public firms, mainstream gender equality principles in the workplace and train more than 400 ministry employees on gender equity in the labour market. The programme has also helped more than 1,300 women enhance their productive skills, while 500 more have found jobs or established their own businesses through several private sector partnering models. Four mobile units were established to ensure continued technical training for women in remote areas in the Sharqia governorate while two permanent exhibitions were established as marketing platforms for women's products.

A regional initiative in **SOUTH-EAST ASIA**—led by the International Women's Rights Action Watch—boosted the capacities of 90 young women activists to influence national and regional policies. Results have included **VIET NAM**'s national CEDAW Committee recognizing dating violence as a form of violence against women. In **TIMOR LESTE**, the CEDAW Committee recommended action to assist young women dropping out of school due to pregnancy.

The full list of 2015 Fund grantees is at: <http://www.unwomen.org/en/trust-funds/fund-for-gender-equality/grantees>.



THE FUND IN NUMBERS

53 active programmes worth USD 28.3 million

24 new initiatives funded by new grants totaling USD 7.3 million

Total portfolio includes 120 programmes in 80 countries, amounting to USD 64 million investments

The full list of 2015 UN Trust Fund grantees is at: <http://www.unwomen.org/en/trust-funds/fund-for-gender-equality/grantees>

LEADING UN ACTION TO ADVANCE EQUALITY



UN Women is mandated to lead coordinated UN system efforts to empower women so that progress can be accelerated by drawing on collective resources and experience. In a recent evaluation, UN Member States rated gender equality as one of the top two areas where the contributions of the UN development system are most significant. UN Women leads the way through joint advocacy and programmes that advance change on the ground as well as internal practices that drive accountability of UN entity leaders at every level to achieve gender equality.



UN CAMPAIGN UNITES ATHLETES AGAINST VIOLENCE

The girls kick and twirl as they strike with their fists, elbows, knees and shins. As practitioners of the “the art of eight limbs”—a martial art known as Muaythai—the girls discover not only the power of their own bodies but also how to be self-reliant and protect themselves.

Muaythai is an increasingly popular sport in Asia and elsewhere—and a channel to reach both young men and women with messages about gender equality and building healthy relationships. To ensure these messages reach far and wide, the Secretary-General’s UNiTE campaign to End Violence against Women, managed by UN Women, has teamed up with the World Muaythai Council and the International Federation of Muaythai Amateurs to challenge harmful social norms that lead to gender-based violence.

In 2015, UNiTE advocacy focused on prevention of violence, and sport was but one entry point to connect to new audiences—whether at football matches in Somalia and marathons in Cambodia or through cycling in El Salvador and acrobatics in Morocco. Globally, UNiTE each year leads the increasingly well-known call to “Orange the World” during the 16 Days of Activism on Gender-based Violence from 25 November – 10 December. People in over 80 countries from all walks of life came out to express solidarity in ending violence against women through participating in marches, film festivals, performances and debates. A record 310 million social media users connected online in 2015, while media covered the events wherever they happened. UNiTE has produced a growing list of achievements in individual countries including the first men’s movement to stop violence in Georgia.

For Muaythai fighters a curriculum was developed in 2015 to teach them to speak out against violence as they travel around demonstrating the sport at clubs and gyms. World MAX champion Muaythai boxer Buakaw Banchamek took part in a public service announcement to stop sexual harassment. At the Muaythai Royal World Cup in Bangkok, a federation covering 23 other sports such as aikido and boxing signed a pledge to similarly promote gender equality and train coaches and athletes to prevent violence.



Photos: People from all walks of life followed the call to “Orange the World” for a brighter future without violence against women and girls. Opposite page, clock-wise: A bike rally in the Maldives; young men championing the cause in Tanzania; the Black Women’s March against Racism and Violence in Brazil. This page, from top: A video spot featuring Muaythai star Buakaw Banchamek; the famous ruins in Petra, Jordan illuminated in orange; Senegalese singer Coumba Gawlo Seck performing.



UNiTE

campaign reached

310 million people

on social media during the

16 Days of Activism

in 2015

In 2015,

64 UN entities

reported on the UN System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality (SWAP)

Over

11,500 UN staff

completed the “I Know Gender” course, one of the many online courses offered by UN Women Training Centre

By the end of 2015,

21 UN entities

used gender equality markers to track financial allocations and expenditures (from 11 in 2013)

TRACKING UN SYSTEM-WIDE PRACTICES

By providing customized support on gender equality programmes and organizational practices, UN Women has spurred a significant increase in the number of other UN entities meeting or exceeding requirements under the UN System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-SWAP) that was developed by UN Women. The share rose to 57 per cent in 2015 compared to only 31 per cent just three years ago, while over 90 per cent of all UN agencies and departments now report under the SWAP.

Through coordination, advocacy and capacity-building efforts, UN Women has now assisted numerous entities with the application of gender markers to track funding for gender equality and women’s empowerment, advised on improving organizational culture, and developed a gender parity strategy to assist the UN Secretariat in attracting and retaining female talent. Efforts are under way to expand the Action Plan to guide and track the gender-responsive implementation of the Sustainable Development Agenda.

The success of UN-SWAP has led to its replication in several instances outside the United Nations, notably by the National Health Service of the United Kingdom in 2015. Commitment to tackling the under-representation of women in leadership has been championed in all hospitals. An internal campaign has begun to meet a goal of 50:50 gender parity by 2020.

JOINING FORCES TO SHAPE A LAW

Women’s advocates in **CHINA** had been calling for domestic violence legislation for decades—a goal finally achieved in 2015—in part due to the advocacy and expertise of a UN task force co-led by UN Women and UNICEF. While violence in the home was once seen as a private family matter, the law that was passed takes a comprehensive approach to covering all forms of violence against all family members, including women, children, the elderly and people with disabilities. Seven UN agencies—UN Women, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNESCO, UNDP, ILO and WHO—combined significant international expertise on all of these groups and worked together to help fine-tune elements that are now part of the legislation, such as provisions related to personal safety protection orders and integrated services, so that survivors of violence can readily access all the forms of support they need.

EXPERT'S TAKE

Reshaping the system to get it right for women



“There’s a proverb that if you want to go fast, go alone, but if you want to go far, go together. I think this has character-

ized the response to Cyclone Winston. The Fiji Government activated the cluster system to coordinate efforts to meet different needs, such as shelter or health, bringing together Government departments, UN agencies, NGOs and community groups with the most relevant resources and relationships to not only identify the gaps, but also to fill them.

It’s the first time UN Women has taken a leadership role in the cluster system in Fiji, co-leading both the Safety and Protection Cluster, along with UNICEF; and the Gender-based Violence in Emergencies sub-cluster, both under the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation. It’s been an immensely positive experience, of women’s and children’s protection actors working well together, as well as with advocates for people with disabilities, and LGBTI populations. The Safety and Protection Cluster conducted a large-scale multi-partner protection assessment—the only cluster to do so—with UN agencies, government, international and national NGOs collecting information from affected areas in order to form a common understanding of what and who to prioritize.

Lasting tools have been developed through the cluster that are relevant in both a disaster and in normal times, as we look to make humanitarian action more people-focused and inclusive—and fundamentally more effective. For example, for the first time in Fiji, survivors of violence have a clear national referral pathway to help them access the support and services they need from any organization—from medical treatment to counselling to reporting.

It has been challenging and has required intense cooperation, negotiation and sheer hard work. But I feel UN Women has helped make a difference for women in a time of great need, while at the same time demonstrating the value we can add to disaster response, both on the ground in affected communities, and within the formal coordination system. It’s been a chance to be part of reshaping the system to get it right for women.”



ALETA MILLER

UN Women/Murray Lloyd

Aleta Miller is the Representative for UN Women’s Fiji Multi-Country Office, which has been using protection to drive gender equality and address vulnerability in the UN system’s response to Cyclone Winston. SDG 1 seeks to build the resilience of the poor and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other disasters, while SDG 13 aims to strengthen resilience and adaption to climate-related hazards and natural disasters.

FORGING PARTNERSHIPS TO SPEED RESULTS

Photo: Over 40 media outlets joined UN Women in launching the Step It Up for Gender Equality Media Compact to enhance women's representation in the news media. South African broadcaster SABC, here with UN Bureau Chief and Correspondent Sherwin Bryce-Pease, is one of the inaugural signatories.



The strength of our diverse partnerships helps us deliver results for women. Joint efforts help spread innovative practices, exert powerful arguments for change and extend the reach of programmes through infusions of new resources. The goal of gender equality by 2030 is feasible when all pull in the same direction.

A COMPACT MOBILIZES THE MEDIA

Some of the world's leading media outlets now have something in common besides a powerful voice; they've signed on as founding members of UN Women's Step It Up for Gender Equality Media Compact to address gender imbalances in the media.

The Compact comes in the wake of findings of the 2015 Global Media Monitoring Project conducted by the World Association for Christian Communication and supported by UN Women. Evidence from over 100 countries confirmed that progress has been extremely slow in rectifying women's under-representation in the media. For instance, women are the subjects of television,

radio and print coverage only a quarter of the time. The survey served as a wake-up call for media houses and newsrooms who were asked to take a stand against gender discrimination. As a result, Media Compact members have now defined agendas for action.

In launching the Media Compact, over 40 signatories from all regions committed to playing an active role in advancing gender issues within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals. This commitment entails a range of concrete changes such as championing women's rights and gender equality issues through news coverage, ensuring the inclusion of women as sources in stories, aiming for gender parity among editorial personnel and adopting a gender-sensitive Code of Conduct on Reporting.

HEFORSHE ENLISTS MEN AND BOYS

UN Women's increasing engagement with men and boys has led 64 of our country offices to embark on some form of collaboration. Globally, our HeForShe movement mobilizes men and boys—from those in small communities to those leading corporations and countries—to be advocates of change for gender equality.

Launched in 2015, the HeForShe IMPACT 10x10x10 initiative brings together 10 global CEOs, 10 Heads of State and Government and 10 university presidents to drive change from the top, by increasing women's share in leadership and across industries such as the high-tech sector. At the World Economic Forum in Davos in 2016, UN Women Goodwill Ambassador Emma Watson helped launch the inaugural HeForShe Corporate Parity Report on gender equality in the corporations of the 10 CEOs.

For the first time, these globally powerful corporations openly released comprehensive data on gender diversity, including in management and on boards. While women's overall representation among employees approaches 40 per cent, the exercise found that their share of senior leadership positions dips as low as 11 per cent and does not exceed 43 per cent. These figures are above global averages but short of the parity required for gender equality.

HeForShe has inspired over 200 student clubs in universities around the world. In 2015, the inaugural GetFree University Tour took off; stopping at leading universities in France and the United Kingdom, the tour encouraged 110,000 students to reflect on how they can make active contributions to gender equality.

BUSINESSES COME ON BOARD

On the eve of the adoption of Agenda 2030, UN Women joined the Alibaba Group and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to host a Business and Philanthropy Leaders Forum at the United Nations. As Heads of State and Government convened at the United Nations nearby, leaders from 30 companies and 10 foundations pledged to boost funding for gender equality and women's empowerment—to the tune of USD 20 million. Besides the two co-hosts, additional contributors included the Open Society Foundation, MasterCard, the State Bank of India and Mali's Groupe Kledu.



Over
1,000 companies
signed on to the Women
Empowerment Principles (WEPIs)*

Over
700,000 men
have signed up to HeForShe

**38 Civil Society
Advisory Groups**
operate at the national, regional and
global levels, covering more than
70 countries

**14 National
Committees**
support our work across 4 continents

Over
40 media outlets
have signed up to our
Media Compact Planet to
Step it Up for Gender Equality

* Data refer to results obtained in collaboration with partners during the period 2014-2015.

To encourage the private sector to advance gender equality in the workplace, marketplace and communities, UN Women and the UN Global Compact call on companies to sign the Women's Empowerment Principles or WEPs. Signatories topped 1,000 in 2015, while over 500 companies registered for a two-day WEPs event launched with a keynote address by Hilary Clinton.

For International Women's Day in 2016, UN Women and the UN Global Compact joined 35 stock exchanges in every region of the world in ringing their opening or closing bells to raise awareness in support of gender equality. In Santiago, 800 corporate and government leaders gathered to show support. The Dhaka exchange highlighted the low share of women in board

Strong partners: UN Women Goodwill Ambassador Emma Watson launched the HeForShe Parity Report at the World Economic Forum. UN Women Goodwill Ambassador Nicole Kidman championed a campaign to end violence against women in Australia. The first-ever Youth Forum at the Commission on the Status of Women engaged 300 young participants.



positions among listed companies and announced a survey to inform steps to boost participation. A half-day session at the Nairobi exchange profiled best practices by companies to empower women, while speakers in Amman stressed how gender diversity improves corporate performance.

UN Women's longest-serving private sector partner is the Coca-Cola Company, where collaboration has focused on developing women's entrepreneurship and social leadership in **BRAZIL, EGYPT** and **SOUTH AFRICA**. For example, in Brazil training has helped 21,500 women improve business skills and strengthened recycling cooperatives. Over 23,000 women in South Africa have learned basic business management concepts that have built confidence and provided a solid foundation for profitable business ventures.

CIVIL SOCIETY ADVANCES THE 2030 AGENDA

Civil society groups and the women's movement are instrumental partners in much of UN Women's advocacy and programmes to empower women. We supported feminist civil society coalitions, including grass-roots groups, in the 2015 negotiations leading up to the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on financing for development. Such groups played a paramount role in advancing gender equality commitments by UN Member States. When Heads of State and Government adopted Agenda 2030, UN Women, in parallel, convened civil society consultations to identify priorities to achieve gender equality by 2030, including the implementation of activities under the stand-alone gender equality goal.

At the end of the year, the Global Civil Society Dialogue convened members of UN Women's network of Civil Society Advisory Groups (CSAG) and other civil society representatives active on national, regional and global levels. The network discussed strategies to meet the high ambitions of Agenda 2030, including through a broadening circle of close collaboration with men and boys, faith-based organizations, trade unions, youth and environmental movements. A new CSAG strategy launched by UN Women will further strengthen civil society and women's movements to advocate for the implementation of gender equality commitments.

YOUTH SHAPE THE FUTURE

The current generation of youth is the largest in history, with a critical role to play in shaping a more equal and just future. In 2015, having already established partnerships with youth in over 30 countries as well as globally, UN Women developed a strategy to empower young women and men to advance gender equality.

In 2016, at the UN Commission on the Status of Women, UN Women—along with the YWCA and the UN Working Group on Youth and Gender Equality—inaugurated the meeting's first Youth Forum. Three hundred young participants charged the meeting with their energy and aspirations, affirming that they are ready for their role in achieving gender equality by 2030. As Vanessa Anyoti, a representative who delivered recommendations from the Forum to the commission, put it: "The SDGs are about our lives NOW and our collective tomorrow."

NATIONAL COMMITTEES RAISE FUNDS AND AWARENESS

UN Women partners with 14 National Committees, independent, non-governmental organizations dedicated to supporting our work for women. In 2015 for instance, Iceland's committee raised USD 100,000 to train border control officers and provide mobile units to assist women refugees at the border of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia.

Within Australia, the committee struck an agreement with advertising agency BMF to create a unique campaign, pro bono, on ending violence against women and girls. #FaceItTogether featured UN Women's Goodwill Ambassador Nicole Kidman and involved people uploading their photo to create an ever-evolving "face" of people standing up to stop violence.

2015 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

UN Women is grateful for the commitment from its growing family of donors. 2015 set a new record for the number of countries contributing to UN Women's regular resources (core) revenue with 146 government donors, getting us closer to our target of 150 contributing Member States.

However, the year 2015 also brought unforeseen challenges for regular resources (core) due to negative exchange rate variations. Total 2015 voluntary contributions revenue is USD 307 million, a 5.1% decrease over the USD 322.8 million received in 2014.

Total contributions for 2015 comprised USD 136.1 million for regular resources (core) (USD 163.7 million in 2014) and USD 171 million for other resources (non-core) (USD 159.2 million in 2014). UN Women is very encouraged by the growth of its other resources (non-core) revenue and will exert all efforts to regain the growth momentum for its regular resources (core) revenue from previous years by further increasing dialogue and resource mobilization efforts with our donors.

Statement of financial performance

Thousands of USD

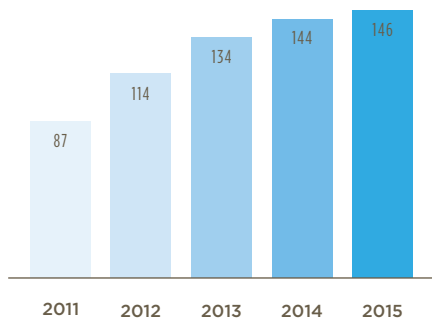
For the year ended 31 December 2015

	TOTAL
REVENUE	
Contributions	
Regular resources	136,054
Other resources	170,926
Assessed resources	7,505
Investment income	2,840
Other revenue	1,543
Revenue: exchange transactions	120
TOTAL REVENUE	318,988
TOTAL EXPENSES	314,974
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	4,014

NOTES:

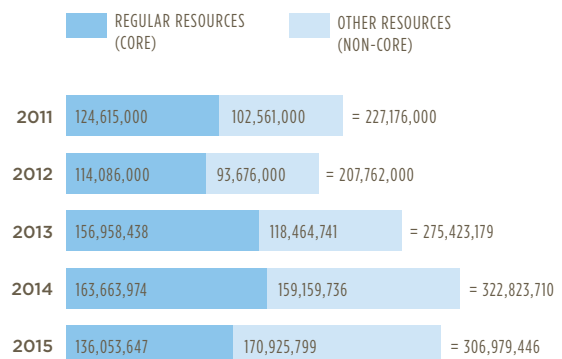
1. These statements have been prepared on an accrual basis, in accordance with International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS). Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues and expenses are recognized in the financial statements in the period to which they relate.
2. Assessed contributions are issued as an annual allotment from the United Nations regular budget, and are assessed and approved for a two year budget period. The amount of these contributions is then apportioned between the two years.

Number of governments contributing to regular resources (core) 2010-2015



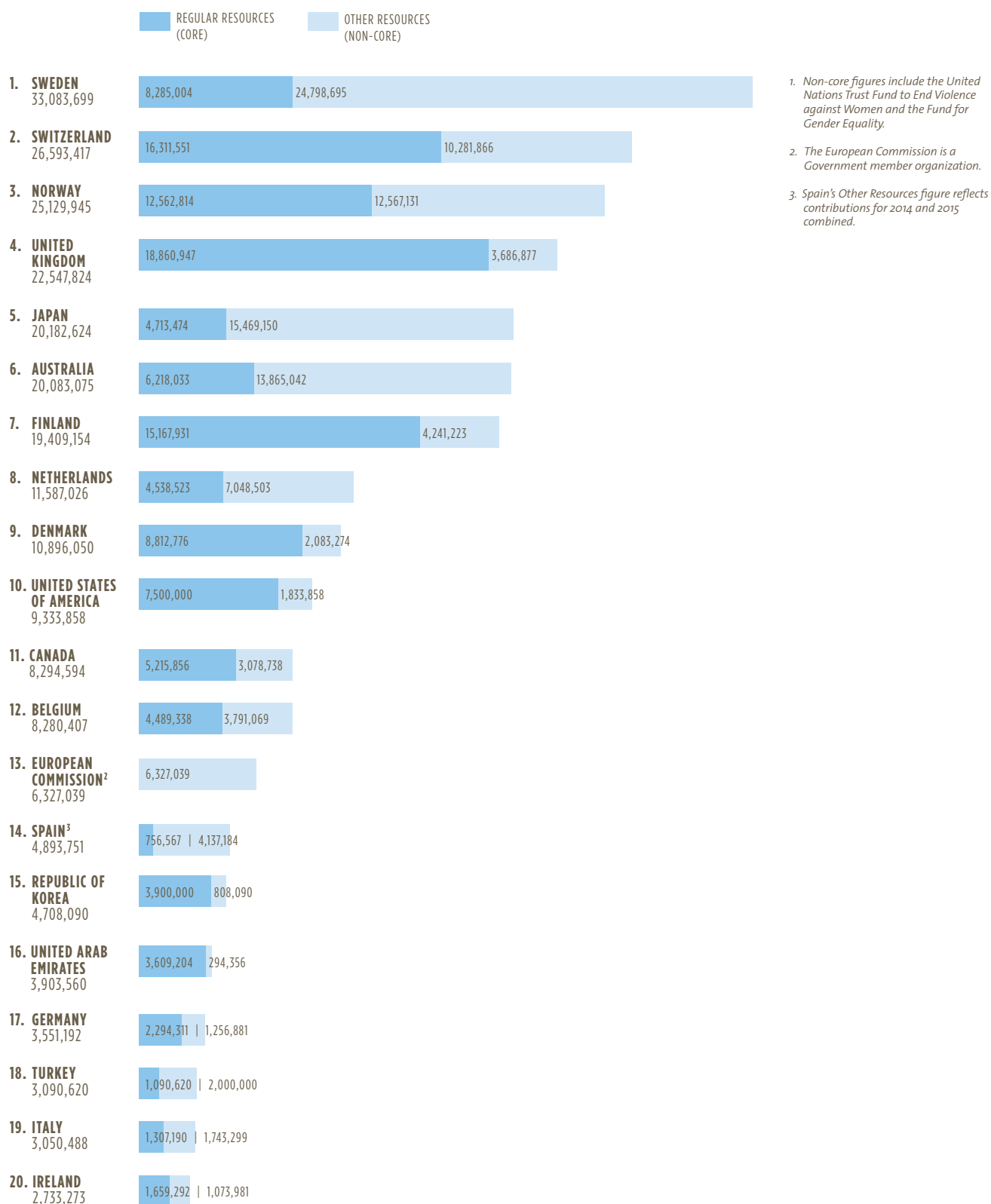
Contributions by governments 2010-2015

(expressed in USD)



Top 20 Government Donors

For the year ended 31 December 2015, USD¹



Voluntary Contributions to UN Women

From governments and other donors (expressed in USD)¹

CONTRIBUTORS	Regular resources (core)	Other resources (non-core)	TOTAL 2015
Governments and member organizations			
Afghanistan	500	-	500
Andorra	44,802	-	44,802
Angola	10,000	-	10,000
Antigua and Barbuda	500	-	500
Argentina	20,000	-	20,000
Armenia	2,500	-	2,500
Australia	6,218,033	13,865,042	20,083,075
Austria	270,856	634,236	905,092
Azerbaijan	5,000	-	5,000
Bahamas (the)	5,000	-	5,000
Bahrain	20,000	-	20,000
Bangladesh	21,000	-	21,000
Barbados	121,640	-	121,640
Belgium	4,489,338	3,791,069	8,280,407
Belize	1,000	-	1,000
Benin	500	-	500
Bhutan	500	-	500
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2,000	-	2,000
Botswana	10,000	-	10,000
Brazil	-	702,799	702,799
Brunei Darussalam	50,000	-	50,000
Bulgaria	15,000	-	15,000
Burkina Faso	7,980	-	7,980
Cambodia	5,000	-	5,000
Canada	5,215,856	3,078,738	8,294,594
Central African Republic (the)	250	-	250
Chad	500	-	500
Chile	150,000	-	150,000
China	60,000	380,301	440,301
Colombia	1,000	-	1,000
Comoros (the)	250	-	250
Congo (the)	11,106	-	11,106
Costa Rica	10,000	-	10,000
Croatia	5,000	-	5,000
Cuba	2,000	-	2,000
Cyprus	500	-	500
Czech Republic	16,199	-	16,199
Democratic People's Republic of Korea (the)	250	-	250
Denmark	8,812,776	2,083,274	10,896,050
Dominican Republic (the)	46,138	-	46,138
Ecuador	10,000	-	10,000
El Salvador	500	-	500
Equatorial Guinea	19,997	-	19,997
Eritrea	200	-	200
Estonia	100,125	-	100,125
Ethiopia	5,000	-	5,000
European Commission (EC/EU) ²	-	6,327,039	6,327,039
Fiji	8,065	-	8,065
Finland	15,167,931	4,241,223	19,409,154
France	462,477	664,477	1,126,953
Georgia	10,000	-	10,000
Germany	2,294,311	1,256,881	3,551,192
Ghana	2,500	-	2,500
Grenada	1,000	-	1,000
Guatemala	2,000	-	2,000
Guinea	500	-	500
Guinea-Bissau	150	-	150
Guyana	1,471	-	1,471
Honduras	150	-	150
Hungary	5,000	50,000	55,000
Iceland	739,824	299,620	1,039,443
India	-	10,000	10,000
Indonesia	147,000	-	147,000
Iran (Islamic Republic)	5,000	-	5,000
Ireland	1,659,292	1,073,981	2,733,273
Israel	250,000	30,000	280,000
Italy	1,307,190	1,743,299	3,050,488
Jamaica	4,603	-	4,603
Japan	4,713,474	15,469,150	20,182,624
Kazakhstan	91,600	-	91,600
Kiribati	2,000	-	2,000
Kuwait	50,000	-	50,000
Lao People's Democratic Republic (the)	1,000	-	1,000
Latvia	10,000	-	10,000

CONTRIBUTORS	Regular resources (core)	Other resources (non-core)	TOTAL 2015
Lebanon	2,500	-	2,500
Lesotho	500	-	500
Liberia	3,000	-	3,000
Libya	2,000	-	2,000
Liechtenstein	69,700	9,957	79,657
Lithuania	10,582	-	10,582
Luxembourg	1,294,118	1,214,667	2,508,784
Madagascar	300	-	300
Malawi	1,000	-	1,000
Malaysia	50,000	-	50,000
Malta	249	-	249
Marshall Islands (the)	333	-	333
Mauritania	150	-	150
Mauritius	500	-	500
Mexico	89,718	244,483	334,201
Micronesia (Federated States of)	100	-	100
Moldova	12,308	-	12,308
Monaco	16,251	-	16,251
Mongolia	7,000	-	7,000
Montenegro	5,000	-	5,000
Morocco	20,000	672,040	692,040
Mozambique	5,280	-	5,280
Myanmar	5,000	-	5,000
Namibia	5,000	-	5,000
Netherlands (the)	4,538,523	7,048,503	11,587,026
New Zealand	1,872,250	347,800	2,220,050
Nicaragua	5,000	-	5,000
Niger (the)	500	-	500
Nigeria	90,000	-	90,000
Norway	12,562,814	12,567,131	25,129,945
Oman	10,000	-	10,000
Pakistan	10,000	-	10,000
Palau	100	-	100
Palestine (State of)	500	-	500
Panama	15,000	-	15,000
Peru	1,667	-	1,667
Philippines (the)	10,000	-	10,000
Poland	10,565	29,417	39,981
Qatar	-	100,000	100,000
Republic of Korea	3,900,000	808,090	4,708,090
Rwanda	10,000	-	10,000
Saint Kitts and Nevis	1,000	-	1,000
Saint Lucia	100	-	100
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	1,000	-	1,000
Samoa	2,000	-	2,000
San Marino	100	-	100
Senegal	485,000	-	485,000
Serbia	6,000	-	6,000
Seychelles	1,000	-	1,000
Sierra Leone	100	-	100
Singapore	50,000	10,000	60,000
Solomon Islands	800	-	800
Somalia	150	-	150
South Africa	37,000	-	37,000
South Sudan	10,000	-	10,000
Spain ³	756,567	4,137,184	4,893,751
Sri Lanka	5,000	-	5,000
Suriname	1,750	-	1,750
Swaziland	200	-	200
Sweden	8,285,004	24,798,695	33,083,699
Switzerland	16,311,551	10,281,866	26,593,417
Thailand	13,000	-	13,000
Trinidad and Tobago	5,000	-	5,000
Turkey	1,090,620	2,000,000	3,090,620
Tuvalu	50	-	50
Ukraine	100	-	100
United Arab Emirates (the)	3,609,204	294,356	3,903,560
United Kingdom	18,860,947	3,686,877	22,547,824
United Republic of Tanzania (the)	5,000	-	5,000
United States of America	7,500,000	1,833,858	9,333,858
Uruguay	6,000	-	6,000
Uzbekistan	8,619	-	8,619
Vanuatu	200	-	200
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	5,000	-	5,000
Viet Nam	11,063	-	11,063
Zambia	500	-	500
Total Government contributions	134,432,466	125,786,052	260,218,518

CONTRIBUTORS	Regular resources (core)	Other resources (non-core)	TOTAL 2015
National Committees			
Australia	-	531,430	531,430
Austria	-	7,692	7,692
Finland	128,502	52,777	181,279
France	111,171	-	111,171
Germany	21,302	5,197	26,499
Iceland	121,930	324,198	446,127
Italy	-	1,590	1,590
Japan	-	49,514	49,514
New Zealand	-	14,975	14,975
Singapore	-	69,966	69,966
Sweden	10,564	103,232	113,796
United Kingdom	-	90,403	90,403
United States	57,250	50,403	107,653
Total National Committee contributions	450,718	1,301,377	1,752,095

Foundations and private donors

American Bar Association	-	4,655	4,655
Angelica Fuentes Foundation	-	410,000	410,000
Arab Gulf Programme for Development (AGFUND)	-	50,000	50,000
Asian Development Bank	-	39,333	39,333
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	-	1,000,026	1,000,026
Caribbean Court of Justice	-	80,000	80,000
Central Elections Commission - Palestine	-	60,932	60,932
Halo Financial Ltd	-	19,651	19,651
International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance	-	79,970	79,970
International Olympic Committee	-	442,586	442,586
Inter-Parliamentary Union	-	99,982	99,982
Justice Rapid Response	-	125,474	125,474
Korean Women's Development Institute	-	60,000	60,000
Mastercard	500,000	-	500,000
Mexico Tribunal Electoral	-	130,290	130,290
Microsoft Corporation	-	20,000	20,000
National Democratic Institute	-	20,000	20,000
Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy (NIMD)	-	17,465	17,465
Nicole Kidman	10,000	-	10,000
Oxfam	-	11,807	11,807
Peace Support Fund	-	214,445	214,445
Proya Cosmetics Co Ltd	-	91,500	91,500
Servicio Nacional de la Mujer	-	42,135	42,135
Soko International	-	24,362	24,362
Sony Music Mexico	-	10,000	10,000
The Coca Cola Company	10,000	300,000	310,000
The William and Flore Hewlett Foundation	-	200,000	200,000
Uber Technologies Inc	-	100,000	100,000
Unilever	-	39,347	39,347
Valencia Football Club	299,962	-	299,962
Women's Self Worth Foundation	-	50,000	50,000
Zonta International	-	317,120	317,120
Miscellaneous Donors	505,051	341,948	692,449
Total foundations and private donors contributions	1,170,463	4,403,028	5,573,491

United Nations Agencies, Funds and Programmes

IFAD	-	1,067,576	1,067,576
MDTFO (Multi-donor Trust Fund)	-	25,725,857	25,725,857
UNAIDS	-	3,826,828	3,826,828
UNDP	-	3,489,230	3,489,230
UNFPA	-	2,835,185	2,835,185
OTHER UN AGENCIES ⁴	-	2,835,185	2,835,185
Total other UN Agencies contributions	-	39,435,342	39,435,342

TOTAL 2015 VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS	136,053,647	170,925,799	306,979,446
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Voluntary contributions to UN Women's Fund for Gender Equality

From governments and other donors (expressed in USD)

CONTRIBUTORS	
Governments	
Germany	264,550
Israel	10,000
Switzerland	3,995,581
Total Government contributions	4,270,131

National Committees

Total National Committee contributions	138,866
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Foundations and private donors

Angelica Fuentes Foundation	400,000
Halo Financial Ltd	19,651
Miscellaneous Donors	681
Total foundation and private donor contributions	420,332

TOTAL 2015 CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FUND FOR GENDER EQUALITY	4,829,329
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Voluntary contributions to the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women

From governments and other donors (expressed in USD)

CONTRIBUTORS	
Governments	
Australia	307,655
Austria	23,965
Germany	219,780
Iceland	89,473
Ireland	287,293
Israel	20,000
Liechtenstein	9,957
Netherlands (the)	2,631,579
Switzerland	1,652,517
United Kingdom	3,414,510
Total Government contributions	8,656,729

National Committees

Total National Committee contributions	311,748
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Foundations and private donors

Soko International	24,362
Miscellaneous Donors	82,513
Total foundation and private donor contributions	106,875

TOTAL 2015 CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UN TRUST FUND TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN	9,115,151
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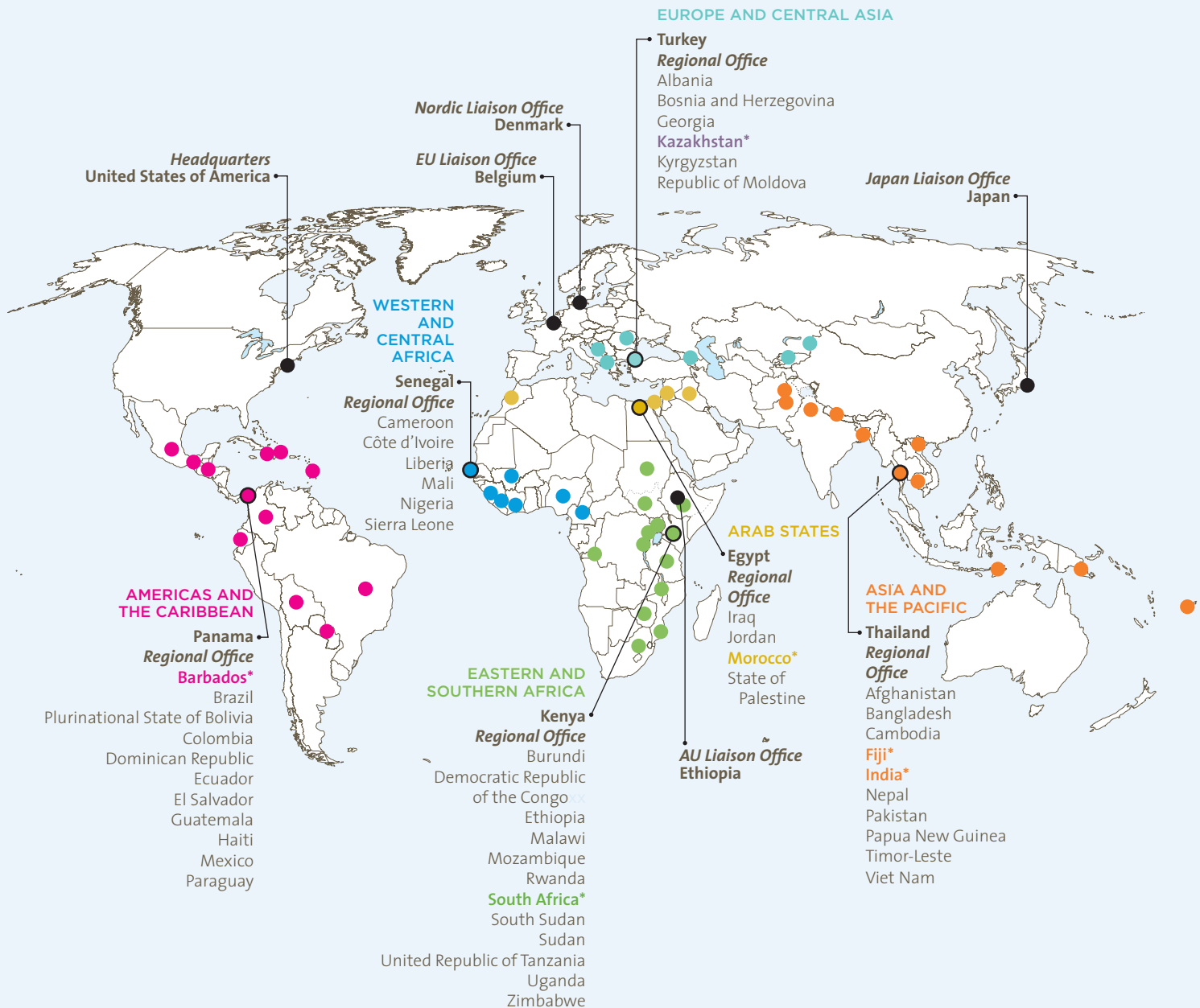
NOTES:

1. Non-core figures include the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women and the Fund for Gender Equality.
2. The European Commission is a Government member organization.
3. Spain's Other Resources figure reflects contributions for 2014 and 2015 combined.
4. Other UN Agencies include: FAO, ILO, IOM, PAHO, UNCDF, UNDEF, UNFIP, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNMEER, UNOCHA, UNOPS, WFP, WHO and WIPO.

UN WOMEN IN THE WORLD

Headquarters, Regional, Multi-Country, Country and Liaison Offices

*Multi-Country Office



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties. Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined.

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PHOTOS: *P. 2: UN Women/Karin Schermbrucker; p. 4: UN Women/Ryan Brown; p. 6: UN Women/Murray Lloyd; p. 8: UN Programme 'Women in Politics'/Ramin Mazur; p. 10: UN Women/Suzette Mitchell; p. 12: UN Women Morocco; p. 16: AECID/Miguel Lizana; p. 17: Andrew Testa/Panos; p. 18: UN Women; p. 20: UN Women/Bruno Gumyubumwe; p. 21: Platform for Malian Women Leaders/Mama Koite; p. 24: UN Women/Christopher Herwig; p. 28: Courtesy of Agro Azuay; p. 29: Adek Berry/AFP/Getty Images; p. 32: UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women/Gemma Wood; p. 34: Sulá Batsú/Natalia Vargas; p. 36 (from top, clockwise): UN RCO Maldives/Lara L. Hill; UN Women/Stephanie Raison; UNDP/Tiago Zenero; p. 37 (from top): Saatchi & Saatchi Thailand; UN Women/Christopher Herwig; UN Women Senegal; p. 40: UN Women/Ryan Brown; p. 42 (from top, clockwise): UN Women/Celeste Sloman; UN Women/Ryan Brown; UN Women National Committee Australia.*



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