



GENDER EQUALITY: IT'S TIME



WE HAVE A GLOBAL IMPERATIVE

“WHERE MEN AND WOMEN HAVE EQUAL RIGHTS, SOCIETIES PROSPER.
EQUALITY FOR WOMEN IS PROGRESS FOR ALL.”

— UN SECRETARY-GENERAL BAN KI-MOON



OUR PATH FORWARD IS CLEAR

UN WOMEN EMPHASIZES FIVE PRIORITIES:

- **Increasing women's leadership and participation;**
- **Ending violence against women and girls;**
- **Engaging women in all aspects of peace and security processes and humanitarian action;**
- **Enhancing women's economic empowerment;**
- **Making gender equality central to national development planning and budgeting.**

OFFERING EXPERTISE, PURSUING INNOVATION

Innovative programmes, in-depth expertise, networks of gender equality advocates—these are vital resources that make UN Women a one-stop global centre for advancing gender equality. Our country offices are active in all regions of the world, with tailored activities helping women claim their rights and expand their opportunities.

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 to implement these standards.

A third of women experience physical or sexual violence, most often from intimate partners. Most cases go unreported.

Global and regional estimates of violence against women, WHO, 2013.

We stand 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 and humanitarian action; 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. We work across the system's three pillars: development, human rights and peace and security.

GROWING CONSENSUS

People around the world have called for putting gender equality and women's empowerment at the heart of sustainable development. The post-2015 global agenda to follow the Millennium Development Goals is a historic opportunity to pursue transformative measures so that equality reaches every woman and girl, everywhere. Actions need to be both specific to women, and integrated across all goals aimed at advancing human well-being and protecting the environment on which we all depend.

UN Women will be among the leaders of the push for a gender equal world. It will build on its extensive expertise, wide-

Women hold 21.8 per cent of seats in parliaments, up from 11.3 per cent in 1995, yet still far below 30 per cent, recognized as the critical mass needed to advance a gender equality agenda.

Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), 2014.

ranging partnerships and agreed international norms, such as those encapsulated in the groundbreaking Beijing Platform for Action. It will help spotlight gaps in progress and uphold accountability for promises made.

Right now, we can imagine the end of discrimination against women. But adequate investments must be made, including in UN Women. A significant portion of funds must come from core commitments that allow UN Women to most effectively respond to a world of diverse demands. This funding is the bedrock of our programmes.



HISTORY IS ON OUR SIDE

“TOGETHER, WE CAN BE GAME-CHANGERS. WITH THE WOMEN AND GIRLS, MEN AND BOYS OF THE WORLD, WE CAN MAKE THE 21ST CENTURY ONE OF IRREVERSIBLE PROGRESS—FOR WOMEN AND ALL HUMANITY.”

—UN WOMEN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
PHUMZILE MLAMBO-NGCUKA

CHAMPIONING CHANGE

UN Women is the global champion for women and girls. Created by UN Member States, and backed by the women's movement around the world, we act on the fundamental premise that all women and girls have the right to live free of discrimination, violence and poverty, and that gender equality is central to achieving development.

For too long, women have been forced to stand on the sidelines, whether the issue is political leadership, safety in conflict zones, protection from violence or access to public services. Now, women must come to the centre as leaders and agents of change. It's time for gender equality.

Countries with greater gender equality have economies that are more competitive and grow faster, as shown through research in 114 countries.

Global Gender Gap Report, World Economic Forum (WEF), 2010.

UN Women mobilizes the global drive propelling progress for women and girls. We draw on the expertise and commitment of our wide-ranging networks of partners from all walks of life—among them women's organizations and other civil society groups, youth activists, business leaders and governments. We are uniquely placed to galvanize action across the UN system globally and through our presence in countries around the world.



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THE MOMENT IS NOW

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