



Gender



**Science, Technology and Innovation (STI)
Initiatives**

**United Nations Interagency Task Team
on STI for SDGs**

5 GENDER
EQUALITY



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INTRODUCTION



This brochure showcases select initiatives within the United Nations (UN) System on gender and science, technology and innovation (STI) from 13 contributing UN entities members of the Interagency Task Team on STI for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) established under the Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM). The initiatives aim at empowering women and girls in the field of STI through various areas of action that include capacity building, information sharing, policy setting and awareness raising. SDG 5 on Gender Equality is a cross cutting enabler for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM)

Paragraph 70 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development launched the TFM to support the implementation of the SDGs. The TFM facilitates multi-stakeholder collaboration and partnerships through the sharing of information, experiences, best practices and policy advice among Member States, civil society, the private sector, the scientific community, UN entities and other stakeholders.



To achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls



The TFM has three components:

1. A UN Interagency Task Team on Science, Technology and Innovation for the SDGs (IATT).
2. A collaborative multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the SDGs (STI Forum).
3. An online platform as a gateway for information on existing science, technology and innovation initiatives, mechanisms and programs.

The IATT Group on Gender and STI

Under the Interagency Task Team (IATT), a Group on Gender and STI was formed in 2018 with the purpose of increasing synergies and collaboration among the UN, its agencies, funds and programmes on issues pertaining to STI and gender. By connecting interested entities of the IATT and allowing the sharing of information and experiences, the Group provides a timely impetus for enhanced collaboration and exploration of possible joint activities in support of UN Action on this important agenda.

Find out more:

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/tfm>

International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB)



The International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB) is an intergovernmental organisation with the unique mandate of fostering research, capacity building and technology transfer in Life Sciences, with the ultimate purpose of promoting sustainable global development.

With 65 member states and over additional 20 signatory countries, the ICGEB forms an interactive network of internationally recognized scientists and state-of-the-art laboratories in its Components in Trieste, New Delhi and Cape Town, and in its Affiliated Centres. ICGEB was established within the United Nations as a special project of UNIDO in 1983, and has been an independent international organisation since 1994. Its Headquarters are based in Trieste, Italy.

Gender & STI Initiatives

ICGEB and the Government of India (DBT Department of Biotechnology) offer a very successful program targeting women scientists that had to incur into a career break penalty, for whatever reason, and wish to go back to mainstream science. The Program was first offered to only Indian women scientists and now it is being scaled up to women scientists from other developing countries, which are ICGEB member states. The program focuses on opening research grants for them to work in India's top level laboratories and support women scientists pursue independent R&D projects in life sciences.

Positive Role Models

Description: ICGEB is striving to reach a positive gender balance in its key scientific roles: at present 10 PIs (out of 45) are women, as are almost 1/3 of both the Scientific Council and Board of Governors. The Executive Management Team of ICGEB is composed of 3 women out of 7 members in total.

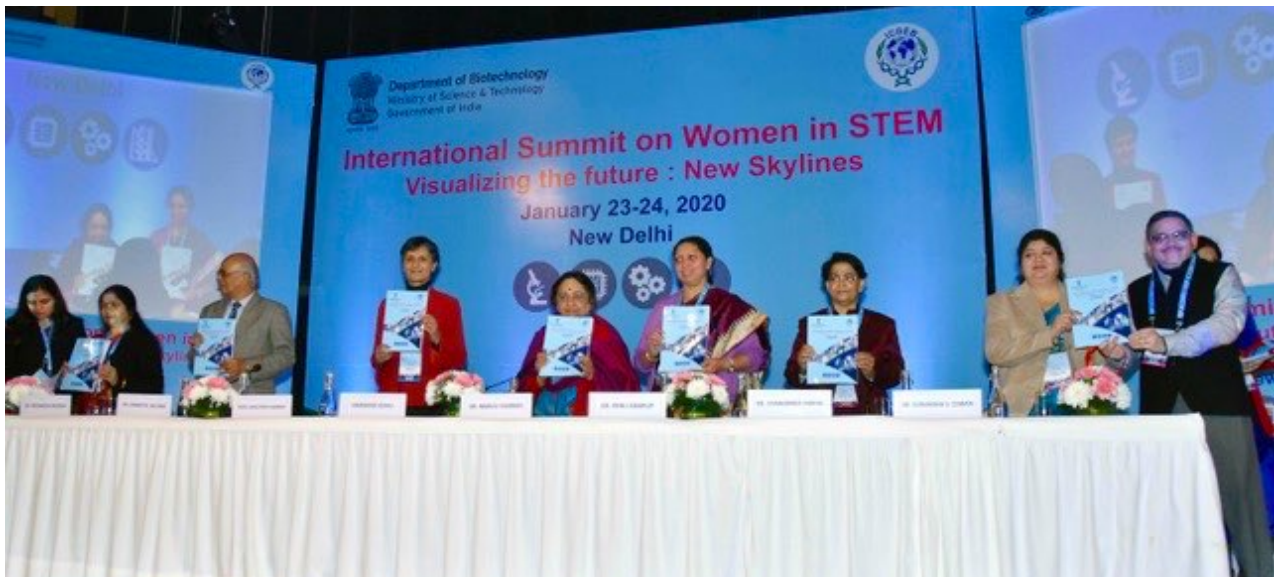
Key Objectives: To provide positive role models for young girls wishing to pursue a career in science or science diplomacy.



ICGEB, supported by the Government of South Africa (Department of Science and Innovation), will be opening a 3-year capacity building program to promote the participation of African women scientists in the field of life sciences. The Program will provide fellowships, funding and mentoring for the academic and professional careers of African women scientists in order to enhance their research capacities and foster the development of a thriving scientific community in Africa that is gender-balanced and inter-related. The research will focus on biotechnology topics relevant to the African Continent. PhDs and post-docs women scientists will carry out their research in the ICGEB state-of-the-art laboratories located in Cape Town, South Africa.

The **ICGEB Fellowship programmes** offer long and short-term fellowships for scientists who are nationals of ICGEB Member States to perform research in Trieste, New Delhi or Cape Town. Based on the principle of gender parity, a large number of female researchers receive scholarships each year. Across the organisation, for example, women constitute 59% of the overall number of Fellows on board in 2019.

The **ICGEB Meetings and Courses Programme** funds, organises and promotes participation in scientific meetings, workshops and theoretical and practical courses in the Life Sciences in ICGEB Member States. Since 2010, the ICGEB has organised and sponsored a total of 224 scientific events. The participation of researchers worldwide in these events also reflects a larger female presence (59% of all participants). Excellent opportunities have been provided to women scientists for direct interaction with forerunners of internationally recognized science.



In partnership with the Government of India, through the Department of biotechnology and ICGEB organized the **International Summit on Women in STEM “Visualizing the Future: New Skylines”**, on 23- 24 January 2020. The Summit was organized with the overall aim to boost the participation of women in STEM field for development of scientific career. Different sessions of the summit included mechanisms of leadership building, empowering women through networking, career opportunities and interactive exercises with scientists. The aim was to showcase women in STEM successes as real-world examples of successful women scientists, doctors and engineers demonstrating the excitement of being in the STEM fields as well as the rewards associated with it. Discussions and interactive sessions between aspiring young, mid-career and senior scientists in the STEM field were held to understanding the future requirements of women’s employment and career progression. Keynote speakers were renowned women scientists in STEM from different countries, young as well as established women scientists, science communicators and entrepreneurs from India. Around 350 participants from different STEM field across the globe participated in the event including scientists, socialists, entrepreneurs, researchers, teachers and students. Posters were presented by women scientists and students. The summit provided a good platform for young students and researchers to interact and network with leaders in the field, to develop ideas and generate a future action plan for making career in STEM fields.



As the joint agency of the United Nations (through UNCTAD) and the WTO, ITC is fully dedicated to supporting the internationalization of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs). Its mandate combines a focus on expanding trade opportunities with the aim of fostering sustainable and inclusive development.

ITC enables MSMEs in developing and transition economies to become more competitive and connect to international markets for trade and investment, thus raising incomes and creating job opportunities, especially for women, young people, and poor communities.

Gender & STI Initiatives

SheTrades

ITC's SheTrades initiative aims to connect 3 million women entrepreneurs and women-owned businesses to international markets by 2021. SheTrades works with governments, corporations and business support organizations to undertake research, shape enabling trade policies and regulations, facilitate financing, and expand access to public tenders and corporate supply chains.

The initiative is also supported by a digital platform (<https://shetrades.com>), which has members from over 121 countries and allows women entrepreneurs to connect to buyers, investors, and new markets. The SheTrades Initiative provides a platform for stakeholders to work together through both global support and in-country interventions.

ITC is a proud co-founding member of the EQUALS Global Partnership, which aims to bridge the gender digital divide"

Find out more:

<http://www.intracen.org/itc/women-and-trade/SheTrades/>
www.SheTrades.com

IMPACT SO FAR

ITC's SheTrades Initiative has

 Helped generate **\$91 million** in exports

Facilitated access to market for **20 000** women entrepreneurs 

 Mobilized a network of **> 1 000 000**

Built the capacity of **> 200** Institutions to support women entrepreneurs 



Global Support

Through the SheTrades Initiative, ITC provides valuable business opportunities, training and mentoring for women entrepreneurs, both online and on the ground; SheTrades supports delegations of women entrepreneurs at international trade fairs, business-to-business meetings, and provides them with a global platform on www.shetrades.com, a one-stop shop in which to share, learn, and do business. Moreover, SheTrades works to create an enabling ecosystem for women to thrive by promoting equitable policies, partly through collecting gender-disaggregated data (e.g. NTM surveys, EU surveys, SheTrades Outlook).

In-country Interventions

Through projects and national hubs, ITC SheTrades is present in 25 countries, including [Zambia](#), [The Gambia](#), and a growing number of [Commonwealth](#) countries. In-country interventions to support women entrepreneurs and women-owned businesses have a sectoral focus and incorporate a few of the 7 pillars including skills, access to markets, access to financial services, etc. Several countries have embraced the Initiative and adapted it to local context through the creation of national chapters.

Global Partnerships

The ITC SheTrades framework allows for collaboration with partners who provide their expertise to achieve greater impact and scalability. Some of the initiative's core private sector partners include eBay, Maersk, [UPS](#), and Barclays Bank. ITC SheTrades also builds the capacity of local institutions, including business support organisations, and incorporates government priorities to ensure the long-term sustainability of ITC's support.





International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

ITU is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies (ICTs) committed to connecting all the world's people - wherever they live and whatever their means. We allocate global radio spectrum and satellite orbits, develop the technical standards that ensure networks and technologies seamlessly interconnect, and strive to improve access to ICTs to underserved communities worldwide.

Gender & STI Initiatives

African Girls Can Code Initiative (AGCCI)

ITU and UN Women, in collaboration with the African Union Commission, launched the African Girls Can CODE Initiative to equip girls and young women in Africa with digital literacy skills. The AGCCI is a four-year programme that aims to train and empower girls and young women aged 17 to 20 years old across Africa to become computer programmers, creators and designers - and in so doing, enable more girls and young women to take up studies and careers in the ICT sector.

Key Objectives:

- Promote ICT's for girls. Digital skills for young women and girls
- Encourage African countries to mainstream ICT studies, including coding, into their national curricula to provide girls and young women with more opportunities to learn digital skills
- Establish a network of women in ICT who will act as role-models; and create an online community platform through which girls can connect and share their coding experiences.





EQUALS Global Partnership

EQUALS is a ground-breaking global network of over 90 partners who have committed to work together to improve women’s access to technology, build relevant digital and STEM skills, and promote female leadership in the tech sector. Established by ITU, UN Women, the International Trade Centre, GSMA and the United Nations University, EQUALS provides a holistic, data-driven approach to achieving gender equality in tech.

Key Objectives:

- Advance Digital Gender Equality
- Each year, the EQUALS in Tech Awards recognize the great efforts around the world to empower women in the world of ICTs



Find out more: <https://www.equalsonline.org/>



United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UN ECLAC)

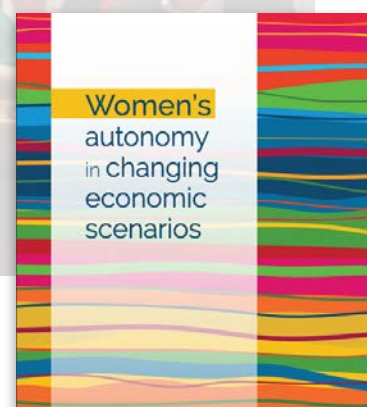


ECLAC, which is headquartered in Santiago, Chile, is one of the five regional commissions of the United Nations. ECLAC promote the economic, social and environmentally sustainable development of Latin America and the Caribbean through international cooperation, by undertaking research, technical cooperation, as well as advisory services in support of regional development efforts. The ECLAC Division for Gender Affairs support the strengthening of Governments capacity to implement gender equality policies; to produce gender statistics, and disseminates updated information particularly through the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean.

ECLAC Gender & STI Initiatives

1. Technical secretariat for Governments
 - Regional Conference on Women in LAC
 - Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in LAC
 - Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies
2. Generation of knowledge
 - Technological change from a gender perspective
 - Future of work and women's rights
 - Participation of women in STEM
3. Capacity building
 - Workshops on VET & STEM
 - Online courses

Find out more: ECLAC: <https://www.cepal.org/en>
ECLAC Gender Affairs Division: <https://www.cepal.org/en/work-areas/gender-affairs>
Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean: <https://oig.cepal.org/en>



Available [here](#)



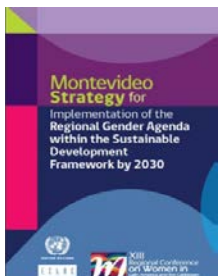
**XIV Regional Conference
on Women in
Latin America and the Caribbean**
Santiago, 27–31 January 2020



Policy Frameworks to Advance

- Girls' and women's education in STEM
- Women's labour participation in key sectors to structural change with equality, including the digital economy
- Strengthening women's capacities and their full participation in the digital ecosystem in the region

Montevideo Strategy for Implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda within the Sustainable Development Framework by 2030.



Policy framework: Technology is a key implementation pillar for public policies aligned with the Regional Gender Agenda and 2030

Agenda. Agreed measures to ensure that technologies are safe and environmentally sustainable, and help eliminate gender inequality.

Digital Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean

Policy framework: Actions to act on critical factors that condition digital development, including mainstreaming gender in achieving universal access to digital services, and advancing women's participation and leadership in public and private spaces where decisions are made on digital matters.



United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN ESCWA)



ESCWA provides a framework for the formulation and harmonization of sectoral policies for member countries, a platform for congress and coordination, a home for expertise and knowledge, and an information observatory.

ESCWA activities are coordinated with the divisions and main offices of the Headquarters of the United Nations, specialized agencies, and international and regional organizations, including the League of Arab States and its subsidiary bodies, and the Gulf Cooperation Council.

Gender & STI Initiatives

- **Technology as a Tool to Make Cities Safe and Combat Violence Against Women**

Description: The policy brief explores the urbanization boom that the Arab region is witnessing with a focus on its impact at the level of sexual violence and harassment of women in public spaces. It shows how this issue lies at the intersection of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the New Urban Plan and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. It examines international and regional technology-based solutions to addressing women's safety concerns in public spaces.

Key Objectives: : Reviewing successful experiences in adopting laws to criminalize sexual violence and harassment of women in public spaces and discusses how some countries are utilizing technology, particularly Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) to innovatively raise awareness and advocate for safe public spaces, report unsafe public spaces and track safety.

Read the policy brief here: <https://www.unescwa.org/publications/technology-tool-cities-safe-combat-violence-against-women>



- **Information and communication technologies: Prospects for promoting gender equality in the Arab region**

Description: This study acknowledges the central role of technology, particularly Information and Communication Technology (ICT), in fostering women empowerment and gender equality. Framed by the concept of women's empowerment, the study discusses the prospects to advance gender equality that ICTs offer in the Arab region, the possible risks generated by the improper use of these technologies and measures to overcome them. It regards the notion of empowerment as a process of change through which women and girls acquire the ability to make strategic life choices they have been denied. Through the analysis of a wide range of good practices implemented in the Arab region and in developing countries whose contexts are comparable to the region, the study shows that the use of ICTs facilitates and enhances the access of women and girls to resources by circumventing barriers posed by gendered norms and stereotypes or transforming them. The study concludes with a set of policy recommendations for government and non-government stakeholders on how to harness technology to redress gender inequalities in the region.

Key Objectives:

Examining how ICTs can be used as means of implementation to accelerate the achievement of the six targets of Goal 5 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and assist governments and key stakeholders in their efforts to attain this purpose.

Find out more: <https://www.unescwa.org/publications/publications-list>

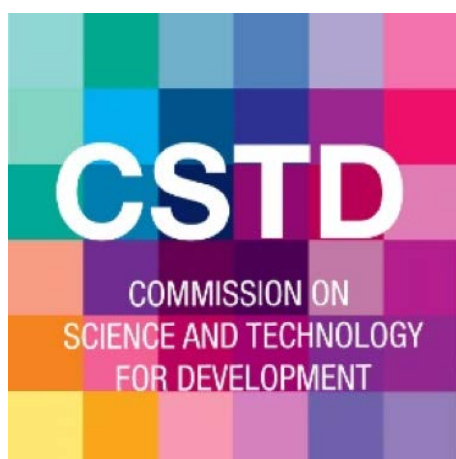


United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)



UNCTAD is the United Nations body responsible for dealing with economic and sustainable development issues with a focus on trade, finance, investment and technology. It helps developing countries to participate equitably in the global economy. UNCTAD carries out economic research, produces innovative analyses and makes policy recommendations to support government decision-making. UNCTAD is a forum where representatives of all countries can freely engage in dialogue, share experiences and tackle critical issues affecting the global economy. It promotes consensus at the multilateral level.

Gender & STI Initiatives



Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Reviews completed to date



Commission on Science and Technology for Development

UNCTAD is servicing the ECOSOC Functional Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD). The CSTD actively promotes using "gender lens" in STI policies. The aim is to encourage member states to integrate a gender perspective during the entire STI policy-making process, from assessment, through policy design, to implementation, capacity building, monitoring and follow-up so that STI empowers women in addressing their development challenges. The CSTD is the only ECOSOC Functional Commission with a gender advisory board, established in 1995.

Key Objectives:

Promoting gender-balanced STI policies and leveraging STI for women empowerment

Science Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP) Reviews

The Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP) Reviews aim to contribute to the development of national capacities in the field in order that national science, technology and innovation plans and programmes better contribute to development strategies and to improve the competitiveness of the productive sectors. A focus of equal opportunities for women and girls in the realm of STI are an integral part of the STIP review process and its suggestions for action.

Key Objectives:

Promoting gender balanced STI Policies and inclusive national innovation systems in a country-by-country approach.

Find out more:

<https://unctad.org/en/Pages/CSTD.aspx>

[https://unctad.org/en/pages/publications/Science,-Technology-and-Innovation-Policy-Reviews-\(STIP-Reviews\).aspx?Do=6,5](https://unctad.org/en/pages/publications/Science,-Technology-and-Innovation-Policy-Reviews-(STIP-Reviews).aspx?Do=6,5)

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Given its mandate in science and its work on women in science, UNESCO has a key role to play in working to overcome gender disparities in access to, influence over, and use of STI.

UNESCO implements activities towards:

- Influencing cultural change and support women scientists;
- Supporting the careers of women scientists and strengthen their networks;
- Promoting gender equality in STEM education at primary and secondary levels;
- Supporting monitoring and evidence-informed policy making
- Contributing to changing the underlying institutional bases of gender inequalities;

Gender & STI Initiatives

• For Women in Science Programme

Description: Since 1998, the L'Oréal Foundation, in partnership with UNESCO, has worked to improve the representation of women in scientific careers, upholding the conviction that the world needs science, and science needs women. In its first 20 years, the For Women in Science programme supported and raised the profiles of 102 laureates and more than 3,000 talented young scientists, both doctoral and post-doctoral candidates, providing them with research fellowships, allocated annually in 117 countries.



Key Objectives:

- Recognizing women's contribution to science and the scientific agenda;
- Encouraging young women to take up science careers and promote careers of promising young women researchers;

Find out more:

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/priority-areas/gender-and-science/supporting-women-scientists/for-women-in-science-programme/>

• STEM and Gender Advancement (SAGA)

Description: SAGA is a UNESCO global project focused on improving measurement and policies for gender equality in STI. The SAGA project offers governments and policymakers a variety of tools to set up, implement and monitor gender equality in STI policies to help reduce the current global gender gap in STI fields existing at all levels of education and research.

Key Objectives:

- improving national STI policies focused on gender;
- building capacity for the collection of data on gender in STI;
- improving the measurement and evaluation of the situation of women and girls in STI.

Find out more:

<https://en.unesco.org/saga>

UNICEF works in more than 190 countries and territories to put children first. Today, UNICEF has helped save more children's lives than any other humanitarian organization by providing health care and immunizations, safe water and sanitation, nutrition, education, emergency relief and more.

Gender & STI Initiatives

Girls Got It

An initiative that UNICEF supports in Lebanon through its Youth Innovation Lab. STEM careers are poised to be the jobs of the future, but discrimination and restrictive gender norms prevent many girls from entering those fields of study. The risk is that girls and women will remain marginalized in the global economy.

Closing the gender gap in education is not going to be enough to achieve gender equality - we also need to close the gender gap in STEM education. This is precisely the goal of Girls Got IT. It targets 15- to 17-year-old girls from marginalized and disadvantaged communities, including Syrian refugees - girls least likely to be exposed to STEM right at the time when they are planning their future careers and deciding whether to pursue higher education.

Key objectives:

Increase girls' access to STEM education.

Find out more: <https://uniceflebanon.exposure.co/empowering-girls->

Technogirl

The TechnoGirl programme was initiated in 2005 and is based on a model of public-private partnership in which companies and organizations provide job-shadowing and mentorship opportunities for girls focusing on STEM careers. Through the TechnoGirl programme, adolescent girls (aged 15-18) in Grades 9-11 at underprivileged schools with an aptitude for mathematics and science are identified and placed in a structured job-shadowing and skills development initiative in private and public companies.

Key Objectives:

This corporate mentorship provides adolescent girls with exposure to the workplace in STEM-based careers and helps build their confidence and skills.

Find out more:

https://www.unicef.org/southafrica/education_6101.html



UNIDO fully recognizes that gender equality and the empowerment of women lie at the heart of its mandate of inclusive and sustainable industrial development ([2013 Lima Declaration](#)) and the important role that science, technology and innovation can play in this regard. This is underscored by the Organization's [Strategy for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, 2020-2023](#). UNIDO is committed to implementing programmes that challenge the discrimination faced by women and girls, whatever their background and identity. By increasing the access of women to productive resources; creating enabling conditions for women's entrepreneurship and job creation, education, vocational training and women's leadership; promoting women's agency in climate change adaptation and mitigation; and building the knowledge and capacity for gender-responsive industrial development, UNIDO is helping to create a world where both men and women can thrive.

Gender & STI Initiatives

“Promoting Women Empowerment for Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial development in the MENA Region” (since 2015) – A Technical Cooperation project funded by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI)



The MENA region exhibits the world's highest unemployment rate, with women unemployment of up to 40%. Women entrepreneurship in the MENA region is extremely low (only approx. 12% of formal SMEs are women-owned) and represents an untapped potential of growth. Women's limited access to and use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in the region contributes to the employment trends, and presents an opportunity for innovation and inclusiveness if tapped into effectively.

Now in its second phase, the project aims to enhance women's economic empowerment at the regional and country levels in Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia by building a more conducive environment for women entrepreneurship development through awareness-raising and policy dialogue, alleviating the financial barriers to women's entrepreneurship development, improving national and international market access for women entrepreneurs and increasing business opportunities for women-led businesses in selected value chains by building the capacities of financial and non-financial service providers.

- https://open.unido.org/api/documents/13507882/download/170136_Final_PRODUC_PWE%20II_.pdf
- https://www.unido.org/sites/default/files/files/2019-02/MENA_REPORT_EN.pdf
- https://www.unido.org/sites/default/files/files/2019-03/UNIDO_Women_Empowerment_MENA_Factsheet_EN.pdf



UNIDO's Collaboration with HP Life

Many micro- and small scale enterprises operate below their potential since business owners lack the relevant entrepreneurship, management and IT skills to develop and become more efficient. Since May 2008, UNIDO has been partnering with Hewlett Packard (HP) to implement a global programme for entrepreneurship and IT education. UNIDO and HP equip aspiring and existing entrepreneurs with hands-on business and IT skills to start, run and grow their enterprises. At the core of the partnership lies the global Learning Initiative for Entrepreneurs (LIFE) training programme, which is available in several languages and covers marketing, operations, communication and finance for different stages of entrepreneurship. In selecting UNIDO partner organizations for the LIFE trainings, a gender equality factor is taken into consideration.

- <https://www.unido.org/news/unido-and-partners-create-more-6000-jobs-young-people-tunisia>
- https://www.unido.org/sites/default/files/2017-03/Success_Stories_March_2017_-_EN_0.pdf



UNIDO’s Global Cleantech Innovation Programme - (since 2011) a global technical cooperation funded by the Global Environment Facility

Technology innovation is key to finding transformative solutions to both economic and environmental challenges. The Global Cleantech Innovation Programme (GCIP) supports the creation of a robust innovation ecosystem by promoting technical innovations in the areas of Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy, Waste Beneficiation, Water Efficiency, Green Buildings, Transportation, and Advanced Materials and Chemicals.

A key component of GCIP is its annual competition-based accelerator, which identifies the most promising cleantech innovators and entrepreneurs across participating countries. Selected start-ups participate in a national acceleration programme that trains, mentors, promotes, and connects them to potential investors, customers and partners. Investor Connect events are organized at national and global levels, through which GCIP teams introduce their innovations to the investment community, and investors gain exclusive access to cleantech solutions with high impact potential. So far, UNIDO has implemented GCIP in a total of nine countries, including Armenia, India, Malaysia, Morocco, Pakistan, South Africa, Thailand, Turkey and Ukraine, with 25 more countries being in the pipeline.

- <https://www.unido.org/our-focus-safeguarding-environment-clean-energy-access-productive-use-climate-policies-and-networks/global-cleantech-innovation-programme>
- <https://www.unido.org/sites/default/files/files/2018-12/GCIP-Brochure-2018.pdf>

United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA)



UNOOSA works to promote international cooperation in the peaceful use and exploration of space, and in the utilization of space science and technology for sustainable economic and social development. The Office assists any UN Member States to establish legal and regulatory frameworks to govern space activities and strengthens the capacity of developing countries to use space science technology and applications for development by helping to integrate space capabilities into national development programmes.

Gender & STI Initiatives

Space4Women

As the gateway to space within the United Nations, UNOOSA works to bring the benefits of space science and technology to everyone, everywhere. Space4Women strengthens the awareness, capacity, and skills of individuals and institutions to promote gender equality and women's empowerment in STEM fields with a special focus on the space sector.

The platform promotes the Space4Women Network which is a mentoring platform that promotes gender equality and gender empowerment in the space sector. The network is open to everyone with interest in space and willingness to support women and girls in space education and careers.

Furthermore, through the platform the Office aims at facilitating institutional capacity building and provides relevant advice, knowledge, awareness raising, research, and data to institutions and governments for women in the space sector. This includes access to and use of space-technology in order to train, generate skills, and transfer knowledge to women on both institutional and individual levels.



Space4Women action areas include:

- Communicating the opportunities of STEM education, and facilitating access to space education and careers.
- Providing policy-relevant advice, knowledge management, and evidence-based awareness raising, research and data to institutions and governments on “Space for Women” and “Women for Space.”
- Facilitating capacity-building and training of individuals on access to and use of space-technology to train, generate skills, and foster knowledge.
- Promoting a mentoring platform and a Space4Women Network for advocacy and awareness raising.
- Empowering young women and girls to be both the beneficiary of, and an active and integral contributor to space solutions. t girls (aged 15–18) in Grades 9–11 at underprivileged schools with an aptitude for mathematics and science are identified and placed in a structured job-shadowing and skills development initiative in private and public companies.



WFP is the food-assistance branch of the United Nations and the world's largest humanitarian organization addressing hunger and promoting food security. According to the WFP, it provides food assistance to an average of 80 million people in 82 countries each year, most of them in remote areas, directly serving the hungry poor.

Gender & STI Initiatives

EMPACT connects refugees, displaced people and vulnerable host communities to the future of work. Through short and focused practical training and collaboration with the private sector, EMPACT enables people who would otherwise be cut off to access the global online economy.



Tailored digital training courses provide hard skills, such as data cleaning or picture tagging, and soft skills to help bridge the gap between poverty and a new career in a globalized job market.

In 2019, EMPACT, trained 3,890 students and launched a new campus in the Kakuma refugee camp in Kenya. Since launching, EMPACT has trained over 6,600 students, over 50 percent of whom are women, across 12 campuses spanning Kenya, Iraq and Lebanon. EMPACT specifically supports the participation and growth of women candidates including young or single mothers, by choosing spaces for the activities to ensure women feel safe and supported (segregated restrooms, security gates, keeping the buildings and surrounding parking lots lit in the evening, a designated prayer room). The program design includes certain activities to increase the women participation (provision of transport in certain countries, referral to childcare services where possible).

For more information: <https://innovation.wfp.org/project/empact>



H₂Grow, WFP's hydroponics project is a no-soil, water-efficient solution that allows people threatened by hunger to grow their own food in harsh environments. By developing low-tech systems from local materials, sprouting fresh vegetables or animal fodder in deserts, refugee camps or urban slums, H₂Grow supports food-insecure families to increase their access to fresh food.

In 2019, H₂Grow directly impacted more than 7,600 people in seven countries, many of them women and children. The project tripled the number of people reached, with 542 hydroponic units in the field producing fresh animal feed and vegetables. H₂Grow was also featured at the 2019 UN General Assembly and Paris Peace Forum. In 2020, H₂Grow plans to expand to five more countries and build strong avenues for scale; by 2021, H₂Grow aims to reach two million people in 21 countries through partnerships, scaling strategies and the H₂Grow digital platform.

H₂Grow plans to further expand focus on women having access to this agricultural technology which enables household level food production, for example in countries like Chad where 100% of kit recipients are women, Algeria (75% are female participation) and Jordan (50% female participation).

For more information: <https://innovation.wfp.org/project/h2grow-hydroponics>



World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)



WIPO is the global forum for intellectual property services, policy, information and cooperation. It is a self-funding agency of the United Nations, with 193 member states.

Our mission is to lead the development of a balanced and effective international intellectual property (IP) system that enables innovation and creativity for the benefit of all.

Gender & STI Initiatives



Maximizing the Power of Diversity

Workshop on Inclusive Leadership, Cultural Intelligence and Unconscious Bias was held in 2019 for delegates to the [2019 Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO](#).

The workshop aimed to provide an understanding of the importance of diversity and inclusion and its impact on innovation; to support leaders in leading inclusively; and to develop greater sensitivity to diversity and inclusion by exploring adaptive strategies around culture and bias mitigation.

Find out more:

<https://www.wipo.int/women-and-ip/en/news/2019/>



WIPO Training and Mentoring Program for Indigenous Women Entrepreneurs

WIPO's training and mentoring program launched in 2019 aims to strengthening the capacity of women entrepreneurs from indigenous peoples and local communities to make strategic and effective use of intellectual property (IP) rights, in support of projects based on traditional knowledge (TK) and traditional cultural expressions (TCEs). Twenty four women entrepreneurs have been selected, including artisans, designers, performing artists, researchers, healers or small-scale farmers who are planning, or have already initiated, a project based on TK and/or TCEs, which includes an IP component.

Find out more:

https://www.wipo.int/tk/en/women_entrepreneurs/



World Meteorological Organisation (WMO)

WMO is the UN's specialized agency for weather, climate, hydrology and related geophysical sciences. WMO carries out its work through scientific and technical programmes designed to assist our 193 members to provide and benefit from weather, climate and water services to address present and emerging problems.



WMO Gender Action Plan

WMO renewed its commitment to gender equality and diversity in the fields of meteorology, hydrology and related geophysical sciences at its 18th World Meteorological Congress in June 2019, by adopting an updated Gender Action Plan for 2020-2023, strengthening the network of gender advocates in the WMO community and marking World Oceans Day with the theme "Gender and Oceans".

Amongst others, the Gender Action Plan outlines concrete steps for how the WMO Secretariat, its constituent bodies and its members (National Hydrometeorological Services) can better:

- Create inclusive and diverse governance structures
- Integrate gender mainstreaming in strategic planning processes
- Collect, use and analyze sex-disaggregated data
- Build a pool of female leaders in the WMO community
- Expose youth, especially girls, to the meteorological, hydrological and climatological profession

Watch our video assessing progress on gender equality at the WMO:
(<https://youtu.be/ULZiZVxceYc>)

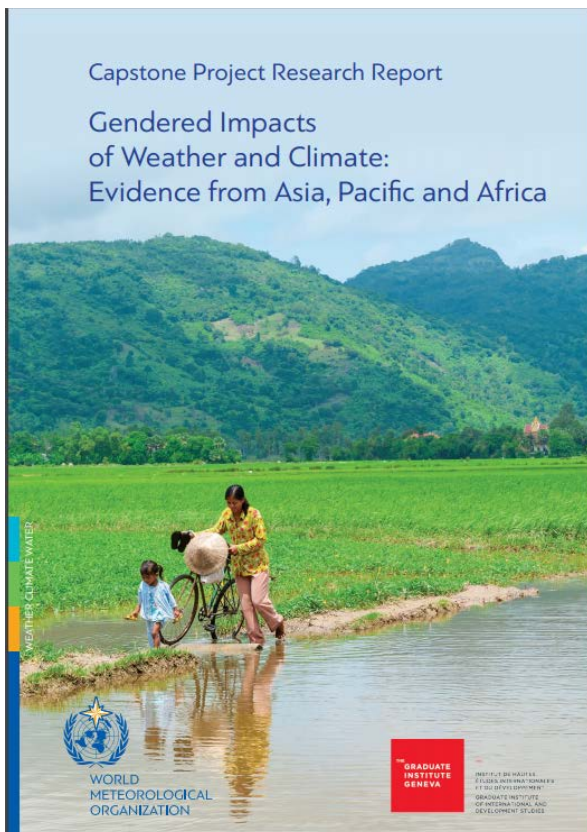


WMO highlights the gendered impacts of weather climate

The WMO launched a new report into the “Gendered impacts of weather and climate: evidence from Asia, Pacific and Africa” examining the physical, material and psychological gender differentiated impacts of weather and climate as well as the gender-specific needs for information and services.

Key objectives:

- To improve understanding and provide an evidence base on the gender differentiated impacts of weather and climate and the gender-specific needs for information and services
- To provide practical recommendations on the provision of gender responsive services in terms of dissemination channels and feedback mechanisms



5 GENDER
EQUALITY

