

Lopa Banerjee Bio

Lopa Banerjee is the Chief of the Civil Society Section at UN Women. She is based in New York and leads UN Women's work on strengthening civil society contribution, participation and influence in the global, intergovernmental policy discussion and decision processes.

A gender and human rights thematic expert with substantive experience in social policy and governance issues across Asia and Africa, Lopa has worked for over 3 decades in international development, policy advocacy, communication and partnership building, across the UN and in the private sector.

Lopa Banerjee has had more than a decade-long career with the United Nations. Prior to the UN she worked with the private sector as well as with civil society, in India. Before joining UN Women, Lopa worked with UNDP and OHCHR in South Africa and UNICEF in Iran (the Islamic Republic of), Bangladesh and New York. In India, Lopa worked for several years in communication, research and advocacy.

Lopa has worked with civil society in diverse spaces and facilitated UN-civil society engagement in South Africa, Iran and Bangladesh.

In India she worked on gender-based violence and the representation of women in media. With the UN in South Africa, Lopa led the formation of a multi-stakeholder (UN/Government/Civil Society) task team to support the development of the joint gender programme for South

Africa. She also led a multi stakeholder campaign with civil society, government and the private sector, on the MDGs during the Soccer World Cup in 2010. With UNICEF in Bangladesh, she worked with civil society and the government to develop a community based advocacy programme to prevent early marriage of girls. She worked with the government, community groups and civil society in Iran on child rights issues including juvenile justice and corporal punishment.

Lopa's areas of specialization include policy analysis and advocacy, partnership development and engagement, and Human Rights Based Based Programming and training.