



ANNUAL REPORT
2014-2015



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.

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Foreword by the Executive Director

Leveraging strategic partnerships for transformative action in gender equality

In 2015 we look to a new sustainable development agenda for ‘people, planet and prosperity’, with gender equality and women’s empowerment at its heart. UN Women is rising to that challenge and building upon a history of achievement, including major results for women and girls in 2014.

In everything we do, we recognize that success is founded on partnership. We have taken every opportunity to encourage the world to live up to the commitments made 20 years ago in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. In 2014, in a review of unprecedented scale, 167 countries undertook national stock-taking of their implementation of those gender equality promises. The process, and the

results, have supported an intense programme of mobilizing re-commitment to stepped-up, transformative action before 2020, culminating in a “Planet 50:50 by 2030”.

A growing share of our strategic partnerships are now starting to take root in the corporate sector as we work together on fostering women’s economic empowerment and calling on men to take responsibility and be accountable for change.

In September 2014 we launched the HeForShe campaign and generated millions of conversations both through social media and in person, as those who signed up also spread the word. The initiative “IMPACT 10x10x10”, launched in January 2015 at the World Economic Forum, engaged champions

within governments, corporations and universities as leaders of immediate change in each sector, using technology creatively to targeting influential issues like financial inclusion, quotas for political representation, wage parity and elimination of gender-based violence.

In our flagship report *Progress of the World's Women, 2015-2016: Transforming Economies, Realizing Rights* released in April 2015, we exposed the stark gender imbalances in the global economy, with new data, and recommended solutions for governments to implement. Work across the United Nations system with partners such as ITU and ILO is helping us to entrench domestic and international development policies that support women's access to decent work and equal pay and alleviate the crippling burden of unpaid care carried by women the world over.

Civil society, including trade unions and workers' movements, remains a bedrock partner for all our endeavours, both as the everyday voice of conscience and the invaluable "feet on the ground" in times of humanitarian crisis, such as during the Ebola Virus Disease outbreak, Tropical Cyclone Pam, and the growing number of complex, interconnected threats to international peace and security, in particular the emergence of a rising wave of violent extremist groups who are directly and explicitly targeting women's rights.

Ultimately, all our work is directed towards changing lives, and helping women and girls achieve their full potential. We are driving for better educational opportunities for girls and women, including through the increased use of technology, as well as measures to continue to increase and consolidate women's political leadership and ensure they are included in peacebuilding and recovery efforts during times of crisis. All of this requires increased and renewed investments, a strong commitment to improve data collection and analysis, accountability frameworks for leaders, and established responsibilities for all stakeholders, including the private sector.

This year's report provides examples that demonstrate UN Women's impact from the global to the individual level.

ABOVE: *UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka visits Cairo's Safe City Programme, one of 21 that are part of UN Women's Safe Cities global initiative to end harassment and violence against women and girls in urban spaces. Around the world, from localities to global forums, UN Women forges partnerships and mobilizes people around a common purpose fundamental to sustainable development: the achievement of gender equality and women's empowerment.*

PHOTO: UN Women/Mohamed Ezz Aldin

We are proud to have been part of the increase from less than 30 per cent to more than 50 per cent of women elected to the House of Representatives in Bolivia; the improved economic rights of 21,350 women home-based workers in Pakistan through increased access to registration services, food security and income-generating opportunities; the increase in Rwanda of capably-staffed one-stop crisis centres from 2 to 11 for women who have experienced violence; and the deployment of 23 experts in investigation and documentation of gender-based crimes to support international investigations or prosecutions in 12 different countries, leading directly to building cases against perpetrators of atrocities against women and girls. Across the world, UN Women is present, working with its partners, in its role as catalyst, supporter and leader for a gender-equal world.

The aspirations and actions set in motion this year will influence generations to come. We know this well and strive to achieve the maximum impact with the resources entrusted to us. We invest in evaluating our work so that we can continue to learn from what we do and to improve further. Independent evaluations by a number of key partners in 2014 confirmed our relevance and efficacy.

Gender equality remains underfunded on so many levels; yet a raised level of financing is essential to complete the ambitious agenda.

In this year's review process of the Financing for Development agenda UN Women is calling for transformative financing for gender equality. This requires unprecedented levels of funding—in scale, scope and quality. Prioritized, dedicated resource allocation and investment for gender equality are urgent imperatives. We will continue to work on aligning all sources of development funding and the institutions that manage them, whether public or private, domestic or international, with gender equality goals and we will promote multi-stakeholder partnerships as key to ensuring adequate and robust financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women.

As this report underscores, UN Women strongly commits to disrupting the status quo and collaboratively setting of new norms, delivering well-targeted programmes, and enlisting game-changing partners both within and outside the UN system to accelerate the pace of change.

Together we can usher in a new era that is more just, resilient, and inclusive of all.



Raising the bar with global standards

Celebrating a landmark

The 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action charged governments and people around the world with achieving gender equality and women's empowerment. It remains a landmark commitment, and UN Women seized its 20th anniversary to step up action to make all parts of its far-reaching vision real in women's lives.

Early in 2015, the UN Commission on the Status of Women met to assess the status of global implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and to take stock of where women stand in the world today. An unprecedented 167 countries undertook national reviews, with findings summarized in an authoritative report issued by the UN Secretary-General. While governments set a high bar in Beijing, and there have been many advances, the report declared unequivocally that progress must accelerate.

Everywhere there were signs that more and more people recognize the gaps and are ready to speed up change. To mark Beijing+20 leading up to the Commission, UN Women ignited global public and political engagement with its campaign titled "Empowering Women, Empower Humanity—Picture It!" Through online and news media, it reached over 280 million people, inspiring an ever-growing circle of interest and action. A media compact with over 30 leading global outlets led to scaled-up, high-quality coverage of key gender equality concerns.

Forty events on the Beijing Platform for Action's 12 critical areas of concern, held around the world, convened leading experts, advocates and opinion-shapers to map future directions on issues from education to jobs to political participation or media. These included, for example, a partnership with the Geena Davis Institute that produced the first-ever global study on the often limited, discriminatory portrayal of women in films.

The Commission brought government representatives and a record 4,500 NGO participants together for a vibrant discussion and debate. Over 650 events covered topics from increased financing for gender equality to the roles of men and boys. Stock exchanges in New York, Cairo, Warsaw, Stockholm, Istanbul, Lagos and Bombay rang their bells for gender equality, and thousands of people marched in the streets of New York City with the call "Planet 50-50 by 2030: Step It Up for Gender Equality."

At a star-studded event to celebrate the 20th anniversary in New York, leaders from the arts, philanthropy, politics,

ABOVE: UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka (centre) and Deputy Executive Director Lakshmi Puri (right), joined by Secretary General of La Francophonie Michaëlle Jean (left), led thousands of activists to march through New York on International Women's Day. Their call: "Planet 50-50 by 2030: Step It Up for Gender Equality!"

PHOTO: UN Women/Ryan Brown

Setting global norms and standards is a critical step towards action to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment. Through annual meetings of key UN bodies as well as other intergovernmental negotiations, UN Women offers expertise and evidence, good practices and lessons learned, to help governments make commitments that are fully aligned with women's rights. We call for specific attention to be paid to gender equality, and for gender dimensions to be integrated across all issues fundamental to human progress.

business and activism insisted that gender inequality have a 2030 expiry date and urged concrete actions to “Step it Up.” Media coverage during the Commission, including on International Women's Day, totaled 5,000 news reports in 90 countries, while social media engagement reached nearly 1.2 billion unique users.

The Commission concluded with governments committing in a political declaration to six core strategies to accelerate progress towards gender equality. They agreed to significantly ramp up investment in empowering women and ending discrimination, and pledged to do more to implement laws, transform discriminatory stereotypes and enhance data to track progress. Starting in 2016, the Commission will devote a segment of its session to discussions among government ministers, a signal of strong political commitment.

Advancing regional commitments

Preparations for Beijing+20 included not only 167 in-depth national reports, but also progress reviews for all regions. In the Arab States region, for example, UN Women joined the League of **Arab States** and the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia in 2015 to conduct the region's most comprehensive review of Beijing to date—21 out of 22 countries participated. It reaffirmed Member State commitment to all 12 areas of concern in the Beijing Platform for Action and explicitly committed to provide resources to implement it.

The regional review built on consultations, hosted a year prior by the League of Arab States and UN Women resulting in the Cairo Declaration, considered the most progressive political commitment to women in the region to date. In a transformative shift, it pushed forward agreement on upholding women's reproductive health and rights, long a contentious topic, and issued the first formal call for referring all cases of violence against women to formal judicial systems. The meeting marked the first time that the League of Arab States considered civil society perspectives in talks on gender equality and women's empowerment.

Putting gender equality at the centre of new and historic agendas

UN Women has been the major global advocate and maker of the substantive case for putting women and girls at the centre of the post-2015 sustainable development agenda, slated for completion at a Summit of Heads of State and Government in September 2015. Governments responded to our early call for a gender equality goal as well as the integration of gender equality considerations in targets under other goals of the agenda.

Intersecting with the post-2015 agenda are historic talks on financing for development and climate change. UN Women has led calls for dramatically scaling up investments in gender equality and the empowerment of women, including by ensuring that official development assistance helps advance the Beijing Platform for Action. We urged recognition of the gender dimensions of climate change as a general principle, and specifically with regard to adapting to climate shifts, building capacities to respond, technology transfer and financing. A new draft climate agreement to be considered at the end of 2015 now refers to all of these elements. For the 2015 Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, UN Women successfully called for governments to agree to include gender equality dimensions in all related policies and practices, such as early warning systems, and response and recovery efforts. At the 2014 UN Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, UN Women had a major part in ensuring that the agreement, known as the SAMOA Pathway, recognizes the centrality of gender equality and women's empowerment to sustainable development, spells out commitments to women's special needs and roles in key areas such as water and sanitation, and vows to end violence against women.

UN Women's concerted advocacy on the 10th anniversary of the World Summit on the Information Society persuaded governments to call for closing the technology gender divide, including by using innovations to expand women's opportunities in employment and as entrepreneurs.



Leading the way to parity in politics

Parliaments

Turkey's June 2015 elections brought encouraging news as women took nearly 18 per cent of parliamentary seats, up from just over 14 per cent. While this remains far below parity or even the global average, it signals the stirrings of change beginning within the soaring white marble walls of the Grand National Assembly.

Even before the elections, drawing on UN Women assistance, in partnership with the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the Assembly had begun to systematically tackle some of the issues that have kept women mostly on the margins of political debate. The shift started with the Committee on Equal Opportunity for Women and Men conducting a gender self-assessment of the Assembly, only the fifth such exercise in the world.

Evidence of gender gaps led to new awareness and action. More women

now serve on parliamentary bodies, including the powerful Committee on Planning and Budgeting. Greater gender responsiveness became a plank in the Assembly's institutional strategy. Turkey's first comprehensive gender review of fundamental legislation put proposals on the table to usher in changes in laws related to local administration, education and employment, among other areas.

For the legislative experts who support parliamentary committees, gender equality training now helps them look for gender dimensions in draft legislation, whether the subject is energy or industry, social services or the environment. A gender checklist makes this step a matter of routine.

"We see laws in an entirely new way," affirms one expert. "We know that all issues relate to gender equality, and that all laws can contribute in some way to advancing it. This knowledge will help us in everything we do."

Elections

Gender imbalances in political representation can sometimes be dramatically redressed during election processes. In **Bolivia**, engagement with the electoral tribunal and UN partners to advocate for political parties to comply with new regulations on gender parity led to spectacular results in the 2014 elections. Bolivia became the third country in the world to reach gender parity in its lower house, with women Parliamentarians at just under 51 per cent. Previously, women comprised less than 30 per cent.

ABOVE: Gender equality has become a common cause in Turkey's Grand National Assembly, supported across the political spectrum. UN Women has stood behind a process bringing more women into leadership and encouraging legislative revisions.

PHOTO: UN Women

Most decision-makers in governments, parliaments and local councils are still men. The disparity not only denies women the right to participate and lead, but also means lawmaking often overlooks their experiences and needs. To close the gap, UN Women backs legislative and constitutional reform, and helps women gain traction through electoral processes, among other measures. Empowering gender equality advocates equips them to unleash change.

Elections in **Guinea Bissau** in 2014 offered the chance to consolidate fragile stability in the wake of earlier political violence. UN Women helped ensure the process also boosted the number of women involved, coordinating closely with the Peace Building Fund, the UN Integrated Peacebuilding Office, UNDP and women's activists. For the first time in the country, several hundred women were trained as election monitors; over 4,000 benefited from civic education. Fifty women candidates honed their skills in running for office. When the poll was held, the percentage of women voting topped a record 80 per cent. This visibility combined with advocacy for gender equality among top political leaders led to the historic appointment of women to a third of posts in the new government, among the highest ratios in Africa.

The **Pacific** region is notable for having some of the world's lowest levels of women in parliament, but that is beginning to change, supported by UN Women's long-standing advocacy and training of women candidates. In the **Solomon Islands**, a record number of women ran for parliament in 2014, and while only one was elected, she became the second to ever win in a general election. Women candidates garnered double the number of votes they had received in the previous election. **Fiji** elected eight women to its 50-member Parliament, one of whom went on to become the first woman Speaker of the House in the Pacific region.

Leadership

In more than 60 countries in 2014, UN Women backed measures to promote women's leadership and participation in politics, including by strengthening a cadre of aspiring women leaders. Under our Beijing+20 campaign, we partnered with the Government of **Chile** to bring 300 women leaders to Santiago, including Heads of State, ministers, parliamentarians, senior UN officials, Nobel laureates, business representatives and activists, all drawn by their commitment to rapidly increase the number of women in decision-making positions. With political leadership key to propelling progress across the Beijing Platform of Action, they signed a Call to Action to rev up political actions behind full implementation by 2030, including by ending gaps in funding for gender equality.

Across East Africa, UN Women is helping women become more effective leaders in both public and private spheres. A partnership with **Kenya's** Kenyatta University led to the establishment of the African Centre for Transformative and Inclusive Leadership, which has a special focus on women and youth; by the end of 2014, over 300 people had attended courses. Several participants from **Ethiopia** returned home to set up a mentorship programme for women leaders in several ministries, while in **Somalia** 28 women parliamentarians acquired knowledge and skills that helped them establish a women's parliamentary caucus.

WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT:
VANDANA BAHARU MAIDA

A woman's place is on the village council



Few in her sleepy village would have once imagined that mother and homemaker Vandana Baharu Maida would be

planning roads and building schools today. But in Khankhandvi, India, Maida bucked family opposition and cultural norms to win election as the first woman head of her village council.

India's quotas for local political offices have spurred one of the greatest successes globally for women's empowerment and grass-roots democracy. Just a decade ago, women comprised less than 5 per cent of leaders elected to village councils. Today, they make up over 40 per cent.

Articulate and determined, Vandana aims at nothing less than a better life for her community. Using vital leadership skills developed through training by UN Women, she has mobilized her council to build new sanitation systems, a village pond to counter chronic water shortages and the village's first primary school. But she considers her greatest achievement inspiring her neighbours to regularly participate in the council and demand that it respond to their concerns.

"Concentrate on your work and do it to the fullest," she advises. "Be confident. The patriarchal society will oppose every action. (But) once you achieve success, everyone will start appreciating your efforts."



Making economies work for women

Climate resilience

Married at age 14, Mahera used to depend on her husband to bring home an income from collecting fish, crabs and wood in the Sunderbans, the world's largest tidal mangrove forest, which is highly susceptible to climate change. He could never earn enough, so Mahera started coming along, leaving her baby son in the care of her mother. Wading through mud and roots slashed deep cuts in her legs, and provided only marginal additional income.

Poverty, gender discrimination and climate shocks intersect in stark ways. Poor women have the fewest resources and options to cope with climate-related disasters, even as many are on the frontlines of responding to them. Greater resilience, however, can do much to ease risks. UN Women has helped over 19,000 women, like Mahera, build better systems of support and preparation.

In the 10 poorest and most vulnerable districts of **Bangladesh**, they have formed disaster resilience groups to learn about climate impacts and how they can minimize threats. The poorest members receive training and inputs to start small businesses, such as rearing chickens and goats, and marketing handicrafts. Around 1,500 women have already generated enough income and profits to expand their businesses.

Mahera set up a small shop selling tea, biscuits and other sundries in a local market, doing so well that she recently moved to a larger location. Both her children are going to school, acquiring a new source of resilience that will last throughout their lives.

Skills training

Women grow much of the world's food, but receive little in the way of support, such as through agricultural extension services. UN Women addressed

this issue in the poorest region of **Albania** by helping women organize cooperatives, and develop leadership and financial skills to manage them. They have learned to improve the quality of their products, such as through proper drying methods for herbs and fruits, and to market them with attractive labeling. Selling more of their crops means an earnings increase many never imagined possible.

Among the nearly 30 million migrants in Southeastern and Eastern Europe and Central Asia, the majority are women. But many women are also left behind, often in poor rural areas

ABOVE: Climate change poses major threats to poor women in Bangladesh, such as through losses to livelihoods dependent on natural resources. But with UN Women's assistance, thousands are learning how to adapt, including through new skills to start thriving local businesses.

PHOTO: UN Women/Amy Reggers

Women play essential economic roles—more women in the labour market speeds growth. Yet many can find only poorly paid informal jobs, unprotected by labour laws and without social benefits. UN Women assisted 76 countries in 2014 in making economies work better for women, such as by connecting women to new skills and technology, and designing gender-responsive policies to level the playing field.

with few options to earn an income. In **Kyrgyzstan** and **Tajikistan**, UN Women has helped nearly 6,000 women form self-help groups. They have acquired new skills and improved knowledge on how to access markets and start businesses. Tajikistan's programme now operates in 12 districts, guided by research pinpointing the most vulnerable households. National microcredit institutions have started piloting a special credit product tailored specifically to poor rural women.

Social protection

Collaboration among UN Women, UNICEF and the World Bank has helped improve social protection services for women in three Caribbean countries. When focused research delivered compelling evidence of how these services were not reaching vulnerable groups such as woman-headed households, **Grenada, St. Kitts** and **St. Lucia** reworked and passed policies and laws to close disparities. They are now developing gender-responsive

poverty targeting tools to better guide service delivery. Women in all three countries will enjoy greater access to job and skills training. Households headed by women are expected to benefit from expanded school feeding programmes and transportation allowances for children, while cash assistance initiatives will offer lifelines to the poorest of these families.

Technology

Technology is increasingly essential for education and work, yet women and girls do not enjoy equal access. In 2015, UN Women joined UNESCO in sponsoring Mobile Learning Week, where hundreds of educators and experts from around the world debated topics such as how to expand web skills among women and girls, and ease entry into tech careers. Collaboration with Technovation, a global technology entrepreneurship programme for girls, sponsors competitions in 25 countries that shine a spotlight on young women with strong promise as technology entrepreneurs.

WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT: CRISTINA BUARQUE

Teaching rights and skills, touching 100,000 lives



When Cristina Buarque joined the state government of Pernambuco, Brazil in 2007, she was one woman among 24 state

secretaries. But that didn't stop her, as head of the Secretariat for Women's Policies, from launching a massive social inclusion programme that has since benefited over 100,000 poor women.

It provides professional training—often in better-paid trades commonly reserved for men. Women have become plumbers, electricians and masons. They also go through an intensive course, with feminist trainers, on issues such as human rights and women's struggle for justice.

"Women need to understand their rights," Buarque explains. Formerly an academic, she entered the political arena "to bring the work I was passionate about to a larger scale."

Buarque's achievement features in UN Women's 2015 flagship report **Progress of the World's Women: Transforming Economies, Realizing Rights**, which calls for making economies work for women's rights and equality. Many of the benefits, such as fairer societies and more dynamic economies, would accrue to all, women and men. Ten key actions include equal access to productive resources and an equal voice in economic decision-making.





Putting an end to violence against women and girls

Services

When Mary arrived at one of **Rwanda's** Isange One Stop Centres with a broken arm, she was too traumatized to speak. At 32 years old, with four children, she had just left her 17-year marriage to an emotionally and physically abusive husband.

Today, with the help of the centre's integrated medical, legal, psychosocial and protective services, she is slowly rebuilding her life. "The centre has provided me with hope – and a place to start recovering," Mary says. "Without it I would have nothing."

UN Women is part of a team of UN agencies that worked with Rwanda's National Police and several central ministries to introduce and expand the centres. Before they were established, women survivors of violence could only turn to hospitals, which treated

their physical wounds, but were not equipped to provide other essential services. Today, there is at least one centre in each province, readily accessible to a large share of the population, and plans aim to ensure national coverage.

In **Cameroon**, UN Women helped establish the first call centre for survivors of gender-based violence, with a focus on those at risk of HIV. Callers receive counselling and immediate referrals to medical care. Media outlets have mobilized to spread information about the toll-free number, as well as messages to raise awareness of violence and HIV. Through a number of key government offices, a joint effort is underway to push for expanding judicial recourse and legal assistance for survivors.

Globally, UN Women and UNFPA lead a UN joint programme to boost the

quality of essential services for women and girls surviving violence. By the end of 2014, it had developed standards for health care, police and judicial responses, and social services, to be complemented by a fourth area, the coordination and oversight of services. Ten countries will be chosen to test the standards.

Laws

Recent studies have shown horrific levels of violence against women in several Pacific countries. But in 2014, Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and

ABOVE: Fifty-year-old Monaria survived a brutal beating and sought help at a One Stop Centre, part of a network of integrated service centres supported by UN Women. Across Rwanda, they protect women from violence, and help them find justice and restart their lives.
PHOTO: UNICEF/RWAA2011-00258/Noorani

At least one in three women has been a victim of physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence at some point in her life. UN Women works to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls. We help strengthen efforts to prevent and respond to it, including by supporting the development of laws and improving the availability and quality of services. In 2014, we supported 80 countries to end violence against women.

one State in the Federated States of Micronesia took a huge leap forward by adopting new laws to stop it. The sea change is the culmination of several years of concerted advocacy, as UN Women helped mobilize supportive international partners and national women's groups, sponsored public consultations, provided data mapping the scope of the problem, assisted with legal drafting and drew on political commitments made at the 57th Commission on the Status of Women.

UN Women helped **Georgia** align its legislation with the Council of Europe's Istanbul Convention, such as by criminalizing forced marriage and expanding the authority of police to remove perpetrators in domestic violence cases. When **Brazil** passed its first law criminalizing femicide, it became the first country in Latin America to begin integrating the Latin American Model Protocol for the Investigation of Gender-related Violent Deaths in national legislation. The protocol was developed through a process of consultation with 200 experts in 18 countries coordinated by UN Women and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Education and awareness

In 2014, global rollout began of a unique curriculum designed by UN Women and the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts. "Voices against Violence" teaches young people how to prevent violence. By 2016, it is expected to reach 800,000 children and youth aged 5 to 25 in 12 countries. The first regional trainings took place for Asia, Europe and Africa, with workshops for the Americas and French-speaking African countries to follow. They equip national trainers and youth leaders to deliver the curriculum to girl guides and scouts. Participants will learn about root causes, prevention and ways to access support, earning a "Voices against Violence" badge.

In Kigali, **Rwanda**, UN Women's Safe City Programme and Kigali Municipality supports a city-wide campaign to prevent sexual harassment on public transport by reaching out to thousands of passengers on buses and 'taxi-motos'. On a major commercial bus line, for instance, screens alert riders that sexual harassment is prohibited. They are urged to report problems to trained drivers and conductors or call a special hotline.

WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT:

Wafa Khaleel Ayyad Muammar

Pioneering a high-ranking role for women police



Despite strife and societal pressure, Wafa Khaleel Ayyad Muammar joined the Palestinian Civil Police, among the first women to

do so, and became its highest-ranking female officer. As head of the Family and Juvenile Protection Unit, she proves what women can achieve.

When Lieutenant Colonel Muammar began her career, during the turmoil of the Second Intifada, determination was her only weapon. She earned her Master's degree, while pregnant, walking through dangerous terrain to go to school until one week before the birth of her second child. Always knowing she wanted to be a police officer, she began her training right after.

Foremost among her goals has been to keep women and children safe from domestic violence—the mission of her job today. UN Women partners with the police and a new pool of specialized prosecutors in helping to bring justice to women survivors.

"Women in the police are now more accepted and even celebrated as leaders," Muammar says. "I am proud to be one who led the way."

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

In 1993, the UN General Assembly **Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women** provided a framework for action on the pandemic.



But more than 20 years later, **1 in 3 women still experience physical or sexual violence, mostly by an intimate partner.**





Including women, building lasting peace

Peace processes

For decades, sexual and gender-based violence went unchallenged in **Colombia's** internal conflict. Different armed groups used it to terrorize communities and destroy the social fabric. They targeted LGBTI civilians. In some armed groups, women combatants were raped and forced to have abortions. Few survivors spoke out, because even if they did, no one heard.

Despite their prevalence, sexual and gender-based crimes have rarely been prosecuted in Colombia. As it moves to end hostilities, however, understanding has grown among judicial officials that for peace to take root, the time for impunity is over. UN Women has helped advance investigations and prosecution by connecting the Attorney General's Office with top international experts, such as Daniela Kravetz, who

spent a decade prosecuting similar violations at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia.

"I have worked a long time with victims," Kravetz says. "Justice is their right, and I will do whatever I can to bring that to them."

She now assists Colombian prosecutors with techniques to interview survivors, and in developing investigation plans and legal case theories. Following international courts, a new legal model is being instituted aimed at not just prosecuting individual cases, but connecting them so that leaders who orchestrated massive violations can be charged as well. The move comes not a moment too soon, given an enormous backlog of cases likely to emerge in the transition to peace—and the probability of a surge in new cases as combatants return to their communities.

As Colombia's broader peace process unfolds, UN Women has also backed women's unprecedented roles in the talks. Thorough training has honed skills of women negotiators so they can be the most effective gender advocates. Women participate on an equal footing in massive regional and national consultations linked to the process, and comprise a majority of delegations of victims presenting their concerns to the negotiations. A gender sub-committee provides ongoing inputs to keep gender equality high on the agenda.

ABOVE: At Colombia's Houses of Memory, like this one in Tumaco, photos evoke the many women victims of internal armed conflict. With UN Women's assistance, women are now central to restoring peace, as negotiators, prosecutors, and survivors determined to tell their stories and change their country.
PHOTO: UN Women/Ryan Brown

Women lead peace movements and drive community recovery after conflict, but are still rare faces in forums to negotiate peace and settle security issues. Exclusion from post-conflict reconstruction constrains opportunities to recover, gain justice for abuses and shape reformed laws and public institutions. In 2014, UN Women helped women in 66 countries expand their roles in peace, security and humanitarian responses, and coordinated related global action by the UN system.

Transitional justice

In **Uganda**, until 2014, there was little formal recognition of the harm suffered by people in the northern part of the country at the hands of the Lord's Resistance Army. That changed when Parliament finally passed a resolution to assist conflict-affected groups. UN Women joined civil society groups and parliamentarians in backing the measure, which draws attention to sexual violence perpetrated against women and girls, and paves the way for transitional justice and reparations.

Legal recognition of women survivors of violence during the armed conflict in **Kosovo**¹ came to pass in 2014, following sustained advocacy by UN Women in partnership with civil society. The move was part of a new 1325 Action Plan, dedicated to fulfilling provisions of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security. A national council will extend services

and reparations; UN Women has already begun trainings for judges, prosecutors and investigators on dealing with war crimes involving sexual violence.

El Salvador signed its peace accords 22 years ago, but the wounds of a vicious conflict remain, regularly reopened through widespread instability and impunity for violence. How the conflict specifically affected women had never been clearly understood, until UN Women embarked on comprehensive research on the issue.

This affirmed that most women survivors of violence had received no recognition or justice, and many who took on non-traditional roles during the conflict were forced back into traditional ones rooted in discriminatory norms. Strong evidence and compelling advocacy led to the creation of El Salvador's first National 1325 Committee to tackle these issues. It brings together the heads of major ministries, including foreign affairs, defense, labour, health and education, as well as parliamentarians and women's groups.

WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT: HOLO MAKWAIA

On a quest to end impunity for the world's worst crimes



For over 20 years, lawyer Holo Makwaia has been a leader in the quest to end impunity for crimes perpetrated in conflicts.

A native of Tanzania, she was among the first investigators cataloguing human rights violations after Rwanda's 1994 genocide. Later, as a senior trial attorney at the UN International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, she prosecuted some of its largest and most complex cases, securing the first conviction for war crimes. The life sentence of former minister Pauline Nyiramasuhuko, the only woman tried for rape and genocide, broke new ground in international jurisprudence.

"An end to impunity is possible," Makwaia reflects. "We must give survivors reassurance that justice will prevail. It is the only way forward."

Today, Makwaia is part of a unique roster of experts, sponsored by UN Women and Justice Rapid Response. They ensure justice upholds the rights of women caught in some of the world's most complex conflicts. Makwaia recently collected evidence in the Democratic Republic of Congo against former general Bosco Ntaganda, charged with war crimes. For the first time, the International Criminal Court agreed to hear all charges related to sexual and gender-based crimes.

¹ Under UN Security Council resolution 1244.





Taking action to meet women's humanitarian needs

Responding to crisis

Women were on the front lines of West Africa's Ebola crisis. From the earliest days, in cramped medical wards and rudimentary rural dwellings, they cared for dying patients and family members, witnessing extreme suffering. They soothed traumatized children, even as they mourned their own losses, and organized the rites to bury the dead. A disproportionate number caught the deadly virus themselves.

As the humanitarian response geared up, UN Women successfully carried out its coordination role by making sure that everyone involved recognized women's central role in preventing and responding to the crisis. We provided guidance to national partners on integrating gender issues across response and recovery strategies.

In **Sierra Leone**, in partnership with Oxfam, we helped the government

conduct a study assessing the gender dimensions of the virus. We assisted the National Ebola Response Centre in setting up a gender pillar, and brokered an agreement that UN organizations would make gender equality integral to emergency response programmes, including by filling gaps in sex-disaggregated data.

With UNICEF, UNFPA and WHO, we supported the training of 29,000 male and female volunteers who trekked through heavy rains and along treacherous roads to deliver prevention messages, literally door-to-door, to 1.5 million people. Training on infection prevention for health-care workers has accompanied a campaign to restore confidence in health facilities, and persuade pregnant women and new mothers to return to using them.

In **Liberia**, we partnered with the Ministry of Gender and Development

to tap women's networks, including female traditional leaders and rural women's groups, as conduits to share information and assist in tracking transmission. This resulted in a drop in infection in rural areas. Radio shows that once focused mostly on gender-based violence sent out prevention messages and offered resources for psychosocial support.

Before the epidemic struck, UN Women had sponsored a long-running cross-border trade programme that had helped thousands of women

ABOVE: In Sierra Leone, a woman learns life-saving facts about Ebola. UN Women put gender issues at the heart of humanitarian responses to the epidemic and mobilized rural women's groups in Liberia to track transmission. The result: a drop in infection in rural areas.

PHOTO: UN Women/Emma Vincent

Eighty million people required humanitarian assistance in 2014; over 75 per cent were women and children. Yet humanitarian action does not always factor in women's specific needs and vulnerabilities—even as women frequently take the lead in responding to crises. In 2014, UN Women coordinated efforts to improve the gender-responsiveness of relief efforts. We deployed gender advisors to 10 countries, and helped 20 countries embed gender equality principles across humanitarian plans and policies.

establish prosperous businesses. As the epidemic crippled the economies of both countries, a new crisis has begun for many of them. UN Women stepped forward to ensure that hard-won gains in livelihoods would not be lost. Working with Liberia's Central Bank, we set up a pipeline of direct cash transfers. Easily sent by mobile phone, these provide a vital infusion so women can sustain their businesses until the worst of the crisis is past.

Assisting refugees

In northeastern **Kenya**, the sprawling Dadaab complex is the world's largest refugee camp. Set up in 1991 after the start of civil war in Somalia, it is still a destination for Somalis fleeing drought and military action against extremist groups; half are women.

UN Women, in partnership with the Kenya Red Cross Society, has helped instil a new sense of hope by providing 300 women with opportunities to earn an income and better protect themselves. They have learned business management, livelihood and agricultural skills. Greenhouses help nurture their crops in a harsh climate, while a nearby market provides a place to sell the produce that they do not use for their families. The project also provides counselling services to survivors of violence, with a sharp rise in cases reported. Family mediation

has drawn both women and men determined to have peace at home, if not yet in the wider world.

Natural disasters

The **Pacific** is one of the most vulnerable regions in the world to disasters linked to climate change. In the aftermath, displacement, stress and inadequate shelter can contribute to increased rates of rape and domestic violence. UN Women has collaborated with the Fiji Red Cross Society to keep women safe from more than storms.

Several hundred Red Cross staff and volunteers, the first responders in emergency evacuation centres, have gone through training on gender responsiveness. They now offer "dignity kits" with specific items for women and girls, and have learned to recognize and respond to gender-based violence, including through referrals to psychosocial support and appropriate authorities.

In **Vanuatu**, a mere three weeks after Tropical Cyclone Pam wreaked havoc, UN Women helped women market vendors and a local government to reopen the first market for fresh produce, a step towards restoring livelihoods. Colourful mounds of fruits and vegetables signalled hope for a return to normalcy.

WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT:
PRAGITA TULADHAR AND
NIRJALA POKHREL

Despite losses, women activists lead relief efforts



Nepal's 2015 earthquake shattered buildings and lives. But it did not destroy the courage of women who have

stepped forward to help.

"My home and farm are completely damaged," recounts Nirjala Pokhrel, a volunteer from Pourakhi, a women's group normally active on the rights of women migrants. "So many women are affected. As a woman survivor, I understand their needs."

"We are all suffering," adds Pragita Tuladhar (photo), a volunteer from a women workers' organization, SABAH. "But we are gathered here to help others."

Disasters take a heavy toll on women. They can be more vulnerable to sexual and gender-based violence. Social norms, lack of information and burdensome household chores can render them last in line for help they desperately need.

Backed by UN Women, women's groups in Nepal have mobilized to put women at the forefront of relief efforts. They have helped distribute dignity kits and extend trauma counselling and psychosocial support, and led a strong collective call, through a Common Charter of Demands, for all forms of humanitarian action to meet women's specific needs.



Accounting for women in national plans and budgets

Gender-responsive budgeting

Gender-responsive budgeting was not well known in **Jordan**, until the 2013 budget circular required all ministry plans and budgets to include a gender dimension—a move advocated by UN Women. The next step was implementation. Working closely with the National Women's Commission and the General Budget Department, we helped teach staff in key ministries how to move forward.

The training opened their eyes to various measures they could take to look at how well—or not—plans and budgets were taking Jordan closer to gender equality, and what could be done to redress gaps. It also opened ministry coffers. Budget allocations for gender equality increased from USD 1.9 billion in 2013 to USD 2.15 billion in 2014.

In the area of health care, for example, this has meant that more women are covered by health insurance, and have access to expanded reproductive health and family planning services. Funds for vaccines and medicines specifically for women have more than doubled. For the first time, a citizen's budget brochure has been issued, showing people at large the breakdown of funds for gender equality.

Countries across Europe are increasingly tapping UN Women's widely recognized and unique expertise in gender-responsive budgeting. In the **former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**, the Government in 2014 adopted a method to integrate gender across selected programme budgets of all central institutions within five years. **Moldova** took steps to extend gender-responsive budgeting to the local level, as part of decentralizing government

functions. **Ukraine** introduced local gender-responsive budgeting several years back, resulting in an increase in services for women and youth, and has now moved to apply the practice at regional and national levels. **Serbia** has expanded the use of gender-sensitive indicators at the provincial level that provide a precise picture of how well budgets support the achievement of gender equality goals.

National planning

Integrating gender equality considerations across all national plans and

ABOVE: On International Women's Day in Jordan, female doctors marched to raise breast cancer awareness. UN Women helped introduce gender-responsive budgeting in Jordan, which has resulted in expanded reproductive health and family planning services, among other things.

PHOTO: Jordan Pix/Getty Images

Commitments to gender equality and women's empowerment mean little without adequate planning and investment to turn promises into action. Deficits in funding are typically wide, however, while national plans overlook opportunities for advancement. UN Women provides knowledge and tools, and fosters national dialogues to make plans and budgets do more for women. In 2014, we engaged with 73 countries, strengthening gender equality priorities at the national and local levels.

programmes means that services will reach women and respond to their specific needs. In **India**, UN Women helped the Ministry of Rural Development to insert comprehensive provisions in five flagship national economic empowerment programmes, covering core issues such as rural livelihoods, employment, social protection and housing. The schemes cover 35 states and union territories, and in 2014-2015 generated nearly 1 billion days of labour for rural women, and ensured that over a million homes were registered in women's names.

UN Women's sustained support has helped the Government of **Timor-Leste** build skills to integrate gender across national planning—28 of 41 State institutions included provisions to advance gender equality in their 2015 annual action plans. This means, for example, that the Ministry of Justice now trains staff on legal drafting that accounts for women's human rights. Expertise provided to the Ministry of Finance resulted in a requirement, embedded in a state budget circular,

that all ministries include gender equality in annual planning and budgeting in 2015.

In **China**, UN Women worked with groups of women living with HIV to pinpoint stigma and gaps in services, and highlight these issues in reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. The Committee's comments led to a national commitment for the new National Plan on HIV to take measures to eliminate discrimination against women living with HIV and support community women's organizations that assist them.

For the first time, supported by UN Women, groups of women living with HIV took part in formulating **Mozambique's** fourth national strategic plan on HIV/AIDS. Results of their advocacy included, for example, agreement to prioritize prevention programmes for adolescent girls, given a context where initiation rites and early marriages pose significant risks.

WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT: LEONOR BRIONES

A passionate advocate for public funds for social goods



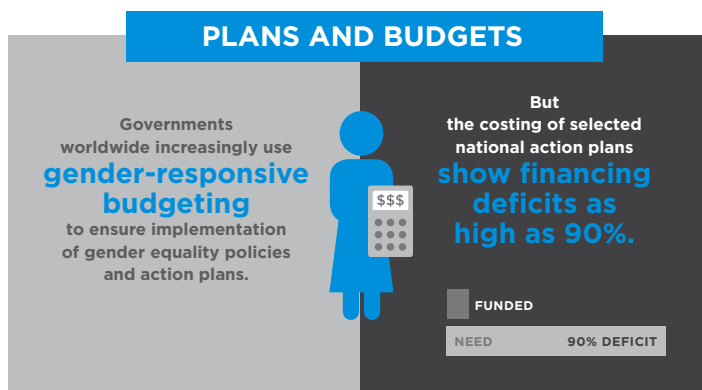
Leonor Magtolis Briones has spent her life making sure that public funds produce public benefits. A former National Treasurer of the

Philippines, she is today a distinguished professor and head convener of Social Watch Philippines.

Under her leadership, the group has mobilized in the streets, lobbied parliamentarians and used access to information laws to uncover hundreds of millions of dollars in pork barrel funds. Proper oversight means steering these to programmes that serve the greater good, such as by providing better health care and education.

"It takes the combined outrage of media, civil society, the various religious faiths, educational institutions, and ordinary citizens to push government to do the right thing," says Briones—well-known for her comprehensive insights into public finance and passionate commitment to good governance.

Briones believes the budget is the Philippines' most powerful tool in the face of many challenges. UN Women concurs, having supporting a gender-budget exercise that helped more than double funds for gender and development programmes, from USD 1.3 billion in 2013 to USD 3.3 billion in 2014.





Mobilizing partnerships to accelerate progress...

UN coordination

At a police station in **Kazakhstan**, a report of domestic violence comes in, and a police officer is immediately dispatched. In earlier days, the response might have been to simply calm the situation or even ignore it all together. But now, the officer will take along tough new legal tools to protect survivors, including provisions to remove perpetrators from the scene, and link survivors to legal and other help they need.

The changes result directly from UN Women's mandate and ability to forge high-impact partnerships across the United Nations and beyond. Recent collaboration between UN Women and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe helped bring together national authorities, civil society groups, women's advocates and other UN entities such as UNFPA and UNICEF to strengthen laws against domestic violence. Changes expanded the definition of domestic relationships, increased the duration of protective orders and enlarged the role of local governments in beefing up public services.

UN Women and UNFPA are working to implement the new provisions. Training for police and judicial officials supported by UN Women has already encouraged a substantial jump in the number of protective orders. UNFPA is assisting with

improved health services and campaigning against harmful practices such as early marriages. Both organizations are engaged in helping the national statistical agency conduct a national survey—the first in Central Asia—on the prevalence of various forms of gender-based violence. Initiated by the Government, it will provide the most accurate picture to date of the scope of the problem, information vital to choosing the most effective prevention and protection strategies.

To be a girl in **Malawi** is to face the very high probability of being married before age 18. This typically ends schooling and produces high-risk pregnancies—consequences that echo through a lifetime. To help uproot this harmful practice, UN Women has drawn the UN country team together for joint advocacy that contributed to passage of the Marriage, Divorce and Family Relations Bill in 2015—it stipulates 18

ABOVE: Around the world, UN Women brings diverse groups together to push for gender equality. From left: We have engaged men and boys to probe gender relations and become advocates, such as boys in India learning to stop discrimination. In Kazakhstan, police officers have tough new legal tools to keep survivors safe. UN Women and its Nordic National Committees joined 20,000 activists in advocating for "New Action on Women's Rights" at the Nordiskt Forum in Sweden, one of Europe's largest civil society gatherings.

PHOTOS: (from left) Tash McCarroll, OSCE/Aigul Seralinova, UN Women/Gudrun Thorbjornsdottir



as the minimum marriageable age. A second new law, supported by UN Women, combats trafficking in persons—previously, Malawi was the only country in southern Africa without legal punishments for this crime.

As part of global mobilizing around Beijing+20, UN Women encouraged other UN entities to join in a successful push for a joint commitment from leaders of all major UN development organizations to ramp up investment in gender equality, increase results and deepen accountability for progress. Over a dozen workshops helped UN organizations build capacities to improve gender mainstreaming. For the third year, 62 organizations have reported on the UN-SWAP, a UN system-wide monitoring tool measuring progress on gender equality. Progress has been demonstrated on 14 of the 15 UN-SWAP performance indicators. Significantly, almost 60 per cent of UN organizations now have gender policies, the first requirement of the UN-SWAP, up from 20 per cent—the 2012 baseline.

In 2015, dozens of countries will approve new UN development assistance frameworks, which guide all UN activities in a given nation. UN Women supported the establishment of a roster of over 30 experts, on-call to help integrate a full range of gender equality provisions. A gender scorecard in **Cambodia** proved to be a pivotal tool in shaping a UN plan with an unprecedented commitment to equality and empowerment.

National committees

UN Women's 15 national committees mobilize public support and resources for gender equality. Established in 2013, the French National Committee has rapidly developed an important network of civil society and private sector

supporters, convening 80 major businesses to promote the Women's Empowerment Principles. A partnership with pop-singer Inna Modja sparked broad media visibility through a video clip appealing to youth to help end violence against women.

The Finnish National Committee has enlisted an array of top Finnish artists and comedians to perform in sold-out shows that benefit UN Women programmes. The launch of the global HeForShe campaign brought on board an extraordinary number of male leaders in Finland, including the President, Sauli Niinistö, and a number of political party leaders. Artists, musicians and celebrities contributed pro bono video statements encouraging men and boys at large to sign up.

Civil society

Civil society voices resonated throughout Beijing+20, with UN Women providing vital support to their participation. We backed civil society research that highlighted women's current realities and shaped regional reviews and intergovernmental deliberations at the Commission on the Status of Women. As part of our universal mandate, we expanded partnerships with civil society in the United States and the Nordic countries.

To bring men into a process of probing male power and privilege and exploring what it takes to transform gender relations, UN Women partnered with the MenEngage Alliance on a global symposium in **India**. On an ongoing basis, UN Women's Civil Society Advisory Groups (CSAGs) at global, regional and country levels across 40 countries offer important guidance. In 2014, the Global CSAG was expanded to include youth representatives.



...and championing the call for change

Campaigns

It was a day when people in 70 countries across the world took a common but unusual step: they ‘oranged’ their neighbourhoods to call for an end to violence against women. Iconic landmarks such as the Empire State Building, the UN Secretariat Building in New York as well as the Sphinx and Pyramids of Egypt in Giza lit up with an orange glow —public pronouncements that no one who walked by could ignore.

Posters, painted walls and orange clothing signaled the hope for a brighter future without violence and a gesture of solidarity in response to a call by the United Nations Secretary-General’s UNiTE to End Violence against Women campaign, managed by UN Women.

Earlier in 2014, UNiTE took another opportunity to appeal to mass audiences. With the eyes of the world on the FIFA World Cup in Brazil, the campaign distributed a million stickers proclaiming *O valente não é violento* (“The brave are not violent”).

Newly appointed UN Women Goodwill Ambassador Emma Watson galvanized global attention when she launched UN Women’s HeForShe campaign to engage men and boys in advancing gender equality. She rallied her immense global fan base to engage in a conversation that has reached 1.2 billion people through social media. More than 300,000 have registered their support for ending discrimination against women through an app.

At the World Economic Forum in early 2015, with an audience of Prime Ministers and CEOs, UN Women unveiled HeForShe

Impact 10x10x10. It engages governments, corporations and universities as champions of gender equality, calling on leaders within these arenas to use their power and influence for change. **Turkey’s** top industrial conglomerate, Koç Holding, took quick action with a commitment to provide gender sensitization training for 100,000 people across the country by 2020, reaching out to communities through its extensive network of suppliers and dealers. It has sponsored a national HeForShe campaign with a blizzard of prominent advertisements and continuous social media messaging.

HeForShe activism across Africa includes endorsement by the Presidents of **Kenya, Rwanda, Senegal** and **Sierra Leone**. **Malawi’s** President also signed on, as did all members of the Cabinet and Parliament, while Paramount Chief Kyungu agreed to use his significant culture clout in advocating against harmful traditional practices. Gilberto Macuacua, a well-known media personality in **Mozambique**, is using his television programme and blog to get people talking about fighting violence against women.

In the **Arab States**, an unprecedented campaign kicked off in 2015 in partnership with advertising agency Impact BBDO Dubai. It cleverly overturned a long-standing social prohibition against publicly pronouncing “Your Mother’s Name.” A campaign video with clips of men on the street in Egypt abashedly explaining why they cannot say it sparked debate across the region; some social media users took to the web to proudly share their mother’s names. The video has received almost 5 million views across different online channels.



ABOVE: The United Nations Secretary-General's UNiTE to End Violence against Women campaign, managed by UN Women, lit the world orange in 2014. Famous places that shone in a new light (from left): New York's Empire State Building, the Egyptian Pyramids, Times Square in New York and the Administration Building of the Panama Canal.

PHOTOS: (from left) UN Women/Ryan Brown, UN Women/Mohamed Ezz Aldi, UN Women/Jennifer S. Altman, UN Women.



ABOVE: Newly appointed UN Women Goodwill Ambassador Emma Watson launched UN Women's HeForShe campaign, charging men and boys with doing their part for gender equality. Through social media, she rallied her huge global fan base to come on board.

PHOTO: UN Women/Simon Luethi

Private sector

Partnerships with businesses throughout the year unleashed the mass reach of advertising. Videos highlighting women's achievements and calling for gender equality were displayed pro bono across huge screens overlooking the top three NASCAR races, and similarly at eight National Football League games. Canvassers circulated in the audience to reinforce the messages by asking sports fans what they had learned.

On International Women's Day, NASDAQ and Reuters Screens in Times Square in New York, one of the busiest public spaces in the world, called on passersby to picture a world where men and women are equal, and then step up efforts to achieve it. UNHATE, the Benetton Foundation, for the second year championed UN Women's role on the International Day to End Violence against Women, with an advertising campaign and video in leading international outlets like *The New York Times*, and online.

A new Private Sector Leaders Advisory Council supports UN Women in accelerating economic and social progress for women and girls by contributing expertise, reach and resources. In 2014, an additional 155 companies signed the UN Women/UN Global Compact Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPS); 845 companies in total have made this commitment to business practices aligned with reaching gender equality.



UN Women's Fund for Gender Equality

In 2014, the Fund disbursed USD 7.4 million to 67 active programmes. These involved 79 civil society organizations, and directly impacted the lives of more than 210,000 women. In total, since its 2009 launch, the Fund has awarded USD 56.4 million to 96 programmes in 72 countries, reaching over 9.7 million direct beneficiaries.

The 2014 programmes helped 10,400 women access new sources of income and greater control over productive resources. Over 3,150 women became landowners, 6,200 accessed credit or loans, and 10,500 benefited from social protection measures and services. Training, campaigns and advocacy actions spurred the adoption of 550 new constitutional provisions, laws and policies protecting women's political and economic rights, and 58,000 women have actively participated in forums to influence policies.

In southern **India**, three partner organizations—IT for Change, Kutch Mahila Vikas Sangathan and ANANDI—are connecting rural, socially excluded women to mobile technologies. The women use these to document gaps in public services and call for action from their local representatives. The programme has strengthened links between more than 800 elected women and their constituencies. This has led to the processing of 7,000 claims for public benefits, and the passage of over 100 local government resolutions offering women better access to land, health centres and sanitation facilities, among other services.

The grantee Cotidiano Mujer led a nationwide advocacy campaign in **Uruguay** around the 2014 elections and the application of a one-time quota calling for women to hold at least 30 per cent of parliamentary seats. The

poll resulted in historic gains as the number of female Senators rose from two to nine of the total 30 seats. The national Cabinet now has the greatest-ever portion of female ministers—the share soared from 15 per cent to 40 per cent. UN Women Goodwill Ambassador Emma Watson's visit to the country propelled momentum by capturing the attention of political parties, the press and the general public.

The Society for Protection of Nature in **Lebanon** has used a grant to draw wide attention to the merits of *hima*, a 1,500-year-old community-based method to sustainably manage natural resources—women play a prominent role in it. Rural women producing traditional handicrafts based on *hima* now have the first dedicated *souk* for their products in Lebanon, while BirdLife France plans to feature their wares in its online magazine.

The Fund for Gender Equality is UN Women's leading global grant-making mechanism dedicated to women's political and economic empowerment. It provides financial and technical support to high-impact programmes led by civil society organizations committed to providing services and upholding the rights of women and girls around the world, especially those in the most excluded and marginalized communities.

2014 SELECTED GRANTEES *

AFRICA

Burundi

Unissons-nous pour la promotion des Batwa (UNIPROBA)
Promotion of gender equality of peoples Batwa from Burundi to the participation of women in decision making on a local level
USD 200,000

Nigeria

Nigeria Community Life Project
Empowering grass-roots women leaders for participation in local governance in two States in south-west Nigeria
USD 535,000

Rwanda

RCN Justice & Democratie
Beyond raising awareness: Shifting the social power balance to enable women to access land
USD 2,000,000

Zimbabwe

Basilwilzi Trust/Zubo
Binga Women Economic Empowerment Project (BWEEP)
USD 200,000

ARAB STATES

Algeria

Association of Solidarity and Fight Against Poverty and Exclusion – El Ghaith
Promoting equality between men and women in the rural area of Bourdj Bou Arreridj for human social and economic development
USD 200,000

Egypt, Yemen and Libya

KARAMA
Inclusive democracy: Ensuring women's political rights in Libya, Yemen and Egypt throughout the Arab Spring
USD 565,000

State of Palestine

Palestinian Women for Peace and Development (PCPD)
Towards a democratic constitution that grants equal rights to women
USD 200,000

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Bangladesh

Bolipara Nar iKalyan Somity (BNKS)
Promote an enabling environment for ethnic hilly women of Bangladesh to access and control over economic resources
USD 200,000

Pakistan

Pak Women
Women empowerment and political participation project (WE3P)
USD 220,000

Sri Lanka

Centre for Women's Research (CENWOR)
Economic empowerment of women in low-income groups and the realization of their economic rights and gender equality
USD 200,000

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

Georgia

Sukhumi
Gender Advisory Councils: Increasing women's role in social change of regions
USD 305,000

Kyrgyzstan

Public Association "Central Asian Alliance for Water"
Empower women's and girls' political and economic access to and control of drinking water management
USD 225,000

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Argentina

Fondo Mujeres del Sur
Constructing a labour rights agenda for women working in homes and sewing workshops in the Southern Cone
USD 415,000

Bolivia

Coordinadora de la Mujer
Bolivian women in the process of change: A policy framework with gender equality
USD 2,474,134

Brazil

SOS Corpo – Instituto Feminista para a Democracia
More rights and more power for Brazilian women
USD 2,500,000

Peru

Centro de Culturas Indigenas del Peru (CHIRAPAC)
Indigenous women defending Mother Earth: Economic rights and empowerment in Latin America
USD 535,000

ABOVE: The high-impact programmes of UN Women's Fund for Gender Equality include one linking rural, marginalized women to mobile technology. They use it to connect with local government representatives and obtain better services—the process has so far backed the processing of 7,000 claims for public benefits, among other achievements.

PHOTO: Jayshree Joshi/Kutch Mahila Vikas Sangathan

*For the full list of grantees, please visit unwomen.org/en/trust-funds



UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women

In **Colombia, Chile** and **El Salvador**, a UN Trust Fund grant helps Sur Corporación de Estudios Sociales y Educación, a civil society organization, in training police on enforcing laws and policies to stop violence against women and girls. Over 700 officers have attended a course grounded in the principles of women's right to live free from violence. It teaches participants about different manifestations of violence, how to improve responsiveness, and how to track and follow-up on cases. A country exchange programme shares promising practices and experiences.

Improved communication between the police and women's organizations in all three countries has fostered common understanding of the scope of violence against women and girls. After the training is complete, comprehensive follow-up workshops bring representatives from the police

and women's organizations together to narrow in on the most critical procedures and protocols to prevent and respond to gender-based violence.

Gender-based violence in and around schools in **Viet Nam** is so prevalent it has become one of the main barriers to girls' empowerment and gender equality. Plan Vietnam, a children's development organization, is using a UN Trust Fund grant to promote a solution—the Gender-Responsive School Pilot Model. Now being implemented in 20 secondary schools across Hanoi, the model encourages schools to be safe, accountable and child-friendly.

By the end of 2014, teachers in all 20 schools were using comprehensive manuals to talk about school-related gender-based violence with over 16,000 adolescent girls and boys. Among other issues, students learn to recognize and challenge inequitable gender norms,

and violence in their everyday lives. Hundreds of students have turned to new school counselling services for psychosocial support.

In the **Arab States**, the Jordanian Women's Union has joined the Egyptian Centre for Women's Assistance and the *Union de l'Action Feminine* in **Morocco** to mobilize regional action to prevent the trafficking of women. In Jordan, 35 organizations have improved services, including through referrals to psychosocial and legal support. Outreach in highly vulnerable rural and poor communities in **Egypt** and **Morocco** has raised awareness of risks and rights under the law. Stronger networking and coordination has begun to link efforts by civil society groups, government officials and legal authorities to detect and stop trafficking, and has contributed to progress in drafting anti-trafficking laws.

The United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UN Trust Fund) supports innovative, promising approaches to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls. Created by the UN General Assembly in 1996, and managed by UN Women on behalf of the UN system, it currently supports 95 initiatives in 71 countries and territories with grants totalling USD 56.3 million.

2014 SELECTED GRANTEES*

AFRICA

Liberia

Episcopal Relief and Development
Engaging faith-based organizations to prevent violence against women and girls and increase survivors' access to services
USD 680,216

United Republic of Tanzania

Equality for Growth
Give payment not abuse: Protecting informal women traders in Dar es Salaam from violence against women
USD 350,440

Zimbabwe

Leonard Cheshire Disability Zimbabwe Trust
Access to justice for girls and women with disabilities
USD 400,452

ARAB STATES

Egypt

Al Shehab Institution for Comprehensive Development
Community-based intervention to alleviate the different forms of violence against women and women's vulnerability to HIV
USD 367,712

State of Palestine

Community Media Center
Stop violence against women
USD 158,350

State of Palestine

Psycho-Social Counseling Center for Women
Combating gender-based violence
USD 356,667

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Mongolia

Mongolian Women's Fund
Securing State investment in awareness raising on domestic violence in schools
USD 100,000

Nepal

Restless Development Nepal
Towards the abolition of Chhaupadi in the far and mid-west regions of Nepal
USD 417,880

Timor-Leste

Associaçao Chega Ba Ita
Strengthening women survivors of violence in Timor-Leste
USD 300,000

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

Albania

Alliance Against LGBT Discrimination
Reduce violence against women with focus on LGBT community in Albania
USD 95,000

Kyrgyzstan

NFFCK
Expanding opportunities of rural girls to prevent and respond to threats of violence
USD 80,215

Serbia

The Association of Women Sandglass
Local communities in central Serbia against gender-based violence
USD 86,546

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Colombia

ONIC
Indigenous women, gender-based violence and access to justice
USD 417,601

El Salvador

Asamblea de Cooperación por la Paz
Improving women's access to a life free of gender-based violence for women in El Salvador
USD 370,220

Guatemala

Fundació Privada Sida i Societat
Prevention and reduction of sexual violence against sex workers in Guatemala
USD 220,872

CROSS REGIONAL

Brazil, Democratic Republic of the Congo

Promundo-US
Engaging youth to end violence against women and girls in Brazil and the Democratic Republic of the Congo
USD 722,821

**For the full list of 25 new grants awarded by the UN Trust Fund in 2014, please visit unwomen.org/en/trust-funds.*

ABOVE: A UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women grantee in Chile has improved police training to better protect women from violence. Officers learn about different forms of violence as well as the most effective responses and follow-up actions. Community mapping shows areas where domestic violence cases are concentrated.

PHOTO: Roberto Rojas

UN Women is grateful for the commitment from its growing family of donors. 2014 saw the greatest contributions to date, amounting to USD 322.8 million, a 17.2 per cent increase over the USD 275.4 million received in 2013. Breaking the USD 300 million ceiling was an encouraging and inspiring corporate achievement.

Total voluntary contributions for 2014 comprised USD 163.7 million for regular resources (USD 156.9 million in 2013) and USD 159.2 million for other resources (USD 118.5 million in 2013). Having surpassed its core and non-core targets, UN Women is exerting all efforts to sustain this momentum in order to reach the target of USD 500 million set by the UN Secretary-General.

Key 2014 milestones included having 143 government core donors, the highest number ever. The total comprised over 90 per cent of countries from the Latin America and Caribbean, and Asia and Pacific regions.

A vote of confidence by our donors

A 2014 report on UN Women by the Multilateral Organisation Performance Assessment Network (MOPAN), a network of 19 donor countries, was highly positive. It recognized UN Women's success in establishing itself as a new organization and achieving development results, even with limited resources. The assessment affirmed the relevance of UN Women's mandate, and dubbed its performance 'strong' on a series of indicators of effectiveness and impact. Among the four UN entities reviewed by MOPAN in 2014, UN Women had the highest number of 'strong' indicators, despite being, by far, the youngest organization.

Statement of financial performance

Thousands of USD

For the year ended 31 December 2014

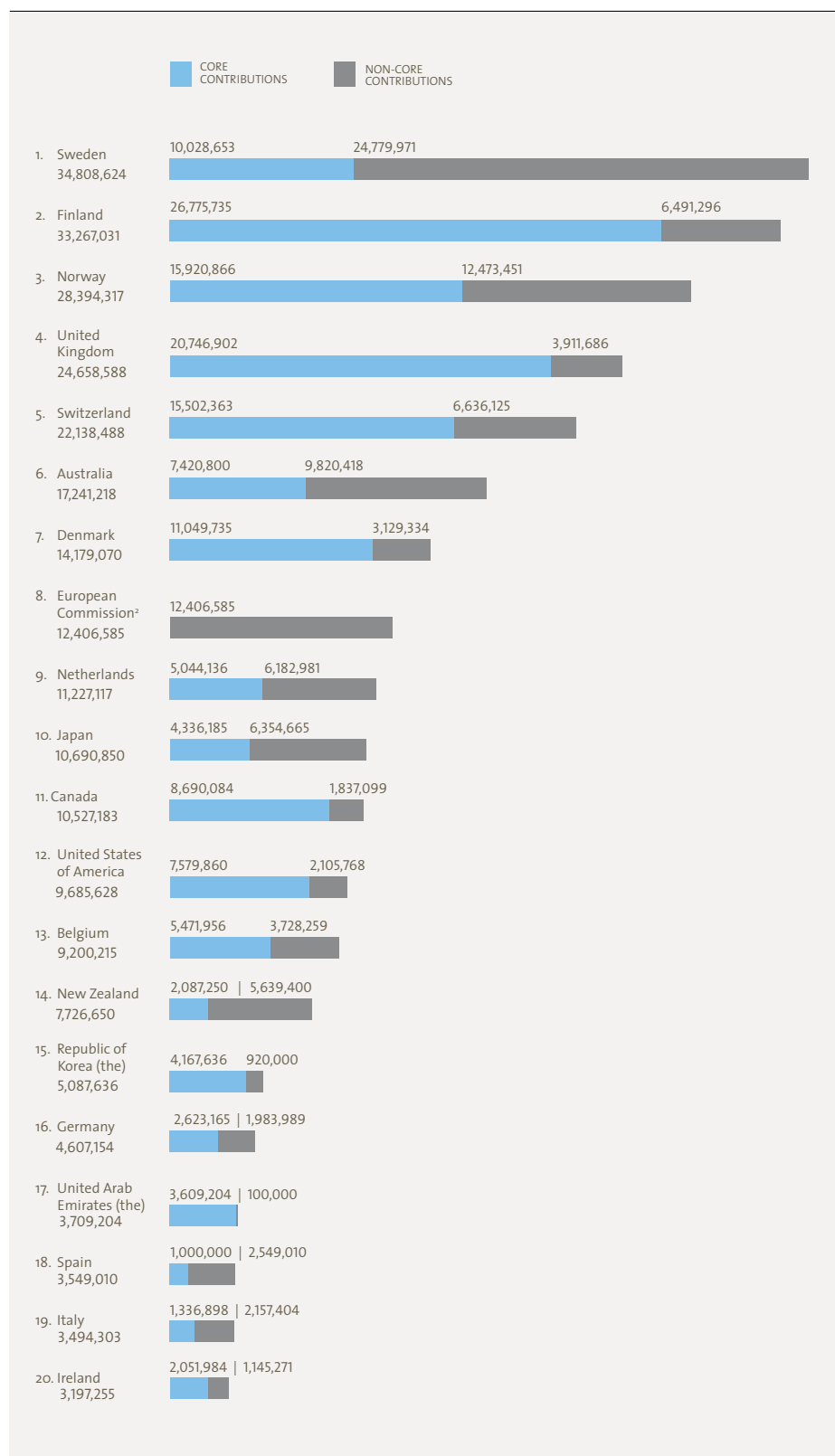
	TOTAL
REVENUE	
Contributions	
Regular resources	163,664
Other resources	159,160
Assessed resources	7,652
Investment income	1,592
Other revenue	815
Revenue: exchange transactions	5
TOTAL REVENUE	332,888
TOTAL EXPENSES	270,538
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	62,350

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 expense 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 and recognized on a monthly basis.

Top 20 Government donors

For the year ended 31 December 2014, USD¹



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 (EC/EU) is a Government member organization.

Voluntary contributions to UN Women

From governments and other donors, expressed in USD

CONTRIBUTORS	Regular resources (core)	Other resources (non-core)	TOTAL 2014
Governments and member organizations			
Afghanistan	500	-	500
Algeria	10,000	-	10,000
Andorra	54,768	-	54,768
Angola	10,000	-	10,000
Antigua and Barbuda	300	-	300
Argentina	30,000	-	30,000
Armenia	2,500	-	2,500
Australia	7,420,800	9,820,418	17,241,218
Austria	345,781	96,257	442,038
Bahamas (the)	5,000	-	5,000
Bangladesh	10,500	-	10,500
Barbados	121,640	-	121,640
Belgium	5,471,956	3,728,259	9,200,215
Belize	1,000	-	1,000
Benin	500	-	500
Bhutan	500	-	500
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	10,000	-	10,000
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2,000	-	2,000
Botswana	10,000	-	10,000
Brazil	253,637	596,684	850,320
Brunei Darussalam	50,000	-	50,000
Burkina Faso	1,309	-	1,309
Burundi	1,500	-	1,500
Cambodia	6,000	-	6,000
Canada	8,690,084	1,837,099	10,527,183
Chile	100,000	-	100,000
China	60,000	830,000	890,000
Colombia	200	6,109	6,309
Comoros (the)	200	-	200
Congo (the)	500	-	500
Costa Rica	10,020	-	10,020
Côte d'Ivoire	20,000	-	20,000
Croatia	5,000	-	5,000
Czech Republic (the)	13,618	-	13,618
Democratic People's Republic of Korea (the)	250	-	250
Democratic Republic of the Congo (the)	2,500	-	2,500
Denmark	11,049,735	3,129,334	14,179,070
Djibouti	1,000	-	1,000
Dominican Republic	42,436	-	42,436
Ecuador	10,000	-	10,000
El Salvador	500	-	500
Equatorial Guinea	19,990	-	19,990
Eritrea	200	-	200
Estonia	81,522	55,762	137,284
Ethiopia	4,000	-	4,000
European Commission (EC/EU) ¹	-	12,406,585	12,406,585
Fiji	5,348	-	5,348
Finland	26,775,735	6,491,296	33,267,031
France	547,196	2,135,555	2,682,751
Georgia	10,000	-	10,000
Germany	2,623,165	1,983,989	4,607,154
Greece	20,000	-	20,000
Grenada	1,000	-	1,000
Guatemala	3,000	-	3,000
Guinea-Bissau	150	-	150
Haiti	500	-	500
Honduras	150	-	150
Iceland	681,340	447,253	1,128,593
India	1,000,000	-	1,000,000
Indonesia	147,000	-	147,000
Iran (Islamic Republic)	5,000	-	5,000
Iraq	8,000	-	8,000
Ireland	2,051,984	1,145,271	3,197,255
Israel	250,000	10,000	260,000
Italy	1,336,898	2,157,404	3,494,303
Jamaica	4,603	-	4,603
Japan	4,336,185	6,354,665	10,690,850
Jordan	20,000	20,000	40,000
Kazakhstan	100,194	9,975	110,169
Kiribati	1,500	-	1,500
Kuwait	50,000	-	50,000
Kyrgyzstan	100	-	100

CONTRIBUTORS	Regular resources (core)	Other resources (non-core)	TOTAL 2014
Lao People's Democratic Republic (the)	1,000	-	1,000
Latvia	10,000	-	10,000
Liberia	1,976	-	1,976
Liechtenstein	78,440	11,206	89,646
Lithuania	12,392	-	12,392
Luxembourg	1,390,041	-	1,390,041
Malawi	1,000	-	1,000
Malaysia	50,000	-	50,000
Maldives	1,000	-	1,000
Malta	631	-	631
Marshall Islands (the)	1,333	-	1,333
Mauritania	150	-	150
Mauritius	500	-	500
Mexico	94,665	1,088,540	1,183,205
Micronesia (Federated States of)	2,000	-	2,000
Monaco	20,633	-	20,633
Mongolia	7,000	-	7,000
Montenegro	500	-	500
Morocco	20,000	888,697	908,697
Mozambique	5,000	-	5,000
Myanmar	5,000	-	5,000
Namibia	6,024	-	6,024
Nauru	100	-	100
Netherlands (the)	5,044,136	6,182,981	11,227,117
New Zealand	2,087,250	5,639,400	7,726,650
Nicaragua	5,000	-	5,000
Nigeria	278,000	-	278,000
Norway	15,920,866	12,473,451	28,394,317
Oman	5,000	-	5,000
Pakistan	9,508	-	9,508
Palau	100	-	100
Panama	15,000	-	15,000
Paraguay	500	-	500
Peru	2,000	-	2,000
Poland	9,426	-	9,426
Portugal	6,734	-	6,734
Republic of Korea (the)	4,167,636	920,000	5,087,636
Romania	15,000	-	15,000
Rwanda	10,000	-	10,000
Saint Kitts and Nevis	250	-	250
Saint Lucia	100	-	100
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	1,000	-	1,000
Samoa	1,000	-	1,000
Sao Tome and Principe	12,500	-	12,500
Senegal	471,168	-	471,168
Seychelles	1,000	-	1,000
Singapore	50,000	-	50,000
Solomon Islands	800	-	800
Somalia	150	-	150
South Africa	200,000	-	200,000
Spain	1,000,000	2,549,010	3,549,010
Sri Lanka	5,000	-	5,000
Sudan (the)	1,000	-	1,000
Suriname	1,750	-	1,750
Swaziland	200	-	200
Sweden	10,028,653	24,779,971	34,808,624
Switzerland	15,502,363	6,636,125	22,138,488
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	500	-	500
Tonga	5,000	-	5,000
Tunisia	9,024	5,389	14,413
Turkey	1,000,000	-	1,000,000
Tuvalu	50	-	50
Ukraine	100	-	100
United Arab Emirates	3,609,204	100,000	3,709,204
United Kingdom	20,746,902	3,911,686	24,658,588
United Republic of Tanzania (the)	5,000	-	5,000
United States of America	7,579,860	2,105,768	9,685,628
Uruguay	9,000	-	9,000
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	1,000	-	1,000
Viet Nam	11,096	-	11,096
Zambia	1,000	-	1,000
Zimbabwe	1,000	-	1,000
Total Government contributions	163,452,205	120,554,138	284,006,343

NOTE:

1. EC/EU is a Government member organization.

CONTRIBUTORS	Regular resources (core)	Other resources (non-core)	TOTAL 2014
National Committees			
Australia	-	383,305	383,305
Austria	-	3,254	3,254
Finland	116,530	57,436	173,967
France	-	6,534	6,534
Germany	1,983	15,268	17,250
Iceland	-	221,531	221,531
Italy	-	3,193	3,193
Japan	-	35,141	35,141
Singapore	15,162	98,485	113,647
Sweden	-	4,076	4,076
Switzerland	-	35,577	35,577
United Kingdom	1,580	22,117	23,697
United States	50,000	-	50,000
Total National Committee contributions	185,255	885,917	1,071,172

Foundations and private donors

American Bar Association	-	41,897	41,897
Angelica Fuentes Foundation	-	600,000	600,000
Asian Development Bank	-	660,735	660,735
Barclays Bank	-	60,000	60,000
Benetton Group	-	50,000	50,000
Care International	-	1,660	1,660
Finland Center Foundation	2,003	-	2,003
Ford Foundation	-	115,000	115,000
Intel Corporation	-	100,000	100,000
J P Morgan Bank	-	250,000	250,000
Justice Rapid Response	-	663,685	663,685
Maria Holder Memorial Trust	-	8,800	8,800
Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy (NIMD)	-	10,695	10,695
Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA)	-	26,600	26,600
Proya Cosmetics Co Ltd	-	146,500	146,500
The Coca-Cola Company	-	1,357,731	1,357,731
Tupperware Brands Corporation	-	100,000	100,000
UNhate Foundation	-	154,963	154,963
Unilever	-	336,132	336,132
UN Women for Peace	-	130,000	130,000
We Effect	-	9,975	9,975
World Vision	-	2,000	2,000
Zonta International	-	1,687,880	1,687,880
Miscellaneous donors	8,012	289,503	297,515
Total foundations and private donors contributions	10,015	6,803,756	6,813,771

United Nations system

IFAD	-	1,022,074	1,022,074
ILO	-	145,220	145,220
IOM	-	1,554,856	1,554,856
MDTFO	-	14,858,375	14,858,375
PAHO	-	15,000	15,000
UNAIDS	-	4,203,526	4,203,526
UNDP	-	2,783,048	2,783,048
UNECA	-	30,385	30,385
UNESCO	-	4,951	4,951
UNFPA	-	1,704,188	1,704,188
UNHCR	16,500	507,883	524,383
UNICEF	-	1,246,828	1,246,828
UNMIK	-	32,395	32,395
UNOCHA	-	1,647,382	1,647,382
UNOPS	-	549,012	549,012
UNTFHS	-	575,248	575,248
WFP	-	32,015	32,015
WHO	-	3,539	3,539
Total UN system contributions	16,500	30,915,925	30,932,425

TOTAL 2014 VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS	163,663,974	159,159,736	322,823,710
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Voluntary contributions to UN Women's Fund for Gender Equality and the UN Trust Fund

From governments and other donors, expressed in USD

CONTRIBUTORS	UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women	Fund for Gender Equality
Governments		
Australia	2,393,811	-
Germany	310,253	317,662
Iceland	157,839	-
Ireland	359,613	-
Israel	-	10,000
Japan	-	1,005,000
Kazakhstan	9,975	-
Liechtenstein	11,206	-
Netherlands (the)	2,631,579	-
Norway	873,933	-
Switzerland	3,587,283	-
United Kingdom	3,105,590	-
Total Government contributions	13,441,082	1,332,662

National Committees

Australia	-	66,440
Finland	57,436	-
France	6,534	-
Germany	429	787
Iceland	110,765	110,765
Japan	15,141	-
Singapore	89,048	-
Sweden	4,076	-
Switzerland	17,259	-
United Kingdom	11,058	11,058
Total National Committee contributions	311,748	189,050

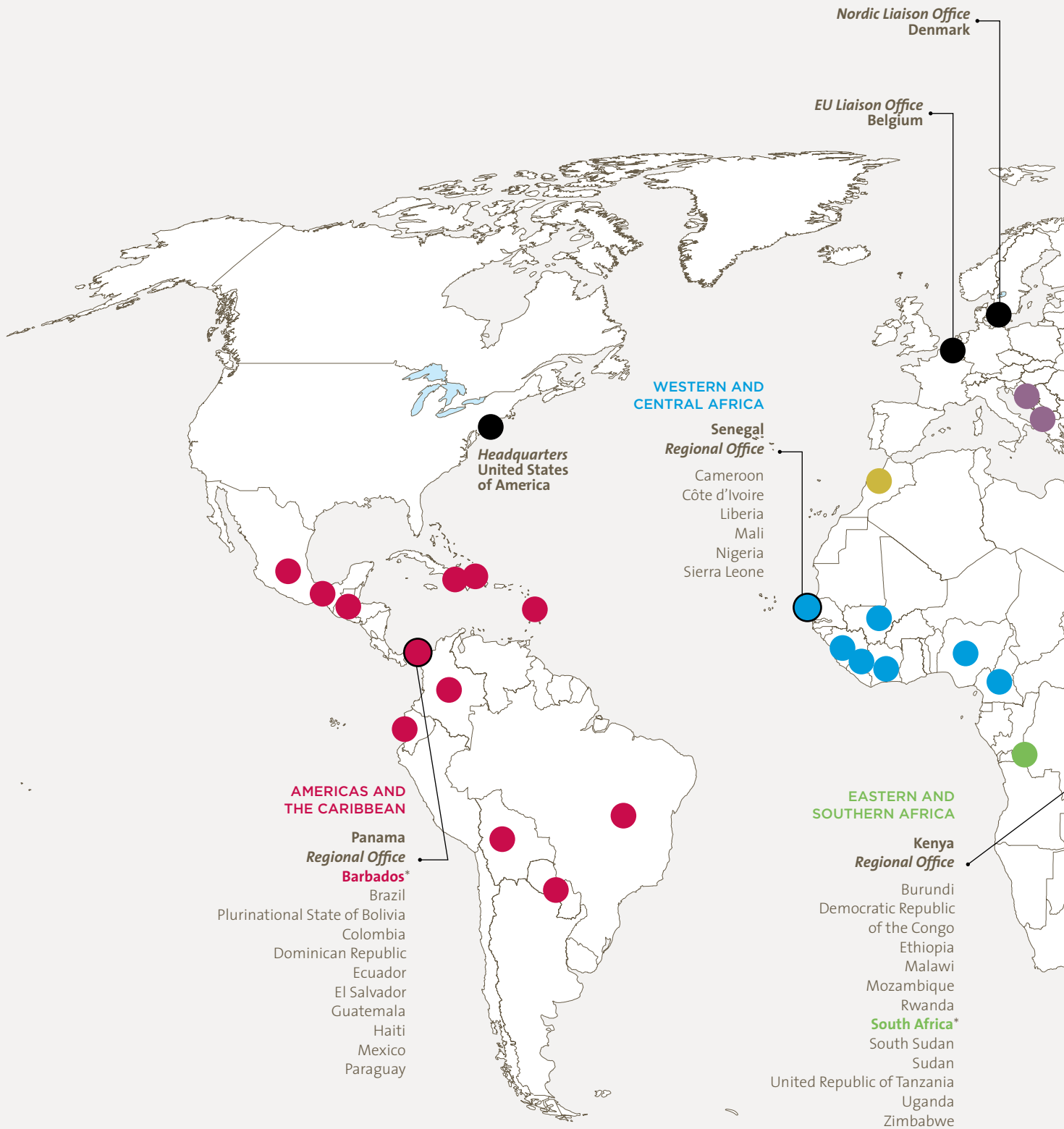
Foundations and private donors

Angelica Fuentes Foundation	-	300,000
Benetton Group	50,000	-
Tupperware Brands Corporation	-	100,000
UN Women for Peace	130,000	-
Zonta International	894,000	-
Miscellaneous donors	6,911	1,019
Total foundation and private donor contributions	1,080,911	401,019

TOTAL 2014 CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FUND FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND THE UN TRUST FUND	14,833,741	1,922,731
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UN Women in the world

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



*Multi-Country Office

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

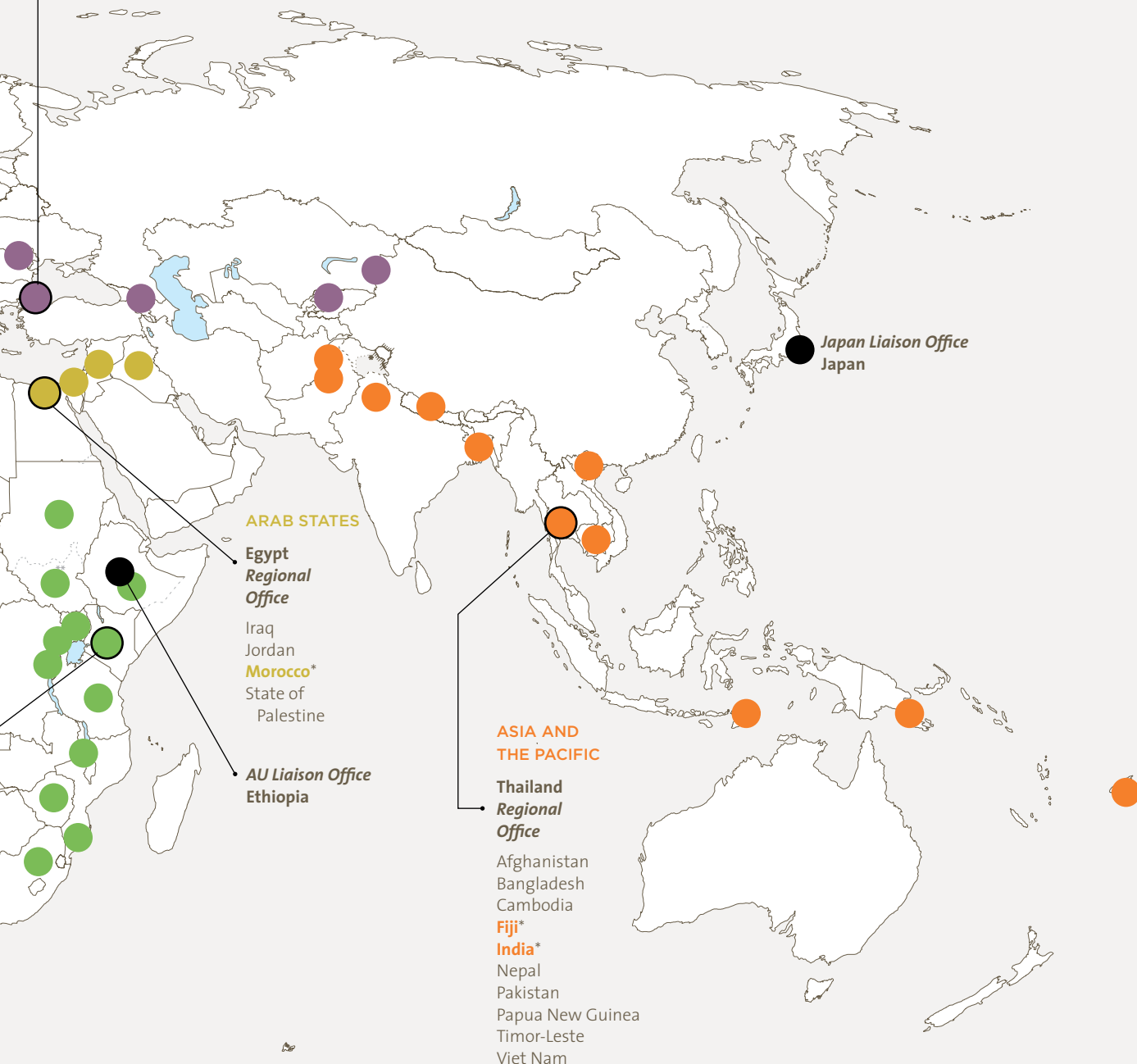
Turkey Regional Office

Albania
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Georgia
Kazakhstan*
Kyrgyzstan
Republic of Moldova

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.



Contact us

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Website: eca.unwomen.org

LIAISON OFFICES

UN Women has four liaison offices
that afford the organization the ability
to engage systematically with key
regional entities and UN Member
States in policy dialogue, advocacy
for gender equality and women's
empowerment, and focused resource
mobilization efforts.

UN Women Liaison Office to the African Union

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UN Women Liaison Office to the European Union

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UN Women Liaison Office to the Nordic Countries

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NATIONAL COMMITTEES

National Committees for UN Women
are independent non-governmental
organizations that support the
mission of UN Women through their
public awareness initiatives about
UN Women and global women's
issues, and fundraising efforts to
support UN Women programmes
worldwide. Currently, there are National
Committees for UN Women in 15
countries (Australia, Austria, Canada,
Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy,
Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore,
Sweden, United Kingdom, United
States).

To get involved and find contact
information, go to: [unwomen.org/en/
partnerships/national-committees](http://unwomen.org/en/partnerships/national-committees).

View the Report online at: annualreport.unwomen.org

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COVER: *Millions of people around the world, like this woman in Peru, mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women each year, joining a global movement to uphold all of women's human rights.*

PHOTO: *Reuters/Corbis/ Mariana Bazo*

WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT PHOTOS: *p. 7: UN Women/Gaganjit Singh; p. 9: UN Women/Lianne Milton; p. 11: UN Women/Cindy Thai Thien Nghia; p. 13: Holo Makwaia; p. 15: UN Women/Piyavit Thongsa-Ard; p. 17: Social Watch Philippines.*



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