UN Women in the Americas and the Caribbean

2014 results, challenges and opportunities
UN Women in the Americas and the Caribbean Region
UN Women’s Presence in the AC Region

- **Regional Office** – Panama
- **Multi-Country Office** – Barbados
- 9 Country Offices
- 5 Countries PP
- 1 Global Training Centre & CO
REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES:
• Strong **women’s movement** and high level **Government commitments**
• Favorable **regional positioning** vis-à-vis stand-alone goal and mainstreaming of GE in Post 2015 Agenda
• **Strong normative framework & progress in GEWE policies, strategies and norms**

CHALLENGES:
• **Regional economic growth projection around only 1%** increase in regional GDP (ECLAC)
• **Resource Mobilization** for the region remains a challenge due to donor climate and MIC paradox
• **Femicide** most prominent challenge affecting women and girls in the region
• **Cultural attitudes and norms** related to traditional gender roles and stereotypes reinforce gender inequalities.
2014’s Main Results in Programmatic Areas
**Context:**
- Historic moment with a gradual increase in women’s participation in areas of political decision-making.
- Highest rate in the world of women parliamentarians (on average—a rate of 26.5 per cent women-IPU March 2015).

**Results:**
- UN Women supported institution and implementation of legislative measures towards achieving parity in Bolivia; Brazil; Guatemala and Mexico.
- The Latin American Parliament (PARLATINO) approved Declaration on Parity Democracy.
- Caucuses of women parliamentarians, gender commissions and women’s networks created and supported in Haiti and Jamaica.
Economic Empowerment

**Context:**
- Gender wage gap persists (men 17% more than women at any age, educ. or employment type).
- One in every three women does not earn her own income.
- More than half of women in paid work are in informal sector.
- Domestic workers are 15% of total female workforce.

**Results:**
- UN Women supported the development and implementation of laws and policies to advance the rights of women workers in 12 countries.
  - In **Peru passing** Law 29700 which includes Unpaid Work in the National Accounts.
  - 10,000 women promoted women’s labour rights in **Paraguay, Chile, Uruguay and Argentina**.
  - **Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados and Jamaica** all completed baseline studies to identify gaps in their national legal frameworks pertaining to compliance with ILO Convention 189.
Ending Violence against Women

**Context:**
- Prevalence, persistence and severity of violence against women in the region
- High Levels of impunity
- Violence against women -linked to lack of citizen security- as related to organized crime

**Results:**
- UN Women and OHCHR launched the *Latin American Protocol Model of Investigation of Gender-related Killings of Women* (femicide).
- *Brazil, Ecuador, Bolivia, Colombia, Haiti and Paraguay* also advanced legislative reforms to address violence against women.
- National plans to end violence against women and girls developed in *Jamaica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, the Bahamas, Trinidad and Tobago, Chile and Uruguay*
**Context:**
- Violence continuum - conflict - post conflict - citizen security -
- UN Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and six subsequent resolutions to support women’s involvement in peace negotiations and post-conflict.

**Results:**
- UN Women has supported women’s participation and visibility of their experiences in peace building processes and post-conflict justice.
  - Colombia’s peace dialogues (Havana): 2 women plenipotentiary negotiators influenced the process at all levels; out of the 60 victim delegates, 37 were women (62 percent).
  - In El Salvador, multi-sector National Committee for the implementation of 1325 was implemented.
  - In Guatemala, the first case of sexual slavery during conflict in global history reached national courts.
Gender Responsive Budgeting

**Context:**
- Global discussion about financing for development.
- Need for strong financing and strong participatory monitoring and accountability mechanism.
- Lack of official information about investment on gender equality.

**Results:**
- UN Women has provided technical assistance for the development of methodologies for GE commitments in plans and budgets in 13 countries.
  - A *gender-sensitive Social Protection Policy Framework* was adopted in Grenada and a gender-sensitive Social Development Assistance Act was adopted in St. Kitts and Nevis.
  - In Mexico the national *earmarked budget* for gender equality and women’s rights reached approximately **USD $1.68 billion in 2014**.
Inter-governmental Processes

**Context:**
- UN Women advocates for a transformative stand-alone goal on GE/WE and GE mainstreaming in the Post 2015/SDGs framework.
- Regional support (Gov. and CS representatives) at the 58th and 59th (CSW), the XII Regional Conference on Women and the Special Session on Beijing+20

**Results:**
- **21 countries** reaffirmed the region’s commitment to the Beijing Platform for Action and called for a specific target on GE in the post-2015 at the Special Session on Beijing+20.
- **80 global women leaders** launched a strong call to close the gap of inequalities at the high-level global event “Women in power and decision-making: Building a different world” in Santiago Chile.
Looking Ahead
• Pol. Part. Comprehensive Monitoring System.
• EVAW initiatives focusing on access to justice, ending impunity and prevention.
• Ensure effective roll out of gender-responsive plans.
• Localization of SDGs
• Resource Mobilization: private sectors partnerships; regional initiatives with greater impact (EE).
THANK YOU!