Proceedings Report
Safe Cities Global Leaders’ Forum

Safe Cities for Women & Girls in Action: Implementation Essentials & Key Takeaways

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We appreciate the contribution of all Forum delegates who came from 24 countries, and particularly, speakers from local and national government, women’s grassroots, NGOs, and research institutes, UN Women regional and national offices who form part of each safe city programme, for generously sharing their expertise.

We would like to thank the Government of India and JAGORI for their continuous partnership with UN Women, especially in their support to the Delhi Safe City Programme, one of the founding pilot cities in UN Women’s Safe Cities Global Initiative.

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We acknowledge the strong contributions in the Forum made by partner organisations in the women’s safety global movement including: Women in Cities International (WICI), the Huaqiu Commission (HC), Women and Habitat Network for Latin America and the Caribbean (WHN), UN Habitat, and ActionAid International.

We are very grateful to the Forum Host Speaker: Averee Chaurey, the Lead Chair of Session: Dr. Sohail Husain, the lead local Coordinator of the Meeting: Ashok Verma, and the lead Global Coordinator of the Meeting: Vandana Snyder. We would like to thank as well the energetic team of young volunteers who formed part of the UN Women Multi Country Office implementation team for all their contributions.

We hope that the proceedings will initiate further discussion and exchange of knowledge and practice on evidence based holistic approaches to prevent and address sexual harassment and other forms of sexual violence in public spaces.
Proceedings Report:
Safe Cities Global Leaders’ Forum
New Delhi, India
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Safe Cities for Women and Girls in Action:
Implementation Essentials and Key Takeaways

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INTRODUCTION
AND MAIN HIGHLIGHTS

The Issue: Creating Safe Public Spaces

Sexual harassment and other forms of sexual violence in public spaces are an everyday occurrence for women and girls around the world—in urban and rural areas, in developed and developing countries. Women and girls experience and fear various types of sexual violence in public spaces, from sexual harassment to rape and femicide. It happens on streets, public transport and parks, in and around schools and workplaces, in public sanitation facilities and water and food distribution sites, or in their own neighbourhoods.

This reality reduces women’s and girls’ freedom of movement. It reduces their ability to participate in school, work and in public life. It limits their access to essential services, and enjoyment of cultural and recreational opportunities. It also negatively impacts their health and well-being. Although violence in the private domain is now widely recognised as a human rights violation, violence against women and girls, especially sexual harassment in public spaces, remains a largely neglected issue, with few laws or policies in place to prevent and address it.
About the Safe Cities Global Initiative

UN Women’s Safe Cities Global Initiative (SC GI) includes two main programmes. In November 2010 UN Women, in collaboration with Women in Cities International, the Huairou Commission, Women and Habitat Network of Latin America and the Caribbean, UN-Habitat, and other partners, with support of the Spanish International launched the “Safe Cities Free of Violence against Women and Girls” Global Programme in Quito (Ecuador), Cairo (Egypt), New Delhi (India), Port Moresby (Papua New Guinea) and Kigali (Rwanda).

It is the first-ever global comparative programme that develops, implements, and evaluates comprehensive approaches to prevent and respond to sexual violence against women and girls in public spaces. The cities of Cape Town (South Africa), Mexico City (Mexico), Rabat (Morocco), Dublin (Ireland), Winnipeg, jointly with the Province of Manitoba (Canada), Reykjavik (Iceland), Sakai (Japan), New York (United States), also form part of this programme.

In June 2011, UN Women, UNICEF and UN-Habitat launched the “Safe and Sustainable Cities for All” joint programme in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), San José (Costa Rica), Tegucigalpa (Honduras), Nairobi (Kenya), Beirut (Lebanon), Marrakech (Morocco), Manila (Philippines) and Dushanbe (Tajikistan).

Obtaining strong evidence in support of the safe cities approach will make a significant contribution to one of the most neglected areas within the field of programming on ending violence against women and girls – prevention.

The SC GI is poised to make a valuable contribution to the wider field of ending violence against women and girls, urban safety, and sustainable development. It also addresses the gap in rigorous, impact level evaluation of existing models on violence against women and girls as well as the gap in capacity at the local level to evaluate and scale up interventions.

The Initiative has already achieved many results through partnerships with mayors’ offices, national governments, women’s groups, and other partners. As part of their holistic programming, Quito amended a local ordinance to strengthen action against sexual harassment in public spaces. In Port Moresby, the Gerehu market’s infrastructure improved with insights on gender and prevention from the newly created vendors association that includes 50 per cent representation of women in executive positions.

About the Safe Cities Leaders’ Forum

The following report includes the main proceedings of UN Women’s Biennial Safe Cities Global Leaders’ Forum “Safe Cities for Women and Girls in Action: Implementation Essentials and Key Takeaways”, which was held at the Lalit Hotel, in New Delhi, from June 10th to 12th, 2015, in commemoration of Beijing Plus 20.

It includes insights from a wide array of speakers, key takeaways from programme sessions and participant discussions. It also includes good practices and tools, and reference material, and provides a links to available powerpoint presentations and videos.

The Forum brought together a core group of 140 participants from 24 countries, including: representatives from national and local government, grassroots women’s organisations, and community groups, leading international organisations, nongovernmental, and intergovernmental agencies, researchers, the private sector and media.

Main Goal of the Forum

To share and discuss evidence-based approaches, practices, tools, and learnings to advance the international knowledge base on safe cities for women and girls. Programme Sessions were designed to:

- Provide up-to-date knowledge and good practices from the field focused on the implementation of safe city programmes that aim to prevent and respond to sexual harassment and other forms of sexual violence against women and girls in public spaces.
- Share programme updates and results from recent research commissioned at local and global level under UN Women’s Safe Cities Global Initiative, and support a cross-regional learning platform for gender equality and women’s empowerment.
- Discuss priority areas for safe city policy and programme action including: coordination, sustainability, building to scale, evaluability for impact and accountability.
There is a growing global recognition of the importance of public space in sustainable urbanisation\(^1\), achievement of gender equality and women’s empowerment \(^2\) and overall for post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda\(^3\). Public space is a social good, which should be safe, accessible, inclusive and available for all. It should generate enabling environment for equality, rights and economic, social and political opportunities. However a quality public space, especially in the cities, which accommodate more than half of the world population\(^4\), has become a rare commodity and is marked by social exclusion, neglect, and violence\(^5\). These issues underpinned discussions at the Global Safe Cities Leaders’ Forum.

**Expected Take-aways from the Forum**

- **Heightened engagement** among stakeholders towards policy and programme action to create safe, smart and sustainable cities with women and girls.

- **Increased access to tools** to strengthen multi-sectoral and evidence based approaches to prevent and respond to sexual harassment and other forms of sexual violence against women and girls in public spaces.

\(^1\) In 2011, the 23rd Session of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat mandated UN-Habitat to consolidate agency-wide work on public space, to develop and promote public space policy, coordination, disseminate knowledge and directly assist cities in public space initiatives.

\(^2\) CSW57 (2013) for the first time identified various forms of sexual harassment and sexual violence against women and girls, inter alia, in public spaces as a distinct area of concern (Introduction, articles xx, zz) [http://www.unwomen.org/-/media/ headquarters/attachments/sections/csw/57/csw57-agreedconclusions-a4-en.pdf](http://www.unwomen.org/-/media/ headquarters/attachments/sections/csw/57/csw57-agreedconclusions-a4-en.pdf)

\(^3\) Among proposed 2016-2030 Sustainable Development Goals, Goal 11: “Build cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable” includes a target “by 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green public spaces, particularly for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities”. However at the time of the publication of this proceedings report in August 2015, the proposed indicators are not sufficient for gender monitoring of this target. Goal # 5: "Achieve gender equality and empower women and girls" also does not include a proposed target or an indicator that is relevant for monitoring the safety of women and girls in public spaces. Goal # 5: "Achieve gender equality and empower women and girls" also does not include a proposed target or an indicator that is relevant for monitoring the safety of women and girls in public spaces.

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\(^6\) Among proposed 2016-2030 Sustainable Development Goals, Goal 11: “Build cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable” includes a target “by 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green public spaces, particularly for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities”. However at the time of the publication of this proceedings report in August 2015, the proposed indicators are not sufficient for gender monitoring of this target. Goal # 5: "Achieve gender equality and empower women and girls" also does not include a proposed target or an indicator that is relevant for monitoring the safety of women and girls in public spaces. Goal # 5: "Achieve gender equality and empower women and girls" also does not include a proposed target or an indicator that is relevant for monitoring the safety of women and girls in public spaces.

\(^7\) In 2014, 54% (3.5 billion) of the world’s population lived in urban areas. By 2050 this ratio is expected to increase to 66%, adding 2.5 billion people to the cities. [http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/news/population/world-urbanization-prospects-2014.html](http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/news/population/world-urbanization-prospects-2014.html)

\(^8\) For example, streets, one of the most common form of public spaces, occupy only under 15% in cities globally and less than 10% in informal settlements]. UN-Habitat (2013), Streets as Public Spaces and Drivers of Urban Prosperity. Nairobi.

**Access to good practices** to inspire reflection on safe city model design and implementation.

**Main Highlights**

The insights of leaders from diverse sectors and cities, and the discussions throughout the Safe Cities Global Leaders’ Forum underline a number of important lessons in building safe and inclusive cities for women and girls.

- While cities offer important opportunities to build gender equality, safety, and inclusion, these may often be hindered given many of the challenges related to rapid and unplanned urbanisation (overcrowding, underinvestment in infrastructure, growing inequalities) with widespread sexual harassment and other forms of violence against women and girls in public spaces.

- Urban safety is intrinsically linked to the concept of the Right to the City, and encompasses every person’s rights to mobility and access to social, economic, political, and the cultural opportunities that cities offer. Adequate gender-sensitive and gender inclusive planning in the provision of services and infrastructure can become an empowering force that enables women and girls to fully enjoy their right to public space, promotes gender equality, including equal access to income, education, health care, justice, and political participation and influence.

- The challenges of sexual violence in urban public spaces at the local level must also be seen in relation to larger global trends (urbanisation, humanitarian crises, technocratization, etc.)

- Successful Safe Cities for Women and Girls Initiatives require strong leadership from national and local government, and strategic planning based on a sound analysis of problems and causes of sexual harassment and other forms of violence against women in public spaces.

- Grassroots women and women’s organisations play an instrumental role in identifying problems and solutions and ensuring implementation and monitoring of safe city interventions. Government and other stakeholders should be accountable for creating opportunities for their empowerment and full engagement in making cities safe, economically viable, and socially and environmentally sustainable.
- Local, provincial/state and national coordination is critical to ensure that safe city interventions are embedded within a sound legal/policy framework and include scale up plans of effective approaches to other cities. It is also important to leverage or strengthen existing coordination mechanisms developed at the local level for safe cities policy and programming.

- Preventing sexual violence against women and girls in public spaces requires comprehensive human rights based strategies that include many institutions which affect the quality of life of communities in the city, and diverse community actors (e.g. private sector, media, researchers, civil society organisations), especially grassroots women and women’s organisations, as equal stakeholders and decision makers.

- It is important to work with local leaders, grassroots women, research organisations, men and boys, and other partners in the collection of data to obtain more accurate information, but also to help sustain community-driven interventions in the longer term. UN Women’s Scoping Study methodology prepared for participating teams in the Safe Cities Global Initiative, emphasises the involvement of diverse actors in the co-production of local data on sexual violence against women and girls in public spaces, and has helped to achieve good outcomes from the start in programmes, and across different levels of governance. For example, Egypt’s Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Development adopted women’s safety audits to inform urban planning and to support gender sensitive public infrastructure.

- A gender analysis should include a diversity analysis in order to ensure that women’s specific needs are taken into account in safe city programme action.

- Impact of safe city programmes cannot be examined in isolation and a contextual analysis should be undertaken. Impact evaluation studies must consider: process monitoring and tracking of outputs and outcomes, as well as ex-post assessment of results at impact level – to ensure comprehensive validation of the theory of change.

- Addressing the gap in capacity at the local level to undertake rigorous impact evaluation of safe cities work is important, and requires investment in technical assistance.

- The media is a powerful tool to promote change, and to disrupt unequal power relations by being both a ‘siren’, calling attention to violations as well as a monitor, recording and analysing the efficacy of responses to violence.

**Main Recommendations**

A number of recommendations were made by the safe city teams, global partners, and delegates from emerging safe city programme sites involved in UN Women’s Safe Cities Global Initiative.

- The creation of an international legislative and policy framework on safe cities for women and girls that guarantees women’s rights, is gender-responsive, and is aligned to international human rights norms and standards is critically important for achieving systemic and sustainable programmes to end violence against women and girls. Such a framework should incorporate appropriate measures in the prevention and response to sexual violence in public spaces in the context of local governance.

- To promote the prevention and response to violence against women with evidence

- To include capacity strengthening measures in safe city programmes of authorities and other local stakeholders, in particular on incorporating evidence-based and human rights-based interventions in comprehensive approaches to prevent and respond to sexual violence against women and girls in public spaces, and to create or strengthen participatory monitoring and evaluation frameworks.

- To ensure that policies on public safety, public transport, and smart cities include gender and diversity perspectives from the start. It is important that safe city programmes invest in efforts to help support the participation of women as agents of change, and the engagement of men’s and youth groups, and other representatives of civil society in the policy development process, and monitoring of these policies.

- Grassroots women are experts of their own realities. The value of their knowledge should be recognised as a basis for advocacy, and in the design, implementation, and assessment of safe city initiatives.

- To examine ways in which technology can be used as part of safe cities for women and girls programming, and to invest in mapping studies which examine issues of women’s access to technology and incorporate their views on the ways to use technology to prevent and respond to sexual violence, and other forms of violence against women in public spaces.

- It is important to promote changing norms and behavior of men and boys as part of a ensuring a comprehensive approach to prevent and respond to sexual violence against women in public spaces. It is essential that men and boys become champions for gender equality, women’s empowerment, and ending violence against women and girls.
National and local governments, UN agencies, and the private sector must allocate resources to ensure safe spaces in cities for women and girls, and invest in capacity strengthening measures to ensure their participation in processes and interventions related to development and implementation of comprehensive safe city programmes.

Main Results from the Forum

An evaluation questionnaire was distributed to meeting participants.

Major findings include:

- 92% of respondents said that they were satisfied with the outcomes of the Forum.
- 92% of respondents said that they have a good understanding of the key principles of UN Women’s Safe Cities Global Initiative.
- 90% of respondents said that the meeting was well organised.
- 98% of respondents said that they gained new knowledge of interventions and achievements from other cities to share with their safe city partners.

The common issues identified by safe city stakeholders for future webinars to be hosted on UN Women’s Safe Public Spaces and Safe Cities Learning Platform (Extranet) include:

- Monitoring mechanisms and evaluation strategies
- Scale up of safe cities in pilot cities of the Global Programme
- Resource mobilisation
- Safe public transport interventions
- Challenges, pitfalls and solutions within safe cities programming

Some of the main takeaways from the meeting shared by respondents in the questionnaire included:

- Increased knowledge about the different ways transformative arts strategies can be used (music, theatre, dance) to address sexual harassment in public spaces.
- Access to concrete tools and practices that were showcased in the Forum’s sessions on how to engage the media, education sectors, grassroots women, and local authorities to help change attitudes and behavior to end sexual violence in public spaces.
- Increased understanding about the importance of moving past the “protection and exclusion mindset” towards the vision of a shared world: envisioning, implementing and assessing change together.
- The central role played by grassroots women, women’s organisations and youth groups in the success of the safe cities programmes.
- Increased awareness, trust and knowledge (particularly on technical issues, such as impact evaluation, and developing prevention strategies).

A photo album of the event was created by the UN Women Multi Country Office in India, it is available here.
OPENING ADDRESSES

Lakshmi Puri, Assistant Secretary General and Deputy Executive Director, UN Women

“Esteemed guests;
Friends from the media;
Colleagues;
Ladies and gentlemen,

Thank you for joining us. In today’s increasingly urban world, providing safe living environments, productive economies and equitable social benefits are challenges facing towns and cities globally.

In the early nineties the percentage of people living in urban areas was just over 42 per cent, in 2015 it is 54 per cent, and in 2030, it is expected to be 60 per cent. Within the urban population, there is an increasing cluster of large cities underway, in particular those with more than 5 million people. This transformational process is being particularly felt among the Least Developed Countries.

How does all this affect women? From transport to access to information, to safe housing, it impacts them every day! Ensuring basic services to an increasing amount of people is a challenge, in particular for those women and girls living in poverty or marginalised groups.

Urban safety is intrinsically linked to the concept of the Right to the City, and encompasses every person’s rights to mobility and access to social, economic, political, and the cultural opportunities that cities offer. Adequate gender-sensitive planning in the provision of services and infrastructure can become an empowerment force that enables the full enjoyment of women to their right to public space, gender equality, and equal access to income, education, health care, justice, and political participation and influence.

Yet, sexual violence in public spaces remains a universal concern. Women in every city in the world, without exception, in developing and developed countries, face sexual harassment and other forms of violence in public spaces. But few cities are courageous enough to hold themselves accountable and undertake actions to comprehensively address it.

The cities that are part of UN Women’s flagship Safe Cities Global Initiative are pioneers, and an example for other cities to follow. This programme began in in five pilot cities, and now spans 20 cities in both developing and developed countries. Some of the major cities include New Delhi, Cairo, Dublin, Sakai in Japan, Rio de Janeiro, Winnipeg, Reykjavik, Marrakech, Quito, Port Moresby, Mexico City, Metro Manila, Kigali city among others.

UN Women’s ultimate goal with this programme is to ensure that women and girls in every city in the world are socially, economically and politically empowered in public spaces, which are free from all forms of violence.

This is key to achieving gender equality by 2030, which is one of the proposed Sustainable Development Goals, or SDGs. There are also other gender equality sensitive targets in the other proposed SDGs. The SDGs are a new, universal set of goals, targets and indicators that UN member states are defining to frame their agendas and political policies over the next 15 years. And SDG 11 is on safe and sustainable cities aligned with dignity, justice, people, planet, prosperity and partnership, is the foundation of such new development framework.

Around the world cities are being redesigned to meet the needs of sustainable development for all. No city can be smart and sustainable if half of its population is not safe, and lives in fear of violence. Cities in India constitute a microcosm and macrocosm of that given their size, scale and scope. Safe Cities for women and girls must therefore be part of this new urbanization movement and made part of its DNA.

In this context, UN Women’s call for ‘Planet 50-50 by 2030 - Step it up for gender equality’ has been endorsed by international community as seen in the adoption of the recent CSW59’s Political Declaration.
We would like to urge all the leaders who come to the Safe Cities Global Leaders’ Forum to be a part of this effort for the years to come.

And the role of local leadership in achieving the SDGs is critical. Most of these goals be decided at the local municipal level and therefore the SDGs must be the basis of a change that is locally relevant, locally owned and locally sustainable.

In this context, India’s 100 Smart Cities Project, which will be launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi this month, might provide a valuable and constructive way forward. We hope that this Smart Cities Project will fully integrate the perspectives of women and girls and be truly inclusive. And as the various states prepare to nominate their candidate cities, we hope that women’s safety will figure prominently in their proposals.

Let me conclude by calling on all stakeholders – governments, citizens, companies, and the media – to come together and make safe urban spaces for women a reality. I call on men and boys in particular to become champions for gender equality, women’s empowerment, and ending violence against women. Take a stand, show us your support by joining our global HeForShe campaign at heforshe.org

Shri M.Venkaiah Naidu, Minister of Urban Development, Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation and Parliamentary Affairs, India

Friends!

It is a great pleasure for me to be part of this Global Meeting today. I am delighted to see that representatives from over 24 countries have gathered here today to discuss strategies to create safer and “engendered” cities. I congratulate UN Women for this Initiative of global and national significance.

The world is urbanising fast and in India even faster! India is projected to add 404 million urban dwellers by 2050, and half of them will be women.

Women are more vulnerable to a range of urban inequalities as women often face discrimination in access to income-earning opportunities, education, housing, and participation in local governance.

Women’s empowerment is possible only when there is financial empowerment, legislative empowerment, and women having the property rights.

That’s why our Ministry has made a decision to register houses constructed under the ‘Housing for All’ scheme in the name of the woman head of the household.

Perhaps, it is appropriate for all of us to briefly reflect upon the role of women in our socio-political and economic context and the changing dynamics.

As far as our own civilisation is concerned, woman is highly respected. Mother and Sister invoke the highest of human sentiments and feelings.

In our mythological mindscape, women are accorded high positions of power and leadership. Saraswati heads the domain of education and knowledge. Parvati leads the defence department. Lakshmi heads the finance department. Rivers are named after Ganga, Yamuna, Godavari, Kaveri, Sarayu, Subarnarekha etc.

Currently, Sushma ji heads external affairs, Smriti heads HRD Ministry, Uma Bharati presides over the flow of rivers and Nirmala overseas trade. Maneka looks after women and children. Harsimrat Kaur processes our food in the Modi government.

So, our government draws motivation from the age old ways of according women their due in that sense.
Friends!

Urban life is posing a number of risks with regard to safety and security, in particular to the safety and security of women. In this context, it is important for urban policies to be guided by women's perspectives, to provide not just a safe urban environment but a whole ecosystem that places needs of women and girls at the centre of urban development in the country.

Gender sensitive urban governance acknowledges and is responsive to the different roles and responsibilities of women and men in human settlements and the social relations between them.

It demands an active engagement of urban planners and policy-makers in the lives of urban dwellers. Indeed, this should be a mutual engagement as it is important that the knowledge, energy and expertise of women and men at the grassroots level are brought into the policy-making and planning process.

With this in mind, I am concerned with two critical objectives for achieving gender-sensitive best practice in urban governance. The first is to increase women's participation in the full spectrum of human settlements development. Our Government is keen to enhance participation of women in urban local bodies by reserving 50 per cent of the seats for women.

The second is to foster gender awareness and gender competence among both women and men in the policy process and in planning practice at the State and Central level. The government has truly empowered States to take up innovative solutions to accelerate and intensify the pace and quality of urban development.

These different but related objectives involve different actors, organisations and institutions and require specific skills and interventions. It is also critical that gender-sensitive best practice for the entire spectrum of institutions operating at the urban level needs to be consistently informed by the long term goals of social justice, participatory practice and gender equity.

We have to ensure that Urban Development is not only sustainable but humane.

Our government is ensuring just this by giving precedence to women in the implementation of all social welfare schemes.

Households with women will get toilets on a priority basis under the Government’s “Swachh Bharat Mission”, single women and women-headed households will be considered first for allotment of houses under the slum redevelopment and rental housing components of the ‘Housing for All by 2022’ programme.

MoUD is providing assistance towards construction of 104.1 lakh toilets in households, and has accorded priority to those households which have pensioners, girl children and pregnant and lactating mothers.

The Ministry has also taken a decision to register houses constructed under the ‘Housing for All’ scheme in the name of the woman head of the household or in the joint name of the male head of the household and his wife, if applicable.

A vulnerability analysis will also be carried out as part of the slum-free city plan of action which will be drafted by cities as action plan for Housing for All by 2022 to consider women headed households as vulnerable. States will give priority to single women and women headed households at the time of allotting rental accommodation and also reduce the rent for such households by at least 10 per cent,”

Inadequate access to sanitation unequally affects women and girls and makes them vulnerable to gender based violence and health risks. GOI’s Swach Bharat Mission thus aims to change attitudes and mindsets to build a clean and healthy India which accords equality and dignity to all.

This Abhiyan has not only involved the community and political party leaders but also religious leaders, film icons, sports, business and various other social, cultural and public personalities and is slowly becoming a peoples’ movement. The
success of this movement will ensure safe sanitation and enhanced health benefits for women and girls in both urban and rural areas.

Government of India’s 100 Smart cities initiative is expected to not only change the urban landscape of the entire country but also adopt innovative smart solutions to ensure that cities are most habitable and safe. Smart Cities have to be safe for women and girls and ensure that the planning process not only takes into account the differential gender needs but is also pro-active in reducing inequalities between women and men.

Integrated and multi-sectoral approaches to urban development present opportunities for planners to respond to the complexities of peoples' lives, and to recognise difference and diversity. They are also an opportunity to involve both women and men in the control of their everyday lives and thus go far to not only improve gender equality but also develop more effective urban development practice.

Government has launched a scheme “Beti Bachao Beti Padhao” which seeks to reverse the trend of rapidly falling Child Sex Ratio (CSR) from the current level of 918 by preventing gender biased sex selective elimination; ensuring survival, protection and education of girl child.

One stop Centre for Women is another initiative where 36 centres are to be set up in current year, one per state/UT. The centres will offer medical aid, police assistance, legal aid & counselling, psycho-social counseling, and aim to provide immediate support and aid to female victims of violence.

Other initiatives include Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Bill, 2014; Revamped STEP (Support to Training & Employment Programme for Women) Scheme; Revamped Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK); Standard Operating Procedures to be implemented by Railways; Proposed Amendments to National Commission of Women Act, 1990; Rajya and Zilla Samman Awards for Women; National Bal Swachhta Mission etc.

Friends!

The status of women in the society is an index of its civilisation. Women as human beings have as much right to full development as men have and so emancipation of women is an essential prerequisite for economic development.

Women accounting for about half of our population, we can’t progress without their contribution to their potential.

Several studies have commented on the economic contribution of women in the ‘family economies’ in several ways as significant. Women deserve similar space in the modern economic structures.

Our ethos and values have accorded a high place to woman. But some aberrations tend to upset the balance. It is time they are set right as we as a Nation pursue our quest for rapid growth and modernisation.

We need to respect women and empower them. That is what the UN Women is doing today. I sincerely appreciate their initiative.

I hope that the Safe City Programme addresses key factors in ensuring women's safety by sharing best practices in safety and by forming collaborative networks.

A ‘new hope’ and ‘enthusiasm’ prevail in our country today. As we collectively endeavor to realize that hope, the success and rise of women shall be an integral part of this new journey. I am sure it will happen.

Though quite a few things are happening on the government front warranting my presence, I preferred to be here on this occasion since I firmly believe in the empowerment of women.

I thank you all for deliberating on this issue of vital concern, not only for women themselves but, indeed, for all members of society.
Lalitha Kumaramangalam, Chairperson National Commission for Women, India

Lalitha Kumaramangalam emphasised that greater attention should be placed on violence against women, particularly in the context of ‘mushrooming’ cities, and noted that the growth of the National Capital Region of Delhi, which will be expanded to include three other districts.

In addition to inclusivity and sustainability, she expressed that the efficacy of planning is compromised when there are few female urban planners, and that lack of domestic protection also stems in part from a lack of economic empowerment and participation.

The rate of women’s participation is increasing, and India has a particularly strong record of women’s participation at the grassroots level, and she called attention to the recent successful visits of the National Commission for Women in informing local representative’s communities in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

She noted that more needs to be done to fully engage communities at the grassroots level, and urged that care should be taken to empower women who have not received formal education, as local knowledge can be more important in undertaking community projects, and this knowledge should be fully utilised across India.

She called attention to the importance of facilitating access to technology to increase the availability of information so that all community members are engaged in projects, and are fully informed about their rights.

She encouraged all to ask themselves: what is social inclusivity? Education can allow for skill development, training and access to finance and markets. However, she noted there must be also be a safe passage along streets towards educational institutions, which is central for all sustainable cities. She discussed noted the importance of focusing on culture. As she expressed “Indian culture has traditionally revered women, but to what extent is culture now being used to economically and socially subvert women, and as a means of oppressing women’s power?”

She noted the importance of increasing the technical skills of individuals involved in creating safe cities, and noted the importance of ensuring a violence-free city in both public and private spaces, and the National Commission’s willingness to contribute to safe cities initiatives in the future.

Summary of Statement: Preeti Sudan, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development, India

Creating a safe city means providing safe, inclusive and nurturing spaces within public spaces and also in homes. The tragic incident of December 2012 has paved the way for a more comprehensive legal framework, which has widened the definition of violence against women. PM Modi has officially acknowledged discrimination against women, and has launched a series of schemes and programmes to offer protection to women. For example, the Beti Padho Beti Bachao (Educate the daughter, save the daughter) scheme addresses women’s empowerment on the life cycle continuum. This will ensure that every girl child reaches their own potential, both in terms of education and nutrition.

The Government has launched holistic schemes which address the complex issues contributing to the problem of child sex ratios in India. One Stop Centres, which should not be viewed merely as ‘crisis centres’ are important in that they offer both prevention, and response. They can also help to install women’s confidence in public centres. The Government has been able to look at international best practice and incorporate this into the Indian framework. However, in the Indian context, it has also been acknowledged that regional diversity and local customisation are important factors. We therefore need an emphasis on projects that work for India. The universalisation of the ‘women’s helpline’ is also planned, and this will be integrated with the One Stop Centres.

Given the prevalence of mobile technology in India, we should find a way to fully incorporate this into future of safe cities projects. Vulnerability analysis should also involve the local community, and moving forward this should include schools, colleges and universities. Projects should be in tune with community representatives, and women should have the courage to take a stand. In the future, safe cities will be looked at from all levels, particularly legislative reforms, for example the NCW Act, which is currently under renovation.
STATEMENTS

Statement by: Honourable Sandeep Kumar, Minister of Women and Child Development, Government of Delhi, India

I would like to express mine and the Delhi Government’s commitment to creating safe public spaces for women and girls. And acknowledge how crucial UN Women is in this Forum in helping to achieve safe and sustainable cities. The Delhi Government takes very seriously the issue of women’s safety.

Public transport is an important aspect of this, since it is used daily by women and girls to travel. With the objective of increasing women’s safety on public transport, the first project that the Delhi Government is piloting is the installation of closed circuit televisions (CCTV) in 200 city buses, and increasing GPS in the NCR’s taxis, to enable easy tracking. The Delhi Government has also earmarked mobile apps as an area which can be developed in the future. He mentioned that there will also be CCTV cameras installed in 44 police stations around the capital, and that there will be measures in place to ensure that routes to schools and universities are properly lit.

It is important that initiatives be taken to improve women’s and girls’ safety in Delhi, and that this should be put in the historical context of the respect for women in India. Change starts at home, with respect for female family members, including wives and mothers. The links between patriotism and women should also be analysed. Women have made a substantial contribution to India, and it is important that we recognise this.

Safe city programmes in partnership with UN Women should continue and expand, particularly given their involvement with citizens. The Government is very grateful to UN Women for the work that has already been achieved.

However, a big hurdle for India is the loss of culture, and there are concerns about the collapse of the traditional Indian family.

We need to ensure that there is still respect of elders and that community values are protected. A greater interaction of ministers with citizens will benefit families, women and children, and the Delhi Government hopes to continue collaborating with the National Commission for Women. The electorate has instilled confidence in the Government at the last national election, and the Government will deliver on their promises.

Summary of Remarks: Excmo. Sr. D. Gustavo de Arístegui San Román, Ambassador of Spain to India

Spain made gender equality and women’s empowerment a priority and it is at the forefront both nationally and internationally. Spain has put gender equality high on its political agenda, building a reputation as a champion of gender equality and women’s organisations, and putting in place multiple tools to live up with this commitment.

According to the IV Master Plan of the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) (2013-2016), the support for women’s rights and gender equality is both: one of its eight main orientations and one of its top Development goals.

Spain has made a significant contribution to women peacekeepers and nation building, and has consistently upheld Security Council resolution 1325 which reaffirms the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, peace negotiations, peace-building, peacekeeping, humanitarian response and in post-conflict reconstruction and stresses the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security.

Safe Cities Initiatives have been supported by AECID since 2009, and financially the contribution has surpassed (USD) $5.1 million over the years. In 2014, over one million euros was given to the Safe Cities Global Initiative to promote the development of evidence based and human rights based comprehensive approaches on preventing and responding to sexual violence against women in public spaces.

There is already a pioneering methodology and concrete tools on how to engage multiple stakeholders in building strong local partnerships, and this must be seen as a very important contribution in the quest for gender equality.
Remarks made in Video Address by Chirlane McCray, First Lady, City of New York, United States

The video address is available here.

Hello and Namaste,

I bring greetings from my fellow New Yorkers, including my husband Mayor Bill de Blasio.

The work this distinguished group will carry out over the next few days has the potential to reshape the lives of women and girls from New Delhi to New York City and every point in between.

Last November I had the honor of speaking at the United Nations and signing the document that made New York the first city in the United States to join the Safe Cities Global Initiative.

We are working hard to make all of our public spaces free of sexual harassment and other forms of violence.

I am also proud to note that New York is leading the charge of our fellow Americans in the Safe Cities Initiative.

We reached out to 68 cities so far and the response has been encouraging. That’s how we are going to get this done. One city at a time, inch by inch, and block by block. It won’t be easy but it will be well worth it.

I hope you will take inspiration as I do from a passage of a poem by the extraordinary Audre Lorde.

“and when we speak we are afraid our words will not be heard, your welcome. But when we are silent we are still afraid, so it is better to speak. Today and in the days and years to come, let us raise our voices on behalf of our daughters and granddaughters, our sons and our grandsons, all of our children.”

If we speak and work in harmony, there is nothing we cannot accomplish.

Thank you.

Statement by: Hope Tumukunde, Vice Mayor, Kigali, Rwanda

Kigali was selected as one of the five pilot cities in the Safe Cities Global Programme in 2011, and as a result, we have been able to implement our programme, to learn from the work we have undertaken over the past four years, and we are looking forward to reflect upon it with our colleagues from other cities who came here to the Global Forum.

Kigali under its Safe City Programme has launched several important initiatives. One of them addresses safe public transport, particularly for women, youth, and children. This initiative includes training of drivers of the buses and of the moto-taxies, which both are very popular means of transport in Kigali, and benefit thousands of women who use them every day. We have also used creative ways to work with young people through our partnership with the UNHate Foundation. With our civil society partners, a city-wide song competition was organised, called ‘Sing Yes to Kigali Safe City for Women and Girls’ – the musicians created powerful songs which delivered messages calling to stop sexual harassment against women and girls. These songs have been widely disseminated across the city.

Gender equality rests with us all on a day-to-day basis, and needs to be reflected in all areas of life, not just in government programmes and in legal frameworks – this is the attitude that is shared by the leadership of our City, including our Mayor. We are proud that the efforts of Kigali City have contributed to informing national-level discussions on safe public spaces and on the prevention of harassment, and our national partners are now incorporating these issues into their existing programmes. The President of our country is also aware of the issues faced by women and children, let me give his words; ‘Women’s empowerment is a right, and therefore it is our responsibility’.

Statement by: Aldrin Cuña, City Administrator, Chief of Staff, Quezon City government, Manila, Philippines

A pleasant good morning to all

I am speaking on behalf of the Mayor of Quezon City. We are pleased to be among such an illustrious group of development leaders, and forerunners of programming on safe cities.
Quezon City has been, and continues to be, a pioneer in promoting women’s empowerment and participation. For example, we are proud to have city legislation on Gender and Development or the GAD Code,. Quezon City also has a Gender and Development Resource Coordinating Office, for which I am the lead, a GAD Council, and an Anti-trafficking Council. And now, through this partnership with UN Women, we are co-creating the – Safe Cities Metro Manila Programme, and we are again leading among 17 local government units in the metropolitan, in addressing women’s and girl’s safety in cities.

Quezon City has over 3 million people, and as City Administrator of the biggest city in Metropolitan Manila, I am in a fitting position to address systemic disadvantages, that women and girls face due to sexual harassment and violence in public spaces. I coordinate the affairs and operations of close to forty line agencies & departments in Quezon City – making these departments work together in cluster groups, ensuring that common concerns of governance are attended by relevant Executive Department agencies.

Quezon City government certainly sees women’s empowerment, not only as a governance issue, but also as being both a key condition, and a key result area in achieving sustainable development.

It is our view that a woman who is able to move freely and safely in public spaces, can participate economically, socially and politically...This women’s empowerment leads to a family which is able to send their daughters and sons to school, access health services, information technologies, culture and sports. And if a family prospers, the community succeeds. And safe and prosperous communities make strong and sustainable cities. Quezon City wants to be the local government that catalyses this ripple effect, first in our 142 barangays, and also as a city that will serve as a model for other cities in the Metropolitan Manila.

Quezon City is proud to have the capacity and courage to make the city safer for women and girls. Given the gaps which we have identified so far, we already envision to expand the training on violence against women and girls for our Gender and Development focal persons by adding modules on sexual violence in public spaces. We plan to draft landmark legislation on addressing street harassment and other forms of sexual violence against women and girls in public, and to train the pillars of our justice system on implementation.

We welcome this collaboration with UN Women, and the opportunity to be a gender and development innovator. We welcome this chance to contribute to a global movement, as Quezon City strengthens commitment to advance local legislation and programs for women’s and girl’s safety in our city.

I want to end by sharing the words of Mayor Herbert Bautista, “Women and girls should feel safe in our cities. It is their right, and it is the government’s duty to ensure that this is so.” Thank you and have a good day.

Summary of Remarks: Abdelmounim El Madani, Vice Mayor, Rabat, Morocco

Reducing violence against women is very important for sustainable urban development, but the two must also be seen as inter-dependent. In Rabat, we need to continue our efforts to prevent and respond to violence against women. It needs to be prioritised in every city, in order for us to realise sustainable development. As part of a comprehensive approach, women need to be involved in urban development, and there should be steps taken to increase the political participation of women, and to also sensitise male leaders on this issue. Violence against women will only be reduced when cities realise the agency women have.

In Rabat, the first steps n planning our safe city initiative have been taken, and we are beginning to understand better the challenges we are faced by conducting our safe city study. We would like to share best practice in this field in order to gain a greater understanding, to sensitise the behaviour of many officials to speak about gender equality in the context of public health, justice and other ministerial departments. It is our collective responsibility to share experiences, and to help eradicate violence against women and to promote development for all the society.

Summary of Remarks: Cynthia Clayton, Portfolio Committee Chairperson and Ward Councillor, City of Cape Town, South Africa

The City of Cape Town recently joined the Safe Cities Free of Violence against Women Global Initiative, but has quickly recognised its potential value. The City has chosen to focus on the safety of women and girls in accessing and using public transport which is key to building an inclusive city.
A scoping study was recently completed in Atlantis, the pilot area for the programme. The City is in the process of completing its programme design and baseline study and hope to start implementation in collaboration with the community this year. The City has committed to using the Safe City programme to consider systemic changes to the work in Atlantis but also across the City in order to improving the safety of women and girls in accessing and using public transport.

Statement by: Ren Ito, Principal Deputy Director, Gender Mainstreaming Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

It is a great pleasure for me to be here today and join such an impressive group of experts to discuss and share best practices, lessons learned and strategies to build safe cities where women and girls can live free from violence.

Last year, at of 69th session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe, expressed his intention “to make the 21st century a world with no human rights violations against women.” Japan has been actively working to realize “a society in which women shine” both domestically and internationally, and to promote the empowerment of women around the world including holding “World Assembly for Women” every year.

Japan’s contribution to the Delhi Safe City Programme

In this context, Japan strongly supports UN Women’s Safe Cities Programme in Delhi. We support this initiative, specifically, in August 2014, Japan committed to donating US$350,000 to implement the Safe Cities Program in Delhi which is jointly funded by the United States.

Why does Japan support this initiative? In the next few minutes, I will outline two main reasons, which are, first, our strong partnership with UN Women, and second, our commitment to advance women’s participation and the empowerment of women in Japan and around the world.

Japan’s strong partnership with UN Women (contribution and liaison office)

With respect to our partnership with UN Women, at the 68th session of the General Assembly of the United Nations in 2013, Prime Minister Abe stated that “Japan respects the activities of UN Women and intends to become one of its leading contributors and thus an exemplary country in the area.” Since then, Japan’s contribution to UN Women increased tenfold compared to 2013, and it is twice the amount of last year.

In addition, a UN Women Liaison Office recently opened in Tokyo. As the only organisation focusing on women’s issues within the United Nations, UN Women deals with various initiatives regarding gender equality and the empowerment of women, including women’s participation in society, natural disaster and women, and the elimination of violence against women. We expect to strengthen our partnership with UN Women through this liaison office, and take the lead on gender issues, and we also expect that the UN Women Japan Liaison Office will enhance UN Women’s influence on gender issues not only in Japan but also in Asia, a region that is rapidly developing.

Women’s participation and empowerment of women

This brings me to my second point. As mentioned earlier, Japan is strongly committed to advancing women’s participation and the empowerment of women in Japan and around the world.

In 2013, Prime Minister Abe devoted more than half of his address at the 68th Session of the General Assembly to this issue, and presented Japan’s concept of a “society where women shine”. It is well established that when women can lead safe, healthy, and productive lives, economic growth and dynamic societies emerge. In this spirit, Japan pledged implementation of ODA in excess of US$3 billion over three years between 2013 and 2015 for women’s empowerment and gender equality.

Economic empowerment

In addition to our international efforts, we have also been multiplying domestic efforts to achieve a society where women shine in Japan. The power of women is regarded as the greatest potential for economic growth in Japan’s Revitalization Strategy. In order to have a strong and dynamic society and ensure economic growth, it is essential to empower women so that they can realize their full potential. “Womenomics”, which promotes women’s economic and social participation as a basis for economic growth is therefore a central pillar of Japan’s growth strategy.
Safe City Programme in Sakai, Osaka

As mentioned earlier, creating safe cities for women and girls is important for Japan as well. Let me introduce very quickly an ongoing project in Sakai city, Osaka, Japan. Sakai is a progressive city that has been actively collaborating with its citizens in every administrative field to build a gender equal society. After joining UN Women’s Safe Cities Global Initiative in December 2013, Sakai City did a scoping study on the situation in Sakai from different perspectives, including sexual violence in cyber space, and groups especially in need of support. In light of this study which revealed challenges to be addressed in urban spaces in developed country, Sakai City is now developing a programme design and strategy in collaboration with civil society in order to realize a safe city for everyone. We hope Sakai City’s initiative can be used as a model for other cities in the future.

In closing, bearing in mind our vision of a “society where all women shine”, Japan attaches great importance to the promotion of women’s empowerment and participation in society. As part of our efforts to achieve such a society, we strongly support UN Women’s Safe Cities Global Initiative which aims to empower women and girls and build safe and inclusive cities where women and girls can live free from violence. Creating a safe space for everyone is essential and crucial for gender equality, yet it is very challenging because it cannot be done by a single actor alone. Again, it is my honor to be here today to see the progress of the programme in Delhi and meet all the stakeholders who engage in this programme. I’d like to close my remarks by expressing my respect for everyone here who contributes to gender equality and women’s empowerment.

Thank you.

Statement by: Karen Sánchez, President, Security Commission, City Council, Quito, Ecuador

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

Our City, Quito perhaps best known as the first city in the world declared by UNESCO as a cultural heritage site, thanks to having the best preserved historic centre in South America.

But beyond the tangible concern for, its architecture, and its unique landscape, Quito is honored to be part of the five leading cities in the Safe Cities free of Violence against Women and Girls Global Initiative, a city initiative under the leadership of Mayor Mauricio Rodas and the President of the Municipal Board Patronato San Jose Unit María Fernanda Pacheco who are convinced that you cannot talk about development without justice, welfare without equity, and sustainability without gender equality.

For the Mayor, our municipal administration has adopted the safe city programme as an unavoidable commitment, and he has taken all steps to institutionalise the progressive adoption of the gender perspective in each local initiative. Likewise, we are building the administrative, financial, operational conditions, to ensure sustainability of this approach in time and to ensure that the programme is active can grow.

We would like to thank all those who make safe city programme possible across the globe, and especially in our city. I would add a special mention of UN Women, and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), who we would like to thank for their continued technical and financial support and for helping to strengthen this commitment, but also for the enthusiasm in which we work to implement daily the following slogan delivered by our Mayor “to build a city free of violence against women and girls, in which gender equality is much more than a municipal politics – it is a daily reality.” Thank you.
Statement of Naglaa El Adly, Head of International Cooperation Department, National Council for Women, Cairo, Egypt

Your Excellences,

Government Representatives and Partners,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to join such a special audience of experts, researchers, government, civil society and UN representatives who are gathered here today to share their learnings and good practices that inspire our learning and renew our commitment to realising safe cities that are free from violence against women and girls.

In my country, Egypt, I am really proud to say that the Safe City Programme was able to provide a model to all stakeholders. The Government of Egypt, community leaders, and individuals worked together in a fashion that is based on inclusivity, and that combines both advocacy at the policy and grassroots levels to make a real and meaningful change in the lives of Egyptian women.

The implementation year of the programme in Egypt was not an easy one for Egyptians, particularly after a revolution, followed by several transitional governments, and ending with the rule of the Muslim Brotherhood that attempted to revoke the rights of Egyptian women.

Amongst all this, safe cities was not regarded as only a programme that consists of activities and intended objectives, but rather it offered a voice to Egyptian women, and also men who support and recognise women’s rights.

Interactive community theatres, for example, were among other tools that people used to express their true feelings and struggles as a result of violence in their communities. Work was done with the help of influential leaders and reaching out to women in marginalised areas.

Capitalising on the expressed high level commitment post June 30, 2013, and in follow up to the agreed conclusions of CSW57, the National Council for Women worked hand in hand with the government to ensure that the rights of women were not being violated. The Egyptian government said it out-loud, with a presidential announcement of “zero tolerance to violence against women”, a law issued to recognise sexual harassment as a crime, and also a launched national strategy to combat violence against women. The national strategy is regarded as one step and the implementation of the strategy will commence this year with the support of line ministries, especially the Ministries of Justice and Interior, which have a key role and have made a commitment to end violence against women. Egypt will very soon launch the first national study of its kind in Egypt on the study of the Economic Cost of Violence against Women. I am proud to say that all these efforts were supported by the Safe City Programme in Cairo and we regard this as a beginning of many steps forward, not an end.
PROGRAMME

Wednesday June 10th 2015
Venue: The Lalit Hotel

9:00 am to 10.00 am: Registration

10:00 am to 11:30 am
Crystal Ballroom
Forum Opening and Addresses
(Simultaneous translation in Hindi, English, French and Spanish)

Biographies of Participants in the Opening Session are available here.

Proceedings for this plenary session were included in the previous section of the report.

Host Speaker: Averee Chaurey

Commemoration of Beijing +20
(Lighting of the Lamp)

Addresses
Lakshmi Puri, Assistant Secretary General and Deputy Executive Director, UN Women
Honourable Venkaiah Naidu, Minister of Urban Development, Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation and Parliamentary Affairs, India
Honourable Lalitha Kumaramangalam, Chairperson National Commission for Women, India
Preeti Sudan, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development, India

Statements
Honourable Sandeep Kumar, Minister of Women and Child Development, Government of Delhi, India
Excmo. Sr. D. Gustavo de Arístegui San Román, Ambassador of Spain to India
Hope Tumukunde, Vice Mayor, Kigali, Rwanda

Video Address by: Chirlane McCray, First Lady, City of New York, United States
Abdelmounim El Madani, Vice Mayor, Rabat, Morocco

Cynthia Clayton, Portfolio Committee Chairperson and Ward Councillor, City of Cape Town, South Africa
Ren Ito, Principal Deputy Director, Gender Mainstreaming Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan
Karen Sánchez, President, Security Commission, City Council, Quito, Ecuador
Aldrin Cuña, City Administrator, Chief of Staff, Quezon City government, Manila, Philippines
Naglaa El Adly, Head of International Cooperation Department, National Council for Women, Cairo, Egypt

Vote of Thanks
Roberta Clarke, Regional Director, UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, and Representative in Thailand, UN Women

11:30 to 11:50 am
Foyer
Tea Break and Networking

11:50am-12:40 pm
Crystal Ballroom
High Level Panel: Strategic Partners in India for Safe and Transformative Spaces
(Simultaneous translation in Hindi, English, French and Spanish)

Host Speaker: Averee Chaurey

A panel of versatile speakers discussed the important roles of different stakeholders in safe cities policy and programming.

Introduction to Panel and Chair of Session: Roberta Clarke, UN Women.
Rapporteur: Holly Kearl, Founder, Stop Street Harassment
Rapporteur Note for the Session

Panelists:
Lopamudra Mohanty, Director, Ministry for Women and Child Development, India
Suneeta Dhar, Director, Jagori, India
Suman Nalwa, Principal Police Training School Dwarka
Alain Grimard, Representative, UN Habitat, India
**Pamela Philipose**, Senior Fellow, Indian Council of Social Science Research

A young voice from the community.

12:40-14:00 pm  
Crystal Ballroom

**UN Women Safe Cities Global Initiative: Achievements and Lessons Learned**

*(Simultaneous translation in Hindi, English, French and Spanish)*

Host Speaker: **Averee Chaurey**

This session provided a brief overview of the Safe Cities Global Initiative and highlighted some main achievements and lessons learned. A representative from each safe city team then introduced their team members, and shared a few remarks on their programme, and expectations of the Forum.

Chair: **Sohail Husain**, Analytica Consulting, International Senior Consultant, UN Women

Ending Violence against Women (EVAW) Section UN Women. New York

[Link to the Global Video](#), to [UN Women's Presentation](#) and [Biographies](#).

14:00 to 15:00pm  
Foyer

Lunch

15:00-16:45 pm  
Crystal Ballroom

**Panel Discussion: Building Safe and Inclusive Cities: Experience and Ways Forward**  
*(Simultaneous translation in Hindi, English, French and Spanish)*

Host Speaker: **Averee Chaurey**

This session presented an overview of the New Delhi Safe City Programme, and shared experiences from other initiatives in India.

Rapporteur: **Dustin Smith**, Jagori  
[Rapporteur Note for the Session](#)

[Link to the New Delhi Safe City Programme Video](#)
9:30-11:00 am

Panel Session

**Mapping Studies in Three Cities: Access and Use of Mobile Phones to Prevent, Document, and Respond to Sexual Harassment and other forms of Sexual Violence in Public Spaces. UN Women and Microsoft**

Location: Crystal Ballroom

*Simultaneous translation in Hindi, English, French and Spanish*

Host Speaker: **Averee Chaurey**
Rapporteur: **Vandana Snyder**, Consultant, UN Women

Biographies of panelists are available [here](#).

“Access and Use of Mobile Phones to prevent, Document, and Respond to Sexual Harassment and other forms of Sexual Violence in Public Spaces”. A presentation by: **Holly Kearl**, UN Women International Consultant, Mapping Study, [Link to Presentation](#).

Moderator: **Anastasia Posadskaya Vanderbeck**, UN Women

Discussants (25 minutes):
Five discussants will make commentaries on the main study and share additional ideas on mobile ICT for audience discussion.

**Neeraj Gill**, General Manager, Public Sector, Microsoft, India

New Delhi Mapping Study, **Mala Bhandari**, Consultant. [Link to the Final Mapping Report](#)

Marrakech Mapping Study, **Raphaelle Rafin**, Project Officer, UN Women Multi Country Office Maghreb [Link to the Final Mapping Report](#) (available in French only)


An example of a Women’s Safety Application (app): Safetipin India, **Kalpana Viswanath**

11:00-11:30 am

Foyer

Tea Break

11:30 am-13:00 pm

Four Concurrent Sessions: Safe City Teams in Action

All concurrent sessions were structured around the common strategies of the Safe Cities Global Initiative.

Tools, practices, challenges and solutions in implementing comprehensive evidence based safe city free of violence against women and girls’ approaches were shared and discussed.

**Session 1: Policy Oriented Advocacy**

Location: Crystal Ballroom

*Simultaneous translation in Hindi, English, French and Spanish*

Host Speaker: **Averee Chaurey**
Chair: **Sohail Husain**, Analytica Consulting

Rapporteur: **Flor Diaz**, UN Women Colombia
[**Rapporteur Note for the Session**](#)

Presentations:

- **Safe Cities for Women and Girls in Honduras**  
  **Monica Ropain**, UN Women Honduras

  [Link to the Quito Safe City Video](#)  
  [Link to the remarks made by UN Women, click here](#)  
  [Link to remarks made by Karen Sanchez, click here](#)  
  [Link to images of programme Interventions, click here](#)  

- **Gender and Urban Planning**, **Nidhi Gulati**, Project for Public Spaces NGO, New York

  [Link to presentation](#)

- **Mexico City Safe City Programme**  
  **Paulina Grobet**, UN Women Mexico and **Teresa Inchaustegui Romero**, Director, Mexico City Women’s Mechanism (INMUJERES D.F)

  [Link to images of programme](#)  
  [Link to video](#)  

  (20 minutes audience discussion)
Session 2: Community Mobilisation and Participation of Grassroots Women

Location: Regency V

Session is in English (With interpretation of speakers’ remarks from French and Arabic to English)

Chair: Kalpana Viswanath, Senior Advisor, Jagori
Rapporteur: Yeliz Osman, UN Women Mexico

Rapporteur Note for the Session

Speakers:

Maria Fides, Lessons from Grassroots Leadership to create Safe Cities, Huairou Commission.

Engaging NGOs, youth volunteers, and community committees in developing a bottom up approach.

Khadiga El Taher, CARE Egypt, Cairo Safe City Programme, Egypt

Marrakech Safe City Programme, Zakia Mrini, Municipal Councillor, and Amina Fannane, IMADEL, Presentation available here.

My Dili, My Safety, Dinorah Granadeiro, Director of Rede Feto (Women’s Network), Dili, Timor Leste

(30 minutes audience discussion)

Session 3: Policy Linkages, Coordination and Governance

Location: Regency I

Session was in English (With interpretation of speakers’ remarks from French to English)

Chair: Ghita El Khyari, Programme Management Specialist, UN Women Maghreb
Rapporteur: Vandana Snyder, Consultant, Safe Cities Global Initiative

Rapporteur Note for the Session

Presentations:
Early Lessons from Implementing Policy in Cairo’s Safe City Programme, Miwa Kato, Egypt Country Director, Arab States

Juma Assiago, UN Habitat Safer Cities Programme, Nairobi, Kenya

Kay Kaugla, National Capital District Commission (NCDC), Port Moresby Safe City Programme,
Presentation available here.

“My work with the city government, Rwanda Women’s Network, and the Gender Monitoring office to prevent and respond to sexual violence in public spaces.”

Deodata Mukazayire, UN Women Rwanda
Presentation available here.
Link to the Kigali Safe City Video.

Morocco Safe Cities: Rachida Badrkhanne, Ministry of Interior, Presentation, Morocco,

Aziz Guehida, Ministry of Solidarity, Women, Family and Social Development, Presentation, and Karima Lebbar, Chief, Division, of International Cooperation, City of Rabat, Presentation.

(15 minutes audience discussion)

Session 4: Locally Owned Data as the First Result in Creating Safe Cities/Safe Public Spaces

Location: Regency III

Session was in English

Introduction and Chair: Laura Capobianco, Policy Specialist, Safe Public Spaces, UN Women
Rapporteur: Holly Kearl, Stop Street Harassment

Link to the Rapporteur Note for the Session

Presentations by:

Katherine Belen, National Programme Officer, UN Women Manila, Link to Part one of the presentation, and to Part two of the presentation.

Taru Jaroszynski, Manager: Policy and Research, Strategic Policy Unit, Office of the Executive Mayor, Presentation available here.
Video is available here.


Sonali Khan, Vice President and Country Director, Breakthrough, India, Presentation available here.
Sabawoon Ahmadzai, Economic Empowerment Specialist, UN Women Afghanistan

(20 minutes audience discussion)

13:30 to 14:30 pm
Hall
Lunch

14:30-16:30 pm

Four Concurrent Sessions: Safe City Teams in Action:

Tools, practices, challenges and solutions in implementing comprehensive evidence based safe city free of violence against women and girls approaches were shared and discussed.

**Session 5: Monitoring and Evaluation**

Location: Regency I

Session was in English (With interpretation of speakers’ remarks from Spanish to English)

Introduction and Chair: Sohail Husain, International Consultant, UN Women

Rapporteur: Deodata Mukazayire, UN Women Rwanda Rapporteur Note for the Session

Presentations by:

Mireille Aziz, Social Research Center, Impact Evaluation Partner, Cairo Safe City Programme

Marie Goncalves, Technical Director of Patronato, Quito Safe City Programme.

Link to Video 1
Link to Video 2
Link to Presentation

Sohail Husain, Impact Evaluation of the Madhya Pradesh Safe Cities Programme

Roundtable Session 6: Strategies for Global Advocacy and Policy Exchange on Safe Cities

Location: Regency III

Session was in English (With interpretation of speakers’ remarks from Spanish to English)

Chair: Maria Fides, Huairou Commission

Rapporteur: Morgan Siegel, India Rapporteur Note for the Session.

Panelists:

Olga Segovia, Women and Habitat Network of Latin America and the Caribbean. Presentation available here


Peninah Abatoni, Rwanda Women’s Network, Presentation available here.

Kalpana Viswanath, Jagori, Gender Inclusive Cities. Presentation available here.

Christy Abraham, ActionAid International, Presentation available here.

(30 minutes audience discussion)

Roundtable Session 7: Resourcing Safe Cities and Building to Scale

Location: Crystal Ballroom

Simultaneous translation in Hindi, English, French and Spanish

Host Speaker: Averee Chaurey

Rapporteur: Kathleen Hunter, Manitoba Status Canada Rapporteur Note for the Session

Moderator: Anastasia Posadskaya Vanderbeck, UN Women

Panelists:

Xerses Sidhwa, Deputy Director, Health Office, USAID, India

Adriana Quinones, EVAW Advisor, Regional Office for LAC, UN Women
Rebecca Lineham, Deputy Representative, UN Women, Papua New Guinea Office

(30 Minutes Audience Discussion)

Session 8: Harnessing Arts-Based Approaches for Change

Location: Regency V

Session was in English (With interpretation of speakers’ remarks from Arabic, and from French to English)

Chair: UN Women Multi Country Office India, Bhutan, Maldives and Sri Lanka

Rapporteur: Nidhi Gulati, Project for Public Spaces

Rapporteur Note for the session

Speakers:

Hayat El Machfou, Vice Mayor, Social Affairs, Culture and Sports, City of Marrakech

Creative strategies in the Cairo Safe City programme to build partnerships for transformative change, Sherine Fahmy, Lawyer, Ombudsperson Office of the National Council for Women and Noha Zaghloul, Violence against Women and Girls Project Officer, UN Women Egypt. Presentation available here.

Benon Kabera, Coordinator, City of Kigali, Kigali Safe City Programme, Rwanda. Presentation available here.

Maya Rao, Theatre Artist and Educator, Delhi, India

(30 minutes audience discussion)

End of the day

Friday, June 12th 2015

Venue: Lalit Hotel

9:30 to 11:00am

These concurrent sessions feature insights, tools, practices, and shared lessons learned in the implementation of interventions and processes in creating safe public transport and safe marketplaces with and for women and girls.

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Public Transport Free of Sexual Harassment and other forms of Violence against Women and Girls

Location: Crystal Ballroom

Simultaneous translation in Hindi, English, French and Spanish

(Question and Answer Panel)

Moderator: Adriana Quinones, UN Women Panama

Rapporteur: Jennifer Robert Colomby, Senior Analyst, Women in Cities International

Rapporteur Note for Session

Remarks:

Marie Goncalves, Technical Director of Patronato, Quito Safe City Programme, Ecuador, Presentation available here

Natalie Billings, Principal Architect, Infrastructure Planning & Design, Transport for Cape Town, South Africa

Ranjana Deswal, Delhi Transport Corporation, Delhi Safe City Programme, India

Fernanda Rivera, Ministry of the Environment, Mexico City Government, and Teresa Inchaustegui Tomero, Director, INMUJERES D.F (Mexico City Women’s Mechanism), Mexico City Safe City Programme, Mexico Presentation available here.

Ghita El Khyari, Programme Management Specialist, UN Women Maghreb Marrakech safe and Friendly City for All Video, click here.

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Strategic Partnerships for Safe Markets: Strengthening Women’s Economic Empowerment

Location: Regency V

(Question and Answer Panel)

Moderator: Sohail Husain, International Consultant, UN Women
Rapporteur: Holly Kearl, Founder of Stop Street Harassment

Rapporteur Note for Session

Remarks:
Hope Tumukunde, Vice Mayor, Kigali Safe City Programme, Rwanda
Remarks available here.

Katherine Webber, UN Women Programme Specialist, Port Moresby Safe City Programme, Papua New Guinea
Remarks available here.

Shahlo Juraeva, Director of the State Women’s Center, Dushanbe Safe City for Women and Girls Programme, Tajikistan

Nicolas Burniat, Deputy Representative, UN Women Multi Country Office FIJI, Markets 4 Change Programme (M4C)

Christy Abraham, ActionAid International- Insights on Ethiopia work on markets and safety

11:00-11:30 am
Foyer

Tea Break and Questionnaire on Forum

11:30 am -12:15 pm
Crystal Ballroom

Host Speaker: Averee Chaurey

Closing of Forum
Simultaneous translation in Hindi, English, French and Spanish

Chair: Anastasia Posadskaya Vanderbeck, UN Women

Statements:
Michael Pelletier, Acting Ambassador & Deputy Chief of Mission of the U.S embassy in India. Remarks available here.

A video message from Osami Takeyama, Mayor of Sakai. The Mayor’s Message is available here.

Gloria Uribe, Municipality of Medellin, Colombia, Presentation available here.

Teresa Inchaustegui Romero, Director, Mexico City Women’s Mechanism (INMUJERES D.F). Video is available here.

Closing Remarks: Roberta Clarke, Regional Director, UN Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and Representative, Thailand
(Remarks are listed on the next page).

12:15 to 14:15
Foyer

Lunch and Bilateral Meetings with safe city teams.
CLOSING REMARKS

Roberta Clarke, Regional Director, UN Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and Representative, Thailand

“Throughout this global meeting we have had opportunities to affirm the relevance of safe city free of violence against women and girls programming, to share good work and to be honest about our challenges in moving forward at a pace which makes a difference to women and girls and to communities.

As we return home, we all take away memories and messages, recalling what resonated as truths and learnings. For me the dance “Walk” will be one such resonating memory. The narrated dance by Maya Rao was painful and poignant, linked as it was to the December 2012 tragedy in Delhi. But it will also stay with me for the resistance which the dance represents. A resistance expressed in the simple and profound idea of self-determination. We all have the absolute right to set and reset our bodily integrity boundaries, no matter the time of day or night, no matter what we wear, no matter what work we do.

We will also recall the many reminders over these days that safe cities are best assured where we have safe homes. So, in our safe city programming we must not recreate the public/private divide that keeps private space invisible, unregulated and a space where impunity for violence exists.

And we will recall Rahul, our young community activist, asking us to think about the construction of masculinities keeping in mind that men can also be stereotyped and contained in gender roles. We reaffirm his call to men to take on both the role and the responsibility to end violence against women.
Lakshmi reminded us of the ongoing inter-governmental negotiations on Post 2015 and SDGs. Already member states have agreed on Goal 5 - quite comprehensive and including a target on ending violence against women. They have also agreed on Goal 11 - cities and human settlements inclusive and safe.

However, we know well from MDG 3 and the Beijing Platform for Action that nice aspirational words are of no real help, of no comfort, unless matched by political will for implementation. And what is political will but the determination and capacity to achieve a desired result?

Over the last three days we have heard about different examples of political will. You have shared that safe cities programmes work best when attended by resources; when informed by evidence cop produced at the local level; when shaped by the voices and perspectives of women and the otherwise excluded; and where there is multi-sectoral collaboration.

From our host, India, we learnt of centres of support for survivors, helplines, standard operating procedures for service providers and police, all of which is evidence of state accountability in action. We will all be looking closely at the rollout of the Smart Cities initiative in India to better understand how gender equality is advanced through this far-reaching and potentially transformative model.

We know that the media (both traditional and social) is a powerful tool to promote change, to disrupt unequal power relations by being both a ‘siren’, calling attention to violations as well as a monitor, recording and analyzing the efficacy of state responses. Several participants spoke about how mobile technology can and is being harnessed to prevent, document and respond to sexual violence against women in public spaces. From Rio, Marrakech, New Delhi, we understand better how women’s organisations must work collaboratively with technology innovators and providers like Microsoft.

It is clear that we are a part of a global movement with leaders from India, Japan, Spain, South Asia, South Africa, Rwanda, Egypt, Morocco, Philippines, Canada, and the US making political statements of commitment to cities safe for women and girls. And we welcome Medellin, Colombia to be the 22nd city to participate in UN Women’s Safe Cities Global Initiative, and look forward to the next global meeting in February 2017 in Mexico City.

For all of our sharing of technical expertise on gender and infrastructure, transportation, community mobilisation, policing, and evaluation etc, let us not forget that creating safe cities is a political agenda.

Recently I read that privilege is thinking that because something is not a problem for you, it is not a problem. And it is this privilege we ask that men give up when we call on them to join the HeForShe movement; when we call on them to account for their role in ending gender inequality.

Safe Cities will be a reality when and only when we as individuals and the institutions to which we are connected share responsibility for ensuring women’s empowerment and equal, citizenship.

On behalf of UN Women, I extend our appreciation to all the participants, the resource persons and the teams which worked collegially to ensure a productive and effective meeting.

I wish to end by sharing a verse of Maya Angelou’s ode to the UN “A Brave and Startling Truth” for what it tells us about our transformative potential and power:

When we come to it
We, this people, on this wayward, floating body
Created on this earth, of this earth
Have the power to fashion for this earth
A climate where every man and every woman
Can live freely without sanctimonious piety
Without crippling fear
When we come to it
We must confess that we are the possible
We are the miraculous, the true wonder of this world
That is when, and only when
We come to it.

Thank you.
## Annex

### List of Participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>City/Country</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Civil society oversight for a life free of violence</td>
<td>Quito, Ecuador</td>
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<td>Yeliz Osman</td>
<td>UN Women Mexico</td>
<td>Mexico City, Mexico</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abdelghani Ouchen</td>
<td>Programme Coordinator, Marrakech City Council</td>
<td>Marrakech, Morocco</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jocelyn Carrera Pacete</td>
<td>Researcher, Center for Popular Empowerment</td>
<td>Manila, Philippines</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pallavi Palav</td>
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<td>India</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anju Pandey</td>
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<td>Delhi, India</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neelima Pandey</td>
<td>Advisor, Plan India</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tini Pandey</td>
<td>Nodal Officer, Directorate of Women Empowerment</td>
<td>India</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suruchi Pant</td>
<td>Deputy Representative, United Nations Office on Drugs &amp; Crime (UNODC)</td>
<td>India</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monika Parashar</td>
<td>Consultant, UN Women, Department for Women and Child Development, Bhopal</td>
<td>India</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pamela Philipose</td>
<td>Senior Fellow, Indian Council of Social Science Research</td>
<td>India</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Pelletier</td>
<td>Michael Pelletier, Acting Ambassador &amp; Deputy Chief of Mission of the U.S embassy in India</td>
<td>United States</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moni Pizani</td>
<td>Representative, UN Women Ecuador</td>
<td>Quito, Ecuador</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liz Pilcher</td>
<td>Inspector, Winnipeg Police Service</td>
<td>Winnipeg, Canada</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sreeja Poyilil</td>
<td>Secretary &amp; Coordinator, Sakhi, Kerala</td>
<td>India</td>
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<td>Aditi Puri</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Raphaelle Rafin</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Cairo, Egypt</td>
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<td>Fernanda Rivera</td>
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<td>Monica Ropain</td>
<td>Project Officer, UN Women Honduras</td>
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<td>Karen Sánchez</td>
<td>President, Security Commission of the City Council Quito</td>
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<td>Sonia Sarkar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Remya Sasindran</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nandita Shah</td>
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<tr>
<td>115 Kiran Sharma</td>
<td>National Programme Officer, World Health Organization (WHO)</td>
<td>India</td>
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<td>116 Togi Duma Sianturi</td>
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<tr>
<td>117 Elsa D Silva</td>
<td>Co-Founder, Managing Director, Safe City, Mumbai</td>
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<tr>
<td>118 Kulwant Singh</td>
<td>Chief Technical Advisor, UN Habitat</td>
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<tr>
<td>119 Xerses Sidhwa</td>
<td>Deputy Director, Health Office, USAID</td>
<td>India</td>
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<tr>
<td>120 K.J Sohan</td>
<td>Town Planning Chairperson of Kochi, Municipal Corporation of Kochi</td>
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<td>Strategy head for Institutional relations, Embarq</td>
<td>India</td>
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<tr>
<td>128 Hope Tumukunde</td>
<td>Vice Mayor, Social Affairs, City of Kigali</td>
<td>Kigali, Rwanda</td>
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<td>129 Prabhleen Tuteja</td>
<td>Coordinator, Jagori</td>
<td>Delhi, India</td>
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<tr>
<td>130 Luisa Fernando Uachisso</td>
<td>Municipal Councilor, City of Maputo,</td>
<td>Maputo, Mozambique</td>
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<td>131 Chi Vallido</td>
<td>The Forum for Family Planning and Development</td>
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<td>132 Senehal Velkar</td>
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<td>Director, ICRW India</td>
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<td>136 Niyanta Watal</td>
<td>Volunteer, Cape Town Safe City Programme</td>
<td>Cape Town, South Africa</td>
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<td>137 Katherine Webber</td>
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</table>
UN WOMEN
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.