



Joint Biennial Meeting of the United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality (IANWGE) and the OECD-DAC Network on Gender Equality (GENDERNET)

**“Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable
Development: A game changer for gender equality,
women's empowerment and women's human rights”**

12-14 January 2016

Kampala, Uganda

KEY MESSAGES AND SUMMARY RECORD



Summary record of the Joint Biennial Meeting of the United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality (IANWGE) and the OECD-DAC Network on Gender Equality (GENDERNET)

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KEY MESSAGES

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with its comprehensive standalone goal on gender equality (SDG5) and gender-specific targets across the other goals, provides an ambitious framework to transform the lives of women and girls everywhere. However, it will only be a game-changer if it is fully implemented.

PRIORITIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

1. Leave no one behind

- Confront the challenge of multiple, intersecting and mutually reinforcing forms of discrimination, and put the poorest, most marginalised and excluded women and girls at the forefront of our efforts.
- Ensure that the voices of women in conflict and fragile settings are brought to the table and heard.

2. Build strong gender-sensitive monitoring and accountability systems and tools at all levels to track and incentivise progress on gender equality across all the goals

- Build on existing accountability mechanisms, such as the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the Human Rights Council, and the work of the human rights treaty bodies including the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), as well as existing tools, including the UN-SWAP, the DAC Gender Equality Policy Marker, and the AWID FundHer Scorecard, and cross-fertilise experience among them.
- Recommend that the CSW60 agreed conclusions provide clear and effective guidance for realigning CSW processes and work programme towards oversight and review of the SDGs, to the effect that:
 - The High-Level Political Forum will receive, discuss and include recommendations from the CSW agreed conclusions [annually]; and
 - Other functional commissions and multilateral fora will be required to address and report on SDG5 and the other gender equality targets in the other SDGs.

3. Invest in the regular production, analysis and use of high-quality gender equality data and statistics

- Continue to push for the highest level of ambition for the SDG indicators framework, including disaggregation by sex, age and other variables to ensure that women are equally benefitting from implementation efforts and to fulfil the ambition to leave no-one behind.
- Create and maintain national coordination mechanisms for the production and use of gender statistics and provide technical and financial support to increase the capacity of national statistical systems to address the methodological and data challenges pertaining to the SDG indicators.

4. Mobilise ambitious financing for gender equality

- Ensure the full and rapid implementation of the financing gender equality commitments agreed in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, including by increasing support for and implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Plan on Transformative Financing for Gender Equality and Women's Rights. Priority actions include: shaping fiscal and monetary policies that contribute to gender equality, ensuring coherence between trade policies and gender equality commitments, combatting tax evasion and illicit financial flows, building a socially responsible private sector, and increasing the priority on gender equality in ODA flows.
- Strengthen collective efforts to advocate with ministries of finance to ensure counter-cyclical and predictable financing for gender equality.
- Recognise the impact of women's organisations in driving change in support of gender equality at all levels, and ensure ambitious, core, multi-year and flexible funding to support the sustainability of this work.
- Continue to engage with, and hold the private sector accountable for, socially responsible behaviour that is aligned with human rights standards and gender equality commitments, and develop new forms of cooperation leading to gender equality results.
- Put an end to gender-blind humanitarian financing by improving efforts to track and measure donor funding to gender equality in humanitarian settings through increasing the use of gender markers, such as the DAC Gender Marker, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Marker (IASC), and other existing tools; and increasing allocations to local women's organisations by improving small grant funding and mechanisms.

5. Use all available opportunities and processes to build political commitment and actions towards the effective implementation of gender equality commitments at all levels

- Develop a shared narrative and key messages on the implementation of the SDGs for women and girls to inform communications and advocacy efforts and ensure the continuing visibility of gender equality and women's empowerment in the implementation phase.
- Support the localisation of the SDGs in all countries in order to translate the SDGs commitments into concrete progress at the national level.

- Step up efforts to deliver on women, peace and security, and gender and humanitarian action commitments at all levels, by making use of upcoming milestones including CSW60 and the World Humanitarian Summit.

SUMMARY RECORD

PART 1: PLENARY SESSIONS

OPENING SESSION

The opening session was chaired by **Hodan Addou**, UN Women Country Representative. Welcoming remarks were provided by **Carolina Wennerholm**, Chair of the OECD-DAC Network on Gender Equality (GENDERNET); **Aparna Mehrotra**, OIC Director of the UN System Coordination Division of UN Women; and **Jane Mpagi**, Director of Gender in the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development of Uganda.

Hodan Addou, UN Women Country Representative, welcomed participants to the workshop. She noted that holding the meeting in Uganda provides an important opportunity to share lessons from Uganda’s successes, such as the establishment of a gender-responsive legal and policy framework, a National Gender Policy and Action Plan, and the landmark Public Finance Management Act, which requires a Gender Equality Certificate as a condition for approval of sector plans and budgets. Civil society and women’s movements are also active and effective in Uganda.

Carolina Wennerholm, Chair of the OECD-DAC Network on Gender Equality (GENDERNET), recalled the longstanding relationship between IANWGE and GENDERNET. This unique partnership provides a space for the two Networks to develop a collective agenda for action. The last biennial workshop offered a platform to strengthen collaborative efforts to influence the post-2015 process and paved the way for the standalone goal on gender equality and gender-specific targets across the SDGs. However, the real test will lie in the implementation at the country level. This workshop provides an opportunity to:

- take stock of the implications of the 2030 Agenda for gender equality and women’s rights, including how it can take us beyond business-as-usual;
- assess “what works” and propose concrete actions to accelerate progress in priority areas that can have a multiplier effect on gender equality and sustainable development;
- identify the institutional and operational changes required to implement the 2030 Agenda fully and effectively, such as the need for more and better resources for gender equality and better availability of data disaggregated by sex to monitor progress for women and girls;
- generate opportunities for enhanced collaboration between the Networks and with other stakeholders in the implementation of the SDGs; and

- come up with a shared narrative and key messages to ensure that gender equality remains a key priority in the implementation phase.

Aparna Mehrotra, OIC Director of the UN System Coordination Division of UN Women, speaking on behalf of IANWGE, also recalled the longstanding collaboration between the IANWGE and GENDERNET. She welcomed the presence of gender-related targets in 11 of the 17 SDGs in addition to the standalone goal. The universal approach of the SDGs and the determination to achieve gender equality constitute an improvement compared to the MDGs. The effective implementation of the SDGs will require the collective involvement of all stakeholders in order to deliver as one, maximise available resources, and generate transformative impact.

Ms. Mehrotra stressed the need to think and act differently to ensure successful SDG implementation. The vision and articulation of gender equality alone is not enough, implementation is critical. She particularly noted that effective implementation requires the following:

- a common vision;
- identification of innovative best practices;
- strong political leadership;
- partnerships including with new constituencies and stakeholders;
- adequate financing and flexible funding mechanisms;
- enabling technologies;
- enhanced monitoring, review and accountability; and
- strong political will, institutional change, and sustained advocacy.

Jane Mpagi, Director of Gender in the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development of Uganda delivered remarks on behalf of the Minister of Gender, Labour and Social Development, Hon. Muruli Mukasa. She reaffirmed Uganda's commitment to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. She also recalled her country's involvement in the post-2015 discussions and contribution to the drafting of the 2030 Agenda in its capacity as President of the 68th session of the UN General Assembly.

At the national level, Uganda has enacted a gender-sensitive Constitution and has integrated gender equality in its legislation and national strategies such as in the Uganda Land Act; the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Act; the Public Finance Management Act which introduced Gender and Equity Certificates; Vision 2040, a framework document outlining the country's planning strategy for the next 30 years; and the National Development Plan which includes gender indicators. Uganda has adopted a twin-track approach to gender equality combining: (i) gender mainstreaming into sectoral policies supported by gender-sensitive data collected by the Uganda Bureau of Statistics; and (ii) gender-specific projects implemented through the Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development.

Progress at the national level has led to a better representation of women in politics, employment and education. However much still needs to be done, particularly in the area of women's economic empowerment, violence against women, education, health, teenage pregnancy and child marriage. Strategies and actions that build on existing efforts are

needed as well as innovative ideas to deliver on gender equality. Three priorities will be particularly important going forward:

- adequate funding for gender equality and sustained efforts to track resource flows;
- data to monitor progress on SDG5 and the gender-related targets of the SDGs; and
- partnerships to increase synergies between all relevant actors.

PLENARY 1: WHAT DO WE WANT THE WORK TO LOOK LIKE BY 2030 AND HOW DO WE GET THERE?

This session was chaired by **Carolina Wennerholm**, Chair of the OECD-DAC Network on Gender Equality (GENDERNET). Panellists included **Purna Sen**, Director of Policy Division, UN Women; **Sally Moyle**, Principal Sector Specialist (Gender), Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia; **Barbara Adams**, Chair of the Board of the Global Policy Forum; and **Jessica Horn**, Director of Programmes at the African Women's Development Fund (AWDF).

Panellists shared their vision of what they would like the world to look like by 2030 and discussed the steps needed to achieve the transformative ambitions of the 2030 Agenda for women and girls.

What do we want the world to look like by 2030?

Panellists welcomed the ambitious and universal vision and scope of the 2030 Agenda, which integrates a human rights perspective, focuses on inequalities, and places the notion of sustainability at its heart. They also stressed the important features of indivisibility and leaving no one behind, the emphasis on the quality (not just quantity) of development assistance, and the commitment to environment and peace as integral aspects of sustainable development. Yet, the 2030 Agenda will only be a game changer if we make it happen. This will require addressing the needs and priorities of the most marginalised, poor, and discriminated women. Empowerment is not *something we 'do' or 'grant' but a process that women 'own'*.

Panellists reminded participants of the fragility of gender equality gains which need to be constantly consolidated as we go forward. Courage, ambition and imagination will be essential if we are to deliver on the promises of the SDGs. A number of challenges will need to be addressed, including the adoption of a clear communication strategy highlighting that gender equality is not optional but rather a prerequisite for the successful implementation of *all* the SDGs.

Participants were urged to stop being grateful for small steps towards gender equality and encouraged to be bold, persistent, and relentlessly demanding. While the 2030 Agenda provides a framework for action, a high level of ambition will be needed to translate it into progress on the ground. In this regard, an important issue relates to the responsibility of governments in the implementation of this new agenda. States remain the primary duty-bearers for ensuring social protection and providing essential services and it will be critical to build their capacity to deliver on the SDGs and to hold them accountable for their commitments.

Attention was drawn to the financing challenges related to the implementation of the SDGs, noting in particular the mismatch between our expectations for the UN system and the way it is funded - mainly through earmarked contributions. It will be important to reverse the trend towards funding through voluntary earmarked contributions and to challenge the increasing reliance on private sector engagement. Multi-stakeholder partnerships should be unpacked and governed by human rights standards.

While women's rights organisations play a central role in the creation of progressive policy frameworks and legislation, funding for women's organisations remains very limited - with an average annual budget of USD 20 000 per organisation according to a study published by the Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID).

Despite political will at the international level, increasing conservatism and religious fundamentalisms in many contexts are threatening women's rights.

How do we get there?

A number of **priorities** were highlighted to fulfil the ambitions of the 2030 Agenda:

- Ensuring strong **gender equality indicators** and accountability mechanisms to monitor progress on the SDGs.
- Establishing a clear **communication strategy** that sends the message that **gender equality is the recipe** for delivering on the 2030 Agenda as a whole. There can be no cherry picking: all the gender equality targets must be met.
- Sharing experience on **what works** in delivering on gender equality, by learning from good (and less successful) practices.
- Keeping the focus on the implementation of the **Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action**, which remains the most ambitious set of goals with regards to gender equality.
- Ensuring a strong role for the **CSW** as a key monitoring and accountability mechanism to track progress in the implementation of the gender equality commitments of the SDGs, which recognising that other functional commissions and multilateral fora must also follow-up and review progress towards the gender equality targets.
- Addressing the challenge of **intersectionality** in order to leave no one behind.
- Strengthening the **linkages** between gender equality, conflict and fragility, and humanitarian action, and develop collective messaging on gender equality for the World Humanitarian Summit.
- Tackling the **roots of gender inequalities** to deliver sustainable, systemic change.
- Increasing the financial capacity of the UN system through more predictable and reliable **core funding**.
- Building the **capacity of States**, which are the primary duty bearers, to deliver on the 2030 Agenda.

- Reflecting further on what the **universality** of the 2030 Agenda means for implementation at the national and international levels.
- **Localising actions** and connecting with women at the grassroots level to ensure that change is grounded in the agendas of communities.

PLENARY 2: MONITORING OUR PROGRESS TOWARDS GENDER EQUALITY: BUILDING GENDER-RESPONSIVE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEMS FROM THE BOTTOM UP

This session was chaired by **Moez Doraid**, Co-chair of UN Women’s Working Group on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Panel members included: **Ginette Azcona**, Research and Data Specialist, UN Women; **Norah Madaya**, Director, Statistical Coordination and Services, Bureau of Statistics, Uganda; **Muchochori Kanobana Dominique**, Technical Advisor for Gender Statistics, UN Women Rwanda; **Vera Kintu Oling**, Senior Macroeconomist and Gender Focal Point, African Development Bank; and **Keiko Nowacka**, Gender Project Coordinator and Manager of the Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI), OECD Development Centre

During the discussion, panellists addressed the main challenges faced by national statistical offices in collecting sex disaggregated data and using gender statistics. Participants also discussed how the international community can better support these efforts. The session provided an opportunity to reflect on:

- good practices in partnering with national statistical offices to build the evidence base and strengthen monitoring and accountability of the SDG commitments on gender equality;
- the role of other data sources and innovations in data collection; and
- the importance of using gender statistics to inform effective policy-making.

It was noted that the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) is expected to submit its proposal for a global indicators framework to monitor the SDGs to the UN Statistical Commission in March 2016. UN Women, as an observer to the IAEG-SDGs, is coordinating the UN system’s contribution to the consultation process on SDG5 and the other gender-related targets. The IAEG-SDGs has given its green light to the 14 proposed indicators for SDG5. Indicators have been classified into three categories:

- Tier I: a methodology exists and is well-established, and data are available;
- Tier II: a methodology exists but is not widely available;
- Tier III: an internationally agreed methodology has not yet been developed.

Further work will be needed to develop Tier II and Tier III indicators, which requires going beyond existing data sources. This will include developing the methodology and standards, piloting these indicators, and getting them approved by relevant statistical bodies before they can guide data collection at the national level.

In recent years, progress has been made in the collection of data disaggregated by sex and age, but data availability remains uneven across countries. Priorities in the next few years include:

- Improving human and financial resources to collect, process and disseminate data in a timely manner, including by establishing gender teams in all national statistics departments.
- Strengthening the use of data to inform evidence-based decision-making.
- Improving coordination between statistical agencies and national gender machineries.
- Increasing financial investment in conducting censuses, household surveys and time use surveys.
- Defining common rules and regulatory frameworks for measurement, harmonising methodologies, and standardising indicators.
- Improving data collection in countries affected by conflict and fragility.
- Improving the measurement of time use and social norm change.
- Strengthening coordination by donor countries to assess the current gaps in resource allocation for the production of gender statistics.
- Encouraging statistical cooperation and capacity development of technical staff in statistical offices, including through training, data sharing protocols, dissemination tools and regular dialogues between data producers and users.
- Developing partnerships to improve data collection for gender equality and strengthening the coordination of efforts across organisations and at the national level.

PLENARY 3: WHAT STRATEGIES ARE NEEDED FOR DEDICATED, SCALED-UP TRANSFORMATIVE FINANCING FOR GENDER EQUALITY?

This session was chaired by **Emily Esplen**, Team Leader, Gender Equality and Women's Rights, Development Co-operation Directorate, OECD. Panellists included: **Moez Doraid**, Co-Chair of UN Women's Working Group on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; **Margaret Kakande**, Head of the Budget Monitoring and Accountability Unit, Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, Uganda; **Irene Among**, Social Development Advisor, DFID Uganda; **Anna Mutavati**, Deputy Representative, UN Women Uganda; **Sayson R. Meya**, Human Rights, Conflict and Gender Advisor, Delegation of the European Union to Uganda; **Patricia Munabi Babiiha**, Executive Director, Forum for Women in Democracy (FOWODE); **Sally Moyle**, Principal Sector Specialist (Gender) and Assistant Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia; and **Nerea Craviotto**, Resourcing Women's Rights Lead Advocacy Coordinator, Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID).

Panellists provided an overview of the normative framework for financing gender equality. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda adopted in July 2015 marks a critical step forward by

recognising gender equality and the empowerment of women as a central element in achieving sustainable development, and by committing to significantly scale-up resources in support of this objective. Closing the current funding gap for gender equality - projected at USD 83 billion in 2015 - will require unprecedented financing in scale, scope, quality and from all sources.

The Addis Ababa Action Plan on Transformative Financing for Gender Equality - launched at the Addis Conference - outlines policy and financing priorities to accelerate the implementation of new and existing commitments on gender equality and women's rights, including:

- Mobilising domestic resources through fair and progressive tax systems and gender-responsive budgeting.
- Creating an enabling environment for women's economic empowerment by removing impediments to women's access to financial services, including loans and credits.
- Ensuring that international public finance continues to complement domestic efforts, including by encouraging developed countries meet the 0.7% target.
- Investing in national statistical capacity.

Panellists stressed that eliminating gender inequalities by 2030 will require sustained investments across all sectors, including funding for specific institutions and mechanisms working on gender equality.

A number of good practices were shared, including Uganda's efforts to integrate gender equality into its public financial management system. The Public Finance Management (PFM) Act, adopted in 2015, introduced a requirement for all institutions accessing public finance to demonstrate how they have integrated gender equality in their activities. The PFM Act requires that each budgetary submission presented to Parliament is accompanied by a Gender Equality Certificate issued by the Ministry of Finance in consultation with the Equal Opportunities Commission. The Gender Equality Certificates help to ensure that new bills comply with gender budgeting principles. The introduction of the Gender Equality Certificates has also allowed Uganda to start tracking allocations for gender equality. In 2015, UGX 390 billion were reported as targeting gender equality. Priorities for the Ugandan government going forward include: constituting a pool of gender experts; introducing gender-responsive budgeting into the curriculum and training of civil servants; and developing a list of strong gender indicators to monitor progress.

Development partners can play an important role in supporting partner governments' efforts to develop gender-responsive planning and budgeting. For example, DFID is providing support to the government of Uganda to implement gender-responsive budgeting by:

- Building the capacity of different sectors to implement and monitor the implementation of the PFMA.
- Supporting the government of Uganda in analysing the political economy and implications of the PFMA.

- Supporting the evaluation of the impact of this legislation.

Other innovative approaches towards gender-responsive planning and budgeting include UN Women's gender-responsive budgeting work in Uganda through: (i) supporting CSOs to advocate for better financing for gender equality; (ii) budget monitoring to hold government accountable for their commitments; and (iii) building government capacity at the local and national level. Moving forward, UN Women will work with the Ministry of Finance and the Equal Opportunities Commission to develop their capacity to implement the Gender Equality Certificates. UN Women has commissioned a study on options for financing for gender equality in the context of the SDGs in Uganda, which should be released in the first half of 2016.

Partnerships are also a critical modality to mobilise resources in support of gender equality. One example is the cooperation between the European Union (EU) and UN Women in Uganda. Following the findings of the evaluation of the EU Gender Action Plan, which found that gender mainstreaming in EU development cooperation could be improved, the EU has joined forces with UN Women in Uganda to deliver better gender equality results. Under this partnership, UN Women is providing technical expertise to improve the integration of gender equality across the EU's development programmes in Uganda.

Civil society organisations have been at the forefront of efforts to advance gender-responsive budgeting. In Uganda, the Forum for Women in Democracy (FOWODE) has been advocating for gender-responsive budgeting since 1999 through a combination of research, advocacy and activism. FOWODE has worked closely with the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, the Equal Opportunities Commission, women parliamentarians and the media to influence fiscal policy. One of the key achievements of FOWODE's engagement has been the adoption of the Public Finance Management Act in 2015. However, the attacks on the gender equality clause of the PFM Act show that the gains towards gender equality remain fragile. In October 2015, civil society organisations with support from UN Women mobilised to prevent the removal of the Gender Equality Certificates and conducted advocacy activities with Members of Parliament. Lessons from FOWODE's experience demonstrate the importance of building a coalition of actors by engaging with ministries, Parliament, and the media to build political pressure for change and emphasise the critical role of civil society in building accountability.

Opportunities for collaboration between the donor community and the private sector on gender equality were discussed. Australia has recently launched the "Investing in Women" initiative, a regional programme which works with the private sector to increase women's work opportunities in the formal sector, encourage investment in women SMEs, and influence the enabling environment to remove barriers to women's economic empowerment. The programme, which is expected to start in the first quarter of 2016, will be structured around three priorities: (i) working with business coalitions to improve gender equality in the workplace by providing diagnostic and advisory services to companies; (ii) engaging with social investors to tailor their services to women SMEs; (iii) running an advocacy platform which will build on the research and knowledge generated by the initiative to support advocacy activities. It was underlined that not all kinds of growth can deliver results for gender equality and that it is important to encourage the private sector to

support sustainable and inclusive economic growth. Challenges in engaging with the private sector include:

- Establishing a regulatory framework to encourage a socially-responsible private sector.
- Making the business case for gender equality to engage the private sector.
- Bearing in mind that the private sector is not homogenous but is composed of a broad array of entities including corporations, philanthropies, and small businesses.

The AWID's FundHer Scorecard was also presented as an innovative benchmark and accountability tool to assess the quality and quantity of support to gender equality and women's rights. The indicators of the FundHer Scorecard are built around three pillars: (i) the quantity of resources; (ii) the quality of resources; and (iii) the institutional leadership and mechanisms for gender equality and women's rights. The aim of the Scorecard is to promote dialogue with the funding community on how to better support gender equality and women's rights. It responds to the need for:

- Instruments that promote a clear vision of what effective funding for gender equality and women's rights look like.
- Spaces to reflect on achievements and challenges faced by both funders and grantees.
- Stronger engagement between donors and women's organisations to ensure that donor funding is creating sustainable change for gender equality and women's rights.

During the discussion it was noted that more work is needed to encourage the private sector to support women's empowerment, for instance by encouraging private companies to include women-owned enterprises into their global value chains. Violence against women (VAW) is also an area which provides opportunities for collaboration with the private sector. In Latin America, Germany is cooperating with the private sector to conduct studies on the costs of VAW for businesses which have led to the development of measures to tackle violence against women. ILO is planning to develop an instrument on VAW in the workplace in 2018. The importance of a diverse workforce as a useful entry point for engaging corporations and employers was highlighted.

Participants discussed the importance of funding transformational change. This requires addressing four questions:

- What to fund? - Funding should transform gender power relations. This requires looking beyond the visible (formal laws, practices and institutions), to also address the hidden and invisible forms of power (social norms, informal decision-making).
- Who to fund? - Funding should support civil society initiatives from the Global South, women's organisations at all levels of the ecological framework, and initiatives to engage men and boys in gender equality and women's rights - but only when they are transformative.
- How to fund? - If we want innovation, we need to fund in ways that enable it. Funding should create a dialogue about the theory of change with grantees; cover

overheads; be multi-year; enable capacity-building; and be based on grant application processes that are accessible to community-based constituencies.

- How much? - More funding is needed for women's rights and women's organising. Currently, women's organisations receive less than 2% of bilateral funding and less than 9% of corporate giving.
- Mobilise maximum available resources for gender equality, including by tackling illicit financial flows, addressing biases in the tax system, and encouraging a socially-responsible corporate sector.

Recommendations for transformative financing include:

- Mobilising maximum available resources for gender equality, including by tackling illicit financial flows, addressing biases in the tax system, and encouraging a socially-responsible corporate sector.
- Taking into account the quantity but also the quality of funding.
- Conducting costing exercises at the country level to identify financing needs.
- Encouraging experience sharing and enhancing complementarity between the different tools to track funding in support of gender equality such as the OECD-DAC Gender Equality Policy Marker, the FundHer Scorecard and the UN-SWAP.
- Collectively advocating for financial targets for gender equality expenditures.
- Supporting women's organisations, including by funding via Women's Funds such as Mama Cash and the African Women's Development Fund, which can help bridge the gap between donors and women's organisations.

PLENARY 4: WALKING THE TALK: GETTING OUR OWN HOUSES IN ORDER

This session was chaired by **Aparna Mehrotra**, OIC Director of the UN System Coordination Division of UN Women. Panellists included: **Urban Andersson**, Ambassador of Sweden to Uganda; **Irene Among**, Social Development Advisor, DFID Uganda; **Odette Kabaya**, Regional Programme Advisor, UNDP, Ethiopia; **Clare Bishop-Sambrook**, Senior Technical Advisor on Gender Empowerment and Social Inclusion, IFAD; **Purna Sen**, Director, Policy Division, UN Women; **Hodan Addou**, UN Women Country Representative, Uganda.

The complexity and ambition of the 2030 Agenda poses an unprecedented challenge to the way the international development community does business. This session discussed how UN entities and OECD-DAC members are planning to adapt their systems to better drive the implementation of the SDGs, including through monitoring, review and accountability.

Participants recognised that successful realisation of the new 2030 Agenda and SDG goals and targets will require new and scaled up approaches by Governments, international organisations and development practitioners – it cannot be business as usual.

The Swedish Ambassador to Uganda, for example, reaffirmed Sweden's determination to advance the gender equality agenda through its feminist foreign policy. The policy is based

on three pillars - rights, representation and resources - and closely aligned with the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. Going forward, Sweden plans to step up its efforts to advance gender equality by: broadening its work and using coordinated gender equality instruments; systematically mainstreaming gender equality in its development cooperation - 90% of support to Uganda is due to integrate gender equality in 2016; accelerating efforts to address sexual and gender-based violence; building on data and evidence to guide policies and programmes; systematically conducting a gender analysis in its operations; continuing to pursue controversial issues such as sexual and reproductive health and rights by promoting increased access to legal abortion and contraceptives; promoting women's participation in peace and security; prioritising women's economic empowerment; and addressing unequal power relations through working with men and boys to support transformative change and improve the lives of women and girls.

With respect to the UN system, it was noted that discussions are ongoing at the UN on how to make the organisation "fit for purpose" to deliver on the SDGs. The UN is facing funding challenges which are impacting on its capacity to effectively support the implementation of the SDGs. The UN's core budget is decreasing as donors move towards earmarking of funds, with negative consequences for its normative work, including on gender equality, and its operational activities. As a result, the UN is increasingly relying on funding from philanthropic foundations and the private sector. While this contribution is welcome, it is critical to ensure that corporations are held accountable and comply with the UN's guiding principles. Participants noted that partnerships entail particular risks that must be managed carefully. Competition between UN entities for resources is also a concern and tends to increase fragmentation at a time when coherence in the UN system is particularly needed. The Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR) resolution of the UN General Assembly, which will be renegotiated in 2016, provides an important opportunity to orient the UN system towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.

UN entities emphasized that the UN System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-SWAP) provides another example of 'walking the talk' on accountability for gender equality. The Plan assigns common performance standards for the gender-related work of all UN entities, ensuring greater coherence and accountability across the UN system. UN Women is providing technical support for the implementation of the UN-SWAP, enabling a community of practice across UN entities in dealing with gender issues. In addition to enhancing UN system collaboration, the work on UN-SWAP has helped to demystify what is gender mainstreaming - at corporate and programme level. This experience demonstrates the importance of a common policy framework; leadership to support the gender equality agenda; and teeth to drive the commitments forward. UNDP and UN Women are specifically working together to further enhance accountability for gender equality at the country level by aligning the performance indicators in the gender score card with that of the UN-SWAP.

At the regional level UNDP is looking at how to play a meaningful role in SDG implementation, while helping country offices to ensure that no one is left behind. In view of its human-centered approach to development, the SDGs are embedded in UNDP processes and strategies. UNDP will look to play a key coordination role within the development system while supporting and working collaboratively with other development partners at the country level. The organisation will draw on experiences of the MDGs and

compile evidence on what works or not to ensure effective support for SDG implementation. UNDP's Strategic Plan already seeks to break silos and approach development work in a more collaborative, joined-up approach to ensure the UN system is delivering as one.

DFID has started to evaluate its own work to take stock of what has not worked and what has the potential to be transformative for the next 5 years in light of the new 2030 Agenda. This provides an opportunity to better promote and address gender equality in DFID's work. DFID noted that in countries where strong gender policies already exist, it is easier to move the gender agenda forward. Girls' education, maternal health and eliminating violence against women are among DFID's priorities.

The role of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in supporting the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda was also discussed. The annual sessions of the CSW provide a critical space to monitor the implementation of the SDGs in addition to tracking progress on the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. However, there is a need to clarify the CSW's role in the follow-up and review process, its relationship with the High-Level Political Forum, and how the reporting will be done in practice. It will be critical to ensure that other functional commissions take responsibility for reporting on progress towards SDG5 and the other gender equality targets of the SDGs.

During the discussions it was noted that a situational analysis is needed before any attempts can be made to localise the SDGs. It is also critical to discuss and align with partners' priorities. In addition, participants recognised that social norms, stereotypes, and attitudes could impede implementation of the SDGs and must be tackled. The perspectives of men, boys and religious leaders must be heard and civil society must be engaged.

Recommendations:

- Adopt an integrated and coordinated approach in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.
- Share experiences and good practices on gender mainstreaming to inform SDG implementation.
- Draw on lessons learned from the MDG process to inform implementation.
- Consider models and methodologies for scaling up work on gender issues.
- Strengthen coordination among UN entities to deliver as one.
- Establish and/or enhance accountability mechanisms, drawing on the UN-SWAP as a good practice, to ensure accountability for gender equality at global, regional and country levels, including in the context of SDG implementation.
- Use CSW as a strong catalyst and critical space to monitor the implementation of the SDGs in addition to tracking progress on the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action
- Explore innovative ways of financing for gender equality. Enhance fundraising and invest in the most marginalised and neglected women.
- Enhance advocacy on public financing and explore opportunities for private sector support, including by finding out what works for the private sector.

- Make a strong business case for gender equality based on evidence.
- Increase documentation and visibility on gender equality issues through strategic communication channels.
- Consider strategic partnerships, collaboration and cooperation.
- Gender networks should work through the UNDG to ensure attention to gender issues in operational activities.
- Increase the policy and funding space for civil society.

CLOSING SESSION

Carolina Wennerholm, for the GENDERNET and **Aparna Mehrotra**, for the UN IANWGE closed the meeting by presenting the key messages from the workshop – see pages 1-3 of this document.

PART 2: PARALLEL BREAK-OUT GROUPS

A. WOMEN'S VOICE, LEADERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION IN ALL AREAS OF DECISION-MAKING

Panellists: Ruth Ojiambo Ochieng, Isis-Women's International Cross-Cultural Exchange, Uganda; Njoki Rahab Kinyanjui, UNOCHA; Magdalene Lagu, DFID; Purna Sen, UN Women; Angela Mwai, UN-Habitat; Gørild D. Mathisen, Norad.

Key recommendations:

- Adopt an integrated life-cycle approach to support women's participation and political apprenticeship (e.g. early child education).
- Create mechanisms to provide women's organisations with long-term non-competitive funding.
- Extend quotas beyond Parliaments, political parties and boards to all aspects of public and economic life.
- Go beyond quotas to increase quality and impact of women's representation and leadership.
- Establish a target date of 2020 to remove all discriminatory laws, and promote gender-sensitive legislation.
- Focus on changing norms and attitudes within society and individual institutions to reach a cultural shift in the minds of all actors involved.
- Challenge gender stereotypes through more innovative projects, such as training for women in middle-level jobs in construction, sustainable energy, etc.

Summary of the discussion:

Panellists called for a holistic approach to empowerment which puts women and survivors at the centre of analysis and responses. Supporting women and investing in building their capacity is critical to encourage their participation and full engagement in policy-making.

There is need to emphasise how the active participation of women can change the game. For instance, during the Ebola crisis, less people died in Liberia than in Guinea and Sierra Leone in part thanks to the active role played by women in conveying information about the virus. Similarly, women played a critical role in the response to typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines. The World Humanitarian Summit should create new spaces for women to participate.

Panellists also stressed the need to support girl's leadership skills and opportunities. There is significant evidence of the role of women's leadership and participation in contributing to political and legal reforms. Lessons highlight the effectiveness of women's collective action, the need to look at political systems and not just elections, the importance of context-specific programmes, the need to invest in women's education and economic assets as building blocks for women's participation, and the importance of political apprenticeship. It is also crucial to be clear about our objectives and what we want to achieve: do we want women's presence, women's influence, or women in positions of power that are able to make changes for women and girls?

Issues for further consideration:

- Bridging the gap between policies and the real needs of women remains a challenge, and requires that we address social norms and create an enabling environment for women's participation and leadership.
- There is a need for evidence-based programming and better indicators to measure impact.
- Violence and the threat of violence discourages women from taking up leadership positions. Security is a prerequisite for progress on women's participation.
- It is essential to build women's capacity to participate at local levels in all sectors.

B. FREEDOM FROM VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS, INCLUDING HARMFUL PRACTICES

Panellists: Natsnet Ghebreyhan, Raising Voices, Uganda; Hege Wagan, UNAIDS; Niall Morris, Irish Aid; Anne Lise Klausen, World Bank; Duy Ai Kien, Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development, Canada; Christina Stummer, Austrian Development Agency; Esperance Fundira, UNFPA.

Key recommendations:

- Adopt a holistic, multi-sectoral, multi-level approach to ending violence against women and girls, including harmful practices.

- Rigorously advocate at policy level for behavioral change which will not happen with programming alone.
- Generate new evidence to inform strategies on prevention and responsive programming.

Summary of the discussion:

Key areas for action include:

- Enhancing accountability of duty bearers, especially domestic duty bearers.
- Ensuring government sectors have sufficient and predictable resources to address GBV.
- Creating an enabling environment to end violence against women, including through outreach and advocacy.
- Promoting economic empowerment for all women, including marginalised and older women.

Issues for further consideration:

- How do we encourage more inter-generational dialogue?
- How can we further integrate human rights into programming?
- How do we build capacity to ensure national ownership of strategies, policies and programmes?

C. GIRLS EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING

Panellists: Rita Aciro, Uganda Women’s Network; Judith Adokorach, Embassy of the Netherlands in Uganda; Simon Mphisa, Chief of Education, UNICEF Uganda; Maggie Kasiko, Technical Adviser in the Gender Unit of the Ugandan Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Sports.

Key recommendations:

- Reform curriculums to ensure that they remain flexible and relevant to the needs of girls and women. Balance academic and vocational studies and complement this with counselling and mentorship programmes for girls.
- Encourage governments to improve the quality of education by implementing standards, increasing financing to the education sector, and supporting civil society organisations to participate in this effort.
- Support community mobilisation and engagement in support of girls’ education and tackle social norms and attitudes that prevent girls’ education.
- Focus on addressing the root causes of girls’ dropout, particularly at high school level, including poverty.
- Engender vocational trainings.

D. WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT: DECENT WORK, ACCESS TO ECONOMIC RESOURCES, AND UNPAID CARE AND DOMESTIC WORK

Panellists: Sian Phillips, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia; Shihana Mohamed, International Civil Service Commission; Ursula Keller, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation; Gudula Naiga Basaza, Uganda Women Entrepreneurs Network; Elena Ferreras Carreras, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development; Raphael Crowe, ILO; Margaret Kyomukama, Assistant Commissioner, Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development of Uganda; Merab Manige, Youth Empowerment in Enterprise Development.

Key recommendations:

- Promoting women's economic empowerment requires integrated programming that involves government, civil society and all other stakeholders.
- Solutions should be context-specific and take into account social norms and practices.
- Women's equal access to land, loans and credits is a priority.
- While promoting employment, it is essential to also address women's unpaid work. Promoting time and labour saving technologies can contribute to reducing women's domestic and care work.
- More research and evidence is needed of the most effective ways to encourage self-employed women to formalise their businesses and move away from the informal sector.
- Investing in information-sharing and building of networks is important for supporting women's economic empowerment, both for women in formal employment and self-employment.
- Governments should be encouraged to include unpaid care work in how they measure GDP and have it reflected in their taxation systems.
- Addressing the gender pay gap along the career path, including discrimination in promotion, is a priority.

E. POVERTY ERADICATION AND LIVELIHOODS

Panellists: Odette Kabaya, UNDP; Angela Langenkamp, GIZ, Germany; Clare Bishop-Sambrook, IFAD; Patricia Colbert, WFP; Peter Kamaligin B.L, Oxfam Uganda.

Key recommendations:

- Adopt gender transformative approaches that tackle the root causes rather than the symptoms of poverty perpetuated by gender inequalities.
- Involve women in the planning and implementation of poverty reduction initiatives to ensure that they benefit from these programmes equally with men.

- Prioritise women's access to financial services.
- Include women in the execution of agriculture projects and allow them to take part in decision-making on the income generated by collectively planned initiatives.
- Establish and develop technical and vocational training institutions on agriculture with a special focus on women, since more than 70% of all employed women in Uganda work in agriculture.
- Tailor agricultural responses or poverty reduction initiatives to adapt to particular contexts such as post-conflict zones or areas that experience longer dry spells.

Summary of the discussion:

- Access to financial services for women, the majority of whom are working in agriculture, is key to poverty reduction.
- Savings, credit and cooperative groups can play an important role by offering access to credit for women to practice commercial agriculture and move towards income-generating activities.
- According to research conducted by the Uganda Women Parliamentary Association on agriculture financing in Eastern Uganda, low-interest loans and longer reimbursement periods enable women to maximise the gains from agricultural activities, such as poultry and piggery.
- Experience shows that favourable lending terms enable women to pay back their loans and get access to bigger loans once they are able to expand their businesses.
- The Gender Action Learning Systems (GALS) is a household methodology introduced by IFAD that involves members of the family in determining the kind of agriculture they want to engage in, how they will do it, how much they will produce and the sharing of the benefits. This participatory and empowering approach focuses on the household as the initial planning and production unit. The methodology promotes social norm change by encouraging men and women to see each other as equal partners in commercial agricultural production through a discussion about gender roles and the benefits of working together.
- Introducing entrepreneurship education in secondary and upper primary education has been identified as a successful intervention to equip the youth with practical skills to create jobs for themselves. Drawing from experiences from countries like Namibia, Cape Verde and Angola, UNIDO is running this entrepreneurship training programme in schools alongside the normal teaching curriculum.

F. SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

Panellists: Mogens Pedersen, Ambassador of Denmark to Uganda; Hege Wagan, UNAIDS; Leyla Sharafi, UNFPA; Irene Ovonji, Uganda Association of Women Lawyers; Judith Adokorach, Embassy of the Netherlands in Uganda.

Key recommendations:

- Take an integrated approach to sexual and reproductive health services related to maternal health, family planning, STIs and HIV into broader health system strengthening and policies on health.
- Keep rights at the forefront by providing services that are available and accessible, without compromising on quality. The right of informed choice should be considered fundamental.

Summary of the discussion:

- Need to ensure family planning and contraceptive service delivery is rights-based, voluntary and gender responsive, not coercive or forced.
- SRHR goes beyond health and involves women's economic empowerment, poverty eradication, and governance. A coordinated approach and enhanced partnerships to promote synergies will help address issues beyond the health sector.
- Engage communities to address the critical issues that prevent women from access to SRHR services. There is a strong need to build a community-based support system.

G. COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

In this breakout group, participants discussed preparations for the 60th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW60) in March 2016. CSW60 will provide a strategic opportunity to discuss the global follow-up and review of the SDGs commitments on gender equality and to ensure a strong role for the CSW in this process.

Recommendations to the UN IANWGE-OECD DAC GENDERNET meeting:

The breakout group recommended that the CSW60 agreed conclusions provide clear and effective guidance for realigning the CSW processes and work programme towards oversight and review of the SDGs, to the effect that:

- The High Level Political Forum will receive, discuss and include recommendations from the CSW agreed conclusions [annually]; and
- All other functional commissions and multilateral fora will be required to address and report on SDG5 and the other gender equality targets in the SDGs.

Summary of key messages from the breakout discussion

- In 2016, we have an opportunity to revitalise the CSW and to strengthen its relevance to the global gender equality agenda. The CSW will be the first functional commission to consider the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and its role in supporting the follow-up and review.
- The Agreed Conclusions of CSW60 should call for the realignment of the work of the Commission to monitor and review the SDGs. A suggestion could be to ask the CSW to undertake a review of 4/5 SDGs each year and a full review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BDPfA) every five years. This would require a

comprehensive mapping of the 2030 Agenda with the BDPfA to create new opportunities to advance the gender equality agenda.

- A reorientation of the CSW as proposed will most likely require a change in its mandate, possibly through a working methods resolution.
- It will be critical to ensure that other functional bodies and commissions also take ownership for reviewing the gender equality commitments in the SDGs.
- We should use all opportunities to promote these proposals through side-events at the CSW60 and keep each other updated on side events and opportunities for joint messaging.
- It will be critical to bring civil society organisations along with us and ensure their ownership of this agenda, recognising that the space for CSOs is decreasing at CSW.
- It will be important to identify milestones towards the 2030 deadline, for example, “removing all discriminatory laws in all countries by 2020”. We should aim to have these by CSW61. UN Women is best placed to undertake this work but will need funding to complete this task before CSW61.

Issues for further consideration:

- Can the CSW change its own mandate or does this need to be done through ECOSOC?
- How can we ensure that realigning the CSW with the SDGs doesn't dilute the focus on the BDPfA which remains the high water mark for women's rights and doesn't have an expiry date?
- What are the other mechanisms and tools that we can use to monitor progress and advance our priorities (CEDAW reports, Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review of the UNGA)?

H. CONFLICT AND HUMANITARIAN ISSUES

Njoki Rahab Kinyanjui, Senior Gender Adviser at UNOCHA and **Patricia Ann Colbert**, Senior Gender Adviser at the World Food Programme briefed participants about the preparations for the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) and the entry points for gender equality. While no major decisions are expected to be made at the summit, the outcomes will set the direction of travel for future humanitarian work.

Key messages for World Humanitarian Summit 2016

Three key messages were identified in preparation for the summit:

1. Put an end to gender-blind humanitarian financing by:

- Improving efforts to track and measure donor funding to gender equality in humanitarian settings through increasing the use of gender markers, such as the DAC gender equality policy marker, the IASC gender marker, and other existing tools.

- Increasing allocations to local women’s organisations by improving small grant funding and mechanisms.
2. **Implement a coordinated approach to prevent and respond to gender-based violence in humanitarian settings.**
 3. **Ensure monitoring and accountability for progress made in closing gender gaps in humanitarian action.** These efforts should be inclusive and bring together humanitarian agencies, donors and local women’s groups.

Since the messaging at the WHS is expected to be very high level, it was suggested that the best approach would be to feed these key messages to the **heads of delegations**. It will also be important to **identify champions** ahead of the summit who can speak up in support of gender equality.

Suggestions for next steps included:

- Organising a side-event on gender equality at the WHS: this could provide an opportunity to present the preliminary findings of the GENDERNET/INCAF research on donor support to gender equality in fragile contexts.
- Jointly reviewing the Secretary General’s report to identify potential gaps and push for strong language - in particular on SRHR.

Other issues discussed included:

- Humanitarian work needs to better to address the linkages between gender inequality, poverty, other inequalities and conflict.
- Stronger coordination is needed between humanitarian actors on protection issues to establish clear lines of responsibility.
- Much more attention is needed to SRHR in humanitarian settings, where services are often unavailable.
- The issue of psychological trauma needs to be better addressed.
- Women refugees must be provided equal access to employment in refugee camps.