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SIDE EVENT HOSTED BY UNESCO

ON THE OCCASION OF THE 68TH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

ELIMINATING POVERTY: STRUCTURAL INTERVENTIONS THROUGH EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SCIENCES

Wednesday, 13 March 2024 - 3.00 PM - 4.15 PM | United Nations, Conference Room 12



The latest report on progress towards reaching the SDGs finds that 1 in every 10 women is living in extreme poverty as measured in terms of living in a household whose income (or expenditure) is below the international poverty line. If current trends continue, by 2030, an estimated 8 per cent of the world's female population - 342.4 million women and girls - will still be living on less than \$2.15 a day^[1].

This side event will bring together experts, policy makers and civil society stakeholders and other stakeholders to collectively explore a series of interconnected areas at the core of UNESCO's action to accelerate gender equality by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and gender responsive financing and budgeting.

Through four fireside chats, UNESCO's partners will share experiences and learn from success stories in closing the gender gap through:

- Financing gender transformative education
- Mobilizing women scientists and leaders to address the climate emergency
- Combating poverty and empowering women through living heritage
- Enhancing women's voices and leadership in the digital public sphere.

[1] UN Women and UNDESA 2023

3.00 - 3.05	Welcome remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">Begoña Lasagabaster, Director of the Division for Gender Equality of UNESCO
3.05 - 3.25	Fireside Chat 1: Financing gender transformative education <p>This session will address the nexus between gender-transformative education and funding needs and mechanisms, making the case for increased funding towards gender equality in and through education and sharing good practices in gender-responsive budgeting to optimize the impact of educational investments. In doing so, this session aims to contribute to the larger discourse at CSW 68 and bolster UNESCO, UNGEI and GCI partners' commitment to increased and gender-equitable financing for education.</p> <p>Main themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Optimizing resources: Budgeting tools and good practices for gender-transformative education in the African context.Building networks and capacities: Community of Practices to foster gender responsive budgeting in the education sector. <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Dr. Valentine Uwamariya, Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion of Rwanda (TBC)Fabricia Devignes, Gender at the Center Initiative (GCI) Lead, UNESCO IIEP
3.25 - 3.40	Fireside Chat 2: Mobilizing women scientists and leaders to address climate emergency <p>This session will share experiences of young women scientists and leaders' working in scientific fields related to climate change and good practices on the mobilization of women's scientific and local knowledge to address environmental and climate challenges for an inclusive and sustainable future. It will thus provide insights to make gender equality a driver of environmental and climate solutions.</p> <p>Main themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Promoting gender equality in water management through the Multi-stakeholder Coalition on Water and Gender EqualityYoung women scientists contributing to a better understanding of complex processes of climate change impact on ecosystems <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Patricia Hernandez, General Director of ANEAS (Association of Water and Sanitation Utilities of Mexico).Henintsoa Onivola Minoarivelo, L'Oreal-UNESCO Women in Science Young Talent Award winner and Research Scientist at the Alliance of Bioversity International and the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (Cape Town, South Africa). <p>Moderator: Anna Gawel, Managing Editor of Devex</p>

**3.40 –
3.55****Fireside Chat 3: Combating poverty and empowering women through living heritage**

This session will explore how investment in living cultural heritage can be a driver for gender equality, promote indigenous women's economic and social empowerment and strengthen institutions through the experience and result of the project "Economic and Social Development with a Gender Perspective through Embroidery in Yucatan" (Mexico).

Main themes:

- Promoting the socio-economic empowerment of indigenous women and community's development through textile art.
- Fostering positive masculinities through living heritage practices.

Speakers:

- Loreto Noemí Villanueva Trujillo, Minister of Arts and Culture, Yucatan, Mexico
- Jimena Prado Lebrija, Director of Banorte Foundation
- Cándida Jiménez Bojorquez, Embroiderer from Mani, representative of the group U Najil Chuy

Moderator: Andrés Morales, Director of the UNESCO Office in Mexico

**3.55 –
4.10****Fireside Chat 4: Enhancing women's voices and leadership in the digital public sphere**

This session will discuss how a digital space can be ensured that fosters the full and equal participation of women in all spheres of public life, offline and online, and will put forward possible threats as well as positive advancements and solutions derived from generative AI developments.

Main themes:

- Providing an overview of how generative AI impacts on gender dynamics, highlighting potential pitfalls and advancements
- Exploring solutions to address the risks of technology-facilitated gender-based violence by different actors
- Ensuring safe, just and meaningful participation of women in all spheres of online public life

Speakers:

- Ivana Drobnyak, Professor of Computational Healthcare and Director of Undergraduate Programme at the Department of Computer Science, University College London (TBC)
- Dhanya Lakshmi, Machine Learning engineer building tools and framework for models, data governance strategies and model risk assessment methodologies

**4.10 –
4.15****Closing remarks**

- Begoña Lasagabaster, Director of the Division for Gender Equality of UNESCO