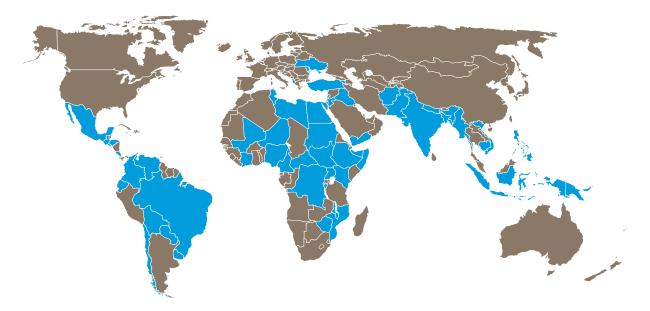
# HUMANITARIAN ACTION

**Annual Report 2023** 

# WOMEN #

# WHERE WE WORK

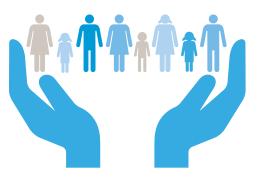
UN Women responded to the needs and priorities of crisis-affected women and girls in **56** countries in 2023.



Afghanistan, Albania, Armenia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Bolivia, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Libya, Malawi, Mali, Mexico, Moldova, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, the State of Palestine, Paraguay, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, Uruguay, Venezuela, Vietnam, Yemen, and Zimbabwe.

UN Women's humanitarian response benefitted

**887,532 people** (518,166 women, 113,482 girls, 204,700 men, 49,912 boys, and 1,272 gender-diverse people).



Front cover: Torkham crossing point, Afghanistan – Photo credit: UN Women/Sayed Habib Bidell Back inside cover: A March to Women's Leadership in Cox's Bazar – Photo credit: Courtesy of Oxfam/Istiak Karim

# **OUR DONORS**

**Member States** 

Australia	Austria	Belgium	Brazil	Canada	Denmark
European Union	Finland	France	Germany	Iceland	Italy
Japan	Netherlands	Norway	Poland	Spain	Sweden
Switzerland UK US					



# HOW WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

#### Background

In 2024, approximately **150 million** women and girls<sup>1</sup> are in need of humanitarian assistance worldwide. From the State of Palestine to Ukraine, Sudan, and Afghanistan, the numbers are going up as geopolitical conflicts, climate change, health and food crises intensify. In fragile contexts, women and girls are more vulnerable to crisis shocks, being nearly 8 times more likely to live in poverty and be more food insecure than those in other contexts.<sup>2</sup> Climate change is expected to leave **236 million** more women and girls hungry by 2030, twice as many as men.<sup>3</sup> Gender-based violence (GBV) and sexual exploitation and abuse prevails as a serious violation of women's rights.



Displaced families head from the Al Zeitoun neighborhood in Gaza City to the south of Gaza – Photo credit: UN Women/ Samar Abu Elouf

#### **Our approach**

UN Women's role: In humanitarian contexts, UN Women identifies and addresses **the specific needs of crisisaffected and displaced women and girls with all their diversity**, including those with diverse sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions and sex characteristics (SOGIESC), disabilities, or migratory status. As set out in its <u>humanitarian strategy</u>, UN Women has a twopronged approach to these efforts through:

- (i) Coordination UN Women works with the international humanitarian system to help hold itself accountable to its policy-prescribed commitments to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in humanitarian action. This includes UN Women's role as an Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) member, providing leadership on the implementation of the IASC's Gender Policy.
- (ii) Service Delivery UN Women through its mandate as the lead agency for gender equality and women's empowerment provides gender-responsive service delivery to crisis-affected women and girls, through unique multisectoral programmatic approaches bringing together protection, leadership, and livelihood interventions in crisis and displacement settings.

Throughout the two-pronged approach, UN Women **amplifies women's voices and leadership** in humanitarian and crisis response and recovery as a cross-cutting priority through partnerships with local women led organizations and networks.

#### **Our Added Value:**

In the humanitarian coordination system, UN Women provides much needed technical capacity and leadership on gender integration, and helps the humanitarian system hold itself accountable to its gender commitments and helps ensure that the most vulnerable members of crisis affected populations are heard and supported. Through its specialized service delivery, UN Women endeavours to support the most vulnerable women including women-headed households, women with disabilities and LGBTIQ+ groups, while delivering comprehensive services. UN Women addresses pre-existing

- Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Global Humanitarian Overview, 2024 https://humanitarianaction.info/
- 2 UN Women & United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division, *Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals*, 2023 <u>https://www.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/2023-09/progress-on-the-sustainable-development-goals-the-gender-snapshot-2023-en.pdf</u>



Palestinian citizens return to their homes in eastern Khan Yunis - Photo credit: UN Women/Samar Abu Elouf

gender inequalities, discrimination, and harmful norms and practices embedded in societies through engagement with local institutions and communities. UN Women's gender-transformative approach enables the transformation of women's lives, supporting them to rebuild livelihoods better in the long term, contributing to durable solutions for women and girls in crisis and displacement settings.

By leveraging its long-standing partnerships with local actors, including **local women's organizations (LWOs)**, UN Women ensures that the rights and protection of displaced women are regarded as central to the delivery of lifesaving humanitarian services and assistance. It also ensures that the valuable contributions of LWOs as front-line responders and community mobilizers are recognized and incorporated into the planning and implementation of any given response, including the design and roll out of mechanisms to ensure Accountability to Affected Populations.

UN Women's **triple mandate – normative, coordination, and operation**, is indivisible. Our humanitarian action demonstrates the need for complementarity and linkages between UN Women's coordination and operational mandate in response to the needs and priorities identified by local women-led organizations and women themselves in humanitarian and displacement settings.



Torkham crossing point, Afghanistan – Photo credit: UN Women/Sayed Habib Bidell

### UN WOMEN'S COORDINATION WORK

#### KEY RESULTS AT A GLANCE:

In 2023, UN Women extended gender expertise to **100 percent** of the humanitarian cluster systems in countries with UN-Women's presence.

UN Women led/co-led **27 national Gender in Humanitarian Action** (GiHA) Working Groups; **6 regional GiHA Working Groups**.

UN Women trained a total of **3,594 personnel** 

from humanitarian leadership and stakeholders, including cluster leads, government officials, and implementing agencies on the integration of gender into humanitarian action.



UN Women contributed to **34** Joint, Multi-Sectoral, or Post-Disaster **Needs assessments** by generating and promoting the use of gender data and analyses.

UN Women developed gender analyses to inform the development of **23 Humanitarian Needs Overviews/Humanitarian Response Plans**, and **15 Refugee Response Plans**.

#### INTEGRATING AFGHAN WOMEN'S NEEDS INTO HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Since the Taliban took control of Kabul in August 2021, the rights of women and girls in Afghanistan have been drastically undermined and rolled back. UN Women, jointly with IOM and UNAMA, conducted guarterly consultations with hundreds of women in 33 provinces since the Taliban takeover. These consultations help amplify their voices in national and international fora. UN Women, through the GiHA Working Group, provides guidance to the HCT on specific concerns raised by Afghan women and provides technical support for gender-responsive humanitarian assistance. UN Women and the local gender network successfully negotiated with the De-facto Authority to include women in assessment teams for response to the 2023 earthquake, enabling identification of the specific needs of women and girls for the response planning.

In 2023, UN Women contributed to holding the global and country-level humanitarian coordination bodies accountable to its commitments on gender equality by providing gender capacity and leadership, and coordinating Gender in Humanitarian Action working groups (GiHA WGs). In concurrence, local women's organizations were mentored and trained to meaningfully engage and participate in



Hundreds of thousands of Afghans face harsh return after expulsion from Pakistan – Photo credit: UN Women/Sayed Habib Bidell

humanitarian decision-making to accelerate integration of gender considerations across the Humanitarian Programme Cycle. Furthermore, UN Women generated and promoted the use of gender data and analysis to inform humanitarian planning and decision making, and trained and built partnerships with HCT and cluster-level humanitarian stakeholders to broaden coalitions of gender advocates.

In 2023, UN Women led the process to update the <u>IASC's</u> <u>Gender Policy</u> (endorsed in February 2024). The updated Policy aims to renew and refine IASC standards, commitments and designated roles and responsibilities vis-à-vis the integration of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls into the planning and implementation of the global IASC humanitarian response. Despite recent progress, significant gaps remain in relation to inclusive participation of and direct funding support to local women-led organizations in humanitarian decision making. To address these persistent gaps and challenges, the Policy outlines the priority areas to guide systemic action and prioritization across the different levels of the humanitarian system:

- Increased support for local women-led organizations though the allocation of an agreed percentage/portion of funds from appeals and pooled funds;
- 2. Meaningful inclusion in humanitarian decision-making processes and the provision of a dedicated platform for crisis-affected women and girls to engage with the humanitarian system through the GiHA Working Groups; and
- **3. Developing defined priorities and plans on gender equality**, including at the HCT level, and ensuring that the gender accountability monitoring process proves to be a meaningful exercise enabling strengthened attention to gender in humanitarian action.

With the generous support of the German Federal Foreign Office, UN Women has scaled up its support to the humanitarian coordination mechanisms in nine complex humanitarian contexts: Afghanistan, Colombia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, Niger, South Sudan, and the State of Palestine. To date, the programme has facilitated the participation and leadership of **425 women's groups and organizations** in humanitarian decision-making and coordination spaces; enhanced the capacity of **1,633 humanitarian responders**; and developed **41 gender analysis and other knowledge products** that have informed the UN-coordinated humanitarian response plans. More local women's rights organizations acquired memberships of GiHA WGs and HCT in countries like the States of Palestine and Ethiopia.

### EXPANDING THE GIHA COORDINATION IN ETHIOPIA

A key achievement in Ethiopia was the establishment of a GiHA Working Group in June 2023. In less than six months after the GiHA Working Group started providing technical support and guidance to the Ethiopia HCT and humanitarian clusters, and upon rounds of consultations with LWOs, the HCT endorsed the proposal to further decentralize the national GiHA Working Group to sub-regions within the country. This indicates the strong impact that the GiHA Working Groups supported by UN Women can have on the broader humanitarian coordination and towards a localized approach, allowing **more LWOs to engage and use their voice** to advocate for the rights and needs of women and girls in crisis settings.



Women receiving livelihood training in Ethiopia – Photo credit: AWSAD

### STRENGTHENING GIHA CAPACITIES OF

In Colombia, under the decentralized humanitarian architecture, UN Women focused its efforts in three regions most in need (Chocó, Cauca, and Nariño) to **strengthen GiHA capacities of LWOs at the grassroots level**. UN Women closely worked with nearly 40 LWOs, including those led by women with disabilities and indigenous women, to equip them with a robust understanding of the humanitarian architecture in Colombia, and skillsets of advocacy, community-based crisis response, and gender-mainstreaming. UN Women Colombia supported the participation of six LWOs in the development of the Humanitarian Needs Overview, which informed the country's 2024-2025 Humanitarian Response Plan.

## UN WOMEN'S SERVICE DELIVERY

#### KEY RESULTS AT A GLANCE:

#### In 2023, 887,532 people accessed UN

Women-supported services in humanitarian and displacement settings, including GBV response and prevention, livelihood, and women's leaderships.

### 119 Safe Spaces and Women's

Empowerment Centres were managed by UN Women and an additional 158 are supported by UN Women in 25 countries.



UN Women provided Second Chance Education learning opportunities to a total of **27,041 people** (**24,252 women**, **2,469 girls**, **271 men** and **49 boys**) in 11 crisis-affected countries.

UN Women's programmatic framework "Leadership, Empowerment, Access, and Protection (LEAP) Gender Equality Accelerator" advances protection, access to livelihoods, and learning for women and girls, including IDPs and refugees, in over 35 crisis-affected countries. The services include GBV response and prevention, women's leadership, livelihood and cash assistance, vocational training, and second-chance education. Leveraging the framework, in 2021-2023, UN Women implemented the OCHA CERF Global Grant for GBV response and prevention, jointly with UNFPA in sudden-onset and protracted crises: Bangladesh (Cox's Bazar), Cameroon, Colombia, Ethiopia, the State of Palestine, and Myanmar. The programme reached a total of 1.5 million beneficiaries, mainly survivors of violence and crisis-affected women and girls at risk, to access life-saving services and information.



Mother and child affected by the earthquake in Türkiye – Photo credit: UN Women/Ilkin Eskipehlivan

#### DELIVERING TAILORED SERVICES TO WOMEN AFFECTED BY EARTHQUAKE IN TÜRKIYE

In February 2023, the devastating earthquake near the Türkiye-Syria border affected the livelihoods of more than 9 million people. UN Women Türkiye conducted a rapid needs assessment to identify LWOs' experience in earthquake-response, and the impact on women's safety and security in most-impacted areas. UN Women's support enabled over 5,500 women and girls to access psychosocial counselling, awareness raising on safety and protection, and livelihood skills development opportunities. These services were provided through the establishment of two Women's Empowerment Hubs in partnership with the private sector. Furthermore, UN Women developed the gender-responsive settlement model to exemplify how women and girls' needs and priorities need to be considered within new settlements.



Taghreed is teaching sewing at UN Women Jordan's Oasis Centre – Photo credit: UN Women/Bashar Al-Jabari

#### STORY OF TAGHREED

**Taghreed** is a Syrian refugee residing in Jordan with her three children. At the **UN Women's Oasis Centre**, she joined a cash-for-work program coordinated by UN Women in partnership with WFP, and learned tailoring. She eventually started a tailoring business from her home and earned income to send her eldest daughter to university. Now she also works at the Centre as a trainer. *"It is not only my family that benefits from these courses provided by UN Women. So many women and families are positively affected. And I am doing my part to help other refugee women have better lives too."* 

## COMMITMENTS TO THE LOCALIZATION AGENDA

#### KEY RESULTS AT A GLANCE:

In 2023, **1,580 LWOs** received training to meaningfully engage in **humanitarian and refugee coordination mechanisms**.

With this support, **363 LWOs** successfully engaged in humanitarian and refugee coordination mechanisms.

In addition, **707 LWOs** were trained with increased capacities/resources to deliver and

monitor **quality humanitarian services for women,** including through Accountability to Affected People (AAP) mechanisms, safety audits and others.



UN Women **collaborates with LWOs** throughout the humanitarian programme cycle to promote their leadership in humanitarian decision-making spaces, conducting gender data collection and needs assessments, and delivering critical services in crises where they are usually first responders to serve communities' needs at the grassroots level. Furthermore, UN Women supports LWOs to access the tools, resources, and capacity building, as well as advocating among humanitarian actors for the equitable partnerships with LWOs and their access to quality funding.

With support of the OCHA CERF Global Grant between 2021 and 2023, UN Women, in partnership with UNFPA, channelled more than **30% of its \$8 million allocation to 14 LWOs** as partners of GBV response and prevention in crisis-affected communities. As a part of the programme's outcomes to strengthen capacities of LWOs, **more than 469 LWOs** were trained in humanitarian service delivery, leadership, advocacy, financial management, and resource mobilization. **100% of the LWO** partners surveyed reported that the programme enabled better services to survivors and affected people and **72%** reported that the programme introduced them to new potential funding opportunities and platforms.

### IMPACT OF LOCAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION

Through the CERF support, UN Women partnered with LWOs and provided women and girls who have experienced or are at risk of GBV with critical protection and livelihood services. UN Women Myanmar's Programme Specialist Rowena Dacsig emphasized the significance of LWOs' work: "only those organizations which have local partners can carry on with their work. Otherwise, the services to survivors and those at risk of GBV, including in internally displaced persons camps, would have ceased completely. Without these local partners, we'd be totally blind to the needs of women and girls in Myanmar because little to no information is coming out of these communities."

UN Women Cameroon partnered with a LWO called the Authentique Memorial Empowerment Foundation (AMEF). Ms. Theresia Ngoe, AMEF's Livelihood and Empowerment Officer, shared: "We have a deeper understanding of community needs because we live with these people every day. The international community **needs to work with us as actual partners,** not just as implementers who will execute whatever they tell us to do. The UN Women CERF team acknowledged this gap and provided a listening ear for our recommendations... this made us feel accepted and valued."



Officers from Authentique Memorial Empowerment Foundation (AMEF), a CERF partner in Cameroon, conduct a leadership management training with members of local women's rights organizations – Photo credit: AMEF

### UN WOMEN'S PARTNERSHIPS FOR MAXIMIZING IMPACTS

#### KEY RESULTS AT A GLANCE:

In 2023, In **24 COUNTIES** UN Women worked with **14 Other UN agencies** to

deliver humanitarian response. The largest partners include OCHA, UNFPA, WFP, UNHCR and UNICEF.



UN Women envisions a world where societies are free of gender discrimination, and women and girls are empowered to lead the change they want to see. But we cannot make it happen alone. **Partnerships are essential**, with international actors, governments, civil society groups, businesses and foundations, and committed individuals. When we bring our expertise and resources together, we become a powerful force for progress.

Since becoming a member of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) in 2022, UN Women has strengthened its coordination in humanitarian and refugee response mechanisms to lead inter-agency commitments to gender equality and empowerment of women and girls, while scaling up its humanitarian response in partnership with other humanitarian actors. UN Women continues to work closely with OCHA to promote the integration of gender into humanitarian coordination.

OCHA is a key partner in steering the new focus of the policy so that it is fit for purpose and reflective of advancements on GiHA since the 2017 policy was launched, as well as addressing persistent gaps and challenges. At COP28, UN Women and OCHA, along with FAO, UNFPA, WFP, WPHF, OFPRC, FAO and UNFPA, conducted a successful interactive dialogue event on "gendered dimensions of climate-related emergencies, partnerships, and financing through a gender and localization lens," which allowed key stakeholders to share best practices and innovative solutions through a multi-stakeholder dialogue to inform

#### **STORY OF EVGHENIA**

**Evghenia** from Ukraine participated in the **livelihood skills development course** in business and entrepreneurship while receiving tailored psychosocial counselling, offered by UN Women Moldova. The grant from the project enabled her to create an art studio where refugee children can learn art skills and express themselves. She expresses gratitude for the support offered, saying: *"I gained the courage to open my own art centre only because they believed in me."* 



Evghenia Kushnir in front left, with refugee women - Photo credit: Courtesy of Evghenia Kushnir

policy and programming on climate risk management and response to the gendered dimensions of the climate crisis.

In 2023, UN Women reaffirmed its dedication to the principles outlined in the UN Common Pledge 2.0 for the **Global Compact on Refugees**, aimed at combatting gender discrimination in nationality laws, addressing statelessness, and advancing the rights of refugee women and girls. This commitment was underscored during the **Global Refugee Forum (GRF)** held in Geneva. UN Women also contributed technical expertise through its comprehensive gender equality review of the pledges by all the UN Country Teams, which were presented at the UNHCR's donor briefing prior to the Forum.

### PARTNERING WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO SUPPORT REFUGEE WOMEN

During GRF, UN Women organized an event highlighting the importance of **private partnerships for supporting refugee women**, such as a social enterprise in East Africa, INKOMOKO. Micro and small businesses led by women not only drive economic growth but also nurture thriving communities, offering essential goods and services that uplift families and entire societies. *"With a repayment rate of 98% and a staggering survival rate of 85%, these businesses stand as beacons of resilience, showcasing the unwavering spirit of women, particularly those displaced by conflict and crisis." Makena Mworia, Managing Director, INKOMOKO.* 

At the Forum, UN Women not only pledged to uphold the Multistakeholder Pledge on Advancing Localization in Displacement and Statelessness Responses but also endorsed the Multistakeholder Pledge: Ending Statelessness and the GBV Multistakeholder pledge. These pledges reflect UN Women's determination to engage in collaborative efforts to address the complex challenges faced by displaced populations. In addition to the global commitments, UN Women reinforced gender-responsive refugee response at the regional and country levels. In Moldova, UN Women and the Regional Coordination Forum chaired by UNHCR led the localization of the IASC Gender Accountability Framework, taking the local context into account in September 2023, in collaboration with the sectoral working group. This informed 2024 Refugee Response Planning efforts.

In 2023, UN Women reinforced the **tripartite partnerships with WFP and UNFPA** on advancing gender equality and women's empowerment in food crises. UN Women staff from HQ, regions, and countries joined the co-organized partnership workshop in Rome and identified potential areas of collaboration in specific thematic areas and/or geographical areas based on current good practice. The

### GENDER-RESPONSIVE ACTION TO THE HUMAN MOBILITY CRISIS

In the Americas and the Caribbean, UN Women facilitated a gender-responsive initiative to human mobility scale-up in 2023. UN Women developed a biannual joint workplan (2023-2025) with UNHCR, aiming to foster a joint response to the human mobility crisis in the region. The strategic partnership enabled UN Women to integrate gender considerations in a stronger manner to the GRF and regional processes including the Quito Process, a regional technical workspace for a coordinated response to 2 million Venezuelan refugees and migrants. In addition, UN Women leads the gender mainstreaming in the interagency coordination platform called R4V and takes the co-leadership of the R4V human trafficking and smuggling regional subsector along with IOM to incorporate a gender lens to the coordination.

#### **STORY OF MARGARET**

**Margaret** from South Sudan fled to Uganda with her four children and four others given up by her relatives. Through UN Women programmes, she accessed mental health services and women's leadership skills training. This enabled her to mobilize other women to form a support group and start advocating for her community's needs to other UN agencies and local authorities, with a focus on the needs of widows. Thanks to **her strong leadership and advocacy**, Margaret was elected as one of the leaders in the refugee settlement. Despite her continued refugee status, Margaret has *"hope for my future, and more importantly, for my children's future."* 



A woman refugee from South Sudan in the Bidi Bidi settlement in Uganda – Photo credit: UN Women/Eva Sibanda



Laadi Lucas at the Minawao refugee camp – Photo credit: Désiré Mikone

roadmap for partnership was drafted with special attention to strengthen collaborations in areas such as data and evidence; joint assessments; early warning systems; GBV risk mitigation; cash and voucher assistance; and livelihoods. The enhanced partnership enabled UN Women to further integrate a gender lens to food crisis response, as women and girls are in the riskiest positions in food crises.

#### STORY OF LAADI

Laadi Lucas dropped out of school and got married when she fled from escalated violence by Boko Haram in Nigeria to Cameroon. Joining UN Women's Second Chance (SCE) Education programme, she gained livelihood and leadership skills, and started supporting her family by selling her own crafts. The training also helped her learn how to interact with other women at the camp and in the community. Leveraging the acquired skills, she is currently assisting four of her struggling friends through the programme. "Until I had the opportunity to join SCE, I was a stay-at-home wife with nothing to do. I can now support my family... I aspire to complete my education someday and have the opportunity to transfer the knowledge I have to the younger generation."

#### PARTNERING WITH WFP TO RESPOND TO THE CRISIS IN GAZA

Following escalation of the situation on 7 October, UN Women formulated the six-month crisis response framework to the Gaza crisis to respond to acute humanitarian needs of affected women and girls. At the implementation phase, UN Women partnered with WFP and provided 14,000 vulnerable female-headed households with food and cash assistance, reaching indirectly over 100,000 people. UN Women also contributed its data to the gender component of the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification brief. Immediate response was enabled thanks to UN Women's robust partnerships with humanitarian clusters, including the cash for work group and food security cluster, and the seamless coordination with WFP. in tandem with three LWOs.



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 ensure that the standards are effectively implemented and truly benefit women and girls worldwide. It works globally to make the vision of the Sustainable Development Goals a reality for women and girls and stands behind women's equal participation in all aspects of life, focusing on four strategic priorities: Women lead, participate in and benefit equally from governance systems; Women have income security, decent work and economic autonomy; All women and girls live a life free from all forms of violence; Women and girls contribute to and have greater influence in building sustainable peace and resilience, and benefit equally from the prevention of natural disasters and conflicts and humanitarian action. UN Women also coordinates and promotes the UN system's work in advancing gender equality.

# 

220 East 42nd Street New York, New York 10017, USA

> UN Women Geneva Office, Avenue Appia 20, 1211 Geneva, Switzerland

www.unwomen.org www.facebook.com/unwomen www.twitter.com/un\_women www.youtube.com/unwomen www.flickr.com/unwomen