



UN
WOMEN



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women

UN WOMEN
IN CENTRAL ASIA

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UN WOMEN IN CENTRAL ASIA

UN Women is the United Nations entity 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 rights worldwide. UN Women supports United Nations Member States as they set global standards for achieving gender equality, and works with governments and civil society to design laws, policies, programmes and services needed to implement these standards. www.unwomen.org

UN Women Multi-Country Office Kazakhstan (Central Asia)

UN Women Multi-Country Office Kazakhstan (Central Asia)¹ is entrusted the mandate to operate in four countries: ***Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.***

Along with visible though varying progress towards gender equality, Central Asia still faces challenges of regional disintegration, large disparities in economic and social development and widely varied labour markets. Most of the countries experience dynamic labour migration flows and processes. Stagnant or declining GDP and fiscal austerity as a result of the financial and economic crisis have lasting deteriorating impact on income, employment, access to basic services, including social protection, health and education, as well as on management of water and land resources. All this together with social polarization, gender stereotypes, dominating in patriarchal societies of Central Asia, and limited access of women to decision-making leads to a diversified social, political and economic development landscape, influences the status of gender equality in the region, in some cases decreasing the value of the previous achievements.

These factors and several global indexes (see Annexes) determine the focus of UN Women programming

choices for the region. All programme areas are aligned with national development priorities and are geared to improve accountability of states and capacity to implement international gender equality commitments.

The 2014-2015 UN Women programme in Central Asia is built upon feedback from national partners accumulated through country consultations and in-depth analysis of programme activity over recent years. The UN Women strategic approach embraces identification and effective utilization of country-specific opportunities as entry points to provide comprehensive programmatic responses in the following programme areas:

- **Increasing women's political participation at all levels**
- **Increasing women's access, especially of the most excluded, to economic resources and opportunities**
- **Preventing and ending violence against women and girls**
- **Increasing women's leadership and participation in peace, security and humanitarian response**
- **Strengthening the responsiveness of national plans and budgets to gender equality commitments and priorities at all levels.**

¹ Kyrgyzstan is covered by a separate UN Women Country Office.

TABLE OF CONTENTS



INCREASING WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AT ALL LEVELS

- Promoting Temporary Special Measures to Increase Women's Political Participation in Kazakhstan 7
- Promoting Temporary Special Measures in Uzbekistan 9



INCREASING WOMEN'S ACCESS TO ECONOMIC RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES

- Empowering Rural Women through Social Mobilization in Uzbekistan 11
- Engendering Land-Related Legislation in Tajikistan 12
- Extending Innovative Service Models in Tajikistan 13
- Improving Access of the Most Vulnerable Women to Economic Assets in Tajikistan 14
- Protecting Rights of Women in the Context of Labour Migration in Central Asia 14



PREVENTING AND ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

- Supporting the Provision of Social Services to Victims of Domestic Violence in Kazakhstan 17
- Strengthening the Rule of Law and Human Rights to Empower People in Tajikistan 18
- New Legislation and Law Enforcement to Eliminate Violence Against Women in Kazakhstan and Tajikistan 19



INCREASING WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP IN PEACE, SECURITY AND HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

- Women for Peace and Security in Central Asia 21
- Women Connect Across Conflicts: Building Accountability for Implementation of UNSCRs 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889 22
- Engendering Disaster Risk Reduction and Humanitarian Response in Kazakhstan and Tajikistan 24
- Supporting Natural Disaster Response in Tajikistan 25



STRENGTHENING THE RESPONSIVENESS OF NATIONAL PLANS AND BUDGETS TO GENDER EQUALITY COMMITMENTS

- Enforcing CEDAW Concluding Observations in Tajikistan and Kazakhstan 27
- Supporting the Universal Periodic Review Process in Uzbekistan 28
- Incorporating Women's Human Rights Obligations into the National AIDS Response in Tajikistan and Kazakhstan 29

UN WOMEN GLOBAL CAMPAIGNS

KEY KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS AND ONLINE RESOURCES

ANNEXES

- Gender Inequality Index and Other Gender-Related Indexes for Central Asian Countries 36
- CEDAW Ratification and Reporting Status for Central Asian Countries 37

INCREASING WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AT ALL LEVELS



From the local to the global level, women's leadership and political participation are restricted. Women are under-represented as voters as well as in leading positions, whether in elected offices, the civil service and the private sector. Structural barriers, including discriminatory laws, practices, attitudes and gender stereotypes, low level of education, lack of access to health care and the disproportionate effect of poverty still limit women's participation in decision-making processes. As of January 2014 in the world, only **9** elected heads of state and **15** heads of government were women. Totally, **17 per cent** of government ministers were women, with the majority overseeing 'soft' portfolios, such as education, health and the family. Women held **21,8 per cent** of seats in parliaments which is still far below 30 per cent, recognized as the critical mass needed to advance a gender equality agenda. Out of the **34 countries** that have reached or exceeded this index, **29** have temporary special measures in place¹. **Today, in Central Asia women are under-represented in all elected and non-elected bodies, despite national efforts to reach international commitments in this area. UN Women will strengthen its efforts to introduce temporary special measures into national legislation of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.**

Promoting Temporary Special Measures to Increase Women's Political Participation in Kazakhstan

UN Women MCO Kazakhstan has been supporting a **constructive dialogue** with the National Commission for Women Affairs and Socio-Demographic Policy under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, parliamentarians, government officials and civil society to deepen the understanding of electoral system components from a conceptual perspective and to explore applicability of temporary special measures (TMS) to increase women's political participation in the

country. A series of intensive consultations took place in 2014, including a high-level capacity development workshop, organized by UN Women in April 2014 in Almaty, that **generated concrete recommendations** to develop the roadmap to advocate for relevant legal and policy reforms in Kazakhstan as well as established **an advocacy group**, consisting of prominent gender advocates among members of parliament, in order to promote discussions on TSM at the national level.

¹ Sources: Inter-Parliamentary Union, map "Women in Politics 2014", www.ipu.org
UN Women Strategic plan, 2014-2017, UNW/2013/6*, 23.07.2013

Following round table in Astana in December 2014 reiterated the commitments and affirmed the need for the improvement of legislative measures. This could be achieved through the translation of the gender equality principles enshrined in the national Constitution and the Gender Equality Law into electoral legislation and practices to increase women's political participation and representation at the decision-making level. As a result a set of recommendations was developed and agreed upon. They included de-

veloping a mechanism to promote women's political participation, introducing an indicator on women's representation in local government into the set of indicators for rating heads of local governments at the district and provincial levels, initiating a state-funded programme on women's political participation, creating a roster of active young women leaders to support their careers, etc. UN Women and partners will be advocating for the implementation of the recommendations in 2015.

Women of Central Asia in Parliaments and in Ministerial Positions

(as of January 1, 2014)

| Country | % of women in national Parliament | | % of women in ministerial positions |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| | Lower or single house | Upper house | |
| <i>Kazakhstan</i> | 25,2 | 6,4 | 20 |
| <i>Kyrgyzstan</i> | 23,3 | – | 14,3 |
| <i>Tajikistan</i> | 15,9 | 11,8 | 11,1 |
| <i>Turkmenistan</i> | 26,4 | – | 8,8 |
| <i>Uzbekistan</i> | 22 | 15 | 10,5 |



Promoting Temporary Special Measures in Uzbekistan

The issue of temporary special measures (TSM) to promote women's participation in decision-making was successfully put on the agenda for policy discussions in Uzbekistan. This was achieved through expanded and strengthened partnerships by UN Women with a wide range of partners, including the Women's Committee of Uzbekistan, Parliamentarians, and leading NGOs. With UN Women technical support, the national

partners actively participated in broad discussions organized by UN Women that resulted in the development of recommendations for TSMs to be used in Uzbekistan. At the end of 2014 the document was submitted to the Ministry of Justice for further consideration and approval. In 2015 UN Women will support national partners in their advocacy for its adoption.

INCREASING WOMEN'S ACCESS TO ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT AND OPPORTUNITIES



Today, women comprise 70 per cent of the 1.3 billion people who live in absolute poverty – earning less than \$1 a day. The average global gender pay gap for equal work remains wide and is around 17%.

Globalization is creating new and complex sets of risks and opportunities, while the global financial and economic crisis aggravated women's limited access to economic resources, which led to the erosion or loss of livelihoods, labour rights and social benefits. There is a concern over significant gender-driven disparities in access to production assets, including land and capital.

In Central Asia, where women are predominant in the agricultural sector, in low-productivity and low-paid activities, UN Women focuses on engendering land and other related policies in Tajikistan, extending innovative women's economic empowerment initiatives and securing rights of labour migrants and members of their families.

Empowering Rural Women through Social Mobilization in Uzbekistan

The “Promotion of Women's Economic Rights in Uzbekistan” project is aimed at stepping up economic independence of vulnerable rural women through their mobilization in self-help groups to address together challenges caused by lack of access to financial resources and economic knowledge, such as financial management, business planning and on the credit system. Throughout 2010-2013, within the project, UN Women supported the initiative of the Women's Committee of Uzbekistan (WCU) to employ social mobilization for ensuring rural women's access to economic assets and capital, and extension services. It was built upon the innovative model piloted successfully earlier in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. The WCU facilitated capacity-building of oblast and regional centers for women's social and legal support, and secured favourable terms for micro crediting of rural women on the part of the State.

The project, implemented in six pilot areas of

Uzbekistan in partnership with the Joint-Stock Commercial Microcredit bank, helped to set up **134** women's self-help groups whose members were trained in business organization principles. **All of them** were granted microcredits with the interest rate decreased from **14 to 3 per cent**. As a result, women were able to improve their families' living standards, upgrade the social status both at household and community levels, and become advocates of social mobilization.

Follow on 2010-2013 outcomes, in 2014 UN Women made a credible contribution to improving the living standards and income generation capabilities of **110 most excluded rural women** in Muynar district of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, and totally reached **583** members of their families. The project was funded by New Zealand Embassy in Moscow. The Women's Committee of Uzbekistan followed-up on the project's results by further scaling-up of the



approaches of the project through integrating them into relevant policy provisions as well as creating an enabling environment for their implementation. The commitment to this practice was included into the “Year of Healthy Child” State programme, approved by the President of Uzbekistan in February 2014.

UN Women’s social mobilization approach as a sustainable tool for women’s economic empowerment was recommended to apply for new UNDP/UN Women joint programmes in Uzbekistan.

Engendering land-related legislation in Tajikistan

Considering that from 2008 to 2013 the number of Dekhkan farms headed by women in Tajikistan increased **by 85%** (from 3782 to 6981), in 2014, UN Women continued its facilitation for **engendering the Law on Dekhkan Farms**, a process which began in 2012. Due to successful capacity-building initiatives more than 25 legislators, government officials and NGOs strengthened their capacity and developed gender specific recommendations for incorporating them into the Law. They comprised introduction of two types of Dekhkan farms (with and without legal status), registration of the farm as an entity of entrepreneurship, registration of the farm head as an individual entrepreneur, gender specific regulations for creating farms and running them as well as protecting the labour and social rights (such as annual, social, and maternity leaves) for Dekhkan farm members. To advocate for these recommendations, which have a strong impact on Dekhkan farms led by women, UN Women

and its local partners participated in the regular meetings of the working group created by the Government to draft the Law. As a result of this partnership recommendations proposed by the group were incorporated in the bill that was submitted for government review, scheduled to take place in the first half of 2015.

The policy changes and advocacy the Parliament and the Ministry of Labour, Migration and Employment to **ensure a gender responsive new Labour Code** will continue as it is being driven from within, with the parliamentarians championing the efforts. The new Labour Code will guarantee protection of the rights of people involved in domestic and home-based work, most of whom are women. Drawing on the outcomes, in 2015 UN Women continues to promote and facilitate mainstreaming gender in laws and policies regulating women’s access to economic resources, with a particular focus on inheritance and property rights.

Extending Innovative Service Models in Tajikistan

Since 2010, within “Gender and Democratic Governance” programme, implemented with the financial support of the Government of Norway, UN Women has been made highly successful often with innovative efforts to make sure that quality public services reach more of the most vulnerable women in Tajikistan. In Sughd province, in partnership with UN Women, the Committee for Family and Women’s Affairs introduced the District Task Force model (DTF), for the provision of free legal counselling to women, on land and property rights. The model worked so well that the national Government expanded it across the country— in 2014 around **11,000** persons, **78%** of which are women, benefited from legal advice at **105 DTF operational with the local municipal budgets support**. The model serves as a clear and practical demonstration to local decision-makers on how entrenched exclusion can be systematically overcome. The data on public requests and computer-based case registration were used to analyze the context and formulate recommendations to improve land-related laws from the perspective of gender equality principles and human rights-based approach.

Backed by UN Women, one district in Sughd extended the concept by launching One Stop Shops linking people to an array of public services and facilitating connections with local officials. The process has empowered those claiming their rights and made service providers more responsible and accountable, with nearly **2,400 women** benefitting in the first few months after the launch in 2012. One Stop Shops have now spread across the province.

Important complementary mechanisms are Women’s Watch Groups, developed in 3 districts jointly by UN Women and women’s advocates, many of whom managed to develop their capacities over the past few years. Capacity development has enabled these groups to conduct household monitoring and proactively seek out the most vulnerable citizens, the vast majority of whom are women and girls. Since the start of the initiative programme in 2010, the groups have aided **over 20,000 people** (out of whom **80%** were women and children) in obtaining basic civic registration documents, such as birth certificates and state identification cards.



Improving Access of the Most Vulnerable Women to Economic Assets in Tajikistan

In October 2014 a close collaboration between UN Women and the Association of Microfinance Institutions in Tajikistan (AMFOT) was initiated to support the development of new credit products to improve access of the most vulnerable rural women to financial resources. The analysis of the policies and procedures of the key microfinance institutions (MFIs) to meet the needs of the most vulnerable women was conducted with the support of UN

Women. It has identified MFIs which provide access of rural women to a specific credit product with **1% of monthly repayment rate** to allow these women to start business as well as deliver free business development training for rural women. Currently **5 MFIs** were identified by UN Women as key partners to further integrate such a credit product into their microcredit policy. This partnership will be continued in 2015.

Protecting Rights of Women in the Context of Labour Migration in Central Asia

With rising unemployment and tougher competition in the labour market, labour migration has become the survival strategy for women and men in Central Asia to support their families. In 2010, the cumulative share of three Central Asian countries (Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan) exceeded 50 per cent of the overall official labour migration flow to Russia, **having grown threefold** over the last 5-7 years. The last needs assessment of women labour migrants showed that female migration account for **25-30 per cent** of the migrants and they are more often migrating on their own, which makes challenges of their safety, economic and social security increasingly important.

In March 2010, UN Women in partnership with the IOM and the World Bank with the financial support of the UK Government launched the Regional Migration Programme for Central Asia (RMP), implemented in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. It is designed to assist states to develop their policies in compliance with international labour migration treaties and human rights commitments and standards. The programme is also geared to provide labour migrants and their families with a wide range of gender-specific services, including counseling, information, and legal advice, at all stages of the migration cycle. It is crucial for

reducing irregular migration, improving working conditions and stepping up safety and security of labour migrants. Under the programme's umbrella, UN Women seeks to build knowledge and skills essential for upgrading the living standards of the most disadvantaged labour migrant families left back home. Kyrgyzstan supported **2012** vulnerable and migrant families who were trained to run their own businesses, and **318** of them have already started implementing joint economic initiatives, which are supported by **34** Rural Funds designed to revolve the funds in the community to support new group businesses. In Tajikistan, **2256** working places were created for groups of women in Sughd oblast and two pilot districts of Rasht valley in the framework of Joint Economic Initiatives, supported by UN Women with different types of credits.



Fund for Gender Equality

The Fund for Gender Equality is designed to support efforts of government and non-government organizations that focus on women's economic and political empowerment at local and national levels. Since its launch in 2009, the Fund has delivered grants of USD 56.5 million to 96 grantee programmes in 72 countries. In Central Asia the Fund's grants supported projects in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. See more at: www.unwomen.org/en/trust-funds/fund-for-gender-equality

UN Women's actions are directed to protect vulnerable women in the Rasht Valley and Khatlon region, particularly, the growing number of women abandoned as a result of a mass outflow of male labour migrants. With UN Women's assistance and financial support of the Government of Norway, over 3,000 women have formed self-help groups, where they develop skills for employment or small businesses, and access essential legal, financial and other services. The training of local lawyers, staff at the Ombudsman's office and NGOs on women's issues and rights was conducted in close coordination with the International Organization for Migration and outreached to **3,300** women from migrant families, while mass media campaigns raised awareness of women's rights among over **100,000 people**.

In the framework of RMP UN Women collaborates with local authorities, media and civil society to support their efforts to enhance tolerance towards labour migrants and their families and to combat xenophobia and discrimination in the countries of destination of the migrants. It also fosters development of concepts to integrate labour migrants and their families into their host communities in two pilot regions of Kazakhstan.

UN Women seeks to assist the Central Asian countries in improving their policies and laws to promote social and economic empowerment of domestic workers who make up the most invisible and vulnerable group of labour migrants. The UN Women MCO started its interventions in this area with a needs assessment on domestic workers in Russia and Kazakhstan, commissioned in 2013 and finalized in 2014.

The findings of the UN Women assessment informed the formulation and implementation of activities aimed at promoting international standards and norms for the regulation of domestic work by labour migrants in Kazakhstan. UN Women also promotes the ILO Convention on Domestic Workers in the region.

Together with IOM, UN Women MCO provided expertise to local partners, including trade unions, to support improvements in the national migration law of Kazakhstan to simplify work permit issuance for domestic workers and to ensure their transfer from informal to formally-regulated employment. **This resulted in legislative changes in Kazakhstan**, which entered into force on 12 April 2014 to simplify the procedure of issuing work permits to labour migrants working as domestic workers. From April until the end of 2014 approximately **72 thousand permits** have been issued and more than **606 million Tenge** have been collected in taxes for the budget of Kazakhstan. In the long-term, this will ensure that female migrant domestic workers are recognized as part of the formal employment sector and thus reduce their discrimination in the labour market.



PREVENTING AND ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS



Worldwide, six out of ten women experience physical and/or sexual violence in their lifetime. It is the leading cause of death and disability among 16-44 year old women. Therefore, violence against women is increasingly being recognized as a criminal issue which needs to be directly addressed through adequate policies, legislation, institutional mechanisms and public awareness campaigns. As of 2012, while **89 countries** have enacted laws against domestic violence and 90 states prosecute sexual harassment and marital rape, over **100 countries** lack the legal framework to counter domestic violence¹.

Women in Central Asia suffer from the same types of violence as women in other parts of the world, be it domestic violence, trafficking or other forms of physical or sexual abuse. In addition, the revival of some cultural and social practices, often mistakenly interpreted as part of religious customs, are placing discriminatory restrictions on women's rights to control their lives and bodies. In such a climate, UN Women continues working on strengthening legal and policy frameworks, supporting provision of social services for victims of domestic violence, improving access of women to justice.

Supporting the Provision of Social Services to Victims of Domestic Violence in Kazakhstan

UN Women provides technical and financial assistance to build the capacities of judicial and law enforcement actors in two regions of Kazakhstan to provide to women and children services, which are now included into the amended legislation. In accordance with the statistics collected by the Department on Prevention of Violence against Women of the Interior Ministry, only during the first 6 months of 2014, more than **36,000** protection orders were issued by police in Kazakhstan in comparison with 38,000 protection orders in 2012 and **55,000** orders in 2013. In 2014, **76 staff members** of prosecutors' offices and **34 judges** benefited from specialized training under a UN Women-supported project.

The training module on DV prevention and response was integrated into the curriculum of the Training Institute under the General Prosecution Office and Academy of the Ministry of Interior of Kazakhstan. This ensures that in future and staff of law enforcement bodies and judicial institutions will receive knowledge and skills enabling the efficient fulfillment of their responsibilities towards citizens affected by domestic violence who apply for legal protection services. The success of this initial work on building the capacities of judicial and law enforcement actors to effectively contribute to the elimination of violence resulted in a demand for the replication of this work in other regions of Kazakhstan.

1 "Progress of the World's Women Report 2011/2012: in Pursuit of Justice"

To address these needs, a component on capacity building of judicial actors and law enforcement bodies was included into two UN Joint Programmes for Kazakhstan, implemented in Kyzylorda and Mangystau regions with partial funding of the Government of Kazakhstan.

UN Women will strengthen its support to developing standards for social service provision as well as assist national partners to introduce an efficient inter-sectoral cooperation mechanism of services provision.

Strengthening the Rule of Law and Human Rights to Empower People in Tajikistan

In the second half of 2014, UN Women joined the UNDP-led Strengthening Rule of Law and Human Rights to Empower People in Tajikistan programme, funded by the Government of Finland. UN Women contributes its expertise to implement specific components of the programme including development of mechanisms for the enforcement of the legislation on prevention of domestic violence; ensuring better access of the most vulnerable population to legal support, civic registration, passports and social protection services; building capacity of Women's Machinery and National Human Rights System to implement Laws and Human Rights Recommendations and International Standards and; increasing human rights awareness and ability of women from vulnerable groups to access services and institutions to defend their rights and interests.

The project strategy includes replicating the District Task Forces and Women's Watch Groups models to improve public services and access of the most vulnerable to these services. UN Women also enhances the dialogue between the government and civil society on implementation and monitoring of international human rights treaties, like CEDAW and UPR.

In March 2015, with the support of UN Women, the successful launching of the HeForShe solidarity movement was undertaken, when the National Federation of Taekwondo and Kickboxing of Tajikistan initiated expansion of the HeForShe messages and Tajikistan's youth commitments internationally.



New Legislation and Law Enforcement to Eliminate Violence against Women in Kazakhstan and Tajikistan

On 18 February 2014, the President of Kazakhstan signed into law amendments to the Domestic Violence Law (DVL) which was adopted in 2009. The amendments toughen punishment of perpetrators and develop specialized support services. This represents a very serious step towards securing rights of women and children and protecting their lives from violence. Further, it is evidence of the success of continued joint work by women's NGOs, UN Women and other international partners who have spent the last five years advocating for an efficient state response to violence against women. The adoption of the amendments to the DVL created a strong base for cooperation with the judicial sector in Kazakhstan to build national capacities to provide efficient legal assistance and justice in the fight against domestic violence.

A national information campaign, supported by UN Women to raise awareness on the amended domestic violence law will reach a wide audience in the whole country.

Also in 2014 amendments addressing protection of women from domestic violence were introduced to Kazakhstan's Criminal Code and Code of Administrative Offences.

In Tajikistan through partnership with key national actors UN Women contributed to the adoption of the National Action Plan on preventing and responding to violence against women.

UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women

The UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UN Trust Fund) is a leading multilateral mechanism that supports local, national, regional, and international initiatives to address violence against women and girls. Established by the UN General Assembly resolution 50/166 in 1996, it is now administered by UN Women on behalf of the UN system.

In Central Asia the UN Trust Fund supported projects in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.

See more at: www.unwomen.org/how-we-work/un-trust-fund

INCREASING WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP IN PEACE, SECURITY AND HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE



Today **90%** of armed conflicts casualties in the world are civilians with a disproportionately high number of women and children among them. Rape is on the rise as well as other crimes that are used as a tactic of war and pressure. Women and children become innocent victims, being physically and emotionally traumatized, suffering from unwanted pregnancies, infamy and disgrace. Yet, women make up only **8 per cent** of peace processes participants, with less than **3 per cent** of signatures under peace treaties¹.

*Over the last fifteen years the lives of people in Central Asian countries had been affected due to cross-border tensions, violent conflicts and paramount socio-economic challenges. Over **80 per cent** of the refugees and internally displaced persons in the region are women and children, which makes it critical to utilize gender-based approaches in addressing their needs. Progress is extremely slow in fulfillment of commitments made by the governments under relevant international treaties, including the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, UN Security Council Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security (WPS). Given the importance of these challenges, UN Women in partnership with other UN agencies and national partners continues building capacity of women to promote their meaningful participation at the decision-making level in order to integrate women's needs in conflict resolution and post-conflict recovery programmes. In Central Asia, two countries – Kyrgyzstan in 2012 and Tajikistan in 2014 – adopted National Action Plans to enforce WPS international commitments. In 2013, the Government of Kazakhstan publicly expressed its intention to develop a national policy document to implement WPS international commitments.*

Women for Peace and Security in Central Asia

In 2010, under the global initiative *Open Days on Women, Peace and Security* during the cross-regional meetings in Dushanbe participants from Central Asia, Russia and South Caucasus adopted the Appeal to the UN Secretary-General and the Security Council. It calls, amongst other measures to increase women's participation in peace-building, 'to establishing regional, and

when possible, international Women Peace Corps to include women activists in rapid conflict response teams and their deployment in conflict-affected countries to disseminate best practices for gender-responsive conflict resolution'. This suggestion was incorporated in the *UN SG Report on Women's Participation in Peacebuilding*² that stresses the importance of timely and adequate

1 UN Women resources on Women, Peace and Security, 2010.

2 A/65/354-S/2010/466, 7 September 2010

response to stability and security threats in the region. The document highlights the need to train and get on board in peace-making missions expert women-mediators and women who are able to render emergency assistance to conflict-affected populations, e.g. psychologists, legal advisors, social workers, etc.

Since then, WPS consultations have been conducted on an annual basis with the support of UN Women to empower women peace activists in Central Asia as agents and advocates for change to ensure their meaningful contribution to conflict prevention and resolution, promotion of peace and stability region-wide, as well as reinforce a partnership of women peace activists from post-conflict areas. In 2014, a consultation to discuss progress and existing challenges for enforcement of WPS commitments was undertaken in the framework of the Beijing+20 sub-regional consultative meeting, attended by women activists and experts from all five countries of the region. The participants emphasized the need for an improved policy and legal framework for the promotion of women's participation in peacebuilding and conflict prevention processes in all the Central Asian countries, along with an increase in public

understanding and recognition of the need to promote international commitments on WPS. It is also critical to integrate WPS issues in the agenda and policies of regional/interstate organizations, especially those who have memoranda of understanding with the UN. UN Women together with UN agencies will continue its support women activists to follow-up on findings of the consultations, including follow-ups by development and implementation of gender responsive projects and initiatives to address the current risks of a regional instability and human insecurity.



Women Connect Across Conflicts: Building Accountability for Implementation of UNSCRs 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889

In 2010, UN Women with the support of the European Union launched a cross-regional programme *“Women Connect Across Conflicts: Building Accountability for Implementation of UNSCRs 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889”*. The programme is a response to the need for concerted actions and close cooperation of women activists and duty bearers to set up national mechanisms to successfully implement the commitments stated in the UNSC

Resolutions on WPS. The programme covered eight countries: Pakistan, Afghanistan, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, and three Central Asian countries: Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan. The main idea was to document lessons learned and duplicate best experience in formulating the NAPs, adopted in Georgia in 2011 and in Kyrgyzstan in 2012 to enforce UNSCRs in the other countries. Another important programme component included improvement of

UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security



The UNSCR 1325 addresses the impact of war on women, and increase women's participation in conflict resolution and building sustainable peace. Further, SCRs 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009) and 1960 (2010) call for an increase in the participation of women at decision-making levels in peace processes, their protection from sexual violence during and after conflicts, and engagement in post conflict recovery. See more at: www.un.org/Docs/sc/unsc_resolutions.html

the referral system, prevention of sexual violence during conflicts and post-conflict recovery, and integration of gender approaches into the security sector policy. Likewise, it focused on strengthening the cooperation among decision-makers and women activists to bring on board gender approaches when formulating early conflict warning and resolution systems.

The Phase II of the Programme was designed in 2013 to support the states of Central Asia to efficiently implement WPS commitments by incorporating provisions and principles of UNSCRs on WPS into current policies and mechanisms in Kazakhstan and Tajikistan; integration of gender issues into internal procedures and standards for the armed forces (including military staff and peacekeeping operations) in Kazakhstan; establishment of monitoring and response mechanisms in selected areas of the Ferghana Valley to address security challenges and concerns and find gender responsive solutions at local level.

In November 2013 UN Women, OSCE, and the Government of Kazakhstan organized an international conference “*Enhancing the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in the Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian Region*” in Almaty,

Kazakhstan. The meeting gathered **110 experts**, representatives of governments, civil society and international organizations, in particular from Central Asia, the South Caucasus and the Western Balkans. The purpose was to promote dialogue and to assist countries to better formulate their position and directions for an efficient articulation and implementation of the WPS agenda. The participants highlighted that UNSCR 1325 provided a functional framework to ensure that the rights of women are protected and integrated into the security agenda and structural reforms necessary for human security needs. In that sense, women are not mere victims and should be more actively involved as agents in conflict prevention. The final document emphasized that the states should consider the implementation of UNSCRs 2106 and 2122, as well as CEDAW General Recommendation No.30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations, as part of their continued commitment towards gender equality and gender mainstreaming dimensions in conflict. This should start with integrating women in conflict analysis and conflict prevention.

See more at: www.unwomen-eeca.org/ru/resursi

Engendering Disaster Risk Reduction and Humanitarian Response in Kazakhstan and Tajikistan

In order to strengthen the voice and contribution of women activists of Central Asia to sub-regional debates on the post-2015 development agenda and integrate gender into the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) normative framework, UN Women and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) served as co-organizers of a Stakeholder Group Meeting on Gender and Women's Issues in DRR. The event took place in Almaty in April 2014, under the framework of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction's (UNISDR) regional consultations for Central Asia and the South Caucasus.

The meeting served as a platform, that allowed gender advocates from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan to present their position on DRR commitments in the context of the post-2015 development agenda. The participants highlighted the need to ensure efficient gender mainstreaming into

the DRR agenda's formulation and reaffirmed the vital role of women and the need for their full and equal participation and leadership in all areas of sustainable development and DRR, as well as to unlock the potential of women as drivers of sustainable development. Final recommendations included:

- increasing accountability of countries for implementation of international commitments to promote gender equality through gender mainstreaming into national policies, strategies and plans for sustainable development and DRR;
- ensuring gender equality at all levels of decision-making, implementation and evaluation of DRR,
- preventing discrimination and violence against women in order to reduce the risk and vulnerabilities in the context of DRR.



Supporting Natural Disaster Response in Tajikistan

In 2014, in order to respond to natural disasters in Tajikistan, UN Women assisted in improving psycho-social support through the tailored training of 20 rural psychologists to provide specific therapy services to women-victims of natural disasters. Women, already shouldering the heaviest workloads within the household, have additional burdens in accessing alternative fuel and water, trying to provide adequate sanitation, and looking after their children, sick and elderly family members. To fulfill capacity gaps in delivering efficient psychological assistance services for women affected by emergencies and disaster, UN Women prepared a team of local psychologists, who obtained knowledge and tools to address gender dimensions in disaster risk reduction with a view to further deploy them into the local rapid response teams at the district level.

In addition, UN Women conducted a Gender Assessment of 2014 disaster situations and relevant responses. It revealed that the most vulnerable groups included a) households with no migrant workers and, therefore, no remittances to increase the revenue; b) female-headed households with no husband (widowed or divorced); c) single elderly people; and d) households with more than 10 members. Another finding showed that the rural population has insufficient access to social and medical services after a disaster, while traditional allocation of gender roles takes place in post-disaster settings, with men and boys more involved in rehabilitation of infrastructure, and women and elderly people responsible for cleaning houses (after floods), recovering belongings and

other household chores. The assessment also showed poor participation of the population in disaster prevention and response planning. The assessment findings were discussed with the Rapid Emergency Assessment and Coordination Team in Tajikistan and other partners and provided a good ground for further formulation of UN Women potential intervention in the area of disasters preparedness and response.

Gender and Mediation in Natural Resources Disputes

In December 2013, in partnership with UN Department of Political Affairs, with contribution by UN DPA Standby Mediation team and UN Women mediation expert, UN Women organized a three-day-training on mediation in natural resources disputes, attended by members of the Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan cross-border conflict prevention commission, local mediators, gender advocates and experts on natural resources management.

The purpose was to help partners better understand the nature of tensions over environmental issues and the management of natural resources, to contribute to cross-border and community dialogues to resolve natural resources, to build consensus amongst various communities and stakeholders and to support disempowered groups of rural women to meaningfully contribute to local systems of natural resources management.

The training enabled participants to apply mediation tools to manage disputes over ineffective natural resources management and use shared natural resources as a platform for dialogue, confidence, peace building and cooperation between cross border communities and states.

STRENGTHENING THE RESPONSIVENESS OF NATIONAL PLANS AND BUDGETS TO GENDER EQUALITY COMMITMENTS





Engaging national Governments, women's organizations and networks to support gender-responsive national planning and budgeting processes through the development of capacities, systems and resources to plan, budget and monitor the functions of public institutions is the key to ensuring that gender equality is explicitly incorporated in the strategic objectives and priorities of governments, and obtaining adequate funding. By the middle of 2013, in the world, national planning documents in **28 countries**¹ incorporated priorities and budgets on gender equality and women's empowerment. In **10 countries**² supported by UN Women, women living with HIV were able to influence formal planning and review mechanisms for national responses to HIV/AIDS. *In Central Asia, UN Women continues supporting strengthening national capacity on reporting, monitoring and implementation of CEDAW³ and Universal Periodic Reviews in Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. A special focus in 2014-2015 is on ensuring meaningful input from the sub-region to the global inter-governmental processes, such as a review of the Beijing Platform of Action implementation. UN Women will also continue capacity investment into the institutional development of the networks of women living with HIV in Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.*

Enforcing CEDAW Concluding Observations in Tajikistan and Kazakhstan

In 2014, UN Women continued to play a leading role in supporting the national women's machinery and local women's NGOs to advance enforcement of international and national commitments on gender equality and women's human rights. Assistance was provided to the National Committee for Women and Family Affairs and to a coalition of women's NGOs to fast-track the outcomes of the 56th session of CEDAW Committee (October 2013) where the 4th and 5th periodic reports of Tajikistan were reviewed and Concluding Observations were issued. This support significantly contributed to the official launch of the Concluding Observations in January 2014 and development and approval of the National Action Plan for 2014-2015 to implement the CEDAW Concluding Observations in Tajikistan.

Through the UN Gender Theme Group UN Women, in close partnership with UNFPA and Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, conducted a national round-table in Dushanbe in 2014 to discuss the nexus between the National Action Plan (NAP) on implementation of CEDAW Concluding Comments and the Universal Periodic Review NAP. The outcomes of the wide consultative process were used to improve coordination between the implementation processes of several action plans on UN human rights instruments, which in addition to CEDAW and UPR also include the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families, and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

1 UN Women Strategic Plan, 2014-2017, UNW/2013/6, 23.07.2013

2 Ibid

3 Status of CEDAW and OP ratification and reporting is available in Annex 2.



For the past several years UN Women has been providing technical and financial support on CEDAW enforcement to the National Commission for Women and Family Affairs and Socio-Demographic Policy under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan. A high-level roundtable, jointly organized by the Commission and the UN Women Multi-Country Office Kazakstan (Central Asia) in February 2015, to discuss implementation of the Concluding Comments issued to Kazakhstan by the CEDAW Committee after consideration of the third and fourth periodic reports, brought togeth-

er leading policy-makers, government officials, gender experts and civil society organizations. The meeting led to the establishment of an expert group for developing a draft National Action Plan for enforcing the CEDAW Concluding Comments, as well as a new National Strategy on Gender Equality. The format and the priorities of these documents were discussed and agreed upon. Gender-equality advocates from civil society articulated their position in a compelling manner by providing strong evidence-based arguments, and they were included in the expert group.

Supporting the Universal Periodic Review Process in Uzbekistan

National Action Plan for 2014-2016 to implement Universal Periodic Review recommendations was adopted by the Ministry of Justice of Uzbekistan in November 2014. The document incorporated a number of substantive recommendations made by the UN country team, and, particularly by UN Women, including on such critical issues as combating domestic violence, introducing temporary special measures to increase women's political participation, improving data collection and a system of monitoring with regard to gender equality and women's

rights. Totally, **26 out of 92 paragraphs** of UPR NAP relate to the implementation of the CEDAW Committee's Concluding Observations, made in 2010, and include demand for the Gender Equality Law adoption and TSM introduction.

The approved NAP identifies UN Women as the main partner to support Uzbekistan in implementation of **9 out of 92 paragraphs**. This decision has created the long-term legal and organizational framework for the sustainable advancement of women's rights implementation in Uzbekistan.

BEIJING+20 REVIEW



In 2013-2014 the UN Women Multi-Country Office Kazakhstan (Central Asia) supported the Governments and civil society of Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan in their preparations for the regional and global reviews in the lead up to the 20-year-anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (Beijing+20 review). As a result, national reviews providing a clear assessment of the progress reached and priorities that still need to be addressed within BPfA's areas of concern were prepared and used for the regional and global review processes. An intensive programme of work was undertaken to facilitate joint discussions at the subregional level by representatives of State and non-State institutions and experts from Central Asian countries. The aim of the discussions was to reach a mutual agreement on the progress, gaps and challenges common to all five countries of the subregion with regard to the BPfA's implementation and further strengthening its results-oriented enforcement.

A comprehensive outcome document, developed as a result of the UN Women-facilitated subregional Beijing+20 review meeting held in October 2014 in Almaty, is grounded in the experiences of, and lessons learnt by, UN Women and its partners with regard to the practical implementation of commitments under the BPfA's critical areas of concern. At the same time, it serves as a guiding document for further work on improving national policies and legislation to ensure direct linkages between normative commitments, constant practical interventions and measures towards achieving targets on gender equality and women empowerment as well. The consultation was used to advocate for a gender-responsive post-2015 development agenda in Central Asia and further efficient implementation of a stand-alone goal on gender equality.

See more at: unwomen-eeca.org/en/news

Incorporating Women's Human Rights Obligations into the National AIDS Response in Tajikistan and Kazakhstan

The 2013 situation analysis revealed that persistent gender inequalities, gender norms and stereotypes continue to contribute to HIV-related vulnerability of women in Central Asia. Therefore,

starting from September 2014, within the Unified Budget Results Accountability Framework (UBRAF), funded by UN-AIDS, UN Women has been implementing a project component to incorporate women's human rights obligations into the national AIDS response in Tajikistan and Kazakhstan. The project will promote 1) increasing national Governments' commitments and accountability towards gender dimensions of HIV, 2) strengthening leadership and participation of women living with HIV at all levels of decision-making affecting their lives to effectively voice their concerns and lead evidence-based advocacy, and 3) addressing intersections of gender-based violence and HIV.

With the analytical support of four partner NGOs, a review of policy-related documents was made by UN Women in Kazakhstan and Tajikistan to generate evidence on the gender dimensions of HIV. The findings of the review and further technical support, provided by UN Women to the National AIDS Centres in Kazakhstan and Tajikistan, will ensure that the Healthcare State Programmes of both countries will prioritize women's needs and responses to the immediate needs of women, including increased access to HIV prevention, antiretroviral therapy, opioid substitution therapy and support services.

Due to the advocacy efforts by UN Women, insisting on recognizing HIV-positive women as the key stakeholders in the AIDS response, two HIV-positive women, representing the HIV NGO community, were for the first time elected voting members to the Country Coordination Mechanism in Kazakhstan for 2015-2017.

Translation of several global knowledge products into the Russian language (*see page 32*) and their wide public dissemination will equip the national partners with new strategies and innovative approaches to address HIV-related challenges.



UN WOMEN GLOBAL CAMPAIGNS

UN Secretary-General's campaign 'UNiTE to End Violence against Women' UN Women's 'Say NO to Violence against Women' campaign



In February 2008, the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon launched 'UNiTE to End Violence against Women' campaign. Stretching from 2008 to 2015 this multi-year initiative is aimed at preventing and eliminating violence against women and girls around the world. UNiTE calls on governments, civil society, women's organizations, young people, the private sector, the media and the entire UN system to join forces in addressing the global pandemic of violence against women.

UN Women's 'Say NO – UNiTE', led by Nicole Kidman, UN Women Goodwill Ambassador, is designed to support the UN Secretary-General's 'UNiTE to End Violence against Women' campaign. The UN Women initiative aims to demonstrate that there is a global movement of people who demand that ending violence against women be a top national development priority for governments everywhere. It showcases most successful efforts in addressing this scourge.

*See more at: www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women,
www.facebook.com/unwomen.centralasia*



HeForShe: solidarity movement for gender equality



HeForShe is a solidarity movement for gender equality initiated by UN Women in 2014 to engage men and boys as advocates and agents of change for the achievement of gender equality and women's rights.

The campaign's premise is that gender inequality is one of the most persistent human rights violations, an issue that affects everyone, and that achieving equality will benefit both women and men - socially, politically and economically. Therefore, men and boys need to be part of the global movement to promote women's rights both as advocates and stakeholders in making gender equality a reality for all.

Please visit: www.heforshe.org

Twitter: [@HeForShe](https://twitter.com/HeForShe)

Instagram: [@HeForShe](https://www.instagram.com/HeForShe)

Facebook: [HeForShe](https://www.facebook.com/HeForShe)

YouTube: [HeForShe](https://www.youtube.com/HeForShe)

Planet 50-50 by 2030: Step It Up for Gender Equality



"Planet 50-50 by 2030: Step It Up for Gender Equality" asks governments to make national commitments to address the challenges that are holding women and girls back from reaching their full potential. Launching on the occasion of International Women's Day 2015, Step It Up will showcase specific commitments that

governments make, leading up to the United Nations General Assembly in 2015. Step It Up comes at a critical moment in time as a new development agenda is taking shape to replace the Millennium Development Goals. Passing new laws or strengthening existing ones is one way to Step It Up. Other actions might include creating programmes to eradicate violence against women and girls, encouraging women's participation in decision-making, investing in national action plans or policies for gender equality, creating public education campaigns to promote gender equality, and many more.

See more at: beijing20.unwomen.org/en/step-it-up

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS AND INTERNET RESOURCES

The UN Women Multi-Country Office Kazakhstan (Central Asia) has been developing and disseminating a wide range of knowledge products featuring programme results, processes and core lessons learnt. They include, but are not limited to, various thematic studies, educational curricula and training manuals, evaluation and monitoring reports, and comparative series. The Office also facilitates the translation of UN Women flagship reports and publications into Russian. Some of them are presented below.

KNOWLEDGE PACKAGE ON GENDER-RESPONSIVE BUDGETING



The **GRB knowledge package**, developed by the GRB Regional Centre of Excellence for the Commonwealth of Independent States, with the support of UN Women, is the first of its kind: it is a comprehensive educational package in Russian that brings together both extensive theoretical knowledge and practical experience. The package includes three knowledge products: a Resource Manual, Trainer Resource Pack and GRB Practice Book.

In the Resource Manual the team of international authors describes multiple approaches to GRB and GRB tools and a wide range of practical GRB initiatives, with a particular focus on those conducted in CIS countries from 2001 to 2013. A concise introduction to the concept of gender, a comprehensive gender profile of seven CIS countries and gender statistics provided in the manual rationalize the fact that gender-responsive budgeting does indeed play a crucial role for promoting women's rights, reducing socio-economic disparities and achieving gender equality.

The GRB Trainer Resource Pack includes educational curricula and modules, developed by GRB trainers from six CIS countries and Ukraine. The GRB Practice Book includes over 70 different tasks and tests for better understanding of the theory and promoting the efficient application of GRB in practice.

Coloured illustrations and simple navigation make the knowledge package interesting, reader-friendly and easy-to-absorb. The intended audience: policy-makers, government officials, GRB experts, NGOs and those interested in gender-responsive budgeting.

– Almaty, 2014. Resource Manual: 150 p. Trainer Resource Pack: 82 p. Practice Book: 72 p.

COMPENDIUM OF GENDER EQUALITY AND HIV INDICATORS



The Compendium presents a compilation of gender-sensitive HIV-related indicators, elaborated in 2011 by “MEASURE Evaluation”, at the request and with the participation of UN Women, UNAIDS, WHO, UNDP, UNFPA and other international organizations, as well as representatives of national governments and civil society.

The indicators are expected to contribute to strengthening stakeholders’ awareness and understanding of the HIV epidemic and response from a gender-equality perspective; be used for monitoring progress towards eliminating gender-based inequities in HIV responses; and help to monitor and evaluate programmes that address specific types of gender-equality interventions in the context of HIV.

The Compendium will be a particularly practical tool for Central Asian countries, where HIV-related indicators in most instances are extremely limited and rarely reflect the extent of qualitative transformations in the processes and the results achieved in specific target groups in terms of access, coverage and use of HIV-services. The translation into Russian was facilitated by the UN Women Multi-Country Office Kazakhstan (Central Asia) in 2015. The intended audience: policy-makers, government bodies, women’s networks and other organizations involved in the HIV-response.

– Almaty, 2015, 95 p.

TRAINING MANUAL ‘GENDER ON THE MOVE: WORKING ON THE MIGRATION-DEVELOPMENT NEXUS FROM A GENDER PERSPECTIVE’



The manual, prepared by the UN Women Training Centre in Santo Domingo in 2013, aims to build capacity on gender analysis for those working in the field of migration and development, with the aim of promoting a model of development where people, human rights and the principle of gender equality are central. This knowledge product offers a series of tools to design programmes and policies that strengthen the positive effects of migration for both origin and destination countries in the context of development. The manual is divided into a facilitator’s guide and four training guides; each one contains sections on self-directed learning and activities for designing face-to-face trainings.

This educational material aims to provoke thinking and action around migration and development issues from a gender and rights-based perspective, emphasizing the importance of placing migrant women’s rights and the right to care on the development agenda. The translation into Russian was facilitated by the UN Women Multi-Country Office Kazakhstan (Central Asia) in 2015.

– Almaty, 2015, 228 p.

“DOMESTIC WORKERS IN RUSSIA AND KAZAKHSTAN” ANALYTICAL STUDY



The study, conducted in 2013 by the Migration Research Centre in Moscow, with the support of UN Women, undertakes an in-depth analysis on the status, needs and priorities of domestic workers in Russia and Kazakhstan. As one of the first such studies undertaken in Central Asia, this knowledge product provides an assessment of the needs and priorities of domestic workers in Russia (Moscow and St. Petersburg) and Kazakhstan (Astana and Almaty), focusing on migrants from Central Asia and internal migrants. The findings form the basis for further work on improving the policies relating to regulating domestic workers in order to accord them greater protection and rights, as well as for promoting ratification of the ILO Convention #189 in the CIS region.

The publication is aimed at policy-makers, government bodies, NGOs, women’s networks and other organizations involved in promoting the rights of migrants/domestic workers.

– Almaty, 2014, 120 p.

WEB PORTALS AND ONLINE RESOURCES

WomenWatch

www.un.org/womenwatch

WomenWatch is a central gateway to information and resources on the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women throughout the UN system. The website also provides information on the outcomes of, as well as efforts to incorporate gender perspectives into follow-up to global conferences.

iKNOW Politics

www.iknowpolitics.org

Co-sponsored by UN Women, the International Knowledge Network of Women in Politics is an extensive online workspace and advocacy platform where everyone from elected officials to students can access resources, use tools, participate in forums and get expert advice on women in political life.

Say NO – UNiTE to End Violence against Women

saynotoviolence.org

UN Women's Say NO initiative is a global platform for advocacy and action, engaging participants from all walks of life to prevent and address violence against women and girls. It contributes towards the objectives of the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's campaign, UNiTE to End Violence against Women, through social mobilization.

Virtual Knowledge Centre to End Violence against Women and Girls

www.endvawnow.org

A one-stop online centre that encourages and supports evidence-based programming to more efficiently and effectively design, implement, monitor and evaluate initiatives to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls. The website offers leading tools and evidence on what works, drawing on expert recommendations, policy and programme evaluations and assessments, and practitioners' experiences from around the world.

UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict

www.stoprapenow.org

UN Action unites the work of 13 UN entities with the goal of ending sexual violence in conflict. It is a concerted effort by the UN system to improve coordination and accountability, amplify programming and advocacy, and support national efforts to prevent sexual violence and respond effectively to the needs of survivors.

Gender-Responsive Budgeting

www.gender-budgets.org

The Gender-Responsive Budgeting web portal aims to facilitate the exchange of information between academics, practitioners, researchers and activists working on gender budget initiatives. It features articles, research papers and training tools, and offers resources in Arabic, French, Portuguese and Spanish.

Gender & HIV/AIDS Web Portal

www.genderandaids.org

GenderandAIDS.org aims to promote understanding, knowledge sharing and action on HIV and AIDS as a gender and human rights issue. This comprehensive web portal offers up-to-date information on the epidemic from a gender perspective, a full range of resources, personal stories and commentaries, and multimedia advocacy tools.

Gender Inequality Index and Other Gender-related Indexes for Central Asian Countries

| HDI rank | Country | Gender Inequality Index Value, 2013 (1) | Gender Inequality Index rank, 2013 (2) | Maternal mortality ratio, 2010 (3) | Adolescent birth rate, 2010/2015 (4) | Population with at least some secondary education, 25+, female, 2005-2012 (5) | Population with at least some secondary education, 25+, male, 2005-2012 (6) | Participation rate, 15+, female, 2012 (7) | Participation rate, 15+, male, 2012 (8) |
|----------|--------------|--|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| 70 | Kazakhstan | 0.323 | 59 | 51 | 29.9 | 99.3 | 99.4 | 67.5 | 77.5 |
| 103 | Turkmenistan | .. | .. | 67 | 18 | .. | .. | 46.7 | 76.5 |
| 116 | Uzbekistan | .. | .. | 28 | 38.8 | .. | .. | 47.9 | 75.2 |
| 125 | Kyrgyzstan | 0.348 | 64 | 71 | 29.3 | 94.5 | 96.8 | 55.7 | 79 |
| 133 | Tajikistan | 0.383 | 75 | 65 | 42.8 | 89.9 | 95 | 58.7 | 76.9 |

source: <http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/table-4-gender-inequality-index>

Notes

a. Data are annual average of projected values for 2010-2015. / b. Data refer to the most recent year available during the period specified. / c. data is not available.

Definitions

- Human Development Index (HDI): A composite index measuring average achievement in three basic dimensions of human development—a long and healthy life, knowledge and a decent standard of living. See Technical note 1 at <http://hdr.undp.org/en> for details on how the Human Development Index is calculated.
- Gender Inequality Index (GII): A composite measure reflecting inequality in achievement between women and men in three dimensions: reproductive health, empowerment and the labour market. See Technical note 3 at <http://hdr.undp.org/en> for details on how the Gender Inequality Index is calculated.
- Maternal mortality ratio: Number of deaths due to pregnancy-related causes per 100,000 live births.
- Adolescent birth rate: Number of births to women ages 15–19 per 1,000 women ages 15–19.
- Population with at least some secondary education: Percentage of the population ages 25 and older who have reached (but not necessarily completed) a secondary level of education.
- Labour force participation rate: Proportion of a country's working-age population (ages 15 and older) that engages in the labour market, either by working or actively looking for work, expressed as a percentage of the working-age population.

Main data sources

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Column 1: | HDRO calculations based on UN Maternal Mortality Estimation Group (2013), UNDESA (2013a), IPU (2013), Barro and Lee (2013), UNESCO Institute for Statistics (2013) and ILO (2013a). |
| Column 2: | HDRO calculations |
| Column 3: | UN Maternal Mortality Estimation Group (2013) |
| Column 4: | UNDESA (2013a) |
| Columns 5 and 6: | UNESCO Institute for Statistics (2013) |
| Columns 7 and 8: | ILO (2013a) |

CEDAW and its Optional Protocol Ratification/Accession and Reporting Status for Central Asian Countries

| Country | CEDAW Ratification/ Accession date | CEDAW Optional Protocol (OP) Ratification/ Accession date | Inquiry Procedure Acceptance (art. 8-9 of the CEDAW OP) | Date of report submission to/ consideration by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women | Next periodic report submission date |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|
| Republic of Kazakhstan | 26.11.1998 | 24.08.2001 | yes | 1st report: 2000/2001 2nd report: 2005/2007 3rd - 4th reports: 2011/2014 | 5th report: February 2018¹ |
| Kyrgyz Republic | 10.02.1997 | 22.07.2002 | yes | 1st report: 1998/1999 2nd report: 2002/2004 3rd report: 2007/2008 4th report: 2013/2015 | to be identified additionally |
| Republic of Tajikistan | 26.10.1993 | 22.07.2014 | no | 1st - 3rd reports: 2005/2007 4th - 5th reports: 2011/2013 | 6th report: October 2017² |
| Turkmenistan | 01.05.1997 | 20.05.2009 | yes | 1st - 2nd reports: 2004/2006 3rd - 4th reports: 2011/2012 | 5th report: October 2016 |
| Republic of Uzbekistan | 19.07.1995 | - | - | 1st report: 2000/2001 2nd - 3rd reports: 2004-2006 4th report: 2008-2010 5th report: 2014 | to be identified additionally |

1 written information on the specific recommendations in par. 19 and 29 (b) and (c) should be submitted by March 2016.

2 written information on the specific recommendations in par. 18 (a), (b), (d) and (e) and 32 (b), (d) and (e) should be submitted by October 2015.





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