

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY UNIVERSITY KIT 2019





A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Students and Teachers,

HAPPY INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY!

International Women's Day is celebrated around the world, every year, on March 8. It's a day for all of us to pause and reflect on the progress made towards making the world a more equal and safe place – for all people – women and men, girls and boys.

I want to thank you for your passion and interest in supporting the work of UN Women. Young people, just like you, have an important role to play in achieving gender equality. You not only influence the way things are now, but you also hold our future in your hands. Everything that you do has the potential to shape the world around us.

Students are already leading much of the gender equality agenda through opening difficult conversations, challenging existing norms and stereotypes, and demanding equality in their classrooms and on their campuses. It is only by working together, across that which can sometimes divide us, that we will achieve gender equality. We are more powerful together.

I hope this kit will help you to continue to open conversations about gender equality and UN Women's work with your peers and that the kit will help equip you to join me as we strive towards the creation of a gender equal world.

Yours sincerely,



Janelle Weissman
Executive Director
UN Women National Committee Australia

ABOUT UN WOMEN

A global champion for women and girls, UN Women is the United Nations entity responsible for promoting women's empowerment and gender equality. UN Women was established to accelerate progress to meet the needs of women and girls worldwide.

UN Women National Committee (NC) Australia exists to raise funds for and awareness of UN Women's work in the Pacific and around the world.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2019: #MOREPOWERFULTOGETHER

International Women's Day is a global celebration of the progress we have made towards an equal world. It also reminds us to reflect on the things we still need to change for everyone to be safe and have the same opportunities. This important work takes everyone - students, teachers, parents – working together, even when we may disagree, to create a world where everyone has equal rights and opportunities.

GENDER EQUALITY: ARE WE THERE YET?



Gender equality is increasingly discussed within workplaces, within parliaments and on our universities campuses, and while it is true that some progress has been made, we still have much work to do before all people are treated equally. In fact, according to the World Economic Forum,¹ we are still 217 years away from making equality a reality.

In many countries around the world, women and girls face poverty and violence, often have to leave school early and are left out of decision-making about their own lives.

Girls are often forced to leave school and instead are expected

to help clean their family's home, collect and carry water and firewood, and help look after their brothers and sisters – while boys are allowed to attend and learn. A girls' future is limited without an education. She won't have the same chance to get a job or earn an income as a boy will have. Instead, many girls will get married and start families of their own – often before they turn sixteen. When this happens, girls are more likely to get sick, their families are more likely to go hungry and their children are more likely to remain in poverty.



WATCH: THE GIRL EFFECT:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1e8xgF0JtVg>

WATCH: NORWEGIAN KIDS LEARN ABOUT GENDER EQUALITY:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=snUE2jm_nFA

FAST FACTS



130 MILLION GIRLS AROUND THE WORLD, BETWEEN AGES 6-17, ARE OUT OF SCHOOL²



EACH YEAR, APPROXIMATELY, 12 MILLION GIRLS WILL BE MARRIED BEFORE THEY TURN 18³



AN ESTIMATED 60% OF UNDERNOURISHED PEOPLE WORLDWIDE ARE WOMEN OR GIRLS⁴



“I raise up my voice — not so I can shout, but so that those without a voice can be heard ... we cannot succeed when half of us are held back.”

— MALALA YOUSAFZAI

FROM WHERE I STAND: LAMIJA GUTIĆ



Lamija Gutic is just 16 years old but already on her way to building technology solutions for a better world. An inspiration for many girls and women across the region, below she talks about what the SDGs mean for her.



"I'll be 29 years old in 2030—the deadline to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). I see the SDGs as a way to measure my own progress and the progress of my country, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

My personal favourite is Goal 4—on Quality Education—but I don't think others are less important; every goal is significant in the change they promise. I believe that the right to literacy is a fundamental human right. My want is that every child in my country and the world has access and equal opportunities to education.


In my country, we don't give enough credit to women in technology and science, and we rarely challenge stereotypes when it comes to women and ICTs. Unfortunately, some still believe that certain jobs are exclusive to men or women.

All over the world, stereotypes are present everywhere, and it is necessary to empower young people to combat them. Gender equality is about equal opportunities, because men aren't smarter than women, and vice versa.

For me, ICT is a world full of opportunities in which anyone can find their place, regardless of affinities, abilities and gender.

I do not like to talk so much about the future, because the present is the most important. Changing the present, we are also changing the future.

One person cannot change the entire world alone, but we can influence the people around us, our friends, family and peers. I believe that my peers and I will be the game-changers and we will make the world a better place by 2030."



GLOBAL VOICES: GENDER EQUALITY ADVOCATES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

ELIZABETH CHATUWA, MALAWI

Elizabeth, 28, mentors girls and assists youth leaders in delivering programmes, including the Voices against Violence curriculum, developed jointly by UN Women and the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, to make girls and young women aware of their rights, to prevent child marriage and other forms of violence and to encourage girls to stay in school.



“Child marriage is a very big problem in Malawi. As soon as a girl reaches puberty, everyone thinks she is ready for marriage. Girls are dropping out of school to get married. This country has one of the highest rates of child marriage in the world—one out of two girls are married before the age of 18.” Elizabeth explains.

“But we can’t end child marriage by only teaching the girls. We have to talk to parents, community leaders and counsellors so that they realize this is illegal and wrong. We have to engage men—they have the decision-making powers...When you stop violence against girls, they can change this world for better.”

ADÃO PAÍA, MOZAMBIQUE

Adão, 25, is an activist working to eliminate violence against women in his community by advocating with men and boys to share care work at home and reject violence. Adão experienced violence from a family member throughout his childhood and witnessed his sister also suffer at the hands of a family member. His personal experiences with violence have motivated him to work for change within his community.



“The violence that marked my childhood made me the activist I am today” he says.

“I started participating in a project called “Men in the Kitchen”, supported by UN Women. The project encourages men’s participation in domestic activities and holds dialogues with them to prevent violence against women. When my friends and neighbours first saw me cooking, they called me a sissy. They believed it was unmanly to work in the kitchen and that women were the only ones who belonged in a kitchen. But I didn’t let their comments affect me. I kept challenging their ideas. I convinced three of my neighbours to join the Men in the Kitchen project. I have convinced some friends to join the initiative as well, and to help with cooking in their own homes.”



CHERRISSE FRANCIS, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

Cherisse, 23, believes in gender equality, and that to truly experience peace, women and girls must be on equal footing with men and boys.



“Both in Barbados, where I am from, and in Trinidad & Tobago, where I now live, young women begin their lives as unequal [to boys and men]. We are taught to be quiet and submissive; our laws do not protect us against all kinds of violence.

In less privileged households, when a girl turns 16, or right after puberty, she’s often forced by her mother to contribute towards the bills, either by working or by finding a man who is willing to support her and the household.

In the Caribbean, as women, we are not experiencing peace. Peace is not just the absence of an armed conflict. For me, peace means not having to be fearful of street harassment when choosing what to wear. Or for a woman to be treated on equal footing in the field of business, where she is valued for her mind and not forced to perform sexual favours to get ahead. Peace is inherently

linked to a women’s right to have control over her body and her health and her decisions.

In my generation, we are seeing more men becoming respectful towards women. Women are pursuing careers, no longer confined to the home. But even as we move towards some levels of equality, there is a prevalent misconception in the Caribbean that we are moving from one extreme to the other, leaving men marginalized.

We have yet to arrive at a place where women are viewed as equals to men. As women, we have to do double the work—we can have careers, but we also have to be in charge of taking care of the home. We haven’t broken the glass ceiling, and women still get paid less than men.

Creating a culture of peace in the Caribbean will not happen overnight. We need to engage young men, as well as young women, to achieve gender equality and to experience real peace” she says.



DAVID KOVAČIĆ, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

David, 16, is a gender equality activist from Bosnia and Herzegovina. As an active member of the 'Be a Man' club, a youth initiative that is spreading across the country, he is taking a stand against violence and encouraging his peers to join him.



"I was intrigued because I wanted a peaceful and equal community, but gender equality was not the norm around us. I thought that through the clubs we can do something about that; young people can get together in a safe space to talk about gender, relationships, sexual and mental health issues—things that they do not teach us in schools. After attending summer camp in Mostar and Sarajevo, I decided to form a 'Be a Man' club in my hometown, Livno.

I have learned a lot about stereotypes and prejudices—for example, I used to think that there are male and female jobs. Now I realise that anyone can do whatever

they want to do, and that the house work should be equally divided.

In my opinion, one of the root causes of inequality between men and women is that we are raised to think that men are superior and stronger; that to be a man, you need to show your physical strength. This mindset often leads to violence

Many of my peers do not understand what gender equality means. We don't learn about it in schools, we don't talk about stereotypes, but I believe we should. If we had classes and school discussions on this topic, many boys would change their attitudes and behaviour... Ending violence against women and girls is hard work, but not impossible."



Worldwide, women and girls face poverty and violence and are too often, left out of decision making about their own lives. Gender inequality is one of the most persistent human rights violations of our time. In order to achieve gender equality, we need everyone to play their part. We need women and men, girls and boys to be engaged, to advocate and take action for gender equality. Fundamentally, gender equality is not only a women's issue – it is a human rights issue which affects everyone. It is time to acknowledge that women's empowerment is essential for inclusive economic growth, social cohesion

and social justice, environmental balance, and for progress in all spheres of life. This is not about women or men, it is about crafting a shared vision of human progress for all – about creating a solidarity movement between women and men for the achievement of gender equality. We are more powerful together.

HeForShe is a global movement inviting people, regardless of their gender identity, to commit to take action against gender bias, discrimination and violence, to accelerate progress towards gender equality.



HeForShe

THE COMMITMENT:

I am one of millions who believe that everyone is born free and equal. I will take action against; gender bias, discrimination and violence to bring the benefits of equality to us all.

Make your commitment at <https://unwomen.org.au/campaign/heforshe/take-the-heforshe-pledge/>

HOW TO CONTINUE TO TAKE ACTION:

- Challenge stereotypes of women and girls and speak out when you witness sexist comments or sexual harassment. Don't stay silent or allow for others voices to be silenced. Confide in those people you trust.
- Don't be a bystander to violence against women and girls; talk about what you are learning with your friends and family and get support from those you trust, because together, we will change cultures of violence.
- Model gender equality on the home front by actively sharing housework in your family, by participating in activities that are out of your comfort zone, like a new sport, and be mindful that you are not limited by your gender.



CHANGE THE CONVERSATION

The standard you walk past is the standard you accept. Help change the conversation by calling out sexist jokes and behaviour when you see it. Below are some simple steps to help get you started:

1 SPEAK UP

The biggest way we can make change is by speaking up when our friends, family and colleagues make sexist comments and jokes. Don't be afraid to question what someone has said, even if no one else does. Research studies show that men often overestimate their peers support for sexism and violence-supportive language. If you hear something that concerns you, lean in and speak up. You are probably not alone.¹

2 ASK THEM TO SAY IT AGAIN

Try asking the offender to repeat their comment. Sometimes being forced to repeat the comment, separated from the immediate context that led to it, will make the person realise how inappropriate the comment was. If you ask them to say it again, be prepared to speak up and ask questions.

3 ASK QUESTIONS

Try asking the offender to explain their comment. Often they will struggle to justify their use of sexist jokes and comments, which can lead to a realisation that it should never have been said in the first place. Some suggested examples are:

- a . What do you mean?
- b . Why is that funny?
- c . What makes you think that?
- d . Would you say that to a man? Or personalise it by using the name of another male friend or colleague you are with.
- e . Do you comment on your male co-workers appearance/ clothes/ life choices?
- f . What does “like a girl” mean? *There are many strong, powerful women out there. Who wouldn’t want to run like Cathy Freeman, be strong like Serena Williams or fearless like Malala?*

4 MAKE IT UNIVERSAL AND PERSONAL

If you disagree with a comment, tell the person why the comment is problematic in general and why *you* personally disagree. Don’t just say that the joke or comment is offensive to women or to other people. Make it personal, and take ownership of your values and opinions. For example:

That joke is disrespectful to women and it offends me because it implies women are unequal to men. I disagree with that and it doesn’t reflect a society I want to live in.

5 BE AN EDUCATOR

Sexism is perpetuated by an apathy, or even ignorance to the power of words and actions. Take the opportunity to explain that sexist remarks are unacceptable and suggest ways that they can correct it going forward. Remind them about the basic statistics around sexism and men’s violence against women. For example, on average one Australian woman a week dies as a result of domestic violence.² 1 in 3 Australian women has experienced physical violence, since the age of 15.³ And 1 in 5 Australian women has experienced sexual violence.⁴

Tell them that current levels of violence and discrimination are unacceptable. Changing our language is an impactful first step towards addressing this problem.

6 BE PREPARED FOR PUSHBACK

If you speak up, some people will push back and accuse you of “not having a sense of humour” or “taking things too seriously.” Be prepared for these comments. Remind the person, language is powerful and you do like jokes, but sexism and violence simply aren’t funny. This issue is serious and requires action.

REFERENCES 1 Flood, M. (2011) Building men’s commitment to ending sexual violence against women. *Feminism & Psychology* 21(2), 262-267. 2 Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) 2017. The 2017 National Homicide Monitoring Program report by the AIC showed that over a 2-year period from 2012/13 to 2013/14, there were 99 female victims of intimate partner homicide. Women continue to be over-represented as victims of intimate partner homicide, accounting for 79% of all intimate partner homicides. 3 2. Cox, P. (2015) Violence against women: Additional analysis of the Australian Bureau of Statistics’ Personal Safety Survey 2012, Horizons Research Report, Issue 1, Australia’s National Research Organisation for Women’s Safety (ANROWS), Sydney; and Woodlock, D., Healey, L., Howe, K., McGuire, M., Geddes, V. and Granek, S. (2014). 4 2. Cox, P. (2015) Violence against women: Additional analysis of the Australian Bureau of Statistics’ Personal Safety Survey 2012, Horizons Research Report, Issue 1, Australia’s National Research Organisation for Women’s Safety (ANROWS), Sydney; and Woodlock, D., Healey, L., Howe, K., McGuire, M., Geddes, V. and Granek, S. (2014).

CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY AT YOUR UNIVERSITY

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Students, just like you, can make a big difference in the lives of women and girls around the world. It takes all of us doing our part to make the world safe and fair for everyone – we are more powerful together.

HERE ARE SOME IDEAS TO GET YOU STARTED:



1. HOST AN IWD EVENT IN YOUR CLASS OR FOR THE WHOLE SCHOOL

Help make the world safe and fair by hosting an event and raising money to support UN Women's work around the world.

There are many different ways that you and your classmates can fundraise. If you're stuck for ideas, check out our A-Z of fundraising ideas on page 20 of this kit.



2. SELL PURPLE RIBBONS

Show your support for International Women's Day – wear your purple ribbon with pride. Wearing a purple ribbon is a great way to demonstrate that you support gender equality and are working to make the world safe and fair for everyone. You can help to spread the word by purchasing purple ribbons to sell or give away at your event, school or in your community. Each ribbon sold supports UN Women's work, ensuring that girls and boys, women and men are treated fair, are safe and have access to opportunities like learning.

[Click here for more information or to purchase your ribbons today.](#)



Photo credit: Dara Kretschmer

3. ATTEND OUR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY EVENTS

Join us for the largest International Women's Day celebrations across the country. We host events in Adelaide, Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney. [Get your tickets today.](#)



Photo credit: Pyay Nyein Chan

4. TAKE THE HEFORSHE PLEDGE

Do you think that everyone should be treated fair and feel safe, regardless of whether they are a boy or girl? Do you want to help make that happen? Then you are HeForShe. Join the community and [make the HeForShe commitment today.](#)



WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

YOUR SUPPORT THIS INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY WILL SUPPORT UN WOMEN TO:

- Develop women as leaders;
- Eliminate violence against women and girls and support survivors;
- End poverty through women's economic empowerment;
- Ensure women's full participation in the peace and security agenda;
- Make gender equality priorities central to budgeting;
- Ensure women are central to disaster planning and response.

HERE ARE SOME WAYS THAT YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT CAN GO TO WORK TO PROVIDE A SAFER WORLD FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS:

\$75

could provide 5 dignity kits for women and girls with necessities including soap and sanitary napkins

\$155

could provide female political candidates with a toolkit preparing them to run for office

\$436

could support a safe house to protect women from domestic violence for

\$900

could provide financial literacy and business training for 6 women, allowing them to run their business independently

CALENDAR OF KEY DATES 2019

MARCH 8

International Women's Day

APRIL 7

World Health Day

MAY 13

Mother's Day

JUNE 12

World Day Against Child Labour

JULY 30

**World Day Against Trafficking in
Persons**

AUGUST 19

World Humanitarian Day

SEPTEMBER

Equal Pay Day

OCTOBER 11

International Day of the Girl Child

NOVEMBER 25

**International Day for the
Elimination of Violence Against
Women**

DECEMBER 10

Human Rights Day

A-Z OF FUNDRAISING

Stuck for fundraising ideas? We've got you covered from A-Z.

A AUCTION
Athletics Competition



B BBQ
Bake-Sale
Bingo



C Carwash, Choir Showcase,
Concert, Cook-off,
Cocktail Party



d DEBATE
DINNER PARTY
DISCO
Dress-Up Day

e e-sports competition
Experts Take

F FUN-RUN



FILM
SCREENING
FITNESS CHALLENGE

Fashion Show

g GARAGE
SALE
GAMES
NIGHT

h headshave
Handmade/ Handcraft Stall

Ice-Cream
Stall

INTERNATIONAL
DAY



J JEWELLERY STALL
JUICE BAR



Karate Exhibition

K KITE RUNNING
COMPETITION

L LEMONADE STAND
LAWN-MOWING
LIMBO CONTEST



Masquerade Ball

MUFTI DAY
MARATHON
MOVIE NIGHT
MORNING TEA

N NETFLIX
NIGHT

O OP-SHOP
OFFICE COLLECTION

P panel
discussion
PERCENTAGE
OF PROCEEDS
Progressive Dinner

Q QUIZ
Q&A

r Raffle
RAP-BATTLE

S Silent
Auction

t TRIVIA NIGHT
TALENT SHOW
TED-TALK

u Ugly Sweater
contest

V VIDEO GAME
TOURNAMENT

W WALK-
A-THON

X X-Games
(mini)
Xylophone
Concert

y YOGA-THON
YO-YO
COMPETITION

Z ZOMBIE
WALK
ZYDECO
CONCERT

CAMPUS CLUB EVENT PROPOSAL

CONTACT DETAILS:

FULL NAME:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

PHONE NUMBER:

UNIVERSITY:

EVENT DETAILS

DATE/S OF PLANNED FUNDRAISING ACTIVITY:

DETAILS OF PLANNED FUNDRAISING ACTIVITY:

NAME OF PROPOSED EVENT:

NATURE OF ACTIVITY:

EVENT DETAILS:

ENTRY FEE/ TICKET PRICE (IF APPLICABLE):

EXPECTED COST OF EVENT:

FUNDRAISING GOAL:

CONFIRMATION

SIGNATURE OF FUNDRAISER:

DATE:

OFFICE USE ONLY

AUTHORISED BY:

DATE:

Please return this form to fundraising@unwomen.org.au for approval

RECONCILIATION FORM

NAME: _____ ORGANISATION: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

STATE: _____ POSTCODE: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ MOBILE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

☐ I DEPOSITED \$ ☐ ONLINE ☐ IN ACCOUNT DATE / /

☐ I HAVE ATTACHED A CHEQUE OF \$ _____ TO THIS FORM

If you wish to send us a cheque please make it payable to:

UN Women National Committee Australia Ltd and send it to: GPO Box 2824 Canberra ACT 2601

To remit your efforts online, please visit: <https://unwomen.org.au/take-action/fundraise/remit-funds/>



DID YOU COLLECT YOUR DONATION THROUGH A BAKE SALE, DONATION ON ENTRY OR A SIMILAR ACTIVITY?

Please deposit your money at any Commonwealth Bank branch to the following account:

BSB: 062-900

Account Number 1083 0989

Account name: UN WOMEN AUSTRALIA INC - PUBLIC FUND



DID YOU COLLECT YOUR DONATION THROUGH A RAFFLE, AUCTION OR BY SELLING TICKETS TO AN EVENT?

Please deposit your money at any Commonwealth Bank branch to the following account:


BSB: 062-900

Account Number 1083 0997

Account name: UN WOMEN AUSTRALIA INC

WHEN DEPOSITING FUNDS INTO THE ACCOUNT, PLEASE WRITE YOUR CONTACT NAME IN THE DESCRIPTION FIELD. IF DONATING ONLINE, PLEASE SELECT 'CORPORATE' AS AN OPTION & PLACE YOUR EVENT NAME ON THE COMPANY LINE.

Please return this form to fundraising@unwomen.org.au



OTHER WAYS YOU CAN ADVANCE GENDER EQUALITY:

- Research on your own about gender equality and find a story that you can share with your classmates. This can be done in small groups or with individual students sharing.
- Use art as a medium to share how students feel. Poetry, painting, crayons even – to help students sift through the many different emotions that may arise with digging deeper into their learning about gender equality.
- Create a club or group at your university, if one doesn't yet exist, or join one that does and help support their work and their message.
- If you have questions, find someone you trust to continue these important conversations. You are not alone in this work. Your teacher, a trusted adult, your guidance counselor...there are many people in your circle who are willing and wanting to support you.



STAY CONNECTED

www.unwomen.org.au



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