



THE COLOMBO PLAN

GENDER AFFAIRS PROGRAMME
2nd GENDER FOCAL POINT
CONFERENCE 2017

3rd to 5th May 2017

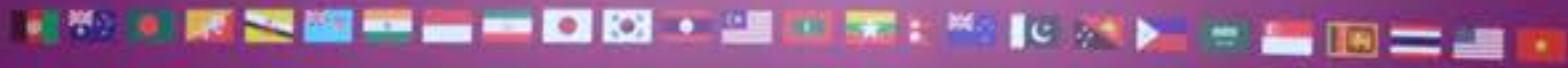
COLOMBO PLAN

PROGRAMME



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COMBO
UNDERWINDERS PROGRAMME



CPGAP 2nd GENDER FOCAL POINT CONFERENCE

Negombo, Sri Lanka
May 2017

The Colombo Plan Gender Affairs Programme



BACKGROUND

The Colombo Plan for Cooperative Economic and Social Development in Asia and Pacific, which has its headquarters in Colombo, Sri Lanka, is an inter-governmental organization with a membership of 27 countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

The importance of establishing a programme for women and children was recommended in 2012 at the Colombo Plan 43rd Consultative Committee Meeting in Indonesia. Thereafter, the Gender Affairs Programme (CPGAP) was established following the 282nd Council Meeting on 7th May 2014.

WHAT WE DO

The Gender Affairs Programme was initiated to facilitate the protection and development of the most marginalized populations in Afghanistan. The Afghan Women's Shelter Fund (AWSF) and the Afghanistan Children's Support Centre Fund (ACSCF) was established in order to assist this vulnerable population. Currently, these two initiatives work with a total of 7 partners to assist the implementation of women shelters and child centres in 15 provinces. The Gender Affairs Programme also facilitates capacity building workshops, sharing of best practices and leadership programmes with member countries via its gender focal points.

CPGAP looks forward to expanding programmes in more countries and working on emerging thematic areas in collaboration with its focal points.

OBJECTIVES

- 1 To work together with women, men, girls, and boys to promote a just and equitable society in collaboration with stakeholders.
- 2 Increase awareness on gender equality, women and child rights
- 3 Support member countries through government and non-governmental agencies to implement Human Rights Instruments and SDGs
- 4 Conduct research and advocacy on emerging issues impacting women and children
- 5 Share technical expertise and resources, build capacity and exchange sharing on gender, women and child development among the member countries
- 6 Support projects on vulnerable women and children's protection, economic development, education and health
- 7 Support and promote leadership programmes

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Message from the Director, Colombo Plan - Gender Affairs Programme

Ms. Bandana Shrestha



The Colombo Plan Gender Affairs Programme is built with the vision of providing opportunities for networking, sharing, and learning on topics critical to the region. A region where women and children continue to be left behind, forgotten or marginalised.

At this moment in time, women are marrying later even though child marriage remains an issue. Boys and girls are enjoying greater participation in education (and in some countries, girls exceed boys). Women's participation in leadership positions has increased (with 18% of cabinet ministry posts occupied by women in 2015), even though most women are appointed portfolios only related to social affairs. Considering employment, women are less represented in decision making positions and are paid less when compared to men.

While we see progress in women's development, the pace is slow and there is little power sharing. With low participation and many women's voices going unheard, wide disparities remain hidden in global and regional averages as women continue to be left behind when policies and/or programmes are developed.

In a time where gender issues are often forgotten, ignored, pushed to the margin, postponed, or considered trivial, the 2nd Gender Affairs Focal Point Conference covers pivotal areas that impact women and children, not only in developing countries but also across the globe.

This conference is built on recommendations made at the 1st Gender Focal Point Conference and the Consultative Committee meeting held in September 2016. The conference links pressing issues where women and children are historically discriminated, socio-economically and politically marginalised;

with emerging issues that impact their lives differentially. Considering these and the most significant gender issues that impact member countries, the 2nd Gender Focal Point Conference will prioritise three key issues - Gender Based Violence, Gender Responsive Budgeting, and the Impact of Climate Change on Women and Children.

Gender Based Violence (GBV) is not limited to geographic, social, economic, or national boundaries.

Worldwide, an estimated 03 million women will experience physical or sexual abuse in their lifetime¹. In most countries, only 40% of women and girls will seek help, and out of that only 10% will seek help from the police². GBV undermines the health, dignity, security, and autonomy of its victims, yet remains shrouded in a culture of silence.

Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) is a powerful tool for achieving gender equality and mainstreaming. GRB is an on-going process that ensures gender commitments are translated into budgetary commitments and allocations which have a direct link to transforming the lives of women and children.

When talking about Climate Change and its Impact on the lives of women and children, one must dispel all notions of neutrality in the effects of climate change. A study across 141 countries affected by disaster from 1981 to 2002; found that women, boys and girls were 14 times more likely than men to die during a disaster³. Following a disaster, women and girls were more likely to be victims of domestic and sexual violence, with many avoiding shelters for fear of being sexually assaulted⁴. Ever visible are the effects on women's mortality during disasters (65% in Sri Lanka during the 2004 Tsunami); rise of early marriages as a coping mechanism; and lack of participation in emergency response or relief.

I encourage all focal points to engage in constructive dialogue and deliberation during these three days, as we work toward agreement on a series of need-based, achievable, and time-bound action plans for the region.

In the words of former Secretary to General of the United Nations, Mr. Ban Ki Moon "Achieving gender equality requires the engagement of women and men, girls and boys. It is everyone's responsibility".

¹ <http://www.unfpa.org/gender-based-violence>
² United Nations, 2015, *The World's Women 2015*
³ Neumayer et al., 2007. The gendered nature of natural disasters
⁴ UNDP, Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery, 2010.

Message from the Secretary General, Colombo Plan

Mr. Kinley Dorji



Mr. Dorji reflected on CP's unique history and remarkable achievements in 27 member states across the last 65 years. Reiterating the fundamental vision of CP's founding fathers, he enlightened participants on initiatives and achievements in member states from building airports, dams, and other major infrastructure to a wide range of capacity building programmes ranging from long term scholarships and drug advisory

programmes, to private sector, public administration and good governance development programmes.

Describing Colombo Plan's most recent initiative, the Gender Affairs Programme, Mr. Dorji introduced the objectives of the 2nd Gender Focal Point Conference; to re-visit outcomes of the first gender focal point Conference; provide an update of the progress, experiences, and knowledge on advancing women and child development of each member country, their policies, strategies and programmes; foster dialogue that promotes the exchange of ideas and innovative thinking among participants; promote networking in the South-South Cooperation; and to develop regional and sub-regional action plans that address the advancement of women and child development programmes in the region.

In conclusion, the Secretary General encouraged participant countries to present their standpoint on core areas, emphasising on policies, strategies and programmes implemented, and the current progress of these implementations.

Inaugural Address by the Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Affairs, Sri Lanka

Hon. Chandrani Senaratna



The Chief Guest Ms. Chandrani Senaratna stressed the importance of sustainable development in a day and age where material development has surpassed all other aspects, she highlighted how vulnerable groups like women and children are often distanced from development, leading to severe repercussions.

She briefed the gathering on the vision of the Sri Lankan Ministry of Women and Child Affairs, to ensure the rights of children and women in the process of envisaging, all people, including women and children, live in dignity to their full potential. She highlighted some of the Ministry's major programmes, including protection and promotion of rights of women and children; policy formulation aimed at promoting gender equality and eliminating discrimination against women; adoption of an action plan on Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV); implementation of gender mainstreaming; establishment of a National Secretariat for Female Headed Households (FHHs); promotion of political participation of women in local government; and empowerment of female entrepreneurs.

In closing, the chief guest challenged all participants to grasp the opportunity to partake, plan, and progress toward gender equality on a path toward sustainable development. Ms. Senaratna called for knowledge, ideas, and policies that would be conducive to develop synergies and create action plans pertinent to all member nations.

Executive Summary

In a time where gender issues are often forgotten, ignored, pushed to the margin, postponed, or considered trivial, the 2nd Colombo Plan Gender Affairs Programme (CP-GAP) Gender Focal Point Conference covered pivotal areas that impact women and children across the globe. The conference focused on three pertinent thematic areas - Gender Based Violence; Climate Change, Resilience, and Gender; and Gender Responsive Budgeting.

Held from 3rd to 5th May 2017, at Heritance Negombo, Sri Lanka, the conference built on successes of the 1st Conference in November 2015. It allowed members to provide updates on progress, experiences, and knowledge on advancing women and child development in their respective countries. The conference fostered dialogue between delegates, promoting the exchange of ideas and innovative thinking, and promoting networking in the South-South Cooperation. It also created the ideal platform for participants to share experiences from the policies, strategies and programmes of member countries. Eminent specialists in the fields of Gender-Based Violence, Climate Change and Resilience, and Gender Responsive Budgeting led thought-provoking sessions that stimulated further dialogue. The proceedings concluded with members drafting a series of robust regional and sub-regional action plans that address the advancement of women and child development programmes in the region.

The first thematic - Gender Based Violence, utilised a rights-based approach to examining international, regional, and local standards. Worldwide, an estimated 03 million women will experience physical or sexual abuse in their lifetime. In most countries only 40% of women and girls will seek help, and out of that only 10% will seek help from the police. GBV undermines the health, dignity, security, and autonomy of its victims, yet remains shrouded in a culture of silence. The expert session on Gender Based Violence re-looked at long-standing issues in the region and explored emerging global trends that could re-define the boundaries of GBV in the coming years. Participants gained insight into how the definition of GBV evolved over time, influenced by crises and progressive convention and were challenged to think strategically in addressing GBV in their respective countries. Experts reiterated the need to engage men; the value of multi-sectoral approaches; and the need to explore key intersections between GBV and HIV, Conflict, Migration, Disaster and other current regional issues.

The second thematic area explored the issue of climate change and its impact on the lives of women. It challenged the notion that climate change and disasters were gender neutral. A study across 141 countries affected by disaster from 1981 to 2002 noted how women, boys and girls were 14 times more likely than men to die during a disaster.

Following a disaster, women and girls were more likely to be victims of domestic and sexual violence. Climate change works to exacerbate existing inequalities, while societal restriction and limiting cultural norms add to existing pressures. At best, women are seen as victims of climate change and are not considered part of the solution. Experts encouraged alternative thinking and a development shift, encouraging participants to explore and address some of the largest systemic barriers and challenges to achieving sustainable development.

The third thematic area explored Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) as a powerful tool for achieving gender equality and mainstreaming. Studying GRB initiatives undertaken by Australia, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal, Philippines, South Korea, and India; participants explored the topic of gender auditing and its value as part of the budget cycle across programmatic and organisational dimensions. Focal points also looked at Performance Based Budgeting (PBB) and the linkages between PBB and GRB. Experts encouraged each country to mainstream GRB whereby gender commitments would be translated into budgetary commitments and allocations that have a direct link to transforming the lives of women and children.

Bangladesh's seventh five-year plan (7FYP) was hailed for including a gender vision for Bangladesh as a country where men and women will have equal opportunities and rights, and women will be recognised as equal contributors in economic, social and political development. The country's mobile court act (2009), toll-free helplines, one-stop crisis cells, and successes in establishing tribunals across the country to prevent repression of women and children, were key strengths in combating GBV. The "Joy" mobile application was another highlight for participants. Designed to provide instant support to women and children who are victims of violence, the application allows any woman, child, or family facing violence to press an emergency button on the app, thereby forwarding a message for help to the national helpline centre, police control room, nearest police station and three numbers of friends and family.

Bhutan's latest Violence against Women Study (2012) revealed the acceptance and prevalence of emotional and physical violence inflicted by intimate partners. The study showed higher incidence of violence in rural areas and highlighted the relationship between level of formal education and risk of violence by an intimate partner. Key interventions for combating GBV in Bhutan included a functional seven-member Gender Expert Group and functional family bench at the high court. Bhutan's successful implementation of accreditation, gender-equality monitoring systems, and collection and analysis of sex-disaggregated data were seen to be best practices that could be replicated in other countries.

Vietnam shared findings from a recent study that showed how Domestic Violence (DV) remains a pressing issue. 58% of ever-married women had experienced at least one form of DV (physical, sexual or emotional violence) in their life, and 27% suffered all three types of DV within the 12 months preceding the survey. 34% ever-married women had experienced physical or sexual violence caused by their husband at least once in their life. Peace-houses that provide safe settlement; healthcare; psychological support; legal aid; education, vocational and life skill training; entertainment; job opportunities and rehabilitation; and post-rehabilitation support were shown to create positive results. The country's implementation of "reliable addresses" within communities was also described as a good model to emulate.

Iran shared how executive measures were taken to support women and girls against violence. Laws have enabled women-related NGOs to file indictment based on the criminal court procedure, which has gone a long way to combating GBV. From establishing offices to guide and support women and children in judicial complexes, to establishing a network of 26 centres, 31 health clinics, 185 family intervention centres, daily supportive-education centres, and safe houses; interventions by the Government through Iran's vice presidency for women and family affairs have helped reduce incidences of GBV.

Sri Lanka's response to recent landslides in Aranayake was highlighted as a good practice. Ministries of women and child affairs, health, and disaster management worked closely with local government to ensure quick response during the emergency. The response included three vital aspects for women who were affected by disaster - the supply of sanitary facilities for women and children; improvement of livelihood facilities; and rehabilitation of pre-school and day-care centres. While the country's nation-wide gender/diversity mainstreaming project is making strides to reduce violence against women, several challenges still exist. Some laws that discriminate against women and children remain, alongside delays in enforcing laws with the judiciary. Consideration for gender equality is lacking in allocation of funds for projects, and inadequate application of modern technology creates barriers for fighting child abuse and violence against women. Low representation of women in decision-making and politics presents further challenges that need to be addressed.

Malaysia shared about successful government policies that sought to ensure an inclusive and equitable society with gender balance. Programmes to create a conducive working environment; increase female representation in management and professional levels in the private sector; compile gender disaggregated data; and increase the number of women at national decision-making level

were praised for having wide reach and impact in society. From child care centres at the workplace, incubation of entrepreneurial programmes, and implementation of the women entrepreneurs programme, Malaysia has taken concrete steps to drive the diversity and inclusion agenda. The country's efforts to encourage women in decision-making within the public sector, later expanding to the private sector were seen to be successful.

Fiji acknowledged the bitter reality of climate change in the Pacific, which has been experiencing extreme weather patterns in the recent past. Referring to the country's response to tropical cyclone 'Winston' (Feb 2016) that caused extensive damage and affected 167 of Fiji's 300+ islands - the cyclone exposed women to increased risk of gender based violence. Overcrowding in evacuation centres, lack of privacy, and lack of security were also points of concern. Women and girls faced increased risk of violence around evacuation centres as persons with disability and the elderly faced their own challenges. Risk of sexual abuse also existed for women and children staying with relatives. The Government's work with different national clusters, including NGOs and development partners helped produce a coordinated form of operations, prevented overlap, and ensured equal distribution. Several of Fiji's disaster management actions aim to assist vulnerable communities in adapting to the impacts of natural disasters and climate change. From watershed management, and disaster management planning, to coastal erosion prevention, and strengthening early warning systems - these actions bode well for communities who will struggle to deal with climate change in the coming years.

The conference prioritised cross-learning between country gender focal points, facilitating for engaging discussions after each session and presentation. A series of successful group activities on the last day led to gender focal points drafting regional action plans for South Asia, Asia Pacific, and South-East Asia (ASEAN). Three days of successful discourse created much needed space for exchange of ideas while also ensuring that participants left with a series of actionable plans.

COLOMBO PLAN PRESENTATIONS

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Capacity Building of Member States through PPA-ENV, PPSD, and LTSP

Dr. Thomas Scaria,
Senior Programme Officer



Dr. Scaria introduced participants to Colombo Plan's Capacity Building programmes for member states. The Programme for Public Administration (PPA), Programme for Public Sector Development (PPSD), Long Term Scholarship Programme (LTSP) and Programme for Environment and Climate Change (ENV).

Some highlights from the Capacity Building programmes during the year 2016 include:

The PPSD capacity building programme on "Enhancing the Development of Small and Medium Industry" in partnership with the Ministry of Industry, Republic of Indonesia.

The ECCE programme on "Waste Management and Renewable Energy" in partnership with KOICA.

The PPA partnership with the Bandaranaike International Diplomatic Training Institute (BIDTI), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Sri Lanka to organise an International Diplomatic Training and two national training events.

The LTSP one-year master programme on Public Policy and Management, in partnership with the Korea Development Institute (KDI) school of public policy and management, Republic of Korea. Four students from Vietnam, Maldives, and Sri Lanka were selected for the course. Alongside several fully sponsored courses offered by India, Nepal and Sri Lanka were also working on providing slots for member countries nominees each year.

TCS programmes on "Intellectual Property as a tool to Enhance Competitiveness of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises" in Hyderabad, India; "Agricultural Project Management" in Coonoor, Tamil Nadu; "Molecular Biological Techniques for Research in Agriculture and Biomedical Sciences"

by the Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI); "Rural Enterprise Planning and Promotion" in New Delhi, India; "Enterprise Promotion Strategies in Agro-Business Ventures" Hyderabad, India; "Trainers' Training on Promotion of Self-Employment and Skill Development" in Noida, India; "Small & Medium Enterprises for Youth and Women" in Chilaw, Sri Lanka; and "Youth Entrepreneurship" in Trincomalee, Sri Lanka.

The presentation concluded with time for question and answer. Participants pointed out the difficulty in dissemination of information (regarding training opportunities) and asked how the process could be made smoother. Dr. Scaria reiterated that while any department or ministry could nominate people; as per member-state agreements, all requests and nominations for capacity building should be channelled through national focal points. He also reminded participants that all capacity building programmes were open for gender and women's ministries to take advantage of.

In closing, Dr. Scaria challenged participants to explore possibilities for synergy, and make the most of learning opportunities. He stressed that while efforts were ongoing to ensure gender balance within programmes, further space for women's participation in training and capacity buildings exists. He also stated that space exists for selection of Gender related topics, which would then be made available to member countries through the Colombo Plan.

Drug Advisory Programme and ICCE

Dr. Nathalie Panabokke,
Project Director, Child Drug Addiction



Dr. Nathalie Panabokke described the inception of the Drug Advisory Programme (DAP). The Colombo Plan secretariat established the DAP as one of its permanent programmes in 1973. Since then, the DAP has grown in capacity, and now is even able to respond to the needs of non-member countries. The DAP focuses on responding to multi-faceted problems on drug use by strengthening programme development in drug demand and supply reduction.

Dr. Panabokke then shared insights into the DAP's holistic approach, strategy, and innovation. The DAP develops prevention programmes; engages youth participation in drug demand reduction; improves access to treatment and rehabilitation; provides treatment services for children; renders expert advice; and provides training for the drug demand and supply reduction workforce.

Within DAP's prevention project, key activities include life skills training; drug and alcohol prevention programmes in the workplace; and preventive drug education in schools. DAP's treatment actions centre around mapping substance use treatment capacity of Member States; development of international minimum standards for substance use treatment and care; and development of National Regulatory Systems and Guidelines for Licensing of Treatment Facilities. DAP's training and education programme focuses on effective training and education programmes on implementing treatment and prevention initiatives. Key activities include scaling up and dissemination of the Universal Prevention Curriculum (UPC) and Universal Treatment Curriculum (UTC). A programme especially focused on women, the Guiding Recovery of Women (GROW) project has developed a specialised curriculum for treating women with substance-use disorders. The curriculum has been reviewed by experts in the field and is undergoing pilot testing amongst treatment practitioners working with women. DAP's special

services for children include the Child Intervention for Living Drug-Free (CHILD) Project, an initiative aimed at providing age-appropriate treatment services for children with substance-use disorders. The project has developed and pilot-tested a CHILD curriculum with six courses. The project also provides technical assistance to treatment centres serving children and trainings for treatment practitioners in South Asia and South America.

Highlighting DAP's reach of 7,000 beneficiaries via 69 initiatives, Dr. Panabokke stressed the value of relevant, innovative, and effective delivery of drug-demand & supply-reduction interventions in achieving global impact.

During a time of question and answer; participants were keen to learn more about the GROW programme, its alignment with SDGs, and existing programmes in each country (e.g. those targeting survivors of GBV, pregnant women). National representatives expressed their interest in connecting the DAP programme with others in their respective countries.

Dr. Panabokke described GROW's work with UN ODC, and its focus on a holistic effort that takes into account other solutions and services for children and women. She stressed the value of mapping current systems and services for children/women in each country. Dr. Panabokke also encouraged assembled gender focal points to get in touch with CP-DAP if any of the described programmes would be beneficial in their countries.

Overview of the Gender Affairs Programme

Ms. Bandana Shrestha, Director - CPGAP
Mr. Augustine Savariyar, Senior Programme Officer - CPGAP



Introducing Colombo Plan's Gender Affairs Programme (GAP), Ms. Bandana Shrestha introduced participants to the programme's strategic objectives. GAP is a young and evolving programme initiated in 2014, with much of the initial work focused in Afghanistan. Ms. Shrestha described GAP's evolution in 2017, where recommendations from the 1st Gender Affairs Conference, feedback from the consultative meeting in Fiji, and discussions with staff led to redefining the objectives and organisation structure, and eventually the development of a new strategy. The new programme objective, to work together with women, men, girls, and boys to promote a just and equitable society in collaboration with stakeholders; encompasses existing actions in Afghanistan and the direction for GAP's expansion in other countries.

In order to achieve its strategic objectives, GAP will continue to partner with governments, work through partners, link with networks, and mobilise resources. Focus would remain on programme implementation through Gender Focal Points, government and line ministries; involve research into migrant workers; include evidence based policy and advocacy; and extensive capacity building across a number of sectors. The Gender Affairs Programme would focus on broad thematic issues while responding to country requests from Colombo Plan member states.

Reminding participants of recommendations that came out of the 1st Gender Focal Point Conference and the 45th consultative meeting held in Fiji; Ms. Bandana Shrestha explained how those recommendations helped design the current conference, which seeks to identify areas for building synergies with other areas of Colombo Plan; to address SDGs; Support climate change and natural disaster management; Address Gender

Based Violence (GBV); and pursue Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB). The session concluded with a presentation of the GAP's ongoing projects in Afghanistan: the AWSF and ASCSF projects that provide support to women and children exposed to gender based violence and children of incarcerated parents to holistic, safe and secure living environment.

The presentation was preceded by a time of question and answer. Participants praised the evolution of the Gender Affairs Programme, but raised a question about how a young programme like GAP would compete with other sectors/areas that have a lot of attention and organisational interventions. They stressed the need for stronger integration and work with other sectors. Ms. Shrestha reiterated that GAP thematic areas included some that were neglected by many organisations, and others that needed a deeper focus on inclusion of women and children.

Questions were also raised about institutionalised children, and if they were separated from their families. Mr. Augustine clarified that children five years and above were moved, upon the parents consent, to healthier alternate care, till they can be reintegrated with their mothers upon their release from prison.

THEMATIC 1: Gender Based Violence

Expert Session

Visit www.colombo-plan.org to learn more.

Strategising to Address Gender Based Violence

Ms. Sriyani Perera,
Development Consultant and Director - Creators' Forum



Ms. Sriyani Perera led the first expert session, on the topic of Gender Based Violence (GBV). The session expounded a rights-based approach to GBV and examined international, regional, and local standards pertaining to women's rights and GBV. Participants gained insight into how the definition of GBV evolved over time, influenced by crises and progressive conventions. The session also examined gaps in the relationship between the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and GBV with special focus on SDG 5 to achieve gender equality. Sharing a snapshot of GBV prevalence across the globe, Ms. Perera challenged participants to think strategically in addressing GBV in their respective countries.

The session looked at the inclusion of sexual violence in considerations of gender based violence; engagement of men and power-sharing as pre-conditions for eliminating GBV; the value of multi-sectoral approaches to address GBV; and key intersections between GBV and HIV, Conflict, Migration, Disaster etc. Participants were reminded about the three pronged approach to addressing GBV; prevention, intervention, and policy-advocacy. In closing, the session explored emerging issues in the sphere, such as cyber violence, considerations for persons with disability (PWDs), and demographic change such as ageing populations.

Following the introductory session and country presentations, the floor was opened for discussion. Participants inquired about the effectiveness and call-volume when running toll-free hot-lines. Bhutan said that while exact numbers aren't available, current figures may be low due to lack of awareness especially in rural areas. Sri Lanka shared how the national structure reaches village level, ensuring the hotline number is well known.

Questions were raised regarding the role of police vs social workers in addressing domestic violence. The representative from Vietnam explained that while police do play a role, social workers are also needed. She reiterated the need for all relevant agencies and stakeholders to engage in prevention and control of Domestic Violence. Participants also requested further information regarding implementation of 'Reliable Addresses' in Vietnam. The representative from Vietnam shared how some projects provide financial support to a few centres, after which assessment of the model's effectiveness is carried out. Funds are then raised to maintain reliable addresses. Victims who reach out to centres can receive basic healthcare, and other initial care. Apart from providing immediate accommodation, the reliable address household also contacts the police and people's committees to report the case, thereafter supporting the victim and even referring them to hospitals or legal systems. Punitive measures can also be undertaken against the perpetrators.

Further questions were raised regarding the effectiveness of criminalising Violence against Women in Iran. Iran's gender focal point stressed that while criminalising VAW has its benefits, large cultural boundaries can only be breached through meetings, discussion and awareness.

The session concluded, acknowledging the shared issues faced by countries across the region. Successful initiatives were praised and participants had the opportunity to create networks for further cross-country learning. Ms. Perera reiterated the need to expand men-engagement initiatives and challenged participants to explore further opportunities for research and intersections between SGBV/GBV and other sectors.

THEMATIC 1: Gender Based Violence

Country Presentations

Visit www.colombo-plan.org to learn more.



Bangladesh

Ms. Laila Jesmin,
Joint Secretary, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs



Bangladesh's constitution contains articles that deal specifically with gender equality and discrimination. Alongside the same, Bangladesh has made a series of international commitments to upholding the rights of women and preventing GBV. These include the Colombo Plan (1950); Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women or CEDAW (1979); Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989); Beijing platform for action (1995); Istanbul plan of action (2011-2020); and Sustainable Development Goals (2016-2030).

Bangladesh's child marriage restraint act (2017); women and children repression prevention act (2000); legal aid services act (2000); mobile court act (2009); domestic violence prevention and protection act (2010); acid crime prevention (amended) act (2010); human trafficking deterrence and suppression act (2012); children act (2013); deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) act (2014); national women development policy (1997); national education policy (2010); national child labour elimination policy (2010); and national children policy (2011) contribute to gender equality and prevention of GBV across the country.

In addition to these, the national plan of action to implement national women development policy (1997); national action plan to prevent violence against women and children (2013-2025); and the national action plan for combating human trafficking (2015-2017) help mainstream and solidify gender equality in government programmes.

The country's seventh five-year plan (7FYP) includes a gender vision for Bangladesh as a country where men and women will have equal opportunities and rights, and women will be recognised as equal contributors in economic, social and political development. Gender equality was one of the goals included in the FYP with targets to raise the gender parity index from 0.7 to 1.0; raise the

female to male ratio in literacy from 86% to 100%; encourage female enrolment in technical and vocational education; and to reduce and maintain the current income inequality of 0.45.

The Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MOWCA) functions as the prime authority to establish rights of women and children in Bangladesh. The ministry functions with strategic objectives to ensure social security of women and children; protect women and children and safeguard their rights; achieve gender equity; and work toward the empowerment of women and children. The ministry works to prevent violence against women and children; conserves the social and legal rights of women and children; creates employment opportunities for women; develops and implements the national women and child development policies; and coordinates and monitors different activities for women's development undertaken by other ministries (through WID focal points).

Ms. Jesmin highlighted some of Bangladesh's key intervention targeting GBV such as, violence against women prevention cell in divisional headquarters; temporary shelters for women victims of violence (where they can stay up to six months with two children below twelve years); legal aid cell to support victims of violence; and safe custody for women and children prisoners. In addition to these, eight one-stop crisis centres established in public medical college hospitals; forty one-stop crisis cells at district-general hospitals; twenty one-stop crisis cells at Upazila health complexes; a national forensic DNA profiling laboratory; seven Divisional DNA screening laboratories; and eight victim support centres established in divisional headquarters have been set up to prevent the oppression of women.

Bangladesh's establishment of a national toll-free 24-hour helpline for women and children victims of violence; national trauma counselling centre for

women and children victims; national database on violence against women and children; national coordination committee to prevent women and children trafficking; acid cases monitoring cell; acid victims' support fund; and establishment of 54 women and children repression prevention tribunals across the country were key strengths for combating GBV.

In closing, Ms. Laila Jesmin highlighted the “Joy” mobile application designed to provide instant support to women and children who are victims of violence. The application allows any woman, child, or family facing violence to press an emergency button on the app, thereby forwarding a message for help to the national helpline centre (10921), police control room, nearest police station and three numbers of friends and family.



Bhutan

Mrs. Kunzang Lhamu
Director, National Commission for Women and Children



The Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan ensures fundamental rights are equally bestowed on men and women; and mandates every Bhutanese not to tolerate abuse of women. The constitution also states that principles of state policies intend and guide actions to eliminate discrimination against women and children; and recognises ratified international treaties like the CEDAW as a deemed law of the Kingdom.

Bhutan's Gross National Happiness (GNH) strives to create an environment wherein every man, woman and child is involved and benefits from development and growth. This is supported by several acts in the constitution. The National Commission for Women and Children (NCWC) was established in 2004 under the Ministry of Health, and has enjoyed autonomous status since 2008.

Several studies and assessments have been carried out in Bhutan to map the prevalence and impact of GBV. The latest Violence against Women Study in 2012 highlighted that violence among ever-partnered women aged 15-49 was significantly higher in rural areas than in urban areas; emotional violence and physical violence by intimate partners were the main forms of violence experienced; women who experienced intimate partner violence were likely to experience controlling behaviour by intimate partner; adolescents aged 15-19 and women aged 15-49 with lower levels of formal education were at higher risk of violence by intimate partner; and a large section of women thought it was acceptable for them to be subjected to violence by intimate partner.

CEDAW observations conclude that specialised courts to address GBV need to be established; all cases of Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) should be thoroughly investigated; women's social acceptance of Domestic Violence (DV) and the root causes of non-reporting need to be addressed.

Periodic reports to CEDAW recommended that section 22 of the DVPA 2013 be amended; a coordinated multi-sectoral system of support services is established; a clear plan and adequate budget for the DVPA shelters are developed; and capacity of law enforcement agencies on GBV are strengthened.

Key interventions for combating GBV in Bhutan include Gender Focal Persons at national and local government level and a functional seven-member Gender Expert Group. A family bench at the high court; gender sensitisation and curriculum development for women and child protection units; a one-stop crisis centre at the capital; and shelters and community based support systems run by Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) like Renew were also beneficial in dealing with GBV. Appointment of protection officers; finalisation of standard operating protocols; and data captured through comprehensive management and information system would enable a good coordination mechanism for response to victims who face GBV. Accreditation and other guidelines are also being developed to this end. A gender equality monitoring system; toll-free helplines; gender indicator handbook; collection and analysis of sex-disaggregated data; and capacity building, awareness and advocacy interventions were seen as best practices in the country.

In closing, Mrs. Lhamu noted that finalisation of the gender equality policy and the NCWC act; set up of effective institutional and coordination mechanisms aligned with the national plan of action; further studies on GBV such as the ongoing VAW and VAC studies; would support implementation of acts, and prevention of GBV.



Vietnam

Ms. Tran Thi Minh Huong
Deputy Head, IR Department, Vietnam Women's Union



Domestic Violence (DV) remains a pressing issue in Vietnam where 58% of ever-married women had experienced at least one form of DV (physical, sexual or emotional violence) in their life, and 27% suffered all three types of DV within the 12 months preceding the survey. 34% ever-married women had experienced physical or sexual violence caused by their husband at least once in their life. 10% of ever-married women had experienced sexual violence in their life and 9% of interviewed women suffered economic violence in their life.

Vietnam's protection against GBV in the legal framework is built on a series of international commitments including CEDAW. The national legal framework; constitution; labour code; civil code; criminal code; gender equality law (2006); law on DV prevention and control (2007); law on marriage and family (2014); and law on children (2016) also serve to safeguard women from GBV. The national plan of action on domestic violence prevention and control up to 2020 and Vietnam family development strategy through 2020 serve to support the roll-out of actions against GBV. Similarly, June was designated as the "national action month on DV prevention and control" since 2016.

While inter-sectoral collaboration on DV prevention and control is coordinated by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, women's issue are often scattered and managed by a variety of ministries and women's organisations. Established in 1930, Vietnam Women's Union (WVU) is a large organisation in Vietnam's political system. Working for the equality and development of women, representing, caring for and protecting legal rights and legitimate interests of Vietnamese women, the organisation works across all spheres of women's issues. WVU is organised at central, provincial, district, and commune level with nearly 17 million members nationwide.

WVU manages two peace houses established in 2007. The houses provide a series of free services including safe settlement; healthcare; psychological support; legal aid; education, vocational and life skill training; entertainment; job opportunities and rehabilitation; and post-rehabilitation support. WVU's consultancy services for DV victims living in peace houses have been shown to create positive results.

Vietnam's implementation of reliable addresses within communities was described as a good model to emulate. Reliable addresses are established within each commune by the communal people's committee. A household trusted by the community is identified after which the house address and phone number are publicised throughout the commune. Victims can use the house as a point of refuge when needed and are thereby introduced to respective in-charge agencies for further support. Families who host reliable addresses play an important role in reconciliation and initial resolution of the DV case. Collaboration in communities & externally with government and NGOs proved to be effective.

Speaking on DV prevention and control, Ms. Huong explained how the law on DV has contributed to change public behaviour. People are more open with the issue and more victims dare to raise their voices. Implementation of the law is due to be reviewed during the course of 2017. While the law and DV prevention actions have been successful, power inequality between men and women coupled with social norms and gender stereotypes serve to negatively affect DV prevention and control. Limited public awareness on DV, inadequate men's involvement, and lack of gender sensitivity amongst the mass media were found to be compounding factors. Limited budgets and inadequate capacity of implementing agencies also limit the effectiveness of DV prevention actions.



Iran

Dr. Susan Bastani
Deputy for Strategic Planning, VP for Women and Family Affairs



The issue of violence against women has been put on the agenda of the legislative, judicial and executive institutes of the Islamic Republic of Iran as an undeniable priority to take necessary normative and executive actions (in the form of laws, educational, supportive, consultative, precautionary and other appropriate measures) to help prevent, control, reduce and combat violence against women and help victims reintegrate into the society.

Iran's vice presidency for women and family affairs constitutes the policy making, planning, leadership, monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment arm regarding women and family issues. The vice presidency seeks to improve women's status in the family and society; enhance family members' capacities, rights and responsibilities; strengthen women and men's freedom of choice; develop women and family's social capital; promote equitable access to opportunities and resources; and overcome women's challenges for full participation in the process of the country's development.

The vice presidency has the authority to carry out regulatory actions with respect to supporting women and girls against violence; regulatory drafts of law; and executive actions. Due to the actions of the vice presidency, Iran has adopted a charter of citizenship rights in 2016. The charter enshrines the rights to health for women; right to enjoying individual security; right to enjoying privacy; right to safety from forced marriage; right of women and children against behavioural and verbal violence; right of enjoying an environment free from individual and collective harms/distress; and support for the rights of people deprived from freedom in incarceration and detention.

The Islamic penal code (approved in 2013) also supports women and girls against violence. Specifically, the penal code deals with the status of

women in determining the type of free public services as a substitute for punishment; prohibition of harassing pregnant women; criminalisation of female genital cutting and female circumcision; and criminalisation of hurting the ability of pregnancy in women or her sexual gratification.

Enacted in 2013, the law entitling women-related NGOs to file indictment based on the criminal court procedure allowed them to legally file indictment with respective judicial entities against perpetrators of violence against women. The family support law (2012); amendments to the civil code of 1918; and the law to support the rights and responsibilities of women in national and international arenas (2004) have all gone a long way toward reducing incidence of GBV in Iran.

Executive measures taken to support women and girls against violence include, Drafting the Comprehensive Plan of Social Emergencies in Natural Disasters; Establishment of offices to guide and support women and children in judicial complexes; Creating a national division of labour for the implementations of 2030 sustainable development goals; Launching a hotline to render legal consultation to citizens especially the women; Establishing consultation services centres in family courts; and setting up a specialised social services centre to provide social emergency services. Apart from this, the socially-distressed affairs office is obligated to control and reduce social harms/distress with reliance on new scientific approaches. With a network of 26 centres, 31 health clinics, 185 family intervention centres, and further daily supportive-education centres and safe houses, the office provides a large network for reducing GBV in Iran.

THEMATIC 2: Climate Change, Resilience, and Gender

Expert Session

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Making Sustainability the Next Metric

Ms. Karin Fernando,
Senior Researcher, Centre for Poverty Analysis



Ms. Karin Fernando led the second thematic, on Climate Change, Resilience, and Gender. The session re-looked at the traditional models of linear growth, exploring the issue of inequality in a trickle-down system. Considering the drivers of climate change, the session challenged participants to think of how rising inequality and increasing climate change would present major challenges for development in the coming years. The session examined the impacts of climate change in the Asia Pacific, with reference to the intersections between climate change and other sectors. In light of the Asia Pacific being the most disaster prone region in the world, the session explored how rising temperatures, sea-level rise, unpredictable and more inclement/intense weather patterns, would deepen vulnerability. The session looked at how the Asia Pacific has incurred 91% of total deaths and 49% of total damage due to natural disasters in the last century.

Challenging the notion that climate change and disasters are gender neutral, the session looked at how the death ratio during disasters was 14:1 (women/children to men). In situations of limited supply, climate change works to exacerbate existing inequalities, while societal restriction and limiting cultural norms add to existing pressures. At best, women are seen as victims of climate change and are not part of the solution. The session stressed the need to see women as critical resource persons to deal with the problem. The session pushed for alternative thinking and a development shift. Participants explored a sustainability framework considering social, economic and environmental factors in development. Looking at the SDGs and the 5th global goal, the session reiterated the need for inter-sectoral initiatives for gender equality.

In closing, the session looked at some of the largest systemic barriers and challenges to achieving sustainable development. Ms. Fernando challenged participants to retain a sustainability lens; collaborate and encourage integration; create long term plans; and to focus on gender equality through its many intersections with other sectors.

Following the introductory session and country presentations, the floor was opened for discussion. Commenting on the role of SDGs, participants pointed out that while the SDGs have several positives, they are not the panacea for all problems. They pointed out the importance of paying attention to partnerships and common but differentiated responsibilities. Other participants raised questions regarding the role of developed nations in helping lesser developed countries achieve the SDGs. Referring to the logic of the SDGs, Ms. Fernando stressed that the SDGs are an opportunity to get people to think differently. She reiterated that the SDGs were developed after a long process and including the involvement of governments and CSOs. While the SDGs are not perfect, they do mark positive steps for gender equality. A standalone gender component alongside several other gender goals/targets built into the other SDGs was a great success for campaigners.

Participants raised a question about how climate change be incorporated into existing structures and ways of working within existing institutions and portfolios. Representatives from Pakistan shared how workplace management coupled with short and long term training on disaster management and first aid should be included in the standard operating procedures of all organisations.

Reiterating the importance of de-politicising the issue of gender when including the same in national frameworks and action plans, participants stressed the importance of non-political discourse. Participants pointed out that while the Sendai framework is the only global document with disaster risk reduction/management, the issue of gender and women's empowerment was almost missing from the discussion because it was too politicised at the time. Most Developing countries felt that including the gender issue into the framework may lead to the human rights aspect, and could be considered contentious.

Participants inquired about Sri Lanka's programmes in the post-disaster situation for women and

children. Representatives from Sri Lanka shared the Ministry of Women and Child Affairs' National Action Plan. Women development officers are present at each Divisional Secretariat and others at grassroots level (six persons in total at each Divisional Secretariat). These officers address all related issues during disasters. In the post-disaster scenario, they join others in the Divisional Secretariat including the Disaster Management Centre, to address issues.

Referring to Malaysia's consideration of affirmative action for women's participation in politics, participants reminded the floor that it is also important to consider the capacity or capability of men participating in politics. Participants also requested more information about other programmes undertaken to change attitudes. Representatives from Malaysia stressed the importance of implementing a quota system coupled with capacity building. With reference to culture and value systems, changes need to start at the household level (families and their way of bringing-up children). Parents have to change the perceptions of their children. Legal change is insufficient in this case where change has to come from within.

Participants questioned whether women from Sri Lanka's agriculture sector were included in addressing disasters and climate change that would have a significant impact on their lives. Representatives from Sri Lanka shared how each

ministry has a gender focal point, wherein the gender agenda is pushed into each ministry. While no specific programmes were in place, focal points were able to push the gender agenda into existing and future programmes.

In closing, Ms. Fernando and Ms. Perera reiterated the need to include a developmental approach to climate change and disasters, looking beyond merely disaster management or response. When thinking of climate change, they challenged participants to consider multiple intersection and multiple entry points. Participants were encouraged to think of how initiatives touch each of the three domains that contribute to Sustainable Development. It is important to think of women and girls not only as vulnerable groups that need to be protected, but as protectors of the environment, and repositories of traditional and grassroots knowledge. It is important to see women as a group that can be empowered.

While recognising progress made, adoption of the SPHERE standards, and inclusion of diversity perspectives by various governments, Ms. Perera warned that women were still were still add-ons in disaster response etc. She urged participants to include women from the preparatory phases, through planning, all the way to the end. When trying to change power dynamics and societal attitudes, it is important to ensure that all of society holds responsibility for attitude change.



THEMATIC 2: Climate Change, Resilience, and Gender

Country Presentations

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Sri Lanka

Mr. Chathura Liyanaarachchi, Ministry of Disaster Management
Mrs. Ashoka Alawatte, Ministry of Women and Child Affairs



Sri Lanka has enacted the prevention of domestic violence act (2005); the convention on preventing and combating trafficking in women and children for prostitution (Act No.30); maternity benefit ordinance (1939); and the penal code amendments act (1995). In order to empower women in politics and decision-making, 25% of seats in the local and provincial authorities have been allocated for women through changes made to the local government election act. Similarly, in order to increase women's participation in the labour force and uplift their economic status, cabinet approval was taken to allocate at least 25% of total Investment from the rural economic development programme for women.

The national policy on widows and women headed households (2016); and formulation of women's charter (1993) have contributed to dealing with some of the resulting dangers of climate change. Development plans such as the prevention of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) five year action plan (2016); the draft action plan on UNSCR 1325 (2016); implementation plan for the prevention of domestic violence (2007); lessons learned reconciliation plan; national human right action plan (2011-2016); and the national action plan for women (1996), have led the way in gender mainstreaming and empowerment of women legally, socially, and economically. The national centre for widows and women headed households for socio-economic empowerment; and the women in reconciliation programme with the office for national unity and reconciliation (ONUR) are key programmes that ensure gender mainstreaming and reconciliation.

Sri Lanka's child development units (2013); and women and child desks in police stations (2000) have gone a long way in helping deliver better and safer services for women and children in Sri Lanka. The Ministry provides psychosocial and counselling

services alongside gender-sensitive emergency support packages and medical relief for the victims of disasters. The ministry of disaster management issued a circular to increase participation of women and child related field officers in existing District disaster management mechanisms.

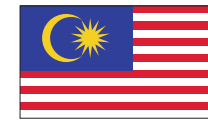
The country's nation-wide gender/diversity mainstreaming project has undertaken recruitment of field officers; conducted awareness programmes; established child and women development units; recruited counselling assistants; and implemented development programmes that improve income generation opportunities for marginalised and vulnerable groups. Some actions taken to reduce violence against women include establishment of women and child bureaus in police departments; awareness programmes for men and girl children; District and Divisional referral mechanisms; GBV forums; provision of legal aids for women; establishment of Mithuru Piyasa at base hospitals; and construction of counselling centres to support need persons and victims.

While several actions have been undertaken by the ministry, several challenges still exist. Some laws that discriminate against women and children remain, alongside delays in enforcing laws with the judiciary. When allocating funds for projects, there is little consideration for gender equality. Inadequate application of modern technologies creates further barriers for fighting child abuse and violence against women. Existence of stereotypes and traditional socio-cultural values; lack of commitment for empowerment of women; inadequate investment in livelihood development of poor and vulnerable women; lack of community participation in VAW prevention; prevalence of maternal migration; presence of child labour; lack of organisation between service providers; low representation of women in politics and decision making; & lack of gender disaggregated data

present serious challenges that need to be addressed.

Sri Lanka's sex and age disaggregated data collection project (SADD) sought to address some of the challenges highlighted above. While limitations remain, the project is a step in the right direction. Further initiatives are underway to increase women's participation in leadership & disaster response; to set up gender responsive DRR/DRM; and allocation suitable budgets for gender-responsive policies.

In closing, Sri Lanka's response to recent landslides in Aranayake was highlighted as a good practice in responding to disasters. The ministries of women and child affairs, health, and disaster management worked closely with local government to ensure quick response in a time of emergency. The response included three vital aspects for women who were affected by disaster - the supply of sanitary facilities for women and children; improvement of livelihood facilities; and rehabilitation of pre-school and day-care centres.



Malaysia

Mr. Chua Choon Hwa,
Undersecretary, Min. of Women, Family, & Community Dev.



Malaysia has a female population of 15.3 million, and labour force participation rate of 54.3%. The labour force participation rate is expected to grow to 59% by 2020. In 2015, female literacy stood at 92.6%, while female enrolment in public higher learning institutions was 62%. Life expectancy of women is 77.7 years in 2015. Alongside CEDAW and the SDGs; the national policy on women (2009); national plan of action for the advancement of women; and the tenth and eleventh Malaysia plans set the policy direction for women in the country. The department of women's development; women's advisory and consultative council; and the special chair on women leadership play key roles in the agenda.

The Government's policies seek to ensure an inclusive and equitable society with gender balance. The government employs programmes to create a conducive working environment; increase female representation in management and professional levels in the private sector; compile gender disaggregated data; and increase the number of women at national decision-making level. Such programmes work across a wide swathe of society, reaching women from the bottom forty (B40), middle forty (M40), and top twenty (T20).

Child care centres at the workplace function as a support system for career women and encourage increased female participation in the labour force. The government works within government ministries by providing direct support; encourages families with subsidies; and provides incentives for the private sector through tax exemptions. Setting of a minimum wage; incubation of entrepreneurial programmes and implementation of the women entrepreneurs programme; provision of intensive skills training for single mothers; creation of smart domestic managers; and initiatives such as productive welfare (PROWELL) and Mamacare work for the economic empowerment of women in

the bottom forty percent income segment. Flexworklife is a web portal launched in 2013 to build a network of employers and talents to optimise work-life integration while maximising work efficiency and enhancing employee engagement. It serves as a repository for the best ideas and practices in flexible working arrangements and family-friendly facilities. Life at work awards work similarly to recognise and celebrate women-friendly employers with leading workplace strategies that demonstrate drive, commitment and tenacity to champion the diversity and inclusion agenda.

Career comeback schemes target the middle forty percent income segment of women in Malaysia. Recognising the difficulties faced by women when re-entering the labour force after a period of absence, the project offers professionals an opportunity to relaunch their career after a hiatus. The government implements career comeback fairs and other initiatives alongside career guidance and support for women to find ideal re-entry roles. Such efforts go hand-in-hand with resourcing grants, retaining grants and tax incentives to employers.

Targeting the top 20% income segment of women, the Malaysian Government encourages women in decision-making by ensuring 30% participation of women in decision making in the public sector. As of 2016, 35.8% participation has been reached. The ministry also works with the private sector, pushing for 30% female participation in decision-making positions. As at 2016, the private sector showed only 16.6%. Instead of an enforced quota system, the government works to ensure that capable women take on leadership positions. To this end, the campaign is supported by an integrated upskilling programme. Malaysia's women directors programme and registry system function by training and compiling a database of capable women leaders.



Fiji

Ms. Aradhana Sharma
Snr. Women Interest Officer, Research and Policy,
Ministry of Women, Children, and Poverty Alleviation



Fiji's Ministry of Women is the primary policy advisor to the Government on women's development and gender issues. The department is also responsible for the coordination and implementation of the National Gender Policy. Aligned to the Beijing platform of action, Fiji's women's plan of action (2010-2019) is the primary vehicle to fulfil obligations to international and regional instruments such as the SDGs and CEDAW. The women's plan of action focuses on formal sector employment and livelihood; equal participation in decision making; elimination of violence against women; improving access to services; and dealing with women and the law.

Prevention of violence against women is enshrined in the constitution of Fiji (2013). The domestic violence decree (2009); national gender policy and national women's action plan (2010-2019); family law act; national sexual harassment policy; and employment relations promulgation also serve to protect and preserve the rights of women. Further Government initiatives such as gender based violence training; domestic violence helpline; public awareness through activism and talk-back shows; task-force for ending violence against women; and zero tolerance violence free community programme serve to combat violence against women.

While Fiji has not fully adopted the notion of Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB), the ministry aims to change this with the implementation of the national gender policy. The policy creates space for different Government line ministries to have allocations for specific activities, whereby allocations will need to be made from their own budgets for implementation of these activities. Fiji has also identified a possible area of collaboration with Indonesia for training on Gender Responsive Budgeting.

Climate Change is a reality in the Pacific, which has been experiencing extreme weather patterns in the recent past. Fiji recognises that even if natural disasters affect both men and women, persons with disability, children and women are the more vulnerable group. Tropical cyclone 'Winston' (Feb 2016) was the strongest tropical cyclone to ever make land fall over Fiji. Damage caused was extensive and affected 167 of Fiji's 300+ islands. 43 persons lost their lives and 40% of the total population was affected. 120,000 were children under 18 years old and 36,000 were children under 5 years of age. An estimated 5,600 women in the affected area were pregnant. The cyclone exposed women to increased risk of gender based violence that may have resulted from the stressful situation (emotional trauma and stress manifested itself in different ways including GBV). Workloads and economic hardship increased during the response and recovery periods, and families faced struggled to meet basic needs and rebuild their lives. Overcrowding in evacuation centres, lack of privacy, and lack of security were also points of concern. Women and girls faced increased risk of violence around evacuation centres as persons with disability and the elderly faced their own challenges. Risk of sexual abuse also existed for women and children staying with relatives.

The Government worked with different national clusters, including NGOs and development partners for a coordinated form of operations. This prevented overlap and ensured equal distribution. Apart from immediate supply of basic food necessities, the Government initiated clusters for safety and protection (with child protection and GBV sub-clusters); health and nutrition (including the psychosocial services sub-cluster where a variety of CSOs provided group counselling and referrals services); shelter; education; food security; Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH); logistics; public works and utilities. The ministry

created a code of conduct for all workers in emergencies, alongside referral pathways and service directories. Women friendly spaces helped and women and children with medical advice and counselling.

The Government's employs a series of programmes for disaster management, including the green growth framework. Transfer of the climate change division to the Ministry of Economy in early 2016 was a strategic move to strengthen the mainstreaming of climate change adaptation and disaster risk management more effectively throughout the development in Fiji. A complementary sum of \$215,000 had also been provided for a Climate Change Financing initiative - a joint initiative between the Fiji Government and UNESCAP to provide hands-on training and capacity-building support to national planners and Finance Ministry officials to address the constraints in accessing climate finance. Fiji is committed to play its role in the global effort to reduce greenhouse gas

emissions and has submitted its Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC) in 2015, committing to reduce carbon emissions by 30%. The reduction is to be achieved through energy efficiency measures and investment in renewable energy. To build resilience of vulnerable communities, the Government has also launched a disaster risk management and climate change mitigation programme under the National Disaster Management Office in 2014. The programme aims to assist vulnerable communities in adapting to the impacts of natural disasters and climate change. Freshwater management under the watershed management project focuses on optimising the usage of water. As flooding in low-lying areas is becoming frequent around Fiji during periods of heavy rainfall, the Government is dredging rivers, constructing river bank boulders to prevent coastal erosion, and conducting environment impact assessments to mitigate flood risks. To support disaster management planning, the Government is strengthening its early warning systems.



THEMATIC 3: Gender Responsive Budgeting

Expert Session

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Tool for Gender Mainstreaming

Dr. Paramita Majumdar
UN Women Consultant, Gender Responsive Budgeting



Dr. Paramita Majumdar led the third expert session, on Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB). The session examined GRB as a process for incorporating a gender perspective across multiple stages, such as planning, policy, programme formulation, needs assessment, resource allocation, impact assessment, and resources prioritisation. The importance of GRB lies in its ability to achieve improved transparency and accountability; improve efficiency; reduce corruption; increase effective utilisation of public funds; strengthen citizen advocacy and monitoring; and contribute to gender-sensitive improved policies that contribute to economic growth. Participants learned about the alignment between international gender commitments and GRB before exploring a series of tools to utilise when engaging in GRB. Participants studied GRB initiatives undertaken by a host of countries including Australia, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal, Philippines, South Korea, and India. The session then explored the topic of gender auditing and its value as part of the budget cycle across programmatic and organisational dimensions.

Dr. Majumdar introduced Performance Based Budgeting (PBB) and took participants through the linkages between PBB and GRB. In closing, Dr. Majumdar explained the role of parliamentarians in taking forward GRB, and introduced how GRB can be extended to look at unpacking revenue streams such as VAT.

Following the introductory session and country presentations, the floor was opened for discussion. Participants pointed out that when talking about GRB, efforts should not stop at planning, but occur during the whole process of budgeting and implementation. Thereafter, budgets should not only be specific for women, but should also look at how other programmes and allocations (that don't expressly benefit women) connect with gender equality and women's empowerment.

Questions were raised regarding women specific allocations and quotas within GRB. Dr. Majumdar pointed out that while those are a good start, GRB is about gender transformative planning and budgeting, which can start with pro-women or women-specific actions, but should move to reduce the gender gap and be gender transformative.

Further questions were put forward to those countries that had experience with GRB. Participants inquired as to whether there were significant changes seen in respective ministries, or a mere re-allocation of existing budgets. Country representatives noted that from a programmatic side, a gender-based analysis should be carried out routinely during the financial year. After this, staff would be able to canvas financial ministries to free up more finances and make significant positive changes to budgets.

Noting the difficulties in obtaining information, participants pointed out that analysis should show how funds are utilised or implemented at the grassroots level. In some cases, recurrent budgets could increase, without a change in capital budgets. Such change may not reflect a gender transformative budget. Instead, budgets should always reflect change in capital budget, as this deals with direct programmatic budgets.

A question was raised to representatives from Indonesia regarding their experiences in roll-out of GRB. Participants inquired as to whether an evaluation of the impact of GRB was carried out, and whether the GRB training should have a positive outcome. Representatives from Indonesia shared how monitoring takes place through financial auditors at national and sub-national level. Progress was significant, as a lot of ministries and provinces did not know about GRB. 14 of the ministries that rolled out GRB were graded 'very advanced', carrying out their own innovations in developing GRBs. The same happened in the provinces with more than 15 provinces considered 'very advanced'. Significant improvements were seen in the so-called 'gender neutral' such as transport.

Child-Centric Budgeting

Ms. Buddhini Withana
Consultant - Child Protection and Child Rights, Save the Children Sri Lanka



Ms. Buddhini Withana shared findings and feedback from a recent study conducted by Save the Children about how the Sri Lankan Government invests in children's services. The study examined investment through revenues and fiscal space, allocations and spending, participation, accountability and transparency. The study looked at how state resources were channelled from the national and provincial levels in order to reach children; measured what financial, physical, and human resources were invested in by the Government to improve the well-being of the country's children; assessed priorities in terms of sectoral and programmatic allocations and expenditure for children; and looked at whether the resources being invested by national and provincial Governments were efficiently utilised and whether they were adequate to fulfil children's needs and rights.

The study cut across education, health, child protection, early childhood care and development, and child participation; and worked together with the following ministries to examine their inputs: Ministry of Women and Child Affairs (MoWCA), Ministry of Health (MoH), Ministry of Education (MoE), Ministry of Social Services (MoSS), Ministry of Youth Affairs and Skills Development (MoYASD), Ministry of Private Transport Services (MoPTS), Ministry of Sports (MoS), Ministry of Transport (MoT), Ministry of Economic Development (MoED), Ministry of Education Services (MoES); Line ministries of Probation and Child Care Services, Education, Health, Social Services, Sports, Transport Youth Affairs and Skill Development.

The study found that the Government of Sri Lanka spends 8 to 10 percent of total national expenditure on children (about Rs. 144 per child per day). However, it was noted that recurrent expenditure, mostly personal emoluments, that had increased, instead of capital expenditure. Overspending on recurrent expenditure with an under-utilisation of capital investments was seen throughout. It was also noted that since current budgeting process was

not based on an accurate understanding of needs, there was wastage of resources due to duplication, over-allocation and poor implementation of programmes.

Major gaps exist in dispersion of resources allocated for children. As child-related interventions are managed by several Government and non-government agencies, and are widely dispersed, it is extremely challenging to track, monitor, and assess available resources. The absence of a participatory process and information sharing was also noted. Existing budgets were created via a 'top-down' process, where all the planning and decision making was done by senior management at both national and provincial levels. Disparities exist between plans, allocations, and ground realities. A monitoring and accountability mechanism was lacking, even though it is a standard requirement for ensuring that provisions reach the intended children effectively and produce expected outcomes. Lack of visibility for the child in the state budget was another factor highlighted. Physical resource gaps were also evident throughout the study. Lack of information communication technology (ICT) facilities, office equipment, lack of vehicles and fuel or travel allowances were prevalent. Shortages in human resources were also seen. When human resources were present, there was insufficient financial and material resources to sustain or utilise them optimally. Gaps in the capacity building of field cadre were also identified. Although trainings are offered by Government and non-government parties in a wide variety of subjects, the level of quality varies greatly and trainings normally focus on knowledge and skill development, while the 'enabling' environment and processes are yet to receive attention under capacity building.

In closing, the representative from Save the Children shared how the report was used to create a platform of dialogue with ministries of finance etc, who were responsive and willing to accommodate CSO involvement in analysis of allocation.



THEMATIC 3: Gender Responsive Budgeting

Country Presentations

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Indonesia

Ms. Eko Novi Ariyanti
Assistant to Deputy for Gender Equality in Economics,
Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection



Indonesia's implementation of GRB was supported by strong political commitment, multi-stakeholder involvement including communities, availability of sex-aggregated data and gender analysis, capacitated human resources, and institutionality. Several activities were carried out by the ministries involved during the GRB process. Socialisation and awareness raising on gender responsive planning and budgeting; facilitation of the establishment of gender focal points and gender mainstreaming working group; formulation of guidelines for Implementation of gender mainstreaming and GRB; gender analysis training at policy level; technical guidance for preparation and review of GRB; and formulation of guidelines for GRB supervision ensured a supportive environment was created wherein the country could move forward with analysing and drafting gender responsive budgets. Many activities were carried out from the Provincial level to ensure suitable rollout.

In 2011-2014, advocacy for gender mainstreaming acceleration was conducted. This resulted in strengthening of CSO capacity, strengthening of capacity within women's groups; and strengthening of local government capacity. More than 70 regional government work units involved community elements (mostly NGOs and universities) in the implementation of GRB.

Even with community participation, awareness raising, and other preliminary activities carried out, implementation of GRB was not easy. There was inadequate integration of gender in institutional culture thereby creating difficulty in ensuring a gender responsive environment; lack of legal tools, analysis and political commitment for the implementation of GRB; lack of synergised political commitment and technocratic capacity in the bureaucracy; and gaps in the role of civil society. The situation was further compounded by lack of data, which hampered the data processing that is part of the GAP analysis.

Building on a depth of learning from their implementation of GRB, Indonesia has developed a training module (curriculum) on gender integration in regional planning and budgeting. The modules ensure that GRB is implemented in accordance with national standards.



Pakistan

Mrs. Lubna Mansoor
Regional Director, Ministry of Law, Justice, and Human Rights



Pakistan's journey toward gender equality and women's empowerment has a cyclic process where constitutional obligations and core international human rights conventions ratified by Pakistan, coupled with strong political will, feed into building legal frameworks, which in turn put in place a series of policy and institutional frameworks at national level. Women in Pakistan faced barriers to progress caused by lack of access to banks/financial services and lack of control of cash and limitations from regulated spending patterns. Women are also held back by heavy domestic workloads, and even when engaging in economic activity, they are involved in production with low return. Social and cultural barriers also exist, including low literacy, low awareness and limited decision-making facility. Political and legal barriers coupled with lack of implementation of laws pose a problem, as women are less empowered to claim their rights.

Pakistan has made strides in working toward gender equality and women's empowerment. Beginning with a vision for 2025; the ministry has also undertaken policy initiatives that promote gender equality; helped develop a strong legal framework; set up institutional mechanisms at national and local level; carried out initiatives for economic empowerment of women, and incorporated good practices that have worked in other areas. Pakistan's national plan of action for women; national policy for development and empowerment of women; women empowerment policy; and national action plan for protection and promotion of human rights have helped take forward the gender equality and women's empowerment agenda.

Key legislation for gender equality in Pakistan includes the criminal law (amendment) act; protection of women (criminal laws amendments) act; North-West frontier Province establishment of a commission on the status of women act; criminal law (amendment) act; protection against harassment of women at the workplace act; criminal

law (second amendment) act; criminal law (third amendment) act; women in distress and detention fund act; national commission on the status of women act; elimination of custom of ghag act; domestic violence (prevention and protection) act; Punjab commission on the status of women act; Balochistan domestic violence (prevention and protection) act; KPK deserving widows and special persons foundation act; Punjab fair representation of women act; Balochistan protection and promotion of breast-feeding and child nutrition act; the Sindh commission on the status of women Act; Hindu marriage act; punjab prevention of violence against women act; anti-rape law (criminal law amendment) act; and the anti honour-killing act.

Government bodies involved in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment include the federal ministry of human rights; national and provincial commissions on the status of women; senate, national and provincial assembly's standing committees on human/women rights; women parliamentary caucus; national commission on human rights; Provincial CEDAW implementation committees; national commission on child welfare and development; Provincial women development departments. These bodies have also implemented a series of treaty implementation cells; and women crisis centres and protection centres.

In line with the Government's push for gender equality, the ministry of interior has successfully implemented programmes to create gender-crime centres, women police stations, and women complaint centres. In addition to these, Provincial governments have implemented projects to promote women's empowerment; ownership of land; provide maternity and paternity leave; set up day care facilities; provide workplace protection; protection from acid attacks; and promote home based workers. These projects go hand-in-hand with awareness raising campaigns; celebratory events; sensitisation programmes; and capacity building.

REGIONAL ACTION PLANS

Visit www.colombo-plan.org to learn more.

Regional Action Plan: South Asia

Countries represented: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka

THEME/ INTERSECTION	INITIATIVE	OBJECTIVE	OUTCOME	TIME FRAME	COUNTRY-SPECIFIC ACTIVITY	COUNTRY- SPECIFIC EXPERTISE	SUCCESS INDICATORS	BUDGET PLEDGES
GENDER BASED VIOLENCE (Relevant regionally and globally)	Combating cyber-crime GAP to consider hosting a seminar or conference for sensitisation of different sectors	1. Prevent and control the offence of cybercrime 2. Sensitisation of responders (judiciary & enforcement) 3. Develop interregional strategy	Safe and secure environment for society	2017 to 2022	Cyber Crime Act of Pakistan 2016 Harassment of Women at workplace 2010 Act, Pakistan Cyber Surveillance Unit in Sri Lanka 2012 National Cyber Security Strategy, Afghanistan 2014 Bangladesh Mobile Court Act 2009 Penal Code of Bhutan (Amd. 2011) Child Toll Free Helplines	Relevant Government Institutions and regional expertise	# of prosecutions on cybercrime Development & enforcement convictions of workplace regulations # of awareness programs on cyber crime	Possibility of reaching out to funding from Google to be explored
CLIMATE CHANGE & GENDER	Gender Responsive Disaster Preparedness & Management	Gender responsive disaster preparedness and management for prior, during, immediate post-disaster and recovery phases	Gender mainstreaming in all stages of disaster	2017 to 2022	Disaster Management Plans	Relevant Government Institutions and NGOs / CSOs / INGOs and Regional expertise	Government- wide disaster management exercise	
GENDER RESPONSIVE BUDGETING	Scoping study to analyse the strengths, gaps and opportunities for GRB	Allocation of sufficient budget to fulfil budget needs and identify entry points	Ensure mainstreaming of gender in policies, plans and programs	2017 to 2022	GRB Strategies and Guidelines GRB Training Guidelines	Relevant Government Institutions and NGOs / CSOs / INGOs and Regional expertise	Proportion of budget spent on gender transformative initiatives Gender earmarks in the budget	

Gender Based Violence

Participants from the South Asian region acknowledged that while traditional forms of GBV exist, they are a known factor. Cyber-violence on the other hand is sensitive, and is emerging/growing in the region at this time. Tackling cyber-violence is complex - it combines several subsets, involves technical know-how, requires inter-sectoral preventative measures, better coordination with agencies, strong legislation, and clear punitive measures.

Identifying that child abuse is connected to cyber-crime and cyber-violence, Pakistan shared their experience in dealing with international Mafia working on child pornography. With a cyber-crime act being passed through parliament, the ministry of media needed to work with the home department and federal investigation units to control such crimes. A great deal of capacity building is necessary

to enable institutions to deal with the issue satisfactorily. Sri Lanka shared their experience with initiating a cyber-civilians unit.

Focal points suggested that in-country units be established for networking purposes, thereby generating initial evidence and analysis on cases, and fostering ongoing discussions. Thereafter, they suggested that Colombo Plan host an inter-regional conference on Cyber Violence and GBV. Possibility of funding from Google and other large technology firms could be considered in this regard. The proposed conference would enable each country to share their in-country analyses. Developed nations from the membership could also share their experiences, fostering cross-learning and generating vital dialogue on Cyber violence and GBV. Focal points suggested that the proposed conference could lead to an inter-regional strategy to combat cyber violence.

Climate Change and Gender

Since South Asia is prone to natural disasters, and the prevalence of disasters is increasing across the region, focal points from South Asia reiterated the need for gender-sensitive/responsive disaster preparedness, management, response, and recovery.

They stressed the need to create departments with statutory priorities in some countries (while others already had such institutions in place). These departments should address problems during and after disasters. Ranging from Preparedness to response, recovery, re-integration, and normalisation.

Gender Responsive Budgeting

Gender focal points from South Asian countries proposed a scoping study to analyse the strengths, gaps and opportunities for GRB within their countries. Considering that all countries have allocations for child health, mother health etc.; they reiterated the need for these budgets to be identified and labelled as gender budgets. The importance of monitoring by stakeholders/people working with the government was also stressed. This would allow identification of new entry points with relation to other budgets and ensure all allocations are needs-based.

Regional Action Plan: Asia Pacific

Countries represented: Fiji, Maldives

THEME/ INTERSECTION	INITIATIVE	OBJECTIVE	OUTCOME	TIME FRAME	COUNTRY-SPECIFIC ACTIVITY	COUNTRY- SPECIFIC EXPERTISE	SUCCESS INDICATORS	BUDGET PLEDGES
GBV AND MIGRATION <i>(Relevant for SEA and SA regions)</i>	Data Collection and Research <i>Focus on migrant communities</i>	To gather baseline data on migrant communities to address GBV in future interventions	Number of GBV cases within migrant communities disaggregated by type of migration and type of violence To identify points of vulnerability for migrants (stages where they are more vulnerable to SGBV)	Short term (12m)	Pulling information together Synopsis of information by country/regions	Research Experts, Facilitators, NGOS in countries working for the rights of Migrant Workers	Institutions working with migrant workers and possessing primary data identified Statistics gathered Statistics analysed Report finalised Way forward identified	Lobby with UN Agencies Collaborate with Partner Agencies Country Collaboration NGOs UNHCR IOM on migration ILO FOR employment migration
CLIMATE CHANGE & GENDER	1. Collect and analyse GBV data during and after Cyclone TC Winston 2. Review Projects, Programmes, and Policies	1. To reduce and better the response to cases of GBV 2. Ensure that gender is incorporated into ongoing programmes, and policies established	More gender sensitised disaster management and climate change policies and programmes Identify areas where gender based capacity building is needed	Short term (6m) Short term (12m)	Fiji	Bangladesh Indonesia Sri Lanka Facilitators, NGOS	Collection of data Analysis Report Future interventions identified	
GENDER RESPONSIVE BUDGETING	Sectoral Analysis	Introducing gender responsive planning budgeting	Identify current gaps and opportunities for more effective approaches to address GRB across sectors	Short term (12m)				

Gender Based Violence

Migration and trafficking are complex issues with wide variation across different countries. Gender focal points from the Asia Pacific made the case for further study of the intersections between migration and violence in order to address GBV. Proposing the collation of country-specific information, focal participants stressed the need to identify the primary drivers of migration in each country. They also suggested the consideration of international standards and frameworks when carrying out analysis. After completion of in-country studies, focal points suggested organising a forum whereby findings could be discussed, validated, and primary issues could be prioritised before identifying a way forward.

Climate Change and Gender

Countries from the Asia Pacific suggested that GBV data during and after disasters be analysed (especially in the case of cyclical disaster-risk). With initial focus on Fiji, the study could be expanded to review processes within other countries as well. This would enable governments in the region to reduce and better respond to cases of GBV during the next cycle. They also suggested the review of projects, programmes, and policies to ensure that Gender is suitably incorporated (with special consideration for programmes implemented by other ministries dealing with climate change and disaster management). Participants stressed the need to adapt or improve existing disaster

management plans, policies based on the findings. Working to ensure that gender is mainstreamed across existing policies and plans.

Participants from outside the Asia Pacific noted the value of the proposed study. Suggesting the possibility of cross-country exchange and knowledge-sharing, Bhutan shared how many disaster management plans don't cover all stages. Vietnam shared how the country has been impacted heavily by climate change, with communities suffering from severe droughts and flash floods. Participants suggested that alternative livelihoods and promotion of life-skills that are beneficial during disasters be considered when carrying out the study.

Gender Responsive Budgeting

Gender focal points from the Asia Pacific suggested an analysis of selected sectors wherein GRB could be mainstreamed. The proposed study would help de-mystify GRB while identifying gaps and opportunities, thereby laying the foundation for scaling up GRB in the region and across other member states. Participants suggested an integrated approach to GRB with consideration for cross-cutting issues such as migration and GBV. As GRB discussions and training are already underway in some countries, opportunities for cross-learning also abound. Participants suggested considering UN Women and EU funding opportunities to finance the study.

Regional Action Plan: South East Asia

Countries represented: Malaysia, Vietnam, Indonesia

THEME/ INTERSECTION	INITIATIVE	OBJECTIVE	OUTCOME	TIME FRAME	COUNTRY-SPECIFIC ACTIVITY	COUNTRY- SPECIFIC EXPERTISE	SUCCESS INDICATORS	BUDGET PLEDGES
GENDER RESPONSIVE BUDGETING	Capacity Building <i>Gender Responsive Budgeting</i>	To create awareness, provide skills and implement GRB	Increased awareness and practices on GRPB among governmental agencies	5Y	Conferences and workshops, training, amending of regulations on planning and budgeting with gender responsiveness.	Technical support from implementing countries n UN body		Cost sharing, countries' contribution, Colombo Plan support, international organisations (UN etc.)
	Buy-in from Political Masters <i>(To include in the budget circular)</i>							
	Capacity Building <i>for line ministries / Provincial and District level</i>		Pilot project	5Y				
	Pilot Project <i>on various ministries / Provincial / Districts</i>							
Total roll-out	GRPB being carried out	8Y						

Gender Responsive Budgeting

Focal points from South East Asian/ASEAN countries proposed capacity building programmes on GRB. The need for strong awareness raising was also suggested, as line ministries lack sensitivity to issues, and the buy-in of political masters would be essential to successful implementation of GRB. The value of GRB across all budgeting/screening processes was reiterated, as it makes even so called 'gender-neutral' agencies think about their actions. Focal points suggested a pilot project, followed by a comprehensive evaluation, and thereafter total roll-out. Participants from Indonesia suggested the sharing of expertise and experience on the subject, as they were already in the process of scaling up GRB. Further expertise could be found with the United Nations and other agencies. Participants stressed that a longer duration for capacity building would ensure greater buy-in and therefore a more stable outcome.

Annexe 1

Conference Agenda

GENDER AFFAIRS PROGRAMME 2nd GENDER FOCAL POINT CONFERENCE 2017

Day 1: Wednesday, 03rd May 2017

8.00 - 8.45	Registration of Delegates at Conference Venue Ivo Ball Room
Opening Ceremony	
9.00 - 9.15	Lighting of Oil Lamp
9.15 - 9.25	Key Note address Mr. Kinley Dorji - Secretary General, Colombo Plan
9.25 - 9.40	Welcome Address Ms. Bandana Shrestha - Director, CP-GAP
9.40 - 9.55	Inaugural address by the Chief Guest Honourable Chandrani Senaratna Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Affairs, Sri Lanka
9.55 - 10.15	Group Photo with Chief Guest
10.15 - 10.45	Tea
10.45 - 11.10	Video Screening: Introduction to Colombo Plan History Mr. Romano Perera - IT Manager, Colombo Plan
Colombo Plan Presentations:	
11.10 - 11.30	Capacity Building of Member States through PPA-ENV, PPSD, & LTSP Dr. Thomas Scaria - Sr. Programme Officer
11.30 - 11.50	Drug Advisory Programme and ICCE Dr. Nathalie Panabokke - Project Director, Child Drug Addiction
11.50 - 12.20	Gender Affairs Programme Ms. Bandana Shrestha - Director, Gender Affairs Programme Mr. Augustine Sarvariya - Sr. Programme Officer
12.30 - 13.00	Outcomes from the 1st Gender Focal Point Conference Ms. Bandana Shrestha - Director, Gender Affairs Programme
13.00 - 14.00	Lunch
Thematic 1: Gender Based Violence	
14.00 - 15.00	Expert Presentation: Strategising to Address GBV Ms. Sriyani Perera - Development Consultant and Director, Creators' Forum
15.00 - 15.15	Tea
Country Presentations (Facilitator: Ms. Bandana Shrestha)	
15.15 - 15.45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bangladesh • Bhutan • Vietnam • Iran
15.45 - 16.30	Administrative Announcements

Day 2: Thursday, 04th May 2017

8.30 - 8.45	Follow up from Day 01. Ms. Bandana Shrestha - Director, Gender Affairs Programme
Thematic 2: Climate Change, Resilience, and Gender	
8.45 - 9.45	Expert Presentation: Making Sustainability the Next Metric Ms. Karin Fernando - Senior Researcher, Centre for Poverty Analysis
Country Presentations (Facilitator: Ms. Bandana Shrestha)	
9.45 - 10.45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sri Lanka • Malaysia • Fiji
10.45 - 11.00	Tea
Thematic 3: Gender Responsive Budgeting	
11.00 - 12.30	Expert presentation: Tool for Gender Mainstreaming Dr. Paramita Majumdar - UN Women Consultant, Gender Responsive Budgeting
12.30 - 13.30	Lunch
Country Presentations:	
15.15 - 16.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indonesia • Pakistan
16.15 - 16.30	Administrative Announcements




Day 3: Friday, 05th May 2017

8.30 - 10.30	Group work (Facilitators: Ms. Sriyani Perera, Ms. Bandana Shrestha)
Action plans for 2017-2018	
Themes covered:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender Responsive Budgeting • Climate Change and Gender • Gender Based Violence 	
10.30 - 10.45	Tea
10.45 - 12.00	Group work continued: Action plans for 2017-2018 - Preparation of Regional Action Plans
12.00 - 13.00	Presentation of Action Plans
13.00 - 13.10	Hosting the 3rd Gender Focal Point Conference
Closing Ceremony of 2nd Gender Focal Point Conference	
13.10 - 13.20	Mr. Kinley Dorji - Secretary General, Colombo Plan Ms. Bandana Shrestha - Director, Gender Affairs Programme
13.20 - 14.20	Lunch
14.00 onward	City Tour
Departure of Delegates	

Annexe 2

Participants

	MALAYSIA Mr. Chua Choon Hwa Undersecretary Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development
	IRAN Dr. Susan Bastani Deputy for Strategic Planning Vice Presidency for Women and Family Affairs Mrs. Elham Savalanpour Expert in Family Studies Vice Presidency for Women and Family Affairs
	FIJI Ms. Aradhana Sharma Snr. Women Interest Officer, Research and Policy, Ministry of Women, Children, and Poverty Alleviation
	BANGLADESH Ms. Laila Jesmin Joint Secretary Ministry of Women and Children Affairs
	INDONESIA Ms. Eko Novi Ariyanti Assistant to Deputy for Gender Equality in Economics Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection Mr. Rolliansyah Soemirat Diplomat Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mr. Wiryawan Prah Utomo 3rd Secretary, Economic Function Indonesian Embassy Sri Lanka Mrs. Nani Dwi Wahyuni Assistant Deputy Director for In-Country Cooperation Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection
	SRI LANKA Mrs. Ashoka Alawatta Additional Secretary (Development) Ministry of Women and Child Affairs Mr. Chathura Liyanarachchi Assistant Director - Disaster Management
	BHUTAN Mrs. Kunzang Lhamu Director National Commission for Women and Children
	KOREA Ms. Miyeon Kwon First Secretary Korean Embassy
	VIETNAM Ms. Tran Thi Minh Huong Deputy Head International Relations Department

	JAPAN Mr. Ito Kuniyoshi Second Secretary Japan Embassy
	MALDIVES Mrs. Amir Aminath Rishmee Assistant Director Ministry of Gender and Family
	PAKISTAN Mrs. Lubna Mansoor Regional Director, Human Rights Ministry of Human Rights

Resource Persons

Dr. Mrs. Paramitha Majumdar, Consultant - INDIA
Mrs. Shriyani Perera, Consultant - SRI LANKA
Mrs. Karin Fernan do, Consultant - SRI LANKA
Mrs. Savithri Rodrigo, Rapporteur - SRI LANKA

Colombo Plan Staff

Mr. Kinley Dori, Secretary General
Mr. Sundararajah Sivakumar, Head of Finance
Mr. Jayantha Pathirathna, Chief Human Resources Officer
Dr. Nathalie Panabokke, Project Director - DAP
Dr. Thomas Scaria, Senior Program Officer - PPA-ENV, PPSD & LTSP
Mr. Romano Pereira, Information Technology Manager
Mr. Sankha Gamage, Administrative Officer
Ms. Bandana Shrestha, Project Director - CPGAP
Mr. Augustine Savariyar, Senior Program Officer - CPCGAP
Mr. John Thiruchelvam, M & E Specialist - CPCGAP
Ms. Nilu Gunasekara, Program Officer - CPCAP
Ms. Eshani Seneviratne, Event Coordinator



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