

- News and Announcements
- Research News
- Past Events
- Interesting Publications

INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:

Women/ Girls in ICT working group 2

Left on Pearl documentary film 3

The profile of women politicians on Cyprus TV: A gender-based analysis 4

"Lost in Transition", An interesting publication 7

Global Network of UNESCO Chairs on Gender

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

NOVEMBER, 2012

Editorial by the Coordinator of the Global Network

Welcome to the second newsletter of the Global Network of UNESCO Chairs on Gender.

This second volume informs about the new projects, events, publications, research and training programmes that have been carried out in the last year by members of the Global Network of UNESCO Chairs on Gender.

The work done shows the productivity of each of them in the development of their working plans as well as in the rich exchanges, presentations and relations with other academic institutions, national and international organizations, partners, etc.

Despite the different topics each Chair is focused on, the Network shares a common interest in developing new knowledge on main issues that affect women's equality and participation in current society. They also reveal our convictions on the need to disseminate information and research findings to wider and diverse audiences, encourage debates and influence, when possible, policies and programmes that seek to reach gender equality, expand democracy and social justice.



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



UNESCO Regional Chair
Women, Science and Technology
in Latin America

In the turbulent socio-economic scenario of today's society, threatened by cuts in the budgets assigned to education, research and social policies, we need to celebrate the tireless work, the will, the passion and the perseverance of the Chairs in the continuity of their activities and strengthen links and encourage innovative projects that move forward knowledge and social change aimed at gender equality.

Gloria Bonder
Coordinator

*UNESCO Regional Chair
Women, Science and Techno-
logy in Latin America*

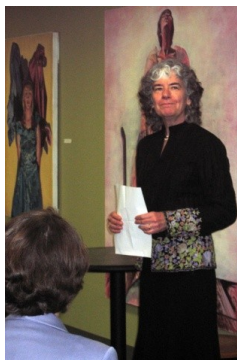
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Jumpstarting new opportunities for women scientists and engineers



Professor Deborah Belle of Boston University (BU) has released findings on the impact of receiving a National Science Foundation ADVANCE program grant, which helps universities develop systematic approaches to increasing representation and advancement of women faculty in science and engineering careers.

key networks, removed research barriers and ultimately promoted a diverse science and engineering faculty at BU."

Read more on the background to this initiative led by Deborah Belle as Principal Investigator on the \$750,000 National Science Foundation three-year grant to BU to strengthen women's professional networks in science and engineering:

<http://unitwin.blogspot.com/2009/04/deborah-belle-to-serve-as-principal.html>

Bio at: [Boston University – Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies Program](#)

"For participants in the BU Women in Networks Mary Erskine grant program, the jump to a promising new research venture was facilitated ... the awards helped women build

News/ Announcements

1. UN Women Civil Society Advisory Group for Latin America and the Caribbean

Professor Gloria Bonder, Chairholder of the UNESCO Regional Chair Women, Science and Technology in Latin America and Coordinator of the Global Network of UNESCO Chairs on Gender was appointed as member of the UN Women Civil Society Advisory Group for Latin America and the Caribbean. Their first planning meeting took place in Panama, on 29-31 October 2012.

2. Women/Girls in ICT Working Group

Professor Gloria Bonder has also been invited to join the new Women/Girls and ICT Working Group. It seeks to connect the key people across sectors that are focusing on the intersection of leveraging technology for women/girls as a means of improving development outcomes. The goal is to coordinate and join forces where appropriate, and raise visibility of the topic potentially by articulating some high-level targets. It will be integrated by experts in this field working in different organizations, such as UN Women, FCC, ITU, GSMA, mHealth Alliance, APC, UNESCO, Intel, Yahoo, Cisco, Grameen, the US State Dept. Its first meeting will take place on December 2012 in New York.

3. Development and Local Policies with a Gender Equality and Human Rights Approach

The UNESCO Regional Chair Women, Science and Technology in Latin America is developing in cooperation with UN Women blended (on site and on-line) training programme on "Development and Local Policies with a Gender Equality and Human Rights Approach". It is addressed to Government Officials, representatives of Gender Equality machineries and Human Rights Offices, and members of NGOs from municipalities of El Salvador, Honduras and Dominican Republic. Its goal is to renew the knowledge and create the abilities and resources to strengthen the quality, efficiency and sustainability of programs and policies on local development with a gender equality and human rights approach. It will consist of four modules on the topics of e-development, planning and management of programs and policies, leadership and strategic use of ICT.

4. TECNOPOLIS TV

The UNESCO Regional Chair Women, Science and Technology in Latin America is developing a TV campaign on women/gender, science and technology in collaboration with the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation of Argentina. It will be shown by TECNOPOLIS TV. (<http://www.tectv.gov.ar>, first entirely digital TV signal on Science and Technology of Argentina). It includes producing short films (1.30 minutes long) and programmes (16 minutes). Its main purpose is to disseminate attractive messages that create awareness on existent gender inequalities in science and technology, as well as successful experiences and policies that aim at overcoming these inequalities, both in Latin America and globally.

5. UNITWIN Gender Case Study to be Used in Course at Tufts' Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy

The Academic Dean and Professor of International Humanitarian Studies at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University in Massachusetts, Dr. Peter Uvin, has written that he will be using "Srihaswani (Creative Manual Skills for Self-reliant Development): A Gender Case Study, Shantiniketan, West Bengal, India" Krishno Dey, Chandana Dey and Brenda Gael McSweeney in one of his upcoming courses.

(at the link: <http://www.catunescomujer.org/globalnetwork/publications.html>)

Authors: Krishno Dey, Chandana Dey and Brenda Gael McSweeney

Bios at: UNITWIN Who's Who: <http://unitwin.blogspot.com/2007/07/unitwin-whos-who.html>

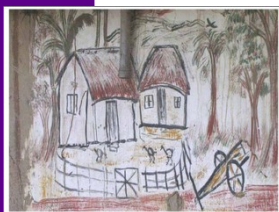
6. Postgraduate Programme in Gender Studies at the University of Cyprus

The University of Cyprus has accepted its first students in the programme of Gender Studies (MA and PhD degrees) for the academic year 2012-2013. The programme is coordinated by the UNESCO Chair in Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment and the Centre for Gender Studies Board (as will be appointed at each time). For more information about the programme, please visit the programme's website:

<http://www.ucy.ac.cy/posgradgender>



Cover image of
"Srihaswani: A
Gender Case Study,
Shantiniketan, West
Bengal, India"
found in the e-
book edited by Dr.
Brenda Gael
McSweeney, An-
other Side of India:
Gender, Culture,
and Development



7. E-Learning Tool: UNESCO Requests Permission to Use Burkina Faso Photos from the Collection in the Women Figures in African History Project

UNESCO Paris recently requested the right to use photos from Brenda Gael McSweeney's portfolio in a cultural project entitled *Women Figures in African History: An E-learning Tool*. Situated within the two overarching priorities of UNESCO, gender equality and Africa, the project aims "to provide civil society (particularly young African women, at primary and secondary school level) with an accurate understanding of the importance of women in the economic and social development of Africa, thereby, one hopes, empowering them." This collaboration will facilitate a contribution of Burkina Faso and UNITWIN research to a major UNESCO Paris initiative, simultaneously providing enormous outreach of the decades-long Burkina work and study of Scholastique Kompaoré and Brenda Gael McSweeney. Read more at:

<http://www.equalityburkina.blogspot.com/2012/09/unesco-requests-permission-to-use.html>

Brenda's photograph of Princess Yennenga



9. Focal Point for Gender In Site

The UNESCO Regional Chair Women, Science and Technology in Latin America was designated the focal point in Latin America for the GenderInSITE campaign, organized by WIGSAT.

GenderInSITE – Gender in Science, Innovation, Technology and Engineering is a global initiative involving stakeholders from various sectors to promote: a) the role of women IN science, technology and innovation, and b) how science, technology and innovation can be FOR women, or how can it serve women's lives and livelihoods at the grass-roots level. Overall vision and message is to promote the awareness of decision makers at all levels that STI for development policy and programs will be more effective, equitable and sustainable when the gender lens is applied – that is, when they reflect the vision, aims concerns, perspective, knowledge and abilities of both women and men.

9. Participation of the UNESCO Chair and the Centre for Gender Studies of the University of Cyprus in an Online Discussion on Gender Training in Europe, Organized by the EuroGender Network (25-26 September 2012)

The European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) organized a two-day online discussion and event on gender training in Europe on the 25th and 26th of September 2012. The UNESCO Chair in Gender Equality and the Centre for Gender Studies of the University of Cyprus were among the participants and were involved in a fruitful discussion and exchange of ideas with other gender experts and scholars from across Europe. The new postgraduate programme for Gender Studies at the University of Cyprus was introduced. Practical and theoretical questions were covered, and concerns and experiences were shared in this constructive and European-wide event.

Forthcoming Event

Left on Pearl documentary film

Event to be co-sponsored by Boston University's Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies Program (WGS): on the dramatic building takeover in the 70s that led to the founding of the longest continuously operating women's centre in the US. Themes include: the first Occupy? - Community Outreach - Explicit Sexuality. (Host: Gender and International Development Initiatives-GaIDI/ Women's Studies Research Centre (WSRC)/ Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts, USA).

Left on Pearl

What happens when Boston's 1971 International Woman's Day marchers occupy a Harvard owned building to dramatize the need for a women's center, an Cambridge based sought by a largely African-American community for affordable housing? This film tells the story of a unique takeover by women for women, leading directly to the longest continuously operating Women's Center in the U.S. Was this a First 'Occupy' (movement)? Debate such social changes worldwide, then and today, and the importance of diversity/homosexuality highlighted in the film. Share cross-cultural comparisons. Join us for the film screening and discussion afterward! Our Guest Speakers:

Andrea Richman, the 1971 marcher's only living member of the original group and past President, Women's Center Cambridge, Penn College (University of Chicago)

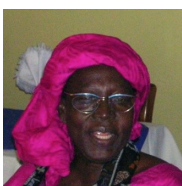
Trish Smith, subject and her partner in the 1971 takeover, Penn College (University of Chicago)

Film & Debate at 4pm Thursday, October 18th
Women's Studies Research Center (WSRC), Brandeis University
515 South Street, Waltham

This event is free and open to the public, sponsored by the Gender and International Development Initiatives (GaIDI) Women's Studies Research Center/Brandeis. Co-sponsors: Boston University's Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies Program (WGS); The Schuster Institute for Investigative Journalism/Brandeis; The Gender Working Group (GWG) at the Heller School for Social Policy and Management/Brandeis; and other Brandeis entities; The Brighton-Alison Historical Society

Research News ...Continues to page 4

Reforestation in Bérégadougou: Follow-on to The Equal Access of Women and Girls to Education Project (Burkina Faso - West Africa)



In West Africa, Mrs. Scholastique Kompaoré, who was the National Coordinator of the UNESCO/UNDP/Government of Burkina Project of Equal Access of Women and Girls to Education, shared the narrative of women's involvement in reforestation through the example of the village of Bérégadougou in Burkina. Her feature gives the

history of the exciting initiative from the launch in 1975 through until a recent stocktaking in 2012, at this link:

<http://equalityburkina.blogspot.com/2012/05/une-suite-du-projet-egalite-reboisement.html> - more

Bio at: [UNITWIN Who's Who](http://unitwin.org/who/who)

For more on the Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Initiative – Burkina Faso, see:

<http://equalityburkina.blogspot.com>

Research News

The Profile of Women Politicians on Cyprus TV: A Gender-Based Analysis

The UNESCO Chair in Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment at the University of Cyprus has been awarded a new research project titled "*The profile of women politicians on Cyprus TV: a gender-based analysis*", within the Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development 2009-2010 (HUMANITIES/SOCIO/0609 (BE)) of the Research Promotion Foundation.

The project aims to describe the profile of Cyprus women politicians as this is presented on Cyprus TV and, more specifically, it aims to: (a) do an in-depth investigation of the profile of women politicians on Cyprus TV (covering the period of one year), within the following parameters: presence in quantitative and qualitative terms, subjects upon which women politicians are called to comment or discuss, discourse and stereotyped representation of women politicians; (b) examine the women politicians profile in relation to that of their male counterparts, and in relation to the way their male counterparts are represented in, and use, discourse, themselves; (c) analyze the women politicians profile through semi-structured interviews

with party leaders, a sample of parliament representatives (both male and female), the owners-directors of the Cyprus TV broadcasting channels, press reporters and journalists; (d) through the dissemination of results, to raise awareness of the role of the media in the promotion of equal men and women participation to decision making centres and processes.

The awareness-raising campaign will be aimed not only at politicians and the media, but also at the general public, thus strengthening the voice of Cyprus women politicians alongside and in conjunction with the voice of their male counterparts.

The necessity and need to which this project responds come from the need to strengthen the practices followed by Cyprus media – media being one of the most significant means of socialization – in relation to the representation of women politicians, so that they can meet the requirements of EU (European Commission, 2006) and UNESCO (2008) policies on the one hand and, on the other, the need to promote women's participation in Cyprus political and current affairs (Cyprus Republic, 2007).

Past Events ...Continues to page 5

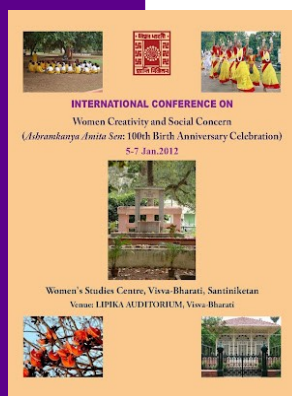
International Conference: Women, Creativity and Social Concern

On January 5th-7th, 2012, a UNITWIN/Network partner, the Women's Studies Centre at Visva-Bharati in Shantiniketan, West Bengal, India, hosted an International Conference on Women, Creativity, and Social Concern organized by Professor Asha Mukherjee. Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen and Professor Martha Nussbaum of the University of Chicago were the keynote speakers

The Conference focused on the "*social construction of gender in the Indian context by analyzing various institutions such as education, household, community, market, and the state*" and hoped that discussion would "*help to*

evolve perspectives on development and strategies to counter the inter-linked forces of caste, class and patriarchy." Full story, conference outline and participants, plus additional images at:

<http://www.unitwin.blogspot.com/2012/06/international-conference-women.html>



Conference Inauguration - Lighting the lamp with (left to right) Professor Asha Mukherjee, Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen, and Vice-Chancellor of Visva-Bharati, Professor Sushanta Dattagupta

Past Events

The European Project VICTIMS (2009-2011) Came to an End: Main Findings



The project VICTIMS (*Victimizing Children Through Injuring MotherS*) was designed and conducted in four

different countries (Cyprus, Italy, Romania, Slovakia) with co-funding obtained by the European programme DAPHNE III (action grants 2007-2013). It elaborated on the background of the effects of violence against women-mothers upon their children if exposed, and on how these may be externalized in different contexts, such as the school environment. Professor Mary Koutselini, holder of the UNESCO Chair, had the scientific administration of the project, while Ms. Floria Valanidou, scientific personnel at the Department of Education, was the main researcher of the project for Cyprus.

The project came to an end achieving its initial aim, which was to contribute to the promotion of awareness and to the sensitization of target groups, i.e., of persons, organizations or institutions who are directly or indirectly involved in the development and education of children aged 9-11, regarding the indirect harmful effects of violence against women on their children, if directly exposed. Such target groups were women's and children's organizations - GOs and NGOs, parents' associations and school sectors such as teachers' associations.

The main project findings were: a) children exposed to violence against their mothers exhibit reactions which are more aggressive than what is ordinarily expected in an ordinary situation, while they are exposed to violence and while witnessing violence. Boys are those who tend to be more aggressive and externalize their feelings of anger in a more intensive way; b) children exposed to violence also prefer to adopt behaviours which are

more passive than what might ordinarily be expected in an ordinary situation and while witnessing violence. Girls are those who tend to be more passive and who do not externalize their feelings; c) children exposed to violence tend to have lower levels of positive self-image. They feel less accepted by their peers and less popular among significant others, their classmates or friends. Children exposed to violence also tend to be less happy with the way they lead their lives; and, d) children exposed to violence tend to believe that they are not such good students. They tend to believe that they have a poor school performance and evaluate themselves as failures.

During the final stage of the project, several materials were produced, such as a social TV spot-message, informational leaflets, and manuals for teachers, parents and social workers, titled "*Children Exposed to Violence against Their Mother, Identifying and Dealing with the Effects of Children's Victimization*", that were disseminated in each partner country. In terms of the project's follow-up activities and development, the materials produced continue to be disseminated accordingly; at the same time, a new, future project is being considered, which will aim to create and design new interventions for children who have been exposed to violence against their mothers, in order to prevent those children from becoming abusers in the future. For more information about the Project VICTIMS, you can visit the website:

www.ucy.ac.cy/victims

"I made my daughter suffer a lot with my tolerant behaviour. But, when you are hurt, you cannot realize that you are hurting others around you ... that your children are suffering too"
(A mother's truth)



A scene from the social TV spot with the message "The child exposed to violence is twice a victim"

Interesting Publications within the Project VICTIMS

Koutselini, M., & Valanidou, Fl. (2011). *Children exposed to violence against their mother. Identifying and dealing with the effects of children's victimization. A manual for teachers*. Nicosia, Cyprus: University of Cyprus, UNESCO Chair in Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.

Online at: http://www.ucy.ac.cy/data/victims/exeiridia/VICTIMS_Teachers_EN.pdf

Koutselini, M., & Valanidou, Fl. (2011). *Children exposed to violence against their mother. Identifying and dealing with the effects of children's victimization. A manual for parents*. Nicosia, Cyprus: University of Cyprus, UNESCO Chair in Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.

Online at: http://www.ucy.ac.cy/data/victims/exeiridia/VICTIMS_Parents_EN.pdf

Koutselini, M., & Valanidou, Fl. (2011). *Children exposed to violence against their mother. Identifying and dealing with the effects of children's victimization. A manual for social workers*. Nicosia, Cyprus: University of Cyprus, UNESCO Chair in Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.

Online at: http://www.ucy.ac.cy/data/victims/exeiridia/VICTIMS_SocialWorkers_EN.pdf



Past Event

Women's Week in Shantiniketan, West Bengal, India



"Women's voices" were heard on March 2012 on topics ranging from physical violence to women wanting more say in who they marry. The energetic and productive discussions on these subjects really showed how much support women have gained in their fight against rape and how much people—both men and women—want to bring cases of violence against women to justice.

Full story by our Shantiniketan-based UNESCO/UNITWIN founding member Chandana Dey at: <http://www.unitwin.blogspot.com/2012/05/womens-day-in-shantiniketan.html>

Interesting Publications ...Continues to page 7

1. Conservation Architect Gurmeet Rai on the Struggle to Preserve India's Cultural Heritage



One of the Gender, Culture & Development UNESCO/UNITWIN Network's India-based founding members was featured in a top India weekly news magazine this past July. In a recent interview with Revati Laul of Tehelka Magazine, Gurmeet S. Rai, Director of the Cultural Resource Conservation Initia-

tive (CRCI) in Delhi, discussed the important and difficult task of preserving India's impressive natural and cultural heritage. To read the full-length article, click here:

http://www.tehelka.com/story_main53.asp?filename=hub140712Gurmeet.asp

Bio at: [UNITWIN Who's Who](#)

2. Title: "An Immense and (In)complete Democracy: A Tocquevillian Perspective on India's Experiment with Democratic Citizenship" by Niraja Gopal Jayal

in Partha Chatterjee and Ira Katznelson (Eds.) *Anxieties of Democracy: Tocquevillian Reflections on India and the United States*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press. 2012.

"The relationship between social equality and democracy occupies a central place in Tocqueville's account of democracy in America. Tocqueville did not however address the question of inequality in his treatment of what he called "the two unlucky races" or women. The inclusions and exclusions of citizenship were peripheral to his account of citizenship, which centered on its practice and performance, privileging the site of the local.

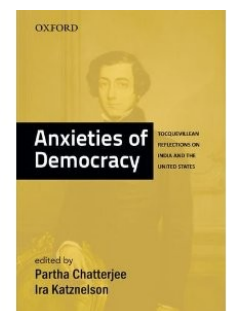
On the assumption that the idea of differentiated citizenship administers a corrective to the Tocquevillian account of citizenship, this paper explores policies and practices of differentiated citizenship in India to comment on the relationship between social inequality and democracy. It

focuses on the question of women as objects of differentiated citizenship policies, as also on the possibilities afforded by the local as a site for their performance of citizenship."

(Source: *Oxford Scholarship Online*)

Author: Niraja Gopal Jayal

Bio at: Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University



Interesting Publications

3. Title: *Lost in Translation*



Interim phase by
Ronni Komarow, Boston

Ronni Komarow is a Brighton/Massachusetts/USA-based visual artist, curator, writer and educator. She serves on the Board of Directors of The Brighton-Allston Historical Society, an affiliate of the UNITWIN Network on Gender, Culture & Development.

Ronni just gave a one-woman exhibition – *Lost in Translation: Explorations in memory and narrative through monoprints and collage* – at the Faneuil Branch of the Boston Public Library. The publication she co-created in

2012, titled *Par Avion Project Exhibit Catalog*, may be viewed here in full: <http://www.blurb.com/bookstore/detail/3246613>

The Par Avion Project was originally conceived by Ann Forbush and sponsored by the Boston-Strasbourg Sister Cities Association with support from the Alliance Française.

Ronni's primary affiliation as a fine artist is with the cooperative gallery, Galatea Fine Art.

See her page at: <http://galateafineart.com/ronni-komarow/>

4. New Video – *Liberia's Phenomenal Market Women*

President Thelma Awori and Vice-President Margaret "Peg" Snyder of the Sirleaf Market Women's Fund (SMWF)-International, now associated with the UNESCO/UNITWIN on Gender, Culture & Development, have advised that SMWF just launched its new video documentary on the Liberian market women. To witness them helping reconstruct Liberia and its economy, watch the full length film at:

<http://www.smwf.org/projects/smwf-video/>

The SMWF Website states: "As Liberians engage in reconstruction and reconciliation, a special concern of women is renewal of the rundown markets for food and basic goods – places that provide temporary shelters, community centres, and a beacon of hope, despite the lack of resources and poor conditions. SMWF has created its very own documentary, *God First, Second The Market: the Story of the Sirleaf Market Women's*

Fund of Liberia, that captures this importance of women in reconstructing Liberia". SMWF not only

renews the rundown markets, but also builds new ones and offers literacy and credit funds to the market women. In other words, it is a holistic approach.

Bios of Dr. Awori, Founding Chair and President of SMWF-International, and Dr. Snyder, SMWF-International Vice-President and Founding Director, UNIFEM at: Sirleaf Market Women's Fund - International



5. International Conference Proceedings: Human Rights and Violent Behaviour, The Social and Educational Perspective

The proceedings of the International conference "Human Rights and Violent Behaviour: The Social and Educational Perspective", held at the University of Cyprus on the 18 and 19 of November 2011, are now published by the UNESCO Chair in Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment of the University of Cyprus. The papers included in the proceedings range from research findings and theoretical discussions to analysis of practice. Thus, the papers deal with a number of themes which pertain to the general scope of human rights and violent behaviour, such as: a) women experiencing violence and subjection, b) bullying and aggressive behaviour, c) intercultural

dimensions of violence and marginalization, d) conflict and violence at school, e) child neglect and abuse, f) gender equality, g) educational system and students' human rights, h) disability, special educational needs and youth at risk, i) domestic violence, j) education, gender and children's human rights, and k) multilateral perspectives on violence.

Editors: Mary Koutselini & Lefkios Neophytou





Global Network of UNESCO Chairs on Gender

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The Global Network of UNESCO Chairs on Gender was created collaboratively in 2010 by UNESCO and the UNESCO Regional Chair Women, Science and Technology in Latin America. It was launched during the International Conference "Gender Equity Policies - A Prospective View: New Scenarios, Actors and Articulations", which took place on 9-12 November 2010 in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

It currently brings together 12 UNESCO Chairs developing gender research, training and advocacy in different fields around the world. Universities, research centers, NGOs, donors and cooperation agencies, regional and international organizations working on gender equality are also invited to join this Network.

It follows the strategic orientations for the UNITWIN Programme adopted by the Executive Board in April 2007, and it is aligned with UNESCO's priorities expressed in the Medium Term Strategy for 2008-2013, as well as with the UNESCO Priority Gender Equality Action Plan 2008-2013.

The Global Network, as an international platform, aims at increasing interdisciplinary exchange for the creation of new knowledge and innovative practices and policies. It is also committed to stimulating the systematic exchange of information, communication and collaborative work among UNESCO Chairs and other organizations working on gender analysis worldwide.

www.catunescomujer.org/globalnetwork/

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[UNESCO Chair in Gender, equity and leadership, Mexico](#)

[UNESCO Chair on Women, Society and Development, Poland](#)

[UNESCO Políticas de Igualdad de Género y de Igualdad de Derechos entre Mujeres y Hombres](#)

[Chaire UNESCO "Femme, Science et Gestion Raisonnée de l'Eau en Afrique de l'Ouest", Togo](#)

[UNESCO Chair in Gender Research](#)

[UNESCO Chair on ICT4D, United Kingdom](#)

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[Cultural Resource Conservation Initiative - Interdisciplinary, Community Focused Heritage Conservation](#)

[Boston University's Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies Program](#)

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