

SIDE EVENT CONCEPT NOTE

Event title

Utilizing VNRs for Gender-Transformative Sustainable Development in Times of Multiple Crises

Background and Rationale

In the pursuit of sustainable development, gender equality stands as a fundamental pillar.

Recognizing this, the Women's Major Group, in collaboration with Gender Centru - Moldova, International Center for Research on Women, L' Associació de Drets Sexuals I Reproductius and Soroptimist International, is organizing a side event during the ECE Regional Forum on Sustainable Development to delve into the intersectionality of gender perspectives and sustainable development goals (SDGs), focusing on member states from the region that will present a Voluntary National Report at the upcoming HLPF 2024.

The event will focus on gender as a cross-cutting element of the following SDGs, which are under in-depth review at the HLPF 2024:

1. SDG 1: No Poverty
2. SDG 2: Zero Hunger
3. SDG 13: Climate Action
4. SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions
5. SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

The side event will provide an early opportunity for stakeholders to engage in meaningful discussions towards the HLPF 2024, and more specifically the VNRs of these countries. The proposed side event seeks to stress the importance of integrating gender perspectives into sustainable development efforts, across all SDGs, particularly in the face of multiple crises. By examining progress, sharing best practices, and exploring the role of VNRs, the event aims to contribute to gender-transformative sustainable development agendas and foster inclusive partnerships for achieving the SDGs.

Session objectives and expected outcomes

The side event aims to:

1. Assess progress toward selected SDGs of the HLPF 2024 through a gender lens.
2. Showcase gender-transformative best practices in achieving sustainable development.
3. Identify opportunities and challenges in mainstreaming gender equality into SDG implementation.
4. Highlight the role of Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) in advancing gender-transformative sustainable development.

Organizers

Lead organizer: The Women's Major Group.

Contributors: Gender Centru - Moldova, International Center for Research on Women, and L' Associació de Drets Sexuals I Reproductius and Soroptimist International

Focal points: Valentina Bodrug-Lungu, Gender-Centru, OP WMG

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Agenda and Structure

tbc

List of Panellists

Please list the name and organisations of panellists intervening in the side event. The moderator should also be included in the list.

Moderator: Valentina Bodrug-Lungu, President Gender-Centru, Moldova, OP WMG ECA

Speakers:

- Representative of Spain Government (tbc)
- Nana Phirosmanashvili, Feminist activist, Georgia (tbc)
- Nvard Piliposyan, Armenian Women's Fund
- Pille Tsoop-Pagan, ED of Women's Support Services; Estonia (tbc)
- Almudena Rodriguez, International Advocacy Coordinator at L' Associació de Drets Sexuals I Reproductius, Spain



The side event will be conducted in an interactive discussion format, featuring speakers from governments, national and local civil society organizations, and partner organizers. The event will comprise two rounds of questions directed to each speaker, facilitated by a skilled moderator.

Moreover, the format will allow for interventions from the floor. This format aims to encourage dynamic engagement and exchange of insights among participants.

Sign-up / Registration Link

Virtual registration Link: <https://bit.ly/WMGECESideEvent24>