

# Virtual Dialogue

## SDGs and Training for Gender Equality

5 – 23 November 2018, Community of Practice (CoP) Online Platform

**Webinar:** Wednesday, 14 November 2018, 9:00 New York /15:00 Central European Time

### CONCEPT NOTE

#### Introducing our Virtual Dialogue



UN Women’s flagship report on gender equality and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) monitors trends in achieving the SDGs for women and girls worldwide. Above all, [Turning Promises into Action: Gender Equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) explores practical ways to implement gender-responsive policies and accountability processes in order to make the global goals a reality for all.

This Virtual Dialogue is a unique, exciting opportunity to discuss how training for gender equality can support us to achieve the SDGs

We know that training for gender equality is one of the most powerful tools we have to achieve gender equality by making policies and accountability processes more gender-responsive. Against the backdrop of this landmark UN Women report, and the UN Women Training Centre’s **new course** on [Gender and the SDGs](#), it is a propitious moment to ask **how can training for gender equality help us to achieve the SDGs?**

#### Objectives and key questions

This question will be the focus of the UN Women Training Centre’s 13<sup>th</sup> **Virtual Dialogue** on “The SDGs and Training for Gender Equality” in November 2018. The **objective** of this Virtual Dialogue is to elicit participatory reflection on **why** training for gender equality is well-placed to further the SDG agenda and **how** we can employ training for gender equality to support our efforts to achieve all 17 SDGs.

The three-week [online discussion](#) and accompanying [live Webinar \(14 November 2018\)](#) will draw together a broad audience – including the members of the UN Women Training Centre’s Community of Practice (CoP), gender and development experts, training practitioners, researchers, academics and development organizations. Our collective reflections will seek to improve understandings of how to use training for gender equality to champion the transformative change at the heart of Agenda 2030 and the SDGs.

#### Save the Date

The Virtual Dialogue will last for three weeks (5 – 23 November 2018) through a discussion forum on the UN Women Training Centre’s online [Community of Practice \(CoP\) platform](#). A live English-language Webinar with expert speakers will be held on Wednesday, 14 November 2018 ([register here](#)).



Each week of the Virtual Dialogue will be guided by the following **key questions**. Participants are strongly encouraged to raise further issues for discussion.

**1<sup>st</sup> Week: 5– 10 November 2018 (online forum discussion)**

**Why is training for gender equality well-placed to support the SDGs?**

- i. What role does Agenda 2030 envision for training for gender equality?
- ii. Why is it important to employ training for gender equality in support of our efforts to achieve the SDGs?
- iii. What aspects of training for gender equality make it a useful tool to support the SDGs?

**2<sup>nd</sup> Week: 11 – 17 November 2018 (online forum discussion and Webinar)**

**How can training for gender equality support our efforts to achieve the SDGs?**

- i. How can training for gender equality support us to mainstream gender across each SDG?
- ii. How can training for gender equality further gender-responsive policies needed to achieve the SDGs?
- iii. How can training for gender equality enrich the monitoring and evaluation of progress on the SDGs? In what practical ways can training enrich SDG accountability processes?

**3<sup>rd</sup> Week: 18 – 23 November 2018 (online forum discussion)**

**What practical examples exist of using training for gender equality to support specific SDGs?**

- i. In practical terms, what training approaches, strategies, methodologies and tools have been used to support progress on specific SDGs?
- ii. What good practice examples exist of using training for gender equality in aid of particular SDGs?

## Format of the Virtual Dialogue

Weeks  
1-3

Online  
Forum  
Discussion

The Virtual Dialogue will involve a [three-week forum discussion](#) on the UN Women Training Centre’s online Community of Practice (CoP) platform, guided by key questions outlined above. Participants will be able to share thoughts, experiences, lessons learned, and raise questions for reflection.

While continuing the forum discussion, the **second week** of the Virtual Dialogue will feature a live English-language [Webinar](#). Four invited experts will give short presentations on using training for gender equality to support the SDGs, followed by a dynamic Q&A session. Audience members are invited to submit questions via the **Webinar’s ‘questions’ facility**, which the Moderator will pose on their behalf.

Week 2

Online Forum  
Discussion &  
Webinar

**Remember to pose  
your questions for  
the Webinar!**

A recording will be posted on the CoP platform and the Training Centre’s YouTube channel. Our Webinar panellists will be asked to contribute to the forum debates.

Follow  
-up

Virtual  
Dialogue  
Report

The discussions will be synthesised into a comprehensive **Virtual Dialogue report**, to be disseminated through the CoP and UN Women’s communication channels. **All participants in the forum discussion, and those who ask questions in the Webinar, will be credited in the report.**

## Webinar speakers

### Webinar Expert Panel Members (14 November 2018)



**Sophie BROWNE, UN Women Policy Division**

*Coordinator of Gender Equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*

Sophie is a policy analyst and focal point on the Sustainable Development Goals at UN Women. As coordinator of the global SDG monitoring report, she plays a leading role in ensuring that Agenda 2030 is gender responsive in its implementation and monitoring. Before joining UN Women in 2014, she worked for various international and community-based NGOs, including the Australian Red Cross, indigenous organizations and community legal centres. In these capacities, she has coordinated programmes, led advocacy efforts and developed knowledge products on gender, intersectionality, sustainable development, politics and law reform, particularly regarding LGBTQI, disability and indigenous rights and violence against women. She holds a Masters in International Relations from the University of Melbourne.



**Ranjani KRISHNAMURTHY, Visthar Consulting**

*Co-author of Gender Equality and Sustainable Development Goals: A Trainer's Manual*

Ranjani is a former board member of Visthar Consulting and an independent trainer and researcher on gender and development. Amongst other things, she facilitates training programmes on substantive gender equality and the SDGs for NGOs, academics and governments. She focuses on the SDGs, particularly on SDG 5 and targets and indicators pertaining to youth and children from a gender lens. She has facilitated trainings with Visthar internationally, with the Community of Evaluators in Nepal and with the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development in India. In addition to co-authoring a training manual on Gender Equality and the SDGs with Mercy Kappen, Director of Visthar, Ranjani was a panelist on the Gender Panel at the HLPF 2017 meeting *Readying institutions and policies for integrated approaches to implementation of the 2030 Agenda*.



**Ellen MORRIS, Sustainable Energy Solutions**

*Author, "Eradicating Energy Poverty and Building Sustainable Businesses" e-learning module*

Ellen Morris is the Director of the Energy and Environment Concentration at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. She is also the President and Founder of Sustainable Energy Solutions, a women-owned and managed company that promotes the use of clean energy technologies and services to support inclusive socio-economic development, poverty reduction, and environmental stewardship in developing countries. Ellen strives to educate the next generation of energy practitioners through teaching and mentoring students, empowering young men and women to take the lead in finding and delivering solutions for a better world through access to modern energy. She holds a BSc degree in geophysical engineering from the Colorado School of Mines and a doctoral degree in marine geophysics from the University of Rhode Island.



**Dr Sue CAVILL, Water, sanitation and hygiene sector specialist**

*Co-author of Violence, Gender and WASH: A Practitioners Toolkit*

Sue has nearly two decades of experience of water supply, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in developing countries including: strategy development; policy-relevant research, analysis and dissemination; monitoring and evaluation; technical support to WASH programming and programme design; developing successful funding proposals; and capacity building (education and training). She specializes in gender and WASH and holds a BSc in Development Studies from UEA, an MSc in Infrastructure Engineering: Community Water Supply and Sanitation from Cranfield University and a PhD in Civil and Building Engineering from Loughborough University.

## How can our audience participate?

You can participate in this Virtual Dialogue in two ways – by participating in the live panel discussion during the [Webinar](#) (14 November 2018) and/or by contributing to the open [discussion forum](#) on the CoP platform, which will be open between 5– 23 November 2018.



The **Virtual Dialogue is open to everyone**, including members of the UN Women Training Centre’s Community of Practice (CoP), UN Women and UN system staff, gender and development experts, training practitioners, academics, representatives of governments, civil society, women’s organizations and research institutions, and all those interested in the SDGs and training for gender equality. We particularly welcome the participation of gender trainers and trainers in other fields, whose insights will enrich the debates.

## Background: What are Virtual Dialogues?

Virtual Dialogues are online discussions that promote debate, dialogue, the exchange of good practices, ideas and information on training for gender equality. Their overall aim is to develop effective, inclusive processes of collective knowledge production with the end goal of improving the quality and impact of training for gender equality, while highlighting its transformative potential. They respond to the interests, needs and motivations of [UN Women Community of Practice in Training for Gender Equality \(CoP\)](#), an open forum for discussion for gender experts and practitioners, as well as a clearing house of [resources](#), [institutions](#) and [training opportunities](#) related to training for gender equality.

### Past CoP Virtual Dialogues

- [Men, Masculinities and Training for Gender Equality](#) (2018)
- [Intersectionality and Training for Gender Equality](#) (2017)
- [Understanding Change through Training](#) (2017)
- [Professionalization of Trainers](#) (2016)
- [Theory of Change and Feminist Pedagogies](#) (2016)
- [Compendium of Good Practices](#) (2016)
- [Resistances in Training for Gender Equality](#) (2015)
- [Online and Mobile Training for Gender Equality](#) (2015)
- [Training for Gender Equality and Beijing +20](#) (2014)
- [Transformation through Training](#) (2014)
- [Knowledge on Training for Gender Equality](#) (2014)
- [Evaluation and Training for Gender Equality](#) (2013)

To participate in the Virtual Dialogue forum, you’ll need to join the Community of Practice  
Click [here](#) to become a CoP member and join the [CoP Forum Discussion](#)  
Click [here](#) to register for the live Webinar

*Join us for the UN Women Training Centre’s Virtual Dialogue on the  
SDGs and Training for Gender Equality*

For more information, please contact [ruya.leghari@unwomen.org](mailto:ruya.leghari@unwomen.org)