January 2020

WEPs Bulletin:
Equality Means Business

We are officially into 2020, the year that we celebrate 10 Years since the establishment of the Women’s Empowerment Principles (WEPs+10)!

As we move into this new decade we are happy to be bringing you more tools, more guidance, and deeper engagement to really move the needle for gender-responsive business conduct.

If you haven’t done so already, please visit our new home [www.wep.org](http://www.wep.org).

*WEPs “In Support of” logo policy has changed. To use the “In Support of” logo, signatories must agree to the Terms and Conditions and complete and sign the Agreement Form. Once the agreement is completed, a high-resolution PNG and AI files will be provided.

Read on for more updates!

Global WEPs Signatories
Around the world, companies are advancing gender equality in the workplace, marketplace and community.

Now 2,771 companies have joined our WEPs community with the largest interest coming from the support services, financial services, software and computer services, personal goods, food producers sectors.

The top 5 countries with the most WEPs signatories are Turkey, Brazil, Japan, Spain, USA.

Opinion: To mark the 20th anniversary of the adoption of the ILO Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 (No. 183) in 2020, Laura Addati, Maternity Protection and Work Family Specialist

Interview: Danone Italy created an inclusive and customized childcare support programme for its employees. Sonia Malaspina, Human Resources Director Specialized Nutrition South
of ILO makes a call to all organizations to commit to guarantee paid leave to all parents in every workplace and company.

Europe, Danone explains how they achieved it and created a real impact on its employees through improved jobs and skills-related outcomes.

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

UN Women, UN Global Compact and the UN Office for Partnerships are co-organizing the annual WEPs Forum, to be held on 12 March 2020. The year 2020 is a pivotal year for advancing gender equality worldwide, as the global community celebrates twenty-five years since the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (Beijing+25). It will also mark several other galvanizing moments in the gender equality movement: the 10th anniversary of the WEPs (WEPs+10); the 10th anniversary of UN Women’s establishment; a five-year milestone towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals; and the 20th anniversary of UN Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security.

Call for Case Studies

The WE EMPOWER programme of UN Women, European Union and ILO is in the process of gathering insights from companies who have implemented promising and innovative measures for gender equality and women’s empowerment. We aim to document these concrete measures into case studies.
Business Leaders Drive Change in Georgia

The 2019 WEPs Conference “Business Leaders Drive for Change” gathered representatives of the private sector to discuss promising practices in promoting gender equality in Tbilisi, Georgia.

READ ON

Conference on "Women’s Empowerment Principles" in Moldova

On December 4, the "Women’s Empowerment Principles - Equality means Business" conference was held in Moldova. The first results of the WEPs piloting initiative within the private sector were presented.

More here

GENERATION EQUALITY FORUM

UN Women is proud to announce the launch of the momentous Generation Equality Forum, a global gathering for gender equality, co-hosted by the Governments of France and Mexico. Kicking off in Mexico City, Mexico on 7-8 May 2020, the Forum will culminate in Paris, France on 7-10 July 2020.

Learn more

RESOURCES
Women's Empowerment Principles in Georgia

This booklet presents selected examples of how WEPs companies in Georgia confronted opportunities and challenges as they strode further towards empowering women in 2019. As shown in this booklet, a new trend observed during the year is that an increasing number of companies expanded their WEPs work beyond the workplace into the marketplace and communities and took steps to empower women entrepreneurs and local women.

Read on

Towards Equality in Business

This publication presents a snapshot of the situation for women globally and in Georgia, and it provides information on how companies can use, with UN Women’s support, the WEPs to advance gender equality. It also contains examples of company action to inspire new WEPs signatories and engage companies in the global WEPs movement.

Read on

Women's Empowerment Principles in Indonesia

In order to promote the WEPs, the Indonesia Business Coalition for Women Empowerment, Indonesia Global Compact Network, and UN Women initiated a study which will form the baseline to identify awareness and implementation of the Principles in Indonesian companies.

Read on
The Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) guide businesses on how to promote gender equality and women's empowerment in the workplace, marketplace and community. Jointly established by the UN Global Compact and UN Women, the WEPs are underpinned by international labour standards and human rights and by the recognition that businesses have an important role in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment. Adopting the seven principles is the best way that businesses can deliver on the ambitions for gender equality and women's empowerment as outlined in the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and in the 17 SDGs.

Questions? E-mail us at weps@unwomen.org | www.weps.org