WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT PRINCIPLES

Established by UN Women and the UN Global Compact Office

Issue 2 | 2020

WEPs Bulletin: **Equality Means Business**

As the world continues to respond and recover from COVID-19, and simultaneously publicly outcry against structural racism and oppression heightens, we bring you the next iteration of the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) Bulletin of 2020.

This year, despite the somber tone, we continue to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the establishment of the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs+10)!

As we move the WEPs into its next 10 years we are happy to bring you more tools, more guidance, and deeper engagement to really move the needle for gender-responsive business conduct.

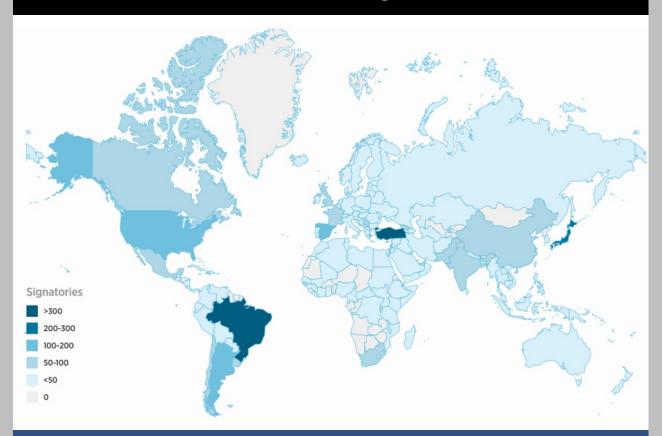
If you haven't done so already, please visit our new home atwww.weps.org.

*We have updated the WEPs In Support of logo policy. 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 Al files will be provided.

Read on for more updates!



Global WEPs Signatories



Around the world, more than 3,000 companies are advancing gender equality in the workplace, marketplace and community.

We surpassed the 3,000 milestone!! Now 3,279 companies (and counting) 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 Brazil, Turkey, Japan, Spain and United States of America.







Interview: The CEO of the **Hong Kong** Stock Exchange Laura Cha explains how the responsibility of the company goes beyond their role as an exchange group and the ways that being a WEPs signatory will contribute to the organization's ambitions to advance gender equality in the company.

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Interview: The COVID-19 pandemic has increased the urgency to reach women with mobile technology. **GSMA** Director General Mats Granryd explains how connecting more women and helping them reap the benefits of mobile technology will support them and their families to navigate this global pandemic.

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Interview: Even before signing the WEPs the Argentinean stock exchange, Bolsas v Mercados Argentinos, or ByMA, was committed to advancing gender equality in business and capital markets, actively attracting and retaining women as employees, investors and market participants. Gabriela Terminielli, ByMA's Director and Co-Chair of Women Corporate Directors Argentina, explains.

Read On



Interview: Bombay Stock Interview: NEO Exchange signed the WFPs on 8 March International Women's Day. Its Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer. Ashishkumar Chauhan explains why it is important to promote women's economic empowerment and how stock exchanges can influence their markets and steer their listed companies to become more gender-responsive in policies and practice.

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Exchange is established on the principles of fairness and transparency. Its co-Founder, President and CEO. Jos Schmitt shares why the Canadian stock exchange decided to sign the WEPs and how being a signatory changed the institution. Being an advocate for diversity make stock exchanges stronger and better, and NEO Exchange is leading the way in Canada.

Read On



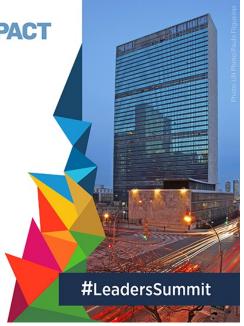
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UN Global Compact Leaders Summit

The UN Global Compact 20th anniversary Leaders' Summit convened leading voices from business, government, the United Nations, civil society and academia in a 26-hour virtual conversation about rebuilding more inclusive economies and societies.

UN Women hosted a 26-hour live virtual booth and a breakout session with the European Union on "WEPs: RECOVER BETTER, TOGETHER AND STRONGER" to highlight the role of the private sector to ensure that we do not backslide on our progress towards gender equality amid COVID-19.

READ ON



Annually, Ring the Bell for Gender Equality events in celebration of International Women's Day are organized around the world to highlight the pivotal role of stock exchanges in advancing gender equality in collaboration with UN Global Compact, UN Women, Sustainable Stock Exchanges Initiative, International Finance Corporation, World Federation of Exchanges and Women in ETFs. Stock exchanges are in a unique position to influence markets and their listed companies to take action on gender equality.





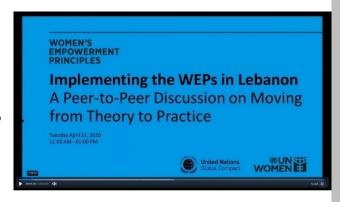




In New York, the Ring the Bell for Gender Equality was co-organized by Nasdaq and UN Women as part of the WE EMPOWER - G7 programme implemented in partnership with the European Union and ILO. During the "We Are All Generation Equality - A Ring the Bell for Gender Equality" event, C-level executives and advocates took the stage to talk about ways businesses are stepping up and moving the needle toward more equitable workplaces, marketplaces and communities. Check out the summary video here.

Lebanese private sector companies engage on WEPs amidst compounded crises

With support from the Ford Foundation, UN Women Lebanon and UN Global Compact Network Lebanon organized the first in a series of technical assistance interventions aimed at supporting Lebanese signatories in implementing the WEPs. READ ON



OPPORTUNITIES



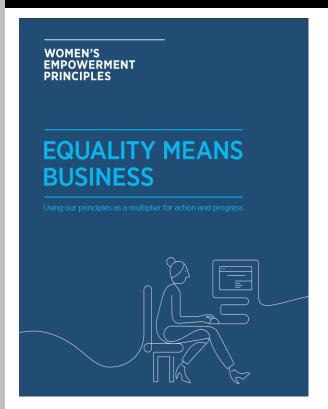
Call for Case Studies

The WE EMPOWER - G7 programme of UN Women, European Union and ILO in support of the WEPs Secretariat is in the process of gathering information from our signatories who have implemented successful and innovative measures for gender equality and women's empowerment with an aim to document these concrete measures into case studies. Please find the case studies of BBVA, Diageo, Groupe PSA, L'ORÉAL, Orange Group, RELX, Sodexo, Swedfund and Tele2.

Fill out **this form** if you are interested in sharing your success story using the hashtag **#WeShare**.

LEARN MORE

RESOURCES



Equality Means Business

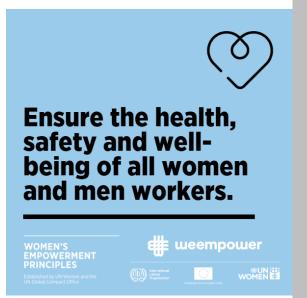
Check out the new WEPs brochure that explains what the WEPs are, why companies should join the WEPs community, and what is expected from WEPs signatories.

We encourage you to share it with your business partners, suppliers and vendors so that they know that they too can use the WEPs as a multiplier for action towards gender equality in the workplace, marketplace and community!

READ ON

COVID-19 Resources

We developed and collected wide range of resources amid COVID-19. The COVID-19 and Gender Equality: A Call to Action for the Private Sector brief describes how the WEPs guide businesses on promoting gender equality and women's empowerment during this time of upheaval and uncertainty. Building on the seven WEPs, COVID-19 and Gender Rapid Self-Assessment Tool enables companies to assess their COVID-19 response and ensure they are supporting women during and beyond the crisis with gender-sensitive measures throughout their value chains. The COVID-19 Shadow Pandemic: Domestic Violence in the World of Work brief explains how companies are responding to the problem of increased domestic violence during the COVID-19 crisis and provides recommendations to companies for immediate and long-term measures. Other resources developed on gender equality and COVID-19 can be found here.





IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Company Profile Page

We have created a guidance note "How to Complete Company Profile Page" that is a step-by-step guide to help you: (1) create an account as a WEPs signatory on the WEPs website, and (2) edit and maintain your company profile page.

For those who joined before December 2019, you will also need to create an account and populate all of the information, for example: full CEO name, photo and quote; general company information; UN Global Compact membership; industry and location.

WEPs Welcome Package

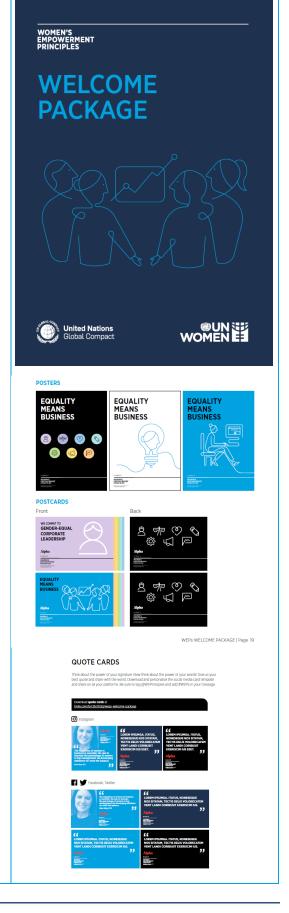
Creating your company's profile page will unlock your access to the WEPs Welcome Package. We encourage you to get started using it soonest.

This welcome kit includes plenty of promotional materials and templates to download for your internal and external communications – you can use them at your meetings, conferences, booths, events to showcase your commitment – but please note the importance of keeping to our branding and logo guidelines outlined in the Welcome Package. Don't forget to tag @WEPrinciples in your Twitter messages.



PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS





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

