The Using Gender Data Award

Data is an asset. It supports individuals, families, policymakers and overall societies to make informed decisions, to evaluate alternative scenarios and to fight stigma and biases through robust and reliable evidence. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development promotes data-driven decision-making through the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the associated indicators' framework. In today's world, reliable, accurate and timely data is a valuable resource to monitor progress toward a more equal and sustainable society for both present and future generations.

With the goal of graduating from Least Developed Country status by 2022 and a strong commitment to leave no one behind, Nepal is working towards the realization of the SDGs by 2030. UN Women Nepal is committed to support the younger segments of the country – its students – in their contribution toward the achievement of the SDGs and gender equality.

Through the “Using Gender Data” Award, UN Women provides students in Nepal with the opportunity to familiarize and understand the incredible power of gender data to trigger change and to promote a society where the same opportunities are offered to both men and women.

The “Using Gender Data” Award will be granted to students submitting original communication materials utilizing gender data to showcase progress, stagnation or a snapshot of gender equality issues in the SDGs-related fields. Winning participants will be invited to present their projects at the United Nations Building in Bangkok in a regional event in the Spring 2020.
Guidelines for submissions

**Deadline for submission:** 14th February 2020

**About the Award**

In November 2019, UN Women launched the “Using Gender Data” Award in the Asia and Pacific to recognize the contribution of university students (or a team of students who worked on the same entry) who use different types of media products to make gender data visible and tell stories about gender equality. **The Award focuses on gender equality across different sustainable development fields.** Participants are invited to explore gender inequalities or gender-relevant issues across one or more of the Sustainable Development Goals using gender data and to explore how these data can inform public decision-making. Winners of this contest will be invited to the United Nations Regional Headquarters for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok, Thailand, to present their projects in the Spring 2020. Successful students will receive the Award on March 8th, 2020 in occasion of the celebration of the **International Women’s Day** at the UN Women Nepal Office.

**Eligibility**

- All students in Nepal’s public and private universities (Bachelors and above) are invited to participate;
- Entries can be made individually or in groups (maximum 3 people);
- Students must submit original work;
- Only English-language projects will be accepted.

**Content**

- Every entry, regardless of the format, must focus on topics related to gender equality and uses of data.
- Data used must be either publicly available or, if not, the student must obtain adequate permission for using the data for this purpose. Students are encouraged to use official statistics to the extent possible.
- The use of non-conventional data sources – such as big data – will be accepted as well.
- The use of data obtained from ad-hoc studies by third party data producers is discouraged.
- The topic of the entry must be original.
- The submissions can include own on-going work, if it has not been published yet.
- Students are not allowed to hire or invite people to conduct the work for them.
- The copyright of all footage or information used in the project must be cleared.
- Plagiarism is a serious offence. Participants will be disqualified for plagiarism.
- By making a submission, participants agree to the possibility of having their work showcased at United Nations events or websites.

**Format**

The project can be done in one of the following formats:
- Investigative news reporting/News feature package (4,000 – 6,000 words with supporting photos and infographics);
- Short-form video reporting (Entries should not exceed ten minutes in Length);
- Website (3,000 – 7,000 words plus multimedia elements, e.g. text, video, photos, graphics, layout, etc.);
- Brochure (6 pages for brochure with 3,000 – 6,000 words plus photos, infographics, etc.);
- Innovative project (uses new or emerging digital tools to deliver news content in an innovative matter and/or encourage audiences’ engagement with the news);

**Submission**

Entries may be submitted by sending an email to the following address: womencountnepal@unwomen.org

Each entry must include:
- Name of all authors;
- Contact details of all authors;
- Dates of birth of each author;
- Educational affiliation of each author (School, program and a scanned copy of Certificate of enrollment);
- All materials related to the project (e.g. if the project includes links to specific resources, such resources must be submitted as well).

**Award recognition**

- Winners will be notified via email, and the names of winners will be announced on 29th February 2020;
- Winners will be invited to the UN Regional Headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand for a one-day presentation and gathering. Travel and lodging expenses will be covered by UN Women.
- Awards will be evaluated based on:
  - innovativeness;
  - powerful messaging;
  - degree of use of official statistics; and
  - power to convey information on gender inequalities (within the context of the Sustainable Development Goals and related fields) to expert and non-expert audiences.

**Some Useful Links**
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Knowledge platform
- Global indicator framework for the SDG and targets of the 2030 Agenda
- SDG indicators metadata repository
- Tier classification of Global SDG indicators
- The United Nations minimum set of gender indicators
- Turning promises into action: Gender equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- Nepal SDG status and roadmap (2016-2030)
- Voluntary National Review - Nepal
- Ministry of Women Children and Senior Citizens
- Central Bureau of Statistics - Nepal