

## Call for papers and abstracts



# UNESCO Women's Studies & Gender Research Networking Conference

**9-13 February, 2009**  
**Imperial Tara Hotel, Sukhumvit Soi 26, Bangkok, Thailand**

This conference will include presentations and discussion with some of the world's leading gender studies experts from all continents. There will be no registration fee but prior registration is required. Assistance can be provided in making hotel reservations at the conference hotel. **Submit abstracts (300 words in English) and expressions of interest to register to: The Regional Unit for Social and Human Sciences in Asia and the Pacific, UNESCO Bangkok, Thailand Email: [rushsap@unesco-bkk.org](mailto:rushsap@unesco-bkk.org)**  
**Updates and papers on: <http://www.unesco-bkk.org/rushsap/womensgender-studies-network-in-asia-pacific/>**

The Global Women's Studies and Gender Research Network was established in 2006 by UNESCO and the secretariat is Miriam College, the Philippines. It includes scholars and women's studies departments at universities in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, North America, Europe, and Oceania. This conference will be the second global network conference, and will include discussions on research projects including on: *Enhancing Women's Social Rights and Trade Union Leadership; Democratization, Gender, and Family*; and on a Foundational Curriculum for Gender Studies. <http://www.mc.edu.ph/wsgri/index.aspx>

The Women's/Gender Studies Network in Asia and the Pacific emerged after a recommendation from the Regional Consultation on Women's/Gender Studies Programmes in the Asia-Pacific region held in Bangkok in December 2003. Organized by the Regional Unit for Social and Human Sciences in Asia and the Pacific (RUSHSAP), UNESCO Bangkok, the consultation brought together expert proponents and practitioners of Women/Gender Studies, some of whom have played pivotal and pioneering roles in the establishment of Women's/Gender Studies in their own countries and institutions. The 2009 conference is a chance to reflect on progress in the region, and needs and challenges for the future.

*Applications of new members to these networks are welcomed, and will be discussed in these sessions.*

**The conference will have sessions 9-12am and 1-5pm every day.**  
**There will be extensive discussion throughout. The working language of the conference is English.**  
**Lunch and morning/afternoon tea are included for registered participants each day.**

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**9-13 February 2009 Bangkok, Thailand**  
**(Programme Draft version 8)**

## **DAY 1 (9<sup>th</sup>): RESPONDING TO REGIONAL CHALLENGES IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC includes...**

### **Registration Open from 8:00am**

#### **9:00-10:00 Session 1: Opening**

Chair: Darryl Macer, Regional Adviser for Social and Human Sciences in Asia and the Pacific, UNESCO Bangkok  
Director, UNESCO Bangkok "Welcome"

Pierre Sané, Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences, UNESCO "The work of UNESCO on Women and Gender"

Gigi Francisco, Philippines "Update on UNESCO's WS/GR Network"

#### **10:30-12:00 Session 2: United Nations Gender Education Initiative (UNGEI) Panel**

Chair: Uma Sarkar, ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

Uma Sarkar, ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific "Introductory Remarks"

Maki Hayashikawa, UNESCO Bangkok "Regional Overview of Issues Gender in Education"

Sabina Dewan, USA "Presentation on UNGEI Study "Making education work: the gender dimension of the school to work Transition"

Amar Torres, Philippines "Experiences in addressing gender dimensions of the school-to-work transition in the Philippines"

Cliff Meyers, UNICEF East Asia and Pacific "Regional UNGEI Recommendations"

#### **Discussion**

#### **13:00-17:00 Session 3: Challenges to Women in Asia and the Pacific**

Chair: Darryl Macer, Regional Adviser for Social and Human Sciences in Asia and the Pacific, UNESCO Bangkok

Chuthatip Maneepong, USA "A New Generation of Bangkok Women Street Vendors: Economic Crisis as opportunity"

Parvin Sultana, Bangladesh "Empowerment of Women through Energy Use in Bangladesh"

Malama Meleisea, Samoa "Gender Issues and Social Change in the Pacific"

Shanthi Thambiah, Malaysia "The Impact of Gender Studies on Work, Life and Relationships: A study of the Graduates of the Gender Studies Programme, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Malaysia"

Darryl Macer, UNESCO Bangkok "Efforts to overcome sex selection in reproduction in Asia"

Ade Latifa & Mita Noveria, Indonesia "Gender Perspective of Human Trafficking in Indonesian Border Areas"

#### **Welcome Dinner**

## **DAY 2 (10<sup>th</sup>): SOCIO-ECONOMIC FORUM ON GENDER AND EMPOWERMENT includes...**

Chair: Pierre Sané, Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences, UNESCO

#### **9:00-10:15 Session 1: Women's Economic Empowerment vs. Disempowerment**

Rae Lesser Blumberg, USA "The Consequences of Women's Economic Empowerment vs. Disempowerment: From the "Magic Potion" for Development to the "Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse"?"

Chandrika Sepali Kottegoda, Sri Lanka "Title to come"

#### **10:30-12:00 Session 2: Panel on Women's Economic Inequalities & Disempowerment**

Sally Hastings, US "Political Rights and Economic Disempowerment"

Sylvia Walby, UK "Globalization and Complex Inequalities"

Bernadette Resurreccion, Thailand "Performative Innovation and Rural-Urban Mobility: Gendered Practices of Adopting the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) in Cambodia"

Zahira Kamal, Palestinian Authority, "Challenges for Palestinian Women to Enter the Labour Force"

#### **13:00-17:00 Session 3: Panel on Enhancing Women's Social Rights & Trade Union Leadership**

Suzanne Franzway, Australia "Women, Socio-economic Rights and Trade Union Decision-making"

Jean Franco/Gigi Francisco, Philippines "Women's Social Rights"

Lanyan Chen, China "Gender and Chinese Development: A Feminist Political Economy Perspective"

Poonsap S. Tulaphan, Thailand "Title to come"

#### **General Discussion**

## **DAY 3 (11<sup>th</sup>): TOWARDS A FOUNDATIONAL CURRICULUM ON GENDER STUDIES includes...**

Chair: Gigi Francisco, Miriam College, the Philippines

#### **9:00-10:30 Session 1: Panel on Gender Constructions across The South**

Lorna Israel, Philippines "The Construction of the Word and the World of Gender in Southeast Asia"

Grace Sirju-Charran, Trinidad & Tobago *“The Case for Retaining a Programme of Gender Studies in Higher Education”*  
Mahboubeh Abbagholizadeh, Iran, *“Gender Constructions and Iranian Women”*  
Tabitha Mulyampiti, Uganda *“Sexual Orientation and Violence in Uganda”*

### **10:45-12:00 Session 2: Foundational Curriculum on Gender Studies**

Dina Rodriguez, Costa Rica *“Gender, Peace & Conflict Curriculum”*  
Graciela Di Marco, Argentina *“Gender, Human Rights and Social Policy”*  
Carol Sobritchea, Philippines *“Integrating CEDAW and Other HR Conventions into School Programs in the Philippines”*

### **13:00-17:00 Session 3: Gender Studies Education**

Marita Pimentel, Philippines *“Some considerations: Philosophical Approach to a Foundational Course on Women’s Studies”*  
Maude Dikobe, Botswana, *“Gender /Women Studies as a Catalyst For Change: Envisioning a University Environment That has a Successful Women Studies Programme and Gender Sensitive Policies”*  
Inthana Bouaphasavanh, Laos *“How to integrate gender into legal education - Experiences from the Faculty of Law in Vientiane”*  
Malee Pruekpongswalee, Thailand *“Gender education in Thai Legal Education” [Title to be confirmed]*  
Mojirayo Afolabi, Nigeria *“Human Resources Development through Gender Mainstreaming into Educational Curriculum”*  
Muriel Lauvige, Timor Leste, *“Gender in Timor-Leste’s Education System: Applying CEDAW to overcome cultural challenges in a new nation”*  
Pham Van Bich, Vietnam *“Gender studies in Vietnam”*  
Eun-Shil Kim, Republic of Korea *“Gender studies in Korea” [Title to be confirmed]*

## **DAY 4 (12<sup>th</sup>): IMPACT OF GENDER STUDIES ON POLICY includes...**

### **9:00-10:30 Session 1: Panel on Comparative Studies in Democratization: The Public & the Private**

Chair: Angela Melo, Director of the Division of Human Rights, Human Security and Philosophy, UNESCO  
Graciela Di Marco, Argentina *“Comparative Studies in Democratization”*  
Rashila Ramli, Malaysia *“See(things) and Seatings: Political Strategizing in 6 Asia – Pacific Countries”*  
Yvonne Corcoran-Nantes, East Timor/Australia *“Gender, Culture and Politics of Change – Democracy and Post Conflict Reconstruction in Timor Leste”*

### **10:45-14:45 Session 2: Panel on Analysis of Implementing Gender-Sensitive Policy in Government and Legislation**

Chair: Patricia B. Licuanan, President, Miriam College, the Philippines  
Juree Vichit-Vadakan, Thailand *“Gender Policies and Legislation: Challenges and Rewards in Formulation and Implementation”*  
Manjeet Bhatia, India *“A Study of Domestic Violence Based on the New Indian Law”*  
Angela Melo, UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Women in Africa *“Experiences from Africa”*  
*[Lunch Break 12:00-13:00]*  
Virada Somsasdi, Thailand *“Judicial Discretion: Gender Bias is an outlawed term”*  
Chifa Tekaya, UNESCO Paris, *“Poverty and Gender”*  
Kyoko Kusakabe, Thailand, *“Gender and development studies, challenges for inter-disciplinarity, co-optation and impact on policy”*  
Seiko Hanochi, Japan *“Human Security, Migration and Gender”*

### **15:00-17:00 Session 3: Panel on the Role of UNESCO in Gender Studies Networking & Policy**

Chair: Darryl Macer, Regional Adviser for Social and Human Sciences in Asia and the Pacific, UNESCO Bangkok  
Sylvia Walby, UNESCO Chair in Gender Research, UK *“Gender Research and the UN: Promising Possibilities”*  
Patricia B. Licuanan, President, Miriam College, the Philippines; Convenor, Network of Asian Women’s Universities and Colleges *“The Network of Asian Women’s Universities and Colleges” [To be confirmed]*  
Pierre Sané, Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences, UNESCO *“Comments on future role on the basis of the Conference”*

## **DAY 5 (13<sup>th</sup>): NETWORKING MEETINGS & CLOSING**

Working sessions on research projects, network action plan development, secretariat functions, and future planning. There will be a concluding plenary discussion and adoption of action plan(s) in the afternoon.