



**6-17 March 2023** **INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE**  
**EDUCATION IN THE DIGITAL AGE**  
COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN **CSW67** Progress toward gender equality

# CFUW CSW67 DELEGATES' REPORT

- 2023 -

## Volume 2

The power of women  
working together

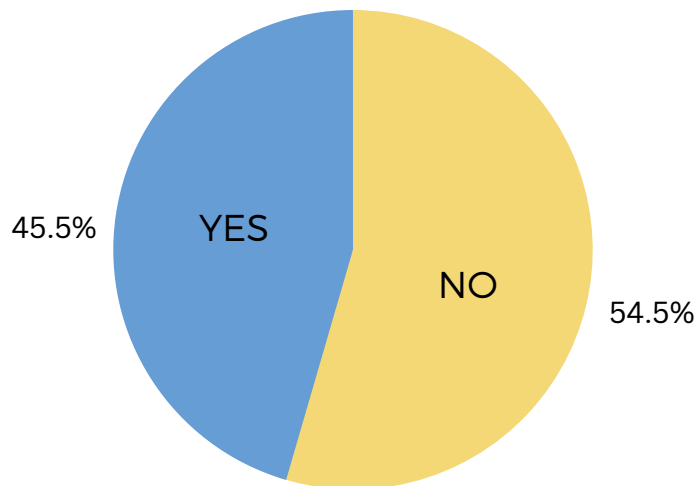
**CFUW-FCFDU**

La puissance au féminin:  
ensemble pour réussir

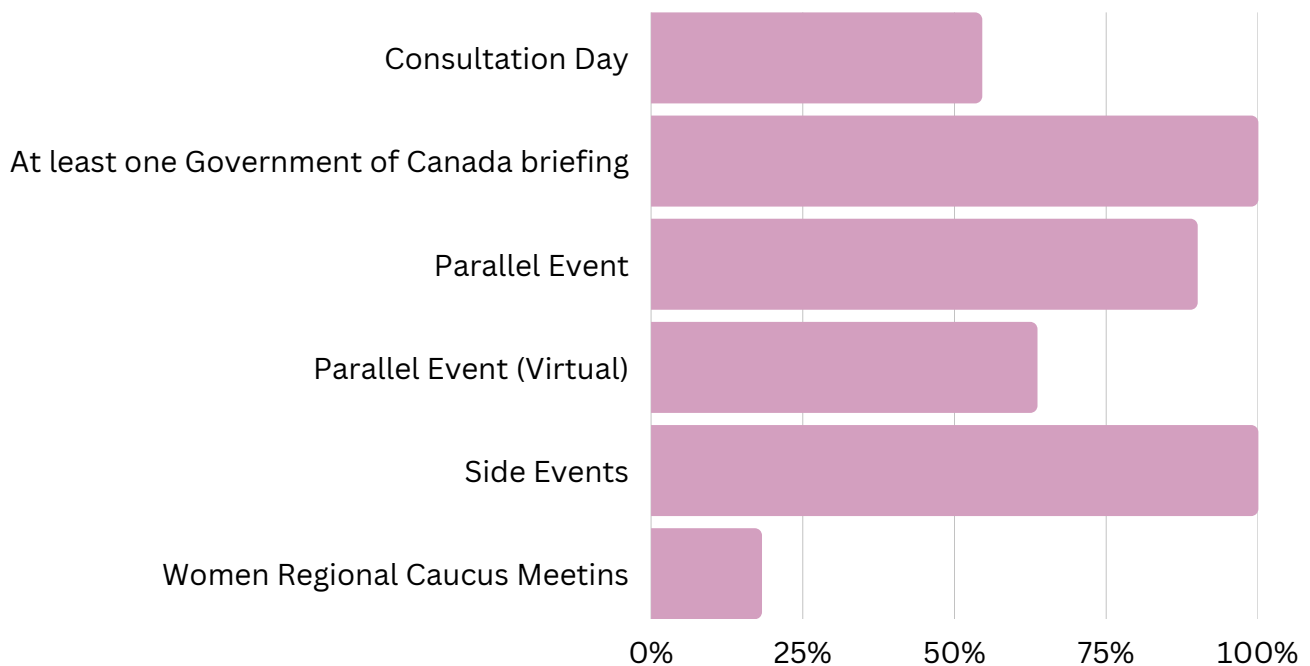
# RESPONSES FROM OUR DELEGATE SURVEY



**Was this your first time attending UNCSW?**



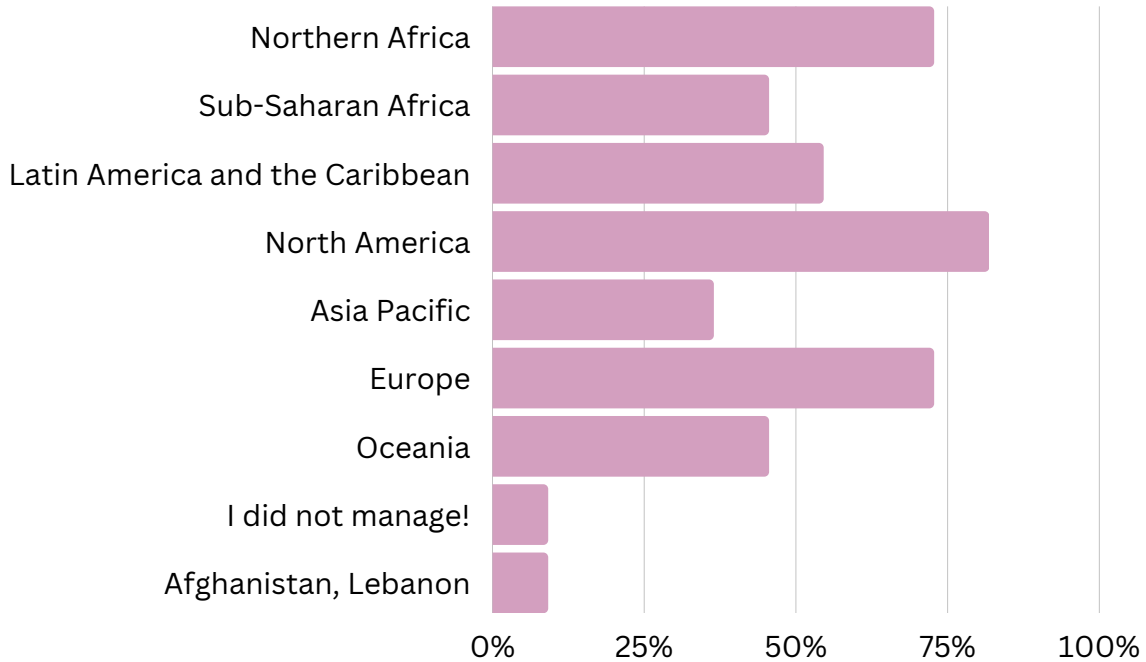
**Please indicate attendance at the following (check all that apply):**



## DELEGATE SURVEY CONTINUED

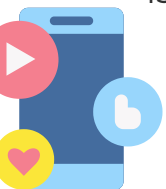
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### Which country/region perspectives did you hear?



### WHAT IMPORTANT DATA DID YOU LEARN?

1. 390 journalists were in prison at the end of last year.
2. 75% of women journalists around the world are subject to online harassment.
3. 52% of women around the world do not have access to internet.
4. 3.6 billion people remain totally unconnected.
5. By 2050, 75% of jobs will be related to STEM.
6. 84% of educators in Australia believe digital technologies are a growing distraction in the learning environment 94% have noticed increases in the number of students presenting with emotional challenges and 59 % observed a decline in students' overall readiness to learn in the last 3-5 years. Australian covid job losses were 40,000 with 61% being held by women.
7. 1 in 5 girls have left social-media platforms due to harassment. And 1 in 5 have left social media phones compared with boys.
8. 1 in 3 people worldwide will need some form of humanitarian assistance.
9. 2/3 of the women in this number will also be victims of GBV.
10. 70 % of women in Iceland were asked to send a nude picture of themselves on the internet.
11. More than 70% of women will experience GBV. In Afghanistan
12. 11.6 million women have been cut off from life and connectivity.
13. 50% of world's population can access and use the internet Women are rarely primary phone owners.



## DELEGATE SURVEY CONTINUED

14. AI is primarily researched on males.
15. In Estonia 75% of stalkers use some form of digital technology
16. 652 women were murdered in Columbia in 2022.
17. Women contribute to peace but are targeted.
18. Somalia is digital in the marketplace.
19. Journalists' access to information: 75% more information is requested by men and 90% of appeals are launched by men.
20. It will take 286 years for gender equality; 140 years for women to be represented equally in positions of power and leadership in the workplace, at least 40 years to achieve equal representation in national parliaments.



## DELEGATE SURVEY RESPONSES



### SANDRA THOMSON

**Memorable Quotes:** "What is the entry door? Whose door do we knock on?"

**Outstanding Sessions:** Ireland and Irish Consortiums: Risks, Challenges and Opportunities Pushing Back the Push-Back: Nordic Solutions to Online GBV Summit for Democracy Gender Cohort: Gender Equality as a Prerequisite for Democracy Online Safety and Digital Empowerment of Women Journalists: Combatting online Threats and Harassment

**Key Takeaways and Personal Action Plan:** To refine and define the role of UN Agency Observer; Will be setting up meeting with Maryella Hannum, along with Mary Scott, to further explore the connections with UN agencies with women on the ground.



### VALERIE CAMPBELL

**Memorable Quotes:** "The storyteller became the story" (al Jazeera reporter); "be bold, aim for the impossible, reach the possible"; "we don't have to give Afghan women voices, they have them - we just have to listen"; "the world will be run by the synthesizers"; "you can speak and die or be quiet and die"

**Outstanding Sessions:** A new generation of storytellers - parallel session hosted by HM Queen Angelique Monet of Eti-Oni; The gender digital revolution: addressing ethics of artificial intelligence, access to information, and gendered online violence.

**Key Takeaways and Personal Action Plan:** The urgency of dealing with gender inequality in technology, digitalisation, and AI. No action plan as yet; need to think some more about it.

## DELEGATE RESPONSES CONTINUED



### HALLY SIDDONS

**Memorable Quotes:** 1. Education is a moral imperative and economic necessity. 2. Technology innovation is the future for women and girls. 3. Feminist foreign policy is something to be honoured, not just said. 4. We cannot keep having these conversations in silos. 5. It is a Dark Age for Afghanistan. 6. In Afghanistan over 80 decrees have been put into place to strip women of their rights.

**Outstanding Sessions:** 1. "Online Safety & Digital Empowerment of Women Journalists: Combatting online Threats & Harassment" 2. "What Next for Women and Girls in Afghanistan? Practical Ways Forward: Inclusive and Quality Education" 3. "Observance of International Women's Day", UN General Assembly Hall (A note that the CFUW Parallel Session on Tuesday was one of the best organised events I attended, with broad speaker inclusion, and super to have a handout for preparation and future reference.)

**Key Takeaways and Personal Action Plan:** 1. My mind was opened! As a great supporter of the Arts, I had not really thought about the implications of STEM for the future, not only in our own country but especially for women around the world so that they do not fall further behind. Action Plan: share with other some of the staggering facts I learned and get better educated on how to use technology myself. 2. The world cannot sit idly by as girls and women in Afghanistan are banned from education. Action Plan: Continue to raise awareness of such but also about the need for the international community to help them with online education as an interim step. The lack of electricity, connectivity and technology need to be taken into account but we can work with those trusted organisations who are familiar and already working there. Again this is only an interim solution as girls need to be back in school for their social well-being and mental health, but they will also need to be digitally literate and empowered.





## DELEGATE RESPONSES CONTINUED

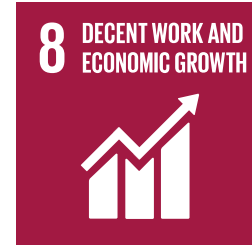


### LINDA COLES

**Memorable Quotes:** I'm not in a war zone but behind a computer." / "What did you do to provoke the attacks?"

**Outstanding Sessions:** Nordic Countries, March 6, 1:15-2:30; Canada 3:00- 4:15, March 6; Slovakia, Austria, etc., 10:00- 11:15, March 9; UN Population Fund 11:30-12:45, March 9; UAE Mission, Afghanistan Women 3:00 -4:15 PM, March 9. I am being very objective when I say that our CFUW session (which I helped to plan) for March 7 (4:30-6:00 PM) was an outstanding session. We received a lot of very positive feedback on our session.

**Key Takeaways and Personal Action Plan:** I am interested in being involved in research that raises the voices of marginalized women and girls. I am very interested in attending the next UNCSW event.



### AMY LINTHORNE

**Memorable Quotes:** "If you don't have a seat at the table, bring your own chair", "Human Rights should never be a bargaining chip"

**Outstanding Sessions:** 1. UNESCO - The Gender Digital Revolution: Addressing Ethics of Artificial Intelligence, Access to Information and Gendered Online Violence. 2. Journalists and Writers Foundation - Protecting Women Human Rights Defenders for Sustainable Peace. 3. Republic of the Philippines, Australia, International Organization for Migration, IBON International and Foundation for Media Alternatives - Cybersafe Against Fake News: Being Smart, Being Safe and Staying Ahead! Ensuring Women and Girls' Safe Online Experience

**Key Takeaways and Personal Action Plan:** Amplifying the voices of women is key, not trying to speak for them. I'm still in the process of going through all of my notes, but I will be working in my local club to create an Advocacy Committee and take some actions from the takeaways.

## DELEGATE RESPONSES CONTINUED



### SANDY MILLEN

**Memorable Quotes:** “Those who are less young”; must not be forgotten. “Need to address the digital divide & integrate into local lives”.

**Outstanding Sessions:** Introductory session with Senator McPhedran; CFUW event; UN General Assembly reports by countries.

**Key Takeaways and Personal Action Plan:** “The Uber masculine way of distributing technology must change.”

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



### MARINA HUISSOON

**Memorable Quotes:** 'The UN describes 47 different gender expressions'; "The UN was created not to take Mankind to Heaven, but to save humanity from Hell". "Don't make us (youth) feel that we are so small; Let us shoot for the stars - we are smart".

**Outstanding Sessions:** The National Commission for Lebanese Women (NCLW) and the Arab Women Organization (WAO), in cooperation with the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ). "Digital Transformation & Women Socio-Economic Empowerment in the Arab States: Opportunities and Challenges".

**Key Takeaways and Personal Action Plan:** So much to do, so little time.



### ELANA FREEMAN

**Memorable Quotes:** Government pledges don't mean anything without government action.

**Outstanding Sessions:** Smartphones and Survivors - Using tech to help disrupt domestic violence, Girls digital literacy: Closing the skills gap and fulfilling the STEM leadership pipeline, Feminist AI: Mobilizing and Delivering Women-Led Change.

**Key Takeaways and Personal Action Plan:** Invite speakers on digitization topics to CFUW Windsor meetings, look for a partner for CFUW Windsor on a digitization topic, work on local initiatives too keep girls in the STEM pipeline.

## DELEGATE RESPONSES CONTINUED

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### JOY HURST

**Memorable Quotes:** "nothing can replace a good teacher", "now is not a time to rest but a time to invest", "it's not just land, it's territory, identity, spirituality--our culture", we need male champions of gender equality, "3 R's of implementation- rights, representation & resources", "gap between rhetoric and reality", "women journalists are the cornerstone of of democracy", women need to own, use and control land!

**Outstanding Sessions:** Evening the Odds in Digital Education for Marginalized Women and Girls; Pathways to Women's Economic Empowerment: The Interlocking roles of Finance, Law and Data, Digital Empowerment of Women in Conflict Settings: Why it matters; Feminist Foreign Policy-Making as a Diverse Tool to Strengthen Multilateralism: Lessons Learned and Opportunities; Harmful Practices: Catalyzing Innovation to End FGM and Child Marriage, Accelerating Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in Agri-Food System (African Women in Agricultural Research and Development-AWARD)

**Key Takeaways and Personal Action Plan:** There is a urgent need for women to monitor the benefits and risks that developments in technology present; we can all be actors, it's too important to leave to someone else and even the smallest intervention has power. We must insist on institutional accountability and processes which engage those most affected/impacted by technological change. I have selected organizations and individuals to follow up with including my local MP to share learnings from CSW.



### BARBARA DUMOULIN

**Memorable Quotes:** The Internet is a "mirror" of the physical world.

**Outstanding Sessions:** Pushing Back the Push-Back: Nordic Solutions to Online Gender-Based Violence; The Abusive Internet: Nordic and Baltic Ways to prevent gender-based Violence; Feminist Approaches to Justice: Empowerment of Women and Girls in the Digital Age - parallel event.

**Key Takeaways and Personal Action Plan:** I came into this with a background in education looking at the disruption of COVID-19 in education and assuming that this would be a focus for CSW. In fact, the focus wasn't on what had taken place but on both the potential and dangers of the digital world. We cannot ignore the need for increased participation of women and girls in STEM or we risk having women's gains in terms of equity become further eroded.

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# DELEGATE RESPONSES CONTINUED

## GRACE HOLLETT

### Memorable Quotes:

- Girls' digital engagement occurs within the context of their social relationships. Girls are risk-aware and employ a variety of strategies to keep themselves safe online.
- Equality is a fight for freedom
- Violence is a gender issue, based on patriarchy
- The world is built for men by men.
- Technology brings new forms of harassment
- Recognize that the more power the platforms have, the more responsibility they have.
- Women are devalued and more exposed to harm and less to power.
- The core root cause of VAW is widespread toxic masculinity.
- Have to convince the population that there is harm from technology
- Crimes against women have gone without retribution
- Need a multi-stakeholder approach
- Address the root problem
- Nordic Web Constables
- Disaggregated data
- Ground penetrating radar
- Threatened for disrupting men's power
- Have legislation, but no safe space.
- Need a code of conduct for AI The abusive internet.
- And more!



15 LIFE ON LAND



16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



**Outstanding Sessions:** Pushing Back the Push-Back: Nordic solutions to Online Gender Based Violence Side Session. Nordics' technological advances bring new forms of harassment which they are meeting with legislation, technology monitoring, training public officers including lawyers and police, a social campaign for Young Finish Games, research, criminalizing the sharing of photos online without consent and promoting increased awareness by women about how to self-protect.

Session 3pm, March 09, at United Arab Emirate Mission - What's Next for Women in Afghanistan? Side Session This high-level overview of bleak state of women's rights in Afghanistan and need for international action including from surrounding Muslim countries...The ban on education is an effort to eradicate and 11.6 million women have been cut off from life and connectivity. Technology must be informed and adjusted for Afghan women and girls.



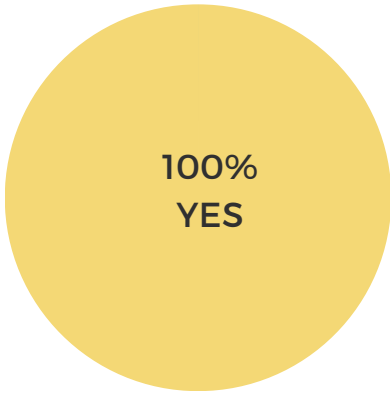
## DELEGATE RESPONSES CONTINUED

### GRACE HOLLETT (CONTINUED)

**Key Takeaways and Personal Action Plan:** 1. Personal and group knowledge, awareness and action are needed to mitigate the harmful effects of digital technology including the increase in GBV. Personal Action Plan: to be part of that awareness-raising starting with my home Club and CAMEUS. 2. When an autocratic government, as the Taliban, is in control it is extremely difficult for other countries or the UN to effect change.

**Personal Action Plan** Continue to circulate news from women activists inside Afghanistan 3. The more aware we become about world affairs and the world's attitude towards women on a governmental or individual level, the more difficult it is to see gender equity by 2030, We are only a step along the way. Plan? Keep strategizing and working at it! 4. There is a vast number of knowledgeable dedicated people working through the UN and NGOs to create a world that is more peaceful and gender equal. Plan: to publicize those stories.

### Would you recommend the experience to others?



100%  
YES

## IMPRESSIONS FROM A FIRST TIME ATTENDEE

### ELANA FREEMAN

I was a first-time attendee at the UN CSW67 event in New York in March 2023. Overall, I had a very positive experience and would attend again and would recommend it to other CFUW sisters. Even though I've attended many large conferences in the past, this one was different in that it was geographically distributed and there were so many concurrent events it made it challenging to decide where to go and when. Even though I had planned my itinerary in advance, I found that I often deviated from the plan due to geographical considerations. I don't feel like I missed out on much but some of the restrictions on the number of in person attendees at some vents was disappointing for a first timer. Especially disappointing was the inability to attend the IWD event in person.



## IMPRESSIONS CONTINUED

I attended both in person and virtual events the first week of the conference. I could not attend the 2nd week at all due to my work schedule.

I was very interested in this year's event due to the priority theme "Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls". I've worked in the field of technology for over 25 years and have been working specifically on digital transformation over the last 10-15 years in a corporate context. In addition, over the past 5 years or so I've been volunteering my time and talents on advancement for women and girls in the realm of technology careers. I was looking forward to 2 main topics:

1. How was technology being used globally to empower women and girls. I was especially interested in how technology was being used in the Global South.
2. Were programs geared towards women and girls' participation in technological education having an impact on their participation and representation in technology or digital careers?

I found that the first week of the convention seemed to be front loaded with LOTS of interesting content and then there were fewer conflicting events as the week went along. I found the following drawing to be a great summary of my attendance at CSW67.



## IMPRESSIONS CONTINUED

Some notable sessions I attended are below:

1. Peace education in the digital age for innovation, technological change, and gender equality.
2. Expanding empowerment in education of all women and girls
3. Women and New Technologies - A Challenge towards Equality
4. Smartphones and Survivors – Using tech to help disrupt domestic violence
  - a. Virtual only event
  - b. The work that the NGO and the Smartphone company along with the government of Australia is doing was very powerful.
5. Women Workers Organizing: Transforming the Gig Economy through Collective Action
  - a. Virtual only event
  - b. I found this fascinating. I was unaware of the number of women participating as drivers in the gig economy. Both as rideshare drivers and food delivery drivers. This is their only source of income and is quite precarious.
6. Girls' digital literacy: Closing the skills gap and fulfilling the STEM leadership pipeline
  - a. Very informative event
  - b. I was disappointed to learn the statistics presented in this session. The percentage of girls in the STEM pipeline has peaked and seen a decline.
7. Women who enter STEM careers are more likely to leave the career than men.

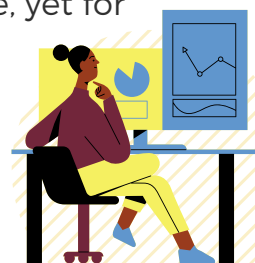


## HIGHLIGHTS FROM A RETURNING DELEGATE TO CSW

### HALLY SIDDONS

It was a privilege for me to once again attend the Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations in New York. CSW67 was non-stop! It was more powerful and demanding than I had experienced before, digital technology playing an extraordinary role, whether as resource for planning one's schedule, or in participating in "Side" Events or Parallel Sessions at the UN or beyond.

I was fortunate again to meet some remarkable and courageous women be they human rights' defenders, lawyers, teachers, journalists, NGO leaders, or others. Sadly again not all who wanted to attend CSW could do so because of visa issues, but those who did felt very strongly the United Nations was their greatest hope for the crucial changes needed in our world and without delay. My mind was opened as to the role of digital technology in the upcoming years and its effect on achieving gender equality and empowering women and girls. There is no time to waste, yet for many in our world such is only a dream at this time.





# INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY AT THE UN

MARINA HUISSOON

## DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality

March 8th, 2023

The International Women's Day event was a celebration by 1800 attendees of the strength of women. The messages written in chalk on the entrance plaza that day include both strength, optimism, and anger.

The party in the General Assembly included statements on behalf of the Secretary General, also Mathu Jovini - Chair of the UN CSW67 conference, and Sima Bahous, ED of UN Women. Introduction by Sade Badarinwa:

- Vision of an equal world, we push forward in the face of growing misogyny and regression in women's rights.
- Technology is a gamechanger - but what (it) enables is up to us. For example, digital tools will connect women with their own bank accounts. but digital tools are also the new face of gender inequality - an online connected world can compound inequality - there are new forms of misinformation and online violence & harassment.
- Avoiding the harm, and grasping the opportunity, is what we must do.

Speech by Csaba Korosi, President of the 77th General Assembly:

- Knowledge is power. Equipping women with access and resources.
- By 2050, 70% of jobs will be technology-based.
- Only 57% of women use the internet...
- We have to intensify our efforts to improve women's involvement
- Women & girls are 27 times more likely to be harassed online, and they limit their presence online as a result.
- Untapped potential. Technology can help.
- Safe city - to protect from danger.
- More investment is needed to support women entrepreneurs in STEM.

Courtenay Rattray brought a message from the office of the secretary general:

- Technology is dramatically shaping our lives. Women have less access than men. More in LDCs (Least developed countries) - they stay offline. Women occupy fewer positions on the tech industry and are being paid 27% less than men for the same job.
- Equal representation must be fought for. We need to change the patriarchal structures that allow the gender divide.
- Gender equality is an issue of POWER.
- There are stereotypes that discourage stem learning for girls.
- Everyone everywhere needs connectivity - Using quotas if necessary.
- Silicon Valley merely digitize sexism with algorithms that have inherent bias. Need to change this.
- Discrediting women in the public eye is violent. Technology companies, corporations must stop the hate!

**EMBITH  
EQUITY  
RACE**

# IWD AT THE UN CONTINUED

## MARINA HUISSOON

Speech by the Secretary general of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) – Doreen Bogdan-Martin first women (elected) chair of ITU. (American)

3 examples of how technology has changed and is changing women's role in society:

- Visually impaired students can use tech to communicate.
- Using drones to observe shifting vegetation in her (indigenous) geographic area
- 3D & Virtual fashion show..

All countries agree on the need to have connectivity everywhere.

Digital gender equality is being funded by US – governments, civil society, all needed to push..

More women need to enroll in stem subjects: 3 actions:

1. Get girls into stem at an early age, & empower them with digital skills that they need
2. Access to equal opportunities - Based on solid data.
3. Give women a seat at the digital table and make digital equality a must at the table

“Let’s Power ON!”



# A SECOND CELEBRATION ON IWD

## HALLY SIDMONS

Although not a CSW Event, I was invited on International Women’s Day, to join and speak at a virtual event hosted by the Embassy for the Republic of Afghanistan in Canada, to honour the courage and resilience of women and girls in Afghanistan. As a founding member of University Women Helping Afghan Women, CFUW-Ottawa, I was asked to address our previous and ongoing efforts in support of women and girls in Afghanistan.

Some of these speakers or members of their organizations were attending CSW67 and we met at sessions during the week. Dr. Sorabi, as one of 4 women on the 44 member Afghan/Taliban negotiating team, had been a guest speaker on our CFUW/GWI-NL Webinar in 2021. Although Dr. Oates from CW4WAfghan was not in New York but very busy with many IWD events, Sarah Keeler did attend, and both presented a superb parallel session on March 15. We were all aware of our CSW theme and how it would so drastically relate to women and girls in Afghanistan.

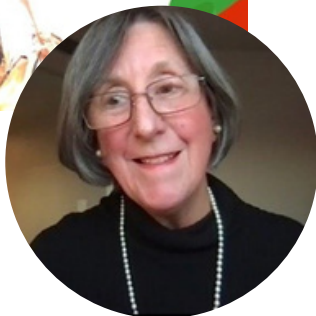
A poster for an International Women's Day event. It features the text "INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY" with a Canadian flag icon. Below the text is a quote: "On March 08, 2023, on International Women's Day, we are gathering virtually to honor the courage and resilience of women and girls in Afghanistan and to voice our support for their rights and aspirations as they continue to struggle for a better future and a better world in the face of many unspoken challenges." The event details are: "MARCH 08, 2023 4:00 - 5:30PM VIA ZOOM Tentative Program".

**Moderator:**

- Yalda Bakhtash, former journalist, and human rights activist

**Speakers:**

- Hassan Sorosh, Ambassador of Afghanistan to Canada
- Habiba Sorabi, former Governor and Minister of Women's Affairs of Afghanistan, and former member of the Peace Negotiation Team
- Nargis Nehan, former Acting Minister of Mines and Petroleum of Afghanistan
- Lauryn Oates, Executive Director, Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan
- Adeva Niaz, Executive Director, Afghan Women's Organization
- Victoria Jabeesh, Executive Director, Afghan Women's Centre of Montreal
- Hally Siddons, founding member of the University Women Helping Afghan Women



# IN DEPTH ANALYSIS: UNCSW67 - SESSION REPORT, SANDRA THOMSON, UN AGENCY OBSERVER

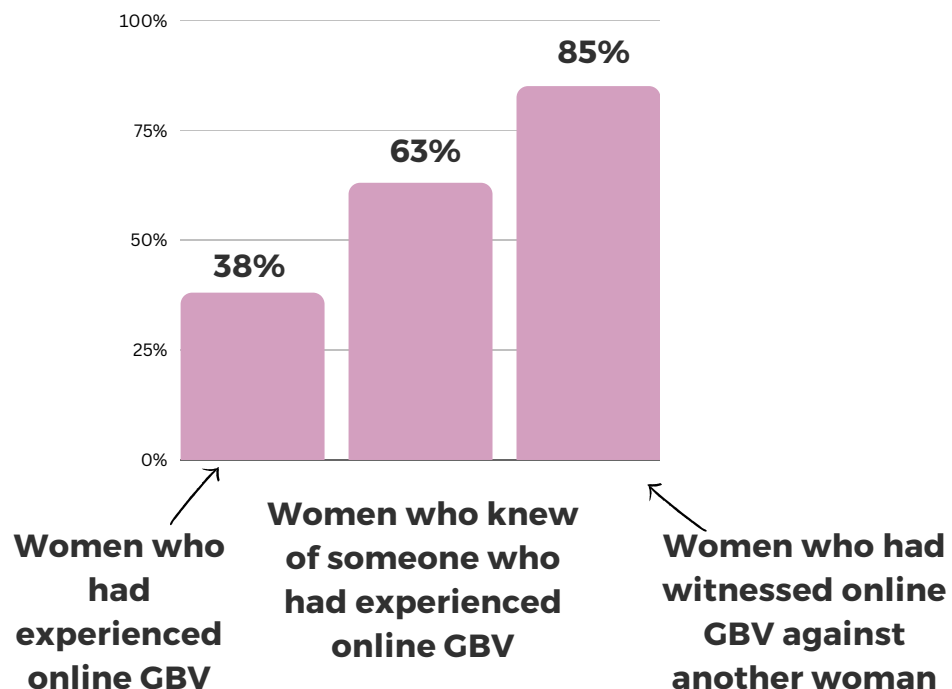
## Irish Consortium on Gender Based Violence - Moving Beyond Technology and Gender Based Violence (GBV) – Risks, Opportunities and Challenges

This was a very compelling and informative session which set the groundwork for learning about GBV and digital technology. The most revealing aspects of understanding this topic: the difficulty in obtaining statistics and the need for more regulatory legislation.

Through a variety of means from the different partners within the consortium and their resources, this is what we do know:

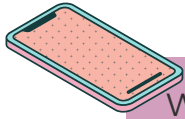
- Globally – 1 in 3 women will experience GBV in their lifetime; 70% of women will experience some form of GBV; and 0.12% funding is dedicated to eradicating GBV – far too little.
- In low- and middle-income countries, 83% of women have mobile phones and 58% have access to the internet, numbers which will only increase over time. However, technology does not only represent an opportunity, but it also presents risks, including technology-facilitated GBV.
- Data from 2021 has shown that up to 38% of women have experienced some form of online GBV in their lifetimes, and 85% of women have witnessed it. “
- Less than 40% of women will report GBV or seek help. UN Women have documented that women who do seek help, look to family and friends and very few look to formal institutions, such as police and health services.
- Less than 10% of those seeking help appealed to the policing authorities with fear of punitive action from individuals, community and legal authorities thus impeding survivor-victims further.

### In a survey by the Economic Intelligence Unit (EIU) in 51 countries:

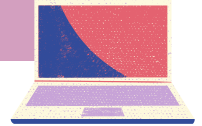


## IN DEPTH ANALYSIS CONTINUED

SANDRA THOMSON



What is the Definition of Digital GVB? The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has used this term - **technology-facilitated gender based violence** as: “acts of violence perpetrated by one or more individuals that is committed, assisted, aggravated and amplified in part or fully by the use of information and communication technologies or digital media, against a person on the basis of their gender.”



### Who is at risk?

- 58% of girls and women aged 15-25 have experienced online harassment. The highest rates of online violence found in Europe (63%), followed by Latin American (60%), Asia-Pacific (58%), Africa (54%), and North America (52%). According to the study, most girls have their first experience of social media harassment between the ages of 14-16, suggesting that this violence starts at a shockingly young age.
- Women of colour, LGBTQI+ persons, and disabled women and girls: Women and girls who are racialized, identify as LGBTQI+.
- Women in public life (women human rights defenders, politicians, journalists, and feminist activists). Women in public life are often at increased risk of experiencing technology-facilitated gender-based violence not only due to their gender, but because of their public work, activism or campaigning.



For example, Tanzania is the only African country in which the president and head of state are female. Neema Lugangari, from lived experience, stated it is “horrific” as a politician and there are dangers with online technology. With 138 politicians that are female, less than 5% are active online. She hoped that UN Women would recognize online GBV and pushed for social responsibility on social media platforms, laws for politicians, and engage more women to ensure legislation is passed in their countries. She stated that women are now “self censoring ourselves and we need legislation...our ability to lead becomes irrelevant as we need visibility. And with respect to gender equality for young women in politics? Who would want it?”

### Suggested Policy Recommendations for Governments

- Develop and continuously update legislation to protect women and girls from technology facilitated GBV; Develop criminal and civil laws specific to technology facilitated harms and ensure that perpetrators can be held to account and sanctions are proportionate to injury;
- Develop international agreements to fight multi-jurisdictional technology-facilitated GBV;





## IN DEPTH ANALYSIS CONTINUED

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**SANDRA THOMSON**

- Develop collaborative structures with women's rights organisations, the technology sector and civil society, in the first instance to conduct a review of all measures and policies in relation to GBV, and update these in order to ensure they effectively address technology-facilitated GBV;
- Establish a statutory agency with authority and resources to address technology-facilitated GBV (or include new powers in an existing agency) including regulatory powers over private technology companies to proactively develop safeguarding processes and immediately remove harmful content;
- Provide funding to research institutions and INGOs to carry out studies on technology facilitated GBV, with a focus on the most marginalised women and girls;
- Utilise technology to tackle GBV including national digital awareness and education programmes, particularly prevention programmes that include engagement with men and boys to address harmful online behaviours.

### **Suggested Policy Recommendations for Non-Governmental Organisations – Like CFUW**

- NGOs must ensure that needs assessments and GBV programmes identify the risk and address technology-facilitated GBV; Technology created to prevent and respond to GBV must adhere to the do no harm principle, follow the ethical collection and use of survivor data as outlined in the minimum standards, and utilise the principle of safety by design;
- NGOs working to increase access to technology and digital literacy should ensure a gender perspective, to increase awareness on the risks of technology; GBV focused agencies should grow their technology literacy and capabilities in response to the continued rise of technology innovations in aid;
- NGOs should take a collaborative approach and endeavour to share openly and transparently their successes on various forms of technology with other NGOs while adhering to data privacy and ethics standards.



### **Suggested Policy recommendations for Technology Providers**

- Technology providers must increase their accountability to women and girls, by establishing and enforcing strict codes of conduct for users, developing robust and consistent standards for content moderation that detect and respond to all forms of GBV, applying effective sanctions to perpetrators and reporting transparently to the public on the impact of these initiatives.
- Technology providers should strengthen or adopt positive measures, such as safety by design, through the development, design, and use of digital technologies to prevent technology-facilitated GBV.

