

Expert Committee on gender equality and empowerment
--

Convenor - Winnie Byanyima, Director, Gender Team, UNDP/BDP

Ms. Winnie Byanyima is the Director for the Gender Team, Bureau for Development Policy. She joined UNDP from the African Union Commission where she was the Director of the Women, Gender and Development Unit since late 2004. She has been an active politician and activist in her country, serving three terms as Member of Parliament in Uganda. She is a leading champion of women's rights in Africa, having founded the Forum for Women in Democracy, an organization that coordinates an Eastern African Gender Budget Network. Since the early 1990s she has been a member of various Expert and Advisory panels and task forces of the UN, UNDP, UNCSTD, UNIFEM and IPU, amongst others.

UN Experts:

Hilary Anderson, INSTRAW, Information Officer (Dominican Republic)

Hilary Anderson currently manages the information and communications unit and the gender, peace and security research programme of the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (UN-INSTRAW). She has also worked on such topics as violence against women and gender mainstreaming with the Pan American Health Organization's Gender and Health Unit in Washington D.C.

Joanne Sandler, UNIFEM, Deputy Executive Director for Programmes

Joanne Sandler has served on the Board of Directors of a number of international and domestic organizations, including the Association for Women's Rights in Development, Gender at Work, and Women Make Movies. In her role as Deputy Executive Director, she guides UNIFEM's efforts to implement programmes in support of women's empowerment and rights in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States. She has worked with international organizations and women's groups worldwide for the past 25 years, with a focus on organizational development, strategic planning and economic justice.

Randi Davis, UN Democracy Fund, Senior Program Advisor to the Fund

Randi Davis is on secondment from the United Nations Development Program - where she has served as a Policy Advisor on Democratic Governance. She has experience in fields of parliamentary development, gender and political participation, transitional governance and peacebuilding, and local governance. Her regional expertise includes Asia Pacific and the Arab Region. She has served with the United Nations in Bangladesh and Vietnam.

Chandrika Bahadur , UNDP, Policy Advisor with the MDG Support cluster in the poverty group at the Bureau for Development Policy

Previously Chandrika Bahadur was Policy Advisor and Manager, Country Support, at the UN Millennium Project, where she coordinated the support to countries in MDG based planning with a focus on education and gender. She holds an MA from the Kennedy School of Government, a Masters in Business Administration from the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad and a Bachelor in Economics from the University of Delhi.

Independent Experts:

Caren Grown, Levy Economics Institute of Bard College, Senior Scholar and Co-Director of the Gender Equality and the Economy program

Caren Grown previously directed the Poverty Reduction and Economic Governance team at the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW). During her term at ICRW, she served as Senior Associate of Task Force 3 of the UN Millennium Project on gender equality and women's empowerment. She served as Senior Program Officer at the John D. and Catherine MacArthur Foundation, where she managed research networks and competitions on a wide range of economic, governance, and population issues. Before joining the MacArthur Foundation, she was an economist with the Center for Economic Studies at the U.S. Bureau of the Census. She has edited and authored several books and numerous articles on gender equality.

Aruna Rao, Director, Gender at Work

As Director of Women at Work, Aruna Rao guides a new knowledge and capacity-building network focused on the links between gender equality, organizations and institutional change. She has served as President of the Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID). She has organized leading world conferences on gender training and development planning. Beginning in 1994, she led a team that pioneered a new approach to gender and organizational change in BRAC in Bangladesh. She has consulted widely with UN organizations, academic institutions, and development NGOs both international and national on gender and development and organizational change issues.

Elaine Zuckerman, President and Founder, Gender Action

Elaine Zuckerman' current work is dedicated to promoting gender equality and women's rights in all International Financial Institution (IFI) investments. She has worked for the IFIs and consulted for bilateral aid agencies and civil society organizations such as the International Center for Research on Women and Oxfam. She has worked in China, Latin America, Africa and Southeastern Europe on gender, poverty, poverty reduction strategies, the social impact of macroeconomic policies and structural adjustment reforms, social investment funds, education and health financing and rural development and environment projects.