

BENEFITS

- ❖ expansion of women's role in telecommunications
- ❖ corporate and local "partnerships" for development of communications
- ❖ market opportunities in developing countries
- ❖ sustainable solutions to compelling social and market needs
- ❖ means to deliver services to women and men in rural communities
- ❖ increased awareness of the role of telecommunication applications as essential tools for the development of all people
- ❖ contact with government officials responsible for telecommunications development



For information about participating, contact:

Patricia Faccin

**Telecommunication Development Bureau
International Telecommunication Union
Place des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland**

Tel: +4122 730 5489

Fax: +4122 730 5778

email: patricia.faccin@itu.int



visit:

www.itu.int/ITU-D-Gender

International Telecommunication Union



TASK FORCE ON GENDER ISSUES
TASK FORCE ON GENDER ISSUES

Promoting Gender Equality in and through Telecommunications

BDT
TELECOMMUNICATION
DEVELOPMENT
BUREAU

MANDATE

The World Telecommunications Development Conference held in Valletta, Malta, in March 1998 adopted a resolution that established the Task Force on Gender Issues within the Development Sector of the ITU. This resolution was unanimously supported and reaffirmed at the 1998 Plenipotentiary Conference in Minneapolis. Its aim is to serve as a main organ to increase awareness of the developmental impact of telecommunications on women, to promote mainstreaming of gender issues into telecommunication policy and programmes, and to ensure that the benefits of telecommunication applications are made available to all women and men in developing countries on a fair and equitable basis.

Four-year mandate, renewable.



OBJECTIVES

- ❖ access to and benefits of telecommunications for women and men equally
- ❖ integration of the gender perspective in government, commercial and community activities
- ❖ gender balance in human resources development
- ❖ sensitivity to women and men as distinct and overlapping consumers in developing countries
- ❖ balanced treatment of women and men in all aspects of regulatory policy and telecommunication services
- ❖ full participation of women in commercial and policy decision-making
- ❖ gender balance in ITU



ACTIVITIES

- ❖ market-oriented studies of women's telecommunication service requirements
- ❖ pilot projects (telecentres, telemedicine, etc.) aimed at sustainable development and commercial services
- ❖ participation in decision-making bodies to ensure gender perspective in policies and programmes
- ❖ training in how to integrate gender perspective into work plans and programmes
- ❖ studies to enhance private sector and government effectiveness through training and recruiting of women as professionals and managers
- ❖ establishment of a database and website



WHO CAN CONTRIBUTE?

ITU Member States
Private sector
United Nations bodies
Regional/international organizations
Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
Individual experts