Accessible Americas IV: *ICTs for **ALL***

Session 12
ITU: Bridging the Gender Digital Divide
in the Americas Region

San Jose, Costa Rica
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The digital inclusion of women and girls in ITU

Women in Numbers

Population estimated in Latin American and Caribbean countries:

650 million of people which 51% are women.

The rural population number close to 121 million people, they represent approximately 20% of the total population. Which 48% are women in a total of 59 million

Source: FAO

40% of rural women above 15 years do not have their own financial sources, although they work daily without remuneration.
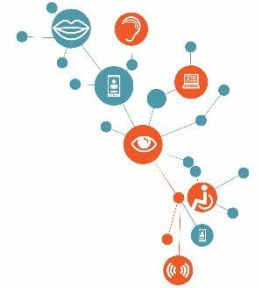
Source: FAO

The unemployment rate for women of 9,1% is 1,4 times higher than man and they receive lower salaries in all occupational groups.

Source: ILO

Continuous increase in the participation rate of women in employment that reach 49.5, although is still lower than men which is 71.3%
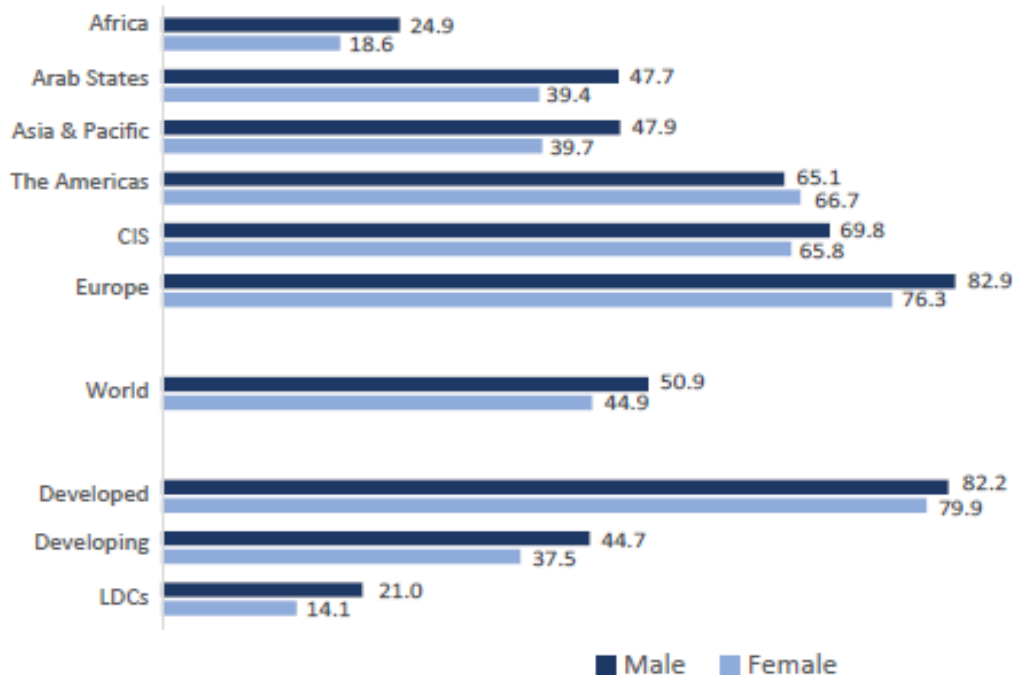
Source: ILO

Women in Numbers

Internet penetration rate for men and women, 2017*

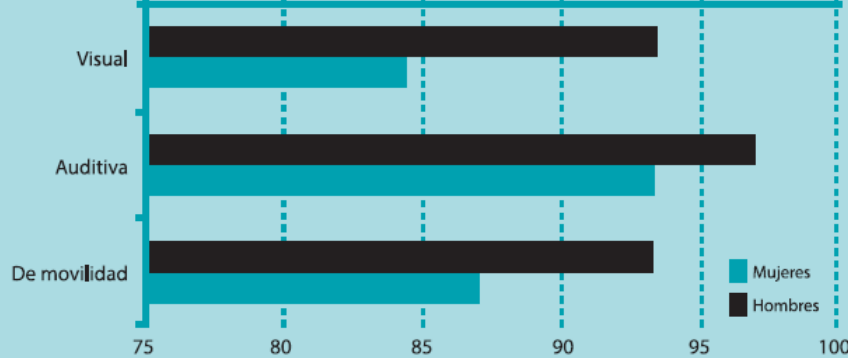| Region	Male	Female
Africa	24.9	18.6
Arab States	47.7	39.4
Asia & Pacific	47.9	39.7
The Americas	65.1	66.7
CIS	69.8	65.8
Europe	82.9	76.3
World	50.9	44.9
Developed	82.2	79.9
Developing	44.7	37.5
LDCs	21.0	14.1

■ Male ■ Female

❖ The proportion of men using the Internet is higher that the proportion of women using the Internet in two-thirds of the countries worldwide.

❖ **Americas is the region where there is a higher percentage of women using the Internet.**

❖ In general, the proportion of women using the Internet is 12% lower than the proportion of men.
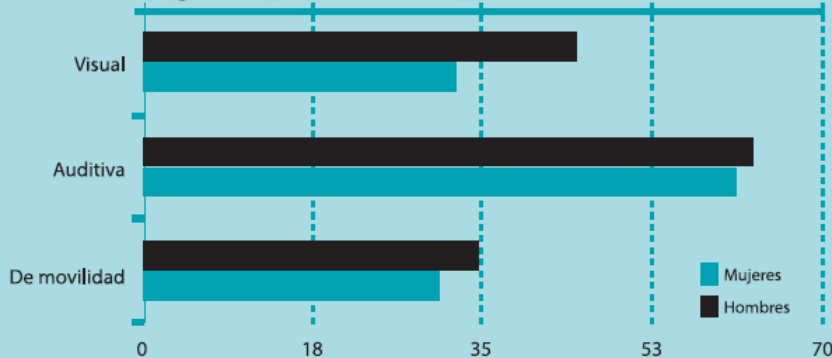
Source: ITU

Women in Numbers

Why promoting the digital inclusion of women and girls

Women play a key role in reducing poverty and promoting social and economic development.

Improve life quality: access to employment, education, health, better income.

As technology consumers, women are important market influencers

Close the digital gender divide is essential for the economic growth.

Gender diversity in the leadership of positions is positive for the development of companies.

How to promote the digital inclusion in the Information Society?

- ❖ **STEM disciplines**: Tech is the only one where the participation of women has decreased in the last 20 years.
- ❖ **By 2018:** the US will be graduating in tech only 52% of the needed tech workforce from universities.
- ❖ Big difference between the number of girls attending college and the percentage of women that will graduate in tech areas (less than 1% compared with 6% of men)
- ❖ Source: Cornell University (USA)

Promoting the digital inclusion...

Understand the needs in accordance to the local perspective

Capacity building and digital literacy.

Self-confidence.

Development of digital skills

Affordable access to ICTs

Empower women through the use of ICTs at home, school and work environment.

National policies for the promotion of accesibiity. Eliminate barriers.

NO Stereotypes

COOPERATION

Government and policy makers

Private Sector

NGOs

Inter-Govern. organizations

Academic & Research institutions

Get SCHOOLS Involved!

ITU: Bridging the digital gender divide

To date, over 300.000 girls, over 9.000 events in 166 countries.

On Girls in ICT Day 2017: over 48 million accounts reached.

EQUALS
GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP

Reports and Guidelines for:
- **Gender and Youth**
- **ICT Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities**

ITU-ILO Digital skills for Decent Jobs for Youth Campaign

Women's Digital Literacy Campaign (ITU-Telecentre.org)

➢ **Digital Inclusion Newslog:** http://digitalinclusionnewslog.itu.int

➢ **Girls in ICT Portal Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship Resources Database**

➢ **Training tools on the use of ICT for the Promotion of Livelihoods of Rural Women** http://connectaschool.org/itu-training

➢ **e-Accessibility toolkit**

➢ **Online Training courses on ITU Academy**
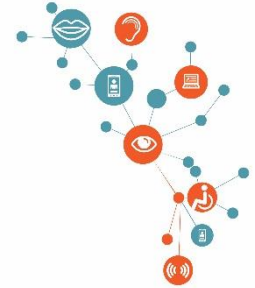
ITU: Girls in ICTs International Day
BE PART OF IT!

What is Girls in ICT Day?

It is an initiative supported by all ITU Member States in ITU that aims to create a global environment that empowers and encourages girls and young women to consider careers in the growing field of ICTs, enabling both girls and technology companies to reap the benefits of greater female participation in the ICT sector. International Girls in ICT Day is celebrated on the 4th Thursday in April every year.
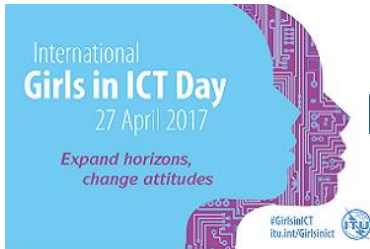
Americas Region:

More than 6000 girls involved in more than 150 events.

Why a Girls in ICT Day?
✓ One of the best reasons: job opportunities in the ICT sector
✓ New talents are required in the ICT Sector
✓ Highly qualified women in tech fields = significant opportunities
✓ Encourage girls and young women to consider this career

ITU: Girls in ICTs International Day
How to get involved

✓Competitions

✓Career fairs

✓Robot programming

✓Open days at IT companies

✓Mentoring with female role models

✓App development

Costa Rica
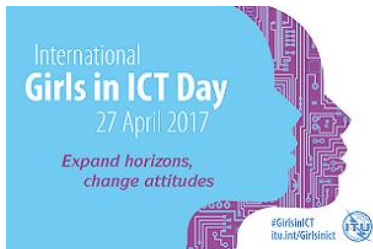
"The International Girls in ICT Day, draws attention to reflect on the importance of including women in scientific and technological areas which is not a matter of equality only".

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![ITU logo] ![sutel SUPERINTENDENCIA DE TELECOMUNICACIONES logo]

ITUWTDC
BUENOS AIRES 2017
9-20 October

RESOLUTION 37 (REV. BUENOS AIRES, 2017): Bridging the digital divide

RESOLUTION 55 (REV. BUENOS AIRES, 2017): Mainstreaming a gender perspective for an inclusive and egalitarian information society

RESOLUTION 58 (REV. BUENOS AIRES, 2017): Telecommunication/information and communication technology accessibility for persons with disabilities and specific needs

RESOLUTION 76 (BUENOS AIRES, 2017): Promoting information and communication technologies among young women and men for social and economic empowerment.
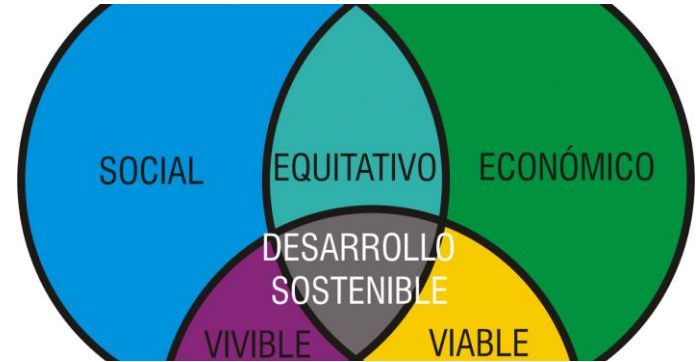

WTDC-17 Women's Breakfast highlights ways to close digital gender gap.

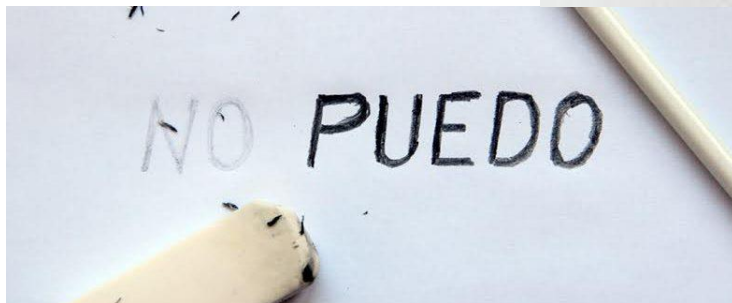**WTDC-17 Pre-event: Together for an #accessible world.**

Summarizing…

Derechos Humanos

Dignidad Asociación Religión
Color Vivienda Igualdad Deberes
Idioma votar Casarse Trabajar Opinión Libertad Obligaciones
Descansar Nacionalidad Propiedad Alimentación Vestido
Raza Salud Familia Bienestar
Justicia

SOCIAL   EQUITATIVO   ECONÓMICO

DESARROLLO SOSTENIBLE

VIVIBLE   VIABLE

Diversity

Self-improvement and self-steem

Making the difference...

Muchas gracias!
Thank you!
Merci beaucoup!

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