



Number 8 | 2016

Published by the [International Press Syndicate Group](#)
in cooperation with the [Global Cooperation Council](#)

Nepal Youths Make Sexual Health Services More Accessible



By Stella Paul

KATHMANDU (IDN) – 21-year old Pabitra Bhattarai is a shy young woman with a soft voice and a ready smile. But, ask her about sexual health services and the shyness vanishes in an instant as she speaks passionately of how youths of her country must have rights to such services.

“Our country runs on the shoulders of young people. So, we can’t risk having a country full of young people with HIV. We must have full access to sexual and reproductive health services (SRHR),” she says, suddenly sounding far more mature than her age. (P35) [HINDI](#) | [INDONESIAN](#) | [JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF](#) | [KOREAN TEXT VERSION PDF](#) | [TAGALOG](#) | [THAI](#) | [URDU](#)

[Read More](#)

Why Women Matter for Effective Climate Change Solutions



By Fabíola Ortiz

MARRAKECH (IDN) – Establishing a clear path forward and including women and girls in global efforts on climate change were some of the biggest challenges the delegations and non-state actors faced at the latest United Nations Climate Change Conference in Marrakech.

Formally known as the Twenty-Second Conference of Parties ([COP22](#)), the conference had a special day (November 14) for discussing exclusively gender issues within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change ([UNFCCC](#)).

“Study after study has shown that women are the most vulnerable to climate change and that's why there is a need for strong leadership on this issue,” said UNFCCC Executive Secretary Patricia Espinosa. (P34) [ARABIC \(PDF\)](#) | [HINDI](#) | [JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF](#) | [PORTUGUESE](#) | [SPANISH](#) | [SWAHILI](#)

[Read More](#)

UN's New Development Agenda Assigns a Key Role for Youth



By Rodney Reynolds

UNITED NATIONS (IDN) - Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, who has continued to reiterate the key role to be played by youth in the implementation of the UN's 17 [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#) by 2030, points out that many young people across the world have been

disproportionately affected by economic crises and recession.

“As torch bearers of the new development agenda, you have a critical role to play in ending poverty, inequality, hunger and environmental degradation. Your actions will be central in ushering in an era in which no one is left behind,” he told a gathering of youth. (P 33) [ARABIC \(PDF\)](#) | [HINDI](#) | [JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF](#) | [PORTUGUESE](#) | [SPANISH](#) | [SWAHILI](#) | [TAGALOG](#) | [TURKISH](#)

[Read More](#)

Faith Leaders Play Crucial Role in Disaster Risk Reduction



By Jaya Ramachandran

GENEVA (IDN) - Representatives of faith-based organizations (FBOs), United Nations agencies, NGOs and academic institutions have stressed the need for engaging with local faith communities to reduce vulnerability to disaster risk, listening to and taking into account the voices especially of

women who are often worst affected.

A round-table ahead of the International Day of Disaster Reduction observed on October 13 also pleaded for supporting local faith communities with local disaster risk reduction (DRR) activities, and maximizing the contribution of FBOs, by ‘using’ their spiritual capital. (P 32) [ARABIC](#) | [CHINESE TEXT VERSION PDF](#) | [INDONESIAN](#) | [JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF](#) | [PORTUGUESE](#) | [SPANISH](#) | [THAI](#) | [TURKISH](#)

[Read More](#)

ICTs Between Money-Spinners and SDG Champions



By Kalinga Seneviratne

BANGKOK (IDN) - At the International Telecommunication Union's (ITU) annual flagship event [ITU Telecom World 2016](#) from November 14 to 17, there was much discussion about the profit-making motives of technology providers and the need to integrate social goals to help achieve the

UN's new catchcry [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#).

In opening remarks to the event, ITU's Secretary General Houlin Zhao from China reminded over 8,000 industry leaders and policy makers from across the globe that “the digital divide is very much still with us”. a division that includes

geography, gender, education and resources. "It is imperative that we continue to work to close that digital divide," he declared.

[Read More](#)

Finance and Investment Key to a New Dawn in Climate Change



By J Nastranis

NEW YORK (IDN) – While there is "a new dawn for global cooperation on climate change", greater efforts are required to mobilize funding to address climate change, especially to support developing countries, according to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

"Finance and investment hold the key to achieving low-emissions and resilient societies," Ban said in remarks read by his Special Advisor on Climate Change, Bob Orr, to a High-Level Ministerial dialogue on climate financing at the 22nd Conference of Parties Conference (COP 22) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

[Read More](#)

UN to Step Up Implementation of 2030 Development Agenda



By J Nastranis

NEW YORK (IDN) - In a significant move, UN General Assembly President Peter Thomson has set up an expert team to push for implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), 'leaving no-one behind,' ensuring human rights for all, and engaging young people.

The *SDG implementation team* is tasked with motivating everyone at global, regional, national, and community levels to ensure realization of the Goals.

The team is led by Special Adviser Ambassador Dessima Williams of Grenada along with experts from the UN Secretariat and secondees from the UN Development Programme (UNDP), World Bank Group, the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), and Member States. Ambassador Macharia Kamau of Kenya will serve as the *Special Envoy on SDG Implementation and Climate Change*.

[Read More](#)

Thailand Takes Key Role in Cooperative Agricultural Plan to Promote SDGs



By Pratch Rujivanarom

This article is being moved with special arrangement with Thailand's [Nation](#) newspaper

BANGKOK (IDN-INPS | [The Nation](#)) - Eight countries signed a ministerial declaration in Chiang Mai on November 6 to cooperate on improving irrigation systems among member countries to ensure food and water security.

A high-level advisory group on 'Partnerships for Agriculture Water Management' was established by the Chiang Mai Declaration to facilitate improved agricultural

was established by the Chiang Mai Declaration to facilitate improved agricultural water productivity and management. It aims to ensure food security according to sustainable development goals, amid fears of water scarcity caused by climate change.

[Read More](#)

Ban Lauds CSOs for Making Paris Climate Accord a Reality



By J Nastranis

NEW YORK (IDN) – Less than two months before UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon concludes his second term, he has described the entry into force of the [Paris Agreement](#) on climate change on November 4 "an emotional moment" for him, "a credit" to all civil society organizations (CSOs), and

"historic for the world".

He praised CSOs for their leadership, commitment and engagement, inviting them to "work together to make this world better for all". In rather impassioned remarks, he said: "Today we celebrate, reflect and give thanks. I am deeply grateful to all of you and your organizations – representing millions of people. At a time when civil society is under attack in so many parts of the world, you have shown that citizens' groups are essential partners for progress."

[Read More](#)

Water Crisis a Challenge in South Africa's Squatter Camps



By Jeffrey Moyo

JOHANNESBURG (ACP-IDN) – For South Africans living in slums crowded with makeshift homes standing side by side, residents battle to draw water from the very few water taps available.

Like countries the world over, South Africa is mandated to achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all by 2030, but for many South Africans like 24-year old Thembisa Mzwakhe living in Diepkloof, South Africa's populous slum area in Johannesburg, growing up in the shanty area with inadequate water supplies has become normal.

[Read More](#)

Published by

The [International Press Syndicate](#) Group
as part of a [media project](#) with Soka Gakkai International
405 Lexington Avenue, 26th Floor, Manhattan, New York, 10174, USA
33 Lafferty Street, Toronto, ONT M9C5B5, CANADA
Marienstrasse 19/20, 10117 Berlin, GERMANY
Ichimura bldg. 4F, 3-2 Kanda Ogawa-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo JAPAN 101-0052

[Unsubscribe](#)