

14 of July

8 – 9:30 am EDT

Gender Mainstreaming for Sustainable Chemistry

HLPF 2022 - Virtual Side Event

Virtual side event during the High-level Political Forum 2022 with colleagues from the MSP Institute and the German Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV).

Speakers include:

- State Secretary Dr Christiane Rohleder, BMUV, Germany
- Dr Hans-Christian Stolzenberg, German SAICM Focal Point, German Environment Agency
- Eskedar Awgichew Ergete, Executive Director, Eco-justice Ethiopia
- Jorge Ocaña, Manager of Chemicals and Waste Management Programme, UNITAR
- Tripti Arora, Gender Coordinator, International Pollutants Elimination Network (IPEN)

Date: July 14

Time: 8 – 09:30 am EDT/ 2 – 03:30 pm CEST

Registration:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZApceisqzsiHNSLHRAuk_zoRQV2vKqlezG

Background:

Gender inequalities are omnipresent in our societies, and their complex multidimensionality also permeates the world of chemistry, e.g. in occupational safety, academic career paths and consumption choices. Women's and men's bodies are affected differently by certain chemicals, as exposure, risk, and impacts can be different between the sexes. In addition, gender as a social category is linked to gender-specific norms of behaviour, roles in society, and the development of gender identities, which influence people's behaviour, including their impact on the environment and their access to and power over resources. Avoidable negative effects of chemicals on human health and the environment are the result.

Chemistry itself is a cross-cutting element in almost all human activities and has to play a key role in the transformational process of our societies to Sustainable Development, which is impossible should its structural inequalities persist. To minimise negative impacts of chemicals on people and the environment as chemical production increases, future chemicals management must integrate the needs and realities of life for all genders – in other words: sustainable chemistry is not possible without gender equality and vice versa!

In the last years, it is increasingly discussed that gender dimensions in chemicals management must be taken into account, but the integration of gender equality in approaches of sustainable chemistry and in practical implementation is still in its early stages. In developing countries, for example, waste picking offers especially women from lower castes the only way to earn an income and to meet their household and child-rearing responsibilities.

At this side event, a platform for stakeholder exchange is provided: panellists will discuss the interconnection of gender equality and sustainable chemistry with participants, and will share challenges as well as best-practice examples on the integration of gender in chemicals management in the context of SDG 5 on gender equality and SDG 17 on partnerships for the goals.

Agenda (90 min):

- Introduction and facilitation by Dr Minu Hemmati MSP Institute
- Short explanatory film on gender lens by MSP Institute
- Welcoming speech by State Secretary Dr Christiane Rohleder
- Panel discussion with speakers
- Reflections from the floor

We are looking forward to your participation, questions and comments!



Federal Ministry
for the Environment, Nature Conservation,
Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection