



# INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

*International Women's Day is a global celebration of the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. It's also a call to action for accelerating gender parity, raising awareness about women's equality, and inspiring positive change.*

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THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY AFRICAN DIASPORA ADVISORY BOARD  
& MARYLAND AFRICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESENT

# INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2024

THE ROLE OF IMMIGRANT WOMEN IN COMMUNITY BUILDING: THE AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE

**THEME: INSPIRE INCLUSION**



## International Women's Day

Image

This International Women's Day, 8 March 2024, join the United Nations in celebrating under the theme [Invest in women: Accelerate progress](#).

The world is facing many crises, ranging from geopolitical conflicts to soaring poverty levels and the escalating impacts of climate change. These challenges can only be addressed by solutions that empower women. By investing in women, we can spark change and speed the transition towards a healthier, safer, and more equal world for all.

**H. E. FATIMA MAADA BIO**  
FIRST LADY, REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE  
AWARD RECIPIENT

**HON. KANAYO AWANI**  
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, INTRA-AFRICAN TRADE BANK  
AFREXIMBANK / AWARD RECIPIENT



**MAUREEN UMEH**  
AWARD-WINNING JOURNALIST  
MISTRESS OF CEREMONY



**THE HON. NAQUETTA RICKS**  
COLORADO STATE REPRESENTATIVE OF HD 40 / AWARD RECIPIENT







# History of International Women's Day

1

## Inception

Started as a socialist political event in 1909, it developed into a global day of recognition and celebration.

2

## Official Establishment

Officially recognized by the United Nations in 1975, sparking a renewed focus on women's rights.



**Why is International Women's Day celebrated?**

**It is a day when women are recognized for their achievements without regard to divisions, whether national, ethnic, linguistic, cultural, economic or political.**



# Importance of International Women's Day

## 1 Celebration

Recognizing the contribution of women to society, culture, and the economy.

## 2 Awareness

Raising awareness about gender inequality and the need for change.

## 3 Advocacy

Advocating for equal rights, representation, and opportunities for women.

# Theme for this year's International Women's Day



## Diversity

Celebrating the diverse achievements and contributions of women worldwide.



## Equality

Promoting gender equality and empowerment for all women, regardless of background or identity.



## Empowerment

Highlighting the importance of empowering women at every level of society and across all sectors.

# Achievements of women around the world

## Science & Innovation

Women have made significant contributions in various fields including STEM, medicine, and research.

## Arts & Culture

Women have excelled as artists, musicians, writers, and storytellers, shaping cultures globally.

## Social & Political Change

Women have been at the forefront of social and political movements, driving positive change.

# Ongoing challenges faced by women

## Gender Discrimination

- 1 Systemic barriers and biases continue to hinder the progress and success of women globally.

## Violence & Abuse

- 2 Women are disproportionately affected by various forms of violence and abuse, perpetuating inequality.

## Unequal Opportunities

- 3 Women still face unequal access to education, employment, and decision-making roles.







# Ways to support and empower women

## **Educate & Advocate**

Raise awareness, challenge stereotypes, and advocate for policies promoting gender equality.

## **Mentor & Sponsor**

Provide mentorship and sponsorship opportunities to help women advance in their careers and leadership roles.

## **Amplify Voices**

Give platforms to women, amplify their voices, and support women-owned businesses and initiatives.

## Conclusion and call to action

**87%**

Strengthening efforts for gender equality is crucial for societal progress and prosperity.

**1 in 3**

Ending violence against women is essential for creating safe and inclusive communities.

***Thank you***

