Mexico

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Women and Sustainability



Within the last century, it has become common knowledge that women play a key role in the sustainability of the world’s countries and cultures. While both being integral to an area’s environmental stability and more vulnerable to the ill effects of its abuse, they are at the forefront of debate on the topic, emphasized by numerous developments over the years.

While some debate over this is ongoing, it has been proven again and again that women indeed have more control over sustainability, causing the European Commission funded Climate for Change project to argue against gender neutrality within climate change policy. This makes sense, considering women account for most household purchases, especially in developing nations, are more likely to buy items that take the long term into account, and are more likely to tend to family plants and animals. Unfortunately, women have less representation in the field that need them most. In green-friendly fields such as engineering, women are the minority, as well as in government, where women are proven to lower corruption levels and thereby spur environmental sensibility. It’s also been proven that when women are given extensive control over land, they are likely to use it to greater effect, increasing crop yields and reducing waste. Unfortunately, a variety of factors collude to make it less likely for women to own their own farms, and also make women less equipped for shortage and possible drought or other disaster. Due to menstruation, women are also likely to be hit harder by lack of clean water and other shortages.

Luckily, there’s been movement on the international scale to redress these problems, such as the Green Belt Movement (GBM) in Kenya, which seeks to provide women with a greater role in their environment’s sustainability. The GBM could serve as a model to the world’s governments, and could be paired with increased equal gender representation within lawmaking bodies to stabilize the world’s environmental ills.

Mexico has developed already begun inadvertently putting women at the forefront of sustainable efforts. Within rural northern areas, men move into the US for work, leaving women as the heads of house. Because of this, there has been a massive increase in female control of farms and homesteads, leading to greater sustainability and closing the gender gap. Mexico also has one of highest proportions of national legislative seats held by women. At 42.4 percent, Mexico is close to achieving balance within its parliamentary split.

As the movements of women empowered within rural agriculture and commerce continue to spread, the Mexico becomes closer still an the exemplar of what women’s roles within sustainability can be. Mexico’s programs, both state-powered and not, will continue to empower women and push the sustainable, eco-friendly practices into the far future. Mexico looks forward to proving to the world that these movements are successful and an integral part of any sensible country. To this end, the delegation of Mexico looks forward to working with the nations of the world to solve this most pressing issue with a host of promising solutions that will herald in a brighter future for the world.

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Elimination of Gender-Based Violence



When it comes to gender-based violence, it is clear that women have suffered a disproportionate amount. They have also suffered enough. Within countries such as India (Most notably) women are often coerced into situations where they are deprived of their liberties, being culturally and socially obligated to stay with men who force them into sex or assault them. Thanks to the patriarchal structure of many modern day countries, a number of other troubling trends have arisen, including most dangerously an atmosphere in many countries where girls are seen as objects to be traded from one family to another, where marriages are arranged and dowries decided, often seeing then an increase in female infanticide, as it is less profitable for the family to support female children. This is especially true in developing countries such as Bangladesh, where families struggle to support children already, and a son is seen as more of a familial advantage than a daughter. Take too the predicament of Saudi Arabia, where rape goes largely unprosecuted due to a culture of objectification of women and victim-blaming that is endemic in all countries and cultures to some degree.

On the world stage, innumerable conferences and function have been held and hundreds of committees created to help seek an end to this gender-centric violence. Culture will play a huge role in any decision. As the cofounder of Girls not Brides, an organization whose title explains itself, stated, culture itself is a barrier in the mitigation and eventual prevention of gender-based violence. Many cultures have unfortunately evolved to embrace social systems where a women is likely to be harmed, as well as create atmospheres of victim-blaming and other such factors that will prove major obstructions to any solution.

But work is being done. Nordic countries in particular have worked hard to solve this problem, specifically through providing women more power and voice culturally, politically, and economically. Through such measures as reducing the gendered wage gap and putting women on more leadership roles within companies and the government, theses countries have made promising leaps towards day when perhaps organizations such as the Commission on the Status of Women will become unnecessary, having put an end to such shameful violence and ignorance, and will be put into the annals of history as resounding successes. But looking at the current forecasts, it seems that day is still maddeningly far away. There’s work yet, and it is fitting that the nations of the world United undertake it.

To this end, the delegation of Mexico would like to suggest a few possible solutions, backed by its own history of constant improval of gender equality. Mexico maintains a ratio of greater than 40% women in its parliament. In addition to this, its fight for women’s rights to be free from violence has extended to the gruesome phenomenon of feminicide- where women specifically because of their sex, are raped and then killed. Mexico has taken a number of measures since 1990 to address this issue. Starting with the National Center for Gender Equity and Reproductive Health, and following with the General Law of Women’s Access to a Life Free from Violence, Mexico has not ended the fight. Movements continue to gain ground in the fight against this sort of gender-specific crime.

The delegation from Mexico believe that for the violence to be lowered in the short term, many culture will need to be upended in an attempt to give women a greater grip on the power ladder. This will take the form of higher paying jobs, less discrimination, more support in a broad sense, and a greater female presence in leadership roles. To solve this problem in the long term, isolated sexual predators will need to be targeted with broad systems of accountability, as well as increased surveillance and law enforcement action. The delegation from Mexico looks forward to crafting these and other solutions into a plan that’ll ensure a future free from senseless, antiquated, gender-centric violence.

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Women in Education and Employment



Since the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the struggle has continued to try to even out the gaps in education, employment, and pay for girls and women. A variety of factors make girls more likely than any other gender to bear the brunt of the damage poverty and a lack of resources exact on a person’s education and employment. Culturally, there are many stigmata originating from antiquated cultural and social systems. These deep-set beliefs in rural areas make it less likely for women to hold jobs of significance, and put women between a rock and a hard place when it comes to furthering themselves, especially when many cultures hold a disdain for educated women and are unlikely to employ them and likely to harm them. In well-developed areas, subconscious bias against women within the workplace works its malevolent magic too, making it harder for women to earn a job even when their employer doesn’t believe they hold any bias against women. Many international organizations strive to resolve these issues, but as they deliberate the casualties mount: Because at its heart, this problem embodies everything keeping women down. Education and employment are the twin keys to success no matter where you are, and as long as they are withheld from women there will be no equality.

The delegation of Mexico would like to present its own country’s history with these matters. While since the twentieth century Mexico has experienced rising levels of empowerment and opportunity for its women most significantly within the electorate, it still has yet to translate that increase substantially to the business world, with only seven per cent of its company boards being composed of women. However, women’s participation within the labor force is rising, though they still have a ways to go in the struggle for equal pay. In terms of education, youth within Mexico still face an upward battle, and women in particular are a tiny minority in such fields as engineering and sciences. However, half of all college undergraduate degrees earned by Mexican women are in the areas of social science and law, a promising development as these careers can be a platform for mobilization to right social wrongs.

Mexico believes that the key to solving this problem will be in a tiered international program, with each tier monitoring and funding the tier below it, as well as setting goals for the tiers below. At its lowest rung, this framework will be structured to provide an approach tailored to each specific area, both culturally and socially. Mexico looks forward to the opportunity to put these and other plans into action on the international level.