

FORUM 2015 concerning the role of women in fight against the Poverty

Poverty has been reduced but inequalities among the regions and groups of individuals remain. Poverty is not only financial but also multidimensional and means social, economic and political exclusion.

Why question the role of women in fight against poverty? This raises another question: Why should we debate women's role and not men's? The answer is that women are disproportionately hit by poverty, which has influenced our treatment of the theme.

According to UN reports, 70% of poor people of the world are women and the majority of the 1.5 billion people living in extreme poverty with less than a dollar per day are women.

Women are both the first victims of poverty and the first ones to find survival strategies thanks to their resilience and solidarity in the face of extreme situations. The forum wants to show by data and examples of best practices from different regions of the world that women can be the agents of change insofar as the goal of the post 2015 agenda is to achieve a just, inclusive and sustainable society where women are on an equal footing with men.

The aim of the forum is to prove by numerous testimonies from different countries that women show inventiveness in the face of poverty and to showcase best practices from different regions to promote their actions.

The forum is planned for two days, with full sessions in the mornings (with keynote speakers, notably from the UNESCO Division of gender equality, SHS and information and communication sectors) and workshops (or panels) in the afternoons, with NGOs' best practices to fight poverty so as to demonstrate that the future of a global sustainable development (post 2015 agenda) will depend on the equal participation of women and men in society, which means getting rid of the remaining challenges which still prevent women from exercising their full rights and deprive them of contributing to global and local development.

A collective declaration will be transmitted to state-members, international organizations NGOs and the civil society.

Day I: Main principles on extreme poverty and human rights (ATD ¼ World); Facts on poverty in different regions and the role of education on the empowerment of women

Day II: Future Trends: Women in sciences and sustainable development; New technologies of information and communication, as tools of empowerment.

Co-Leader Forum =

Marie-Claude Machon-Honoré

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Liaison Committee referent = Thierry Brault