

Women's Network Newsletter

5th Anniversary Edition



What's new?

Gender and Diversity Survey

The CCP Women's Network is launching an anonymous survey, available in 5 languages, to understand the experience of women working in CCP PCUs and ACCUs worldwide. Your responses will be instrumental in informing future initiatives of the WN. Please participate using the links below:

[ENGLISH](#) | [SPANISH](#) | [RUSSIAN](#)
[FRENCH](#) | [ARABIC](#)

Taking stock of our 2019 C4C

In 2019, CCP selected its first Champions for Change, Edmund Landy Tai of Ghana and Alen Gagula of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). As the year comes to an end, we are taking stock of what they have accomplished.

The CCP Champions have been working to promote the involvement of women in CCP Units by paying special attention to reinforcing women's profiling and field examination skills, and encouraging their participation during team activities. The CCP Champions have also focused on perfecting leadership skills of women team leaders to strengthen their capacity to effectively lead multi-agency CCP Units.

Other notable achievements include the creation of a team of women from East Africa to attend a wildlife training in Viet Nam and the development of gender mainstreaming and women in security workshops in BiH.

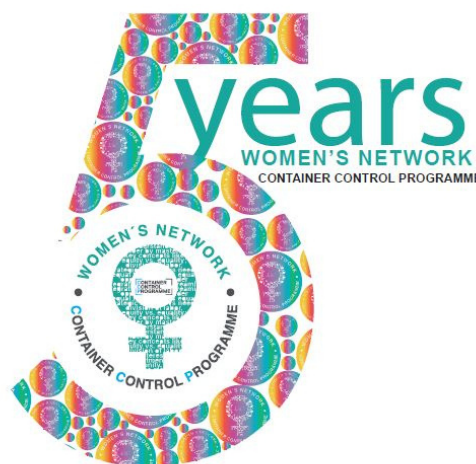
Call for new Champions!

Committed to advancing gender equality within the CCP? Nominate someone or apply to become a 2020 CCP Champion for Change!

To find out more, contact:

unodc-ccp.womensnetwork@un.org

Celebrating 5 years CCP Women's Network



The year 2020 marks several notable anniversaries in the achievement of gender equality-related milestones, including the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and the 20th anniversary of the Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security. In this context, the UNODC-WCO Container Control Programme (CCP) could not be prouder to also commemorate an important achievement: the 5th anniversary of our very own gender equality initiative – the CCP Women's Network (WN). One of the first of its kind to be created at UNODC, the WN continues to strive to empower women working in law enforcement—a field where they are persistently underrepresented.

Over the past five years, CCP has seen progress. From the inclusion of a mandatory gender awareness/sensitization module in the CCP training curricula and increasing participation of women in CCP Port Control and Air Cargo Control Units, to the ongoing preparation of a new professional development training initiative for women—the WN has much to celebrate. Ketil Ottersen, CCP Senior Programme Coordinator at UNODC, highlights that “we have seen and understand the importance of empowering women officers. They are valuable members of our teams around the world. After five years, the Women's Network remains a flagship initiative and I believe it will continue to be a driver of change.”

We thank you for your support over these past five years and hope to make the next five even more memorable!



Meet the women of CCP - Ela Banaj

Ela Banaj is a UNODC National Project Officer based in Albania

CCP: Drawing on your own career, what advice would you give to women in their careers?

EB: Common sense indicates that it's a society's responsibility to promote women, and in a male-dominated society shaped by traditional gender roles, this is definitely a challenge. Therefore, women should try to empower themselves. Women's rights advocacy must begin with a change of mindset. Us women need to both spot outstanding women and recognize our own skills and gifts, which in other words, means building confidence and trust in our skills and ability to succeed. The CCP is very familiar with the word "mentorship" because this truly makes a difference—particularly for young women professionals. In the pursuit for gender equality, women need mentoring, inspiration and advice from other distinguished and professional women.

CCP: What do you think is the added value of the CCP Women's Network to the work of the CCP?

EB: The main added value of the Network is its work on gender awareness, because it plays an important role in teaching both women and men about gender equality. The WN has built better working relations between members across the world and has boosted officers' confidence. It has also provided a forum where CCP women and men can freely discuss issues of mutual interest, break barriers and tackle challenges. The WN has been a driver of important initiatives such as the CCP Champions for Change and the Gender and Diversity Survey. The WN plays a key role in CCP implementation globally, particularly in countries where gender disparities are as visible as they are in my own country.

CCP: As a woman professional, do you see the road to advancement becoming easier for women? Have you noticed any significant changes?

EB: Since the launch of CCP, major steps have been taken to increase women's participation. Still, women continue to face challenges related to their career development. Stories of successful women are plentiful within the CCP, including women officers serving at CCP PCUs/ACCUs who bring a certain balance and perspective based on their life experiences. Their contributions to keeping their countries' borders safe and secured from crime is absolute. My heart fills with joy when I hear that more women are joining the Units, as in the recent case of the PCU in Laem Chabang, Thailand, comprised of all women officers. The next step is to work on a more proactive gender agenda to keep these women on board. We should work with national institutions to promote flexible working arrangements, create more gender sensitive work environments and encourage women's leadership. I am very positive that PCU and ACCU women officers have brought positive change to their workplaces by demonstrating an active commitment to the mission of the Programme. Therefore, the CCP Women's Network should continue to give these women a platform for their voices to be heard. It should continue to be a force driven by our passion to help other women create lasting and generational changes.

Voices from the founding members

"The CCP Women's Network has achieved several tangible results, specifically the inclusion of a gender module into CCP training. It has facilitated the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into every aspect of the activities we deliver."

- Amy Ba (Programme Associate)

"The WN's gender awareness module aims to challenge the perception that the place of women in law enforcement is optional." - Hélène Phan (Consultant)

"The CCP Women's Network is a unique and powerful initiative that has already reached some significant milestones. Not only is it helping to increase the number of women working in CCP units, but it also led to an increase in women leading them."

- Nicole Quijano-Evans (Crime Prevention Expert)

"The CCP Women's Network is one of the many reasons I am proud to work for this Programme, and I hope this initiative can inspire others to address gender issues proactively and comprehensively."

- Yen Hoang (Programme Management Assistant)



"The CCP Women's Network has already changed the Programme for the better, but the truth is that we are only getting started! With new initiatives on the horizon, such as the Professional Development Programme, I'm excited to see how things will develop in the near future."

- Ricarda Amberg (Programme Manager)

"When we launched the CCP Women's Network in 2015, it was unclear whether it would be a success. Five years later, much has been achieved and the Women's Network has become a core component of our Programme." - Anne Linn Jensen (Programme Officer)