

WOMEN'S NETWORK NEWSLETTER



SPECIAL EDITION - OCTOBER 2019



CELEBRATING 15 YEARS OF CCP

October 2019 marks 15 years since the establishment of the UNODC-WCO Container Control Programme. What began as a modest project, established in four seaports and primarily focused on drug trafficking, is now a massive Programme on a global scale. Today, the CCP has established more than 100 operational units in over 50 countries and has expanded its focus to include airports, dry ports, land border crossings and rail terminals.



Along with countering illicit trafficking, the CCP has been confronting the challenge of gender equality in all its activities. The CCP Women's Network was launched in 2015 to promote women's roles in the Programme and foster an inclusive dialogue. Recognizing the particular challenge of increasing women's participation in the law enforcement environment, women's involvement in CCP units has been growing steadily, and today they represent 16% of the total number of officers. As CCP looks to the future, the Programme will strive for a culture of greater inclusivity and diversity.

To sign up for the newsletter or to contact the CCP Women's Network staff, please send an email to: ccp.womensnetwork@un.org

CCP CHAMPIONS FOR CHANGE

The CCP Women's Network is pleased to launch a new gender equality campaign, CCP Champions for Change (C4C). Over the last several years, various gender champion initiatives have been established in an effort to inspire and commit to gender equality, especially in the workplace. The CCP Champions for Change initiative will establish a network of women and men affiliated with the CCP who commit to the ideals of gender equality and the betterment of women's working conditions.

At the CCP 15th Anniversary Meeting in Brussels, Belgium, CCP will honour its first Champions for Change, Alen Gagula (CCP National Project Officer for Bosnia and Herzegovina) and Edmund Landy Tei (CCP Expert Trainer), recognizing their leadership and commitment to achieving gender equality. While both women and men are vital to the effort to achieve gender equality, these initial Champions are men due to the recognition that men's involvement is crucial to achieving gender equality. Men influence other men. Gender equality is not only a women's issue: its realization benefits us all. The Women's Network is excited to launch this initiative and looks forward to receiving volunteers and nominations for CCP Champions for Change. To do so, please email ccp.womensnetwork@un.org.



The mission of the UNODC-WCO [Container Control Programme](#) is to build capacity in countries seeking to improve risk management, supply chain security and trade facilitation in sea, land, and airports in order to prevent the cross-border movement of illicit goods.

A FEW WORDS FROM OUR DONORS & PARTNERS

We asked a few key CCP donors and partners to give their take on gender equality.

"This is a win-win situation. Law enforcement has greater support from the community when it represents the whole of the population it serves. Improved representation also enables law enforcement to respond to diverse situations with a more nuanced perspective, to include the unique talents and strengths that women bring to this and other fields. Border management authorities face complex challenges and are often best positioned to meet the critical need of public safety at the earliest opportunity, so it is important that we give this workforce as many resources as possible—to include gender balance."



- Kathryn Insley, Director, Office of Export Control and Border Security, U.S. Department of State



"As in any other workplace, it is important to have a gender balance in law enforcement and customs. Gender balanced workplaces have shown to improve team efforts, stimulate new perspectives on how to solve tasks, and overall do better than workplaces where one gender is over-represented. It is important that women are represented not just in the front-line positions, but also higher up in the director levels as well."

- Rannveig Formo, Senior Advisor, Norwegian Ministry of Climate and Environment

"As a female diplomat, you are given the opportunity to raise awareness and support global topics such as human and women's rights. The challenge is, however, that these issues are often considered to be marginal, for which it is necessary to build broad coalitions with national and international allies and to continuously raise our voices. Diversity, including the presence of more women, brings forward different perspectives needed to deal with increasingly complex societies."



- Her Excellency Lilly Nicholls, Ambassador of Canada to Panama

MEET THE FACES OF CCP - KETIL OTTERSEN

Ketil Ottersen is the UNODC Senior Programme Coordinator for CCP based in UNODC headquarters, Vienna, Austria.

CCP: You have been credited with coming up with the initial idea of supporting female officers in the CCP. Why do you think this is important?

KO: It was really a group of dedicated CCP staff who made the Women's Network happen and the credit goes to them. As a former Customs officer, I can appreciate that men and women have very different experiences in that environment and that efforts should be made to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to develop professionally. I believe that gender equality is very important for harnessing people's abilities and female officers have a lot to

contribute. Not only should they be provided with opportunities to grow, but everyone, men and women, should be sensitized toward gender-related issues.

CCP: What do you think of how the Women's Network has progressed?

KO: The Women's Network was one of the first initiatives of its kind at UNODC and continues to inspire others. I'm incredibly proud of my team and what CCP has accomplished with this. We are seeing effects in the field, in our units globally. We can recognize that although change happens slowly and gradually, the important thing is that we do not stop pushing forward. The CCP started as a humble Programme and has grown drastically. I believe the Women's Network has the same potential.