

The Potential of Women and Girls is Celebrated in Haiti

On International Women's Day in Haiti this year, UN Women and several other UN agencies have supported a national forum organized by the Ministry of Women Affairs and Women's Rights (MCFDF), in support of women's voices. The forum, also organised by the UNDP, UNFPA and UNESCO, is the culmination of consultations held in all Haiti's municipalities, and brought together 600 delegates from across the country to discuss ways in which public policies and programs can effectively address the interests and needs of the country's women.

UN Women activities this IWD have also focused on youth, in recognition of the emphasis by the UN system in Haiti, on empowering young people. For example it launched a competition, with The Joint Programme for the Prevention of Conflict and Social Cohesion (MDG-F), for young women entrepreneurs on 8 March, and worked with UNICEF, to arrange for female UN staff to visit schools and chat about their professional journeys with female students. To highlight the potential of young women in the country, a comic book produced by MDG-F and UN Women was launched. Through a story of two schoolgirls with intertwined destinies, the comic deconstructs professional stereotypes and gives information on the Convention for the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women. It will be widely disseminated to vulnerable communities through strong women's organizations.