NOTE ABOUT THE SIDE EVENT
Organized by the National Commission of Romania for UNESCO, in collaboration with UNESCO and UN Women, the side event will provide a platform to discuss intersections between gender equality and education in the UNECE region, based on the UNESCO report “The intersection of gender equality and education in South-East Europe: A regional situation analysis of the nexus between Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 (quality education) and SDG 5 (gender equality)”, and the UN Women SDGs monitoring report “Turning Promises into Action: Gender Equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”. Bringing together governments, civil society, beneficiaries of UN programmes and youth, the event will identify and agree on how the intersectionality and the interlinks between SDG 4 and SDG 5 could be addressed by the States.

BACKGROUND
SDG 4 aims at ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all. It is an important step to the realization of peaceful and inclusive societies in the region while building societies with inclusive and sustainable economic growth. However, gender inequalities in educational access and attainment strongly jeopardize the achievement of SDG 4. To sustain this Goal, there is the necessity to acknowledge the central role played by gender equality (SDG 5) in having a multiplier effect on the accomplishment of all SDGs, particularly SDG 4. Understanding the interlinks between gender equality and education is crucial.

SIDE EVENT LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND: ENSURING INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE QUALITY EDUCATION AND PROMOTING LIFELONG LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

22 MARCH 2019 8:30 – 9:45 A.M.
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTRE GENEVA (CICG) - ROOM 17

SANDWICHES AND LIGHT DRINKS WILL BE SERVED AT 08:15 AM
OBJECTIVES
• Highlight and identify the interlinks between SDGs 4 and 5 and recognize the contribution of gender equality to the accomplishment of inclusive and equitable quality education and vice versa.
• Understand the main trends and gaps resulting from the analysis of regional data on gender equality in education.
• Suggest approaches for overcoming these barriers and bottlenecks to sustainable development.

OUTCOME
The event will highlight key areas of concern in the interlinkages between SDGs 4 and 5, including recommendations for enhancing gender equality both in and through education. These messages will be delivered during the round tables of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, in particular the Round Table on SDG 4 “Learning without Limits: Lifelong Learning and Inclusive Education”.

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PARTICIPANTS
Representatives of government entities including ministries responsible for education, ministries responsible for gender equality and national statistical offices, relevant UN entities, gender advocates from the countries of ECA region, the youth.

AGENDA
Moderator: Alia El-Yassir, Regional Director, UN Women Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:30-08:45</td>
<td>Opening remarks</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.E. Adrian Cosmin Vierita, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Romania to the UN Office in Geneva and other international organizations in Switzerland&lt;br&gt;Alia El-Yassir, Regional Director, UN Women Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia&lt;br&gt;Ana Luiza Massot Thompson-Flores, Director, UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe</td>
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<td>08:45-09:00</td>
<td>Key note statements from partners and beneficiaries</td>
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<td>Sarah Fuller, Consultant</td>
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<td>09:00-09:15</td>
<td>Overview of the UNESCO report “The intersection of gender equality and education in South-East Europe: A regional situation analysis of the nexus between SDG 4 (quality education) and SDG 5 (gender equality)”</td>
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<td>Iris Constantin, Expert at the National Commission of Romania for UNESCO&lt;br&gt;Natalia Duminița, Roma Education Fund/ Roma National Center, Moldova&lt;br&gt;Lejla Omerović, High-school student studying IT in Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
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<td>09:15-09:35</td>
<td>Questions and answers&lt;br&gt;Moderated discussion</td>
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<td>09:35</td>
<td>Closing remarks&lt;br&gt;Ana Luiza Massot Thompson-Flores, Director, UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe</td>
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