Dear friends,

On World Environment Day, we are happy to introduce the first monthly package to come as part of UN Women’s year-long Beijing+20 campaign: Empowering Women - Empowering Humanity: Picture It!

**What's in store exactly?** Every month, we will focus on one of the 12 critical areas of concern outlined in the Beijing Platform for Action. This month we are taking a closer look at "Women and the Environment". Below is our first editorial line-up on the topic along with a few ways you can join us to spread the word on gender equality! As always, all content is also
In the words of...

Gisele Bündchen – Women Breaking Barriers to Clean Energy

Fashion icon Gisele Bündchen is a Goodwill Ambassador for the UN Environment Programme. After a more than five-mile walk to gather firewood with women in Kenya, she speaks out about the need for modern energy to reduce women's labour and reduce pollution. Read more »

Related video: Gisele Bündchen experiences energy poverty in Africa »

Rajenda Pachauri – Women can lead the transition to a cleaner, sustainable environment

Rajenda Pachauri, Ph.D, is the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the leading body for the assessment of climate change, and is the CEO of the New Delhi-based TERI (The Energy and Resources Institute). He applauds the benefits of solar energy on women's lives. Read more »

Parker Liautaud – The Gender Bias of Global Warming
Parker Liautaud is a polar explorer and climate change campaigner. In 2013, he completed the fastest human-powered trek from the coast of Antarctica to the South Pole. He studies Geology & Geophysics at Yale University and is a Fellow at the Yale Climate & Energy Institute. He writes about the connections between human rights and women’s disproportionate vulnerability to climate change. Read more »

Editor's Picks

Below are a handful of recommended stories that showcase how the UN system works in a number of ways to improve the lives of women and girls.

- Putting women at the forefront of climate change and disaster response in the Pacific, UN Women
- Protecting their crops through green technologies, Caribbean women fend for themselves, UN Women
- Families in Bangladesh Learn to Cope with Storms and Cyclones, World Food Programme
- Mothers lighting up homes and communities in rural Tanzania, UN Women
- Dinner on the Roof, Food and Agriculture Organization
- Lives saved in Viet Nam by involving women in disaster planning, UN Women
- Momentum for Change, Women For Results, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- Colombia: Wayuu Gold, fighting for access to fresh water, UN Women

See our full line-up »

Champions

Marta Vieira da Silva – FIFA Women’s World Player of the Year 2006-2010
Marta knows what it is like to be the only woman on the team. In 2007, Marta Vieira da Silva played in UNDP’s Match against Poverty in Morocco, where she became the first woman in history to play in an internationally sanctioned men’s football match. As UNDP’s Goodwill Ambassador, Marta speaks out about scoring goals for gender equality. Watch video »

Farhan Akhtar – Be a catalyst for generational change

Indian actor and director of numerous films and founder of Men against Rape & Discrimination (MARD), Farhan Akhtar was touched by the struggle to end violence against women when a woman he worked with was sexually assaulted and killed in her own home. Farhan established MARD to advocate for change in the ideas of masculinity, and to campaign for the end of violence against women. He is raising his voice for the #HeForShe campaign. Watch video »

See our full line-up »

Featured Video
Empowering Women – Empowering Humanity: Picture It!

Almost 20 years ago, 189 countries adopted the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, a visionary roadmap for women’s rights and empowerment. Much has been achieved since, but much more needs to be done and can be done. A world in which gender equality is a reality: Picture it. Watch video »

Activist's Corner

Take our quiz!
Test your knowledge on women and the environment.
I'm ready »
Did you know?
Some 2.5 billion people still use unimproved sanitation facilities. Tell me more »

Close the gender gap
Add your picture and tell the world we need to bridge the gender gap! Participate »