***WAVES - Weaving Leadership for Gender Equality***

**Official Launch and Leadership Workshop**

**For more information, please email:**

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**Background:**

Gender inequality hampers the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and can threaten natural resource management. There is an increasing acknowledgment that the global community must address gender equality in international and regional agendas. While these policy adherence signal expanding opportunities, gender equality is meaningful only through concrete actions. But translating gender concepts into practice is a demanding task, since the concepts of gender equality are not only complex, but also demand policy coherence, inclusive finance, and redressal of discriminatory socio-cultural power and norms.

**On 5 March 2019**, The Center for People and Forest (RECOFTC) will be launching *WAVES - Weaving Leadership for Gender Equality* in an effort to equip key actors in the region with knowledge and capacity to understand, design and implement gender equality measures in natural resources management. In so doing, The Center intends to build women’s leadership skills, support gender equity across agencies, and integrate gender equality measures into climate policy, monetary investments and actions.

*Note: Part of the WAVES launch includes the Gender Leadership workshop that will run from 5-8 March 2019.*

Please join us in spreading the message!

**Important Links:**

Program Page: <https://www.recoftc.org/waves-weaving-leadership-gender-equality>

Event Page: <https://www.recoftc.org/events/waves-launch-and-workshop>

IWD 2019: <https://www.internationalwomensday.com/Theme>

Additional Reads:

<https://www.recoftc.org/en/nepal/stories/womens-leadership-circle-inclusive-forest-governance-nepal>

<https://www.recoftc.org/stories/future-now-our-drive-secure-gender-equality-across-forest-landscapes>

<https://www.recoftc.org/en/lao-pdr/stories/solutions-change-changing-gender-narratives-lao-pdr>

**Hashtags to use:**

#GenderWAVES | #CreateWAVES | #BalanceforBetter -- International Women’s Day 2019 | #IWD2019

**Tags for Twitter**: [@RECOFTC](https://twitter.com/RECOFTC) | [@WOCANupdates](https://twitter.com/WOCANupdates) | [@RightsResources](https://twitter.com/RightsResources) | [@IUCN\_Gender](https://twitter.com/IUCN_Gender) | [@UN\_Women](https://twitter.com/UN_Women) | [@Sida](https://twitter.com/Sida)

**Creative Assets:**

[Gender Co - Lab Graphics](https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1MBSnWlOB6ZPNh2syF4GvhLX84O80xZHq)

**Twitter (max 280 characters):**

**GENERAL about WAVES:**

1.6 million rural people depend on the forest for their livelihoods. But not all the benefits in forest landscapes are distributed equally. WAVES, a new initiative by The Center, seeks to address this issue and create forests that are sustainable for all. #GenderWAVES

Over 30 Gender Leaders will meet in Bangkok on 5 March for the launching of #GenderWAVES. These 30 leaders will bring transformative change with assistance from WAVES, a new program that addresses gendered inequalities in forest landscapes. <https://bit.ly/2H6YGZx>

Prepare for International #WomensDay on 8 March 2019 by reading about The Center’s new initiative to tackle gendered inequality in forested landscapes. #CreatingWAVES #BalanceforBetter

<https://bit.ly/2H6YGZx>

#SDG5 calls for #GenderEquity. #GenderWAVES is doing so by connecting workshops on leadership and gender planning to institutionalized systems. Join us in creating #GenderWAVES on 5 March 2019. <https://bit.ly/2H6YGZx>

We need to reframe the narrative on gender by creating #GenderWAVES this 5 March 2019. <https://bit.ly/2H6YGZx>

How does Gender equality look like in forestry landscapes? Does everyone have equal rights and benefits access to forestry landscapes? Follow #GenderWaves to learn more. <https://bit.ly/2H6YGZx>

**GOVERNMENT-FOCUSED:**

Leaders in the region have already shown that certain barriers are NOT insurmountable. Nepal’s newly elected Vice-Mayors are aiming to develop plans that promote women’s empowerment. Other governments should follow suit and create some #GenderWAVES for gender equality.

“Creating an enabling ecosystem for women’s effective and meaningful participation in governance and beyond is crucial,” write Dr. Kalpana Giri and Shambu Prasad Dangal for The Center. #GenderWAVES. <https://bit.ly/2Ek2gwa>

Including women, youth, and other marginalized communities in the decision-making process is vital for change. Support our initiative to create #GenderWAVES and achieve #BalanceforBetter in the field of forestry. <https://bit.ly/2H6YGZx>

Women’s leadership is required to #BalanceforBetter in forest landscapes. #GenderWAVES is the new tide. <https://bit.ly/2H6YGZx>

Gender defenders face increasing risks of abuse, threat and resistance. It is time for governments to protect these defenders. <https://bit.ly/2H6YGZx>

Can #BalanceforBetter include gender-inclusive forestry education? Well, someone is certainly taking up the challenges. Meet our WAVES leaders who strive to create gender-inclusive curriculum for the forestry sector in Indonesia. <https://bit.ly/2H6YGZx>

From critical mass to critical actors. Learn how women’s leadership is creating transformative landscapes within Nepal’s political governance and institutions. #GenderWAVES <https://bit.ly/2Ek2gwa>

Let’s prepare to celebrate the institutions and systems that put gender equality at its core. In Nepal, [@Hello\_MOFE](https://twitter.com/Hello_MOFE?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Eembeddedtimeline%7Ctwterm%5Eprofile%3AHello_MOFE&ref_url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.mofe.gov.np%2F) is pursuing efforts to create a gender and social friendly workplace! #CreateWaves #GenderWaves

**JOURNALIST-FOCUSED:**

Join The Center in #creatingWAVES and #amplifying the voices of marginalized communities in forest governance. It is time that the knowledge of women, youth and Indigenous Peoples is utilized and respected! <https://bit.ly/2H6YGZx>

Are you a journalist looking for a lead? Cover the upcoming event, #GenderWAVES, that seeks to further gender equity in forest landscapes. <https://bit.ly/2H6YGZx>

#RaiseYourVoice for gender equality and #createWAVES by following our upcoming event. <https://bit.ly/2H6YGZx>

The time is now. We need journalists to amplify the voiceless and provide a space for women, youth, and marginalized people to express their concerns and apply their knowledge to conservation. #GenderWAVES <https://bit.ly/2H6YGZx>

Journalism plays a central role in creating equitable and fair forest landscapes. Help The Center create #GenderWAVES by covering more issues related to gender inequality in the environmental decision-making process.

**CSOs-FOCUSED:**

Throughout the world, CSOs are experiencing a reduction in public space to speak their voices. #GenderWAVES seeks to address this by providing CSOs an alternative space to voice concerns and empower leaders. <https://bit.ly/2H6YGZx>

Women, youth, and Indigenous Leaders provide important roles in the region’s civic space. Their actions have shown that leadership exists, and together we will #createWAVES for gender equality. <https://bit.ly/2H6YGZx>

The Center is proud to promote #GenderWAVES with our CSO partners this March. CSOs across the region provide alternative viewpoints to the gendered crises we are facing in forest landscapes. Their voice is important, their leaders are important, their results are important.

CSOs provide a prime opportunity to amplify the voices of women, youth and Indigenous Peoples. Together, we will #createWAVES and discuss innovative solutions to gendered issues. <https://bit.ly/2H6YGZx>

**Images for Twitter can be found in Annex 1.**

**Facebook and LinkedIn:**

On 5 March 2019, a #WAVE will be created for equality in forest landscapes. The Center for People and Forests is launching a new initiative, WAVE - Weaving Leadership for Gender Equality. WAVES seeks to address the fundamental issue holding back the sustainability of landscapes: gender inequality. In collaboration with 30 regional leaders, this initiative will generate transformative change at the institutional level. Join the #GenderWAVES now to show your support for a better future!

<https://bit.ly/2H6YGZx>

Let’s prepare to celebrate the institutions and systems that gender equality at its core. In Cambodia, [@mowa.gov.kh](https://www.facebook.com/mowa.gov.kh/) is implementing natural resource policies and plans that benefit both men and women across various social groups! #GenderWaves

Despite many challenges and roadblocks, regional leaders are showing that barriers to gender equality are NOT insurmountable. These leaders are transforming forests to be equal for all, irrespective of their sex, ethnic background or age. RECOFTC’s new project, WAVES - Weaving Leadership for Gender Equality, will assist these leaders in their journey to makes #GEnderWAVES of change across the sector.

<https://bit.ly/2H6YGZx>

In Lao PDR, an entrepreneur is weaving plans to create sustainable incomes for ethnic communities. How? By trading organic tea that grows in a nearby forest. Leaders throughout the Asia - Pacific have created innovative ways to tackle gender inequality. These approaches will be highlighted and amplified through RECOFTC’s new initiative, #GenderWAVES. Find out more by reading the brochure.

<https://bit.ly/2H6YGZx>

Show your support for #GenderEquality and International #WomensDay on 8 March by creating #GenderWAVES with The Center for People and Forests and the launching of our new program!

<https://bit.ly/2H6YGZx>

Studies have shown that including women, youth and indigenous voices in the natural resource management decision-making process increasing long-term sustainability and enhances livelihoods. So what are we waiting for? #GenderWAVES is mobilizing support for gender leadership in the region, learn more here!

<https://bit.ly/2H6YGZx>

RECOFTC will create #GenderWAVES on 5 March 2019 with the launch of WAVES - Weaving Leadership for Gender Equality. Based on the understanding that landscapes will not be sustainable without gender equality, this initiative will address institutional issues and amplify transformative change. 30 leaders will gather in Bangkok to launch the event. Don’t wait, join the #GenderWAVE and ensure #BalanceforBetter.

<https://bit.ly/2H6YGZx>

*Annex 1: Images for Twitter*

