

Civil Society Programme at the Annual Meeting 2016



EBRD's Strategy for the Promotion of Gender Equality (2016-2020): the role of civil society

Roundtable discussion

Wednesday, 11 May, 14.00 – 15.15
CSO Meeting Room 1, Level 2

The EBRD adopted in December 2015 its first “Strategy for the Promotion of Gender Equality - Making Business Transformative: Creating Opportunities for All” to encourage advancement of equal opportunities for women and men in all its activities, in both public and private sectors. In the strategy, the Bank sets out the challenges women face as entrepreneurs and employees in its region of operations, and pledges to increase support in terms of financing, access to know-how and training, and policy dialogue. The Bank will also increase its work with corporate and municipal clients to support more diverse workforces and enhance their service delivery. The EBRD will look for opportunities to invest in safe transport and water access – sectors where women worldwide are generally more affected and could benefit from such projects, which could reduce their burden or increase their safety.

Civil society played an important role in the drafting of the Gender Strategy: a total of 142 civil society representatives participated in the 7 public consultation meetings held in Almaty, Amman, Ankara, Istanbul, Rabat, Yerevan and London to discuss the contents of the draft Gender Strategy. Participants came from 18 EBRD countries of operations and comprised representatives from a variety of civil society groups including organisations with a focus on gender, social, cultural, environmental and business issues, as well as representatives of the Bank’s clients, businesses, international organisations, and national authorities.

The roundtable discussion will provide an opportunity for the EBRD to present to civil society representatives the contents of the approved Gender Strategy and to look at the role of civil society in its implementation. The discussion will address challenges related to implementation of the Gender Strategy and the role of civil society in contributing to the promotion of equal access to finance, employment and skills, and finance – with a particular focus on the EBRD region.

The event will be open to all participants of the Annual Meeting and Business Forum.

Moderator

- ▶ Michaela Bergman, Chief Counsellor for Social Issues, Head of Gender Team, EBRD

Speakers

- ▶ Gerry Boyle, Senior Policy Adviser on Women’s Economic Empowerment, Care International UK
- ▶ Serena Grant, Director, TrustLaw, Thomson Reuters Foundation
- ▶ Afaf Jabiri, Research Associate, Centre for Gender Studies, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS)
- ▶ Elena Ferreras Carreras, Senior Gender Adviser, Gender Team, EBRD



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Gerry Boyle, Senior Policy Adviser on Women's Economic Empowerment, Care International UK

Gerry Boyle is CARE International UK's Senior Policy Adviser on Women's Economic Empowerment. He has worked extensively with global blue chip organisations on both mainstream commercial projects and on development issues, with a particular focus on financial inclusion and value chains, including being joint author of the recent report on banks and financial inclusion: "Within Reach".

He has previously been Head of Business Relations at Oxfam GB, and before that was a management consultant for 30 years, including being a Consulting Partner at Deloitte and leader of their UK Consumer Business Consulting Team. Gerry has an MA in Law from Oxford University and an MSc in Philosophy and Public Policy from the London School of Economics.

Serena Grant, Director, TrustLaw, Thomson Reuters Foundation

Serena Grant joined the Thomson Reuters Foundation in 2012 and looks after TrustLaw Connect's network of law firms and in-house legal teams, managing projects submitted by non-profit and social entrepreneurs.



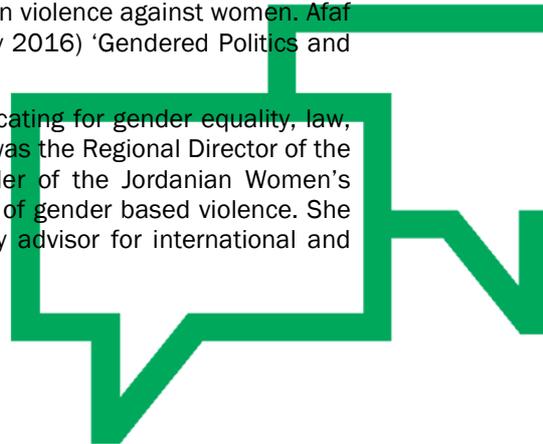
Serena plays an active role in Foundation's annual Trust Women Conference, managing relevant research programs and our lawyers' participation in it. Prior to joining the Foundation, she worked as a lawyer in the London and Sydney offices of Baker & McKenzie, an international law firm, where she specialised in mergers & acquisitions and corporate law. Before this, she worked in the intellectual property group of Hogan Lovells in Tokyo. Serena has worked on a number of pro bono matters throughout her career and has a strong interest in international development. Serena is an Australian qualified solicitor and has a Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Arts (with majors in English Literature and Japanese) from the University of Western Australia, with part of her law degree completed on exchange at the University of British Columbia in Canada.

Afaf Jabiri, Post-Doctoral Fellow, Centre for Gender Studies, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS)

Dr Afaf Jabiri is a Post-Doctoral Fellow at the Centre for Gender Studies of the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) at the University of London. Afaf contributed to the teaching of courses on Gender and Islam and Gender in the Middle East at SOAS as well as at the University of Roehampton and University of Leicester, UK. She is a member of the Harvard Kennedy School's Carr Centre for Human Rights' global Initiative on violence against women. Afaf is the author of the book (forthcoming July 2016) 'Gendered Politics and Law in Jordan'.



For the last 20 years, Afaf has been advocating for gender equality, law, and policy reform in the Middle East. She was the Regional Director of the Karama (Dignity) Network and the Founder of the Jordanian Women's Union Aid Centre and Shelter for survivors of gender based violence. She has also served as a policy and advocacy advisor for international and national NGOs and UN agencies.



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Michaela Bergman, Chief Counsellor for Social Issues, Head of Gender Team, EBRD

Michaela Bergman is a social anthropologist and lawyer, with over 20 years' work experience with multi-lateral, International Financial Institutions, bi-laterals and civil society in over 40 countries, including East and Central Europe, Central, East and South Asia and the Middle East. Her expertise and experience lies in policy and project related activities related to gender, involuntary resettlement, poverty alleviation, protection and empowerment of vulnerable and socially excluded groups, Indigenous Peoples, community development, disability, provision of community based services, support of civil society, human rights and labour laws; particularly in post-conflict countries and transitional economies. Michaela joined EBRD ten years ago. As Chief Counsellor for Social issues she provides support and strategic advice to the

Environment and Sustainability Department, Banking, Office of the Chief Economist, Clients and Human Resources and clients on gender and social issues. Michaela also heads the Gender Team which developed the Bank's First Strategy for the Promotion of Gender Equality.



Elena Ferreras Carreras, Senior Gender Adviser, Gender Team, EBRD

Elena M. Ferreras Carreras joined the EBRD's Gender Team as Senior Gender Adviser in March 2013. She is a sociologist and gender expert with a background on policy dialogue, and projects and programme development. Prior to joining the EBRD she worked for the African Development Bank and the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and Development. She has more than 15 years' experience in the field in different countries of Africa, South East Asia and South America. Her expertise includes gender mainstreaming into operations and policies, masculinities approach, gender-based violence prevention, accountability for gender equality results, and gender and governance. Elena holds a Master's degree in Sociology from the University of Granada, and a Magister in Gender and Development from the Universidad Complutense of Madrid.

