



## WHEC Update

### Briefing of worldwide activity of the Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC)

January 2025; Vol. 20. No. 01

## *Practice & Policy*

### Happy New Year from all of us @ the Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC)

Adolescents are not “older children” or “younger adults.” Therefore, we cannot just assume that what is effective in healthcare provision for older or younger age groups also works for adolescents. IT DOES NOT. Adolescents face specific barriers in accessing quality education in schools and universal health coverage. Health care information and the quality education, which will be helpful to them in becoming a good global citizen is lacking in many parts of the world. This is also the population group that remains overlooked and neglected in nearly every healthcare systems.

There are nearly 1.2 billion adolescents (10 – 19 years old) worldwide. In some countries, adolescents make up as much as a quarter of the population and the number of adolescents is expected to rise through 2050, particularly in low- and middle-income countries, where close to 90% of 10- to 19-year-olds live. As estimated 1.2 million adolescents die each year, largely from preventable causes. Adolescents have benefited less from the improved health outcomes seen over recent decades among younger children, including because of inadequate levels of resourcing. While the health of younger children remains a priority in many countries, deaths in older adolescents are now greater than for 1-to-4-year-olds in a growing number of countries.

At the heart of every health system, the workforce is central to improving health system, the workforce is central to improving health. A wide range of professionals are involved in healthcare for adolescents at the primary and referral levels, and progress towards universal health coverage for adolescents will require renewed attention to their education. Training programs need to be re-oriented from an acute and episodic care model to a chronic and preventive care model. This shift highlights the need for designing competency-based educational programs that emphasize the developmental and contextual aspects of adolescent health, and enhance competencies in consultation, interpersonal communication and interdisciplinary care.

The Women's Health and Education Center's (WHEC's) document, projects and practice bulletins aim to help countries, institutions and healthcare providers develop competency-based education programs in adolescent health and development in both pre-service and in-service education. In addition, it provides guidance on how to assess and improve the structure, content and quality of the adolescent health component of pre-service curricula.

#### **Priority Adolescent and Youth Issues in the Sustainable Development Goals**

**Goals 1 and 2 (Poverty and Hunger)** Adolescent and Youth Issues are disproportionately represented among people living in poverty who are denied access to economic resources.

**Goal 3 (Health and Wellbeing)** A focus on adolescents is crucial for achieving the health goal.

**Goal 4 (Education)** In order to build on the gains made in primary education and ensure a successful transition to secondary education for all, the focus is on the age group of early adolescence (10 – 14 years), where most drop-out occur, particularly for girls.

**Goal 5 (Gender Equality)** A focus on adolescent girls is key to achieving the goals on gender equality.

Join our efforts!

Developing Core Competencies in Adolescent Health & Education

**Rita Luthra, MD**



## Your Questions, Our Reply

What is Women’s Health and Education Center (WHEC) doing to improve Education & Health Sectors for adolescents? Are there any “adolescent projects” to adolescent-responsive health under development?

**WHEC Recommendations for Adolescent Health & Education Services:** To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets, the health, education and other sectors need to normalize attention to adolescents’ needs in all aspects of their work. An “Adolescent Health in All Policies (AHiAP)” approach should be practiced in policy formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Progress in primary and secondary school enrollment calls for renewed attention to school health programs. Investing in school health programs is a priority for intersectoral action on adolescent health and every school should become a health-promoting school.

Improving adolescent health and designing effective and appropriate interventions require adherence to a series of values and principles that encompass:

- Human rights, gender equality, inclusion and recognition of diversity;
- Equality and reaching the most vulnerable adolescents;
- Country leadership, transparency, and accountability;
- Multi-sectoral approaches and meaningful partnerships;
- Alignment with evidence-informed practices;
- Adolescents’ leadership, voice, and agency, including their safety and protection [“do no harm”].

These principles are embedded in with the overall efforts of WHEC’s projects and practice bulletins. This guidance to prioritize adolescents health goes beyond a “disease-centric” model and emphasizes adolescents’ human rights and their positive development – enabling them to not only survive, but also to thrive in and transform their communities across their life course.

**Economic growth, Employment and Decent Work** – While adolescent should ideally remain in school through secondary level, the reality is that many are taking up economic activities early in life, often unsafe and at low wages. It is also estimated the majority of young workers in the age group 15 – 17 are engaged in some form of hazardous work which can translate into work-related illness and injury, as well as wide form of abuse. In general, youth in developing countries are often trapped in working poverty due to the irregularity of work and lack of formal employment and social protection. On the other hand, young people’s access to productive, formal employment opportunities that provide a decent wages, relative security and good working conditions are critical components for countries to reap the demographic divide. Adolescents also face multiple discrimination due to their age as it intersects with sex, disability, race, ethnicity, and other status. For many adolescents, sexual and reproductive health services are inaccessible due to legal and policy barriers, in addition to a lack of knowledge and the attitudes of service providers. Young people are also overrepresented among the world’s migrants and are often vulnerable to exploitation and abuse in countries of origin, transit and destination.

The large numbers of adolescents and youth, and particularly the networks, organizations, and movements led by young people have demonstrated their ability to bring about political and social change. Young people today can be the “Sustainable Development Generation” that is the driving force for implementing this ambitious agenda. As the generation that has the biggest stake in the future, they will also be at the forefront of holding governments accountable for implementing this agenda.

Join our efforts!

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# COMMISSION for SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

United Nations Headquarters, New York

EVERYONE  
INCLUDED



#CSocD #SDGs #GlobalGoals WEBSITE: [social.un.org/csocd](https://social.un.org/csocd)

## WHEC @ CSocD63

The 63<sup>rd</sup> session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD63) will take place from 10 to 14 February 2025, in Conference Room 4 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

**Priority Theme:** <https://social.desa.un.org/csocd/63rd-session>

Strengthening solidarity, social inclusion and social cohesion to accelerate the delivery of the commitments of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development as well as the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

### Written Statement of Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC) Published by CSocD63

- UN Document: E/CN.5/2025/NGO/1  
Title: **Strategies for Higher Education for All: An International Initiative**  
<http://www.womenshealthsection.com/content/n2433389.pdf>

### Virtual Side Event; Sponsored by WHEC

#### Creating A World Where Everyone Thrives through Education and Health

Thursday 13 February 2025; 10 am to 11:15 am (EST, New York Time)

#### Objectives:

1. Resettlement Opportunities should be complemented by labor migration, family reunion, scholarships and other migration avenues.
2. The New York Declaration provides for the negotiation of a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration, adopted in 2018 will enhance coordination on international migration and protection of migrants.
3. Foster societies where everyone is included. Both social justice and digital transformation can improve access to essential services for vulnerable communities, creating opportunities for everyone.
4. Expanding UNESCO Chair Program. Promoting global collaboration. Fostering Social Justice is a collective responsibility.
5. Foster inclusive digital transformation. Digital technologies including artificial intelligence (AI) and Internet of Things have the potential to eradicate poverty and reduce inequalities.

<http://www.womenshealthsection.com/content/whec/csocd.php3>

For more information; please visit Concept Note and Flyer



## United Nations at a Glance

**Qatar became UN Member State on 21 September 1971**



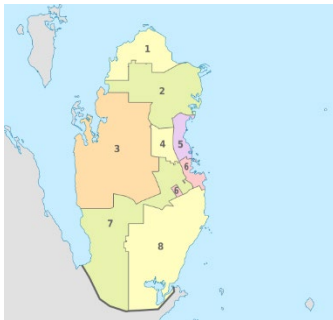
**Qatar**, officially known as the **State of Qatar**, is a country in West Asia. It occupies the Qatar Peninsula on the northeastern coast of the Arabian Peninsula in the Middle East; it shares its sole land border with Saudi Arabia to the south, with the rest of its territory surrounded by the Persian Gulf. The Gulf of Bahrain, and inlet of the Persian Gulf, separates Qatar from nearby Bahrain. Capital: Doha; Official Language:

Arabic; Common Language: English; Religion: 66% Islam;

15% Hinduism, 14% Christianity; Legislation: Consultative Assembly; Area: 11,581 km<sup>2</sup> (4,471 sq. mi); Currency: Qatari riyal; Population (2020 estimate): 2,795,484.

Qatar has been ruled as a hereditary monarchy by the House of Thani since Mohammed bin Thani signed a treaty with Britain in 1868 that recognized its separate status. Following Ottoman rule, Qatar became a British protectorate in 1916, and gain independence in 1971. The current emir is Tamin bin Hamad Al Thani, who holds nearly holds all executive and legislative authority under the Constitution of Qatar. In 21<sup>st</sup> century, Qatar emerged as middle power in the Arab world through its resource-wealth, as well as its global expanding media group, Al Jazeera Media Network, and reportedly supporting several rebel groups financially during the Arab Spring.

Qatar is a dialogue partner of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization. Qatar's human rights record has been regarded by academics and NGOs as being generally poor, with restrictions on civil liberties such as freedoms of association, expression and the press, as well as its treatment of thousands of migrant workers amounting to forced labor for projects in the country.



### Eight Municipalities of Qatar

Qatar's economy and status as a regional power rapidly grew in 2000s. According to the UN, the nation's economic growth, measured by GDP, was the fastest in the world during the decade. In 2003, Qatar served as the US Central Command headquarters and one of the main launching sites of the invasion of Iraq. Qatar is officially a semi-constitutional monarchy, but the wide powers retained by the monarchy have it still bordering an absolute monarchy, ruled by the Al Thani family. Stoning is a legal punishment in Qatar, and apostasy and homosexuality are crimes punishable by the death penalty; however, the penalty has not been carried out for either crime.

Blasphemy can result in up to seven years in prison, while proselytizing can incur a 10-year sentence.

According to the International Labor Organization (ILO), a minimum wage entered into force for any worker of all nationalities and in all sectors in Qatar on 20 March 2021. The country enfranchised women at the same time as men in connection with the 1999 elections for a Central Municipal Council. These elections – the first-ever in Qatar – were intentionally held on 8 March 1999, International Women's Day.

In 2012, Qatar retained its title of richest country in the world (according to per capita income) for the third time in a row, having first overtaken Luxembourg in 2010. Launched in 2006 as part of an initiative of the quasi-government Qatar Foundation, the Qatar National Research Fund was created with the intent of securing public funds for scientific research within the country. The fund functions as a means for Qatar to diversify its economy from a primarily oil and gas-based one to a knowledge-based economy.

Details: <https://sdgs.un.org/statements/qatar-16274>

# Collaboration with World Health Organization (WHO)

## WHO | Qatar



### Health Situation

Qatar is considered one of the world's richest on a per capita level. The population of the country has increased by 80% in the past 25 years, reaching 2.8 million in 2020. The population is relatively young: 12.5% of the population is 0-14; 13.4% of the population 15-24; 69.9% of the population 25-54. The burden of disease attributable to non-communicable diseases (NCDs) is estimated to cause 66% of all deaths. Human workforce density increased between 2015 to 2020 for physicians from 2.6 to 7.8 per 1,000 people, and for nurses and midwives from 6,002 to 11.8 per 1,000 people, mostly expatriates.

Qatar had launched its new National Development Strategy 2018-2022, which in view of the drop in oil prices and its impact on state revenues, and the blockade, is focusing on better use of resources, strengthening the private sector, developing a knowledge-based economy and maintain the development of high quality educated Qatari workforce. The recent launch of the National Strategy 2 complements the work done in the previous one and is built around the triple aim philosophy: better health, better care and better value.



### Health Policies and Systems

Qatari healthcare governance is exercised through the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH). The MoPH has a comprehensive range of powers for the administration and regulation of the healthcare system. It supervises the two government-owned organizations that are the country's principal healthcare providers: Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) and Primary Healthcare Centers Corporation (PHCC). The MoPH also supervises all private healthcare institutions, including hospitals, clinics, pharmacies, laboratories and auxiliary medical practices. The Qatar National Health System is already providing universal coverage to all permanent and temporary residents through different mechanisms funded by the public budget or health insurance. This approach is emphasized and stressed in the NHS 2. The Qatar NHS 2 also aims to strengthen the integrated healthcare system which delivers high standards of service delivery in public and private institutions. Health in All Policies is a key component of the NHS 2, and a number of partnerships have been established with other sectors and institutions to pursue this approach.

### Cooperation for Health

WHO does not have an office in Qatar. As a high-income country, Qatar does not receive extensive support from the UN System. There is no UNDAF for Qatar. Yet, there is a high willingness to collaborate with WHO and to ensure that WHO developed strategies and guidelines are incorporated into MoPH work. In the field of health, Qatar collaborates with well-established universities and higher education institutions, as well as hosting numerous international conferences. Qatar established trust fund with WHO in 2017 for implementing the National Public Health Strategy: 270,000 USD. Humanitarian funding in 2018 is so far 5 million USD for Iraq, Syria, Lebanon and Yemen. In 2017, the humanitarian funding was 100 million USD, with 40 million USD to OCHA. In the Voluntary National Report to the High-Level Political Forum (ECOSOC 2017) Qatar reported that in 2014, their external assistance was worth 7.7 billion QAR (equivalent to 2 billion USD)

Details: <https://www.who.int/countries/qat/>



### Qatar is UNESCO Member Since 1972



#### Al Zubarah Archaeological Site

The walled coastal town of Al Zubarah in the Persian Gulf flourished as a pearling and trading center for a short period of some fifty years in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Founded by Utub merchants from Kuwait, its prosperity related to its involvement in trade of high value commodities, most notably the export of pearls. At the height of its prosperity, Al Zubarah had trading links with the Indian Ocean, Arabia and Western Asia. Al Zubarah was one of a long line of prosperous, fortified trading towns around the coast in what is now Qatar, and in other parts of the Persian Gulf, which developed from the early Islamic period, around the 9<sup>th</sup> century AD, onwards and established symbiotic relationship with inland settlements. Individually these trading towns probably competed with each other over the many centuries during which the India Ocean trade was plied.

Al Zubarah was mostly destroyed in 1811 and finally abandoned in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, after which its remaining rubble stone and mortar buildings collapsed and were gradually covered by a protective lay of sand blown from the desert. A small part of the town was excavated. The property consist of the remains of the town, with its palaces, mosques, streets, courtyard houses, and fisherman's huts, its harbor and double defensive walls, and on its land-side, of a canal, tow screening walls, and cemeteries.



#### The 2023 International Day of Girls and Women in Science in Qatar

Qatar University in cooperation with UNESCO Doha and the Qatar National Commission for Education, Sciences and Culture, organized the event that brings together the strategies to empower women in the State of Qatar's digital transformation, which has made great strides in this field and has become one of the world's most advanced countries in digitalization and the use of modern technology. "Success Stories Towards Society 5.0" celebrating the achievements and recognizing the critical role that women and girls play in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). It also encouraged an interest in women and girls to participate in scientific disciplines. It promoted attention to the career opportunities and to advance gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

Harnessing all talent possible is crucial for achieving some of the greatest challenges of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, from improving health to combating climate change. Diversity in research expands the pool of talents, brings in fresh perspectives and more creativity. Events like these is a reminder that the participation of women and girls in sciences should be strengthened. Since 2015, the International Day of Women and Girls in Science has aimed at raising awareness on the issue and recognizing the role that women and girls play in science and technology communities and that their participation should be strengthen as drivers to address major global challenges and achieve all the sustainable development goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda.

Details: <https://www.unesco.org/en/countries/qa>

# Bulletin Board

## Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

*Adopted at the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit on 25 September 2015*

..... *A Call for action to Change our world Continued*

53. The future of humanity and of our planet lies in our hands. It lies also in the hands of today's younger generation who will pass the torch to future generations. We have mapped the road to sustainable development; it will be for all of us to ensure that the journey is successful and its gains irreversible.

### **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets**

54. Following an inclusive process of intergovernmental negotiations, and based on the Proposal of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, which includes a chapeau contextualizing the latter, the following are the Goals and targets which we have agreed.

55. The SDGs and targets are integrated and indivisible, global in nature and universally applicable, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities. Targets are defined as aspirational and global, with each government setting its own national targets guided by the global level of ambition but taking into account national circumstances. Each government will also decide how these aspirational and global targets should be incorporated in national planning processes, policies and strategies. It is important to recognize the link between sustainable development and other relevant ongoing processes in the economic, social and environmental fields.

56. In deciding upon these Goals and targets, we recognize that each country faces specific challenges to achieve sustainable development, and we underscore the specific challenges to achieve sustainable development, and we underscore the specific challenges facing the most vulnerable countries, and in particular, African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as the specific challenges facing the middle-income countries. Countries in situations of conflict also need special attention.

57. We recognize that baseline data for several of the largest remain unavailable, and we call for increased support for strengthening data collection and capacity building in Member States, to develop national and global baselines where they do not yet exist. We commit to addressing this gap in data collection and capacity building so as to better inform the measurement of progress, in particular of those targets below which do not have clear numerical targets.

58. We encourage ongoing efforts by states in other for a to address key issues which pose potential challenges to the implementation of our Agenda; and its implementation would support, and be without prejudice to, those other processes and the decisions taken therein.

59. We recognize that there are different approaches, visions, models and tools available to each country, in accordance with its national circumstances and priorities, to achieve sustainable development; and we reaffirm that planet Earth and its ecosystems are our common home and that "Mother Earth" is a common expression in a number of countries and regions.

*To be Continued.....*



## Collaboration with UN University (UNU)

*UNU-WIDER (World Institute for Development Economics Research)*

*Expert Series on Health Economics*

### **The Political Economy of the Peace Process in a Changing Middle East**

In the Middle East, the interaction between economic and political factors, issues and processes has always been strong. The fact that this region became a fundamentally important source of oil, brought it into the most direct and strategic interests of the Western world. As in centuries past, the geo-strategic significance of the Middle East have made the region a source of confrontation. As in centuries past, the geo-strategic significance of the Middle East have made the region a source of confrontation between the great powers. The systemic competition played a key role in transforming the Middle East into one of the areas of East-West confrontation during the cold war years. Poverty and underdevelopment, the unequal distribution of wealth and income between and within the countries have been responsible for a number of conflicts in the region. The access to water, land, and the influence of their use became also crucially important political and economic issues.

The peace process, in the Middle East, between Israel and the Arab countries is a new example to specific regional character of the interactions between politics and economics. The first post-cold war regional conflict, the Gulf War had territorial, ideological and distributive issues involved. It was also a demonstration of the realignment of power after the disappearance of the bipolar cold war confrontation. It has also been indicated that the role of the external actors has become indispensable in initiating, sustaining and guaranteeing peace. It is the future of the economic and social development in the region which, in the final analysis, will influence the sustainability and the outcome of the process.

#### **Efforts made – Efforts needed**

The challenges imposed by the peace process and the changing Middle East on UN organizations and its agencies as well as other international and regional organizations are tremendous and crucial. The question in a prospective sense is very critical, especially from a longer-term perspective. These organizations, as far as circumstances allowed, met the challenges and responded in a functional and operational ways. The future requires some kind of resilience not only in both functional and operational activities but also extending more flexibility towards the institutional process. Prefeasibility studies could put the landmarks related to this concern to all organizations at all levels in an interrelated, cooperated, and harmonized way.

Infrastructure development is the single most important factor in the creation of an economic environment conducive to the development of the network. Water supply, power supply, roads, and navigation lines should be open to traffic, telecommunications to business, and land levelling for national use and building. As infrastructure development programme on an even larger scale could be initiated focusing on more efficient infrastructure for promoting such network, especially, seaports, airports, railways, roads, communications, electricity, and water supply.

Publisher: UNU-WIDER; Author: Moustafa A. Moustafa; Sponsors: UNU World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU/WIDER) was established by the United Nations University as its first research and training center and started work in Helsinki, Finland, in 1985. The principal purpose of the Institute is policy-oriented research on the main strategic issues of development and international cooperation, as well as on the interaction between domestic and global changes. Its work is carried out by staff researchers and visiting scholars in Helsinki and through networks of collaborating institutions and scholars around the world.

*Details of the paper can be accessed from the link of UNU-WIDER on CME Page*

<http://www.womenshealthsection.com/content/cme/>



## Two Articles of Highest Impact, December 2024

*Editors' Choice – Journal Club Discussions*

*Fully open-access with no article-processing charges*

*Our friendship has no boundaries. We welcome your contributions.*

1. **Human Trafficking and Exploitation;**

<http://www.womenshealthsection.com/content/vaw/vaw014.php3>

WHEC Publications. Funding: WHEC Global Initiatives are funded by a grant from an anonymous donor. Join us at WHEC Global Health Line for discussion and contributions.

2. **Adolescent Health Care;** <http://www.womenshealthsection.com/content/gyn/gyn022.php3>

WHEC Publications. Funding: WHEC Global Initiatives are funded by a grant from an anonymous donor. Join us at WHEC Global Health Line for discussion and contributions.

### *Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health (World Health Organization) PMNCH Member*

*Worldwide service is provided by the WHEC Global Health Line*



### **From Editor's Desk**

*WHEC Projects under Development*

## **My Body, My Life, My World: Global Strategy for Empowering Child Brides**



**Child Marriage** is a human right violation. Despite laws against it, the practice remains widespread: Globally, one in five girls is formally married or in an informal union, before reaching age 18. In the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), that number almost doubles – 36% of girls are married before age 18, and 10% of girls are married before age 15.

Child marriage threatens girls' lives and health, and it limits their future prospects. Girls pressed into child marriage often become pregnant while still adolescents, increasing the risk of complications in

pregnancy or childbirth. These complications are the leading cause of death among older adolescent girls.

**Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC)** promotes policies, programs and legislation designed to end child marriage. WHEC supports evidence-based, girl-centered investments that empower girls with the information, skills and services they need to be healthy, educated and safe, helping them make a successful transition to adulthood. WHEC also works to support the needs of married girls particularly in family planning and maternal health.

Harmful social norms in the area mean that girls from poorer families are often denied the basic right to education, and many parents from disadvantaged backgrounds marry off young daughters in order to help relieve financial burdens.

Child brides have less access to sexual and reproductive information and services, increasing their risks of unintended pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV. Many are unable to continue

their education, blunting their earning power in their adult lives , and girls who get married early can be under pressure to give birth while they are still children – which puts both mother and baby’s lives at greater risk and is the leading cause of death globally among teenage girls.

### **Ending Child Marriage: A Call for Global Action**

<http://www.womenshealthsection.com/content/health/health025.php3>

### **Dreams for a better tomorrow**

My Body, My Life, My World puts young people at the center of WHEC’s work, recognizing their right to make informed choices about their own bodies, their own lives and world they live in. This initiative embraces all adolescents (aged 10 to 19) and youth (15 to 24) celebrating their rich diversity. It recognizes the heterogeneity of their needs and desires, and is fully committed to ending the inequalities many still face. It accounts for gender, sexual orientation and ability status, and affirms sexuality as a positive dimensions of personality. It also considers other intersections such as ethnicity, social status and religion.

### **WHEC’s Strategy with its partners**

It mobilizes to step up its work with and for young people; and focuses on these five priorities for action:

1. Engagement, Participation and Advocacy. WHEC backs meaningful and inclusive youth participation and empowerment, intergenerational platforms and the cultivation of leadership skills.
2. Informed and Healthy Foundations. WHEC increases access to sexual and reproductive health and rights, and address inequalities so adolescents and youth can make informed choices about their bodies and plan their lives.
3. Economic Empowerment through Decent Work. WHEC helps young people develop soft skills and have a better chance of decent and gainful employment.
4. Youth and Human Rights. WHEC advocates for the rights of all adolescents and youth everywhere.
5. Peace and Resilience. WHEC stands behind adolescents and youth as active participants in peacebuilding processes and humanitarian action.

These actions are based on evidence:

1. Promotes investments in interventions that are effective and have the potential for scale, based on a thorough understanding of the global and local evidence.
2. Uses data to identify geographic hotspots of negative outcomes that require accelerated efforts (prevalence and burden).
3. Uses data and evidence to highlight the inter-relationships among various interventions for adolescents and youth and to encourage and support cross-sectoral collaboration to achieve common goals.
4. Generates evidence. Ensures the collection of data disaggregated by age, sex, disability and other relevant sociodemographic factors.
5. Builds capacity for evidence generation and use.

### **Let us not leave anyone behind**

Our initiatives respect young people as rights holder and recognizes that young people are not the same and that their needs change. It adopts intersectional approach; identifies and reaches marginalized adolescents and youth, including LGBTQ+ youth, young people living in poverty, young people with disabilities and young people living with HIV. WHEC understands that formal youth participation mechanisms, such as National Youth Councils, often may only represent the most privileged fraction of the youth population and always strives to do no harm.

Join the movement!



## In The News

### Middle East: Positive Steps Needed to Restore Calm



#### Peace & Security

“To save succeeding generations from the scourge of war” are among the first very words of the UN Charter (in its Preamble), and those words were the main motivation for creating the United Nations, whose founders had lived through the devastation of two world wars by 1945. Since the UN’s creation on 24 October 1945 (the date its Charter came into

force), the United Nations has often been called upon to prevent disputes from escalating into war, or to help restore peace following the outbreak of armed conflict, and to promote lasting peace in societies emerging from wars. When a dispute leads to fighting, the Council’s first concern is to end it as soon as possible. On many occasions, the Council has issued ceasefire directives, which have helped to prevent major hostilities. It also deploys UN peacekeeping operations to reduce tension in troubled areas, keep opposing forces apart, and create conditions for sustainable peace after settlements have been reached. The Council may decide on enforcement measures, economic sanctions (such as trade embargoes) or collective military action.

### Can The UN Stop A War?

According to the Charter, the General Assembly can make recommendations on the general principles of cooperation for maintain international peace and security, including disarmament , and for peaceful settlement of any situation that might impair friendly relations among nations. The General Assembly may also discuss any question relating to international peace and security and make recommendations if the security council is not currently discussing the issue. Watch the video below.

<https://youtu.be/s8HKpn4IEHg>

### Why Do Peace Agreements Fail?

Early warning is an essential component of prevention, and the United Nations carefully monitors developments around the world to detect threats to international peace and security, thereby enabling the Security Council and the Secretary General to carry out prevention action. Envoys and special representatives of the Secretary General are engaged in mediation and preventive diplomacy throughout the world. In some trouble spots, the mere presence of a skilled envoy can prevent the escalation of tension. These envoys often cooperate with regional organizations.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sPRMa2OFybA>

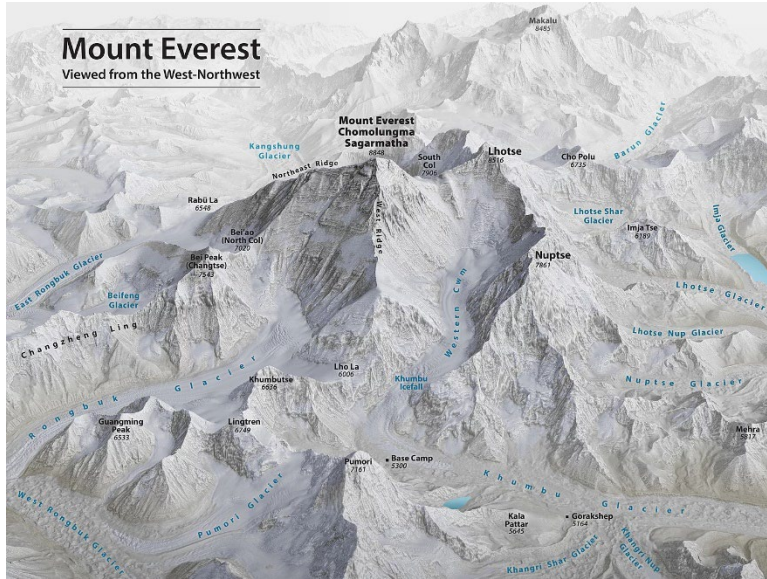
Today’s conflicts are less numerous but deeply rooted. Conflicts today are also increasingly intensive, involving determined armed groups with access to sophisticated armaments and techniques. The nature of conflict has also changed over the years. Peacebuilding involves action by a wide array of organizations of the UN system, including the World Bank, regional economic commissions, NGOs and local citizens’ groups.

Join our efforts for peace, dignity and equality on this healthy planet

# Art & Science

Art that touches our soul

## Mount Everest



**Mount Everest** is Earth's highest mountain above sea level. Located in the Himalayas along the China-Nepal Border. Its summit, at 8,848.86 m (29,031.7 ft) elevation, was first reached on 29 May 1953 by Tenzing Norgay Edmund Hillary. This map, which uses data from the US National Snow and Ice Data Center, is a 3D rendering of Mount Everest and its surrounding terrain. Features portrayed on the map include the Khumbu Icefall, the South Base Camp (5,300 m), Nuptse (7,861 m) and Lhotse (8,516 m).

In 1849, the British survey wanted to preserve local names if possible, Mr.

Andrew Waugh, the British Surveyor General of India argued that he could not find any commonly used local name, as his search for a local name was hampered by Nepal's and Tibet's exclusion of foreigners. He decided that Peak XV should be named after British Surveyor **Sir George Everest**, his predecessor as Surveyor General of India. In 1865, the Royal Geographical Society officially adopted Mount Everest as the name of the highest mountain in the world.

### 3D Rendering of Mount Everest

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*Monthly newsletter of WHEC designed to keep you informed on  
The latest UN and NGO activity*

<http://www.WomensHealthSection.com>

