



## Press Release

**Bonn, 4<sup>th</sup> March 2016**

### **International Women's Day Centenary 2016: "Planet 50-50 by 2030: Step It Up for Gender Equality"**

International Women's Day (IWD) is celebrated on 8<sup>th</sup> of March every year. The 2016 theme for International Women's Day is **"Planet 50-50 by 2030: Step It Up for Gender Equality"**.

The United Nations observance on 8<sup>th</sup> March will highlight the acceleration of the 2030 Agenda and build momentum for the effective implementation of the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The IFHE recognises the importance of Sustainable Development Goal 5 Gender Equality and appreciates the integration of gender equality issues evident in many of the other SDGs, such as the gender dimensions of poverty, health, water and sanitation, food security and consumption.

For many years, the IFHE has advocated for women and girls. The IFHE highlights the significance of women's and girl's everyday life education and its role in sustainable human development.

Home Economics is about the relationship between the family members, the role of men and women related to the household tasks, unpaid and paid work as well as the quality of life for all household members. Gender equality and empowerment starts at home and is based on an equal partnership from men and women.

Women need to be empowered through access to basic education. They are crucial for a sustainable development of all family members, the household, communities and the economy.



Cultural, political and socioeconomic circumstances influence the living conditions and opportunities available for women and girls.

The IFHE seeks to end all forms of violence against women and girls, thus allowing women to live in safety and reach their full potential.

To reach gender equality by 2030 the IFHE calls for:

- Awareness of the significant role and high productive potential of women as key resources for reaching sustainable development.
- Basic and higher education for all girls and women of the world to improve their everyday life management skills for the benefit of the household members and sustainable development.
- Partnerships between women and men to maximise development opportunities for the whole community.
- Realisation of gender equality to improve women's access to capital, resources, land, technology, information, technical assistance and training.
- Improved empowerment of women as key actors for social, economic and sustainable development.
- Acknowledgement of the importance of education in Home Economics subjects to improve food security, eradicate poverty, and make progress in health and well-being.