

Policy Forum on Advancing City Agenda on Care and Public–Private Partnerships for Transforming Care Systems

14:15 PM – 17:30 PM, Fri 18 September 2026 | Brahms Hall, 19F, Hotel President, Seoul, Republic of Korea

#TransformCare
Investment Initiative Asia-Pacific



Objectives

- Promoting cross-country sharing and collaboration among governments, municipal stakeholders, civil society, and the private sector to jointly advance the Caring City approach and foster public–private partnerships for transforming care systems.
- Strengthening partnerships among countries and with the Republic of Korea to advance innovative solutions that transform care systems across the region.

Participants

About 80 participants will take part in the convening, including

- **Representatives from the Republic of Korea**, including government institutions, civil society organizations (CSOs), international organizations, United Nations agencies, academia, research institutions, and private sector actors engaged in gender equality, care systems, and urban development.
- **Participants attending the regional workshop Transforming Care Systems for Women's Economic Empowerment on 17 and 18 September 2026** from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, the Republic of Korea, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Viet Nam. Participants will include representatives from national governments (particularly ministries responsible for gender equality and urban planning), local governments and municipalities, CSOs, private sector actors and care enterprises, as well as UN Women country and regional offices.

Agenda

13:45-14:15	Participants Registration
14:15-14:40	Opening Session Opening Remarks • Yun-Jeong Hwang, Director, UN Women Knowledge and Partnerships Centre • Representative from CityNet Congratulatory Remarks • Vice Minister, Ministry of Gender Equality and Family, the Republic of Korea (TBC)
14:40-14:45	Agenda Introduction
14:45-14:55	Group Photo

14:55-15:15	Keynote Speech: Korea as a Regional Leader in Transforming Care Systems: Successes, Challenges, and Future Directions Led by Director-General for Family Policy from Ministry of Gender Equality and Family, the Republic of Korea
15:15-15:35	Looking Ahead: Lessons and Opportunities on Transforming Care Systems to Advance Women's Economic Empowerment in Asia <i>Reflection by a participant of the Regional Workshop on Transforming Care Systems to Advance Women's Economic Empowerment</i>
15:35-16:25	Session 1: Unlocking Real City Adventures in the Caring City Objectives: <i>This session advances the discussion on the caring city approach by presenting real-world urban experiences that highlight policies fostering the transformation of care systems. It will support the generation of actionable insights to inform future care delivery models, guided by data-driven analysis and gender-responsive principles.</i> Panel discussion - moderated by Chris Di Gennaro, Senior Program Officer, CityNet Secretariat - Representative from United Cities and Local Governments (TBC) - Representative from Ministry of Gender Equality and Family, the Republic of Korea (TBC) - Councilor Charm Ferrer, Co-Author of Quezon City's Caring City Ordinance, Quezon City Government, Philippines - Samikshya Niraula, Deputy Chief, Social Development Department, Kathmandu Metropolitan Government, Nepal - Mariana Ortiz, Director of Care, Government of Guadalajara, Mexico
16:25-16:35	Coffee break
16:35-17:25	Session 2: Public–Private Partnerships for Care Service Provision: Showcasing Innovative Models to Implement and Finance Care in Asia Objectives: <i>This session will share innovative financing mechanisms—including gender-responsive taxonomies, municipal financing frameworks, and catalytic blended models—to expand fiscal space for care. It will explore strategies to mobilize private capital and social investment, while complementing public funds through practical applications in care service provision.</i> Moderated by Ahjung Lee, External Relations Specialist, UN Women Knowledge and Partnership Centre - Speaker 1: Yoonhee Hong, Chairperson of MUUI - Speaker 2: Poulomi Bhattacharya, Founder and CEO, SilverGenie, India - Speaker 3: Ms. Hyo-Jeong Lee, Director, Seoul Foundation of Women and Family - Speaker 4: Mr. Changmin Jeon, CEO of Hubriz
17:25-17:30	Closing by Director, UN Women Knowledge and Partnerships Centre



About UN Women

UN Women exists to advance women's rights, gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.

As the lead UN entity on gender equality and secretariat of the UN Commission on the Status of Women, we shift laws, institutions, social behaviours and services to close the gender gap and build an equal world for all women and girls. Our partnerships with governments, women's movements and the private sector coupled with our coordination of the broader United Nations translate progress into lasting changes. We make strides forward for women and girls in four areas: leadership, economic empowerment, freedom from violence, and women, peace and security as well as humanitarian action.

UN Women keeps the rights of women and girls at the centre of global progress – always, everywhere. Because gender equality is not just what we do. It is who we are.

[Notes]

1. [ESCAP & UN Women \(2024\). Charting new paths for gender equality and empowerment: Asia-Pacific regional report on Beijing+30 review.](#)
2. [ILO \(2024\): Asia-Pacific Employment and Social Outlook 2024: Promoting decent work and social justice to manage ageing societies.](#)
3. Based on ILOSTAT available data accessed as of 06 May 2026.
4. [UN Women \(2025\). Caring for the Future: Gender-Responsive Strategies for Ageing Societies.](#)
5. [ADB \(2024\): Ageing Well in Asia: Asian Development Policy Report 2024.](#)
6. [WEF \(2024\): The Future of the Care Economy.](#)
7. [UN Women 2025, State of Transforming Care Systems in Asia-Pacific: Report of the 2024 Asia-Pacific Care Forum" Calls for Action to Advance Women's Economic Empowerment Across the Region.](#)

