



# DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



Investing in rural people



World Food  
Programme

## OPENING CEREMONY 2021

November 25th, 2021 14:00 - 15:30 CEST

### International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.

“Orange the World: End Violence against Women NOW”

Register to attend [HERE](#).

Interpretation provided to Spanish, French and Arabic.

#### Agenda

- **Moderator:** Francesca Caferri, *Vice Editor of World Affairs, La Repubblica*
- **Welcoming remarks:** Amir Abdulla, *Deputy Executive Director of WFP*
- **Opening address:** Guoqi Wu, *Associate Vice-President of IFAD*
- **Keynote address:** Marcel Beukeboom, *Permanent Representative of the Netherlands*
- **Panel discussion:**
  - Yalda Royan, *Gender & GBV Specialist, Afghanistan*
  - Edith Bastidas, *Indigenous Women's Network for Biodiversity, Colombia*
  - Ghida Anani, *Director ABAAD Center for Gender Equality, Lebanon*
- **Closing remarks:** Helena Semedo, *Deputy Director-General of FAO*

Time	Session	Speaker
14:05	<b>Welcome remarks</b>	Amir Abdulla, <i>WFP</i>
14:15	<b>Opening address</b>	Guoqi Wu, <i>IFAD</i>
14:22	<b>Keynote address</b>	Marcel Beukeboom, <i>Netherlands</i>
14:30	<b>Panel discussion</b>	Gender experts in COVID, conflict and climate change
15:00	<b>Q &amp; A</b>	Moderator + panellists
15:22	<b>Closing remarks</b>	Helena Semedo, <i>FAO</i>

## Biographies

- Francesca Caferrì** is the vice-editor at the World Affairs section of La Repubblica, the main Italian daily newspaper. In over 15 years of work, she has provided extensive international news coverage, specializing in development issues and major international events, with an emphasis on gender and the Middle East. During the last years she has reported from Lebanon, Pakistan, Iraq, Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Morocco, Qatar, and Yemen and Nigeria among other locations.

During her career she has been awarded with the highest prizes for Italian journalists: *Saint Vincent journalism prize* (2005); *Colomba d'oro per la pace* (2012) for her 10 years of reporting dialogue between different civilizations, the Italian literary award "Premio Fregene" and the international "Mediterranean journalism award" for her book "*Paradise under the feet of women: women and the future of the Muslim world*" (Mondadori 2012).

- Yalda Royan** is a senior women's rights activist with 16 years of work experience in senior advisory and management positions with different local and international non-government organizations. She is one of the few Afghan women's rights activists who holds a master's degree in gender and women's studies from Kabul University.

Her professional background includes expertise in designing and leading gender initiatives, women's empowerment and equality, with specific expertise in women's rights, gender and civil society, advocacy, women's political participation, gender mainstreaming, gender-based violence, conflict resolution and peace & security.

- **Edith Bastidas** is an indigenous woman from the Pueblo de los Pastos in southern Colombia. She is a lawyer specialized in Constitutional and Parliamentary Law and has supported the promotion and legal defense of the rights of indigenous peoples. She has been part of the collective authority in her community.

For many years she has monitored at the local, national and international levels policies related to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the rights of indigenous peoples, as well as climate change, the right to health, protection of indigenous territories, the environment and natural resources as well as traditional knowledge, especially in relation to the and rights and participation of indigenous women. She is the focal point in Colombia for the Indigenous Women's Network on Biodiversity in Latin America and the Caribbean.

- **Ghida Anani** is the Founder & Director of ABAAD – Resource Centre for Gender Equality, a leading organization in the Middle East advocating for gender equality, women's rights and the political participation of women.

As an expert in GBV and Child Protection, Ghida has published a number of studies, articles, training kits and community educational materials on GBV & Child Sexual Abuse in Lebanon and the MENA region. She is putting in place the infrastructure for a sustainable system of protection against gender-based violence engaging men, parliamentarians, ministries, and religious leaders as stakeholders. She has led a number of public opinion campaigns, notably the #Undress522 which resulted in a historical parliamentary vote, repealing Article 522 – the infamous “rape-marriage” law - from the Lebanese Penal Code. In 2019, the campaign received the first prize “UN SDG Action Award” for the most impactful campaign globally.