In order to meet the needs of those we serve, we need to ensure we leave no person, or group of people, behind. It is our priority as the UN’s implementer of infrastructure that we meet the needs of men, women, boys, girls, and disadvantaged groups so that all groups benefit equally from infrastructure’s development gains.

Grete Faremo, UNOPS Executive Director

Infrastructure and social services tend to reach rural women and girls last, yet are resources with the potential to vastly improve lives and livelihoods for the most marginalized. Investments in infrastructure are vital, so that rural women and girls don't have to walk miles for their clean drinking water and safe sanitation facilities, so their days aren't spent in household care and they can earn a better living, and so that whole families and communities can benefit from a higher quality of life and opportunity.”

Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, UN Women Executive Director

Infrastructure is a key driver to address people's needs and improve living conditions. We have witnessed first-hand how the underrepresentation of women in the development of infrastructure systems has subsequently undermined regional potential and posed stark challenges for women and girls in rural areas to access safety, opportunities and equal rights.

This event will also mark the launch of the "I Know Gender How to Series Module 3: Mainstreaming Gender Equality in Infrastructure", developed in joint collaboration by UNOPS and UN Women Training Centre. Together with general recognition that further awareness-raising and knowledge enhancement training is needed to strengthen capacity and results in this area, this learning module aims to support improved access to and use of infrastructure by women, girls and minority groups, and to address gender parity challenges in the sector more generally. This side event will have a resounding impact because the Commission on the Status of Women 63 in 2019 will focus on sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

RSVP by 10 March 2018: https://unopscsw.typeform.com/to/d17YTN
If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Elle Wang: ellew@unops.org

NB: Interpretation facilities are not available at the venue, therefore the event will be held in English only.