



The Forum searched to gather examples of good practices in challenging the stagnant discriminations and inequalities within societies and build concrete recommendations for action at various levels.

It relied on the work undertaken by UNESCO through its Social and Human Sciences Sector on the Transforming MEN'talities initiative, which aims at fighting harmful stereotypes based on gender and promoting positive social norms, as well as on the Roadmap against Racism and Discrimination and its yearly Global Forum.



The ZI - UN committee at UNESCO was delighted to welcome our President Ute Scholtz to this important forum 24 and 25 January 2024

You can see Ute Scholtz as one of the panel speakers with other International Presidents: Soroptimist, Make Mothers Matter, BPW International, Associated Country Women of the World.

It was gratifying to see that Zonta International's president is recognized by UNESCO as an important global leader.



Nick Newland, President NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee officially thanked Ute Scholtz on behalf of the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee for his in-person participation, *“events such as this Forum, he says, are only possible with strong collective action”*

He also expresses his thanks for the support of the Zonta International committee, which is strongly represented by many people.

I am unable to relate to all the outstanding presentations made during these two days of the Forum. So that here is only a few examples

In session 1 “Overview from UNESCO”

UNESCO’s secretariat outlined current perspectives on the global situation regarding the theme, introducing key initiatives and programs from UNESCO among them the Social and Human Sciences sector. Promoting scientific freedom and strengthening the safety of scientists in line with the:

2017 Recommendation on Science and Scientific Researchers

For science to benefit everyone equally, we need to transform science ecosystems.

The RS|SR defines the vision and provides the operational guidance for such transformation.

- Enabling women and girls to follow a career in sciences;
- making scientific applications accessible to all;
- providing the conditions for scientists to work in freedom and safety;
- favoring trust and a science culture in society; and
- Ensuring science-led policy makingsome of the Recommendation's building blocks.

Ute Scholtz noted that this new program is very interesting for Zonta

<https://www.unesco.org/en/recommendation-science>

Engaging men and boys

<https://www.unesco.org/en/social-human-sciences/transforming-mentalities>

It is proven that **engaging men and boys can help advance the gender equality agenda** and contribute to the creation of more sustainable and inclusive societies. Men who adopt healthier and non-violent views of “what it means to be a man” take better care of others and themselves, and improve their quality of life, well-being and relationships.

Green Hope Foundation: <https://www.thegreenhopefoundation.org/>



Kehkashan Basu, M.S.M. founded Green Hope Foundation in 2012, at the age of 12, to address the severe lack of inclusivity of children, young people, women and marginalized communities in the sustainable development process. For her work, Kehkashan has been recognized as a Forbes 30 Under 30 and a United Nations Human Rights Champion, and is the recipient of Canada's Meritorious Service Medal (M.S.M.).

Green Hope provides a range of services that benefit the economy, society and environment to enable stakeholders to implement their sustainability goals

- Sustainability Consulting development is intersectional, women's lens
- Creative education
- Sponsor solar lamp - powered sewing schools,
- Liberia: computer labs and solar powered streetlamp
- Mangrove restoration
- Building Change through Social Innovation: move away from talking about problems, but work on making changes, have action now