



Friday Learning Session Commemorating International Women's Day

On March 8th, 2024, the UNDP Gambia CO organized a Friday learning session to honor International Women's Day. This session was attended by staff members and was designed to provide insight into the significance of the day, covering the following topics:

1. **History of the International Women's Movement:** Exploring the global and regional context of the women's movement, particularly in Africa.
2. **Role of the UN in Women's Empowerment:** Understanding the efforts and initiatives led by the United Nations in advancing the cause of women worldwide.
3. **Commitment of African Leaders to Gender Equality:** Examining the commitments made by leaders in Africa towards promoting gender equality and upholding women's rights.
4. **Key Challenges Faced by Women Globally:** Addressing the pressing issues and obstacles encountered by women across the globe.
5. **Local Heroes of Women's Empowerment in The Gambia:** Recognizing the contributions of individuals within The Gambia who have championed women's empowerment.

The presentation served as a catalyst for a discussion centered around this year's theme: "Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress." During the discussion, the focus shifted towards women's economic empowerment, shedding light on the barriers hindering their progress. Staff members shared personal anecdotes reflecting on both empowerment experiences and the challenges faced by women. Topics included societal norms that restrict women and the necessity for affirmative action to create opportunities for women to participate fully in the economy.

This session provided a platform for reflection and dialogue, reinforcing the commitment to gender equality and the empowerment of women within the organization and beyond.