



## **W20 Argentina 2018 Communiqué on Digital Inclusion**

### **Call to Action to close the digital gender divide and prevent digital inequality**

30th May 2018, Paris, France

Digital technologies have become a powerful source of social and economic development, offering substantial benefits for individuals and society in areas such as financial services, health, education and entrepreneurship.

However, a significant digital gender gap remains which must be addressed to ensure that women, as well as societies and economies everywhere, do not lose out on the socio-economic benefits of full participation in the digital economy. Addressing this gender gap will contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), but requires active commitment from governments, businesses and other relevant stakeholders.

W20 calls on the G20 Member States to take coordinated action to make digital transformation more inclusive by fostering women's participation in the digital sector and closing the digital gender divide in the access, development and use of digital technologies.

#### **Women20 calls on the G20 members states to:**

1. Collect, analyze, track supply and demand data disaggregated by sex on access and usage of digital technologies and on the presence of women in STEM related courses, careers and in leadership positions in the digital sector. Data collection should apply international guidelines, be cross-referenced with other socio-economic characteristics, comparable among countries and over time and shared ensuring data protection and privacy.
2. Develop holistic and cross-sectoral policies that abolish the barriers to women's access and use of digital technologies, especially in rural areas. This should be done with a focus on accessibility, affordability, safety and security, digital skills and availability of relevant content and services, taking into account women's diversity.
3. Promote initiatives that boost equal participation of women and girls in STEM studies and digital-intensive work to ensure that women participate and lead in the design, development and governance of digital technologies, as well as entrepreneurs in the digital sector.
4. Ensure that all analyses of the future of work, including education needs and demands for new skills, are performed with a view to gender balance, improving social protection and assessing job quality.

To have a tangible effect and create a lasting transformation, G20 members are encouraged to draw from these recommendations to develop and implement concrete policies that systematically address the barriers that impact women's full participation in digital economies.