

Concept note

ONLINE Side Event of the 68th Session of the UN Commission on Status of Women (CSW68)

Title: Women's Multidimensional Poverty Challenges and Grassroots Responses:
Insights from Japan, Sri Lanka, and Guatemala

Date/Time: March 15, 2024, 8:00-9:30 (EST), 21:00-22:30 (JST)

Organizers: The Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations
JAWW (Japan Women's Watch)
The National Women's Committee of the United Nations NGOs
International Women's Year Liaison Group (IWYLG)

Objectives: Whether residing in developed or developing economies, women across different demographics encounter diverse poverty challenges. This panel discussion addresses the current policy and institutional responses while exploring avenues to enhance people's well-being and eradicate poverty. Drawing from insights gained through grassroots activities in Japan, Sri Lanka, and Guatemala, the discussion particularly seeks to highlight the challenges faced by women often marginalized by existing systems. It emphasizes the importance of considering gender and human rights perspectives alongside intersecting factors such as age, class, and migration status. Furthermore, the discussion underscores the necessity for various interventions, including institutional reforms and enhancing fiscal space.

Moderator: Dr. Yumiko Yamamoto, Associate Professor, Okayama University, Japan

Panelists & Presentation Titles:

- ◆ Ms. Chie Matsumoto/ Journalist, Media cooperative Unfiltered.
“Challenges facing elderly women, Grassroots organizing in Japan”
- ◆ Dr. Sepali Kottegoda/ Director Programmes, Women's Economic Rights and Media, Women and Media Collective; Member, Steering Committee of Asia Pacific Women's Watch (APWW)
“Caregiving and Resilience in times of Crises: Some insights from Sri Lanka”
- ◆ Mr. Akihiro Tsukamoto (MBA)/ Advisor for Financial Inclusion Promotion with Immigrant Remittance in Guatemala for Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).
“Empowerment of Women and Improvement of their Economic Conditions through the Use of Credit Unions' Financial and Non-Financial Services”