



**ASIA PACIFIC REGION**  
WORLD ASSOCIATION  
OF GIRL GUIDES  
AND GIRL SCOUTS

## Asia Pacific Young Women in Governance Network

### Background:

When conceptualizing what a young women in governance network would look like in the Asia Pacific Region we encountered the challenge of meeting the knowledge needs of young women in the region who have already taken up governance roles in their Member Organisations or within the region as well as those who have little to no knowledge of governance.

In evaluating the Asia Pacific Young Women in Governance Ambassador Programme from 2019-2021 it was also found that there were some young women who had taken up governance positions within their member organizations. Some of these young women raised that they would like the opportunity to meet other young women who are involved in governance, discuss the challenges that they face in their roles and to receive support to develop skills that they feel that they are lacking.

This group did not feel that the Young Women in Governance Ambassador Programme had met their needs; however they had enjoyed meeting other young women and having the network.

The evaluation highlighted that there are three distinct groupings of young women with an interest in governance within the region. These groups are:

1. Young women who hold governance roles within their member organizations.
2. Young women who are interested in governance roles and have a base knowledge of governance.
3. Young women who are interested in governance and have little to no knowledge of what governance is.

### Discussion:

It is unlikely that a single group will be able to meet the needs of all young women in the region. The activities and content of session will need to be tailored to ensure that all young women who are attending network sessions are engaged and have their learning needs met.

For example, a young woman who is already involved in a governance role and has attended board meetings will understand what a board is and its role within their organisation.

However, we see the value of ensuring that these networks are linked and that there is opportunity for sharing between the two groups and in particular for those who are already involved in Governance to share their experiences with young women who are interested in Governance.

This needs to be balanced with the requests that we have heard from young women who are involved in governance roles that they would like support and upskilling to ensure that they feel supported in their roles.

This indicates that while there is overlap, the experienced young women in governance should be seen as both a resource for those who may want to go into governance and as needing resourcing to be successful in their governance roles.

### Proposal

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**Committee members:**

Chempaka Emalin Pahamin, **Chair**  
Mahnaz Hossain Fariba  
Chris S. Y. Wong

Gimhani Prarthana Liyanage, **Vice Chair**  
Firasha Mohamed  
Maiya Twayanabasu

**Registered Charity No.** 1159255 VAT  
No. 239406849

**Ex-Officio members:**

Candela Gonzalez, **World Board Chair**  
Anna Segall, **Chief Executive**

We therefore are creating two groups for the Young Women in Governance Network.

**Group One:** Is a group of young women who currently hold/and or are elected to hold governance positions during the one year programme. The programme of this group should be co-designed with the young women to ensure that it meets their needs.

It is envisaged that this group provides the opportunity for young women from across the region to share their experiences and identify the learning needs that they hold.

This group will consist of all young women who are currently/or are elected to hold governance positions in the Asia Pacific Region. It is currently unknown how many young women aged under 30 hold these positions and through this network we want to have a clear understanding of the scenario.

**Group 2:** Is a group of young women who do not currently hold an elected position within their member organizations. They have an interest in governance however have little to no baseline knowledge of what governance is.

It is envisaged that this group will be convened for the one year programme as mentioned in the email.

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