



# INSTITUTE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDIES

*Building Capacity for Local Governance*

## **Statement by Institute of Local Government Studies (ILGS) on International Women's Day (IWD), 2025**

**S**aturday March 8, 2025 marks another special day for the world to celebrate women under the theme "Accelerate Action for Gender Equality". As part of its contribution to promoting gender equality, women's empowerment, and action against gender-based violence, and related concerns, the Gender Centre of the Institute of Local Government Studies (ILGS) joins in this global celebration of women. We also take this opportunity to recognise and appreciate the dedication of women and girls all over the world in the fight for the attainment of their rights.

ILGS recognises that there are still many obstacles in the way of gender equality, but is convinced that with sustained advocacy, action and support, women everywhere can achieve their social and economic rights. ILGS takes this opportunity to affirm its commitment to the global call to "Accelerate Action" by recognizing and promoting the use of strategies, tools, and initiatives that have a positive influence on women's advancement.

ILGS strongly supports the adoption of innovative and technologically driven measures to leverage the benefits of connectivity for women and girls. We advocate equitable access to digital skills and services for women and girls, particularly older women, rural women and women with disabilities, who remain marginalized under current trends. We encourage all stakeholders, particularly those in sub-national administration, local governance and community development, to join efforts to confront discrimination against women and girls and address all impediments to their dreams and aspirations. We call on everyone, as individuals, groups and organizations to support women's advancement in their endeavours at all levels – community, local, national, regional and international.

On this special day we join the UN Secretary-General, *Antonio Guterres* to say

***“Together, let's stand firm in making rights, equality and empowerment a reality for all women and girls, for everyone, everywhere.”***

**Ayeekoo to all our women!!**

