The world of work is changing, with significant implications for women, both in rural and urban settings. While globalization, rural transformation and technological advancement create opportunities for economic growth, enhanced food security and better nutrition, they also cause growing employment inequalities, unstable incomes and precarious livelihoods.

Gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls have been placed at the core of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including ending hunger and poverty and promoting inclusive and sustainable economic growth, rests largely upon realizing women’s potential in the world of work.

To mark the 2017 International Women’s Day (IWD 2017), FAO, IFAD and WFP will host an event under the theme “Step It Up Together with Rural Women to End Hunger and Poverty”.

As the UN-wide theme for IWD 2017 is “Women in the Changing World of Work: Planet 50:50 by 2030”, the event will pay particular attention to women’s work and employment as key components of the fight against hunger, malnutrition and rural poverty. It will highlight forward-looking solutions and present examples of the work of the Rome-based Agencies in support of rural women in food systems and agricultural value chains.

In alignment with the pledge to “leave no one behind”, which is at the heart of the 2030 Agenda, the IWD 2017 celebration will continue the dialogue with key stakeholders begun during the High-Level Event held at FAO headquarters on 16 December 2016 with the same title, “Step It Up Together with Rural Women to End Hunger and Poverty.”

We look forward to seeing you at the 2017 International Women’s Day celebration.

For further information, please contact Andrea Luciani at: andrea.luciani@fao.org

Please save the date.