

Gender-sensitive Communication

Examples of situations where women may be subject to invisibility or omission and alternatives to use

Gendered examples	Solution	Alternatives
Each participant should submit his paper a week before the meeting.	Use <i>his/her</i>	Each participant should submit his/her paper a week before the meeting.
The head of unit has to travel abroad often. This places a heavy burden on him and his family.	Change the sentence to a plural. Use <i>his/her</i> .	The head of unit has to travel abroad often. This places a heavy burden on her/him and his/her family. The heads of unit have to travel abroad often. This places a heavy burden on them and their families.
Under the law, all men are equal.	Use <i>women and men</i> or <i>people</i> .	Under the law, all women and men are equal. Under the law, all people are equal.
The second candidate was the best man for the job.	Avoid omission and use person.	The second candidate was the best person for the job.
This house is located in no man's land between two villages.	Remove the gendered noun, use <i>unclaimed territory</i> .	This house is located in unclaimed territory between two villages.
To boldly go where no man has gone before.	Remove the gendered noun, use <i>no-one</i> .	To boldly go where no-one has gone before.
In the fieldwork phase of the project the research team is encouraged to talk to the man in the street.	Avoid use of men when referring to both women and men. Use <i>average</i> or <i>ordinary people</i> .	In the fieldwork phase of the project the research team is encouraged to talk to ordinary people.