Putting Thai female experts in front and centre in the media

Launch of Women Make The News – Thailand
The online database of Thai female experts for journalists
www.wmnthailand.org

6 March 2017, UNESCO Bangkok Office

To celebrate International Women’s Day, UNESCO Bangkok is inviting together with its partners to the launch of the database Women Make The News – Thailand, a tool to advance gender equality in the media. Journalists and experts from the database will gather to a press conference and a panel discussion on women’s visibility in the media in Thailand, followed by a reception.

PROGRAMME

17.30-18.00 Registration and time for interviews with experts from the database
18.00-18.15 Opening
  Anne-Charlotte Malm, Counsellor Head of Regional Development Cooperation in Asia, Embassy of Sweden
  Misako Ito, Regional Adviser for Communication and Information, UNESCO Bangkok
  Kamolrat Intararat, Executive Director, The Research Center of Communication and Development Knowledge Management (CCDKM)
18.15-18.30 Presentation of Women Make the News – THAILAND
  Chantal Mairesse, Consultant for Communication and Information, UNESCO Bangkok
18.30-19.30 Women’s visibility in the media in Thailand
  Panel discussion with journalists and experts from the online database
  Moderation: Sanitsuda Ekachai, Journalist, Former editorial pages editor of the Bangkok Post
  Kanlaya Chularattakorn, Indigenous Women’s network in Thailand, Chiang Mai
  Misako Ito, Regional Adviser for Communication and Information, UNESCO Bangkok
  Supinya Klangnarong, Commissioner, National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission
  Siriporn Pajharawat, Director of Developer Experience & Platform Evangelism (DX) Group, Microsoft Thailand
  Chanette Tinnam, Lecturer, Contemplative Education Center, Mahidol University
19.30-20.30 Cocktail Reception

Simultaneous translation in English and Thai will be provided.

Venue: The UNESCO Bangkok Office is located between the BTS stations Ekamai and Thonglo on Sukhumvit Road. Access map here: http://www.unescobkk.org/about-us/location/

To attend the launch, please RSVP to: c.mairesse@unesco.org
PANELISTS

Kanlaya Chularattakorn, works for the Indigenous Women's network in Thailand. She has more than 10 years of experience in the non-profit sector in the greater Mekong region, Southeast Asia – especially in managing projects that focus on the ethnic minority groups of Thailand, Myanmar migrant workers and ethnic Myanmar refugees in Thailand.

Misako Ito works as Advisor for Communication and Information at UNESCO's Office in Bangkok since April 2015. Before joining Bangkok, she spent six years at UNESCO Rabat Office in Morocco in providing advisory services for the reform of the media sector and the freedom of information legislative frameworks in the Maghreb countries, including implementing gender equality policies within the public service broadcasters and regulation authorities in Morocco and Tunisia.

Supinya Klangnaron is the only female and youngest Commissioner of the National Broadcasting and Telecommunication Commission of Thailand (NBTC). She previously served as the Secretary-General of the Campaign for Popular Media Reform (CPMR) from 2003 – 2008 and was co–founder and coordinator of the Thai Netizen Network (TNN), an internet rights group.

Siriporn Pajharawat, is the Director of Platform Strategy & Evangelism at Microsoft Thailand. Most of her work in the past 22 years at Microsoft revolved around business development in educational programs and products for higher education, IT professionals, software developers, and start-up companies.

Chanette Tinnam works as lecturer at Contemplative Education Center, Mahidol University. She has published on Media Ethics, Women's representation in Public Media, Mass media and Citizens’ Consciousness of women.

Sanitsuda Ekachai, Journalist and Former editorial pages editor of the Bangkok Post

BACKGROUND

In Thailand, almost 53% of all scientists are women, and women make up about 37% of those in top business roles1. However, research showed that only 1 out of 4 experts interviewed by the media in Thailand are women, and that media most commonly depict women as “victims”, “family figures” or ”sexual objects”2. In Thailand as in Asia-Pacific and worldwide, women are underrepresented and misrepresented in the media.

THE WOMEN MAKE THE NEWS – THAILAND DATABASE

The Women Make the News – Thailand database is a tool developed by UNESCO Bangkok and partners to provides journalists with a list of contacts of female experts to feature more women in news media.

The Women Make the News - Thailand database is part of UNESCO’s global Women Make the News initiative rooted in UNESCO's mandate to promote freedom of expression and to advocate for a free, independent and pluralistic media.

PARTNERS: The database was initiated and developed by UNESCO Bangkok, with the support of Sweden, and has been implemented in cooperation with CCDKM and Akin Asia. The training opportunities offered to the experts from the database are sponsored by Australian Aid (learn more here: www.wmnthailand.org/training)

FOR MORE INFORMATION: WWW.WMNTHAILAND.ORG/THE-PROJECT

1 UNESCO Institute for Statistics and Grant Thornton
2 Inside the News: Challenges and Aspirations of Women Journalists in Asia and the Pacific-Pacific