



Press release

## **WOMEN IN ETFs AND FIVE PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS RING THE BELL FOR GENDER EQUALITY AT OVER 83 STOCK EXCHANGES GLOBALLY**

*March 8, 2019, London* – For the fifth consecutive year, a global collaboration across over 83 stock exchanges around the world plan to ‘Ring the Bell for Gender Equality’, to celebrate International Women’s Day 2019 (Friday, 8 March 2019). In March 2018, a record 65 exchanges rang their bells for gender equality, and this year is set to be even bigger, with 83 exchanges confirmed as taking part.

The events are a partnership between [Women in ETFs](#), [IFC](#), [Sustainable Stock Exchanges \(SSE\) Initiative](#), [UN Global Compact](#), [UN Women](#), and the [World Federation of Exchanges](#) to raise awareness about the business case for women’s economic empowerment and the opportunities for the private sector to advance gender equality and sustainable development.

The UN Women’s theme for International Women’s Day 2019 is ‘Think equal, build smart, innovate for change’. The theme focuses on innovative ways in which the private sector can advance gender equality and women’s empowerment, particularly in the areas of social protection systems, access to public services, and sustainable infrastructure.

In addition to the bell ringing events, the bell ringing partner organizations applaud the work done to date, and encourage stock exchanges to take further action to improve gender equality in their markets. Recommended actions include signing the CEO Statement of Support for the Women’s Empowerment Principles (WEPEs); promoting gender equality in their workforce; introducing gender equality standards and supporting gender-equality themed investment products; providing guidance, training, mentoring, and education to market participants on gender equality and the role of gender diversity in business performance; and encouraging or requiring listed companies to publicly report on relevant gender metrics.

The annual Bell Ringing events are the most global initiative that WE does each year offering a unique opportunity to welcome WE leadership teams, members and corporate sponsors to hear speakers presenting the business case for diversity and women’s economic empowerment. Members of Women in ETFs will be involved in bell ringing events at over 20 exchanges in the United States, Canada, EMEA and in Asia Pacific and are leading the activities at 18 events.

Women in ETFs is the first women’s group for the ETF industry. Founded in January 2014, WE is a non-profit organization that brings together over 4,700 members, including women and men, in chapters in major financial centers across the [United States, Canada, EMEA and Asia Pacific](#) to: 1) CONNECT: Create opportunities for professional advancement of women by expanding connections among women and men in the ETF industry; 2) SUPPORT: Offer guidance for the current and next generation of women in ETFs and 3) INSPIRE: WE achieves this by organizing events at our chapters globally that support our goals of education, networking, philanthropy and idea sharing across the industry and beyond. [For more information, visit: www.womeninets.com](#)  
Follow us on Twitter: [@WomeninETFs](#) and on LinkedIn: [Women in ETFs](#)

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#GenderBell #IWD2019

# Ring the Bell for Gender Equality



| Country            | Stock Exchange                              | Date of Event | Opening/Closing |
|--------------------|---|---------------|-----------------|
| Argentina          | Bolsas y Mercados Argentinos (BYMA)         | 12th March    | Opening         |
| Armenia            | Armenia Securities Exchange                 | 12th March    | Opening         |
| Australia          | Australian Securities Exchange              | 8th March     | Opening         |
| Bahrain            | Bahrain Bourse                              | 14th March    |                 |
| Bangladesh         | Chittagong Stock Exchange                   | 7th March     |                 |
| Bangladesh         | Dhaka Stock Exchange                        | 12th March    | Opening         |
| Belgium            | Euronext Brussels                           | 8th March     | Opening         |
| Brazil             | B3  | 8th March     | Opening         |
| Canada             | Aequitas NEO Exchange                       | 8th March     | Opening         |
| Canada             | Toronto Stock Exchange                      | 8th March     | Opening         |
| Chile              | Bolsa de Comercio de Santiago               | 21st March    |                 |
| Colombia           | Bolsa de Valores de Colombia                | 3rd April     | Opening         |
| Costa Rica         | Bolsa Nacional de Valores                   | 11th March    | Closing         |
| Croatia            | Zagreb Stock Exchange                       | 8th March     |                 |
| Denmark            | Nasdaq Copenhagen                           | 8th March     | Opening         |
| Dominican Republic | Bolsa de Valores de la República Dominicana | 15th March    | Closing         |
| Egypt              | Cairo Stock Exchange                        | 4th March     | Opening         |
| Estonia            | Nasdaq Tallinn                              | 8th March     | Opening         |
| Ethiopia           | Ethiopia Stock Exchange                     | 6th March     | Closing         |
| Fiji               | South Pacific Stock Exchange                | 8th March     | Opening         |
| Finland            | Nasdaq Helsinki                             | 8th March     | Opening         |
| France             | Euronext Paris                              | 8th March     | Opening         |
| Georgia            | Georgian Stock Exchange                     | 12th March    | Closing         |
| Germany            | Deutsche Börse                              | 8th March     | Opening         |
| Greece             | Athens Stock Exchange                       | 8th March     |                 |
| HK                 | Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing            | 8th March     | Opening         |
| Iceland            | Nasdaq Iceland                              | 8th March     | Opening         |
| India              | Bombay Stock Exchange                       | 8th March     | Closing         |
| India              | National Stock Exchange of India            | 8th March     | Closing         |
| Indonesia          | Indonesia Stock Exchange                    | 13th March    |                 |

|              |  |                       |         |
|--------------|--|-----------------------|---------|
| Iraq         | Iraq Stock Exchange                    | 10th March            | Opening |
| Ireland      | Euronext Dublin                        | 8th March             | Opening |
| Israel       | Tel Aviv Stock Exchange                | 3rd March             | Opening |
| Italy        | Borsa Italiana                         | 8th March             | Opening |
| Jamaica      | Jamaica Stock Exchange                 | 8th March             | Opening |
| Japan        | Japan Exchange Group                   | 8th March             | Opening |
| Kazakhstan   | Kazakhstan Stock Exchange              | 7th March             | Closing |
| Kenya        | Nairobi Securities Exchange            | 8th March             | Opening |
| Kuwait       | Boursa Kuwait                          | 7th March             | Closing |
| Latvia       | Nasdaq Riga                            | 8th March             | Opening |
| Lebanon      | Beirut Stock Exchange                  | 7th March             | Closing |
| Lithuania    | Nasdaq Vilnius                         | 8th March             | Opening |
| Luxembourg   | Luxembourg Stock Exchange              | 8th March             |         |
| Malaysia     | Bursa Malaysia                         | 14th March            | Opening |
| Mexico       | Bolsa Mexicana de Valores              | 8th March             | Opening |
| Mongolia     | Mongolian Stock Exchange               | 7 <sup>th</sup> March | Opening |
| Myanmar      | Yangon Stock Exchange                  | 8th March             | Closing |
| Nepal        | Nepal Stock Exchange Limited           | 8th March             |         |
| Netherlands  | Euronext Amsterdam                     | 8th March             | Opening |
| Nigeria      | Nigeria Stock Exchange                 | 8th March             | Closing |
| Norway       | Oslo Bors                              | 8th March             |         |
| Pakistan     | Pakistan Stock Exchange                | 8th March             | Opening |
| Palestine    | Palestine Exchange                     | 11th March            |         |
| Panama       | Bolsa de Panama                        | 15th March            |         |
| Peru         | Bolsa de Valores de Lima               | 12th March            | Opening |
| Philippines  | Philippine Stock Exchange              | 8th March             | Closing |
| Poland       | Warsaw Stock Exchange (WSE)            | 8th March             | Opening |
| Portugal     | Euronext Lisbon                        | 8th March             |         |
| Qatar        | Qatar Stock Exchange                   | 10th March            | Opening |
| Regional*    | BRVM Stock Exchange                    | 8th March             | Opening |
| Romania      | Bucharest Stock Exchange               | 8th March             | Opening |
| Russia       | Belarusian currency and stock exchange | 7th March             | Opening |
| Russia       | MOEX Moscow                            | 12th March            | Opening |
| Rwanda       | Rwanda Stock Exchange                  | 10 th March           | Opening |
| Saudi Arabia | Saudi Stock Exchange (Tadawul)         | 7th March             |         |
| Serbia       | Belgrade Stock Exchange                | 14th March            |         |
| Singapore    | Singapore Exchange                     | 5th March             | Closing |
| Slovenia     | Ljubljana Stock Exchange               | 8th March             |         |
| South Africa | Johannesburg Stock Exchange            | 8th March             | Opening |
| Spain        | Bolsas y Mercados Españoles            | 8th March             |         |
| Sri Lanka    | Colombo Stock Exchange                 | 7th March             |         |
| Sweden       | Nasdaq Stockholm                       | 8th March             | Opening |
| Switzerland  | SIX Swiss Exchange                     | 8th March             | Opening |

|                      |                                     |                   |         |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|---------|
| Tanzania             | Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange<br>PLC | 8th March         |         |
| Tunisia              | Tunis Stock Exchange                | 8th March         |         |
| Uganda               | Uganda Securities Exchange          | W/b 17th<br>March |         |
| UK                   | London Stock Exchange               | 12th March        | Opening |
| United Arab Emirates | Dubai Financial Market              | 8th March         | Opening |
| US                   | CBOE                                | 8th March         | Opening |
| US                   | IEX                                 | 8th March         | Opening |
| US                   | Nasdaq                              | 7th March         | Closing |
| US                   | NYSE                                | 5th March         | Opening |
| Yemen                | Yemen Stock Exchange                | 14th March        | Opening |

\* Regional stock exchange serving to Benin; Burkina Faso; Guinea Bissau; Cote d'Ivoire; Mali; Niger; Senegal; Togo

## About the Partner Organizations:

### Women in ETFs (WE)

Women in ETFs is the first women's group for the ETF industry. Founded in January 2014, WE is a non-profit organization that brings together over 4,700 members, including women and men, in chapters in major financial centers across the United States, Canada, EMEA and Asia Pacific to: 1) CONNECT: Create opportunities for professional advancement of women by expanding connections among women and men in the ETF industry; 2) SUPPORT: Offer guidance for the current and next generation of women in ETFs and 3) INSPIRE: WE achieves this by organizing events at our chapters globally that support our goals of education, networking, philanthropy and idea sharing across the industry and beyond. [For more information, visit: www.womeninets.com](http://www.womeninets.com) to learn more, join, or sponsor. Follow us on Twitter: [@WomeninETFs](https://twitter.com/WomeninETFs) and on LinkedIn: [Women in ETFs](https://www.linkedin.com/company/womeninets)

### IFC

[IFC](http://www.ifc.org) - a sister organization of the World Bank and member of the World Bank Group - is the largest global development institution focused on the private sector in emerging markets. We work with more than 2,000 businesses worldwide, using our capital, expertise, and influence to create markets and opportunities in the toughest areas of the world. In fiscal year 2018, we delivered more than \$23 billion in long-term financing for developing countries, leveraging the power of the private sector to help end extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity. For more information, visit [www.ifc.org](http://www.ifc.org). Follow us on Twitter: [@IFC\\_org](https://twitter.com/IFC_org)

### The Sustainable Stock Exchanges Initiative

[The SSE initiative](http://sseinitiative.org) is a peer-to-peer learning platform for exploring how exchanges, in collaboration with investors, regulators, and companies, can enhance corporate transparency - and ultimately performance - on ESG (environmental, social and corporate governance) issues and encourage sustainable investment. The SSE initiative is convened by four organizations - the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the UN Global Compact, the UN Environment Program Finance Initiative (UNEP FI), and the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI). To learn more about becoming a Partner Stock Exchange or participating as a regulator or investor, visit [sseinitiative.org](http://sseinitiative.org). Follow us on Twitter: [@sseinitiative](https://twitter.com/sseinitiative)

## United Nations Global Compact

As a special initiative of the UN Secretary-General, the **United Nations Global Compact** is a call to companies everywhere to align their operations and strategies with ten universal principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. Launched in 2000, the mandate of the UN Global Compact is to guide and support the global business community in advancing UN goals and values through responsible corporate practices. With more than 9,500 companies and 3,000 non-business signatories based in over 160 countries, and more than 70 Local Networks, it is the largest corporate sustainability initiative in the world. For more information, follow [@globalcompact](#) on social media and visit our website at [www.unglobalcompact.org](http://www.unglobalcompact.org).

## **United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)**

UN Women is the UN organization dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women. A global champion for women and girls, UN Women was established to accelerate progress on meeting their needs worldwide. UN Women supports UN Member States as they set global standards for achieving gender equality, and works with governments and civil society to design laws, policies, programmes and services needed to ensure that the standards are effectively implemented and truly benefit women and girls worldwide. It works globally to make the vision of the Sustainable Development Goals a reality for women and girls and stands behind women's equal participation in all aspects of life, focusing on four strategic priorities: Women lead, participate in and benefit equally from governance systems; Women have income security, decent work and economic autonomy; All women and girls live a life free from all forms of violence; Women and girls contribute to and have greater influence in building sustainable peace and resilience, and benefit equally from the prevention of natural disasters and conflicts and humanitarian action. UN Women also coordinates and promotes the UN system's work in advancing gender equality. Learn more at: <http://www.unwomen.org> and <https://www.empowerwomen.org/en/weps/about>. Follow us on Twitter [@UN Women](#) [@Empower Women](#) and on LinkedIn: [UN Women](#)

## **The World Federation of Exchanges (WFE):**

Established in 1961, the [WFE](#) is the global industry association for exchanges and clearing houses. Headquartered in London, it represents over 250 market infrastructure providers. WFE exchanges are home to nearly 45,000 listed companies, and the market capitalisation of these entities is over \$82.5 trillion (at end 2017). The WFE is the definitive source for exchange-traded statistics and publishes over 350 market data indicators. Its statistics database stretches back more than 40 years, and provides information and insight into developments on global exchanges. The WFE works with standard-setters, policy makers, regulators and government organisations around the world to support and promote the development of fair, transparent, stable and efficient markets. Follow us on Twitter: [@TheWFE](#) and on LinkedIn: [WFE](#)

## Women in ETFs corporate sponsors

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