

Mio Chiaro
President, Benetton Group
Tuesday, 13:18 Venue: Uskudar 1+2 13:18

Over the last 20 years Mio has been involved in research within the ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) field and taken on national and international assignments. In this capacity, she is currently chair of the ESG Task Force for Fee in Brussels. In Benetton Group she is the chairwoman of the Sustainability Committee, a body set up by the company to address - in a strategic way - issues of sustainability, starting from governance and top management.

Statement

Benetton Group believes that all women should be granted universal access to healthcare and be guaranteed sexual and reproductive rights. That's why we immediately accepted the UNFPA, United Nations Population Fund's, invitation to collaborate on the "Safe Birth. Even Here." campaign, which we are presenting in these days at the World Humanitarian Summit.

We hope this partnership will contribute to amplify UNFPA's message that childbirth should be safe everywhere, even in emergencies and we also hope this is the beginning of a long-lasting cooperation with UNFPA.

Benetton Group has a long history of social commitment. Since the 1980s, our campaigns and editorial work have put the spotlight on a wide range of issues: from AIDS to deforestation, racial discrimination, censorship and refugees. We were among the first companies to realize that, considering our size and global reach, it was our responsibility to have an opinion about the big issues of our times.

Yet sometimes having an opinion isn't enough. So we rolled up our sleeves and contribute to tackle the unsolved issues that we saw around us. We didn't do it alone. Over the decades, we partnered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Volunteers, the World Food Programme, UN Women, UNDP and many other organizations that are involved in making our world a better place to live in, for everybody.

Starting from 2016, we have focused our sustainability efforts on achieving gender equality and empowering women worldwide. Benetton's Women Empowerment Program is a long-term program aimed at developing concrete projects to provide women with sustainable livelihoods, equal opportunities, quality education, the end of violence against women and access to healthcare in every situation.

We think empowering women around the world is our responsibility: women represent both the majority of the people involved in our supply chain and the majority of our consumers. Yet the reason for our commitment goes beyond that: we strongly believe that gender equality and the empowerment of women are not only human rights, but necessary steps toward building a peaceful, prosperous and more sustainable world for all. That's why Benetton decided to support this important UNFPA campaign.

We are glad to be here. Thank you,