

SETU joins the UN 16 Days of Activism Campaign to call for action to end Gender-Based Violence and Homelessness through sharing Erasmus+ Women's Voices exhibition.

As part of the 16 days of activism opposing violence against women and girls, a collection of the women's visual voices from the Women's Voices Erasmus+ project are on display in an exhibition in the Central Atrium of the Waterford South East Technological University Campus and on the Carlow Campus from November 25th to December 10th. The aim of the exhibition is to raise awareness amongst staff and students about the reality of domestic, sexual and gender-based in the lives of women experiencing homelessness, and how DSGBV constitutes one of the main pathways into homelessness for women.

The collective voices of the women reveal to staff and students in the university how central safe housing is to preventing homelessness, towards tackling DSGBV and to achieving gender equality at a local, national, and European level. More than that, the women's visual voices also show how access to safe housing and material support (income, care, affordable transport) can help with tackling risks of violence and a range of related injustices experienced by women globally. This is because many of the themes highlighted by the women are particularly relevant to achieving several of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Sustainable Development Goals are a set of 17 global goals that aim to tackle global injustices including poverty, gender inequality, GBV, health and other inequalities by 2030. The Women's Voices exhibition therefore teaches us how women's homelessness is a huge barrier to achieving gender equality because of its link to GBV. It is also relatedly a barrier to achieving health, justice, peace and to a reduction in poverty.

The symbolic act of exhibiting the women's visual voices highlights the importance of raising the voices of women experiencing homelessness, and of how important it is to create safe spaces to listen to and learn from living experts in our efforts to end homelessness and to creating a safer and caring society.



