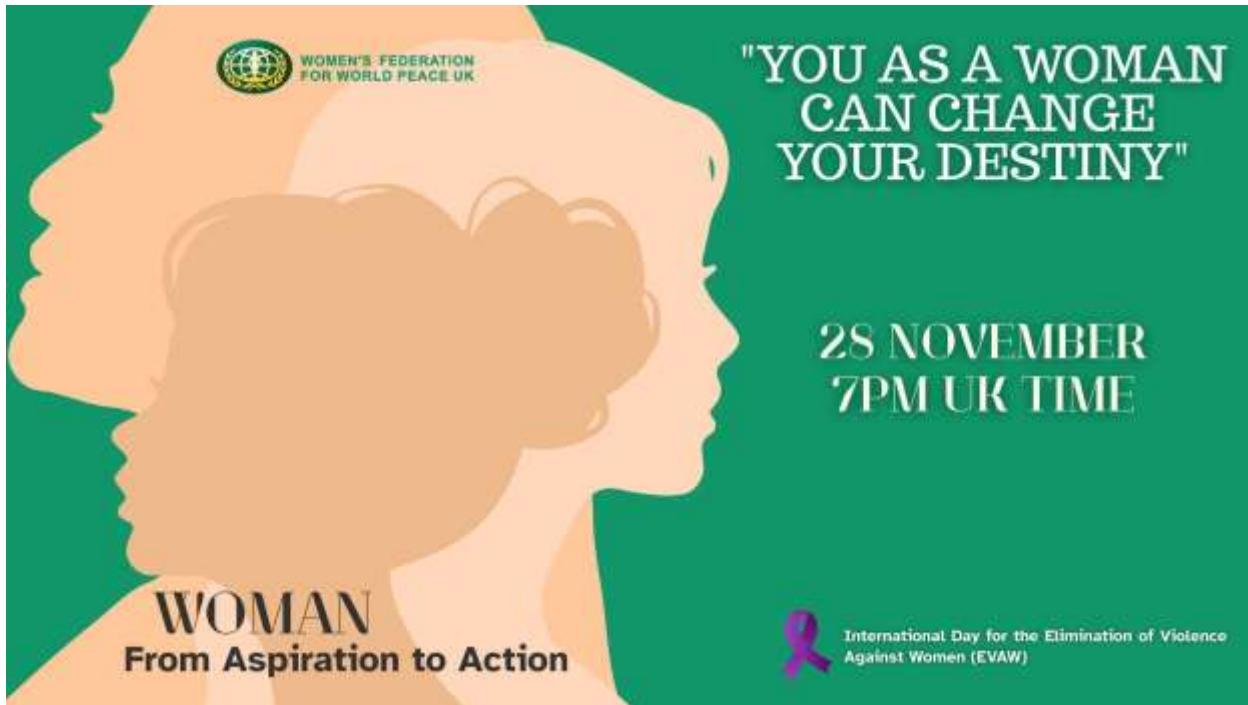


WFWP UK - UN EVAW Day: You As A Woman Can Change Your Destiny

Oksana Torok
November 28, 2025



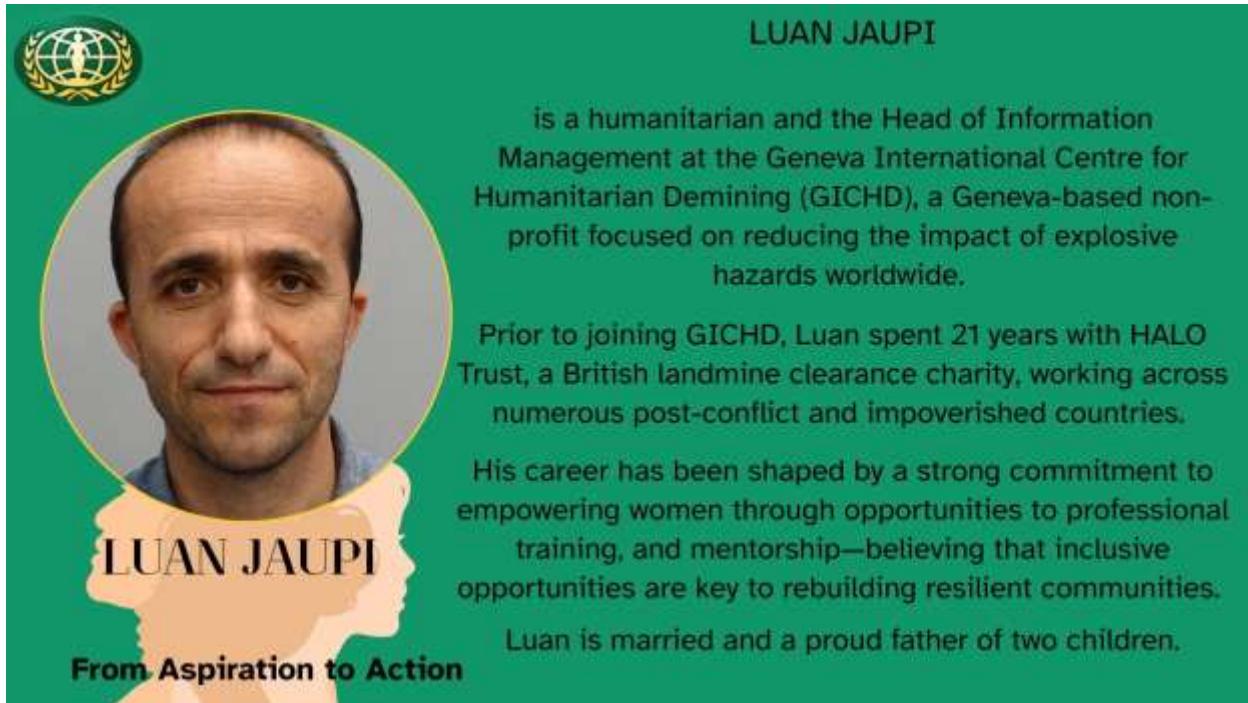
You As A Woman Can Change Your Destiny - From Aspiration To Action

On 28 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, we gathered online to spotlight women transforming conflict into courage.



The meeting opened with reflections on the urgency of addressing violence against women - not only

through protection but through empowerment, emphasizing the importance of non-violent communication and building relationships rooted in dignity and respect.



LUAN JAUPI

is a humanitarian and the Head of Information Management at the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), a Geneva-based non-profit focused on reducing the impact of explosive hazards worldwide.

Prior to joining GICHD, Luan spent 21 years with HALO Trust, a British landmine clearance charity, working across numerous post-conflict and impoverished countries.

His career has been shaped by a strong commitment to empowering women through opportunities to professional training, and mentorship—believing that inclusive opportunities are key to rebuilding resilient communities.

Luan is married and a proud father of two children.

From Aspiration to Action

Central to the conversation was humanitarian Luan Jaupi, Head of Information Management at the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD). With over two decades of experience in post-conflict zones, including recent work in Ethiopia and Somalia, Luan shared his belief that real change comes when women are given the tools to shape their own futures. "We must move beyond pity," he said, "and focus on opportunity. That's what enables women to become architects of their destiny."

Luan highlighted a groundbreaking initiative which trains women in conflict-impacted regions to use GIS technology for landmine clearance. The program spans seven countries and aims to build local capacity by equipping women with technical skills and leadership training. Rather than relying on international teams, the project invests in women from affected communities - ensuring sustainability and long-term impact.

Three stories stood out: Delight from Zimbabwe, Elizaveta from Ukraine, and Vinothini from Sri Lanka. Each woman began as a trainee and rose to lead teams, producing vital mapping data and making their communities safer. Their journeys - from conflict to competence - embody the theme of the event: "From Aspiration to Action."

The spirit of the meeting was clear: continue amplifying women's voices, investing in their skills and celebrating their leadership. As the purple ribbon of EVAW Day reminds us, ending violence begins with enabling agency - and this gathering was a testament to that truth.

You can watch the video of the meeting here: fb.watch/DQc65YYdux/

Reported by Oksana Torok
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