



GENEVA PLEDGE FOR GENDER- RESPONSIVE CLIMATE ACTION

Common Principles for
Gender Equality, Diversity,
and Inclusion in Climate
Action



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This Pledge establishes common principles for gender-responsive climate decision-making and action. Signatories commit to applying the Pledge through personal and institutional actions within their sphere of influence and in alignment with relevant global frameworks and agreements. To foster a spirit of creativity, collaboration, and collective accountability, the IGC Secretariat will create a platform to share examples of these principles in practice.

The unfolding climate crisis poses an immediate threat to our planet and its people. It disrupts ecosystems and jeopardizes livelihoods across the globe. While climate change itself is indiscriminate, the social structures within which it unfolds are not: The climate crisis deepens existing inequalities, disproportionately impacting women, girls, and those in vulnerable and marginalised situations by threatening their livelihoods and restricting access to essential services, food, water, and energy. Despite their vital role as leaders, experts and change agents, these groups often remain underrepresented in decision-making, have limited resource access and face discriminatory laws and norms that hinder their full, equal, meaningful, effective and safe participation in climate decision-making and action.

As international decision-makers, we are committed to exercising our sphere of influence to break down these barriers. We recognise the urgent need to prioritise gender equality, diversity and inclusion in climate action through measurable goals, integrated strategies and adequate funding. By addressing the specific needs and celebrating the leadership of women, girls, and those in vulnerable and marginalised situations, we can advance inclusive strategies that yield benefits for our planet and its people. Full participation from all segments of society is not only essential for a just transition and meeting the Sustainable Development Goals, but also a fundamental right.



Building on existing strategies, frameworks and partnerships, and in line with our respective mandates, we will advance the following principles:

i. Championing Equitable Representation in Decision-Making:

We will advocate for the full, equal, meaningful, effective and safe participation of women, girls, and underrepresented communities in UNFCCC climate negotiations and other relevant decision-making bodies. Ensuring equitable representation in planning, implementing, and monitoring climate policies and measures is essential to effectively addressing climate challenges. By dismantling physical and practical barriers to engagement and raising awareness of exclusionary biases, we will promote the full participation of affected communities and civil society. We will strengthen our collective capacity to achieve these targets through education, mentoring and sharing of best practices.

ii. Advocating for Gender-Responsive Climate Finance:

We will leverage our sphere of influence to advance the integration of gender considerations into climate finance and budgeting processes, advocating for a financial system that directs resources towards those most impacted by climate change. This includes – where possible – supporting women-led, community-based initiatives, promoting local ownership and flexible funding mechanisms, and scaling up resources for gender-responsive mitigation and adaptation. We will strengthen partnerships, including with the private sector, to foster climate-resilient livelihoods, green skills development, economic empowerment and access to green jobs, entrepreneurship, and financial resources for women, girls, and those in vulnerable and marginalised situations.

iii. Breaking Down Silos:

We will address the Climate-Gender Nexus with integrated, coherent strategies that promote a human-rights based approach and gender equality, diversity, and inclusion across all Rio Conventions and other relevant environmental governance frameworks. We will collaborate across entities to share knowledge, data, and best practices, and to link gender-responsive climate action with other policy areas such as displacement, health, humanitarian action, food security, economic empowerment, trade, and peace and security.



iv. Anchoring Decisions in Gender-Responsive Analysis and Data Collection:

Where feasible, we will ensure the collection and analysis of disaggregated data at all stages of policy design and implementation, including by harnessing new and emerging technologies, with results to be shared across entities.

v. Strengthening Governance and Legal and Institutional Reform:

We will advocate for strengthening existing and emerging multilateral regulatory frameworks to reform gender-discriminatory laws, promote equal access to resources and services, and ensure gender-responsive decision-making and the enactment of inclusive climate laws and policies.

vi. Promoting a Care Perspective:

We will advance a care perspective that shifts from an extractive development model to one that safeguards both the planet and its people, emphasizing interdependence, care and sustainability. Recalling that climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution exacerbate preexisting gender inequalities, we will promote the visibility, recognition and proper valuation of the essential role of care workers in building resilient communities and leveraging environmental policies for redistributing unequal care work within households as well as on a societal level.

We are committed to advancing the above principles and invite others to join us in championing inclusive climate action through personal actions, commitments, and shared accountability.