

Announcement on the Process for Leadership of Generation Equality Action Coalitions

Following the [announcement of the Action Coalition themes](#) on the 15th of January, this communique outlines the leadership criteria, process and timeline for the Generation Equality Action Coalitions.

Who can become leaders of Action Coalitions?

Action Coalitions will be vital to a strong, vibrant and results-driven constituency of partners. UN Women is the overall convener of the Generation Equality Action Coalitions. Leaders of Action Coalitions will be comprised of the following:

- Member States (from the Global South and North)
- Women's organizations, movements and civil society actors (from the Global South and North)
- Private sector entities (including philanthropic organizations)
- UN agencies and other international or regional organizations (including Multilateral Development Banks)
- Youth-led organizations¹

The composition of the leadership group for each Action Coalition will be flexible depending on the theme and the decision of the Core Group of Generation Equality.²

To enable both diversity and flexibility, there will be approximately ten leaders for each Action Coalition. This will include representation from both the Global South and North, alongside partners in decision-making: youth leaders, young feminists, and frontline advocates impacted by the theme. Specifically, it is envisaged that the leadership structure will be comprised of: a minimum of two Member States, a minimum of two representatives from Women's Movements and Civil Society (including grassroots women's organizations); youth-led organizations, networks or movements; representatives from the private sector and philanthropy; and a UN Agency or International Organization.

¹Youth-led organizations, networks and movements institutionalize young people in leadership positions, actualizing the value that young people are the experts in their own lives. Youth-led organizations leverage their organizational mandates from their own lived realities, and their communities, and seek to engage in initiatives which are inclusive and transformative for young people and society at large.

²The Core Group is the decision-making body for the Generation Equality Forum. It is co-chaired by UN Women, France, Mexico and two representatives from civil society (from Global North and Global South).

2020: A Transformative Year for Gender Equality

The **Generation Equality Forum** is a civil society-centered, global gathering for gender equality, convened by UN Women and co-hosted by the governments of Mexico and France. This global gathering will bring actors together, especially young people, to chart a path forward a fresh and bold feminist agenda and to create a multilateral gender-progressive partnership.

Action Coalitions reflect one of the objectives of the Generation Equality Forum: to achieve tangible results on gender equality during the UN Decade of Action (2020-2030) to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals.

Action Coalitions will be officially launched by Heads of State, civil society leaders, international organizations & the private sector during the Generation Equality Forum in Paris from 7-10 July 2020, with the announcements of public commitments. The selected themes of the Generation Equality Action Coalitions are:

1. **Gender-Based Violence**
2. **Economic Justice and Rights**
3. **Bodily Autonomy and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights**
4. **Feminist Action for Climate Justice**
5. **Technology and Innovation for Gender Equality**
6. **Feminist Movements and Leadership**



What is required of leaders of Action Coalitions?

The criteria for all leaders of Action Coalitions is as follows:

- Evidence of commitment in the Action Coalition theme, either through past work or through newly defined motivation.
- A ground-breaking 5-year commitment to move the needle on the Action Coalition theme that demonstrates a global vision for change. For example: commitment to reform a major policy or law, invest in a programme at-scale, or advocate for global action.
- Commitment at the highest level of engagement. Leaders of countries, organizations or companies are expected to attend the Action Coalitions launch in Paris (July 2020).
- Active engagement in the design of the Action Coalition blueprint alongside annual tracking and reporting as part of the Action Coalition Progress Report. All Action Coalition leaders are expected to attend an annual Generation Equality Impact High-level Side Event (at UNGA).
- Demonstrate how the organization / Member State will utilize their voice and network to engage others and mobilize additional support for the Action Coalition theme.

Further, Member States are expected to support their commitment with financing (proportionate to capacity), to have ratified or acceded to CEDAW and commit to respect, protect and fulfil the human rights of girls and women in all their diversity. Private Sector Entities must commit to the [Women's Empowerment Principles](#) (WEPs) and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human rights. They should also be in line with the UN's Due Diligence Screening. Private Sector Entities' commitment should also be reflected by a financial contribution.

What is the decision-making process for leaders of Action Coalition?

Prospective leaders of Action Coalitions are invited to send their letter of intent to UN Women Headquarters no later than the **21st of February 2020**. The letter of intent is meant to be brief (a single page) and should include a description of how the prospective leaders aim to meet the leadership criteria outlined above.

In celebration of **International Women's Day (March 8th, 2020)** the announcement of the Leaders for Action Coalitions will begin and will be amplified at the High-Level Event on Generation Equality at the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW64). Further, UN Women will bring prospective Action Coalition leaders together during the CSW64 to further shape the Action Coalition Blueprints, which will be finalized at the Forum in Mexico. Details on this will be forthcoming.

Action Coalition Operating Model

The governance model of the Action Coalitions will, by intention, reflect a transformative, inclusive and adaptive leadership approach. The Action Coalition operating model will be developed through the participatory input across partners and will be shared out broadly following the CSW64.

Where to find more information: To request further information on the leadership of Action Coalitions, or to submit a letter of intent, please contact: actioncoalitions@unwomen.org. Please address general questions regarding the Generation Equality Forum to: gen.equality.forum@unwomen.org.