



EXPERT GROUP MEETING
8–9 October 2025

Progress of the World's Women 2026

Gender Equality in the Age of Climate Crisis

Suggested citation: UN Women. 2026. *Report of the Expert Group Meeting on Progress of the World's Women 2026: Gender Equality in the Age of Climate Crisis, 8–9 October 2025*. New York: UN Women.

© UN Women, 2026.

This work is available open access by complying with the Creative Commons license created for inter-governmental organizations, available at: creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/deed.en.

Publishers must delete the UN Women logo from their edition and create a new cover design. Publishers should email the file of their edition to: permissions@unwomen.org.

Photocopies and reproductions of excerpts are allowed with proper credits.

Produced by the Research and Data Section of UN Women.

The views expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the views of UN Women, the United Nations or any of its affiliated organizations.

EXPERT GROUP MEETING
8–9 October 2025

Progress of the World's Women 2026

Gender Equality in the Age of Climate Crisis



Contents

OVERVIEW	2
Day 1: Opening session.....	3
Session 1: Scoping the evidence on climate change and gender equality.....	3
Session 2: Mitigation pathways.....	8
Day 1: Closing session.....	13
Day 2: Opening session.....	13
Session 3: Gender transformative adaptation.....	12
Session 4: Mobilizing finance for feminist climate justice.....	19
Day 2: Closing session.....	25
ANNEX 1. AGENDA	27
ANNEX 2. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS	29

Overview

Progress of the World's Women combines a conceptual framework, policy case studies and innovative data analysis within a normative human rights framework to target a broad audience of gender equality advocates in different spaces. Since its inception, it has covered topics ranging from women, peace and security and women's access to justice to, more recently, topics related to feminist economics to broaden an understanding of women's economic empowerment, reframe diverse families from a feminist perspective and chart a post-COVID-19 recovery plan.

The 10th edition of *Progress of the World's Women* (*Progress* report) will provide a comprehensive analysis of two of the most pressing challenges facing the world today: the rapidly accelerating heating of the planet and the stalled progress for the world's women and girls. Drawing on a [conceptual framework of feminist climate justice](#), it will develop innovative data analysis on the impacts of climate change on women's rights and gender equality and provide robust evidence on how cross-sectoral policies can be leveraged to mitigate these impacts and ensure a gender-just transition to environmental sustainability. It will also map the approaches needed to finance these policies and identify the routes to translating social mobilization into transformative, accountable and sustainable change. An important component of the report is the development of the [Gender Equality and Climate Policy Scorecard](#), an innovative policymaking and accountability tool that assesses the gender-responsiveness of countries' climate policies through quantitative global and regional data and qualitative policy examples to support accelerated action.

The *Progress* report will be organized into four chapters. Following an introduction, which will describe the feminist climate justice framework, Chapter 1, "Gender and climate risks: From recognition to action," will assess the existing evidence on the diverse effects of climate change on key gender outcomes and provide an overview of government action to address them. Chapter 2, "Building resilience from the bottom up," will unpack the links between adaptation, vulnerability and resilience from a gender and intersectional perspective and present a transformative approach to adaptation to support feminist climate justice.

Chapter 3, "Towards a gender-just, low-emission future," will frame climate mitigation within alternative economic models to promote human well-being, social justice and environmental sustainability across the global North-South divide. Chapter 4, "Shifting power and unlocking finance for gender-responsive climate action," will highlight inclusive, safe and democratic political spaces and adequate, sustainable and equitable finance as levers for advancing gender equality and climate action at scale. The conclusion will summarize the chapter findings and propose policy recommendations.

Against this backdrop, UN Women convened an expert group meeting (EGM) over two half days on 8 and 9 October 2025 to seek the expertise of scholars on the *Progress* report to be launched in 2026. The meeting brought together leading feminist and climate researchers and data experts to discuss the draft outline of the report, provide feedback and inputs and build networks and constituencies. The meeting will directly inform the framing, content and recommendations of the *Progress* report.

Both days of the EGM opened with introductory sessions, followed by four thematic sessions, each corresponding with a chapter of the report. At the onset of each session, a member of the UN Women team presented the outline of the respective chapter in the report alongside the guiding questions to be addressed. This was followed by several prepared presentations by gender experts and a discussion among all the invited speakers and participants. The EGM provided important substantive insights and facilitated a lively exchange of perspectives and strategies for the UN Women team to consider as it further develops the *Progress* report.

Day 1: Opening session

Papa Seck (UN Women) launched the EGM by introducing the *Progress* report as UN Women's oldest flagship report, one that would provide the opportunity in 2026 to address difficult questions and generate novel data with the aim of catalysing policy change within a feminist climate justice framework. Papa noted that, while unabated climate change and multiple crises were pushing the world towards a precipice, progress was possible and a matter of political choice. He stated that the deliberate intersectional, collective action to dismantle inequalities exacerbated through climate change would be the thematic focus of the EGM discussion. He also emphasized the importance of collaborations with experts from diverse, multidisciplinary backgrounds to address the thematic focus of the report.

Laura Turquet (UN Women) highlighted the role of the 2026 edition of the report in linking research and knowledge with UN Women's programmatic work to influence climate policies and negotiations at country, regional and global levels. She said that, as a contribution to this goal, the Gender Equality and Climate Policy Scorecard, developed in collaboration with the Kaschak Institute for Social Justice for Women and Girls, tracks nationally determined contributions (NDCs) to assess the extent to which governments were recognizing gender-related vulnerabilities and risks in the context of climate change and making policy commitments to address them. She described the Scorecard as a standalone resource and data component of the *Progress* report.

Laura re-introduced the conceptual framework for the report, *Feminist Climate Justice: A Framework for Action*, launched at the 28th Conference of the Parties (COP 28) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), which drew on Nancy Fraser's work to highlight four domains for action: the **recognition** of women's rights, labour and knowledge; the **redistribution** of resources to build women's resilience; the **representation** of women's diverse and collective voices in climate decision-making; and **reparations** in recognition of the impact of current and historical emissions. She said these domains were combined with two cross-cutting principles: interdependence, between humans, between nature and human beings and between nations; and intersectionality, not only in terms of recognizing intersecting discrimination but also as a basis for building solidarities and political action.

Laura emphasized three dilemmas in the report outline that she hoped the EGM would address: first, separating or accounting for the interlinkages between climate change and broader environmental issues, such as biodiversity loss and pollution; second, while the report was structured in terms of adaptation and mitigation, where there was increasing overlap, loss and damage was also recognized as a third pillar and needed to come through clearly in the report; and third, climate change was deeply intertwined with politics, which would not be a separate session in the EGM but should come into the fourth chapter (with climate finance) and was expected to be discussed throughout the EGM in different ways.

Session 1: Scoping the evidence on climate change and gender equality

KEY QUESTIONS:

- What is currently known about the gendered impacts of the climate crisis and how policy responses have addressed these impacts? What are the key gaps in data and evidence?
- What types of data, evidence and knowledge – both quantitative and qualitative – should be included to present a global picture while reflecting regional, national and local specificities?
- Which ongoing research projects and initiatives could the report build on or collaborate with to strengthen its analysis and impact?

- What is the evidence on the extent to which climate policies take gender equality into account and on the impact of gender-blind climate policies on gender equality?
- What do we know about the political actors, factors and conditions – for example, robust grassroots movements, diverse women's voices and representation in policy processes – that have enabled or hindered progress on gender-responsive climate action?
- What politically sensitive evidence and data are gathered by non-official data producers – such as feminist and civil society organizations – to expose state inaction or abuses and to promote accountability and justice in the context of climate/environmental activism?

CHAIR: Lorena Aguilar, Kaschak Institute for Social Justice for Women and Girls, Binghamton University

OVERVIEW

Framed by the key questions above, the session aimed to discuss the data on gender equality and climate change to inform Chapter 1 of the report. It included presentations from Silke Staab and Sara Duerto Valero (both from UN Women), Angie Dazé (IISD) and a representative of IM-Defensoras, as well as a plenary discussion.

INTERVENTIONS

Silke Staab (UN Women) initiated the session by summarizing its objectives and highlighting the guiding questions.

- The data-oriented objectives of the session included identifying data sources and methodologies to generate an evidence base for the report, highlighting data sources and evidence gaps that could be filled in the report and striking a balance between aggregate level data inherent in global reports versus contextual level data required for policy responses.
- Against this backdrop, Chapter 1 will address three questions: (i) How climate change affects gender equality outcomes; (ii) How climate policies respond to gender-specific risks and vulnerabilities; and (iii) How data and evidence can be used to support accountability for gender-responsive climate action.

Sara Duerto Valero (UN Women) shared her analyses from micro-surveys and provided data sources for further exploration.

- The Gender and Environment Surveys (GES)¹ show that climate change (rapid and slow onset hazards) affects women and men differently, with the effect being worse for the former on key issues such as access to food and health care, livelihood loss and displacement. These surveys also reveal gender differences in climate maladaptation, contributions to environmental degradation and decision-making. Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) also highlight the unique impact of climate change on women and girls including, for instance, the positive correlation between aridity and child marriage or early pregnancy in specific countries.
- Gender differences in access to information, including early warning systems, contribute greatly to these disparities. Women are more likely to get information from friends and family compared to men, who often have access to higher quality information from local authorities. Factors such as type of hazard, format of early warning information (e.g., internet, radio), level of education and regional trends shape how people both get and act on climate-related information for adaptation and disaster preparedness.
- The different types of available data can be summarized into four categories: (i) national specialized data such as UN Women's GES, so far conducted in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Kiribati, Mongolia, Tonga, Samoa and Senegal, with expansion planned in other countries; (ii) large scale demographic surveys, often paired with geospatial data to identify connections between

¹ The questionnaire for the Gender and Environment Surveys can be accessed here: <https://data.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/documents/Publications/Model-Questionnaire-Gender-Environment.pdf>.

climate variables and outcomes); (iii) administrative data collected by government agencies on topics such as decision-making; and (iv) citizen-generated data, such as the Global Collaborative on Citizen Data,² to bring in perspectives and priorities often overlooked in formal data collection processes, including issues affecting marginalized groups of women and Indigenous People. Work with policymakers and statisticians at the country level has helped to ensure that new data being generated are participatory and used by local governments in their own planning.

- Four areas of ongoing research in the UN Women Asia Pacific regional office are: (i) using citizen data, particularly on topics related to Indigenous People and traditional knowledge to fill existing data gaps; (ii) using micro data to determine the gendered impacts of warming oceans on livelihoods and health; (iii) incorporating gender equality into the System of Economic-Environmental Accounting (SEEA)³ from a Leave No One Behind perspective; and (iv) identifying gender-relevant indicators to be included in the monitoring of the Global Goal on Adaptation.⁴

Angie Dazé (International Institute for Sustainable Development – IISD) shared key insights from the NAP Global Network, which supports countries to produce inclusive and gender-responsive national adaptation plans (NAPs).

- IISD hosts the Secretariat of the NAP Global Network, which has had gender equality as a priority theme since 2017. They track gender integration in NAP processes in two ways. First, NAP Trends is an online platform where

information on gender and social inclusion in NAPs across countries is shared and analysed.⁵ Second, cross-national synthesis reports provide in-depth analyses of the gender-responsiveness of NAPs that delve into the processes of risk assessment, planning and implementation for adaptation, monitor progress and include promising examples from partner countries.⁶ For example, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal depicted good practices for countries to adopt when integrating gender into NAP processes.

- As of August 2025, 97 per cent of the 65 multi-sector NAPs submitted to the UNFCCC mentioned gender and 95 per cent mentioned women. References were spread across the sections on the context, the strategy and the operations. Over two thirds of the NAPs referred to gender in all three parts of the document. In terms of framing, gender and/or women were often mentioned in the guiding principles, priorities or specific adaptation actions. Women still tended to be identified as a vulnerable group.
- As countries submit updated documents, the prominence of gender in climate policies has increased, but the depth of this integration varies. IISD has been updating its methodology to promote consistency across countries. However, NAPs do not follow a consistent structure and offer only a snapshot of a broader process of assessing climate risks, implementing adaptation and tracking progress. Going forward, systematic and nuanced integration of gender issues is needed, particularly with intersectional approaches.

² DESA (Department of Economic and Social Affairs). "Collaborative on Citizen Data." Accessed 23 April 2026. <https://unstats.un.org/UNSDWebsite/citizen-data>.

³ United Nations. Undated. "System of Environmental Economic Accounting." Accessed 24 April 2026.

<https://seea.un.org/#:~:text=The%20System%20of%20Environmental%20Economic,environmental%20assets%2C%20as%20they%20bring>.

⁴ UNFCCC. Undated. "Global Goal on Adaptation." Accessed 24 April 2026. <https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/workstreams/gga>.

⁵ NAP Global Network. 2026. "NAP Trends." International Institute for Sustainable Development. Accessed 6 April 2026. <https://trends.napglobalnetwork.org>.

⁶ Dazé, A. and C. Hunter. 2024. "Advancing Gender-Responsive National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Processes: State of Play and Promising Examples (NAP Global Network Synthesis Report)." International Institute for Sustainable Development. Accessed 24 April 2026. <https://napglobalnetwork.org/resource/advancing-gender-responsive-nap-processes-synthesis-report>.

A representative from the **Mesoamerican Initiative of Women Human Rights Defenders (IM-Defensoras)** discussed the data and registry strategy of women human rights defenders (WHRDs).

- IM-Defensoras is a network of 3,000 WHRDs and 300 feminist organizations from different Mesoamerican social movements. Since 2012, the Registry of Aggression has quantified aggressions faced by women in these territories. They compile data generated by defenders to document what is happening in their territories. Between 2012 and 2024, more than 43,000 attacks against WHRDs were documented. Defenders of land, territory and the environment have registered the highest number of attacks (22.3 per cent) and are mostly Indigenous, Garifuna or Afrodescendent women.⁷
- There have been three peaks in the increases in documented attacks. One occurred in 2017 around the assassination of Berta Cáceres, an Indigenous community leader who resisted a hydroelectric dam project in Honduras. A second peak occurred in 2020 when authoritarian governments took advantage of the COVID-19 pandemic to increase territorial control over natural resources. And a third peak began in 2022, with a surge against women defenders of land, territory and the environment across the region following an increase in forced displacement due to extractivist projects.
- The citizen data registry recognizes the important role played by WHRDs while also documenting the different types of attacks they face and who is initiating them. It is autonomous and feminist, recognizing the intersectionality of gender and race. This helps identify patterns of

aggression and the profiles of who is being most frequently attacked. For example, Indigenous People are frequently attacked for defending their human and environmental rights and stigmatized as being 'anti-progress'. Attacks often target the families of WHRDs and disrupt their private lives. There are also growing rates of digital violence and attacks in urban areas.

- The registry supports the development of appropriate advocacy and protection measures, as well as the documentation and implementation of effective prevention and protection measures. Documentation also helps investigations to punish attackers or alternatively records WHRDs' lack of access to justice and the impunity of the systems behind the attacks.
- The registry is guided by their Feminist Holistic Protection strategy,⁸ a pact of caring among WHRDs against all forms of violence that affect them. Care is at the centre of every stage of the data collection process, from first contact with defenders, to caring for the documenting teams, to the advocacy and communication surrounding the presentation of the data. This is essential to provide collective support and healing.
- The protection of WHRDs is a collective process that emphasizes care as a community responsibility. Support for protection should contribute to strengthening struggles and valuing the experiences and proposals of WHRDs and their communities for their own protection.

⁷ IM-Defensoras. 2025. "The Land Belongs to Those Who Work It and Defend It: 10+ Years of Attacks against Women Defenders of Land, Territory and the Environment (2012-2024)." May. Accessed 24 April 2026. <https://im-defensoras.org/en/2025/05/the-land-belongs-to-those-who-work-it-and-defend-it/#women-defenders-of-land-who-are-we-and-what-do-we-do>.

⁸ IM-Defensoras. 2022. "Feminist Holistic Protection." December. Accessed 30 March 2026. <https://im-defensoras.org/en/2022/12/protecci%C3%B3n-integral-feminista>.

KEY DISCUSSION TAKEAWAYS

The four presentations were followed by a plenary discussion. Key takeaways for the report included:

- Laura Turquet and Silke Staab (UN Women) stressed that Chapter 1 should set the scene by emphasizing the interconnections between climate change and other environmental crises in women's lives, e.g., biodiversity loss and pollution, taking into account the intersections of all three Rio Conventions, even if subsequent policy chapters specifically focused on gender-just responses to climate change.
- Sara Duerto Valero (UN Women) and Sophia Huyer (ILRI – AICCRA) highlighted the Gender and Environment Surveys (GES) as a rich source of micro-data for the report. Other micro-datasets allowed analyses on similar topics, e.g., that of the CGIAR on gender-disaggregated data in gender, climate and food security⁹ and the AICCRA blog on gender and social inclusion over the last five years in climate and agriculture.¹⁰ Sophia also emphasized the importance of better understanding gendered patterns of access to information on seasonal and long-term forecasts as well as early warning systems.
- Liane Schalatek (Heinrich Böll Foundation) encouraged the report to consider data density across the range of data sources available within countries to depict a more complete picture of gendered climate impacts in a particular place. She stressed the need to include key emerging topics in the report, such as loss and damage, to ensure it was forward-looking.
- Angie Dazé (IISD) noted the importance of national level policies in creating enabling environments, systems and capacities for locally led action that can drive change at a societal level. In addition, she recommended the use of qualitative case studies to focus on policy implementation.
- The representative from IM-Defensoras suggested highlighting the Escazú Agreement¹¹ in the report. This was been a participatory process in the region with ongoing discussions to develop specific guidelines for gender.
- Ana Carolina Ogando (WIEGO) drew attention to WIEGO's mixed-methods research project, Climate Change and the Urban Informal Economy, which was mapping the impact of extreme weather events on informal workers' work, productivity, earnings and health in Bangkok, Lima, New Delhi and six Brazilian cities. A key aspect of the research was the interconnection between hard and soft infrastructure at the urban level and good practices of infrastructure supporting workers in facing and adapting to the climate crisis.
- Cecilia Tinonin (UN Women) described regional offices' use of the 'Caring Cities' approach to complement national data systems.¹² This integrated gender, age, care and climate-risk data from population and business registers with geospatial layers on flood risk, land use and access to care services, enabling overlapping vulnerabilities to be identified as well as showing that care and

⁹ CGIAR (Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research). Undated. "Sex-Disaggregated Data on Climate-Smart Agriculture in CCAFS Publications." Accessed 30 March 2026.

<https://ccafs.cgiar.org/index.php/resources/tools/sex-disaggregated-data-climate-smart-agriculture-ccafs-publications>.

¹⁰ CGIAR. 2026. "Gender Rights and Justice: Insights from 5 Years of Gender-Responsive Work in Climate and Agriculture." 7 March. Accessed 30 March 2026. <https://aicra.cgiar.org/news/gender-rights-and-justice-insights-5-years-gender-responsive-work-climate-and-agriculture>.

¹¹ ECLAC (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean). Undated. "Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean." Accessed 24 April 2026. <https://www.cepal.org/en/escazuagreement>.

¹² UN Women Asia and the Pacific. 2025. "Towards Caring Cities." April. Accessed 30 March 2026. <https://asiapacific.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2025/04/towards-caring-cities>.

environmental systems were interdependent and that local data could drive gender-responsive, climate-resilient urban action.

- Verania Chao (UNDP) stressed that the report and the data generated by it should be used by countries and other relevant actors to inform policy-making and coherence and be linked to ongoing gender and data initiatives, such as through the Gender and Environment Data Alliance.¹³
- Diane Elson suggested that, alongside data from EJ Atlas¹⁴ and IM-Defensoras, it would be useful to include case studies on ongoing accountability “struggles” over climate and environmental justice.

Session 2: Mitigation pathways

KEY QUESTIONS:

- How can the report approach climate mitigation from a feminist perspective? Are pathways toward decarbonization a useful analytical lens, and what alternative framings could be considered? Should the chapter adopt a ‘just transitions’ frame?
- What are the blind spots in current policy debates on climate mitigation from a gender perspective, and how could the report help push these debates in new directions?
- How can climate mitigation policies – including renewable energy transitions and nature-based solutions – be designed and implemented to advance gender equality, sustainability and social justice?
- What emerging approaches show promise for negotiating mitigation pathways that are gender-responsive and inclusive of marginalized groups?
- How can stronger attention to the care economy be integrated into narratives and policy frameworks on climate mitigation and just transitions?

CHAIR: Magdalena Sepúlveda Carmona, United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD)

OVERVIEW

Guided by the questions above, the session focused on Chapter 3 of the report and examined how climate mitigation could be approached through a feminist climate justice lens. Chaired by Magdalena Sepúlveda Carmona (UNRISD), it included presentations by Silke Staab (UN Women), Diana Vela Almeida (Utrecht University), Nathalie Seddon (University of Oxford) and Sonia Phalatse and Julia Taylor (University of the Witwatersrand), followed by a plenary discussion.

INTERVENTIONS:

Silke Staab (UN Women) opened the session by presenting preliminary thinking for the mitigation chapter from a feminist climate justice perspective.

- The chapter aims to establish the right framing for mitigation through the lens of just transitions, identify sectoral entry points that link emission reduction with gender equality and social justice and highlight transformative approaches and examples.
- It will emphasize that deep emission cuts require structural economic and social transformations, which risk reproducing inequalities unless guided by the feminist climate justice principles of recognition, redistribution, representation and reparation.
- It will stress moving beyond growth-centred paradigms toward post-growth, feminist ecological and decolonial approaches that prioritize care, well-being and equity.

¹³ GEDA (Gender and Environment Data Alliance). Undated. “Addressing the Gender-Environment Data Gap.” Accessed 27 April 2026. <https://genderenvironmentdata.org>.

¹⁴ EJAtlas. Undated. “Global Atlas of Environmental Justice.” Accessed 6 April 2026. <https://ejatlas.org>.

- Key entry points will include gender-just energy transitions, nature-based solutions and investments in the care economy, illustrating how mitigation can simultaneously advance sustainability, equality and justice.

Diana Vela Almeida (Utrecht University) presented a recent systematic literature review on gender aspects of ‘just energy transitions’, covering 52 peer-reviewed, mainly English-language papers (2010–2024).¹⁵

- The review synthesizes three strands: (i) gender in energy production; (ii) gender in energy consumption; and (iii) feminist system-level approaches to transitions in energy systems.
- A just transition must be ecologically responsible and socially accountable, with due diligence, accountability and meaningful participation, and it must uphold inter- and intra-generational justice.
- A capital-driven shift to renewables can yield uneven environmental and social consequences. Coal mine closures and labour restructuring have increased unemployment, poverty and domestic violence among women in parts of the Global South. Solar/wind build-outs can reproduce classed, racialized and gendered labour hierarchies, while critical-mineral mining has perpetuated neocolonial exploitation, dispossession and ‘modern slavery’, including violence. Land dispossession/‘green grabbing’ deepens inequalities unless justice and gender-inclusive frameworks are centred.
- Evidence increasingly links gender inequality and energy poverty, constraining women’s economic, social and cultural participation. Household energy transitions deliver health and time-use gains (e.g., reduced respiratory illness, care burdens and time poverty), but technological fixes alone overlook domestic energy labour. Restrictive norms and male-dominated decisions

limit women’s control over energy choices in both the Global South and the Global North.

- Feminist approaches re-imagine transitions as social transformations rooted in care, justice and relational interdependency, calling for dismantling patriarchal, capitalist and colonial structures. Examples cited include Paula Walk (2024)¹⁶ on six gender-justice narratives (gender parity in decision-making; integrating equality into policy; challenging male-dominated fossil-fuel discourses; expanding women’s access to green jobs; improving protections for women affected by climate change; and promoting restructuring through ecofeminism and degrowth) and Bell et al. (2020)¹⁷ proposing a four-dimensional feminist energy framework (political, economic, socio-ecological and technological).
- Renewable transitions reconfigure labour and value, often reproducing inequalities. Feminist scholars urge renewed focus on social reproduction and the ethics of care; care work both depends on and shapes energy systems. Care could also inadvertently subsidize industries by filling welfare gaps, thereby sustaining exploitative systems.
- Many gender-and-energy analyses do not challenge heteronormative assumptions that confine reproductive labour to women. A feminist energy-justice agenda must address intersecting inequalities (gender, race, class, indigeneity, caste and sexuality), strengthen corporate accountability and labour protections (including for reproductive labour) and amplify marginalized voices via inclusive governance, decentralized systems and reparative politics

Nathalie Seddon (University of Oxford) outlined the background paper she was preparing on how nature-based solutions (NbS) could advance gender

¹⁵ Caretta, M.A. and D. Vela-Almeida. 2025. “Just Energy Transition and Gender: A Systematic Review for Feminist Research.” *Energy Research & Social Science* 126, 104138.

¹⁶ Walk, P. 2024. “From Parity to Degrowth: Unpacking Narratives of a Gender-just Transition.” *Energy Research and Social Science* 112, 103513.

¹⁷ S.E. Bell, C. Daggett and C. Labuski. 2020. “Toward Feminist Energy Systems: Why Adding Women and Solar Panels Is not Enough.” *Energy Research and Social Science* 68, 101557.

equality, environmental sustainability and social justice.

- The paper will examine the promise of NbS to ethically integrate climate, biodiversity and justice agendas; the peril of narrow, technocratic, carbon-centric applications (e.g., offsets/monocultures, land grabs, “nature for people” logics); and pathways toward feminist, decolonial, equitable NbS.
- A paradigm shift is needed from ecosystem-service logics (“nature as supplier”) to an ethic of socio-ecological care and reciprocity, combining feminist political ecology and Indigenous science – people as nature, not nature for people.
- Outcomes hinge less on ecology and more on governance – who decides, who benefits, whose knowledge counts. Women’s ecological and situational knowledge is essential to ecological integrity and resilience; ignoring it yields poorer outcomes.
- Evidence cited included: in Mexico, excluding women’s input missed half the key tree species for restoration; in Nepal, women’s participation in forest governance improved ecological outcomes; in Viet Nam, intergenerational knowledge among farming women drove adaptation; in East Africa, women’s coastal knowledge identified habitats men rarely see; and in the Mekong Delta, women’s seed saving/selection/storage, soil and water observations and adaptive planting calendars informed context-specific NbS.
- Possible actions span governance and rights (secure land/carbon tenure, gender-sensitive free, prior and informed consent [FPIC] and recognition of the rights of nature); finance/markets (direct funding to women-led NbS, compensate unpaid labour and embed equity in carbon markets); and knowledge/capacity (value women’s/Indigenous knowledge

with Western science and invest in women’s networks for leadership and accountability).

- Gender plans across the Rio Conventions mark progress, yet safeguards often remain procedural, financing still favours male landholders and carbon metrics, and implementation lags. Nature-based approaches that reproduce inequality are not solutions; rather, true NbS are gender-transformative, decolonial and relational.

In the final presentation, **Sonia Phalatse and Julia Taylor (University of the Witwatersrand)** presented findings from their joint research and introduced the Care-Climate Conceptual Framework,¹⁸ which they said connected care, climate and economic systems to advance a feminist understanding of mitigation and just transitions.

- Despite substantial progress on gender and climate research, limited attention has been paid to the care economy. The framework seeks to integrate care into climate narratives and policy, particularly in relation to mitigation, adaptation and just transitions.
- The framework also broadens the concept of care to encompass care for people, communities and the environment, drawing on Joan Tronto’s definition of care as “everything we do to maintain, continue and repair our world,”¹⁹ as well as Indigenous conceptions of reverence for land and nature.
- It situates care and nature as foundational yet undervalued pillars of the economy – activities essential for sustaining life but excluded from monetized economic systems. This devaluation, rooted in capitalism, patriarchy and colonialism, fuels hyper-consumption, extractivism and financialization, all of which contribute to both the climate crisis and care inequalities.
- The framework identifies two key determinant levels: structural determinants (socio-economic and political systems, power relations and the

¹⁸ Phalatse, S., J. Taylor and I. Valodia. 2024. “The Climate-Care Nexus: A Conceptual Framework.” Working Paper No. 70, Southern Centre for Inequality Studies, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa.

¹⁹ Fisher, B. and J. Tronto. 1990. “Towards a Feminist Theory of Caring.” In *Circles of Care: Work and Identity in Women’s Lives*, edited by Emily K. Abel and M. K. Nelson. Albany, New York: State University of New York Press.

distribution of resources); and intermediate determinants (energy systems, urban planning, production and consumption models, agriculture and mining). Their interaction produces mutually reinforcing depletions of environmental and human well-being, manifesting in rising social inequalities and care deficits.

- Sonia argued that effective climate policy must address power relations both within and between communities and support livelihoods, access to care infrastructure and sustainable resource use. Shifting from depletion toward replenishment and regeneration requires macroeconomic policies that prioritize well-being over profit, democratize ownership of land and natural resources and embed care values in environmental governance.
- Her recommendations included reorienting finance-driven economies toward a global green

and caring economy, supported by gender-sensitive climate finance, debt relief and fair taxation to curb austerity and inequality.

- Julia extended these insights through reference to their empirical research on South Africa's energy transition, observing that while the transition was happening, it was not just. Women remain underrepresented and face sexism, racism and precarious working conditions, while energy poverty is rising as electricity costs increase.
- She emphasized the need to centre energy access and care burdens in mitigation debates. Cooperatively- or communally-owned microgrids are promising models for distributing transition benefits more equitably than large-scale, utility-driven projects.

KEY DISCUSSION TAKEAWAYS

The four presentations were followed by a plenary discussion. Key takeaways for the report include:

- Elvina Crowe (Nature-based Solutions, Oxford) emphasized that nature-based solutions (NbS) spanned diverse regions, ecosystems and locally specific approaches.. She also explored the more-than-human (MTH) rights frameworks, noting that women and non-human beings shared histories of domination and extraction as well as practices of care, relational and situated knowledge and social reproduction. While acknowledging concerns that integrating MTH rights might dilute human rights narratives, she argued that human rights could be understood within a broader umbrella of ecological justice, pointing to entry points such as the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment and the "Mother-Earth-centric" language adopted in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and related COP decisions.
- Diana Vela Almeida (Utrecht University) noted that decentralized energy systems could both empower women and reduce inequalities and violence but could also reproduce patriarchal power relations when implemented as localized versions of centralized models. She stressed that participatory, decentralized and decolonial energy governance was inherently context-dependent and has to directly confront cultural patterns that reproduce inequality. She also introduced 'sacrifice zones' as a politically powerful concept for spotlighting distributional injustice while cautioning that communities living in such areas might reject the label because they view these places as life-affirming and worth defending.
- Diane Elson argued that the report's influence would depend on pairing a strong conceptual framework with concrete specificity – clear language, tangible linkages and grounded case studies that showed what was going wrong, how it could be put right and what was working in practice – rather than relying on high-level abstractions that were less accessible to wider stakeholder audiences.

- Julia Taylor (SCIS, Wits University) used South Africa's Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP) as a cautionary example of a contested transition process shaped by limited consultation, disputed priorities (including green hydrogen) and contentious financing modalities (loans versus grants). She highlighted how the JETP had, in some respects, displaced a more inclusive national process led by the Presidential Climate Commission, shifting influence toward private sector-driven structures and narrowing stakeholder participation, illustrating how just transition narratives could be captured through governance design.
- Sonia Phalatse (SCIS, Wits University) noted that climate scientists had often been open to care-climate work, but that they might lack the language to connect across disciplines. She advocated for more spaces where climate scientists, activists and social scientists could engage together and highlighted participatory action research as a practical bridge to treat lived experience as evidence alongside scientific knowledge.
- Sophia Huyer (ILRI – AICCRA) cautioned that the dominant 'green jobs' discourse risked excluding women because they remained marginal in formal renewable energy employment, even in the Global North, and were often concentrated in administrative roles. She highlighted collective ownership and management models as promising alternatives, citing a Women's District Committee in Nepal that accessed solar irrigation subsidies, managed pumps collectively, increased crop production, generated income and strengthened women's confidence and community standing. She also flagged the major evidence gap on women's biodiversity, arguing that the intersection of women's and Indigenous knowledge remained under-recognized but crucial for intersectional climate action.
- Sheila Oparaocha (Energia) stressed that climate policy debates often prioritize renewables and transition while failing to address energy poverty and lack of access clean cooking fuels and technologies, despite the major health impacts of indoor air pollution. She emphasized that the energy transition had to be understood both as moving from no access to access and as shifting to sustainable sources. She noted persistent gender gaps in renewable energy employment, with women concentrated in administrative and precarious roles. She also pointed to gender-blind design in pay-as-you-go solar models due to the gender digital divide, and highlighted that transitions away from informal sectors such as charcoal risked eliminating women's livelihoods without policies to protect or transition affected workers.
- Silke Staab (UN Women) proposed reframing the green jobs debate in two directions: first, by recognizing that many forms of women's work already constitute mitigation-relevant green jobs (e.g., small-scale agriculture, agroecology, conservation, NbS, waste picking and recycling) and improving job quality and recognition; and second, by questioning whether the chapter should also retain an agenda to break down occupational segregation and advocate for women's fair share of better-paid formal employment in renewable energy, without treating jobs as equivalent to justice.
- Sarah Cook (UNNC China) argued that translating the conceptual framework into policy traction required connecting mitigation and just transition debates to political windows already on the agenda, especially in contexts where gender remained largely invisible in green growth narratives. She highlighted 'green unemployment' in deindustrializing regions and mine-closure areas as a major challenge, noting that gendered patterns could push women into migrant domestic work while men lost jobs, reinforcing longstanding inequalities. She underscored the need to link care, ageing, climate, technological change and jobs in actionable policy messaging.

Day 1: Closing session

Sehar Ezdi (UN Women) thanked the participants for their contributions and highlighted key takeaways for the day.

- There is a plethora of micro-level data relevant to the report. This will enable analysis of gender issues at the ground level and make it possible to combine diverse surveys to investigate novel relationships, including the analyses of inequalities at the nexus of gender, climate change and environmental degradation. The disaggregation of SEEA data into population groups or at the individual level unlocks new avenues for exploration.
- The detrimental impacts of climate change are not limited to those it causes directly but extend to underlying inequalities. As also evident via the exacerbation of inequalities during gender and green transitions and technological innovation, solutions for building resilience and advancing towards more sustainable economies and societies that ensure a gender-responsive just transition often extend beyond the climate space and are political rather than technical.
- Climate justice is not necessarily embedded in green jobs, especially if these jobs are precarious and rely on unpaid care and socially reproductive labour. Green jobs projections using macro models should be interpreted with caution as they conceal jobs in which women are active that are currently not recognized as green (e.g. small-scale sustainable agriculture). Cross-national differences in the gender and age structure of the population have ramifications for the energy and green transition due to the proportion of women and men who could contribute to and benefit from these transitions.
- While top-level evidence on climate policies will draw on the Scorecard, significant problems with the current status-quo approaches to climate action in adaptation and mitigation are noted. These approaches are often ineffective or even counterproductive in social and environmental terms because they are not rooted in feminist climate justice principles.

Day 2: Opening session

Brianna Howell (UN Women) opened the session by welcoming participants and outlining the structure of the day before inviting participants for their quick reflections on key takeaways from the previous day.

Lorena Aguilar (Kaschak Institute) emphasized that the report should move beyond 'just' climate change to explicitly connect with the broader triple environmental crisis, using UN Women's data to show how these issues intersected.

Mehjabeen Alarakhia (UN Women) highlighted that climate change deepened existing inequalities, urged the report to address politics and power, called for bridging different knowledge systems and noted the need to rethink how 'green jobs' were defined to recognize women's existing contributions.

Haroon Akram-Lodhi (Trent University) reflected that Indigenous knowledge, like any knowledge system, had limits due to bounded rationality and should be valued without being idealized.

Omaira Bolaños (Rights and Resources Initiative) described how the Rights and Resources Initiative elevated both Indigenous scientific knowledge and everyday local knowledge – such as women's expertise on seeds and medicinal plants – as essential inputs for climate adaptation and ecosystem stewardship.

Session 3: Gender transformative adaptation

KEY QUESTIONS:

- How can the report frame adaptation with a feminist climate justice lens? Is 'gender-transformative adaptation' the most appropriate conceptual framing or are there alternative framings that better capture adaptation efforts that tackle the root causes of gender inequalities?
- What links can be drawn between adaptation, vulnerability and resilience from a gender and intersectional perspective?
- What are the shortcomings of current climate adaptation approaches, and under what conditions can bottom-up adaptation solutions be developed without shifting undue responsibility onto women in local communities?
- In what ways can policies on climate adaptation – spanning water management, climate-resilient agriculture and aquaculture, as well as urban planning and infrastructure – be shaped to promote gender equality, environmental sustainability and social justice?
- What innovative tools and approaches to gender-transformative adaptation are emerging, and how can they be scaled up and replicated?

CHAIR: Sophia Huyer, CGIAR

OVERVIEW

Framed by the key questions above, the session aimed to unpack the links between adaptation, vulnerability and resilience from a gender and intersectionality perspective through a transformative approach to inform Chapter 2 of the report. It included presentations from Sophia Huyer (CGIAR), Constanza Tabbush (UN Women), Bernadette P. Resurreccion (Queens University), Martina Angela Caretta (Lund University) and Chandni Singh (Indian Institute of Human Settlements) as well as a plenary discussion.

Sophia Huyer (CGIAR) opened the session by sharing her thoughts on approaches to gender transformative adaptation.

- The connection between equality at the individual level and transformation at the broader societal scale should be emphasized.
- The importance of gender transformation of agricultural and aquatic systems, transformation of structural barriers (especially gender and social norms) and the gender politics surrounding these changes should be highlighted.
- Resilient development allows women to make their own development choices that prioritize risk reduction, equity and justice. Information, access to resources and participation in

decision-making are the main ingredients for agency, empowerment, scaling and eventually gender transformation.

INTERVENTIONS

Constanza Tabbush (UN Women) summarized Chapter 2 of the report and emphasized the guiding questions.

- The session aims to frame adaptation through a feminist climate justice lens; identify avenues for promoting adaptation that built resilience together with gender equality and social justice; and highlight approaches, solutions or examples across sectors that the report could showcase.
- Current adaptation efforts fall short of addressing structural inequalities and vulnerabilities, highlighting the urgent need for a more transformative approach. Feminist climate justice could inform adaptation pathways that built resilience for all women.
- Adaptation with a feminist climate justice lens requires recognition, representation and redistribution as well as taking an intersectional approach to assess the factors that shape women's vulnerability and adaptive capacity.
- To assess this framework in practice, the chapter will look at adaptation and resilience-building in agriculture in relation to water and in the context of cities. It asks what is required for

transformative adaptation in these areas and what innovative tools and interventions are emerging for women and girls.

Bernadette P. Resurreccion (Queens University)

presented on gender transformative adaptation, engaging on the question of framing based on her extensive research in this area.

- Adaptation has often been framed as a solution to living with and adjusting to climate change. However, the technical approaches adopted by many adaptation programmes have the potential to increase the vulnerability of people and ecosystems. Therefore, there is a need for adaptation activities that enhance resilience to not only climate change but also social, political and economic factors that make people and non-human systems vulnerable.²⁰
- There are three types of change within adaptation activities:²¹ instrumental change, which focuses on addressing climate risk itself as a separate environmental problem; progressive change, which targets the reduction of differential or intersectional social vulnerability; and radical change, which tackles the underlying causes of vulnerability. A distinction can also be made between transformational adaptation,²² where adaptation practices themselves are reformed, and transformative adaptation, where broader development pathways are reshaped through adaptation activities.
- Adaptation should be transformative because climate change is not only an external shock but also driven by capitalist growth and colonial extractivism, which thrive on structural hierarchies and inequalities.
- Transformative adaptation requires not only acknowledging coloniality, patriarchy and capitalism as combined drivers of vulnerability but also examining how these systems shape

access to resources, decisions, inequities and exclusions in adaptation programmes. It is necessary to cultivate justice-centred practices rooted in lived experience and community visions, drawing from feminist political ecology, centring the home, the body, gender, reproduction and emotions. The goal is to ensure adaptation becomes a pathway for resilience building and systemic change grounded in justice, equity and inclusion.

- The term 'gender transformative' was developed to address gender norms but has been critiqued for focusing on gender to the exclusion of other forms of discrimination, overlooking intersectionality. However, if UN Women chooses to use this framing, it should adopt the principles of feminist climate justice: recognition, redistribution, transformation and plurality through co-produced community pathways.
- In practical terms, this means strengthening multi-scale coordination while centring community perspectives, institutionalizing meaningful FPIC, promoting feminist leadership, strengthening intersectional data and analysis beyond disaggregation, independently monitoring maladaptive practices, holding corporations and States accountable, integrating health, gender and environmental priorities and addressing insecure land tenure and social exclusion.
- Adaptation is not only a technocratic process of managed adjustment. It can also be a social justice response. Transformative adaptation should be grounded in justice, equity and inclusion and reshape adaptation as a pathway for systemic change.

Martina Angela Caretta (Lund University) shared gender-related findings on water insecurity,

²⁰ Eriksen, S., E.L.F. Schipper, M. Scoville-Simonds, K. Vincent et al. 2021. "Adaptation Interventions and Their Effect on Vulnerability in Developing Countries: Help, Hindrance or Irrelevance?" *World Development* 141, 105383.

²¹ Few, R., D. Morchain, S. Spear, A. Mensah et al. 2017. "Transformation, Adaptation and Development: Relating Concepts to Practice." *Palgrave Communications* 3, 17092.

²² UNFCCC Secretariat. 2024. "Defining and Understanding Transformational Adaptation at Different Spatial Scales and Sectors, and Assessing Progress in Planning and Implementing Transformational Adaptation Approaches at the Global Level." Technical paper, 5 November. Accessed 28 April 2026. <https://unfccc.int/documents/641403>.

management and governance from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Sixth Assessment Report, on which she was a lead author.²³

- Water insecurity, due to floods, droughts or forest fires, is often one of the first manifestations of climate change that people will experience or have already experienced. Women are disproportionately vulnerable to water scarcity because it exacerbates existing social inequalities, including those that arise out of gendered norms of unpaid labour. Lack of water infrastructure has been shown to heighten psychosocial distrust, increase gender-based violence and reduce hygienic standards and maternal and child health and nutrition. Further, women are often excluded from water management decision-making processes.
- Such vulnerabilities are amplified in the wake of natural disasters and may disproportionately impact people of specific racial or ethnic groups and sexual orientations. For instance, in times of disaster, people from marginalized groups may not feel safe going to shelters or community spaces. This highlights the importance of an intersectional approach to climate justice. These findings are evident in a paper published by the author in collaboration with Michael Mikulovic, Farhana Sultana and Neil Crawford.²⁴ The paper shows that climate justice scholarship has reached a point at which it is necessary to address the intersection of different climate-related oppressions, developing an intersectional methodology and forging cross-cutting alliances. This should be applied to adaptation in planning, design and implementation.
- The presentation illuminated the importance of addressing these inequalities in adaptation

actions in the water sector, drawing examples from the IPCC report. For instance, adaptation projects often target the head of the family or use land ownership as a criterion for participation, excluding many women. Instead, gender-sensitive approaches can reduce the time women spend collecting water, lessen health disparities and improve their abilities to adapt to climate change through diversifying incomes and strengthening household bargaining power.

- It is important to question whose knowledge counts in water governance. Local and Indigenous knowledge systems are often sidelined in favour of expert-driven technical models. This is despite the observation that Indigenous practices such as agroforestry have been shown to be important ways to save water, reduce groundwater decline and protect communities against droughts.²⁵
- Gender-sensitive adaptation is more effective because women hold key agricultural knowledge in the Global South, and their lived experiences and roles within their households and communities makes them strategically positioned to find solutions. Other recommendations include that relief organizations be trained in cultural competence and that groups representing marginalized populations – for example, LGBTQI+ organizations – should be eligible to receive funding for disaster relief and should be trained in disaster response.²⁶ Finally, increasing women's representation, particularly from marginalized groups, is essential to reach key SDG targets on, for instance, clean water and

²³ IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change). 2023. "AR6 Synthesis Report: Climate Change 2023." Accessed 1 April 2026. <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/syr>.

²⁴ Mikulewicz, M., M.A. Caretta, F. Sultana and N. Crawford. 2023. "Intersectionality and Climate Justice: A Call for Synergy in Climate Change Scholarship." *Environmental Politics* 32(7), pp. 1275–1286.

²⁵ Rittelmeyer, P., M.A. Caretta, C. Dowler, S. Vora et al. 2024. "Adaptation to Water-induced Disaster: Exploring Local Knowledge and Indigenous Knowledge-led Strategies." *AlterNative: An International Journal of Indigenous Peoples* 20(1), pp. 96–108.

²⁶ Goldsmith, L., V. Raditz and M. Méndez. 2022. "Queer and Present Danger: Understanding the Disparate Impacts of Disasters on LGBTQ+ Communities." *Disasters* 46(4), pp. 946–973; Goodwin, S. and L. Goldsmith. 2024. "Mapping Sexual and Gender Minority Inclusion in National Adaptation Plans Globally." Research Square Preprint, version 1 (not peer reviewed).

sanitation, but also to improve disaster response and increase social trust.²⁷

Chandni Singh (Indian Institute of Human Settlements) addressed climate change, adaptation in cities and the intersection with gender by using key messages from the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report,²⁸ on which she was also a lead author.

- Two particularly relevant findings from the IPCC report are, first, that specifically focusing on cities and urban adaptation may increase inequality. Evidence from a range of adaptation projects shows that, while some focused on women's differential and additional vulnerability to climate risks, they failed to pay attention to the gendered outcomes of adaptation projects. Therefore, solutions for effective adaptation should go beyond the climate change space.²⁹ Second, gender has not been successfully integrated with other social inequalities in climate policies.
- Two examples from ongoing research illustrate this. First, analysis of subnational climate adaptation policy in India shows that gender is often equated with women, who are discussed as a homogenous category, neglecting intersectionality and viewing them as vulnerable victims rather than active agents of change. These limited perspectives overlook nuanced gender dynamics, such as intra-household bargaining and differential capacities and access to resources. In some studies, there is recognition related to agricultural livelihoods and activities, but there are rarely policy solutions that match these gender-differentiated risks.³⁰
- A second study coming from the forthcoming UNEP Adaptation GAP Report, published annually,³¹ looks at adaptation implementation. The assessment of 106 biannual transparency reports (BTR) reveals that roughly 25 per cent were gender blind, with no recognition of intersectionality, while 43 per cent embraced a gender-sensitive approach and talked about national equality policies or plans or had targeted gender actions. Despite this progress, no country had a BTR that can be tagged as gender transformative. This may be because gender transformative adaptation is taking place in institutional spaces beyond the climate space, such as national legislatures, or because countries have not understood what gender transformative adaptation is and how to implement it. The scientific community should explain this more clearly to help climate policy and implementation practitioners understand what it looks like in practice.
- Adaptation and vulnerability literature differentiate between generic and specific capacities. Generic capacities build the social floor (e.g., improved education and health) and managed risk with or without climate change. Specific capacities manage escalating risk in the face of climate change.³²

The report should recognize that transformative potential comes from development interventions beyond the climate space that transform unequal gender relations and institutions. This should be approached through an intersectional lens, including in the reporting of gendered impacts. It should also

²⁷ Tandon, I., C. Wallace, M.A. Caretta, S. Vij et al. 2022. "Urban Water Insecurity and Its Gendered Impacts: On the Gaps in Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Development Goals." *Climate and Development* 16(3), pp. 187–198; Lissner, T.K., T. Möller, M.A. Caretta and A. Mukherji. 2024. "Effectiveness of Water-related Adaptation Decreases with Increasing Warming." *One Earth* 7(3), pp. 444–454.

²⁸ IPCC. 2023. "AR6 Synthesis Report: Climate Change 2023." Accessed 1 April 2026. <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/syr>.

²⁹ Solomon, D. S., C. Singh and F. Islam. 2021. "Examining the Outcomes of Urban Adaptation Interventions on Gender Equality Using SDG 5." *Climate and Development* 13(9), pp. 830–841.

³⁰ Singh, C., D. Solomon and N. Rao. 2021. "How Does Climate Change Adaptation Policy in India Consider Gender? An Analysis of 28 State Action Plans." *Climate Policy* 21(7), pp. 958–975.

³¹ UNEP (United Nations Environmental Programme). Undated. "Adaptation Gap Report." Accessed 24 April 2026. <https://www.unep.org/resources/adaptation-gap-report>.

³² Eakin, H. C., M. C. Lemos and D.R. Nelson. 2014. "Differentiating Capacities as a Means to Sustainable Climate Change Adaptation." *Global Environmental Change* 27, pp. 1–8; Singh, C., D. Solomon, R. Bendapudi, B. Kuchimanchi et al. 2019. "What Shapes Vulnerability and Risk Management in Semi-arid India? Moving towards an Agenda of Sustainable Adaptation." *Environmental Development* 30, pp. 35–50. On a continuum of potential adaptation approaches, see also <https://www.iisd.org/story/is-it-adaptation-or-development>.

go beyond looking at women-centred impacts and examine social relations more broadly to see where masculinities are being reframed. For instance, on the topic of migration from rural to urban areas, young men from disadvantaged communities and ethnicities are experiencing a crisis of masculinity

that reconfigures how households handle risk. It should also not just look at the current state of climate conditions but also consider the future where risks become more intense, frequent and otherwise complex. This will have drastic impacts on social structures that should be anticipated.

KEY DISCUSSION TAKEAWAYS

The four presentations were followed by a plenary discussion. Key takeaways for the report include:

- Martina A. Caretta (Lund University) highlighted depletion and social reproduction as important concepts for the report, given the dearth of research on the topic and especially in the context of climate change.³³ Drawing on field research in Chile, she described how women, particularly from marginalized groups, often had several overlapping paid, unpaid and underpaid roles that depleted both their time and energy, leaving them little time to care for themselves or spend time with their families.
- Nitya Rao (University of East Anglia) noted the importance of considering trade-offs and synergies for women in the design of climate policy. For instance, heat action plans often advised against work in peak-heat hours, but this needed to be considered in the context of gendered cycles of paid (including informal) work and unpaid labour throughout the day.
- Haroon Akram-Lodhi (Trent University) critiqued status quo adaptation and the political economy of redistribution. He argued that gender-responsive rural infrastructure benefitted everyone and was easier to promote politically. Status quo adaptation projects from the 1970s and 1980s that had been intended to benefit women often failed or were captured by men, underlining the need to avoid repeating historical mistakes. He said that while local knowledge and lived experience were important, bounded rationality limited what communities knew. Expert-driven models must shift toward listening and co-producing solutions. Communities were hierarchical, and local adaptation could reproduce inequality and elite capture. Haroon characterized land redistribution as inherently political and rooted in capitalism, patriarchy and coloniality – it was resisted by powerful landowners yet offered opportunities to advance Indigenous land return claims as reparations. Resource redistribution must consider overlaps between land and water access. He agreed that the concept of depletion introduced by Martina was highly relevant.
- Chandni Singh (Indian Institute for Human Settlements) exposed the incompatibility between heat policies and lived realities and highlighted the growing discussion about linking heat exposure to loss and damage and funding reparations. While urban heat received attention, rural heat exposure was also significant. She described the extreme mismatch between proposed solutions, such as shifting work hours, and people's actual capacities: Daily wage workers would not stop working between 12 and 4pm because they could not afford the income loss; instead, they adjusted tasks, such as working indoors, which showed a disconnect between adaptation policy and lived needs.
- Marcela Valdivia (WIEGO) emphasized that gendered vulnerability to climate change should be assessed in rural and urban contexts. Potential solutions for heat exposure included heat action plans,

³³ Rai, S.M. 2024. "Depletion: The Human Costs of Caring." Oxford: Oxford University Press.

infrastructure, changing shifts and reparations. She stressed that infrastructure transformation was required to support women in their different roles as workers, caregivers, etc., especially given their concentration in the informal economy, and that home was a primary place of work for many women in the Global South.

- Ana Carolina Ogando (WIEGO) highlighted her work with Marcela Valdivia, which reflected on what a care-focused urban infrastructure lens could mean from the perspective of hard and soft infrastructure, in light of the climate crisis, for workers in informal employment. The work depicted vignettes from two contexts to examine the relevance of relationality and agency.³⁴
- Amalia Calderón-Angelich (BCNUEJ/UOC) discussed her work in Barcelona and highlighted the importance of language choices in transformation. She noted that terms such as ‘feminist neighbourhoods’, ‘inclusive neighbourhoods’ or ‘proximate neighbourhoods’ shifted depending on the political context. For example, the naturalization of schoolyards, which contributed to climate adaptation, biodiversity, education and social interaction, was dominated by boys playing football. Their redesign could transform gender roles and space use. Amalia stressed that nature-based solutions and green infrastructure were crucial for adaptation and had to integrate gender criteria from the beginning. This connected with daily life, neighbourhood design, mobility and safety. She pointed out that design principles that improved safety, accessibility and autonomy for women and girls ultimately benefited broader communities.
- Angie Dazé (IISD) highlighted ongoing work to develop intersectional approaches to adaptation. She noted that co-production workshops had helped to develop principles for climate risk assessments that were being applied through case studies from rural Nepal and working with disability rights and LGBTQI+ rights in South Africa. She described the aim of the projects as to better understand the lived experience of people facing intersecting forms of discrimination in order to develop adaptation solutions that addressed underlying systems of inequity that made them more vulnerable to climate change.³⁵
- Bernadette P. Resurreccion (Queens University) noted the importance of situating knowledge in time and space. She stressed that even when considering bottom-up approaches to knowledge production, there were local structural hierarchies to be aware of and there was a lot of potential for elite capture in large-scale adaptation projects, with many examples already observed.

Session 4: Mobilizing finance for feminist climate justice

KEY QUESTIONS:

- How does the issue of climate finance map onto our conceptual framework of feminist climate justice?
- What are the main barriers to countries, particularly low- and middle-income countries in the Global South, having access to adequate climate finance that can fund gender-responsive climate action? Of the current proposals to increase climate finance, which have the most potential and which are blind alleys? What is the role of private finance, and what safeguards are needed?
- Given the important role of domestic resource mobilization in financing transitions to sustainable economies, how can this be done in ways that protect women and the poorest households? What is the

³⁴ Ogando, A.C. and M. Valdivia. 2025. *Caring Cities in a Warming World: Building Climate Resilient Infrastructure for Workers in Informal Employment*. Accessed 7 April 2026. <https://www.wiego.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/WIEGO-GOLDVII-Caring-Cities-in-a-Warming-World.pdf>.

³⁵ Dazé A. and A. Christoffersen. 2025. “Unpacking Intersectional Approaches to Climate Change Adaptation.” Working Paper. Winnipeg, Manitoba: IISD.

potential of progressive feminist fiscal pacts to support the development of tax and spending policies for rapid climate action while also building and maintaining widespread political support?

- What are the most effective ways of channelling resources to diverse grassroots women's organizations to support their work on climate adaptation? What would it take for the existing climate funds to achieve this goal? What are the most promising alternative proposals, including, for example, a devoted community access modality in the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD)?

CHAIR: Jalia Kangave, International Centre for Tax and Development

OVERVIEW

Anchored in the guiding questions above, the session aimed to examine how climate finance could advance a feminist climate justice agenda and to inform Chapter 4 of the report. It was chaired by Jalia Kangave (International Centre for Tax and Development) and included presentations from Laura Turquet (UN Women), Jayati Ghosh (University of Massachusetts Amherst), Verónica Grondona (Independent Commission for the Reform of International Corporate Taxation) and Liane Schalatek (Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung), followed by a plenary discussion.

INTERVENTIONS

Laura Turquet (UN Women) opened the session by outlining three criteria in mobilizing finance for climate justice:

- The centrality of adequate, sustainable and equitable climate finance to advance a feminist climate justice vision should be emphasized.
- The need to integrate politics and finance – addressing hollowed-out democracies, corporate capture and colonial legacies through a feminist decolonial lens of representation, redistribution and reparation – should be highlighted.
- Equitable financing has to operate across global, national and local levels, scaling resources from the Global North, including highly concessional funding as required by the Paris Agreement; designing progressive domestic mobilization (with attention to distributional impacts); and channelling funds to local governance and women's organizations.

Jayati Ghosh (University of Massachusetts Amherst) provided a global perspective on the challenges of mobilizing finance for feminist climate justice, emphasizing the growing gap between the

transformative change that feminists seek and the regressive political and economic forces shaping the current world order.

- There is a striking gap between the call for transformative change and the reality of global regression. While many are tired of incremental reforms, the world is moving fast in the opposite direction. Even modest demands – such as more Special Drawing Rights from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) – seem politically impossible, making systemic reform of global finance feel almost out of reach. The challenge now is to identify what actions remain viable in this restrictive environment.
- Climate finance lacks clear definition and coherence. Countries are allowed to label almost anything as climate finance, leading to widespread greenwashing, with projects such as gelato shops or film productions counted toward the USD 100 billion target of finance to be mobilized and provided by developed to developing countries by 2020, only reached in 2022. Estimated needs in the trillions are detached from any realistic plan to meet them. Funding remains concentrated on mitigation and green energy, while adaptation and loss-and-damage are neglected. Private finance, expected to close the gap, depends on public subsidies and de-risking mechanisms. Yet for every public dollar spent, only a small fraction becomes real private investment. Long-term, highly concessional and patient finance, crucial for resilience and to address loss and damage, is largely ignored.
- Gender continues to be treated as an add-on. Climate policies and programmes still feature gender in isolated paragraphs rather than integrating it across their design. The real task is to assess whether all climate measures –

whether or not they mention women – address gendered impacts. Current mitigation and finance strategies benefit large formal sectors such as energy and transport, excluding women in informal work, small-scale farming and cooperatives. Climate change also increases paid and unpaid care burdens and deepens livelihood insecurity, especially for women, yet these effects rarely shape policy.

- Quantitative gender indicators often become performative. Tracking how much funding is ‘for gender’ risks becoming a box-ticking exercise detached from real outcomes. The focus should be on the gender-differentiated effects of all financial and climate policies. Social protection must expand to reflect new gendered vulnerabilities, and existing livelihoods deserve higher priority. Simply adding gender to current frameworks, without changing their structure, will not bring about transformation.
- Global climate finance still reflects colonial and protectionist power relations. Mechanisms such as carbon trading shift emissions rather than cutting them, while measures such as the United States of America’s Inflation Reduction Act and the European Union’s Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism restrict exports from developing countries without offering finance or technology transfer. ‘Green’ industrial policies often drive new extractive practices – such as mineral grabs or unsafe waste recycling – that displace communities and harm women and children in the Global South. Private markets still favour carbon-intensive sectors, and Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) frameworks mostly enable greenwashing.
- To move forward, climate finance must be aligned with social and development goals. Public finance and transparency should take priority over speculative private investment, with strong equity and gender conditions. Global coordination is needed on tax justice, debt restructuring and regulating financial and commodity markets. Capital controls and

restrictions on harmful activities such as cryptocurrency mining can help reorient markets toward justice and resilience.

- Feminist movements must join broader coalitions for tax, debt and trade justice. Achieving feminist climate justice means shaping macroeconomic and financial policies directly, not just inserting gender into existing ones. The goal is to rebuild the system so that equality, redistribution and accountability are at its core.

Verónica Grondona (Independent Commission for the Reform of International Corporate Taxation)

linked tax justice, corporate power and state capacity to fiscal space for gender equality and climate justice.

- Tax evasion and avoidance by multinational corporations and wealthy individuals fundamentally undermine the rule of law and the fiscal capacity of States. Legal systems themselves can create loopholes that enable these practices, weakening States’ ability to collect taxes and govern effectively.³⁶ High levels of informality and tax avoidance signal weak state authority and reduced sovereignty. Tax exemptions for powerful sectors not only shrink revenue but also limit governments’ policy space. Addressing this requires not only tax reform but also measures to reduce corporate concentration and dominance in global trade.
- The ongoing negotiation of a United Nations Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation, expected to continue until 2027, presents a critical opportunity for reform. Despite the withdrawal of the United States of America, countries of the Global South see it as a rare chance – after nearly a century since the League of Nations debates – to reshape international tax rules. The 2023 United Nations General Assembly resolution launching this process called for an integrated approach that links economic, social and environmental policies within sustainable development.

³⁶ De la Feria, R. 2018. “Tax Fraud and the Rule of Law.” *Working Paper Series 18/02*. Oxford: Oxford University Centre for Business Taxation.

- These negotiations have direct implications for gender equality and climate justice, even if they do not explicitly reference them. Fairer allocation of taxing rights between North and South will expand public finance for climate adaptation, care systems and measures addressing gender-based violence. The current tax framework – rooted in thousands of treaties that overwhelmingly favour capital-exporting countries and the ‘arm’s length’ principle – restricts the fiscal space of developing nations, which often lack the administrative capacity to enforce such complex rules. As a result, governments rely heavily on indirect taxes, which disproportionately burden women and the poor.
- The terms of reference for the new convention include commitments to curb tax evasion and avoidance by high-net-worth individuals, promote transparency and information exchange and address illicit financial flows. These are vital for resource mobilization in developing countries and for achieving equitable climate and gender outcomes.
- Human rights obligations provide additional entry points for integrating gender equality into tax reform.³⁷ Frameworks such as the extraterritorial obligations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the “maximum available resources” principle of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and commitments to non-discrimination could be used as leverage in the negotiations. Strong engagement from feminist and civil society organizations will be key to ensuring that the emerging tax system supports redistributive justice, strengthens democratic governance and finances climate and gender equality goals.

Liane Schalatek (Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung) provided a practical advocacy view on gender-responsive climate finance, spotlighting access, accountability and localization across multilateral funds.

- The current state of gender-responsive and locally led climate finance remains alarmingly underdeveloped. Reliable data are scarce, and accountability mechanisms are weak. The Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD-DAC) markers³⁸ show that only 2.4 per cent of climate-related official development assistance (ODA) targets gender as a principal objective, while funding reaching feminist or women-led organizations is less than 0.04 per cent of total climate finance. Fewer than 10 per cent of climate funds reach the local level, and Indigenous Peoples’ access remains below 1 per cent. There are no consistent reporting requirements to track local finance under either OECD-DAC or the UNFCCC, and intersectionality is largely absent from existing gender policies in all multilateral climate funds, where a binary gender approach and a narrow focus on women’s economic empowerment persists.
- Structural barriers within multilateral climate funds exclude women and marginalized groups from direct access to finance. Large, accredited intermediaries – mostly international organizations and development banks – dominate disbursement, leaving out national women’s funds or environmental funds, none of which are currently accredited. The accreditation process itself, with its fiduciary and reporting demands, is prohibitive. Public finance is often used to support private-sector instruments such as micro-insurance but rarely for social protection or cash transfer schemes that can reach women directly. The insistence on a ‘climate rationale’ and incremental financing

³⁷ Human Rights Watch. 2025a. “Database of UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies’ Statements on Taxation.” Accessed 28 April 2026. <https://www.hrw.org/feature/2025/07/14/database-of-un-human-rights-treaty-bodies-statements-on-taxation>. Human Rights Watch. 2025b. “Human Rights Treaty Bodies and Tax: An Analysis of Trends and Themes.” Background briefing, 26 June. Accessed 28 April 2026. <https://www.hrw.org/news/2025/06/26/human-rights-treaty-bodies-and-tax>.

³⁸ OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development). “Development Finance Statistics: Data on Flows to Developing Countries.” Accessed 20 April 2026. <https://www.oecd.org/en/data/datasets/development-finance-statistics-data-on-flows-to-developing-countries.html>.

perpetuates a false divide between climate and development, making it especially hard for local women's groups to qualify.

- Policy frameworks exist but remain technical and procedural rather than transformative. Most funds stop at the planning stage, with uneven gender assessments and weak accountability for implementation. Gender is still treated as a compliance item, not a substantive goal. A shift is needed toward embedding gender equality throughout fund governance, decision-making and institutional culture. Intersectionality should replace binary gender approaches, and continuous access to funding should be tied to evidence that projects actually reached local women and marginalized groups.³⁹
- Greater subsidiarity and localization are essential. Financing should flow directly to local levels through small-grants facilities co-designed with women's organizations. Accredited entities must be required or incentivized to devolve funds and include local execution components. Co-financing requirements and collateral rules that block small actors should be removed. Private-sector engagement should focus on micro, small and informal enterprises, ensuring concessional finance provided by multilateral

climate funds is not captured by intermediaries but passed through to beneficiaries and that cultural and financial barriers to women's access are addressed.

- The new Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD) offers an opportunity but also exposes political fault lines. Its mandate includes culturally sensitive, gender-responsive funding and small-grant access for communities and Indigenous groups.⁴⁰ However, political controversy about the scale and focus of the FRLD among developing countries – which fear that a focus on 'community access' is a ploy by developed countries to limit their financial obligations as well as the scale of the fund and the scope of its activities – threatens to dilute this potential. Disputes over 'country ownership', minimal public contributions and bad-faith negotiations on the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) have further complicated progress. Sustained advocacy is needed to expand the provision of public highly concessional funding, enforce accountability and ensure that feminist and community-based organizations have genuine access to resources that match their central role in responding to climate impacts.

KEY DISCUSSION TAKEAWAYS

The four presentations were followed by a plenary discussion. Key takeaways for the report include:

- Omaira Bolaños (Rights and Resources Initiative) urged that the chapter be explicit about which women were being discussed (e.g., rural, urban, Indigenous, Afrodescendant) so finance strategies match real constituencies.⁴¹ She stressed that Indigenous and local community women's organizations must be

³⁹ Schalatek, L. 2026. "Gender and Climate Finance." *Climate Finance Fundamentals* 10. Washington, DC: ODI Global and hbs. Accessed 8 May 2026. <https://climatefundupdate.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/CFF10-2026-ENG-DIGITAL.pdf>.

⁴⁰ UNFCCC. 2024. Governing Instrument, paras. 5 and 49(d) in "Report of the Conference of the Parties on its Twenty-eighth Session, held in the United Arab Emirates from 30 November to 13 December 2023." FCCC/CP/2023/11Add.1. Accessed 28 April 2026. https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cp2023_11a01_adv.pdf#page=2.

⁴¹ Rights + Resources. 2025. "Is Global Funding Reaching Indigenous, Afro-descendant, and Local Community Women?" Accessed 28 April 2026. <https://rightsandresources.org/publication/wigsa-funding-report-2025>. On the establishment of a new Indigenous funding mechanism, see: Global Alliance of Territorial Communities. 2024. "Shandia Platform." Accessed 28 April 2026. <https://globalalliance.me/shandia>.

recognized as rights-holders in the funding architecture and challenged the norm of treating women's financing as 'small grants' while relying on women's unpaid labour to fill funding gaps.

- Haroon Akram-Lodhi (Trent University) emphasized the political headwinds for transformation and noted that scepticism toward 'aid' among some negotiators shaped the finance terrain. He proposed treating the food system as a mitigation entry point – given industrial agriculture's large emissions footprint and women's growing role in small-scale farming – and suggested exploring a 'climate depletion tax' as an alternative to regressive value-added tax (VAT), alongside safeguards against local-level elite capture in localized finance.
- Angie Dazé (IISD) argued that channelling resources to women at local level must be paired with investment in enabling systems – financial services, savings/credit, social protection and climate information services – so local finance could be absorbed and used effectively and equitably, especially for adaptation.
- Jayati Ghosh (University of Massachusetts Amherst) reinforced that agriculture was a core blind spot and warned that dominant agrifood models (including programmes framed as 'green revolutions') could be environmentally harmful and anti-women. She also highlighted the gap between rhetoric and delivery in climate finance and argued that progress might require coalitions/plurilateral pathways when universal forums were blocked by powerful States.
- Verónica Grondona (ICRICT) noted that reliance on VAT reflected constraints in developing countries' ability to tax multinationals and high-net-worth individuals under the current international tax architecture. She cautioned that carbon footprint-based indirect taxes could raise concerns in exporting countries and urged parallel action on international tax rules and domestic reforms, including scrutiny of climate-related tax incentives and opaque 'tax expenditures' that drained fiscal space.⁴²
- Jalia Kangave (ICTD) added that VAT's gender and distributional impacts were often more complex once disaggregated and that removing it might not benefit low-income women if they largely bought from non-registered traders. She highlighted the need to pair progressive tax reforms with evidence on how revenues are spent, since resource mobilization only advanced gender justice if expenditures were translated into gender-equal outcomes.
- Liane Schalatek (Heinrich Böll Foundation) pushed for stronger risk appetite for financing communities, stressing that corporate/private capture already happened routinely through de-risking, yet community finance was treated as too risky. She insisted that climate finance was an obligation, not aid, and urged that the chapter foreground qualitative dimensions (access, concessionality, rights-based standards and gender responsiveness) and the use of multilateral funds – despite their flaws – as workable channels for concessional finance and safeguards, with sustained advocacy.⁴³
- Tara Daniel (WEDO) argued that existing multilateral channels could be made more effective by requiring accredited entities to partner with women's organizations for gender analysis, action planning, implementation and monitoring – and to compensate that labour – rather than reproducing colonial consultant-driven models. She also cautioned against the "false allure" of blended finance, emphasizing grant-based finance for enabling environments and sustained resilience beyond short project cycles.

⁴² Jiménez, J.P., F. Lorenzo, A. Ons and G. Viñales. 2025. "Evaluating Corporate Tax Incentives in Developing Countries in Light of the Global Minimum Tax: Final Report." Montevideo: Centro de Investigaciones Económicas.

⁴³ WEDO (Women's Environment & Development Organization). 2024. "Dimensions of Feminist Climate Finance." Advocacy Brief, 9 December. Accessed 28 April 2026. <https://wedo.org/resources/dimensions-of-feminist-climate-finance>; Schalatek, L. 2026. "Gender and Climate Finance." *Climate Finance Fundamentals* 10. Washington, DC: ODI Global and hbs. Accessed 8 May 2026. <https://climatefundupdate.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/CFF10-2026-ENG-DIGITAL.pdf>.

- Laura Turquet (UN Women) linked the discussion back to political strategy: While small grants to women’s organizations mattered, they could be instrumentalized to distract from the scale of commitments under the NCQG and loss-and-damage debates. She invited reflections on political routes – coalitions, alternative multilateral spaces and other mechanisms – to break negotiation deadlocks and secure finance commensurate with obligations.
- Verania Chao (UNDP) emphasized that gender-responsive climate finance remained a bottleneck across NDC cycles, with women’s access to finance still limited. She proposed applying a four-pillar lens – governance and institutions, resource and planning allocation, accountability and capacity-building – across both public and ‘innovative’ finance and linking it to Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs) and NDC financing strategies so climate and gender objectives reinforced each other through coherent country-level implementation.⁴⁴
- Sophia Huyer (ILRI–AICCRA) urged that the chapter include more ‘what works’ examples alongside structural critique, noting that policymakers often demanded actionable evidence. She emphasized collective action as a key enabling mechanism for women’s empowerment and cited a Ghana case⁴⁵ where women farmers gained seats on previously male-only water management bodies, enabling them to discuss their interests and concerns.

Day 2: Closing session

Constanza Tabbush (UN Women) concluded the session by sharing two key takeaways. The discussions had underscored the need to navigate “the visionary and the practical”. While there had been strong endorsement of a feminist climate justice framework, the transformative vision remained largely aspirational in the current political and fiscal context, with few examples of successful integration of gender and social inequality into climate policy. The report therefore needed to hold the radical vision – coalitions, transformative frameworks and gender-responsive mitigation and adaptation – while also insisting on foundational enablers such as investments in care services, basic infrastructure and social protection. On data, participants had stressed embedding quantitative indicators in lived realities and taking process as seriously as outcomes. Fiscal constraints had been widely discussed, but the political dimensions remained unresolved and might require further attention.

Laura Turquet (UN Women) closed the meeting by thanking all participants for the depth and richness of their contributions over the two days and underscored that the forthcoming report was intended to function as a practical tool for gender-equality advocates seeking to infuse feminist perspectives into climate policy. She emphasized the need to stay closely connected with researchers and activists so that the report remained politically grounded rather than diluted through bureaucratic processes. Laura also outlined next steps: The UN Women team would prepare a detailed meeting summary, begin drafting chapters informed by the discussions and continue engaging with participants in the lead-up to COP 30. She noted that the report was scheduled for launch in 2026 and expressed appreciation to the colleagues, organizers and interpreters whose work had made the EGM possible.

⁴⁴ UNDP. 2021. “A Framework for Enhancing Gender and Poverty Integration in Climate Finance.” Report, 17 December. Accessed 28 April 2026. <https://www.undp.org/publications/framework-enhancing-gender-and-poverty-integration-climate-finance>.

⁴⁵ CGIAR. 2022. “Gender and Social Inclusion: AICCRA Ghana Progress.” Presentation for the AICCRA Ghana Cluster Meeting, 21 March.

Annex 1. Agenda

Day 1: 8 October 2025

Time (EST)	Session	Speakers
8.00–8.10	Opening remarks	Papa Alioune Seck , UN Women
8.10–8.30	Presentation of Progress of the World's Women outline. (Re)introduce feminist climate justice	Laura Turquet , UN Women
8.30–10.30	<p>Session 1: Scoping the Evidence on Climate Change and Gender Equality</p> <p>Chair: Lorena Aguilar, Kaschak Institute for Social Justice for Women and Girls</p>	<p>Silke Staab, UN Women</p> <p>Sara Duerto Valero, UN Women</p> <p>Angie Dazé, International Institute for Sustainable Development</p> <p>Mesoamerican Initiative of Women Human Rights Defenders (IM-Defensoras)</p>
10.30–10.45	BREAK	
10.45–12.45	<p>Session 2: Mitigation Pathways</p> <p>Chair: Magdalena Sepúlveda Carmona, United Nations Research Institute for Social Development</p>	<p>Silke Staab, UN Women</p> <p>Diana Vela Almeida, Utrecht University</p> <p>Nathalie Seddon, University of Oxford</p> <p>Sonia Phalatse and Julia Taylor, University of the Witwatersrand</p>
12.45-13.00	Wrap up of Day 1	UN Women team

Day 2: 9 October 2025

Time (EST)	Session	Key questions
8.00–8.10	Introduction to Day 2: Recap and reflections	UN Women team
8.10–10.10	<p>Session 3: Gender-Transformative Adaptation</p> <p>Chair: Sophia Huyer, CGIAR</p>	<p>Constanza Tabbush, UN Women</p> <p>Bernadette P. Resurreccion, Queens University</p> <p>Martina Angela Caretta, Lund University</p> <p>Chandni Singh, Indian Institute for Human Settlements</p>
10.10–10.25	BREAK	
10.25–12.25	<p>Session 4: Mobilizing Finance for Feminist Climate Justice</p> <p>Chair: Jalia Kangave, International Centre for Tax and Development</p>	<p>Laura Turquet, UN Women</p> <p>Jayati Ghosh, University of Massachusetts Amherst</p> <p>Verónica Grondona, Independent Commission for the Reform of International Corporate Taxation</p> <p>Liane Schalatek, Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung</p>
12.25–12.45	Wrap up and closing of Day 2	UN Women team

Annex 2. List of participants

Speakers

1. Angie Dazé, International Institute for Sustainable Development
2. Bernadette P. Resurreccion, Queens University
3. Chandni Singh, Indian Institute for Human Settlements
4. Constanza Tabbush, UN Women
5. Diana Vela Almeida, Utrecht University
6. Jalia Kangave, International Centre for Tax and Development
7. Jayati Ghosh, University of Massachusetts Amherst
8. Julia Taylor, Wits University in Johannesburg
9. Laura Turquet, UN Women
10. Liane Schalatek, Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung
11. Lorena Aguilar, Kaschak Institute, Binghamton University
12. Magdalena Sepúlveda Carmona, UNRISD
13. Martina Angela Caretta, Lund University
14. Mesoamerican Initiative of Women Human Rights Defenders (IM-Defensoras)
15. Nathalie Seddon, University of Oxford
16. Papa Alioune Seck, UN Women
17. Sara Duerto Valero, UN Women
18. Silke Staab, UN Women
19. Sonia Phalatse, Wits University in Johannesburg
20. Sophia Huyer, CGIAR
21. Verónica Grondona, Independent Commission for the Reform of International Corporate Taxation

United Nations and other expert contributors

1. Amalia Calderón-Argelich, Open University of Catalunya, Autonomous University of Barcelona
2. Ana Carolina Ogando, WIEGO
3. Ana Terra Amorim-Maia, Basque Centre for Climate Change (BC3)
4. Angela Ebeleke, Gender and Climate Change Focal Point – Democratic Republic of the Congo
5. Caren Grown, Brookings
6. Caroline Skinner, WIEGO
7. Diane Elson, University of Essex
8. Elvina Crowe, University of Oxford
9. Fazeela Mubarak, Wild Heart Kenya
10. Fleur Newman, UNFCCC
11. Gabriela Torres Morales, UNDP
12. Haroon Akram-Lodhi, Trent University
13. Marcela Valdivia, WIEGO
14. Maria Dotsenko, UNEP
15. Maria Reyes, Fridays for Future MAPA
16. Nitya Rao, University of East Anglia
17. Nohora Alejandra Quiguanter, Tejiendo Pensamiento
18. Omaira Bolaños, Rights and Resources Initiative
19. Raymond Brandes, UNEP
20. Sarah Cook, University of Nottingham Ningbo China
21. Seema Arora-Jonsson, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
22. Sheila Oparaocha, Energia
23. Tara Daniel, WEDO
24. Verania Chao, UNDP
25. Zoe Brent, UNRISD

UN Women

1. Asha Meagher, Research and Data Analyst
2. Athena Denise Galao, Programme Coordinator, Climate Change
3. Brianna Howell, Research Analyst
4. Bindu Bhandari, Programme Specialist, Gender-Responsive Climate Action
5. Carla Kay Kraft, Programme Specialist, Sustainable Development
6. Cecilia Tinonin, Statistics Specialist
7. Dominique Muchochori Kanobana, Regional Gender Statistics, Arab States
8. Ela Ionescu, Partnerships and Resource Mobilization Specialist
9. Elena Ruiz Abril, Policy Advisor, Women's Economic Empowerment
10. Elisa Acevedo Hernández, Publications Coordinator
11. Gulistan Akyildiz, Admin and Programme Associate
12. Ijeoma Madueke, Strategic Advisor, Sustainable Finance
13. Lorena Lamas, Sustainable Finance and Economic Empowerment Specialist
14. Mame Diarra Sow, Programme Analyst
15. Mehjabeen Alarakhria, Policy Specialist, Women's Economic Empowerment
16. Muyang Wang, Research Assistant
17. Paro Chaujar, Policy Advisor on Social Norms
18. Sehar Ezdi, Data and Statistics Specialist
19. Susanna Arru, Climate and Gender Programme
20. Valentine Waroga, Programme Analyst, Women's Economic Empowerment
21. Venge Nyirongo, Intergovernmental Specialist

UN WOMEN EXISTS TO ADVANCE WOMEN'S RIGHTS, GENDER EQUALITY AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS.

As the lead United Nations entity on gender equality and secretariat of the Commission on the Status of Women, we shift laws, institutions, social norms and services to close the gender gap and build an equal world for all women and girls. Our partnerships with governments, women's movements and the private sector, coupled with our coordination of the broader United Nations, deliver lasting changes. We make strides in four areas: leadership, economic empowerment, freedom from violence and peace, security and humanitarian action.

UN Women keeps the rights of women and girls at the centre of global progress – always, everywhere. Because gender equality is not just what we do. It is who we are.

This report summarizes the proceedings of and key takeaways from an expert group meeting (EGM) convened by UN Women to inform the tenth edition of *Progress of the World's Women: Gender Equality in the Age of Climate Crisis*. Bringing together leading feminist scholars, climate and environmental researchers, data experts and advocates, the EGM tested and refined a feminist climate justice framework grounded in recognition, redistribution, representation and reparation and attentive to intersectional inequalities and the interdependence of people and nature.

Across four thematic sessions, participants reviewed emerging evidence on the gendered impacts of climate and environmental crises; explored gender-transformative adaptation pathways as they apply to water and urban contexts; examined gender-just mitigation strategies, including energy transitions, nature-based solutions and care economies; and interrogated the politics and architecture of climate finance. Discussions highlighted the potential of innovative data analysis while emphasizing the limits of technocratic approaches that ignore power, politics and lived experience.

The meeting generated concrete guidance for the forthcoming report, directions for case selection and data analysis and strategies to connect visionary feminist climate justice agendas with practical levers such as care services, basic infrastructure, social protection and fairer tax and finance systems.



220 East 42nd Street
New York, New York 10017, USA

unwomen.org
facebook.com/unwomen
x.com/un_women
youtube.com/UNWomen