

CSW62 YOUTH DIALOGUE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

17 March 2018

Urgent policy recommendations to ensure inclusion of young women and girls from rural communities in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals

EDUCATION

1. Recognize and eliminate discrimination, patriarchal norms, and social expectations that negatively shape girls' educational attainment



3. Invest in location-specific, non-traditional education that is intercultural and multilingual (skills-based training, vocational training)

2. Guarantee free compulsory primary and secondary education, with human rights and comprehensive sexuality education



4. Prevent violence, sexual harassment, bullying in educational settings on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression

HEALTH



1. Invest in inclusive, accessible, youth-friendly healthcare in rural areas

2. Ensure universal access to mental, sexual and reproductive health-care services, information and education

3. Eliminate age and gender discriminatory policies that contribute to violations of girls' and young women's right to health

VIOLENCE

1. Eliminate, prevent and respond to all forms of violence against young women and girls, including non-binary and trans youth by strengthening existing laws and conventions

2. Ensure prevention and response services are well-funded, accessible to young women and girls including non-binary and trans youth in rural areas

3. Ensure policies and procedures take into account the multiple and intersectional forms of violence and harmful practices

4. Ensure gender-just support for youth with disabilities, including education on how to avoid, recognize and report instances of exploitation, violence and abuse

ECONOMIC JUSTICE

1. Create and implement legislation addressing gender pay gap, youth access to leadership positions, and zero-tolerance for violence/sexual harassment

2. Invest in financial literacy programs and training opportunities that lead to decent and meaningful work and the ability to unionize and form cooperatives

3. Provide young people with access to and control over personal finances, bank accounts and credit through legislative reform and public private partnerships

4. Enact legislation and macroeconomic policies that pursue tax justice, address corporate abuses and stop illicit financial flows (IFFs)



CSW YOUTH DIALOGUE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS (cont.)

ENVIRONMENT

- 1. Adopt and enforce legislation** giving girls and young women equal inheritance rights and rights to property and resources
- 2. Recognize the rights** of indigenous girls and young women to protect their land, cultural identity, and traditional knowledge
- 3. Ensure meaningful participation and leadership** of young women and girls in climate change decision-making processes
- 4. Ensure access** to water and sanitation facilities in rural areas and equal representation within related community leadership structures
- 5. Implement, strengthen, enforce laws** that protect against violations of human rights by business enterprises
- 6. Increase resources** for implementing Article 12 of the Paris Agreement (for enhancement of climate change education, awareness)

MEDIA, ICT, DATA



1. Provide access to affordable digital connections and ICT, specifically mobile technology in rural communities



2. Ensure media is free from harmful gender stereotypes and an active promoter of gender equality



3. Develop mechanisms of collecting data that reflect realities of young women, girls, non-binary and trans youth in rural areas



4. Implement strong, concrete policies and laws that protect digital spaces from cyber-bullying, harassment, threats, and violence

VOICE, AGENCY, PARTICIPATION

- 1. Implement** gender-just and youth-accountable policy; **reduce the minimum age** to hold public office to include young adults
- 2. Establish an advisory council or permanent office** to the executive branch of government that promotes voices of young people, especially LGBTQ+ people



3. Provide support and resources to grassroots women human rights defenders to participate fully and equally in international forums for advocacy and policy-making by ensuring that barriers to meaningful participation are removed, including visa refusals, lack of financial support, and lack of training

4. Formally initiate meaningful annual youth delegation programs where delegates represent national youth interests at the

SOCIAL NORMS & CULTURE

1. Implement programs to engage boys and young men in challenging harmful, patriarchal masculinities and promoting gender equality

2. Implement public campaigns that challenge gender stereotypes and promote equitable, non-violent masculinities

3. Engage a broad range of societal influencers (educators, politicians, media and popular culture, faith communities) in challenging patriarchal norms

