



CONCEPT NOTE SIDE EVENT – CSW 69th SESSION

Beijing+ 30: Assessment overview on the actions taken by the Feminist Action for Climate Justice coalition (FACJ) J and its members over Climate Justice, Poverty and Environmentally Sustainable Systems

WHEN: Slot to be confirmed from Monday, March 10th to Thursday, March 14th

WHERE: UN Headquarters, In person event

LENGTH: 75 minutes

ORGANIZERS: Feminist Action for Climate Justice Action Coalition (convened by UN Women)

INTERPRETATION: English, French, Spanish

CO-SPONSORS:

France (Co-founder of the Generation Equality Forum)

FACJ Action Coalition Co-sponsors (TBC):

- Nordic Council of Ministers
- Spain
- Bolivia
- Women Health Climate/ Femmes santé climat (FACJ Commitment Maker)
- 2X Global (FACJ Commitment Maker)
- Actives (France)

Additional Co-sponsors TBC :

- FEPS, UN Women Germany

ROUNDTABLE SPEAKERS (TBC):

- **TBC Minister for Equality France**
- **TBC Minister for Equality Spain**
- **TBC Minister for the Presidency of Bolivia**
- **TBC Minister for Nordic Council of Ministers**
- **TBC FACJ international organization representative (such as Plan International)**
- **TBC FACJ Youth/grassroot representative**
- **TBC FACJ CSO representative**
- **TBC Actives**

Additional Roles / Speakers:

- **AUDIENCE Q&A Facilitator**

BACKGROUND:

Commitments launched at UN Women's Generation Equality Forum in 2021 with the leadership of France and Mexico, and also at COP 26, reinforced growing recognition that the drive for climate action and environmental sustainability is inextricably linked with human rights, social and economic justice and gender equality. Women and girls in all their diversity have always been at the forefront of movements demanding climate and environmental justice. Their unique knowledge and skills make the response to climate change more effective and sustainable, strengthening our collective ability to tackle the climate crisis.

The **Action Coalition on Feminist Action for Climate Justice (FACJ)** is one of the six action coalitions convened by UN Women under Generation Equality. The FACJ brings together governments, civil society, youth-led organizations, international organizations, the private sector and philanthropy to articulate a multi-stakeholder and collaborative five-year roadmap of action for gender-just climate action under the FACJ Blueprint.

During the 78th UN General Assembly and the Generation Equality Midpoint Forum in September 2023, FACJ Action Coalition commitment makers convened and conceptualized a white paper, led by Women Health Climate and UN Women, that would share testimonials from FACJ Action Coalition commitment makers. These testimonials showcase innovative actions at the intersection of issues including feminist climate justice, poverty and environmentally sustainable systems. The testimonials are by governments, civil society organizations, youth-led organizations, international organizations, philanthropies, grassroots women led organizations, and others. They show the success of these commitments that were launched together with France and Mexico and chart a path towards lasting change.

CSW 69 will be held from March 10-21, 2025. The CSW 69 will mark the 30th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women and adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995). Therefore, the main theme will be the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcomes of the 23rd special session of the General Assembly. The review will include an assessment of current challenges that affect the implementation of the Platform for Action and the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and its contribution towards the full realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable development.

Gender inequalities, along with other social and economic inequalities, intensify vulnerability to climate change impacts. A growing body of evidence on gender and climate change identifies negative impacts across a range of economic and social outcomes for women, girls and gender-diverse people because of underlying gender inequalities and the failure to take gender issues into account in environmental policymaking. In the past 20 years, the number of climate-related disasters has nearly doubled. Women and girls are more vulnerable to disasters, in terms of both the immediate impacts as well as their capacity to recover in the aftermath, because of gender inequalities. For example, women's lower levels of literacy and use of technology hamper their access to information about what to do in the event of a disaster; and poor design of emergency shelters can prevent women and girls from using them when weather disasters strike. Globally, laws, policies and social norms that discriminate on the basis of gender mean that women typically have less access to income and finance, employment and productive resources, including agricultural land. This means that when weather patterns change, disrupting infrastructure and public services or affecting food production, they are less able to adapt their livelihoods, recover and rebuild. Women's unpaid care responsibilities in families and communities often increase in the context of environmental change and stress, as water, fuel and nutritious food are harder to come by and the healthcare needs of family members increase. Globally, by mid-century, under a worst-case scenario, climate change may push up to 158 million more women and girls into poverty (16 million more than the total number of men and boys).

Gender equality has been clearly questioned as a priority in the negotiation process of the las COP29 in Baku, therefore this event of the climate justice coalition is a key one to remind the importance of this topic and all the actions assessed over the last years by the civil society, the governments and the partners (private sector).

In this context and relevant to the CSW69 theme, FACJ Action Coalition leaders, commitment makers and partners will co-host a side event assessing the impact over the last actions lead by the FACJ and its members and partners to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing declaration and platform for action, a new book illustrating those actions will be released at this side event.

OBJECTIVE:

This event will provide an opportunity for governments, youth, civil society, and other FACJ Action Coalition stakeholders to come together and assess actions taken over the last years and share concrete and innovative insights on actions that should be taken by diverse actors to accelerate feminist climate justice and gender equality while reducing poverty and promoting environmentally sustainable systems.

The speakers will share a set of actionable takeaways for the audience that will speak to key components of the CSW priority theme, including empowerment of women and girls, strengthening of institutions and financing with a gender perspective, and also serve to further inform discussions during CSW 69 and beyond to COP 16 and COP29.

DESCRIPTION:

As risks of climate change-driven disasters, migration, conflict, and food and water insecurity mount and threaten gender equality gains, government, civil society and other diverse leaders and commitment makers of the Feminist Action for Climate Justice Action Coalition, convened under Generation Equality by UN Women, will come together and share examples from their work and recommendations on how to take innovative action at the nexus of feminist climate justice, poverty and environmentally sustainable systems.

FORMAT:

This will be an in-person event with a facilitated roundtable style format. The multi stakeholder, diverse set of speakers will engage in a focused discussion to connect climate actions and poverty alleviation with views from different countries in regions such as South America, Africa, and Europe and different stakeholders (governments, civil society, international organizations, youth, grassroots women, philanthropy, finance and the private sector).

The discussion will be followed by an audience Q&A. Additionally, live social media posting by several co-sponsors will be a feature of the event.

AGENDA proposal draft:

Welcome and opening remarks: France and UN Women -- 6 min

Roundtable introductions -- 4 min (moderator)

Three roundtable discussion questions with facilitated discussion amongst speakers (moderator) -- 40 min

- **Question 1:** *How are you making the connection between addressing climate change, gender equality and poverty in your work? If you are commitment maker to the FACJ Action Coalition, how is this connection reflected in your work?*
- **Question 2:** *As we look forward to the climate COP29 and the biodiversity COP16 later in 2024, what challenges must be overcome to ensure that climate finance makes the link between gender equality and environmental degradation, especially for grassroots women, local communities and youth -- and supports systems and institutions that makes these linkages as well?*
- **Question 3:** *What is one concrete action, that can be replicated by others that your government or organization is taking to empower women and girls while addressing climate change and alleviating poverty?*

Interactive audience Q&A -- 12 min (separate person to facilitate)

Closing reflection for government panelists -- 10 min

- **Closing reflection:** *What is one way you think member states can increase links between CSW and the climate and biodiversity COPs in the negotiations phases?*

Closing and summary of major points -- 3 min (moderator)