Generation Equality: Stories of Impact

Progress Snapshot | November 2024



Overview

Generation Equality is the world's leading effort to unlock political will and accelerate investment and implementation on gender equality, bringing together organizations from every part of society through intergenerational, multi-stakeholder alliances. Below are 10 examples – representing <u>commitments made</u> through Generation Equality's networks – showing this change in action.







Photo: UN Women/Magfuzur Rahman Shana

Photo: UN Women

Photo: UN Women/Deepika Nath

Empowered Futures – Youth Uplifting Youth

Nala Feminist Collective, a <u>youth-led organization</u>, has significantly impacted feminist leadership and women's empowerment across the African continent since its launch at the Generation Equality Forum in 2021. It has disbursed more than \$57,000 in grants to 41 young activists and feminist movements working in 14 African countries, partnered with Masterclass to provide learning opportunities, and engaged youth as consultants and volunteers. Nala Feminist Collective in partnership with Mexoxo trained 20,000 young women from Nigeria and Kenya and certified them from eCornell worth \$360,000 to enter the job market.

Promoting a Safer World of Work

Between 2023 and 2024, an additional 16 countries ratified the <u>International Labour Organization (ILO)</u>. <u>Violence and Harassment Convention (No. 190</u>), the first international treaty to address violence and harassment, including GBV, in the world of work. The collaborative efforts of both the Gender-Based Violence and Economic Justice and Rights Action Coalitions together with UN Women, the ILO, and civil society and workers' organizations in advocating for the ratification of C190 underscore the importance of joint advocacy in raising awareness and promoting legal reforms. The Action Coalitions enabled the multi-stakeholder advocacy efforts and ILO technical assistance provided to governments, including legal gap analyses and regional multi-stakeholder dialogues, which have been instrumental in supporting countries to align their national laws with the Convention's standards.

Advancing Indigenous Women's Rights

Tejiendo Pensamiento is a Colombian youth-led organization that takes part in the Youth Network for Peace in Colombia, and the FACJ Action Coalition. Led by Indigenous women and girls, Tejiendo Pensamiento intertwines <u>environmental stewardship with the promotion of women's rights</u>. By empowering over 500 Indigenous women to advocate for biodiversity conservation and their rights in environmental decision-making, Tejiendo Pensamiento influenced local action plans on gender and biodiversity. It led Mujeres Urdiendo en la Ciencia, a programme monitoring the state of biodiversity in

mountain areas, to engage women in climate justice through workshops and intergenerational dialogues with local governments – resulting in the development of inclusive environmental plans.

Gender Responsive Policing

Implementing and expanding gender-responsive policing is a collective commitment within the GBV Action Coalition, which aims to increase access to justice for victims/survivors of VAWG globally. Introduced during the 2021 Generation Equality Forum by France and Mexico, the <u>High-Level Inter-Ministerial and Chiefs of Police Network on Gender-Responsive Policing</u> was officially launched in New York in June 2024. The demonstration of high-level leadership will serve to bolster the capabilities of ministries, police, gendarmerie and other law enforcement bodies worldwide in integrating genderresponsive approaches to effectively prevent and address violence against women and girls. The network's objectives include advocating for and supporting the implementation of gender-responsive policing practices through a collaborative platform that promotes institutional change, prevention and investigation, capacity-building, gender-responsive budgeting and leadership. By delivering genderresponsive services, law enforcement aims to foster community trust, particularly among women and girls, demonstrating their commitment to improving responses to gender-based violence. UN Women, as the network's Secretariat, is utilizing the platform of the GBV Action Coalition to encourage Governments to join the network at ministerial or chief of police levels.

Grassroots Gender and Climate Action

The collaboration between the <u>RAJA-Danièle Marcovici Foundation's Feminist Fund for Climate</u> and the FACJ Action Coalition exemplifies a strategic approach to funding allocation. The Coalition functioned as a vetting mechanism and provided expertise in the identification of eligible organizations for the Fund. As a result, a total of 20 associations in 18 countries, each with at least one year of existence and a budget of less than \$22,300 (€20,000) received grants, including four organizations that are part of the Action Coalition on FACJ. By focusing on grass-roots organizations with a proven track record and modest budgets, they ensure that the funds are directed towards initiatives where they can make a significant impact. This partnership is an example of Generation Equality's ability to bridge the gender financing gap and empower women to lead in ecological preservation and social transition, contributing to sustainable development and conservation efforts worldwide.

"The Plan includes a significant investment of approximately \$100,000 in a safe school project across 18 states, covering 48 schools per state."

Championing Gender Justice and SRHR in Pakistan

<u>Baithak's SRHR and FACJ initiatives in Pakistan</u> are commendable examples of how youth-led grassroots organizations address and link complex issues like gender justice and climate change. By empowering 1,200 young women and girls on sexual and reproductive health and rights, Baithak is not only advocating for gender equality but also ensuring that these vulnerable groups are not overlooked in times of crisis by calling attention to the challenges they face. For instance, during the 2022 flooding, Baithak helped integrate gender perspectives into emergency response and sustainable strategies through their Gender Responsive Climate Action Toolkit.

Empowering Voices for Gender Justice

The <u>Global Fund for Women's Feminist Accountability Framework</u> represents a significant stride in advocating for gender justice. By uniting over 700 grass-roots feminist groups and financially supporting Generation Equality Leaders and Commitment Makers to gather and analyze data on their impact in local communities, the Framework has effectively amplified the voices of those most affected by gender inequality. This collective effort has culminated in a call to action, urging the integration of feminist perspectives and solutions into funding strategies.

Partnering for Resilient Social Protection

The formulation of the <u>2024–2030 Social and Child Protection System strategy in the Federation of</u> <u>Bosnia and Herzegovina</u>, informed by the study on the care economy developed by Generation Equality, represents a pivotal step towards collaboratively advancing national social policies. The baseline study was conducted as part of an extensive collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, which developed and oversees the Federal Strategy – and also develops gendersensitive legal analyses on social protection and creating care models, such as providing home assistance for the elderly through employment programs for long-term unemployed women. This initiative fosters collaborative engagement across sectors and aligns with international human rights treaties to establish a resilient social protection system.

WPS-HA Compact: Forging Peace in Western Mali

To break cycles of conflict between gold mining and local communities in western Mali, <u>WPS-HA</u>. <u>Compact signatory Search for Common Ground</u> launched a project focusing on women and youth – groups often excluded from participation – to lead peacebuilding efforts. Peace clubs established across four regions bring together community members from different backgrounds and across generations: youth, elders and local authorities. Central to their success is the inclusion of women, who make up nearly half of the artisanal gold mining workforce but are rarely involved in decision-making. In 2023, the peace clubs trained 3,000 peacebuilders under the age of 35. For the first time, women are stepping into decision-making roles. Through learning conflict-mediation and leadership skills, they are not only contributing to peacebuilding efforts but also earning the respect of their communities.

Collective Leadership from the ACs

The FML Action Coalition's distinct governance model – wherein co-chairs and FML Leaders steer collective decision making and reflection – enables collective action with local and national actors at the forefront. The Action Coalition has made significant strides in advancing women's representation in decision-making through collaborative efforts on the ongoing drafting of the <u>UN Committee on the</u> <u>Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)</u> General Recommendation Number 40. It highlights the need for equal and inclusive representation of women, aligning with the FML blueprint, and recognizes women's participation as essential for democracy, sustainable development and peace. FML Leaders spearheaded a detailed written submission for General Recommendation Number 40 – a highly collaborative process – that underscores the importance of CEDAW implementation, linking gender equality, justice, robust women's movements and an intersectional approach to leadership. This marked the first common position issued by FML, setting a precedent for unified action within the Coalition.

The Coalition actively engaged regional and community-led groups and diverse voices, including Indigenous women and women with disabilities, to help address unique regional challenges and emphasize intersectional perspectives. Generation Equality's multi-stakeholder partnership approach enhanced the Coalition's efforts, strengthening the General Recommendation Number 40 submission (adopted in October 2024), and forging a shared purpose. This collaboration underscored the critical role of feminist leadership in achieving gender parity and inclusive decision-making, aligning with Beijing+30 and Summit of the Future objectives. Ongoing engagement with the CEDAW Committee will ensure that principles of gender parity and intersectionality remain central – and FML will localize General Recommendation Number 40 actions and mobilize more stakeholders to advance these goals.



Contact Information

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