Generation Equality: Stories of Impact

Progress Snapshot | July 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, multistakeholder alliances. Below are 10 examples – representing commitments made through Generation Equality's networks – showing this change in action.







Photo: WPSHA Compact Secretariat



Photo: UN Women Tanzania

Global Alliance for Care - Collective Commitment

The Global Alliance for Care (GAC) is the first global multi-stakeholder community that facilitates and fosters spaces for collective action, advocacy and learning about care – its recognition as a need, as work, and as a right. Since the launch of the GAC at the 2021 Generation Equality Forum, it has grown from 40 members to over 170, and has helped **bolster a global care systems agenda** and position it as one of the most transformative ways to advance gender equality. GAC members have taken research on care to the policymaking arena, creating resources on how to build care societies – for example, the Organization of American States and the Inter-American Commission of Women produced a guide to strengthen States' regulatory frameworks related to labour, social protection and women's economic empowerment. And as a direct contribution to the GAC and Generation Equality agenda, the International Labor Organization published "Care at Work: Investing in Care Leave Policies and Care Services for a More Gender Equal World of Work." These resources inform debates and help implement measures aimed at recognizing, reducing and redistributing care work.

The Gambia - Cross-Action Coalition Solidarity

Generation Equality Action Coalition Leaders and Commitment Makers – representing a wide network of feminist organizations and human rights defenders – released a statement to firmly oppose any legislative attempts, in any context, which set back women and girls' rights. Accelerating action to end harmful practices – including Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is a collective commitment across the Generation Equality Action Coalition on Gender-Based Violence and the Action Coalition on Bodily Autonomy and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, and cross-cutting the work and efforts of the Action Coalition on Feminist Movement and Leadership. The statement was issued in response to the ongoing and alarming developments related to the possible repeal of sections of the Women's (Amendment) Act of 2015 aimed at reversing the ban on FGM in The Gambia. It appeals to all members of the National Assembly and policymakers in The Gambia to vote against this bill – noting that the potential repeal of this law is a severe setback to gains made on human rights, gender equality,

the empowerment of women and girls and public health in the country – with severe repercussions extending well beyond The Gambia.

Fiji - Bodily Autonomy | Co-Creation

Women and young people with disabilities in Fiji are <u>forging a new path</u> – one that gives them information, access and inclusion in advancing their sexual and reproductive health and rights, and bodily autonomy. Generation Equality commitment-makers Women Enabled International worked with the Fijian government and other stakeholders to launch the Community-Based Sexual and Reproductive Health Officers Programme in 2023; this was **developed and co-led by women with disabilities**. The programmed has reached 127 people in Fiji's Central and Western Divisions, and 104 people with disabilities participated in outreach sessions – many of whom said this was the first information they'd received on family planning, safe motherhood, and healthy relationships.

Sahel Region - Jobs and Sustainability

The DESFERS project in the Sahel region — Senegal, Mali, and Niger — helps women transition from informal jobs to careers in renewable energy. Initiated by Plan International as a Generation Equality Feminist Action for Climate Justice commitment, it offers technical training, funding support, and job opportunities while tackling gender inequality and social barriers. The project is supporting 4,500 women-owned businesses in sustainable energy, training 7,000 female entrepreneurs, and facilitating access to renewable energy and financing for 21,000 women.

Tanzania - Gender-Responsive Public and Private Care | Mainstreaming Commitments

Through its Generation Equality commitment, the United Republic of Tanzania is implementing actions aimed at increasing investments in gender-responsive public and private quality care; creating an enabling legal and policy environment to expand decent work for women; and improving women's access to and control over productive resources. This includes:

- Establishing over 3000 Early Childhood Development Centers.
- Addressing multiple burdens for women in rural and peri-urban areas by upscaling investments in reliable water supply, rural electrification and renewable energy. 77% of rural and 88% of urban populations now have access to clean and safe water at or near their homes (up from 74% in 2021), helping to reduce the burden of care work and improve care services.
- Strengthening collaboration at the sub-national/county level and fostering transformative and
 measurable local planning and action. The country has named local government focal points who
 are strategically positioned to <u>drive programme implementation</u> and ensure that plans and budgets
 are on track. Each focal point has the task of harmonizing and strengthening the work of ministries
 and agencies by mainstreaming Generation Equality commitments into local planning agendas.

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Canada - Gender-Based Violence Prevention

Aura Freedom – a civil society organization and Gender-Based Violence Action Coalition commitmentmaker - committed to working to eradicate GBV by challenging unhealthy norms that are contributing to violence, through their 'Relentless Resilience' movement. Specifically, they offer an online GBV Resource Center, which is continually updated with grassroots, survivor-centered materials – including new research on Forced Marriage and Technology-Facilitated GBV, as well as managing a 'GBV in the Media' initiative, fostering a National Network of feminist stakeholders who have helped develop National Guidelines in Canada for reporting on GBV (reaching over 26,000 people online in its first month of release). Through 2023/24, their GBV prevention education workshops have supported an additional 2200+ service providers and community members – 92% of whom shared that these events improved their GBV knowledge and resources. And Aura Freedom's customized, tailored sex trafficking prevention training has reached over 400 local schools and 2000 local school staff. They continue to implement the 'For Her' initiative, which calls on the Canadian government to take meaningful steps towards ending femicide (an award-winning project with worldwide audiences over 160M). By implementing their GBV prevention initiatives, Aura is contributing to driving down the prevalence of gender-based violence against women, adolescent girls and young women in all their diversity, in line with AC GBV targets.

Caribbean + Global - Women's Land Rights

The <u>Women's Land Rights (WLR) Collective Commitment</u> brings together a range of stakeholders to secure land, housing, property, biodiversity, and natural resource tenure rights and participatory land governance for 100 million rural, urban, grassroots and indigenous women and youth; and to collectively advocate for recognition of these rights as a foundation for achieving gender equality, economic justice, adequate housing, climate action, land degradation neutrality, and peace and stability globally. The leaders of the WLR Collective Commitment (Landesa, the International Land Coalition, the Huairou Commission, Oxfam, FEMNET, and GLTN/UN-Habitat) contribute actively to the resilience priority area of action under the FACJ Action Coalition, as well as the finance, leadership, and data priority areas of action. These efforts are particularly showcased via the **Stand for Her Land (S4HL) Campaign** – a global advocacy initiative working to implement WLR worldwide, and to elevate the leadership of grassroots women at all levels. In Colombia, S4HL is advocating for recognition of women's territorial rights in the Caribbean Region, via advocacy with municipal officials.

UN Coordination - Robust Data

The Gender and Environment Data Alliance (GEDA) was established in 2021 by 16 founding members as a Collective Commitment under Generation Equality's Feminist Action for Climate Justice (FACJ) Action Coalition. As a membership alliance, GEDA aims to improve the availability, accessibility, understanding, and application of quality and robust data and information at the gender and environment nexus. In 2023, GEDA welcomed 69 new members and 26 data advisors to the Alliance, the majority of them from the Global South, and mobilized diverse stakeholders to engage in several events at the UNFCCC COP28 in Dubai. The highlight was the Global Conference on Gender and Environment Data (28-29 November 2023) co-organized by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO), co-conveners of GEDA, and hosted by UN Women and the UNFCCC Secretariat (members of GEDA), as well as the COP28 Presidency and the UN Climate Change High Level Champions. The Global Conference brought together governments, statisticians, academics, UN agencies and civil society, including GEDA members, to examine key gaps and trends in data at the nexus of gender and the environment, and issued a strong Call to Action to guide further work at this intersection. This Call to Action was used in COP negotiations (e.g. by Tonga) and in discussion (e.g. with the United States) on how to achieve the recommendations around gender and environment data.

Latin America - Financial Inclusion

Working with the Generation Equality Action Coalitions on Economic Justice and Rights and Technology and Innovation – to foster financial inclusion of the women most at risk of being left behind in Latin America – the BBVA Microfinance Foundation (BBVAMF) has supported more than 2 million women across Chile, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Panama and Peru in sustainably generating an income between 2021 and 2023. Through individual loans and training on financial literacy, provided by BBVAMF, female entrepreneurs have kickstarted local businesses and strengthened the financial stability of these businesses, promoting financial independence. As a result, more than 1.5 million female entrepreneurs have generated savings, captured in active savings accounts by BBVAMF. By providing appropriate financial services to historically excluded and low-income entrepreneurs, BBVAMF has been fostering development and alleviating poverty and its repercussions.

WPS-HA Compact - Addressing the Impacts of Conflict on Women and Girls

On May 14, 2024, the International Gender Champions (IGC) Impact Group on Women, Peace and Security – in partnership with UN Women-Geneva and the Permanent Mission of Spain to the United Nations in Geneva – hosted a briefing in support of the implementation of the WPS-HA Compact, and to identify priority areas for action ahead of the Summit of the Future and the 25th anniversary of Resolution 1325. The IGC and the WPS-HA Compact have joined forces to address the impacts of conflict and crisis on women and girls globally. In line with the Compact's objective of increasing coordination and evidence-guided strategies for sustainable peace across existing mechanisms, the partnership is a **strong example of multi-stakeholder collaboration** between WPS networks in New

York, Geneva, Vienna, and the Hague. Clara Cabrera Brasero, Deputy Permanent Representative of Spain to the UN and other International Organizations in Geneva highlighted the concrete and results-driven nature of the Compact: "Resolutions and NAPs [National Action Plans] are very useful, but what the Compact gives us is a road map on the humanitarian path specifically... it's useful if we want to invest in women locally and gives us the key on where to invest and how to invest." She also added that Spain has found a lot of value in the Compact's intergenerational approach, which has inspired the inclusion of youth engagement in the development of their next NAP. Mavic Cabrera Balleza, the founder and CEO of the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders and co-chair of the Compact board also shared the Compact's recommendations for the Summit of the Future, including the need to be even bolder and more ambitious when it comes to advancing the WPS agenda and gender-responsive humanitarian action.



Contact Information

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