

SHAPING YOUTH CLIMATE ENGAGEMENT FOR COP30 AND BEYOND

GENERATION EQUALITY YOUTH ROUNDTABLE

COLLECTIVE ADVOCACY MESSAGES



On 28 October 2025, youth leaders from the Feminist Action for Climate Justice Action Coalition (FACJ), the Economic Justice and Rights Action Coalition (EJR), member organisations of the Global Alliance for Care, and partners from across Generation Equality convened the Generation Equality Youth Roundtable: Shaping Youth Climate Engagement for COP30 and Beyond. The Roundtable gathered diverse youth voices to map solutions that strengthen youth leadership and drive forward gender-responsive climate and environmental action.

Participants collectively developed the following Advocacy Messages to advance youth engagement in global climate and gender equality processes.

ENSURING FULL, EQUAL AND MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION

Young women and girls, in all their diversity, must be at the centre of global policy processes and climate negotiations.

-  Ensure the participation of women, girls, and gender-diverse people from communities most affected by climate change and environmental degradation, particularly those from the Global South, in decision-making spaces.
-  Improve accessibility, ensuring decision-making spaces meet the needs of young women, girls, and gender-diverse people with disabilities, including provisions for captioning, interpretation, and physical accessibility.
-  Facilitate equitable youth participation in global climate forums by simplifying visa, travel, availability of language interpretation, and other logistical procedures and promoting flexible visa regimes, irrespective of nationality.
-  Recognise the importance of truly interactive hybrid participation models in enabling full, equal and meaningful engagement of youth who are unable to travel for in-person sessions.
-  Guarantee secure land rights for young women and girls, recognising that equitable access to land is essential for climate resilience, sustainable livelihoods, and meaningful participation in local and global decision-making.

BUILDING CAPACITY, AGENCY AND LEADERSHIP

To enable meaningful participation, young women and girls must have the skills, knowledge, and confidence to engage with international policy processes.

-  Provide training on climate negotiation, advocacy, and leadership, especially for marginalised young women, girls, and gender-diverse people, and increase awareness of intergovernmental processes to encourage youth engagement.
-  Increase the number of young women negotiators in national delegations to multilateral processes and create mentorship networks that connect experienced negotiators with emerging young advocates.



ACCESSIBLE AND EQUITABLE CLIMATE FINANCE

Fair and inclusive access to climate finance is key to advancing youth-led action.

-  Establish dedicated Youth Climate Funds that directly support the participation of young women, grassroots activists and youth-led organisations in COPs and other decision-making spaces.
-  Promote flexible and transparent funding models accessible to grassroots, youth and marginalised groups.
-  Ensure climate finance reaches local organisations and community-level initiatives led by women, girls, and gender-diverse people, not only large-scale or global platforms.

INTERSECTIONAL FEMINIST CLIMATE JUSTICE

Climate justice is inseparable from gender equality, social justice, and human rights.

-  Recognise that the climate crisis exacerbates gender-based violence, inequality, and restricts access to sexual and reproductive health and rights.
-  Address the climate–care nexus, acknowledging that women’s and girls’ unequal responsibility for unpaid care and domestic work limits their participation in decision-making spaces at local and international levels.
-  Ensure inclusion of young women in fragile and conflict-affected contexts in climate discussions and decision-making.
-  Amplify the voices of gender-diverse, Indigenous, afro-descendant, and marginalised young women and girls, ensuring intersectional representation and solidarity.
-  Build strong, interconnected networks of young women, girls, and gender-diverse peoples for inclusive, feminist, and youth-led climate advocacy.
-  Dismantle discriminatory laws, norms, and practices that restrict young women’s rights to own, inherit, control, and make decisions over land, ensuring land justice as a precondition for gender-responsive climate action.



FROM ADVOCACY TO ACTION

Young women are at the forefront of global climate movements, but institutional support must be scaled-up to transform activism into meaningful policy change.

-  Recognise youth as partners, not just participants, in shaping national and global climate strategies and frameworks, such as the upcoming Gender Action Plan.
-  Move from symbolic inclusion to substantive participation, ensuring diverse youth voices, including grassroots, feminist, and critical perspectives, are heard and valued.
-  Integrate youth leadership and gender-responsive approaches into all aspects of climate action, from adaptation and mitigation planning to finance and implementation.
-  Ensure the safety and protection of young women environmental human rights and land defenders, especially Indigenous, afro-descendant, and rural youth, who face heightened risks when advocating for climate and territorial justice.

