



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.



The role of women’s leadership and gender-responsive parliaments in climate action

A parliamentary event organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and UN Women at the 66th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women

Virtual event, 14 March 2022

Contents

Introduction	1
Background	2
Meeting report	3
Opening remarks	3
Session I: National experiences of women’s leadership and political participation in climate action.....	4
Session II: National experiences of legal and policy reforms for gender-responsive climate action and green parliaments	7
Main findings and recommendations	9

Introduction

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is the main international policymaking body dedicated exclusively to gender equality and the advancement of women. Each year, CSW sessions assess progress and setbacks, identify remaining priorities and formulate new policies around specific themes related to gender equality. The priority theme of the 66th Session of CSW in 2022 (CSW66) was “Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programmes”.

The annual IPU-UN Women Parliamentary Meeting at CSW, held for over 10 years, is the forum for parliamentarians to contribute to the Commission’s work, ensuring that the issues it considers each year include a parliamentary perspective. The theme of the 2022 meeting, which was linked to the priority theme, was “The role of women’s leadership and gender-responsive parliaments in climate action”. Owing to the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, all CSW66 side events and parallel events, including this meeting, took place virtually.

The meeting’s objectives were to give members of parliament (MPs) an opportunity to:

- share examples of good parliamentary practices on responding to climate change
- stimulate dialogue to help scale up political will and transformative actions towards advancing women’s participation, and gender-responsive parliamentary climate and environmental action, through legislation and policies, and
- contribute to CSW66 debates from a parliamentary perspective.

Meeting participants included 64 parliamentarians (62 women and 2 men) from 37 countries, plus 31 observers (parliamentary staff, government officials, and representatives of international organizations and civil society). The two sessions and moderated discussions featured diverse parliamentarians from around the world and focused on the links between women’s political leadership and climate action. They also included concrete examples of initiatives where women MPs are leading on climate change policy, and where parliaments are leading on internal efforts to shift towards greener, more environmentally friendly processes and functions.

CSW66 Parliamentary Meeting: “The role of women’s leadership and gender-responsive parliaments in climate action”

Meeting Chair: Ms. Hala Ramzy Fayez, Member of the Shura Council of Bahrain and First Vice-President of the IPU Bureau of Women Parliamentarians.

Opening remarks: Ms. Åsa Regnér, Deputy Executive Director of UN Women (via video) and Mr. Martin Chungong, IPU Secretary General.

Session I panellists: Ms. Nicole Ameline, Vice-Chair of the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW Committee); Ms. Fleur Newman, Gender Affairs Officer and Lead – Gender and Climate Change at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Secretariat; Ms. Meera Alsuwaidi, Member of the Federal National Council of the United Arab Emirates and Member of the IPU Bureau of Women Parliamentarians; Ms. Maryse Gaudreault, President of the Network of Women Parliamentarians of the Parliamentary Assembly of La Francophonie (APF).

Session II panellists: Ms. Fleur Newman, Gender Affairs Officer and Lead – Gender and Climate Change at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Secretariat; Ms. Wilma Andrade Muñoz, Member of the National Assembly of Ecuador and Second Vice-President of the IPU Bureau of Women Parliamentarians; Ms. Mariana Baba Moussa Soumanou, Member of the National Assembly of Benin and Member of the IPU Bureau of Women Parliamentarians; Mr. Jurmi Wangchuk, Member of the National Assembly of Bhutan.

Background

Parliaments can play a key role in the response to climate change. MPs transpose international agreements on climate change into national legislation and ensure they are effectively enforced and implemented through adequate budgets and robust oversight. Parliamentarians also serve as a bridge between constituents, governments and the international community. These are all necessary steps for sustainable and effective climate action.

Women’s political leadership is also a critical factor. Women are successfully advancing climate action through their participation in non-violent social movements¹ and policymaking. Available

research indicates a strong, positive correlation between the percentage of seats occupied by women in national parliaments and the prioritization of climate change policy associated with lower CO₂ emissions.² It also indicates that more ambitious and successfully implemented climate policies pass in countries with greater representation of women in national parliaments.³ Similar trends are seen in environmental and disaster risk reduction policy areas.

One reason why women's involvement in the climate change response is so important is that climate change is likely to reinforce harmful gender social norms and power dynamics that adversely impact the role of women and girls in their everyday lives. National policies and legal frameworks on climate change issues must acknowledge and respond to the specific needs and experiences of women and girls.

Yet with women accounting for only 26.1 per cent of MPs worldwide as of March 2022,⁴ they are out-voiced on climate action, environmental protection and disaster risk reduction initiatives. The absence of measures to promote gender parity in decision-making and to empower women and girls will further compromise women's rights, and societies will be tackling the climate crisis with serious limitations.

The 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action clearly defined the link between gender, the environment and sustainable development. It also established women's strategic role in the development of sustainable and ecologically sound consumption and production patterns, and in decision-making about the environment on an equal basis, at all levels.⁵ Action area 4 of the IPU's *Parliamentary action plan on climate change* emphasizes the need to improve consistency and complementarity between national climate legislation and other societal goals, including gender equality.⁶

Parliaments must bear in mind that climate change legislation mutually reinforces policies that advance other sustainable development-related goals. Achieving gender equality is essential to achieving climate action goals, and vice versa. Women's participation and leadership in parliaments is a crucial step towards achieving those goals, both globally and nationally. The IPU and UN Women stand ready to continue their collaboration with parliaments across the world, in order to support the effective implementation of normative and policy frameworks for gender-responsive policies and action.

Meeting report

Opening remarks

Ms. Hala Ramzy Fayez (Meeting Chair, Member of the Shura Council of Bahrain and First Vice-President of the IPU Bureau of Women Parliamentarians) said that climate change is one of the greatest threats to global development. When issues such as food security, health, economy and infrastructure threaten the foundations of societies, vulnerable populations feel the most immediate impact. A lesson from the pandemic is that crises affect women differently. Gender-based violence increases in all crises, including those caused by natural-resource access constraints that arise from climate degradation. Women human rights defenders and climate activists are targeted.

But women are also a source of collective strength in climate action. Young women and girls especially are at the forefront of social movements demanding equal rights and climate action.

This pattern holds true for women MPs who support more progressive and gender-responsive policies to address the harmful effects of climate change. In order to make climate action gender-responsive, there is an urgent need for concrete and bold legislative and policy actions towards increased political participation for women.

Mr. Martin Chungong (IPU Secretary General) emphasized that climate action is a matter of great urgency and that the role of parliaments in this regard is critical. The IPU's *Women in Parliament in 2021* report shows that the global share of women in parliament reached 26.1 per cent at the beginning of 2022, with 22 per cent of parliamentary Speakers being women. These are the highest shares of women in parliamentary leadership the world has ever seen. In five countries, up from three last year, women account for 50 per cent or more members in the lower/single house of parliament (Cuba, Mexico, Nicaragua, Rwanda and the United Arab Emirates). While there is much to celebrate and be proud of, the pace of progress has been slow and, at the current rate, it will take decades before gender parity is achieved in parliaments around the world.

Gender-responsive climate action requires scaled-up political will and transformative action. Parliaments must move towards an inclusive, green economy and integrate green approaches to COVID-19 recovery efforts while considering gendered needs. This must come from within parliaments, which must shift to more environmentally friendly ways of working.

Ms. Åsa Regnér (Deputy Executive Director of UN Women) acknowledged that MPs are well-placed to act as role models for fairer and more inclusive decision-making, and suggested that they start by involving more women in the decision-making process, by addressing violence against women and by making parliaments green. Parliaments are well-placed to prevent and address violence against women, including by protecting the rights of women environmental advocates, politicians, journalists and activists, and by ensuring that legal frameworks provide the foundation for perpetrators to be held to account.

Parliaments can become key drivers for gender-responsive climate action and accelerate progress towards reaching the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Parliamentary measures to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change include promoting the deployment of efficient, low-carbon technologies, tackling greenhouse gas emissions, and guaranteeing social protection for vulnerable communities in order to increase their resilience. Parliaments can also reduce their own environmental footprints with energy-saving practices and bans on single-use plastics.

Session I: National experiences of women's leadership and political participation in climate action

Overview

The panellists presented experiences from their countries and parliaments demonstrating how women's political participation contributes to the achievement of climate goals and how women's involvement in climate action supports the achievement of gender equality. They shared good practices and examples of initiatives where women MPs are taking the lead in climate action. Examples included gender-responsive budgeting for the implementation of climate-related policies, oversight and monitoring of women's representation in national delegations to international climate negotiations, supporting women's economic empowerment and participation in sectors that can affect and are impacted by climate change, passing laws that increase access to finance for women who want to start up green businesses, gender

mainstreaming in national climate change action plans, and promoting women's representation in decision-making.

Ms. Nicole Ameline (Vice-Chair of the CEDAW Committee) said that the link between the climate emergency and women's rights is clear: the impact of climate change increasingly affects women, and more women have the capacity to lead on the climate response. Parliaments should be leading the charge for equality in the world and women's participation must be at the heart of new measures to combat climate change. New landmark resolutions should ensure that women are fast-tracked to decision-making bodies involved in the fight against climate change.

When it comes to climate action, nothing is doable or possible without a change in basic assumptions about gender equality and women's empowerment. Women are the bulk of agricultural workers, for example. If they do not have rights to inheritance, credit, resources or training, they cannot unlock their potential and participate in public life, which means that leaders will not find the right solutions to climate change. Today, the most effective solutions in dealing with the climate emergency require parity-based governance.

Ms. Fleur Newman (Gender Affairs Officer and Lead – Gender and Climate Change at the UNFCCC Secretariat) said that all climate action must be as effective as possible in order to meet the Paris Agreement goals. The 1.5-degree goal is not achievable unless all of humanity is involved in addressing climate change. It is critical to address gender equality and climate change holistically, with interlinked and interconnected solutions through systemic and structural changes. Women and girls are not inherently more vulnerable to climate change; their increased vulnerability is caused by multidimensional, intersectional and historical inequality that is unrelated to climate issues. Laws and policies can address such inequalities, as evidenced in the *Sixth Assessment Report* of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which focuses on adaptation and vulnerability.

The representation of women in country-driven international and multilateral processes (such as the UNFCCC) is often reflective of what is happening both nationally and locally. Countries have sole discretion as to who represents them in their national delegations. While Parties to the UNFCCC adopted a call for gender balance in 2012, men continue to be overrepresented on national delegations and on policy- and decision-making bodies in climate-process negotiations. Countries should be deliberate in how they seek to achieve gender parity in local, national and international climate policy- and decision-making roles, using best practices and examples from parliaments, businesses and other sectors.

Ms. Meera Alsuwaidi (Member of the Federal National Council of the United Arab Emirates and Member of the IPU Bureau of Women Parliamentarians) said that in the Parliament of the United Arab Emirates, where women represent 50 per cent of members, there are active discussions on climate change policy and initiatives launched by different line ministries.

The United Arab Emirates has ratified treaties and initiatives that will help to mitigate the effects of climate change and established a Ministry of Climate Change and Environment whose minister is a woman. It was also one of the first countries in the region to ratify the Paris Agreement in 2015 and announced its commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from economic activities. The United Arab Emirates will also host the 28th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 28) to the UNFCCC in 2023. The country has also launched a strategic initiative for climate neutrality by 2050. As part of this initiative, the United Arab Emirates is planning to invest 600 billion dirhams in clean, renewable sources of energy by 2050.

Ms. Maryse Gaudreault (President of the Network of Women Parliamentarians of the APF and) said that, within the APF and its Network of Women Parliamentarians, gender mainstreaming in climate change is both a challenge and priority. The APF's multi-year plan now includes sustainable development and gender equality, and a woman chairs its sustainable development commission. The network adopted a landmark resolution that encourages elected officials and citizens in French-speaking countries to further include women in efforts against climate change.

Other examples of the network's initiatives include reviewing extractive industries in Madagascar, where it asked the Government to strengthen the role of women in mining, a strategic sector in the national economy that is responsible for wealth creation but also for very stark consequences for waterways and the environment. The National Assembly of Quebec has an institutional sustainable development plan for 2023 that will help the institution integrate sustainable development principles into its various activities and policies on industry, social matters, housing and other issues.

Interventions from the floor

Following the presentations, the Chair opened the floor for interventions from participants. MPs from around the world shared perspectives from their countries' experiences in women's leadership for climate action:⁷

- In **Italy**, as part of a constitutional reform process, the Chamber of Deputies is currently discussing a bill would promote entrepreneurship and access to credit for women who want to start up agribusinesses.
- In **Thailand**, there is a national strategy for 3-to-5-year plans to cope with the effects of climate change. This includes setting up a National Climate Change Policy Committee with representatives from the Office of Women's Affairs and Family Development and the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning. The Constitution makes provision for gender-responsive budgeting, stating that, in allocating the budget, the State should consider diverse needs with respect to gender, i.e. the State must finance all climate initiatives with a gender perspective to help ensure that gender equality and climate change mitigation and adaptation policies go hand in hand.
- In **Greece**, the National Action Plan for Gender Equality 2021–2025 states that the Ministry of the Environment and Energy must strengthen equal participation in consultation and decision-making as well as promote a gender perspective in efforts to address environmental degradation. Among other things, the mandatory inclusion of women in the boards of directors of energy companies strengthens the participation of women representatives in international meetings and in institutions protecting the environment. Women chair two special parliamentary standing committees: one on environmental protection and one on equality, youth and human rights.
- In **Morocco**, the COP 21 conference on climate change led to the formulation of a strategy on building a national resource plan for clean energy, demonstrating the Government's commitment to addressing climate change. As part of the push for a green economy, the country is also promoting women's inclusion in the agricultural sector.
- In the **Republic of Korea**, the climate crisis is eroding women's socioeconomic standing owing to the gender role and responsibility assigned to women. The prolonged pandemic has hurt women's economic participation, with health-sector jobs becoming increasingly unstable, and with care, hospitality, restaurant and educational services coming under threat. Rates of depression and suicide have significantly increased among young women

in their twenties. Women represent just 16 per cent of members of the Government's cabinet, and hold 19 per cent of seats of the 21st National Assembly and 36 per cent of seats in local government. On a related note, key administrative and policymaking bodies in the Republic of Korea have yet to view the climate crisis as a gender issue.

- In the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, the country is in a unique position in climate discussions on account of the Congo Basin, its forests, its hydroelectric potential of 100,000 MW (plus 90,000 MW in other types of green energy), and its important mining resources (such as cobalt and other raw materials used to store energy). Women play a vital role in the country's agricultural sector, but war and insecurity have prevented them from developing their role in climate action. Women MPs in the Democratic Republic of the Congo have created organizations in which young people work in nature conservation and in cleaning up of collective public spaces.
- In **Nicaragua**, having a gender-sensitive Constitution and a National Climate Change Action Plan has enabled parliament to develop laws on better environmental practices. These initiatives stem in part from the major role that women play in parliament: women hold over 50 per cent of seats in the National Assembly. Moreover, there is an active commission for the rights of women, and a woman chairs the committee focused on leading the fight against climate change.

Session II: National experiences of legal and policy reforms for gender-responsive climate action and green parliaments

Overview

The panellists presented experiences from their countries and parliaments demonstrating how parliamentarians can support gender-responsive climate action. They provided examples of ways parliamentarians are contributing to putting in place gender-responsive climate-related legislation and policies, as well as initiatives for making parliaments greener institutions. Examples included referencing gender considerations in national commitments and climate planning, requiring legislative proposals to be reviewed against both SDG 5 on gender equality and SDG 13 on climate action, promoting women's access to green financing and technology, forming associations between women MPs and climate activists to facilitate cross-political communication in order to build political will for gender-responsive action, and parliamentary action to reduce the use of paper, opt for more remote work and ban single-use plastics.

Ms. Fleur Newman (Gender Affairs Officer and Lead – Gender and Climate Change at the UNFCCC Secretariat) said that while there is support for the need for gender-responsive climate action, more must be done to spur concrete action. In order to achieve this, countries should develop all policies with a gender lens and take deliberate measures to lower barriers to women's participation and inclusion in decision-making bodies, as well as in areas such as food security and agriculture. Part of ensuring that climate policy is gender-responsive involves looking at and addressing these barriers when countries are putting in place climate law.

It is also important that MPs understand the link between gender equality and climate change. This involves breaking down silos and ensuring adequate coordination, both across national governments and vertically (from the national to the local level), because climate action will often be local in nature. This means that there should be pathways for women and women's organizations, including local organizations, to contribute to planning processes.

The international climate process has tools to ensure that countries' plans include gender considerations in different sectors. Since the first nationally determined contributions (NDCs) were submitted, there has been a significant increase in the number of countries that are referencing gender considerations in their commitments and in national climate planning, with a greater and more in-depth understanding of what they are including.

Ms. Wilma Andrade (Member of the National Assembly of Ecuador and Second Vice-President of the IPU Bureau of Women Parliamentarians) said that MPs must review all legislative proposals in Ecuador according to SDG 5 on gender equality and SDG 13 on climate action.

Women and girls have suffered disproportionately from the impacts of climate change in Ecuador, particularly owing to natural disasters such as earthquakes. More than 30 per cent of the country's population is rural. Of the 35,000 tonnes of general waste produced per year, a large percentage goes into landfills and only 4 per cent is recycled. Women in rural areas are more likely to be in direct contact with rivers, soil and flora. Coupled with the growing issue of waste disposal, this has led to a deterioration in women's health caused by pollution. This is why women are prominent among environmental activist movements and have participated in actions to defend against environmentally destructive industries.

Parliament has taken initiatives such as reviewing a new law on the circular economy, banning single-use plastics and recognizing nature as a subject of law. There are also discussions within parliament about protection measures for ancestral land and natural resources. Within the institution itself, MPs have reduced the use of paper and opted for more remote work, and are conducting awareness-raising campaigns on environmentally friendly efforts.

Ms. Mariana Baba Moussa Soumanou (Member of the National Assembly of Benin and Member of the IPU Bureau of Women Parliamentarians) said that Benin has implemented reforms to strengthen its legal framework on gender equality and climate action, demonstrating its political will to promote women's participation in this important field.

The Constitution includes protections for families and vulnerable populations and provides for the right to a safe environment. Within the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development, a bureau handles questions related to the impact of climate change on vulnerable people and women. In June 2020, the Cabinet passed and subsequently implemented a special decree on gender-responsive mitigation and adaptation measures. Since then, Benin has drafted a national adaptation plan and has submitted its NDCs to the international climate negotiations process.

Parliament has legislated on restoring, handling and removing polluting waste since 2019, introducing a new implementation framework. It voted on two separate bills banning the production, export, sale, storage, distribution and use of plastic bags, in 2018 and 2017. The National Assembly created a committee on gender and climate, and its female Chair has appointed a specific task force working on this topic. This has helped to raise awareness about all these new initiatives, both within parliament and across wider society.

Mr. Jurmi Wangchuk (Member of the National Assembly of Bhutan) said that climate action and women's participation in parliament are equally vital. The Parliament of Bhutan has transitioned to a paperless parliament. No MPs carry paper into the assembly hall. Women MPs introduced this initiative, which demonstrated the importance of bringing women's perspectives and more diverse ideas into parliament. Furthermore, it contributed to the promotion of positive social norms about the invaluable contribution of women leaders to sustainable development and climate action.

Following the presentations, the Chair opened the floor for interventions from participants. MPs from around the world shared perspectives from their countries' experiences in legislating for gender-responsive climate action and making their parliaments greener:⁸

- In **Mali**, droughts and other consequences of climate change have affected the financial security of women working in the country's agricultural sector. Stronger laws on gender and climate change are important, but applying them is challenging in developing countries, where alternative, renewable energy sources are not readily available to people. In Mali, women are typically in charge of gathering water and cooking food but have no other options for fuel besides coal and wood. Women, and the population of Mali as a whole, need a "plan B" to help them transition away from unsustainable habits. There are national training programmes covering subjects such as replanting local species in order to create or produce more food, and how to push back desertification, but these programmes need to be available to all, in order to raise awareness at all levels of society.
- In **Bahrain**, participation in new green economic opportunities and climate-resilient agriculture is empowering women economically. The majority of board members on the country's Supreme Council for Environment are women and parliament is assisting the Council with the formulation of relevant legislation. Efforts are under way to ensure that legislation guarantees women's right to ownership over tangible and intangible assets, and their access to green financing, green technology and market information training, as well as other resources.
- In the **Islamic Republic of Iran**, a country facing the effects of climate change, the head of the national authority on the environment is a woman who has served four terms. Moreover, 40 per cent of Department of Environment staff are women and 25 per cent of senior management in environment-related areas are women. A woman MP chairs the environmental caucus and is also a member of the women and family caucus, which helps to bridge a crucial gap between the two related issues. An adviser for women and family affairs in the Department of Environment serves as the point of contact for two national authorities, in order to raise awareness and ensure that women's contributions are included in the fight against environmental hazards. A joint memorandum of understanding between the Department of Environment and Department of Women and Family Affairs is designed to help increase women's role in climate action. The Ministry of Petroleum and the Vice Presidency for Women and Family Affairs have also established a memorandum of understanding to help reform consumption patterns and optimize household energy use.
- In **Canada**, the Climate Action Group in the Senate has collaborated with Peers for the Planet in the United Kingdom. This alliance provides a good example of parliamentary and civil society partnerships for climate action. In the House of Commons, over 30 per cent of MPs are women, and there is gender parity in the Senate. Parliament is currently debating a motion for the country to declare a climate emergency and Canada is pursuing innovation in social finance to enhance progress on the SDGs by mobilizing private capital for public good and bringing together investors from civil society and government.

Main findings and recommendations

The relationship between women's political participation and the achievement of climate goals is of great interest to parliaments around the world. Women's involvement in climate action supports

the achievement of gender equality, as illustrated by many examples of initiatives where women parliamentarians and other female political leaders have taken the lead on climate action.

Participants at the parliamentary meeting agreed that parliaments have a key role to play in climate action by:

- (i) enacting proactive measures to increase women's political participation
- (ii) advancing gender-responsive climate legislation and policy reform, and
- (iii) pushing for green and gender-responsive institutions.

Throughout the meeting, MPs discussed various approaches to gender-responsive climate and environmental action and how parliaments can move towards an inclusive green economy and integrate green approaches to crisis recovery efforts that consider gender and other socially differentiated needs. Some parliaments have seized the opportunity to promote gender-responsive climate action by transitioning their parliaments into green institutions. Green parliamentary practices shared by MPs included auditing water and electricity consumption, using renewable energy sources, reducing non-essential travel practices and limiting the consumption of paper and single-use plastics.

The participants agreed that climate change legislation mutually reinforces policies that advance other goals towards sustainable development. They recommended that the achievement of gender equality should be seen as essential to achieving climate action goals – both those that have been internationally agreed upon, and national and local targets. The participants noted that the connection between gender equality, women's and girls' empowerment, and effective climate change action are stronger than they used to be. MPs noted that national policies related to climate change must acknowledge the need to eradicate barriers to gender equality and prioritize investments that enable women and girls to enact change and reinforce climate action strategies. Ultimately, the legal framework on climate action needs to be approached through a gender-responsive lens for it to be effective and sustainable.

However, no country has yet to achieve gender equality in all fields and at all levels. There are too few women in international climate negotiations, and anti-gender-equality backlash around the world further threatens women's participation and the climate. In some cases, the COVID-19 pandemic has advanced progress in gender-responsive climate action, while in others it has caused more setbacks to gender equality. MPs' support in promoting women's leadership in climate action must not be underestimated, especially given the evidence of their crucial role in creating solutions to the issue. Experiences discussed during the parliamentary meeting pointed to women leading the charge in making their parliaments greener spaces and pushing for more gender-responsive climate measures and legislation. MPs must continue to promote and protect women's rights, which can be threatened by crises of all types: public health, economic, security or political.

While there have been steps in the right direction, it is understood that more must be done in order to achieve strong and concrete progress that will lead to sustainable and equitable development. In particular, further efforts are needed on:

- enhancing women's autonomy, and access to information and to financial and technical resources, so they can contribute more equally to climate change solutions as they do in other aspects of government, business and society

- engaging with and influencing corporations and businesses, which have a major role to play in addressing climate change, through enabling regulatory frameworks
- finding ways of scaling up women’s capabilities in climate action and programmes to build a low-carbon economy, and putting in place systems that provide adequate compensation for childcare and family care and keep women’s economic activities stable
- developing policies with a gender lens and taking deliberate actions to lower barriers to women’s participation and inclusion, whether in decision-making bodies, in food security or in agriculture
- forming associations between women MPs and activists to facilitate cross-political communication and advocacy on climate and gender equality issues
- listening to the women in society and demanding that governments act on the commitments they have made to fight climate change
- promoting and protecting the inclusion of women in civil society in the response to the climate crisis and working together to protect the future.

¹ Women’s participation in social movements is highly correlated with the likelihood that they will use non-violent methods and succeed. See: Erica Chenoweth and others, *Women’s Participation and the Fate of Nonviolent Campaigns: A Report on the Women in Resistance (WiRe) Data Set* (Broomfield, Colorado: One Earth Future Foundation, 2019):

https://oneearthfuture.org/sites/default/files/documents/publications/Womens_Participation_Nonviolent_Campaigns_Digital_0.pdf.

² Jenn Richler, “Effect of female representation”, *Nature Climate Change*, 9 (2019), 801: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-019-0626-2>.

³ In combination with other factors, such as the country’s GDP per capita, education levels and overall political orientation. See: Samantha Harrington, “Countries with more female politicians pass more ambitious climate policies, study suggests” (Yale Climate Connections, 2019): <https://yaleclimateconnections.org/2019/09/countries-with-more-female-politicians-pass-more-ambitious-climate-policies-study-suggests/>.

⁴ Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), “Global and regional averages of women in national parliaments” (IPU Parline, 2022): <https://data.ipu.org/women-averages?month=3>.

⁵ United Nations, *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action* (United Nations, 1995): <https://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/pdf/BDPfA%20E.pdf>.

⁶ IPU, *Parliamentary action plan on climate change*, (Geneva: IPU, 2016): <http://archive.ipu.org/pdf/publications/climat16-e.pdf>.

⁷ Countries are listed by order of intervention.

⁸ Countries are listed by order of intervention.