

# WOMEN \* GENDER CONSTITUENCY



# COP30 KEY THEMATIC DEMANDS

November 2025

## OVERALL WGC COP30 ENGAGEMENT APPROACH

Despite the intensifying anti-rights agenda and the rise of conservative governments, [the Women and Gender Constituency \(WGC\)](#) remains unwavering in our pursuit of [#FeministClimateJustice](#) for a healthy planet and the wellbeing of our communities. In 2025, our focus will be on [advancing rights and amplifying feminist analysis and narratives](#). We will do this through strategic technical engagement in policy processes and direct negotiations via our thematic working groups, as well as through bold public-facing media engagement and manifestations inside the halls of SB62 and COP30.

As we push forward, we will take deliberate action to **prevent harm, resist regression** on hard-won commitments, and **safeguard progressive language**. We will also seize global moments to mobilize, reconnect, and stand in solidarity with our members and the broader global feminist movement within UNFCCC processes and beyond.

## WGC MAIN PRIORITIES FOR THE COP30

1. **Gender:** Engage and influence an ambitious and robust Gender Action Plan, fit for the purpose of advancing gender equality within UNFCCC and creating policy conditions to end climate and gender injustices across the world.
2. **Adaptation:** The WGC will engage strategically and tactically to ensure that the Global Goal on Adaptation includes robust gender-responsive indicators that reflect the lived experiences and needs of women, gender-diverse people, and marginalized groups in all their diversities. We will advocate for National Adaptation Plan (NAP) processes and implementation that are inclusive, participatory, and gender-responsive, while also pushing for the Adaptation Fund to be replenished at a scale that matches the urgency and needs of frontline communities.
3. **Just Transition:** Investing in reimagining and shaping the ideals of a feminist Just Transition, while developing practical resources and tools to support advocates and governments in its implementation. We will also make dedicated capacities available to collaborate with allies to influence and shape the second phase of the Just Transition Work Programme and deliver a just transition escalation in 2025, including the establishment of the Belém Action Mechanism.
4. **Reforming UNFCCC:** The Women and Gender Constituency will lead efforts to make COP governance, processes, and physical spaces gender-transformative, while working in solidarity with others to confront critical and existential challenges, including rules of procedure, corporate capture, the expo-like nature of COPs, and the broader crisis facing multilateralism.

## WGC MOBILIZATION PRIORITIES

The WGC will prioritize public actions, campaigns, and protests related to:

1. Ending genocide everywhere
2. Gender Justice — An ambitious GAP
3. Resourcing adaptation implementation
4. A feminist Just Transition
5. Reforming the UNFCCC, calling for multilateral space from anti-rights, conservatism, and corporate capture.

## THE WGC COP30 THEMATIC DEMANDS

### 1. Adopt an ambitious Gender Action Plan (GAP).

COP29 delivered an extended enhanced Lima Work Program on Gender, spanning 10 years and providing a roadmap to establish its Gender Action Plan (GAP) at COP30. The GAP is instrumental in catalyzing gender-transformative climate action — creating the implementation framework for the work program. The WGC has outlined eleven key priorities within its submission that it believes Parties must ensure. These priorities must be enshrined within activities that honor its long-term framework and that are measurable and impactful. These are the following:

- \* **Strengthen and increase participation and leadership of women, girls, and gender-diverse people in climate action:** Ensuring meaningful participation of women and marginalized groups in climate decision-making by dismantling structural barriers, addressing gender-based violence, and protecting environmental human rights defenders.
- \* **Center and outline specific actions for Party-level implementation at national and sub-national levels:** Supporting integration of gender considerations in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) through stronger UNFCCC guidance and structured engagement with civil society organizations.
- \* **Enhance the use, production, and collection of gender-disaggregated data:** Establishing rigorous monitoring and accountability through clearly defined indicators and robust reporting frameworks, ensuring gender considerations are mainstreamed throughout the Convention's accountability mechanisms.

- \* **Strengthen greater understanding of and action on intersectionality and diversity:** Refining collective understanding of intersectionality to ensure all marginalized groups are meaningfully included in climate policy discussions, addressing impacts, needs, and experiences of people with multiple intersecting identities.
- \* **Protect and promote human rights and rights-based approaches:** Integrating rights-based activities and indicators that address gender-based discrimination and violence, ensuring climate responses do not replicate inequalities but advance well-being and justice.
- \* **Recognize and address interlinkages between sexual and reproductive health and rights, gender-based violence, and climate change:** Acknowledging climate change as a health crisis with gendered dimensions, including increased maternal mortality, disrupted access to reproductive health services, and escalation of gender-based violence during climate disasters.
- \* **Advance a gender-just transition through key provisions in the GAP:** Ensuring the transition to low-carbon economies centers diverse needs, upholds social justice, addresses gendered work differences, and provides education and employment opportunities in emerging economies.
- \* **Systematically integrate care into climate action:** Recognizing the essential role of care work in community functioning and climate resilience, strengthening care systems, and integrating these considerations into UNFCCC processes and climate action.
- \* **Promote coherence across negotiation streams, thematic areas, and UNFCCC processes:** Strengthening links between gender equality and other dimensions of climate action, recognizing triple planetary crisis interlinkages, and ensuring coherence with other international processes and conventions.
- \* **Unlock finance for gender just climate action:** Securing dedicated budget for GAP operationalization, strengthening relationships between gender focal points and financial mechanisms, and advancing approaches to monitor delivery of gender-responsive climate finance.
- \* **Advance gender-responsive and just technology development and transfer:** Supporting the design and deployment of technology that is just and gender-responsive, addressing biopiracy, combating gendered disinformation, and promoting community sovereignty and recognition of Indigenous knowledge.

## 2. Foster enabling environments to advance gender-responsive adaptation.

Parties should sustain momentum on the progress towards achieving the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA). This includes dramatically scaling up adaptation finance, particularly through the Adaptation Fund and other existing mechanisms; integrating gender considerations, responsiveness, and disaggregation across all levels; and providing robust means of implementation to support developing countries. Enabling environments will support the GGA to reduce vulnerability and enhance adaptive capacity, as well as the collective well-being of all people in the face of the climate crisis. This includes:

### Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA)

- \* **Gender-responsive indicators:** Emphasizing indicators on gender under 10b04→ ensures global relevance of indicators.
  - WGC continues to see value in gender-responsive and other cross-cutting indicators under the IAC/dimensional targets, as they can be relevant across thematic targets.
- \* Prioritize locally led adaptation and community-based adaptation, which are captured under cross-cutting considerations in Decision 2/CMA5 para. 14 and are part of the UAE Framework on Global Climate Resilience.
  - Indicators capturing locally led adaptation action should be retained on this basis.
- \* **Disaggregation** must be clear, consistent, and systemic, and, at a minimum, include gender and other cross-cutting considerations within any people-centered indicators of the current proposed list.
- \* The indicators must be effectively linked to the reporting structure of the Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs), taking into account that the second round of BTR submissions is expected in 2026, and to planning instruments such as National Adaptation Plans (NAPs).
- \* **Inclusive participation of non-party stakeholders:** The mechanism that will move the indicator process forward, if that is decided to be the Baku Adaptation Roadmap or another mechanism, should outline clear next steps for the role of non-party stakeholders to track, monitor, and report on inclusive participation of rights holders.
- \* **Enhance transparency:** The development of indicators and operationalization plans should continue to engage non-party stakeholders and rights-based constituencies with appropriate time to review and engage.

- \* **Means of implementation:** Finance indicators should be able to measure all adaptation funding established at the national level, as applicable globally.

### Adaptation Financing

- \* Parties must commit to prioritizing, increasing, and sustaining Adaptation Financing through existing mechanisms. **To enable the Global Goal on Adaptation, we need financing commitments to the Adaptation Fund and the Global Environment Facility (GEF).**
  - o Countries, especially developed countries, *according to Fair Shares*, should make not just ambitious, but adequate pledges.

### National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)

- \* **Provide financial and technical support** to developing countries during the development and implementation of the NAPs.
- \* **Integrate gender decisions and advance gender equality** throughout the development, implementation, and reporting of the NAPs.

## 3. Establish a feminist just, equitable, human, and nature rights-centered Just Transition framework.

Feminists demand that the transition away from extractive, racist, and patriarchal-based economies must be just. Structural and systemic inequalities embedded in imperialist, colonial, racialized, and militarized modes of production and consumption must be dismantled — together with the limitless economic growth-centered models that have brought us to the brink of ecological collapse. COP29's failure to deliver a decision on the Just Transition Work Programme (JTWP) makes it even more urgent that 2025 deliver progress. As we head toward the third year of the JTWP, frontline communities, workers, and feminists need the work programme to start delivering actionable outcomes. Towards this, we call to:

- \* **Recognise that all forms of work, in particular care and informal work, must be included** in the planning and implementation of just transition policies.
- \* **Establish the Belém Action Mechanism on Just Transition** as an enabler towards the achievement of a holistic just transition within and between countries, based on the principles of equity and CBDR-RC, including facilitating international cooperation; providing technical assistance and advice; creating access to and sharing best practices; methodologies and tools; and ensuring diverse representation from countries, constituencies, and communities.
- \* **Agree on principles for a Just Transition, including centring care, consent, collective human rights and rights of nature** and ensuring compliance with the

[principles of the UN Secretary-General's Panel on Critical Energy Transition Minerals](#) and the right to Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC).

- \* **Recognise the design and implementation of Just Transition policies, plans, programmes and practices as enablers of climate ambition therefore eligible to receive climate finance.** Some examples include, but are not limited to, the provision of social dialogue and consultation mechanisms, and social protection policies, including policies related to care among others.
- \* **Respect international humanitarian law** by preventing territorial occupation for the construction of infrastructure and the supply of energy resources.
- \* **Promote and support frameworks for accountability and fairness in trade measures** concerning just transition pathways.
- \* **Promote and support policies of sufficiency**, recognized in the [IPCC AR6 WGIII report](#) as a set of measures and practices that avoid the demand for energy, materials, land, and water while degrowing harmful sectors, such as the military and fossil fuel sectors, and delivering human well-being for all within planetary boundaries.
- \* **Integrate Just Transition Plans into NDCs, NAPs, and LT-LEDS**, aligning long-term development and climate goals with social justice and equity.

#### **4. Deliver predictable, new, and additional public non-debt creating climate finance in quantity and quality.**

After a three-year technical expert and negotiation process, COP29 adopted a deeply disappointing New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance (NCQG) to be reached by 2035, which overall weakened developed countries' obligations to provide finance to developing countries in accordance with the Paris Agreement and its premise of scaling up finance to meet needs. The \$300 billion goal and its parameters do not indicate or compel an increased commitment to provide and mobilise finance in the quantity and quality corresponding to the needs and rights of developing countries and affected communities, as indicated by the Global Stocktake, the determination of needs of developing country Parties, and the latest science from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, inter alia.

The NCQG decision also launched the **Baku to Belém Roadmap** under the leadership of the COP29 and COP30 presidencies to focus on scaling up financing to developing countries, with some important consultations with Parties and observers. This Roadmap, if it is more than just a report, could provide an opportunity to address fundamental NCQG shortcomings and omissions.

- \* **Address the NCQG’s current lack of a clear commitment to human rights and gender equality, community support, and equity; provide a clear climate finance definition; reaffirm the core role of public non-debt creating finance support; and articulate sub-goals on mitigation, adaptation, and addressing loss and damage.**
- \* **Add, and establish for continued discussion, an agenda item at COP30 focused on Article 9.1** that reiterates the mandate for developed countries to provide new and additional public finance to developing countries will be an important element of the COP30 negotiations.
- \* **Determine at CMA7 a path forward for the Sharm-el-Sheikh Dialogue on Article 2.1.(c)** on making all climate finance flows consistent with the Paris Agreement that moves beyond discussion and workshops towards implementation in tackling some of the systemic shortcomings of the current financial architecture to address structural barriers, such as difficulty accessing and high costs of capital, unsustainable debt burden, and low fiscal space for developing countries to implement urgent climate action in a people-centred and gender-responsive way.

## **5. Strengthen and ensure a bottom-up, inclusive Global Stocktake process.**

As the international community advances toward the Second Global Stocktake (GST2) under the Paris Agreement, there is growing recognition that the process must meaningfully reflect the voices, knowledge, and priorities of those most affected by climate change. To date, participation in GST mechanisms has remained uneven, with limited accessibility for frontline communities, Women Environmental and Human Rights Defenders (WEHRDs), Indigenous Peoples, feminists, youth, and other vulnerable and marginalized groups.

- \* **Establish a GST Global People’s Assembly:** At COP30 the WGC calls for the establishment of a GST Global People’s Assembly, a grassroots-driven, locally rooted, and globally affirmed process designed to democratize climate governance. This initiative seeks to ensure that diverse constituencies are not only included in, but also empowered to shape, the GST2 process and outcomes. Such an approach draws on the Climate People’s Assembly framework, emphasizing civic participation, linguistic justice, gender equity, and ethical responsibility as foundational principles for an inclusive and just transition.
- \* **Commit to full implementation of the GST1 outcomes including operationalization of UAE Dialogue:** Anything less would undermine the credibility of the next Global Stocktake and weaken the foundations of the Paris Agreement. COP30 must make accountability its top priority.

## 6. Mainstream Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) as a cross-cutting issue across the UNFCCC.

Achieving equitable and sustainable climate outcomes requires approaches that go beyond addressing symptoms of inequality, they must actively transform the root causes that perpetuate exclusion and injustice. This includes recognizing the interconnected nature of gender, age, capability, and knowledge systems in shaping people's access to power, resources, and decision-making spaces. A just and inclusive climate framework must therefore center transformation, participation, and intergenerational justice at its core.

- \* **We urge the adoption of a Gender Transformative Approach:** We urge governments, institutions involved in the ACE action plan implementation and ACE negotiations to adopt a gender transformative approach that engages women, men, and gender-diverse people as equal partners in change. This means confronting and dismantling the structural inequalities and restrictive gender norms that define roles, access, and power, ensuring shared responsibility for equality and climate justice.
- \* **We insist on the full inclusion of girls in all their diversity:** We insist that girls in all their diversity, including those with disabilities, are actively included in every level of climate policy, planning, and action. Inclusive participation in Climate Action requires removing barriers, ensuring accessibility, and addressing intersecting forms of discrimination that silence girls' voices and limit their leadership potential.
- \* **We demand intergenerational justice:** We demand that intergenerational justice be at the heart of all climate frameworks. Today's decisions must protect the rights and well-being of both present and future generations. This means amplifying youth leadership, ensuring their seat at decision-making tables, and valuing the experience and wisdom of older generations to build fair, forward-looking climate solutions.
- \* **We call for a global assembly rooted in community and Indigenous knowledge:** We call for the establishment of a global assembly that recognizes and elevates the knowledge and leadership of communities, grassroots, and Indigenous peoples. Their lived experience and traditional wisdom are vital for shaping climate solutions that are equitable, culturally grounded, and truly transformative.

## 7. Fulfill commitments to integrate gender-responsiveness in technology development and transfer.

Despite the adoption of a gender strategy by the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) and gender policy by the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), leading efforts like development of gender-responsive policy briefs, Technical Needs Assessments (TNA) guidelines, and action plans, the mechanisms continue to overlook the full integration of gender in technology transfer. At COP29, the constant debates on the different agenda items was due to the frustration of non-Annex I countries over inadequate long-term funding for

truly implementing and scaling up climate technologies. For the first time, there was no agreement on the Joint Annual Report of the TEC and CTCN in part because of the gender and inclusive language. The WGC is primarily concerned that during the discussion on the CTCN functions, the gains made on mainstreaming gender in the development, implementation, and transfer of climate technology will be lost.

- \* The process of elaborating the next TIP (Technology Implementation Programme) needs to be open to the participation of women and girls, and marginalized groups.
- \* The TIP should address gender gaps for accessing and implementing climate technologies, as well as the challenges that local and marginalized communities have to participate in the development and transfer processes.
- \* The TIP must strengthen support for the mainstreaming of gender in the implementation of technology priorities identified by developing countries, e.g. in NDCs, NAPs, and TNAS.
- \* Gender-responsive budgeting and finance language must be included in the final text of the linkages for the transfer and implementation of climate technology to developing countries.

## **8. Divest military and fossil-fuel spending, and redirect funds towards ambitious climate action.**

It is essential to understand the fundamental systemic root causes of the climate crisis, considering factors such as imperialism, colonialism, patriarchy, and militarism. Militarism is fueling the climate emergency in two key ways: the misdirection of public funds towards the military instead of climate finance, and the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the military itself. At COP29, the "Baku Call on Climate Action for Peace, Relief and Recovery" acknowledged climate and security but failed to address the elephant in the room: militarism, including increasing military spending, which directly contributes to record levels of emissions, estimated at around 5.5% of global military emissions. Figures released in April 2025 show that global military expenditure reached \$2.7 trillion in 2024, a 9.4% increase in real terms from 2023 and the steepest year-on-year rise since at least the end of the Cold War.

With multiple devastating large-scale wars and genocides happening across the globe, and military spending rising every year, it is critical that the links between the climate crisis and militarism be addressed at COP30. Demilitarization is key to climate justice, and the reallocation of military spending should fund climate action. The WGC demands:

- \* **Mandatory, robust, comparable, and transparent reporting of military emissions:** This includes emissions from conflicts, under the UNFCCC framework to enhance accountability. Governments should commit to verifiable military emissions reduction targets in line with national net-zero commitments.

- \* **Prioritize investment in conflict prevention and peacebuilding:** Implement conflict-sensitive climate finance by providing direct access to grants for conflict-affected countries and communities, particularly for marginalized groups, including women, gender-diverse people, Black, Indigenous, and People of Color, people with disabilities, children, and youth.
- \* **Divest from military and fossil-fuel** spending towards climate action and feminist just transitions in line with the Paris Agreement's goal to limit warming to 1.5°C. This includes redirecting military spending, implementing a tax on the arms trade, and, in the long run, ceasing all arms trade to mobilize public funds for climate action.

At **COP30 in Belém**, an “Implementation COP,” we must ensure implementation means confronting militarism as a barrier to climate justice and a Just Transition

## 9. Accelerate mitigation efforts.

The [IPCC AR6 report](#) stressed the need to peak emissions by 2025. Yet, here we are in November 2025 with a dysfunctional Mitigation Work Program that is not delivering. 59% of NDCs are still missing, there is a gap of [29.9 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e](#) to remain below 1.5°C, and the GST commitment to transition away from fossil fuels and triple renewable energy has no clear follow up. The result, June 2023 through May 2024 have been the highest on record at 1.63°C above pre-industrial levels, threatening millions of lives and livelihoods, and enriching the already ultrarich, giving even more power to patriarchal and colonial structures. COP30 needs to make sure we peak emissions in 2025, if not before the Mitigation Work Program ends in 2026, then in other negotiation tracks or in the cover decision. There's no time to lose. WGC demands:

- \* Keep **1.5 alive**. Ensure **ambitious gender-transformative NDCs** in 2025.
- \* **Ensure a feminist fossil fuel phase out** that recognizes the role that the fossil fuel sector plays in maintaining patriarchal and colonial structures, in particular petro-masculinities and green colonialism, and that puts a care lens and care work at the center.
- \* Ensure that COP28's agreement to **triple renewables and double energy efficiency is implemented** in a way that ensures women and gender-diverse people's rights, and favours energy efficiency and local decentralised renewables for households, communities, and farmers. This involves sustainable lifestyle changes, and policies and infrastructure support.
- \* **The Mitigation Work Program needs to be extended beyond 2026 with a mandate for a target** that is informed by Just Transition Work Program and the Global Stocktake, and that fully integrates the principles of the Gender Just Climate Action.

- \* The Mitigation Work Program should take stock of 2025 global dialogues prioritizing:
  - **Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU)**: Invest in gender-transformative human-rights based agricultural practices that reinforce community ownership, and avoid false solutions that lead to the neocolonization of Global South's lands.
  - The **waste sector** needs to be addressed through a feminist perspective that shifts away from an unlimited growth to a care-centered economy that reduces demands at the source and values women's and gender diverse people roles in the recycling sector.
- \* **Enable policies and financial support schemes for supporting these measures that do not further reinforce patriarchal structures and swamp people in debt** but ensure equitable and gender-responsive access to mitigation technologies, linking technology needs assessments directly with predictable finance and removing intellectual property barriers that limit women and local innovators from deploying clean solutions.
- \* **All mitigation technology projects must undergo gender and human rights responsive impact assessments** and guarantee meaningful participation of women and marginalized communities throughout design, deployment, and monitoring, with transparent accountability and grievance mechanisms.

## 10. **Reject carbon trading and offset mechanisms that undermine true emissions reductions and harm communities and nature.**

The Article 6 rulebook was the last item in the Paris Agreement to be adopted. It happened at COP26 in Glasgow after years of negotiation. Article 6 of the Paris Agreement comprises 3 items: Article 6.2 on carbon trading, Article 6.4 on carbon market (officially known as Paris Agreement Crediting Mechanism), and Article 6.8 on non-market approaches (NMAs). Article 6.8 (NMAs) was fully operationalised at COP27. Articles 6.2 (carbon trading) and 6.4 (carbon market) were operationalised at COP29. The decision on Article 6.4 was most controversial and raised procedural issues.

- \* **Carbon trading and carbon markets are dangerous distractions and false solutions** that do not contribute to the actual emissions reduction urgently needed to achieve the Paris Agreement 1.5° goal. These solutions promote the use of unproven techno-fixes and corporate capture, which negatively impacts the environment, Indigenous Peoples, and local communities, particularly women due to the pre-existing gender inequality and discrimination.
- \* **Carbon credits projects have negative impacts on women and girls**, in terms of their way of life, livelihoods, income, health and displacement. It also increases their

risk of gender-based violence. The grievance mechanisms are either absent or not implemented.

- \* **Carbon markets are not climate finance.** Climate finance from alternative sources stated in the NCQG COP29 decision must not include Article 6.4 carbon market or any other carbon markets.
- \* REDD+ activities/projects are favoured under NMAs (Article 6.8) and Article 6.4 carbon market, yet **recurring issues from REDD+ are well-documented**, such as reversal, non-permanence, leakage, additionality, violation of the rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, and may do harm to the local women and Indigenous women who are the protectors, users, and defenders of the customary forests.
- \* **Supporting implementation of NMAs:**
  - Amplify support for NMAs and advocate for funding for NMAs programme/projects from climate finance mechanism.
  - Advocate that NMAs must not be linked with Articles 6.2 and 6.4 (carbon markets and carbon trading).
  - NMAs must not allow the use of fossil-based technologies and must wean off REDD+.
  - Allow non-Parties to record NMA activities in the NMA Platform; the Platform is highly underutilised.

## **11. Address and prepare for climate-induced health impacts, including those on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR).**

Although health is not covered by a specific agenda item, it's a critical and integral part of gender-climate action. Climate change poses growing threats to the health and well-being of all people, with profound impacts on SRHR. It exacerbates inequalities, including health disparities, and heightens climate vulnerability. We must maintain momentum on this nexus as increasingly recognized in the action agenda, and ensure SRHR is integrated as a core component of any health action. Integration should be grounded in an intersectional, gender-responsive, and rights-based approach to health and climate policy and action. The WGC demands:

- \* **Integration of health across the agenda:** Start talking about and incorporating health links, including SRHR, in relevant agenda items. The climate crisis is a health crisis.

- \* **Integrate SRHR into the Lima Work Programme on Gender (LWPG) and the Gender Action Plan (GAP):** The LWPG and GAP offer key pathways to incorporate SRHR-responsiveness and considerations in the UNFCCC. SRHR is also a fundamental aspect of gender-responsiveness in climate policy and action.