

AWID @ COP30

Feminist Demands for Climate & Gender Justice

KEY MESSAGES

**We encourage you to use
the material in support of
your advocacy.**

For questions, comments, and collaboration, contact
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A critical point for climate justice

The UN Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC) 30th Conference of Parties (COP30) takes place amidst a worsening climate crisis, the rise of anti-right movements, and the deepening corporate influence - including within UNFCCC itself.

Civil society - including feminist, women's rights and gender justice movements - are mobilizing both inside the formal UNFCCC process and outside through people-led organizing and resistance.

AWID positions itself as a strategic connector between these spaces, ensuring that feminist voices, strategies, and solutions inform every level of climate decision-making.

1

END CORPORATE CAPTURE AND REJECT FALSE SOLUTIONS

The UN system risks capture of policy-making by corporate interests, - from the Binding Treaty at the UN Human Rights Council, to the UN Food Systems Summit and the Summit of the Future. The COP space is no different. Profit-driven actors promote false solutions such as carbon markets, offsets, and techno-fixes that perpetuate inequality and ecological destruction and derail the 2030 Agenda.

We demand that COP30 and Member States:

- **End corporate influence in climate policy-making and ensure corporate accountability.**
- **Center gender justice and human rights in all climate actions.**
- **Reject profit-driven fixes and embrace feminist, rights-based climate solutions grounded in care, justice, and sustainability.**

2

PRIORITISE FEMINIST ECONOMIC ALTERNATIVES IN CLIMATE FINANCING

Climate financing must resource feminist economic alternatives that build systems centered on care, collective wellbeing and the sustainability of life, encompassing ecology, people, and communities.

Member States must:

- Stop financing false solutions that fail to break away from the extractive, patriarchal and colonial systems fueling ecological destruction.
- Invest in social infrastructure and public systems of care for people and the environment as the foundations of thriving economies.
- Recognize and resource diverse economic models, including community, informal and solidarity economies, as outlined in AWID's Feminist Bailout and Economic Recovery Manifesto

3

CLIMATE FINANCE AS REPARATIONS, NOT AS DEBT

Climate finance must be delivered as grants within a broader framework of reparations, not as loans that deepen the debt of Global Majority countries. Global North countries must acknowledge their historical responsibility for centuries of colonial exploitation and environmental destruction.

Debt pushes countries towards extractivist and austerity policies that accelerate the climate crisis and impoverish communities.

Governments must accept that debt cancellation is urgent and necessary.

3

CLIMATE FINANCE AS REPARATIONS, NOT AS DEBT

The Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD) - a significant victory secured by the civil society at COP27, - remains underfunded. The replenishment schemes depend on the private sector, loans and intermediaries.

What's worse, as of April/May 2025, the fund has only received pledges totaling around \$768 to \$786 million from 27 contributors, including the European Union and several countries like Australia, Austria, Canada, and Sweden. This is negligible compared to the estimated \$400 billion per year needed by the Global Majority countries to address climate-related losses and damages.

Member States must:

- **Frame climate finance as reparations that ensure our collective right to a future.**
- **Cancel debt so countries can invest in sustainable economies.**
- **Finance just transitions as compliance with human rights obligations.**
- **Reform climate financing mechanisms to be predictable, accessible, centered on mitigation instead of adaptation, and free from multilateral bank control.**

4

TRANSFORM THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL ARCHITECTURE

The current financing gap for climate justice - between 6 to 8 trillion USD - requires the real solutions of tax justice, addressing illicit financial flows, phasing out fossil fuels, and defunding the military and prison industrial complexes.

The elephant in the COP30 room: A fundamental overhaul of government priorities and international financial architecture is required to meet the actual needs of the people and stop the destruction of our planet.

Member States must:

- Adopt a human rights based approach to finance.
- Champion a reform of international financial and trade systems to be more equitable, sustainable, and centered on the needs of people and the planet, as outlined in this feminist analysis of 2024 critical trends.
- End corporate capture and undue corporate influence over their own national institutions as well as multilateral spaces and decision-making.
- Stop impunity and hold polluters accountable for their role in the climate disaster, including Global North countries, multinational corporations, international financial institutions and billionaires.

5

DIRECT CLIMATE FINANCE TO CLIMATE AND GENDER JUSTICE MOVEMENTS

Groups and movements working on the intersection of climate and gender - especially Indigenous, grassroots and women-led - are excluded from funding, as evident in the 2024 Seeds for Harvest report. Yet they are creating and leading the most effective, impactful, and sustainable solutions to climate collapse, building sustainable alternatives and protecting ecosystems.

Member States must:

- **Deliver core, multi-year and flexible funding directly to grassroots, women-led and Indigenous organizations working at the intersection of gender and climate justice.**
- **Channel resources through women's funds and feminist funds with proven expertise in supporting grassroots groups and local movements while absorbing risk.**
- **Fund feminist economic alternatives based on care and the sustainability of life, including agroecology, food sovereignty, energy sovereignty, permaculture, degrowth initiatives, buen vivir, and other models that truly benefit the people and the planet.**
- **Centre the knowledge and leadership of feminist movements across climate governance.**

6

CENTRE CARE AS THE RESPONSE TO THE CLIMATE CRISIS

Care work is all life sustaining work carried out in the private or public domain, whether paid or unpaid, formal or informal, and is essential to the functioning of our economies and our lives. This includes taking care of children, families, communities, rivers, lands and forests.

In the context of a climate emergency it is urgent to center care as an feminist response to the climate crisis as communities are forced to endure unprecedented heat waves, fires, floodings, droughts and other disasters. The climate crisis exacerbates the unequal distribution of care that falls mostly on the shoulders of women and gender diverse communities in and from the Majority World.

Members States must:

- **Recognise care as a human right and a public good.**
- **Ensure the redistribution of care work and provision for care as a collective responsibility.**
- **Ensure strengthened social protection and quality public services particularly for communities at the frontline of the climate crisis.**

7

RECOGNISE GENDER JUSTICE IS CLIMATE JUSTICE

Climate justice is a multi-layered intersectional agenda where young feminists, indigenous peoples, peasant farmers and land and environmental defenders have been key in mobilizing for more just futures. Yet they remain chronically underfunded and are disproportionately targeted with violence and harassment.

Climate policymaking must center the struggles, voices, leadership, demands and alternatives of marginalized communities.

Member States must:

- **Recognise the leadership of feminist movements as central to a just transition.**
- **Channel sustained and flexible funding for feminist, grassroots and frontline movements.**
- **Ensure the representation of feminist climate justice movements across all levels of climate and economic governance.**

8

STOP PROFIT-DRIVEN DESTRUCTION OF HUMAN LIFE

There is no climate justice without ending wars, colonization, and genocides fueled by extractivism and militarization. Liberation of the people of Palestine, Sudan, Congo and all territories under colonization, occupation and conflict is at the core of protecting human life and ecosystems alike.

The destruction of Gaza constitutes one of the largest cases of ecocide in recent history. Israel has also been illegally carrying out gas and oil exploration off Gaza's coast.

The Democratic Republic of Congo, as one of the most mineral-rich countries in the world (many of these minerals being used for renewable energies) has been undergoing civil war and ethnic conflict for the past three years and has demonstrated the connections between war, the plunder of resources, and climate breakdown.

Sudan is a key example of climate conflict, where environmental degradation and resource scarcity, exacerbated by droughts, contributes to the violence and the humanitarian crisis, with millions of people displaced, predominantly women and marginalized communities, facing systematic gender-based violence and widespread food insecurity throughout Sudan.

8

STOP PROFIT-DRIVEN DESTRUCTION OF HUMAN LIFE

Civil society and feminist movements worldwide demand Member States to:

Phase-out fossil fuels.

Defund the military industrial complex.

Stop complicity and impunity for war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Respect the rights of Indigenous people and territories.

Adopt a gender-transformative framework in all conflict response, humanitarian action and political processes.

Adopt people-centered, rights-based approaches that recognize climate justice as inseparable from human life, dignity and freedom.