



COP28 UAE

PRESS RELEASE

COP28 launches partnership to support women's economic empowerment and ensure a gender-responsive just transition at COP28 Gender Equality Day

- Gender Equality Day at COP28 saw ministers and high-level officials convene for a high-level dialogue to advance gender-responsive just transitions to support the implementation of the Paris Agreement.
- During the event, led by UN Climate Change High-Level Champion H.E. Razan Khalifa Al Mubarak, the COP28 Presidency revealed a new COP28 Gender-Responsive Just Transitions & Climate Action Partnership.
- Endorsed by over 60 Parties, the Partnership includes a package of commitments that signatories will implement over the next three years before reconvening at COP31.
- According to the International Labor Organization (ILO), 1.2 billion jobs are at risk due to global warming and environmental degradation and women are expected to be most severely impacted due to their high representation in sectors particularly vulnerable to climate change.
- The Gender Equality Day was an opportunity to highlight the need for equal opportunities in both emerging and impacted job markets.

Dubai, 4 December 2023: During COP28's Gender Equality Day, ministers and senior officials convened in a series of discussions, supported by the UNFCCC and led by UN Climate Change High-Level Champion for COP28 Razan Al Mubarak, to ensure a gender-responsive just transition to support the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

The high-level dialogue culminated in the announcement of a new COP28 Gender-Responsive Just Transitions & Climate Action Partnership from the COP28 Presidency, which was endorsed by over 60 Parties. The Partnership includes a package of commitments, including actions on data, finance, and equal opportunities. Implementation will be reviewed at a second convening during COP31.

According to the International Labor Organization (ILO), 1.2 billion jobs, representing 40 percent of the global labor force, are at risk due to global warming and environmental degradation.¹ Women are expected to be most severely affected due to their high representation in sectors particularly susceptible to climate change.

¹ [Executive Summary: World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends 2021 \(ilo.org\)](https://www.ilo.org/publications/new/summaries/summary-executive)

The transition to a low-carbon and sustainable economy will lead to both the elimination and transformation of some jobs, as well as the creation of new roles. Ministers and high-level officials have therefore agreed on a series of commitments to support women's economic empowerment and ensure women's livelihoods are protected during this transition.

Razan Al Mubarak said: "Climate change is not gender neutral – it disproportionately impacts women and girls. Already, the climate crisis amplifies existing gender inequalities and poses a serious threat to women's livelihoods, health and wellbeing. To deliver a just transition, we must reform the architecture of the global financial system and ensure finance flows to the regions and the people who need it the most. But we must also invest in women's economic empowerment to ensure no one is left behind."

The new partnership builds on objectives previously outlined in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Gender Action Plan, which set out activities under five key priority areas to advance understanding of gender-responsive climate action. In particular, the new COP28 Gender-Responsive Just Transitions & Climate Action Partnership centers around three core pillars: better quality data to support decision making in transition planning, more effective finance flows to regions most impacted by climate change, and education, skills and capacity building to support individual engagement in transitions.

UN Women Executive Director Sima Bahous said: "The rights of women and girls must be at the center of climate action, including here at COP28. We must ensure that women have a seat at the decision-making table. We must strengthen inclusive decision-making so that the voices of feminists, youth, indigenous and other grassroots movements can be heard loud and clear from the local to the global level."

By mid-century, it is predicted that climate change could push up to 158 million more women and girls into poverty globally (16 million more than the total number of men and boys).² To ensure climate finance appropriately serves the needs of women and girls, particularly those in climate vulnerable regions, it is critical to address the current gender data gap to further understand how women are impacted by climate change.

The countries that have endorsed the Partnership are:

1. Albania
2. Andorra
3. Antigua and Barbuda
4. Armenia
5. Austria
6. Australia
7. Azerbaijan
8. Bangladesh
9. Belgium
10. Burkina Faso
11. Canada
12. Chile
13. China
14. Chad
15. Colombia

² [UN DESA and UN Women 2023](#)

16. Comoros
17. Costa Rica
18. Cote d'Ivoire
19. Cyprus
20. Denmark
21. DRC
22. Dominican Republic
23. Finland
24. Fiji
25. France
26. Germany
27. Guatemala
28. Hungary
29. Ireland
30. Israel
31. Jordan
32. Kiribati
33. Kyrgyzstan
34. Latvia
35. Lebanon
36. Lesotho
37. Mali
38. Mexico
39. Micronesia
40. Moldova
41. Monaco
42. Mongolia
43. Morocco
44. Netherlands
45. Nicaragua
46. Nigeria
47. Norway
48. Pakistan
49. Palau
50. Paraguay
51. Peru
52. Poland
53. Portugal
54. Rwanda
55. Serbia
56. Seychelles
57. Sierra Leone
58. Slovenia
59. Sri Lanka
60. Spain
61. Sweden
62. Tuvalu
63. UAE
64. Ukraine
65. UK
66. US
67. Uruguay
68. Venezuela

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Notes to Editors COP28 UAE:

- COP28 UAE is taking place at Expo City Dubai from November 30-December 12, 2023. The Conference is expected to convene over 70,000 participants, including heads of state, government officials, international industry leaders, private sector representatives, academics, experts, youth, and non-state actors.
- As mandated by the Paris Climate Agreement, COP28 UAE will deliver the first ever Global Stocktake – a comprehensive evaluation of progress against climate goals.
- The UAE will lead a process for all parties to agree upon a clear roadmap to accelerate progress through a pragmatic global energy transition and a “leave no one behind” approach to inclusive climate action.