ACTION COALITION ON
ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND RIGHTS

PROMOTE GENDER-TRANSFORMATIVE ECONOMIES AND ECONOMIC STIMULUS

#ACTFOREQUAL

GENERATION EQUALITY

Acknowledgments

Generation Equality is a multi-stakeholder initiative convened by UN Women in partnership with civil society, youth, governments, the private sector and philanthropists to catalyse partners, increase investments, drive results and accelerate the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the Sustainable Development Goals. The Action Coalition on Economic Justice and Rights is one of the six Action Coalitions of Generation Equality.

It has been a great imperative for the Leadership Structure of the Economic Justice and Rights Action Coalition to share with the world the conceptual architecture underpinning the development of its Global Acceleration Plan. The Leadership Structure understands the enormous effort required to address the critical barriers to gender equality and the challenges in transforming economic systems so that they work for women and girls, in all their diversity. So, while guided by the understanding that this Blueprint on Gender-transformative Economies will not capture everything we need to do to realise dramatic, irreversible positive change, the analysis and suggested solutions outlined in this document are considered most critical to move towards an economic system that works for women, people and planet.

This work could not have been accomplished without the dedication of the seventeen entities that comprise the Economic Justice and Rights Action Coalition's Leadership Structure. Led by the Action Coalition's Subgroup on the Gender-transformative Economies Action, this paper represents the diverse perspectives and experiences from various stakeholder constituencies including youth-led organisations, civil society organisations, governments, philanthropy and private sector institutions, and international and United Nations entities. Some sections of this document represent perspectives from only a specific, defined stakeholder group. The Action Coalition is indebted to Dr. Elissa Braunstein who is Professor at and Chair of the Colorado State University's Department of Economics and Editor of Feminist Economics, whose extensive expertise and global experience on women's economic rights helped strengthen the perspectives that have shaped the narrative and call to action contained in this paper. UN Women's Economic Empowerment Section coordinated the research, outline and general oversight of the development and publication of this document, led by Venge Nyirongo (Action Coalition Thematic Lead), Layla Mohseni (Action Coalition Programme Analyst) and Marie Berg (Action Coalition Programme Analyst).

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Contents

ABOUT THE ACTION COALITION ON ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND RIGHTS 2

WHY ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND RIGHTS? 4

WHY GENDER-TRANSFORMATIVE ECONOMIES? 6

GLOBAL ACTION FOR GENDER-TRANSFORMATIVE ECONOMIES 8

Tactics 9

JOINT TACTICS 10

Tactic #1: Law and Policy 10

Tactic #2: Financing and Service Delivery 12

Tactic #3: Data and Accountability 13

MEMBER STATE TACTICS 14

Tactic #1: Law and Policy 14

Tactic #2: Financing and Service Delivery 15

Tactic #3: Data and Accountability 16

CIVIL SOCIETY AND YOUTH-LED ORGANISATION TACTICS 17

Tactic #1: Law and Policy 17

Tactic #2: Norms Change 21

Tactic #3: Law and Policy and Financing 25

PRIVATE SECTOR AND PHILANTHROPIC FOUNDATION TACTICS 27

Tactic #1: Data and Accountability and Service Delivery 27

Tactic #2: Financing 28

Tactic #3: Norms Change 29

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4

PROMOTE GENDER-TRANSFORMATIVE ECONOMIES AND ECONOMIC STIMULUS

ABOUT THE ACTION COALITION ON ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND RIGHTS

Generation Equality is the world's leading initiative to accelerate investment and implementation on gender equality. It brings together organisations from every part of society to catalyse progress, advocate for change and take bold actions together.

Convened by UN Women, the initiative aims to ensure that the bold ambitions of the 1995 Beijing Platform for Action on women's rights are finally implemented, and that the Sustainable Development Goals are achieved. Generation Equality was launched in 2021 at the Generation Equality Forums hosted in Mexico City and Paris. The Forums launched the Generation Equality Action Coalitions, which take on six critical issues that underpin gender equality: i) Gender-Based Violence; ii) Economic Justice and Rights; iii) Bodily Autonomy and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (BA-SRHR); iv) Feminist Action for Climate Justice; v) Technology and Innovation for Gender Equality; and vi) Feminist Movements and Leadership.

The Action Coalitions are bringing together these multi-stakeholder partnerships through blueprints for action co-created by Action Coalition Leaders, catalysing collective commitments, sparking global and local conversations between generations and across communities, and driving substantial increases in public and private funding.

As part of the collective work of the Generation Equality Action Coalition on Economic Justice and Rights (the 'Action Coalition'),[1] the 17 entities leading the work (the 'Leadership Structure') co-developed Blueprints on four prioritized Action Areas:

ACTION 1 INCREASE WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT BY TRANSFORMING THE CARE ECONOMY

ACTION 2 EXPAND DECENT WORK AND EMPLOYMENT IN FORMAL AND INFORMAL ECONOMIES

ACTION 3 INCREASE WOMEN'S ACCESS TO AND CONTROL OVER PRODUCTIVE RESOURCES

ACTION 4 PROMOTE GENDER-TRANSFORMATIVE ECONOMIES AND ECONOMIC STIMULUS

Each Blueprint lays out a rationale, presents important data and statistics and defines a powerful vision for success, as well as proposed strategies and tactics that are grounded in collaborative action through bold and, as much as possible, collective stakeholder commitments. Consequently, the Blueprints are meant to serve as guidance and inspiration for new and existing commitment makers to the Action Coalition, the other Generation Equality Action Coalitions, and the global community.

Together, the four Blueprints make up a Global Acceleration Plan to set a new, ambitious pace for the realization of economic justice and rights for women and girls in all their diversity, everywhere, propelled by an approach that inculcates equality, inclusion, intersectionality, feminist leadership, cultural relevance and transformative action and systems change, which have enabled the creation of grounds for measuring and monitoring the accountability of actors pledging to contribute to a complex web of collective efforts.

By embodying a feminist lens in their creation, these documents have materialized from an intense, co-creation and collaborative process underpinned by the inclusivity of all stakeholder constituencies in the Leadership Structure. They represent diverse voices from around the world seen as equals in recognizing the need for shared responsibility to identify and suggest a revitalized global agenda for economic justice and rights that responds to both visible and unapparent structural constraints women and girls face in the economic system.

The Blueprints capture the most important aspects of intensive input and discussions on issues and strategies within the global Leadership Structure of the Action Coalitions. It is vital to note that they do not create obligations for the Leaders of the Action Coalitions beyond the individual and collective commitments pledged by each entity (available here). The diversity of the 17 Leaders of the Action Coalition means that not all strategies highlighted in the Blueprints must be pursued and supported by every Leader or Commitment Maker, with each able to address the recommendations in accordance with their attributions, functions and possibilities. At the same time, Leaders and Commitment Makers may go beyond the approaches captured within this framework in pursuit of economic justice and rights for women and girls.

PHOTO: UN Women/Narendra Shrestha

WHY ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND RIGHTS?

Economic justice and rights (EJR) refers to how economic and political systems are designed, how their benefits or costs are distributed, and how institutions are held accountable for the economic outcomes they generate. This theme encompasses the full spectrum of women's access to and control over productive resources and economic opportunities, including within the world of work. It encompasses subthemes such as tackling systemic barriers in unpaid care and domestic work, time poverty and wage inequity, unsafe and unhealthy working conditions, including sexual and gender-based violence and harassment; addressing discriminatory public policy and laws (e.g., land rights and barriers to access finance or other productive inputs); and fostering accelerators to EJR such as digital and financial inclusion. EJR requires working towards more equitable structures to ensure women and girls, especially those facing intersecting forms of discrimination and disadvantage, can navigate and manage future crises with security and resilience—including through universal social protection. EJR addresses macroeconomic and microeconomic factors, e.g., how the economic system reinforces gender and intersecting inequalities; how much of the care work, mostly done by women, is systemically undervalued, unpaid/underpaid and marginalized; and how women and girls often lack the rights and access to resources and opportunities in order to fully realise their economic potential and rights.

Economic justice and rights were selected as an Action Coalition because they affect all women and girls globally. Twenty-six years after the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, too little has changed. There, and at multiple forums since, world leaders have pledged to eliminate gender inequalities and realize women's and girls' human rights, including through the Sustainable Development Goals. At best, progress has been stalling—with gender gaps in financial inclusion and within the paid labour force stagnating.[2] Women, particularly migrant women and women in developing countries, are overrepresented in informal, precarious, unorganised and vulnerable forms of employment.[3] These forms of economic stratification, and the lived experiences of women and men that result from it, are shaped by intersecting hierarchies of gender, race, ethnicity, caste, class, sexual orientation, age, migration/refugee status, among others.[4] Current economic systems and the policies that shape them are rife with persistent structural and cultural barriers for women, resulting from dominant economic models that enshrine inequalities in their structures and unfairly concentrate and redistribute opportunities, resources and wealth.[5]

The COVID-19 pandemic has further exacerbated structural inequalities and rolled back progress on gender equality by a generation. This has been particularly pronounced for women and girls in developing countries, where there has been more limited fiscal capacity, access to healthcare, education and social protection, and a slower economic recovery.[6] The pandemic has increased levels of paid and unpaid care work and highlighted its importance. That a health crisis could cause an economic crisis has exposed the central importance of the care economy, which is built on the unpaid and underpaid labour of mostly women and girls.[7] Women's care responsibilities and roles as shock absorbers for their families and communities drew them out of paid employment and intensified their workdays.[8] Sustainable economic development and gender-just recovery from COVID-19 depend on the theme of economic justice and rights. More broadly, progress in women's economic justice and rights accelerates progress for sustainable development in all its dimensions—economic, social and environmental—as well as for all the other Action Coalitions.

PHOTO: UN Women/Joe Saade

WHY GENDER-TRANSFORMATIVE ECONOMIES?

Gender inequality is often understood in microeconomic terms, focused on how gender discrimination leads to gender differences in assets, access and opportunities at the individual, household and community level. However, global and national macroeconomic structures, institutions, laws and policies are also gendered and reflect and reinforce discriminatory gender norms, stereotypes and hierarchies. Additionally, they sometimes reflect historical inequalities, such as colonial legacies, that exist at multiple levels, including between the Global North and Global South and between and within nation states and their diverse communities.[9]

PHOTO: UN Women/Gaganjit Singh

Gendered macroeconomic structures include: the formulation and application of macroeconomic policies that focus solely on economic growth and overlook how they reproduce and deepen gender inequalities; gender-segregated labour markets where women are concentrated in low-paid, low-skilled, marginalized and precarious work; global trade structures that similarly concentrate women in the lowest value-added segments of global value chains; social welfare policies fashioned after a male-breadwinner model, excluding most women from independent entitlements to social protection; and the systematic underestimation of the importance of paid and unpaid care and domestic work, which is worth an estimated US$11 trillion each year, or about 9 percent of global GDP,[10] yet is largely absent from monetary valuations of national income and production like GDP.

Multiple and overlapping crises compound these challenges. While the world has moved into recovery from COVID-19, the pandemic's devastating effects—disproportionately felt by women and girls, particularly those in vulnerable situations—are still visible and tangible. The global gender poverty gap continues to widen. Disparities in access to healthcare, education,

social protection and economic opportunities persist and are deepening. Moreover, women experience higher rates of job loss and unemployment and face increased unpaid care responsibilities.[11] Simultaneously, conflict and humanitarian crises are on the rise globally, further entrenching gender-based violence and harassment, displacement and economic instability. Women and girls often bear the brunt of these crises, with limited access to economic opportunities and resources, including publicly funded services, and the heightened risks of exploitation and trafficking in persons. The intensifying climate emergency reinforces entrenched systemic inequalities, with disproportionate impacts on low-income countries and the most marginalized women in all their diversity, who are often dependent on but have less access to natural and productive resources, including land, public services and infrastructure.[12] Building gender-transformative economies are integral to resolving these crises and fostering peaceful and sustainable societies.

Gender-transformative economic systems and institutions prioritize gender equality, women's human rights and economic empowerment, social justice, human well-being, and environmental sustainability and care for the current and future planet.[13] Promoting gender-transformative economies thus centres on designing and implementing gender-responsive macroeconomic laws, policies and plans at all levels, through a democratic model of women's collective representation and inclusive, intersectional and intergenerational participation rooted in their voices, experiences, contributions and needs.[14] It is a post-colonial approach that recognizes historical injustices and power imbalances in the global governance and financial architecture and actively challenges these dynamics in striving for global social justice and equity. Gender-transformative economies recognize the intrinsic link between gender equality and environmental sustainability and seek a just and equitable transition to an inclusive, circular and regenerative green economy. This requires multilateral action for global economic governance; new or reformed national fiscal, monetary and trade policies and strengthened coordination; and significantly increased commitments and investments to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Robust pathways for the participation of all stakeholders, including civil society, grassroots groups, youth and the private sector are essential to these efforts.

Gender-transformative economies are key to achieving the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 5 to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. Gender-transformative macroeconomic structures and policies are necessary to reverse the ground lost on gender equality, women's rights and economic empowerment; generate decent work and social protection for all, including women and girls in all their diversity; ensure equal pay for work of equal value; increase women's access to natural and productive resources; create a caring society that values women's contributions to healthy economies and sustainable environments and promotes appropriate investment in quality provision of services in the care sector; prevent, address and eliminate violence and harassment at work; and reduce inequality both within and between countries to realize a more equal, inclusive and sustainable future for all.[15]

GLOBAL ACTION FOR GENDER-TRANSFORMATIVE ECONOMIES

The Action Coalition on Economic Justice and Rights will work to accelerate progress on the macro-economic agenda by driving a global multi-stakeholder approach to **design and implement gender-transformative economic plans, budget reforms and investment plans that work for women, people and the planet and promote human rights, gender equality and economic empowerment.** In particular, the Action Coalition on Economic Justice and Rights will drive concerted action to **design and implement gender-transformative macro-economic plans, budget reforms and stimulus packages so that the number of women and girls living in poverty is reduced by 85 million, including through quality public social protection floors and systems by 2026**.

PHOTO: UN Women/Ryan Brown

TACTICS

Tactics are defined strategies for action that are built on evidence and experience about what is most effective in driving change. Tactics often contain targets or goals through which the Action Coalition on Economic Justice and Rights will measure its collective progress and impact. Their success requires implementation involving all stakeholders: governments, the private sector, civil society and community organizations, and the UN system, as well as individual women, men, girls and boys. This section includes tactics that all stakeholders can take towards realizing gender-transformative economies, as well as tactics that are specific for different stakeholder groups including (1) Member States, (2) civil society and youth-led organizations, and (3) the private sector and philanthropic foundations. **It should be noted that the tactics listed for the different stakeholder groups have been drafted by, and are supported exclusively by, their respective constituents and not by the Action Coalition's Leadership Structure as a whole or UN Women**.

Each tactic includes a list of suggested stakeholder commitments. Commitments are an integral component of the Action Coalitions and are essential to accelerating investment in and implementation of the tactics to make significant progress on gender equality. The suggested commitments are meant to serve as inspiration and provide stakeholders with examples of strong commitments. They are illustrative only and Leaders and Commitment Makers to the Action Coalition on Economic Justice and Rights are not bound to them.

JOINT TACTICS

TACTIC #1: LAW AND POLICY

1

Promote the transformation of the global economic and financial system, making it conducive to achieving gender-transformative economic reforms and solutions.

Suggested Commitments for all Stakeholders

1. Promote gender-transformative economic policies that improve the structural conditions for gender equality, and which further women's economic rights and empowerment, including decent work and labour rights.
2. Promote a just transition to an economy that prioritizes the sustainability of care and life and that centres well-being, human rights, gender equality, social inclusion and environmental sustainability.
3. Enhance North–South, South–South and triangular cooperation on gender-transformative economic plans, budget reforms and investment plans; ensure gender mainstreaming in international development cooperation; and enhance knowledge-sharing on mutually agreed terms including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms.

4. Promote an enabling macroeconomic environment that supports gender-transformative economies and women's economic rights and empowerment through an intersectional and gender-responsive approach to data collection and analysis, public accessibility to data, and policy design and implementation.
5. Promote the inclusion and meaningful participation of feminist and women's rights groups, civil society and social movements, with diverse leadership and meaningful representation of grassroots, marginalized groups and communities, including those who face multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination. Ensure they have an equal voice and role in decisions related to global, national and local economic and financing systems, including in social, environmental and economic sectors.
6. Promote the dismantling of gender stereotypes, norms and practices, the gendered division of labour and harmful discriminatory social constructions, including by recognizing, reducing and redistributing unpaid domestic and care work, and rewarding and representing paid domestic and care workers and caregivers in decision-making processes; eliminating violence and harassment at work; and supporting gender-transformative education.
7. Promote and prioritize women's representation across technical, professional and leadership roles and increase the number of women in executive and managerial positions, including in small and medium-sized enterprises, to enable fair and inclusive decision-making.
8. Advocate for and contribute to more transparent and accountable revenue generation and spending policies to better respond to women's and girls' needs.
9. Address the digital gender divide through facilitating access to relevant Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and enhance digital inclusion and universal accessibility to technology, recognizing the diverse needs of people from different age groups, backgrounds, abilities and other distinguishing characteristics.

TACTIC #2: FINANCING AND SERVICE DELIVERY

2

Increase local and international sustainable revenue generation for spending on gender-responsive economic development, social protection and stimulus packages, addressing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and other crises.

Suggested Commitments for all Stakeholders

1. Develop, strengthen, advocate and mobilize resources for universal, adaptive and quality social protection systems in alignment with SDG 1.3, ensuring universal and equitable access, non-discriminatory service delivery and accountability, especially for women and girls living in poverty.
2. Promote the inclusion of universal protection floors with comprehensive care systems linked to decent employment and co-responsibility measures, such as paid parental leave; the inclusion of informal, unemployed and outsourced workers and women entrepreneurs; and ensure universal health coverage and quality education.
3. Advocate for increased and equitable access to quality public goods and services for all at every level of delivery, while considering environmental impacts.
4. Earmark and increase overseas development assistance (ODA) and international financing towards gender-transformative investments and promote their accountability, for example in affordable, reliable and high-quality care, transport, housing, electricity, water and sanitation infrastructure.
5. Integrate and commit to investments that directly and indirectly impact women's health, including but not limited to sexual and reproductive health and rights.
6. Promote a fair and just trade system, capacity building of women to engage in trade and gender mainstreaming in global and local value chains.
7. Implement policies to close the gender pay gap, including ensuring equal pay for work of equal value, encouraging greater pay transparency, monitoring wage structures and working to eliminate broader gender disparities in the workplace, for example by providing guaranteed parental leave and childcare.
8. Invest in, encourage and promote girls and women to study and participate in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education and occupations.

TACTIC #3: DATA AND ACCOUNTABILITY

3

Promote and integrate "Gender-responsive budgeting" at the centre of public policy to increase the focus of national and local budgets on gender equality in line with SDG 5.c.1.

Suggested Commitments for all Stakeholders

1. Mobilize the global community to adopt gender-responsive budgeting together with gender-sensitive accountability systems supported by sex-disaggregated data and gender statistics.
2. Support the assessment of the impacts of trade and investment, including on international development and the gender-transformative response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. Advocate to ensure decent work, respect for human rights and inclusive development in international trade and investment.
4. Scale up voluntary public and private donor tracking of gender-responsive investments via, for example, the data submitted to the OECD DAC.
5. Ensure adequate financial and human resources, gender expertise and women's leadership, including in relevant decision-making roles, for the advancement of institutional mechanisms for gender equality within government and local government to implement and mainstream specific plans and programmes with gender equality considerations and working towards women's economic empowerment, applying an intersectional approach and ensure these programmes result in concrete impact for women and girls.
6. Advocate for the development of gender-responsive fiscal architectures, mechanisms, stimulus packages, public finance management systems, referential instruments, and planning and budgeting processes to increase local financing in a cross-sectoral manner to ensure women's economic rights at all levels.
7. Prioritize women's economic rights and gender equality as a specific priority area in national and local development plans with attached funding.

MEMBER STATE TACTICS

TACTIC #1: LAW AND POLICY

1

Promote socio-ecological transformation towards global economic and financial systems, making it conducive to achieving gender-transformative economic reforms and solutions.

Suggested Commitments for Member States

1. Support and implement gender-equitable and human rights–based fiscal policy and taxation frameworks including systems for child, maternity and paternity benefits, cash transfers, pensions and individual instead of household taxation along with accountability mechanisms.
2. Support gender-transformative education and gender-transformative norms, attitudes and practices.

PHOTO: UN Women/Ryan Brown

TACTIC #2: FINANCING AND SERVICE DELIVERY

2

Further develop gender-transformative economic development, social protection and stimulus packages addressing the impact of multiple crises, such as the cost-of-living crisis, climate crisis, violent conflicts and humanitarian crises, and the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Suggested Commitments for Member States

1. Create conditions for social dialogue with private and public actors and trade unions, including grassroots and informal workers' associations, on promoting decent work.
2. Increase financing of women's rights and youth organizations.
3. Scale up investments including through public–private partnerships that are economically, socially and environmentally sound and based on a human rights framework to advance economic inclusion and women's and girls' rights.

TACTIC #3: DATA AND ACCOUNTABILITY

3

Promote and integrate gender-responsive budgeting in public policy development and increase the focus of national budgets on gender equality and the empowerment of women.

Suggested Commitments for Member States

1. Prioritize evidence-based gender analysis to inform the realization of gender equality and women's and girls' economic rights and empowerment in national and local development plans and their corresponding funding.
2. Promote the study of co-responsibility and the use of leave arrangements for the care of minor children and other dependent family members.
3. Ensure citizen engagement and diverse and representative local women's and girls' leadership in budget analysis and policy formulation and implementation to improve accountability and transparency in local governance.
4. Ensure the mandatory collection, compilation and analysis of sex-disaggregated data and gender statistics and gender-related studies and research at the national and local levels.

CIVIL SOCIETY AND YOUTH-LED ORGANISATION TACTICS

TACTIC #1: LAW AND POLICY

1

Promote the reform of the global economic and financial architecture, making it conducive to achieving feminist, decolonial, gender-just and equitable solutions, emphasizing reparations at the core of the actions.

Suggested commitments for civil society and youth-led organizations

1. Mobilize, raise awareness and advocate for a New Global Economic Architecture that works for people and the planet, under the auspices of the United Nations (UN), ensuring truly democratic global governance, promoting:
   a) A meaningful Fourth Financing for Development Conference.
   b) The UN's integrity and guarding against its corporate capture.
   c) Reform of International Financial Institutions and Development Banks towards transparency, meaningful participation and democratization of their governance, while abiding by the human rights framework, gender equality, ecological integrity, international labour standards and in cooperation with the International Labour Organization, and go beyond "do no harm" towards "do good".
   d) The accountability of multilateral organizations such as the G7, G20, OECD, the Paris Club and other similar entities (with limited membership and outsized global influence) for the negative impacts of their extractive and undemocratic practices, and to defer to the UN as the legitimate space for democratic multilateral decision-making.

2. Mobilize and advocate for debt justice, promoting:
   a) A Sovereign Debt Workout Mechanism at the UN.
   b) Acknowledgement by Global North countries of their historical, colonial, ecological, climate and technological debt.
   c) Debt cancellation of public and private debt for countries in need.
   d) Provision of additional, concessional emergency finance without creating more debt, nor conditionalities for developing countries under debt distress or facing environmental, social or economic emergencies.
   e) Protection of developing countries from lawsuits when ceasing payments of public and private debt at national and multilateral levels.
   f) New allocation of Special Drawing Rights channelled towards developing countries.
3. Mobilize, raise awareness and advocate for tax justice, promoting:
   a) A UN tax convention.
   b) Implementation of progressive taxation, such as taxing income, wealth, profits, financial transactions and trade.
   c) That tax abuse, i.e. avoidance and evasion, should be considered a violation under the human rights extraterritorial obligations of states towards other states.
   d) The regulation and control of private monopolization of sectors, e.g. care, health, education, digital services and infrastructure.
   e) Curbing "tax competition" by eliminating tax incentives, setting a model for progressive tax treaties while eliminating regressive taxation.
   f) Imposition of minimum 25 percent corporate tax rate.
   g) Monitoring and evaluation of channels of illicit financial flows, their impact on the vulnerability of developing countries, and on human rights, ecological integrity and gender equality, as well as groups facing intersecting forms of discrimination.
   h) Comprehensive tax and financial transparency tax policies to curb 'offshoring' of wealth and the shifting of corporate profits.
4. Mobilize, raise awareness and advocate for technology justice, promoting:
   a) A global technology, gender and human rights assessment mechanism at the UN.
   b) Identifying options beyond Western technological solutions, including by enhancing and valuing traditional and indigenous peoples' knowledge.
   c) Broad, transparent, inclusive, accessible and participatory deliberations on current and potential impacts of technologies (including digital) on the environment, the labour market, livelihoods and society.

d) Calls on governments to implement policies and regulations governing technology, data and deployment of algorithms that are people, employment and worker-friendly, ensuring privacy and people's control over and ownership of their own data.

e) Identifying options beyond technological solutions, ensuring the prioritization of the common good and that it takes precedence over profits.

5. Mobilize, raise awareness and advocate for trade justice, promoting:

a) The assessment of trade and investment development impacts.

b) The regulatory capacity of the state, and optimum conditions for the operation of small and medium-sized businesses, local and domestic industries, in alignment with the environment, human rights and gender equality.

c) Ensuring developing countries' maximum policy flexibility in their trade and investment policies, avoiding dependence on the global value chain.

d) The reform of intellectual property rights rules through the TRIPS and TRIPs-plus agreements (multilateral agreements on intellectual property), when these conflict with public policy, economic and environmental objectives.

e) States to progressively terminate and remove investor-state dispute settlement provisions from any of investment treaties, until achieving complete removal.

f) Stronger support to ongoing negotiations for the UN binding treaty on Business and Human Rights and accelerate the establishment of National Action Plans on Business and Human Rights.

g) Stronger support to the ongoing negotiations towards a legally binding UN convention on the right to development.

h) The reform of the World Trade Organization to deliver on development for well-being, a just, fair and equitable transition, gender equality, human rights, ecological integrity, mandatory due diligence and remedies from all trading actors and multinational enterprises, and the inclusion of the ILO decent work agenda in the global trading system.

6. Mobilize, raise awareness and advocate to address systemic issues, promoting:

a) The assessment of systemic risks posed by unregulated or inadequately regulated financial sector instruments and actors, and the carrying out of adequate regulation and supervision of financial institutions, credit rating agencies and hedge funds through a UN framework.

b) A global ban on short selling among all markets and increasing regulation and surveillance of high-frequency trading.

c) A global agreement on the importance of capital account management to prevent capital flight, limit speculative trading and arrest declines in currency and asset prices.

7. Mobilize, raise awareness and advocate for the primacy of public finance, promoting:
   a) Ex-ante evaluations of the sustainable development impacts of Public–Private Partnerships (PPPs) and interfaces, looking at the impact on Planet and People.
   b) To uphold the recommendations of several UN Rapporteurs on the negative impacts of PPPs and privatization, especially development outcomes and social, human rights and ecological impacts, as well as their impact on governments that take on a de-risking role.
   c) Integrating principles of "do no harm" and beyond, towards "do good" in sustainable development projects.
   d) The irreplaceability of public finance and social services for all.
   e) To reject the World Bank Group's Maximizing Finance for Development approach with its "private finance first" lens.
8. Mobilize, raise awareness and advocate for justice in international cooperation dynamics, promoting:
   a) OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) members to deliver reparations to the Global South and, as a starting point, fulfil and exceed the 0.7 percent of GNI target for Official Development Assistance (ODA), through unconditional grants and technical support.
   b) That ODA is aligned with developing country priorities without conditionalities.
   c) The mainstreaming of human rights, gender equality and ecological integrity in ODA frameworks, ensuring the integrity of ODA and development effectiveness commitments.
   d) Calls for ODA to support welfare in developing countries and be focused on supporting SDGs-related policies.
   e) The increase of cooperation funds and research efforts to foster, systematize and replicate feminist economics experiences, to fund women and feminist organizations and movements.
   f) The dismantling of philantro-capitalism and International Non-Governmental Organizations' colonialism, transitioning towards decolonial cooperation.

TACTIC #2: NORMS CHANGE

2

Promote system change that works for people and the planet.

Suggested commitments for civil society and youth-led organizations

1. Mobilize, raise awareness and advocate to transition out of a neoliberal capitalist system, promoting:
   a) A transition towards a system that centres the well-being of people and the health of the planet.
   b) New principles that centre well-being for people and the health of the planet rather than exponential and extractive economic growth.
   c) Going beyond GDP, to a more comprehensive set of indicators to measure income and wealth redistribution, well-being and ecological integrity.
   d) The emphasis and centrality of collective rights.
2. Mobilize, raise awareness and advocate for a system of economies for the sustainability of care and life, centring well-being, human rights, gender equality and ecological integrity, while promoting wide consultations among the feminist and women's movements (with special emphasis on those who face multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination) and social movements, on the processes that should be set into place for a system shift.
3. Mobilize, raise awareness and actively engage in the dismantling of colonial and imperial economic, political and social dynamics by:
   a) Dismantling the material bases for the continued economic extraction and political capture of territories conceived as colonies by their invaders and colonizers.
   b) Dismantling colonialism, which is the ideological and psychological subjugation of the minds of the colonized, related to the geopolitics of knowledge production and intellectual stories.

4. Mobilize, raise awareness and radically stand in solidarity and actively support indigenous peoples' demands for their collective rights, traditional knowledge and cosmovisions (world views), supporting a comprehensive scheme of reparations that ensures justice for the past, present and future.

5. Mobilize, raise awareness and advocate so that that every economic and political decision takes into consideration planetary boundaries, to reverse the overshoot of the seven planetary boundaries that have been surpassed, and return to the safe zone of the nine planetary boundaries: climate change, biodiversity integrity/ loss, land-system change, biochemical flows, novel entities, ocean acidification, freshwater use, atmospheric aerosol loading and stratospheric ozone depletion.

6. Mobilize, raise awareness and advocate for fast and steady degrowth for:
   a) Wealthy economies and developed countries, and a radical shift away from their exponential economic growth, which requires ever-increasing industrial production amidst limited energy and material resources, while exploiting resources, nature, energy, land, labour and time.
   b) Wealthy actors in Global North and Global South countries, and to ensure accountability and reparations for the negative social, ecological and economic impacts of concentration of wealth, locally and globally.
   c) Economic sectors and productive practices that are incompatible with life and well-being, such as luxury sectors (e.g. private jets, SUVs, jewellery, cruises), fast retailing and fast fashion, technological practices of technological obsolescence, and others.

7. Mobilize, raise awareness and advocate for a transition towards post-extractivism in the Global South, promoting:
   a) Radical transformations of economic, political and cultural structures as well as society–nature relations.
   b) A transformation of the whole metabolic cycle of matter and energy use from extraction to disposal, with accountability at every stage, including systems of provision, production and industrial conversion, especially for problematic sectors.
   c) The banning of the externalization of economic, ecological and social costs of the Global North (including "cheap" labour) to regions of the Global South.
   d) A transition towards localized and diversified economies based in a pluriverse of paradigms (such as Buen Vivir, Ubuntu and more), adapted to local views that conceive harmony within community and nature, ensuring democratic regional and autonomous integration.
   e) Expanding social and collective property, in order to reduce the realm of profit and expand the realm of collective.

8. Mobilize, raise awareness and advocate for centring resource justice, downscaling the excessive resource consumption of Global North countries (such as energy, land, water, commodities, minerals and more, especially those extracted from the Global South) and reverse the harm and detrimental effects to people and the planet caused by exceeding the carrying capacity and life- supporting systems of the planet and its ecosystems.

9. Mobilize, raise awareness and advocate for the phasing out of fossil fuels, oil, coal and gas, while ensuring a just and equitable transition for all with a gender perspective, by promoting:

   a) Further integration of the implications of the sexual division of labour and the dimension of unpaid domestic and care work in this transition.

   b) The reaffirmation of the right to development while ensuring a transition towards a post-extractivist world.

   c) The regulation of the financial industry (including asset managers) in the fossil fuels industry and phasing out harmful practices for biodiversity integrity.

   d) Environmental and climate finance that is based on needs and science, rejecting disaster-profiteering by wealthy countries and global corporations.

10. Mobilize, raise awareness and advocate for the eradication of racial sacrifice zones (which are regions rendered dangerous or uninhabitable owing to ecological degradation) while implementing measures towards a carbon-free economy, by promoting:

    a) The safeguarding of ancestral lands of Indigenous Peoples, territories of the Small Island Developing States, racially segregated neighbourhoods in the Global North and occupied territories facing environmental devastation.

    b) Sanctioning the beneficiaries of racial sacrifice zones, which are primarily transnational corporations that funnel wealth towards the Global North, and privileged national and local elites.

    c) Addressing in a comprehensive manner the coerced displacement and immobility to which racially, ethnically and nationally marginalized groups are disparately subjected in the context of ecological crisis.

11. Mobilize, raise awareness and advocate for the rejection of false solutions promoted in the multilateral sphere that perpetuate an unequal and exploitative economic system, including:

    a) Net-zero carbon emissions goals (as opposed to real-zero carbon emissions).

    b) Geo-engineering and other technological fixes.

    c) Nature-based solutions (like forest carbon offsets), as opposed to ecosystems-based solutions.

d) Multistakeholderism that misleadingly conflates the for-profit interests of multilateral corporations with the voice of rights holders and the mandate of duty bearers.

e) "Gender Impact Investment", a pink washing tool for allocation of public funds into the private sector without accountability or results.

12. Mobilize, raise awareness and advocate for the dismantling of political economies of war and greater investment in demilitarized approaches to conflict resolution that are built on the full, equal, meaningful and safe participation of women and girls in all their diversity, by promoting:

a) An inclusive, non-militarized approach that lays the foundations for sustainable peace.

b) The diversion of military spending to funding sustainable economies of peace with gender equality.

13. Mobilize, raise awareness and advocate in global solidarity to combat the many fundamentalisms that impose harmful economic, social, political and environmental policies and violate the social pact based on human rights, gender equality and ecological integrity.

PHOTO: UN Women/Amanda Voisard

TACTIC #3: LAW AND POLICY AND FINANCING

3

Centring gender-transformative public policy, normative, and budgetary frameworks.

Suggested commitments for civil society and youth-led organizations

1. Mobilize, raise awareness and advocate for ending all forms of austerity, by promoting:
   a) The fighting to reject International Finance Institutions' structural adjustment programmes, as well as the IMF's Gender Strategy, that aims to expand the presence of the IMF at the territorial level while undermining the local knowledge of feminist groups and gender machineries.
   b) That each State has the prime responsibility and duty to protect, promote and implement all human rights and fundamental freedoms.
   c) High spending in social sectors and that they are key to the optimum development of societies, exercise of human rights, gender equality and ecological integrity.
   d) The strengthening of public services for all.
   e) The democratization of policy decision-making.
   f) Coherence between international, regional and national taxation rules, ensuring that taxation is determined by countries.
2. Publicly fund universal social protection systems and floors, comprehensive care economy frameworks and quality public services for all, linked to decent employment, by promoting:
   a) The investment of at least 10 percent of domestic national income in the care economy, including care for children, older persons and people with disabilities.

b) Universal health coverage, quality education and universal social protection that includes decent care jobs, the implementation of co-responsibility measures (such as paid parental leave), formalizing informal work and the inclusion of those who are unemployed, outsourced workers and women entrepreneurs.

c) The right to be cared for and the rights of carers.

d) A global fund for universal social protection.

e) Decent work by creating 80 million care jobs and ensuring care workers are paid living wages.

3. Increase investment at the country level for specific programmes on women's economic rights and gender equality.

4. Ensure mechanisms for the advancement of women and gender units within government departments have access to greater influence and power, as well as adequate financial resources to implement specific plans that benefit women and girls, especially those most likely to experience multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination due to identity-based factors.

PHOTO: UN Women/Ryan Brown

PRIVATE SECTOR AND PHILANTHROPIC FOUNDATION TACTICS

TACTIC #1: DATA AND ACCOUNTABILITY AND SERVICE DELIVERY

1

Centre women as a primary customer segment in core business models and product design. Combined with the disaggregation of data, prioritize designing gender-conscious products that can enable more women and girls to access and utilize products and tools.

Suggested commitments for private sector companies and philanthropic foundations

1. Financial products for women should be core to banks and non-bank depository institutions business models to increase the economic power of women in the Global North and Global South. Data have shown that women have proven to be a low-risk, viable and profitable customer segment and that not including women in financial risk analysis is detrimental to growth and margin potential.
2. Increase access to affordable capital for women, specifically within venture and start-up funds. There is an estimated US$300 billion gender financing gap for 70 percent of women small- and medium-sized enterprises, which have inadequate or no access to financial services. The private sector can make a significant difference to close this gap.
3. Leverage sex-disaggregated data to create gender-specific financial products and services that meet the needs of diverse women.
4. Move away from taking a "gender-neutral" approach to product design, which studies have shown results in designing for men. Ensure women are centred in product design research and development, discussions and decision-making.

TACTIC #2: FINANCING

2

Ensure women can economically participate and benefit from supply chains and direct capital investments.

Suggested commitments for private sector companies and philanthropic foundations

1. Make multi-year targeted grants to support organizations and enterprises that focus on economically empowering women through direct capital access, wraparound services, and systems-level interventions.
2. Utilize existing tools to incorporate and increase gender lens impact investing, such as the 2X Criteria to identify investment funds and financial intermediaries that support women's economic interests and the Women's Financial Inclusion Data Dictionary to advance women's financial inclusion using the collective's data generation capacities.
3. Leverage funding to incentivize consumer spending to support women-owned businesses or charities through direct marketing and matching campaigns.
4. Ensure vendor contracts within supply chain businesses are gender-balanced by requiring vendors to improve their policies and practices. The private sector and philanthropic foundations have control over due diligence and procurement processes, and have the power to make their contracts and grants with vendors gender-transformational.

TACTIC #3: NORMS CHANGE

3

Leverage artificial intelligence and the digital economy to reduce systemic barriers and not repeat and scale up existing unequal power dynamics.

Suggested commitments for private sector companies and philanthropic foundations

1. Leverage artificial intelligence to understand and close earning gaps between men and women on e-commerce platforms, which could add nearly US$15 billion to the value of the African e-commerce market and add US$280 billion to the value of the Southeast Asia e-commerce market.
2. Intentionally design generative large language models (LLMs), such as ChatGPT, to offer new opportunities for women through appropriate usage of chatbots, virtual assistants, text generators, language translation and speech recognition.
3. Create inclusive, sustainable systems that lead to long-term socioeconomic gains for women by leveraging Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI), an interoperable network of digital platforms for payments, identification and data exchange.
4. Utilize artificial intelligence modelling to review decisions made by current algorithmic-based lending models to identify opportunities for improvements and inclusivity.
5. Be aware of the risks of digitization and artificial intelligence by establishing cross-industry partnerships and establishing internal working groups that outline policies to ensure issues such as gender equality are not further exacerbated.

ENDNOTES

1. The Action Coalition on Economic Justice and Rights is led by a group of 17 entities called the Leadership Structure: youth-led organizations: Amis Cameroon (Cameroon) and Anyar (Panama); civil society organizations: African Women's Communication and Development Network (FEMNET), CARE International, Huairou Commission, International Trade Union Confederation and Women's Working Group on Financing for Development; governments: Germany, Mexico, South Africa, Spain and Sweden; philanthropy: The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; the private sector: PayPal; and international organizations: the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), International Labour Organization (ILO) and United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF).
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12. UN Women. 2021. Beyond Covid-19: A Feminist Plan for Sustainability and Social Justice. New York: UN Women.
13. Ibid.
14. UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Women's Economic Empowerment. 2016. Leave No One Behind. A Call to Action for Gender Equality and Women's Economic Empowerment. https://www.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/2023-01/hlp-wee-report-2016-09-call-to-action-overview-en.pdf.
15. UN Women. 2021. Beyond Covid-19: A Feminist Plan for Sustainability and Social Justice. New York: UN Women.
16. The International Trade Union Confederation does not endorse the suggested stakeholder commitments related to degrowth.

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ACTION COALITION ON ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND RIGHTS

#ACTFOREQUAL

4 PROMOTE GENDER-TRANSFORMATIVE ECONOMIES AND ECONOMIC STIMULUS