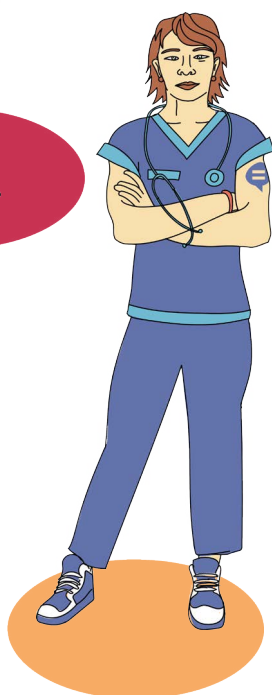
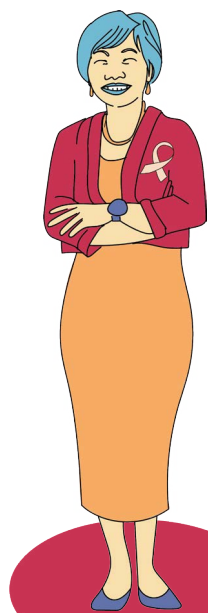


LOCAL & REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS DAYS

@CSW65



Feminist municipalism

Local to Global Women Leadership & Decision-making

At the occasion of the CSW65, UCLG will convene Local and Regional Governments' Days to enable discussions and exchanges on the key role of the international municipalist movement to promote and achieve gender equality in all parts of the world. In collaboration with international organizations, civil society representatives, UCLG will organize a series of thematic sessions that illustrate the multi-dimensional impact of local feminist leadership to attain a just, sustainable and resilient world.

An overview of the sessions promoted by UCLG, including brief description, is provided further below in this document.

Calendar Overview

LRGs Days: Feminist municipalism – Local to Global Women Leadership & Decision-making

These sessions will be hosted by UCLG. Agenda and information on registration will be sent separately.

17 MARCH, 15H - 17H CET

Local Feminist Leadership: Care at the centre

19 MARCH, 16H - 18H CET

Women in public life: Fostering Inclusive Cities & Territories

22 MARCH, 15H-17H CET

Towards Generation Equality - Local Feminist Leadership: Business of Women and Men Alike

23 MARCH, 15H30 - 17H30 CET

Side-event at the NGO CSW Forum. Acknowledging Women at the helm: Resilience, Proximity & Communities that Care*

* Participation at this side-event require a profile at the NGO CSW Platform, more information in [this link](#)

Official Sessions CSW65

For delegates registered to the CSW65, you will be able to watch all virtual sessions live. A full list of the CSW65 official sessions is available [here](#).

We highlight for information the below sessions where the constituency is represented and you might be interested to tune-in:

17 March, 21h - 23h CET (16h - 18h EST) Building alliances for women's full and effective participation in public life (Represented by Emilia Saiz, UCLG Secretariat General)

18 March, 14h - 16h CET (9h - 11h EST) Building back better: women's participation and leadership in COVID-19 response and recovery (Represented by Pichincha & Banjul)

Background information

Last year, the COVID-19 pandemic took over the local and international debate, particularly considering the need to take care of people, democracy and the planet for the future we want. In this context, the specific impact on all women, the relevance of gender-sensitive responses, and the role of women and feminist leaders to tackle and recover from this crisis have been important topics across UCLG's agenda.

With that in mind, the topic of gender equality was cross-cutting in the discussions organized by the constituency, and specifically a dedicated Live Learning Experience (LLE) on [Gender & Beyond the Outbreak took place](#). As one of the outcomes, participants prepared and released a call for [Women Leadership for the Post-COVID-19 Era](#), emphasizing the unique role of women leaders and of a feminist approach in response to and recovery from the crisis.

In preparation for the CSW65, UCLG coordinated the submission of a [joint a statement on behalf of the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments](#) (GTF), emphasizing the urgency to address the disproportionate impact of the pandemic on women and girls and with it the exacerbation of preexisting inequalities and discriminations, calling for the eradication of all types of violence against women and girls and for feminist leadership at the local level.

Additionally, UCLG Secretary General Emilia Saiz, Co-Chaired the Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on the CSW with renowned experts to take stock of existing research on the issue of women participation and decision-making, in particular at the local level. The [EGM outcome report](#) supports deliberations of the CSW65.

UCLG will continue to engage the Generation Equality process, particularly through the Action Coalition on Feminist Movements and Leadership, represented by the Secretary General as Co-Chair on the topic of women's and feminist political leadership. The Generation Equality Forum process, and accompanying activities, to be presented in Mexico City (29-31 March 2021) will culminate in Paris (June 2021).

Description of LRG Days



Local Feminist Leadership: Care at the Centre

17 March - 15h - 17h CET

We Care: Local leaders and their actions, and in particular the role of women and feminist leaders are key to ensure transformative changes for better societies that benefits all.

The COVID-19 crisis has emphasized the predominant role of women in responding to the pandemic, at the same time it has exacerbated the pre-existing inequalities against women and girls and vulnerable populations. The essential role of care is now at the centre of reflections of a people-centered sustainable development worldwide. In this regard, the Pact for the Future propelled by United Cities and Local Governments calls for placing People, Planet and Government at the top of the political priorities, aiming at bringing together all relevant stakeholders to bring about the necessary actions to achieve a future that leaves no one and no place behind.

The voice of municipalism is clear: feminist local leadership that places care at the centre, through actions on public service provision, health, fighting inequalities and paving the way to an ecological transition. Local and regional governments work to guarantee gender-sensitive responses in the post-crisis recovery, towards the effective achievement of the UN 2030 Agenda for all.



Women in public life: Fostering Inclusive Cities & Territories

19 March - 16h - 18h CET

We Participate: Beyond the promotion of gender-sensitive policies, women in public life, when provided safe spaces for participation in equitable opportunities, can become the motors of a fairer and more democratic system.

The participation of women and feminist leaders in politics and decision-making is not only core to democracy, it is a key factor to enable governing with empathy, to prioritizing the public in direct response to the needs and aspirations of the people and communities. Although the presence of women in public life is challenged everyday through social norms, stereotypes, discrimination, disinformation or violence, women and feminist mayors continue to lead on the path to inclusive cities and territories.

The rise of authoritarian and populist movements, exacerbated by new priorities in the context of crisis threatens, decades of progress on gender equality and women's empowerment. The role of women in public life is often overlooked and underestimated on their potential to give voice to the diversity of our neighborhoods and cities. The active participation of women must be celebrated, encouraged and supported, in particular at local and subnational levels.





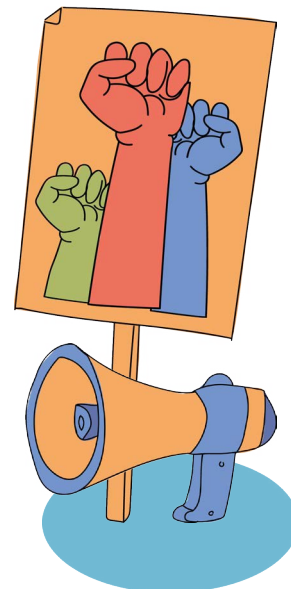
Towards Generation Equality - Local Feminist Leadership: Business of Women and Men Alike

22 March - 15h-17h CET

We Include: *The pathway to Generation Equality cannot fall solely on the shoulders of women, it is a shared responsibility to generate gender-sensitive and gender-responsive institutions, which seek additional parity by supporting and promoting female and feminist leadership and decision-making.*

26 years since the adoption of the Beijing Platform for Action and we are still far away from the desired levels of equality. The representation of women and girls in politics and public spaces remains unacceptably low, including in cities and regions. Towards the Generation Equality Forums, in Mexico City (29-31 March) and in Paris (June), it is fundamental to recognize the local sphere of government as the cradle of feminist leadership, a unique front to multiply the engagement of women and girls, and towards an inclusive city model. The constituency of local and regional governments will be instrumental to the realization of the Generation Equality action agenda.

Local Feminist Leadership will feature an economic recovery that cares for the people and the planet, reversing the loss of jobs, addressing informality, focusing on the sustainability of life and putting an end to inequalities. Cities and territories will be instrumental to eradicate gender-based violence and to generate participatory spaces that enhance women and girls' opportunities and participation.



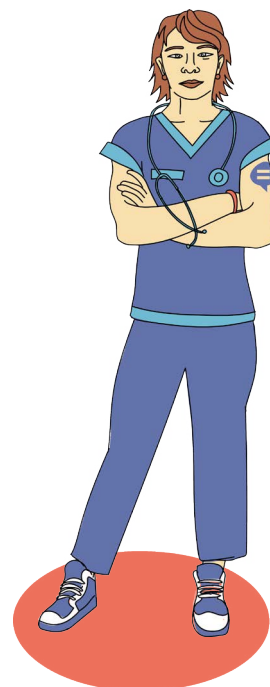
Acknowledging Women at the helm: Resilience, Proximity & Communities that Care

23 March 15h30 - 17h30 CET
 Side-event at the NGO CSW Forum

We Acknowledge: *the combination of local and regional governments with feminist and women's right organizations compose a powerful alliance to secure the access to reproductive rights and to support women-led business and projects, enhancing the autonomy of women in their diversity.*

The impacts of the climate crisis and more broadly, of environmental degradation, are also gendered, especially when considered issues of land tenure, informal work, care and domestic services. The climate emergency and the need for preparedness during periods of crisis and distress require mechanisms, including territorial approaches, for gender-based responses and resilience. The path to the ecological transition must ensure climate justice and observe the specific impact of crises on women and girls.

Appropriate urban and territorial planning, and local policy making in general, have a direct impact on women and girls' lives, as it is determinant of how they interact and experience the city and the public. Different projects and policies should be targeted at enhancing security, safety and social cohesion of cities and territories, contributing to decrease violence and reduce vulnerabilities, by increasing community participation in and ownership of the public life and space.



LOCAL & REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS DAYS

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