



CONCEPT NOTE

A diverse municipal feminist movement: regional perspectives & global initiatives

Thursday 24 February 2022, 11h30 – 13h00 (CET)

2022 Gender Equality Focus

The pandemic reminded us that different sectors of the society are disproportionately impacted by crisis, widening the inequality gap. As a response, the COVID-19 outbreak prompted innovative measures and responses from local and regional governments. Local policies and actions, for example in the maintenance of public service provision on health, water, energy, waste and others, have placed the wellbeing of the communities at the center of local government action.

A number of lessons have been learned during the pandemic, new paths are opening up and new essential common goods must provide the basis for action by local and regional governments. Inspirational examples include policies and efforts from local women and feminist leaders, who have acted quickly and paying attention to the needs and aspirations of our people during a critical period, especially of the most vulnerable.

The promotion of Gender Equality has been on the agenda of the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments for many years. Actions have revolved around the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) and focused on the inclusion of the local perspective in SDG5. The Generation Equality Forum in 2021 has been a highlight of the GTF collective work around the feminist municipal movement.

2022 will be marked by the continuation of the Action Coalitions and by the review of SDG5 in the HLPF. The Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments the Generation Equality Forum in 2021, UCLG joined as co-leader of the multi-stakeholder [action coalition on feminist movements and leadership](#), rallying commitments and enhancing the presence of local and regional governments on the global journey for gender equality. Our constituency presented the voice of a feminist municipal movement, implicated not only with advancing and increasing women and girls' participation in the political life, but also by encouraging new views of solidarity and empathy in local policy-making for all leaders.





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In this process, a series of publications, led by UCLG Ubuntu Adviser Ana Falú, was developed to understand the motivation and principles of a feminist municipal movement, according to different voices in the constituency: (i) ["Towards a global feminist municipalism movement"](#) contains a reflection of the vision and principles of the movement: an institutional dimension, women's leadership and innovative agendas, prioritization of the public life and care, paying special attention to vulnerable people; (ii) ["The transformative commitment of cities and territories to Generation Equality"](#) gathers voices of this movement through interviews with women mayors and local feminist leaders. The reflections and research on the feminist municipal movement will continue in 2022.

In 2022, Generation Equality Forum and Action Coalitions will present the accountability framework and follow-up for the 5-year action journey around the [Global Acceleration Plan](#). Our constituency of local and regional governments will continue to engage this and other important international moments:

- ✓ [The sixty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women \(CSW 66\)](#) will take place online from 14 to 25 March 2022, gathering representatives from all regions of the world. The priority theme of CSW 66 will be "Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programmes"; and review theme "Women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work (agreed conclusions of the sixty-first session)". UCLG will convene a side-event and other activities with the Global Taskforce.
- ✓ At the [High-level Political Forum in 2022](#), SDG 5 "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls" will be reviewed among other SDGs. As part of the Global Taskforce SDG Localization Report, it will be presented the key transformations and persistent challenges for women & girls at the local level and in relation to SDG 5. The constituency of local and regional governments have spearheaded the global campaign to reflect the local spheres in women participation and equality opportunities for leadership and decision making in political, economic and public life (currently target 5.5b).

Towards the UCLG World Congress in Daejeon and other exciting moments that await us in 2022, the Global Taskforce Annual gathering offers a unique opportunity to share perspectives, plans and activities around a feminist municipal movement.





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Objectives

This is planned as a working session to contribute in general on the ongoing discussions of a feminist municipal movement, share plans of the constituency this year, the main challenges and specific perspectives of the movement in each of the global regions. Therefore, this space during the retreat will gather regional sections, GTF partners and members to consider main topics and challenges on gender equality.

A special contribution on the SDG 5 will be featured in the annual Global Taskforce SDG localization report, considering the impact of the pandemic on women and girls, and the contribution of women mayors and local feminist leaders to achieve a resilient and inclusive future. The session will provide relevant inputs and cases that can contribute to the review of the localization of SDG 5.

Women and girls represent the bulk of the workforce in the health and primary care systems, in paid and unpaid care work, on the front line of basic services, as well as being overrepresented in informal sectors. An integrated care perspective applied to the reality of local and regional governments can help recover from the current crisis and increase resilience to future challenges, paving the way to substantial equality.

The session will also provide an overview of the flagship initiatives that will be developed at the global level, its work related to caring cities and territories, efforts to address gender-based violence and the contributions of feminism to the Pact for the Future.

Agenda

Opening (5 minutes)

Exchanges on efforts to date and different perspectives of a feminist municipal movement (30 minutes)

Facilitation by Emilia Saiz, UCLG Secretary General

- Introduction: Ana Falú, UCLG Ubuntu Adviser
- Our Feminist Municipal Movement: open floor for GTF networks to share views & work on this topic





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Debate on SDG 5 Localization & role of local & regional governments for gender equality (35 minutes)

Facilitation by Lucy Slack, Secretary General of the Commonwealth Local Government Forum (CLGF)

- Introduction: Jennifer Piscopo, Occidental College, expert developing contribution on SDG 5 for the GTF Localization Report in 2022
- Local & Regional Governments working for Gender Equality: open floor to mention cases & practices that could be reflected in the report

Teaser Podcast on Feminist Municipal Movement (15 minutes)

Conclusion (5 minutes)