

# Global Civil Society Led Initiative: Beijing+25 and the Generation Equality Forum



**BEIJING +25**

## An Overview



Created by NGO CSW/NY



# What is Beijing + 25 / Generation Equality?

To commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA), the Generation Equality Forum and CSW64 will look back at the past 25 years to evaluate progress, as well as look forward to determine concrete action for gender equality.

The Generation Equality Forum is a multi-stakeholder gathering with two major meetings in Mexico, May 2020 and Paris, July 2020. The Forum is convened by UN Women, co-chaired by France and Mexico, and in partnership with global Civil Society.



# Governance Structure for the Generation Equality Forum

## Core Group (decision making)

- 4 members - 1 representative for UN Women, France, Mexico & Civil Society
- Consults with Advisory Group to the Core Group

## Civil Society Advisory Group to the Core Group\*

- 21 members - decided by Advisory Committee Working Group
- Consults with Advisory Committee Working Group

## Advisory Committee Working Group\*

- Open to all global civil society members
- Ensures inclusive & representative nature of Advisory Group by providing input

## Multi-Stakeholder Steering Group

- 25 members - decided by Core Group
- Supports design, planning & implementation of Forum

## Strategic Planning & Leadership Group

- 50+ civil society leaders - decided by UN women
- Advise UN Women on Beijing+25

## Beijing+25 Youth Task Force

- 30 members - decided by UN Women
- Advises UN Women on youth involvement in Beijing+25

\* Civil society led and driven

# Advisory Group & Working Group

The Advisory Group to the Core Group (Advisory Group) will serve as the representative of civil society's priorities for the Generation Equality Forum by guaranteeing participation on a co-equal basis of civil society with the other members of the Core Group.

The Advisory Group will champion civil society's vision, inputs and expected outcomes of the Beijing+25 process by channeling information & opportunities from the Core Group. The Advisory Group will represent the diverse global women's rights movement by consulting with the Advisory Working Group regularly.

The Advisory Working Group consists of over 250 members of global civil society who will be instrumental in ensuring that *all* voices are heard and represented in this Beijing+25 process. If you have any questions email [Beijing25@ngocsw.org](mailto:Beijing25@ngocsw.org).

# Civil Society's Vision for Beijing+25/Generation Equality

**A Civil Society Feminist and Women's Movement Action Plan to advance global gender equality.**

- Central premise is 'women's rights are human rights'
- A feminist approach aimed at positively transforming norms and power structures
- Open, welcoming, inclusive of wide diversity of feminist and women's movements
- Creative, action-oriented, brave and safe
- Using power of existing political commitments and obligations to avoid "reinventing the wheel"
- Utilizing extant CSO processes actions at global, national, regional and sub-regional levels to help advance

# Thematic Working Groups

As the movement grew, it became clear that we needed to organize themes in order to address issues and achieve the Feminist and Women's Movement Action Plan.

Six cross-cutting themes:

- Environmental conservation, protection and rehabilitation
- Freedom from violence, stigma and stereotypes
- Poverty eradication, social protection and social services
- Inclusive development, share prosperity and decent work
- Peaceful and inclusive societies
- Participation, accountability and gender-responsive institutions

The Thematic Working Groups will be formed at the end of September.

For more information, click [here](#).

# Objectives for Beijing+25/Generation Equality

- Emergence of a coherent feminist agenda with demands reflecting an agreed set of priorities
- Achieving cross-cutting alliances
- Galvanize activists globally who will speak with one voice against suppression
- Help connect activists across silos working for similar objectives to achieve goals
- Help create the platforms that will address inequalities and lead to action
- Address inequalities created by patriarchy, colonialism, racism, and militarism

# Building Alliances & Linking Across Silos

To progress toward gender equality, we must link across silos of activism to create a common framework and build the power of women's rights movements.

- Not looking to abandon our own thematic and issue-based work, but starting to look for points of convergence to join forces around common goals
- Will build upon the global women's rights movement's strength to ensure an inclusive action plan with clear priorities and demands

# Roadmap / Timeline

## Step 1: Creation of Civil Society Advisory Group

- Early July 2019 - NGO CSW tasked with organizing the Civil Society Advisory Group to the Core Group
- July 2019 - Because of the groundswell of global civil society, the Advisory Working Group was created to self-select the Advisory Group to the Core Group
- Early August - 5 volunteers from the Advisory Working Group came together to select the 21 members of the Advisory Group out of over 130 applicants
- Selection group will announce the Advisory Group members by the end of August
- Advisory Working Group will continue to grow and will be the consulting body to the Advisory Group

## Step 2: Forum Planning

Advisory Group ensures that the planning for the Mexico & Paris meetings reflects the priorities/ demands of the Feminist and Women's Movement Plan and other working groups.

## Step 3: 64th Commission on the Status of Women

The Advisory Group supports the thematic and diverse working groups.

# Roadmap / Timeline cont'd

## Step 4: Mexico and Paris Forums

- Mexico: 7-8 May 2020
- Paris: 7-10 July 2020

The Civil Society Advisory Group ensures that the programs and financing of the Mexico and Paris meetings reflect the priorities of the Feminist and Women's Movement Action Plan, emphasizing the presence of focal points representing marginalized or vulnerable communities.

## Step 5: 2020 General Assembly

Governments must make commitments to finance and implement the Feminist and Women's Movement Action Plan and those of other working groups. The overall percentage of gender equality funding that goes to women's rights organizations must show a significant increase, from the current 1% as a result of the Beijing+25 process.

# For more information...

- <https://www.ngocsw.org/beijing-25>
- <https://www.unwomen.org/en/get-involved/beijing-plus-25>
- [Beijing Platform for Action document](#)
- [Feminist and Women's Movement Action Plan](#)