



NGO CSW FORUM 66

NGO CSW/NY | 50TH ANNIVERSARY

REPORT



2022

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CHAIR'S REFLECTION

Houry Geudelekian,
NGO CSW/NY Chair



We wrapped up our second fully virtual NGO CSW Forum on 25 March exhausted and excited for all the opportunities we created for the global feminist movement. Our challenges became opportunities. Despite some minor glitches and the UN's last-minute decision to open its doors to civil society, we helped gather thousands of advocates and hosted hundreds of events successfully. After hearing your comments from last year's virtual Forum, we changed the way Parallel Events were hosted and worked on creating more partnerships. We also learned to prioritize advocacy.

Last year was our first virtual Forum and although we were proud of our achievements, we realized numbers alone did not equate to success in outcome agreements, which is why we hit the ground running in the fall of 2021, revamping our advocacy strategy. We met with the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) Bureau and other Member States earlier, while we reached out to feminist coalitions and organizations like the Women's Major Group, Women's Rights Caucus and climate experts such as the Women's Environmental and Development Organization (WEDO), among others. We were lucky to have a strong Bureau as well as other Member States like Costa Rica and Denmark who supported and worked closely with us to #UNmuteCivilSociety, fight for our inclusion and consider our recommendations. Although we still do not have a physical seat as observers in the CSW negotiations room, I do believe having Member States fight for us is imperative to our success. Civil society was also present in Mission delegations and, more importantly, we truly amplified youth and adolescent girls in negotiations this year.

CHAIR'S REFLECTION continued

We were also honored to work with the UN Women team as well as other UN agencies like the UN Office for the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to create informative spaces for civil society to learn best advocacy practices. The United Nations can be a complicated and sometimes broken system which can be challenging. We took that challenge and created opportunities for us to learn and share with each other.

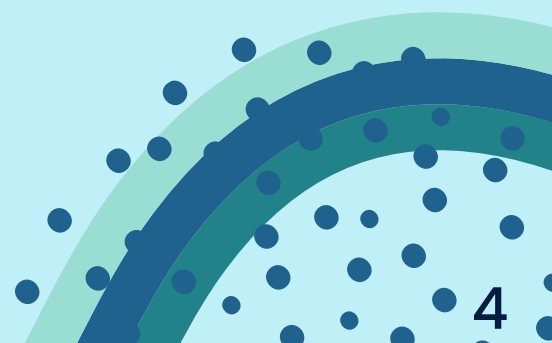
In closing, what I am taking away from this experience after 9 months of consistent work with the NGO CSW/NY Executive Committee and our global NGO CSWs in the Regions is gratitude and respect. Last year, I emphasized my personal commitment to working in a collaborative, transparent, shared leadership model. That seems to be ingrained in our psyche now and I am grateful for all those who have adopted it as their way of working as well. I was so inspired at our Youth Morning Briefing, I now am approaching our work with Love, Respect, and Action. Let's try and make this our calling for the upcoming year.

We look forward to reading about your experiences at the NGO CSW66 Forum and using your feedback to host an even better (probably hybrid) Forum next year. Thank you to all those who attended, shared your work, expertise, and challenged us all to do better.

In Solidarity!

A handwritten signature in dark blue ink, reading "H. Geudelekian".

Houry Geudelekian





ABOUT NGO CSW/NY

WHO IS NGO CSW/NY?

NGO CSW/NY facilitates a platform for the voices and leadership of feminists and women's rights organizations globally who lobby for their inclusion in the UN deliberations in pursuit of gender equality.

We envision a world without sexism, sexual violence, or discrimination against women and girls, where economic, political, and social policies encourage their empowerment and wellbeing.



NGO CSW/NY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CHAIR

Houry Geudelekian
Unchained At Last

VICE-CHAIR

Ivy Koek
Soka Gakkai International

COMMUNICATIONS

SECRETARY

Azadeh Khalili
International Alliance of Women

TREASURER

Rosa Lizarde
Feminist Task Force

RECORDING SECRETARY

Saphira Rameshfar
Baha'i International Community

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Gillian D'Souza Nazareth
Red Dot Foundation

Margretha Jones
International Humanist and Ethical Union

Terry Ince
African Views

Pamela Morgan
Zonta International

PAST CHAIR, EX-OFFICIO

Susan O'Malley
International Federation of Business and Professional Women



NGO CSW
FORUM 66

NGO CSW/NY | 50TH ANNIVERSARY

OVERVIEW OF THE NGO CSW FORUM & THE UN CSW



WHAT IS THE NGO CSW FORUM?

NGO CSW/NY organizes the civil society side of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). The NGO CSW Forum runs parallel to the official session taking place at the UN Headquarters. This provides civil society organizations (CSOs) and activists the opportunity to engage in the processes and CSW sessions without ECOSOC-accreditation or a UN grounds pass.

Over the two weeks of the UN CSW, NGO CSW/NY organizes almost 800 events that inform, engage and inspire grassroots efforts and advocacy needed to empower women and girls.

In 2022, the NGO CSW66 Forum was entirely virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

WHAT IS THE CSW?

The CSW is a global policy-making body dedicated to promoting gender equality and women's rights. The CSW's mandate is to prepare recommendations on promoting women's rights in the political, economic, civil, social & educational fields. The CSW also makes recommendations on urgent problems requiring immediate attention in the field of women's rights.

During the annual CSW session, Member States, CSOs and UN entities gather at the UN in New York to discuss progress and gaps in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the key global policy document on gender equality, as well as emerging issues that affect gender equality and the empowerment of women.

For more information: www.unwomen.org/en/csw

NGO CSW FORUM VS. UN CSW

NGO CSW FORUM

- NGO CSW/NY = convener
- Feminist & women's rights groups and networks
- Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and civil society
- Registration for Forum is open to the public
- Hold Parallel Events hosted by civil society
- Written statements to CSW and interventions
- NGO CSWs in the Regions

UN CSW

- UN Women = secretariat
- Intergovernmental process; CSW Bureau
- United Nations agencies and Member States
- Registration for CSW only open to ECOSOC-accredited NGO delegates
- Hold official Side Events hosted by UN agencies, Member States and accredited NGOs
- Conducts expert panel and issues expert papers
- Regional CSW preparatory meetings

66TH COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (CSW66)

The sixty-sixth session of the CSW took place from 14 to 25 March 2022. Due to the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, CSW66 took place in a hybrid format. All side events were fully virtual.



PRIORITY THEME

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



REVIEW THEME

Women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work (agreed conclusions of the sixty-first session)



AGREED CONCLUSIONS

The Commission adopted Agreed Conclusions on the CSW66 priority theme on 25 March 2022. Read the document [here](#).

NGO CSW IN A VIRTUAL SPACE

The global COVID-19 pandemic has affected the feminist and women's movement activism and work in a multitude of ways. It created new inequalities and exasperated extant ones, prevented travel and in-person gatherings around the world, and wreaked havoc on our daily lives.

In this context, NGO CSW made a commitment to continue engaging our members virtually in a meaningful way that would allow us to continue and strengthen our global community and activism in these unprecedented times. After the success of our first virtual Forum last year in gathering and galvanizing people from around the world, we decided that the NGO CSW66 Forum should be 100% virtual again. The only exception was our in-person Consultation Day at the Apollo Theater, which was also live streamed for virtual engagement as well. We have and will continue to create an intersectional and inclusive space, with an emphasis on shared leadership and collaboration.

Virtual Safety Guidelines:

To maintain participants' safety and a respectful online environment, we continued to amplify and enforce our [Virtual Safety Guidelines](#) that emphasize respect and inclusivity. We also have a reporting mechanism in place so participants can report to us any experiences of harassment, hateful comments. Participants can email us at virtualsafety@ngocsw.org and we will address the issue immediately. The Virtual Safety Guidelines and reporting mechanism extend to all of NGO CSW/NY's virtual spaces and events, not just the NGO CSW Forum.

How to Have a Safe & Secure Experience at the Forum:

This year, since Parallel Event organizers used their own virtual meeting platforms (such as Zoom, Google Meets, etc.), we developed a resource to provide both Forum participants and Parallel Event organizers information and tips on how to have a safe and secure experience. See the resource on the next two pages.

How to have a **SAFE & SECURE**

NGO CSW
FORUM 66

NGO CSW66 FORUM EXPERIENCE

As a participant

Respect & Inclusivity

Base all of your interactions at the Forum on a foundation of respect and inclusivity.

No hateful comments

NGO CSW/NY does not tolerate any hateful, discriminatory, or offensive comments or harassment.

Virtual Safety Guidelines

Follow and uphold our [Virtual Safety Guidelines](#). Those who violate these guidelines will be removed from the Forum.

Reporting Structure

If you encounter an unsafe or uncomfortable situation, report it to NGO CSW/NY at virtualsafety@ngocsw.org and we will address the issue immediately.

How to host a SAFE & SECURE VIRTUAL PARALLEL EVENT

(continued

Less Interaction = More Secure

Limiting the interaction of participants is the most effective way to keep your event secure and safe

- Disable chat or Q&A
- Have a Webinar instead of a Meeting if using Zoom
- Don't allow participants to unmute themselves or turn their video on

Safe Participation

However, you can also run a secure and safe event with participant engagement as well.

- Have members of your team assigned to managing and monitoring the chat, keeping participants muted, and spotlighting speakers.
- Enforce our Virtual Safety Guidelines and report any violations to virtualsecurity@ngocsw.org.
- Have members of your team prepared to remove any disruptors from your event if needed.

Limit Zoom-bombing:

You can limit the possibility of "Zoom-bombing" or disruption at your event by doing the following:

- Require registration for your event; Don't publish the direct link to your event online.
- Disable participant ability to rename themselves
- Disable participants' ability to screen share
- Disable participants' ability to unmute themselves during non-interactive parts of your event

Protecting participants:

To provide a safe environment for women human right's defenders, activists, and/or minors:

- Allow participants to keep their video off and use an alias or keep their name as Anonymous
- If you are recording your event, make sure all participants are aware that you are recording.
- Before taking screenshots or photos of the virtual event, get consent from your audience. If someone does not want to be in the photo or recording, they can keep their video off or leave the event.



ALMOST
200,000
VISITS
TO THE
PORTAL

ALMOST **800** EVENTS



PARTICIPANTS FROM **106** COUNTRIES

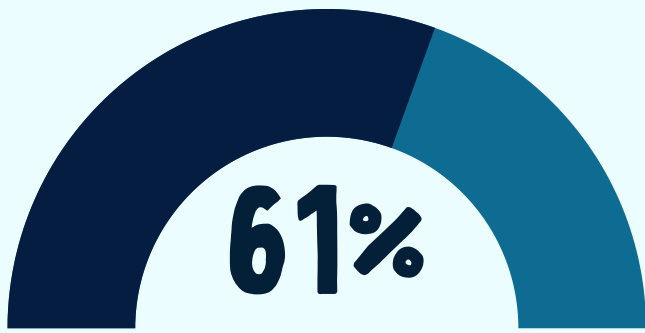
23% OF PARTICIPANTS WERE
YOUTH (UNDER 40)



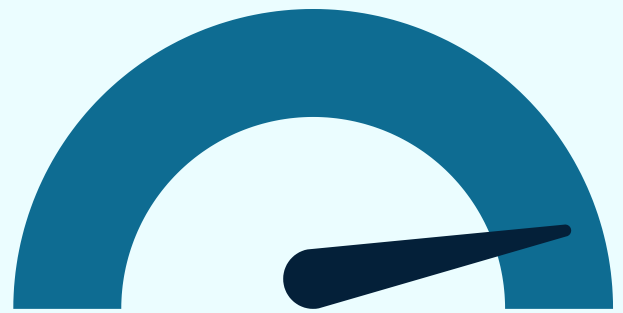
44% OF PARTICIPANTS
WERE FROM THE
GLOBAL SOUTH

40% OF PARTICIPANTS WERE
NEW TO THE FORUM





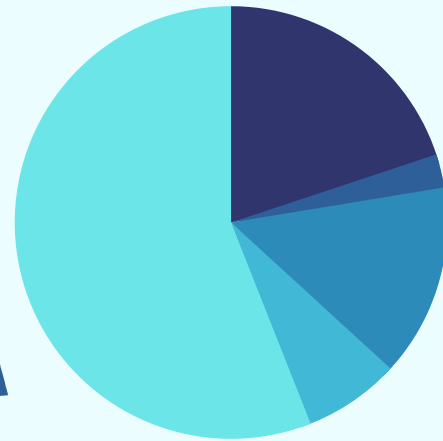
OF PARTICIPANT ORGANIZATIONS
WERE ECOSOC-ACCREDITED



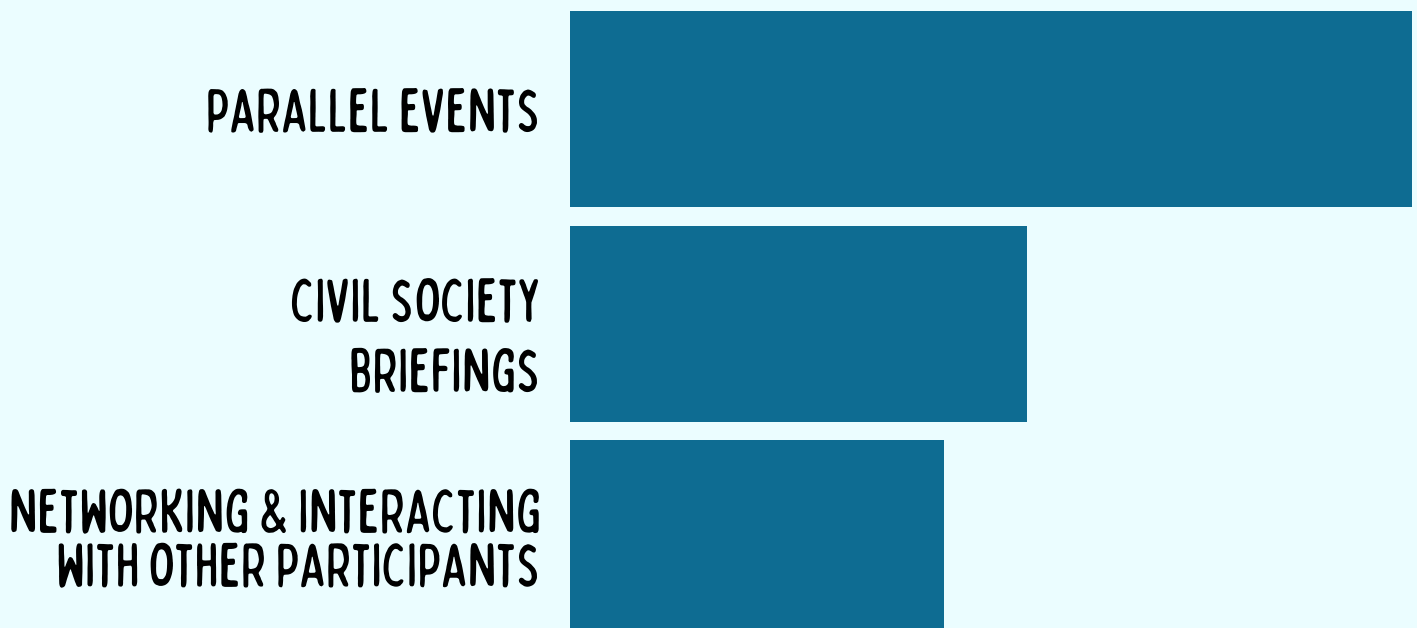
OF PARTICIPANTS
THOUGHT THE FORUM
WAS A PRODUCTIVE EXPERIENCE

REGIONAL REPRESENTATION

19.9 % **AFRICA**
2.5 % **ARAB STATES/MENA**
14.4 % **ASIA PACIFIC**
7.2 % **LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN**
56 % **NORTH AMERICA & EUROPE**



PARTICIPANTS' TOP 3 ASPECTS OF THE FORUM



PREPARATION FOR THE FORUM

Organizing a virtual two-week Forum with thousands of participants is a big undertaking requiring months of planning and preparation; Especially with our small team of mostly volunteers! In this section, learn more about how we organized the NGO CSW66 Forum and prepared Forum participants for a successful and fulfilling experience.



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GLOBAL PLANNING COMMITTEE



To ensure a global, inclusive, and accessible forum, we worked closely with the NGO CSWs in the Regions through our Global Planning Committee (GPC). This was the second year that we used this model for our Planning Committee.

The GPC met monthly via Zoom to discuss the planning of the Forum, help organize Forum events, and update the group on regional work and preparatory meetings. See more about the NGO CSWs in the Regions [here](#).

GLOBAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

NGO CSW66 FORUM CO-CHAIRS:

Rosa Lizarde and **Pamela Morgan**

Diana Abou Abbas, Lina Abou Habib, Linda Witong Abrahm, Lois Aduamoah-Addo, Carla Akil, Patricia Arkhondis, Mabel Bianco, Beth Blissman, Eleanor Blomstrom, Karina Bravo, Gillian D'Souza-Nazareth, Grace Derks, Stacy Dry Lara, Evelyn Duermeyer, Lana Finikin, Houry Geudelekian, Nina Guamán, Lara Guttmann, Carolyn Handschin, Anna Henderson Slade, Erica Higbie, Terry Ince, Margaretha Jones, Memory Kachambwa, Ani Karapetyan, Gib Karnchanachari, Azadeh Khalili, Luisa Kislinger, Sehnaz Kiymaz, Ivy Koek, Katharina Koss, Kristy Lee, Srruthi Lehka, Rosa Lizarde, Zoneziwoh Mbondgulo-Wondieh, Carol McConkie, Pamela Morgan, Susan O'Malley, Saphira Rameshfar, Suvekchya Rana, Laurie Richardson, Carole Shaw, Sammi R. Singh, Hellen Swales, Fernanda Vazquez, Joan Woods, Devan Zingler

TRAININGS & TUTORIALS FOR THE VIRTUAL PORTAL

To help participants get the most out of our Virtual Portal, we prepared several tutorial videos and held three live training sessions leading up to the Forum. This provided our community with helpful step-by-step visuals for using the Virtual Portal, as well as a chance to ask us questions in real time during the training events. The training recordings and tutorial videos can all be found on our Youtube channel [here](#).

For Participants:

- [Participant Training Event](#)
- [Participant Tutorial on the Virtual Portal](#)

For Parallel Event Organizers:

- [Parallel Event Organizer Training Event](#)
- [Virtual Portal Tutorial Video for Parallel Event Organizers](#)

For Exhibitors & Handbook Ad Sponsors:

- [Exhibitor Training Event](#)
- [Exhibitor Tutorial Video on the Virtual Portal](#)
- [Handbook Sponsor Tutorial Video on the Virtual Portal](#)



NY CONSULTATION DAY

at the Historic Apollo Theater



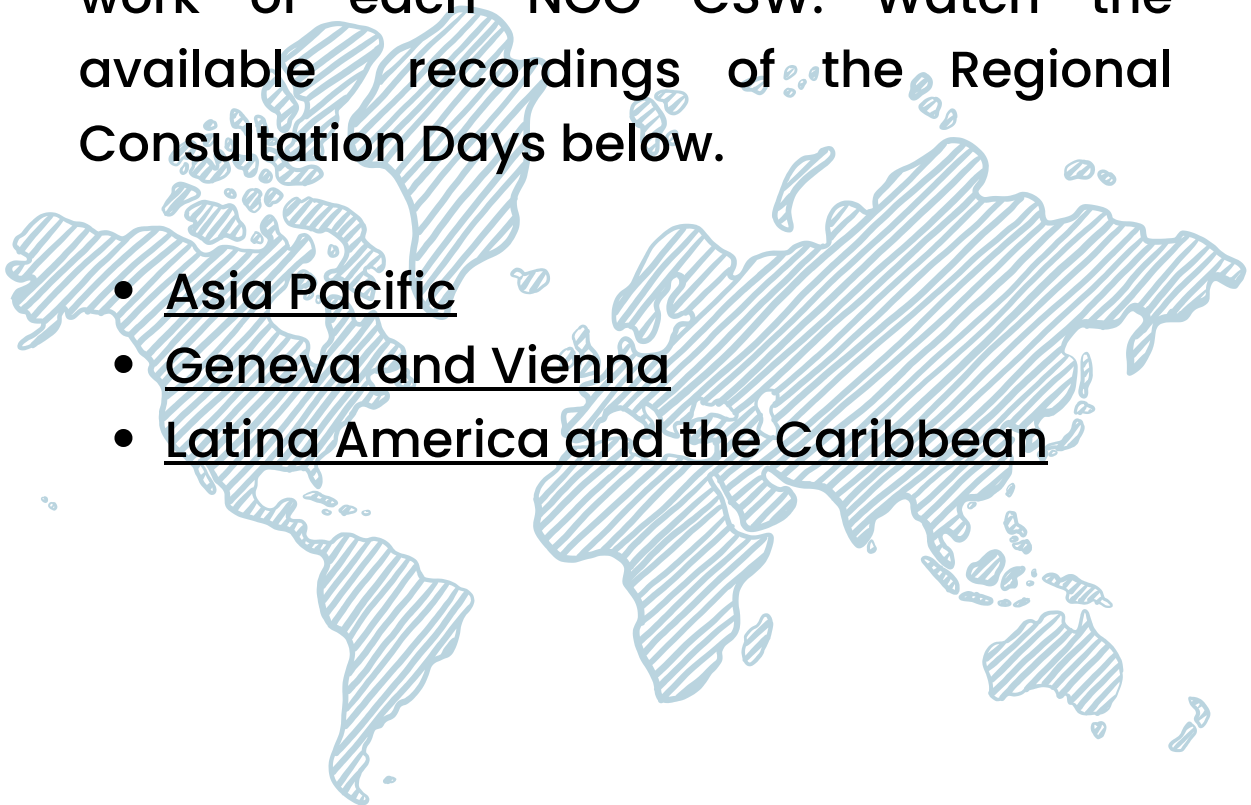
Every year NGO CSW/NY hosts a Consultation Day event to prepare our Forum attendees for the upcoming CSW and its priority theme. This year we returned to our in-person format while also livestreaming the event online to make sure all participants were included in the day's panels and celebrations. The program included high-level and expert panel discussions, feminist entertainment, and more! Read this year's NY Consultation Day [program](#) and watch the [recording](#).



REGIONAL CONSULTATION DAYS

Leading up to the Forum, the NGO CSWs in the Regions each hosted their own Consultation Day relating to the priority theme in their respective regions. Each Consultation Day spotlighted the CSW66 priority theme and how it relates to the work of each NGO CSW. Watch the available recordings of the Regional Consultation Days below.

- [Asia Pacific](#)
- [Geneva and Vienna](#)
- [Latina America and the Caribbean](#)



YOUTH PREPARATION SERIES FOR NGO CSW66

In preparation for CSW66, the NGO CSW/NY Youth Leaders and Young Professionals (YLYPs) hosted our second Youth Preparation Series for NGO CSW with the objective of providing our youth network with trainings and resources to better prepare them in their advocacy efforts during the CSW66, as well as spaces to share their experiences, network, and connect. See the full schedule of events and watch the available recordings.

As part of the Preparation Series and during the NGO CSW66 Forum, the YLYPs hosted two networking events with our youth community and our Global Mentors for Youth Leaders. These events facilitated the friendship, support, and mentorship between generations of gender equality activists. Learn more about the mentorship program and our Global Mentors.



COMMUNICATIONS PLAN FOR NGO CSW66

One of the key planning areas for the Forum was communications. In order to promote the Forum and provide our constituency with the information and resources they needed for a successful Forum experience, having a Communications Committee was essential.

The Communications Committee met weekly to discuss and lay out communications plans for the NGO CSW66 Forum. This included social media communications, email campaigns, and traditional media communications such as press releases.

The hashtag #NGOCSW66 was created as a tag to add to all content related to the Forum. Communications campaigns were planned and executed for events and information leading up to the Forum, as well as during the two weeks of the Forum.

We also put together a [social media package on Trello](#), which was an accessible page for participants, Parallel Event organizers, Exhibitors, and Handbook Sponsors to gather branding materials and graphics, trainings and tutorials, hashtag information, and more.

ADVOCACY FOR CSW66

This year, we focused more of our efforts on advocacy for the CSW66 Agreed Conclusions and Methods of Work. Our Advocacy & Research Group played a pivotal role in this process through research on the priority theme, the development of recommendations, and advocating for their recommendations with Member States. In addition to our own advocacy, we also provided advocacy training and resources to prepare our participants for effective advocacy at the UN and CSW. Learn more about the different ways we engaged advocacy in this section.

ORIENTATION & ADVOCACY TRAINING SESSIONS

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ADVOCACY & RESEARCH GROUP

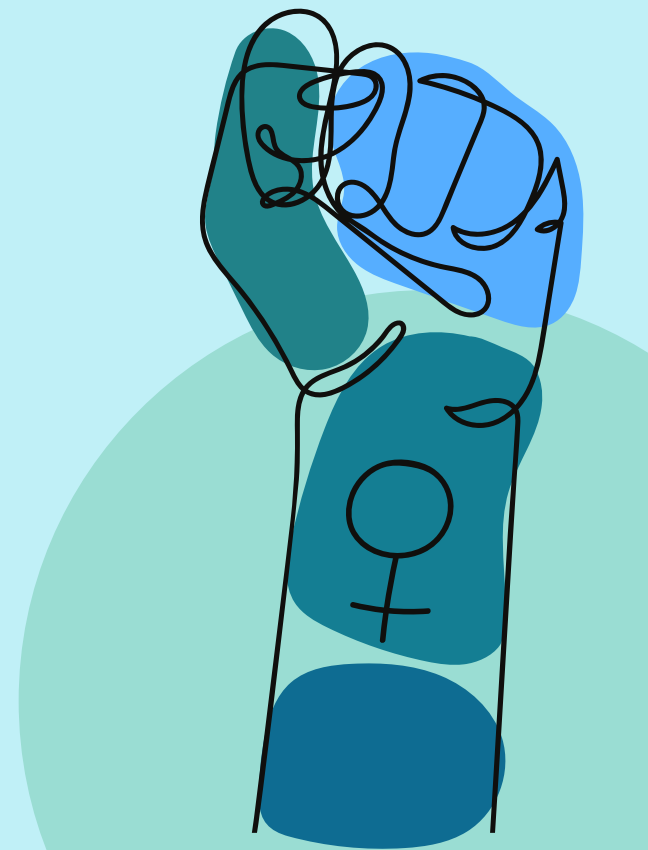
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METHODS OF WORK ADVOCACY

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VIRTUAL VIENNA CAFE

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ORIENTATION & ADVOCACY TRAINING SESSIONS

At the beginning of the NGO CSW Forum, NGO CSW/NY hosted Orientation and Advocacy Training sessions to help prepare Forum participants for the CSW and NGO CSW Forum. These sessions are great for those who are new to the space or need a refresher.

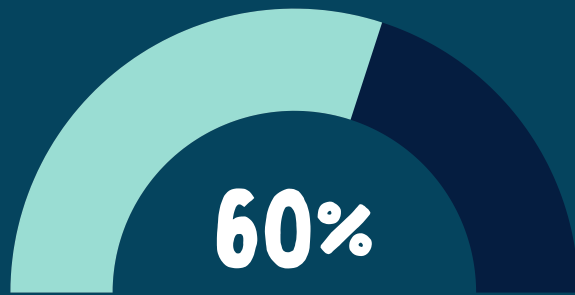
Orientation Session

On the first day of CSW66, 14 March 2022, NGO CSW/NY hosted an Orientation session to help prepare and educate participants who were new to the UN, CSW, and NGO CSW Forum spaces. The Orientation session gave an introduction to the CSW and NGO CSW Forum and how to meaningfully engage in these spaces. [Watch the recording of the Orientation session.](#)

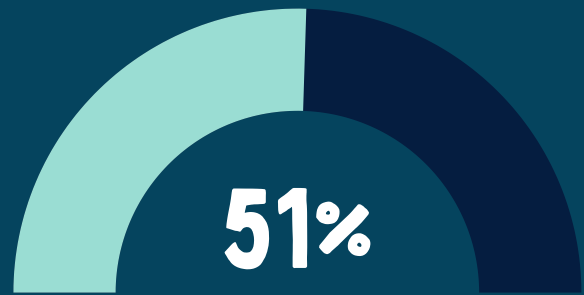
Advocacy Training Session

The second day of CSW66, 15 March 2022, began with our Advocacy Training session. Here, we discussed advocacy at the UN and CSW and provided an overview of how to effectively advocate for your work and/or organization within these spaces. We also heard from the co-chairs of our [Advocacy & Research Group](#) who introduced their experience advocating with Member States and shared some tips and advice for doing so. [Watch the recording of the Advocacy Training session.](#)

ORIENTATION & ADVOCACY TRAINING SESSION STATS



OF FORUM PARTICIPANTS ATTENDED
THE ORIENTATION SESSION OR
WATCHED THE RECORDING



OF FORUM PARTICIPANTS ATTENDED
THE ADVOCACY TRAINING SESSION
OR WATCHED THE RECORDING



OF ORIENTATION ATTENDEES FOUND
THE SESSION HELPFUL



OF ADVOCACY TRAINING ATTENDEES
FOUND THE SESSION HELPFUL



OF FORUM PARTICIPANTS WOULD LIKE TO SEE VIRTUAL
ORIENTATION AND ADVOCACY TRAINING SESSIONS IN
FUTURE FORUMS

ADVOCACY & RESEARCH GROUP

CSW66 ZERO DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

For CSW66, the Advocacy & Research Group researched the CSW Priority Theme with input from the NGO CSWs in the Regions and global civil society to develop six key Recommendations to be considered for the CSW66 Zero Draft. These Recommendations were sent to the UN Secretary-General, UN Women, the CSW Bureau, and all Member States.

[Read all six recommendations here.](#)

The ARG then developed briefs on each of the six recommendations to provide more information about each one, as well as a briefing on youth perspectives. Click each recommendation below to read the accompanying brief.



**WOMEN'S
LEADERSHIP IN
ADDRESSING
CLIMATE
CRISIS**



**STRENGTHENING
WOMEN'S
RESILIENCE TO
DISASTERS**



**DISAGGREGATED
DATA ON
CLIMATE-
INDUCED
DISPLACEMENT**



**TARGETED
EDUCATION/
TRAINING ON
CLIMATE
CHANGE**



**FINANCING
CLIMATE
MITIGATION/
ADAPTATION
FOR WOMEN**



**ENSURE
WOMEN'S
LAND
OWNERSHIP &
INHERITANCE**



**YOUTH
PERSPECTIVES
ON ISSUES
AFFECTING
WOMEN AND
GIRLS**

METHODS OF WORK ADVOCACY

This year, along with the negotiations on the CSW66 priority theme outcome document, the CSW Methods of Work were also reviewed, negotiated, and edited. The Methods of Work were last reviewed in 2015. Due to the pandemic, the review that was to take place in 2020 was postponed until this year. This determines what is undertaken during the CSW session.

NGO CSW/NY led an ad hoc group to collect civil society recommendations and advocate for better civil society participation and engagement in the CSW Methods of Work. **During CSW66, the future organization and Methods of Work were adopted. Read the document here.**

For more information about the advocacy for the CSW Methods of Work, such as the process and our recommendations, visit this website.



VIRTUAL VIENNA CAFE

In March 2021 following the continuation of a closed UN due to the COVID-19 pandemic, NGO CSW/NY spearheaded a virtual space called the 'Virtual Vienna Cafe' where civil society representatives could informally meet with Member States. For CSW66 we brought back this space with the intention of creating more meaningful engagement between Member States and CSOs.

Each session had discussion tables where each Member State was joined by 5 CSO representatives. The outcomes of these interactions were highly enjoyed by our participants who all expressed positive feedback on the results obtained from the sessions.

One of the highlights of these sessions was the level of participation and initiative taken by global youth advocates. The discussions also served as a great opportunity to implement intergenerational leadership and advocacy efforts that are both inclusive and fruitful.

120+

PARTICIPANTS
ACROSS ALL
3 SESSIONS

15

MEMBER STATE
REPRESENTATIVES
PARTICIPATED

25%

YOUTH
PARTICIPATION
PER SESSION



NGO CSW FORUM 66

NGO CSW/NY | 50TH ANNIVERSARY

FORUM PROGRAM

NGO CSW66 VIRTUAL PARALLEL EVENTS

**See the full program of
virtual Parallel Events**

VIRTUAL PARALLEL EVENTS

One of the key components and the most popular aspect of the NGO CSW Forum is the Parallel Events. Each year, we invite civil society organizations around the globe to apply to host a Parallel Event, regardless of their ECOSOC status. These events are totally organized by the host organization and address the CSW priority theme in some way.

Parallel Events not only provide a space and voice for CSOs who may not have a voice at / access to the UN, but they also allow for education and galvanizing around different issues and topics within the feminist and women's movement. Parallel Events are totally free and open to the public.

Like last year, all Parallel Events were 100% virtual and were listed on the Forum's Virtual Portal. We reached a record-breaking number of almost 800 Parallel Events! See the full list of Parallel Events [here](#).



PARALLEL EVENT STATS



OF PARTICIPANTS SAID PARALLEL EVENTS WERE ONE
OF THE TOP 3 MOST BENEFICIAL PARTS OF THE FORUM



OF PARTICIPANTS SAID PARALLEL EVENTS WERE
ONE OF THEIR TOP 3 FAVORITE PARTS OF THE FORUM



OF PARTICIPANTS SAID THEY WOULD
LIKE TO SEE VIRTUAL PARALLEL
EVENTS IN FUTURE FORUMS

750+
VIRTUAL PARALLEL
EVENTS

CONVERSATION CIRCLES

During the NGO CSW66 Forum, NGO CSW/NY hosted a number of virtual Conversation Circles. The sessions provided a place to raise issues and exchange ideas

on different topics in a semi-structured space during CSW66. Each conversation presented a specific topic related to women's rights and gender equality and were guided by co-facilitators who are experts on the topic. Participants were encouraged to be engaged in discussion either live or by chat. Click on the title of each Conversation Circle to watch the recording.

Conversation Circle Topics:

- Sexual & Reproductive Health and Rights
- Feminist & Youth Movements and Leadership
- Women, Youth, Peace & Security
- Anti-Racism
- Violence Against Women
- Women in Migration
- Economic Justice & Rights
- Future of Education
- Indigenous Women
- LGBTQI+ (not recorded)
- Building Greener Across Generations (not recorded)



CONVERSATION CIRCLE STATS



OF FORUM ATTENDEES PARTICIPATED IN
AT LEAST ONE CONVERSATION CIRCLE



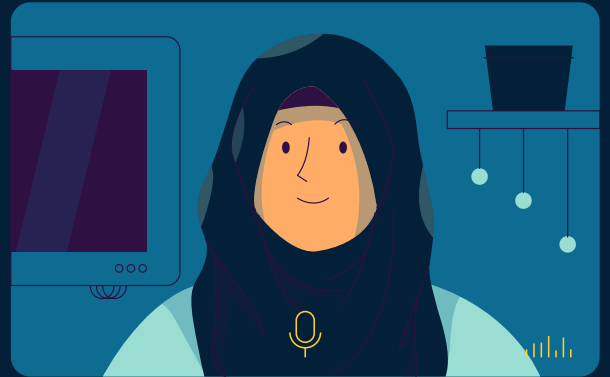
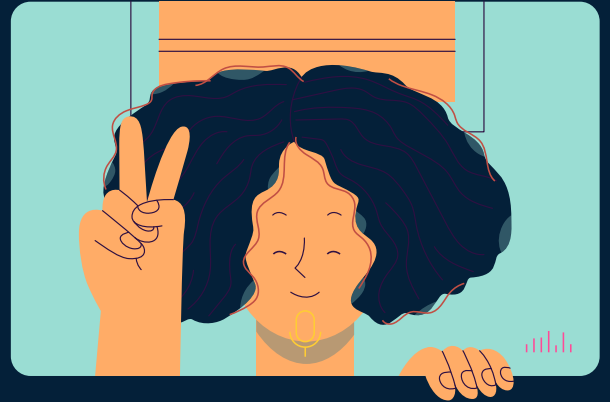
OF CONVERSATION CIRCLES PARTICIPANTS
WERE SATISFIED WITH THEIR EXPERIENCE



OF PARTICIPANTS SAID THEY WOULD LIKE TO
SEE VIRTUAL CONVERSATION CIRCLES IN
FUTURE FORUMS

**VIOLENCE
AGAINST WOMEN**
WAS THE MOST ATTENDED
CONVERSATION CIRCLE

VIRTUAL REGIONAL CAUCUSES



Throughout the two weeks of the NGO CSW66 Virtual Forum, the NGO CSWs in the Regions and the North America and Europe Caucus hosted ten Regional Caucuses. Each of the five regions hosted two Caucuses.



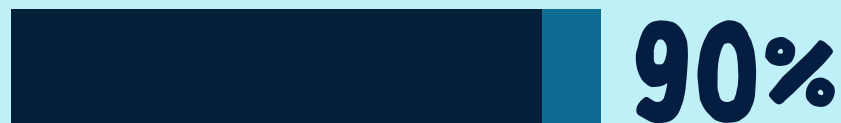
These sessions were informal, loosely moderated spaces for participants to discuss and reflect upon regional advocacy and their region's most relevant and pressing issues. Watch the recordings of the Regional Caucuses [here](#).

REGIONAL CAUCUS STATS



56%

OF FORUM ATTENDEES PARTICIPATED IN
AT LEAST ONE REGIONAL CAUCUS



90%

OF REGIONAL CAUCUS PARTICIPANTS
WERE SATISFIED WITH THEIR EXPERIENCE



56%

OF PARTICIPANTS SAID THEY WOULD
LIKE TO SEE VIRTUAL REGIONAL
CAUCUSES IN FUTURE FORUMS

**NORTH AMERICA
& EUROPE**

**WAS THE MOST ATTENDED
REGIONAL CAUCUS**

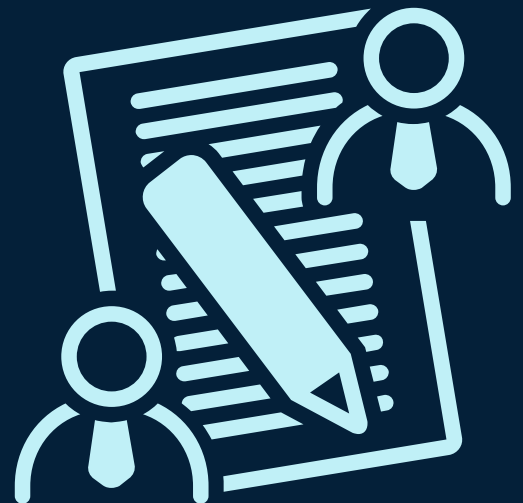
CIVIL SOCIETY BRIEFINGS

NGO CSW/NY and UN Women co-hosted three civil society briefings where civil society, UN agencies and Member States came together to share the state of play as developments within the CSW and outcome document negotiation process unfolded.

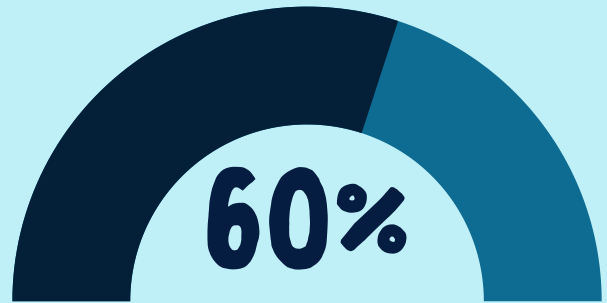
The first briefing provided updates from UN Women and H.E. Mathu Joyini, Permanent Representative of South Africa and the Chair of CSW66.

The Youth Morning Briefing allowed young people to share with Member States their suggestions and perspectives on the CSW66 themes. We also heard updates on the CSW66 Global Youth Recommendations and the CSW66 Agreed Conclusions negotiations. Watch the recording [here](#).

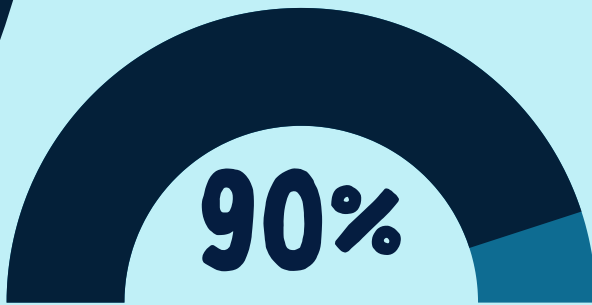
The final civil society briefing provided updates on the CSW66 Agreed Conclusions negotiations between Member States. The negotiator of the process, Ambassador Antje Leendertse, Permanent Representative of Germany gave participants information about the negotiations.



CIVIL SOCIETY BRIEFING STATS



OF FORUM ATTENDEES PARTICIPATED IN
AT LEAST ONE CIVIL SOCIETY BRIEFING



OF BRIEFING PARTICIPANTS WERE
SATISFIED WITH THEIR EXPERIENCE

**YOUTH MORNING
BRIEFING**

WAS THE MOST ATTENDED
CIVIL SOCIETY BRIEFING

EDVAW PLATFORM BRIEFINGS

In partnership with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), we hosted two briefings on the Platform of Independent Expert Mechanisms on the Elimination of Discrimination and Violence Against Women (EDVAW Platform). These briefings aimed to raise awareness of

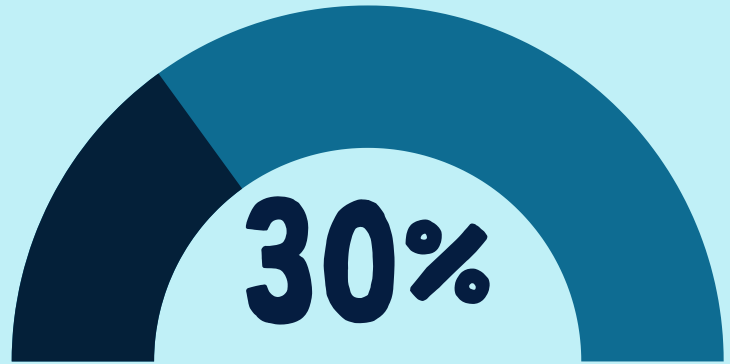
the Platform which is made up of the following expert mechanisms:

- UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women (SRVAW)
- UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)
- UN Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women and girls (WGDAW)
- Committee of Experts of the Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI)
- Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO)
- African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Women in Africa (A SRWHR)
- Inter-American Commission on Human Rights Rapporteur on the Rights of Women (IA RWHR)

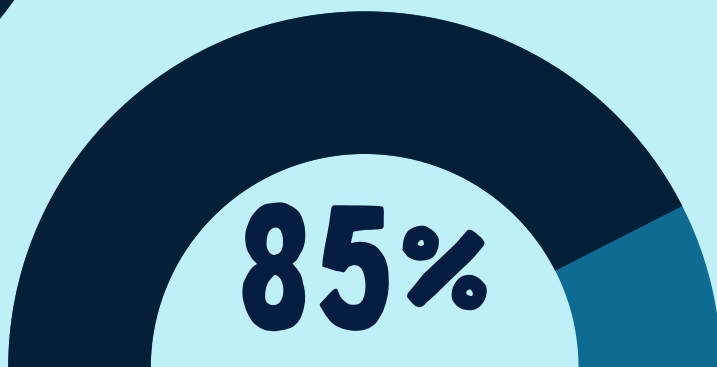
Watch the recordings of the first session and the second session.



EDVAW BRIEFING STATS



OF FORUM ATTENDEES PARTICIPATED IN
AT LEAST ONE BRIEFING ON THE EDVAW
PLATFORM



OF BRIEFING PARTICIPANTS
FOUND THE EVENT USEFUL

GLOBAL MENTORS NETWORKING SESSION

During the second week of the NGO CSW66 Forum, the Youth Leaders & Young Professionals (YLYPs) hosted their second mentorship networking session with the Global Mentors for Youth Leaders.



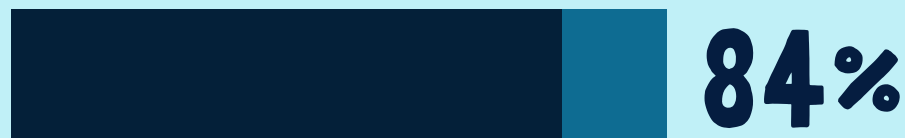
The first networking session was hosted as part of the Youth Preparation Series for NGO CSW66. (Read about the Preparation Series in this report on page 23.)

This informal meet and greet session connected the Global Mentors and youth participants to create and maintain meaningful mentorships and relationships between activists of all ages and experiences.

GLOBAL MENTORS NETWORKING SESSION STATS



OF FORUM ATTENDEES PARTICIPATED IN THE
GLOBAL MENTORS NETWORKING SESSION



OF SESSION PARTICIPANTS WERE
SATISFIED WITH THE EVENT



OF PARTICIPANTS SAID THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE
ONLINE NETWORKING EVENTS IN FUTURE FORUMS

AFRICAN DANCE PARTY

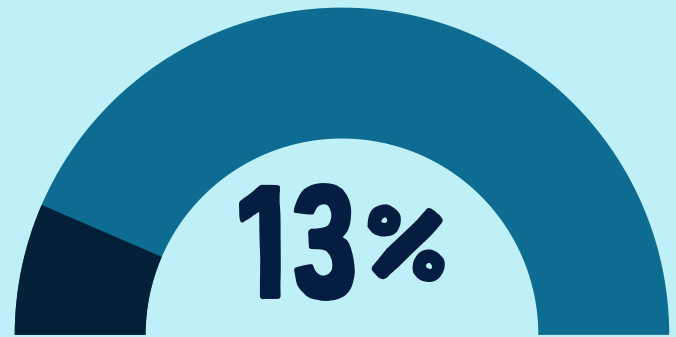
clear our mind during the hectic two weeks of the Forum.

The African Dance Party, hosted by Korma Aguh-Stuckmayer of Afrocontigbo, allowed our participants to enjoy a fun, energetic class, while also learning a new form of dance. Learn more about Afrocontigbo and see their upcoming events [here](#).

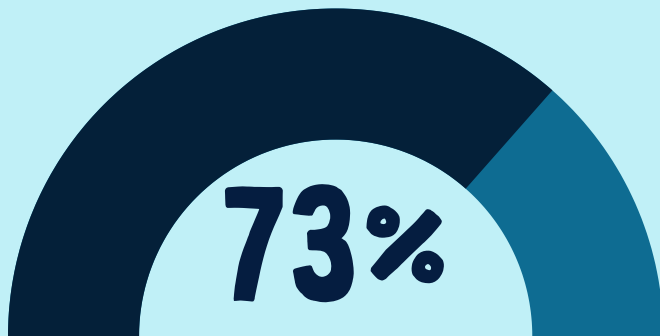
We know how tough it can be on our bodies to sit in front of a screen during virtual spaces such as the NGO CSW Forum. That's why we try to include some events that provide fun movement to get us out of our seats and



AFRICAN DANCE PARTY STATS



OF FORUM ATTENDEES PARTICIPATED IN
THE AFRICAN DANCE PARTY



OF AFRICAN DANCE PARTY PARTICIPANTS
WERE SATISFIED WITH THEIR EXPERIENCE

VIRTUAL EXHIBIT HALL

For the second year, we hosted a virtual Exhibit Hall on the NGO CSW Forum Virtual Portal. This virtual feature imitates a traditional in-person exhibition hall with different "booths" that participants can visit.

Organizations, groups, and coalitions were invited to purchase a Booth, where they could add information about their organization, upload photos, videos, and files, collect contact information from visitors, and host events. During the two weeks of the Forum, participants could visit each of the Exhibit Booths to meet with live representatives and learn about the organization.

Visit the virtual Exhibit Hall [here](#).



VIRTUAL ARTISAN FAIR

Each year at the NGO CSW Forum, we host an Artisan Fair where artisans from around the world can sell their goods. All approved artisans support NGOs with women-focused initiatives and all proceeds go directly to the artisan or their organization.

This year was the second year that we hosted the Artisan Fair virtually. This allowed vendors from all over the world to sell their goods at the Fair, rather than only those who could travel to New York.

We had 14 vendors at this year's Artisan Fair. See the artisans and visit their online shops [here](#).



INTERACTIVE DIGITAL HANDBOOK

Every year, we create a Handbook to provide Forum attendees a guide on everything going on during the two weeks. The Handbook includes exclusive statements by the Chair of CSW, UN Women's Executive Director, the NGO CSW/NY Chair, and other high-level VIPs. It also includes information about all of NGO CSW/NY's events and the full schedule of Parallel Events, as well as advertisements from our [Handbook Ad Sponsors](#).

Download the NGO CSW66 Forum Handbook [here](#).



WHAT PARTICIPANTS HAD TO SAY ABOUT THE NGO CSW66 FORUM:

A wonderful way to see how much work so many different women from all over the world are doing to increase the living and working situations of everyone.

I think the Methods of Work leaders were amazing and look forward to reading what was agreed on.

You do an incredible job of bringing the Forum together and making it successful for everyone on different levels.

NGO CSW66 is really a good program. We got an opportunity to learn much knowledge that we will further share with our communities. Thank you so much for this great opportunity to learn, and engage with others.

I involved my students in a parallel event this year and they all gained so much from it. Thanks for providing this place for us to all meet, share, and grow.

I was so impressed with the number of committed, passionate, and articulate young women who were featured as speakers and facilitators."

Many thanks for your collective & individual efforts. I tried to attend as much as I could. I always appreciate the inclusive efforts of NGO CSW.



CELEBRATE *50 years* of NGO CSW/NY

2022 is the 50th anniversary of NGO CSW/NY!

One of the greatest things to come out of our 50 years of work is our global community of diverse committed activists for human rights and gender equality. That's why we invite you to celebrate with us!

During this milestone year, we want to reflect on the past while also looking towards the future. We want to hear from our community about your favorite memories, as well as your hopes for the future.

Share your favorite memories of NGO CSW/NY and your vision for the future of gender equality here!

Help us continue our work for another 50 years by donating to us [here](#). We appreciate any support!



OUTCOMES OF THE FORUM

Reflecting on the NGO CSW66
Forum & next steps

WHAT DID THE FORUM DELIVER?

Advocacy with Member States

This year, our advocacy with Member States was a particularly strong point of ours. A big part of this was our Advocacy & Research Group who developed and disseminated their Zero Draft Recommendations earlier than usual in December. This allowed more of our recommendations to be included in the initial Zero Draft of the CSW66 Agreed Conclusions. Member States, especially those of the CSW Bureau, heard and considered our inputs, and gave us helpful advice for our advocacy efforts.

We formed more effective relationships with Member States than ever before. We engaged them in our virtual Vienna Cafe sessions, during the Civil Society Briefings, Consultation Day, and other events and processes during the Forum to allow our community access to Member State engagement as well.

Youth Engagement

While we've always recognized the importance of youth voices and activism within the gender equality and CSW spaces, the NGO CSW66 Forum saw more youth engagement than ever!

We ensured that there were youth involved in all of our events. Besides our Youth Preparation Series hosted by the YLYPs, we also had youth leaders in the Consultation Day program, participating in Vienna Cafe sessions and at least one youth facilitator for each Conversation Circle, to name a few examples.

Networking Spaces and Participant Connections

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, one of the most fulfilling aspects of the NGO CSW Forum was gathering at the UN and meeting new people, connecting with old friends and colleagues, and networking with other feminists from around the globe.

While it's impossible to perfectly emulate these informal, in-person interactions online, we are very proud of the virtual spaces we've been able to create for participants to network and connect during our virtual Forum. Our events on the Remo platform were particularly successful: the virtual Vienna Cafe sessions and the YLYP's Global Mentorship Networking Session where participants could sit around a virtual table and chat.

While virtual platforms such as Remo and the Forum Portal were instrumental in allowing for successful and safe networking spaces, the open, accepting, and inclusive environment we provide also helps foster participant connections. All of NGO CSW/NY's events allowed for participant interaction via the chat, breakout rooms, or open discussion (such as in our Conversation Circles). Based on participant feedback and our own experience, we found that the ability to fully interact in virtual spaces and events makes a huge difference in regard to participant networking and connections.

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

IMPROVING FUTURE FORUMS

Every year we learn more from our experience organizing the NGO CSW Forum and reflect upon how we can improve future Forums. After the Forum concludes, we debrief amongst ourselves and with our partners, as well as disseminate a feedback survey to allow participants to share their experiences

and input as well. Continue reading to learn about our reflections and ideas for the future.

Next year, the NGO CSW67 Forum will most likely be hybrid, a mix of virtual and in-person. Like the virtual environment when the pandemic first started, a hybrid format will be totally new territory for us. While there is still much to consider for a hybrid Forum, our main priority will be maintaining the accessibility to the Forum of those around the world who would not be able to travel to New York.

We also want to better engage our constituency in our advocacy efforts throughout the year. We hope to hold consultations with our community to hear about their lived experiences and recommendations regarding the priority theme. Additionally, we'd like to hold more advocacy trainings and make more advocacy resources available in the months leading up to CSW.

Lastly, we will continue to push for more inclusivity and accessibility for diverse Global South activists, grassroots organizations, the LGBTQ+ community and persons with disabilities. We hope to provide more consistent accessibility measures such as more translation, interpretation, and closed captioning.

ADVOCATING FOR THE **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CSW66 AGREED CONCLUSIONS**



The NGO CSW66 Forum may be over, but our work is not done!

After the conclusion of the Forum and CSW, we shifted our efforts to analyzing the CSW66 Agreed Conclusions and advocating for the implementation of the document. Our April, May, and June Monthly Meetings focused on this post-CSW work.

In April, we had a debrief of the CSW66 and consulted participants about their reflections and recommendations. In May, we did a deep dive into the document to analyze the gains made. In June, we will focus on next steps and actions toward implementation of the CSW66 Agreed Conclusions. We hope to foster collaboration between Member States and civil society coalitions to effectively accomplish these goals.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

NGO CSW/NY facilitates a platform for the voices and leadership of feminists and women's rights organizations globally who lobby for their inclusion in the UN deliberations in pursuit of gender equality.

We envision a world without sexism, sexual violence, or discrimination against women and girls, where economic, political, and social policies encourage their empowerment and wellbeing.
[Learn more about our work.](#)

Authored by Karina Bravo, Grace Derks, Kristy Lee and Devan Zingler
Edited by Devan Zingler

NGO CSW/NY thanks everyone who helped to make the NGO CSW66 Forum and this report possible, namely the Executive Committee, Global Planning Committee, and interns.

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