



Concept Note

Investing in Care for Equality and Prosperity

Side event of Mexico at the 70th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (70CSW)
Thursday, March 12, 14:30-16:00

Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations

Context

Care work—both direct and indirect, paid and unpaid—is an essential pillar for the functioning of societies and the sustainability of economies. However, its unequal distribution, lack of legal recognition, and insufficient public investment have generated structural gaps that disproportionately impact women, particularly with regard to their economic and political autonomy and their effective access to justice.

Women have high care responsibilities, which limits their time, resources, and mobility to learn about, exercise, and assert their rights. It is therefore necessary to promote the reduction, redistribution, and recognition of care work carried out by women as a key element for equality and an essential component of sustainable development.

The year 2025 marked a global turning point: the Inter-American Court of Human Rights issued an Advisory Opinion on care, establishing it as a human right; the XVI Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean adopted the Tlatelolco Commitment; and the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD IV) was held, and its outcome document, the Seville Commitment, calls to: “11. [...] Increase investment in the care economy and recognize, value, and equitably redistribute the disproportionate responsibility of unpaid domestic and care work carried out by women.”

Within the framework of FfD IV, Mexico, Colombia, Brazil, UN Women, the Global Alliance for Care, and the International Labour Organization, together with approximately 22 government, international organizations and civil society actors, presented the Initiative “Investing in Care for Equality and Prosperity” before the Seville Platform for Action.

This multilateral and multiregional initiative contributes to strengthening and expanding the work of the Global Alliance for Care, focusing on promoting collaboration and collective action to promote financing and investments in care for equality and prosperity.





General Objective

To present the Initiative "Investing in Care for Equality and Prosperity" and contribute to a strategic, action-oriented dialogue on how development financing can be mobilized to strengthen sustainable, inclusive, and rights-based care systems, recognizing care as key social infrastructure for gender equality and sustainable development.

Specific objectives

- Disseminate the main elements of the Initiative "Investing in Care for Equality and Prosperity" before a multi-stakeholder forum.
• Position investment in care as a key component of gender- and human rights-responsive financing for development.
• Share national and international good practices and experiences in care financing.
• Strengthen strategic partnerships among governments, international organizations, and key stakeholders for the implementation of the Initiative.

Speakers

- Patricia Carranza, Ministry of Women of Mexico.
• Jennifer Feller, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico.
• Ministry of Women of Brazil.
• Ministry of Women of Colombia.
• Sidsel Bleken, Norway.
• Australia.
• UN Women.
• Nasheli Noriega, OXFAM.
• Epsy Cambell, GWL Voices.
• Global Alliance for Care.
• Members of the Initiative.

Proposed Agenda (1 hour 30 minutes)

Table with 3 columns: Hour, Minutes, Activity. It lists registration (14:10-14:30) and welcome remarks (14:30-14:32). A section titled 'Panel 1: Care as an Enabler of Equality and Prosperity' follows.





14:32-14:37 hours	5 minutes	Mexican intervention.
14:37-14:42 hours	5 minutes	Brazilian intervention.
14:42-14:47 hours	5 minutes	Colombian intervention.
14:47-14:52 hours	5 minutes	Australian intervention.
14:52-14:57 hours	5 minutes	Norway's intervention.
14:57-15:00 hours	5 minutes	UN Women intervention.
15:00-15:05 hours	5 minutes	Oxfam México intervention.
Panel 2: Investing in care: financing, partnerships and commitments from the Seville Platform for Action		
15:05-15:10 hours	3 minutes	Presentation of the video of the Initiative "Investing in Care for Equality and Prosperity."
15:10-15:15 hours	5 minutes	International Labour Organization intervention.
15:15-15:20 hours	5 minutes	Global Alliance for Care intervention.
15:20-15:25 horas	5 minutes	ECLAC intervention.
15:25-15:30 horas	5 minutes	GWL Voices intervention.
15:30-15:50 horas	20 minutes	Interactive dialogue with the audience.





15:50-16:00
horas

10 minutes

Closing remarks and conclusions.

Guiding Questions

1. What is the importance of investing in care for equality and prosperity?
2. What are good practices towards the adequate financing of care policies and systems?
3. Why is it important to recognize investments in care systems as essential infrastructure for development rather than merely social expenditure?
4. What are the main components of the Initiative “Investing in Care for Equality and Prosperity,” and how can synergies be strengthened to enhance its impact during implementation?
5. How can public financing—including gender- and care-responsive budgeting—help consolidate care as essential social infrastructure rather than solely social spending?
6. What role can international cooperation play in scaling up national care systems?
7. How can South-South, triangular, and regional cooperation support the transfer of technical capacities to design, cost, and sustainably implement care policies?
8. What innovative financing instruments can help scale up investment in care without compromising its nature as a public good?

