

# Care and Climate

## How Care Systems Shape Access to Justice in a Just Transition



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16:45–18:00 (New York)

Room CR-8, UN Headquarters,  
New York

### [Register here](#)

**Organizers:** United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD), International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Fundación Avina, Climate and Care Initiative. WEDO, with the support of the Global Alliance for Care

**Co-Sponsors:** Governments of Mexico, the Philippines, Finland, and Canada

### Background & Rationale

Climate change is not gender-neutral. It intensifies unpaid care burdens, disrupts livelihoods, and deepens inequalities—especially for women and marginalized communities in the Global South. At the same time, care systems are vital social infrastructure for climate resilience; they enable recovery, sustain life, and support adaptation. Yet, care remains largely invisible in climate policy and financing frameworks.

This invisibility has profound justice implications. When care systems collapse under climate stress, those most affected face barriers to exercising rights, accessing remedies, and participating in decision-making. Recognizing care as climate infrastructure and care workers as central to a just transition is essential for advancing gender equality and building inclusive, resilient societies.

This event will spotlight the care–climate justice nexus, drawing on evidence from the [Climate and Care Initiative](#), showcasing innovative approaches, and amplifying Global South voices. It will explore strategies for a global just transition that ensure women and marginalized people’s access to justice in the transition away from fossil fuels. It will also present cutting-edge research on mobilizing climate finance for care, positioning care as central to climate adaptation and labor agendas, and leading up to COP31 and CSW72.

## Objectives

- Elevate care as climate infrastructure and a strategic pillar for resilience and justice.
- Highlight the relevance of just transition policies for gender and climate justice.
- Contribute to global policy debates by advancing evidence-based recommendations on how to embed care systems into climate and just transition frameworks, including climate finance and adaptation policies.
- Foster dialogue among governments, researchers, feminist movements, and donors on care-centered climate strategies.
- Showcase evidence and innovations from grassroots organizations as part of the Climate and Care Fund on integrating care into climate and justice frameworks.

## Agenda

### Opening Remarks

*Framing care as climate infrastructure and a justice imperative.*

- María Noel Estrada (Noni), UNRISD
- Carolina Robino, IDRC

### Panel Discussion Care and Climate Justice: Evidence, Policy, and Action

*Government Representatives*

- Mexico Representative
- H.E. Ermelita V. Valdeavilla, Philippine Commission on Women

*Civil Society*

- Sitabile Dewa, the Women's Academy For Leadership and Political Excellence (WALPE Africa)

*Civil Society - Climate and Care Initiative Fund grantees*

- Xiomara Acevedo - Barranquilla + 20 (Colombia)
- Malkia John - Executive Director, Sauti Salama (Kenya)

### Photo Showcase "What climate and care mean to us"

*Climate and Care Initiative Fund lived experiences visual projection*

- Agnieszka Raczynska, Fundación AVINA

### Closing Reflections

*Key takeaways*

- Mara Dolan, WEDO

### Moderation

- Ana Moreno, Global Alliance for Care

## [More information](#)