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HLPF - SIDE EVENT CONCEPT NOTE

FEMINIST PERSPECTIVES ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT AFTER FFD4: THE ROAD AHEAD

Date and Time: 22nd July 1.15pm-2.30pm

Venue: UNHQ, CR5

Organizers: Spain

Co-sponsors: Canada, Germany, Mexico, Uruguay, UN Women, ITUC and UCLG

Participants: World Bank, Walking the Talk, GWL Voices

BACKGROUND

The Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FFD4), hosted by Spain, has provided a real chance to break the gridlock on development finance for accelerating the implementation of the SDGs. The Sevilla Conference has also been a milestone in the effort to ensure a stronger gender perspective on the financing for development agenda. The world cannot afford a financing for development agenda that is gender-blind and fails to address the persistent barriers for equal access to economic opportunities, decent jobs, public services, and human rights for women and girls.

Therefore, ensuring a feminist approach to sustainable development and international cooperation is not optional, but imperative. To that end, following the dual approach, we need concrete, ambitious initiatives to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, while gender equality must be integrated across all policies and instruments. These include, among others, women's political participation and economic leadership, access to finance and land rights, sexual and reproductive rights, gender-sensitive budgeting, sex-disaggregated data, and the promotion of care economies.

Working towards a gender-transformative financing for development agenda and a feminist international cooperation requires renewed commitments and decisive action in several key areas:



- **Reforming the international financial architecture.** At FfD4 some countries have called for a commitment to achieving gender parity in decision-making spaces within Multilateral Development Banks and IFIs by 2030. It is urgent to advance gender parity in the governing boards of MDBs and international financial institutions, as well as in all financial and public policy decision-making processes. A financing for development agenda that ignores gender equality issues and does not guarantee the meaningful participation of women is no longer viable.
- **Financing the Care Economy.** The time has come to place gender equality at the heart of financing for development and to build economies that prioritize care. Building on the momentum of FfD4, the upcoming World Social Summit in Qatar presents a key opportunity to put the care economies and policies at the center of sustainable development. To this end, we must commit to invest in care infrastructure, which includes comprehensive, sustainable, and universal care systems and high-quality public services that are transformative in terms of gender equality and social protection. These systems must aim to transform the division of labor based on gender and race, ethnicity or nationality; to recognize, reduce, redistribute, reward, and represent care work; and to achieve the equal sharing of care and domestic responsibilities between women and men, facilitating also the transition from informal to formal work.
- **Promoting gender-transformative fiscal policies.** It is crucial to implement gender-responsive budgeting and taxation through standards to incorporate gender considerations during policy design and implementation, along with capacity development. We advocate for fiscal policies that promote access to essential services such as health, education, and social protection, addressing gender disparities, and ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive rights and healthcare services.

OBJECTIVES

- Exchange knowledge and experience
- Share best practices from countries and other actors' perspectives
- Discuss solutions and actions to advance a transformative financing agenda shaped by gender equality.
- Identify concrete steps to take the Compromiso de Sevilla forward
- Commit to strengthened support to feminist international cooperation and transformative financing for sustainable development.



AGENDA

13.15-13.25	<p>Opening Remarks</p> <p>Master of Ceremonies: Ana Jiménez de la Hoz, Deputy Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Spain: Ms. Eva Granados Galiano, Secretary of State for International Cooperation▪ UN: Ms Blanca Montejo, Deputy Chef de Cabinet of the Office of the 79th President of the UN General Assembly
13.25-13.50	<p><u>SESSION 1. Financing equality for women and girls and care economies globally and locally</u></p> <p><u>Moderated by:</u> Ms. Miriam Ciscar, Deputy Director for Feminist Cooperation, Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. World Bank: Ms. Hana Brix, Global Director for Gender at the WB. <i>The WBG Gender Strategy after FfD4 and the road to internal parity.</i>2. Uruguay: Mr. Martín Alvez, Deputy Director General for International Cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uruguay. <i>Steps to implement the provisions of the Compromiso de Sevilla regarding the promotion of care economies.</i>3. UCLG: Ms. Aissata Camara, Commissioner of NYC's Office for International Affairs. <i>Importance of the localization of development financing and local leadership to advance gender equality.</i>4. Canada: Ms. Kimberly-Lin Joslin, Director of International Assistance Policy. <i>Financing feminist organisations to accelerate grass-root transformations.</i> <p>Moderator opens the floor for brief Q&A</p>
13.55-14.20	<p><u>SESSION 2: Gender-transformative fiscal policies and systemic reforms from a feminist perspective</u></p> <p><u>Moderated by:</u> Ms Bruna Martínez, Program Manager en Hivos/Walking the Talk</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">5. GWL Voices: Ms. Jan Beagle, Director-General IDLO. <i>Women at the center of global financial reform.</i>6. ITUC: Ms. Giulia Massobrio, Coordinator, Trade Union Development Cooperation Network (TUDCN) Equality Department. <i>Social dialogue for renewed feminist social contracts: fiscal policies to ensure social protection and decent jobs as a tool to eradicate inequalities.</i>



	<p>7. Germany: Ms. Bärbel Kofler, Parliamentary State Secretary. <i>How can feminist fiscal policies serve as tools to advance economic justice and reduce gender inequalities</i></p> <p>Moderator opens the floor for brief Q&A</p>
14.25-14-30	<p>Concluding Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ UN: Sima Bahous, Executive Director, UN Women

