

# GWL Voices' Statement for the Bonn Climate Change Conference of June 2026

64th session of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies (SB)

## Key for Context

2026 marks 10 years after the Paris Agreement came into force. A decade later, the science, the technology, and urgency are all here - the era of climate **implementation** has arrived. Gender-responsive climate action is a crucial first step.

SB64 will build on the outcomes of previous climate negotiations and pave the way for COP31 in Antalya, Türkiye. Last year at COP30, negotiations led to the adoption of the landmark **Belém Gender Action Plan (GAP)**. This comprehensive nine-year framework guides dedicated gender-responsive climate action, finance, and policy. At SB64 held in Bonn, GWL Voices will be active to **ensure that the Belém GAP is translated from words into action**. This includes participating actively and constructively in three mandated events:



An expert dialogue on gender- and age-disaggregated data (D.5.2);



A workshop on the role of national gender and climate change focal points (A.2.1);



An interactive dialogue on gender-responsive climate finance (D.4.3).

**GWL Voices calls on all Parties and stakeholders to engage with the Belém GAP in its first year of implementation. The operationalization of the GAP at all levels, from the multilateral to the global, is key to a gender-equal multilateral climate system.**

## GWL Voices' asks:

More specifically, GWL Voices calls for the following:



- 01 Strengthen women's leadership and participation within the UNFCCC process and beyond.** Women remain critically underrepresented in climate decision-making at all levels, from local to multilateral. GWL Voices is a key actor in advocating for women's participation in climate spaces, and in laying the evidence base for women's full and equal representation in climate governance. For example, the upcoming GWL Voices' Spotlight Report on Women in Climate and Environmental Governance to be launched at London Climate Action Week 2026 shows that **only one-fourth of all COP Presidencies have been held by women**. We urge Parties to guarantee the meaningful and effective participation of women and underrepresented groups in climate decision-making, in line with Priority area B of the Belém GAP.

# GWL Voices' Statement for the Bonn Climate Change Conference of June 2026

64th session of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies (SB)

- 02 Mobilize gender-responsive climate finance.** Climate finance is one of the key Means of Implementation, without which ambition stops short of being transformed into results. Gender-responsive climate finance must be accessible, non-debt-creating, and cover the needs of the most at-risk, especially for adaptation and loss and damage.
- **GWL Voices encourages all climate funds** and relevant stakeholders to contribute to a substantive and comprehensive first annual gender-responsive climate finance dialogue at SB64.
  - **GWL Voices encourages all Parties to prepare their National submissions**, due on June 30th, to share "experience in implementing gender-responsive financial instruments and methodologies, and available capacity-building".
- 03 Strengthen the evidence base and political will to address intersectional issues.** The Belém GAP calls for submissions by March 2027 on national assessments of health, violence against women and girls, and care work in the context of gender and climate change. It is important that Parties and stakeholders working on the health impacts of climate change, care work - for example, within the Just Transition workstream; and gender-based violence, lay the bases at SB64, share best practices, and create momentum at SB64 for these submissions next year.
- 04 Operationalization of the Just Transition Mechanism that secures the rights of women and girls.** Any energy transition pathway that does not take into account the disproportionate burden of care work on women and girls, and other gendered imbalances in the workforce, in access to and use of energy, and differentiated opportunities in a low-carbon economy and society, will perpetuate the same inequalities of today.
- 05 GWL Voices calls for the COP31 Presidency to include a comprehensive, mainstreamed, gender-responsive perspective in the COP31 Action Agenda**, to be formally announced at SB64, in line with stakeholder submissions. The COP 31 Action Agenda's 10 themes are not gender-neutral and must not be engaged with as such.
- **Waste**
  - **Oceans and seas**
  - **Food Security**
  - **Climate Resilient Cities**
  - **Finance and Institutional Change**
  - **Youth and Education**
  - **Green Industrialization**
  - **Energy Transition**
  - **Synergies between the Rio Conventions**
  - **Health Systems**

## What are the SBs?

Climate COPs are not the only time and place where climate negotiations happen. The meeting of the Subsidiary Bodies (SBs) in June of every year in Bonn, are an integral part of the climate multilateral process.

The "SBs" stands for "Subsidiary Bodies", namely the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) and the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA). These bodies support the work of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

The meeting of the SBs in June lays much of the groundwork for the COP later in the year. Advancing discussions and technical work on key issues in June can facilitate negotiations in November.

The Bonn climate meetings are attended by governments and observers, including civil society, advocates, and academia.

