

Feminist Forum for and Beyond the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4)

***A gender-transformative economic system based on rights, justice, care, and equality for all is
urgent***

I. Chapeau

We, the feminists representing civil society organisations, networks, movements, and collectives, from all regions of the world at the Feminist Forum ahead of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (Seville, July 2025), are united in our vision for effective, ambitious, and systemic transformation.

We reaffirm our commitment to the Monterrey Consensus, the Doha Declaration, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the International Conference on Population and Development and its Programme of Action, the Paris Agreement, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Pact for the Future, and all of the other global and regional commitments and frameworks that place gender equality, human rights, democracy, fundamental freedoms, environmental justice, and sustainable development at the core of multilateralism.

We acknowledge and commend the document's articulate affirmations regarding the indispensable imperative of achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, its crucial recognition of the economic value inherent in unpaid care work, and the reference to eradicate gender-based violence.

Nevertheless, we harbour a significant concern that the agreed commitment does not sufficiently steer the financing architecture towards the realization of a genuinely gender-just economy in which financing development will result in equitable outcomes or a fair distribution of resources capable of promoting social, economic, and environmental justice and strengthening democracy and multilateralism.

We will thus continue to monitor the 'Compromiso de Sevilla', demanding a rights-based, environmentally just, decolonial, intersectional, sustainable, and people-centred economic model that centres care, reparations, redistribution, and accountability. We call for an urgent end to escalating wars, territorial invasions, and genocides. Nothing less than peace and a gender-transformative shift in economic governance is capable of reversing the multiple and intersecting crises we face. Nothing less will be acceptable.

In this decisive moment of intersecting global crises, feminist solutions are urgent and feminists raise our Red Flag to denounce the challenges before us, as the failing economic order continues to deepen inequalities and profit from wars. We refuse to accept this trajectory as inevitable. We call for courageous, inclusive, and transformative feminist multilateralism and diplomacy with a strengthened United Nations at its core, including, a Security Council that respects the UN Charter and responds to the realities and demands of the Global South and of those most left behind.

The time to act is now, and we, the feminists, are leading this essential transformation.

II. International Financial Architecture Reform and Systemic Issues

Restructure global economic governance to center feminist leadership, Global South parity, and the meaningful leadership of civil society and marginalized communities. This includes **democratising decision-making** across all international financial institutions (IFIs) and multilateral

development banks (MDBs), including through the urgent reform of the voting systems of the IMF and the World Bank.

Call on IFIs and MDBs to embed human rights, gender equality, and environmental justice into their mandates, policies, and funding mechanisms. This must include a full rejection of gender-blind austerity measures that disproportionately harm women, girls, in all their diversity and marginalized groups.

Adopt feminist frameworks governing capital flows and financial crisis response that protect public services, care economies, and women's and girls' livelihoods. Macroeconomic stability must be gender-responsive, equitable, and centered on social and climate justice.

Call for periodic emissions of Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) decoupled from IMF quotas, for the benefit of the countries that need them most, including upper-middle-income countries equitably. Reallocate SDRs to low-income countries without conditions, enabling fiscal space for social investments and crisis recovery rooted in justice, not debt dependency.

Redefine the concept of financial risk and creditworthiness using feminist and Global South-led methodologies that prioritize human rights, gender equality, sustainable development and climate resilience, not market orthodoxy or colonial economic metrics.

III. Debt and Austerity

We call for a UN Framework Convention on Sovereign Debt—a binding, transparent, and rights-based legal framework for debt resolution and prevention, including, inter alia, a permanent multilateral debt resolution mechanism to ensure democratic, fair, equitable and accountable processes for debt crisis prevention and resolution. This framework must not be creditor-dominated and should center gender equality, ecological sustainability, and human rights. It must uphold the sovereignty of debtor countries and prioritize the sustainability of life over financial market interests.

Cancel and restructure sovereign debt in ways that deliver reparative, reproductive and climate justice, particularly for vulnerable Low-Income, Middle-Income, and Least Developed Countries. No country should be forced to choose between repaying debt and fulfilling its human rights, including sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), health, education or climate commitments. These processes must acknowledge and repair the Global North's historical responsibility for exploitative lending practices. Future financing must align with development effectiveness principles and advance solidarity.

Revise Debt Sustainability Analyses (DSAs) to go beyond narrow fiscal indicators and incorporate human rights, social protection, gender equality, and climate vulnerability. DSAs must assess states' ability to meet obligations to essential public services, protect against gender-based violence, and uphold economic, environmental and social rights. Regional human rights courts and **UN treaty bodies must be empowered to formally review the human rights impacts of debt and austerity,** using intersectional metrics and feminist frameworks.

Ensure universal protection and eliminate austerity-driven responses to debt distress that dismantle public services, entrench poverty, and disproportionately harm women and marginalized communities. Debt responses must prioritize equitable redistribution, structural economic transformation, and feminist alternatives that uphold care, justice, and sustainability.

Regulate exploitative lending practices by mandating transparency in debt contracts, pricing models, and risk assessments. Abolish unjustified risk premiums and require lenders to align

financing with long-term social investment priorities. Public resources must be used to support public goods, not to service illegitimate or unsustainable debt burdens.

IV. Reorienting Development Finance: From Private to Public and People-Centered

Reorient development finance from private, profit-driven models, such as Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) and blended finance, toward strong, direct public investment that supports inclusive, equitable development and peace. Reject non-transparent financing mechanisms that undermine sustainable development, violate rights, and deepen inequalities. Exclude essential public services, especially social care, health and education, from private finance models to ensure universal access.

Enforce corporate accountability through mandatory legal frameworks that uphold human rights, labor protections, and gender equality, including the prevention of gender-based violence. Eliminate Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) mechanisms that privilege corporate interests over public welfare. Redefine risk in development finance through a social and gender justice lens, ensuring all investments are subject to gender and racial impact assessments that prioritize equity and collective wellbeing.

Institutionalize gender-responsive budgeting and public financial management that promotes equitable ownership, fair compensation, and inclusive leadership. Ensure public financial institutions only partner with entities that uphold labor rights and human rights, with a commitment to closing gender gaps and promoting feminist economic justice. Require companies receiving public funds, including through PPPs to undergo **mandatory gender and environmental audits**, assessing gender balance, safety standards, reproductive rights, and pay equity.

Regulate opaque financial actors by mandating disclosure of beneficial ownership and strict oversight of cross-border capital flows. Development banks must be held accountable for ensuring their investments are gender-responsive, rights-based, and environmentally sustainable. End harmful corporate tax practices and illicit financial flows that undermine public revenue. Advance tax justice by harmonizing tax rules and redirecting lost resources toward gender-responsive public services and social protection.

Support the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) as a democratic and feminist alternative to extractive models of growth. Recognize and invest in SSE actors, including cooperatives, community-owned enterprises, and informal women's collectives, that center care, equity, and sustainability in their operations and outcomes.

Build a transparent, inclusive, and accountable financing architecture rooted in human rights, environmental justice, and gender-equitable development. Revise Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs) to ensure alignment with social and gender justice goals, embedding strong public oversight and accountability mechanisms in all financing instruments. Prioritize public value and uphold states' responsibility to safeguard public interests, particularly for women and marginalized communities.

Commit to improved public investment in health and develop universal social protection systems, guaranteeing universal access to social care, health and health strategies, provide a comprehensive range of sexual and reproductive health services in the Essential Services Package further addressing the inequalities in utilisation of health services, especially by marginalised and vulnerable groups, recognizing that we are far from achieving universal health coverage (UHC).

V. Domestic Resource Mobilisation and Tax

Establish a UN-led Global Tax Body and adopt a binding UN Tax Convention to democratize international tax governance, through embed feminist, redistributive, and reparative principles into global tax rules to uphold gender, climate, and human rights safeguards while ending corporate tax abuse. These mechanisms must guarantee transparency, inclusivity, and fair representation for the Global South, civil society, women in all their diversity, particularly afrodescendants, migrants, and Indigenous peoples.

Reclaim taxation as a public good and instrument of domestic resource mobilization (DRM). Taxation must be rooted in human rights, designed for redistribution, democratic accountability, and sustainable development. States must ensure inclusive and transparent oversight, making progressive tax policy central to fulfilling the 2030 Agenda.

Implement progressive, gender-responsive tax systems that close wealth and gender gaps, redistribute resources, and fund universal public services. This includes taxing the wealthy and ultra-wealthy, capital gains, inheritance, property, financial transactions, and major polluters, while reducing regressive taxes like VAT that disproportionately burden women and low-income communities. End harmful tax incentives for corporations that produce social, including health, and environmental harm, and channel revenues into care systems, healthcare, education, gender and race equality, WASH (including menstrual health), and climate resilience.

End the global crisis of tax abuse by wealthy elites and multinational corporations. Address and close base erosion, profit shifting, tax evasion, and illicit financial flows that undermine public budgets, particularly in the Global South. Fully implement the Mbeki Panel recommendations and establish robust, public mechanisms to monitor, penalize, and prevent tax abuse. Enforce substance-based tax rules to prevent profit shifting, and ensure global tax standards prioritize equity, public interest, and development justice.

Require mandatory gender impact assessments for all tax and public spending policies. Governments must collect and publish gender-disaggregated fiscal data and assess how tax and budget measures affect women, girls, and gender-diverse people, especially regarding access to services, unpaid care work, and labor participation. **Institutionalize gender-responsive budgeting** to ensure equitable public spending that directly reduces care burdens and enhances social equity.

Tax polluters to address climate and ecological harm while supporting a just transition. Apply equitable taxes to industries with a legacy of environmental damage, ensuring revenue supports climate adaptation, just transition programs, and social protections for affected communities, including but not limited to women, Indigenous peoples, migrants, and frontline workers. Avoid regressive carbon pricing; instead, hold historical and corporate polluters financially accountable.

Support women-led micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) through targeted credit, affirmative procurement policies, and accessible public support systems. Recognize their role in advancing gender equality and building economies that value life-sustaining labor over profit-maximization.

VI. Trade

Reform trade rules to ensure they support gender equality, decent work, food sovereignty, and the development of local industries. Trade agreements must incorporate binding gender equality standards through mandatory gender impact assessments, protect women's labor and rights,

including sexual and reproductive health and rights, and guarantee equitable access to resources and productive assets.

Democratize global trade governance by ensuring meaningful participation of Global South countries and grassroots feminist movements. Establish institutionalized mechanisms for civil society engagement in trade policymaking. Support women-led cooperatives, informal sector, and small producers, particularly in the Global South, through public financing and promotion of equitable and fair South-South trade relations.

Address gender-based violence in cross-border trade by adopting protective protocols and ensuring the safety and dignity of all women traders. Enforce all ILO labor standards across global supply chains and require gender-disaggregated monitoring of corporate practices. Exclude essential public services, such as healthcare, education, and water, from all private trade and investment agreements, ensuring they remain universally accessible, publicly funded, and shielded from privatization.

Revise global intellectual property (IP) rules, including the TRIPS agreement, to ensure equitable access to public goods such as medicine, vaccines, health developments and technology. The HIV/AIDS and COVID-19 crises exposed the need for IP urgent reform. Advance the completion of the Doha Development Agenda, centering food sovereignty, public health, and women's access to resources.

Transform digital trade through inclusive governance structures that guarantee data sovereignty, equitable access to technology, and digital inclusion for women, girls, and marginalized groups and populations. Mobilize feminist financing for a just trade transition, shifting resources away from militarization toward public services and sustainable, gender-just economic alternatives.

VII. Care Economy, Militarism, and Climate

Center care work as a foundational pillar of economic and development policy, recognizing its vital contribution to the global economy. Unpaid and underpaid care labor, disproportionately carried out by women and girls, particularly in marginalized communities and populations, must be fully integrated into macroeconomic planning. Guarantee publicly funded, universally accessible care services and robust social protection systems, with decent wages, rights, and protections for all care workers, regardless of migration or employment status.

Quantify unpaid and informal care labor using gender-disaggregated data and inclusive, feminist metrics. Develop alternative progress indicators that move beyond GDP to reflect well-being, wealth redistribution, care systems, and social cohesion. These indicators must be rooted in human rights, ecological sustainability, and gender and race justice, and created through participatory and transparent processes.

Address the climate crisis through structural economic transformation rooted in climate justice and reparations. Acknowledge and respond to the Global North's ecological and climate debts by ensuring climate finance is public, rights-based, and accountable for its social, gender, and environmental impacts. Integrate gender equality, reproductive justice, and universal access to SRHR into all climate financing, reaching frontline communities, particularly women, Indigenous peoples, care workers, and LGBTQI+ individuals.

Divest from militarism and redefine global security through a feminist lens that prioritizes care, cooperation, and peace over extraction and violence. Reject the militarization of aid and the diversion

of development cooperation toward security objectives that perpetuate inequality and harm. Redirect military spending toward financing public services, social infrastructure, and environmental resilience. Prioritize equitable, non-conditional financing for global public goods such as vaccines, climate protection and adaptation, and debt-free recovery. Deliver rapid, grant-based funding to feminist, women and girl-led organizations and care infrastructure as a core component of a feminist global crisis response.

VIII. International Development Cooperation

We call on the UN and its Member States to commit to and support a UN-wide Feminist Funding Framework for Women's Organizations, Girl-led organisations, and Civil Society. This Framework should: set ambitious targets for funding to women's organizations - especially grassroots groups and those combatting intersecting forms of discrimination; harmonize and simplify funding processes across UN agencies and among donor governments, to reduce administrative burdens upon and increase accessibility of funding to women's organizations, especially smaller groups; provide core, flexible and longer-term funding to support women-led solutions; reframe, redistribute and share risk through collective funding models; and employ a reparative lens to funding that seeks to shift power through trust-based partnerships.

Call for transformative, feminist, decolonized, just, and public development cooperation that is grant-based and unconditional. Cooperation must aim to dismantle structural inequalities rooted in patriarchy, colonialism, and capitalism.

Protect Official Development Assistance (ODA) as fully public and country-owned, ensuring its full fulfilment by all donor countries, that it is guided by human rights, gender and racial justice, and environmental sustainability, and subject to binding feminist impact assessments.

Shift power in development cooperation toward Global South ownership and feminist leadership. Invest in locally driven, feminist economic alternatives that are co-designed and co-governed with feminist, Indigenous, and community-led civil society. Ensure transparency and participatory resource allocation to promote democratic accountability and equitable outcomes.

Safeguard the policy space of developing countries and prohibit the diversion of ODA to serve corporate or geopolitical interests.

Eliminate all economic policy conditionalities attached to aid that promote austerity, privatization, or deregulation, recognizing their disproportionate harm to women and marginalized communities. Support the expansion of fiscal space and finance universal social protection, resilient care systems, and gender-just climate adaptation, without imposing external policy blueprints.

Establish a binding international framework for development cooperation under United Nations leadership that guarantees coherence, transparency, and alignment with human rights standards. The framework should provide normative support for the above demands and indicate mechanisms for their operationalisation.

IX. Science, Technology and Innovation (STI)

Invest in dismantling systemic barriers to the participation of women, girls, and gender-diverse people in **Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM)** fields by eliminating the gender-digital divide and ensuring access to quality education, inclusive training programs, hiring incentives, and gender-responsive budgeting, particularly targeting marginalized and underrepresented communities. Formal mechanisms must be established to ensure the meaningful

inclusion of feminist, Indigenous, and Global South civil society in the governance of STI financing, ensuring transparency, accountability, and community-driven innovation.

Honor international obligations by facilitating equitable, rights-based technology transfer to the Global South. This transfer must support local innovation systems, protect Indigenous knowledge and feminist methodologies, and be free from exploitative conditionalities.

Public financing must prioritize Research and Development of gender-transformative technological solutions that advance women's and girls' rights and climate resilience, such as FemTech, ethical artificial intelligence, digital empowerment tools, and climate technologies, ensuring that these are accessible to women-led micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

Ensure all global digital governance frameworks and science and technology policies are rooted in human rights, equity, and gender justice. This includes regulating digital technologies to prevent algorithmic discrimination and surveillance, and promoting open access, data sovereignty, and community ownership over digital resources, in line with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and the Global Digital Compact. Equitable public financing must ensure that developing countries and communities historically excluded from technological progress can access the infrastructure, open knowledge, and innovation institutions necessary to build resilient, gender-just STI ecosystems.

X. Data, Monitoring, and Follow-up

Mandate transparent disaggregated data across all financing flows, and investment in statistical systems to track equity, drive feminist policymaking, and ensure accountability, while regularly publishing accessible, transparent reports detailing the gendered impacts of policies, revealing who benefits/ pays, to ensure justice.

Institutionalize Gender Impact Assessments (GIAs) into all financing and innovation frameworks, to prevent gendered harms, and center marginalized communities' realities and establish and finance feminist, community-driven monitoring of development financing, using tools like equity scorecards for national, regional, and global accountability and enforce Transparent Reporting on Gendered Economic Impacts.

Define measurable targets and indicators to follow up the implementation of the commitments made at Sevilla Compromiso at the IV Conference to Financing Development as well as in other relevant financing for development processes.

Fund and resource genuine multi-stakeholder feminist platforms and partnerships with women's civil society especially from the Global South, to monitor all FFD review mechanisms. Civil society leadership is vital for rights-based, transparent, and transformative financing.

We urge all Member States to formally commit to and adopt each of the aforementioned calls to action in this Declaration. On the road to the Fifth International Conference on Financing for Development we must push forward progress to dismantle structural inequalities, eradicate poverty, and accelerate the implementation of financing for development and gender equality frameworks in order to attain just and equal societies, and deliver on the promise of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals.