

Localizing Beijing+30: The Municipal Movement leads the way to equality and democracy

LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS DAY

69th Commission on the Status of Women

13–14 March 2025

Millennium Hilton New York One Un Plaza

Day 1: Feminist Leadership and Intergenerational Commitments for the Localization of Beijing+30

13 March 2025, 12:30 – 17:30

Welcome & Networking Informal Lunch

Time: 12:30 – 13:30

Localizing Equality: Women's Leadership and Multilevel Governance for Beijing+30 and the 2030 Agenda

With the support of the Governments of Sweden and Mauritania

Time: 13:30 – 16:00

This high-level dialogue will bring together representatives from local and regional governments, member states, and the United Nations to reaffirm the centrality of local action in achieving gender equality. The session will explore how feminist leadership and multilevel governance can sustain the momentum of Beijing+30 and embed gender equality within the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the UN Pact for the Future.

Since the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in 1995, cities and local governments have increasingly embraced equality and care policies, though significant gaps remain. Gender equality is both a goal and a foundation for achieving the broader 2030 Agenda. Eradicating poverty and inequality requires a gender-responsive approach, while sustainable development hinges on ending violence and discrimination that limit access to education, health, livelihoods, and public services. The dialogue will include an open discussion around the key highlights of the Report of the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments on Localizing SDG 5, to be presented at the 2025 HLPF.

Bridging Generations: Feminist Municipalism for Present and Future Leaders

In collaboration with the UN Youth Office, UN Women, the Beijing+30 Youth Steering Committee, and the GEF Action Coalition on Feminist Movements and Leadership

Time: 16:00 – 17:30

Intergenerational dialogue is indispensable to sustain feminist movements and secure lasting change. This session will explore how different generations of leaders are addressing systemic inequalities, reshaping governance and democracy, and advancing local feminist policies. Discussions will focus on the intersection of intergenerational solidarity, youth empowerment, and the role of local governments in breaking patriarchal power structures. Key priorities include mentorship for young women leaders, fostering intersectional representation, and leveraging youth-led innovations to challenge existing norms in leadership and democracy. Participants will reflect on how to ensure that diverse women's leadership is no longer the exception but the norm across generations and continents, as a lever for equality for both present and future generations.

Day 2: Catalyzing Feminist Alliances for Equality: Towards Beijing+30 and the World Social Summit

14 March 2025, 10:00 – 13:00

Men as Allies in Feminist Municipalism: Positive Masculinities and Local Leadership for Gender Equality

With the support of the Government of Spain

Time: 10:00 – 11:30

Advancing gender equality requires collective action and a fundamental shift in leadership models at all levels of governance. This session will explore how male leaders in local and regional governments can actively contribute to feminist municipalism, not only by championing gender-responsive policies but also by challenging patriarchal structures and fostering institutional cultures that promote positive masculinities and contribute to creating more democratic, participatory, and care-centered governance models. By positioning local male leaders as allies in feminist municipalism, this session will highlight concrete actions that can drive systemic change and promote a leadership model rooted in equity, solidarity, and care.

Sustaining Political Will and Expanding Alliances: Local Partnerships Driving Equality towards FFD and the World Social Summit

Based on the CSW69 Statement of the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments

Time: 11:30 – 13:00

This session will focus on collaborations across sectors and constituencies to resource and empower local feminist leadership, defining joint strategies to place equality at the core of preparations for the Fourth Financing for Development Conference and the World Social Summit. Participants will explore how strengthened partnerships with international organizations, national governments, civil society and grassroots organizations, as well as other stakeholders, can mobilize resources, institutionalize gender-responsive policies, and drive sustainable, inclusive governance. Including representatives of networks of locally elected women and key partners, the session will contribute to movement building around the Feminist Municipal Movement, fostering collective action for lasting change.