

## EJR QUICK LINKS

- ⇒ [Global Acceleration Plan](#)
- ⇒ [EJR Engagement Calendar](#)
- ⇒ [EJR Informational Slides](#)

## EJR UPCOMING EVENTS

The first EJR Learning Event will take place in 12 MAY 2022 and will focus on the Decent Work action area! Additional information will be sent out in April.

Dear Commitment Makers to the Action Coalition on Economic Justice and Rights,

WELCOME to our first Quarterly Newsletter! We are excited to have you as a part of our Action Coalition community and would like to once again extend our thanks and appreciation for your commitments made towards economic justice and rights for women and girls everywhere. The EJR Action Coalition Newsletter will share with you key information, the latest developments and opportunities for engagement with the Action Coalition. Every issue will also highlight stories of impact and learning from commitment makers catalyzing change in the lives of women and girls. We look forward to our collective action together!

## THE ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND RIGHTS ACTION COALITION AT CSW66

The sixty-sixth session of the [Commission on the Status of Women](#) took place from 14 to 25 March 2022. This year's Priority theme was "Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programmes" and the review theme was "Women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work".

The Economic Justice and Rights Action Coalition joined forces with the Action Coalitions on Feminist Action for Climate Justice and Technology and Innovation for Gender Equality to present two compelling side events. Additionally, the Global Alliance for Care, which is a collective commitment of the EJR Action Coalition, held an event. All events took place under the Generation Equality 24-hour around-the-clock session at CSW66. We are excited to share with you the recordings for these important events that highlight an impressive, multi-stakeholder dialogue and help to define the priorities for the EJR Action Coalition.



## Watch all the events on YouTube!

- ⇒ [Towards a Gender- and Climate-Just Economy: Financing the Climate-Care Nexus](#)
- ⇒ [Securing Quality Education, 21st Century Skills and the Successful Transition from School to Work in a Digital World](#)
- ⇒ [The Relevance of Care Work for Gender Equality – Action for Sustainability](#)
- ⇒ [Generation Equality: The Journey Ahead - High-level Multistakeholder Intergenerational Dialogue](#)

## LAUNCH OF THE ACTION COALITIONS COMMITMENTS DASHBOARD



At the Paris Generation Equality Forum, over 1,000 commitments towards gender equality were launched, including yours! We are excited to announce that you can now view all commitments to the Action Coalitions through an interactive [Commitments Dashboard](#). The Dashboard includes a directory of all commitments that is easily sortable, a data page that highlights key trends and a forthcoming global map. Check out [this video](#) to learn more!

## THE GENERATION EQUALITY JOURNEY FROM MEXICO'S GEF



Twenty-six years after the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, Mexico hosted, in coordination with France and UN Women, the Generation Equality Forum in March 2021. Thanks to a collective effort of diverse women, from all regions of the world, from girls, adolescents, to adult and older women, we joined our voices to reaffirm our commitment to equality and the achievement of women's rights.

As we look back on the year anniversary of the Forum, it is clear the GEF made history in Mexico. It mobilized high-level commitments for gender equality, co-created a genuine space for the inclusive participation of different sectors of society, included participation of indigenous women and the youth, and adopted intersectionality, intergenerational and multi-stakeholder dialogue as fundamental values and drivers of transformative change.

In Mexico we talked about power, crisis, hope, and taking collective action. We celebrated the opportunity to define a collective roadmap to accelerate the pathway for achieving substantive equality for women and girls, and to advance in the fulfillment of the Beijing Platform for Action and the Sustainable Development Goals for 2030.

Since the GEF in Mexico a year ago, we are continuing to push this work forward through our engagement with the Action Coalition on Economic Justice and Rights, where Mexico is co-leader. Most significantly, we are making progress in positioning the care economy as an essential issue to move towards a more inclusive and feminist economy. Mexico, with the support of UN Women, launched the [Global Alliance for Care](#), through which we continue to make an urgent call to governments, civil society, the private sector, philanthropies and international organizations to ensure the redistribution, reduction, recognition, remuneration and representation of care work.

I call on all sectors to move forward in our commitments with concrete actions to achieve a better future for all women and girls.

Sincerely,

Nadine Gasman Zylbermann  
President of the National Institute for Women of Mexico



## EJR IN ACTION: STORIES OF IMPACT FROM THE ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND RIGHTS ACTION

### SWAYAM SHIKSHAN PRAYOG, INDIA



EJR Action Coalition Leader, Huairou Commission is committed to build on the strength of its members to support grassroots women's economic empowerment. Huairou member Swayam Shikshan Prayog (SSP) has been at the forefront of inclusive, sustainable

community development by empowering women at the grassroots in climate-threatened, under-served areas across seven states of India. SSP replications women to take on new roles as decision makers in agriculture, enterprise and embrace community leadership, thereby enhancing their economic and social resilience.

Through their 'Entrepreneurship Development Program', SSP has created an enabling ecosystem that builds grassroots women's capacities and knowledge in developing business plans, financial management and marketing, digital literacy as well as linking them with credit, technology and markets.

### HEARUS, THE SUMMIT OF AFGHAN WOMEN ORGANIZED BY SPAIN

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the European Union and Cooperation of Spain organized a summit on the 28<sup>th</sup> of February in Madrid to raise awareness about the situation of Afghan women and girls both in their country and abroad. By bringing together refugee Afghan women in Europe, decision-makers and civil society organizations, Spain has taken the lead in the creation of a collaborative platform to empower Afghan women throughout their integration in host countries so that they can become active players in multilateral initiatives related to Afghanistan.

The event was comprised of three high-level panels in which several Afghan activists, like Fawzia Koofi, Sima Samar or Nilofar Bayat, shared their views with the other speakers. The first panel, focused on the promotion of professional skills and capabilities, addressed topics such as their labor integration in hosts countries and the creation of public-private initiatives aiming at the development of the

In addition to guidance and business incubation support through flexible funds, SSP is collaborating with government and private institutions to negotiate women's access to finance and productive resources/assets. Rural women have repositioned themselves as last-mile entrepreneurs, regenerating rural economies by creating job opportunities for other women and providing mentorship support to young leaders. SSP has empowered over 300,000 rural women as entrepreneurs and change makers to build resilient communities. For example, Lata Langade, from Maharashtra received training and technical support from SSP, and now runs a successful dairy business that collects substantial amounts of milk locally, and brings economic benefits to her family, community and local milk producers.

In our call to action, governments, private sector and finance institutions need to recognise the value that grassroots women add to local economies and invest in grassroots leadership and entrepreneurship development.

For more 'Voices of Women', visit: <https://swayamshikshanprayog.org/voices-of-women/>

professional skills of these women. Economic rights were broadly discussed when presenting the challenges these refugees face, challenges that are already present in Afghanistan but that showcase new dimensions when Afghan women abandon their homes and arrive in Western countries.

The Summit is available online with English interpretation at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=txza\\_A2dUA0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=txza_A2dUA0).



## FUNDING THE CARE ECONOMY



The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the global childcare crisis but the unmet need for childcare is concentrated in low- and lower-middle-income countries (LMICs). As a leader in the Economic Justice and Rights (EJR) Action Coalition with a \$650 million commitment to EJR at the Generation Equality Forum (GEF) the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is supporting the World Bank to design and capitalize a new fund to incentivize childcare in low and medium income

countries (LMICs), aligned with the EJR's Care Economy blueprint. Gates Foundation has contributed \$10 million to the World Bank's Childcare Fund which will provide catalytic matching grants to countries seeking to invest in quality childcare infrastructure, reaching out to four million children and two million mothers in at least 10 countries over the next five years. The Fund will also invest in rapid evaluations of childcare strategies and measure the benefits for human capital development, gender equality and economic growth. Advocacy around EJR at GEF was pivotal in ensuring that language around affordable, quality childcare was embedded in commitments for the World Bank's International Development Association's (IDA)

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Questions or comments? E-mail us at [EJR.ActionCoalition@unwomen.org](mailto:EJR.ActionCoalition@unwomen.org)