

ActionAid at CSW62: Challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls

Parallel event: Intersections of Climate Resilient Sustainable Agriculture and Unpaid Care Work

Thursday March 22, 08.30-10.00, Church Center for the United Nations, Tenth Floor



Speakers include:

**ActionAid International Board
Chair: Nyaradzai Gumbonzvanda**

**Ministry of Gender, Child Welfare
and Social Protection of Ghana**

**women farmers from Rwanda,
Ghana and Bangladesh**

**Director of ActionAid
Bangladesh: Farah Kabir**

This parallel event, organised jointly with Ministry of Gender, Child Welfare and Social Protection of Ghana, looks at Sustainable Development Goal 5. In particular Target 5.4 *Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate.*

POWER project's new research report on Unpaid Care Work and Climate Resilient Sustainable Agriculture will be launched at this event. Our key messages are:

Recognition, Reduction and Redistribution of Unpaid Care Work: It is vital that rural women are recognised as carers, farmers, producers, processors in gender sensitive rural women's economic empowerment programmes and policies. We recommend the measurement of Unpaid Care Work in national GDP, and state investment in the reduction and redistribution of Unpaid Care Work at all levels.

Financial and resource commitment to reduce Unpaid Care Work: we call for increased government budgets and resource allocation for effective implementation of policies and services to address Unpaid Care Work, support agroecology and ratify and implement mechanisms to address violence against women at community and national levels.

Women's right to land and other productive resources to enhance livelihoods and economic empowerment: we reiterate the need for rural women's rights to land, land tenure security and access to natural resources to be ensured along with a life with dignity and free of violence.

Integrated approach which recognises the intersectionality of Unpaid Care Work and agroecology and the rural economy: we recommend the establishment of alternative national models of rural women's livelihoods which recognize the intersectionality of issues for rural women and respects the indivisibility of rural women's rights, in particular intersectionality of Unpaid Care Work, violence against women, agroecology, market access and women's economic empowerment.

More details of the project can be found on the website: <http://powerproject.actionaid.org/>

The POWER project is supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the
Netherlands



Parallel event: Gender Responsive Public Services to empower rural women and girls affected by climate change

Friday March 16th, 10.30-12.00, 4 W 43rd Street, Social hall



Speakers include:

Lakshmi N. Moore, Country Director, Liberia and AAI Champion on GRPS

Women farmers from Nigeria/Tanzania (ActionAid PFA project)

Tifonie Powell, General Secretary, Jamaica Civil Service Association-PSI

Adwoa Sakyi, IUF African regional women's coordinator

Rural women workers

Join this event, organised jointly by ActionAid and PSI. Hear speakers from different countries and contexts reporting on local situations. Share what Gender Responsive Public Services (GRPS) means for you; and join the discussion on how to advocate for GRPS: looking at actions we can take in common between unions, feminist movements and rural women's rights advocates.

Because of the historical sexual division of labour, rural women and girls have more at stake when natural common goods are degraded, denied or disasters occurred. This places an undue burden on them as their unpaid work substitutes public services when they are not available, such as providing care and water for households.

A gender responsive approach for public services can provide an opportunity to redress gender disparities and empower rural women as agents of change. This event will present specific actions that public service unions and feminist advocates are taking for going beyond gaps and really shifting gender inequalities with concrete and effective contributions.

Key messages:

The intersection of gender and climate change is essential for effectively addressing the multiple challenges that climate change poses for rural women and girls.

A gender responsive public services approach is needed.

Public investment in quality public services is key to redressing gender inequalities but is not enough.

Join us to actively advocate for gender responsive public services that consider the needs and priorities for empowering rural women and girls as positive actors of climate change.