

Women Leading Sustainable Development: Addressing SDGs and Beyond

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) serve as a global call to action for addressing social, economic, and environmental challenges. Women's leadership has been indispensable for accelerating progress across these Goals. Research shows that gender equality and women's empowerment have a multiplier effect, positively influencing sustainable development in sectors such as education, health, environmental conservation, and economic participation.

This panel will focus on women's roles beyond agriculture highlighting their leadership across key governance, education, and environmental management sectors in advancing sustainable development. A recent study by the [World Economic Forum](#) indicates that achieving gender equality could contribute up to USD 12 trillion to global GDP by 2025 if women's participation is maximised across these sectors. Moreover, evidence shows that organisations with greater gender diversity are more likely to adopt sustainable practices and yield better social outcomes. The discussion will highlight diverse fields such as policymaking, environmental management, education, and economic empowerment, focusing on collaborative strategies to break down structural barriers and build inclusive systems.

Speakers will share innovative strategies and solutions developed by women leaders to address sustainability challenges, showcasing the impact of their efforts and of the importance of fostering partnerships among policymakers, organisations, and communities to empower women and enhance their role in promoting sustainable development. The session will also raise awareness of systemic barriers that limit women's participation, offering insights into practical ways to address these challenges and create an enabling environment for their leadership. Specific questions for discussion will include the following:

- What innovative models have emerged from women-led initiatives for achieving the SDGs?
- How can women leaders drive climate action and promote environmental stewardship?
- What are the key challenges women face in leadership roles, and how can they overcome them?
- How can governments create policies that effectively support women's participation in sustainable development?
- What role does education play in preparing the next generation of women leaders?
- How can technology and innovation be leveraged to enhance women's impact in achieving the SDGs?
- What successful partnerships and collaborative efforts have been instrumental in promoting gender equality?
- How can women in leadership roles influence policy frameworks for sustainable development?
- What role does financial inclusion and access to capital play in empowering women entrepreneurs?
- How can international organisations support grassroots women leaders in advancing community-driven development?

Panel Organisers

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