

Women-led Mediation Amidst Intersecting Climate and Humanitarian Crises: The Role of Women Mediator Networks

Concept note

23 October 2024 | 15:00 - 16:30 NY Time (CEST +6)

UN Women HQ / New York, 220 East 42nd Street

Women's inclusion and meaningful participation in all peace and security efforts is a prerequisite for sustainable global peace, security, and stability. This was reaffirmed by the unanimous adoption of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) and subsequent resolutions to ensure gender equality in conflict prevention, peacemaking, peacekeeping, humanitarian response, and post-conflict reconstruction.

Climate-related shocks and disasters increase humanitarian needs, including food insecurity, contribute to conflict, trigger displacements, and deepen vulnerability and inequalities.¹ As a threat multiplier, climate change and its implications to peace and security present a growing challenge for the mediation field² and women's inclusion in mediation processes.³

Amidst intersecting climate and humanitarian crises, women mediator networks continue to demonstrate what women's meaningful participation looks like – providing technical support and protection for women within communities, amplifying the voices of diverse constituencies, including young women, building lines of open communication between diverse women and government institutions and enabling traditional and indigenous leaders to become parts of the process.

They amplify women's collective strengths and resilience in wars and conflicts, demonstrating that such networks can contribute to the unmet operationalization of the WPS agenda as mechanisms for conflict prevention, crisis response, and peacemaking. Furthermore, the diverse landscape of women mediator networks demonstrates their capacity to respond to the diversity of peacebuilding and inclusive security needs, priorities, and peacemaking approaches.

Objective of the side-event

The side event will highlight the critical role of regional women mediators' networks in conflict prevention, peacebuilding, and conflict resolution. It will share good practices and explore opportunities for regional women mediators' networks within the Pact for the Future, emphasizing building stronger regional capacities to address non-traditional security challenges. It will highlight how women-led mediation is responding to the complexities of climate change by spotlighting regional, national, and local examples of women mediators navigating and innovating across the current climate and humanitarian crises and propose concrete strategies for enhancing accountability to women's leadership in global and regional inter-governmental processes. The

¹ [The spiraling climate crisis is intensifying needs and vulnerabilities | Humanitarian Action](#)

² [Climate compass: Navigating mediation challenges in a warming world - Berghof Foundation \(berghof-foundation.org\)](#)

³ [Intersecting Priorities: Advancing the Women, Peace and Security Agenda through Climate Security Initiatives | IAI Istituto Affari Internazionali](#)



speakers will finally reflect on a decade of lessons learned from the women mediator networks ahead of the 25th anniversary of the adoption of UNSCR 1325 (2000) in 2025.

In partnership with the OSCE, this is the fourth event in a series organized by the Pacific Women Mediators Network (PWMN), the Mediterranean Women Mediators Network (MWMN), the Government of Italy, the Kingdom of Tonga, and UN Women since 2023.