



**Migration,
displacement and
women's human rights
in the climate crisis.**



An intersectional feminist dialogue & NGO CSW66 parallel event

Friday, March 18, 2022, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. EST

Concept Note and Program

With its co-sponsors¹ and allies, the Women in Migration Network (WIMN) will facilitate a CSW66 parallel event on “**Migration, displacement and women’s human rights in the crisis.**” This intersectional feminist dialogue will both contribute to the CSW66 main theme, “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 build on WIMN’s work to lift up the realities of women in migration within the global women’s rights movement. The event is part of WIMN’s regional and international dialogue series, “Bridging Migration and Gender: Building More Powerful Movements,” supported by the Robert Bosch Stiftung, which seeks to foster intersectional feminist approaches to reducing inequalities.

Speakers representing diverse sectoral and regional perspectives will address challenges arising from a lack of gender-responsive, rights- and justice-based responses to displacement risk as well as to climate-related migration and displacement. The event will consist of two panels in dialogue format. During the first, we will look at root causes of displacement risk, how these are structured by gender and other relations of inequality, and how the climate crisis exacerbates these risks. In the second, we will consider women’s rights in migration and displacement, in contexts of both internal and cross-border movement. Panelists will address the many challenges migrant and displaced women face—challenges to accessing decent work, healthcare/SRHR, and social protection, as well as lack of safety and freedom of movement. They will also share models of how, despite these challenges, migrant/displaced women are leading with resilience, creating frontline models of solidarity.

Panel 1: Root causes of displacement risk. Panelists will reflect on gender and other intersecting forms of inequality at the root of displacement and displacement risk in the climate crisis beyond climate change *per se*, and how they make some much more vulnerable to climate change impacts including the risk of displacement. These include historical and ongoing racial exclusion and appropriation of territory and other resources, among others. Focusing mainly on women’s rights—including rural women’s rights- - on the ground and how women are responding, speakers from different regions and sectors will reflect on displacement risk as well as how women in climate-impacted communities facing out-migration are

¹ NNIRR, Solidarity Center, Public Services International (PSI), Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC), WIDE+, ACT Alliance, RESAMA, APWLD, CWS, WRC.

dealing with the additional precariousness of extra care and other responsibilities and dependence on remittances which may not come.

Panel 2. Women’s rights, needs, agency and solidarity in migration and displacement. In the second panel, we will focus on the risks and challenges that women face in migration/displacement. Many who leave or flee climate/environmental risks and impacts are likely to face new climate/environmental risks—not necessarily the same ones—in new locations, whether these are camps, rural areas or informal settlements in urban areas. Like all migrant and displaced women, they also face many other barriers. Speakers will address a range of situations including migration/displacement to/in urban areas, as well as rural or encamped displacement, and the specific challenges women face, including due to lack of documents. Panelists’ reflections will address ways in which experiences of internal and cross-border movement are both similar and different in the challenges they present with respect to documentation, safety, access to services including healthcare and social protection, as well as access to decent work and justice, and the particular challenges faced by migrant women who have crossed borders. We will hear about initiatives that empower women who are at risk of displacement and/or have been displaced or migrated, and that facilitate their access to sustainable lives and livelihoods.

Program and format

10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon EST, Friday, 18 March (120 minutes)

Simultaneous interpretation for five languages (English, Spanish, French, Arabic, Russian)

Two moderated panels:

- One moderator for each panel
- Moderators will give brief intros of panelists, then will ask one main question of each panelist, with possible follow-up and/or a second round
- On the second panel, there will be a brief response to the panelists
- Opportunities for participant interaction in each panel via questions placed in chat

10:00-10:05 Welcome and intro co-sponsors, logistics of call, including instructions on interpretation

10:05-10:10 Brief overview of event themes, flow, goals

10:10-10:40 **Panel #1: Root causes of displacement risk** (30 min)

Moderator: Carol Barton, WIMN

Panelists:

- Mariama Williams, Integrated Policy Research Institute (US), Institute of Law and Economics (Jamaica) & Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN)
- Iris Munguia, Federación de Sindicatos de Trabajadores de la Agroindustria (FESTAGRO), Honduras
- Erika Pires Ramos, Rede Sul-Americana para as Migrações Ambientais (RESAMA), Brazil

10:40-10:50 Brief discussion, including 1-2 questions from the chat

10:50-10:55 STRETCH BREAK

10:55-11:35 **Panel #2: Women's rights, needs, agency and solidarity in migration and displacement**
and brief discussion (40 min)

Panel 2 Moderator: Sonia Mistry, Solidarity Center

Panelists:

- Elizabeth Ibarra, Asociación Coordinadora Comunitaria de Servicios para la Salud (ACCSS), Guatemala
- Alice Ncube, University of the Free State, South Africa
- Alicia Wallace, Equality Bahamas, Bahamas
- Moradeke Abiodun-Badru, Project Coordinator for English-Speaking West Africa, Public Services International (PSI)
- Zoraya Urbina, Lutheran World Federation-Central America, respondent

11:35-11:45 Brief discussion

11:45-11:55 **Highlights and ways forward**, Helena Olea, Alianza Americas

11:55-12:00 Closing

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WIMN promotes women's human rights at the center of all migration and development policy. Our network recognizes the intersectionality of gender, race, ethnicity, class, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, age, migration status, disability, and national origin. WIMN convenes organizations and activists to expand rights-centered policies that prioritize the interests of diverse women and families affected by migration around the world.