



Asia Feminist Coalition

Concept note for the GLOBAL FEMINIST FOURM 2024

Background

The **World Social Forum (WSF)** emerged in 2001 as a counterpoint to the World Economic Forum, symbolizing an alternative space for civil society grounded in global south principles. Functioning as an open forum, the WSF fosters the horizontal exchange of ideas, experiences, and strategies aimed at generating alternatives to neoliberalism. It rejects privatization-driven economic policies, opposes militarism and imperialism, and serves as a hub for envisioning alternative socio-economic paradigms.

Link Between Gender and Economic Inequality: Gender politics plays a crucial role in shaping societies and driving global transformations. Patriarchal systems perpetuate sexist and hierarchical power dynamics, legitimizing discrimination and exclusion. Effectively challenging patriarchal systems involves dismantling intersecting systems of oppression and exploitation. This panel will delve into the interconnected crises of climate breakdown and extreme inequality, exploring solutions that promote justice and equality for all.

The Interconnected Crises of Climate Breakdown and Inequality: The crises of climate breakdown and extreme inequality are intricately linked. The most affluent individuals, corporations, and countries contribute significantly to environmental degradation through massive carbon emissions, disproportionately impacting those living in poverty, marginalized communities, and countries in the Global South. Vulnerable groups, including women, Indigenous Peoples, and those facing discrimination, bear the brunt of these consequences. While the effects of climate breakdown are felt globally, only the wealthiest possess the resources and influence to shield themselves from its impacts.

<u>The Global Feminist Forum</u>

To be held on 18th February 2024 - within the World Social Forum, aims to provide a political platform for feminists ranging from local to global spheres. Our focus is on analyzing recent trends and tactics within the global capitalist neoliberal model of development. The goal is to identify key factors that need addressing and foster collaboration among feminists. By participating in the forum, feminists can unite to amplify their voices, extend global solidarity, celebrate achievements, and strategize towards realizing another world.

The Feminist Forum for Solidarity seeks to confront prevailing power imbalances rooted in class, caste, gender, sex, and race-based disparities. Historically, feminist movements have challenged





systemic biases associated with various social structures such as feudalism, capitalism, neoliberalism, fascism, and militarism.

Objectives:

- Create a political arena for worldwide solidarity and showcase a global commitment to liberty, justice, and parity.
- Serve as a platform for advocacy, empowerment, and collective action, aiming to dismantle oppressive systems and create a more equitable global landscape.
- Strive to make gender justice a lived reality through addressing systemic barriers, advocating for policy changes, and fostering global solidarity.

About Asia Feminist Coalition

The Asia Feminist Coalition is a dynamic and inclusive platform that brings organizations from across Asia to collectively address gender-based inequalities and challenges. The coalition aims to foster collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and strategizing to advance gender justice and feminism in the region. It is a growing network of 20 feminist organizations across Asia that are working towards gender justice and equality. The coalition was formed in 2022 and is committed to building a feminist movement that is intersectional, inclusive, and diverse. The coalition works on issues about care work, climate and environment justice, and gender-responsive budgeting.

Proposed Idea:

Title: Navigating Feminist Struggles and Aspirations in Asia

Objective:

This single-panel discussion event aims to explore the intricate relationship between care work and the feminist just energy transition in the Asian context. By bringing together experts, activists, and advocates, we intend to delve into the challenges, opportunities, and solutions at the intersection of care work and sustainable energy practices.

Speakers (tentative)

- 1. Representative from IWWAGE
- 2. Representative from Yuwalaya
- 3. Representative from ADRF
- 4. Representative from KAMY
- 5. Representative from WDI
- ♦ Moderated by Ujyalo Foundation





Agenda

Title & Time (<i>TBA</i>)	Details	Speakers/Details
Opening	 Welcome and Registration Introduction to the Panel's Objectives 	
Panel Discussion: Empowerin g Futures Through Care Work, Feminist Just Energy Transition, and Beyond	 Title: Navigating Feminist Struggles and Aspirations in Asia Introduction (10 mins): Setting the stage for the discussion: Defining care work, its significance, and the current landscape in Asia. Session 1: Unpaid Care Work Advocacy (30 mins): Overview of the Asia Feminist Coalition's initiatives and achievements in addressing unpaid care work. Sharing success stories and challenges faced in advocating for the recognition and redistribution of care work. Session 2: Feminist Just Energy Transition (30 mins): Presentation and discussion of the recently launched policy brief on feminist just energy transition. Insights into the coalition's efforts in promoting sustainable and equitable energy practices. Session 3: Beyond the Horizon – Emerging Feminist Issues (30 mins): Exploration of other crucial feminist issues in Asia that demand attention. Identification of upcoming challenges and opportunities for the feminist movement. Session 4: Future Collaborations and Strategies (30 mins): Discussion on potential collaborations and strategies for addressing impending issues. Engaging with the audience for input and ideas. 	 IWWAGE Yuwalaya ADRF KAMY WDI Moderated by: Ujyalo Foundation
Closing Session	• Recap of key insights and takeaways from the panel discussion.	





	 Call to action: encouraging collaboration and continued dialogue. Distribution of resource materials and information on ongoing initiatives. 	
End		