

Financing for Feminist Futures

Recommendations from
Financing for Feminist Futures
(F4FF) for the G20 Summit



Introduction

At a time when global inequalities are deepening and public finances are under severe strain, the G20 has the potential to become a space for renewed international cooperation to advance equality, stability and sustainable development from and for the Global South.

We welcome South Africa's G20 Presidency - the first on the African continent and following three consecutive Global South presidencies (Indonesia, India, and Brazil). This historic moment offers an opportunity to reshape global economic governance through the principles of *Solidarity, Equality, and Sustainability*, the very theme of South Africa's G20 Presidency.

We also commend the W20 theme: "*Women in Solidarity towards Sustainable Socio-Economic Development*", which underscores the critical role of feminist leadership, care and international cooperation in reforms towards more just economic and financial systems.¹ Together, these themes provide a strong orientation to center a feminist vision within the G20 agenda.

From FfD4 to G20

Amid upheavals in aid, trade, and other financial flows, governments met at the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) to negotiate a path forward. The resulting *Compromiso de Sevilla* signals a reaffirmation of collective will, translated into actionable commitments in the *Seville Platform for Action*.² Of course implementation and accountability will remain key challenges, and civil society could and should play a central role in this process.

Other important initiatives at FfD4 included the Global Coalition to Tax the Super-Rich, under the leadership of South Africa, Spain and Brazil.³ This coalition has demonstrated the political will to challenge an economic system which has unfairly allowed extreme wealth accumulation for the few at the expense of people and planet - particularly women, workers, and racialized communities across the Global South.

To take stock on the recent progress, the Financing for Feminist Futures (F4FF) Conference convened by the Walking the Talk Consortium brought together over 200 feminist activists, researchers, and leaders - most from the Majority World - alongside women's funds, civil society, policymakers, the private sector and philanthropic allies to chart a path forward.

We offer these emerging recommendations from the F4FF Conference as a contribution to the upcoming G20 Summit, as next global economic forum since FfD4, and the first hosted by a government that not only has publicly called for feminist financing to be mainstreamed but also has a vision for feminist financing anchored in the South African Constitution and embedded in its National Development Plan.

This document is part of the first emerging recommendations compiled by the Walking the Talk Consortium, which has also published a policy brief for the Feminist Foreign Policy Ministerial in Paris.⁴ A more comprehensive conference report reflecting the diverse range of perspectives, reflections and strategies will be published at a later moment.

Emerging recommendations

A Central Feminist Demand: Financing for Equality

We echo and amplify the W20's call to "Ensure consistent, adequate, and long-term financing for equality to fulfil the commitments of the Beijing Platform for Action and the 2030 Agenda, enabling transformative progress for women and girls globally."⁵

This call strongly resonates with the outcomes of F4FF and the advocacy priorities championed by the Walking the Talk Consortium: that gender equality and feminist movements must be directly resourced and politically supported across all levels of development financing.

Macroeconomic Policies Are Feminist Issues

Macroeconomic policies – on taxation, debt, austerity and public spending – are not gender-neutral. They shape the daily realities of women and their communities everywhere, influencing access to care, decent work, education, health, and social protection. Recognizing macroeconomic policies as feminist issues means ensuring that policy outcomes respond to women's lived experiences and addressing the structural inequalities that concentrate wealth and extract unpaid and underpaid care from women, particularly in the Global South.

Recommendations:

- Adopt feminist fiscal policies that prioritize redistribution, equity, and the care economy – including progressive taxation, public investment in social infrastructure, and transparent budgeting aligned with gender equality goals.
- Join civil society calls for South Africa's G20 Presidency to take a bolder stance on debt reform and debt cancellation. Malala Fund's policy brief on reforming the G20 Common Framework for Debt Treatments provides tangible recommendations to impact girls' lives.⁶

Rethink Aid and Philanthropy

Feminist movements, particularly in the Global South, continue to receive less than 0.2% of global ODA directly despite leading frontline work on rights, climate adaptation, and peacebuilding. Funding is increasingly fragmented and short-term, leaving movements vulnerable to burnout and backlash.

Recommendations:

- Move from project-based to core and flexible funding for feminist and women's rights organizations.
- Highlight and build on innovative funding mechanisms to highlight include Fonds de Soutien aux organisations Féministes (FSOF) and Leading from the South (LFS).⁷
- Leverage partnerships with Women's Funds to support women's rights organizations to reduce risk and expand cooperation, while remaining context relevant.⁸

Mobilize Private and Innovative Finance

Develop, and leverage/strengthen frameworks for ethical corporate engagement, ensuring transparency and alignment with human rights.

Champion the Global Coalition to Tax the Super-Rich

The Global Coalition to Tax the Super Rich is a transformative step in reshaping global fiscal systems that continue to allow wealth accumulation for the few at the expense of all, particularly marginalized communities, women, workers, and racialized groups.

Recommendations:

- Use the G20 platform to build on the growing public and political momentum for fair global tax rules, including support for a UN Tax Convention that prioritizes gender equality, equity, and sustainability.
- Mobilize G20 countries to commit to taxing extreme wealth and redirect revenues to finance gender-transformative public investments such as care, health, education, social protection, and public climate finance.



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References

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