

69th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)

March 2025, New York

Proposal for Parallel Event: "Local Female Leadership: Transforming Climate and Care in Brazil and Latin America"

Event information:

19 Mar, 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Milbank Chapel at Teachers College Columbia University

525 West 120th Street

New York City

Concept Note:

The climate crisis has disproportionate impacts on women, especially in Latin America, where many act as leaders in their local communities, implementing local solutions and policies for climate mitigation and adaptation.

Simultaneously, care policies emerge as essential social tools to transform women's living conditions, reduce gender inequalities, and strengthen local economies.

Governments worldwide have been mobilizing for decades, with even more commitment in recent years and since the pandemic, to co-create local care systems based on equitable provision of public services, with the horizon of a new social contract founded on the principles of equality, social justice, and democracy.

Brazil and the Latin American region stand out as a global reference, developing and implementing national programs aimed at promoting care and mitigating the impacts of climate change, reinforcing the importance of expanding their visibility and protagonism in multilateral forums. Their renewed commitment to the leadership of states and their cities, local and regional governments also deserves highlight.

Across all Brazilian spheres — including governments, parliament (notably its female parliamentary caucus), alliances like the Northeast Consortium, regional organizations, civil society, and public institutions — local women leaders play a crucial role: they care for people and the planet, charting paths for inclusive local resilience and new leaderships that prioritize solidarity.

Event Objectives:

1. Strengthen the protagonism of Brazilian, Latin American, and world female leaders as strategic agents in implementing solutions for the global challenges related to climate and care.
2. Promote the exchange of good practices and global integration among Northeast Consortium member states, Latin American municipalities, and global networks as well as NGOs and civil society organizations, highlighting innovative and replicable solutions.

3. Strengthen cooperation networks and structure partnerships and networks of female leaders focused on localizing global agendas for equality, including the Beijing Platform for Action and the 2030 Agenda, especially those related to gender equality, climate justice, and the promotion and redistribution of care.

4. Ensure spaces for debate and discussion on climate and care policies to ensure that women's voices in local and decentralized territories are heard and recognized as a reference in promoting women's rights at CSW69, contributing to more inclusive global and regional solutions and having political incidence in the official discussions and recommendations produced during the conference on the Beijing+30 platforms and the preparations for the upcoming COP30 in Belém.

Expected Results:

- Recognition of Brazil and Latin American countries as leaders in supporting women leaders and local governments, as well as their climate and care initiatives, reinforcing their protagonism in the international scenario.
- Strengthening of regional and global female leader networks, promoting joint solutions for common challenges.
- Political and territorial strengthening of female participation in decision-making and power spaces.
- Renewal of political commitment from national and local actors and dissemination of good practices, expanding the capacity for local implementation of policies aligned with the Beijing Platform for Action and the 2030 Agenda.
- Raising awareness among decision-makers and international institutions about the importance of care policies and the role of women and local governments in climate justice leadership.
- Political advocacy in international documents and recommendations to be discussed during CSW69.

The event will be a unique opportunity to renew commitments to the Beijing Platform for Action on its 30th anniversary and, in particular, accelerate the connections and support needed for the care work with our communities and climate, carried out by locally elected women and civil society.

This will also be a crucial moment to consolidate the role of Latin American countries before other participating National States, as pioneering countries in building sustainable and inclusive solutions, promoting concrete advances in gender equality and the global climate agenda, considering the proximity of the 30th UN Conference on Climate Change (COP30), scheduled for November 2025 in Belém (PA), Brazil.