



Co-hosts: Kite Insights, SHE Changes Climate, Women of the World  
In partnership with the UNFCCC High-level champions team and Project Dandelion

**COP28 HIGH-LEVEL MULTI STAKEHOLDER DIALOGUE –  
BALANCE FOR THE EARTH  
BUILDING TRUST AND COLLABORATION FOR PEOPLE & THE PLANET**



December 8th, 2023 - Key Outcomes

## Context:

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of December 2023, women leaders, pioneers, activists, heads of delegations, and diplomats came together at COP28, to explore opportunities to create new areas of collaboration among those involved in addressing the interconnected crisis of Climate, Nature, and its impacts on People. Together, [SHE Changes Climate](#), [Kite Insights](#), Women of the World, [Project Dandelion](#) and the UNFCCC High-level Champions invited key stakeholders and passionate individuals to discuss new ways of seeing, being and working: a commitment to collaboration that makes a systemic transformation of society possible.

This year is predicted to be the [hottest on record](#), with a 1.43°C temperature rise, dangerously close to the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C target. New risks are emerging in the already complex planetary crisis, contributing to rising inequalities and unprecedented impacts on the most vulnerable, heightened political instability, increased frequency of conflicts, pandemics, and economic shocks. To address this, a diverse pool of stakeholders was invited to work together beyond logos, egos and institutional boundaries, breaking down sectoral barriers and silos, through "radical collaboration"; working as One team for One Planet. The stakeholders who participated included State representatives, private sector, youth activists, SHE Changes Climate Ambassadors from several continents, experienced climate negotiators and renowned climate justice leaders, as well as journalists from Associated Press and other media outlets. The co-hosts recognized inclusion and diversity as an essential ingredient of collective success, to create more Balance for the Earth. The dialogue adopted a fishbowl shape and encouraged deep listening to all voices.

The conversations throughout the event were rich and insightful. Setting the tone for the event were Catherine Stewart, the Climate Change Ambassador of Canada and Mary Robinson, Chair of the Elders and Co-Founder of Project Dandelion. While giving her opening remarks, the former President of Ireland referred to science and stressed the urgent need to phase out fossil fuels; *"Let's remind us again of science, because science is what guides us. We're on course for a 9% increase in emissions by 2030. Yet the science is clear that emissions must fall by 45% by the end of this decade. We need to phase out fossil fuels and no fancy words like unabated, Period!"*. Catherine Stewart stressed the importance of inclusion, demonstrating Canada's leadership with a balanced delegation that comprises youth, women, labor groups and indigenous people. *"It is critical to have everybody at the table. We also need to apply a gender lens to domestic policy & ensure gender-equality financing"*.

## Key messages for COP

### Phase-out of fossil fuels

- The participants called for an immediate phase-out of fossil fuels and an end to their subsidies
- All decision makers were urged to act with a sense of urgency; as COP is key for determining a livable future.

### Going beyond comfort zones

- The participants agreed that it is time to start asking difficult questions and having uncomfortable conversations, as well as speaking with those with different points of view. *"We need to start talking to people we disagree with, explore discomfort as well as comfort. We also need to create ways in which these conversations can happen without damaging institutions and relationships"* Dr David Nabarro- 4SD Director of Strategy

- Negotiators need to be taken out of their comfort zones, it is important to keep bringing up important issues, speak up, and push us to do the right thing for history.

#### Ensuring the meaningful participation of all

- There were calls to ensure a safe space for women to participate and shape the future in a meaningful and inclusive way.
- Empower women (capacity-building, encouraging each other) so that they can speak up
- Give a voice to those at the front-lines but are not at the conference.
- Make sure those who fight for climate justice have a voice (including the indigenous people, youth, LGBTIQ, and persons with disability)

#### Changes in leadership and systems are needed, invest in women for the common good.

- It is important to put human values above the systems that are patriarchal and profit-oriented
- There is a need to Invest more in women; not out of charity but because it creates more resilient and successful societies. (UNESCO study)

#### Co-create solutions

- Partnerships and co-creation of solutions is key to realizing the change we seek.
- We are all vulnerable and need to care for each other.

#### Resources, climate finance

- Climate finance needs to adequately reach those who need it most, especially women on the frontlines.
- There is a need to support those implementing meaningful projects on the ground through capacity building & mentoring, in order to attract funding.

#### Energy sector

- Women are often left out of the power and energy sectors, while they are the most impacted
- It is crucial to support more women to study science

#### Climate education

Children often have limited knowledge about climate change. It is imperative that they learn about it as they will be future leaders and stewards of the planet. *"Children frequently possess limited knowledge about climate change, highlighting a critical necessity for comprehensive climate education. equipping them with a profound understanding is crucial since they are the future leaders and stewards responsible for safeguarding our planet". Shristi Adhikari*

#### Share hope, inspiring stories of resilience

- Share hope, have more stories of resilience and take them to a systemic level
- Increase visibility for Inspiring initiatives (reforestation, global action, biodiversity protection, plastic pollution cleaning in oceans etc).

#### Data

Understanding the pivotal role of data in highlighting the impact of climate change on women is crucial. Often, those most affected, like climate migrants in Bangladesh or women and indigenous communities affected by forest fires, remain unseen in broader discussions. Shedding light on their experiences through data becomes imperative to ensure their voices and struggles are acknowledged and addressed effectively. *"I speak on behalf of those fighting on the ground, representing women who have suffered*

*natural disasters in the Caribbean islands. These women do not exist as they are not part of the data”*  
Akhilah Jaramogi (SHE Changes Climate Ambassador, Trinidad & Tobago)

### On the importance of building trust

All participants acknowledged feeling more comfortable with the fishbowl format of the session as it allowed them to speak from the heart, get a sense of goodness and have a close conversation.

### Gender & climate champions

Two countries, Norway and the Netherlands announced having endorsed the Inclusion & Diversity Principles, and they were subsequently joined by Uganda in supporting these important principles.

### Conclusion:

There was an echo throughout the event and one Sandrine Dixson-Declève, the Co-President of the Club of Rome reiterated that we have run out of time. *“Six of the nine planetary boundaries have been transgressed, we need to think through our systems dependency, they are patriarchal, power and profit-oriented. We need to put human values above the system”.*

What also came out strongly is that it’s critical to have an inclusive and diverse pool of leaders working together to implement just decisions for a climate-safe world.

SHE Changes Climate is now calling for governments, non-state actors and civil society organizations to join in the movement of championing diversity by endorsing our [inclusion and diversity principles](#). The more diversity of perspectives and views that are in leading positions, the more likely decisions will be well-rounded and more robust for climate-friendly decisions.

### Next steps:

You are all invited to endorse the inclusion and diversity principles (if not done yet) [here](#).

We welcome all to join SHE Changes Climate’s partners group by writing to [hello@shechangesclimate.org](mailto:hello@shechangesclimate.org).

The work will continue in 2024 towards COP29 with the climate impact group co-chaired by Germany, Costa Rica, IFRC and SHE Changes Climate, hosted by the International Gender Champions Secretariat.

For more information, contact: Elise Buckle, Co-Founder/ Co-Director of SHE Changes Climate and Co-Chair of the Climate Impact Group, [elise@shechangesclimate.org](mailto:elise@shechangesclimate.org) .

### Further comments by key speakers and contributors:

*“It is a survival crisis. If we have the science, the technology and the resources: why do emissions continue to grow? We need to keep fossil fuel phase out language, as well as look at what an orderly and just transition means, especially for women”* - Maria Fernanda Espinosa-Executive Director of the Global Women Leaders for Change and Inclusion, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ecuador, former President of the UN General Assembly

*"We have to focus on inequality and poverty. Our social tension and wellbeing index shows that the speed of the damage to our planet is linked to inequality and poverty. We are as vulnerable as the most vulnerable link. If we do not care about our brothers and sisters within our own country, but also in other countries, we are doing ourselves a huge injustice". Samar Al Shorafa- CEO of SHE is Arab*

"Climate finance hardly reaches poor women around the world. There needs to be a shift in resources towards women and people in need of the funds" Rene van Hell-Director Inclusive Green Growth at Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands

*"The power and energy sector in India has everything to do with women, but nothing to do with women in terms of policy making. Shutting down coal in India will first and foremost affect women. We need to ensure that poor women have access to clean energy more than anyone else". Shreya Godawat-SHE Changes Climate Ambassador, India*



## [Annex:](#)

### DECEMBER 8TH 2023 – YOUTH DAY Women Pavilion – COP28 Green Zone Annotated Agenda

13:00 – 15:00 Dubai Local Time - #BalanceForEarth

This multi stakeholder dialogue will explore opportunities to create new areas of collaborations among those involved in addressing the interconnected crisis of Climate and Nature and its impacts on People. New risks are emerging in the already complex planetary crisis, contributing to rising inequalities and unprecedented impacts on the most vulnerable, heightened political instability, increased frequency of conflicts, pandemics, economic shocks, just to name a few. These require new solutions and, importantly, new ways of seeing, being and working: a commitment to collaborate that makes a systemic transformation of society possible. To address this, we are all invited to work together beyond logos, egos and institutional boundaries, breaking down sectoral barriers and silos, through what we call “radical collaboration”: working as One team for One Planet. We see diversity and inclusion as the essential ingredients of collective success, to create more Balance for the Earth. By practicing deep listening to all voices during the dialogue, we can emerge from the dialogue with shared values, a common vision and pragmatic solutions to better protect the Global Commons.

The dialogue will spotlight inspirational women leaders and high-level representatives from Member States, UN agencies, private sector, indigenous communities, farmers and youth in a spirit of shared leadership, while championing a 50:50 vision for gender balance, as well as inclusion and diversity.

All participants are invited to endorse the inclusion and diversity principles [here](#).

Objectives of this dialogue:

- Provide a space for building trust and understanding among key stakeholders involved in addressing the triple crisis for climate, people and nature
- Unpack some of the tensions that arise during the UNFCCC negotiations between global and local actors, North/South, men and women leaders, public/private sectors
- Build bridges and a safe space for dialogue and partnerships building in the spirit of radical collaboration, high trust and aligned vision, working as One Team for One Planet for the Global Commons
- Identify areas of collaboration to unlock positive and systemic change
- Maximize win-win-win opportunities for climate, people and nature
- Share best practices of shared leadership, diversity and inclusion to unlock systemic change
- Gather and galvanize collective energy, resources and support of partners around these initiatives to build larger coalitions for implementation after COP28, as a springboard for facilitating collaboration and scaling up action.

Invited stakeholders and participants:

- Special host countries/Member States: Costa Rica, Canada, Germany, Uganda, the Netherlands- priority will be given to the countries championing climate and nature ambition as well as diversity and inclusion within their delegation teams and speakers at COP
- Private sector: (all tbc): The Rallying Cry, Pictet, PwC, Natura Co, Kering, Business4Nature, WEF partners and a select number of companies ready to share best practices
- Civil Society: IFRC, Women of the World, IUCN, The Global Commons Alliance, Nature4Climate, Youth4Nature, World Farmers Organization, Indigenous People's Platform
- Conveners and facilitators: Kite Insight, SHE Changes Climate, COP28 Dubai based DP host

12.45 Welcome

All opening speakers sit in the inner circle

13.00 Introduction (3' per speaker)

- Outcomes of the online Summit and Objectives for the day: why multi stakeholders dialogue matters (Elise Buckle, Co-Founder & Co-Director SHE Changes Climate, International Gender Champions Climate Impact Group Co-Chair and Sakwa Bright Head Mentoring & Advocacy SHE Changes Climate)
- Why inclusion and diversity matter (Carey Bohjanen, founder and CEO of the Rallying Cry)
- Overview of COP28 week1, expectations for week 2 Sophie Lambin (Founder and CEO Kite Insights)

13.15 State of play – Opening remarks, setting the scene (3-4' per speaker)

- Catherine Stewart (Climate change ambassador of Canada): *Connecting climate people and nature*
- Hana Al Hashimi (COP28 Chief Negotiator), *Why diversity and inclusion matter in the formal negotiations, and what can we expect for the final top decisions?* (TBC)
- Mary Robinson, Chair of the Elders, Co-Founder of Project Dandelion: *Reasons for hope and global appeal to join the women-led movement for climate justice*
- Rene van Hell, Ambassador for Sustainable Development for the Netherlands: *role of women leaders and gender balance to address the climate crisis, special announcement on behalf of the NL – officially endorsing the Inclusions and Diversity Principles, invitation to other countries to join*
- Maria Fernandez Espinosa, CEO of Global Women Leaders for Change and Inclusion, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ecuador, and former President of the UNGA. *Opening up the horizon for the upcoming dialogues: what are the specific areas of negotiations where these dialogues could help to unlock collective agreement?*  
(suggest questions that could guide the upcoming dialogues)

13.35 Speakers of the 1<sup>st</sup> Dialogue take their seat in inner circle

13.40 First Dialogue and fishbowl – Areas of collaboration to reach a collective agreement for meaningful final COP decisions (2' per speaker, followed by fishbowl dialogue)

- Winifred Masiko, Gender and Climate Focal point for Uganda: *focus on gender and climate*
- Dr. David Nabarro, 4SD Director of Strategy: *focus on food and climate*
- Shristi Adhikari, SHE Changes Climate Nepal, delegation of the Government of Nepal: *focus on agriculture and youth*
- Shreya Ghodawat, SHE Changes Climate Ambassador for India: *focus on fossil fuel phase out (air pollution)*
- Sandrine Dixson-Declève, Co-President of the Club of Rome: *focus on planetary boundaries*
- Carine de Meyere, Women of the World: *focus on women leadership*
- Samar Alshorafa, CEO of SHE is Arab: *focus on women leadership in the Middle East*

Participants are invited to join the conversation in a fishbowl facilitation style (tapping on the shoulder of the speaker)

14.10 Speakers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Dialogue take their seat in the inner circle

14.15 Second Dialogue and fishbowl – Emerging solutions, creating triple-win opportunities for climate, people and nature

(2' per speaker, followed by fishbowl dialogue)

- Kristina Rodriguez, UNFCCC Climate Champions Team for Ocean: *focus on the ocean*
- Akilah Jaramogi, SHE Changes Climate Trinidad and Tobago: *focus on reforestation*
- Hanae Beza, Sovereign Nature Initiative Lead for Sustainable operations: *focus on nature (nature-based solutions)*
- Runa Khan, CEO of Friendship Bangladesh: *focus on resilience in Bangladesh*
- Noora Firaq, Deputy CEO of Climate Outreach: *focus on resilience in the Maldives*
- Laurel Kivuyo, SHE Changes Climate Ambassador Tanzania: *focus on youth leadership*
- Anila Noor, New Women Connector: *focus on the resilience of displaced and refugee women (TBC)*
- Hindou Ibrahim, Présidente des Peuples Autochtones: *focus on peace and climate. Special appeal to support the Climate and Peace Declaration in solidarity with the people of Chad and Sudan*

14.45. Closing (3' min each). Facilitated by Monique Nanchen (Climate Policy Advisor SHE Changes Climate & International Gender Champions Group Secretariat)

- Nena Stoiljkovic, IFRC's Under Secretary General for Global Relations, Humanitarian Diplomacy and Digitalization: *Role of women in humanitarian diplomacy. Why did the IFRC endorse the Inclusion and Diversity Principles, including 50:50 balance, and invitation to other stakeholders to join*
- Gabriela Ramos, UNESCO Assistant Director General for the Social and Human Sciences.. *Beyond COP28: The role of International Gender Champions (+ option for Gabriela or Monique : Gender and Climate Impact Group co-chaired by Costa Rica, IFRC, Germany and She Changes Climate in 2024)*
- Ana Patricia Villalobos, Head of delegation of Costa Rica: *reflecting on the areas of collaboration and consensus that have emerged from the dialogues to infuse into the final days of COP*

14.55 Family Picture: with all speakers and SHE Changes Climate, Kite Insights, Women of the World, the Rallying Cry and Project Dandelion partners



## SPEAKERS AND CONTRIBUTORS TO THE DIALOGUE INCLUDE:

### Opening & closing:

- Catherine Stewart, Climate Ambassador of Canada
- Hana Al Hashimi, COP28 Chief Negotiator (tbc)
- Mary Robinson, Chair of the Elders, Co-Founder of Project Dandelion
- Ana Patricia Villalobos, Head of delegation of Costa Rica
- Carey Bohjanen, Founder/ CEO of The Rallying Cry
- Ms Nena Stoilkovic, IFRC's Under Secretary General for Global Relations, Humanitarian Diplomacy
- Maria Fernanda Espinosa, CEO of Global Women Leaders for Change and Inclusion

### Facilitated dialogue:

- Winifred Masiko, Gender and Climate Focal point for Uganda
- Dr. David Nabarro, 4SD Director of Strategy
- Shreya Ghodawat, SHE Changes Climate Ambassador for India
- Sandrine Dixson-Declève, Co-President of the Club of Rome
- Hindou Ibrahim, Présidente des Peuples Autochtones
- Carine de Meyere, Women of the World
- Kristina Rodriguez, UNFCCC Climate Champions Team for Ocean
- Hanae Beza, Sovereign Nature Initiative Lead for Sustainable operations
- Runa Khan, CEO of Friendship Bangladesh
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- Laurel Kivuyo, SHE Changes Climate Ambassador Tanzania
- Shristi Adhikari, SHE Changes Climate Nepal
- Akilah Jaramogi, SHE Changes Climate Trinidad and Tobago

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- Monique Nanchen, Climate Policy Advisor, [monique@shechangesclimate.org](mailto:monique@shechangesclimate.org)

**Public link:**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cop28-high-level-multi-stakeholder-dialogue-tickets-750693794347?aff=oddtator>

**Photos of the event:**

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13u338kdDWDXs4J8Y901nI9rZIfvF4Wor?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13u338kdDWDXs4J8Y901nI9rZIfvF4Wor?usp=drive_link)

**Videos of the event:**

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13u338kdDWDXs4J8Y901nI9rZIfvF4Wor?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13u338kdDWDXs4J8Y901nI9rZIfvF4Wor?usp=drive_link)

Many thanks to all of you, from SHE Changes Climate team, organizing partners and Ambassadors

