

SHE Changes Climate and Project Dandelion co-host Women-Led Summit days to COP28

- *The **Unite for Climate Solutions** is an inclusive and open-to-all Virtual Summit set to take place on 21st November 2023.*
- *The Summit will bring together decision-makers, non-state actors and stakeholders to address the critical, global challenges relating to climate change, social equity, and environmental sustainability ahead of COP28.*
- *The Summit will build a bridge between global leaders and everyday changemakers, giving prominence to women and youth actively addressing the climate crisis in their communities.*
- *The Summit will be an inclusive forum for all who believe in shared values and collective effort in tackling the climate crisis.*
- *The Summit aims to mobilise women — from those in top leadership to those breaking barriers and rallying communities at the grassroots level — striving for collective action for equitable climate action.*
- *Special guests include: H.E. Hana AlHashimi, COP28 UAE Presidency Climate Chief Negotiator; H.E. Sultan Al-Jaber, COP28 President-Designate; among others.*

Nairobi, 21st November 2023 - SHE Changes Climate and Project Dandelion will today co-host a virtual summit to design inclusive climate solutions.

As all eyes look towards COP28 for a global stocktake on climate change, women are still underrepresented in climate negotiations. Since COP1 in 1995, only 5 women have been appointed as COP Presidents in 28 years. Last year, less than 36% of COP27 delegates and only 20% of Heads of Country Delegations were women.

*“This Summit is a major milestone before COP28,” said **Elise Buckle, Co-Director of SHE Changes Climate**. “It is a unique and inclusive opportunity to rebuild trust between the COP Presidency, especially the women leaders from the UAE driving the COP28 process, and partners from around the world mobilising for climate action on the ground. It is time to re-unite around climate solutions.”*

The high-level event brings together decision-makers, leaders and everyday changemakers ahead of the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) happening in the United Arab Emirates from 30 November to 12 December. One of the focus areas of COP28 is diversity and inclusion, which presents a crucial opportunity to provide women and youth — from those in top leadership to those breaking barriers and rallying communities at grassroots level leadership — with direct access to global decision-makers for dialogues.

*“The summit is an attempt to amplify the voices of youth, women, local communities, Indigenous Peoples, and those most affected by climate change,” said **Mamta Borgoyary, Co-Director of SHE Changes Climate**. “For a just and equitable climate action, prioritising their voices and ensuring their presence at the negotiation table is non-negotiable.”*

The [virtual event](#) is a call to unite and work towards a climate-safe world in the lead-up to COP28 and beyond. Women will be able to join the climate movement from around the

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world. The virtual multi-stakeholder dialogues bring together diverse perspectives in relation to the four paradigm shifts needed for a systemic transformation of society: Energy, Finance, Nature, Inclusion and Diversity. Key outcomes expected from the respective dialogue sessions include;

Finance Dialogue: Gender-responsive climate financing by addressing the historical oversight of gender considerations in climate funding and exploring strategies to enhance their integration — as well as the positive impacts of this and funding indigenous community projects to mitigate climate change.

Energy Dialogue: A learning experience, delving into what a just energy transition is, the challenges of it, and what needs to happen at COP28 for this transition, as well as civil society's role in ensuring a fair phase-out of fossil fuels.

Inclusion & Diversity: Exploring the intersectionality of environmental issues and social justice. The panellists will delve into strategies to amplify underrepresented voices in climate decision-making, and the unique insights indigenous people bring to sustainable practices, as well as how the youth can be involved in driving meaningful change.

"We're not just amplifying voices; we're unifying the collective strength of climate organisations around the world," Ronda Carnegie, Co-founder of Project Dandelion and Connected Women Leaders said. "Project Dandelion highlights the pivotal role women play in tackling this crisis, emphasising everyone's responsibility to stand as allies in this defining moment for our planet."

Some of the special guests include; **H.E. Sultan Al-Jaber**, President of COP28; **H.E. Hana AlHashimi**, COP28 UAE Presidency Climate Chief Negotiator and UAE Climate Change Special Envoy; **Maria Fernanda Espinosa**, Executive Director of the Global Women Leaders for Change and Inclusion, diplomat, politician, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ecuador, former President of the UN General Assembly; **H.E. Razan Al Mubarak**, President of IUCN and UN Climate Change High-Level Champion for COP28; **H.E. Shara Duncan Villabos**, Ambassador of Costa Rica among others.

"Whilst we commend the COP28 Presidency for recently unveiling steps supporting women's leadership in climate diplomacy, we are still far from achieving a 50:50 representation, Hafsat Abiola, Dandelion Co-Founder, Human Rights and Democracy Defender from Nigeria said. Progress for us is achieving a diverse 50:50 team, it is having the COP29 presidency go to a female leader. For the last 28 COPs, only 5 women have been president. That is not progress."

This summit is a culmination of Project Dandelion's work to support women-led, global climate initiatives, and SHE Changes Climate's recurring efforts in advocating for women's equitable involvement in climate action.

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For further information, please [download the media kit HERE](#) or contact:

Natalie Sifuma, Head of Communications at SHE Changes Climate
+254 708 298 981

Media Release

natalie@shechangesclimate.org

Njeri Wangari, PR Consultant at Nendo

+254 722 353 657

njeri@nendo.co.ke

Emily Moody, Chief of Staff at Connected Women Leaders (for Project Dandelion):

emily@connectedwomenleaders.com

About SHE Changes Climate:

SHE Changes Climate is working towards an equitable future for all by addressing gender gaps within global climate leadership, and campaigning for more inclusive and diverse perspectives in climate decision-making processes

About Project Dandelion:

Project Dandelion is the first-ever global marketing agency for climate justice, building the first global, women-led climate justice campaign. The project was designed by the Connected Women Leaders, a cohort curated across geographies, generations, expertise, and experience to convene forums on some of the world's most urgent threats: climate justice, food security, global health, economic inequities, and with a gender and racial lens, working together to shape just, equitable and sustainable solutions.