



Hosted by
Zontians in
Australia

Intercontinental Think Tank

Zoom Meeting – 21 April 2024
3 am to 4.30 am UTC



Australian Team



Sandra Burns
ZC Melbourne-on-Yarra
Victoria



Vicki Carman-Brown
ZC Devonport
Tasmania



Sue Lees
ZC Melbourne-on-Yarra
Victoria



Bridget Mather
ZC Adelaide
South Australia



Sharyl Scot
ZC Macarthur
New South Wales



Carole Theobald
ZC Perth
Western Australia



Christine Trenorden
ZC Fleurieu Peninsula
South Australia (on
holiday in Queensland)





Today's Journey

Welcome

Prof Anne Poelina
Advocate for Earth rights, human rights and indigenous rights

Q and A
with Prof Anne Poelina

News / Other Business

Actions since the last meeting

Preview of Virtual Art Gallery

Next Meeting



Welcome



**United
Nations**

**International Mother Earth Day
22 April**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V8TX4oJTMuQ&t=21s>



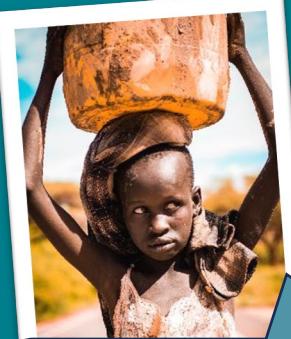


Why does Zonta Say NOW?

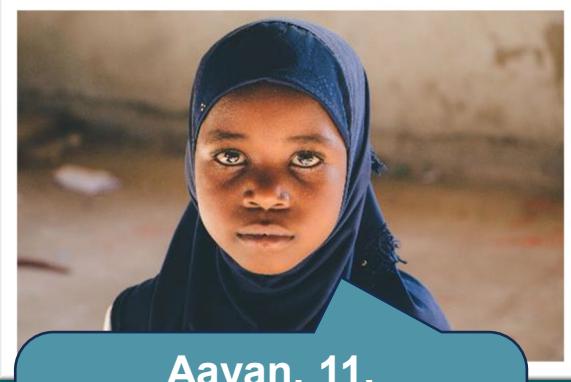




The women and girls who inspire Zonta Says NOW



Dabor, 9, Sudan
Drought means no time for school.



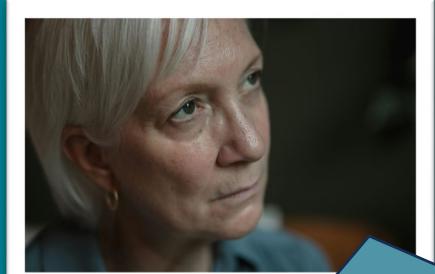
Aayan, 11, Mozambique
Floods led to child marriage.



Judith, 42 and Clare 7, Canada
Wildfire smoke triggered Clare's asthma. Judith may lose her casual job as she cares for Clare.



Maria, 79, Australia
Her heart condition is exacerbated in extreme heat and she cannot afford air conditioning.



Freya, 51, Germany, in temporary shelter, 2 years after floods.



Ralia, 33, Nigeria
Floods destroy the market taking away her livelihood. How will she feed her family?



Our Purpose

**Zonta Says NOW
seeks climate justice
for women and girls**

So women and girls can prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from the impacts of climate change on the same basis as men.

We do this by taking gender-equal climate action
locally, nationally and internationally



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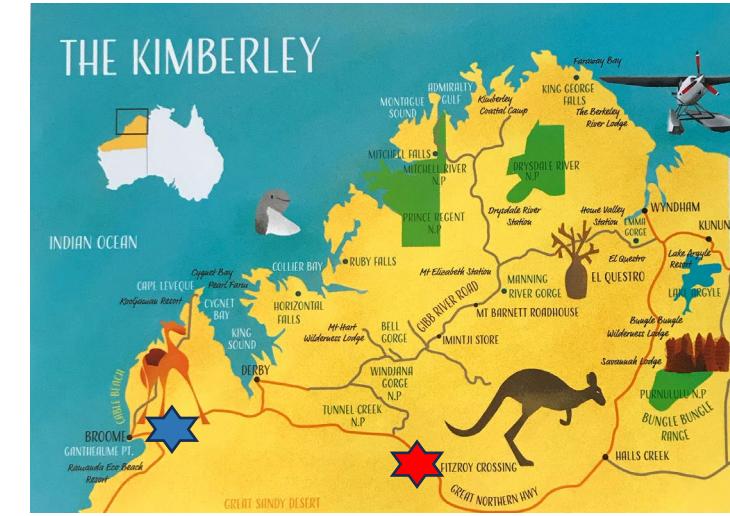
Preview of Virtual Art Gallery

Next Meeting

Professor Anne Poelina



- Chair of Indigenous Knowledges, University of Notre Dame
- Chair of the Martuwarra Fitzroy River Council
- Active community leader, human and Earth rights advocate, and filmmaker.



Fitzroy Crossing reflects on flood devastation one year on

ABC Kimberley / By Mya Kordic and Alys Marshall
Posted Wed 3 Jan 2024 at 7:38am, updated Wed 3 Jan 2024 at 8:22am



Women Taking Climate Action Award 2023

**Professor Anne Poelina
(Co-Winner)**



Professor Anne Poelina



- Chair of Indigenous Knowledges, University of Notre Dame
- Chair of the Martuwarra Fitzroy River Council
- Active community leader, human and Earth rights advocate, and filmmaker.

Professor Anne Poelina's presentation



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- Active community leader, human and Earth rights advocate, and filmmaker.

Q and A

[10 mins]

In break-out rooms, each group

- discusses issues raised and
- identifies at least 2 questions to ask Professor Poelina

[15 mins]

Professor Poelina answers questions from the group facilitators

'If you have come here to help me, you are wasting your time.

If you have come here because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us work together'

Lila Watson, Aboriginal Elder,
activist and educator from Queensland.
(Quote developed in collaboration with other activists)



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Preview of Virtual Art Gallery
Julie Trone

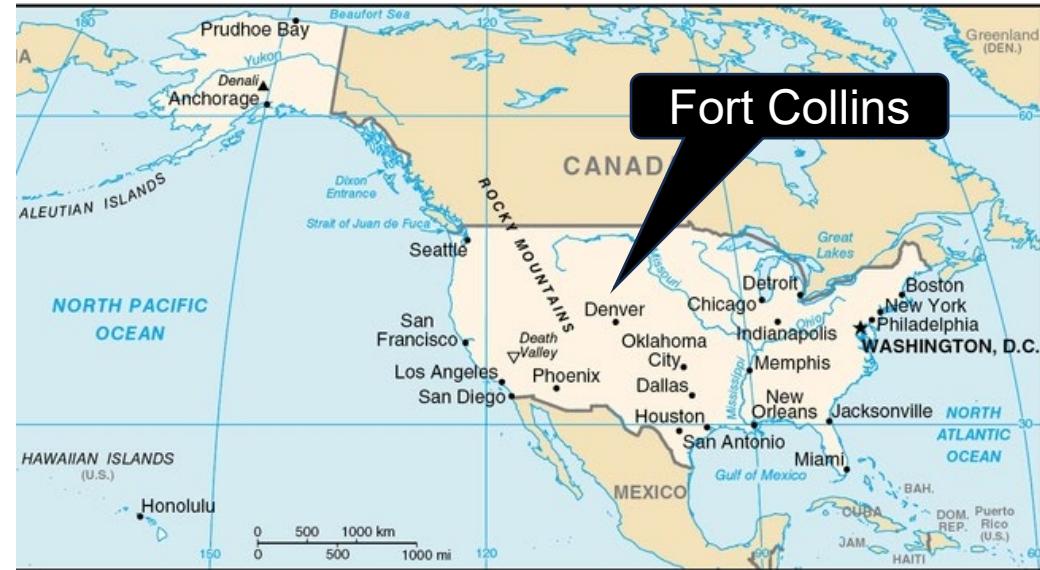
Next Meeting



Julie Trone



ZC Fort Collins, D12
Colorado, USA





Thank You to the team



Julie Trone
ZC Fort Collins
USA

Pamela Morgan
ZC Essex County
USA

Hillary Norfleet
ZC Milford
USA

Laura Wood
ZC Owen Sound
Canada

Mita Mitra
Supporting Member
Germany

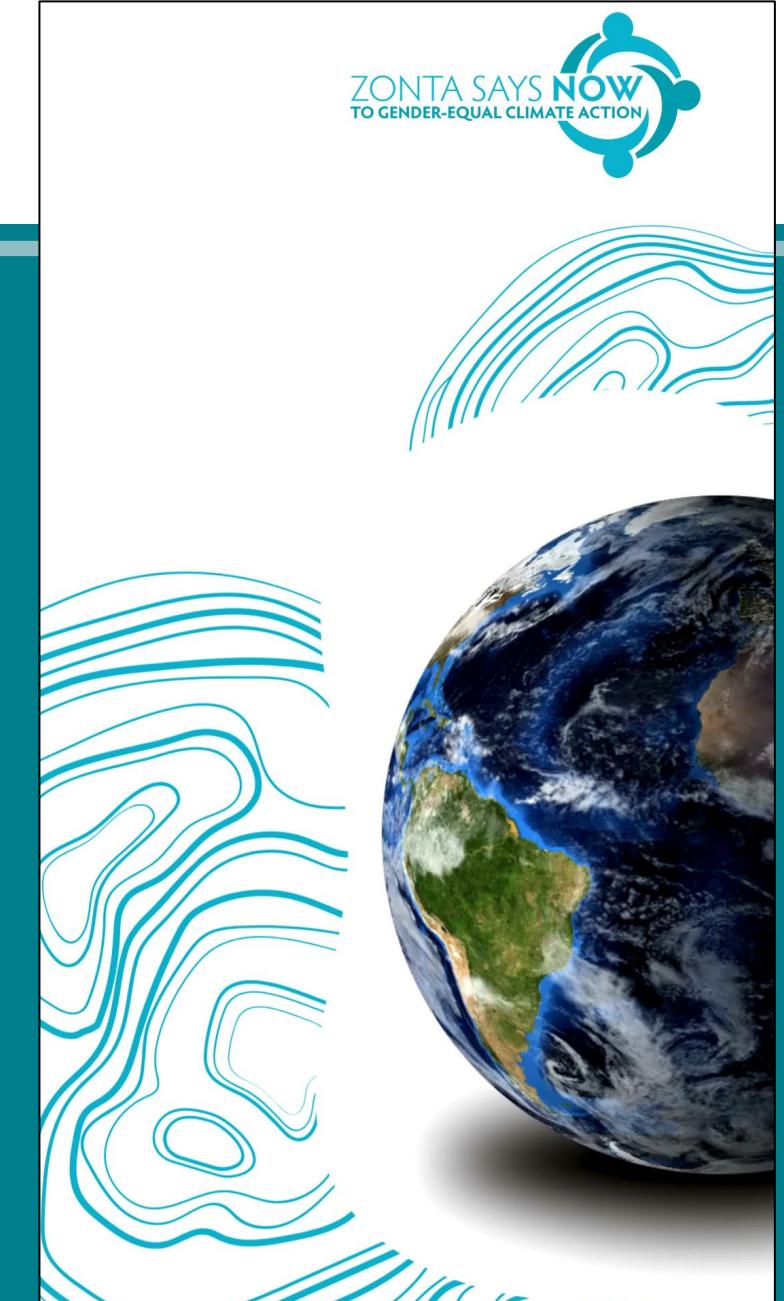
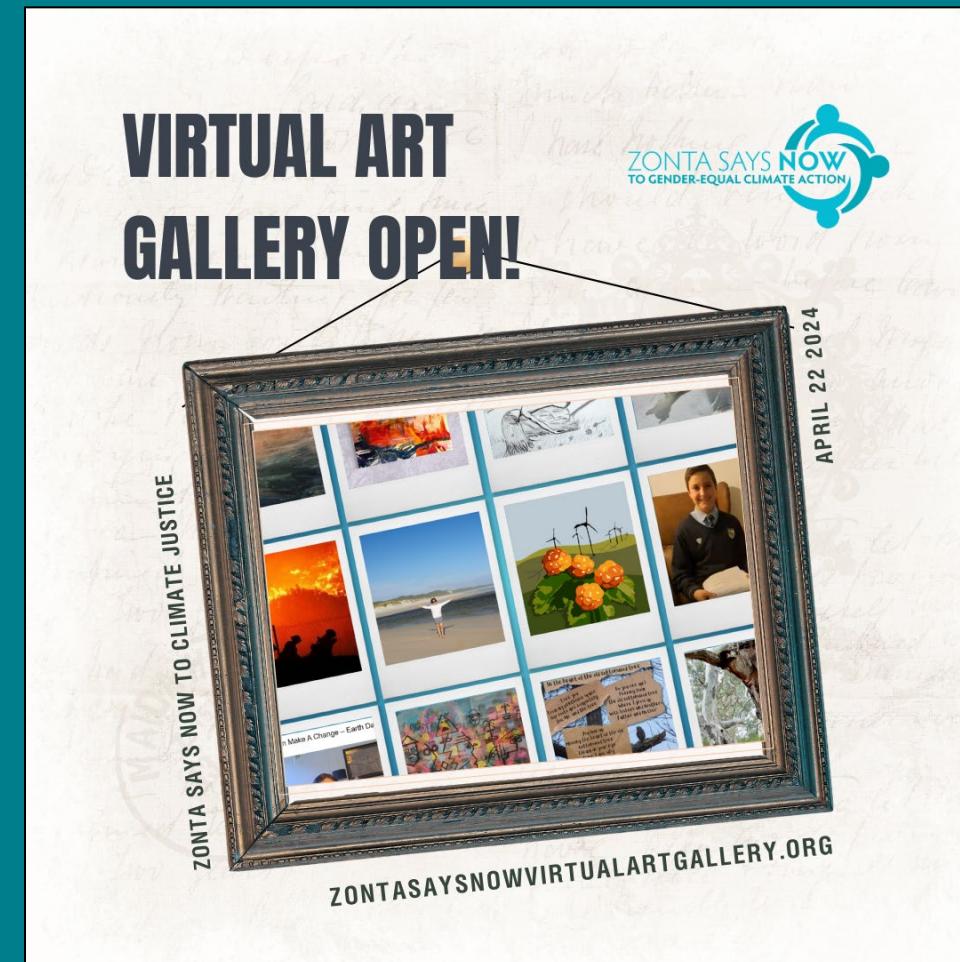
Sally Anzan-Delbegue
ZC Lome-Millenium
Cote D'Ivoire



Social Media

Thank you to the Social Media Team

- **Pia Hultgren**, Sweden
- **Julie Trone**, USA
- **Dee Croft**, Canada
- **Malin Bunnstad Ottosson**, Sweden
- **Mari Delos Santos**, Philippines





VIRTUAL ART GALLERY

HOME SUBMISSIONS

"The climate crisis is not 'gender neutral'. Women and girls experience the greatest impacts of climate change, which amplifies existing gender inequalities and poses unique threats to their livelihoods, health, and safety." – [UN Women](#)



ENVISIONING A GENDER-EQUAL SUSTAINABLE FUTURE THROUGH THE ARTS

We are bombarded with the science and numbers of climate change, and for many people the numbers are meaningless. However, through the arts, we can connect with our feelings and emotions and cut through the numbers to better understand the problems and the possible futures we can create.



How Children Can Make A Change – Earth Day Poem



One Word, Act



Sustainable Future



A Vision of What Was Lost



Fire and Flood



Tarkine



River Red Gum



Untouched Environment

ZONTA Says Now to Climate Justice | Virtual Art Gallery (zontasaysnowvirtualartgallery.org)



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NGO CSW 68

- 2-hour online workshop on climate, women & poverty
- Conversation Circles
- See our working page at zontasaysnow.org.au

Convention Zonta Says NOW Activities

- Pre-Convention Virtual Workshop 24 May
 - *Uniting for Climate Justice and Equality*
 - Replaces May meeting
 - Register for the Convention to attend
 - Access workshop recording via Whova app that opens on 30 April
- Face-to-face workshop 27 June
 - *Are you and your community disaster-ready?*
- Panel discussion 30 June
 - Lisa Blair
 - Dipisha Bhujel
 - Carole Theobald

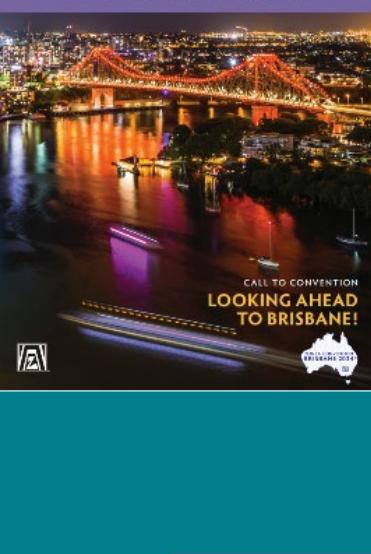


Strategic Plan



Zonta Says NOW is the campaign for climate justice

Zonta will fully embrace climate justice as an area of focus, and we will further develop Zonta Says NOW as the campaign for our activities to address climate justice at local, national and international levels.



Climate Justice: Putting gender equity and human rights at the core of decision-making and action on climate change

ACHIEVING CLIMATE JUSTICE

A Message from the Zonta Says NOW Working Group

Around the globe, women and girls are facing challenges within their everyday lives due to the climate crisis.

- In Mozambique, Aayan, age 11, is frightened she will be forced into marriage. Her family lost everything in floods, leaving them destitute and unable to feed her.
- In Australia, Maria, age 79, walks to the local library to find relief from extreme heat as she cannot afford to effectively cool her apartment. She has a heart condition and is worried about how she will financially, physically and mentally survive the summer.
- In Nigeria, Ralia, age 33, saw her entire market wash away in floods – taking away her livelihood and she is worried how she will feed her children.
- In Canada, Judith, age 42, has a daughter with severe asthma that is made worse by the wild fires. Judith is worried she may lose her job and has to stay home to care for her child.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE?

Climate Change: The long-term changes in the Earth's climate that are warming the atmosphere, ocean and land.

Climate Crisis: The serious problems that are being caused, or are likely to be caused, by changes in the planet's climate, including weather extremes and natural disasters, ocean acidification and sea-level rise, loss of biodiversity, food and water insecurity, health risks, economic disruption, displacement and even violent conflict.

Climate Justice: Putting gender equity and human rights at the core of decision-making and action on climate change as women and children are often more vulnerable in natural disasters. This is Zonta's focus on climate-related topics.

Climate Action: Actions we all should take to address climate change, climate crisis and climate justice.

Source: UNDP

Changing Climate and the Gender Gap

Our changing climate is widening the gender gap. Extreme heat, drought, fires, storms and floods cause severe social disruption, with millions losing their homes and livelihoods, and, in turn, magnify any existing inequalities, including gender inequality. Globally, women have less access to resources and opportunities than men, due to social norms and caring responsibilities. This makes them more vulnerable to the impacts of the climate crisis and more likely to be injured or killed during an extreme weather event. And, due to systemic gender inequality, women will find it harder to rebuild their lives after a disaster. The social upheaval caused by disasters increases women and

The climate crisis is a human rights crisis — and a women's rights crisis.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, at CSW 66, 2022.

girls' risk of child marriage, forced prostitution, abuse, assault and human trafficking and also disrupts access to employment, education and health.

Yet women are key to resolving the climate crisis. Countries with more women in parliament often have more stringent climate policies and lower carbon emissions. When more women are on corporate boards, there is better transparency around carbon emission data. If women globally had the same legal rights as men, they could own and improve land (and feed 150 million more people), increase food security and start businesses to support their families. If girls had 12 years of education, they would have more choices, fewer children and more skills to build resilient communities than girls without education. Strengthening access to sexual and reproductive health gives women more options and opportunities, enabling their families and communities to survive better during and after a disaster.

Closing the Gap with Zonta

The Zonta Says NOW Working Group's task is to implement the recommendations in Zonta International's Statement on Climate Change by closing the gender gaps in education, economic opportunity, disaster response, STEM, health and leadership to achieve climate justice.

To keep Zontians, their families and communities safe during the immediate disaster and their aftermath, we are coming up with practical steps to take. We are developing 'action' and 'emergency' packages that would be available to Zonta members and



"When I visited our Ending Child Marriage project in Mozambique this year, I found that in every village, the local authorities said the biggest driver for child marriage was the changing climate. Homes that were hit by cyclones were destroyed and families did not have the means to rebuild them. To get the necessary money, families gave their adolescent daughters away to be married. We must take action to achieve climate justice, so no adolescents are forced to marry as a means to survive climate-related disasters." —President Ute Scholz.

The climate crisis is a gender equality crisis in which women are disproportionately affected. Through Zonta Says NOW, you can be part of the solution to build a better world for women and girls. To find out more,

Working Group: implements the recommendations in the Statement on Climate Change.



Statement on Climate Change

ZONTA INTERNATIONAL'S
**STATEMENT ON
CLIMATE CHANGE**
A GENDER EQUALITY ISSUE

Approved by the Zonta International Board April 2021; Published June 2021

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WWW.ZONTA.ORG

Calls on governments to

Meet obligations under **Paris Climate Agreement**

Educate girls and include STEM and climate change

Involve more women in **decision-making** processes

Enable women's full **participation in the economy**

Include women in **disaster preparedness planning** that include women's needs

Calls on members to

Increase **awareness** and raise awareness locally

Promote girls' **education**, climate literacy, women in STEM

Support women's inclusion in national and local **decision-making** on environmental sustainability.

Advocate for national policies that ensure women's full and equal **participation in the economy**.

Include **gendered climate change advocacy** actions



Statement on Climate Change

2022-2024 focus

ZONTA INTERNATIONAL'S

STATEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE

A GENDER EQUALITY ISSUE

Approved by the Zonta International Board April 2021; Published June 2021

Priorities reflected in our workshops for the Convention

- *Uniting for Climate Justice and Equality*
- *Are you and your community disaster-ready?*

EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

WWW.ZONTA.ORG

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Statement on Climate Change

2022-2024 focus

2024-2026 focus

STATEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE

A GENDER EQUALITY ISSUE

Approved by the Zonta International Board April 2021; Published June 2021

March NGO CSW 68 presentation



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Virtual workshops will be held during May.

Keep up to date on the Convention website!

The power of women

- European Court of Human Rights
- 2,500 older women from Switzerland
- 9 years in court
- Success!

Human rights violated by Swiss inaction on climate, ECHR rules in landmark case

Court finds in favour of group of older Swiss women who claimed weak policies put them at greater risk of death from heatwaves



▶ Older Swiss women win historic climate court ruling – video

Weak government climate policies violate fundamental human rights, the European court of human rights has ruled.

News / Other Business





On Earth Day

1. Breathe the air that connects us
2. Take a walk in nature
3. Listen to the birds
4. Reflect on how we are building a better, more sustainable world for women and girls

Donate to the Foundation's Endowment Fund

(Zonta's Future Fund)

https://secure2.convio.net/zonta/site/Donation2?1640.donation=form1&df_id=1640&mfc_pref=T



Be inspired



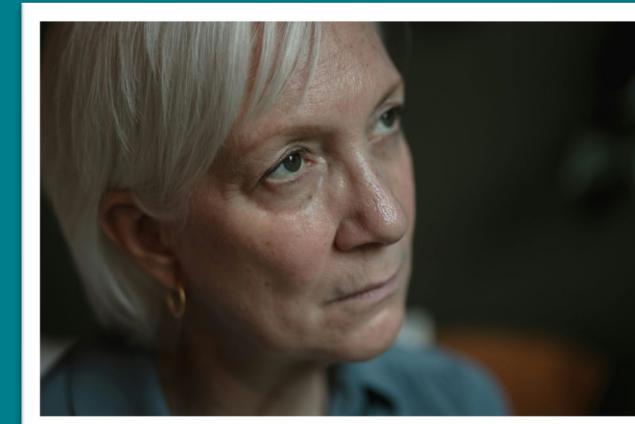
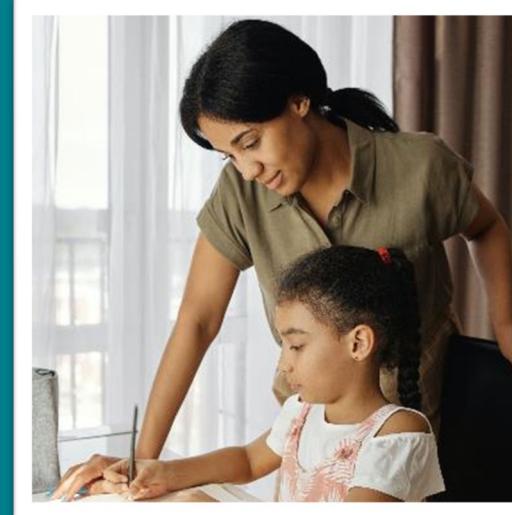
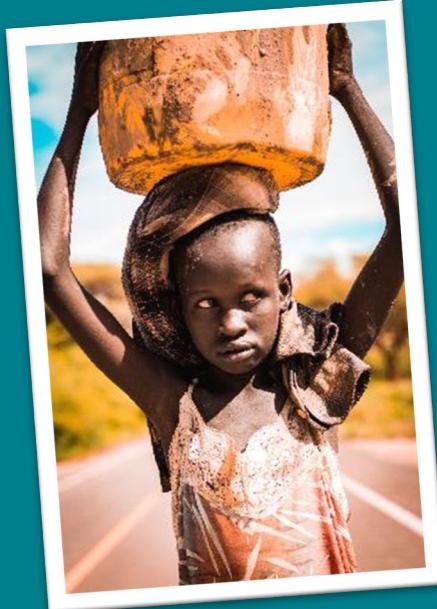
asknature.org



[Bloomberg.com/originals/series/
an-optimists-guide-to-the-planet](https://Bloomberg.com/originals/series/an-optimists-guide-to-the-planet)



Working to achieve climate justice for women and girls





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Next Meetings



Next Meetings

**NEW DATES for
May and June meetings!
Register at Zonta Events**



May - Zonta International Pre Convention Virtual Workshop

- **Friday 24 May, 1 pm to 2.30 pm UTC**
- Chicago 8 am to 9.30 am
- You need to register for the Convention to access the virtual workshop.

June – Intercontinental Think Tank

- **Sunday 23 June at 10 am UTC (note new date!)**
- This session will be hosted by Zontians from Europe and Africa. [Register](#)

For 2024's MEETING DATES and the video and slides from today's meeting, visit:
<https://zontasaysnow.org.au/intercontinental-think-tank/>



Intercontinental Think Tank Thank you

Resources: zonta.org/zontasaysnow

Draft resources, meeting notes, videos: www.zontasaysnow.org.au

Email: info@zontasaysnow.org.au