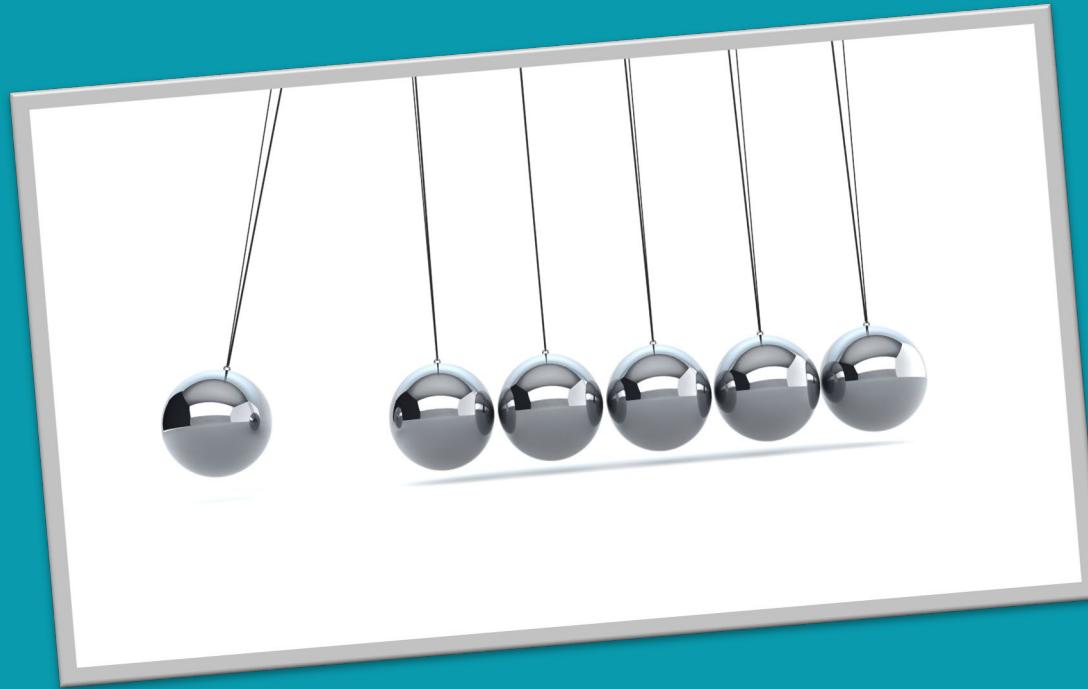




**ZONTA**  
INTERNATIONAL

BUILD A BETTER WORLD  
FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

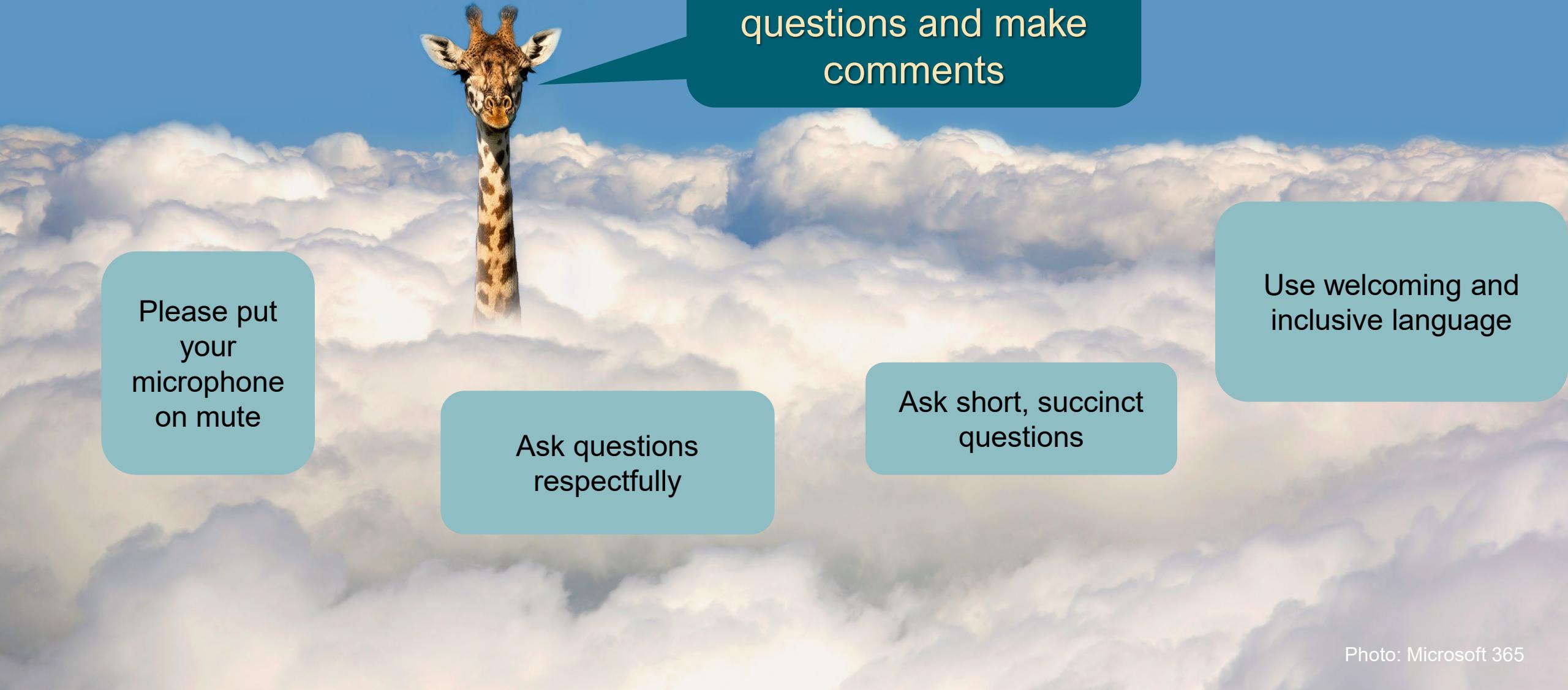


# Intercontinental Think Tank

Zoom Meeting - 21 July 2024  
3 am to 4.30 am UTC



# Housekeeping



Please put  
your  
microphone  
on mute

Ask questions  
respectfully

Use the chat line to ask  
questions and make  
comments

Ask short, succinct  
questions

Use welcoming and  
inclusive language



# Today's Journey

Welcome

Dr Eugene Cordero  
San Jose University  
and Green Ninja, USA

Q and A

Dipisha Bhujel  
Project Sparsa, Nepal

Other News

What's ahead in the  
new biennium?

Q and A

Next meeting



# Today's Presentation Team



Errick Elavia  
ZC Bombay 1  
India



Dilruba Ahmed  
ZC Chittagong  
Bangladesh



[Map](#)



Carole Theobald  
ZC Perth  
Western Australia



Sue Lees and Sandra Burns  
ZC Melbourne-on-Yarra  
Victoria, Australia



Nelson Mandela International Day  
18 July

*"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."* — Nelson Mandela

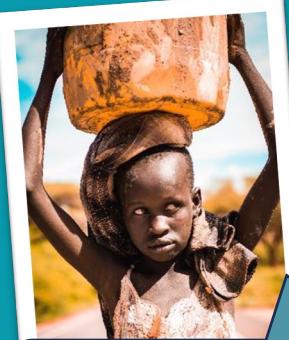


# Why does Zonta Say NOW?

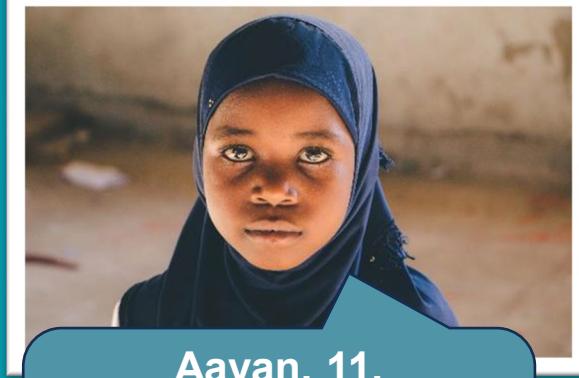


Stops the train by taking **climate action** and closing the gender gaps in **leadership, education, economic opportunity, health, and safety**.

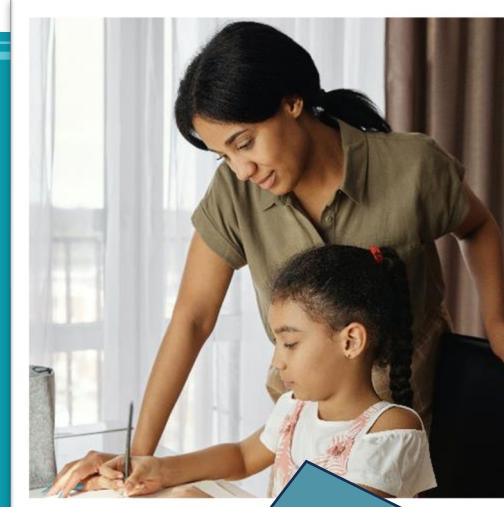
# Life for women and girls at the end of the train



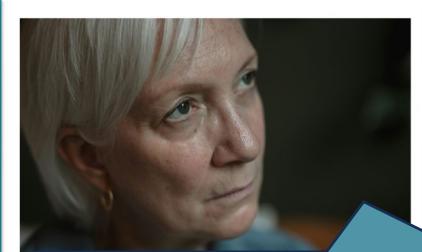
**Dabor, 9, Sudan**  
Drought means no time for school.



**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.



**Freya, 51, Germany**, in temporary shelter, 2 years after floods, no money for a new home.



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



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

# The Statistics

**1°C**

rise in average temperature associated with



**6%**

rise in violence against women

**36.2 million**

climate

refugees in 2022, and this could rise to

**1.2 billion**

by 2050



**10%**

increase or decrease in  
average rainfall associated with

**1%**

rise in child marriage –  
when crops fail, families sell their  
daughters into marriage



**1 in 5**

women who are refugees or  
who have been displaced because of a natural  
disaster has experienced sexual violence





# 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.



# Zonta's International Service Projects for 2024-2026

[Zonta.org](https://www.zonta.org)



UNFPA

## Ending Child Marriage

US\$1.5 M

12 countries:

Bangladesh, Burkina  
Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana,  
India, Mozambique, Nepal,  
Niger, Sierra Leone,  
Uganda, Yemen, Zambia



UNFPA

## Climate Empower

US\$1M

Prevent climate-induced  
gender-based violence.

Madagascar,  
Mozambique, South  
Sudan



UNICEF

## Laaha

US\$0.75M

Extending to 12 countries,  
this virtual safe space  
where women and girls  
learn about gender-based  
violence and sexual and  
reproductive health.



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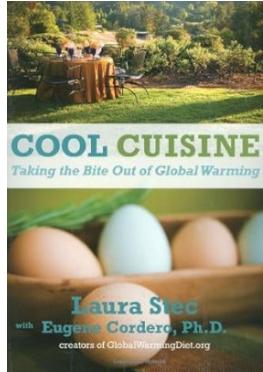
Q and A

# Dr Eugene Cordero



The Green Ninja  
(and Burrito King)

SJSU SAN JOSÉ STATE  
UNIVERSITY



- Professor in Department of Meteorology and Climate Science at San Jose State University, California, USA
- Former climate scientist at NASA, cookbook author, film producer
- Founder of Green Ninja

**Purposeful Science  
for Student  
Leadership and  
Success**

At Green Ninja, we create a seamless teaching experience that cultivates environmental awareness through storytelling, sparking curiosity and yielding exceptional outcomes.





Presentation by Dr Eugene Cordero



## Q and A

- What would you like to know more about?
- What are your main take-home messages?



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# Dipisha Bhujel



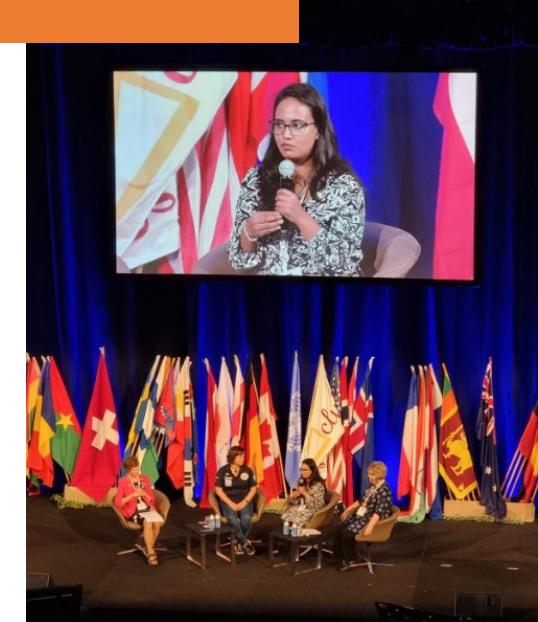
Social entrepreneur,  
menstrual equity advocate



**Dipisha Bhujel was unable to join the meeting due to storms in Bangladesh**



- International Young Women in Public Affairs Awardee
- Co-founder and Chairwoman at Sparsa – a social enterprise producing compostable menstrual pads from banana plants with profits going to menstrual health education
- Winner of The Iris Project STEM



**Dipisha Bhujel was unable to join the meeting due  
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# Dipisha Bhujel



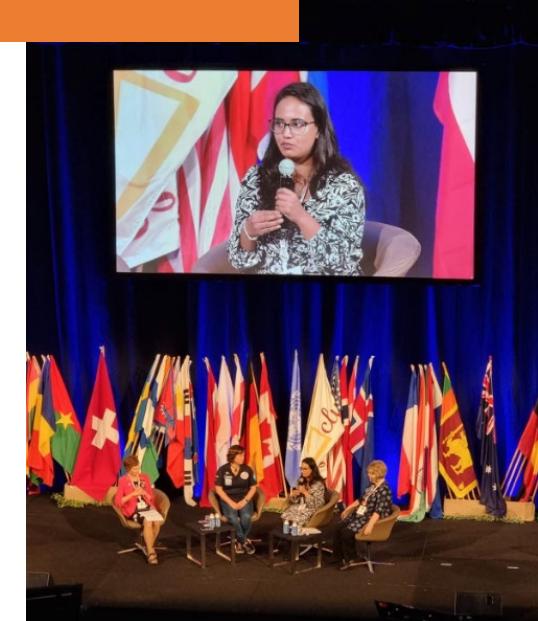
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Presentation by Dipisha Bhujel



# Q and A

- **What do you want to know more about?**
- **What are your main take-home messages?**

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# What's ahead in 2024-2026?



Please put any questions  
in the chat line...

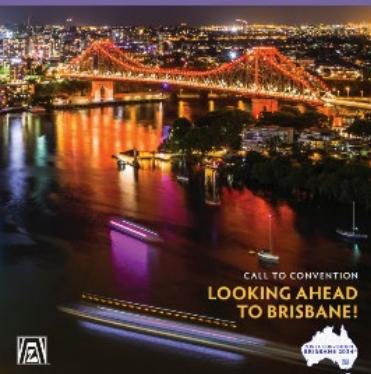


# Strategic Plan



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 Zontians



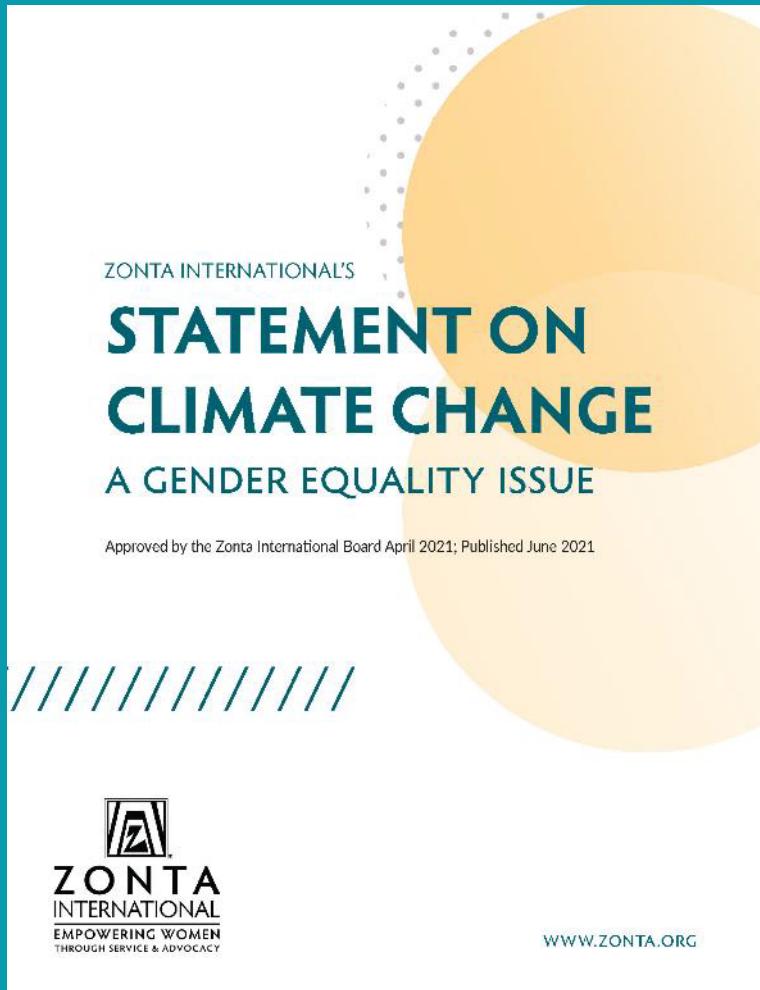
*"When I visited our Ending Child Marriage project in Mozambique this year, I found that in every village, the local authorities said the biggest driver for child marriage was the changing climate. Homes that were hit by cyclones were destroyed and families did not have the means to rebuild them. To 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



## 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

ZONTA INTERNATIONAL'S

## STATEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE

A GENDER EQUALITY ISSUE

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

//////////



[WWW.ZONTA.ORG](http://WWW.ZONTA.ORG)

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Meet obligations under **Paris Climate Agreement**

**Calls on members to**

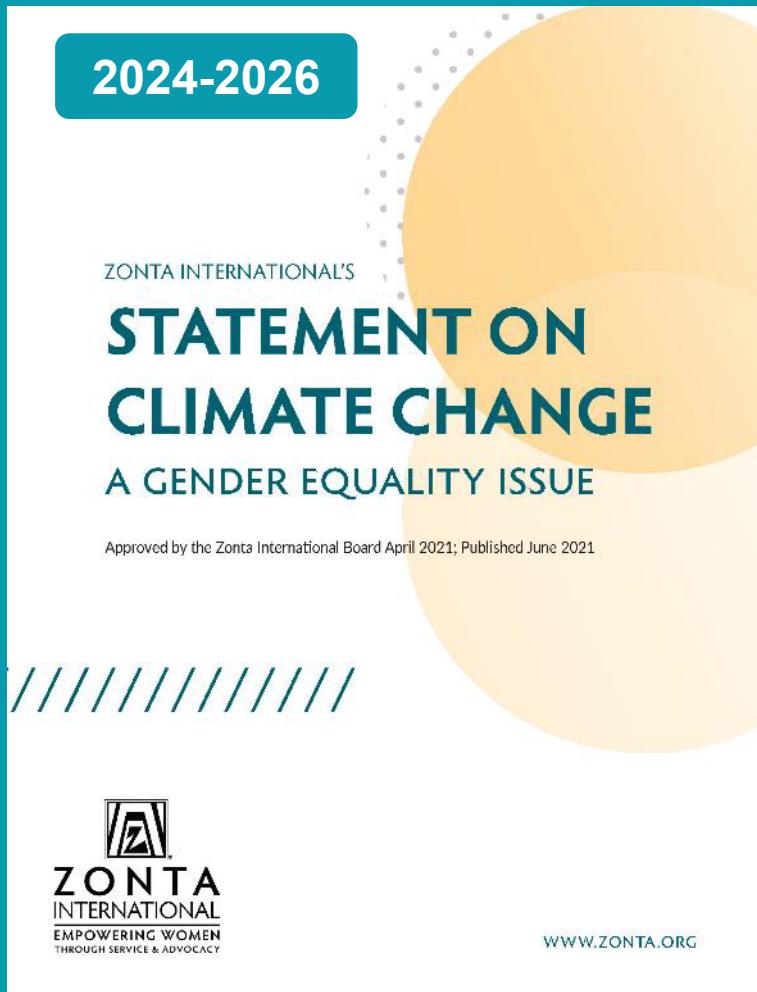
Increase **awareness** and raise awareness locally

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# Statement on Climate Change



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Enable women's full  
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Calls on members to

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.**



# Biennial Goals 2024-2026

## Credible and Visible Voice

### Advocacy and Service

Violence Against Women

Climate Justice

Women in Decision-Making

Education Equality

Training program on women's rights and how to be a gender equity advocate

Advocacy on a **national** level via caucuses / unions etc

Quarterly virtual advocacy series

Remarkable Women, Powerful Stories – podcast

Quarterly stakeholder newsletter

### Activism Events:

- 8 March – IWD /Rose Day
- 22 April – Earth Day
- 11 October – Girl Child
- 25 Nov-10 Dec – 16 Days (100% clubs)



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## Engagement of Audiences and Allies

### Increased communication

(internally and externally)

- African Union
- Council of Europe
- Country-based advocacy groups

### CSW

- ZI hosts at least one side event
- ZI delegation increases 5% per year



# Key Events /Actions during biennium

## Think Tanks

- Forum for *members and guests* to learn about gender-equal climate justice, share ideas, and inspire action.

## Think Tank Meetings

- Two-monthly (odd months)
- Rotating times:
  - A. North / South America
    - Sept & March 6 pm UTC
  - B. Europe / Africa
    - Nov & May 10 am UTC
  - C. Asia / Oceania
    - Jan & July 3 am UTC

## Climate Justice Activities

- Raise issues from Think Tanks with Advocacy Teams at international, national, regional and local levels
- Use events to raise awareness of issues

## IWD / Rose Day (8 March)

- Tools to promote economic opportunity and decision-making

## CSW 69 (10-21 March)

- CSW NGO NY in-person/online event

## Earth Day (22 April)

- Virtual Art Gallery Annual Display
- Podcast/webinar

## Girl Child (10 October)

- Social Media messages to support Zonta Says NO

## 16 Days (25 Nov- 10 Dec)

- Social Media messages to support Zonta Says NO



# Zonta Says NOW Structure





# Our Toolkit

## Website

Make pages easier to find or create a separate website?

## Social Media

To support

- Advocacy themes
- Events

## Intercontinental Think Tank

Guidance for hosting teams

## Virtual Art Gallery

Launch on Earth Day

## Framework for Action

**Gather the facts**

**Collaborate**

**Advocate**

**Action Guide**

Zonta International's [Statement on Climate Change: a Gender Equality Issue](#) (the Statement) contains recommendations for Zontians and governments to promote gender-equal climate justice. These are detailed below.

Zonta Says NOW is developing a series of Action Guides to implement the Statement. The Action Guides focus on selected recommendations and use Zonta Says NOW's five-step process to generate some ideas for action. The five steps are: gather the facts, lead by example, use our voice, advocate, and collaborate.

The Zonta Says NOW Working Group encourages members, clubs, districts, and Unions/Councils to use the Action Guides as a starting point. Every country has different priorities and cultures, so please feel free to adapt and add actions as required. Please email any suggested improvements to [info@zontasaysnow.org.au](mailto:info@zontasaysnow.org.au).

Action Guide number
Recommendation in Statement
Zonta International calls on its membership to:
• Increase their own awareness of climate change and on its gender-related consequences and raise awareness publicly.
• Include gendered climate change advocacy actions in their advocacy plans.
• Support the inclusion of women at the national and local tables of decision-making on environmental sustainability.

Action Guides to advocate for women's

- Full and equal Economic Opportunity
- Inclusion in decision making on environmental sustainability

Plus 'how to' leaflets, presentations, videos etc to guide national groups, districts, clubs



# Calendar of events - 1

Action 2024	July	August	September	October	November	December
Working Group meetings	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Intercontinental Think Tanks - odd months National groups - even months	Asia/ Oceania (21 Jul 3am UTC)	National groups	N/S America (8 Sep 6pm UTC)	National groups	Europe/ Africa (10 Nov 10am UTC)	National groups
Events				Day of the Girl Child	Zonta Says NO/16 days of Activism	
Key activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Establish<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Working Group</li><li>○ Intercontinental Think Tank hosting teams</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Research:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Decision-making</li><li>○ Economic Opportunity</li></ul></li><li>• Promote Virtual Art Gallery</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prepare climate justice messages to support Day of the Girl Child</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prepare climate justice messages to support 16 Days of Activism</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Investigate potential allies (e.g. scientists, NGOs in Global South)</li></ul>	



# Calendar of events - 2

Action 2025	January	February	March	April	May	June
Working Group meetings	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
• Intercontinental Think Tanks - odd months • National groups - even months	Asia/ Oceania (12 Jan 3am UTC) Asia/ Oceania	National groups	N/S America hosts CSW event	National groups	Europe/ Africa (11 May 10 am UTC)	National groups
Events			• IWD (8 March) • CSW (10-21 March)	• Earth Day (22 April)		
Key activities	• Share IWD/ Earth Day /area workshop tools promoting ○ decision-making and ○ economic opportunity.	• Prepare Earth Day podcast /webinar (with Advocacy Committee)	• Upload Virtual Art Gallery entries • Present at CSW NGO NY	• Earth Day events ○ Launch Virtual Art Gallery ○ Podcast/webinar event	• Distribute District Conference tools	



# Calendar of events - 3

Action 2025	July	August	September	October	November	December
Working Group meetings	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
• Intercontinental Think Tanks - odd months • National groups - even months	Asia/ Oceania (13 Jul 3am UTC) Asia/ Oceania	National groups	N/S America (14 Sep 6pm UTC)	National groups	Europe/ Africa (9 Nov 10 am UTC)	National groups
Events				Day of the Girl Child	Zonta Says NO/16 days of Activism	
Key activities			• Refresh climate justice messages to support Day of the Girl Child	• Refresh climate justice messages to support 16 Days of Activism		



# Calendar of events - 4

Action 2026	January	February	March	April	May	June
Working Group meetings	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
• Intercontinental Think Tanks - odd months • National groups - even months	Asia/ Oceania (11 Jan 3am UTC)	National groups	N/S America hosts CSW event	National groups	Europe/ Africa (10 May 10 am UTC)	National groups
Events			• IWD (8 March) • CSW (Mar)	• Earth Day (22 April)		Vancouver Convention
Key activities	• Refresh IWD/ area workshop tools	• Prepare Earth Day podcast/webinar (with Advocacy Committee)	• Upload Virtual Art Gallery entries • Present at CSW NGO NY	• Earth Day events ○ Virtual Art Gallery launch ○ Podcast/webinar event		• Presentations for workshops at Vancouver Convention



We have lots to look forward to!



# Today's Journey

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Dipisha Bhujel  
Project Sparsa, Nepal

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Next meeting



New York, 2024

# Summit of the Future

20-21 September – Action Days  
22-23 September – Summit

**Aim:**  
Turbocharge the  
Sustainable  
Development  
Goals



“

We can't **build a future** for our  
grandchildren with a system built for  
our grandparents.”

ANTÓNIO GUTERRES, United Nations Secretary-General



## Pact for the Future

*Action-oriented, endorsed by Heads of Governments*

- Sustainable development and financing for development
- International peace and security
- Science, technology and innovation and digital cooperation
- Youth and future generations
- Transforming global governance

*All chapters include  
human rights, gender and  
sustainable development*

Declaration on Future Generations

Global Digital Compact



# Discussion



**What have you learned  
from today's meeting?**

**What excites you about  
the new biennium?**



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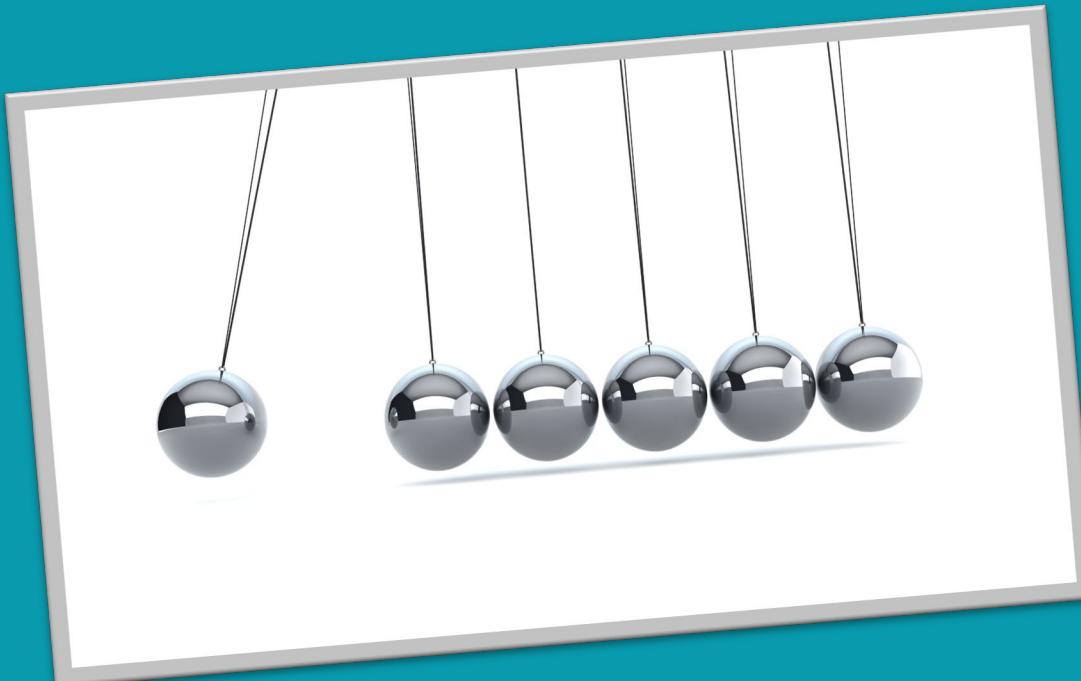
What's ahead in the  
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# Next Meetings



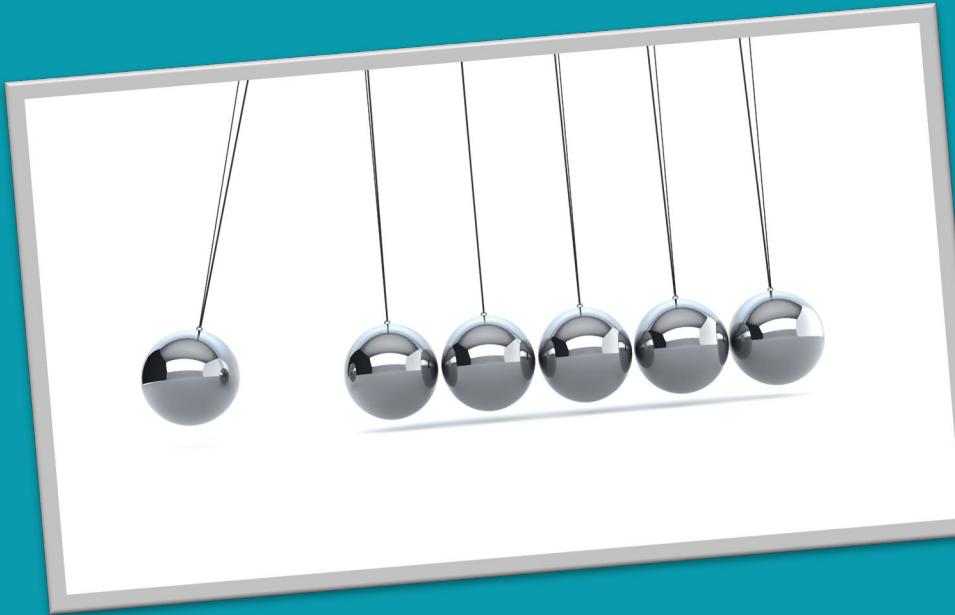
## **Sunday 8 September 6pm UTC**

- Hosted by Zontians from North and South America

## **Sunday 10 November 10am UTC**

- Hosted by Zontians from Europe and Africa

Register today at [zonta.org/Events](https://zonta.org/Events)



# Intercontinental Think Tank Thank You

Resources: [zonta.org/zontasaysnow](http://zonta.org/zontasaysnow)

Draft resources, meeting notes, videos: [www.zontasaysnow.org.au](http://www.zontasaysnow.org.au)

To go on mailing list, email: [info@zontasaysnow.org.au](mailto:info@zontasaysnow.org.au)