



Elevating ☺ **Care Work** **in Climate Action:**

The Unseen and Unpaid
Side Event at Africa Climate Summit 2025

Supported by: Fundación Avina | Climate & Care Initiative



Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



Why This Event Matters

Across Africa, the effects of climate change are not only measured in rising temperatures, droughts, or floods. They are also written in the daily struggles of women who fetch water farther than ever before, who nurse family members through heat-induced illness, who spend longer hours cooking with scarce firewood, all while their work remains invisible, unpaid, and undervalued.

This is the unseen face of climate change: the stolen dreams of millions of women whose lives are consumed by unpaid care work intensified by environmental crises.

Yet these same women are the unsung architects of resilience. They are the first to adapt, the first to respond, and the first to hold households together in the face of climate shocks. They do not just carry the burden, they carry the solutions.

For too long, care has been treated as a private responsibility, hidden from the eyes of policymakers and donors. But climate justice cannot be achieved while ignoring care work. It is time to center care in the



What This Side Event Will Explore

This side event brings care work from the margins to the main stage of climate policy by exploring:

- The intersection of care and climate justice, how unpaid care is a frontline site of climate impact.
- Real stories of women caregivers from vulnerable African communities whose lives and resilience strategies highlight what is often ignored in climate debates.
- Policy and finance gaps, why global climate funds and national policies rarely account for unpaid care work, and how this perpetuates inequality.
- Innovative practices from the ground up, eco-friendly stoves, briquette-making, water-saving technologies, and other climate-smart caregiving strategies.
- Pathways to transformation, practical strategies to mainstream care into climate finance, adaptation frameworks, and governance systems.



Our Objectives

This side event will:

- Elevate care work as a non-negotiable pillar of climate adaptation and resilience.
- Advocate for investment and policy attention to unpaid caregiving as critical to climate action.
- Mobilize solidarity across governments, donors, civil society, and communities for care-responsive climate systems.
- Launch partnerships to scale gender-responsive, community-rooted solutions across Africa.



Join the Movement!

This is not just another panel. It is a rallying point — a collective call to governments, donors, activists, and community leaders to:

- Recognize unpaid care work as climate work.
- Resource women caregivers equitably with funding, technology, and policy support
- Reform climate strategies to be gender-just, inclusive, and community-driven.

By attending, you are not just joining a conversation you are joining a movement to restore dignity, possibility, and hope to millions of women whose labor sustains Africa's resilience.

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