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68th session of the Commission on the Status of Women

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The 68th annual Commission on the Status of Women (CSW68), the UN's largest annual gathering on gender equality and women's empowerment, will take place this year from 11 - 22 March under the priority theme, "Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective".

The world is at a crucial crossroad for gender equality. <u>Globally 10.3 per cent of women live in extreme</u> <u>poverty</u> today, and they are poorer than men. Progress towards ending poverty needs to be 26 times faster to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

Accelerated progress requires investment. Data from 48 developing economies shows that <u>an additional</u> \$360 billion is needed per year to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment across key global goals, including to end poverty and hunger.

In this decisive year, as 2.6 billion people go to the polls to cast their votes, they have the power to demand higher investment in gender equality.

Solutions to end women's poverty are widely recognized: investing in policies and programmes that address gender inequalities and boosting women's agency and leadership. Such investments yield enormous dividends: Over 100 million women and girls could be lifted out of poverty if governments prioritized education and family planning, fair and equal wages, and expanded social benefits. Almost 300 million jobs could be created by 2035 through investments in care services. Closing gender gaps in employment could boost Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita by 20 per cent across all regions.

At CSW68, governments, civil society organizations, experts and activists from across the world will come together to agree on actions and investments that can end women's poverty and advance gender equality.

Key CSW68 events

11 MARCH



Opening session

10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

The Commission's first day will open with the election of officers, the adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters, and the introduction of the official documents. It will lead into a general discussion on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Womer twenty-third special session of the General Assembly.

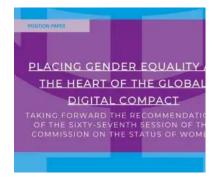
Explainers



Your guide to CSW68



How gender equality can reduce poverty



Placing gender equality at the of the Global Digital Compact: forward the recommendations CSW67

News and stories



Pushing forward for gender equality: CSW68 event showcases strategies for countering pushback and advancing women's rights around...



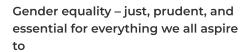
Why investing in women's organizations is critical during crisis: Five stories of resilience



At CSW68, Generation Equality for feminist financing and colle action for women's economic ju

Speeches and Statements







We are not deterred – Let us push forward together for gender equality



Ambitiously proactive – Genera Equality brings hope to stalled progress and financing

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