

ADOLESCENTS LEAD THE DIALOGUE ON ACCOUNTABILITY FOR GENDER EQUALITY

Adolescent Girls
Investment Plan



ABOUT

Over the past several months, adolescents & young leaders were engaged in various spaces to share their experiences, vision, aspirations and demands, wherever enabled.

Paris Forum presented the opportunity to take this engagement a step further & define the accountability practise and implementation measures especially when it comes to meaningful engagement the adolescent and youth leaders.

As I end, I'd just like you to imagine two different worlds, 25 years from now; one in which where we are still having the same conversation as we are having today and another where we are looking back to this historical moment when all the stakeholders and changemakers came together to change this world for better. I, for one, can't wait to celebrate the progress years from now but for that, we need to start today. The choice is ours.

- Thubelihle Nkiwane, Girl Leader, Zimbabwe

EVENT

Adolescents lead the dialogue on accountability for gender equality

- An intergenerational dialogue with UN Women and GE Youth Task Force

SPEAKERS



OINDRILA GHOSH
Young leader, India



THUBELIHLE NKIWANE
Young leader, Zimbabwe



CHAMATHYA FERNANDO
Generation Equality Youth Task
Force Leader



PHUMZILE MLAMBO-NGCUKA
Executive Director UN Women

1st July 18:20 -19:05 CET

Generation Equality Paris Forum Side Event



Register here: https://bit.ly/GEF_AGIP



KEY TAKEAWAYS

Designed and held entirely by adolescent girl leaders, they utilized this event to raise their concerns and share their aspirations about the inclusion of girl leaders beyond the Paris Forum, especially when it comes to their inclusion in the implementation and accountability of girl-centric commitments over the next five years.

Below are the highlights from what was shared during the event.

Highlighting the collective demands of the girl leaders in the GEF process so far. These are:

1. Access to flexible, multi-year funding, and non-financial resources for girl-led and youth-led feminist groups and for the process to be adolescent and youth friendly.
2. Co-ownership and co-leadership with the adolescent leaders: adolescent girls to be formally consulted before any decisions concerning them are made and ensuring that they are involved in and are given the opportunity to co-create the accountability mechanism and co-lead the implementation and tracking of girl-centric commitments.
3. Urgent need for an intersectional approach in the implementation: recognizing that adolescent girls and similarly other vulnerable groups are experts of their own experiences so ensuring their inclusion in the implementation and accountability process.
4. Capacity strengthening: need to create multiple spaces and workshops to bring in the expertise, experience, and vision of diverse people with regards to feminist leadership, intersectional strategies so that global commitments can be localized.

Highlights from responses of GEF Leadership - Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director of UN Women and Chamathya Fernando, GE Youth Task Force on inclusion of girl leaders beyond the Paris Forum

Response highlights from ED Phumzile

1. Adolescent girls will be involved in drafting and implementing the accountability mechanisms.
2. Adolescent Girl Advisory Committee will be created by UNW with representation from different regions.
3. Adolescent Girl Advisory Committee will be supported to liaise with other girls' groups on the regional and national levels.
4. Many funders are keen to transfer financial support directly to the girls' groups.



We want to ensure that at the very grassroots, there are organizations that team up with everyone up to the top. So the funding that is targeted to the small organizations is therefore very important to enable that to happen. Just as much we want to teach you to fundraise for yourselves, we also at the same time should be able to contribute to your funding so that you don't spend all your time fundraising, you should spend time on implementing the plan that you have.

- Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director, UN WOMEN

There was a clear agreement that adolescent and young leaders should have a meaningful say in designing the GEF accountability mechanism but this is the bare minimum. We need to go beyond adolescent and youth participation and towards enabling and achieving youth leadership. When we say youth leadership, it means co-owning the space, having the power to design these spaces, to set the agenda. We have highlighted these demands in the Young Feminist Manifesto.

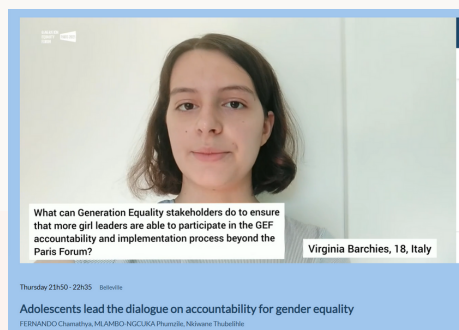
- Chamathya Fernando, GE YTF Young Leader

Response highlights from GE YTF young leader Chamathya

1. Youth leaders remain committed to ensure that there are spaces for adolescent and young leaders that are inclusive, diverse, and representative.
2. Youth leaders remain committed to push the transformation of power dynamics in order to carry out a more informed and feminist multi-stakeholder approach.
3. Youth leaders will continue to create spaces for the voices of young leaders from regional and local levels to guide the larger movements and will also push to include adolescent voices in their processes.
4. Youth leaders reinforce the demand that GEF stakeholders and official processes need to move beyond adolescent and youth engagement towards enabling true adolescent and youth leadership.
5. Youth leaders remain committed to reflecting on how they are including the voices of adolescent girls in their processes and actions.
6. Youth leaders highlighted the demand for sustained, flexible resourcing to young leaders to support their engagement in this process.

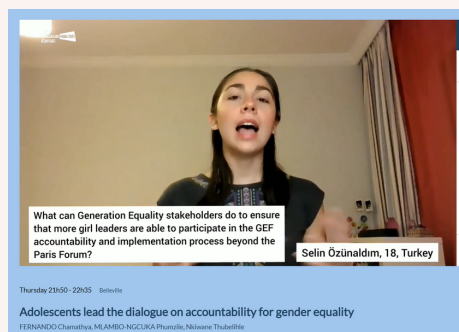


POWER TALK VIDEO CLIPS OF ADOLESCENT GIRL LEADERS PLAYED DURING THE EVENT



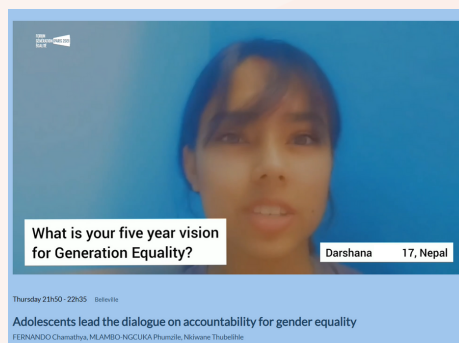
There needs to be constant dialogues with the girl leaders beyond the forum and supporting the ideas that girls brought to the table through concrete funding.

- Virginia Barchies, 18, Italy



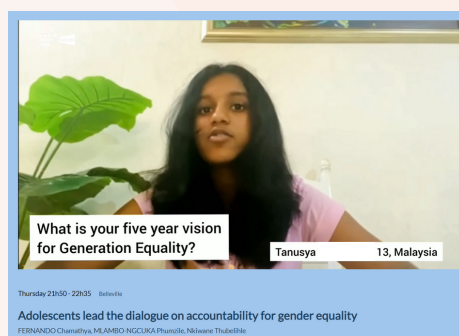
Incorporate power analysis through the GEF process and Action Coalition governance structure and processes that should be followed by concrete measures that are effective to counter power imbalances and lead to a more equal and fairer distribution of power.

- Selin Özünaldım, 18, Turkey



In the span of five years, I wish to see every community, government, international organization, and other stakeholders increase their investment in girls.

- Darshana, 17, Nepal



Today, not one country can say that they have achieved gender equality. Linking and rebuilding commitment and multi-stakeholder collaboration with youth and their allies is critical to achieving transformative change

- Tanusya, 13, Malaysia

EVENT DESIGN CORE TEAM



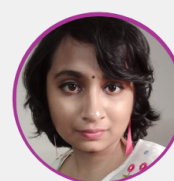
KALPA
Adolescent leader, India
(Event Design Core team)



THUBELIHLE NKIWANE
Young leader, Zimbabwe
(Event Design Core team & Speaker)



DARSHANA
Adolescent leader, Nepal
(Event Design Core team)



OINDRILA GHOSH
Young leader, India
(Event Design Core team & Moderator)



YANDE
Adolescent leader, Zambia
(Event Design Core team)