Zonta Says NOW to Gender-Equal Climate Action

Climate Justice: Another Key to Address Violence Against Women





Our Panel Today

Angela Brokmann

 Zonta Club of Louisville, KY, and C0-Chair of Zonta Says NOW to Climate Justice committee Zonta USA Caucus; member Zonta Says NOW International Workgroup

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 Zonta Club of Fairfax County, VA since 1998; Zonta International Advocacy Advisor to the UN Committee, Council of Europe Committee, Advocacy Committee, Zonta Says NO Working Group, and Zonta Says NOW Working Group; and founding Convener of Zonta USA Caucus through 2024

Joanne Gallos

 Zonta Club of Annapolis, MD; Zonta International Nominating Committee; Member – Zonta USA Caucus and Zonta Says NOW committee; District 3 Gender-Climate Action Now Chair and Advocacy Co-Chair

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 Zonta Club of Fort Collins, CO; C0-Chair of Zonta Says NOW to Climate Justice committee Zonta USA Caucus, North/South American Representative for Zonta Says NOW International Workgroup

Agenda

- The Train
- What is Climate Justice?
- Empowering Women and Girls to Achieve Climate Justice
- What is happening in your neck of the woods?
- Understanding the intersection of social justice and climate action
- Use your Voice
- Community building
- Advocacy
- Resources
- Discussion and Q&A



Girls and women are disproportionately affected by climate change—some far more than others.





FEMALE-LED HOUSEHOLDS



INDIGENOUS WOMEN



POOR WOMEN



WOMEN MANAGING LAND AND AGRICULTURE



LBGTQIA WOMEN

Women and girls are already adapting to climate change and are a powerful force for mitigation and sustainability strategies.



DIVERSIFY INCOME



FIGHT FOR NEW ENERGY MODELS



GUARANTEE FOOD

BECOME

their situations and the places they live.



INNOVATE AND **ENTREPRENEURIAL**



FIGHT FOR RIGHTS



TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE

...even in increasingly frequent crises and disasters, women tend to act in ways that promote climate sustainability while they fight to improve or restore

EMPOWERING WOMEN AND GIRLS CAN REVOLUTIONIZE **OUR FIGHT** AGAINST **CLIMATE CHANGE**



Despite all this, women are underrepresented in the spaces where climate policy and decisions are made. That needs to change.



We need equal representation of women from all backgrounds and lived experiences in these spaces. Policies and laws must take into account the needs and rights of women around the world.



ON GREAT SCALE CONSTRUCTIONS



MINING







ON LIVING RIGHTS



ON SCIENCE



ON POLITICS



ON CLIMATE **CHANGE DECISIONS**

Educating, empowering, and listening to women are the most powerful tools we have to address climate change. We need more women in positions of power. This term combines two issues - Social Injustices and Climate Change

These two issues are not felt evenly around the world.



Social Justice + Climate Action = Climate Justice

Climate Justice – Seeking resolution of unequal social and climate impacts on the most vulnerable

Example: Building awareness and advocating for clean water

Social Justice -

The view that everyone deserves equal economic, political, and social rights and opportunities. U.N. Definition **Example: Examining inequities** among community residents and advocating for those who lack clean drinking water – Flint, Michigan is a U.S. example.





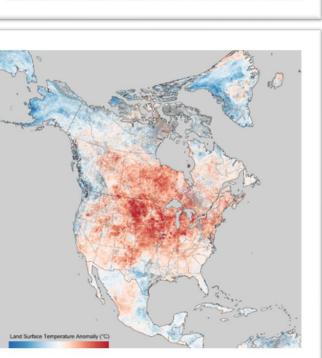
Zonta Says NOW seeks climate justice for women and girls

- ☐ To help women and girls learn how to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from the impacts of climate change on the same basis as men
- ☐ To encourage and empower women and girls to lead
- □ To achieve gender-equality
- ☐ To build our communities to be gender-balanced in decision making policies



Are Weather Patterns Intensifying?













HANDS UP

Which types of extreme weather events have affected your life, livelihood and/or community?

Please raise your hand or use the 'raise hand' icon if you have been impacted by

Storms

Heat

Other

Flooding

Drought

Rising sea level

Fires / smoke

Not affected

Achieving Gender-Equality

A
Deep-Rooted
Problem



Why Achieve Gender Equality?

Women and girls deserve to reach their full potential!!!

- Equal pay
- Equal educational opportunities
- Financial security
- Gender balanced decisions,
- Gender balanced political and leadership representation
- Safety

HANDS UP

Examining gender-equality in your community



Policy
decisions in
your
community
are made by
an equal
balance of
men and
women

Women and girls in your community have equal access to all healthcare and healthcare costs

Women and girls in your community earn the same as men and boys for the same jobs

Your community has both men and women legislators in equal numbers

Vulnerable populations in your community have equal resources for health, safety, and opportunities

Women and girls in your community have equal business ownership opportunities

I don't know





A changing disaster landscape

Disasters and dimate change are on the rise, presenting significant challenges to achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and national development objectives. This is attributed to a rising number of climate-related disasters as well as an increase in vulnerability to disasters, resulting for example from unplanned urban development, overdependence on certain livelihoods, and ecosystem degradation.

In 2019, 95 million people were affected by 396 disasters globally, contributing to 103 million USD in economic losses; and internally displacing 24.9 million individuals.

Global Disasters, 2019



Climate change is recognised as a disaster threat "multiplier" and is changing the disaster landscape. It is altering the frequency and intensity of hazards, affecting vulnerability to hazards, and changing exposure patterns. Sudden-onset weather events (such as flash floods) and slow-onset climate processes (such as sea level rise) are predicted to increase under future climate change scenarios. Over 90 percent of recent disasters were hydrometeorological in origin.

Unequal risks

Disasters affect women, girls, boys, and men differently. Across the board, from life expectancy, to education, health, violence, and nutrition, women are adversely and disproportionately impacted by disasters, including climate-related disasters and new hazards such as COVID-19.

Disaster mortality for women and girls is higher. Recent research by UN Women and UNICEF explored the gender and age inequality of disaster risk, and confirmed that women, children, and youth are among the most vulnerable and most impacted from disaster hazards, conflict, climate change, and other shocks

Women and children are 14 times more likely than men t die during disasters

UN Women 2019

- Women are under-represented in decisionmaking processes at all levels
- Gender gaps increase women's vulnerability
- Climate change is a disaster threat 'multiplier' because inequality combined with weather disasters increases violence of all forms, forced child marriage, and human trafficking worldwide

"WOMEN ARE KEY AGENTS OF CHANGE with unique knowledge to ensure the effectiveness and sustainability of disaster risk reduction and resilience action"

Climate Change Impacts Gender Equality

Women and girls are more susceptible to climate-related disasters due to existing social, economic, and cultural inequalities

 Example: Less resources such as land or business ownership, education and financial stability

Disruption of education, childcare, and health-care due to extreme weather events, drought, fire

 Safety concerns and school closures can result in early marriage and child labor

Sexual and Gender Based Violence

Displacement and loss of safe spaces can increase the risk

Violence against women and girls (VAWG) and climate change are two of the most pressing global emergencies of our time.



Following Hurricane Katrina, the rate of RAPE ROSE 53 TIMES the baseline rate in

Mississippi for that year among women displaced to trailer parks.









Between 2016 & 2019 1.698 ACTS **OF VIOLENCE** were recorded in Mexico and Central

America against women environmental human rights defenders.





In Ethiopia there was an increase in girls **SOLD INTO**

EARLY MARRIAGE in exchange for livestock to help families cope with the impacts of prolonged droughts.

following hurricane Maria in 2017, there was a **62% INCREASE** in requests for SURVIVOR-RELATED SERVICES.

Nepal witnessed

IN HUMAN TRAFFICKING

In Puerto Rico.

AN INCREASE

from an estimated 3.000-

5,000 annually in 1990 to

12,000-20,000 per year

after the earthquake.





Weather
Disasters
Widen the
Gender Gap

Job Insecurity Heat increases risk of GBV

Increased risk of child marriage

Less access to food, water, belongings, and community

Financial instability

Disruption of a 'normal life'

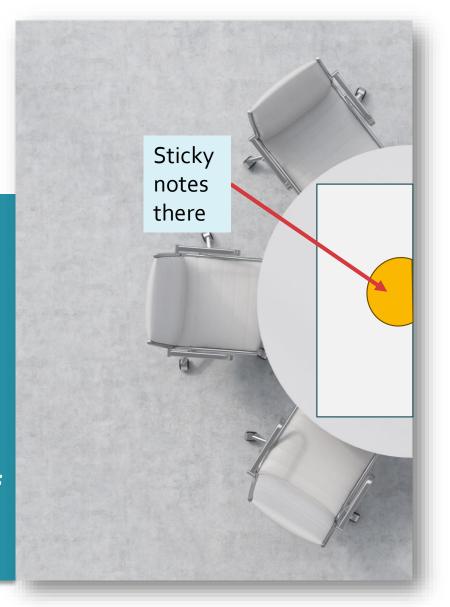


Activity - Teamwork

How social injustices worsen with intensifying and more frequent severe climate conditions

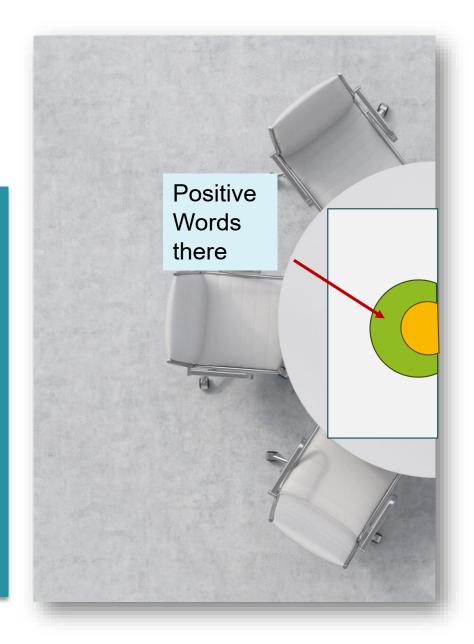


- □ Each table has heart shaped sticky notes.
- ☐ Choose one color for all to use
- ☐ When I say GO write as many social inequalities, gender gap issues, injustices to women and girls as possible.
- ☐ One thought per sticky note
- □ Place them in a small circle in the middle of the table

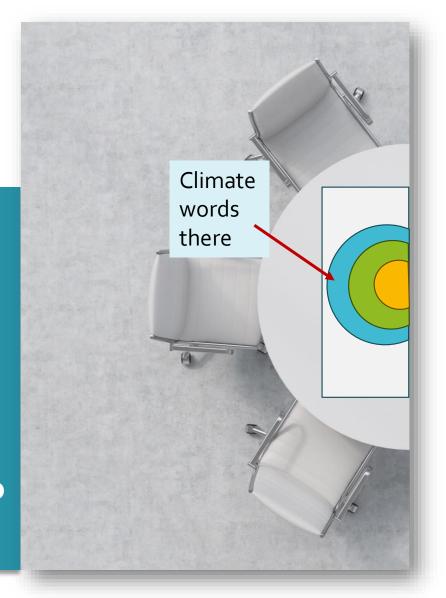


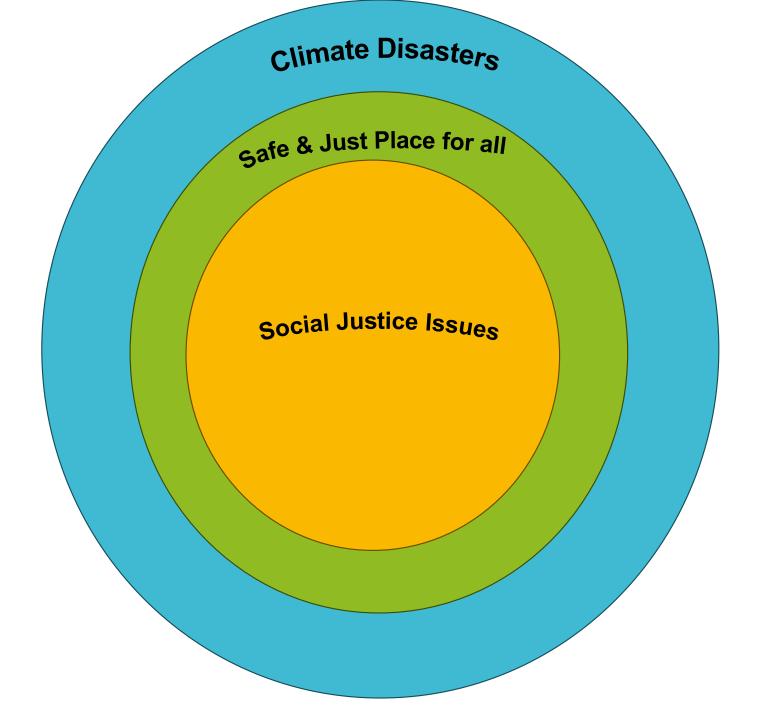
- □Choose another color sticky note
- ☐Write positive words that represent a gender equal and safe world for all:
 - Examples: Acceptance Health Freedom Prosperity

 Safety Thrive Equality
- ☐ One per sticky note
- ☐ Create a new circle around the middle circle with these words



- On a third color sticky note write as many words as you can think that describe climate change, weather related disasters, environmental degradation, and what is happening to our planet, animals, people, land, air, and water
- **□One per sticky note**
- □Form a larger circle around the other two circles







Angela Brokmann



Talk About it

TALKING ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE

Activity Talk About It



n Au tho r is lice nse d un der CC BY

Talk About It

Choose a Partner

Use your voice- Choose who speaks first.

Answer this question:

What do you love that you fear will be taken away due to climate change? And why?

Your listening partner – Writes down your fear on a sticky note, anonymously

Switch partners

Our team will collect the sticky notes at the end





What Did You Learn?





Group Discussion

What do you love that you fear may be taken away due to climate change?

10 Minute Break





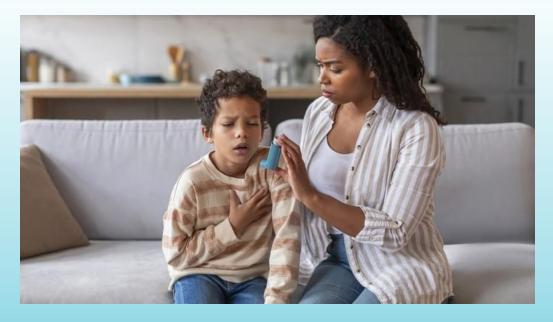




Climate Disasters Impact

CHILDREN IMPACTED THE MOST

- 710 Million in High Risk Areas
- 90% Under 5 Have Diseases
- 160 Million in Droughts
- 2040 1 in 4 water shortage
- 2050 Additional 24 Million Undernourished
- Key Results from Climate Issues
 - Breathing
 - Malnutrition
 - Infectious Diseases
 - Compromised Immune Systems







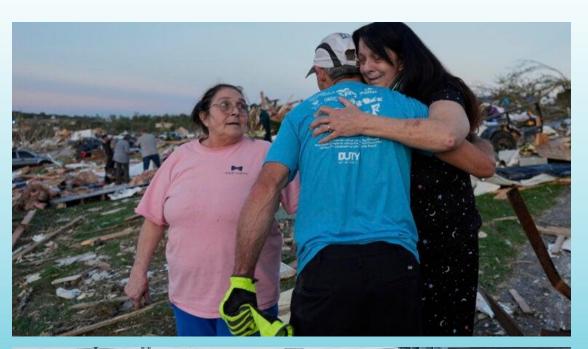


WOMEN IMPACTED THE MOST

- Less Food, Crops, Water
- Loss of Homes
- Loss of Education
- Relocation
 - Violence
 - Trafficking
 - Early Marriage









4 Billion People Live in Highly Vulnerable Climate Change Areas

Over 250 million people will be migrants by 2050

WOMEN AND GIRLS IMPACTED THE MOST **ESPECIALLY** INDIGENOUS, MINORITIES, AND **MARGINALIZED**

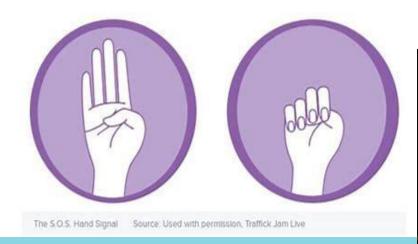
- Gender Inequality
- Patriarchal Society
- Tradition
- Shortened Education
- Non-Leadership Positions
- Family Responsibilities

RESULTS: VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

VIOLENCE	CANADA	US	GLOBALLY
 Domestic Violence 	44%	47%	33%
 Trafficking 	570	24,000	133,943
• Campus Rapes	1 of 5	1 of 5	1 of 8
 Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women 	11 MI 16M	128 MI 280M	Australia, Europe Latin America
· Child Marriage	3,600	300,000	1 of 5

Child Marriage











NAIDM Joanne Gallos June 2025

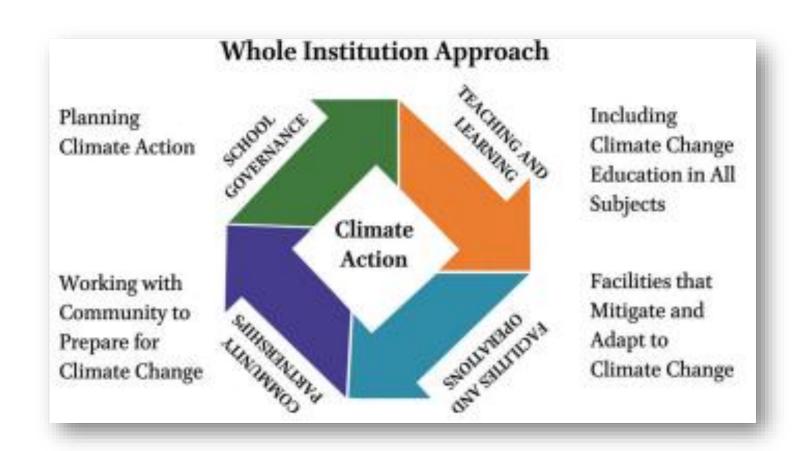
CLUB ACTION

- Define Local Climate Problems and Violence Issues
 - Fires, Tornadoes, Floods, Domestic Violence, Trafficking, Rape,
 Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women, Child Marriage
- Collaborate Action Projects with Other Zonta Clubs
- Connect with Other Like-minded Organizations
- Find Applicable Ted Talks for Club Meetings

CLUB ACTION

- Have Guest Speakers on Local Issues with Other Clubs
- Invite a Legislator to Speak
- Follow and Influence Local Laws for Women and Girls
- Use Club LinkedIn Social Media and Other Social Medias
- Reuse Club Items for Fund Raisers, Galas, Meetings

COMMUNITY ACTION



COMMUNITY ACTION

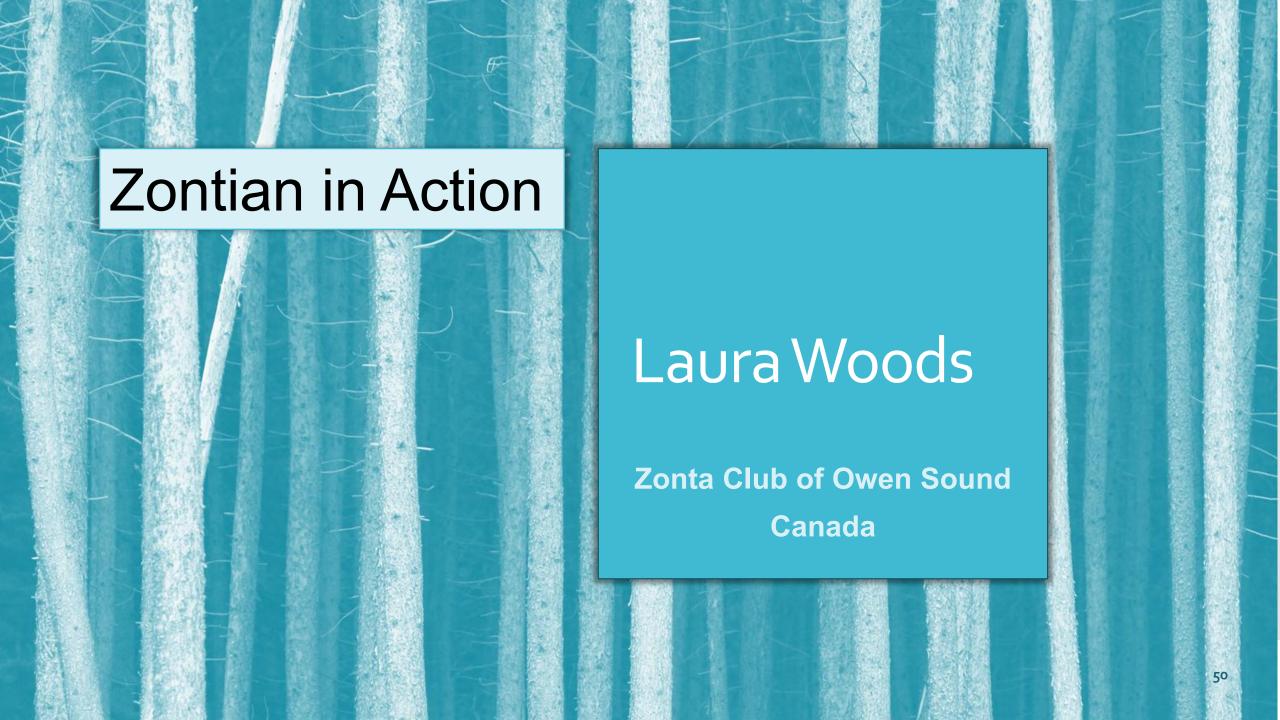
- Develop a Climate and Violence Community Awareness Program
- Create Brochures and Distribute to Libraries, Grocery Stores, Schools
- Early Warning Systems
- Emergency Kits Develop and Distribute to Needy and to Your Home
- Create or Join Community Projects
 - Gardens with Indigenous Plants
 - Used Food Disposal
 - Save Water, Create Rain Barrels
 - Promote Reduction of Plastic Use

COMMUNITY ACTION

- Attend and make a statement at community meetings
 - On Climate Justice that aligns with Zonta International
- Provide educational information to the public especially vulnerable populations.
 - Cooling station locations
 - Evacuation shelter locations
 - Disaster preparedness i.e. what to pack, where to go
- Have an art show in your community about a special topic.
 - Reducing waste
 - Reducing Plastic use

THANK YOU

Another Surprise It's Movie Time





Laura Wood. Owen Sound ON. Canada - Zonta District 4







Advocacy Advisor 2024-2026

Bobbee Cardillo NAIDM 2025

APOLITICAL

NON-PARTISAN

PARTISAN



POLITICAL





- Politically unaware
- No engagement with governmental affairs
- Takes no action

- Advocates
- Raises awareness
- Writes to Legislature
- Takes action
- Doesn't promote fidelity to any political party
- · Takes a stand

- Takes one side exclusively
- Firm allegiance to one party
- Promotes candidates only of that one party

Advocacy Advisor Role

- Goal: Help Zonta raise our voice globally and speak with one voice
- How
- Provide advice to Advocacy committees. Act as liaison between them.
 - ZI Advocacy
 - · UN
 - Council of Europe
 - ZSNOW Working Group
 - ZSNO Working Group
- Help bring country advocacy groups together
 - Partner with ZI Advocacy Chair
 - Facilitate meetings
 - Learn their needs
 - Provide information to bring us all on same page
 - Provide forum for sharing best practices

Country Advocacy Groups

- In conjunction with Advocacy Chair and staff liaison, collected information on 11 existing country advocacy groups:
 - Austria
 - Australia
 - Belgium
 - Bulgaria
 - Canada
 - Demark
 - France
 - Germany
 - Italy
 - Switzerland
 - **.**◆USA

Advocating for Climate Justice

HOW: ZONTA SAYS NOW Framework for Action Gather the Facts

- ZI and Zonta USA websites
- Zonta Says NOW Think Tanks Intercontinental and USA Caucus
- NAIDM, District, Area or Club presentations
- UN (SDGs, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change)
- Climate policies and climate disaster services available in your community, state, province, country

https://zonta.org/images/docs/OurCauses/ZontaSaysNOW/FrameworkForActionLeaflet.pdf

Lead by example

- Follow UN's 10 simple actions personally Actions for a healthy planet | United Nations
- Support sustainable businesses
- Create a personal Climate Emergency Preparedness plan
- Volunteer to lead a Climate Justice Committee in your club
- · With your club, take the Zonta Climate Pledge

https://zontausa.org/zonta-says-now-to-climate-action/climate-pledge/

Continued....

Use our Voice as Zontians

Continued....

- Create an Awareness campaign (ie, letters to the editor, social media, billboards, buttons, benches, etc...)
- Engage with elected officials to raise issue of climate justice
- Join local environmental, climate justice and emergency management organizations

Advocate

- Use the Zonta Says NOW Framework for planning
 - Prepare a climate justice awareness event
 - Based on your research, ask government for more focus on gender in climate decisions
 - Demand more women appointed to decisionmaking bodies
 - Promote more women in STEM education with a climate issue focus
 - Attend our workshop on Sunday morning

Continued....

Continued....

Collaborate

- Other Zontians (especially Z and Golden Z members)
- Existing Organizations focused on climate justice (UN Women, 1 Million Women, Men Engage, WeDo, WECAN, HeforShe ...)
- Existing Organizations focused on climate issues (Women Leading on Climate, Sierra Club, Nature Conservancy, ...)

Zonta Says NOW and NO

The Zonta Says NOW campaign is a sister to Zonta Says NO.

Zonta Says NOW serves through advocacy, service and education to

Empower women to be part of community and government decision-making when making policy about disaster preparation and recovery.

Support, mentor, and encourage women to lead in government, politics, and business – to problem solve, create policy for everyone to have a safe and just place to live and thrive and advocating for change to protect our communities.

Achieve gender-equality and narrow the gender pay gap

Collaborate with local groups to improve your community environment





Zonta International Campaign

WHY DO WE NEED





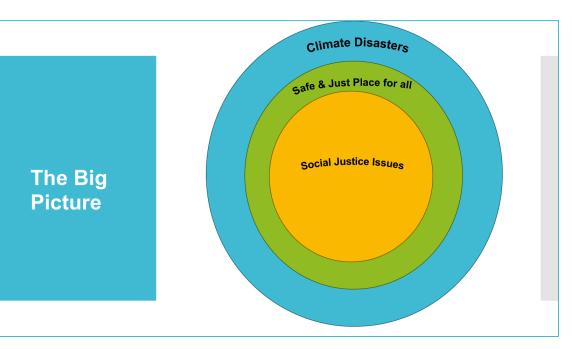
zonta.org/zontasaysnow

Produced using Canva

What did we learn today?

Summary







What did we learn today?

Summary

CLUB ACTION

- Define Local Climate Problems and Violence Issues
 - Fires, Tornadoes, Floods, Domestic Violence, Trafficking, Rape, Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women, Child Marriage
- Collaborate Action Projects with Other Zonta Clubs
- Connect with Other Like-minded Organizations
- Find Applicable Ted Talks for Club Meetings

NAIDM Joanne Gallos June 2025

Zonta Says NOW Framework for Action



Gather the Facts



Lead by Example



Use your Voice



Advocate



Collaborate



Resources

You don't have to reinvent the wheel



Zonta Says NOW Resources

Website



Virtual Art Gallery



Fact Sheets



Sharing is Caring







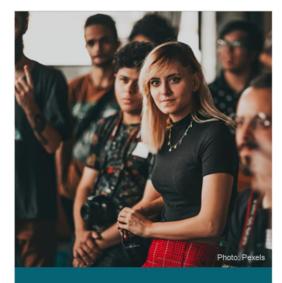
Disaster-Ready Guide 2

Is your household disaster-ready?

Electronic Leaflets





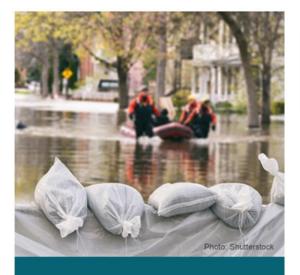


Disaster-Ready Guide 3

Is your community disaster-ready?







Disaster Ready Guide 4

Where are your local disaster relief organizations?

Print and Share







Disaster-Ready Guide 5

Is your country disaster-ready?

How to Take Action

Learn More by Visiting:

zonta.org/zontasaysnow



APPLY THE FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION - 1

RK (

We can use the five-step Zonta Says NOW Framework to guide our climate justice actions.

1. Gather the Facts

Individually, we can:

- Increase our awareness of climate change and its gender-related consequences by reading books, watching videos, reading articles and listening to podcasts from reputable sources.
- Register for the Intercontinental Zonta Says NOW Think Tanks.
- Attend area workshops, district conferences and international conventions.
- Learn more about our countries' commitments to the Paris Agreement and Sustainable Development Goals.

2. Lead by example

Individually, we can:

- Reduce our personal greenhouse gas emissions with the United Nation's ten simple actions.
- Set our own sustainability challenges e.g. eating and purchasing more sustainably, walking and using public transport more often.
- Support environmentally-sustainable businesses with our purchases and investments.
- Develop our household emergency preparedness plan.

3. Use our voice

Individually, and as a club, we can raise awareness locally about climate change and its gender-related consequences by:

- Developing climate/gender equality elevator speeches or lists of key facts as conversation starters to use with family, coworkers and friends—and practise saying them.
- Joining local environmental, climate justice, and emergency management organizations to learn more about what is happening locally and raise awareness of climate justice issues.
- Engage with elected officials at all levels of government to raise awareness of climate justice issues and discuss solutions.



The Zonta Says NOW Framework for Gender-Equal Climate Action

APPLY THE FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION - 2



Use the Framework to plan your activities.

4. Advocate

Through our club advocacy committees, we can:

- Contact community representatives, elected officials, local governments, and local NGOs to learn about local sustainability initiatives and whether the needs of women have been considered (or not) in the development of climate change response and disaster management plans.
- Demand and support the equal involvement of women and men in national and local decisions regarding environmental sustainability and disaster risk management.
- Demand and promote girls' education and the inclusion of climate literacy in schools, as well as the education of girls and women in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) to increase the scientific and technical contribution of women to climate protection.
- Advocate for national climate policies that take into account women's economic opportunities and ensure their full and equal economic participation.

5. Collaborate

With the advocacy teams in our clubs, areas, districts, and national bodies, we can:

- Work with other Zonta clubs, Golden Z clubs, Z clubs, and Supporting Members to magnify our voice in the community, educate on climate change, and raise awareness of local issues to achieve gender-equal climate justice.
- Work smarter, not harder, by collaborating with like-minded organisations, for example, UN Women, Soroptimists International, 1 Million Women, local branches of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Plastic Free July, etc.
- Find out who is working for gender-equal climate justice in our area, see if our goals align and work with them.



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Zonta Says NOW here and abroad

Host: Africa/Europe Host: Asia/Oceania





Host: North/South America

Go to...

Zonta.org ZontaUSA.org





Focus on Food and Water Insecurity

Intercontinental Think Tank North/South America,15 October 6.00 pm to 7.30 pm UTC



A Glimpse of the Zonta USA Caucus



Representing the Hundreds of Zonta Clubs in the USA in Advocacy for Women

N UPDATES: BULLETIN



WHAT IS ZONTA V JOIN ZONTA V

USA ADVOCACY END CHILD MARRIAGE EQUAL RIGHTS ZONTA SAYS NOW

RESOURCES +

ZONTA USA ADVOCACY TO BUILD A BETTER WORLD FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS













Zonta USA Caucus YouTube channel





Sunday morning 8:30 am to 10:00 am
Zonta Says Now Workshop - Roll Up Your Sleeves...



Saturday, July 12 at 11pm eastern – Zonta Says NOW Intercontinental Think Tank Presentation -Asia/Pacific Go to: Zonta.org under Events to register

Calendar of events



Sunday, September 14 at 6pm eastern –Zonta Says NOW Intercontinental Think Tank presentation -North/South America 'Plastics and their effect on Health'



Coming Soon...Monthly book club discussions beginning in late September

Hosted by Zonta USA Caucus Zonta Says NOW committee



Thank You

For climbing the mountain of information today

Take time to digest, reflect, ask us questions when you see us in the hall, and talk about it with your club members.

