



The mission of the Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO) is

to empower women as decision-makers to achieve economic, social and gender justice, a healthy, peaceful planet, and human rights for all. Through our programs on Sustainable Development, Gender and Governance and Economic and Social Justice, WEDO emphasizes women's critical role in social, economic and political spheres.



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How WEDO Works

Women's empowerment and gender equality are key levers of change. When the status of women improves, the whole of society benefits. Every project, campaign and initiative undertaken is driven by the ultimate goal of improving women's everyday lives. This is how we advocate:

Coordinated Political Action

We strive for a better world through coordinated political action to improve women's lives.

Building Broad Alliances

We advance women's rights by building broad alliances with women's groups and other human rights and social justice allies.

Ground-breaking Research

We conduct and apply ground-breaking research to create global policies that support women's rights.

Connecting Global to Local

We connect global policy work to local and regional advocacy efforts carried out by partners in the global South.

Join us in our work!

Visit www.wedo.org to sign up for our quarterly newsletter. Join our program listservs for up-to-date news, information and actions:

- Sustainable Development: WEDOsustdev@googlegroups.com
- From Katrina to Copenhagen: U.S. Women Demand Action on Climate Change: WDACCUS@googlegroups.com
- Gender Equality Architecture (GEAR): gearlist@googlegroups.com
- Women's Political Participation and Leadership: www.women-leadership.collectivex.com
- Misfortune 500: www.misfortune500.org



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Women's Environment & Development Organization



A healthy and peaceful planet, social and economic justice and human rights for all—*working together, we can make it happen.*

Building alliances with women worldwide, WEDO connects the dots between local advocacy efforts and the global policy work that has the power to change women's lives.



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Women are a powerful force for change. And as half the world's population, women must have an equal say. Women's perspectives, values, skills and experience are essential to policymaking that will result in real change at the community, national, regional and international levels. The world depends on our working together, women and men, in partnership for a healthy, just planet. **WEDO initiatives encompass:**

Climate Change Women, as the majority of the world's poor are among the most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. They are also critical to climate change solutions.

Corporate Accountability Too often business practices and corporate-driven policies harm women, who are asserting their rights to decent work, health, land, food and water.

UN Reform The UN won't be able to help countries achieve the Millennium Development Goals if work on women's issues is fragmented, uncoordinated and under-resourced.

Women's Political Participation and Leadership The world needs strong women who can effectively occupy political positions and advance policies that promote women's rights.

Our Story

WEDO is an international advocacy organization established in 1990 by former U.S. Congresswoman Bella Abzug (1920-1998) and feminist activist and journalist Mim Kelber (1922-2004). WEDO has been a leader in organizing women, earning a reputation as a trailblazer in the international women's rights movement.

WEDO recognizes that the hard-won policy commitments to women's rights that emerged from the major UN conferences of the 1990s are not enough to improve women's daily lives. WEDO is focusing on deeper collaboration with Southern partners to increase the number of women leaders at all levels, to implement global policy gains at the national level and to hold governments accountable to their commitments on women's rights.

In 2006 WEDO was awarded the Champion of the Earth award by UNEP, citing WEDO as *"a champion in the field of women's economic, social and gender rights and a beacon for the empowerment of women across the environmental and development debate."*