



**GENERATION  
EQUALITY** REALIZING  
WOMEN'S  
RIGHTS FOR AN  
EQUAL FUTURE



## THE TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION FOR GENDER EQUALITY COALITION

Technology and Innovation for Gender Equality refers to how women and girls are able to access, use, lead and design digital tools and addresses the gender digital divide, online gender-based violence and discrimination, and the under-representation of women in innovation. The Action Coalition explores how technology and innovation can help advance gender equality and create new solutions that respond to women and girls in all their diversity. The Technology and Innovation for Gender Equality Action Coalition was launched at the Generation Equality Forum in Paris in July 2021 to advocate for equal opportunities for women and girls to safely and meaningfully access and use technology and innovation so as to enhance gender equality. The Coalition calls for collective responsibility, especially from governments and corporations, to develop bold gender-transformative actions to widen innovation ecosystems, embed transparency and accountability in digital technology, and expand inclusive digital economies.

### Gender Equality Vision 2026

By 2026, women and girls in all their diversity have equal opportunities to safely and meaningfully access, use, lead, and design technology and innovation with freedom of expression, joy, and boundless potential.

### Why does Technology and Innovation for Gender Equality Matter?

Since the Beijing Conference in 1995, the digital revolution has had major effects on gender equality and women's rights in all spheres of life. Innovation and technology is one of the six Action Coalition themes that has prioritised technology as one of the key areas towards achieving gender equality.

COVID-19 has exposed the digital divide and shown that the population excluded from the digital world, majority of whom are women and girls, are the most at risk of being left behind by this crisis. The gender digital divide is a multidimensional phenomenon that must be challenged and changed. This will require designing trans-formative actions to remove barriers associated with traditional social norms, lack of education, costs, trust, safety concerns or geographies, among many others.

### Gender Inequalities in ICT

- At 15 years of age, on average across Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries, only 0.5% of girls wish to become Information and Communication Technology (ICT) professionals, compared to 5% of boys. Twice as many boys as girls expect to become engineers, scientists, or architects.
- Across the Low and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs), women are still eight percent less likely than men to own a mobile phone, and 20 percent less likely to use the internet on a mobile. This means that in these markets 300 million fewer women than men use mobile internet.



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## ICT Constraints to be Addressed by the Action Coalition

<p>The lack of gender-responsive education and inclusive learning opportunities, which limits access to skills and training and digital fluency. This leads to the underrepresentation of women and girls studying and pursuing careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM).</p>	<p>The lack of diversity among the creators of technology and the entrenched gender inequalities in workplaces. This leads to an insufficient number of women in leading roles in innovation institutions, across governments, industry, academia and financiers.</p>
<p>The lack of regulations, gender-responsive policies, and accountability frameworks to prevent bias and siloed structures and systems. This leads to cultural-cognitive barriers that restrict the emergence of transformative technology development and inclusive innovation ecosystems.</p>	<p>The lack of transparency and accountability to address issues specific to the digital world, especially with regards to social discrimination and online gender-based violence. This leads to gender-discriminating practices, abuse, biased social norms and stereotypes that restrict access and use of technology.</p>
<p>The lack of investment in feminist technology and innovation would address the current barriers faced by women and girls and develop technology that meets their most pressing needs. As a result, women and girls do not benefit equally from technological advancements.</p>	

## A GLOBAL ACCELERATION PLAN FOR FEMINIST MOVEMENTS AND LEADERSHIP

### Action 1

#### Bridge the Gender Gap in Digital Access and Competences

By 2026, reduce by half the gender digital divide across generations by accelerating meaningful access to digital technologies and universal digital literacy.

What Can you Do?	
<p><b>Financing</b></p> 	<p>Advance public and private innovative financing mechanisms to collectively meet the demand for 21st-century skills needed in an inclusive and equitable digital economy.</p>
<p><b>Service Delivery</b></p> 	<p>Invest in innovative and gender-transformative solutions that improve affordability, accessibility and usability of digital services and learning tools for women and girls.</p>
<p><b>Social Norm Change</b></p> 	<p>Promote large scale social transformation to close the gender gaps in access to digital tools and STEM-related education, careers and innovation.</p>



## Action 2

### Invest in Feminist Technology and Innovation

By 2026, increase investments towards feminist technology and innovation by 50% to support women’s leadership as innovators and better respond to women and girls’ most pressing needs.

What Can you Do?	
<b>Service Delivery</b> 	Invest in innovation processes 1 generating gendertransformative impact, meeting women and girls’ needs and providing them opportunities to create and influence technology.
<b>Law and Policy</b> 	Adopt gender transformative public and corporate policies for innovation and technology development.
<b>Data and Accountability</b> 	Leverage data science to develop inclusive, ethical and community-driven analytics and embed accountability and gender throughout innovation processes and technology development.

## Action 3

### Build Inclusive, Transformative and Accountable Innovation Ecosystems

By 2026, double the proportion of women working in technology and innovation by setting up new networks and benchmarks to transform innovation ecosystems.

What Can you Do?	
<b>Service Delivery</b> 	Create gender-transformative networks within digital/ innovation hubs to increase diversity and gender parity in tech workforce and leadership and stimulate interregional cooperation.
<b>Law and Policy</b> 	Enhance legislation, law enforcement and restorative justice responses to prevent and provide effective relief to survivors of online and tech facilitated GBV and put in place stronger sanctions against perpetrators and digital gatekeepers.
<b>Social Norm Change</b> 	Mobilize public, private and civil society to demonstrate cultural change and stop online and tech facilitated GBV and harassment that specifically targets women and girls limiting their freedom of expression, access to learning and life choices.



## HOW CAN YOU CONTRIBUTE TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THESE COMMITMENTS?

Civil Society Organisations, Women's Rights Organisations, and Feminist Movements can join a collective commitment by visiting <https://commitments.generationequality.org/>

### What can you do to make a Change?

1. **Make a financial commitment** that will support the realisation of an action to advance gender equality results.
2. **Initiate or join Advocacy campaigns** to amplify and mobilise support for transformative change to achieve the goals of the Action Coalition.
3. **Make Policy commitments** that can be translated into concrete policy change.
4. **Ensure that programmatic commitments** are able to deliver programs, services, research, or other actions, with a focus on scale.

### The Leaders of the Technology and Innovation Action Coalition include:



**URGENT  
ACTION  
FUND +  
AFRICA**

FOR WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS



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## CONTACT DETAILS



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