Report on the Feminist Forum on Financing for Development IV (FFDIV)

Feminist World is Possible! Ushering an Economic System based on Care, Justice and Reparations

27th – 28th June 2025 | Sevilla, Spain

FEMINIST WORKSTREAM
CSO FFD Mechanism

Women's Major Group
Creating a Just & Sustainable Future

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

APWLD – Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development

ARROW – Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women

CSO – Civil Society Organization

FEMNET – African Women's Development and Communication Network

FfD4 – Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development

GBV – Gender-Based Violence

ICRW – International Center for Research on Women

IMF – International Monetary Fund

LATINDADD – Latin American Network on Debt, Development and Rights

MENAFem – Middle East and North Africa Feminist Collective

NGO – Non-Governmental Organization

ODA – Official Development Assistance

SDGs – Sustainable Development Goals

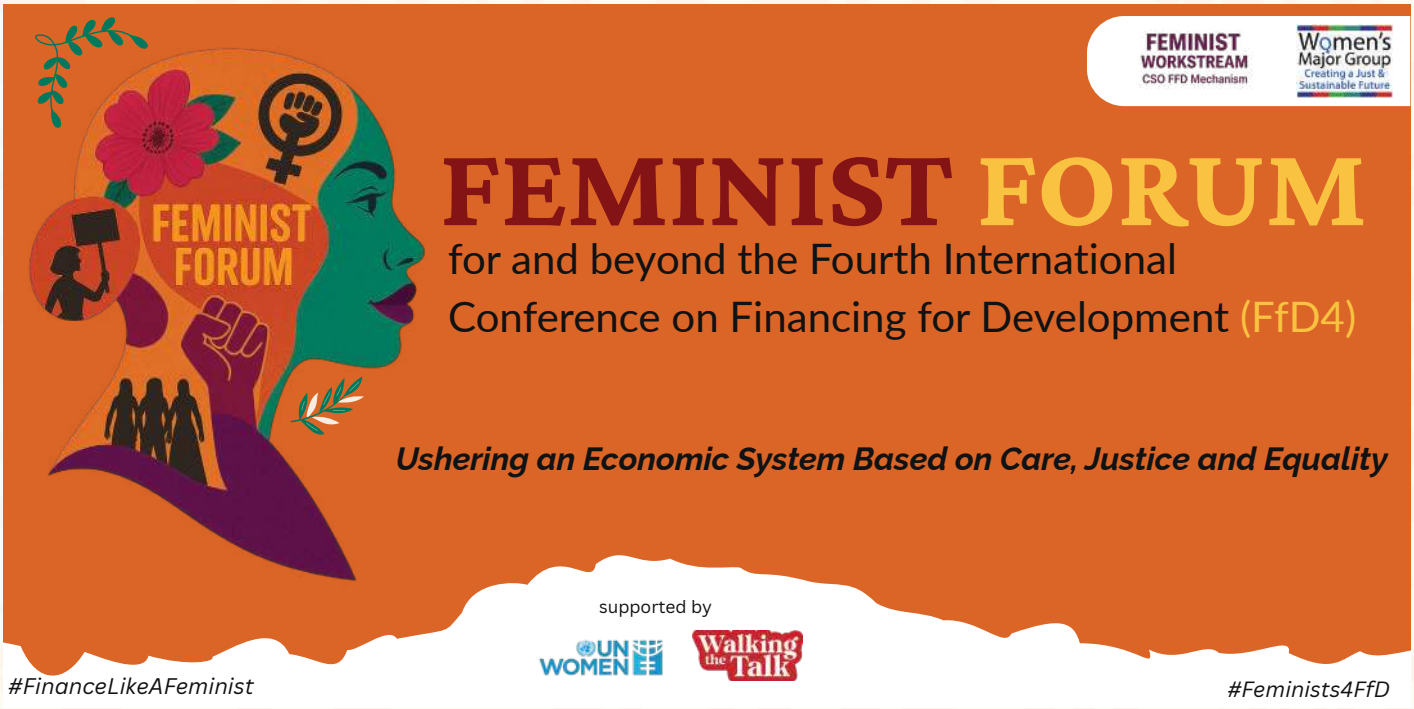
SRHR – Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

UN – United Nations

UNFPA – United Nations Population Fund

UN Women – United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

1. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT



The Feminist Forum on FfD4 was convened in the lead up to the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4), held in Sevilla, Spain, in June 2025. The Forum served as a vibrant political space for feminist advocates, activists, researchers, and organizers from across the world to converge, exchange ideas, and shape collective positions. Its purpose was to ensure that feminist perspectives are meaningfully reflected in the Financing for Development process and outcomes. By situating itself immediately before the Civil Society Forum and the official FfD4 proceedings, the Forum provided an opportunity to strengthen solidarity, refine advocacy strategies, and articulate a unified feminist voice.

The Forum was linked to the broader FfD4 agenda, a once-in-a-decade opportunity for governments and institutions to commit to systemic reforms in the international financial architecture. Feminist movements have long highlighted the colonial, patriarchal, and neoliberal roots of the prevailing economic order. The Feminist Forum therefore emphasized the importance of centering care, justice, reparations, and human rights in shaping a transformative economic system. It also created space to connect diverse feminist voices with decision-making processes, aiming to influence not only the FfD4 outcome document but also long-term policy directions.
Discussions at the Forum were framed around key intersecting issues that shape global economic justice debates. These included the rising debt burden and the urgent need for systemic reform, the centrality of tax justice and fair trade in building equitable economies, and the importance of addressing climate justice. Participants also interrogated the implications of militarism on financing for development and reflected on the critical role of the care economy as a foundation for inclusive and sustainable development. Each of these issues was analysed through a feminist lens, providing both critical perspectives and transformative alternatives.

The Forum brought together **255 participants** from **Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America** and the **Caribbean**, the **Middle East** and **North Africa**, and **North America**. Participants represented a wide spectrum of **civil society organizations, feminist networks, international** and **regional NGOs, government representatives, UN agencies, academia,** and **social movements**. This diversity fostered rich cross-regional and intergenerational dialogue, strengthening collective advocacy for feminist economic justice.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE FORUM

The Feminist Forum on FfD4 was convened with the overall aim of creating a collective space for feminist voices and perspectives to shape the global discourse on Financing for Development (FfD4). The Forum sought to position feminist analysis at the centre of policy dialogue, ensuring that questions of economic justice, gender equality, and human rights were meaningfully addressed in the lead-up to and during the fourth International Conference on Financing for Development.

The specific objectives of the Forum were:

- To provide a platform for feminists, women's rights organizations, and allied movements to articulate common priorities and strategies in relation to the FfD4 agenda.
- To strengthen shared analysis of the intersecting crises of debt, tax injustice, trade imbalances, climate change, militarism, and the undervaluing of care work, and to examine their impacts from a feminist perspective.
- To facilitate dialogue and solidarity building among diverse actors, fostering collective advocacy towards more just, inclusive, and accountable financing frameworks.
- To amplify feminist voices in global policy processes by producing concrete messages and recommendations that could influence state and multilateral commitments.
- To reinforce the recognition of care work and social reproduction as central to economic justice, thereby challenging prevailing economic models that perpetuate inequality.

3. PREPARATORY WEBINARS: FEMINIST FORUM FOR AND BEYOND FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT (FFD4) - 4–19 JUNE 2025

To prepare for the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4), three preparatory webinars were held, bringing together key stakeholders to discuss strategies, challenges, and opportunities in feminist approaches to financing for development. The table below highlights the key takeaways from these discussions.

Webinar Date	Title/Theme	Key Discussions	Feminist Analysis	Outputs/ Decisions	Follow-up Actions
4th June 2025	A Feminist World is Possible: A Gender Perspective for FfD4	Key topics: Gender equality in the financing for development process, the importance of integrating feminist perspectives into financial systems, and the role of women in shaping global economic policies.	Feminist analysis emphasized the need for systemic change, advocating for policies that challenge neoliberal economic models, prioritize gender-responsive budgeting, and advocate for sustainable, inclusive development. The session critiqued the current financial systems and emphasized the role of women in shaping these systems.	The session underscored the importance of a feminist approach to financing for development, calling for an inclusive, gender-transformative financial system. Key decisions included a push for stronger integration of gender in financial policies and a demand for greater representation of women in financial decision-making bodies.	Follow-up actions include continuing advocacy for a gendered approach to financial systems, promoting the implementation of the feminist perspectives discussed, and engaging more stakeholders in the upcoming political declaration for FfD4.

Webinar Date	Title/Theme	Key Discussions	Feminist Analysis	Outputs/ Decisions	Follow-up Actions
11th June 2025	Deep Dive Dialogues on Feminist Perspectives	Key issues discussed: Debt and Austerity, Private Finance, Domestic Resource Mobilization, Tax Systems, Militarism, and Care Economy.	Addressing the economic impacts on women, the importance of feminist leadership in financial decision-making.	Contributions to the political declaration for feminist priorities on debt, care economy, and gender equality.	Encourage input from participants to refine political declaration, continue discussions in working groups.
19th June 2025	Feminist Forum for and Beyond the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4)	Key Issues discussed: Final strategy lab in preparation for Seville forum; Updates on political declaration negotiations (silence procedures, revisions, and adoption process); Power dynamics: Global South advocacy vs. text dilution by Global North (Canada, Australia, EU, UK, Spain); Emerging fractures (US withdrawal from FfD4 outcome process); Regional and group positions (G77, Africa Group, EU, US, Argentina, etc.);	Gains: Reference to eliminating GBV, recognition of unpaid care work, gender-responsive policies. Weaknesses: Commitments remain rhetorical, not transformative; regression in ambition compared to past texts. Feminist critique: Text fails to deliver structural solutions on debt, taxation, climate, health, SRHR, and universal services. Highlighted systemic inequality between Global South demands and dilution by powerful actors	Draft Feminist Forum Political Declaration shared for inputs. Provisional agenda for Seville presented. Consensus: Outcomes fall short of feminist economic justice but UN recognition of structural finance remains a partial win. Strong reaffirmation of South–South solidarity and calls for systemic reform.	Collect further inputs to strengthen Feminist Forum Declaration. Document interventions and share recordings (incl. Bhumika's input). Prepare coordinated advocacy strategy for Seville. Mobilize around debt justice, international tax cooperation, ODA, and systemic reforms. Ensure inclusive participation and amplify Global South voices.

Webinar Date	Title/Theme	Key Discussions	Feminist Analysis	Outputs/ Decisions	Follow-up Actions
19th June 2025	Feminist Forum for and Beyond the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4)	Presentation of the draft Feminist Forum Political Declaration and provisional program.			

4. DAY 1 PROCEEDINGS – 27 JUNE 2025

4.1 Framing Remarks and Tone Setting

The Forum was formally opened with welcoming remarks from the co-organisers representing the Feminist Workstream of the CSO FfD Mechanism, the Women Major Group, and the local host organisation. Each speaker shared their rationale, objectives, and expectations for the Forum, collectively setting a tone of urgency, solidarity, and commitment to transformative change.

Framing the Struggle for Alternatives

Misun Woon, Regional Coordinator at APWLD and part of the Feminist Workstream, opened the Forum by acknowledging the presence of Spanish government officials and UN representatives. In her address, she delivered a strong call against colonialism and systemic oppression, stressing the urgency of "an economy based on care, solidarity, and justice as an alternative to austerity and precarity."

She further observed that "capitalism replicates colonialist logics," and affirmed that "intersectional feminist networks are essential to reclaim autonomy and create alternatives." She reminded participants that the Forum was not only a space for critique but also "a space of co-creation and transformation, where diverse realities can come together and amplify collective power."

Drawing attention to current global contradictions, she highlighted "the alarming contradiction of increased military spending by NATO governments while cuts to social and environmental budgets continue," and concluded by affirming that "feminist movements are here to build political force and demand structural change."

Feminist Political Commitment

Mabel Bianco, Director of FEIM and member of the Women Major Group, highlighted the preparatory webinars as valuable spaces for collective learning and extended gratitude to the institutions supporting the Forum. However, she cautioned that "rhetoric is not enough."

She urged participants to act as representatives for those whose voices are often unheard, stating that "we must be the voices of the millions of women and girls who suffer in silence, lacking resources and political representation." She stressed that "feminist action must be rooted in real, sustained financial commitment beyond speeches."

Her remarks concluded with a rallying call: "We must speak, act, and mobilize. The voice raised here must become a global one, but also grounded in local struggles. The fight is ongoing." She ended by declaring, "Fair financing now! Gender justice now!"

Rising Threats to Feminism

Carla Cingolani, representing the Platform of NGOs of Andalusia, warned of the global rise of right-wing politics and its dangers to feminist progress. She observed that "anti-feminist narratives are gaining ground in local and regional governments, with Andalusia standing as an extreme example of cuts to public services, including health and education."
She further underlined that "autocratic regimes often begin by attacking feminist and LGBTQ+ movements," pointing to leaders such as Ortega and Milei as examples. Emphasizing the disproportionate impact of austerity on women, she stated that "women are the first to be affected by austerity." Carla concluded with a call for global justice, demanding that "fair and feminist financing must be at the center of international commitments."

4.2 Opening Remarks

The opening session of the Forum brought together esteemed speakers from UN Women and the Host Government of Spain, alongside feminist leaders, to set aspirations for the Forum and beyond. The tone was one of urgency, courage, and conviction, with speakers affirming the centrality of feminist leadership in shaping global financing and development agendas.

Collective Power and Gender Justice

Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda, Founder of the Rozaria Memorial Trust in Zimbabwe, delivered a visionary message grounded in intergenerational wisdom, activism, and courage. She celebrated feminist leadership and drew inspiration from disability rights movements, stressing the importance of inclusion and access for all.

She reminded participants that "financing gender equality is a justice issue" and insisted that "organizing is more powerful than agonizing." She described maternal mortality as proof that "development has failed," urging the Forum to acknowledge the stark gaps that persist.

Contrasting global priorities, she declared: "Two point four trillion dollars is spent on military spending, while one hundred and nineteen million girls are out of school. This is not a lack of resources—it is a lack of political will." She also highlighted the rollback of gender equality through cultural and legal mechanisms and called on participants to align financing policies with national gender equality strategies. In closing, she underscored that women, particularly those in the Global South, are among the most capable and innovative economic actors and must be trusted with resources.

Feminism at the Core of Public Policy

Eva Granados, Secretary of State for International Cooperation of Spain, grounded her remarks in a sobering reminder of violence against women. She stated: "There were two more femicides today in Spain. In 2025 alone, we have counted twenty. Since 2003, one thousand three hundred and fourteen."

She warned that feminist agendas are increasingly under attack and affirmed that feminism remains the most transformative political force for addressing today's global crises. To achieve this, she emphasized the need to mainstream gender equality across all policy areas, including economics and development.

Eva called for rethinking "who controls resources, and how we value care work." She highlighted the feminist dimensions reflected in the draft FfD4 document, pointing to autonomy, care, and poverty as central themes. She reaffirmed Spain's leadership and commitment to feminist development cooperation and invited other governments to join this path in collaboration with UN Women.

Quoting UNFPA, she reminded the audience: "One in two pregnancies is unintended. Our bodies are still not fully ours." She concluded with a powerful call to action, noting that breaking the glass ceiling must also mean "breaking the silence of patriarchy, through organized, collective feminist action."

4.3 Keynote Address: Building a United Feminist Movement against Economic Injustice

The keynote session was moderated by **Nicole Maloba** of FEMNET, who underscored the urgency of placing the voices of the most marginalized at the center of the Forum. She reminded participants that the testimonies shared in this session would lay the foundation for the collective work of the gathering.

Testimony of Migrant Women

Eni Lestari of the International Migrants Alliance in Indonesia shared a moving personal account shaped by the Asian financial crisis of the 1990s. She recalled how her dream of pursuing education was disrupted, forcing her into migrant domestic work where she endured violations of her basic rights, including lack of rest, abuse, and dehumanization.

She declared: "We are used by governments under neoliberal globalization, but we are treated as disposable. No dignity. No rights. No future."

Her call to action focused on dismantling exploitative economic systems and elevating migrant women's voices in policymaking. She urged participants to support "ending the colonial economic system that exploits migrant women," to ensure "centering lived experiences in policymaking," and to affirm that "nothing about migrants without migrants."

Reflections from Indigenous Women's Struggles

Tarcila Rivera Zea of CHIRAPAQ in Peru offered a historical perspective on the resilience and leadership of Indigenous women. She traced the long journey from invisibility to recognition, recalling that fifty years ago the first Indigenous woman participated in a global forum, opening a path for today's continued advocacy.

She emphasized the right of Indigenous women to live free from violence and to pursue professions with dignity. She highlighted their unrecognized economic and social contributions, stressing their central role as guardians of the planet, protecting ecosystems through traditional knowledge and care.

Her message was captured in the powerful statement: "We are not problems. We are solutions. Recognize us." Her words were met with resounding applause, underscoring the force of her intervention.

Closing Reflections

Nicole Maloba concluded the session by affirming that the voices of Eni Lestari and Tarcila Rivera Zea embody the moral and political foundation of the Forum. She reminded participants that the transformation of economic systems must begin with lived experience, justice, and collective care.

4.4 Plenary 1: Scene Setter – Why Financing for Development is a Feminist Issue

The first plenary session established the central argument of the Forum: Financing for Development must be recognized as a feminist issue. Speakers explored the interconnections between gender-based violence, economic inequality, systemic debt, climate crisis, militarization, and women's human rights, underscoring the urgency of a holistic and feminist approach to global economic justice.

Moderator Framing

Anita Nayar of Regions Refocus opened with a reflection on the current global economic landscape. She warned that the FfD4 process has failed to meet even minimal expectations for progressive reform. Rather than addressing the entrenched imbalances harming the Global South, it appears designed to preserve an unjust status quo, prioritizing systemic stability over people's lives. She noted that women are mentioned in the draft outcome document primarily as entrepreneurs, and that macroeconomic policies are framed as gender-neutral in ways that obscure their gendered impacts. She called for bold and transformational solutions that center women's agency and quality of life.

Addressing Gender-Based Violence

Bettina Baldeschi, Executive Director of the Accelerator for GBV Prevention, underscored that gender-based violence is central to Financing for Development. Despite one in three women experiencing violence and ninety percent of countries identifying GBV as a top concern, the FfD4 draft document mentions it only once in more than nineteen thousand words. "Protection is key to well-being and stability. Violence against women is preventable—and investment yields massive returns," she said. She highlighted evidence that well-implemented programs can halve violence against women and that every 1.36 dollars invested in prevention can yield up to 117 dollars in returns. Yet only 0.2 percent of funding is allocated to prevention. She called for large-scale investment and a whole-of-government approach to close the gap.

Debt and Austerity

Sai Jyothir Mai Racherla, Deputy Executive Director of ARROW, focused on how debt and austerity measures systematically undermine gender equality. She emphasized that rising indebtedness and conditionalities from institutions such as the IMF have eroded public services, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.

"Without reproductive autonomy, there is no productive autonomy," she declared. She noted that in 2023, debt servicing in developing countries reached 1.4 trillion dollars, while the investment gap for achieving the SDGs stood at four trillion dollars annually. She stressed that without urgent political will and systemic reform of the global financial architecture, all countries, not only those in the Global South, will ultimately lose.

Tax Justice

Chenai Mukumba, Executive Director of the Tax Justice Network Africa, critiqued the limited ambition of the FfD4 draft in addressing domestic resource mobilization. She pointed to illicit financial flows as a major barrier to public service provision and gender equality, noting that Africa loses an estimated 90 billion dollars annually through such flows, which is double the amount received in official development aid.

"Women are disproportionately affected when states lose revenue. Public services are our lifelines," she stressed. Mukumba called for the creation of a just and inclusive UN Framework Convention on Tax that would ensure equal participation of all countries, particularly those in the Global South, and allow governments to mobilize and retain resources for gender-just development.

Structural Barriers in Trade and Finance

Dr. Michelle Maziwisa of the Centre for Human Rights and the Gender and Trade Coalition argued that women's economic empowerment must extend beyond access to resources to transform the way economies function. She highlighted that gender inequality costs the global economy over 100 trillion dollars through wage gaps and exclusion from the formal economy.

She identified discriminatory banking practices, weak data protection, exploitative global value chains, and restrictive trade barriers as structural obstacles. She urged for binding corporate accountability, especially for multinational corporations in the Global South, and emphasized feminist economic approaches grounded in human rights and intersectionality.

Centering Care in Economic Justice

Juliana César, Coordinator of GESTOS in Brazil, underscored the central role of care in economic systems. She noted that women perform 76 percent of all unpaid care work, valued at 10.8 trillion dollars—the equivalent of the world's third-largest economy—yet this remains invisible in most national accounts. "Care is not a women's issue. It is the issue," she said. She outlined a feminist agenda for care-centered economic justice: recognition and redistribution of care work through public investment in universal services, formalization and valuation of paid care work, and redefining economic success beyond GDP to include gender equity and planetary health. Her call was clear: "Divest from war, invest in care."

Colonialism, Militarism, and Resistance

Azra Sayeed of Roots for Equity in Pakistan delivered a powerful critique of colonial, imperial, and militarized systems. She denounced ongoing genocide and militarism in contexts from Gaza to Afghanistan, linking them directly to structural economic and gender violence.

"Colonialism is not over. The Global South is still occupied—militarily and economically," she said. She condemned the trillions spent on war instead of social services and emphasized the environmental and human toll of militarism and extractivism. Azra called for reparative justice, an anti-war peace movement, and a united women's front to dismantle monopoly capitalism and reclaim national liberation.

Conclusion

The plenary affirmed that economic justice cannot be achieved without addressing gender-based violence, debt, tax justice, care work, and militarism. A feminist Financing for Development agenda must be bold, transformative, and rooted in systemic change. Speakers called for urgent reforms to the global financial architecture, placing women's rights, care, justice, and bodily autonomy at the center of all economic and development frameworks.

4.5 Plenary 2: Building a Feminist World – Learnings from Cross-Regional, Intergenerational, and Intersectional Approaches

This plenary explored the layered realities of building a feminist world through diverse cross-regional, intergenerational, and intersectional perspectives. Discussions focused on systemic economic inequalities and highlighted concrete examples of resistance, strategies, and good practices drawn from campaigns, education, movement building, and feminist accountability actions aimed at achieving feminist and economic justice.

The session was moderated by Erin McNulty from Coordinadora Andaluza de ONGD.

Africa

Crystal Simeoni of the NAWI Afrifem Collective emphasized that building a feminist world requires dismantling entrenched systems of oppression. She recalled the 1929 women's uprisings in Africa, where thousands of women mobilized to challenge colonial economic structures, underscoring that "taxation historically threatened women's economic autonomy." She also pointed to current feminist campaigns in South Africa resisting privatization and reclaiming essential services such as electricity.

Crystal highlighted the Kilimanjaro Land Initiative, led by rural women in 22 African countries, which demands women's control over land and natural resources as a pathway to economic self-determination. She stressed that feminist strategies must be multifaceted, rooted in community, and grounded in models of care and collective survival. "Amplifying Indigenous women-led economic models and challenging capitalist paradigms to center life regeneration," she explained, is critical for building a resilient feminist future.

Asia

Cielito "Cham" Perez of the Center for Women's Resources and APRCEM highlighted the shrinking civic and democratic spaces across the Pacific, where feminist and grassroots movements face repression. She insisted that feminist liberation must be built from below: "True change will not come from elite centers of power like New York or Washington but from the streets and front lines, where survival itself is increasingly costly." Cham called for strong grassroots organizing, led by voices from the Global South, as the only sustainable path to justice.

Latin America

Micaela Fernández Erlauer of Fundar reflected on the feminist struggles of her region, speaking in Spanish to ground her message in context. She celebrated public education as a collective right under threat, and traced the long history of feminist mobilization, including Argentina's National Women's Meetings, now plurinational and inclusive. She highlighted the transformative impact of the Ni Una Menos movement in reshaping institutions and public discourse.

Addressing the persistence of inequality, Micaela connected debt and austerity directly to women's daily realities. She rallied participants with the slogan: "We want to be free, alive, and without debt."

Middle East and North Africa

Imene Cherif of MENAFem Tunisia described the difficult choices women face in contexts shaped by both colonial and dictatorial powers. She noted that economic issues are becoming increasingly central to feminist movements in North Africa and the Middle East. She shared outcomes of the recent Rabat gathering, which emphasized unconditional debt cancellation, progressive taxation, and a global climate framework. Imene insisted that "democracy and economic justice are inseparable," rejecting militarism and GDP-driven growth models rooted in colonial legacies.

Global North

From the United States, **Foteini Papagioti** of ICRW reflected on solidarity and institutional engagement. She pointed to the Women's Major Group, which since 1992 has connected feminist civil society with UN processes, and stressed the importance of learning from Global South feminist movements on fiscal justice.

Interactive Dialogue

Participants engaged in a dynamic exchange on grassroots leadership from the Global South. Concerns were raised about the gap between rights declared since the Beijing Conference and the resources needed to realize them. Others warned of the rise of right-wing politics undermining democracy, voting rights, and feminist gains. Testimonies highlighted femicide, child pregnancies resulting from sexual violence, and migration as urgent feminist concerns.

Micaela Fernández Erlauer reflected on the tensions between institutional engagement and street activism, cautioning that gains made within institutions remain fragile. Foteini Papagioti echoed the value of linking feminist tax justice advocacy to grassroots mobilization.

In a fishbowl discussion, **Erin McNulty** highlighted the work of the Gender and Trade Coalition in educating activists on the gendered impacts of trade policies. Another intervention condemned the exploitation of women through prostitution, surrogacy, and institutional violence, calling for abolitionist feminist approaches.

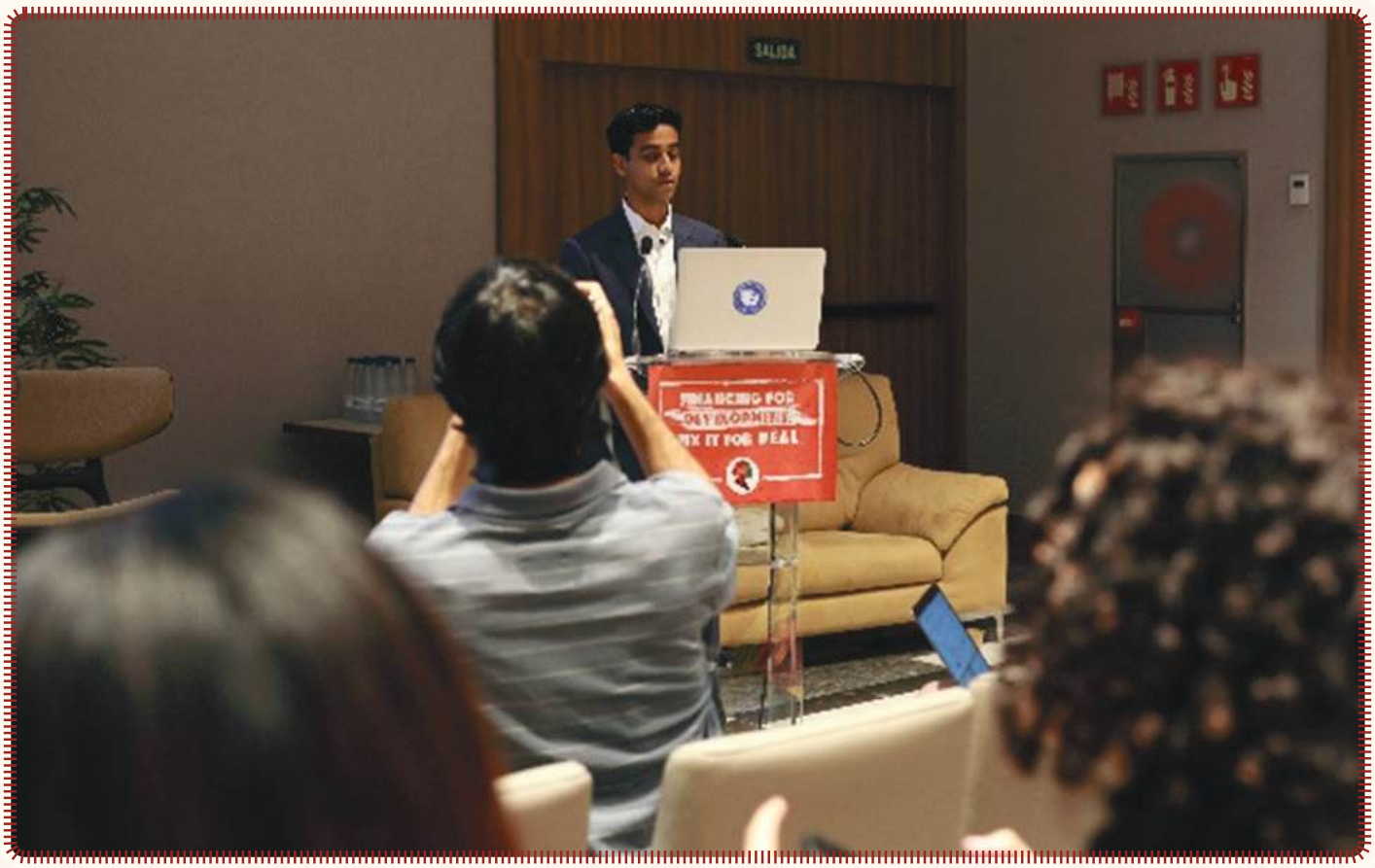
Voices from Morocco and migrant women emphasized the need to recognize diverse experiences within feminism. Migrant women in particular shared their double burden of enabling others' success while facing criminalization and exploitation, underscoring that "mutual support networks are essential for survival." A participant from Mexico shared experiences of creating feminist fiscal justice networks, which have strengthened advocacy through intergenerational and intersectional dialogue.

Adoption of the Feminist Forum Political Declaration

The plenary culminated in the formal adoption of the Feminist Forum Political Declaration, introduced by Ishaan Shah of the Women's Major Group and Veronica Serafini of LATINDADD. The declaration calls for systemic transformation rooted in feminist principles. It opens with the assertion that "there can be no genuine financing for development without prioritizing financing for gender equality and radically rethinking how global resources are distributed."

The declaration demands an economic order based on rights, justice, solidarity, and liberation. It builds on decades of feminist organizing and analysis and draws from preparatory webinars and cross-border dialogues. While referencing global frameworks such as the Monterrey Consensus, the Beijing Declaration, and the 2030 Agenda, the declaration stresses that these have failed to deliver meaningful results. It emphasizes urgent priorities, including reform of the international financial architecture, debt and austerity, domestic resource mobilization, trade, the care economy, militarization, climate, and data justice.

The declaration sets out a bold roadmap for feminist transformation and invites public endorsement through a QR code, symbolizing collective commitment to advancing this agenda.



Closing Reflections

Montse Pineda Lorenzo of Creación Positiva closed the session by celebrating the Forum as a "plural, inclusive and co-created space, embodying feminist values of shared vision, collective action, and respect."

5. DAY 2 PROCEEDINGS – 28 JUNE 2025

5.1 Recap of Day One

Day two of the Feminist Forum on FfD4 opened with a powerful recap from **Alessandra Nilo**, a representative of the Forum. She reminded participants that the Forum's purpose was to push for true systemic transformation in the face of interconnected global crises such as tax injustice, climate breakdown, and systemic inequality. She underscored that "financing is inherently political and often excludes marginalized groups," affirming that feminists are reclaiming space to bring bold, human-rights-centered analysis that drives collective action.

Alessandra reflected that day one reaffirmed the strength of feminist movements while also making clear that existing commitments, including the "Commitment of Seville," fall short of the urgent economic changes required. She noted that the global financial system continues to perpetuate inequality and stressed that feminists refuse to accept this status quo.

Voices from Indigenous women in Peru, migrant women from Indonesia, and government representatives from Spain underscored the day's themes. Key demands reiterated included addressing debt, austerity, and sustainability through feminist frameworks; reforming global tax systems to be progressive and redistributive; exposing the harm caused by austerity policies; prioritizing the use of public resources over private interests; and centering care as a strategic tool for gender equality and economic restructuring.

Alessandra concluded with a powerful reminder of the contradiction between massive global spending on war and the neglect of urgent calls for justice and climate action. She called for immediate reparative measures. The session ended with a dynamic fishbowl dialogue where participants shared lived experiences. It culminated in the presentation of the Feminist Political Declaration, described as a living document demanding systemic economic transformation rooted in gender equality and just resource distribution. Alessandra summarized that feminists reject the insufficient status quo, analyze the impact of debt and institutional violence on women, insist on care as the core of development, and highlight the misallocation of resources toward war rather than peace.

5.2 High-Level Panel

The high-level panel was moderated by **Memory Kachambwa**, Executive Director - FEMNET, who called for centering gender-transformative solutions in fulfilling the Compromiso de Sevilla. She reminded participants that "women are not marginal, but transformational." She closed the session by urging a call for debt justice, dismantling of the current growth model, and prioritizing feminist, decolonial, and reparative policies.

Chathu Sewwandi of the Law and Society Trust in Sri Lanka advocated for economic democracy, emphasizing that financial decisions must involve those most impacted, particularly women. She described the disproportionate burdens borne by women in the Global South, including debt, austerity, and unpaid care work. She called urgently for debt cancellation rather than delay, strong social protection systems, and funding for women-led transformative collectives. She also stressed the need for climate justice through reparations instead of loans and recognition of women as key economic actors in agriculture and garment sectors. She shared the stark example of Sri Lanka, where 2.4 million people are affected by the debt crisis, women farmers lack land rights, and more than 200 women have tragically committed suicide due to economic hardship.

Veronica Serafini of LATINDADD critiqued the gender-blind nature of development financing. She noted that women sustain economies through unpaid reproductive labor while benefitting the least. She proposed a feminist and decolonial fiscal policy that includes comprehensive tax reform, evaluation of subsidies to benefit the poor over the rich, moving beyond GDP as the sole measure of progress since it obscures women's unpaid labor, and ending extractivism that entrenches gender gaps and forces migration for care work.

Barbara Adams of Global Policy Watch warned that today's overlapping crises fuel inequality and insecurity, ranging from militarization to food, water, and health challenges. She criticized the reliance on public-private partnerships incentivized by donors and urged for a rights-based approach to development. Barbara called for examining the decision-making structures within multilateral institutions such as the IMF and the UN Security Council, and argued that debt sustainability must be reconceptualized to include unpaid care work in debt calculations.

Zohra Khan of UN Women acknowledged that while the Compromiso de Sevilla is a starting point, it is "the floor, not the ceiling." She expressed optimism that for the first time, the care economy and financial inclusion appear in policy documents. She stressed that debt, trade, and tax justice remain unfinished agendas. She also emphasized the necessity of allocating a minimum percentage of public financing to gender equality, and the importance of stronger follow-up mechanisms with civil society involvement.

Sergio Colina of Spain highlighted the global rollback of rights and stressed the importance of reinforcing alliances among governments, civil society, and academia. He presented Spain's strategy which centers on climate justice, feminism, and the solidarity economy, and insisted that "no development without peace."

Inken Denker of Germany described the Sevilla outcome as a painful compromise but also as a step forward. She noted that Germany's development ministry will implement Sevilla commitments through feminist development policies, with a pledge to direct 93 percent of new project funding toward gender equality. Priorities include the care economy, feminist budgeting, and empowering civil society as drivers of transformation. She acknowledged barriers such as anti-gender movements and shrinking civic space, underscoring the critical role of political will in global negotiations.

The discussion concluded with a question-and-answer session. Participants raised concerns about the absence of references to microcredit, transformative feminism, and a minimum financing percentage for women's rights. Questions also focused on where financing is actually directed, with participants asking whether it supports development or fuels militarization and conflict, citing examples in Gaza and Sudan. Calls were made for credibility and accountability after Sevilla, stronger follow-up, regular reviews, reform of multilateral systems, and comprehensive UN reforms including the Security Council.

5.3 Closing

The final session of the Forum concluded with both logistical guidance and powerful calls to action. Filomena Ruggiero and Elisabet Padial García provided details of the civil society march scheduled to begin at 19:30, moving from Palacio de San Telmo to Las Setas. They emphasized the importance of safety, hydration, and protection throughout the march. Coordination teams were identifiable in fluorescent green and yellow vests. Red scarves, distributed after the pre-lunch session, served as symbols of solidarity and identification. The march was planned to include batucada drumming and to be led by migrant and defender groups carrying red scarves and posters.

In the closing remarks, Filomena reminded participants of the urgency of the collective struggle, declaring, "Support and solidarity—we have to fight for the money." Montse reinforced the message with the rallying call, "What do we want? Justicia!" The session ended with a strong emphasis on sustaining the struggle and ensuring that the Forum's message endures well beyond the event itself.

Report on the Feminist Forum on Financing for Development IV (FFDIV)

Feminist World is Possible! Ushering an Economic System based on Care, Justice and Reparations

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