

World Trade Congress on Gender

Gender Equality for Sustainable Trade and Recovery

5-7 December 2022, WTO Headquarters

How can gender equality foster sustainable trade?

How can trade make recovery work for women?

How do crises impact women the most?

24 | Research papers
on trade & gender

2 | Plenary sessions

1 | High level opening
session

8 | Research
sessions

2 | Networking events

1 | Book launch

Register for the Congress: [click here](#)

All participants must complete an online application form. Participants have until 18 November 2022 (midnight) to register. No onsite registrations will be accepted.

The organisers strongly recommend in-person attendance as the programme will include major networking events and displays of governmental and international programmes in support of women and research.

Programme

5 December 2022

10:00-12:00	High level official opening: Building recovery through inclusive trade	Room CR
12:15-13:30	Plenary session 1: Women in crisis, from diagnostics to solutions	Room CR
15:00-16:30	Research session 1: Women entrepreneurs at the core of recovery	Room D
17:00-18:30	Research session 2: Does trade liberalization have gender equality's back?	Room D
18:30-20:00	Reception: A taste of resilience	Atrium

6 December 2022

09:00-10:30	Research session 3: Trade agreements: bridging regional perspectives and grasping female traders insights	Room W
10:45-12:00	Plenary session 2: Gender-based violence: an economic crisis and a trade cost	Atrium
12:30-14:00	"Speed-meeting": When policy and research unite	CR lobby
15:00-16:30	Research session 4: COVID-19: looking beyond the diagnostic, finding solutions	Room W
16:45-18:15	Research session 5: Crating gender responsive trade policies and agreements	Room W

7 December 2022

09:00-10:30	Research session 6: Social issues, keys to making trade work for women	Room W
11:00-12:30	Research session 7: Facilitating trade for women	Room W
13:30-14:15	Book launch: Women's empowerment and its limits	Atrium
14:30-16:00	Research session 8: Gender gaps in trade: does digitalization hold solutions?	Room W
16:00-16:45	Outcome plenary session and closing: What vision, strategy and focus for 2023 and beyond?	Room W

Get ready for the Congress

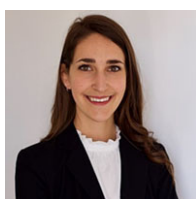


An information note on logistical arrangements, including travel, visa requirements, accommodation and access to the WTO site is available on the WTO website ([click here](#)).

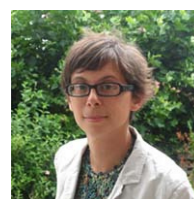
A word from the Steering Committee



Anoush der Boghossian
World Trade
Organization



Lolita Laperle-Forget
World Trade
Organization



Elisa Fornalé
World Trade
Institute



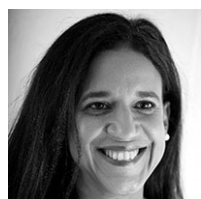
Trudi Hartzenberg
Trade Law
Centre (tralac)



Simonetta Zarrilli
United Nations
Conference on Trade
and Development



Amrita Bahri
Instituto
Tecnológico
Autónomo de
México



Amelia Santos-Paulino
United Nations
Conference on Trade
and Development



Jennifer Poole
School of
International Service
at American University



What does digitalization have to do with a gendered balance economic recovery? Did you know that gender provisions in free trade agreements could be used to support women even in times of crises? What about women's voices in crafting trade negotiation agendas and shaping trade policies, can we hear them and why should we? What about COVID-19? We know its impacts on women, but what are the solutions to mitigate them?

We have discovered so many valuable answers to these interrogations, strong analysis and fascinating data in the papers that we have selected for the World Trade Congress on Gender.

It is time to think and talk about women and trade in a different way, out of the box and innovatively. This is what we hope participants will gain out of the Congress and much more, taking away policy tools, concrete solutions and ideas to, at last, make trade really work for women.

Meet the Congress Ambassadors

Studies show that women are most affected by crises, and women's resilience is undermined by gender gaps globally. However, women are powerful agents of change, and their resilience is key to the economic recovery of their communities and countries.

Five gender equality activists from Nigeria, Fiji, the Philippines, Pakistan, and the Democratic Republic of Congo have been chosen as the Congress Ambassadors to raise the voices of all the women who are on the frontlines of crisis.

Olanike Olugboji - Founder of Women's Initiative for Sustainable Environment, Nigeria



I realized that every environmental challenge I had interest in, whether it was water scarcity, access to clean cooking energy, or land rights, always took me back to the doorstep of women. Yet, they don't have a say in how they can secure these resources and are therefore most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. But women are also the ones who are best positioned to drive solutions.

Paulina Lawsin Nayra - Founder and President of Women Enablers Advocates and Volunteers for Empowering and Responsive Solutions, the Philippines



Resilience and recovery in the face of natural disasters is all about being prepared. But how can women prepare for disasters when they cannot even store food for the next day? It is essential that disaster risk reduction management plans are linked to providing employment and income opportunities for women's economic empowerment.

Esther Atosha - Representative of Young Women Leaders for Peace and entrepreneurial trainer, The Democratic Republic of Congo



Women play a big role in their families and communities. Their role is even more critical in ensuring the survival of family members during conflicts. They are also particularly involved in peace movements, but that involvement remains limited to the elementary level. When it comes to decision-making, women are left behind. That is why our policies don't produce effective solutions to conflict and crises.

Sharon Bhagwan-Rolls - Regional Representative of Shifting the Power Coalition; Founder and former coordinator of femLinkPacific, Fiji



At times of crises, whether it's a local disaster, a massive hurricane or a pandemic, all responses must be accountable to the gender equality, social inclusion, and women's rights agenda. We need to make sure that women are given the resources to be part of the transformative work that is needed. It starts by giving women the time and space to define what resilience and recovery means for them.

Anila Noor - Founder, New Women Connectors, Pakistan



In the context of humanitarian emergencies, one crisis replaces another, and women's issues are never at the core of efforts. However, when they are given the chance, migrant, refugee, and stateless women can be powerful agents of change, as evidenced by their resilience in overcoming terrible challenges and rebuilding lives and communities. How can we change the narrative and talk about women migrants and refugees not as victims, but as powerful, resilient leaders?