



Human Rights Council – 56th Session
Annual full-day discussion on the human rights of women
Panel 2: Human rights economy
and women human rights
Oral Statement

Feminist organisations like Make Mothers Matter have long denounced the inadequacy of our current economic system to deliver on women's human rights.

Driven by the GDP growth mantra and the quest for short-term profits, our current system completely ignores unpaid care work, which is at the heart of gender inequalities.

The same goes for nature. Most of our global crises – climate change, environmental damage, loss of bio-diversity, rising inequalities – all have their roots in an extractive economic system that prospers at the expense of both women – mothers in particular – and nature, considering them as unlimited and free resources.

It is high time to turn this around, and to repurpose and redesign our systems, institutions and policymaking, so that they serve the long-term wellbeing of people and the planet – NOT the other way around.

Whether we call it a human rights economy, a social and solidarity economy, a caring economy, or human-centred economics, we urgently need an economy that supports and invests in the work of caring for each other and for our natural environment.

Our call is to bring all these proposals together, and for all member states to join the few governments¹ that have already embraced the concept of wellbeing economy – an economy in the service of life and human rights for all.

¹ These governments include Canada, Iceland, Finland, New Zealand, Scotland and Wales. They are part of the Wellbeing Economy Government partnership (WEGo) - <https://weall.org/wego> - supported by the Wellbeing Economy Alliance <https://weall.org/>

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