

CONCEPT NOTE – PUBLIC

Resourcing adolescent girls: sustainable solutions towards financing girls' rights

Hosts: Government of Chile, Malala Fund, Plan International, UNGEI, ODI/GAGE & AGIP.

Format: in-person, roundtable with audience

Date/Time: 15:00 – 16:15, Tuesday 4 November 2025

Location: World Social Summit – Committee Room 3, Qatar National Convention Centre

Summary

This WSS side event will bring together government representatives, private sector representatives, philanthropic organisations, girls and youth activists and wider civil society to progress sustainable solutions to financing – and delivering – adolescent girls' rights, in all their diversity. This event will progress discussions and outcomes from the fourth UN Financing for Development Forum earlier this year and feature the launch of the Debt Justice for Girls Statement.

Context for the event

Adolescent girls are particularly vulnerable to the significant challenges of poverty, unemployment and social exclusion. Investing in girls' rights through providing quality public services – like education, health and social protection – is fundamental to delivering girls' rights and promoting their empowerment. It also brings wider societal benefits, including positive outcomes in gender equality and eradicating poverty – both fundamental to the realisation of the Copenhagen Declaration and Platform for Action and the Sustainable Development Goals.

The proliferation of anti-rights groups and the increasing frequency of crises – political, economic, climate – directly threaten girls' rights. Despite a clear and growing need for investing in adolescent girls' rights, governments are cutting public spending and donor governments are rolling back on aid commitments. In 2024, the 10 countries with the greatest barriers to girls' education, home to 32 million out-of-school girls, spent [four times more](#) on debt repayments than on education.

At the Fourth UN Financing for Development Forum (FfD4), the international community recognised the urgent need to address the widening, \$4 trillion annual financing gap for the sustainable development goals. Some progress was made at Sevilla, but specific commitments to priorities for adolescent girls were absent – the World Social Summit provides a critical opportunity to close those gaps.

Sustainable solutions to financing adolescent girls' rights must be found, and international financial systems must be reformed. This requires a collaborative, multi-stakeholder effort to identify and build on practical, proven and innovative financing modalities for girls' rights.

Event objectives

- Equip funders and governments with practical tools and approaches by showcasing proven dynamic, complementary financing modalities for girls' rights.
- Build new champions for financing girls' rights by facilitating collaboration and commitments from a diverse range of stakeholders, including private sector, philanthropic organisations, governments, multilaterals, etc.
- Foster cross-sector collaboration by convening governments, civil society, youth activists, the private sector, and philanthropic actors to exchange good practices, align efforts, and drive forward joint commitments to finance adolescent girls' rights.
- Center girls' rights, voices and lived experiences to ensure that financing solutions are shaped by and responsive to the realities of girls and young leaders, particularly those who face multiple and intersecting disadvantages.
- Launch the Debt Justice for Girls Statement — A call to action for allies to put girls' rights and priorities at the heart of global debt reforms.

Target audience

Governments, civil society, youth activists, the private sector, multilaterals and philanthropic actors.

Agenda (75 mins)

Timing	Item
15:00 - 15:05	Welcome
15:05 - 15:10	Key note opening speech from co-sponsor
15:10 - 15:15	Context setting: overview of financing for girls' rights
15:15 - 15:55	Roundtable discussion Speakers to be confirmed: 5 - 6 speakers from government, philanthropic org, private sector, civil society, youth. <i>Draft questions:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does the context resonate with you? Where does your financing modality/initiative sit within it? • What does scale up (reach/impact) look like for your

	<p>initiative/modality? Where are the opportunities for this (including FfD4 and WSS outcomes)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How do these financing models impact the development of girls' rights in your context, and support broader economic growth?
15:55 – 16:00	Reflections – keynote TBC
16:00 – 16:10	Launch of the Debt Justice for Girls Statement
16:10 – 16:15	Takeaways & close (youth activist)

Background: About WSS

The Second World Social Summit for Development (WSS) will be held in Qatar, 4-6 November with pre-summits expected on the 3rd of November. The [Summit](#) will focus on implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and Platform for Action, the SDGs and the Pact for the Future. It is also expected to be a follow up moment to FfD4 outcomes.

The **policy agenda** is focused on centring people and rights in development (poverty eradication) efforts, particularly at the national level, around three core pillars: [social inclusion](#), [poverty](#), [employment/decent work for all](#).