

## Women leading climate action: A world within reach

PARIS, 20<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019 – The Women & Climate Daring Circle, led by BNP Paribas and L'Oréal, gathers partners committed to building a sustainable world including Microsoft, Engie, KPMG in association with EcoAct, R20, C40 and HEC. This collaborative work resulted in the publication of the report “Women leading climate action: A world within reach”.

Since 2018, the Women & Climate Daring Circle partners have worked to identify the levers and initiatives to accelerate the transition towards a more sustainable economy empowering women, allowing them to lead actions against climate change and address the disproportionate impact that climate change has on them.

This work led to a concrete and practical report highlighting the essential contribution that women can make in the fight against climate change in all spheres of our societies. *A world within reach* details the scenario-based research of the Daring Circle to understand how progress on climate action and women's empowerment depend upon each other. It outlines four possible 'worlds' according to progress on these dimensions. The research shows that gender-responsive climate action and a continued commitment to women's empowerment is needed not only to address the disproportionate impact that climate change has on women, but to make climate action itself a success

The report is one of three key pillars of the work of the Women & Climate Daring Circle, which seeks to clearly demonstrate the importance of a gendered approach to climate action. In addition to this report, the Women & Climate Daring Circle has released:

- The Charter for engagement on Women leading Climate Action : the Charter presents 5 key goals, each seeking to enable women to lead in climate action, and calls on governments, businesses and individuals to work together to drive inclusive climate action at scale. For each goal, the Charter outlines specific and distinct commitments to be taken by these three groups.
- The Women and Climate Daring Circle booklet of initiatives: this document is a compilation of initiatives that address both gender and climate, to profile best-practices and reveal characteristics of replicable and scalable initiatives that can be taken up by individuals, businesses and governments.

According to Chiara Corazza, Managing Director of the Women's Forum: “*Our focus should not be on women as victims of climate change; rather on how they can be leaders, designers and implementers of solutions and how we all can take action that enables them to fulfil those roles.*”

Alexandra Palt (Executive Vice President, L'Oréal) said: “*In order to be more efficient and inclusive, climate actions should urgently integrate a gender perspective, and a focus on women. Women are disproportionately impacted by climate change - at L'Oréal we witness this impact in programs of sustainable sourcing implemented to support women producing our natural ingredients. Moreover, women can provide innovative solutions in the fight against climate change.*”

Laurence Pessez, (Global Head of CSR, BNP Paribas) said: *“Allowing women to engage more widely in the fight against climate change is absolutely essential. We also support numerous initiatives aimed at giving women the means to do so, whether by facilitating their access to finance, green technologies or training”*.

Marie Guillemot (Executive Committee Member in charge of Business Development, KPMG) said: *“We are seeing more and more structured initiatives that can be easily monitored and scaled up by our clients, regardless the size of the Groups – the key being to understand that these issues are inseparable from stakeholder expectations ensuring the future business model of these Groups.”*

Fanny Guezennec (Senior Manager, Research & Innovation, EcoAct) said : *“The report from the Women & Climate Daring Circle is a must-read to understand why the climate crisis and gender inequality must be tackled together; gender-sensitive climate action provides a means to accelerate the transition to a carbon neutral world by 2050 while reducing systemic inequality and empowering both men and women. We invite you to join the visionary leaders who have signed the charter for engagement on Women leading Climate Action and to help us increase the number of entrepreneurs implementing gender-sensitive climate solutions in order to build a stable and sustainable future.”*

The publication of this report is the end of the first phase of the Women & Climate Daring Circle's work, which will continue to raise awareness and catalyse commitment from leaders using research and the promotion of successful initiatives in 2020.

### About the Women's Forum

The Women's Forum for the Economy & Society is a global platform committed to bringing a gendered perspective to the social and economic issues affecting all people around the world. Its ambition is to drive new, innovative solutions at scale and at pace through three key initiatives : the CEO Champions and Rising Talents, as well as through the Daring Circles on several themes including Women & STEM, Women & Climate, Women & Access to health, Women & AI and Women & Business. The Women's Forum is based in Paris and owned by Publicis Groupe.

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