

Event summary
Vision 50/50: Women for Action on Climate Change
19 November 2013, Warsaw

This milestone event brought together influential women leaders who created a vision of a way forward to a sustainable future in which fully empowered women can be drivers of change. Over 400 people attended the event, and many more joined in from all over the world via webcast.

The event was hosted by Christiana Figueres, UNFCCC Executive Secretary, and the panel of high-level speakers was composed of Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland and President of the Mary Robinson Foundation–Climate Justice; Tarja Halonen, former President of Finland; Helen Clark, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme; Lakshmi Puri, Deputy Executive Director of UN Women; and Bianca Jagger, Founder and Chair of the Bianca Jagger Human Rights Foundation.

Elizabeth Njoroge, Executive Director at The Art of Music Foundation, entertained the audience with an inspirational performance of “Vision 50/50”, a song composed for the event. Riley McAuliffe from Global Voices added a perspective from the youth.

The panelists discussed a number of pertinent issues, with Ms. Figueres noting that it is important to follow up the “miracle” that was the decision reached at the 2012 climate summit in Doha: to make sure that women “sit at the tables” at which climate negotiations are being carried out. “How do we follow up a miracle?” she added, “By keeping our feet on the ground and our eyes on the stars. We need to put on our boots and keep moving down the path towards making us equal and empowered partners in climate protection. We have to keep on dreaming our dreams of a society in which these partnerships are a daily reality”.