



**International Women's Day 2014: Equality for Women is Progress for All
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**Statement by
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Women are a powerful yet untapped resource in the global effort to meet the challenge of climate change. Empowering women unlocks this potential. Increasing equality creates equitable and inclusive social and economic development, a crucial component of effective climate change response.

The UN actively brings women into the dialogue to shape our future, and the UNFCCC is proud to join in. Bolstered by leaders like Mary Robinson, Patricia Espinosa and Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, as well as by action of groups such as [1 Million Women](#) and the [Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves](#), the last few years have seen unprecedented progress on gender by Parties to the UNFCCC.

The 2012 Doha Climate Gateway included a decision to promote gender equality in UNFCCC negotiating bodies and report progress towards that goal. And, the Momentum for Change initiative shines a light on women rising to meet the climate challenge with the [Women for Results](#) pillar.

The goal is to create development outcomes that work for everyone, because the outcome is shaped by everyone. On International Women's Day, I reiterate the commitment of the UNFCCC secretariat to achieve this goal for the 3.5 billion women on the planet today and for their daughters and granddaughters and the communities they will live in. Our work is strengthened when women and men unite to find solutions to global challenges. Equality for women is truly progress for all.
