YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND


Women’s personal stories for Rio+20 and beyond

What: A Rio+20 side-event and press briefing
When: Wednesday, June 20, 10am - 12 noon
Where: Ford Foundation Pavilion (will be located directly next to the Brazil Museum of Modern Art, 85 Infante Dom Henrique Avenue, Flamengo Park, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)

Six outstanding global women activists (from Uganda, Nigeria, Cook Islands, Mississippi/US, Philippines, and Brazil) young and old, share their personal narratives to help us understand the cross-cutting impacts of climate change and other environmental issues on their lives. In conversation they’ll also discuss the importance of women’s empowerment and reproductive health, and new, innovative connections among women of all ages for practical implementation of the Rio+20 outcome and beyond.

Welcome: Nilcéa Freire, Ford Foundation Representative, Rio Office and the Honorable Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland, and Chair, Mary Robinson Foundation for Climate Justice
Introduction: Vicky Markham, Director, Center for Environment and Population (CEP)
Moderator: Tracy Mann, Director, Climate Wise Women
Special Guest Speakers:
- Ulamila Kurai Wragg, Executive Director, Pacific Gender Coalition, Rarotonga, Cook Islands: member of the Cook Islands’ official delegation to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- Constance Okollet, Chairperson, Osukuru United Women’s Network, Tororo, Uganda: self-described “peasant farmer”, addressed the UN General Assembly and participated in numerous international events, speaking on behalf of her village on climate change impacts, family planning and women.
- Sharon Hanshaw, Executive Director, Coastal Women For Change (CWC), Biloxi, Mississippi, USA: organized public forums on federal emergency management, education, affordable housing, elevated the voices of poor and minority communities around severe climate events such as Hurricane Katrina.
- Esther Kelechi Agbarakwe, Nigeria: currently serving as Visiting Advocacy Fellow with Population Action International (PAI) in Washington DC and a member of the “Elders+Youngers” Initiative of The Elders around Rio+20. She will focus on reproductive health & rights and education issues linked to sustainable development in Africa.
- Ana Paula Sciammarella, Brazil, Attorney and Member of the Network of Brazilian Women

Individual press briefings will be held directly after the side-event.

For more information contact: Vicky Markham vmarkham@cepnet.org or Tracy Mann tmann@mglimited.com. Follow on twitter @markhamv.

Co-sponsored by: Center for Environment and Population (CEP), Climate Wise Women, and Columbia University Coalition for Sustainable Development.