



Conference “The Role of Women in the Fight against Climate Change and to Protect the Environment”

8 December 2015 – 2pm to 4pm
Grand Palais, Paris

Provisional Programme

As the 21st Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP21) is held in Paris, from 30 November to 10 December 2015, many voices are being raised to demand greater recognition of the importance of the participation of women and the reduction of gender inequalities in the fight against climate change and to promote sustainable development.

On account of the different traditional roles held by women and men, and the discrimination they face all over the world, women are affected differently by the consequences of climate change, such as desertification, water and food shortages, access to sustainable energy, pollution and climate-driven migration.

Women are often the depositories of traditional know-how, but are also key protagonists in sustainable development, implementing many adaptation and mitigation initiatives and strategies that have a genuine impact on improving living conditions for the population. However, they continue to receive little recognition and are under-represented in environmental decision-making forums.

The RAJA – Danièle Marcovici Foundation has been committed for several years now to fostering greater empowerment for women all over the world, and wants to highlight these new issues and step up its action in favour of women’s rights and the environment.

The conference organised by the RAJA – Danièle Marcovici Foundation on 8 December at the Grand Palais, within the framework of COP21 Solutions, will bring together international personalities and experts (women and men alike) driven by their commitment to place issues of female empowerment and the fight against inequalities at the heart of their action in the field and of their advocacy efforts.



It will present the results of the study conducted by the Foundation on “*Women’s Participation and the Environment*” and clarify the links between the issues of women’s empowerment and the fight against climate change. It will also propose operational solutions, turning the spotlight on practical initiatives all over the world to fight effectively against climate change while promoting an approach focusing on rights and the empowerment of women.

Introduction: *15 minutes*

- Speech by the Chairwoman of the RAJA-Danièle Marcovici Foundation (5 minutes)
- Presentation of the conclusions of the study by the RAJA-Danièle Marcovici Foundation: video summarising the conclusions and highlighting the links between female empowerment and the fight against climate change (5 minutes)

Round Table Debates: *1½ hours*

- [Round Table 1: women as actors in change and innovation in the fight against climate change and to protect the environment](#) (*45 minutes*)

This round table will look into the importance of recognising women’s participation in and contribution to the preservation of the environment and the fight against climate change all over the world. It will highlight the challenges of COP21 and of the negotiations underway, and propose solutions and prospects for more effective inclusion of women in environmental policies at all levels.

- [Round Table 2: solutions for women and equality: supporting female empowerment and gender equality in projects for the environment and to fight against climate change](#) (*45 minutes*)

This round table will turn the spotlight on local initiatives by NGOs or international organisations in favour of women’s participation in the fight against climate change and in sustainable development. Speakers will have an opportunity to present the key points in the inclusion of women and equality in development programmes and to demonstrate the impacts on women’s emancipation.



Confirmed speakers:

Hakima EL HAITE, Minister Delegate for the Environment, attached to the Moroccan Minister for Energy, Mines, Water and the Environment

Yannick GLEMAREC, UN Women, Deputy Executive Director

Corinne LEPAGE, Former Environment Minister; WECF International (Women in Europe for a Common Future), President

Philippe LEVEQUE, CARE France, Director

Hindou OUMAROU IBRAHIM, Association of Indigenous Peul Women of Chad, Coordinator

Dr. Vandana SHIVA, Navdanya NGO, President; Alternative Nobel Prize

Mariam SOW, NGO ENDA Pronat, Coordinator.

Claudy VOUHE, Consultant; Founder of the “Genre en Action” network *(to be confirmed)*

The debate will be moderated by Yolaine de la Bigne, journalist and founder of “Neoplanète”.

Conclusion: RAJA-Danièle Marcovici Foundation: *5 minutes*

The conference will be followed by a cocktail.