

G7/G20 ADVOCACY ALLIANCE (U.S.)

G7 Gender Recommendations

2019 G7 Summit: Biarritz, France

When G7 leaders meet on August 24-26 in Biarritz, France to discuss pressing global issues, it is imperative that they take action to address the needs of people living in the world's poorest and most vulnerable countries. This paper contains the recommendations of the **G7/G20 Advocacy Alliance (U.S.)**, a group of more than 40 U.S.-based nongovernmental organizations. They call for the United States to play a leading role in encouraging the G7 to take the following actions.

1. Promote women's economic empowerment and decent work

The U.S. should work with G7 partners to adopt an action plan on women's economic empowerment that:

- a. Creates/maintains decent and well-paying work for women, including equal pay, in formal and informal sectors;
- b. Supports legal, regulatory, and customary reforms to ensure women can obtain secure land rights to access, own, inherit, lease, and transfer real and personal land and property;
- c. Promotes measures in the labor market, such as paid parental leave, which even the distribution of unpaid care, and invests in gender-responsive energy and water and sanitation infrastructure, which reduces it;
- d. Designs financial services for the 1 billion estimated unbanked women;
- e. Supports the adoption of policies to end violence and harassment against women in the world of work; and
- f. Invests in programs that address underlying obstacles that keep women, especially poor women, from being able to meaningfully participate in the workforce.

Comments or questions on specific recommendations should be addressed to:

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2. Empower Adolescent Girls

The U.S. should work with G7 partners to fully fund robust implementation of the Charlevoix Declaration through programs and policies that:

- a. Prevent and respond to all forms of sexual and gender-based violence;¹
- b. Expand access to safe, quality, inclusive and equitable education and skills-building, including comprehensive sexuality education; life skills; rights education, including on land and inheritance rights; and financial literacy and numeracy;
- c. Increase access to gender-responsive, adolescent-friendly, and comprehensive health information and services;
- d. Work with communities and families to identify and address underlying social norms that perpetuate gender inequality; and
- e. Incorporate full and meaningful participation of adolescent girls in all phases of interventions, from conception through implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.

3. Promote Women’s Rights and Inclusion in Peace and Security Processes

Building on the Women, Peace and Security Act of 2018 and relevant G7 commitments, the U.S. should work with G7 countries to:

- a. Announce financial commitments strengthening partnerships between humanitarian operators and local women’s organizations to develop models of humanitarian response that place affected populations, especially women and girls, at the heart of decisions.
- b. Commit to accompany national strategies and/or action plans for women, peace and security, building on the forthcoming U.S. Strategy on Women, Peace and Security, with implementation budgets and evaluation mechanisms for public reporting by 2020.

Background

France has established gender equality as a priority for its G7 presidency, building on the foundation Canada laid last year through the Charlevoix Declaration and other commitments. Given this and existing U.S. efforts across all of the above areas, the U.S. should work with France and its G7 partners to advance new financial commitments² and public accountability reporting to increase impact in all of these areas.

Endorsing Organizations

CARE USA

Center for Democratic Education

Global Communities

International Center for Research on Women

Oxfam America

Save the Children

The Hunger Project

World Vision U.S.

ABOUT INTERACTION

InterAction is a convener, thought leader, and voice for nearly 200 NGOs working to eliminate extreme poverty, strengthen human rights and citizen participation, safeguard a sustainable planet, promote peace, and ensure dignity for all people.

¹ Including but not limited to school-related gender-based violence, child marriage, intimate partner and other forms of domestic violence, and female genital mutilation.

² We recommend that G7 countries embrace a target of 85% of ODA spending on gender as a primary or significant objective, as per the OECD DAC gender marker.