

<p>TRABALHO FEMININO</p> <p>o que se vê</p> <p>trabalho formal</p> <p>mercado financeiro grandes empresas Estado autônomos, pequenas e médias empresas classe trabalhadora</p> <p>o que não se vê</p> <p>trabalho doméstico e cuidado</p> <p>cuidado de doentes cuidado de crianças cuidado de adultos organizar cozinhar limpar educar reprodução disponibilidade sexual disponibilidade afetiva</p> <p>CSW61 Commission on the Status of Women</p> <p>PLATAFORMA PORTUGUESA PARA OS DIREITOS DAS MULHERES</p>	<p>Women's economic empowerment in Lusophone countries</p> <p>– side event –</p>	<p>16 march 2017 14:30-16:00 Armenian Cultural Centre, Yerevan Hall 630 2nd Avenue</p>
		

**Women's economic empowerment in Lusophone countries:
From the wealth-growth economy to the care economy, shifting models
towards a sustainable development**

Program:

- Maria Filomena Delgado, Angolan Minister of Family and the Promotion of Women
- Catarina Marcelino, Portuguese Secretary of State for Citizenship and Equality
- Maria do Carmo Silveira, Executive Secretary of CPLP – Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries
- Gary Barker, President and CEO, Promundo-US
- Alexandra Silva, President, Portuguese Platform for Women's Rights

Moderator: Ana Sofia Fernandes, Secretary-General Portuguese Platform for Women's Rights; EOS – Association for research, cooperation and development

In this side event, we will discuss the following issues:

- ***How can Governments of the Lusophone countries lead the contribution to the urgently needed shifting of the economics models towards a sustainable development – individually and as the CPLP?***
- ***What policies do we envisage to tackle on as the most urgent ones?***
- ***How can women's rights organizations contribute and benefit from this process?***

Background document

According to Khan (2016) **“Economic policies have failed most of the world’s population and, most acutely, women and girls.** This is not just because women are disproportionately vulnerable to the human rights impacts of food insecurity and land and natural resource degradation. **It is because the prevailing economic model perpetuates, and often relies on, the systematic discrimination and disadvantage experienced by women in order to generate growth. (...) companies participating in global value chains rely on the devaluation of women’s work as a source of competitive advantage, and the rationalization of social safety nets and essential public services is made possible by the availability of women’s unpaid labour to fill the gaps in care.** Moreover, the very way in which economic activity is defined requires gross undervaluation of women’s unpaid work, whether in the home or in family businesses. **Work that is considered “women’s work” is not given any economic value, even though without it economies could not function.** This underpins the ongoing failure to recognize the true value of paid care work or work that is feminized.”

The wealth-growth economic model is structured around capitalism and the liberalization of trade and industry. Labour and social rights – as integral part of human rights – are, by now, far from being at the core of labour policies trend. And that impacts disproportionately on women, either on the access and the maintenance of jobs as on the quality and protection on the labour market.

Women’s participation in the labour market is still highly segregated by activity sectors and work functions. Women are mostly employed in the services sector, being somehow a reflection of the social prescribed role women play in all lusophone countries. Additionally, women also form the majority of people engaged in home work, which is among the least secure forms of informal work (and this is particularly the case in most developing countries, especially in industries such as such as textile and garment production).

Moreover, the gender pay gap is a reality in all lusophone countries, regardless the level of countries’ development.

And to sum up the picture, several lusophone countries have also high levels of sovereign debts and its impact on women’s human rights and gender equality are well known – for instance, the way debtor countries are cutting on social rights (pensions, family allowances, etc.), on social services (the closure of support services to homeless, poor and older people) and on educational public services for younger children). As a

result, women's jobs are being closed and women are taking the burden of caring for younger and older people, and staying at home.

It has been proven that the economic model based on wealth-growth does not reduce poverty, does not create decent work, has a strong impact on the climate (because it is founded on a resource-intensive and consumption-driven growth), does not centers its policies on a human rights framework and strongly relies on the exploitation of women's unpaid care work and cheap labour.

Shifting models towards a sustainable development – the care economy

The way societies have been shaped by the prevailing wealth-growth economic model (reflecting societies where the wealth and the power are concentrated on small social minorities) has been leading countries to gendered social, economic and ecological disasters. Shifting to an economic model based on care – for all people (present and future generations) and for the planet – is therefore urgent and the only way to pursue sustainable development.

The care economy acknowledges that societies depend on the caring labour as a prevailing part of all human well-being. Therefore, the economic systems must recognize and account for the value of care work without reproducing inequalities based on gender, class and place of origin.

The care economy is founded on redistributive justice, economic justice, social and gender justice, environmental justice and accountability to people. It is particularly coherent with:

SDG 5, target 5.4 commits Member states to recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate

SDG 8, target 8.8 commits Member states to protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment.

To build a sustainable development, a development that ensures human well-being, gender equality and social justice, now and in the future, and leaves no-one behind, we need to change the present paradigm by placing the economy of care at the heart of economic growth and sustainable development.

References:

Tessa Khan (2016). Delivering Development Justice? Financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Discussion paper n. 10, UN WOMEN