



Women's Earth and Climate Action Network (WECAN) is a climate justice-based organization established to unite women in movement building for ecological and social justice. Our primary work is with women (and their communities) on the frontlines of climate change and environmental degradation; specifically, Indigenous women, women of color, low-income and underserved communities. It is also essential as we work for environmental protection to work with government and business decision-makers, so we engage women at the highest levels of government and business. Our programs are wide-ranging, including protection of old growth forests; reforestation; fossil fuel divestment; climate policy advocacy; changing media narratives and more. Our programs focus on immediate actions as well as long-term systemic change to the climate crisis and the root causes of environmental degradation and socio-economic inequalities. <https://www.wecaninternational.org>

RECENT ACTIVITIES:

Through our Fossil Fuel Divestment Program:

We have just completed a 129-page report according to our goal. The report is titled "Gendered and Racial Impacts of the Fossil Fuel Industry in North America and Complicit Financial Institutions: A Call for the Health of our Communities and Nature in the Climate Crisis". The report spotlights how financial institutions lack sufficient commitments to meet the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement, and how they finance or invest in extractive industries causing severely harmful health impacts to African American/Black, Indigenous and Latina women and their families and communities living in sacrifice zones. Please see report here:

<https://www.wecaninternational.org/2021-divestment-report>

Global Women's Assembly for Climate Justice

In the context of diverse peoples' movements continuing to organize and rise-up in advance of the UN Climate Talks in Glasgow and other international gatherings over the next critical years, the Women's Earth and Climate Action Network (WECAN) organized the 'Global Women's Assembly for Climate Justice: Solutions from the Frontlines and the Protection and Defense of Human Rights and Nature', a free, gender-diverse, public forum in four languages that took place virtually September 25-30, 2021, in parallel to the UN General Assembly.

During the Global Women's Assembly for Climate Justice, grassroots, Indigenous, Black, Brown, and frontline women leaders, global advocates, and policy-makers joined together in solidarity to speak out against environmental and social injustice, drew attention to root causes of multiple interlocking crises, and presented the diverse array of visions, projects, policy frameworks and strategies with which they are working to shape a healthy and equitable world. The Assembly was an inclusive space across identities and the gender spectrum. Go here if you wish to view any of the panels of 100 women leaders from 40 countries <https://www.wecaninternational.org/womens-assembly>

Through WECAN's Indigenous Women and Femme-led Food Security and Sovereignty Program

This is a new WECAN program as of August of 2020, which will continue for years to come. Traditional gardening, land acquisition and management strategies, food preservation techniques, medicine growing and processing, as well as best practices for small businesses are being offered both on-line and in person so skills are shared in-community. A series of sites are producing traditional land tending, care and use operation models to be scaled as needed, encouraging community-based efforts, sharing seeds, plants, equipment and skills, enhancing food security practices and strategies to sell produce and products to public markets. This project is also part of land restoration in the region through tree planting and land renewal to help mitigate climate impacts as well as increase biodiversity.

We recently produced a comprehensive video on the project to date. *Growing Indigenous Food Sovereignty: Okla Hina Ikhish Holo Network in Bvlbancha and the Gulf South*, which can be viewed at:

Youtube: <https://youtu.be/9uU9dl4ETnk>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WECAN.Intl/videos/2026182447532090>

Through our Women for Forests Program: Itombwe Rainforest (Part of the Congo Rainforest, the second largest rainforest on Earth):

For seven years we have been working to restore the Itombwe Rainforest to its original state while serving multiple beneficial purposes for participating local and Indigenous women and their communities as well as helping to mitigate the escalating climate crisis. The program supports the local populations in healing the tragedy of their lost forest by participation in the reforestation of the Itombwe Sector and working to protect 1.6 million acres of old growth forest, which is impacting their homeland for all generations to come, while also preventing human rights abuses against girls and women.

In 2021, WECAN produced a video of the WECAN women forest protectors and re-foresters in our DRC Program. It can be viewed at:

on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=812127173029190>

on Youtube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pVF65uhzips>