MEDIA CONTACT:
Ariana Rodriguez-Gitler
comms@wedo.org
1-202-455-0182
wedo.org

MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release

17 November 2026 | 14:30–15:00
Press Conference — Yunus Emre | COP31, Antalya

From Belém to Action: Making the Gender Action Plan a Reality

The adoption of the nine-year Belém Gender Action Plan (GAP) was a hard-won achievement for feminist movements and a significant commitment to advancing gender equality in climate action. At COP31, the focus must shift from adoption to implementation.

The GAP's impact can only be measured by how governments, institutions, and movements translate its commitments into meaningful change. One of the first opportunities lies in the national assessment process, which invites submissions by March 2027 on the intersections of gender and climate change, including health, violence against women and girls, and care work. These assessments offer an important entry point for building evidence, strengthening national dialogue, and connecting the GAP to broader national climate policies and priorities.

We are mobilizing to ensure the GAP becomes an organizing tool for national policymaking and action, institutional investment, protection of environmental defenders, and meaningful inclusion in climate change decision-making.

The press conference will bring together feminist advocates and partners to highlight four interconnected priorities for delivering the GAP: nationalizing implementation, protecting environmental defenders, mobilizing public engagement, and advancing inclusive approaches that address emerging priorities, including delivering a gender just transition.

WHO:

- **H.E. Mary Robinson,** Former President of Ireland, Former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, and Member of The Elders
- **Hon. Ruth Cross Kwansing,** Minister for Women, Youth, Sport and Social Affairs, Republic of Kiribati
- **Claudia Rubio,** Policy Coordinator, WEDO
- **Hira Amjad,** Executive Director, Dastak
- **Michelle Ferreti,** Co-Founder and Co-Director, Instituto Alziras, Brazil
- **Bridget Burns,** Executive Director, Women's Environment & Development Organization (WEDO), Moderator

SPEAKERS WILL ADDRESS:

- The political significance of the GAP: why we fought for it and what implementation must deliver
- The first test of the GAP — national assessments to national implementation:
- Regional leadership: The Pacific Gender and Climate Pact
- Protecting women environmental defenders
- Nationalizing the GAP: Belém to Brazil

ABOUT WOMEN'S ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (WEDO)

The Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO) is a global women's advocacy organization working for climate and environmental justice. WEDO supports feminist leadership and grassroots movements, connects lived experience to global policy, and builds collective power. For more than 30 years, WEDO has advanced care-centered solutions that address the root causes of today's crises.