



Bridging Finance for Impact

April 18th 2024

7:30-9:30 a.m.

The Willard Intercontinental Hotel, Pierce Room, Washington, D.C.

Please join the Women's Health and Empowerment Network (WHEN) and UNFPA, the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency, in **Washington, D.C. during** the World Bank-IMF Spring Meetings for a high-level roundtable session with the aim of building and deploying sustainable financing mechanisms in support of initiatives that improve women's health and economic empowerment in emerging markets.

Partners and Speakers Include:



Leaders from G7 Governments, Women Investors, Philanthropists, and DFIs will discuss how women's health and economic empowerment initiatives are currently being financed and work with partners to determine how these solutions can be scaled. Specifically, the session will work to:

- Mobilize private and public capital to advance gender lens investing in global health.
- Expand financing for existing initiatives in digital health and renewable energy through partnerships with local health platforms, private equity firms, investors, and telecom companies, making healthcare more accessible and affordable
- Scale finance solutions for strengthening the health workforce in WHEN target geographies.

The discussion will highlight sustainable funding mechanisms, that include a \$500 million WHEN Fund-of-Funds, the UNFPA Equalizer fund, as well as blended financing solutions for renewable energy and the provision of health insurance. Through a collaborative design session, the dialogue will aim to bridge the financing gap for women's health and economic empowerment and leverage lessons learned to guide future actions.

In addition, the session will showcase the next generation of women leaders in financing, health and renewable energy in emerging markets. Creating a platform for meaningful engagement between high-level representatives and those who are conducting the work on the ground, ensuring that the voices of local women leaders are represented.

UNFPA Equalizer Fund will also be introducing an exclusive preview on its WomenX Collective, the global center to advance innovation, research, and investments in women's health. Empowering women and girls through targeted investments into their health, the WomenX Collective aims to leverage the diverse network and infrastructure of UNFPA in over 120 countries to source, fund, adopt and scale solutions that address the unique challenges faced by women in terms of their health and wellbeing.

The roundtable will aim to design a roadmap for funding structures that not only address existing health and funding disparities, but proactively seek to eliminate them.

Anticipated Outcomes

- Announce new investment commitments from WHEN Partners to deploy solutions into target geographies, including Zambia, Nigeria, Tanzania and South Africa, for women's health and economic empowerment.
- Reduce the risks linked to equity investments into global health by working with WHEN partners to deploy business models aimed at providing healthcare solutions to the most isolated communities, utilizing blended financing models for health insurance and renewable energy.
- Establish a specialized team responsible for creating a detailed report that identifies key investment priorities, relevant impact assessment criteria, and notable examples of successful investment projects.

Thank You

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday, April 18th 2024 for more details on the roundtable, please do not hesitate to reach out to Taylor Bourne, Executive Director of Policy at CGHD, at tbourne@cghd.org with any questions, comments, or concerns.