

Women's Climate Congress

Invitation to join a women's initiative for united action on climate change

The 2019–20 summer bushfires promoted a new awareness in the Australian community that climate change is upon us. We realised that bushfire-prone Australia is as much in the front line of climate catastrophe as our sea-level challenged Pacific island neighbours.

Inspired by the discussion paper [Independent mediation for united action on climate change](#), 45 women met in Canberra over two meetings in early 2020. Filled with grief for the catastrophic losses sustained in the fires, and fear of worse to come if we do not act to prevent further climate change, we discussed how women could lead a nonpartisan movement for united action on climate change.

We have since formed the **Women's Climate Congress** to take these ideas forward with [a shared vision to restore climate balance by 2030](#). We believe that it is a time for women's leadership to help turn the tide of political culture from polarised discord to collaboration and cooperation. We maintain that nurture of life, the natural world and care for the Earth must be at the centre of every government policy decision.

We have big plans to build a network across Australia to start a dialogue with our political representatives. We will also reach out to like-minded women's groups overseas.

We invite you to join us in this initiative.

How to get involved

Help build our network

We are reaching out to women from all political persuasions, ages and walks of life to start conversations for united action on climate change, and to engage with their political representatives. Help us to build this network by registering via the 'Join us' form on our [website home page](#). We will add you to our email list to receive information about our activities (such as online conversations and webinars), put you in touch with other women in your area and send information on how to start a conversation with your political representatives.

In Australia, we aim to involve women in every electorate. In this way, we will start building relationships with our government representatives to promote nonpartisan collaboration to break the current political and social deadlock around action on climate change. We are excited by the prospect of bringing women together locally, nationally and even internationally.

Let your local federal MP and senators know about WCC and that you have joined up. A draft letter for you to use/adapt is on our website [Resources page](#) along with a link to MP and senator names and addresses.

Create your own women's circles and run conversations

See our website [Resources page](#) for further information to inform conversations among your women friends, colleagues and family members, and other actions to build this movement in your local community. You can also join the virtual conversation on our [Facebook Group page](#).

Support Zali Steggall's Climate Change Bill

One of our first actions in Australia will be to ask our MPs to support the private member's bill (Climate Change Bill) proposed by independent Zali Steggall MP to be debated in parliament and to call for a conscience vote. Government business has currently been delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic so we don't yet know when this bill will be introduced into parliament. In the meantime, you can read and support it here: [Climate Act Now](#).

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