



XXXI BPW International Congress

17 – 21 November 2024

Resolutions

6.2.3. Internal Resolution: Together for a Green and Sustainable World

Title of proposed resolution	Together for a Green and Sustainable World
Proposed by	BPW Estonia
Seconded by	BPW UK
Supported by	Regional Coordinator Europe Anu Viks, Past International President Sylvia Perry, BPW Ireland, BPW Austria, BPW Germany, BPW Turkey, BPW Cyprus, BPW Finland, BPW Brazil, BPW Malta, BPW Moldova, BPW Bulgaria, BPW Lithuania
Financial Impact	There is no direct financial impact. Efficiency and cost savings are achieved by organising BPW International sustainably.

MOTION:

Mindful that environmental sustainability is essential for the future of our planet.

Aware that the world we live in is constantly and rapidly changing causing irrevocable damage to our environment

Recognising that international co-operation is needed to raise awareness and motivate actions to be taken to stop these changes.

Mindful that BPW International already has a mandate to uphold and to fulfil the Sustainable Development Goals and greater emphasis on their objectives is needed. Are there specific SDGs that they are referring to? Explain this. We are following: SDG3 Good health and well-being, SDG5 Gender equality, SDG13 Climate action, SDG 15 Life on land

Recognising that women have a fundamental opportunity in the home, in the workplace and society generally to make a difference.

Be it Resolved:

That BPW International Affiliates

- a. agree to adopt and include in their BPW agenda a positive and effective policy and action plan to make our organisation a flag bearer and action leader for green and sustainable policies and culture that will have a worldwide tangible impact and a lasting environmental stewardship for generations to come; and
- b. be fully involved as “Green Ambassadors” in each country to promote greater sustainable awareness and an eco friendly lifestyle.

RATIONALE FOR THE RESOLUTION:

Time is running out for saving the planet from destruction. Not enough attention is being given to taking the green and sustainable measures that have been advocated and agreed as the targets to provide a future for human life, wildlife and the biodiversity of the Earth.



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A recent study from the Stockholm Resilience Centre reveals that six of the nine planetary boundaries essential for maintaining Earth's stability have been crossed due to human activities. These boundaries include climate change, biosphere integrity, land-system change, freshwater use, biogeochemical flows, and novel entities like plastics and pollutants. Crossing these boundaries increases the risk of irreversible environmental changes, threatening global sustainability. Urgent action is needed to mitigate these pressures and ensure a sustainable future. For more details, visit [Stockholm Resilience Centre](#). The UN Sustainable Development Goals are our agenda to save the world.

BPW has an opportunity as a leading women's organisation to be at the forefront of the policies and campaigns that will have an effective, meaningful and long - lasting impact on our families, business, societies and the world altogether.

BPW has the potential to lead impactful policies and campaigns addressing climate change's disproportionate effects on women and girls. Rising temperatures and extreme weather increase health risks, especially for pregnant women, the elderly, and children. Disruptions in food and water supplies cause significant stress, mental health issues, and educational interruptions for girls. Resource scarcity exacerbates violence, making women and girls vulnerable to gender-based violence. Women in agriculture face extreme weather and poor indoor air quality. Economic strain from climate impacts heightens health risks, while climate-induced migration leads to poor living conditions and exploitation.

IMPLEMENTATION:

We can implement this through education, advocacy, partnerships, and member engagement. Establishing a global network of BPW Green Ambassadors.

BPW's Green and Sustainable Taskforce Europe and International has developed comprehensive guidelines to foster sustainability within BPW International. These guidelines can be implemented through education, advocacy, partnerships, and member engagement, including establishing a global network of BPW Green Ambassadors.

Key guidelines include:

- Promoting a green and sustainable mindset in every national BPW Federation and affiliated clubs.
- Organizing eco-friendly events.
- Implementing green office practices.
- Providing sustainable travel recommendations.

Each region and BPW club should create its own procedures to contribute to environmental conservation. This involves appointing a Green Ambassador, participating in annual sustainability events, and communicating actions to members. The Green Ambassador bridges the local organization and the working group to ensure adherence to these guidelines and motivate member participation.

Link to Guidelines:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/14QTGLjimTn-554Bjl52CMS1zACgBqnr9>