

Dear excellences', chair

The Women's Major Group would like to respond to your question regarding most pressing needs in terms of science and knowledge, tools and methodologies. We see a great lack of public participation and independently funded science with regards to technologies being brought to our countries, claiming to be green!

The environmental and social costs are not understood, we see this with geo-engineering such as carbon capture and storage –which is increasing the competition for scarce lands and putting pressure on indigenous peoples, women small farmers. We see it with large hydro, and the devastating human rights this can have, referring to Berta Caceres.

UNEP and member states, both lack independent technology assessment capacity, especially with public participation. UNEP should ensure open access to environmental information, as currently this data is more and more privatized. We call on the ministers to ensure this becomes part of the work program of UNEP.

Thank you!