



Overarching recommendations to policymakers and other stakeholders¹

- Increase the funds available to finance quality, GRPS through progressive taxation and clamping down on illicit financial flows, including tax avoidance and evasion by wealthy individuals and multinational corporations.
- Allocate adequate public funds:
 - To provide publicly delivered clean, accessible and appropriate drinking water and sanitation services to all.
 - To allow for the implementation of safe, equitable and efficient public transportation services, including strengthened regulations and human and technical resources to implement initiatives to curb incidences of GBV on public transport and to hold perpetrators to account.
 - To dramatically increase investments in teacher recruitment, training and retention, as well as good quality, free, accessible and appropriate early childhood care and education services.
 - To invest in policies and initiatives to advance the rights of women and girls, and especially for GBV against prevention and response.
 - To significantly scale-up investments in good quality, universally accessible gender-responsive public health services. This includes investments in decent work conditions and pay for frontline health workers.
- Protect national policy-making sovereignty and challenge and reject IFIs policy advice and conditionalities that lead to cuts in budget allocations and reductions to the public sector wage-bill that undermine the equitable provision of quality, GPRS, which are so vital to protecting and advancing the rights of women and girls. These include water and sanitation, safe transportation, education and early childcare, GBV prevention and response, and health services.²

¹ When referring to other stakeholders, this guide refers to anyone who is interested in and committed to making public services work for women and girls.

² For further information, the following document contains more than 800 examples of reclaiming public services in 45 countries: <https://www.tni.org/en/publication/reclaiming-public-services>

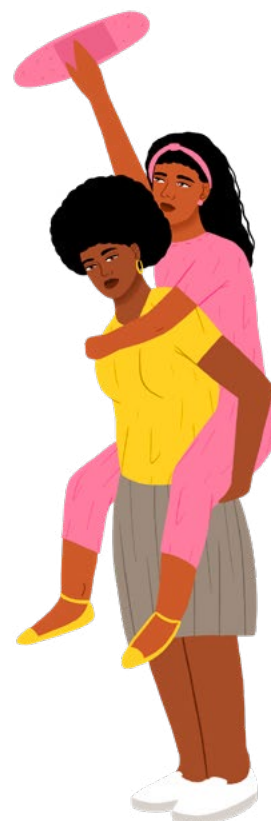
- Keep public services public by resisting pressure to privatise. Interrogate IFIs and other propositions for private sector engagement and PPPs with respect to the supply and delivery of water and sanitation services, transportation services, education and healthcare.
- Consult with WROs (including girl-led groups) on all aspects of economic policymaking, and in particular on macroeconomic policy decisions that impact the provision of public services.
- Establish robust, transparent and participatory systems of accountability, monitoring and evaluation of public services accessible to all.

Specific recommendations for policymakers and other stakeholders with respect to women and water:

- Recognise the vastly unequal share of unpaid care work done by women and help to redistribute this through the equitable and accessible provision of gender-responsive water and sanitation infrastructure and services.
- Recognise the impacts of wider macroeconomic policy-making on access to water, such as the detrimental role of extractive industries on community water access, and enact policies to protect and advance the right to clean, potable water.

Specific recommendations for policymakers and other stakeholders with respect to women and public transport:

- Redesign public transportation systems ensuring a framework that responds to the needs of women and girls, particularly in terms of safety and security. Where transportation systems are still dominated by private actors, it is important to enhance regulation.
- Better safety and security infrastructure should include short distances between bus stops, bus stops located in places with high visibility, increased lighting, as well as disability- and pushchair-friendly infrastructure and facilities.
- Implement awareness-raising and information campaigns on public transport services, stations and platforms to inform passengers about dedicated helpline services in case of sexual or gender-based harassment and violence.



- Ensure adequate staff training on issues related to gender equality and public transportation, including GBV. Training plans should respond to needs identified through regular surveys and checks organised and implemented with women and girls.

Specific recommendations for policymakers and stakeholders with respect to women and education:

- Cuts to the education budget and the public sector wage bill can disproportionately impact girls' education, compounding existing issues of interrupted learning and early drop-out rates. This, together with lack of early childcare facilities, shifts the burden of care to women in the community. Governments should challenge and reject IFIs demands for austerity measures to ensure equitable, adequate public funding for girls' education and early childcare and development facilities.
- Ensure decent work and living wages and conditions for teachers, the majority of whom are women.
- Meaningfully consult with relevant civil society organisations, schools and teacher unions and associations (including girls' groups) while planning education budgets, to ensure they are gender responsive, equitable and appropriate.

Specific recommendations for policymakers and stakeholders with respect to women and GBV services:

- Ensure adequately resourced, gender-responsive, time-sensitive public services that prevent and respond to GBV, including access to justice and adequate shelters or refuges.
- Have accountability, evaluation and monitoring mechanisms in place to track compliance and monitor the progress of GBV service delivery.
- Ensure full and meaningful consultation with WROs especially those providing frontline services to women survivors on the design and delivery of policies, strategies and services to prevent and respond to violence.



Specific recommendations for policymakers and stakeholders on women and public health services:

- Recognise and redress the gendered impacts of poor quality, inaccessible and inappropriate health services on women, including their SRHR, and how women's vastly unequal share of unpaid care work is exacerbated when health services are cut.
- Ensure decent work and living wages for nurses and healthcare workers, the majority of whom are women.
- Redress these gendered impacts by resisting austerity and privatisation to massively scale-up investments in public health services, including SRHR, and ensure their gender-sensitivity.

