SHINE
GENDER-JUST CLIMATE SOLUTIONS THROUGH ENERGY ACCESS

NEWSLETTER

Issue 02

In this month's edition

Power From the Ground

a podcast by IBON International and partners that amplifies grassroots voices resisting exploitation and reclaiming power over land, bodies, and resources.

Rivoningo Solar Power Project

the launch of the Rivoningo Solar Project, showcasing women-led, community-powered climate justice.

Ecofeminist Gathering

the Ecofeminist Gathering, uniting African women and community leaders to advance ecofeminist justice and gender-just energy transitions rooted in care and solidarity.

Second Africa Climate Summit

the Africa Climate Summit, demanding ecofeminist justice and real access for those most affected by climate change.

Reclaiming Africa's Fiscal Sovereignty

SHINE Collab joined Akina Mama waAfrika in Zambia to reimagine Africa's fiscal sovereignty through feminist, decolonial, and care-centered approaches.

Jane Fonda Gender and Climate Justice Fund

At Climate Week NYC, the Jane Fonda Gender and Climate Justice Fund was launched to support and amplify women-led climate organizations worldwide.

What's Coming?

We've got a fire (clean cooking kind) of events ahead!

Our Director brings decades of hard-won wisdom from the extractives, climate and energy trenches to WEDO's Critical Conversations space, this time unpacking the messy politics of 'critical' minerals. Because let's be real: minerals may be critical, but women's voices are non-negotiable!

In Bikita's lithium-rich lands, SHINE Collab is working with young women, building ecofeminist power for energy, climate & land justice. Communities must define our future, and their energy systems. Together, we're weaving ecofeminist power for energy, climate, and land justice in the face of land and water grabs, violence, and the so-called 'critical minerals rush.'

Power From the Ground

Power From the Ground is a podcast by IBON International with ADPDH, Badabon Sangho, Bantay Kita, CSDevNet & The SHINE Collab. In this episode, Jane Nalunga (SEATINI Uganda) and Mela Chiponda (SHINE Collab) unpack how Africa's lands and bodies are still targeted through violent, extractivist relations, only now rebranded as a "green transition." Tune in here for an ecofeminist call to resist and reimagine!

Rivoningo Solar Power Project

On 29 August in Soweto, Johannesburg, SHINE Collab and Earthlife Africa launched their pilot project, the Rivoningo Solar Power Project, showcasing women-led decentralized renewable energy in action. Communities are proving that clean, affordable energy can power livelihoods, fight poverty, and fuel climate justice. This is the future: community-owned, women-powered, and impossible to ignore.

Ecofeminist Gathering

From 2 – 6 September, Shine Collab teamed up with Earthlife and the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty to host the Ecofeminist Gathering, a co-learning space on ecofeminist justice and gender-just energy transition; because who better to design the future than those who've been holding it up all along? 25 participants drawn from 8 African countries (Kenya, Malawi, Zambia, Mozambique, South Africa, Uganda, Botswana and Zimbabwe)

From pollution and displacement to the undervaluing of care work, African ecofeminist thinkers, frontline communities, and Indigenous leaders unpacked the realities of extractivism, while also sharing fierce strategies of resistance and survival. Together we reimagined transitions rooted in community wisdom, care, and solidarity, and left with commitments that prove ecofeminist power is not just theory, it's action. One of the participants, Peninah Nailantei, from Kenya's Masaai Community has this to say about the Ecofeminist Gathering.

Second Africa Climate Summit

Fresh from our regional ecofeminist gathering, SHINE Collab carried frontline voices into the Second Africa Climate Summit (8–10 September 2025, Addis Ababa). With climate finance dominating the agenda, we pushed to expose what was missing: ecofeminist justice, care work, and real access for those most impacted by climate change. For us, ACS2 was less about glossy pledges and more about holding the line for communities whose lives and labour sustain the continent.

Reclaiming Africa's Fiscal Sovereignty

From 30 September to 2 October in Zambia, Akina Mama waAfrika hosted a powerful feminist co-learning space, under the theme "Reclaiming Africa's Fiscal Sovereignty", bringing together African feminists, trade unionists, policymakers, and grassroots activists. With SHINE Collab in the room, the convening reimagined Africa's fiscal sovereignty, challenging extractive global financial systems and co-creating decolonial, care-centered alternatives for justice, reparations, and ecological balance.

The Jane Fonda Gender and Climate Justice Fund

With Frontline Women's Fund and SHINE Collab as co-conveners, and WEDO as strategic advisors, the Jane Fonda Gender and Climate Justice Fund was launched on 24 September at Climate Week NYC 2025, supporting an inaugural cohort of women-led organizations in Ecuador, Indonesia, Nigeria, and Senegal; filling urgent funding gaps and amplifying frontline leadership. This fund is a powerful step toward correcting historic inequities and we invite donors and partners to invest in women-led solutions for a just, equitable, and sustainable future. Watch this CNN interview with Jane Fonda and Mela Chiponda here.

What's Coming?

We've got a fire (clean cooking kind) of events ahead! On 16 Oct, in partnership with WEDO, we dive into a Feminist Strategy Discussion on Clean Cooking, then head to Mozambique for the FEMNET Feminist COP. In November, we're lighting the way with our Solar Futures Handbook + Video launch while fuelling feminist energy justice into COP30. And come December, all roads lead to Bikita, Zimbabwe. Where SHINE, working with women-led power enterprises is piloting the dream of women-controlled, community-owned solar projects will shine bright, literally powering livelihoods and dimming extractive greed.

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