



Zonta Says NOW to Gender Equality and Climate Action

Understanding climate change as a human rights issue is central to the fight against climate change, but also to create a sustainable, gender-equal future.

Zontians in District 23 were inspired by the horrific bushfires in the summer of 2019/20, the lack of a national climate response plan, and research that showed that women and girls come off worst from the intense weather events caused by climate change. They joined the dots between gender equality and climate action - and the result is Zonta Says NOW.

The mission of *Zonta Says NOW* is to create a gender-equal sustainable world by educating girls, advocating for women's rights, and inspiring more female leaders.

Activities are guided by Zonta International's Statement on Climate Change.

Globally, we are seeing once-in-a-century events becoming more frequent. 'Hottest' summers, droughts, bushfires, rising sea levels, floods and storms are all featuring in our daily news feeds. United Nations scientists have shown that global temperature rises must be kept to less than 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels to prevent runaway global warming. Currently, we have reached 1.2°C. Time is running out as we need to halve emissions by 2030.

Intense weather events have already led to the displacement of millions of people, disruption of societies, more unemployment, stress, and violence.

Women and girls are disproportionately impacted by the climate crisis—yet women hold the key to creating a just climate response for all.

The Zonta Says NOW website will start you on your climate journey and inspire you to take an active role in standing up for women and girls in this decisive decade.

Visit www.zontasaysnow.org.au or email zontasaysnow@gmail.com

