

 **feminist communities**
for climate justice



Mend the Gap: Accessible, Affordable
Public Transport for All

#MendTheGap
#FeministClimateJustice



Dublin City Council, Climate Action Week
September 12th



Rialtas
na hÉireann
Government
of Ireland

Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040



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welcome!



agenda

- Welcome
- Introductions
- FCCJ introduction
- Transport chapter of Feminist Climate Justice report
- Claire Kenny, Independent Living Movement Ireland
- Comfort break?
- Workshop with a visualisation?
- Feedback
- Goodbye!

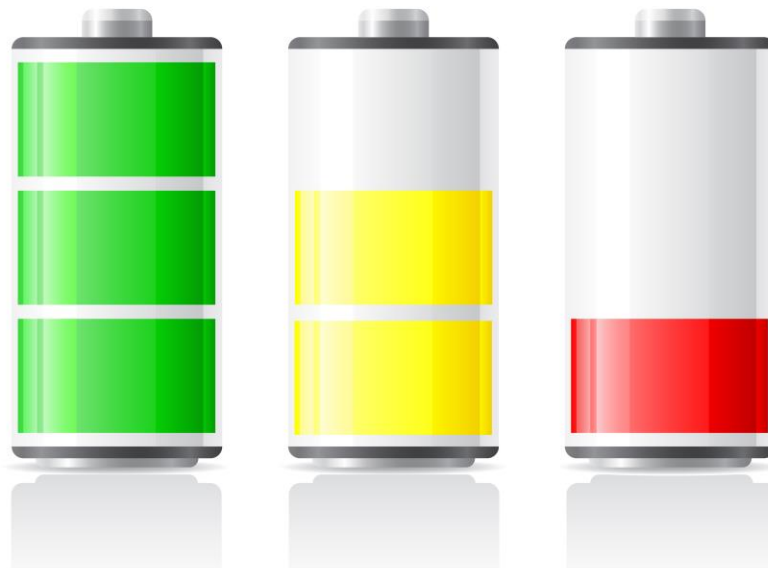


introductions – hello!

Introduce yourself

What brought you here today?

How's your energy?



Feminist Climate Justice

about **paying attention to the gendered and intersectional characteristics** of all dimensions of climate justice

Voices from FCCJ

What would climate justice mean for you and your life?

Access to sustainable transport, footpaths and cycle lanes- need to reclaim road space, to green space, and nature.



Amplify the voices of women and marginalised communities most impacted by climate crisis

Advocate and influence policy with women and marginalised communities

Mobilise communities to support and learn from one another, with the establishment of the Feminist Communities for Climate Justice National Network

Strengthen capacity & raise consciousness of those working with or active within women's and marginalised communities through *Community Work in a Changing Ireland Certificate Programme* in partnership with the Department of Applied Social Studies at NUI Maynooth; and the development of toolkits for communities and community workers



why this project?

Responding to community workers – climate impacts coming, but a need for more information, guidance and tools

Responding to data and policy gaps – existing climate policy does not adequately pay attention to the domestic gendered impacts of the climate crisis

For a feminist analysis of climate justice

Response to National Women's Council members who wanted climate justice integrated in the Council's work



Impacts of the climate emergency worsen existing social and economic inequalities – including gender inequalities

Gender Pay Gap: **9.6%**

Gender Pension Gap: **35%**

Women do **twice** as much unpaid care work

care work is key to how women experience & are impacted by the climate crisis.

caring roles are linked to food, energy, transport choices & security



why women?

most Irish women consider car ownership a necessity to carry out caring duties and to alleviate safety concerns associated with public transport

excluded from the economy and work in unpaid caring or domestic roles which impact transport use and vulnerability to transport poverty and injustice

Women face huge barriers in access to employment, key resources and public services including housing and health

disproportionately represented in deaths related to air pollution

Care and support work - vital and inherently low-emissions work, must be a key part of the just transition



why a feminist community work approach?

Addresses and tackles the root causes of inequality and climate injustice – **system change, not climate change**

Cares – it champions caring work, paid and unpaid, and calls for it to be appropriately valued and recognised as green work

Transforms consultation into meaningful, non-tokenistic participation in decision-making

Focuses on the issue of women's representation in decision-making as well as other marginalised groups – those most impacted by the climate crisis need to be at the centre of decision-making spaces

Champions a collective focus – we must fight for the many, not the few

Means better public services to benefit people and the planet!



transport



transport and the green transition

A big part of our green transition – Climate Action Plan 2024 says Ireland's car-dominated transport system will need to be 'transformed' to meet climate targets

Aim is for half of all journeys to be active travel (cycle, walking, public transport) by 2030

Electrifying our transport – phasing out fossil fuel cars, vans, buses and trains for electronic vehicles instead

Linked to many other areas – housing and planning, employment, health, education, care and socialising



'We aren't considered important': Wheelchair users dismayed over continued lift breakdowns on train line

Bus services in Dublin at 'crisis point' with long delays and 'ghost buses' that never turn up, say commuters

Panic continues over school transport issues

'Huge deficit' in public transport provision in rural Ireland

who is public transport for right now?

Women are impacted by safety issues

Safety is an issue for all people

1 in 3

public transport users have seen or experienced some form of harassment or violence while using public transport

7%

women in Dublin report having experienced sexual harassment on public transport

55%

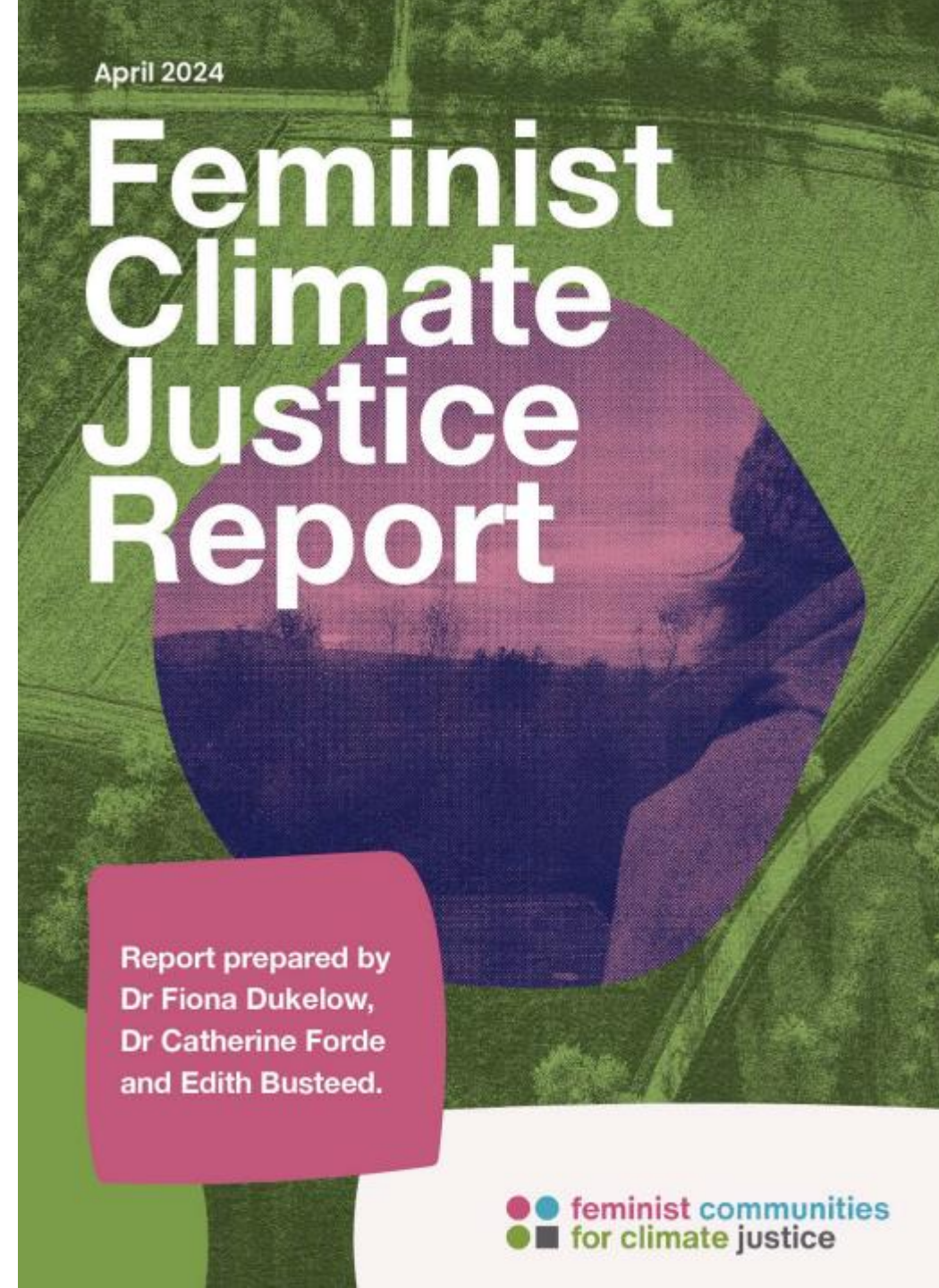
of women stated that they would not use public transport at night

34%

of women stated that feelings of insecurity have prevented them from travelling

Feminist Climate Justice: Gaps explored, what does the research tell us?

1. Just Transition
2. Care
3. Energy Poverty and Housing
4. **Transport** ←
5. Health
6. Food, Land-use, Agriculture & Biodiversity



feminist climate justice report: transport

Transport is not gender neutral, with women and men using transport very differently

The current **male-centric transport system** does not account for the lived experiences that influence the transport patterns and needs of women and marginalised communities

There is a **gendered aspect to car-dependency** – women rely heavily on car transport due to caring responsibilities, increased safety concerns including fear of harassment, and lack of access to alternative modes of transportation.

Over 1 in 5 people claim that the choice to travel by car is based on the need to carry out family/child related activities, and other modes of transport were not adequate, suitable, or reliable enough to carry out such activities.

Mobility of care=
'acknowledges the need to quantify, assess and make visible the daily travel associated with care work'

(Sánchez de Madariaga, 2013: 33).



feminist climate justice report: transport

Communities residing in certain areas are 'locked-in' to car ownership due to lack of public transportation infrastructure, particularly those in rural areas

Instances of **harassment on public transport are heightened toward women** who are from marginalised groups

One of the main barriers for girls cycling to school is the fear and experience of harassment from men and boys. Fewer than 1 in 250 girls cycle to school each day and girls highlight how school attire, such as school skirts, are impractical for cycling

Access to Bus Éireann buses is an ongoing issue for disabled people. A lack of accessibility and requirements to book in advance to access public transportation if you use a wheelchair can result in social exclusion and isolation for disabled people.



barriers to transport

Geography – do you live near a bus stop, train station, etc?

Price – are fares too expensive? Is car ownership (tax, insurance, NCT, fuelling, maintenance) too expensive?

Accessibility – can you board in a wheelchair or have a mobility issue? Is it easy for children to use?

Timetables – does it suit a work/home commute? Does it align with childcare services? Can you get home after a late night out?

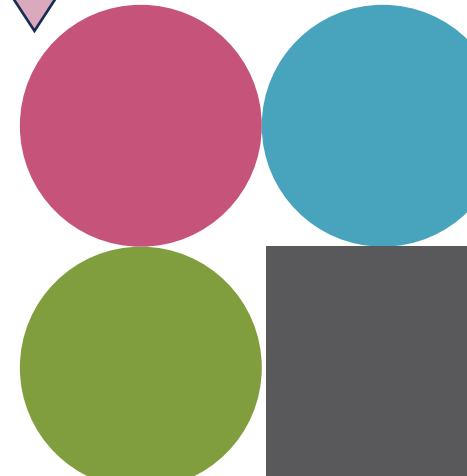
Safety – do you feel safe using it? Is the walk to your home or to the bus stop/station well-lit? Is the bus stop very isolated?

Voices of FCCJ

What would climate justice mean for you and your life?

Reliable accessible transport.

Transport: Accessible, cheaper, and more.



claire kenny -
ILMI



comfort break?

workshop



over to you!

In groups, discuss access to transport in your own communities. It might help to think about the barrier categories mentioned earlier:

- Geography
- Price
- Accessibility
- Timetables
- Safety

Do all barriers impact the diversity of your communities in the same way?



over to you!

What would transport justice – where everyone can access transport – look like for you and your community? What actions could you take to get there?



our transport recommendations to policy makers:

- Proof actions within all climate policy for their impact on women and marginalised communities
- We need to urgently collect more gender disaggregated data on transition priority areas and use existing good quality gender disaggregated data, such as Transport Infrastructure Ireland's Travelling in a Woman's Shoes report
- Continue the expansion of Ireland's public transport system, particularly for those living in rural areas. Ensure that timetables cater to a variety of needs beyond the typical work-home commute, making public transport a viable option for all



our transport recommendations to policy makers:

- Promote public safety by rolling out an awareness-raising campaign of how to identify, tackle and report cases of sexual harassment/assault on public transport to create and advance a zero-tolerance approach
- Broaden existing schemes to increase access to transport: Retain the 20% reduction in public transport fares; continue making the School Transport Scheme free to use; and extend the Free Travel Scheme to people in the international protection process





Thank you!

Follow up actions

- Share and discuss Feminist Climate Justice research report with others
- Join the Feminist Communities for Climate Justice National Network
- Join our mailing list
- Invite the Project Team to speak with my local community / group / organisation
- Other ideas? Contact us!



Access the report with this QR Code





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Scan the QR Code to sign up to the project mailing list

