We live in exciting times. We are optimistic about the strides made for women's leadership in global health. We have renewed interest in the gender dynamics that ensure equitable health, through the lens of the Sustainable Development Goals and Universal Health Coverage. We have better data about how academia, the governance architecture of global health, and the health workforce is shaped by gender biases - a growing evidence base that is helping us press for change. We have seen vital global health actors like the World Health Organization make significant commitments to gender equity.

Yet this ongoing work is vulnerable to threat. Harmful gender roles and norms affect our ability to make progress on issues like equity in the health workforce, fair and functional funding of health services, good governance, supply of medicines and commodities, and a knowledge base of health-related information to make the best decisions.

Our world is shaped by discriminatory structures and systems related to sexism, ableism, racism, casteism, ageism, class-discrimination, anti-migrant sentiment, homophobia and more, which can make our work as researchers, health practitioners and policy makers challenging. Discussions around gender in global health need to be shaped by an intersectional approach.

To foster solidarity and support among established and emerging leaders in global health, we are holding a dialogue on November 7th, 2018, in London. The session will precede the Women Leaders in Global Health conference. The dialogue will center around:

- Creating an intimate and welcoming space to exchange ideas about joint priorities in gender, health, and women’s leadership
- Identifying challenges that hinder progress in the global health field, with a focus on power and privilege
- Sharing strategies and mechanisms which have supported positive change in diverse settings
- Enabling networking opportunities for participants that boost resilience and draw upon collective strengths of the group

By the end of the dialogue, we aim to develop a list of focus areas where further work is required to tackle gender and power relations that threaten equity, illustrate examples of best and worst practices, and foster change.

We do not have all the answers, which is why we want the conversation to be shaped by you!