

# Green Jobs *Now!*

**The U.S. needs renewable and efficient sources of energy to mitigate climate change, halt the energy crisis and end economic insecurity and inequality.**

Greening the economy with wind and solar power installations, more locally grown and sustainably produced food, retrofitting buildings and transportation to be more energy efficient, and ensuring new infrastructure construction is energy efficient will require jobs with employees who are trained in new green technologies.

Such 'green collar jobs' can provide sustainable job opportunities for millions, especially the working class poor. Green jobs can promote economic justice and spur gender justice in the workplace where women are still not equal to men.

## *The Facts*

### **on Women In the Workplace**



- ✘ On average, women earn 78 cents per each dollar men earn
- ✘ Women of color only earn an average of 60 cents per dollar
- ✘ Gendered divisions of labor are still prevalent in the U.S.
- ✘ The majority of women are employed in administrative support and childcare positions, while the majority of men work in the mechanics and construction industry; the male-dominated industries tend to pay more than women-dominated fields
- ✘ When women occupy higher-paid positions they still earn less than men—women managers only occupy 1 percent of the highest paid managerial positions

*Source: Institute for Women's Policy Research [www.iwpr.org](http://www.iwpr.org)*

# Green Jobs can Tackle The Economic Gender Gap

- ✓ A green economy means a green job sector, presenting a new opportunity to address gender inequities in the workplace by including women as equal beneficiaries of 'green' job training and employment
- ✓ The green job movement specifically aims to address economic justice, taking the -isms out of the workplace; this includes tackling racism, classism, elitism, and sexism among others
- ✓ The green job movement targets low-income and impoverished communities, of which women represent a large number
- ✓ In the demand for economic justice the green jobs movement builds a new platform for gender justice in the workplace

As the Obama Administration and the new U.S. Congress plan to create millions of new green jobs, let's ensure women are at the decision-making table. Let's also make sure that green jobs policy and financing explicitly include women as equal recipients of training and employment opportunities. Essential to economic justice is gender justice, and in our fight for a new green economy, women and men must be equal partners!

*Find Out More!*

**Join the Women Demand U.S. Action on Climate Change (WDACC) campaign listserv! Visit: [www.wedo.org/policy](http://www.wedo.org/policy) to find out more information about WDACC.**

**Contact WDACC campaign manager Rachel Harris.**

**For more information on Green Collar Jobs please visit: [www.greenforall.org/resources](http://www.greenforall.org/resources)**



**Women's Environment & Development Organization**  
355 Lexington Avenue, Third Floor,  
New York, NY 10017, U.S.A.  
Tel: (212) 973-0325  
Fax: (212) 973-0335  
E-mail: [wedo@wedo.org](mailto:wedo@wedo.org)  
Website: [www.wedo.org](http://www.wedo.org)