

Parallel Event

“Raising Justice Awareness of Mountain Women Through Student Engaged Learning”

March 10, 2026


Livestreamed and Virtual

*By hosting the event students will take a mid-term examination for the *United Nations Sustainable Development Goals* class at Utah Valley University

Instructor: Dr. Baktybek Abdrisaev

March 10 -21
NGO GSW FORUM 70

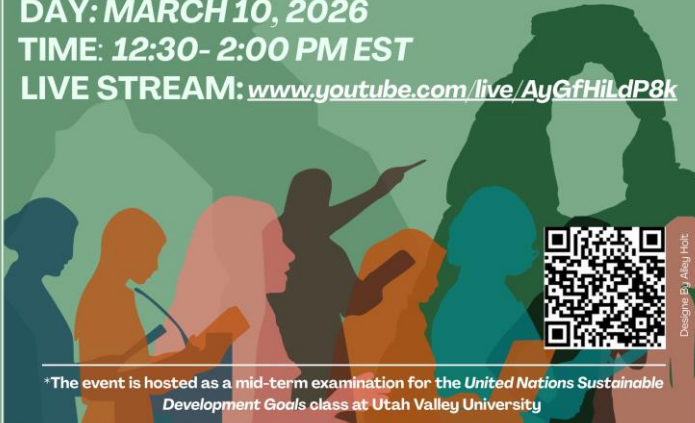
The civil society gathering in NYC
Parallel to the United Nations
Commission on the Status of Women

 **Utah International Mountain Forum, a coalition of student clubs at Utah Valley University**

PARALLEL EVENT*

Raising Justice Awareness of Mountain Women Through Student-Engaged Learning

DAY: MARCH 10, 2026
TIME: 12:30- 2:00 PM EST
LIVE STREAM: www.youtube.com/live/AyGfHlLdP8k



*The event is hosted as a mid-term examination for the *United Nations Sustainable Development Goals* class at Utah Valley University

Mountain Partnership | UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY | UVA | UVA | UVA | Orem-Lindon Rotary Club

Designs By Alley Hot

On March 10, 2026, students of the course United Nations Sustainable Development class held at Utah Valley University (UVU) were invited to speak during the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW70) event. The event was titled ***“Raising Justice Awareness of Mountain Women Through Student-Engaged Learning”***. Students were encouraged to prepare for this event by participating in student-led service projects that centered around aid towards mountain women and mountain communities. These projects included preparing hygiene kits with refugees, working in the food pantry at Tabitha’s Way, raising funds for local Utah Title I schools through selling oranges alongside the Orem-Lindon Rotary Club.

I was honored to be among other students that were able to speak at the conference through livestream and Zoom. As a part of our course, we were encouraged to study a member country of the Mountain Partnership. Over the course of the semester, I have spent time researching the mountain regions of Norway, specifically focused on the treatment on Norwegian mountain women. Growing up in a mountain community myself, I was able to apply my own experiences to my research, which provided a greater awareness of the injustices that mountain women continue to face each day.



Natalia Figueroa Hosts the Event on March 10, 2026

The event was made possible through the Student-Engaged Learning (SEL) model. The SEL model provides the opportunity for students to work together to solve problems, under the supervision of a faculty member. Students are encouraged to take the lead through hosting events, organizing and actively participating in service projects, as well as using their voices and platforms to address global issues. Through the SEL model, I have been given opportunities to expand my knowledge and expand my network. These student-led events have enabled me to speak at conferences and meet many people with similar values.

The event was primarily focused on the environmental and economic challenges that mountain communities are experiencing today, as well as highlighting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). My fellow students were able to present on their chosen countries, countries were Nepal, China, Japan, Democratic Republic of Congo, my research on Norway, and 14 other countries. Each presentation emphasized the efforts taken to support mountain communities, as well as the lack of acknowledgment and inclusivity of mountain women in

government arenas. All presenters highlighted the need of increased safety, education and financial aid for these mountain women to thrive in their communities.



Grace Jergensen Speaks at the Event



Antoine Mwamba Speaks at the Event

The event closed with a 20 minute Q&A session, where students were asked questions regarding the research they had done. I was able to answer questions on how Norway has been implementing ways to support their mountain communities, as well as how we can encourage mountain women's voices to be heard in forums, such as the Commission on the Status of Women. It was incredible to hear my fellow students' research in action and how their countries have made an impact towards the CSW70. The Q&A ended at 12:45pm Mountain Standard Time, as there were no further questions asked.

I feel honored to have been a part of this event. I am grateful to have opportunities, like speaking at forums, that I would not have had without the Student-Engaged Learning model. I have been able to participate, and co-host, events as a member of the UIMF and Foreign Affairs Club. I would like to thank and congratulate the other students that presented, especially Natalia Figueroa who moderated the event. Through our efforts, this event was able to happen.

By Grace Jergensen, Political Science International Relations Student at UVU



Group Photo after the Event

My Statement and Bio of the Event

Jergensen, Susan

Statement Jergensen

Bio

Video of the Event

Video of the Parallel Event