

## What is IAFFE?

The International Association for Feminist Economics (IAFFE) was created as a result of conversations among scholars and activists interested in economic issues, especially as they related to questions of gender.

IAFFE was created to foster a community of economists and non-economists, of academics, practitioners and activists from across the world who are interested in feminist viewpoints on questions of economic analysis, policy and practice.

Our goals are wide-ranging, and include creating collaborations to develop a feminist analysis of economic issues; educating economists, policy makers, and the general public on feminist points of view on economic matters; providing aid in expanding opportunities for women, and especially women from under represented groups within economics; and encouraging inclusion of feminist perspectives in the economics classroom.

IAFFE was incorporated in 1992. Its journal, *Feminist Economics*, began in 1993.

IAFFE is committed to being truly international and truly diverse, open to the ideas, experiences, and approaches of feminist scholars and activists within and outside of economics and around the world. IAFFE aims to promote interaction among researchers, activists and policy makers, with a goal of better analytical frameworks, better policy, better scholarship and better activism. These are important, ambitious, and difficult goals. IAFFE will succeed to the extent that it maintains an active, international and diverse membership dedicated to further its goals.

From the outset, in its vision and membership, IAFFE has sought to be inclusive and open. This is reflected in the four elements of the organization's name.

## About the name IAFFE

**International:** The international focus of IAFFE reminds us both of the connections between groups located in different parts of the international order, and also of the differences. Thus, IAFFE's vision of internationalism entails both recognition that scholarship and knowledge come from different locations and traditions around the globe, and an effort to think through international connections within the economy.

**Association for:** IAFFE is a scholar-practitioner community that explicitly sees itself as an association to foster feminist economics, rather than as association of feminist economists – thus, **for** Feminist Economics, not **of** Feminist Economics. This is because we believe that economists have much to learn from those in other disciplines, and those who bring their perspectives as practitioners and advocates to the classroom.

**Feminist:** Given its internationalist outlook, IAFFE comprehends that feminism today is best understood as plural (feminisms) rather than singular. Feminist thinking and practice today not only highlight narrowly construed “women's issues,” they look at the links between gender and other axes of social organization such as race, caste, class, nation, ethnicity, and sexuality. Issues ranging from equality to questions of ecological sustainability and visions for peace and justice all form part of the broader, transnational vision of feminism that informs IAFFE's approach. IAFFE's aim is to foster a broad, open space for diverse feminist perspectives, practices, and visions.

**Economics:** Similarly, IAFFE sees economics – the study of material life – as pluralist, and welcomes multiple approaches and perspectives, both mainstream and heterodox, disciplinary and interdisciplinary. IAFFE members strongly believe that only via engaged conversations and exchanges between feminism and economics can we begin to address the challenges of creating new ways of understanding and addressing the social issues that we seek to explore through this organization.

## Who are the members?

IAFFE has about 600 members, who come from more than 50 different countries, on every inhabited continent.

Many IAFFE members are academic economists but many more are academics from other disciplines, members of nongovernmental organizations, community activists, and professionals with a feminist perspective on economic and public policy issues.

Most IAFFE members are women, but there always have been men among the active members. IAFFE members are united not by gender or geography, but by perspective.

IAFFE members share a desire to expand boundaries of economic analysis and public policy to incorporate broad issues of well-being, and incorporate the perspectives of under represented and disempowered groups, including women and children.

Members of IAFFE come from a range of intellectual paradigms, both within economics and from other disciplines. The organization emphasizes the importance of open and respectful dialogue among paradigms, rather than adherence to one rigid methodology.



## Why join IAFFE?

Joining IAFFE will connect you with a vibrant and supportive community of feminist scholars and activists. IAFFE hosts an annual conference that is truly international, with plenaries and research presentations from members from around the world. Reflecting IAFFE's international perspective and approach, the conference venue rotates across the globe to ensure that members from different places in the world have the opportunity to attend. Membership includes a one-year subscription to the journal *Feminist Economics*, which is dedicated to providing a space for a variety of theoretical perspectives and cutting edge research on contemporary issues. In addition, membership provides a newsletter every four months, access to the IAFFE list-serv, and an active web site that fosters communication and collaboration among members.

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## What can I contribute?

IAFFE is a member-run organization. Members may be called upon to review articles for the journal, organize sessions for the annual conference, serve on ad-hoc committees, and run for the IAFFE Board of Directors. There are ample opportunities as well to take leadership in the regional IAFFE organizations. IAFFE works to establish mentoring relationships among members, both at the conference and on an on-going basis. Members read and critique each other's work, share syllabi and teaching techniques, and keep each other informed of international events of interest.

# How can I join?

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IAFFE membership rates are based on a sliding scale depending on income.

You may join online at:  
[www.iaffe.org/members/join.php](http://www.iaffe.org/members/join.php)

For more information on IAFFE, please visit our website or direct your questions to the IAFFE office:

[www.iaffe.org](http://www.iaffe.org)

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