Mainstreaming Gender in Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction in the Caribbean

Symposium on Mainstreaming Gender in Water Resources Management, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policies in the Caribbean
Port-of-Spain,
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CARIBBEAN WOMEN SUFFER DISPROPORTIONATE LEVELS OF MORTALITY AND INJURY FOLLOWING DISASTERS.
• DIRECT RESULT OF RECURRENT DISCRIMINATION AND INEQUALITIES IN ACCESS TO ADEQUATE HEALTH CARE, FOOD AND NUTRITION, WATER AND SANITATION, EDUCATION, TECHNOLOGY AND INFORMATION.

• CLIMATE CHANGE SEEN AS A FACTOR CONTRIBUTING TO PERPETUATE GENDER INEQUALITIES.
SDG 5
Gender equality is central to the SDGs, and if it is not achieved, the implementation of all the goals will be compromised.

SDG 11
Women have equal rights to the city, and their safety in public spaces is crucial for sustainable urbanization.

SDG 7
As primary energy managers in households, women can play a powerful role in the successful transition to sustainable energy for all.

SDG 6
Women and girls play a central role in the provision, management and safeguarding of household water and sanitation.

SDG 12
Unsustainable production and consumption patterns are gendered, with women suffering disproportionately from resource scarcity and natural disasters resulting from climate change.

SDG 15
Women’s specific knowledge of and dependence on forests makes them key contributors to forest conservation and regeneration.

SDG 17
Mobilizing sufficient resources will be critical for meeting the gender equality commitments of the 2030 Agenda.
Poor rural and indigenous women depend on local natural resources for their livelihood and are disproportionately affected by climate change.

Human-induced climate change is having a profound impact on natural ecosystems. Women’s livelihoods are being threatened by reduced crop and forest yields and acidification of the oceans.

Gender equality is critical to mitigate climate impacts: Women’s inclusion in climate discussions leads to improved outcomes of climate-related projects and policies.
In 80% of water-deprived households, women and girls carry the burden of water collection.

The burden of water collection forces women and girls to travel long distances to meet household water needs, exposing them to safety risks and violence and limiting their time for other activities, such as paid work and education. Poor sanitation facilities also expose women and girls to illness.

Why it matters:
Women and girls play a central role in the provision, management and safeguarding of household water and sanitation. Addressing water and sanitation needs of women benefits the health and well-being of entire communities.
INTERNATIONAL

Convention on the Elimination of all forms of discrimination against women (CEDAW) 1979

Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action 1995

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development 2015

UNFCCC Gender Action Plan (GAP) 2017

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015

UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 1992

Paris Agreement on climate change 2015

REGITIONAL

Regional Gender Agenda Includes all commitments made by the governments of LAC on women’s rights and autonomy, and gender equality, at the sessions of the Regional Conference on Women


Regional Action Plan for the Implementation of the Sendai Framework in the Americas 2017

Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA Pathway) 2014
<table>
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<th>Development of gender-sensitive/gender-responsive policies and programmes related to CC or DRR</th>
<th>= To address the economic, physical and political autonomy</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Specifically including women in the planning, development, implementation and management of CC or DRR policies and programmes</td>
<td>= To address autonomy in decision-making process</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Collecting, assessing, disseminating and utilising sex-disaggregated data</td>
<td>= To track economic, physical and political autonomy</td>
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Region: The Caribbean

- 13 countries

- 7 have a Gender Equality policy
  + 6 in drafting process

- 9 have a CC policy > 6 of which use a gender-sensitive or gender-responsive approach
  + 3 in drafting process

- 11 have DRR policy > 7 of which use a gender-sensitive or gender-responsive approach
### DOMINICA

- National Hurricane Management Plan.

### GRENADA

### Dominica

Concrete recommendations to address the vulnerabilities of women are provided in the Country Assessment, including pre- and post-disasters; provision of social safety nets including microfinance and micro-insurance to women in rebuilding their homes, businesses and lives post disaster.

### Grenada

- Grenada appointed its Gender and Climate Change Focal Point in 2019.
- Delegations to international activities on Climate Change include at least one woman.

Both countries benefit from the project “Enabling Gender-Responsive Disaster Recovery, Climate and Environmental Resilience in the Caribbean (ENGENDER) (2019-2022) which is supporting 9 Caribbean countries to integrate gender analysis into CC, DRR and environmental management interventions by leveraging sector-level entry points (e.g. NAPS and NAMAS).
1. Be guided by the multiple and compounding forms of discrimination experienced by women to incorporate a broad range of human rights and gender considerations in mitigating climate change and building climate resilience.
2. Create the conditions to ensure the full, equal and meaningful participation of women with diverse backgrounds in disaster risk reduction and climate change mitigation and adaptation at all levels
   • A gendered focus on health and well-being, including sexual and reproductive health and rights, and social protection systems.

3. Take more ambitious climate change mitigation and adaptation action to limit the impacts of CC on all persons
   • Assurance of overarching women’s rights (to land, natural and financial resources, services, and income)
   • Decisive measures related to climate-induced displacement and migration
   • Address and prevent sexual and gender-based violence in the context of climate change
4. Take measures within relevant bodies and processes under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to ensure gender-responsive mitigation and adaptation.

5. Increase the effectiveness of climate action by funding and developing an improved understanding of the differentiated human rights impacts of climate change on women:
   - Disaggregated data collection
   - Development of gender-specific indicators
   - Mapping the effects of climate change upon women, men, girls and boys; poor, rural and remote communities, LGBTI
   - Community-based vulnerability and capacity assessments.
   - Conduct gender assessment needs pre and post disaster
6. **ADOPT OR REVIEW CURRENT POLICIES, PLANS AND STRATEGIES TO ENSURE MEANINGFUL LINKAGES BETWEEN GENDER AND CLIMATE CHANGE AND DRR POLICIES AND PLANS** AND ALIGNMENT OF STRATEGIES AND APPROACHES INCLUDED IN THESE DOCUMENTS.

7. **APPOINT GENDER FOCAL POINTS** IN CLIMATE AND DISASTER MINISTRIES AND AGENCIES THAT HAVE SPECIFIC GENDER TRAINING AND ARE TASKED WITH GENDER MAINSTREAMING.

8. **CONDUCT CAPACITY BUILDING FOR GENDER MACHINERIES** ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT. PROMOTE TRAINING COURSES TO RESPOND TO THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY PRE AND POST DISASTER AND CREATE **AWARENESS RAISING CAMPAIGNS** IN ORDER TO SENSITIZE THE COMMUNITIES.
WOMEN WALK IN THE RAIN BROUGHT BY HURRICANE IRMA IN CAP-HAITIEN, HAITI, SEPTEMBER 7, 2017. REUTERS/ANDRES MARTINEZ CASARES