



CSW66

Achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in the context of climate and environmental change and disaster risk reduction policies

Introduction

Two decades ago, we witnessed the international mobilization around environmental issues. The 1992 Earth Summit launched instruments and mechanisms to promote sustainable development. Today, twenty years later, and called upon to participate and play a leading role in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in the context of climate and environmental change and disaster risk reduction policies, we say that women and girls, in all their diversity, in Latin America and the Caribbean continue to live in the most unequal region in the world. They are subject to a development model marked by extractivism, monopolistic appropriation and degradation of natural resources, and the accumulation of capital that is incompatible with the sustainability of life. The organization of work in the region continue to be segmented vertically and horizontally, and less accessible to gender equality. Based on sexual division of work, relegate women to reproductive nonpaid work and allow their inclusion in activities of low qualification and less recognize, instable, precarious and informal, with low salaries and in activities often consider an extension of the domestic work. The financial inclusion of the lives of the diversity of women, especially through the debt to afford the reproduction of live due to the insecurity and insufficiency of the income and the reduction of public services provision from the Sates, increase violence and impact on their future.

Historically, the Region has contributed less than other areas of the world to climate change; however, it is extremely vulnerable to its consequences. Regional vulnerability is influenced by factors such as its geographic location, distinguished by its biodiversity, and its productive specialization patterns (primarily an intensive use of natural resources and fossil fuels but little use of knowledge, technologies, and the generation of quality employment, especially for women) (ECLAC, 2017).

The dominant development model, of which gender inequality is one of its pillars, is at the base of the acceleration of problems related to climate change, disasters and the associated losses of people, communities, and countries (lives, livelihoods, and health; economic, physical, social, cultural, and environmental assets). We reaffirm with the youth of the Region that "disasters are not natural, but the result of social and political actions. We believe and that hazards may be natural, but disasters are created". (Statement of the Youth of the Americas and the Caribbean, VII Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, 2021).

The impacts of environmental degradation, climate change and disasters amplify the existing gender inequalities. The diversity of women and girls, especially indigenous women, Afro-descendants, peasant and rural women and girls, and those with disabilities, suffer the most from environmental, economic and social crises, particularly because of their restricted autonomy in access to land, productive assets, and technology, due to their limited participation in decisions about natural resources, sustainable production, disaster management, and adaptation and mitigation policies related to climate change, and the increased exposure to gender-based violence that such crises exacerbate. Furthermore, women (and in many cases, girls) are the first to respond to health, food, and water crises, in care-giving roles that patriarchal patterns disproportionately overburden them with. Crises related to climate change and disasters displace populations from their territories and deteriorate the living conditions of women and girls, exposing them to greater gender-based violence, forced child marriages/unions, unintentional teenage pregnancies and being victims of trafficking for labor and/or sexual exploitation.

The presence of conservative forces in the Region, which drive a strong anti-rights movement, puts democracies at risk and threatens the exercise of human rights for women and girls, in all their diversity, and the LGBTQ+ population. In the context of economic and social disputes over resources and socially produced wealth, ultimately, development models, the lives and personal safety of women human rights defenders are at risk, especially those who advocate for the defense of the environment, respect for indigenous lands and property, and access to the natural resources necessary for life. (Global Witness, 2021)

The unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic has taken on the characteristics of a disaster due to its impact on multiple aspects of the lives of the world's population and has added further negative effects on the lives of women and girls, in all their diversity. The restriction of social and health services, especially those related to health care and sexual and reproductive rights, of schooling; and especially of the relationship with state institutions and support groups and networks, due to both, the scarce infrastructure and digital literacy available to them.

At the international and regional level, a variety of technical, political, and financial instruments ¹ have been created to address the consequences of climate change and disasters, encouraging governments to take measures on disaster adaptation, mitigation, prevention, and management while promoting broad participation of all stakeholders. Progressively, the issue of gender inequality and injustice, and the need to consider the particular and aggravated consequences suffered by women and girls considered in their territorial, ethnic/racial, age, functional and socioeconomic diversity were incorporated into them. This is not enough. The structural pillars of gender inequality: i) socioeconomic inequality and the persistence of poverty; ii) discriminatory and violent patriarchal cultural patterns and the predominance of the culture of privilege; iii) the sexual division of labor and the unfair social organization of care, and iv) the concentration of power and hierarchical relations in the public sphere, synergistically continue to hinder and reduce the scope of policies for gender equality and women's autonomy. (ECLAC, 2017). And they affect the enjoyment and exercise of collective and environmental rights, and of the set of human rights of women and girls, in all their diversity.

¹ Among the most outstanding ones regarding climate change: the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Paris Agreement, the documents emerging from the COPs, the Beijing Platform for Action, the Green Fund; and at the regional level: the Escazu Agreement, the Montevideo Strategy. Regarding Disaster Risk Reduction, the SENDAI Framework, and its predecessors, and for the Region, the Brasilia Consensus and the Regional Risk Management Strategy.

We, as women from feminist NGOs, defend the voice of those who guarantee the care of the environment, indigenous territories, ecosystems, and resources essential for human life and the planet; and the care, protection and support of all people, especially women and girls, who depend most on nature, land and territory for their well-being and quality of life.

As the Montevideo Regional Strategy argues, in the face of the exhaustion of the current dominant development style, it is necessary to move towards sustainable production and consumption patterns that incorporate policies for the redistribution of wealth, income and time (ECLAC, 2017); that place the diversity of women and girls at the center of concerns.

This report, which brings together the diverse voices of women's and feminist groups, NGOs and networks in the Region, presents the priorities and recommendations that we consider necessary and urgent to advance the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in the context of climate and environmental change and disaster risk reduction policies. We hope that they will be echoed in the discussions and recommendations that will take place at the Regional Preparatory Meeting and, later, at the 66th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women to be held in March 2022.

Five Priorities for Latin America and the Caribbean

1. Caring for the environment, adaptation, and mitigation, building resilient communities, sustainable development, and women's participation

In our region, the social and political participation of women in defense of environmental human rights puts their safety and lives at risk. Women human rights activists suffer persecution and criminalization. Stigmatization and various forms of persecution related to their gender are exacerbated by the impact of racism, events that have a serious precedent with the murder of Berta Cáceres and so many other indigenous and rural women and young women whose names have been lost in impunity.

Global Witness (2021) registered the murder of 227 land and environmental defenders in 2020; 226 of them occurred in the Global South, and practically 3 out of 4 attacks took place in the Region. Seven of the countries with the highest number of attacks are in the Region; Colombia is the country with the highest number of attacks and Nicaragua is the most dangerous country for land and environmental defenders when considering per capita killings. More than 1 in 10 defenders murdered in 2020 were women. While the number of recorded killings against women appears to be lower, they face gender-specific threats, including sexual violence; and they face a double challenge: the public struggle to protect their land, water and our planet, and the often-invisible struggle to defend their right to speak out within their communities and families. One-third of these attacks were against Indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples; again, maintaining the disproportionate number of attacks against Indigenous Peoples (documented in Mexico, Central and South America), who represent 5% of the world's population but are over-represented in attacks. More than one-third of the attacks were related to resource exploitation (logging, large-scale mining, and agribusiness), hydroelectric dams and other infrastructure. Logging was the sector with the highest number of killings, including attacks in Brazil, Nicaragua, Perú, in the Region. There have also been reports of attacks on government officials or park

rangers in Brazil, Colombia and Guatemala who were attacked while working to protect the environment.

It is worrisome that in many territories of the region, for example the Amazon - where almost three quarters of the attacks on environmental defenders were registered in Brazil and Perú (Global Witness, 2021) - the actions of organized crime, drug trafficking, illegal logging, armed groups, land traffickers, invaders, illegal mining, as well as various extractive activities, endanger the ecosystem, threaten communities, expel indigenous peoples from their territories, and are a constant threat to the lives and safety of women, girls and other people who are at risk. The collective and individual rights of indigenous communities, especially of women continue to be violated due to the deforestation, the contamination of water due to extractives, fired territories, indigenous women in human trafficking. These are some of the conditions that affect their bodies and require urgent actions due to their extreme gravity. The lack of justice it's structural to all the context of indigenous people (CONAMI)

In this regard, it is pertinent to draw attention to the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolutions on Peace, Women and Security, especially the pioneering Resolution 1325, which in principle need to be implemented through national plans, and that are applicable to conflict, post-conflict and post-disaster contexts, marking a path for the protection of women and girls, but also strengthening their role in the peacebuilding and reconstruction processes.

The Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement) - the first regional environmental agreement in Latin America and the Caribbean and the first in the world to contain specific provisions on human rights defenders in environmental matters - is a powerful tool for their protection, especially for women who suffer doubly from the impact of attacks on their activities, as well as for States to take measures to prevent, investigate and bring to justice the attacks against them. The agreement, which came into force in April 2021, was signed by 24 of the 33 countries in the Region and ratified by only 12 of them. Countries that have documented systematic attacks on human rights defenders and fail to implement adequate adaptation, mitigation and disaster risk reduction policies have not yet ratified the agreement.

Patriarchal organization, based on the sexual division of labor and cultural patterns that sustain and reaffirm it, affects environmental problems and the consequences of climate change and disasters, limiting the participation of women, in all their diversity, in development and adaptation, mitigation, risk management and rehabilitation responses. Rural, peasant and indigenous women are the most affected by these processes. They (and on many occasions, girls) are responsible for the subsistence of family members, guaranteeing water, firewood, and other sources of energy for food preparation, crops for family consumption and animal care. At the same time, they actively participate in the productive system activities of agriculture, livestock, and fishing on a family scale - from the care of crops and animals to the commercialization process. They are also defenders, transmitters, and guardians of biodiversity. In Latin America, 58 million women live in the countryside under these daily living conditions. However, only 30% of them own agricultural land and barely 5% have access to technical assistance in the world (OXFAM, 2017); and 10% have access to credit. (MINCI SOMOS TIERRA Arg., 2020). In Chile, the women's access to land is scarce, inheritance and land market benefits men, for indigenous women is worst, only 25% of land indigenous owners are women(Group of migrants and refugees

²)In other words, due to structural issues related to gender inequality, they see their access to productive assets limited, especially land, water, credit, and technology. These restrictions negatively affect their possibility of adapting to the consequences of climate change and the possibility of receiving aid in the event of losses caused by disasters, since their work is invisible, and the ownership of assets, almost non-existent. The status of coastal women dedicated to craft and semi-industrial fishing, is not better. In Costa Rica in 2011 only 0,8% of women in fishing were patrons of the boats while men represent 6,8% (Coopesolidar)

Climate change is increasing the risk of disasters caused by extreme meteorological events, such as the destructive power of storms and floods. At the same time, processes such as rising sea levels, unstable rainfall patterns, droughts, melting glaciers and other transformations are eroding land, natural resources, and population security, thus aggravating already existing vulnerabilities (OXFAM, 2017); to the extent that entire island territories are at serious risk of disappearance and/or destruction, especially in the Caribbean.

These processes, in interaction with poverty (widely feminized in the Region), food insecurity and threats to the sustainability of life, violence, and the absence of government responses to disasters or their hazards, increase the mobility of entire populations, whether temporarily or permanently. In Peru 5.6 millions of children lived in low coastal area, they are exposed to floods and droughts, with devastating impacts on their health, food and hydric insecurity and losses of infrastructure (Save the children, 2021). In Argentina indigenous boys, girls and adolescents are malnourished that impact negatively on the future of their lives, the lack of water and the high level of contaminations put them at risk to suffer many severe illness (CONAMI)

Migration processes have more serious consequences for women and girls, especially for those who are indigenous, Afro-descendant, rural, disabled, elderly and for groups affected by discrimination. Migrant or displaced women and girls (and other discriminated and vulnerable groups) are more exposed to the risks of abuse and sexual violence, exploitation, and human trafficking. (Pires Ramos and McFarland Dias, 2021). According to Save the Children (2021) those factors affects the displacement possibilities meanwhile it's the only option to guarantee their personal and community development.

2. Increase political participation at all levels

Climate change adaptation and mitigation actions must be based on consultation with diverse women. Women, adolescents, and girls undertake actions and good practices on climate and environment throughout the LAC region and the world. Experiences show that the participation and leadership of women, in all their diversity, make these actions more effective and relevant. Consequently, it is important to recognize and guarantee the use of gender parity and quota

² Integrated by Uruguay Asociación civil El paso y FPALCOS , Argentina CLADEM ,Chile SEDRA (servicio de extension y desarrollo agricola)y Coordinadora Nacional por los Derechos de las Personas Mayores, Ecuador ,CEDEAL (centro Ecuatoriano de Estudios Alternativos), LAFI (Asociación de mujeres migrantes latinoamericanas y del Caribe), Nicaragua Asociación de Mujeres Trabajadoras Sexuales Girasol, REPEM- Colombia, El salvador: Asociación Mujeres Transformando, Venezuela UNIANDES –zona andina y frontera Venezuela Colombia ,México Centro de Mujeres A.C y Raíces ,Panamá, HIAs (Acoger al Extranjero, Proteger al Refugiado)

instruments at all levels, not only for participation in political parliaments. It's important to recognize and guarantee the use of gender parity tools in all mechanisms of design, implementation and follow up and plans /programs related to them, not only the participation in parliaments. At the same time it's a priority to increase the efforts to promote the intersectional focus of political rights, guarantying the high representation of indigenous, afro descendants, youth, adolescents, migrants, disables and women of the sexual diversity.

It is vital to guarantee their participation, that of their leadership and that of their organizations in the bodies that define and decide on strategies, including the budget, to address climate change and disaster risk management, at subnational and national levels. Another priority is the need to increase efforts to promote an intersectional approach to political rights, since, despite the achievements in terms of parity, this has not translated into greater representation of indigenous, women, Afro-descendant women, adolescents and girls, women with disabilities, migrant women, or sexual diversity.

Regarding the exploitation of natural resources, affected women must be involved in decision-making processes as well as in the implementation of plans and have an active role in their capacity to make proposals, as well as in accountability and monitoring. Their voices must be heard.

The possibility of women in all their diversity and their right to participate require advice and training on technical issues related to the different aspects regarding climate change and disaster risk reduction.

This point also emphasizes the validity of prior consultation, guaranteeing the free and informed participation of indigenous women, in accordance with the provisions of Convention 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples, in public policies and programs related to climate change adaptation and mitigation, disaster risk prevention and response, and early warning systems.

The Covid 19 pandemic, with its lockdowns and social distancing measures, further highlighted the restrictions and limitations faced by women and girls, in all their diversity, taking part in technology-mediated participatory processes. Limited access to technological infrastructure such as digital literacy severely restricts the possibilities for their sustained and informed participation in processes related to the design, planning, monitoring and evaluation of actions, programs and policies related to climate change adaptation and mitigation, and disaster risk reduction. The relative digital disconnection exacerbates the difficulties of contact and communication that affect those who reside in rural areas (a significant number of women) or territories with difficult access. These limitations add to the linguistic barriers to the own norms of communities related to women participation in the decision process that indigenous an rural women and girls faced and the accessibility barriers affecting all disable women. These must be consider and taking care to ensure the participation of an important proportion of women and girls, especially affected by the climate change effects and the risk of disasters.

3. Redistribution of unpaid work

As indicated in a UN Women(2017) report, women's unpaid work subsidizes the cost of care that sustains families, supports economies, and often makes up for the lack of social protection and care services by States and families. Likewise, the unpaid work of indigenous and rural women also contributes to biodiversity and environmental conservation and, in many cases, to climate change mitigation.

These tasks, which are often performed by women, are rarely recognized as "work". Policies that provide care services, social protection, and basic infrastructure are urgently needed, to promote equitable sharing of domestic and care work between men and women, and to create permanent state care services that incorporate paid jobs in the care economy to accelerate women's economic advancement permanently.

ECLAC reported that the impacts of climate change may deepen the sexual division of labor and the unjust social organization of care. In several Latin American and Caribbean countries, time-use surveys confirm the persistent and unbalanced sexual division of labor and the unjust social organization of care. This is due to the fact that women devote, on average, about two-thirds of their working time to unpaid work and one-third to paid work. In the case of men, the trend is reversed with one-third of their time devoted to unpaid work and two-thirds to paid work. For example women dedicated to craft fishing in Costa Rica , make clear this reality: the recognition of their work in fishing increase ,nevertheless still much must be recognize to their direct and undirect participation in fishing economy , the rest is the need to share equitable domestic work and care of children , in order it's not only burden women creating a double or triple work invisible and nonpaid. (Coopesolidar)

The care nonpaid activities are mostly done by women and girls, they rarely are recognize as work. The low participation of care services adequate to contexts and diversity of women, the low or none recognition and social protection to activities related to the agriculture activities of rural families and the fishing done by women in their homes or communities , the poor development of basic infrastructure , for example to ensure the access to water and sources of clean energy and policies promoting equal distribution of domestic and care among men and women had strong possibilities to affect the development and fully enjoyment of human rights.

It's necessary the States and international organizations value and reward the work done by women in environment conservation and mitigation of climate change, most of it are included in the nonpaid care done at homes and communities. Also, the advances as made in Argentina in the estimation and measuring of the contribution to the economy. (ELA)

Home workers develop paid care work but in precarious and under the informality. In general they are migrant and displaced women, many of them indigenous women that due to the climate change In their original places, the development model and economic reasons migrate. If they could be formalized, they could have access to social protection, this is an urgent measure to be adopted. Argentina avance developing a registration and after formalizing.

The creation of government care centers will also promote the creation of decent work that includes women and will avoid the burden of care work on them. This will contribute to improve the economy in the region as well as improve the creation of decent work opportunities and the inclusion of women in the labor market to guarantee economic autonomy and empower them to deal with different forms of patrimonial violence. (ATRAHDOM- Association of women Home worker at households and the Maquila-)

The regulation of unpaid work needs to be accompanied by the elimination of sex-discriminatory laws, and their proper implementation, on work, property, inheritance, retirement, and parental leave that inhibit the full participation and social and economic opportunities of women and girls. There is also a need for States and international organizations to value and reward the work that women do in environmental conservation and climate change mitigation.

Mobilization around the recognition of the care work goes further the regional level, it's a key issue in the agenda of inclusive development. The Global Alliance for care, promote from the region, recognize care work it's an essential and universal need that contributes to individual and family welfare, to social development and economic growth. Meanwhile is not often recognize nor value. It's necessary transform the couture and reduce inequalities guaranteeing the recognition, reduction and redistribution of domestic work and cares among responsible actors, as well as payment and recognition of those bringing the care services (ELA)

4. Health and climate change

Climate change and disasters resulting from extreme meteorological events in the Region have a direct and differentiated impact on women, girls, and adolescents compared to men, in terms of diseases and deaths derived from environmental phenomena. The former are particularly vulnerable to the consequences of food insecurity, lack of drinking water, environmental pollution, and poor nutrition, aggravated by poverty and intersectional inequality.

The relationship between sexual and reproductive health and rights and climate change is a close one. Food insecurity and malnutrition resulting from the loss of crops and animals, the increase in food prices, migration and dominant gender norms associated with food distribution within households, have consequences for women, in all their diversity, on the processes of pregnancy and childbirth - such as anemia, premature or low birth weight children. The scarcity of drinking water and the contamination of water sources have a direct impact on the hygienic practices of women and girls, especially those related to menstrual hygiene.

The exacerbation of gender-based violence associated with the climate crisis and disasters (Owren, 2021) affects the lives and enjoyment of the right to lead lives free of violence, limiting the autonomy of women and girls. In addition, forced child marriage due to the worsening of poverty and forced migration due to socioeconomic reasons is worrisome, as a sign of gender-based violence and of the impact on the rights of girls, who to a greater extent are forced into marriages or unions that they are not prepared to consent to. The region is the third continent

with the highest incidence of forced child marriages and unions and the only one that has not shown a decrease in recent years (FEIM, 2021). The addition of the violence suffering by girls forced to be mothers due to harassment and rape, denying the right to interrupt the pregnancy put at risk their health and life. CLADEM reports since 2016 periodically actualized about Girls mothers. Infant forced pregnancies in Latin America and the Caribbean, is an important contribution to make visible in the region, violations of girls and adolescents rights , consider torture and maintain in most of the countries in the region. (CLADEM 2016))

Considering the negative impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had in all Latin American and Caribbean countries, it is imperative that the existing public health services be strengthened in terms of human resources trained in gender, intergenerational, human rights, and intercultural perspectives, with the appropriate technology to serve those who do not have health services due to the lack of decent work and the increasing level of poverty they suffer.

It is necessary to carry out research with gender perspective, individual and collective human rights, intercultural and intergenerational approaches, especially regarding the collection, analysis, presentation, and use of data disaggregated by sex, age, ethnic identity, etc., to better understand the health consequences of climate and climate change policies within the context of the pandemic.

The new situation due to the COVID-19 pandemic , increase the need to know , with gender perspective , individual and collective human rights , intercultural and intergenerational health consequences of climate change on the diversity of women and girls in the framework of the pandemic.

Considering the inequality in the assistance to vulnerable groups such as women, it is important to allocate food subsidies to them in cases of emergency on behalf of local governments that depend on central governments. Priority should be given to assigning a minimum wage according to the costs of economic inflation since it is a guarantee of food security for women who do not have minimum means of production.

5. Education and climate change

Education focused on human rights plays an important direct and indirect role in reducing the negative effects of meteorological disasters, climate change and environmental degradation by reducing the vulnerability of individuals and their communities and raising awareness of the actions we can take and demand from States for the conservation of the environment.

A just transition towards regenerative economies, respecting human rights with zero carbon emissions and green initiatives for ecological and social well-being is necessary. We need to invest in education, empowering skills and training to increase women's ecological literacy, while promoting strategies for food sovereignty and clean water provision and building women's resilience to climate change.

Girls' education, with an emphasis on human rights and sustainability, as well as a gender, intergenerational, anti-racist and intercultural perspective, is the starting point for securing the rights of women and girls around the world. Gender equality education for girls also unleashes women's leadership for effective and concrete climate action and helps build communities that are more resilient and equipped to cope with the effects of climate change.

The technical specificity of actions, plans and programs related to climate change and disaster risk reduction requires people trained in the domain of science and technology. Women are underrepresented among them. Even though female enrollment in higher education exceeds male enrollment in all countries of the Region, women continue to be a minority in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics careers, indicating that the gender pattern in the type of professional careers they access has not changed. (NGO CSW, 2020)

The increasing risk to suffer sexual violence and be subject of trafficking by the diversity of women and girls and the increase of forced marriages or infant unions, in poverty and displaced contexts associated to climate change and disasters, requires urgently to implement programs adequate to the diversity of women, girls and communities, of Comprehensive Sexuality Education. The access to rigorous, precise and broad information it's a protective and facilitator factor to the exercise of sexual, and reproductive health and rights (IPPF ACRO).

The territorial, social, economic and cultural realities of women and girls, in all their diversity, indicate the need to understand the educational processes with a broad perspective that transcends school programs; paying special attention to adult women who are outside the school circuits and to community-based practices regarding the generation, transmission and recreation of knowledge and practices related to the challenges of environmental care, sustainable development and climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Advancing gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in the context of climate and environmental change and disaster risk reduction policies: urgent actions and cross-cutting challenges

As a corollary of the 5 priorities outlined above, we emphasize that all these efforts, initiatives, practices, policy and service frameworks to address climate change, prevent and mitigate disasters, ensure health and education for women and girls, call for an open debate and proposal on the allocation of resources through public budgets at all levels of government, with the purpose of ensuring state infrastructure, good community practices and thus the human rights of women. It is important to highlight the application of methodological approaches and tools for gender budgets and the global framework that sustains them.

We urge governments to:

Generate, produce, and make available to stakeholders' information disaggregated by gender, age, ethnicity/race, employment status on processes linked to climate change and disaster risk reduction.

Generate and collect comprehensive data on displaced girls and women, disaggregated by birth and marriage documentation, to form evidence-based policies on climate-induced migration, as described in the Global Compact for Safe and Orderly Migration.

Sign and ratify the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters. The region needs comprehensive programs for the protection of feminist environmental defenders, community and indigenous women leaders, paying special attention to those who, due to their location, identity or social condition, are more vulnerable, so that they are protected and so that governments eliminate and sanction any form of harassment, persecution and/or criminalization against them.

Ratify and comply with the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and meet the COP 26 commitments regarding the control of carbon emissions; and approve internal regulations and policies with a human rights and gender perspective to address the impact of climate change.

Ratify Convention 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples; and adopt, in intercultural dialogue, the necessary measures for the implementation of prior consultation, guaranteeing the free and informed participation of women in public policies and programs related to climate change adaptation and mitigation, disaster risk prevention and response, and early warning systems; and implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Consider a framework of action associated to the mitigation and adaptation of climate change and the care of disasters risks in rural areas, the UN Declaration of the farmers and other workers in rural areas rights, adopted by the HRC.

Legislate and penalize those not protecting the forest and promotes the illegal and indiscriminate felling, and the appropriation and contamination of water sources, for the agriculture/livestock/mining or other with the forced displacement of indigenous, afro descendants, peasants and rural women from their territories.

Recognize the contribution of indigenous peoples and women, rural and peasant women and grassroots organizations to combat climate change, with economic and technical support directed to their own initiatives, including spaces for intergenerational registration and transmission of traditional knowledge; training and including indigenous women in funds for climate change action, such as the Green Climate Fund; eliminating linguistic, economic and political barriers that hinder their participation in these spaces.

It's necessary value, disseminate, preserve and recognize the work, knowledges, practices and contributions of indigenous, peasants, afro descendants, and other women , in the sustainable use of natural resources , the right to land , the access to seaside and the self determination of extractives policies to promote an inclusive and sustainable development , eliminate criminalization and revalue their contributions.

Invest in gender-sensitive policies and programs that prioritize girls and women of all ages (including underrepresented, rural, indigenous and people with disabilities) in decision-making, implementation and monitoring of mitigation and adaptation strategies at local, community and national levels.

Prioritize knowledge management and strategies for disaster reduction and resilience that focus on the care, protection and support of girls and women who depend on natural resources for their well-being and livelihoods.

Develop and finance training and education for women in climate-resilient jobs, including food and water security, for the transition to a carbon-free environment and education in schools on climate crisis mitigation and adaptation for a sustainable future, recovering their knowledge and practices in democratic dialogue.

Financially support climate change mitigation and adaptation for women in the Global South through dedicated funds, debt cancellation, grants instead of loans and reparations from the Global North that privilege local ecosystems, indigenous knowledge, and youth leadership.

Remove legal barriers for women, including widows, in relation to land ownership, resources and inheritance, to reduce the economic impacts of climate change on girls and women who suffer the most from food and water insecurity, and facilitate the access to economic support to repair in disasters . States must guarantee to indigenous and rural women the access , use , and enjoy the capacity to have land in areas where they have lived to also guarantee the preservation of territories and the survival of indigenous people . The access, use and control by women on the land and other productive resources as the water , that are essentials to guarantee the right to equity and an adequate level of live.

Promote affirmative actions for women's access, especially indigenous, peasant and rural women, to credit and technology that allow them to improve and adapt productive processes to the constraints imposed by climate change and recognize them as producers.

Better design of public policies on adaptation to climate change that include a true gender approach can undoubtedly help to reduce the gaps that exacerbate the vulnerability of women and girls. States must guarantee rural and indigenous women security of tenure, access, use and full enjoyment of the land on which they have lived ancestrally, to ensure the preservation of territories and the survival of indigenous peoples over time. Women's access, use and control over land and other resources such as water and productive resources are essential to guarantee their right to equality and an adequate standard of living. These resources help ensure that women can meet their daily needs and those of their families and communities and overcome some of life's most difficult challenges.

It is also necessary to value, learn and preserve the traditional knowledge they possess on the care and conservation of biodiversity and the environment, and not trivialize their contributions to climate change adaptation and mitigation, and to recognize the work, contributions, knowledge and practices of indigenous, peasant, Afro-descendant and other women, in the sustainable use of natural resources, the right to land (continental and marine territory), access to the sea and self-determination in the face of extractive policies, to promote inclusive and sustainable development and eliminate their criminalization, creating funds to facilitate their participation in sustainable development models.

Develop adequate disaster risk reduction programs that address hazards. Ensure the provision of basic social services to women and children in the face of disasters, especially in cases of sexual violence that occur in these circumstances.

Prioritize women in their ethnic/racial and territorial diversity in the planning, design and implementation of disaster reconstruction measures, with emphasis on food security and collective resilience, recognizing the disproportionate impacts suffered by women in the face of disasters.

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