



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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Photo: UN Photo/Marco Dormino

ALMOST 17% OF THE 10,271 DISASTERS REGISTERED WORLDWIDE BETWEEN 1970 AND 2010 HAVE OCCURRED IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN. 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

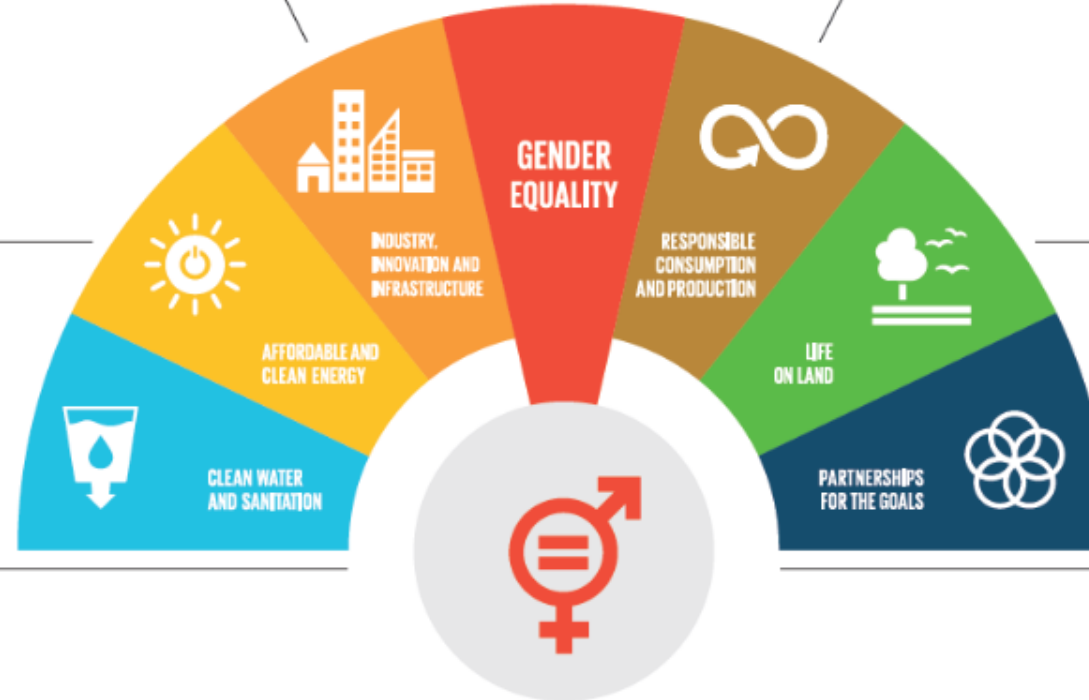
Women have equal rights to the city, and their safety in public spaces is crucial for sustainable urbanization.

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.

13 CLIMATE ACTION



SDG 13

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

TARGETS

5

GENDER-SPECIFIC INDICATORS

1



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.

WHY IT MATTERS

Gender equality is critical to mitigate climate impacts: Women's inclusion in climate discussions leads to improved outcomes of climate-related projects and policies.

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



SDG 6

Ensure availability
and sustainable
management of water
and sanitation for all

TARGETS

8

GENDER-SPECIFIC INDICATORS

0



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

ECLAC

REGIONAL

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

GENDER



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



Montevideo Strategy for
Implementation of the
Regional Gender Agenda
within the Sustainable
Development Framework
by 2030
2016

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

GENDER

CLIMATE CHANGE AND DRR

1

Development of gender-sensitive/
gender-responsive policies and
programmes related to CC or DRR

= To address the
economic, physical
and political autonomy

2

Specifically including women in the
planning, development,
implementation and management of
CC or DRR policies and programmes

= To address
autonomy in decision-
making process

3

Collecting, assessing, disseminating
and utilising sex-disaggregated data

= To track economic,
physical and political
autonomy

REGIONAL
TRENDS

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

GRENADA

GENDER AND
RESILIENCE
FRAMEWORKS

- **National Policy and Action Plan for Gender Equity and Equality (2006; revised in 2014): includes vulnerability to disasters.**
- **Draft National Gender Policy (2018-2028).**
- **National CC Adaptation Policy (2002).**
- **National Hurricane Management Plan.**
- **Disaster Preparedness Plan for the Agriculture Sector (2006).**
- **National Disaster Plan (2006).**
- **Low-Carbon Climate-Resilient Development Strategy (2010-2020).**

- **Gender Equality Policy and Action Plan (2014-2020).**
- **Gender Equality Policy in National**
- **Climate Change Policy (2017-2021).**
- **National Disaster Plan (2005).**

SPECIFIC
SURVEYS /
ANALYSIS AT
COUNTRY
LEVEL

- **Country assessment on Enhancing Gender Visibility in DRM and CC (2009).**

- **Gender Impact Assessment of Hurricane Ivan - Making the Invisible Visible (2005).**

DOMINICA

GRENADA

OTHER
MECHANISMS
FOR
MAINSTREAMING
GENDER IN
CLIMATE
CHANGE AND
DRR

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 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



WOMEN WALK IN THE RAIN BROUGHT BY HURRICANE IRMA IN CAP-HAITIEN, HAITI, SEPTEMBER 7, 2017.
REUTERS/ANDRES MARTINEZ CASARES

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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

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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.



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HAITI, SEPTEMBER 7, 2017. REUTERS/ANDRES MARTINEZ CASARES