Gender, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction

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SDC GUIDANCE SHEET

Prepared by
Gender Equality and Global Programme Climate Change and Environment

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This thematic guidance sheet is one in a series written to support SDC staff in ensuring that gender issues are taken into account transversally in different thematic domains – in this case climate change and disaster risk reduction. It outlines key gender issues in climate change hazards and natural disasters and how these could be integrated in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of cooperation strategies and project interventions.

The term climate change is used to indicate both long-term trends and climate-related extreme events – whether slow-onset (e.g. droughts) or rapid-onset disasters (e.g. hurricanes). The term disaster is used to describe a serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society on any scale as a result of hazardous events[1] leading to human, material, economic and/or environmental losses and impacts.

1 This guidance sheet does not address anthropogenic disasters such as conflicts.

Key issues

A. Vulnerabilities and risks: Who is most at risk – and who is most vulnerable? The severity of impacts of extreme weather and climate events depends strongly on the level of exposure and vulnerability to these events. Individuals and communities are exposed and vulnerable to different extents, not only regarding gender, but also based on factors such as wealth, education, race, ethnicity, religion, class, caste, disability or health status. To ensure the principle of Leaving No One Behind (LNOB), it is crucial that all climate change and DRR-related actions focus on groups who are most at risk from climate and extreme events and possess lower capacities to deal with the impacts and adapt to them.

B. Gender analysis in vulnerability and risk assessments is key: A full understanding of gender roles and norms is decisive for all vulnerability and risk assessments (climate change and DRR). Social roles and a gender-specific division of labour lead to different and specific degrees of exposure and vulnerability for women and girls with respect to men and boys. Also, climate change and natural hazards can exacerbate existing gender inequalities, such as lack of access to natural resources, information and decision-making, thereby increasing the vulnerabilities of women living in poverty.[2] Adaptation and risk management policies and practices will be more successful if they take the dynamic nature of vulnerability and exposure into account and directly address the drivers of vulnerability, in particular those related to gender.

C. Participation: Whose knowledge matters, who decides? While there is immense traditional knowledge, including and in particular among women, dealing with climate variability and change as well as with long-term disaster prevention requires the co-creation of new knowledge among different stakeholders. Equal participation and capacity-building of women and men are the cornerstones of effective intervention. Resource management capacities of women are an important basis for designing meaningful responses to climate change and to disaster prevention, response and recovery. Efficient programming requires a balance between the liabilities and capabilities of both women and men. Re-establishing and strengthening communities after a disaster can also be an opportunity to promote the principles of social justice and equality and thus reshape social conditions for both men and women. Women must also be able to participate on an equal footing in the green economy, notably in regard to their access to clean energy and technology as users and providers of services as well as in subnational, national and multilateral processes related to climate change and DRR.

2 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 5th Assessment report: http://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/wg2/

1 Definitions and approach[3]

Global progress toward sustainable development is increasingly threatened by climate change and environmental challenges, while population growth and economic development are multiplying pressures on the environment and exacerbating climate change. Manifold impacts from climate change and natural hazards exist that disproportionately affect the world's poorest countries and vulnerable parts of the population, as visualised in the figure to the right:

To respond to the challenges of climate change, adaptation and mitigation approaches are required. **Mitigation** of climate change refers to efforts to reduce or prevent emissions of greenhouse gases, such as the promotion of low-emission and clean energy or an increase of afforestation. **Adaptation** *(to climate change)* is the process of adjusting to actual or expected climate change and its effects so as to

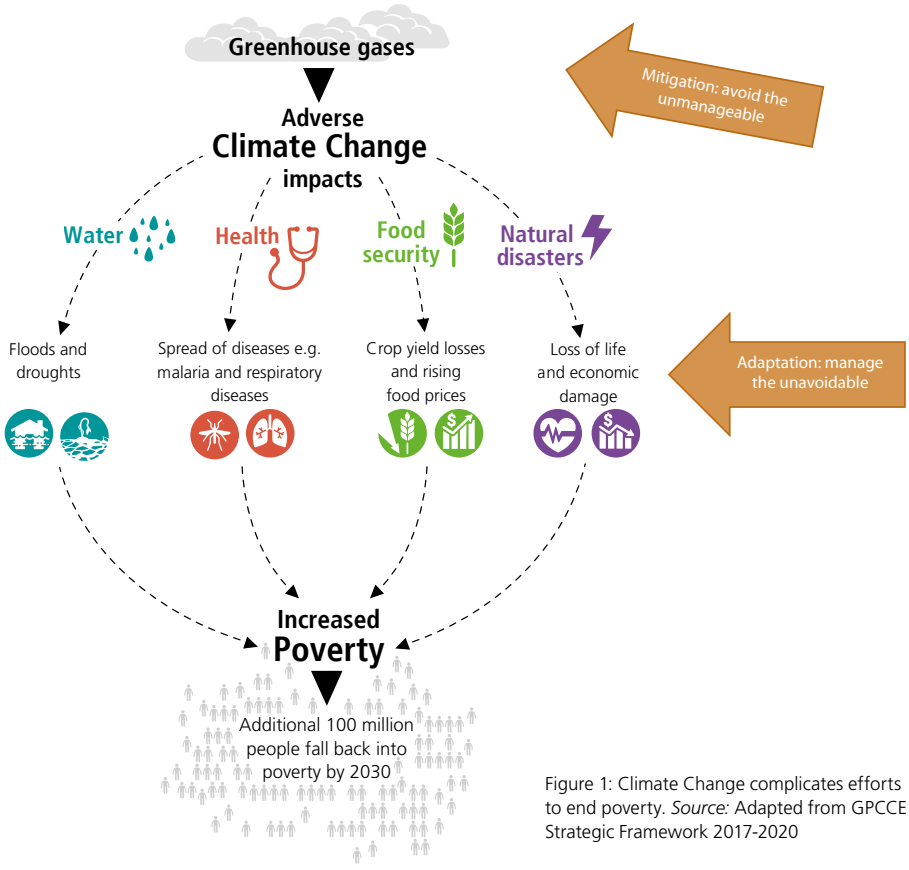

Figure 1: Climate Change complicates efforts to end poverty. *Source:* Adapted from GPCCE Strategic Framework 2017-2020

3 SDC Global Programme Climate Change and Environment. Strategic Framework 2017-2020.

moderate the harm or exploit beneficial opportunities. *Mal-adaptation* refers to actions that may lead to an increased risk of adverse climate-related outcomes, increased vulnerability to climate change, or diminished welfare, now or in the future. Climate change adaptation and mitigation present a particular challenge for developing countries. Over the last years, climate change work has undergone a paradigm change and turned towards more integrative approaches linking climate change adaptation, mitigation and disaster risk reduction (DRR) that can achieve additional, complementary benefits in sustainable development, such as enhanced access to energy, better health as well as sustainable land, forest and water management. Figure 2 visualises specific aspects of climate change adaptation and of DRR and their overlaps.

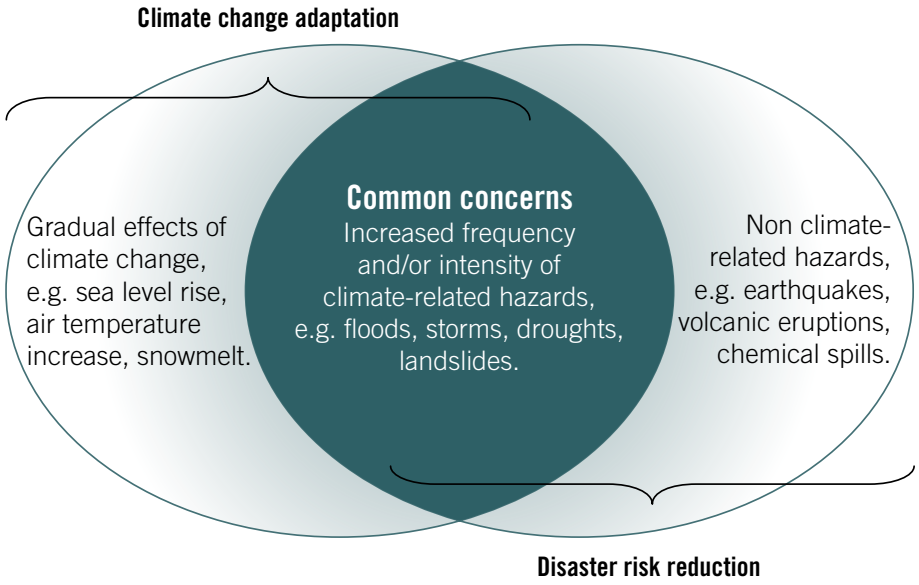

Figure 2: Convergence between climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction. *Source:* Swiss NGO DRR Platform, DRR / CCA Briefing Note, October 2016

The SDC Global Programme Climate Change and Environment distinguishes in its intervention strategies between low-emission development and climate-resilient development. **Low-emission development** is a prerequisite to reaching the ambitious objectives in the Paris Agreement to limit global warming to a maximum of two degrees Celsius and the 2030 Agenda. It includes mitigation measures such as promoting clean energy, energy efficiency and energy access as well as reducing air, land and water pollution, thereby improving health and avoiding natural resource degradation. **Climate-resilient development** seeks to avoid the degradation of livelihoods by reducing the negative impacts of climate change. It refers to adaptation measures such as empowering people and communities to adapt and prepare for climate and environment-related hazards such as floods, droughts or landslides while at the same time sustainably manage natural resources on which their livelihoods depend. Its overall aim is to reduce the risks for vulnerable communities and support solutions that increase their resilience.

2 International policies and frameworks on climate change and disaster risk reduction

Mainstreaming gender in climate change and disaster risk reduction is anchored in the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**. Goal 13 calls for climate action and the reduction of the risks caused by extreme events. Target 13.B makes a specific commitment to raising the capacities of women. While goal 5 focuses on gender equality, goals 1, 7, 11, 12, 14 and 15 address either the drivers of climate change or its impacts on and resilience to disasters.

The **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)** is the primary intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change. The *Bali Action Plan* (2007) recognised gender needs and, in response to the low representation of women in climate-related decision-making at all levels, the two-year **Lima Work Programme on Gender**[4] promoted gender balance at all levels in 2014. It encouraged countries to support training and awareness-raising for delegates on issues related to gender balance and climate change. The **Paris Agreement (2015)**[5] in its preamble and under article 11.2 commits nations to gender equality and empowerment of women.

The **Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)**[6] stresses that women and their participation are critical to effectively managing disaster risk and designing, resourcing and implementing gender-transformative disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programmes. In SDG 11, target

4 Lima Work Programme on Gender (accessed 7 June 2017): http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2014/sbi/eng/l43rev01.pdf
5 Paris Agreement (accessed 7 June 7 2017): http://unfccc.int/files/essential_background/convention/application/pdf/english_paris_agreement.pdf
6 Sendai Framework: http://www.unisdr.org/files/43291_sendaiframeworkfordrren.pdf

11b refers also to the Sendai Framework to ensure holistic disaster risk management at all levels.

The Financial Mechanisms to the Convention – the **Green Climate Fund (GCF)** and the **Global Environmental Facility (GEF)** – and other climate funds such as the **Adaptation Fund (AF)** have gender policies and action plans in place, aiming at an institutional and programmatic mainstreaming. As an Executive Board member, Switzerland has contributed to the development of both the GCF, GEF and AF Gender Policy and Action Plan. In addition, Switzerland has defined gender as one of the key priorities for the Swiss engagement in the GCF Executive Board for the period 2015–18.

Despite these commitments, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)[7] estimates that less than 30% of climate finance is currently addressing the needs of women and girls, and only 3% of the aid to climate change targets projects with gender equality as a principal objective. Climate-related aid to agriculture gets the most attention, followed by water. Generally, climate change adaptation projects have a stronger focus on gender equality than mitigation actions. More needs to be done to improve women's and girls' opportunities to participate in the green economy, notably in clean technology and renewable energy.

7 OECD Fact Sheet (2015): https://www.oecd.org/dac/gender-development/tracking-money-for-womens-economic-empowerment.htm

3 Analysing gender in climate change, environment and disaster risk reduction

There are three compelling reasons for ensuring gender responsiveness in climate change and DRR:

- Social roles and gender-specific division of labour lead to **different and specific exposure and vulnerability** of women and girls and of men and boys to climate change and disaster risks.
- Climate change and natural hazards can exacerbate existing **gender inequalities,** such as lack of access to natural resources, information and decision-making.
- Women and girls and men and boys bring **different expertise and skills** to address climate and disaster risks. Full participation of women and girls and a gender-responsive approach can harness the full range of their knowledge to address the challenges that climate and disaster risks pose.

3.1 Division of labour, gender roles and needs in the context of climate change and disaster risk reduction

The risks incurred through a changing climate and natural disasters result from lack of preparedness *(vulnerability*), *exposure* to harm and the *hazard* (shocks and frequency). Men and women are affected differently by these factors owing to their distinct roles in societies. In developing countries and rural contexts, women are traditionally responsible for household affairs, subsistence farming, collecting water, and natural resources management. They are thus disproportionately affected by climate change impacts such as droughts and floods or increasingly erratic precipitation patterns. Gender-specific vulnerabilities of men need also to be analysed with respect to socially ascribed roles and norms. In Mali, for example, women are responsible for rice cultivation in the irrigated areas. Therefore, changes in rainfall patterns affects them more than men, who may be responsible for wage income or livestock rearing. Meanwhile, men might suffer more as a single-parent survivor, where support is targeted only at single mothers and not fathers due to the widespread gendered division of labour and the normative perception of men as breadwinners only, overseeing their role as caretakers (EU Guidance Sheet). However, global data is still limited and based only on several case studies (Trieb, 2015).

These case studies also reveal a difference in the exposure of women and girls to hazards compared to men and boys. While women and girls may be more at risk due to poor air quality within the household, men and boys could be more at risk during an extreme event like a hurricane, where they

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are expected to take undue risks. Socially ascribed gendered responsibilities for the collection of water, fuel and food often lead to a higher burden of work and stress for women and girls, particularly when resources become scarce (Wright and Chandani, 2014).

With increasing temperatures, drought and water shortages affect women and girls as the primary collectors, users and managers of water more and increase their workload (UNDP, 2010). According to Doss (2011), more women are active in farming activities, compared to men who are increasingly moving towards non-farm jobs. This is true for all parts of the world, except Europe, and over the past four decades, the total agricultural female workforce has risen. Climate change directly affects natural resources and livelihoods such as agriculture. Consequently, women are more impacted by climate change than men (UNDP, GGCA, 2012, pp. 2-3).

A gender analysis before designing a climate change intervention project is therefore critical to understand the different roles and vulnerabilities in a society and to design and constantly monitor the effect of their intervention. The table below (Table 1) features some of the gendered climate experiences.

Experiences	Male farmers	Female farmers
Increased workload	Demanding tasks such as feeding livestock, carting water, destroying frail animals (A)	Assistance with farm tasks and working off the farm for additional income (A)
	Increased migration for wage labor, typically farther away from home (I)	Increased collection of firewood and uptake of wage labor (especially lower castes) in neighboring villages (I)
Community interactions, isolation, and exploitation	Locked into farms, loss of political power (A)	Increased interactions and caregiving work, taking care of others' health at the expense of their own (A)
	Exploitation by labor contractors when migrating (I)	Disadvantage in accessing institutional support and climate information (I)
Physical and psychological toll	Feel demonized (farmers seen as responsible for crisis), increased stress, social isolation, depression, and high suicide levels (A)	Working lives appear indefinite, resulting in increased stress (A)
	Increased anxiety to provide food and access loans and escape trap of indebtedness, increase in domestic fights, sometimes suicide (I)	Increased pressure to provide food and save some more from sale for consumption, less food intake, increase in domestic fights (I)

(A) = Australia (ten-year drought, 2003–2012), based on Alston (2011); (I) = India (climate variability and changing climatic trends), based on Lambrou and Nelson (2013).

Table 1: Examples of gendered climate experiences. *Source:* IPCC, 2014

Studies show different vulnerabilities to climate change impacts such as heat stress which exhibits gendered differences, reflecting both physiological and social factors. Women and girls tend to be more at risk, but their higher physiological vulnerability can be offset by relatively lower social vulnerability such as supportive social networks (IPCC, 2014). Studies in Tanzania and Malawi (Nelson et al., 2009) demonstrate that women experience food and nutrition insecurity during drought years, as food is preferentially distributed among other family members.

3.2 Access to and control of resources in the context of climate change and disaster risk reduction

Gender roles often define access to and control of capital resources (physical, financial, human, social, and natural) in a society. While in many situations, women may have access to or control of fewer resources, it is equally likely that men face the burden of earning cash income from sources that are becoming less predictable over time. Vulnerability depends in large part on access to and control of resources. For example, because of climate change mitigation policies to promote biofuels, large-scale land acquisition in Africa, Southeast Asia, and Latin America has displaced smallholder family farms and contributed to food price increases. Besides having negative impacts on food security, biofuel schemes may affect women and girls differently than men and boys through declining biodiversity, reduced grazing land, competition for water, and shifts in access to and control of resources.

Extreme events can also trigger re-negotiations of existing resource management systems and power relations. Hurricane Mitch in Honduras led to more equitable land distribution and better flood preparedness which benefitted the poor after the disaster (McSweeney and Coomes, 2011). Extreme events or climate trends can thus be an opportunity to change existing access and control regimes for a more equitable and gender-balanced development.

3.3 Participation and leadership in climate change and disaster risk reduction

Social exclusion from decision-making processes and markets are a leading driver of gender inequality. When complex market-based mechanisms become the main mechanism for mitigation, there is a risk of them excluding women and girls and exacerbating existing inequalities. There are also significant trade-offs across the board where lack of presence and voice for women and girls as well as socially and economically disadvantaged groups marginalises their concerns at a higher decision-making level. For example, the construction of hydroelectric dams can provide access to renewable energy and energy security at the national level while displacing families at the local level. Relocation and new economic activities may create new opportunities that are more accessible to men than to women. In many societies, women do not have tenure to the land they cultivate and are therefore excluded from consultations when projects are being designed. Therefore, stakeholder consultations should be gender equitable –

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with both men and women together and separately, to inform the decision-making. A human rights-based approach (HRBA) is often useful as it allows for an understanding of the structural factors that lead to discrimination and hence the exclusion of certain groups of people.

3.4 Gender analysis in the CEDRIG tool

The SDC has developed the *Climate, Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction Integration Guidance (CEDRIG)* tool to help integrate climate, environment and natural hazard risks into project and programme development – with the goal of enhancing the resilience of systems and communities. *CEDRIG* has three modules. *CEDRIG Light*[8] is used to decide whether or not a more detailed assessment is needed. This rapid screening already has gendered implications with respect to both the risk and the impact. The hazards identified produce engendered consequences and thus are not gender neutral. The gender analytical framework as well as the guidance sheet on gender analysis[9] can help to prevent gender biases when conducting the rapid screening.

CEDRIG Strategic[10] is used to assess strategies and programmes while *CEDRIG Operational*[11] is designed to assess projects. These two modules require inputs from stakeholders in a workshop setting initiated by an in-depth context analysis.

Table 2 presents guiding questions for gender mainstreaming within *CEDRIG Strategic*. The table focuses only on the risk perspective, not the impact perspective. However, these questions can also provide guidance through the process of *CEDRIG Operational's* risk perspective.

8 https://www.cedrig.org/sites/default/themes/cedrig/img/CEDRIG_Light_EN.pdf

9 Both are accessible on the Gender Equality Shareweb Toolbox https://www.shareweb.ch/site/gender/Pages/Content/Pages.aspx?SmartID=1810&item1=Gender%20Toolbox

10 https://www.cedrig.org/sites/default/themes/cedrig/img/CEDRIG_Strategic_EN.pdf

11 https://www.cedrig.org/sites/default/themes/cedrig/img/CEDRIG_Operational_EN.pdf

CEDRIG Strategic: steps and guiding questions for gender mainstreaming		
Risk perspective	**Gender specificity**	**Guiding questions**
A1: Identify hazards	Hazards may impact men and women and their respective livelihoods in different ways. This requires a gender analysis to be integrated into the risk assessment.	➔ Are hazards and their potential impacts differently assessed by women and girls compared to men and boys? Is so, how? ➔ Can women and girls express themselves during the CEDRIG workshop, or is there a need for separate consultations with women (and children)?
A2: Identify potential consequences	The severity of the consequences may differ for women and men. The component is graded in terms of slightly harmful, harmful, or extremely harmful. This can be applied to 1) the different tasks women and men are each responsible for, and/or 2) the potential harm for women or for men.	➔ What are the different consequences and their severity for women and men, if any? For example, fetching water is often a woman's duty. Therefore, drought may have a higher negative impact on women, compared to men, as they need to walk further. Or crops might need to be planted a second time after an early crop failure due to untimely rainfall. Planting is also a task often performed by women, increasing their drudgery.
A3: Identify vulnerabilities	Men and boys and women and girls may have different vulnerabilities to a hazard of the same intensity.	➔ How is the exposure to hazards and the degree of vulnerability different for men and boys than for women and girls? What are the reasons for these different vulnerabilities? For example, women – given their responsibility for care work – are often bound to their homes and might be less mobile in the case of a storm or flood and hence be more exposed.
A4: Estimate likelihood	Not applicable	Not applicable
A5: Estimate the risks for the strategy or programme	Estimate the significance of the risks for the strategy/ programme (high/medium/low) with the help of a matrix. As in the case of hazard perceptions, the risks would have different impacts for men and women.	➔ How are women (and girls) and men (and boys) differently affected by the risks identified (3 levels)?
A6: Select risks to be treated	At this step, the risks to be addressed are selected.	If applicable, the risks to be treated should be selected depending on their potential harm to women (and girls) compared to men (and boys). ➔ How are women and girls involved in the selection of these risks?
A7: Define measures	A sound gendered analysis of vulnerabilities at Step A3 would be the basis for identifying measures that are gender balanced.	➔ *Are these measures* equally benefitting women and girls and men and boys or are there different impacts? *If yes, is the measure still valid or does it need to be adapted?* ➔ How do the measures identified affect the existing division of work between men and boys and women and girls? How do they influence access to and control of resources and the decision-making power between women and men? Do they add to the burden of unpaid work on women and girls? What impact do they have on their social and financial capital? etc.
A8: Adapt your strategy/ programme: Cost (cost/benefit relationship)	*Take the external costs of the options to address the detected risks into account. Also consider non-financial costs and benefits when calculating the cost/benefits ratio.*	➔ Is there a budget set aside for addressing the gender-based inequalities identified? What are the costs for society if such differences are not into account?
A8: Adapt your strategy/ programme: Feasibility (including acceptability)	*Addressing gender gaps involves questions around existing norms and cultural beliefs. The adaptation of the strategy/programme would be based on the analysis conducted in the steps above, in particular gender and vulnerability analysis as well as gender-differentiated analysis of coping or adaptive capacities.*	➔ Are the measures identified above based on the basis of the gender and vulnerability analysis feasible in terms of existing cultural norms and beliefs as well as other framework conditions?

Table 2: Risk perspective within CEDRIG Strategic and guiding questions for gender mainstreaming

4 Gender-responsive interventions in climate change and disaster risk reduction

UN Women has identified the areas of policies for technology transfer and financing: adaptation and mitigation as critical building blocks for mainstreaming gender equality and women's empowerment in climate actions. Projects that are designed and monitored from a gender-sensitive perspective have more meaningful and sustainable outcomes overall (cf. effectiveness report). This section presents concrete measures in gender-sensitive project design.

4.1 Low-emission development and mitigation measures

Mitigation refers to actions taken to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. Such measures include reduced use of fossil fuels or a shift to renewable energy, increased energy efficiency, sustainable agriculture or the reduction of the rate of deforestation and forest/land degradation (REDD). Reduction and changes in consumption patterns can also be a powerful mitigation measure.

Gender sensitivity in market-based mechanisms: Carbon pricing and trading have been the dominant mechanism for mitigation within national and international frameworks. Women's and girls' lack of access to land and capital constrain their participation in market mechanisms. Sectors where women and girls play a significant role and should be proactively involved in mitigation measures are sustainable energy, agriculture, and reducing deforestation and forest degradation.

Setting aside funding: Some climate funds are setting aside funding for specific groups, such as the Forest Investment Programme, which has a dedicated grant mechanism for indigenous people and local communities. Such dedicated funding streams can help to redress the gender imbalance in mitigation measures.

Capacity building and empowerment: The energy sector remains one of the least gender-diverse sectors, and closing this gender gap will be vital as women are key drivers of innovative and inclusive solutions. Increased participation of women in the energy sector could help make energy-related initiatives more innovative and gender-responsive. For example, the Clean Energy Ministerial launched the Clean Energy Education and Empowerment (C3E)

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Energising Development (EnDev): mainstreaming gender in energy access programmes

EnDev is an energy access partnership financed by seven donor countries including Switzerland. It promotes sustainable access to modern energy services that meet the needs of the poor in 26 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. EnDev has invested in several baseline studies and impact assessments. Some of the gender-relevant impacts are as follows:

- Access to modern energy saves time and money in households. The savings cover immediate needs such as food, school materials, medicine, clothes, soap, etc. The additional time is often used for farming, income-generating activities, education or housework.
- Disseminating improved cook stoves has reduced fuel consumption in households by an average of 40–80%. This saves time from not having to collect firewood or saves money from not having to buy fuel. Since women and children are mostly responsible for these tasks, they benefit in particular.
- On the health side, improved cook stoves emit less smoke compared to traditional three-stone fires, thereby reducing indoor air pollution and exposure and improving safety and hygiene in kitchens.
- The economic development of women and men is still spread unequally: there is a clear division of labour and responsibilities, with men working more in wage labour and formal employment and women taking care of the household. However, after gaining access to electricity, more women are able to commence income-generating activities.
- The responsibility of (additional) income has not only proven to have beneficial impacts on women and girls, as they manage the income themselves, but also improves the status of the women and girls within their families and the community.

Source: www.endev.info/content/impacts

initiative to enable greater gender diversity in clean energy professions, recognising that the transition to a clean energy future will only be successful if all possible talent is harnessed.

Gender-sensitive indicators: The selection of indicators and their systematic monitoring can help in ensuring the gender sensitivity of mitigation measures as seen from the experience of the Energising Development (EnDev) programme.

4.2 Climate-resilient development and sustainable resource management

Commonly, women and girls and other marginalised groups (such as ethnic minorities, indigenous or low-caste communities) in developing countries are most affected by climate change and environmental degradation yet have the least capacity to adapt because they are the most reliant on natural resources for their livelihoods.

With a changing climate, weather patterns are becoming more variable and extreme events are more frequent. Climate change combined with a growing population puts natural resources under increasing pressure. Besides the direct impact on climate-sensitive sectors such as food, water or health, climate change and environmental degradation can also lead to gender-differentiated impacts on other social sectors such as education or employment.

Adaptation measures and disaster risk preparedness comprise a range of actions required to cope with the impacts of climate change and disasters. For developing countries, effective adaptation measures and DRR are closely linked to sustainable development, as poverty and exclusion are often the key drivers of climate vulnerability.

Specific measures can be built into climate-resilient development projects to make them more gender-responsive**:**

Participation: It needs to be made sure that women are involved from the beginning in the design, implementation and governance of adaptation measures and that adaptation measures respond to their needs and do not put additional burden on women and girls.

Capacity building and empowerment: Barriers to motivating young women to pursue technical and scientific professions are still encountered everywhere, and women are still underrepresented in professions linked to integrated risk management. Targeted training and capacity building is therefore fundamental. In the field of glaciology, for example, the SDC is supporting the 'Women and Ice' initiative in central Asia which is based on the international initiative 'Girls on Ice'. 'Women and Ice' organises expeditions for young women to increase their knowledge about the cryosphere and motivate them to opt for a scientific career.

Set aside funding: As in the case of low-emission development, setting aside funding for specifically supporting women and children in adaptation will be crucial for a successful gender-responsive climate-resilient development project.

Gender-sensitive indicators: As with mitigation projects, the selection of indicators and their systematic monitoring will help in ensuring gender sensitivity in climate-resilient development and natural resource management projects.

Cryospheric Climate Services for Improved Adaptation (CICADA)
'Women and Ice, Central Asia'

The 'Women and Ice' programme is part of a broader project called Cryospheric Climate Services for Improved Adaptation (CICADA) which focuses on raising awareness among national data users and stakeholders of the value of systematic cryospheric climate monitoring in four Central Asian countries. The project provides advanced training and support on the use of data within climate services and on the application within water resource management (WRM) and DRR.

As professions linked with climate and hydrology are technical and scientific, motivating young women to pursue such a career can still be challenging. To counteract this, the programme organised an all- female scientific expedition in Central Asia. The expedition and the post-course mentorship aim to increase the proportion of female researchers in the scientific community.

The target group is young women at the beginning of their scientific studies (18 to 30 years old) from different cultural and social backgrounds in Central Asia. This training would increase the scientific understanding of the participants through observations and inferences, promote their critical thinking and increase their self-confidence and responsibility. In addition, the courses are organised in a single-gender format, providing an environment in which the young women are not exposed to any social concerns or the pressure of mixed gender groups.

The female participants will be encouraged to share their knowledge and experience with younger generations and fellow female scientists in order to contribute to a sustainable and enlarged scientific community in Central Asia.

SDC budget for this activity: CHF 80,000
Duration: 1.5.2019 - 31.12.2020

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4.3 Gender-responsive interventions in disaster risk reduction

The Women's Environment & Development Organization (WEDO)[12] is a thought leader in advocating for women and the integrity of the environment. Disaster risk reduction is one of their six focus areas wherein the organisation calls for a comprehensive understanding of disaster risks through a gender analysis, allocation of resources to address the gaps as well as protecting women's rights before, during and after an event. It is clear to WEDO that, *"Gender roles and norms limit the capacities and resources of women and girls to respond with resilience for themselves and their families, while disruptions to services and the breakdown of protection mechanisms and the rule of law can affect them the most."* Gender-responsive interventions in disaster risk reduction should therefore recognise and act on these barriers. Furthermore, the interventions should advance women's human rights and not build on the unpaid labour of women.

12 The SDC is supporting WEDO financially.

Improved Resilience of Children with Disabilities through DRR in DPR Korea
Handicap International (HI) & the Korean Federation for the Protection of the Disabled (KFPD)

Too often, risk factors for people with disabilities and other vulnerabilities including women and children are inadequately addressed, lacking the identification, assessment and understanding of their basic and specific needs during and after natural disasters.

The objective of this project is to improve the disaster response and management capacities of local stakeholders and communities to mitigate, respond to and positively cope with the immediate needs of people with vulnerabilities.

The intervention measures of this project include:

- ➔ Inclusive community-based disaster risk reduction practices and capacity building via the introduction of inclusive DRR concepts to people with disabilities and other vulnerabilities
- ➔ 2,000 of the most vulnerable people across the project intervention area, including people with disabilities, elderly people and women, will receive training in early warning systems.
- ➔ Three inclusive community disaster working groups (with 15 women representatives and including people with disabilities) were formed, and 48 participants (national and provincial) received training on inclusive DRR practices.
- ➔ The development of five fully accessible (including for persons with disabilities, pregnant women, children and elderly people) community emergency shelters/refuges in the respective communities through refurbishment and retrofitting with appropriate means for flood-resilient communities.

Duration: 1.6.2017 to 31.5.2019
SDC budget for the whole intervention: CHF 500,000 (until 2020)

5 Important aspects for monitoring and evaluation (M&E)

An M&E framework for assessing the gendered impacts of climate change projects builds upon established good practices for gender-sensitive frameworks in other domains of development cooperation. These include:

1. A **sex and age-disaggregated baseline** along with gender-specific indicators of the number of women and men the project seeks to reach through various interventions. Key indicators could include time saved, improved income, better health outcomes, improved access to and control of resources, access to external resources including early warning and climate services, access to platforms of decision making.

2. Development of a **theory of change** that explicitly mentions how the roles of women and men will be taken into account and change in a domain at risk of or impacting climate change, due to the project interventions.

3. **Monitoring** for both intended and unintended consequences will help identify co-benefits or mal-adaptation.

4. Ensure that the **findings** influence on-going project activities and future actions.

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