

# UNDERSTANDING THE GENDER DIMENSIONS OF RISK

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# | STRUCTURE

1. **WHY** gender-responsive risk reduction & resilience matters
2. **WHAT** are the normative context and the global commitments
3. **HOW** to build the enabling environment

LUNCH BREAK (1 hr)

4. **HOW** UN Women builds gender-responsive disaster and climate resilience
5. **Experiences** from UN Women's disaster and climate resilience work in Caribbean



## **1. Why gender-responsive disaster and climate resilience matters**

## | Disasters in 2020, excluding COVID 19 data

- In 2020, 98.4 million people were affected by 389 disasters globally (350 were climate-related).
- Causing the death of 15,080 people.
- Contributing to at least US\$ 171.3 billion in economic losses.

Sources: CRED & UNDRR. 2020: *The Non-COVID Year in Disasters*. Brussels: CRED.

## | Discussion

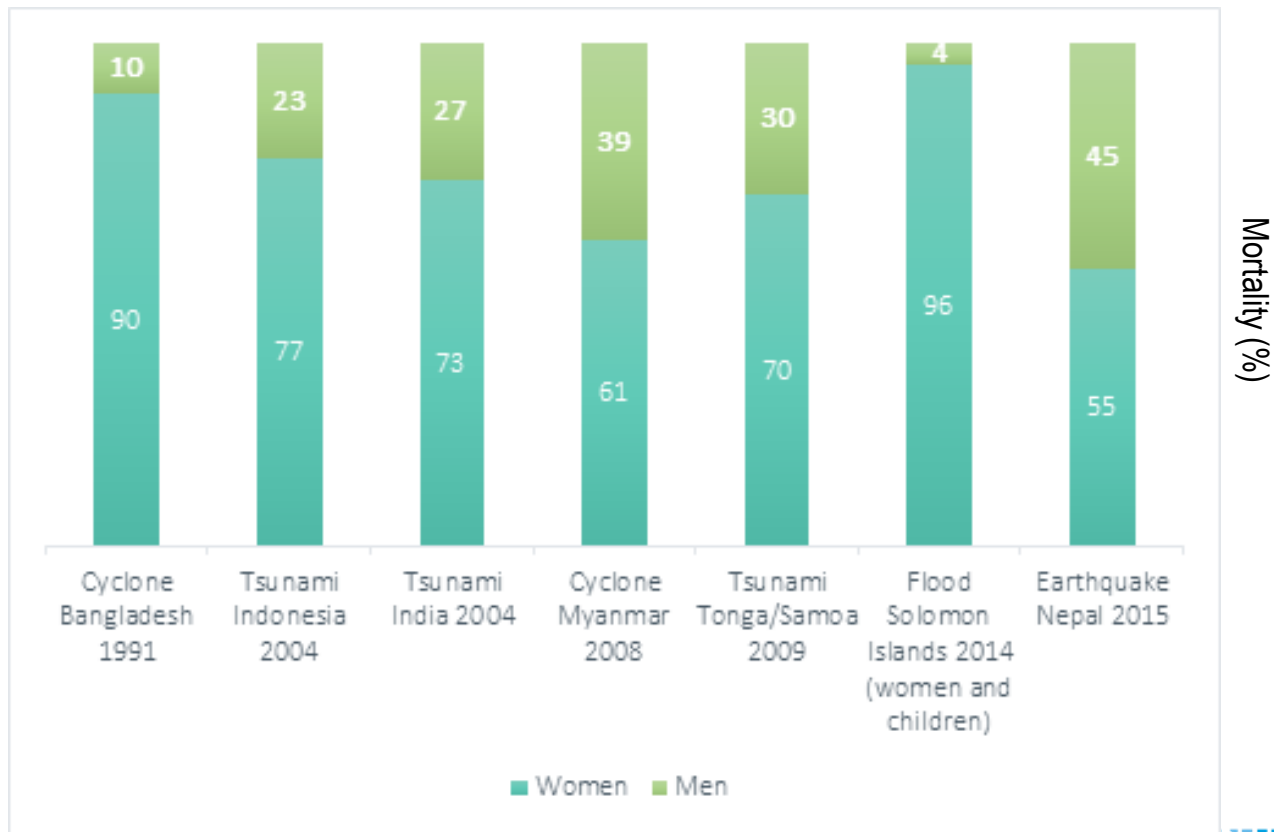
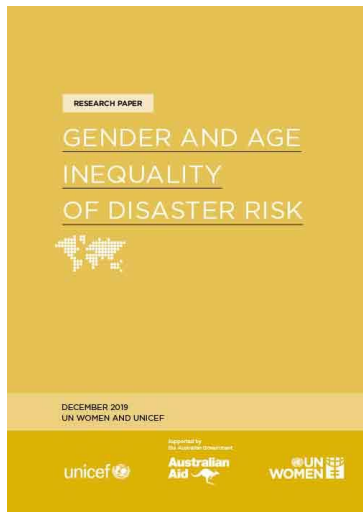
Why does gender matter in disaster resilience?

What are the links between gender and disaster risk reduction and climate change?



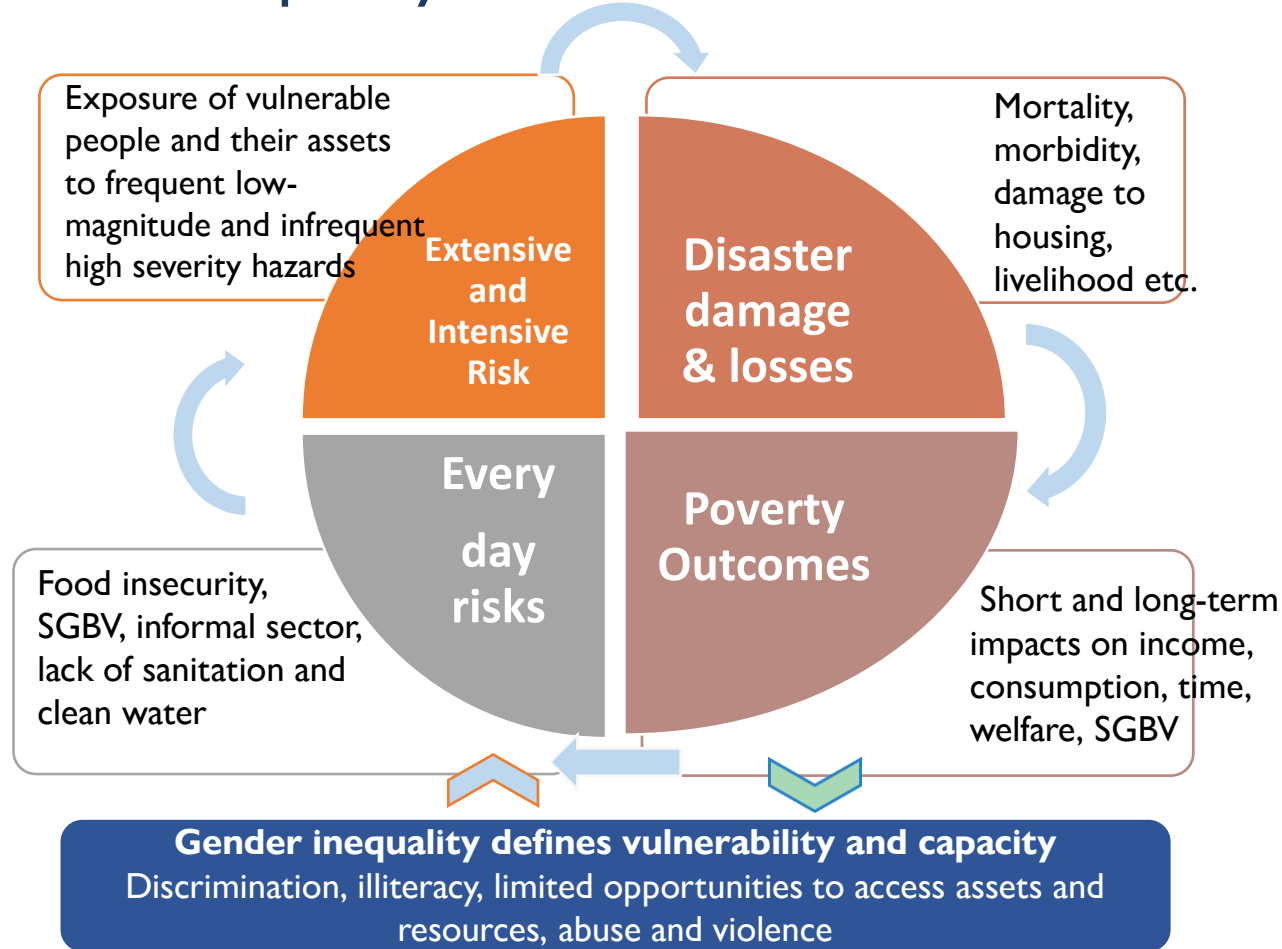
# Gender Inequality of Risk

Women are disproportionately affected by disasters, are more likely to die in disasters, and have different and uneven levels of resilience and capacity to recover





# Gender Inequality of Risk



# Examples of gender inequalities driving disproportionate impacts

Disasters and climate change exacerbate pre-existing gender inequalities with disproportionate impacts

## EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS

- **One in three people** are still not adequately covered by early warning systems.
- In Nepal, in 2018 71% of men received early warning information from a formal source, while **51% of women reported to receive early warning from informal and social sources**

## LEADERSHIP

- **In 2020, women made up less than one quarter of all national-level committees** established to respond to COVID-19, despite comprising nearly **70% of frontline health and social workers**
- **Women only lead 22% of delegations of the UNFCCC**, and only 3% of energy, environment, and planning and science ministries

## ACCESS TO FINANCE

- **Only an estimated 0.01%** of worldwide funding goes to projects addressing both climate change and women's rights
- **Less than 3%** of philanthropic environmental funding targeted women's environmental action



# Examples of gender inequalities driving disproportionate impacts

Disasters and climate change exacerbate pre-existing gender inequalities with disproportionate impacts

## GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

- **4 million girls are at risk of child marriage in the next two years** because of the coronavirus pandemic. **Disasters increase child marriage rates.**
- UNFPA estimates that the pandemic could lead to **an extra 2 million girls** worldwide being victim of female genital mutilation.

## POLICIES

- **Only 11 countries** have risk reduction/risk management frameworks inclusive of all Sendai Framework high-risk groups.
- **53 countries** include gender commitments in their DRR policies, laws, strategies and plans.

## LIVELIHOODS

- Women comprise an average of **58,5% of the agricultural work force in Southern Asia**; 55.1% in Sub-Saharan Africa. A majority of this work is informal.
- In livestock management, women make up **2/3 of the world's small livestock managers.**
- Women in Sub-Saharan Africa are responsible for carrying home the water in **63% of rural households.**



## **2. Normative context and global commitments**

## | Discussion

Which normative commitments relating to DRR and climate change include or address gender elements?



# | Normative commitments

**Sendai Framework  
for Disaster Risk Reduction**

**Human Rights  
mechanisms  
(CEDAW General  
Recommendation  
No. 37)**

**UNFCCC COPs  
Paris Agreement**

**SDGs**

**Regional Frameworks (e.g.  
Regional Framework for  
Resilient Development in  
the Pacific (FRDP))**

**National  
DRM/DRR/CC/Resilience  
policies, strategies, plans**

## | Gender inclusion in the Sendai Framework

- **Identifies that** *“women, children, and people in vulnerable situations disproportionately affected”*
- **It highlights the need for more dedicated action to tackle the underlying risk drivers** such as poverty and inequality
- **It calls for more** *“people-centered preventative approach to disaster risk,”* which engages relevant stakeholders including women, persons with disabilities, children.
- **It confirms the importance of** *“all-of-society engagement and partnership”* which requires *“empowerment and inclusive, accessible and non-discriminatory participation, paying special attention to people disproportionately affected by disasters.”*
- **It DOES NOT require reporting against the Sendai Targets in a sex, age, and disability disaggregated manner (SADDD).**

# | Gender-responsive implementation of the Sendai Framework 1/2

## 1. Understanding disaster risk

- **Raise awareness** on the gender dimensions of risk
- Integrate **gender analysis** into risk and needs assessments (e.g. PDNAs)
- **Develop capacity** for collection, use, and reporting of gender data including SADDD

## 2. Strengthening disaster risk governance

- Promote **coordination** across traditional silos
- **Build women's voice, agency, leadership** and meaningful participation
- Ensure gender inclusion in global, national and local **platforms and coordination mechanisms** for DRR
- Develop gender-responsive **laws, policies, strategies, & plans**

# | Gender-responsive implementation of the Sendai Framework 2/2

## 3. Investing in disaster reduction

- Develop gender-responsive budget guidelines and tools
- promote gender-responsive investments in DRR (e.g., climate finance)

## 4. Enhancing disaster preparedness

- Secure gender-responsive preparedness and early warning systems
- Ensure gender-responsive recovery including assessment, planning, action



# | Gender and social inclusion in the UNFCCC Paris agreement

The Paris Agreement acknowledges that: Climate change is a common concern of humankind. Parties should, when taking action to address climate change, respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, the right to health, the rights of indigenous peoples, local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations and the right to development, **as well as gender equality, empowerment of women and intergenerational equity** (UNFCCC, 2015: 2).

# | Enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender and its Gender Action Plan, 2019-2024

- In 2014, the COP established the **first Lima work programme on gender** (Decision 18/CP.20) to advance gender balance and integrate gender considerations into the work of Parties and the Secretariat in implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement so as **to achieve gender responsive climate policy and action**.
- At COP 25 Parties agreed **a 5-year enhanced Lima work programme on gender and its gender action plan** (Decision 3/CP.25). The Gender Action Plan aims for both an **equal UNFCCC itself (climate negotiations)** and for **infusing gender responsive approach through the entire programme to support the Paris Agreement**.

# | The Gender Action Plan (GAP) 2019-2024 calls for:

## **A. Capacity-building, knowledge-sharing and communication**

- Enhance the **understanding and expertise of stakeholders** on the systematic integration of gender considerations
- **Enhance the application of such understanding and expertise** in the thematic areas under the Convention and the Paris Agreement and in policies, programmes and projects on the ground.

## **B. Gender balance, participation and women's leadership**

The GAP seeks to **achieve and sustain the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in the UNFCCC process.**

# | The Gender Action Plan (GAP) 2019-2024 calls for:

## C. Coherence

The GAP seeks to **strengthen the integration of gender considerations within the work of UNFCCC bodies, the secretariat and other United Nation entities** and stakeholders towards the consistent implementation of gender-related mandates and activities.

## D. Gender-responsive implementation and means of implementation.

The GAP aims to **ensure the respect, promotion and consideration of gender equality and the empowerment of women in the implementation of the Convention and the Paris Agreement.**

## E. Monitoring and reporting

The GAP seeks to **improve tracking in relation to the implementation of and reporting on gender-related mandates** under the UNFCCC.

# | Coordination mechanisms and processes

**Generation Equality  
Action Coalition**  
**Feminist Action for  
Climate Justice**

**Capacity for Disaster  
Reduction Initiative  
(CADRI)**

**UN Resilience  
Guidance**  
**Post Disaster Needs  
Assessments**

**UN Plan of Action**

**Global conferences  
i.e., Global and  
Regional Platforms for  
DRR, COP and CSW**

**Regional conferences  
(Ha Noi  
recommendations;  
ASEAN)**



## | Opportunities for elevating women's voices

- Climate COP, Regional and Global Platforms on DRR
- **Commission on the Status on Women** (CSW66) priority theme:

**Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programmes**

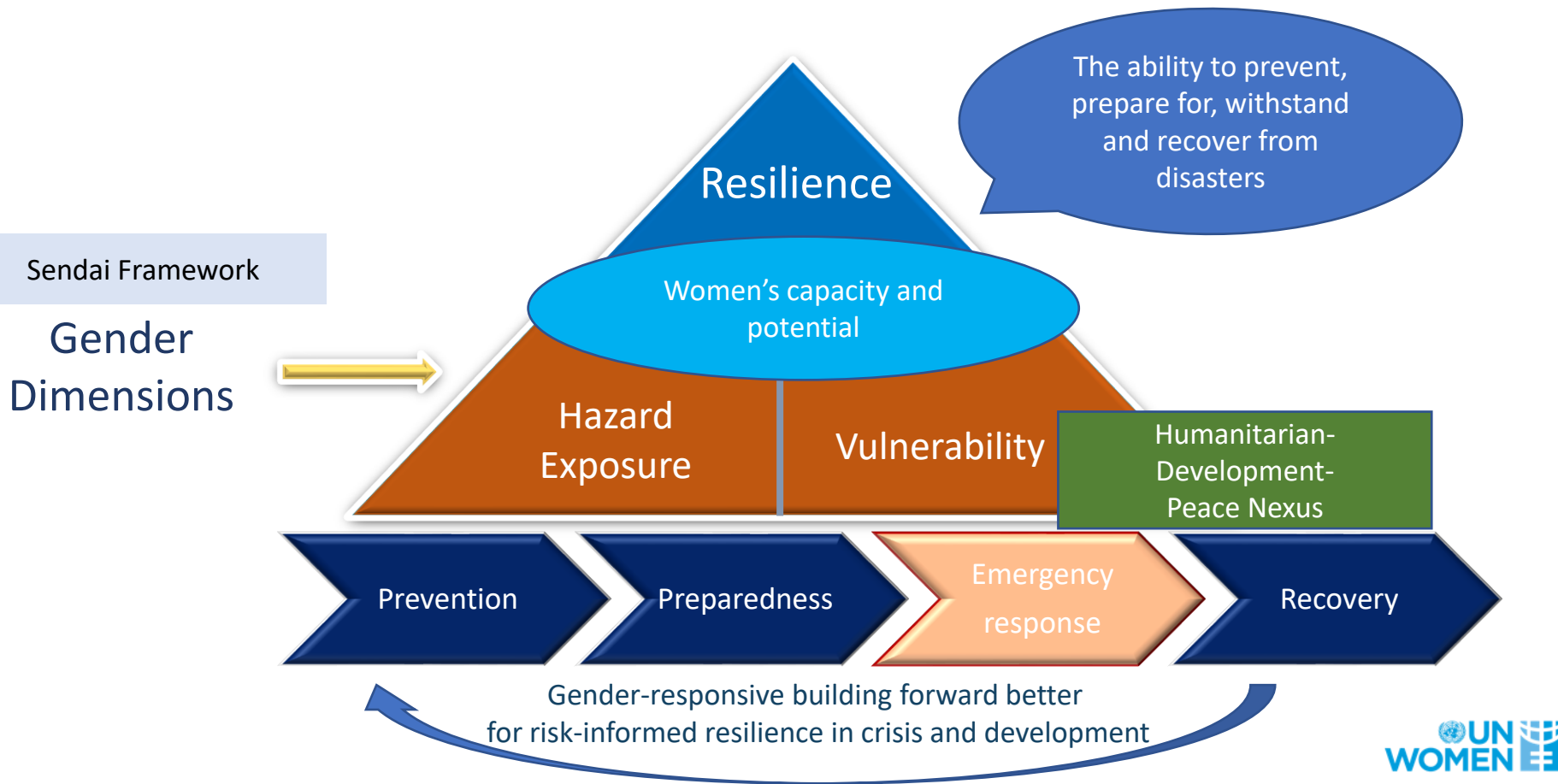




### **3. Building the enabling environment**



# BUILDING WOMEN'S RESILIENCE ACROSS THE NEXUS



# Women's Resilience to Disasters Programme Theory of Change

1. Gender-responsive DRR systems

The lives and livelihoods of women are resilient to disasters and threats contributing to sustainable, secure and thriving communities

1. Targeted action for women's and girls' resilience

- Increased **knowledge** and access to tools & expertise (WRD Hub)
- **Leadership** of women's organisations
- **Capacity** development
- Gender-responsive, **strategies, policies, plans, programmes, & budgets**
- Gender-responsive **coordination mechanism**, women's strategic networking

- Gender-responsive & inclusive **preparedness and early warning** systems
- Access to **services** (e.g., maternal health) & **products** (e.g., finance and insurance) for women's resilience
- Women's **resilient businesses**
- Women's **resilient livelihoods**
- **Partnerships** for women's resilient livelihoods and business

Enablers of change

Action



A SEARCHABLE DATABASE of research, guidelines, policies, best practices etc.



ARTICLES AND DOCUMENTS organised into specific topics related to gender & disasters



A TOOLBOX OF RESOURCES including templates for needs assessments, guidelines, training kits, advocacy material, trackers



A COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE to maximise knowledge exchange (e.g., via webinars, blogs)



AN EXPERT REGISTER for stakeholders to identify gender and DRR experts by geographical & thematic area

## | Contents of the WRD Knowledge Hub

<https://test-unw-wrd.pantheon.io/>

# Women's Resilience to Disaster and Climate Programme

## Region and country coverage



WRD Global



Caribbean



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.

Lake Chad  
Basin

Nigeria,  
Cameroon

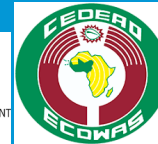


From  
the People of Japan

Sahel



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.



Pacific

Fiji, Kiribati,  
Vanuatu,  
Marshall  
Islands



Australian Government  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

| Building gender-responsive disaster and climate resilience in the Caribbean

A graphic consisting of several overlapping hexagons in light gray. One hexagon is outlined in white. The text "Voices from the field" is centered within one of the solid gray hexagons.

Voices from the field

| **Any  
questions**



