A photograph of a woman wearing a traditional conical hat and a yellow raincoat, sitting on a small raft made of logs and bamboo. The raft is floating on a wide, shallow river or floodplain. In the background, another person is visible on a similar raft. The scene is set in a rural, agricultural area with trees and fields in the distance.

Gender considerations in climate change adaptation

**Regional training on adaptation for
Asian LDCs
21 August, Siem Reap**

Dr Suzette Mitchell
UN Women on behalf of the Global Gender
Climate Alliance (GGCA) through the
Women's Environment and Development
Organisation (WEDO) with CARE
International and UNDP

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Global Gender and Climate Alliance

COP18 gender decision was made, 23/CP.18

Promoting gender balance and improving the participation of women in UNFCCC negotiations and in the representation of Parties in bodies established pursuant to the Convention or the Kyoto Protocol is an important

*This workshop has 23%, Bhutan as a leader
LEG is 15%*



Natural disasters such as floods, typhoons, droughts cause havoc

Village women are vulnerable but need to be viewed in a wider context than just victims



Women are differentially affected by climate change



Rural women are more affected

More vulnerable

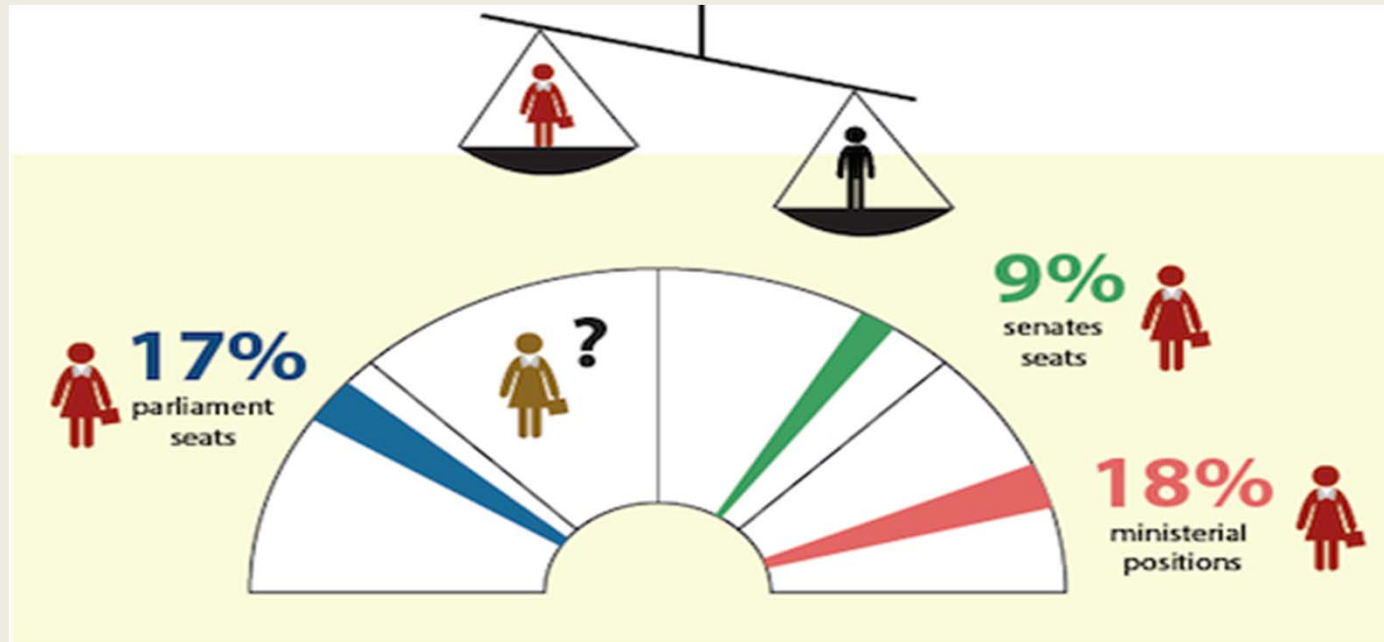
Likely to be poorer

Put family's needs before their own

Have less access to resources and assistance

Excluded from influencing planning and recovery efforts

Women as decision makers



women's decision-making in public life

Constraints include:

- lack of adequate financial resources
- illiteracy and limited access to education and work opportunities
- discriminatory cultural and social attitudes and negative stereotypes
- burden of domestic responsibilities
- intimidation, harassment and violence
- lack of access to information



GENDER GAPS AROUND THE WORLD

POVERTY

OVER 50% OF THE 1.5 BILLION PEOPLE LIVING ON \$1 A DAY OR LESS ARE WOMEN (SOURCE: UNFPA)

WATER

ON AVERAGE WOMEN AND CHILDREN SPEND 8 OR MORE HOURS PER DAY COLLECTING WATER (SOURCE: UN WOMEN)

GOVERNANCE

GLOBALLY, WOMEN ARE 16.7% OF GOVERNMENT MINISTERS; 19.5% OF PARLIAMENTARIANS; AND 9% HEADS OF STATE (SOURCE: IPU)

FOOD

WOMEN PRODUCE OVER 60% OF FOOD IN SOME COUNTRIES (SOURCE: FAO)

LITERACY

TWO THIRDS OF THE 774 MILLION ILLITERATE ADULTS WORLDWIDE ARE WOMEN (SOURCE: UNSTATS)

LAND

WOMEN OWN JUST 2% OF THE WORLD'S LAND (SOURCE: UN WOMEN)

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS

CROP FAILURE



FUEL SHORTAGE



WATER SCARCITY



NATURAL DISASTER



DISEASE



DISPLACEMENT



CONFLICT



IMPACTS EXACERBATE GENDER INEQUITIES

Women experience increased agricultural work and overall household food production burden

Many women in developing countries can spend between 2-9 hours a day collecting fuel and fodder, and performing cooking chores

Increased burden on women walking further distances to access safe water, impacts the education and economic stability

Women have a higher incidence of mortality in natural disasters ; women can suffer from an increased threat of sexual violence

As caregivers women often experience an increased burden for caring for young, sick and elderly as well as lack of access to health care facilities

Forced migration could exacerbate women's vulnerability

While men are more likely to be killed or injured in fighting, women suffer greatly from other consequences of conflict, such as rape, violence, anxiety and depression

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Gender mainstreaming within the international policy framework for climate change: The Women's Caucus at COP10 agreed on certain points for 'Mainstreaming Gender into the Climate Change Regime'

- Include both male and female perspectives and sex disaggregated data in situation analysis
- Develop and apply gender-sensitive criteria and indicators
- Include statistics on women as well as on men when collecting and presenting data
- Capitalize on skills of both women and men
- Set targets for women's involvement in activities
- Prioritise women's equality, access to info, economic resources and education
- Focus on gender differences in capabilities to cope with climate change adaptation and mitigation, and
- Undertake a gender analysis of all budget lines and financial instruments

Priorities of both women and men **fundamentally shape the whole programme management cycle**, and that the following steps are taken in the design and implementation of all CCA programmes:

- Ensure that risk assessments are informed by a gender analysis (gender analysis should be included in the terms of reference for all assessments and research);
- Build objectives on gender equality and women's empowerment into the plans and budgets of programme, policy, and campaign work;
- Assess the different implications of planned programme interventions for women and men;



- Proactively seek out and engage with appropriate women's rights organizations and female community leaders when selecting partners;
- Ensure that women participate equally and actively alongside men and are enabled to take up leadership positions throughout the programme management cycle;
- Monitor and evaluate changes in gender relations using gender-sensitive indicators; and
- Ensure that the institutional arrangements of implementing organizations

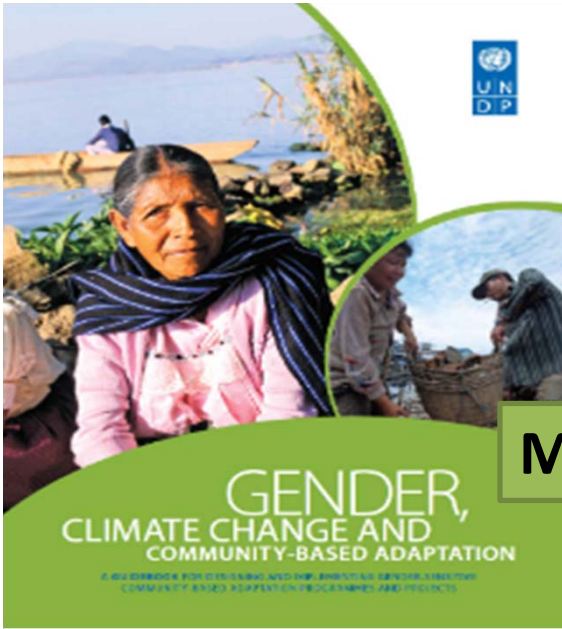


The following questions are useful for a practitioner to ensure that there has been a gendered approach in problem identification:

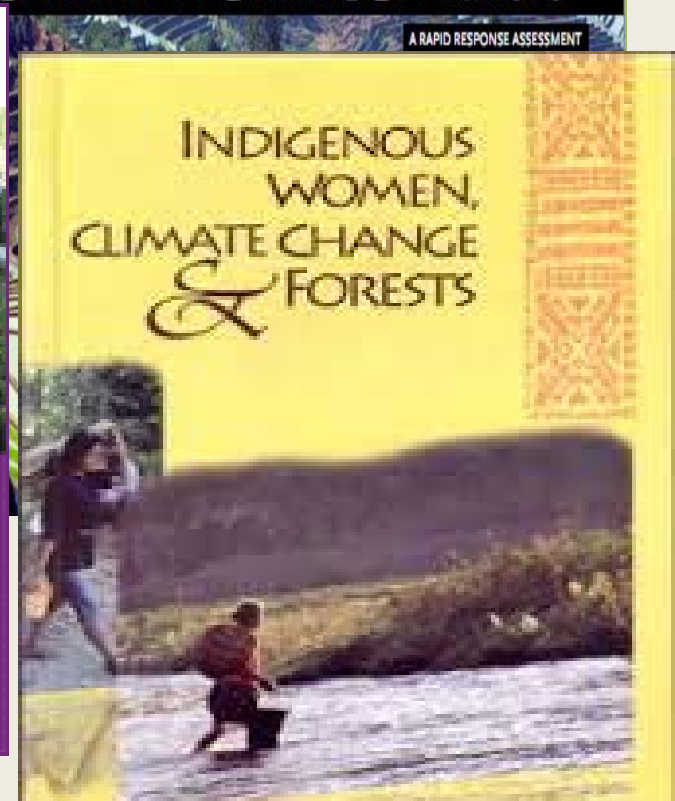
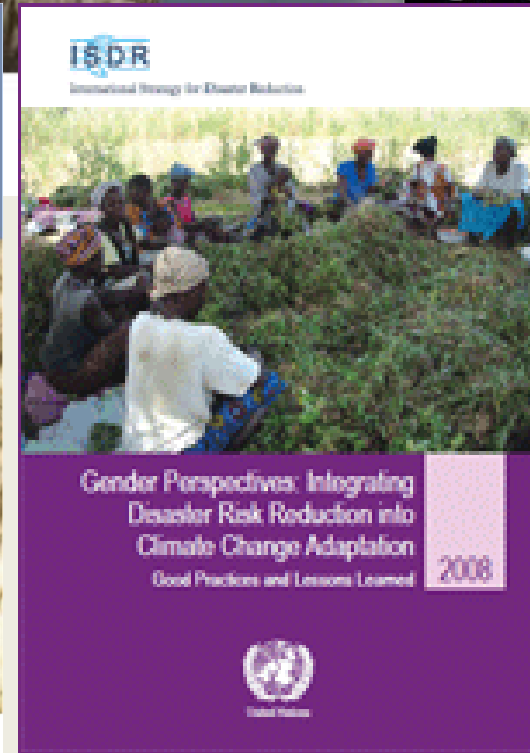
- Has relevant gender information, especially socio-economic information, been identified and collected so that it can be included in discussions about project formulation?
- Is background data disaggregated by sex? (In many cases, disaggregation by other social identities such as age and ethnic origin is also required, given that communities are rarely homogeneous units.)
- Have gender specialists (in the CBO or NGO, for example) and representatives of women's organizations within the community been consulted?
- Have both men and women been involved in problem identification (even if the ultimate problem recognized affects one sex more than the other)?



Radio soap opera with focus on flood and typhoon preparation, reached **80 %** of households with radios informing women and men to be better prepared as **equal partners** in the community in Viet Nam



Many resources available



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