

STUDY ON

# THE DIFFERENTIATED IMPACTS OF DESERTIFICATION, LAND DEGRADATION AND DROUGHT ON WOMEN AND MEN



United Nations  
Convention to Combat  
Desertification

United for land



---

This study has been generously funded by the Government of Canada.



The views expressed in this document do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Parties to the UNCCD.  
Published in 2022 by the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification  
© UNCCD 2022

# **THE DIFFERENTIATED IMPACTS OF DESERTIFICATION, LAND DEGRADATION AND DROUGHT ON WOMEN AND MEN**

<b>Acknowledgements</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>List of graphs, tables and figures</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Acronyms and abbreviations</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Glossary</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Foreword</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>17</b>
I. Context and knowledge gaps	21
A. Scope	22
II. Methodology	23
A. Elaboration of country gender profiles	24
B. Identification and systematization of case studies, examples and promising practices	27
<b>An “engendered look” at land</b>	<b>28</b>
A. Promising and innovative practices to ensure more equitable land governance, land tenure and land security	39
B. Inclusion of gender considerations in financing mechanisms	46
C. Recommendations	53
<b>In search of the lost “gender” in droughts</b>	<b>55</b>
A. Drought mitigation measures, strategies and coping mechanisms	66
B. Recommendations	76
<b>Findings from country gender profiles in the regional implementation annexes</b>	<b>78</b>
A. Findings	79
B. Final annotations	94
<b>Assessment of gender equality within the Convention bodies and mechanisms for implementation</b>	<b>95</b>
A. Representation and parity participation at UNCCD COP14	97
B. Inclusion of gender considerations within Land DegradAtion Neutrality (LDN) country profiles	99
C. Inclusion of gender considerations in National Drought Plans (NDP)	101
D. Inclusion of gender considerations in UNCCD Performance Review and Assessment of Implementation System (PRAIS)	102
E. Inclusion of land and desertification topics in national reports to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)	103
F. Recommendations	105
<b>Compilation of recommendations</b>	<b>107</b>
A. Land	108
B. Drought	109
C. Gender equality within the Convention bodies and mechanisms for implementation	110
<b>Final Remarks</b>	<b>112</b>
<b>Bibliographic references</b>	<b>115</b>
<b>Annexes</b>	<b>121</b>

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## THE RESEARCH TEAM

This study was conducted by Lorena Aguilar, International Consultant, under the overall supervision of Rockaya Aidara and Miriam Medel.

**Lead Author:** Lorena Aguilar

**Coordinator:** Rockaya Aidara

**UNCCD contributors:** Miriam Medel, Karen Bernard, Lilia Maximova and Sasha Alexander.

## REVIEWERS

**UNCCD reviewers:** Edgar E. Gutierrez-Espeleta, Enni Kallio, Daniel Tsegai, Barron Joseph Orr, Pablo Munoz and Sara Minelli contributed their specialized knowledge and expertise, helping improve the study.

**External peer reviewers:** Jackie Siles (IUCN), Leisa Perch (SAEDI Consulting), Verona Collantes (UN Women), Fleur Newman (UNFCCC), Tanya McGregor (UNCBD), Ana Maria Quesada (University of Costa Rica), Arianne Hidalgo (UNDP Mexico), Maurizio Furst and Fidaa Haddad (FAO).

**Expert contributions under the Expert Group Meeting:** Miriam Medel (UNC-CD), Seblewongel Negussie (GCF), Cathrine Mutambirwa (Global Mechanism), Gautier Queru (LDN Fund, Minova), Nicole Harari (WOCAT), Fida Haddad (FAO), Ana Maria Quesada (IBWoClimA), Karen Bernard (UNCCD), Maha Moussa (WADI), Kelda Vera (Fondo de Mujeres del Sur), Oumou Traore (Commission Scientifique du Comité National de la Recherche Agricole du Mali), Kaossara Sani (AFRICA OPTIMISM), Jackie Siles (IUCN), Janet Macharia (UNEP), Tanya McGregor (UNCBD), Fleur Newman (UNFCCC), Katarina Atalifo (Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat), Angelina Barrientos (Organización de Mujeres Indígenas de Macharety), Brigitte Leduc (Government of Tuvalu), Leisa Perch (SAEDI Consulting), Maurizio Furst (FAO), Verona Collantes (UN Women), Everisto Mapezda (International Water Management Institute), Elizabeth Riley (CDEMA), Alicia Morugan Coronado (University of Vigo), Uduma B. Ugalahi (National Cereals Research Institute), Mahi Bebawi (Pathfinder International), Jodi DiProfio, (Pathfinder International), David Shimkus (Pathfinder International), Madiha Latif (Pathfinder International), Arianne Hidalgo (UNDP Mexico), Jose Miguel Torrico (UNNCD), Cheikh Toure (UNCCD), Jean Kouadio (UNCCD NFP, Côte d'Ivoire), Shaun Baugh (CARICOM), Nigel Durrant (CARICOM), Amanda Loeffen (Human Right to Water), Karen Small (CDEMA), Mustafa Abdullah Yurtoglu (UNCCD), Luís Constantino (UNCCD NFP, Angola), Rima Mekdaschi (WOCAT), Andrei Kuzmich (NFP Belarus) and



---

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Mbaihoulam Gaou Killadje (UNCCD NFP, Chad). In total 98 participants from 10 regions (Africa, Asia, Central America, Eastern Europe, European Union, Middle East, North America, Oceania, South America, and the Caribbean) attended the meeting, we thank them for their valuable contribution.

**Case studies contributed by:** Ibero-American Women Network for Climate Action (IBWoClimA) (University of Costa Rica), Women's leadership roles in Since, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) (Ministry of Climate Change & Environment United Arab Emirates), Nurturing Community of knowledge practice for Women in dryland forests and agro-silvopastoral systems (WeCaN) (FAO), Adaptation at Scale in Semi-arid regions project (ASSAR) (Indian Institute for Human Settlements), Participatory Integrated Climate Services for Agriculture Dominica (UNDP), Community nursery in Sabha, Jordan (WADI), Macharety Guarani Women's Organization (Fondo de Mujeres del Sur), Women and land insecurity (Scientific Advisor to the Scientific Commission of the National Committee for Agricultural Research of Mali), Women's vulnerability to changes in environment in Burundi (Forest of Burundian Office for Protection of Environment), Recovery of the Natural Capital of the Dry Corridor (IDB), Gender differences in livelihood assets among farm households in Southern Nigeria (National Cereals Research Institute Nigeria), Adoption of climate-smart practices to combat land degradation among maize and rice farmers in Northwest, Nigeria (National Cereals Research Institute Nigeria), Building the climate resilience of food insecure smallholder farmers through integrated management of climate risk (Green Climate Fund), Responding to the increasing risk of drought: building gender-responsive resilience of the most vulnerable communities (Green Climate Fund), Strengthening climate resilience of agricultural livelihoods in Agro-Ecological Regions I and II in Zambia (Green Climate Fund), Strengthening Climate Resilience of Rural Communities in Northern Rwanda (Green Climate Fund), Upscaling climate resilience measures in the dry corridor agroecosystems of El Salvador (RECLIMA) (Green Climate Fund), Supporting Climate Resilience and Transformational Change in the Agriculture Sector in Bhutan (Green Climate Fund), Implementation of the Lao PDR Emission Reductions Programme through improved governance and sustainable forest landscape management (Green Climate Fund), and Rice growing communities in Eastern Uganda (National Agricultural Research Organization).

**Graphic design:** Javier Acebal

**All the photos:** © Yann Arthus-Bertrand

**Photo page III:** © UNCCD

The author and contributors wish to express their appreciation to all who provided their expertise and input in the development of this study.

The views expressed in this document do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Parties to the UNCCD.

# LIST OF GRAPHS, TABLES AND FIGURES

## Graphs

- Graph No. 1.** Percentage distribution of the top 5 variables with the highest percentages of data not available disaggregated by Annex
- Graph No. 2.** Percentage of the population living above poverty line by country in sample
- Graph No. 3.** Trend measures on percentage of people above poverty line by Annex
- Graph No. 4.** Percentage of women with anemia by country in sample
- Graph No. 5.** Trend measures on percentage of people with anemia by Annex
- Graph No. 6.** Percentage of population using safely managed drinking water services by country in sample
- Graph No. 7.** Percentage of population using safely managed sanitation services by country in sample
- Graph No. 8.** Percentage of countries without a Ministry/Office of Women's Affairs by country in sample
- Graph No. 9.** Percentage of employment to women ratio in ages 15 and older by country in sample
- Graph No. 10.** Percentage of women employed in the agricultural sector by country in sample
- Graph No. 11.** Percentage of women in the total number of representatives of the lower or single House of the Parliament by country in sample
- Graph No. 12.** Percentage of access to land by country in sample
- Graph No. 13.** Percentage of literacy rate of women in ages of 15 and older by country in sample
- Graph No. 14.** Percentage of young women not in education, employment, or training (NEET) by country in sample
- Graph No. 15.** Trend measures percentages of land that is degraded over total land area.
- Graph No. 16.** Sex composition of all delegations to COP14
- Graph No. 17.** Percentage of women and men by Annex
- Graph No. 18.** Percentage of women in COP14 delegations from countries selected for gender profiles
- Graph No. 19.** Percentage of NDPs that includes gender keywords

---

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

GRAPHS  
TABLES  
FIGURES

- Graph No. 20.** Strategies utilized per country
- Graph No. 21.** Percentage of PRAIS reports that includes gender keywords
- Graph No. 22.** Percentage distribution of gender-based rights and participation Index by Annex
- Graph No. 23.** Percentage distribution of Gender-based Education and Assets Equality Index by Annex

## Tables

- Table No. 1.** Intra-household effects of droughts by sex in Odisha, India
- Table No. 2.** List of 55 countries by Regional Implementation Annex
- Table No. 3.** Trend measures percentage of people above poverty line by Annex
- Table No. 4.** Trend measures percentage of people with anemia by Annex
- Table No. 5.** Trend measures percentage of employment to women ratio in ages 15 and older by Annex
- Table No. 6.** Trend measures percentage of women in agriculture by Annex
- Table No. 7.** Trend measures percentage of female seats in local government by Annex
- Table No. 8.** Trend measures percentage of women in the total number of representatives of the lower or single House of the Parliament by Annex
- Table No. 9.** Trend measures percentage of women in the latest UNCCD/COP delegations by Annex
- Table No. 10.** Trend measures on percentage of women's access to land by Annex
- Table No. 11.** Trend measures percentage of access to formal financial services by Annex
- Table No. 12.** Trend measures literacy rate of women in ages of 15 and older by Annex
- Table No. 13.** Trend measures percentages of young women not in education, employment, or training (NEET) by Annex
- Table No. 14.** Trend measures percentages of land that is degraded over total land area
- Table No. 15.** Percent of women's participation by countries selected for the country gender profiles
- Table No. 16.** Percentage of CEDAW reports submitted by year

## Figures

- Figure No. 1.** Regional distribution of countries
- Figure No. 2.** New displacements in 2020: breakdown for conflict and disaster
- Figure No. 3.** Countries with higher ecological threats tend to have greater social vulnerability

# ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

<b>AAP</b>	South Africa's Adaptive Agriculture Program
<b>AF</b>	Adaptation Fund
<b>ASSAR</b>	Adaptation at Scale in Semi-arid Regions project
<b>BRSC</b>	Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions
<b>CBD</b>	Convention on Biological Diversity
<b>CEDAW</b>	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
<b>CIF</b>	Climate Investment Funds
<b>COP</b>	Conference of the Parties
<b>CRIC</b>	Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention
<b>CSO</b>	Civil society organization
<b>CSW</b>	Commission on the Status of Women
<b>DLDD</b>	Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought
<b>DRAMP</b>	Drought Resilience, Adaptation and Management Policy
<b>DRM</b>	Drought risk management
<b>DRR</b>	Disaster risk reduction
<b>ECLAC</b>	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
<b>EGM</b>	Experts Group Meeting
<b>FONAFIFO</b>	Fondo Nacional de Financiamiento Forestal Costa Rica
<b>FAO</b>	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization
<b>FFEM</b>	Euro-Mediterranean Women's Foundation
<b>FHH</b>	Female-headed households
<b>GAP</b>	Gender Action Plan
<b>GBV</b>	Gender-based violence
<b>GCF</b>	Green Climate Fund
<b>GEF</b>	Global Environment Facility
<b>GHG</b>	Greenhouse gases
<b>GIGUP</b>	Gender Equality Award for Productive Units
<b>GM</b>	Global Mechanism of the UNCCD
<b>HFA</b>	Hyogo Framework for Action
<b>HRBA</b>	Human rights-based approach
<b>IBWoClimA</b>	Ibero-American Women's Network for Climate Action
<b>ICRW</b>	International Centre for Research on Women
<b>IDMC</b>	Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre
<b>IFAD</b>	International Fund for Agricultural Development
<b>ILO</b>	International Labour Organization
<b>IPCC</b>	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
<b>IPV</b>	Intimate partner violence
<b>IOM</b>	International Organization for Migration

## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

<b>IUCN</b>	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
<b>LDN</b>	Land Degradation Neutrality
<b>LSMS-ISA</b>	Living Standards Measurement Study-Integrated Surveys on Agriculture
<b>MAC</b>	Climate Adaptation Model
<b>MAST</b>	Mobile Application to Secure Tenure
<b>MDG</b>	Millennium Development Goal
<b>MEA</b>	Multilateral environmental agreement
<b>MET</b>	Dominica Meteorological Service
<b>NBSAP</b>	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
<b>NDC</b>	Nationally Determined Contribution
<b>NDP</b>	National Drought Plan
<b>NEET</b>	Not in education, employment or training
<b>NGO</b>	Non-governmental organization
<b>OECD</b>	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
<b>OHCHR</b>	United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
<b>P1MC</b>	One Million Rural Cisterns
<b>PICSA</b>	Participatory Integrated Climate Services for Agriculture
<b>PES</b>	Payment for environmental services
<b>PRAIS</b>	Performance Review and Assessment of Implementation System
<b>REDD+</b>	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
<b>SADD</b>	Sex, Age and Disability Disaggregated Data
<b>SDG</b>	Sustainable Development Goal
<b>SELF</b>	Solar Electric Fund
<b>SIGI</b>	Social Institutions and Gender Index
<b>SWID</b>	Slum Women's Initiative for Development
<b>UAWC</b>	Palestine Agricultural Union
<b>UNCCD</b>	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
<b>UNCED</b>	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNDIP</b>	United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
<b>UNDROP</b>	United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas
<b>UNDRR</b>	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
<b>UNEP</b>	United Nations Environment Programme
<b>UNESCO</b>	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
<b>UNFCCC</b>	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations Children's Fund
<b>UNFPA</b>	United Nations Population Fund
<b>UNISDR</b>	United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
<b>UNSD</b>	United Nations Statistics Division
<b>UN Women</b>	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
<b>USAID</b>	United States Agency for International Development
<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organization
<b>WSSD</b>	World Summit on Sustainable Development

# GLOSSARY

**Agency** is the capacity to make decisions about one's own life and act on them to achieve a desired outcome, free of violence, retribution, or fear.<sup>1</sup>

**Empowerment** is a process of ongoing change through which women and girls expand their aspirations, strengthen their voice, and exercise more choice. A woman or girl can experience empowerment in varying degrees and across different areas of her life, home, family, workplace and community. While empowerment is an individual behavioral change, it is achieved through appropriate gender mainstreaming.<sup>2</sup>

**Care work** is broadly defined as consisting of activities and relations involved in meeting the physical, psychological and emotional needs of adults and children, old and young, frail and able-bodied. Care work can be paid or unpaid. Unpaid care work is caring for persons or undertaking housework without any explicit monetary compensation.<sup>3</sup>

**Gender** refers to the roles, behaviors, activities, and attributes that a given society at a given time considers appropriate for women and men. These attributes, opportunities, and relationships are socially constructed, context/time-specific, can change over time, and vary widely within and across cultures. Gender is part of the broader sociocultural context, including class, race, ethnicity and age.<sup>4</sup>

**Gender analysis** means a critical examination of how differences in gender norms, roles, power structures, activities, needs, opportunities, and rights affect women, men, girls and boys in a particular situation or context. It includes collecting and analyzing sex-disaggregated data and gender information to understand gender differences and gaps, determine gender-differentiated impacts and risks, identify measures to avoid adverse gender impacts, and uncover and act on opportunities to address gender gaps and inequalities relevant to the activity.<sup>5</sup>

**Gender balance** is the ratio of women to men in any given situation. Gender balance is achieved when there is approximately an equal number of women and men present or participating.

**Gender-based discrimination** refers to any distinction, exclusion, or restriction made on basis of sex, gender identity, or perceived social norms with the purpose of disenfranchising the human rights of others.

---

1 Klugman, J., et al. 2014. Voice and agency: empowering women and girls for shared prosperity. World Bank—Washington DC, USA.

2 Definition builds on Gates Foundation, 2018.

3 International Labor Office (ILO). 2018. Care work and care jobs for the future of decent work. ILO. Geneva.

4 Definition builds on UN Women, Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women (OSAGI) – concepts and definitions. <https://www.un.org/womenwatch/osagi/conceptsanddefinitions.htm>

5 GEF Policy on Gender Equality, 2017.

**Gender-based violence (GBV)** is an umbrella term for any harmful act – physical, verbal, sexual, psychological, and/or socio-economic – perpetrated against a person's will that is based on socially ascribed (gender) differences between females and males. The nature and extent of specific types of GBV vary across cultures, countries and regions. Examples include sexual violence, including sexual exploitation/abuse and forced prostitution; domestic violence; trafficking; and forced/early marriage.<sup>6</sup>

**Gender equality** is the concept that women and men, girls and boys must have equal conditions, treatment and opportunities for realizing their full potential, human rights and dignity, and for contributing to (and benefitting from) economic, social, cultural and political development. Gender equality is, therefore, the equal valuing by society of the similarities and the differences of men and women, and the roles they play. It is based on women and men being full partners in the home, community and society. Equality does not mean that women and men will become the same but that women's and men's rights, responsibilities and opportunities will not depend on whether they are born male or female. Gender equality implies that the interests, needs and priorities of both women and men and girls and boys are taken into consideration, recognizing the diversity of different groups and that all human beings must be free to develop their personal abilities and make choices without the limitations set by stereotypes and prejudices about gender roles. Gender equality is a matter of human rights and is considered a precondition for, and indicator of, sustainable people-centered development.

**Gender equity** is the process of being fair to men and women, boys and girls, and importantly the equality of outcomes and results. Gender equity may involve the use of temporary special measures to compensate for historical or systemic bias or discrimination. It refers to differential treatment that is fair and positively addresses a bias or disadvantage that is due to gender roles or norms or differences between the sexes. Equity ensures that women and men and girls and boys have an equal chance, not only at the starting point, but also when reaching the finishing line. It is about the fair and just treatment of both sexes, taking into account the different needs of the men and women, cultural barriers and (past) discrimination of the specific group

**Gender-disaggregated** data are data that are collected and analyzed separately for women and men. This typically involves asking the "who" questions in an agricultural household survey: who provides labor, who makes the decisions, and who owns and controls the land and other resources, or it may involve asking women and men about their individual roles and responsibilities.

**Gender indicator** is an indicator that measures gender-related changes in society over time as due to a policy, program, or project.

---

<sup>6</sup> Based on concepts and definitions from IUCN, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP and UN Women.

**Gender mainstreaming** refers to considering the perceptions, knowledge, contributions, priorities, and needs of both women and men to enrich development. The process includes assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies or programs, in all areas and at all levels. It makes women's and men's concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, and monitoring of policies and programs in all political, economic and social spheres so that women and men benefit equality and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality.

**Gender gap** is the discrepancy in opportunities, status, control over resources, access to education, health services and power between women and men, girls and boys.

**Gender parity** means an equal ratio of males and females, usually used in studies related to accessing education, in the workplace, and concerning public office. Some countries have laws on gender parity in decision-making.

**Gender-responsive** refers to the ability to identify, understand and implement interventions to address gender gaps and overcome historical gender biases in policies and interventions. Gender-responsiveness in application contributes – pro-actively and intentionally – to the advancement of gender equality.

**Gender-responsive approach** recognizes and acknowledges gender norms and inequalities and responds to them by creating actions, policies and initiatives to address the different needs, constraints, and opportunities of women and men. A gender-responsive approach ensures that women's and men's differential needs are addressed; that participation of women and men is equitable; and that distribution of benefits, resources, status and rights are equitably attended.

**Gender-sensitive** refers to understanding and considering sociocultural factors underlying sex-based discrimination. Its use has come to mean "do no harm."

**Gender-sensitive programming** refers to programs where gender norms, roles and inequalities have been considered and awareness of these issues has been raised, although appropriate actions may not necessarily have been taken.

**Gender transformative** refers to approaches actively striving to examine, question, and change rigid social and gender norms, cultural values and to address power inequalities between persons of different genders and the root causes of gender inequality and discrimination as well as seeking to redefine systems and institutions that create and perpetuate inequities. The goal of this approach is to transform adverse gender norms and power dynamics into positive ones, thus accelerating achievement of gender equality.<sup>7</sup>

---

<sup>7</sup> Updated Gender Policy and Gender Action Plan (2021). <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/proposal-for-the-updated-gender-policy-and-gender-action-plan-of-the-adaptation-fund>.

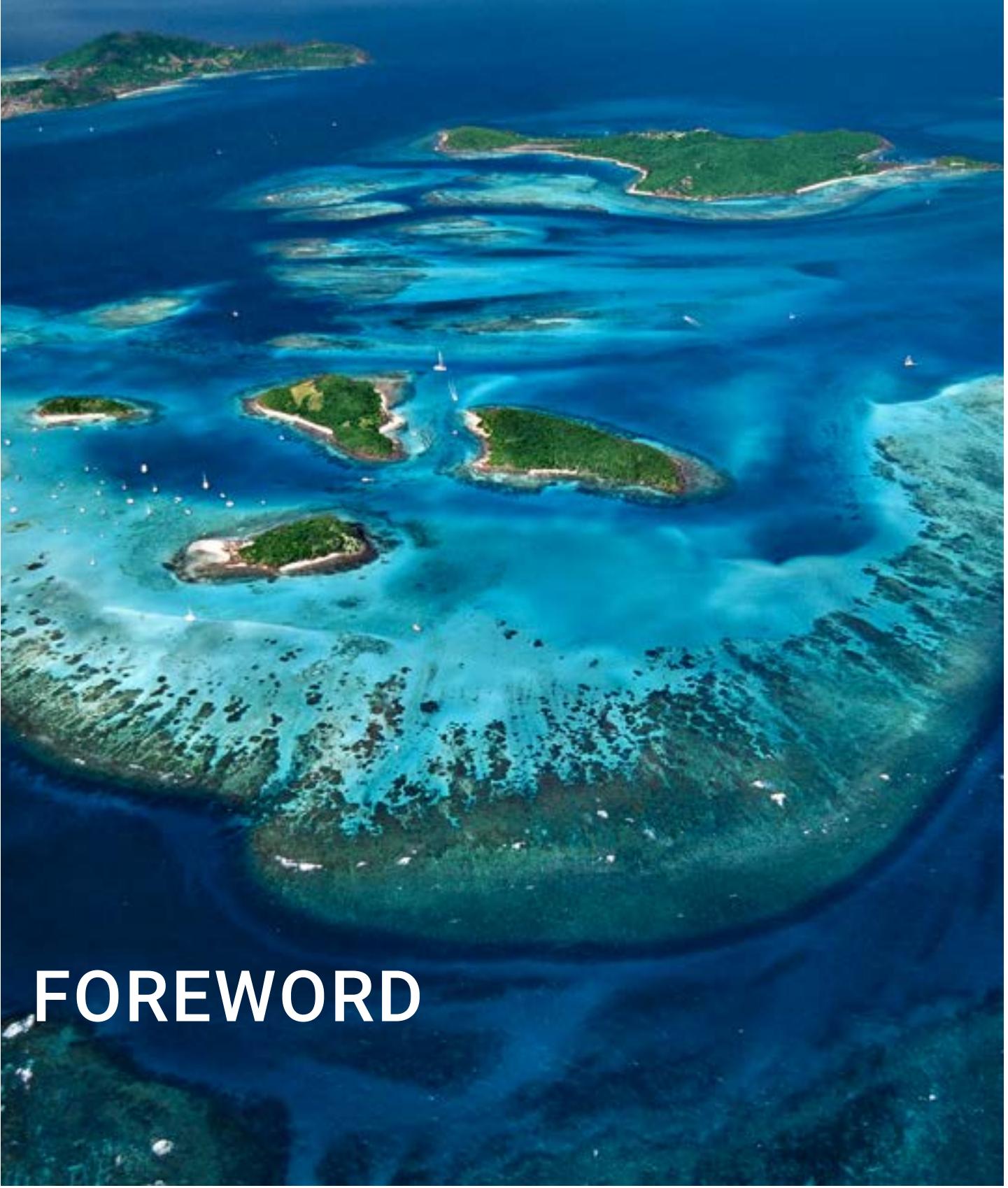
**Human rights** are basic rights and freedoms to which all humans are entitled. All humans are born free and equal in dignity and human rights. These rights follow suit with the designations outlined in the Universal Declaration on Human Rights (1948).

**Human rights-based approach** (HRBA) is a conceptual framework based on the empowerment, protection and fulfilment of international human rights agreements. HRBA seeks to analyze the root causes of inequalities in development projects and address any discriminatory practices and power imbalances that hinder sustainable development progress. The universality, interrelatedness, interdependency and indivisibility of all human rights are also principles of HRBA.<sup>8</sup>

**Intersectional approach** considers the interconnected nature of social identities such as age, ethnicity, gender and class as they are overlapping and interdependent systems of experience, discrimination, and/or disadvantage. Rather than separate identity categories from one another and from points of marginalization or privilege, intersectionality highlights how different facets of an individual's identity (e.g., gender and ethnicity) intersect and influence one another to create unique experiences and biases.

---

<sup>8</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). 2017. Guidelines on Gender Mainstreaming and a Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA). FAO. Rome. Available at: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i6808e.pdf>



# FOREWORD

---

## FOREWORD



***"Women are major actors in the global efforts to reduce and reverse land degradation. They restore land, they protect land, they cherish, nourish and care for the land, while also caring for others."***

### Ibrahim Thiaw

Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

In 2021, our lands have continued to degrade at a shocking rate. More than 1.5 million people around the world were affected by droughts between 1998 and 2017, causing economic losses estimated at \$124 billion. By 2015, approximately 500 million people were living in areas which had experienced the onset of desertification in the prior decades. Aggravating this situation, the COVID-19 pandemic has pushed 97 million more people into poverty, with women the most affected, in terms of health, income, increased burden of unpaid care work, rise in gender-based violence and reduced access to social protection programs.

This study on gender-differentiated impacts is timely as environmental degradation worsens in many countries, exacerbated by climate change, industrial activities and resource conflicts. Women are impacted by drought, desertification and land degradation in myriad ways, but at the same time they are continually showing leadership and innovative thinking in resolving the hardships and limitations imposed on their families and communities by desertification, land degradation and drought (DLDD).

In the vast majority of countries, women have unequal and limited access and control to land. In many regions, they remain subject to discriminatory laws and practices that impede their right to inherit, access to services and resources.

When they do have property rights, women often own smaller plots, and less fertile lands, compared to male landowners. And yet, they contribute to reversing, halting and minimizing land degradation. They restore land, they protect land, they cherish, nourish and care for the land, while also caring for others. The unspoken effects of this care work – particularly in times of crisis, including during extreme events such as droughts and when the land is highly degraded – are revealed in this study. Where there are no social protection services, no health systems and no equitable land governance systems, the risks of impoverishment are high for millions of women.

This study shows that DLDD is not only about the land. First, these processes are about people. We can no longer ignore the interconnectedness of the issues that affect people and the planet. Climate, ecosystems and human societies are interdependent. Women make valuable contributions to land restoration efforts through recovery of traditional adaptation practices and in the design and implementation of new and sustainable methods – such as rainwater jars, new irrigation systems and seedling nurseries run by women, which produce drought-resistant and high-quality plants. When given access to agricultural technologies, technical training and climate science information, women's contributions become broader and more effective.

The key findings of this study illuminate the nature of gender inequalities regarding land tenure, access to technologies and resources for sustainable land management, women's involvement in decision-making on DLDD policies and actions, and the numerous difficulties caused by drought and land degradation in the daily lives of women and girls. It provides critical data that was long awaited, including data on women's land rights.

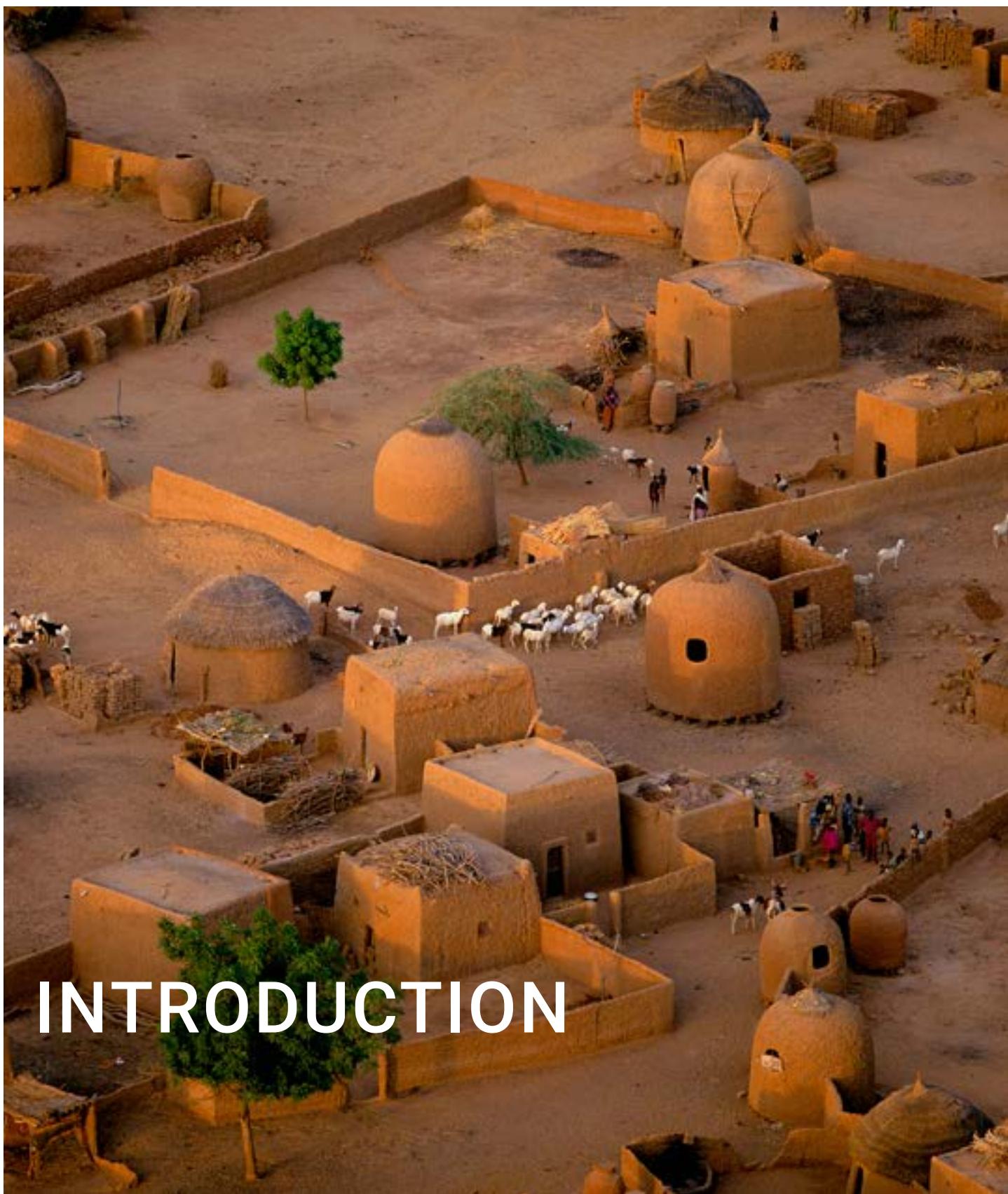
---

## FOREWORD

As we head towards the fifteenth session of the Conference of Parties (COP), this research will help us to strengthen UNCCD's process, as we assess our shortcomings in terms of gender mainstreaming and find ways to support Parties to include gender analysis and related actions in their National Drought Plans, and other reports and systems. We also note that we must work harder to achieve gender parity at decision-making levels, as women are under-represented, comprising an average of only 21% of delegates during the last COP.

Most importantly, the findings, data and figures gathered here will inform discussions during the next COP, which we hope will lead to a further increase of gender equality in the decisions and initiatives relating to the implementation of the Convention.





# INTRODUCTION

Intro

I.

IA

II

II.A

II.B

## INTRODUCTION

*We cannot abuse and exploit the Earth – it is past time we realize the same is true for women.<sup>1</sup>*

<sup>1</sup> Aguilar, L. Speech (2021) United Nations Secretary General's Climate Summit. Manuscript.

Under the international normative framework on human rights, states have an obligation to respect, protect and uphold human rights and fundamental freedoms – without distinction on the grounds of ethnic origin, sex, gender, language, religion, political or other opinions, national or social origin, economic status, birth, disability, or other condition. Human rights instruments oblige governments to guarantee substantive equality and women's rights and adopt measures to end all forms of discrimination. These obligations are binding on State Parties and apply to all their actions, including those concerning the environment.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide a roadmap for upholding human rights for all people and achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. This is considered a goal in its own right (SDG5) and a way to achieve the other goals.



Gender inequalities, and their expression through violence and discrimination against women and girls, remain among the most persistent and egregious symptoms of human rights violations in the world. It is, therefore, necessary to reduce inequalities in order to achieve the other SDGs, along with other internationally agreed-upon objectives for sustainable development and peace (Aguilar, 2021).<sup>9</sup>

Despite this international framework, many attempts to incorporate gender equality in efforts in the environmental sector have been confined to simplistic, specific and short-term technical interventions. When applied, they mostly failed to dismantle unequal power structures, or to exert a structural impact on closing gender gaps. As a result, gender inequalities hinder sustainable development. These inequalities manifest in different areas and sectors, with environmental initiatives being no exception.

Acknowledging the above, there is increasing recognition that efforts to combat and address land degradation, desertification and droughts require a more thorough understanding of human rights and gender equality considerations. Numerous studies and experiences worldwide have confirmed that gender inequalities must be addressed as part of biodiversity conservation, land restoration, adaptation and mitigation to climate change, and efforts to transition to an inclusive and regenerative green economy, especially after the pandemic.

For example, in this regard, the IPCC notes that: "Differences in vulnerability and exposure arise from non-climatic factors and multidimensional inequalities often produced by unequal development processes. These differences shape differential risks... People who are socially, economically, culturally, politically, institutionally, or otherwise marginalized are especially vulnerable..."

<b>Intro</b>
I.
IA
II
II.A
II.B

<sup>9</sup> Aguilar, L. 2021. Gender equality in the midst of climate change: what can the region's mechanisms for the advancement of women do? Gender Affairs series, No. 159 (LC/TS.2021/79). Santiago, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

## INTRODUCTION

This increased vulnerability is rarely due to a single cause. Rather, it is the product of intersecting social processes that result in inequalities in socio-economic status and income, as well as in exposure. Such social processes include, for example, discrimination based on gender, class, ethnicity, age and (dis)ability".<sup>10</sup>

This has also been reinforced in the Report from the Expert Meeting Group convened by UN Women in preparation to the Commission of the Status of Women (CSW66), in which it is stated that while women may be disproportionately affected by environmental degradation and disasters, their risks are not innate, but rather produced and mediated by existing gender inequalities and discriminatory gender roles and relations across societies. Therefore, situations of vulnerability and risk are not simply created from exposure to climate or environmental stressors, hazards, or disasters. However, they can include a whole set of economically and socially created drivers that shape the resilience of women and girls, their prospects for recovery, and perpetuate their marginalization or exclusion from policy processes and decision-making spaces.<sup>11</sup>

Furthermore, it is of vital importance to consider the interconnected nature of social identities such as age, ethnicity, gender and class, as these are overlapping and interdependent systems of experience discrimination or disadvantage. Highlighting how different dimensions of an individual's identity (for example, gender and ethnicity) intersect and influence each other to create unique experiences and biases brings the necessary detail and richness to the analysis of differentiated impacts.

Land degradation and desertification actions can thus reinforce or exacerbate inequalities, or intentionally aim to overcome and transform them, for the resilience of all people. As countries and communities take a closer look at their physical and socio-cultural structures in response to land degradation and desertification, long-standing gender inequalities can be identified and addressed. However, it is crucial to recognize that resolving gender inequalities is not only a matter of righting a wrong, but also a significant opportunity to make use of previously underused (and under-recognized) abilities, knowledge and talents.

Within this context, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), established in 1994, is the sole legally binding international agreement linking environment and development to sustainable land management. The mandate of the Convention and its 197 Parties is to support "a future that avoids, minimizes, and reverses desertification/land degradation and mitigates the effects of drought in affected areas at all levels – and to achieve a land degradation-neutral world consistent with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development."

<b>Intro</b>
I.
IA
II
II.A
II.B

<sup>10</sup> IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change). 2014. Summary for policymakers, Climate Change 2014: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Part A: Global and Sectoral Aspects. Contribution of Working Group II to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. C. B. Field and others (eds). Cambridge University Press, Cambridge/New York.

<sup>11</sup> UN Women. 2021. Report of the Expert Group. Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programmes. Sixty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW66, 2022). New York, USA.

---

## INTRODUCTION

It is worth noting that among the three multilateral environmental agreements that emerged from the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992 – Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and UNCCD – the latter, since its inception, has held a firm mandate on the importance of involving women in all its spheres of action. The UNCCD was the first environmental convention to have a gender focal point to assist countries to mainstream gender in their national plans to combat desertification. In 2011, it developed its policy framework, and, in September 2017, it approved its first Gender Action Plan (GAP) at COP13.

The Convention stresses the importance of ensuring the full participation of both men and women at all levels in programs to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought. It calls for the effective participation at local, national and regional levels, of both women and men, in policy planning, decision-making, and implementation and review of national action programs. The Convention also acknowledges that in order to support the mainstreaming of gender equality and women's empowerment, there is a need to strengthen gender-related knowledge. Based on this concern, the UNCCD Secretariat commissioned the present policy-relevant research on key gender issues that affect the implementation of the Convention.



Intro  
I.  
IA  
II  
II.A  
II.B

## INTRODUCTION

### I. CONTEXT AND KNOWLEDGE GAPS

# I. CONTEXT AND KNOWLEDGE GAPS

In the last decade, progress has been made in generating sex-disaggregated statistics in the social, economic and political spheres. However, environmental data are seldom broken down in this way at the national, regional and global levels and there is limited guidance on standardizing and systematizing data. More recently, UN Women has launched a model questionnaire on gender and environment that should help to narrow this gap.

There are many challenges in relation to the generation and availability of gender statistics and indicators in the environmental sector, which hinder a more just, equitable and inclusive sustainable development. Shortcomings range from the lack of global standards, to the failure to institutionalize environmental statistics and, in the case of the gender linkages, limited financial resources for data collection, the lack of a multi-stakeholder dialogue to identify information needs, and efforts to collect data that combines gender and the environment.

Moreover, many systems or processes are not designed to capture the complexities of socio-economic and environmental interactions in their territories; the data are of poor quality, as they are often not based on standards or may be inaccurate; and in cases where data are available, they are not used and their dissemination is limited.

Although the 2030 Agenda recognizes the centrality of gender equality for achieving sustainable development, and the global<sup>12</sup> and regional<sup>13</sup> mechanisms for defining follow-up indicators have tried to maintain this aspiration in the measurement instruments, gaps remain in important areas. In particular, insufficient attention has been paid to the link between gender equality and land degradation, drought and desertification. The implications of such a nexus such as displacement and conflict are still not well understood, particularly the gender-differentiated economic and social impacts as well as the potential role women could play in prevention and risk management.

As these are also the topics with the least amount of data available for SDG monitoring, the development of relevant gender-sensitive policies is hindered by: lack of information on women's access to, use and protection of natural resources; differentiated impact of land degradation, desertification and drought; their possibility of participating in mechanisms where the management of such policies is discussed; and their role in the processes of adaptation, mitigation and reduction of disasters related to extreme

## Intro

### I.

#### IA

#### II

#### II.A

#### II.B

<sup>12</sup> For a complete list of global monitoring indicators see [https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/Global%20Indicator%20Framework%20after%202020%20review\\_Eng.pdf](https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/Global%20Indicator%20Framework%20after%202020%20review_Eng.pdf)

<sup>13</sup> For a complete list of indicator frameworks for regional monitoring of the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development see (United Nations, 2019).

## INTRODUCTION

### I. CONTEXT AND KNOWLEDGE GAPS

weather events, among other issues. Among the goals related to the environmental pillar (SDGs 12, 13, 14 and 15), only one explicitly states the importance of addressing climate change planning and management from a women's rights approach (13.b.1).<sup>14</sup> Moreover, the indicator selected to monitor this goal still lacks an internationally agreed methodology.

## A. SCOPE

Against this background, the present study addresses the socio-economic dimensions of land degradation, drought and desertification with a gender lens and documents existing promising practices. In line with objective 4 of the UNCCD Gender Action Plan, this study seeks to contribute to the development of a baseline on gender-related issues in land degradation and desertification. It builds on the efforts of the UNCCD Parties to produce gender-related knowledge and sex-disaggregated data on matters relevant to the Convention.

**More specifically, the study seeks to answer the following questions:**

- What are the gender roles in the communities combating land degradation, desertification and drought?
- How do women and men experience changes in environmental conditions, in particular land degradation, desertification and drought?
- How does land degradation affect women's empowerment (including participation, economic empowerment, health, mobility, access to and use of resources, access to social services)?
- How does land degradation exacerbate the socio-economic vulnerability of specific groups of women?
- How do national policies regarding desertification and land degradation mainstream gender?
- What transformative actions are taken by governments at the national level to ensure that women and men equally benefit from policies and programs addressing land degradation, desertification and drought?

Intro

I.

II.A

II.B

<sup>14</sup> SDG13- Indicator 13.b.1. Number of least developed countries and small island developing States that are receiving specialized support, and amount of support, including finance, technology and capacity-building, for mechanisms for raising capacities for effective climate change-related planning and management, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities.

## II. METHODOLOGY

To undertake this “Study on the differentiated impacts of land degradation, desertification, and drought on women and men”, two key activities were conducted:

- Elaboration of country gender profiles
- Identification and systematization of case studies, examples and promising practices on gender equality, desertification, drought and land degradation

In addition, extensive virtual research was carried out. Further, interviews with various specialists and an Expert Group Meeting with international gender experts to validate the study results were conducted.

A third area of work proposed was an exercise of juxtaposing three indices or global databases (desertification, drought and land degradation) with one of the most comprehensive gender indices. Due to the significant time and statistical expertise required, it was decided to postpone this activity to a later date.



Intro  
I.  
IA  
II  
II.A  
II.B

## INTRODUCTION

### II. METHODOLOGY

**Based on the selection criteria,  
55 countries were selected, as listed below:**

#### ANNEX I – AFRICA | 19 COUNTRIES

<b>Northern Africa</b>	Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia
<b>Western Africa</b>	Burkina Faso, Chad, Niger, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria
<b>Eastern Africa</b>	Ethiopia, Djibouti, Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda
<b>Southern Africa</b>	Angola, Madagascar, Namibia, South Africa, Zimbabwe

#### ANNEX II – ASIA | 13 COUNTRIES

<b>Asia</b>	Australia, Bhutan, China, India, Indonesia, Lao, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand
<b>Pacific</b>	Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Tuvalu

#### ANNEX III – LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN | 12 COUNTRIES

<b>Northern and Central America</b>	Costa Rica, Mexico, Panama
<b>South America</b>	Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Peru
<b>Caribbean</b>	Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana

#### ANNEX IV – NORTHERN MEDITERRANEAN | 5 COUNTRIES

	Albania, Italy, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey
<b>Eastern Europe</b>	Armenia, Belarus, Ukraine
<b>Central Europe</b>	Montenegro, Russian Federation, Serbia

## A. ELABORATION OF COUNTRY GENDER PROFILES

The selection criteria for determining countries of focus for a more in-depth “country gender profile” was based on the best currently available data on drought risks, land degradation and gender (in)equalities, and locating where these converge, as follows:

- High rating on European Global Drought Observatory
- High rating on SDG indicator 15.3.1 on the proportion of degraded land
- Existence of data on gender inequalities, as per [UNDP Gender Inequality Index](#)
- Reporting on the implementation of the UNCCD Performance Review and Assessment of Implementation System (PRAIS) (49 countries)
- Existence of National Drought Plans (48 countries), establishment of LDN country reports (30 countries)
- Geographical representation under the UNCCD Annexes, as per UNCCD mandate
- Countries that have experienced recent extreme events relating to drought, land degradation and desertification
- Existence of large land restoration projects (Great Green Wall countries)

**FIGURE NO 1 | Regional distribution of countries**



Intro  
I.  
IA  
II  
II.A  
II.B

The activities under this area of research focused on collecting or producing data that allows the identification of gender gaps and inequalities (Annex I includes the sources of information for each of the metrics under the five categories). Five categories were analyzed:<sup>15</sup>

### Category 1: Livelihoods

This category offers a baseline indication of a country's abilities to meet the fundamental needs of its population. Scant sex-disaggregated data is available for these issues; however, a longitudinal assessment of women's health as proxied by the prevalence of anemia among non-pregnant women has been included. The four indicators in this category are:

- Proportion of the population living below the national poverty line
- Prevalence of anemia among non-pregnant women (aged 15-49 years)
- Proportion of population using at least basic drinking water services
- Proportion of population using at least basic sanitation services

### Category 2: Gender-based Rights and Participation

These databases address a country's commitment to gender equality as well as the ability of women to engage in leadership, work and decision-making roles:

- Ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) ratification
- Existence or absence of a Ministry/Office of Women's Affairs or equivalent (new dataset)
- Employment to population ratio (% ages 15 and older) by sex
- Employment in agriculture by sex
- Percentage of seats in local government by sex
- Percentage of women in the total number of representatives of the lower or single House of the Parliament
- Percentage of women in the most recent UNCCD COP delegations

Intro  
I.  
IA  
II  
II.A  
II.B

<sup>15</sup> Some of the categories and indicators selected have taken into account the Environmental Gender Index developed by IUCN 2013. <https://genderandenvironment.org/egi>

---

## INTRODUCTION

### II. METHODOLOGY

#### **Category 3: Gender-based Education and Assets**

This category focuses on equal access for women to basic education and resources. Access to these essential resources provides women with the tools, skills and preparation to effectively engage in environmental decision-making and resource use and access. It includes the following four indicators:

- Secure access to land
- Access to formal financial services
- Literacy rate, adult (% ages 15 and older) by sex
- Percentage of young women (aged 15-24 years) not in education, employment or training (NEET)

---

#### **Category 4: Gender considerations within country reports to the UNCCD and inclusion of land and desertification topics in CEDAW reports**

This category includes three new databases that will be developed for this research. They assess a country's inclusion of gender in the national Performance Review and Assessment of Implementation System (PRAIS), Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) country profiles and National Drought Plans (NDPs). It also includes a metric related to the country's inclusion of land degradation and desertification in CEDAW reports. It includes the following four indicators:

- Inclusion of gender in PRAIS national report
- Inclusion of gender in LDNs country profiles
- Inclusion of gender in NDPs
- Inclusion of land and desertification topics in CEDAW reports

---

Intro

I.

IA

II

II.A

II.B

#### **Category 5: Land degradation**

This category includes one indicator: proportion of land that is degraded over total land area under the SDG Global Database (SDG 15.3.1).

Given the complexity of the environmental and governance dynamics in today's world and their interactions, feedback loops and knock-on effects, this study does not intend to prove causality. Instead, it seeks to provide illustrative examples of the differentiated impacts on vulnerable representative groups of women and men caught in the convergence of drought, desertification and land degradation to raise awareness and guide policymakers.

## B. IDENTIFICATION AND SYSTEMATIZATION OF CASE STUDIES, EXAMPLES AND PROMISING PRACTICES

The call for case studies, promising practices and the Experts Group Meeting (EGM) sought to provide answers and examples on:

- Impact of gender-responsive policies on land degradation, land restoration and desertification
- Gender-responsive case studies and promising practices from the field in land degradation, land restoration and desertification
- Coping strategies (positive and negative) in the context of land degradation, desertification and drought
- Case studies linking the different types of vulnerability (social, physical, economic, environmental) and how they differently impact men and women, in all their diversity, in the context of land degradation, desertification and drought
- Linkages between the COVID-19 pandemic and its differentiated impacts on men and women in UNCCD country Parties
- Flagships programs that have mainstreamed gender and/or included specific groups that were successful during implementation
- Lessons learned from gender-responsive projects related to land degradation, land restoration and desertification under the Global Mechanism (GM) and Green Climate Fund (GCF)

A total of **32 case studies** were received from all five of the Convention's Regional Implementation Annexes. The case studies have been incorporated throughout the different chapters of this document.

Based on all the inputs outlined above, this document consists of six chapters:

Intro	
I.	
II.A	
II	
II.A	
II.B	

**1.** An “engendered look” at land

**2.** In search of the “lost gender” in droughts

**3.** Main findings from the gender profiles (per country and Regional Implementation Annexes)

**4.** Assessment of gender equality within the Convention bodies and mechanisms for implementation

**5.** Compilation of the recommendations

**6.** Final remarks



## CHAPTER I

# AN “ENGENDERED LOOK” AT LAND

Ch.I

A

B

C

## AN “ENGENDERED LOOK” AT LAND

Land remains the most fundamental asset for the majority of women and men living in developing countries. As stated by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), land is essential to life, livelihoods and resilience. Secure access to, control over and use of land provides a source of food, shelter, income and social identity, and reduces vulnerability to food insecurity, hunger and poverty, particularly in rural areas (IFAD, 2015).<sup>16</sup>

The SDGs acknowledge women’s secure access to land as a central component of women’s economic empowerment because of its transformational impact on increasing women’s decision-making power and status within their communities and families and to open up opportunities for economic autonomy.

To understand the gendered dimensions of land issues, it is first necessary to differentiate and understand what is meant by land governance, land tenure and tenure security.

Under the UNCCD, **land governance** refers to how a society manages access to, and control over, natural resources. It includes policies, processes and institutions by which land, property, natural resources and tenure are managed, including decisions on land use and management, land development, access to land, land value and land rights. Land governance can also outline mechanisms for reconciling competing priorities and interests of different land users.<sup>17</sup>

**Land tenure** refers to the relationship among people, as individuals or groups, with respect to land. It defines the conditions under which land can be occupied, held, or managed, by whom, and for how long. There are different types of tenure rights. It may be based on written policies and laws (statutory land tenure) or unwritten customs and practices (customary land tenure).<sup>18</sup>

This relationship is determined by a “bundle of rights in land” that can include the rights to “occupy, enjoy and use; to cultivate and use productively; to sell, gift or bequeath; to mortgage or rent; or to transfer” (UN Women & OHCHR, 2013).<sup>19</sup> As acknowledged by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) (2002) these rights can also overlap when different actors are allocated different rights to the same parcel of land (e.g., one party may have lease rights, another may have a right of way, etc.).<sup>20</sup>

In this context, as pointed out by the FAO, it is also essential to differentiate between landholding and land **ownership** to understand the different rights that women and men have over land. “The holder is the civil or juridical person who makes the major decisions regarding resource use and exercises management control over the holding.” This implies having “technical and

Ch.I

A

B

C

<sup>16</sup> International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). 2015. Land Tenure Security and Poverty Reduction. Available at: <https://www.ifad.org/en/web/knowledge/publication/asset/39397937>

<sup>17</sup> <https://knowledge.unccd.int/uncccd-terminology>

<sup>18</sup> <https://knowledge.unccd.int/uncccd-terminology>

<sup>19</sup> UN Women and Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. (OHCHR). 2013. Realizing women’s rights to land and other productive resources. Available at: <https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/RealizingWomensRightstoLand.pdf>

<sup>20</sup> FAO. 2002. Land Tenure and Rural Development. FAO Land Tenure Studies 3. Rome, Italy. Available at: <https://www.fao.org/publications/card/en/c/c6ded0bb-c052-5802-9659-b93746c82019>

## AN “ENGENDERED LOOK” AT LAND

economic responsibility for the holding” (FAO, n.d.).<sup>21</sup> However, only land-owners are the legal owners of the land, which generally includes the rights to sell, bequeath and use land as collateral (FAO, n.d.).

**Tenure security** refers to the level of certainty that relationships and ensuing agreements within a land tenure system are upheld and recognized by others.<sup>22</sup> Lack of secure land tenure exacerbates poverty and may contribute to social instability and conflict over land and natural resources. For instance, in Ethiopia, land registration has reduced conflicts over land such as disputes over boundaries, over watering turns, over land titles in cases of divorce and between relatives over access and control of land.<sup>23</sup>

Additionally, insecure tenure rights are frequently cited as a contributor to land and forest degradation.<sup>24</sup> As stated under the “New and emerging issues: land tenure document” (2019), this relies on the notion that those who do not hold land securely degrade lands because they fear their land may be taken from them, and thus try to get as much as possible out of the land in the short term and are explicitly unmotivated to invest in their land. For example, due to tenure insecurity, occupants may resort to ways of asserting and defending claims to land that, while effective, result in land degradation. The most prevalent example is “clearing to claim”: deforestation to create clear and visible evidence for a claim to increase one’s tenure security is widespread in different parts of the world.<sup>25</sup>

Land governance, land tenure and tenure security vary regionally and are tied more broadly to social, economic and political equity constructs. In many countries, women’s tenure rights to land are not recognized by law or custom; or if they are, they are secondary to men’s rights. Women’s rights to land are nuanced and highly context-dependent, demonstrating a gap between international obligations and national law related to women’s rights to land. Despite the scarcity of sex-disaggregated data in this area, the most current available data illustrate significant inequalities between men and women.

The 2014 and 2019 Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI) includes a sub-index that captures discrimination in women’s rights to access and make decisions over natural and economic resources. This includes discriminatory practices that undermine women’s rights to own land, to control or use land and non-assets, discriminatory practices that restrict women’s access to financial services, and social norms which establish that women’s assets must be mediated only by men.

Ch.I

A

B

C

21 FAO. n.d. Gender and Land Rights Database [website]. Available at: <http://www.fao.org/gender-landrights-database/data-map/statistics/en>

22 <https://knowledge.unccd.int/unccd-terminology>

23 Yami, M., Snyder, K.A. 2015. After all, land belongs to the State: examining the benefits of land registration for smallholders in Ethiopia. *Land Degrad. Dev.* 27 (3), 465–478.

24 IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change). 2019. Climate Change and Land: an IPCC special report on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security, and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems. P.R. Shukla, J. Skea, E. Calvo Buendía, V. Masson-Delmotte, H.-O. Pörtner, D. C. Roberts, P. Zhai, R. Slade, S. Connors, R. van Diemen, M. Ferrat, E. Haughey, S. Luz, S. Neogi, M. Pathak, J. Petzold, J. Portugal Pereira, P. Vyas, E. Huntley, K. Kissick, M. Belkacemi, J. Malley, (eds.). Global Environmental Change. 2014. Does secure land tenure save forests? A meta-analysis of the relationship between land tenure and tropical deforestation. *Global Environmental Change*. Volume 29, November 2014.

25 UNCCD. 2019. New and emerging issues: land tenure. ICCD/COP(14)/20. Bonn, Germany. Available at: <https://www.unccd.int/official-documents/cop-14-new-delhi-india-2019/iccdcop1420>

## AN “ENGENDERED LOOK” AT LAND

The following gender data related to land governance, land tenure and tenure security rely primarily on the [regional reports](#) produced under the SIGI. When other sources were used, they have been indicated in the regional analysis.

### East Asia and the Pacific<sup>26</sup>



Discrimination against women’s right to own, use and control land and non-land assets was found in over two-thirds of the countries in the region. Women face various obstacles to accessing land and non-land assets, including low legal literacy, discriminatory gender stereotypes around land ownership, and legal discrimination under customary laws. Female land-ownership remains low in the region, ranging from 9% in Indonesia to 27% in Thailand. Moreover, according to the World Bank (2021),<sup>27</sup> female-headed households own substantially less land than male-headed households. Recognizing these inequities, some of the countries have produced legislation reforms related to land titling (see examples below in this section).

All countries in the region, with one exception, guarantee women and men the same legal rights to access land. However, discriminatory practices are still found in 13 of the 20 countries in the region. This is especially relevant for the rural population. According to FAO (2014),<sup>28</sup> the region encompasses over 44% of the world’s farms – the majority small and family-owned. According to the World Bank (2012), in this region there is also an increase in women’s agricultural employment (e.g., China, Cambodia and Vietnam), and fewer women and female-headed households’ own land.

### Europe and Central Asia<sup>29</sup>



All 47 countries have removed legal barriers to women’s access to resources and assets, establishing equal rights for women and men to own, use and control land. However, discriminatory practices and attitudes still limit women’s land rights in various countries in Central Asia and the Caucasus.

Despite legal gender equality, gender gaps in land ownership remain, with women owning on average 23% of landholdings. However, large discrepancies are noted among countries, ranging from 47% in the Netherlands to 5% in Latvia. Furthermore, according to FAO (2014),<sup>30</sup> where women own land, they are likely to hold smaller plots than men.

Ch.I

A

B

C

<sup>26</sup> Australia, Cambodia, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Fiji, Hong Kong, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, People’s Republic of China, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Vietnam.

<sup>27</sup> World Bank. 2012. Toward Gender Equality in East Asia and the Pacific: A Companion to the World Development Report. The World Bank Group. Washington, D.C., USA.

<sup>28</sup> FAO. 2014. The State of Food and Agriculture. FAO. Rome. Available at: [www.fao.org/3/a-i4040e.pdf](http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4040e.pdf)

<sup>29</sup> **Central Asia and the Caucasus:** Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. **Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe:** Albania, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Hungary, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Ukraine. **Western Europe and the Baltics:** Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

<sup>30</sup> FAO. 2014. The State of Food and Agriculture. Food and Agriculture Organization. Rome. Available at: [www.fao.org/3/a-i4040e.pdf](http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4040e.pdf)

## AN “ENGENDERED LOOK” AT LAND



### Latin America and the Caribbean<sup>31</sup>

Most legal frameworks in the region enshrine equal rights to access land for women and men. Improvements in women’s land rights have benefited from strengthened equality provisions in laws addressing women’s status within the family and within marriage. Laws recognizing men as the sole head of households have been abolished, and gender-equal provisions within the marital regime have supported women’s rights. Moreover, several states have made joint titling compulsory for land granted by the state to both married and de facto couples (e.g., Colombia, Costa Rica and Nicaragua).

Yet, even in countries where women have the same legal rights as men to own and access land – as is the case in Costa Rica – only 15.6% of farm ownership is in the hands of women. In Costa Rica, there are 80,987 (87%) farms belonging to a single individual; these farms represent 54.7% of the total agricultural area, corresponding to 1,316,807.3 hectares. Of these individual farms, the majority (84.4%, which is equivalent to 68,389 farms) are titled in the name of men, for a total of 1,210,243.8 hectares. Only 12,598 (15.6%) of the farms are titled in the name of women, with an area of 106,563.6 hectares. Moreover, women on average own smaller properties than men, with most female farmers owning less than 1 hectare (26%).<sup>32</sup>



### Middle East and North Africa<sup>33</sup>

Unequal inheritance rights are linked to women’s limited access to land and property: only 4% of women hold land titles. In addition, gender-specific laws limit women’s access to public space. Political voice and family codes are based on customary and religious laws, which assign unequal inheritance rights to girls and identify the man as the head of the household.



### South Asia<sup>34</sup>

In countries in this region, women have limited opportunities to access or own land in their name. For example, studies show that in Afghanistan, only 2% of women own land (USAID).<sup>35</sup> Positive steps toward gender equality include Pakistan’s 2011 Anti-Women Practices Law, which seeks to protect women’s right to inherit property. Similarly, other countries have introduced legislation on land ownership; however, the prevalence of customary or religious laws continues to undercut these civil law protections.

Ch.I  
A  
B  
C

31 Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela

32 Quesada-Aguilar, A. 2019. Plan de Acción de Género de la Estrategia Nacional REDD+. Secretaría REDD+–Banco Mundial, MINAE, FCPF. Washington, DC. USA.

33 Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia and Yemen.

34 Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

35 <https://www.usaid.gov/afghanistan/gender-participant-training>

## Sub-Saharan Africa<sup>36</sup>

AN "ENGENDERED LOOK" AT LAND



In this region, access to land and control over property remains one of the biggest challenges for women. All sub-Saharan African countries have some form of discrimination, notably under customary law, which prevents women from enjoying secure access to land, by blocking either their right to inherit or own land under their name. The plurality of legal systems that govern many countries renders women's land and property rights vulnerable or insecure. Gender-neutral clauses in civil codes and constitutions granting all citizens equal land rights are undermined by discriminatory customary laws and practices. Five countries retain discriminatory laws and another 38 countries practice discrimination.

This contrasts with women's role as agricultural producers. Data from the regional report from SIGI demonstrates that women represent on average constitute 50% of the agricultural labor force, but only 18% of agricultural holders. According to Doss et al. (2013),<sup>37</sup> despite the complexity of different systems, the conceptualizations of land ownership, and the limited available data, women are severely disadvantaged in relation to land rights in respect to men. The percentage of land titles owned by women in the various countries of sub-Saharan Africa ranges from only 3% (Mali) to the highest incidence of 32% (Malawi). According to the Living Standards Measurement Study—Integrated Surveys on Agriculture (LSMS-ISA), the percentage of women with sole ownership (documented and undocumented) ranges from less than 1% of land in Nigeria to 31% in Malawi. Research conducted by the World Bank (2015)<sup>38</sup> in six African countries suggests that even when women own or manage land, gender gaps remain in agricultural productivity: male-managed plots produce significantly more than female-managed plots, ranging from 17% in Uganda to 25% in Malawi. This is mainly due to gender bias, where rural women, for example, are frequently less able to access new agricultural technology or credit and make investments for sustainable land management such as soil conservation and augmentation, terracing, tree planting and establishment of buffer zones.

Ch.I

A

B

C

<sup>36</sup> Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

<sup>37</sup> Doss, C. et al. 2013. Gender inequalities in ownership and control of land in Africa. Myth versus reality. IFPRI Discussion Paper 01308.

<sup>38</sup> World Bank. 2015. Women Business and the Law 2016: Getting to Equal. World Bank. Washington, D.C., USA.

## AN “ENGENDERED LOOK” AT LAND

Supplementary data and information at the global level related to land governance, land tenure and tenure security include the following statistics:

- According to FAO, in 2011, less than 20% of all landholders globally were women.<sup>39</sup>
- Only 44 countries accord women the same inheritance rights as men in both law and practice, while 29 countries do not grant female surviving spouses and daughters the same rights as their male equals to inherit land and non-land assets. These discriminatory legal frameworks are more prevalent in Africa and Asia, especially in Western and Southern Asia (12 countries) and Northern and Eastern Africa (8 countries). Modifications to the laws on inheritance and succession have been slow. From 2014 to 2019 only two countries (Gabon and Rwanda) reformed their laws.<sup>40</sup>
- A recent study produced by the University of Colorado at Boulder covering 440 forest users from three developing countries concluded that when more women are involved in group decisions about land management, the group conserves more forest, particularly when offered financial incentives.<sup>41</sup>
- Millions of people worldwide have no nationality (they are stateless). Statelessness is the product of a diversity of causes: conflict of laws, the transfer of territory, marriage laws, administrative practices, discrimination and lack of birth registration. For example, in Guatemala, the cost of registering a newborn (traveling to an urban setting), primarily if it has been born in the house, has caused under-registration of women. As an illustration, without citizenship, a person cannot register to vote in the country in which he/she is living and cannot own land. Often, even the most basic of rights – the rights to education, medical care and employment – are denied to individuals who cannot prove a legal connection with a country (Achiron, 2005).<sup>42</sup>



### MALI<sup>1</sup>

Women play a central role in the rural areas of Mali and are the first affected by land insecurity. They represent 51.6% of the population in the countryside, constitute 60% of the agricultural workforce and contribute about 80% of food production. However, their status under customary law is precarious. Women often occupy marginal and unprofitable lands, which they cannot sufficiently develop due to a lack of resources. Land speculation has accelerated in the country and, they are the first victims of competition, without title deeds, often without income to access plots whose price has become too high, not having access to credit.

<sup>1</sup> Based on the case study submitted by the Scientific Advisor to the Scientific Commission of the National Committee for Agricultural Research of Mali, as a response to the UNCCD call.

Ch.I

A

B

C

39 FAO. 2011. Economic and Social Perspectives: Gender and land rights. Issue Brief No. 8. Available at: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/012/al059e/al059e00.pdf>

40 OECD. 2019. SIGI 2019 Global Report: Transforming Challenges into Opportunities. Social Institutions and Gender Index. OECD Publishing. Paris. Available at: [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/bc56d212-en/1/1/7/index.html?itemId=/content/publication/bc56d212-en&.csp\\_3c7e048c80fc5e8e661e1289a989dd3&itemIGO=oecd&itemContentType=book](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/bc56d212-en/1/1/7/index.html?itemId=/content/publication/bc56d212-en&.csp_3c7e048c80fc5e8e661e1289a989dd3&itemIGO=oecd&itemContentType=book)

41 University of Colorado at Boulder. 2019. When more women make decisions, the environment wins: Gender quotas lead to greater forest conservation, study shows. ScienceDaily, 21 March 2019. Available at: <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2019/03/190321152838.htm>

42 Achiron, M. 2005. Nationality and Statelessness. A Handbook for Parliamentarians. United Nations High Commissioner for refugees. Switzerland.

The most recent **Global Report (2019)** from OECD-SIGI<sup>43</sup> points out that:

#### AN "ENGENDERED LOOK" AT LAND

- Disinheritance of the surviving spouse still occurs in 96 countries, where there are contradictory and/or no clear uniformity in legal regimes that govern inheritance rights (e.g., statutory, customary, and religious laws, personal status codes), allowing simultaneous interpretations and applications of different legal systems. For instance, many countries have multiple personal status codes that regulate inheritance matters, which often deny equality between women and men despite civil law provisions.
- According to Islamic inheritance rules, in some countries,<sup>44</sup> women generally inherit half of what their male relatives inherit. Some personal codes prevent the transfer of property between adherents of different religions. This creates a challenge in inter-faith marriages, in which a woman may be unable to transfer her property or land to her children or inherit from her deceased husband.
- In some countries, inheritance by the surviving spouse depends on the marital regime and whether the deceased left a will (testamentary succession) or not (intestate succession). These discriminatory legal clauses can have extensive impacts on women's vulnerability to poverty. Among 258 million widows worldwide, 38 million live in extreme poverty (Loomba Foundation, 2015),<sup>45</sup> notably due to disinheritance practices.
- Women's rights to inherit their husband's property are denied in 102 countries under customary, religious, or traditional laws and practices.
- 103 countries do not criminalize property dispossession or grabbing of inheritance. Discriminatory practices such as property grabbing (e.g., Burkina Faso, Eswatini [formerly Swaziland] and Zambia), forced eviction (e.g., Guinea-Bissau) and levirate marriage<sup>46</sup> (e.g., Benin, Gambia, Mali) persist in some countries.
- Even when women may be granted the right to occupy the property temporarily (usufruct), this practice prevents them from selling, purchasing, or benefiting from renting out the land or property. In 37 countries with evidence of discriminatory traditional, customary or religious inheritance practices towards women, the law does not take precedence over these practices.

Ch.I

A

B

C

<sup>43</sup> OECD. 2019. SIGI 2019 Global Report: Transforming Challenges into Opportunities. Social Institutions and Gender Index. OECD Publishing. Paris. Available at: [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/bc56d212-en/1/17/index.html?itemId=/content/publication/bc56d212-en&\\_csp\\_=3c7e048c80fc5e8e6616e1289a989dd3&itemIGO=oecd&itemContentType=book](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/bc56d212-en/1/17/index.html?itemId=/content/publication/bc56d212-en&_csp_=3c7e048c80fc5e8e6616e1289a989dd3&itemIGO=oecd&itemContentType=book)

<sup>44</sup> Yemen

<sup>45</sup> Loomba Foundation. 2015. The Global Widows Report 2015: A Global Overview of Deprivation Faced by Widows and Their Children. Available at: <http://www.theloombafoundation.org/images/The%20Global%20Widows%20Report%202015.pdf>

<sup>46</sup> Where women are considered to be part of their deceased husband's property, and hence given into marriage to the brother of the deceased.

## AN “ENGENDERED LOOK” AT LAND



### BURUNDI<sup>1</sup>

Land degradation exacerbates the socio-economic vulnerability of specific groups of women in Burundi, where rural women earn their living primarily from agriculture. Faced with land degradation, these women become more vulnerable because they cannot find other sources of income likely to improve their living conditions.

According to Burundian customs, women tend to children's education and their daily needs, as well as household activities. As a result, they must remain on the family property even in challenging environmental conditions, while men can migrate to places where climatic conditions are favorable. Therefore, men migrate easily compared to women when conditions are unfavorable.

At the national level, various actions have been carried out to involve women and men equally in several activities related to environmental protection:

- In the National Gender Policy of 2012-2025, Burundi resolutely adopted an improved gender perspective to achieve equity and equality between men and women and to establish sustainable development. In addition, in this same policy, various bodies of support for the implementation of this policy have been put in place, from the national level to the municipal level, with a steering committee.
- The 2012 Burundi Water Code in its Article 2 provides for the principle of participation in decision-making which stipulates that “women participate in decision-making at all levels and must be involved in activities, protection and development of water resources and the management of hydraulic and sanitation infrastructures.”
- The law of 25 May 2021 amending the environmental code stipulates in its 8th Principle, Article 15, that every citizen has the duty to ensure the preservation of the environment and contribute to its improvement.

<sup>1</sup> Based on the case study submitted by the Director of Forest of Burundian Office for Protection of Environment, as a response to the UNCCD call.

Ch.I

A

B

C

## AN “ENGENDERED LOOK” AT LAND

An “engendered look” at the land governance, land tenure and tenure security also illustrates that:

- When women have secure land rights, they enjoy greater economic gains. In Tanzania, women with strong land rights were three times more likely to work off-farm, earned up to 3.8 times more income and were 1.35 times more likely to have individual savings. In India, gender-sensitive allocation of micro-gardens increased women’s use of credit. In Rwanda, women holding land titles was correlated with a 12% increase in women taking out loans. In India, more secure land rights led to an 11% increase in women deciding whether to sell crops produced on such land.
- When women have secure land rights, women’s empowerment increases. Secure access to land serves as a source of empowerment by increasing women’s economic security and increasing their control over household and land decisions. For example, in Nepal, 37% of women who owned land had the final say on a household decision, compared to 20% of women who did not own land. In Ethiopia, a household land certification program led to a 44% increase in the likelihood of a wife deciding which crops to grow on lands under her control.<sup>47</sup>

A recent study conducted by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)<sup>48</sup> on gender-based violence (GBV) and environmental linkages states a correlation between unequal land governance, land tenure, tenure security and GBV:

- Even when women have legal rights over land, norms around decision-making in the community and household can leave them susceptible to property and land grabbing, which are often accompanied by GBV. In such cases, women can suffer physical, psychological and sexual violence by family members who evict and/or disinherit them through property grabbing. In the case of property grabbing, there are reports of both women and men employing GBV as a form of intimidation. However, it is generally male family members who ultimately confiscate the land.
- Women are sometimes subjected to sexual extortion to gain access to agricultural land and land titles from authority figures. Women and girls are vulnerable to such demands as they are often unable to pay cash bribes. Such corruption is characterized by the abuse of power, withholding benefits based on a transactional demand, and psychological coercion based on the imbalance of power. A study conducted by Transparency International (2018) in Sierra Leone found that 8% of women and 5% of men surveyed reported experience or knowledge about sexual extortion from women in exchange for land rights.

Ch.I  
A  
B  
C

<sup>47</sup> USAID.2021. <https://www.land-links.org/issue-brief/fact-sheet-land-tenure-womens-empowerment>

<sup>48</sup> Castañeda Camey, I., Sabater, L., Owen, C. and Boyer, A.E. 2020. Gender-based violence and environment linkages: The violence of inequality. Wen, J. (ed.). IUCN. Gland, Switzerland.

## AN “ENGENDERED LOOK” AT LAND

### A. PROMISING AND INNOVATIVE PRACTICES TO ENSURE MORE EQUITABLE LAND GOVERNANCE, LAND TENURE AND LAND SECURITY

Studies in several countries (e.g., India, Nicaragua, Tanzania<sup>49</sup>) also show that women’s land ownership is linked to their increased power within families, resulting in a reduction of GBV. The studies explain that while factors such as education, socio-economic status, employment and observing violence, or being abused as a child can have an impact on the incidence of intimate partner violence (IPV), women who own property experienced overall less IPV than those who do not own property and were more capable of leaving abusive relationships.

Land degradation can also have a differentiated impact on the health of men and women. As the soils lose their productive capacity, this affects food security, diminishing secure and sustainable access to sufficient food for active and healthy lives. There is scarce data at the global scale on the potential impact of land degradation in relation to sex-disaggregated food security, given limited data and complex inter-linkages.

This phenomenon is also exacerbated by socio-cultural practices related to intra-household food distribution patterns. Participatory observation and preliminary studies from different regions in the world<sup>50</sup> indicate that there are systems for dispensing food within households. For example, it is a common practice in many societies to distribute food according to sex, age and status. Under this system, males usually get served first, followed by boys, then girls, and lastly, the women. In rural Latin America, women use the expression *“I am the last one to eat”* to exemplify this practice. This may be one reason why nutrition surveys reveal that within the same income level and household structure, some households contain malnourished members while others do not. In addition, when the availability of food decreases – either due to land degradation or other climatic events – the woman tends to serve as a “buffer zone” to food scarcity, with their food portions becoming the first to suffer a cut.

Ch.I

- A
- B
- C

49 Agarwal, B. 2003. Gender and land rights revisited: Exploring new prospects via the state, family and market. *Journal of Agrarian Change* 3(1–2): 184–224. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1111/1471-0366.00054>; Agarwal, B. and Panda, P. 2007. Toward Freedom from Domestic Violence: The Neglected Obvious. *Journal of Human Development* 8(3): 359–388. Available at: <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/14649880701462171>; and Grabe, S., Grose, R. G. and Dutt, A. 2015. Women’s Land Ownership and Relationship Power: A Mixed Methods Approach to Understanding Structural Inequities and Violence Against Women. *Psychology of Women Quarterly* 39(1): 7–19. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0361684314533485>.

50 <https://genderandenvironment.org/ccgaps/>, <https://archive.unu.edu/unupress/food/8F054e/8F054E06.htm>

## AN "ENGENDERED LOOK" AT LAND

A. PROMISING AND INNOVATIVE PRACTICES TO ENSURE MORE EQUITABLE LAND GOVERNANCE, LAND TENURE AND LAND SECURITY

### A. PROMISING AND INNOVATIVE PRACTICES TO ENSURE MORE EQUITABLE LAND GOVERNANCE, LAND TENURE AND LAND SECURITY

A series of promising and innovative practices carried out by Parties, civil society organizations, international organizations and donors to ensure more equitable land governance, land tenure and land security are detailed below.



**Ethiopia.** The land certification and registration undertaken in the early 2000s increased tenure security and boosted landowners' likelihood of investing in soil and water conservation measures by 20-30%. As a result, landowners' income and agricultural outputs have increased. Furthermore, the process included women. Specifically, the process instructed that land certificates issued for spouses should contain the names of both spouses as joint holders, and a federal regulation mandated that the consent of both spouses is required in order to sell land.<sup>51</sup>



**Mexico.** The M-REDD+ project acknowledged that when male relatives – especially husbands – migrate, women may be left without the authority to make meaningful adaptation and investment decisions concerning the land. Furthermore, socio-cultural behavior factors associated with "machismo" prevent men from transferring the land to their wife/partner. Therefore, the project proposed that instead of transferring the property, they be given to the women under a 90-year concession.<sup>52</sup>



**Costa Rica.** In recognition that its payment schemes for environmental services are linked to land ownership, FONAFIFO (Costa Rican Forest fund) designed the GIGUP (Gender Equality Award for Productive Units). The GIGUP explores the drivers of inequality at the level of the productive unit, allowing the identification of the changes necessary to build a more just and equitable society (for example, gender roles at the family; access, use, and control of resources including land; distribution of power in the family, among others). At the same time, it urges national and local governments, donors, commercial and development banks, and the private sector to promote investments and incentives that benefit the productive family units that hold the GIGUP. At the level of productive units, some of the benefits provided to the winners are access to fresh financial resources such as new private, government, or investment funds (decoupling the payment for environmental services from land tenure) and connecting the producers with consumers to promote the recognition of the value of gender equality, fair and equitable trade.<sup>53</sup>

Ch.I

A

B

C

51 <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1462901118306713>

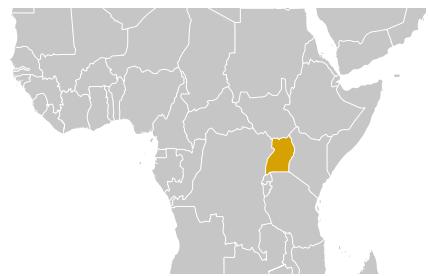
52 <https://genderandenvironment.org/m-redd-mainstreaming-gender-in-policies-and-laws-related-to-climate-change-and-redd-in-mexico-a-national-policy-level-initiative>

53 <https://www.cronundp.org/content/costarica/es/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2020/anuncian-politica-y-galardon-para-promover-igualdad-de-genero-en.html>

## AN "ENGENDERED LOOK" AT LAND



**Antigua and Barbuda.** Since 1834, when the British emancipated their colonies, Barbudans as a community have owned all their island's land. Barbuda, the smaller of the two biggest islands of Antigua and Barbuda, with a population of approximately 2,000, codified this long-existing communal ownership in 2007 in the [Barbuda Land Act](#). This unique communal land system – the only one in the Caribbean, ensures that land is available to every Barbudan – more than one piece of land – when they are 18. This law has undoubtedly removed some of the barriers that exist in other systems and avoids, to some extent, the monopolization by a few.<sup>54</sup>



**Uganda.** The Slum Women's Initiative for Development (SWID) mobilized and organized over 30 grassroots women, who took it upon themselves to mobilize fellow women against the unjust, routine evictions that were taking place in the slum settlements of Walukuba-Masese Division of Jinja. As a result, the grassroots women leaders created a savings club to take out loans and establish credit with banks. This enabled 35 women to receive land titles in less than 14 months, and 120 women have subsequently submitted their documentation to start the titling process.<sup>55</sup>



**Jordan.** Sabha, located in Mafraq Governorate in the eastern desert of Jordan, with a population of 19,200, historically had healthy ecosystems with well-nourished livestock (many of the locals are herders), mitigated soil erosion and stored rainfall to replenish water sources. Today, much of the area's rangelands are degraded and barren due to the increased temperatures and lower precipitation resulting from climate change as well as excessive grazing, urban expansion, population growth (especially with the influx of refugees) and the economic situation. These factors are adversely affecting rangelands, fodder, crops and water availability, causing deterioration in the locals' livelihood.

The impact of land deterioration in Sabha varies according to gender, age and social situation. Women have fewer access rights to material resources, e.g., land and credit, and intangible resources such as representation in decision-making bodies. Accordingly, they have fewer options to cope with land degradation and desertification effects.

The non-governmental organization WADI,<sup>56</sup> established in December 2018, is designed to address the above issues using nature-based solutions to restore large areas of land both in rangelands and forests while actively engaging the local communities, especially women. WADI has a gender-sensitive strategy and developed a monitoring and evaluation tracking tool based on sex-disaggregated data to assess activities' outcomes such as long- and short-term job opportunities created with relation to land restoration practices and alternative livelihoods participation in stakeholders' consultations, participation in educational training and awareness-raising campaigns.

Ch.I

A

B

C

54 Personal communication Leisa Perch, February 2022.

55 <http://www.swidugandahelpawoman.org/our-mission-and-vision>

56 Based on the case study submitted by WADI to the UNCCD call.

## AN “ENGENDERED LOOK” AT LAND

### A. PROMISING AND INNOVATIVE PRACTICES TO ENSURE MORE EQUITABLE LAND GOVERNANCE, LAND TENURE AND LAND SECURITY

In 2019, WADI partnered with the Hashemite Fund for Development of Jordan Badia to establish the first community nursery in Sabha – located in the eastern desert of Jordan – to produce high-quality native seedlings. It is entirely run by women using state-of-the-art gender-friendly methodologies and protocols for seedling production.

WADI has found that women tend to be the best nursery workers due to their attention to detail and procedural dexterity. However, this activity faced many challenges due to social norms, traditional expectations and culture. Work conditions, location and the entrenched gender roles in rural communities prevent women from agriculture-related practices or even leaving their homes without their husbands’ (or the male figure’s) permission. Actions taken by WADI to mitigate these issues were:

- Males were included from the onset in all consultations and were provided with the necessary assurances of safety and security of the workers.
- The parents (and families) were invited to visit the nursery to inspect the workplace and working conditions.
- Transportation was provided from home to the workplace and back; this is of utmost importance as rural areas lack reliable transportation, and women can be exposed to harassment or danger while commuting.

---

**Bangladesh, Burundi, Nepal and Madagascar.** For over four decades, IFAD<sup>57</sup> has worked consistently to promote rural women’s legal rights.

- In Bangladesh, the Char Development and Settlement Project ([CDSP project](#)) worked closely with authorities to register land titles to married couples in both the wife’s and husband’s names, with equal ownership shares – and with the woman’s name listed first. This ensures that the land will belong entirely to her in the event she is widowed, divorced, or abandoned.
- In Burundi, where women’s inheritance rights are often not respected, land disputes between neighbors and family members are now seen as a major cause of the 12-year civil war that ended in 2005. The project builds community awareness of legal processes while providing legal advice and helping women fight their cases in court. A first step in the initiative is literacy classes, so that women can read legal documents before signing them.
- In Nepal, IFAD recognized that poor people could contribute to regenerating degraded forests when they have secure land tenure. Since 1990, the project has aimed at raising incomes and improving ecological conditions, groups of the poorest people in highland villages obtained long-term leases to severely degraded forest areas. Through 40-year renewable leases, the project transferred small blocks of public forest land to groups of poor households. The households regenerate, manage and protect the land. A study carried out in 2009 found that 69% of the plots had been rehabilitated. Household income over the project period has increased by more than 70%. Indigenous peoples and low-caste

<sup>57</sup> <https://www.ifad.org/en/web/latest/-/story/supporting-rural-women-s-land-rights#:~:text=IFAD%20has%20long%20supported%20women%20in%20realizing%20their,%20and%20with%20the%20woman's%20name%20listed%20firs>



Ch.I

A

B

C

## AN “ENGENDERED LOOK” AT LAND

### A. PROMISING AND INNOVATIVE PRACTICES TO ENSURE MORE EQUITABLE LAND GOVERNANCE, LAND TENURE AND LAND SECURITY

groups have benefited proportionally more than higher caste households, underscoring the improvement in the lives of the target beneficiaries.

- In Madagascar, poor rural people had long been barred from owning the land they depended on for their survival. In 2005, the Government of Madagascar introduced a land policy to improve land tenure security across the country. One of the challenges was to ensure that land certificates were distributed equitably, including to the poorest and women. Moreover, rural people often have no birth certificate, and therefore no identity card, which means that they are barred from applying for a land certificate. Since 2006, a total of 71 land offices and more than 3,100 land certificates have been issued. IFAD also supported government services in delivering identity papers to those who lack them.



**Tanzania, Tajikistan and Kosovo.** USAID has worked through multiple channels to address the complex set of issues around women’s land rights. For example:

- In Tanzania, women’s land certification jumped from 0% to 49.4% in the villages where USAID’s [Mobile Application to Secure Tenure \(MAST\)](#) was deployed.
- In Tajikistan, a [Feed the Future project](#) is supporting land policy reforms and legal aid clinics that focus on strengthening women’s property rights and restructuring farms to develop a robust market in land use rights.
- In Kosovo, [supporting judicial and policy reforms](#) that strengthen women’s property rights, including inheritance rights, and public information and awareness campaigns and legal aid programs have helped women understand and exercise their rights.

As a result of these programs, since 2013 more than 140,000 households have received formal documentation of their land rights, more than 87,000 people have been trained on land tenure, and 18 laws or policies have been adopted that strengthen land rights – potentially benefiting 182 million people.<sup>58</sup>



**Egypt.** Notwithstanding that the Egyptian Civil Code affirms women’s rights to own, inherit and use their property, most women, especially in rural areas, are deprived of their legitimate economic rights, making them more vulnerable. The Badr Altawael Association for Local Population Development, with the support of the Euro-Mediterranean Women’s Foundation (FFEM), launched an advocacy campaign called *“I want my inheritance.”* The campaign aimed to promote women’s rights to inheritance through raising the community’s awareness and mobilizing local relevant actors in Sohag. At the end of the advocacy campaign, 100 Christian and Muslim public figures and community leaders had promoted women’s rights to inheritance. In addition, 87 conflicts were settled amicably, 26 cases were referred to the courts and 10 women obtained their inheritance (they became role models encouraging other women to claim their rights). Furthermore, 17 Members

Ch.I

A

B

C

<sup>58</sup> <https://www.land-links.org/issue-brief/fact-sheet-land-tenure-womens-empowerment>

---

## AN “ENGENDERED LOOK” AT LAND



of Parliament representing Sohag Governorate advocated a reform of the law to increase sanctions against those who deprive women of their inheritance rights.<sup>59</sup>

**Sudan.** Zenab for Women in Development is a national NGO that has developed an agricultural program for Sudanese women farmers. Instead of viewing women as victims, the activity sees them as “game changers” to build resilient livelihoods through increased sustainable agricultural productivity, thus improving food security and household income. Training women on improved sustainable agricultural practices and providing them with good quality seeds and agrochemicals has sustainably increased yields and lightened their loads while also improving their social standing in their community. The resulting plants have enhanced characteristics such as higher and greater consistency in yield productivity, better drought resiliency and appropriate season length that improve food security. Women farmers also participate in hands-on training in conservation and agricultural techniques and receive access to credit, savings, insurance against natural disasters and access to markets. As a result of this project, women have gained more independence and are empowered to farm on an equal footing with men. Women are advocating their decision-making rights and gaining access to financial resources, agricultural machinery, and the labor necessary to increase crop yields sustainably.

**Palestine.** The Union of Agricultural Work Committees (UAWC) has a project – “Transitioning Rural Women from Relief to Sustainable Livelihoods – that supports the development of sustainable, drought-resilient livelihoods for food-insecure women and workers on lands owned by other people that were no longer sufficient to feed themselves and their families due to water scarcity impacts that hinder their crops. It also includes capacity-building activities in different fields starting from their project management, technical skills and marketing skills. The project focuses on increasing women’s access to local and international markets to achieve full economic empowerment. The Bas Baladi outlet store, for example, was set up for the marketing and selling of local Palestinian cooperatives’ products.

Ch.I

A

B

C

---

<sup>59</sup> Euro-Mediterranean Women's Foundation. 2017. *We Have the Floor: Mediterranean Civil Society Calls for Gender Equality to Become a Reality*. Available at: <https://www.euromedwomen.foundation/pg/en/documents/view/7339/we-have-floor-mediterranean-civil-society-calls-for-gender-equality-to-become-reality>

## AN “ENGENDERED LOOK” AT LAND

### A. PROMISING AND INNOVATIVE PRACTICES TO ENSURE MORE EQUITABLE LAND GOVERNANCE, LAND TENURE AND LAND SECURITY

In recent years, a series of promising initiatives have emerged that seek to support the development of knowledge as well as generate data disaggregated by sex on the topics covered by the Convention. As an example of this, it is worth highlighting the Ibero-American Women Network for Climate Action (IBWoClimA),<sup>60</sup> which aims to:

- Support the active and vocal participation of women in the development of climate actions
- Foster a leading role of women in climate research
- Focus on the impacts of climate change with a gender perspective in Ibero-American countries

Some of the expected results and impacts of the network are:

- **Data collection:** An evaluation of publicly available data would allow a gender-differentiated analysis of impacts of climate extremes and provide a first pilot dataset that can be replicated in the participating countries. Based on that initial information, additional required variables can be considered to look for other data sources that may exist, but not as public registers. As information can vary from one country to another, its interest is to explore what common data can be accessed so that, besides country scale, analysis can be done at the regional level.
- **Integration of knowledge:** Bringing together scientists from climate, health, sociology and law, the network intends to include a more comprehensive view of the impact of extreme events and address the problem of climate variability and change impacts on women as a multi-dimensional issue. Understanding the points of view from other knowledge areas will help build a more coherent database and provide enhanced tools to analyze the problem and ensure that the approach to the problem is less biased towards one specific area of expertise. It promotes discussion on the diverse ways to study the problem and develop solutions, and guides scientists to reach the population more effectively and integrate health, social and legal aspects that are not traditionally considered within the climate perspective.
- **Knowledge exchange:** Instead of transferring knowledge from academia, they target an exchange of knowledge in which distinct groups can conduct a conversation. Academia should share the knowledge and advances on climate variability and change to the population and decision-making groups so that a dialogue with the affected population is promoted. This way, they aim to advance from understanding the climate system's functioning and changes in the hydrological cycle to understanding how people are impacted and what they know of the problem, based on their experiences and cultural approach. Furthermore, decision-making groups are informed about the analysis process and understand how decisions and policymaking affect people, what their needs are, and how science can be integrated with the process.

<sup>60</sup> The information of the IBWoClimA is based on the case study submitted to the UNCCD call by Ana María Durán Quesada from Costa Rica.

Ch.I

A

B

C

## AN “ENGENDERED LOOK” AT LAND

### A. PROMISING AND INNOVATIVE PRACTICES TO ENSURE MORE EQUITABLE LAND GOVERNANCE, LAND TENURE AND LAND SECURITY

IBWoClimA recognizes that academic institutions have a significant responsibility in ensuring equality in employment as part of the government. Also, mechanisms such as observatories that operate in the countries should be more vocal about women’s equality at the job (and payment). The situation of fewer women in decision-making roles follows a marked inequality across institutions, which is even stronger at universities, with women having marginalized participation in leading roles.

Similarly, the WeCaN<sup>61</sup> Community of Practice aims to develop a mechanism for women’s empowerment in dryland regions to connect South-South practices and policies through exchanges and knowledge sharing, learning, and co-design advocacy and knowledge management actions.

The WeCaN network is focused on some of the following actions:

- **Creation of a connection space based on knowledge networks.** Building on existing national and regional women’s networks, organizations and institutions, the community of practice integrates these networks into a well-organized cluster with the specific objective of collecting and disseminating knowledge, lessons learned, and experiences related to the gender transformative approaches relevant to this initiative and among regions.
- **Documentation, knowledge management and knowledge production.** Increasing awareness and the stakeholder’s knowledge of women’s contributions, advocacy and gender transformative approaches within sustainable forest and landscape management in dryland regions.
- **Support to the existing policy-making processes and definition of a joint advocacy plan.** It identifies common advocacy challenges and provides a situational assessment of these existing processes related to women’s rights and needs in the dryland forests and agro-silvopastoral systems. It also supports policy-making processes, strengthening synergies and collaborations across regions, and developing a joint advocacy strategy (e.g., advocacy campaign, policy briefs preparation, summits, and events participation) to connect southern women champions to the policy/advocacy discourse.

Ch.I

A

B

C

<sup>61</sup> The information of the WeCaN is based on the case study submitted to the UNCCD call by FAO.

## AN “ENGENDERED LOOK” AT LAND

### B. INCLUSION OF GENDER CONSIDERATIONS IN FINANCING MECHANISMS

## B. INCLUSION OF GENDER CONSIDERATIONS IN FINANCING MECHANISMS

It is instrumental to understand the value and role that financing mechanisms play to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. Most public multilateral environmental finance mechanisms did not have a mandate for gender equality when they were established, nor did they understand the importance of incorporating gender considerations. Gender considerations were included partly thanks to the advocacy strategies pursued by women in the environment sector and by women’s organizations and donors. This development also reflects the funds’ internal recognition that “gender-blind” projects and programs are not inclusive and often perform less well than their gender-responsive counterparts. However, most of them have made substantial efforts and achieved considerable progress in mainstreaming gender in their policies, programs, or allocation practices in recent years.

Today, for the first time, all major environmental financing mechanisms have mandates in the form of gender policies or action plans. The incorporation of gender equality principles underscores the importance of allocating inclusive and equitable resources, engaging women, and increasing their access to resources, as these factors are key to effective and efficient implementation at all levels.<sup>62</sup>

However, one of the significant challenges is ensuring the gender policies of international financial instruments are fulfilled and implemented, both nationally and region-wide. Likewise, there is a need to improve the quality of the evaluations of the gender impacts and the management responses.

For instance, all projects associated with land degradation and droughts presented to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) must include a gender assessment, precise interventions to address gender issues from the projects’ Gender Action Plans and an overview of the Annual Performance Report, which is a report that accredited entities prepare yearly to inform the GCF about the projects implementation’s progress.

Ch.I

A

B

C

<sup>62</sup> Aguilar, L., Granat, M. and Owren, C. (eds.), 2015. Roots for the Future: The Landscape and Way Forward on Gender and Climate Change. IUCN. Washington, D.C. USA.

Examples of these are:

## AN “ENGENDERED LOOK” AT LAND

### B. INCLUSION OF GENDER CONSIDERATIONS IN FINANCING MECHANISMS



**Senegal.** The project “Building the climate resilience of food insecure smallholder farmers through integrated management of climate risk”<sup>63</sup> envisages increasing the resilience of vulnerable households to climate-related risks through better risk management, water and soil conservation. In Senegal, 70% of the workforce in the agricultural sector is composed of women. Also, more than 50% of the households are in rural areas, and women head 15%. The project’s three main activities are introducing solar-powered water pumping and small-scale irrigation, the rehabilitation and management of degraded lands around the water sources and creating an enabling environment by raising awareness and improving local capacity.

Men are legally head of the household, which provides them greater access to agricultural inputs and land and resources. Furthermore, different inheritance systems with diverse land transfer practices, including customary practices tend to limit women’s access to land. Beyond the limited access to land, small-scale women farmers rely on activities that do not produce substantial income, such as rice cultivation, vegetable gardens and petty trade. This is aggravated by limited financial knowledge and difficulty building credit, which excludes women from accessing credit. The project, acknowledging these challenges, is creating risk reduction activities by actively including women’s participation in the planning process. Additionally, actions planned under the risk reduction component directly benefit women by including rice production in lowland areas and vegetable gardens.

According to the 2020 Annual Performance Report, 59% of the 934 farmers trained in innovative agricultural practices were women, and 43.2% of the 12,000 farmers participating in risk reduction activities in the regions of Tambacounda and Kolda were women. Moreover, the climate services offered to farmers have benefited 2,877 women out of the 4,341 farmers trained (66%). For the insurance component, 783 farmers participated in awareness-raising sessions (of which 486 were women or 62%). Another project element that had significant results was community microfinance to strengthen social cohesion, leadership, savings mobilization capacities and investment of women farmers, resulting in 131 new women’s savings groups with 3,312 members.

**Ethiopia.** Ethiopia is classified as in “extreme risk” regarding climate change, where 60% of its territory is dryland with a low annual rainfall becoming increasingly unpredictable. As a result, the severity and frequency of droughts increased, and it is threatening one-tenth of the country’s population, resulting in severe food shortages. The project’s three main activities are introducing solar-powered water pumping and small-scale irrigation, the rehabilitation and management of degraded lands around the water sources, and creating an enabling environment by raising awareness and improving local capacity. Over 50% of the beneficiaries will be women, with 30% of households being female headed.

<sup>63</sup> FP049: Building the climate resilience of food insecure smallholder farmers through integrated management of climate risk (R4) | Green Climate Fund

## AN “ENGENDERED LOOK” AT LAND

### B. INCLUSION OF GENDER CONSIDERATIONS IN FINANCING MECHANISMS

The gender assessment showed that climate change affects women and men differently, to the detriment of women due to existing social norms. The underrepresentation of women in decision-making positions and resource management causes women to be excluded from decisions on how to best manage the climate threat. Also, women represent a high percentage of the poor in communities dependent on local natural resources for their livelihood, particularly in rural areas where they carry the major responsibility for household water supply, firewood fetching collection for cooking and heating, and guaranteeing family food security.

To respond to the challenges, the project “Responding to the increasing risk of drought: building gender-responsive resilience of the most vulnerable communities”<sup>64</sup> considers gender implications recognizing women’s role as primary homestead and resource managers; differing conservation incentives faced by women and men; promoting women’s access to and control over environmental resources; identifying gaps in equality through sex-disaggregated data and a gender action plan to close those gaps; financing and budgeting gender related initiatives in the climate resilience process; incorporating women in identifying new and innovative technology that can support women to protect their environment and climate, promoting independence, empowerment and entrepreneurship; evaluating women’s work time, both as paid and unpaid; and identifying specific strategies to include female-headed households.

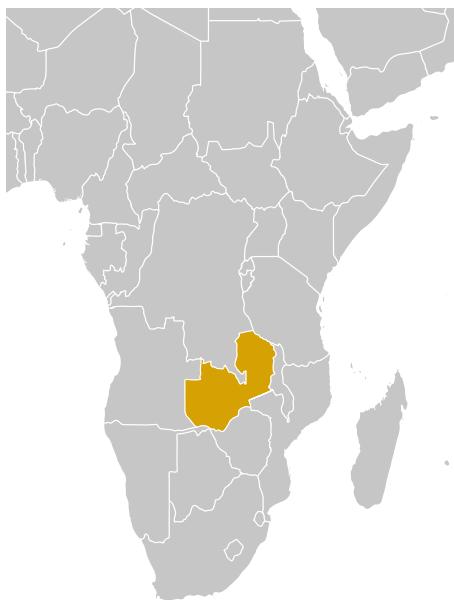
**Zambia.** The acro-ecological regions I and II in Zambia face increasing risks due to climate change due to the variability of rainfall and the increased frequency of droughts. The poorest smallholder farmers practice rain-fed cultivation primarily, facing severe impacts on their livelihoods.

Under the project “Strengthening climate resilience of agricultural livelihoods in Agro-Ecological Regions I and II in Zambia,”<sup>65</sup> the gender assessment states that women’s development has been impeded by the inability to own land, barriers to education, barriers to earning an income, access, and control over resources, and division of labor. As a flow-on effect from this disadvantage, women are then not in a good position to become visible in decision-making and leadership roles. Nonetheless, the assessment recognizes that women are central agents in this project, given that they comprise 80% of food producers, and they will be important as leaders in addressing food security, livelihoods, and water management.

The Gender Action Plan of this project states that 62% of the beneficiaries would be women in this scenario. They will be provided with access to improved climate information, weather, and agricultural advisories; provision of gender-sensitive training manuals, guidelines and workshops; access to irrigation schemes or commence with new water management practices; diversified crops for women farmers in target communities; introduction of new agricultural practices for women drawing on indigenous knowledge strategies; and development of market-oriented actions.

<sup>64</sup> FP058: Responding to the increasing risk of drought: building gender-responsive resilience of the most vulnerable communities | Green Climate Fund

<sup>65</sup> FP072: Strengthening climate resilience of agricultural livelihoods in Agro-Ecological Regions I and II in Zambia | Green Climate Fund



Ch.I

A

B

C

## AN "ENGENDERED LOOK" AT LAND

### B. INCLUSION OF GENDER CONSIDERATIONS IN FINANCING MECHANISMS



**Rwanda.** The high number of poor people engaged in subsistence agriculture makes Rwanda particularly susceptible to climate change. This is especially the case for people with fewer resources to adapt, including those who farm on marginal land and are highly vulnerable to landslides, flooding, and droughts.

The project "Strengthening Climate Resilience of Rural Communities in Northern Rwanda,"<sup>66</sup> aims to have at least 40% of leadership roles in community-based adaptation filled by women; at least 20% of funds targeted towards poor and socially excluded female-headed households (FHH); have women as at least 40% of workers in public works schemes; ensure that women's preferences are taken into account during species selection for integrating agro-forestry into farming systems; and target FHH for support in adopting agro-ecological approaches to increase climate resilience.

Additionally, women are specifically targeted and trained to be trainers and farmer promoters to better engage and communicate with other women farmers to integrate climate resilient practices into local extension services. At least 40% of employment opportunities and 50% of participation in training are reserved for women; training is scheduled with consideration toward women's traditional responsibilities; roles and the location of, transportation to, and costs associated with training are responsive to local gender norms and cultural stigmas; and women farmers are engaged and targeted to increase the involvement of women in tea-harvesting activities. Also, proper clothing is provided to allow women to participate in tea-harvesting activities comfortably and effectively; women are consulted on shade tree species to incorporate gender-differentiated knowledge and experiences; 50% of community members trained in tree nursery management are women; and at least 40% of people receiving business skills development are women.

**El Salvador.** Located in the dry corridor of Central America, El Salvador is one of the country's most vulnerable to climate risks in the world. At present, it is already facing water stress, with the per capita availability of freshwater well below the critical threshold of 1,700 m<sup>3</sup>/cap/yr. The project "Upscaling climate resilience measures in the dry corridor agroecosystems of El Salvador" (RECLIMA)<sup>67</sup> seeks to restore and reforest degraded ecosystems to protect water sources and stimulate aquifer recharge. By improving access to water and building local capacity to manage natural resources sustainably, small-scale farmers will be more resilient to the impacts of climate change.

Women face various restrictions compared to men, such as the right to land property, access to water, forest and biodiversity. Also, the division of labor based on gender impacts the use of national resources to the detriment of women. For instance, women assume a double or triple workday to overcome difficulties from drought, loss of crops and other product losses due to climate change.

Ch.I

A

B

C

<sup>66</sup> FP073: Strengthening Climate Resilience of Rural Communities in Northern Rwanda | Green Climate Fund

<sup>67</sup> FP089: Upscaling climate resilience measures in the dry corridor agroecosystems of El Salvador | Green Climate Fund

## AN "ENGENDERED LOOK" AT LAND

### B. INCLUSION OF GENDER CONSIDERATIONS IN FINANCING MECHANISMS

The gender assessment expresses that the State must acknowledge women's contribution to biodiversity conservation by implementing affirmative action policies and guaranteeing the exercise of their rights in this environment. One of the actions conducted by the project's gender and organization specialist was the mainstreaming of gender considerations in the process of analysis and description of project indicators, in terms of information gathering and identifying constraints and opportunities faced by target groups (women heads of household, men, youth and indigenous peoples).

Another important finance mechanism is the Global Mechanism (GM) of the UNCCD. The GM is a specialized body of the UNCCD that supports countries to mobilize financial resources and increase investments in sustainable land management, helping reverse, control, and prevent DLDD. Guided by the UNCCD GAP, it seeks to ensure that gender is mainstreamed by country Parties in project preparation. GM's gender work includes, among others:

- Capacity-building workshops at the regional and country-level (i.e., early warning and monitoring systems)
- Development of guidance materials for integrating gender considerations in National Drought Plans
- Gender-responsive tools for risk mitigation

The GM has established alliances with organizations such as UN Women and IUCN to support gender equality and women's empowerment in their work.

The LDN Fund co-promoted by the UNCCD and Mirova aims to generate positive environmental and socio-economic impacts, alongside financial returns, through investments in sustainable land management (SLM) and land restoration projects.

From a private investor's perspective, the LDN Fund is also taking steps to integrate gender, promote gender equality and address gender gaps in land restoration. For example, within the fund's work principles, it ensures equal pay and women's participation in the design of projects. Also, their investment criteria incorporate gender, emphasized the synergies between bridging gender gaps and reaching non-gender-related SDGs, and specific funds and strategies in supporting women empowerment. Other related works to tackle inequalities are gender-sensitive analysis of data, crop diversification, household decision-making and training opportunities for women.

Given the above-mentioned context, why should LDN and land restoration initiatives and policies promote just and equitable land governance and tenure? What is the value of embracing a gender-responsive approach in land restoration efforts?

Ch.I

A

B

C

## AN “ENGENDERED LOOK” AT LAND

### B. INCLUSION OF GENDER CONSIDERATIONS IN FINANCING MECHANISMS

A gender-responsive approach allows for the identification, understanding and implementation of interventions to address gender gaps and overcome historical gender biases in policies and interventions. It ensures that women’s and men’s differential needs are addressed, that participation of women and men is equitable, and that distribution of benefits, resources, status and rights are equitable. A gender-responsive approach contributes – proactively and intentionally – to the advancement of Agenda 2030 and the SDGs by ensuring that no woman or girl is left behind.

Equitable land governance, land tenure and land tenure security are fundamental components to enabling LDN and land restoration efforts. Drawing from the literature and the promising practices the following key advantages of working with a gender-responsive approach were identified:

- Making visible the gender-differentiated practices, knowledge, perceptions of the resources in the environments (natural, social, and economic).
- Recognizing that women and men have needs, interests, and aspirations and make different contributions to the conservation and sustainable management of their natural resources.
- Increasing the number of people involved as “change-makers” in land restoration initiatives.
- Underpinning land-use change decisions and natural resources management authority.
- Higher economic gains for both women and men.
- Women can grow more food and earn more income. When women earn more, they usually spend a higher proportion on caring for the family than men do. This in turn improves food security and reduces poverty for the whole family.
- Providing a basis for benefit sharing and negotiation between rightsholders, governments, and the private sector.<sup>68</sup>
- Improving security of tenure has significant potential to enhance access to nutritious food.
- Reduction of GBV.

When attention is not paid to secure access and land tenure security, policies and initiatives can become part of the problem leading to land degradation. Some of the impacts of not acknowledging gender considerations are:

- Insecure or weak rights to land reduce income-generating opportunities for women, lower decision-making power for women within the household, increase food insecurity for women and their families, and make women and families more vulnerable.

Ch.I

A

B

C

<sup>68</sup> Felker, M.E, Bong, I.W., DePuy, W.H. and Jihadah L.F. 2017. Considering land tenure in REDD+ participatory measurement, reporting, and verification: A case study from Indonesia. PLoS ONE 12(4): e0167943. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0167943>; Sunderlin W.D., Larson A.M., Duchelle A.E., Resosudarmo I.A.P., Huynh T.B., Awono A., et al. 2014. How are REDD+ Proponents Addressing Tenure Problems? Evidence from Brazil, Cameroon, Tanzania, Indonesia, and Vietnam. World Dev. Vol.55. March 2014. Available at: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0305750X13000193>; Mahanty, S., Dressler, W., Milne, S., Filer, C. 2013. Uhrravelling property relations around forest carbon. Singap Journal of Tropical Geography. Vol. 34: Issu 2:188-205.

## AN “ENGENDERED LOOK” AT LAND

### B. INCLUSION OF GENDER CONSIDERATIONS IN FINANCING MECHANISMS

- Where women do not legally own their land, or where customs and practices prevent their land ownership, they are not recognized as farmers or “value-chain” actors. As a result, they are excluded from access to extension services and inputs available to bona fide farmers, most of whom are men. Due to gender bias, rural women are frequently less able to access new agricultural technology or credit and make investments for sustainable land management such as soil conservation and augmentation, terracing, tree planting, and establishment of buffer zones.<sup>69</sup>
- Limits the extent to which men and women can invest in the long-term wellbeing of their land or adopt new technologies and innovations.
- Restricts the possibility of diversifying their livelihoods by using their land as collateral, renting it out, or selling it.
- Women may lack risk-management expertise and insurance, and they are often excluded from meetings or technical assistance related to these topics.
- Climate change programing is geared towards landowners or leaders.
- Land use conflicts, including those sparked by competition over increasingly scarce land and competing needs for crops and grazing often disproportionately impact women.
- Hampers their direct access to payment schemes linked to land tenure, such as payment for environmental services (PES).
- Women’s weak and often insecure rights of access to land, forests, and trees undermine their engagement in innovation in forests and agroforestry systems, which has enormous costs for their food security and nutrition, and that of their families.
- Maintains an unjust, unequal system with intersecting forms of oppression that reproduce and strengthen structural barriers instead of breaking them down.
- Data and research is biased to the physical aspects, neglecting social issues and gender.

Ch.I

A

B

C

69 Tzili, M. 2018. Towards a Gender-Responsive Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. UN Women. New York, USA.

## C. RECOMMENDATIONS<sup>70</sup>

Policymakers and implementers at all levels (national, regional and local) have a significant role to play in integrating gender equality into efforts that prevent and mitigate land degradation, including within LDN-based initiatives. Awareness building, access to knowledge and information about gender and the nexus with land degradation and drought are critical to these efforts.

### Recommendations for Parties, observer organizations, civil society organizations and Secretariat

- Collect and disseminate information about the progress toward gender-equal land rights over time
- Design, implement, or support policy advocacy initiatives such as promotion of women's access to common lands
- Explore innovative options to support land tenure for women (e.g., concessions)
- Facilitate women's active participation and leadership
- Close the gender data gap to move toward evidence-based interventions and responses by:
  - Disaggregating data, gender targets and baselines by sex, age and disability, race/ethnicity, geography, class, livelihood source, migrant status, gender identity
  - Regularly collecting and publishing this disaggregated data
  - Tracking the land rights and land ownership of women and men
  - Pairing land degradation indicators with socio-economic indicators
  - Supplementing the Performance Review and Assessment of Implementation System (PRAIS) with gender and land tenure data
  - Aligning gender data to be collected with national, regional and global indicators
  - Presenting gender-environment issues to the groups collecting data, to highlight data opportunities
  - Creating a universal digital platform for harmonizing and standardizing gender data and information including consideration of the creation of a regional and global data bank
- Provide better targeted, available and flexible finance (opportunities) with attention to the specific needs of women in rural communities and indigenous populations

Ch.I

A

B

C

<sup>70</sup> Based on: Global Mechanism of the UNCCD. 2019. Land Degradation Neutrality Interventions to Foster Gender Equality. Bonn, Germany.

## Recommendations for Parties

### AN "ENGENDERED LOOK" AT LAND

#### C. RECOMMENDATIONS

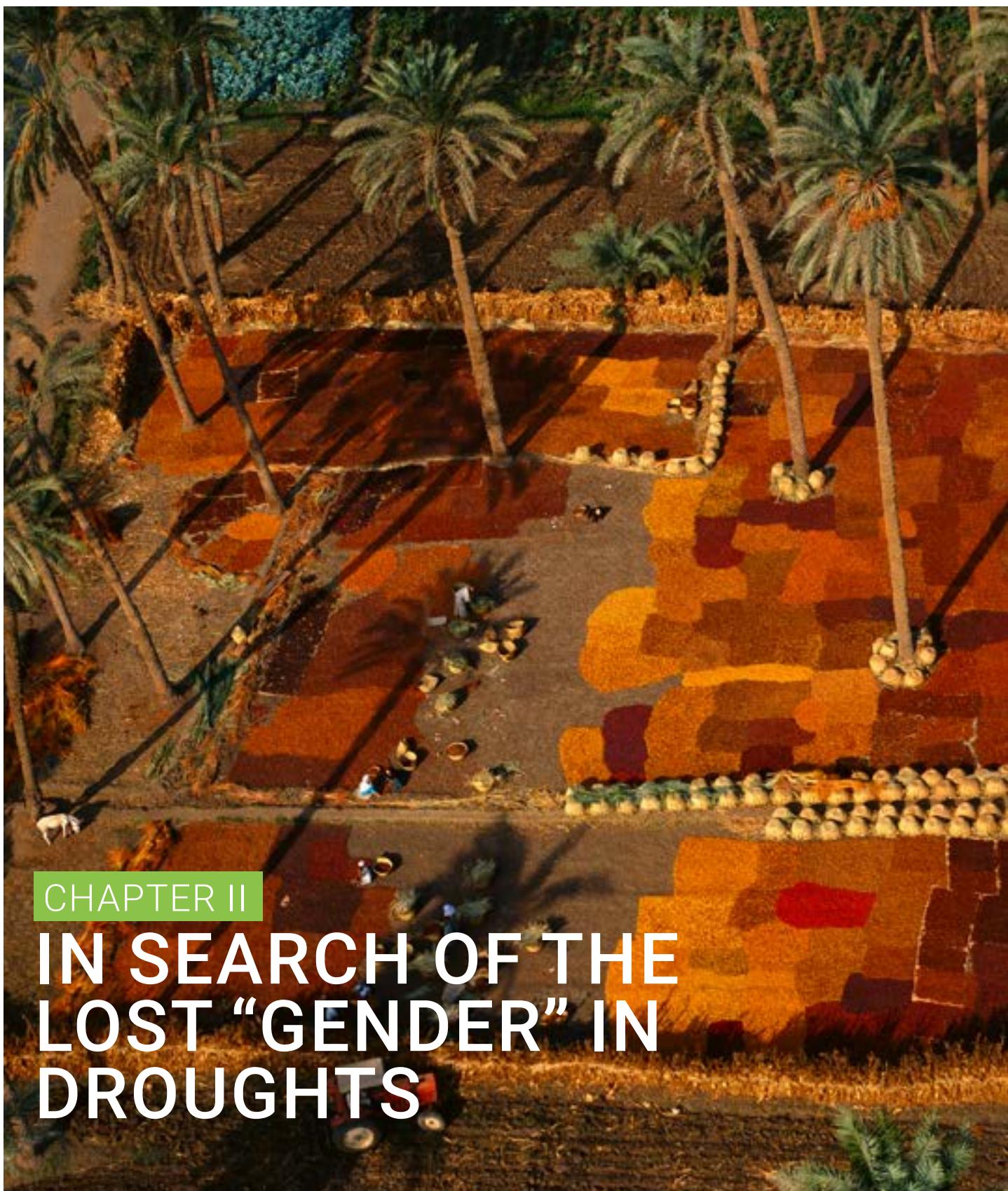
- Ensure gender-equal and meaningful participation in land and natural resource governance at the national and landscape levels through:
  - Inclusive national-level coordination
  - Community and women-led participation, planning and leadership
- Strengthen and enforce legal protections for the land rights of vulnerable groups and women via:
  - Legal protections for communities and women, including ensuring equality in compensation and access to grievance mechanisms
  - Eliminating the barriers that impede the access to women to the land
  - Implementation and enforcement of policies and laws
  - Promotion of women's access to common lands
  - Fulfilling international mandates such as the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas UNDROP and Article 26 of the UNDRIP
  - Gender-equal land rights, under both customary and statutory law
  - Availability of legal information and advice to communities, in their own languages and according to their culture (e.g., local law desks/offices)
  - Supporting communications and awareness-raising campaigns on land rights
  - Acknowledging and considering the gender gaps linked to land rights that could lead to GBV
- Equalize the access to, use and control over land, forests and natural resources through:
  - Better access to technology, services and resources for women and marginalized groups
  - Gender-responsive land and natural resource use and management, including the use of the SLM Gender Responsive Tool
  - Mechanisms facilitating women's acquisition of land for restoration
- Require financial mechanisms to incorporate measures to increase women's access to available finance

Ch.I

A

B

C



## CHAPTER II

# IN SEARCH OF THE LOST “GENDER” IN DROUGHTS

Ch.II

A  
B

## IN SEARCH OF THE LOST "GENDER" IN DROUGHTS

*When women's voices, knowledges and experiences are not taken into account, we sideline half of our opportunities for innovation<sup>1</sup>.*

<sup>1</sup> Aguilar, L. Speech (2019) Inauguration Pre-Cop 25. Manuscript.

### TEXT BOX NO. 1 **Definition of drought**

A naturally occurring phenomenon that exists when precipitation has been significantly below normal recorded levels, causing serious hydrological imbalances that adversely affect land resource production systems. Meteorological drought is defined solely on the basis of the degree of dryness (often in comparison to some normal or average amount) and the duration of the dry period and must be region-specific.

Source: UNCCD  
<https://knowledge.unccd.int/taxonomy/term/1340>

According to the UNCCD, over 15% of the damages and losses incurred during natural disasters are caused by drought.<sup>71</sup>

Droughts account for 85.8% of livestock losses and are the most lethal natural hazards to livestock.<sup>72</sup> The distribution of drought-related losses shows high relative losses in sub-Saharan Africa, while Central and South America, southern Europe, the Middle East and southern Australia are also at high risk.<sup>73</sup>

Drought is one of the major impediments to development. Many communities are dependent on rain-fed agriculture, which makes them particularly susceptible to climate variability. The prolonged and frequent occurrence of drought presents significant challenges to agriculture, forestry, water resources management, urban planning and food security. It is well known that drought contributes to food insecurity, malnutrition, famine and increased mortality among women and children, especially those living in rural areas.

In many parts of the world, drought is occurring against a backdrop of multiple crises (i.e., civil wars, displacement, insecurity) and conflicts that concatenate and lead to a multi-causal humanitarian crisis. This is currently the case in Sudan, South Sudan, Syria and Uganda. Likewise, in their Forestry Discussion Paper (2022),<sup>74</sup> FAO acknowledges that climate change can be a conflict threat multiplier, where already fragile ecosystems and local communities are driven beyond coping capacity, resulting in increasing tensions related to natural resource access and use.

Droughts affect communities in different ways, with the most obvious impact being the shortage of water for domestic, agro-silvopastoral and commercial uses, with enormous consequences for gender roles. According to the High-Level Panel on Water (2018),<sup>75</sup> about 40% of the world's population is affected by water scarcity, with as many as 700 million people at risk of being displaced by 2030.

It is widely recognized that women and their children are responsible for the provision of water that their families need to survive – for drinking, cooking, sanitation and hygiene. According to UNICEF, globally women spend a collective 200 million hours every day collecting water. By way of illustration, in sub-Saharan Africa, one round trip to collect water takes 33 minutes on average in rural areas and 25 minutes in urban areas. In Asia, the numbers are 21 minutes and 19 minutes, respectively. However, for some countries the figures may be even higher, where a single trip to collect water can take longer than an hour in Mauritania, Somalia, Tunisia and Yemen.<sup>76</sup>

Ch.II  
A  
B

<sup>71</sup> <https://knowledge.unccd.int/topics/drought-reducing-impacts-and-building-resilience>

<sup>72</sup> <https://knowledge.unccd.int/topics/drought-reducing-impacts-and-building-resilience>

<sup>73</sup> <https://www.unisdr.org/2005/wcdr/thematic-sessions/presentations/session2-5/hotspots.pdf>

<sup>74</sup> FAO. 2022. Deploying a Humanitarian–Development–Peace Nexus Approach. Exploring, Strengthening and Reviving Dryland Ecosystems. Forestry Discussion Paper. January 2022. Available at: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/8efcbd4edc5f4922be1ab51791c54015>

<sup>75</sup> <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/HLPWater>

<sup>76</sup> <https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/unicef-collecting-water-often-colossal-waste-time-women-and-girls>

## IN SEARCH OF THE LOST "GENDER" IN DROUGHTS

Carrying water also has a negative effect on the health of women of all ages: young women, girls and pregnant women in particular. Even though there has been little research into the health effects of frequently carrying containers of water, a pioneering study conducted in South Africa by Geere, Hunter, and Jagals (2010) concludes that water-carrying methods impose physical loads with the potential to cause musculoskeletal disorders and related disability. The prevalence of spinal (neck or back) pain was 69%, and back pain was 38% for women carrying containers on their head (mean container weight 19.5kg) over a mean distance of 337m.<sup>77</sup> In this context, the work of "caring for others" is expressed in standing in line and waiting for water, walking long distances and protecting the sick from unsafe water.

Furthermore, drought reduces the availability of natural resources such as fish, trees, timber, mushrooms, honey, fuelwood and medicinal plants, and increases the chances for forest fires. The reduction in forest cover and non-availability of natural resources affects primarily women, since they must walk long distances to fetch valuable natural resources and increase their work burden. It also reduces their participation in income-generating activities, as well as educational opportunities.

This reality has been acknowledged by the Expert Meeting Group, in the context of Commission on the Status of Women (CSW66). This group notes that women's and girls' disproportionate share of unpaid care and domestic work – rooted in the highly unequal gender division of labor and distribution of care and domestic work responsibilities within the household, and between the household and the state – intensifies in climate and environmental crises and disasters.

### TEXT BOX NO. 2.

#### Definition of care work

Care work is broadly defined as consisting of activities and relations involved in meeting the physical, psychological and emotional needs of adults and children, old and young, frail and able-bodied. Care work can be paid or unpaid. Unpaid care work is caring for persons or undertaking housework without any explicit monetary compensation.

Source: International Labor Office (ILO). 2018. Care work and care jobs for the future of decent work. ILO. Geneva.

Similarly, it was recognized that in all contexts the economic and social fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic meant that women experienced an increased burden of unpaid care and domestic work and concomitant loss of jobs and livelihoods. This in turn is jeopardizing women's resilience and their prospects for recovery in the face of climate and environmental crises. Understanding care work – and the rights to care and the impacts on caregivers – must be at the center of comprehending the gendered impacts of environmental degradation and disasters. This is essential for proposing solutions that bring together care for people and the planet as a collective responsibility.

Whether paid or unpaid, formal or informal, care work must be valued and respected in all its forms. Unfortunately, the linkages between care work and drought have not been extensively studied. In this regard, nine NDPs from Parties to the Convention<sup>78</sup> are on the forefront in including references to care work and droughts in their plans.

Ch.II

A

B

<sup>77</sup> Geere, J.A.L., Hunter, P.R. and Jagals, P. 2010. Domestic water carrying and its implications for health: a review and mixed methods pilot study in Limpopo Province, South Africa. *Environ Health* 9, 52. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1186/1476-069X-9-52>

<sup>78</sup> <https://knowledge.unccd.int/drought-toolbox/page/drought-planning>

---

## IN SEARCH OF THE LOST "GENDER" IN DROUGHTS

**Afghanistan.** The NDP reports that women and girls had to travel farther from home to collect water and cooking fuel, thus exposing themselves to possible harm. Overall, 61% of the households indicated that the women's workload had increased as a result of the drought. Nearly half of all households (46%) reported that the drought had caused increased tensions within their family. These increased tensions could result in increases in gender-based violence in these households.



**Bolivia.** The contribution of Bolivian women in the reproductive, productive and management fields in both community and political management is not only comparable, but in some cases more significant than that of the males. Nevertheless, women's roles in these areas, paradoxically, are not recognized socially, and various uses and customs have contributed to maintaining – but not deepening – unequal and unfair gender relations.



**Central African.** Women's experience and understanding of drought are closely linked to their roles in the household. Whether in urban or rural areas, women bear the primary responsibility for the family's daily survival, even during natural disasters. It is the duty and responsibility of women to supply the household with water and food, either by purchase for some women residing in large urban centers, or by gathering and production for rural / peasant women. The latter thus perceive drought through the weight of its effects on the household.



**Côte d'Ivoire.** Women often bear additional burdens in the event of extreme weather events due to the roles and responsibilities they are expected to assume in caring for the family, while men on the other hand will bear additional burdens due to their family economic role.



**Grenada.** The stakeholder consultations during the preparation of the plan revealed that as a demographic group, women and girls have been impacted severely during droughts. For example, they miss work in order to take care of children when schools are close due to lack of water; arrive late for work or need to leave work early in order to cope with water shortages; experience compromised personal hygiene; spend extra time, sometimes losing sleep, in order to collect water from emergency tanks or late at nights when water pressure improves; and the burden of taking care of the sick family members, which is typically done typically by women and girls, is greater.



**Honduras.** The care tasks, despite not being economically remunerated, are the ones that demand more time and dedication, making it difficult to participate in community processes. Therefore, the actions to be implemented must reduce the workload for women and adapt to their availability, and must be inclusive; that is, men must participate actively to obtain positive results, since it is essential to recognize the differences in power relations that manifest themselves between men and women in planning processes, especially in rural areas.

Ch.II

A

B

## IN SEARCH OF THE LOST "GENDER" IN DROUGHTS



**Venezuela.** The extended family is still common in Venezuela, both in rural and urban areas. Although there are still no official indicators on the use of time and the distribution of responsibilities between genders, empirical observation indicates that the responsibility of care work tends to fall to women, especially regarding the care of dependent people, with permanent or temporary disabilities, boys, girls and the elderly. These characteristics make women more vulnerable to poverty as a consequence of the drought and make about 39% of the country's families more vulnerable. There are still no studies on the effects of drought in the country to detail how this phenomenon particularly affects gender. However, empirical observation reveals how the last drought has affected the lives of women and the distribution of their time.

Although there is no systematic information reported, it is common to observe that this alteration in planning mainly affects women due to the unequal distribution of domestic tasks in Venezuelan society. For example, between June and July 2018, in the Las Rosas residential complex, located in the San José parish of Caracas, the water service was interrupted for 60 days. By way of a solution, the residents took advantage of the water stored in a tank in a neighboring building, which they were allowed to access daily from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. To fill a container with just 15 liters of water, long lines were formed in which it was observed that the majority were women, who after arriving from work, picking up their children at school or doing housework, had to finish the day waiting for their turn to bring some water to their home, giving up time that would have been dedicated to rest or other activities.



**Vietnam.** Structural gender challenges, unequal gender relations and power dynamics, including the lack of ownership of land and other production assets, unequal division of labor and inequitable decision-making, must be addressed as all of these inhibit women's access to adaptation technologies and practices.



**Turkmenistan.** A rural woman spends more than six times more time than men (4.3 hours) on housekeeping; women also work 1.1 times more than men on household plots of land.

Ch.II

A

B

Women and men from each community, household, or individual may be **differently impacted** and have diverging perceptions about drought impacts.

However, due to pre-existing inequalities, the adaptive capacity of women is generally lower because of their relatively low economic status, low education levels, lack of skills, restrictions to decision-making and lack of access to assets, among other factors.

## IN SEARCH OF THE LOST "GENDER" IN DROUGHTS



**Uganda**<sup>79</sup>. Research on gendered adaptation and coping mechanisms to deal with climate variability in Eastern Uganda rice farming systems found that gender-differentiated impacts of climate variability were manifested in the unequal distribution of roles and responsibilities of men and women in rice production systems through socially constructed roles and responsibilities. Women seemed to bear the heavier burdens from climate variability effects. They were found to have extra workloads due to trying to cope by working longer hours than men, to cater to the children and the other household members who depended on them. Married women had the additional restriction of having to account to their husbands for their movements, even if it was in the cause of trying to cater for the families.

Recognizing that gender-differentiated data on drought impact is scarce, meager and insufficient, in recent years substantial efforts have been made to study this situation around the world. Of note in this regard are studies conducted by Sahu (2019)<sup>80</sup> in India; CARE (2021)<sup>81</sup> in Afghanistan; Dilettta (2016)<sup>82</sup> in Ethiopia; Myeni, Samukelisiwe, Wentink and Gideon J. (2021)<sup>83</sup> in Eswatini; Roquia, Salam, et al. (2021)<sup>84</sup> in Bangladesh; Samuel Kiumbuku, Mary Baaru and Jane, Mutinda (2020)<sup>85</sup> in Kenya; Fapajuwo, O.E., Ogunnaike, M.G., Shittu, A.M., Kehinde, M.O., Oyawole, F.P (2019)<sup>86</sup> in Nigeria; and Ahmed, M.(2022) in Kenya.<sup>87</sup>

<sup>79</sup> Based on case study presented by the Gender and Social Safeguards Coordinator, National Agricultural Research Organization. Further information on the study can be found at Akongo, T, Chonde, C. 2020. Gendered Adaptation and Coping Mechanisms to Climate Variability in Eastern Uganda Rice Farming Systems. In: Singh, B., Safalao, A., Amuri, N., Eik, L., Sitaula, B. and Lal, R. (eds). Climate Impacts on Agricultural and Natural Resource Sustainability in Africa. Springer, Cham. Available at: [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-37537-9\\_4](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-37537-9_4)

<sup>80</sup> Basanta, S.2019. Coping with droughts: Gender Matters. Available at: <https://www.indiawaterportal.org/articles/copings-dro>

<sup>81</sup> CARE. 2021. Rapid Gender Analysis, Drought in Afghanistan: Balkh, Ghazni, Herat, and Kandahar Provinces. Available at: <https://reliefweb.int/report/afghanistan/rapid-gender-analysis-drought-afghanistan-balkh-ghazni-herat-and-kandahar-0>

<sup>82</sup> Carmi, D. 2016.The gender dimension of drought in Fidis Woreda district, Ethiopia. Working paper 2016-8. United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD). Geneva.

<sup>83</sup> Myeni, S., Wentink, J. 2021. A gendered approach to drought-coping mechanisms: A case of the Lubombo region, Eswatini. The Journal of Transdisciplinary Research in Southern Africa. Vol 17, No.1.

<sup>84</sup> Salam, R., Ghose,B., Shill, K.S., Islam, A., Reza, A., Islam, T., Sattar, A., Alam, G. M., and Ahmed, B. 2021.Perceived and actual risks of drought: household and expert views from the lower Teesta River Basin of northern Bangladesh. Natural Hazards (2021) 108:2569–2587.

<sup>85</sup> Kiumbuku, S., Baaru, M., and Mutinda, J. 2020. Gender Analysis of Smallholder Farmers' Adaptive Capacity to Drought in Semi-arid Kenya. Gender and Women Studies. 2020, 3(1):5.

<sup>86</sup> Fapajuwo, O.E., Ogunnaike, M.G., Shittu, A.M., Kehinde, M.O., and Oyawole, F.P . 2019. Effect of Women Empowerment on Household Food Security among Cereal Farmers in Nigeria. African Journal of Gender and Development. 6(1&2).

<sup>87</sup> Ahmed, M. 2022. Cyclical Droughts in Northern Kenya Takes a Toll on Women and Girls. Elephant. Available at: <https://www.theelephant.info/features/2021/12/17/cyclical-drought-in-northern-kenya-takes-toll-on-women-and-girls/?print=pdf>

Ch.II

A

B

## IN SEARCH OF THE LOST "GENDER" IN DROUGHTS

### EXAMPLE Pastoral communities, livestock and food security

Livestock are becoming increasingly weak, contracting diseases and dying at alarming rates, with catastrophic consequences for pastoral communities. Significant livestock deaths are reported in drought-affected areas of Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya, mostly affecting sheep and cattle. Livestock losses have serious impact on livelihoods; even if half of a herd survives, it will take a minimum of two to four years for pastoralist and agro-pastoralist households to recover. As a result, household production of milk and meat is low, and the price of milk and other dairy products has skyrocketed. This means protein-rich food is increasingly out of reach for vulnerable pastoralists.

Food consumption patterns are deteriorating, with many households in cross-border areas reporting that they are skipping meals and eating less when they do eat. In Turkana, 42% of households skipped the entire day without eating. Research shows the close link between forage condition and child malnutrition, and highlights the importance of early livelihood interventions, such as livestock offtake and animal feed provision, to reduce malnutrition.

Source: UNICEF. 2017. Horn of Africa. A call for Action.

Some conclusions from these studies highlight the differentiated impacts of droughts:

#### WOMEN'S WORK BURDEN INCREASED

Drought-induced crop and income losses force many women to take up less productive and low-paying activities such as subsistence farming, foraging for forest crops, undertaking seasonal work and participating in public employment programs.

Women took on a more significant share of the work burden by working extended periods, undertaking more tasks, and engaging children in economic activities. Often it is the girl child who helps the mother with her household tasks, leading to her absence from school and outdoor activities (see Table No. 1).

In pastoralist communities, fetching weak livestock also falls mainly on women. For example, in Kenya, they must go back and forth, ferrying the weakened livestock on donkey carts, and must find the means to feed them. Without pasture, the same grain that feeds their families is also used for the animals, further straining the household budget. To cope, the women skip meals, making do with one meal a day or sometimes none at all.<sup>88</sup>

Women manage the responsibility of looking after the household members such as the elderly and children and coping with food shortages. Women from poor and landless households faced maximum food insecurity and tried to cope with it by exploring various means to access food, like collecting it from forests, rivers, and bodies of water (depending on seasonality, availability and access).

#### CHANGES IN DIET PATTERNS AND QUANTITY OF FOOD

When the available food was inadequate, many poor households tried to temporarily reduce the number of people who needed to be fed. This was done by sending some family members away for a time, sending children to neighbors' houses that had food, or abandoning family members.

Landless and impoverished farming households also resorted to extreme means such as reducing the number of meals per day, favoring some household members over others, and skipping meals to cope with the unavailability of food. As discussed in the previous chapter of this document, the women compromised the most when it came to intra-family food distribution in times of crisis, and they coped by eating less or adjusting portions of food.

Ch.II

A

B

<sup>88</sup> Ahmed, M. 2022. Cyclical Droughts in Northern Kenya Takes a Toll on Women and Girls. Elephant. Available at: <https://www.theelephant.info/features/2021/12/17/cyclical-drought-in-northern-kenya-takes-toll-on-women-and-girls/?print=pdf>

## IN SEARCH OF THE LOST "GENDER" IN DROUGHTS

Due to the insufficiency of food consumed, women are highly prone to health issues. Inadequate food consumption leads to stomach aches, vomiting, weakness, diarrhea and malnutrition. Food scarcity also exacerbates the challenges women experience during pregnancy. The prevalence of miscarriages and complications during childbirth – and in the worst cases, maternal and child death – are higher in times of drought due to undernourishment. Recovery after childbirth also takes longer in food-scarce conditions.

Children are also disproportionately affected by droughts. For example, analysis conducted in Kenya under the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification ([IPC-AMN](#)) for August to November 2021 indicates an estimated 652,960 children aged 6-59 months and 96,480 pregnant and lactating women required treatment of acute malnutrition.

### WOMEN'S EXCLUSION FROM DECISION-MAKING SPACES EXTENDS TO HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Men are consulted more often than women by humanitarian organizations. For example, in Afghanistan, while 70% of men reported being consulted about their needs, only 30% of women had been consulted.<sup>89</sup>

### EARLY WARNINGS, IN MANY CASES, DO NOT REACH WOMEN

Women have less access than men to weather and climate forecasts, mainly because the means and ways of transmitting the information are not appropriate for women (i.e., language barriers, written documents, workshops outside the community, timing of the meetings). Women's lack of participation and involvement negatively impacts their access to information and hence their role and ability to effectively prepare for droughts.

### SCHOOL DROPOUTS

When drought affects a household, oftentimes children drop out of school because of the many tasks that the families have to carry out, as well as the lack of food. Although both girls and boys drop out, the dropout rates and the reasons for and duration of the absence from schooling appear to be different between boys and girls, with girls less likely ever return to their schooling.

Ch.II

A  
B

The data and trends cited above clearly demonstrate that the key drivers of women's higher drought risk are the pre-existing gender inequalities, which are socially constructed and embodied in the gendered division of labor, unequal allocation of resources, care work and gender discriminatory practices.

<sup>89</sup> CARE. 2021. Rapid Gender Analysis, Drought in Afghanistan: Balkh, Ghazni, Herat, and Kandahar Provinces. Available at: <https://reliefweb.int/report/afghanistan/rapid-gender-analysis-drought-afghanistan-balkh-ghazni-herat-and-kandahar-0>

## IN SEARCH OF THE LOST "GENDER" IN DROUGHTS

**It is worthwhile acknowledging a relatively new topic to the links between gender-differentiated impacts of droughts: the psychological burden on women.**

**Two NDP mentions this phenomenon:**

Consequently, the need to acknowledge and address the root causes of vulnerability is highly influenced by, and differentiated, according to gendered roles. Furthermore, the findings of these studies also reveal that women are more vulnerable than men along two dimensions: they are more susceptible to the impacts of drought and have less capacity to reduce drought risks and cope positively with them.

**Central African Republic.** In Central African customs, women have a moral obligation – “the duty of the mother” – to feed their children and husbands. This weight of tradition compels them to make efforts whatever the situation so that their husbands and children eat. Urban women will struggle to readjust the family budget (money for the market) to make ends meet, whereas those in rural areas must travel kilometers to find food. Drought is a time of reflection, of imagination for women to provide a meal for the family. With thought and imagination comes physical pain. For example, the water chore generally in charge of women and girls becomes difficult during drought. Just like the preparation of cassava chips, the basis of the meal in the Central African Republic, where the compactness of the soil in times of drought makes it difficult to dig up the tubers and the absence of water for their retting. Drought for women is also a period of water-related pathologies. Again, it is women who have to bring a sick child to the hospital.

**Venezuela.** Another dimension to highlight is the impacts of the drought in the emotional or subjective spheres. Frustration, loss of joy, strength to face other challenges in life, or anger are experiences that are linked to the drought and women. Thus, droughts also touch this dimension of women very closely because they live not only the lack of water from their own needs, but often also from the needs of the people under their responsibility or care: a girl who cannot go to school or a relative who bedridden cannot be adequately groomed.

**TABLE NO.1 | Intra-household effects of droughts by sex in Odisha, India**

LEVEL OF CHANGES	REDUCTION IN FOOD CONSUMPTION				INCREASE IN WORKING PERIOD				REDUCTION IN HEALTH EXPENDITURE				REDUCTION IN EDUCATION EXPENDITURE	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
	CHILD				CHILD				CHILD				CHILD	
<b>ALL</b>	67	34	25	17	85	73	42	43	83	81	56	48	61	50
<b>MARGINAL &lt; 10%</b>	11	25	18	12	19	16	27	31	45	48	40	36	36	33
<b>AVERAGE 10%-25%</b>	10	9	5	5	18	21	6	1	16	19	7	6	7	6
<b>HIGH 26%-50%</b>	25	0	2	0	16	12	1	3	7	4	0	0	0	1
<b>VERY HIGH &gt; 50%</b>	21	0	0	0	36	24	7	7	15	10	9	6	18	10
<b>NO CHANGE</b>	33	66	75	83	15	22	58	57	16	18	43	52	39	49
<b>TRIBAL</b>	71	47	35	15	88	65								
<b>NON-TRIBAL</b>	59	27	12	5	81	76								

MALE=M, F=FEMALE

Source: Basanta, Sahu.2018. Household Drought Coping, Food Insecurity and Women in Odisha Review of Women Studies. Economic & Political. April 28, 2018, vol LIII no. 17.

Ch.II

A

B

## IN SEARCH OF THE LOST "GENDER" IN DROUGHTS

In 2007, the London School of Economics (Neumayer & Plümper, 2007)<sup>90</sup> conducted the most extensive analysis ever done on the effects of natural disasters across 141 countries. They concluded that although disasters create hardships for everyone, on average, they kill more women than men, or kill women at a younger age than men. In this respect, they also found that natural disasters lower the life expectancy in women more so than in men. Since the life expectancy of women is generally higher than that of men, natural disasters narrow the gender gap in life expectancy in most countries. The research also confirmed that the effect on the gender gap in life expectancy is proportional to the severity of disasters – that is, major calamities lead to more severe impacts on women's life expectancy than that of men.

Additionally, the research verified that the effect of the gender gap in life expectancy varied inversely with women's socio-economic status. This highlights women socially constructed and gender-specific vulnerability to natural disasters, which is integral to everyday socio-economic patterns and leads to relatively higher disaster-related mortality rates in women compared with men. The effect is most substantial in countries where women have very low social, economic and political status. In countries where women have comparable status to men, natural disasters affect men and women almost equally. The same analysis highlighted those physical differences between men and women are unlikely to explain these differences.

In 2009, IUCN – in alliance with the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)<sup>91</sup> – developed a guidance document to support mainstreaming of gender considerations in disaster risk reduction. Accordingly, drought preparedness and response plans should consider gender-differentiated vulnerabilities and capacities. A gender-sensitive risk assessment can be conducted when planning and carrying out the main stages of risk assessment, namely: identify the nature, location, intensity and probability of drought; determine the existence and degree of vulnerability and exposure to risk; identify the capacities and resources available to deal with or manage droughts; and determine acceptable risk levels (Text Box No. 3).

Ch.II

A

B

<sup>90</sup> Neumayer, E. and Plümper, T. 2007. The Gendered Nature of Natural Disasters: The Impact of Catastrophic Events on the Gender Gap in Life Expectancy, 1981–2002, *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 97:3, 551–566, DOI: 10.1111/j.1467-8306.2007.00563.x.

<sup>91</sup> IUCN, UNISDR and PNUD. 2009. *Making Disaster Risk Reduction Gender-Sensitive Policy and Practical Guidelines*. UNISDR, UNDP and IUCN. Geneva, Switzerland.

**TEXT BOX NO. 3 Steps to conduct a gender-sensitive risk assessment**

<b>Step 1 Identify the risks</b>	<b>Step 2 Determine the vulnerabilities</b>	<b>Step 3 Identify the capacities</b>	<b>Step 4 Determine acceptable risk levels</b>
Identify and implement strategies that are socially and culturally sensitive to the context, in order to actively engage women and men in the identification of local risks	Ensure the active engagement of men and women in the vulnerability analysis, by involving men's and women's organizations, and by establishing timetables that allow their participation	Recognize and evaluate the traditional knowledge of women and men	Involve women and men in drawing up hazard and risk maps
Identify and involve available community organizations that can ensure the participation of men and women	Carry out a gender analysis to identify inequalities between men and women	Ensure that the capacities of all women's groups, organizations or institutions are assessed together with those of men	Collect and analyze data differentiated by sex to assess acceptable levels of risk
Determine the risks faced by men and women separately, in each region or community	Map and document vulnerabilities differentiated by sex (physical, social, economic, cultural, political and environmental)	Identify the specific functions, roles and responsibilities of women and men and integrate them into the analysis	Ensure that the hazard maps include the impacts of the risks according to gender
Include traditional knowledge and perception of women in the analysis and assessment of the characteristics of the main risks	Ensure the inclusion of gender aspects as well as age, disability, access to information, mobility and access to income and other resources which are key determinants of vulnerability	Identify the gender-specific support mechanisms needed for women to get involved in risk management programs and actions (e.g., mobility and childcare issues)	Ensure that hazard maps consider gender-differentiated vulnerability and capacity
Involve women and men equally in the process of reviewing and updating risk data annually, and include information on any new or emerging risks	Carry out a historical analysis of damage caused by disasters, disaggregated by sex, in order to identify vulnerability and capacities	Identify mechanisms to strengthen the existing capacities of men and women, and ensure that capacity building programs include measures allowing the participation of women	
	Identify and include the needs, concerns and knowledge of women in community vulnerability assessments carried out for all relevant natural hazards	Recognize the equal importance of the capacities and authority of women and men empowered to conduct risk assessment programs or train other members of the community	
		Actively engage women's organizations to contribute to capacity building	
		Identify female role models to advocate for a risk assessment considering the gender dimension	

Ch.II

A

B

Source: IUCN, UNISDR and UNDP. 2009. Making Disaster Risk Reduction Gender-Sensitive Policy and Practical Guidelines. UNISDR, UNDP and IUCN. Geneva, Switzerland.

## IN SEARCH OF THE LOST "GENDER" IN DROUGHTS

### A. DROUGHT MITIGATION MEASURES, STRATEGIES AND COPING MECHANISMS

## A. DROUGHT MITIGATION MEASURES, STRATEGIES AND COPING MECHANISMS

Just as the impacts of drought vary, so do the drought mitigation measures, strategies and coping mechanisms used by natural resource-dependent men and women in times of drought. This can range from structural/physical measures (e.g., appropriate crops, dams, irrigation and engineering projects) or non-structural measures (e.g., policies, awareness, knowledge development, public commitment and operating practices). As stated by Quandt (2021)<sup>92</sup> there are also "erosive" coping mechanisms. Erosive coping refers to a livelihood activity that in the long term is unsustainable and can have negative impacts on both people and the environment (i.e., charcoal burning, breaking into national parks). Some of the desperate or erosive coping strategies also have differentiated impacts on men and women. For example:

**Child brides of the drought.** According to studies conducted by CARE,<sup>93</sup> UNICEF<sup>94</sup> and mentions in the NDPs (i.e., Afghanistan Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock and FAO, 2019)<sup>95</sup> families have used child marriage as a coping mechanism to raise income (through payment of a bride price) or reduce the number of dependents per household. Early forced child marriage puts girls at risk of lifelong, physical, mental, and economic danger, including sex and pregnancy complications and higher birth and maternal mortality rates. They also frequently drop out of school earlier than unmarried peers and lose out on educational and economic opportunities. A recent study from the World Bank and the International Centre for Research on Women (ICRW)<sup>96</sup> concludes that child marriage will cost developing countries trillions of dollars in the next decade, seriously hampering global efforts to eradicate poverty.

Ch.II

A

B

92 Quandt, A. 2021. Coping with drought: Narratives from smallholder farmers in semi-arid Kenya. International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction 57 (2021) 102168.

93 CARE. n.d. Hope dries up? Women and Girls coping with Drought and Climate Change in Mozambique. Care International. Mozambique.

94 UNICEF. 2017. Horn of Africa. A call for Action. Available at: [https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/HOA\\_CALL\\_FOR\\_ACTION\\_Leaflet\\_Feb2017\\_1.pdf](https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/HOA_CALL_FOR_ACTION_Leaflet_Feb2017_1.pdf)

95 Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock and FAO. 2019. Afghanistan Drought Risk Management Strategy. Report to UNCCD.

96 World Bank and the International Centre for Research on Women (ICRW). 2015. Girls Not Brides. World Bank. Washington D.C.U.S.A.

## Ending child marriage

Ending child marriage would cut population growth and boost girls' educational achievements and earning ability, boosting national prosperity:

- Some 15 million girls a year are married before the age of 18 – one girl every two seconds.
- Niger has the highest rate of child marriage with nearly 77% of girls wed before 18, followed by Chad with over 68%, and Mali and Bangladesh with over 59%.
- Although rates of child marriage have fallen, the total number of child brides continues to increase due to population growth.

## Impact on population growth

- Women who marry early tend to have more children. Ending child marriage would reduce the fertility rate by 12% in Nigeria, 15% in Ethiopia and Niger and 18% in Bangladesh, having significant implications for population growth.
- Niger's population would fall by around 5% by 2030 if child marriage ended immediately, having a positive effect on national budgets and welfare.
- Lower population growth would increase GDP. If child marriage had ended in 2015, the estimated annual global benefit would be \$566 billion by 2030.
- The benefit would be almost \$1 billion in Nepal, \$1.7 billion in Niger and \$4.8 billion in Ethiopia.

## Child mortality and development

- Children born to child brides are more at risk of death or poor development due to lack of good nutrition.
- Three in 100 deaths among under-fives are attributable to the young age of the mother. One in 100 stunted children are stunted because of early childbirths.
- The global annual benefit from ending under-five mortality and stunting would be \$98 billion by 2030.

## Education

- Child brides are much more likely to drop out of school, affecting their future ability to earn money.
- Child marriage reduces women's earnings by 9%. In Nigeria this is equivalent to \$7.6 billion annually in lost earnings and productivity.
- Ending child marriage could increase national earnings by an average of 1 percent.
- Reducing populations would also produce big savings in national education budgets. Eliminating child marriage would save countries 5% or more of their education budget by 2030.

Ch.II

A

B

Source: World Bank and the International Centre for Research on Women (ICRW). 2015. Girls Not Brides. World Bank. Washington D.C.

## IN SEARCH OF THE LOST "GENDER" IN DROUGHTS

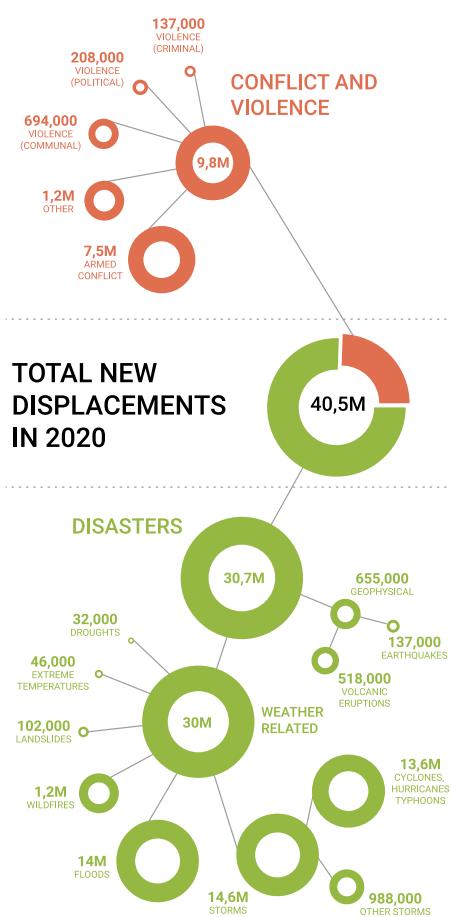
### A. DROUGHT MITIGATION MEASURES, STRATEGIES AND COPING MECHANISMS

**Migration.** Human mobility linked to environmental factors is a reality. According to the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) 2021 Global Report,<sup>97</sup> conflict and disasters triggered 40.5 million new displacements across 149 countries. It is the highest number ever recorded. 30.7 million were associated with disasters, out of which 30 million are weather-related, with 32,000 related to drought, 26,000 to extreme weather, 102,000 land-slides and 1.2 million to wildfires, and 1.4 million to floods (Figure No. 2).

Some women cross international borders to find protection and assistance, usually in neighboring countries or within their region. As stated by World Health Organization (WHO), while some instances are well documented, the overall number of cross-border disaster-displaced persons is unknown. The same is true for persons displaced within their countries or across borders in the context of slow-onset environmental degradation such as drought. The lack of agreed criteria to distinguish displacement from (predominantly) voluntary migration makes the identification of such persons difficult. Furthermore, as recognized in the 2019 OECD global report,<sup>98</sup> migrants are habitually portrayed as a homogeneous group and with little attention paid to the particular needs of women and girls' migrants. While all migrants are vulnerable to discrimination, especially refugees, women and girls are disproportionately at risk. This discrimination is often compounded by other causes of vulnerability, such as ethnicity, language barriers, or poverty level.

**FIGURE NO. 2**

### New displacements in 2020: breakdown for conflict and disaster



Source: Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC). 2021. Global Report: Internal displacement in a changing climate. Available at: [https://www.internal-displacement.org/sites/default/files/publications/documents/grid2021\\_idmc.pdf](https://www.internal-displacement.org/sites/default/files/publications/documents/grid2021_idmc.pdf)



Based on this reality, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) has created a new category of environmental migrants. These are persons or groups of persons who, for compelling reasons of sudden or progressive changes in the environment that adversely affect their lives or living conditions, are obliged to leave their habitual homes or choose to do so, either temporarily or permanently, and who move either within their country or abroad.<sup>99</sup> In this respect, 33 (68.75%)<sup>100</sup> out of 48 of the NDPs from Parties to the Convention recognize drought as one of the main drivers of migration and displacement of rural people to more favorable agricultural regions, cities or to other countries.

<sup>97</sup> Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC). 2021. Global Report: Internal displacement in a changing climate. Available at: [https://www.internaldisplacement.org/sites/default/files/publications/documents/grid2021\\_idmc.pdf](https://www.internaldisplacement.org/sites/default/files/publications/documents/grid2021_idmc.pdf)

<sup>98</sup> OECD. 2019. SIGI 2019 Global Report: Transforming Challenges into Opportunities. Social Institutions and Gender Index. OECD Publishing. Paris. Available at: [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/bc56d212-en/1/17/index.html?itemId=/content/publication/bc56d212-en&csp\\_3c7e048c80fc5e8e6616e1289a989dd3&itemIGO=oecd&itemContentType=book](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/bc56d212-en/1/17/index.html?itemId=/content/publication/bc56d212-en&csp_3c7e048c80fc5e8e6616e1289a989dd3&itemIGO=oecd&itemContentType=book)

<sup>99</sup> Kälin, W. and S. Weerasinghe. 2017. Environmental Migrants and Global Governance: Facts, Policies and Practices', in McAuliffe, M. and M. Klein Solomon (Conveners) (2017) Ideas to Inform International Cooperation on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. IOM: Geneva.

<sup>100</sup> Algeria, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Eswatini, Gambia, Ghana, Guyana, Honduras, Liberia, Mali, Moldova, Montenegro, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Ukraine, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

## IN SEARCH OF THE LOST "GENDER" IN DROUGHTS

### A. DROUGHT MITIGATION MEASURES, STRATEGIES AND COPING MECHANISMS

#### INDIA<sup>1</sup>

From 2014-2019, the Adaptation at Scale in Semi-arid regions project (ASSAR) conducted a study related to rural-urban migration in South India. Increasing rainfall variability and land degradation made rainfed agriculture more difficult in the region, leading to large-scale outmigration, often of young men. This changed household structures significantly and increased women's and men's work burdens. The project recorded how socio-economic and ecological changes (e.g., erosion of community-managed water and grazeland resources) had negatively impacted rural livelihoods, forcing people to migrate to cities, increasing their risk, stretching households over rural and urban areas, and causing a breakdown of conventional social networks and safety nets. Overall, this trend led to women and men entering precarious jobs in cities and exposed them to new risks of extra work, unsafe work and new risks (such as flooding in cities vs. water scarcity in villages).

Source: Dr. Chandni Singh, Senior Researcher, School of Environment and Sustainability, Indian Institute for Human Settlements, <https://chandnisinh.info>.

1 Based on the case study presented to the UNCCD call.

When migration occurs, as a result of drought, women are exposed to two different scenarios, each with its respective repercussions.

One group is made up of women who remain at the head of the household because men migrate. These women must face the drought from pre-existing inequalities, such as the non-recognition of women as farmers, lack of land ownership, and relatively less power and voice as compared to men.

The other group is those that migrate. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) points out<sup>101</sup> that all migrants are vulnerable to abuse and exploitation, but female migrants are particularly at risk, in particular of sexual exploitation, trafficking and violence. Breakdown of protection systems means perpetrators can abuse with impunity. Lack of shelter, overcrowding in camps and poorly lit public toilets increase the risk of gender-based violence, including sexual violence. Moreover, when abuses occur, many migrant women and girls lack the resources, support systems, and knowledge to seek help.

Also, women do not stop getting pregnant when they are on the move. While traveling – or in the chaos of displacement – women may lose access to sexual and reproductive health care, including family planning, antenatal services and safe childbirth care. Lack of these services can be deadly. Childbirth is considered one of the leading causes of death, disease and disability among displaced women and girls of childbearing age.

#### Of the 33 NDPs that address migration, seven acknowledge the differentiated impacts of migration by gender:

**Bolivia.** Considering the feminization of agriculture in Bolivia, especially due to the temporary or total migration of men to perform non-agricultural work in urban areas, the focus, training and participation of women in internships and policies to reduce vulnerability to drought would be most helpful to achieve the objectives set.

**Cote d'Ivoire.** Drought has indirect repercussions on populations through migration and on natural resources. These consequences are perceived in different ways depending on gender. Vulnerable populations, generally women and children, are most affected by the adverse effects of drought.

**Mali.** Men and women, including other more vulnerable strata, are affected by these migration movements, which accentuate their poverty.

**Panama.** Sensitive issues such as migration, changes in work habits, or roles assumed by women in the face of the effects associated with climate change are not yet explicitly addressed at the national level due to the lack of national social policies or regulations.

Ch.II

A

B

101 <https://www.unfpa.org/news/five-reasons-migration-feminist-issue#:~:text=Significant%20numbers%20of%20female%20migrants%20are%20likely%20to,family%20planning%2C%20antenatal%20services%20and%20safe%20childbirth%20care>

---

## IN SEARCH OF THE LOST "GENDER" IN DROUGHTS

### A. DROUGHT MITIGATION MEASURES, STRATEGIES AND COPING MECHANISMS

---

**Paraguay.** Migration and an expanding poverty belt in the capital city, broken families where the woman must assume the man's role in provision while he searches the city for new ways of earning income.

---

**Somalia.** Increased school drop-out rates (due to migration).

---

**Sri Lanka.** Only 3% of those in leadership positions were women, while 97% were men. Women farmers were appointed as secretaries, treasurers and field representatives, and none of the women held the positions of president or water masters. This study indicated five main barriers that restricted woman's accessibility to irrigation water at the field level: non-recognition of women as farmers, lack of land ownership, neglect of specific gender needs in irrigation, migration of male relatives in the family, and woman having less power and voice than men.

**There is another series of drought mitigation measures, strategies and coping mechanisms that mobilize more than one of the SDGs (no poverty, zero hunger, gender equality, clean water, climate action, life on land, to mention some). Some examples of these are:**

**Young Agriculture Guides.** Campaign for Female Education launched a breakthrough initiative to train young women from poor, marginalized farming communities across sub-Saharan Africa with support from the Mastercard Foundation and EARTH University. Through this training, young women become Agriculture Guides – champions of sustainable agriculture. These young women have improved their smallholdings' productivity, sustainability and profitability, and encouraged the wide adoption of practical, affordable and locally relevant climate-smart techniques. This includes inter-cropping and drip irrigation using waste plastic bottles and technologies that value indigenous traditions. As a result of this initiative, young women are now leading effective, sustainable agriculture in rural Africa. Over 8,500 individuals – primarily women and youth – have been reached through demo farms, community meetings and mentoring. Agriculture Guides are continuing to reach young people in their communities to build their resilience to climate challenges.

Shamba Chef. This is an edutainment reality TV show that is focused on improving the cooking methods of Kenyans, as well as their family's nutrition. The program targets rural and peri-urban women as a primary audience, with men as an essential secondary target. The show is aired in Kiswahili and English on Citizen TV, a station with the highest penetration of TV watching in Kenya's rural areas. Audience numbers have peaked at 2 million, and the average audience is 1.5 million households per episode. An adaptation of the TV show is also aired on Citizen Radio.

Ch.II

A

B

---

**Aquaponics.** The all-female Pella Food Gardens Cooperative, located in the desert region of South Africa's Northern Cape Province, has been a key partner benefiting from INMED South Africa's Adaptive Agriculture Program (AAP). The cornerstone of INMED's AAP is aquaponics, an innovative, intensive and inexpensive solar-powered food production technique combining

## IN SEARCH OF THE LOST "GENDER" IN DROUGHTS

### A. DROUGHT MITIGATION MEASURES, STRATEGIES AND COPING MECHANISMS

aquaculture (fish farming) and hydroponics (soil-less crop production) in a closed system that dramatically conserves water in low-resource areas such as the Northern Cape, where small farmers struggle to feed their families amid extreme droughts. INMED's aquaponics system produces year-round harvests despite extreme climate-change events, using 90% less water than traditional farming. The aquaponics method is particularly suited to women's needs since it requires less time and physical labor to maintain compared to conventional agriculture. With aquaponic systems in place, women can spend less time on subsistence activities and therefore have more time for earning income, getting an education, caring for their families and participating in local leadership.

**Rainwater jars.** Many areas in the Rakai district of southern Uganda have brackish or dirty water not fit for human consumption. Women in the region either spend long hours fetching water, or must spend a significant portion of their income on the water for drinking, cooking and bathing. The Uganda Rainwater Association trained women affected by HIV and tuberculosis to construct rainwater catchment jars. The training, which included apprenticeship programs for orphans and other vulnerable youth, allowed for the establishment of small enterprises based on producing the [rainwater jars](#).

**Rural reality competition.** Bundelkhand in Central India has an erratic rainfall pattern with an increasing frequency of droughts that is posing a growing threat to the food, water and livelihood security in the region. Most villages suffer from acute water shortages. Development Alternatives launched a unique competition – [Kaun Banega Shubh Kal Leader](#) (Who will become a leader for a better tomorrow) – in 100 villages. It was India's first rural reality competition aimed at empowering rural women and youth. The competition focused on encouraging community members, especially women and youth, to adopt simple and practical measures for resource conservation and environmental regeneration in their villages. The five key activities promoted at scale included rainwater harvesting, agroforestry, kitchen gardens and organic farming techniques, such as worm composting and amrit mitti (organic manure). Out of the 25 top winners of this competition who became change agents, 12 were women. This helped build their capacities to take on leadership roles in their village decision-making processes and build their confidence and social status.

**Women's learning arena.**<sup>102</sup> The objective of this initiative is to identify and stimulate the role of women in sustainable community-based governance models for the management of natural resources that could be used in various social-ecological systems. The learning arena supports local women with scientific knowledge to empower them to make progress for the sustainable management of natural resources. The goals of the learning arena are to provide a space for participation and interaction between local women, researchers, communities and policymakers, and establish a network of women leading a partnership that integrates scientific and local knowledge

Ch.II

A

B

<sup>102</sup> [https://esdac.jrc.ec.europa.eu/Projects/EuFunded/Land\\_Soil\\_Desertification\\_Community\\_2013/Project\\_Presentations/COMET-LA%20PRESENTATION%20def.pdf](https://esdac.jrc.ec.europa.eu/Projects/EuFunded/Land_Soil_Desertification_Community_2013/Project_Presentations/COMET-LA%20PRESENTATION%20def.pdf)

## IN SEARCH OF THE LOST "GENDER" IN DROUGHTS

### A. DROUGHT MITIGATION MEASURES, STRATEGIES AND COPING MECHANISMS

in the management of natural resources. As a result, scientists can support managers by targeting their research on local communities' needs, with a special focus on women's needs and roles, and providing easily understandable and valuable information for decision-making, and creating sustainable community-based models that can be integrated into management of the environment. This learning arena opens up opportunities at the local level for women to take a role in community leadership. It also opens a space for women's voices in the management of natural resources. The confidence of the local women is boosted by the active and leading role that women researchers play in the international scientific arena. The knowledge sharing and understanding of sustainable possibilities empower local women and give them opportunities to lead their development and adaptation options. This learning arena contributes to generating improved interface mechanisms among science, decision-makers and society.

**Women-led irrigation system.** Bhungroo<sup>103</sup> is a women-led irrigation system that relies on rainwater harvesting and tackles the issues of water scarcity, gender inequality and poverty. A water management system injects and stores excess rainfall underground and lifts it out for use during dry spells. The massive underground reservoir can hold as much as 40 million liters of rainwater. It harvests water for about 10 days per year and can supply water for as long as seven months. Artificially recharging aquifers by adding rainwater to underground water reservoirs enables the communities to continue farming for more than half of the year. The non-saline rainwater, when mixed with the underground saline water, brings down the salinity of the groundwater, making it fit for agricultural use. Bhungroo has freed women from debt, given them land ownership, and enabled their participation in local governance as a result of their expertise and influence in agriculture and water management. The system provides food security and sustainable livelihoods to more than 18,000 impoverished farmers (with over 96,000 dependent family members), and is now a fully women-driven process, from selecting the farmers, installing the technology, to operation and maintenance of the system.

**Recovery of natural capital in the Dry Corridor.**<sup>104</sup> The "Dry Corridor" is an ecological region of Central America, which covers part of Guatemala, and is particularly vulnerable to increasingly irregular rains, with long periods of droughts and floods. The BID Lab project "Dry Corridor and Climate Adaptation of its Population" developed in the Copán Chortí community, aims to recover natural resources in the micro-watersheds to strengthen the resilience capacities of families, Chortí indigenous peoples, and local governments, improve production capacities of food to sustain them during times of drought and protect the upper parts of watersheds to ensure water production. The Climate Adaptation Model (MAC) trained families (mainly women) in the recovery, production, and use of native plants and animals

Ch.II

A

B

103 <https://unfccc.int/climate-action/momentum-for-change/women-for-results/bhungroo>

104 Based on the case study presented by IDB to the UNCCD call. <https://blogs.iadb.org/sostenibilidad/es/desarrollando-medios-de-vida-sostenibles-en-el-corredor-seco-de-guatemala>

---

## IN SEARCH OF THE LOST "GENDER" IN DROUGHTS

### A. DROUGHT MITIGATION MEASURES, STRATEGIES AND COPING MECHANISMS

that better adapt to local conditions – 17 native herb nurseries were created, 11 community seed banks were established, and support was provided in the recovery and reproduction of the Peluca hen that adapts to adverse climatic conditions such as droughts. At the end of the year, each family delivers the same number of animals to another family to have a multiplier effect. After the implementation of the MAC, 6,261 families from 130 villages (19,310 direct and indirect beneficiaries of which 97.6% are women) are generating annually about US\$ 3.2 million in income from the sale of meat, eggs, corn and beans produced using species native animals and plants that adapt to the climatic conditions of the region and by the income from forestry incentives for the recovery of some 5,000 hectares of forest. An evaluation identified that 36% of the girls had an increase of 27% in weight and 23% in height due to vegetable and animal protein consumption.

---

**Solar market garden.** In Benin, a six-month dry season makes it difficult for women farmers to grow food. However, thanks to an innovative project developed by the [Solar Electric Light Fund](#) (SELF), a nonprofit that designs and delivers creative solar solutions to fight energy poverty, year-round food production is now possible in Benin's remote villages. SELF's Solar Market Garden project combines solar-powered pumps with drip irrigation systems to provide a cost-effective and environmentally friendly way to pump water for irrigation from nearby rivers and underground aquifers. The Solar Market Garden system provides reliable, year-round production of high-value, nutritious produce, allowing girls and women to reallocate their time to educational and economic pursuits rather than having to haul water long distances. It also empowers them to become entrepreneurs and leaders in their communities. By embracing solar power and micro-irrigation technologies, these female leaders are trailblazing solutions for climate change mitigation and adaptation that can be replicated throughout the world, especially in sub-Saharan Africa.

---

**Women-led fog harvesting.** Villages in Ait Baamrane in southwest Morocco, on the edge of the Sahara Desert, have survived for centuries on rain and well-water. Unfortunately, today they can rely only sporadically on this groundwater because it is no longer replenished due to intense droughts. Droughts push men to migrate to urban centers in search of work, and women and children now make up most of the dwindling permanent residents in these villages. Dar Si Hmad, a women-led NGO in Morocco, designed and installed the world's largest operational [fogwater harvesting system](#). It is an innovative solution to persistent water stress where fog is abundant, a technique inspired by ancient water practices. The Dar Si Hmad project provides accessible potable water to more than 400 people in five villages, most of them women and children. The unique fog harvesting project is a successful model of a locally driven, participatory initiative, providing an environmentally friendly water source to combat the effects of desertification.

Ch.II

A

B

## IN SEARCH OF THE LOST "GENDER" IN DROUGHTS

### A. DROUGHT MITIGATION MEASURES, STRATEGIES AND COPING MECHANISMS

**Participatory integrated climate services for agriculture.**<sup>105</sup> The Caribbean Drought and Precipitation Monitoring Network was established in 2009 to improve the management of water resources and aid in planning and adaptation to drought and heavy precipitation. Most drought events in the Caribbean are associated with the El Niño phenomenon and are accompanied by impacts such as low water availability, higher than average temperatures, heat stress and bushfires.

The Dominica Meteorological Service (MET) prepares and disseminates information on climate, climate change and its impacts tailored to specific users' needs at no cost to the end user. Since 2012 it has provided climatic bulletins and guidance to the Ministry of Agriculture to inform its planning and decision making. The MET also provides historical charts on annual, monthly and seasonal rainfall totals, temperature averages, and recorded extreme rainfall events, and the length of the wet and dry seasons, including dry spells.

Before 2012, small-scale farmers in Dominica generally had limited access to relevant climate and weather information to help plan their agricultural practices. The UNDP, Japan-funded, government-supported *Strengthening Disaster Capacity of Women in the Cooperative Republic of Dominica and the Commonwealth of Dominica* (GUY-DOM) project was initiated to address this issue. The Department of Agriculture and the MET, through the GUY-DOM project, has been implementing an approach called Participatory Integrated Climate Services for Agriculture (PICSA), which communicates practical and useable climate information aimed at strengthening farmers' ability to deal with climate disasters in Dominica.

At the start of the wet and dry seasons, a National Climate Outlook Forum is held, briefing agricultural extension officers on expected climate conditions for six months. A farmer can plan ahead of the season with this, knowing when to plant crops requiring high rainfall, little rainfall and cool temperatures. By introducing the forecast, the MET office aids crop and livestock farmers in making proactive decisions to minimize loss and maximize returns.

Implicit in this approach is attention to preparing for, mitigating and adapting to disasters, including but not exclusive to drought. Thirty-two of the 326 farmer-beneficiaries (approx. 10%) of the GUY-DOM project have requested 200-gallon water tanks to mitigate drought; 18 are women (56%) and 14 men. Thirty agricultural extension staff have been trained and, in turn, trained 326 farmers, 61% of them women, in the PICSA approach. A sample of 63 (44 females and 19 males) of the 326 farmers were interviewed to ascertain the effect of the PICSA training. Farmers reported that the training helped them to better plan their agricultural calendar, adapt planting times, improve their record-keeping and increase their income.

Ch.II

A

B

<sup>105</sup> Based on the case study submitted by UNDP to the UNCCD call by the Japan-funded, government supported Strengthening Disaster Capacity of Women in the Cooperative Republic of Dominica and the Commonwealth of Dominica (GUY-DOM) Project.

## IN SEARCH OF THE LOST "GENDER" IN DROUGHTS

### A. DROUGHT MITIGATION MEASURES, STRATEGIES AND COPING MECHANISMS

**One Million Rural Cisterns.** The Brazilian semiarid region is one of the largest, most rainy and heavily populated semiarid regions in the world. In this context, the One Million Rural Cisterns (P1MC) initiative builds social technologies on a large scale to collect rainwater for human consumption and store it for periods of severe drought. P1MC work is based on building community technologies to provide water for consumption and food production, engaging families in exchanges of knowledge, systematizing experiences and innovations, raising awareness and prioritizing the key role of women in transforming the local situation. Women are key to this process, as they play an outsized role in the agro-ecosystem and are also in charge of production and reproduction activities. In an attempt to overcome women's historical invisibility and highlight their vital role in water management, the proposal of coexisting with the semiarid region prioritizes women as the primary beneficiaries of the technologies promoted. This contributes to structuring their production activities in agro-ecosystems, patios, family agriculture, animal husbandry, extractivism and biodiversity, since it is primarily women who create and test diverse resilience strategies in this region.

**Water as a source of empowerment for indigenous women.**<sup>106</sup> The Paraguayan Chaco is a flat, arid and dry territory with an average temperature ranging between 35 and 40 degrees Celsius. The climate crisis causes alternating cycles of droughts and floods, which affect the availability of safe water for consumption and production.

The Macharety Guaraní Women's Organization is located in Macharety, Boquerón Department, Mariscal Estigarribia district, Paraguayan Chaco. It is the first organization established by the indigenous women themselves, in which they propose the actions to be taken according to the analysis of their needs and make the decisions. The organization has been key to publicizing and reflecting on the problems of indigenous women and advancing women's rights, taking into account their historical invisibility. As part of the program, training workshops have been held for women in the organization and the community in general, seeking to empower women in defending their rights. These workshops focus on the right to water, environmental issues, water catchment systems, climate change, women's rights and human rights.

The construction of cisterns allowed women and their families to remedy the lack of fresh water in the area, given the prolonged droughts, and to realize their right to water. Previously they consumed water from "tajamares" (open reservoirs) that caused diseases. In addition, they had to walk several kilometers in search of water. Women's health is deeply affected by this burdensome task, and by the diseases contracted by drinking unsafe water, and its use during childbirth has caused severe health problems for the mother and newborns, even causing several deaths.

Ch.II

A

B

<sup>106</sup> Based on the case study submitted by Fondo de Mujeres del Sur, to the UNCCD call. [www.mujeresdelsur.org](http://www.mujeresdelsur.org)

## B.RECOMMENDATIONS

### Recommendations for Parties and civil society organizations

- National and local authorities to guarantee that drought preparedness,<sup>107</sup> drought response<sup>108</sup> and drought recovery<sup>109</sup> efforts, initiatives and policies are gender responsive.
- Support communities, and especially women, to identify and pursue adaptation strategies that positively respond to drought. Where possible, this support should include identifying women practicing optimal adaptation strategies who can then mentor other young women.
- Ensure that adaptation initiatives within short-term humanitarian programming focus more effectively on the specific needs and issues that women and girls face.
- Expand support to mitigate the uncertainties faced by women in relation to sudden and slow onset events, including droughts, land degradation and other disaster risks (i.e., gender-responsive carbon credit markets for rangelands).
- Establish flexible social protection, insurance and financing mechanisms to support economic and social displacement arising from drought (i.e., climate and disaster risk financing and insurance).
- Increase investment in labor-saving sustainable infrastructure systems as well as mechanization, for enhanced access to energy, water, and sanitation, and the improvements in service provision (notably social services, such as health, education, childcare, reliable and safe transportation and care for the elderly) to reduce women's and girls' unpaid care and domestic work and increase their resilience and recovery from environmental crises and disasters. Examples include:
  - Provide inputs adapted to climate change trends, such as seeds, fertilizers and pesticides
  - Build the technical capacities of women producers by providing access to new production technologies and agro-meteorological assistance
  - Establish and restore facilities providing water for domestic needs, livestock and to support market gardens as an income-generating activity
  - Promote water and soil conservation activities, and the diversification of agricultural production and food products

Ch.II

A

B

107 Established policies and specified plans and activities taken before drought to prepare people and enhance institutional and coping capacities, to forecast or warn of approaching dangers, and to ensure coordinated and effective response in a drought situation (contingency planning). <https://knowledge.unccd.int/unccd-terminology>

108 Drought response (such as the provision of assistance or intervention during or immediately after a drought disaster to meet the life preservation and basic subsistence needs of those people affected). <https://knowledge.unccd.int/unccd-terminology>

109 Drought recovery refers to the decisions and actions taken after a drought with a view to restoring or improving the pre-drought living conditions of the stricken community, while encouraging and facilitating necessary adjustments to reduce drought risk. <https://knowledge.unccd.int/unccd-terminology>

## IN SEARCH OF THE LOST "GENDER" IN DROUGHTS

### B.RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Recommendations for Parties, observer organizations, civil society organizations and Secretariat

- Seek the commitment of states to review existing domestic laws, bilateral and multilateral agreements, and regional migration arrangements, and consider new laws and agreements, to facilitate migration as an adaptation measure acknowledged under international human rights law and international labor law.<sup>110</sup>
- In drought risk management (DRM):<sup>111</sup>
- Ensure that data and information gathered for risk analysis and evaluation is sex disaggregated.
- Guarantee that gender considerations are an integral part of the development, implementation, and review of decisions to reduce, control, accept or redistribute drought risks.
- Enhance existing monitoring systems utilized by state and non-state actors to tangibly measure and document the impact of drought on vulnerable communities. Data should be consistently disaggregated by age, sex and disabilities (SADD).
- Recognize that temporary, circular, or permanent migration can be an important means for persons to adapt to drought and cope with disasters and, in order to expand the number and range of regular pathways for affected persons.
- Advise of the risks of increasing women's and girls' unpaid care and domestic work in drought mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity conservation, or disaster risk reduction programs and initiatives; solutions must reduce, not increase, women's and girls' unpaid care and domestic work.

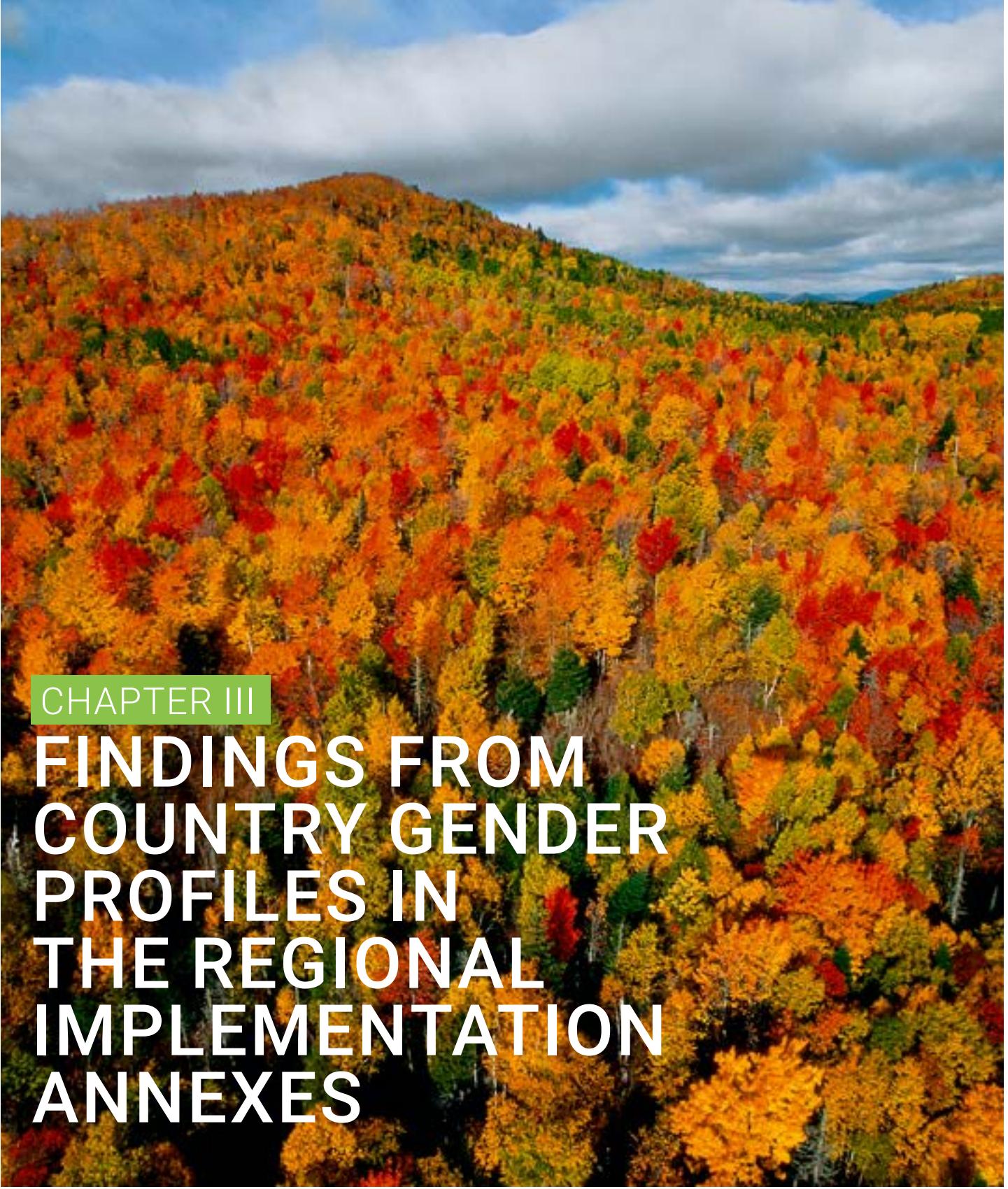
Ch.II

A

B

110 Based on IOM. 2017. [https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/environmental\\_migrants.pdf](https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/environmental_migrants.pdf)

111 DRM focuses on delivering a drought-resilient society by reducing drought risks and promoting environmental, societal and economic opportunities. <https://knowledge.unccd.int/unccd-terminology>



CHAPTER III

# FINDINGS FROM COUNTRY GENDER PROFILES IN THE REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION ANNEXES

Ch.III

A

B

## FINDINGS FROM COUNTRY GENDER PROFILES IN THE REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION ANNEXES

### A. FINDINGS

TABLE NO. 2

#### List of 55 countries by Regional Implementation Annex

ANNEX I – AFRICA   19 COUNTRIES	
<b>Northern Africa</b>	Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia
<b>Western Africa</b>	Burkina Faso, Chad, Niger, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria
<b>Eastern Africa</b>	Ethiopia, Djibouti, Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda
<b>Southern Africa</b>	Angola, Madagascar, Namibia, South Africa, Zimbabwe

ANNEX II – ASIA   13 COUNTRIES	
<b>Asia</b>	Australia, Bhutan, China, India, Indonesia, Lao, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand
<b>Pacific</b>	Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Tuvalu

ANNEX III – LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN   12 COUNTRIES	
<b>Northern and Central America</b>	Costa Rica, Mexico, Panama
<b>South America</b>	Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Peru
<b>Caribbean</b>	Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana

ANNEX IV – NORTHERN MEDITERRANEAN   5 COUNTRIES	
	Albania, Italy, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey

ANNEX V – EASTERN AND CENTRAL EUROPE   6 COUNTRIES	
<b>Eastern Europe</b>	Armenia, Belarus, Ukraine
<b>Central Europe</b>	Montenegro, Russian Federation, Serbia

Source: <https://www.unccd.int/convention/regions>

The analysis of the 55 gender country profiles was conducted according to the five Regional Implementation Annexes determined by the Parties to the UNCCD: Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Northern Mediterranean, Central and Eastern Europe (see Table No. 2).

#### The countries were chosen following a purposive sampling process based on a pre-determined set of criteria. Those criteria are:

- Existence of reports on the implementation of the UNCCD
- Existence of NDPs
- Establishment of LDN targets
- Diversity and geographical representation under the UNCCD Annexes
- Existence of data on gender inequalities, as per UNDP Gender Inequality Index <http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/gender-inequality-index-gii>
- High rating on European Global Drought Observatory
- High rating on SDG indicator 15.3.1 on proportion of degraded land
- Countries that have experienced recent extreme events relating to drought, land degradation and desertification
- Countries that are implementing large land restoration projects

The criteria were not cumulative. The purposive selection process helped ensuring that different profiles were gathered and analyzed.

## A. FINDINGS

The findings presented in this chapter are an advocacy tool that aims to facilitate the analysis of, and comparisons among, the information presented in previous chapters of this study for each of the 55 countries selected for the gender country profiles within the Regional Implementation Annex (the sources of information for each one of the indicators presented in the following analysis can be found in Annex I of the present study).

It is important to point out that this chapter does not include the analysis of category four (gender considerations within-country reports to the UNCCD and inclusion of land and desertification topics in CEDAW reports) since they are extensively analyzed under the chapter on assessment of gender equality within the Convention bodies and mechanisms for implementation.

One of the first findings uncovered by the country profiles exercise is the lack of official sex-disaggregated data, as well as environmental-related data, in various countries signatory to the Convention.

Ch.III

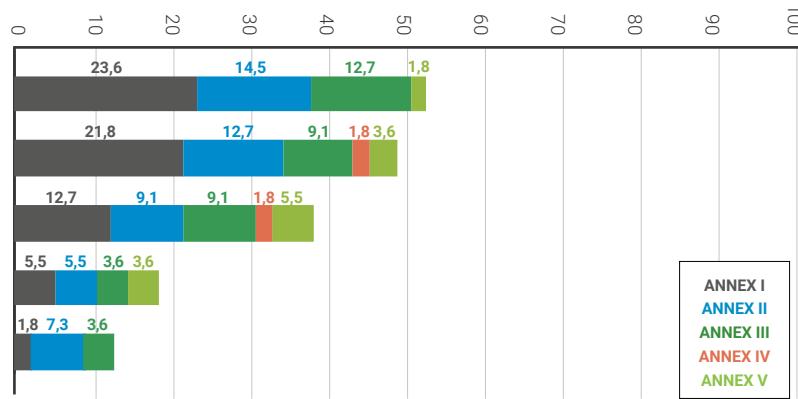
A

B

## FINDINGS FROM COUNTRY GENDER PROFILES IN THE REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION ANNEXES

### A. FINDINGS

- Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services
- Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services
- Access to land
- % of women in local government by sex
- Access to formal financial services



The two main variables with missing data are under the livelihoods category, and the third variable is access to land. Annex I has the highest percentages of unavailable data, followed by the countries in Annex II.

### Findings category 1: livelihoods

This category includes some socio-economic indicators that show the gendered dimensions of desertification, land degradation and drought (DLDD). Unfortunately, scant sex-disaggregated data is available for these issues. However, a longitudinal assessment of women's health as proxied by the prevalence of anemia among non-pregnant women has been included.

#### The four indicators in this category are:

1. Proportion of the population living above the national poverty line
2. Prevalence of anemia among non-pregnant women (aged 15-49 years)
3. Proportion of population using at least basic drinking water services
4. Proportion of population using at least basic sanitation services

#### The rationale for including these four indicators – all of them DLDD related – are:

- Proportion of the population living above the national poverty line though not sex-disaggregated provides an overview of the level of 'relative' poverty in a country.
- Prevalence of anemia among non-pregnant women reduces their work productivity and places them at risk for poor pregnancy outcomes, including increased risk of maternal mortality, perinatal mortality, premature births and low birth weight. Greater percentages of women with anemia are also an indication of inadequate nutrition for women. In scenarios where there is a reduction in food, for example, droughts and land degradation, women face these environmental challenges from that inequality.
- Water is a critical resource for women's empowerment. Water collection means an extra time burden for women and children, who have less time available for educational or income generating activities.
- Lack of sanitation facilities and poor hygiene cause water-borne diseases. Gender-based violence and women's health needs are particularly important when it comes to the location and availability of latrines, including in school environments. Women often face challenges in access to sanitation facilities when trying to access natural resources that are at a distance from their household.

Ch.III

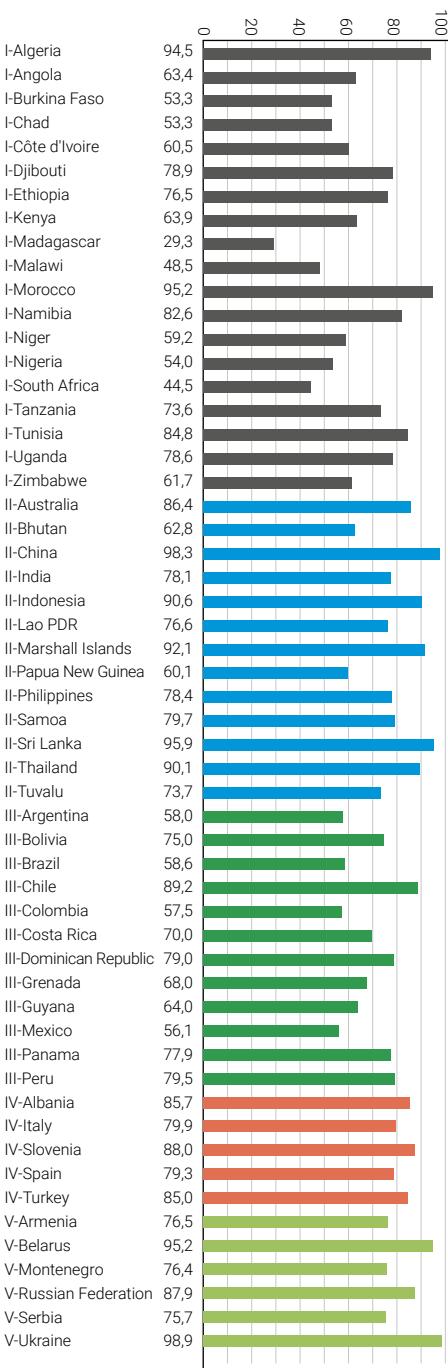
A

B

## FINDINGS FROM COUNTRY GENDER PROFILES IN THE REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION ANNEXES

### A. FINDINGS

**GRAPH NO. 2** Percentage of the population living above poverty line by country in sample



### Poverty

In relation to the proportion of the population living above the national poverty line, Graph No. 2 shows the percentage of the population living above poverty line by country in sample. Table No. 3 shows the trend measures for this indicator. At the sample level, the minimum value of all the countries is 29.3% of people above the poverty line, with that country (Madagascar) belonging to Annex I. The maximum value of the sample is Ukraine where 98.9% of people are above the poverty line, with that country belonging to Annex V. Based on the averages, Annex V and Annex IV are the highest, respectively, while Annex I has the lowest average.

**TABLE NO. 3** Trend measures on percentage of people above poverty line by Annex

Regional Implementation Annexes	T R E N D M E A S U R E S I N %			
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Median
Total	29,3	98,9	74,2	76,6
Annex I	29,3	95,2	66,1	63,4
Annex II	60,1	98,3	81,8	79,7
Annex III	56,1	89,2	69,4	69,0
Annex IV	79,3	88,0	83,6	85,0
Annex V	75,7	98,9	85,1	82,2

Regarding the median, it can be seen in the sample's total that 50% of the countries have 76.6% of the population or more above the poverty line. However, a better perspective for each Annex is better provided by the following graphic:

**GRAPH NO. 3** Trend measures on percentage of people above poverty line by Annex



Ch.III

A

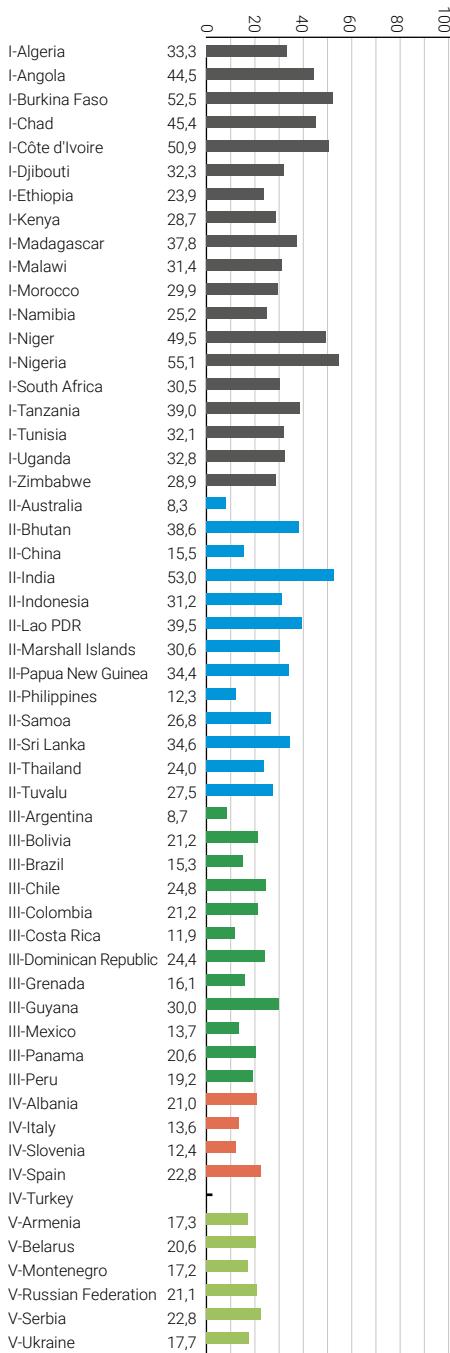
B

The graph above shows the variability with respect to the maximum and minimum percentage of each Annex and the median to determine the 50% in each country. Annex I present the greatest variability of people above the poverty line, unlike Annex IV, which presents the least variability and the highest percentage in the median in the Annexes. It is also highlighted in

## FINDINGS FROM COUNTRY GENDER PROFILES IN THE REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION ANNEXES

### A. FINDINGS

**GRAPH NO. 4** Percentage of women with anemia by country in sample



Annex IV that 50% of the countries have a percentage of 85% and 88% of people above the poverty line.

### Anemia

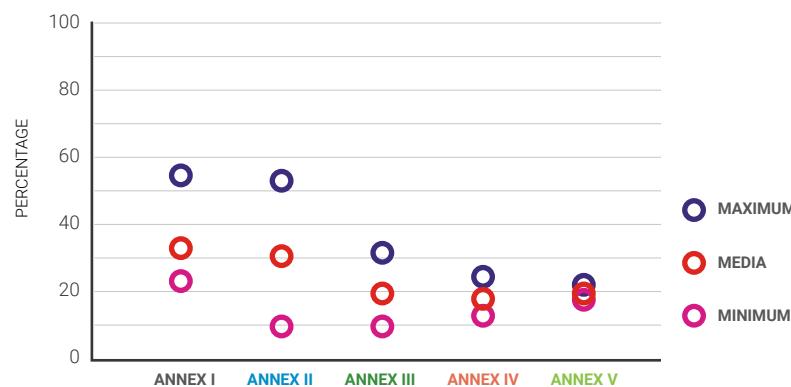
In relation to the percentage of women with anemia by country in the sample Graph No. 4 shows the distribution.

The percentages of women with anemia by country range between 8.3% (Australia) and 55.1% (Nigeria). It should be noted that Annex IV and Annex V have average percentages of anemia and maximum values of anemia. With respect to the median, Table No. 4 and Graph No. 5 provide additional information:

**TABLE NO. 4** Trend measures on percentage of people with anemia by Annex

Regional Implementation Annexes	T R E N D M E A S U R E S I N %			
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Median
Total	8,3	55,1	27,8	26,6
Annex I	23,9	55,1	37,0	32,8
Annex II	8,3	53,0	29,0	30,6
Annex III	8,7	31,7	19,2	19,9
Annex IV	13,4	24,8	18,4	17,7
Annex V	17,2	22,8	19,5	19,2

**GRAPH NO. 5** Trend measures on percentage of people with anemia by Annex



Graph No. 5 shows that in Annex I and Annex II there are countries with values above 50% of anemia. In addition, 50% of the countries with "less anemia" in Annex I have percentages between 23.9% and 32.8%. On the other hand, Annex II has the widest margin with values between 8.3% and 30.6% for the countries that have "less anemia" in that region. There is less variability in Annex V with values of 50% of countries between 19.2% and 22.8%. This is about one fifth of the population of the countries reviewed.

Ch.III

A

B

## FINDINGS FROM COUNTRY GENDER PROFILES IN THE REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION ANNEXES

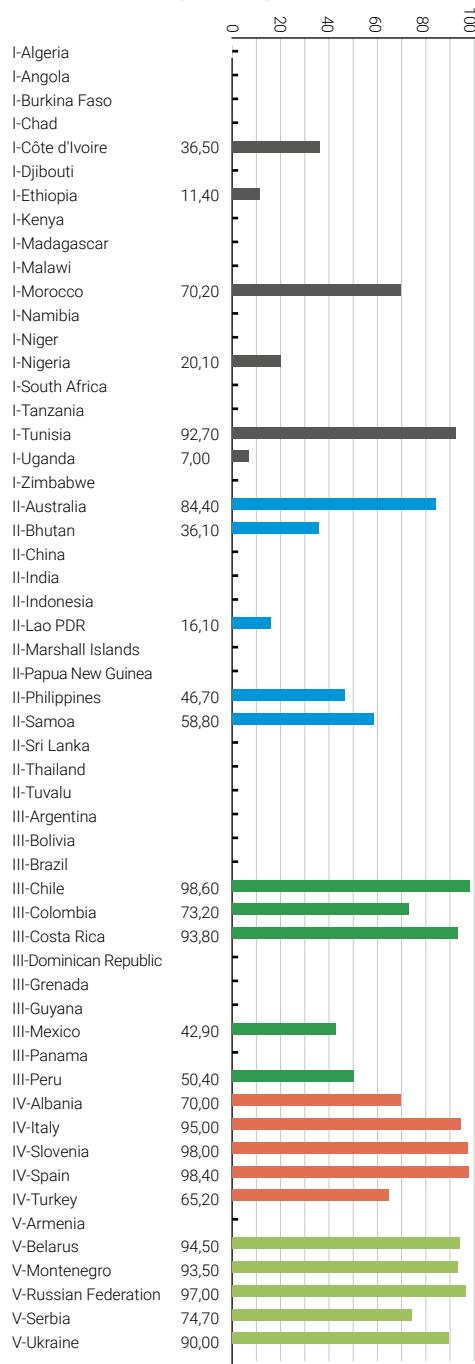
### A. FINDINGS

#### Water services and safely managed sanitation services

In terms of the variables about the percentage of the population using safely managed water services and percentage of the population using safely managed sanitation services by Regional Implementation Annex, this was not analyzed in detail due to the large amount of unavailable data (see below Graph No. 6 and 7). However, Annex X of the present study includes the information with the countries that officially reported data.

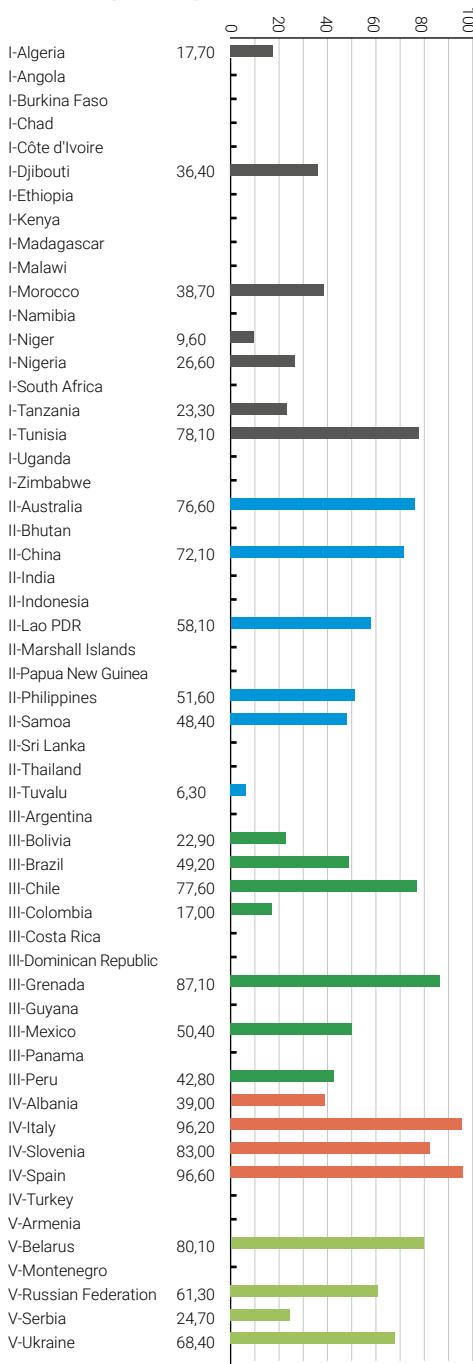
**GRAPH NO. 6**

**Percentage of population using safely managed drinking water services by country in sample**



**GRAPH NO. 7**

**Percentage of population using safely managed sanitation services by country in sample**



Ch.III

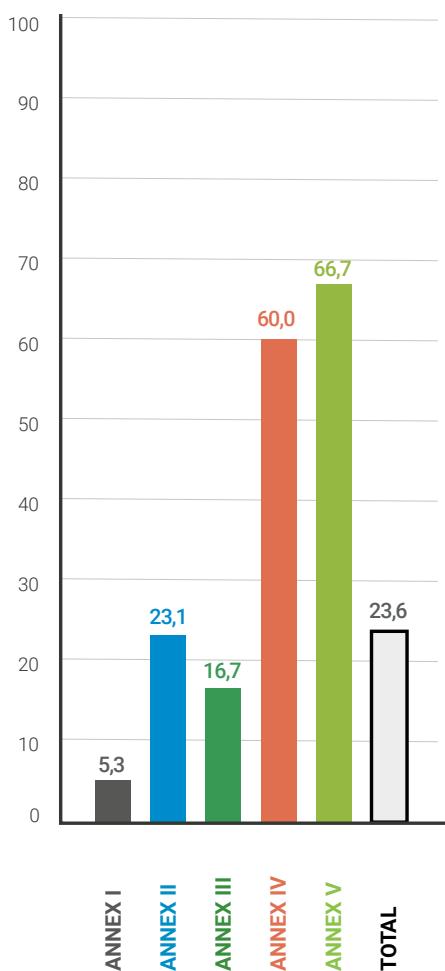
A

B

## FINDINGS FROM COUNTRY GENDER PROFILES IN THE REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION ANNEXES

### A. FINDINGS

#### GRAPH NO. 8 Percentage of countries without a Ministry/Office of Women's Affairs by country in sample



### Findings category 2: Gender-based rights and participation

The seven datasets under this category address a country's commitment to gender equality as well as the ability of women to engage in leadership, work and decision-making roles. These are:

1. Ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) ratification
2. Existence or absence of a Ministry/Office of Women's Affairs or equivalent (new dataset)
3. Employment to population ratio (% ages 15 and older) by sex
4. Employment in agriculture by sex
5. Percentage of seats in local government by sex
6. Percentage of women in the total number of representatives of the lower or single House of the Parliament
7. Percentage of women in the most recent UNCCD COP delegations

#### CEDAW

In relation to the first indicator related to the ratification of CEDAW, regardless of the Annex, 100% of countries have ratified the Convention. However, it is essential to point out, as stated by Kevane (2003),<sup>112</sup> that the "quality" of the ratification differs among countries, perhaps more so than any other human rights treaty. A significant number of countries, mainly from Annex I and II, have ratified the treaty subject to major reservations.

#### Women's machineries<sup>113</sup>

Regarding national women's machineries for the advancement of women, 23.6% of the countries do not have one. Three out of every four countries have a government agency, ministry, or office in charge of promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women. In Annex I, only 5.3% of the countries do not have this type of machinery, followed by Annex III, with 16.7% of the countries without this institutional arrangement. On the other hand, Annex V and Annex IV are the Annexes that most often lack a national women's machineries for the advancement of women, with 66.7% and 60% of the countries in each Annex, respectively (see Graph No. 8).

Ch.III

A

B

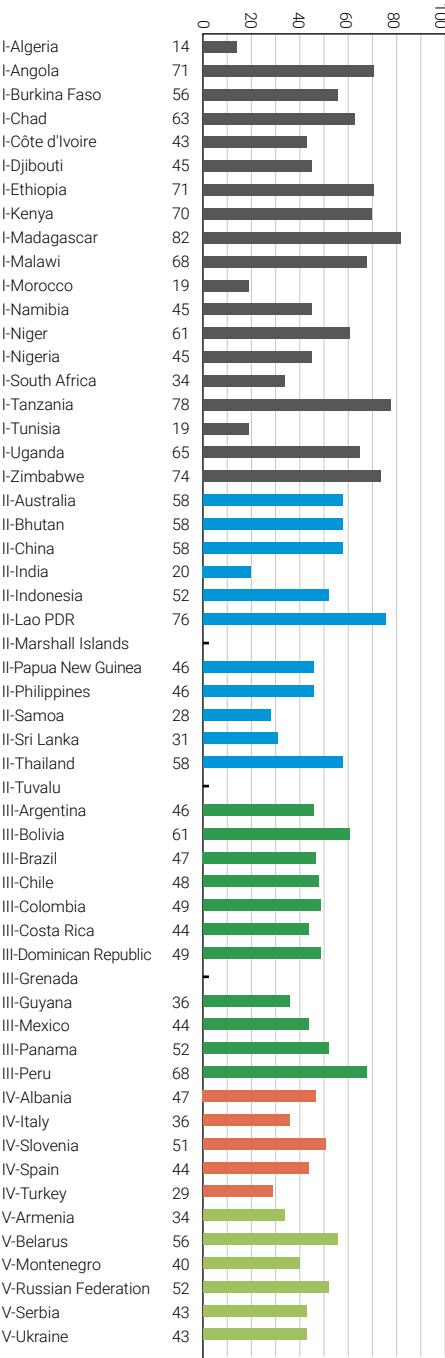
112 Kevane, M. 2003. Ratification of CEDAW. Department of Economics Santa Clara University Santa Clara.  
Available at: [https://eml.berkeley.edu/~webfac/bardhan/e271\\_sp03/mcvane.pdf](https://eml.berkeley.edu/~webfac/bardhan/e271_sp03/mcvane.pdf)

113 Government agency, ministry, or office in charge of promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women.

## FINDINGS FROM COUNTRY GENDER PROFILES IN THE REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION ANNEXES

### A. FINDINGS

**GRAPH NO 9 Percentage of employment to women ratio in ages 15 and older by country in sample**



Having a dedicated national women's machinery is essential to DLDD since they are the central coordinating units for women's affairs within national governments, promoting and ensuring the integration of gender equality measures across national policies and programs. They are vital partners in the process of developing national actions to achieve international agreements on women's rights, including the Beijing Platform for Action, CEDAW and SDG5 on achieving gender equality and empower all women and girls.

### Employment

Concerning the indicator on the percentage of employment to women ratio in ages 15 and older by Regional Implementation Annex and country (see Table No. 5 and Graph No. 9), Annex I has the country with the lowest and highest percentage of employability in this area, being 14% and 82% of the total number of women older than 15 years, respectively. However, in addition to the wide variability of percentages within the Annex, it should be noted that the median is 61%, which means that 50% of the countries in this Annex have employability percentages between 61% and 82% of women older than 15 years. Additionally, Annex II presents a maximum value and a median of 76% and 52%, which indicates that 50% of the countries that belong to this Annex have a percentage of employment of women over 15 years between 52 % and 76%.

**TABLE NO. 5 Trend measures on percentage of employment-to-women ratio in ages 15 and older by Annex**

Regional Implementation Annexes	TREND MEASURES IN %			
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Median
Total	14,0	82,0	49,5	47,5
Annex I	14,0	82,0	53,8	61,0
Annex II	20,0	76,0	48,3	52,0
Annex III	36,0	68,0	49,5	48,0
Annex IV	29,0	51,0	41,4	44,0
Annex V	34,0	56,0	44,7	43,0

Ch.III

A

B

## FINDINGS FROM COUNTRY GENDER PROFILES IN THE REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION ANNEXES

### A. FINDINGS

**GRAPH NO. 10** Percentage of women employed in the agricultural sector by country in sample



### Women in agriculture

In regard to the percentage of women in agriculture by Regional Implementation Annex (see Table No. 6 and Graph No. 10), the first observation is that there are countries that report 0% employability of women in agriculture. All these countries belong to Annex III, where it should also be noted that the median is 5%, which means that 50% of the Annex III countries have percentages of employability of women in agriculture between 0% and 5%. This could indicate the lack of a system to collect sex-disaggregated data in the agricultural sector. At the same time, the country with the most women employed in agriculture is Annex I, with 82%, and given that the median is 57%, this reveals that between 57% and 82% of women are employed in agriculture in 50% of the countries.

It should be noted that Annex IV has a minimum and median value of 2% and 3%, respectively, which means that in this Annex, 50% of the countries have an employability percentage between 2% and 3%.

An essential element to point out concerning the source of information used to produce this indicator does not make a difference between paid or unpaid work.

**TABLE NO. 6** Trend measures percentage of women in agriculture by Annex

Regional Implementation Annexes	T R E N D M E A S U R E S I N %			
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Median
Total	0,0	82,0	28,9	22,0
<b>Annex I</b>	3,0	82,0	45,2	57,0
<b>Annex II</b>	2,0	64,0	36,6	28,0
<b>Annex III</b>	0,0	30,0	8,8	5,0
<b>Annex IV</b>	2,0	42,0	14,8	3,0
<b>Annex V</b>	4,0	27,0	11,7	9,5

Ch.III

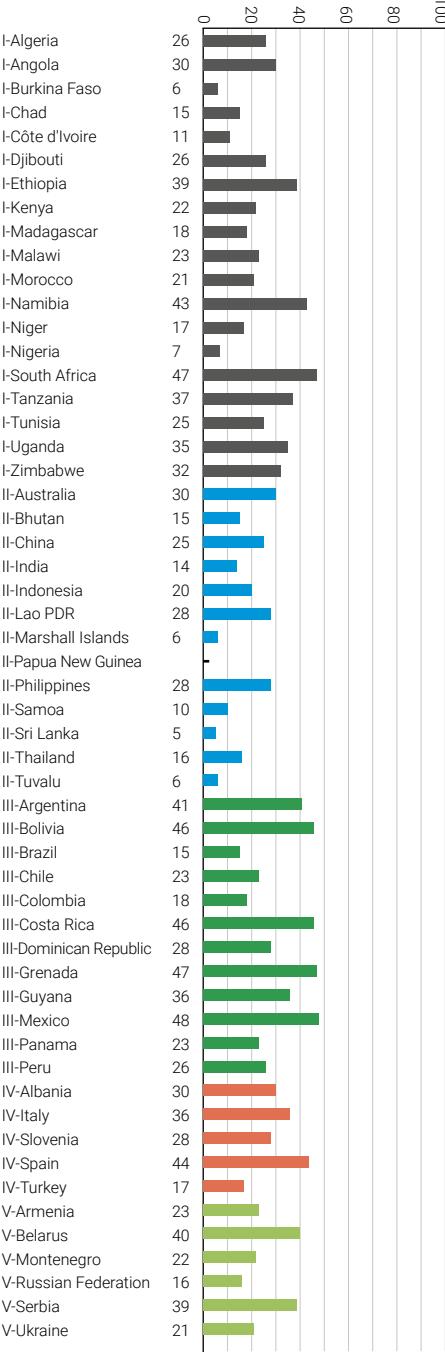
A

B

## FINDINGS FROM COUNTRY GENDER PROFILES IN THE REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION ANNEXES

### A. FINDINGS

**GRAPH NO. 11 | Percentage of women in the total number of representatives of the lower or single House of the Parliament by country in sample**



### Female seats in local government

Regarding the percentage of female seats in local government by annex (see Table No. 7 and Graph No. 11), it is noteworthy that within the sample, in some countries, women do not hold a single seat in local government, while in others approximately three out of four seats are held by women. In Annex I, there are countries where women do not have a single seat, in contrast to Annex III, which contains the country where more women hold seats, precisely 72%. However, it was also observed that in Annex III, according to the median and the minimum, 50% of the countries in the sample belonging to this Annex have percentages of seats held by women between 9% and 32.5%, which is low.

In Annex II, the fact that the median and maximum are 16.5% and 44% stands out, because this indicates that 50% of the countries have a percentage of seats held by women between 16% and 44% of the total number of seats available, the percentages being highly variable in those countries.

**TABLE NO. 7 | Trend measures percentage of female seats in local government by Annex**

Regional Implementation Annexes	TREND MEASURES IN %			
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Median
Total	0,0	72,0	27,3	28,0
Annex I	0,0	49,0	24,6	19,5
Annex II	10,0	44,0	21,8	16,5
Annex III	9,0	72,0	34,3	32,5
Annex IV	10,0	44,0	31,6	34,0
Annex V	9,0	48,0	29,0	29,5

### Representation lower or single House of the Parliament

Regarding the percentage of women in the total number of representatives in the lower or single House of the Parliament by Regional Implementation Annex (see Table No. 8), it was found that there is a very low percentage of women in some countries, with 5% being the country with the least representation, which belongs to Annex II. In comparison, Annex III has the country with the highest percentage of representation of women, at 48%. In addition to having the lowest percentage of women's representation, Annex II also has the smallest median at 15.5%, meaning that half of Annex II countries have female representation of 15.5% or less. Annex III has the highest average and median, at 33.1% and 32% female representation. It also is worth highlighting that 50% of the countries in Annex III have female participation of 32% or more of the total number of positions, reaching 48% in some countries.

Ch.III

A

B

## FINDINGS FROM COUNTRY GENDER PROFILES IN THE REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION ANNEXES

### A. FINDINGS

**TABLE NO. 8** Trend measures on percentage of women in the total number of representatives in the lower or single House of the Parliament by Annex

Regional Implementation Annexes	TREND MEASURES IN %			
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Median
Total	5,0	48,0	25,9	25,0
<b>Annex I</b>	6,0	47,0	25,3	25,0
<b>Annex II</b>	5,0	30,0	16,9	15,5
<b>Annex III</b>	15,0	48,0	33,1	32,0
<b>Annex IV</b>	17,0	44,0	31,0	30,0
<b>Annex V</b>	16,0	40,0	26,8	22,5

### Women's representation at UNCCD COPs

On the subject of women's representation in the most recent UNCCD COP delegation by Regional Implementation Annex (see Table No. 9), the most remarkable data is that among all of the Annexes, there are countries that have 0% participation of women in their delegation to COP14. However, Annex III is the most extreme case, because the median is 0%, which indicates that 50% of the countries in that Annex had zero female participation in their COP delegation. However, it is worth noting that the same Annex has at least one country with 50% female representation. In addition, Annex II, Annex III and Annex IV have at least one country with 50% of its representation to the COP comprised of women. This is less relevant because in Annex II the median is 20%, which indicates that 50% of the countries have female representation at a percentage of 20% or less. At the same time, Annex IV is even more baffling because its median is 13%, indicating that 50% of the countries have a representation of 13% of women or lower.

**TABLE NO. 9** Trend measures on percentage of women in the latest UNCCD COP delegation by Annex

Regional Implementation Annexes	TREND MEASURES IN %			
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Median
Total	0,0	50,0	17,7	16,0
<b>Annex I</b>	0,0	40,0	17,3	18,0
<b>Annex II</b>	0,0	50,0	20,4	20,0
<b>Annex III</b>	0,0	50,0	13,8	0,0
<b>Annex IV</b>	0,0	50,0	17,8	13,0
<b>Annex V</b>	0,0	43,0	20,5	23,5

For this category, an exercise to produce a multivariable analysis can be found in Annex XI of this study.

Ch.III

A

B

## FINDINGS FROM COUNTRY GENDER PROFILES IN THE REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION ANNEXES

### A. FINDINGS

**GRAPH NO. 12** Percentage of women's access to land by country in sample



### Findings category 3: Gender-based education and assets

This category focuses on equal access for women to basic education, training and natural and financial resources. Access to these essential resources provides women with the tools, skills and preparation to effectively engage in environmental decision-making and resource use and access as well as to contribute to reversing land degradation, desertification and drought.

#### It includes the following four indicators:

1. Secure access to land
2. Access to formal financial services
3. Literacy rate, adult (% ages 15 and older) by sex
4. Percentage of young women (aged 15-24 years) not in education, employment or training (NEET)

#### Access to land

In regard to secure access to land (see Table No. 10 and Graph 12), the data on this variable show that there is 4.1% access to land by women, and this minimum is found in Annex I (Algeria). The country where women have most access to land is Malawi with 32.1%, and this is also found in Annex I. However, although this Annex shows the widest variation, the median indicates that in half of the countries in Annex I the percentage of women with access to land ranges from 4.1% to 12.7%. In addition, the country where women have the most equitable access to land is found in Annex IV, given that, with respect to its median and maximum, in half of the countries that belong to this Annex women's access to land ranges from 24.5% to 30.7% although it is notably below equality.

**TABLE NO. 10** Trend measures on percentage of women's access to land by Annex

Regional Implementation Annexes	TREND MEASURES IN %			
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Median
Total	4,1	32,1	17,4	16,3
Annex I	4,1	32,1	13,8	12,7
Annex II	8,8	27,4	16,8	14,6
Annex III	10,2	30,8	20,7	16,2
Annex IV	8,0	30,7	21,9	24,5
Annex V	12,9	29,7	20,2	18,1

Ch.III

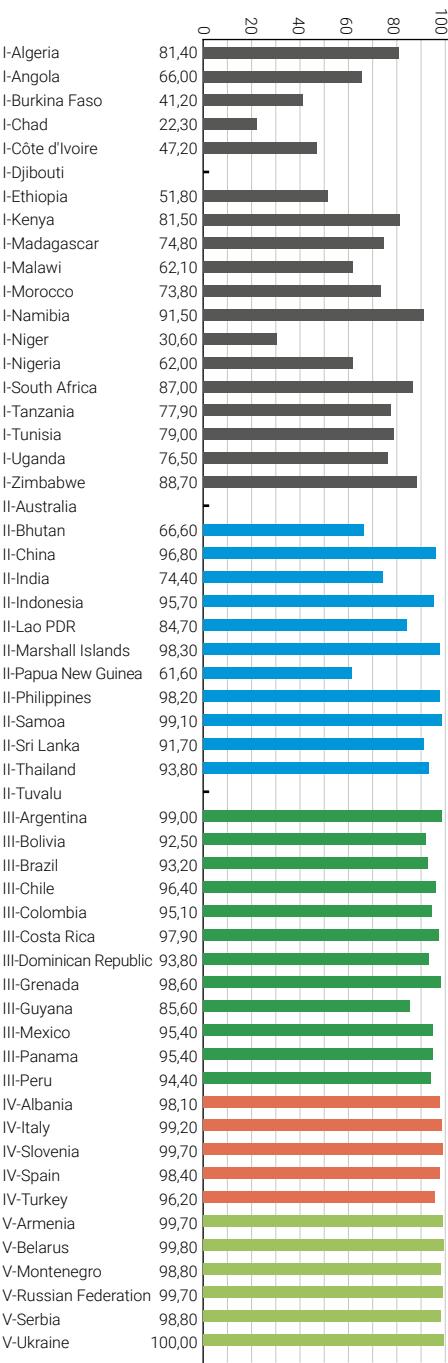
A

B

## FINDINGS FROM COUNTRY GENDER PROFILES IN THE REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION ANNEXES

### A. FINDINGS

**GRAPH NO. 13 Percentage of literacy rate of women in ages of 15 and older by country in sample**



### Financial services

Pertaining to access to formal financial services by Annex (see Table No.11), the minimum value of the sample is found in Annex I, with 29% of women having access to formal financial services, while the maximum percentage is 55.5%, found in an Annex II country. Regarding the maximums, it is interesting to highlight that the values are greater than 50% in all the Annexes. In addition to having the maximum value, Annex II also shows an impressive median of 50.3% access, which indicates that half of the countries in that Annex have between 50.3% and 55.5%, which is quite favorable. Annex V also presents this peculiarity, where the median and maximum indicate that half of the countries have between 51.3% and 53.8% access by women to this type of service.

**TABLE NO. 11 Trend measures on percentage of access to formal financial services by Annex**

Regional Implementation Annexes	TREND MEASURES IN %			
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Median
Total	29,0	55,5	45,4	46,2
Annex I	29,0	51,5	40,0	40,8
Annex II	38,5	55,5	49,6	50,3
Annex III	40,3	53,5	47,3	47,5
Annex IV	40,0	50,1	47,4	49,8
Annex V	45,9	53,8	51,0	51,3

### Literacy rate

With regard to the literacy rate of women in ages of 15 and older by Annex (see Table No.12 and Graph 13), the lowest percentage belongs to Annex I, at 22% of women in that age range. This same Annex has a median of 74.3%, which would indicate that 50% of the countries in this Annex have a literacy level among women higher than 74.3% with a maximum literacy rate of 91.5%. In fact, Annex I present the lowest median of all, since the rest of the Annexes have medians above 90%, with Annex V standing out widely, with a median of 99.7%. This Annex also presents the maximum percentage of female literacy, as half of the countries have a female literacy rate between 99.7% and 100%. Annex II also has a literacy rate below 90%, with a minimum of 61.6%, and Annex III has a literacy rate of 85.6%.

Ch.III

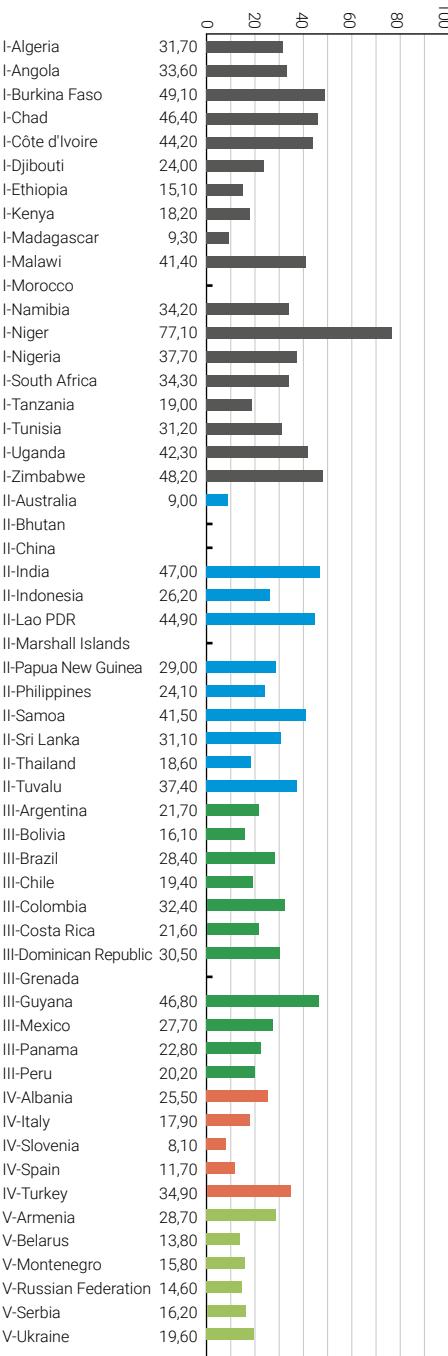
A

B

## FINDINGS FROM COUNTRY GENDER PROFILES IN THE REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION ANNEXES

### A. FINDINGS

**GRAPH NO. 14** Percentage of young women\* not in education, employment, or training (NEET) by country in sample



**TABLE NO. 12** Trend measures on literacy rate of women in ages of 15 and older by Annex

Regional Implementation Annexes	TREND MEASURES IN %			
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Median
Total	22,3	100,0	84,3	93,5
Annex I	22,3	91,5	66,4	74,3
Annex II	61,6	99,1	87,4	93,8
Annex III	85,6	99,0	94,8	95,3
Annex IV	96,2	99,7	98,3	98,4
Annex V	98,8	100,0	99,5	99,7

### Not in education, employment, or training (NEET)

This section refers to the percentages of young women between 15 and 24 years old who can be considered NEET, analyzed by Annex (see Table No.13 and Graph No. 14). Based on the sample obtained, 77.1% of young women in Annex I are NEET, and the same Annex has a median of 34.3% (the highest median among the Annexes) indicating that half of the countries present a percentage of young NEET women that ranges between 34.3% and 77.1%. The Annex with the country with the lowest percentage is Annex IV with 8.1%, which coincidentally has the second-lowest median value, 16%, indicating that half of the countries in that Annex have a percentage of women NEET youth between 8.1% and 16%.

**TABLE NO. 13** Trend measures on percentages of young women\* not in education, employment, or training (NEET) by Annex

Regional Implementation Annexes	TREND MEASURES IN %			
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Median
Total	8,1	77,1	28,8	28,0
Annex I	9,3	77,1	35,4	34,3
Annex II	9,0	47,0	30,9	30,1
Annex III	16,1	46,8	26,1	22,8
Annex IV	8,1	34,9	19,6	17,9
Annex V	13,8	28,7	18,1	16,0

\*PS: Young women are between 15 and 24 years old

For this category an exercise to produce a multivariable analysis can be found in Annex XI of this study.

Ch.III

A

B

A. FINDINGS

## Findings category 5: Land degradation

This category includes one indicator: proportion of land that is degraded over total land area under the SDG Global Database<sup>114</sup>.

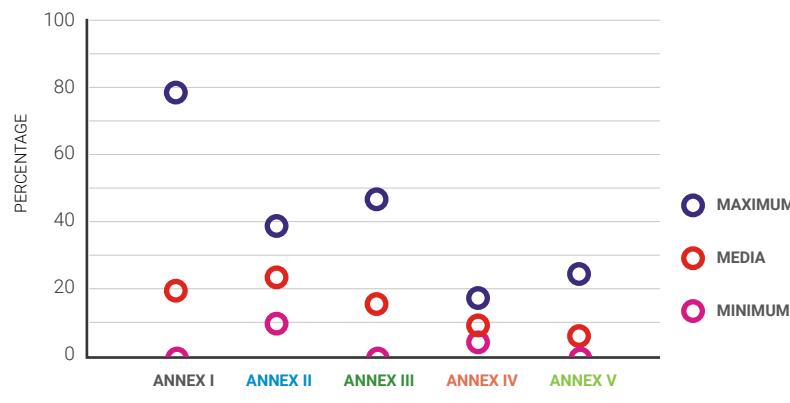
The minimum value of the sample corresponds to several countries with 1% of degraded land; this value is found in Annexes I, III and V. At the other extreme, the maximum value of degradation is 78%, found in Annex I. The rest of the maximums in the Annexes are below 50%. Annex II shows the highest degradation minimum at 10% (see Table No. 14)

**TABLE NO. 14** Trend measures on percentages of land that is degraded over total land area

Regional Implementation Annexes	TREND MEASURES IN %			
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Median
Total	1,0	78,0	20,2	19,0
Annex I	1,0	78,0	25,3	20,0
Annex II	10,0	38,0	25,5	24,0
Annex III	1,0	47,0	19,8	16,0
Annex IV	5,0	18,0	10,6	9,0
Annex V	1,0	25,0	7,7	6,0

Leaving aside the extreme value of Annex I, Annex III seems to present the most extensive variability between maximum and minimum values of each Annex. Regarding the medians, Annex IV and V have the lowest range, with Annex V being the closest to 0, while Annex III has the highest upper range, with a difference of about one; 30% between the median and the maximum. Finally, Annex IV presents the smallest range of values between the minimum and maximum percentages of land degradation (see Graph 15).

**GRAPH NO. 15** Trend measures on percentages of land that is degraded over total land area



<sup>114</sup> SDG 15.3.1 at: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/UNSDG/IndDatabasePage>

## FINDINGS FROM COUNTRY GENDER PROFILES IN THE REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION ANNEXES

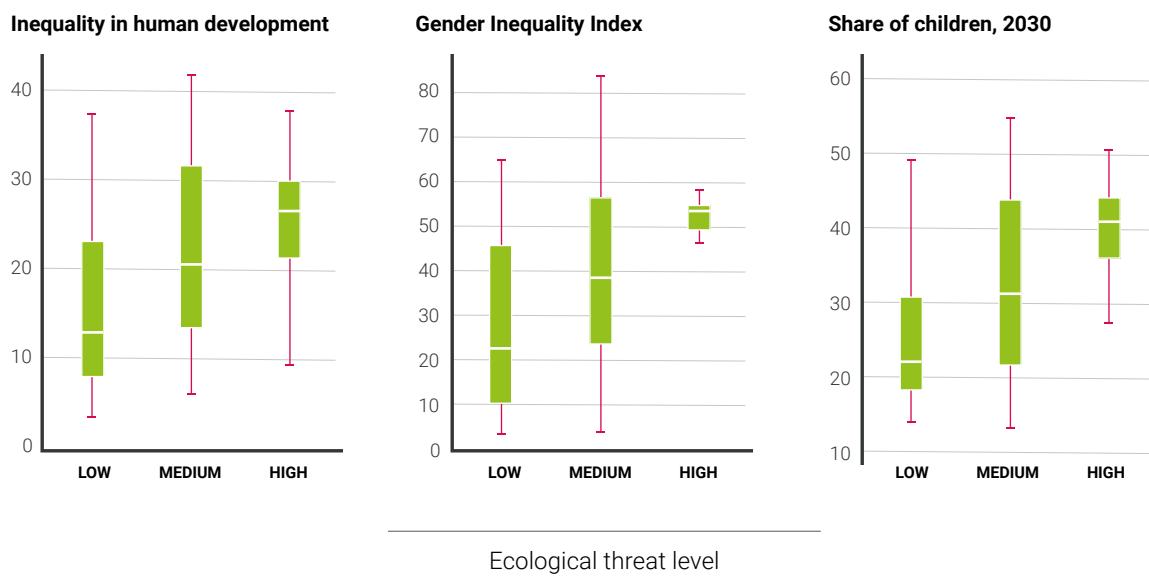
### A. FINDINGS

#### Correlations

During the statistical analysis, the possibility of conducting correlations was considered. Nevertheless, since a non-probability sample was used, the decision was made not to use statistical inference techniques, such as correlation. On the other hand, as highlighted in Graph No. 1, there are a significant number of variables that have no data available. Therefore, it was decided not to cross-reference variables based on all the above arguments.

In any case, other studies – such as the UNDP's Human Development Report (2020),<sup>115</sup> which conducted correlations – indicate that countries and regions with substantial ecological threats tend to also have greater social vulnerability, where within-country inequalities in human development are more prominent, where women face more profound gender gaps (see Figure No.3).

**FIGURE NO. 3** Countries with higher ecological threats tend to have greater social vulnerability



**Note:** Each box plots the middle 50% of the distribution; the central line is the median. Outside the box, the extreme lines are the approximate minimum and maximum of the distribution. Outliers are not shown.

Source: UNDP 2020. Human Development Report.

Ch.III

A

B

115 UNDP. 2020. Human Development Report. New York. USA.

## FINDINGS FROM COUNTRY GENDER PROFILES IN THE REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION ANNEXES

### B. FINAL ANNOTATIONS

#### B. FINAL ANNOTATIONS

It should be acknowledged that the 2030 Agenda recognizes gender equality and women's and girls' human rights and empowerment as fundamental for pursuing sustainable development trajectories. The Agenda reaffirms this through a stand-alone goal to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, grounded in human rights and targeting unequal power relations. Along with the stand-alone goal, gender equality concerns are integrated throughout the other priority areas and goals of the 2030 Agenda.

Gender equality by 2030 requires urgent action to eliminate the many root causes of discrimination that still curtail women's rights in private and public spheres. For example, two of the SDG5 targets are pertinent for the study under this chapter: ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life; and undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources.

Hence, the production, analysis and use of statistics should be part of gender equality policies in the countries and a priority among official producers of statistics in the countries. It is critical to generate information systems to transform data into information, information into knowledge, and knowledge into political decisions.

Measuring and collecting data from a gender perspective in relation to sustainable development contributes to the formulation of more solid, evidence-based policies and allows for the evaluation of policy effectiveness, thus facilitating better policy development (GBA, MIF & IDB, n.d.).<sup>116</sup>

Without data disaggregated by sex and an intersectional approach to DLDD, it will be impossible to know how the objectives proposed in regional and international agreements, conventions, and goals or actions and policies at the national and sub-national levels will be achieved.

For the UNCCD, this exercise has shown that it is possible to start collecting data on various socio-economic indicators that have a significant importance to understand the barriers and challenges faced by women in their fight against DLDD. It is possible to further deepen this work through the creation of an index that would include all UNCCD countries. Such an effort would help get a better overview of the gender dynamics within the different annexes. Progressively, more information can be gathered and triangulated using other complementary data sources in collaboration with UN agencies, partners and other SDG custodian agencies.

Ch.III

A

B

<sup>116</sup> Global Banking Alliance for Women (GBA), Data2X & Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF) of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). ND. "The Value of Sex-Disaggregated Data".



## CHAPTER IV

# ASSESSMENT OF GENDER EQUALITY WITHIN THE CONVENTION BODIES AND MECHANISMS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Ch.IV  
A  
B  
C  
D  
E  
F

## ASSESSMENT OF GENDER EQUALITY WITHIN THE CONVENTION BODIES AND MECHANISMS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Countries that ratify the various international conventions or treaties and thus become State Parties are legally bound to put the respective provisions into practice. They are also required to submit national reports on the measures they have adopted to fulfill their obligations. Dates for submitting country reports vary according to the periodicity of the obligation, and their format and content are also specific to each convention or treaty.

In general, country reports are produced by the government agencies in charge of the topic (for example, the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Women's Affairs). The Ministry of Foreign Affairs officially submits them to the United Nations.

As part of this study, five new datasets were produced. They assess a country's inclusion of gender criteria under the UNCCD country PRAIS, LDN country profiles and NDPs. Also included is a metric related to the country's land degradation and desertification inclusion in CEDAW national reports. In addition, a new dataset provides information concerning women's participation in delegations at COP14 by country and UNCCD Regional Implementation Annexes.

The datasets related to the NDPs, LDNs and PRAIS country reports were analyzed to determine whether and how often these reports discussed gender equality, by counting mentions of gender-related keywords in each plan or report. A gender keyword dictionary was used to define a set of 68 unique English, Spanish and French terms grouped into eight broad categories: gender, sex, female, woman, women, girl, equity and equality. The gender keyword dictionary included multiple forms of keywords in these categories to ensure the counting of every mention; for example, the terms gender, genders, gendered and gender-based were included in the search, among others, to capture all instances of contexts and meanings related to gender.

Concerning the CEDAW reports, they were analyzed to identify the inclusion of the following terms: agriculture, land, land degradation, arid land, environment, food, water, drought, desert, desertification, natural resources, water, rural women, farm and food security. The keyword dictionary for the CEDAW reports searched all variations of those words, for example: farm, farms and farmers.

MaxQDA qualitative data analysis software was used to identify keyword mentions in each one of the reports or plans. Each keyword mentioned was then reviewed, and references not relevant to this study's discussion of gender equality concerning land degradation, drought, or desertification were excluded.<sup>117</sup> Using a context analysis framework, the research also analyzed the strategies utilized by the countries to address and promote gender equality or land, drought or desertification considerations in the reports or plans.

Ch.IV  
A  
B  
C  
D  
E  
F

<sup>117</sup> For example, mentions of gender were excluded from analysis when referring to animals or plants rather than to women.

## ASSESSMENT OF GENDER EQUALITY WITHIN THE CONVENTION BODIES AND MECHANISMS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

The countries analyzed vary according to the reports or plans studied. Text Box No. 5 identifies the database and the countries considered for each database.

### TEXT BOX NO 5 Database and countries considered for each database

Database	Countries considered in each of the databases
<b>Representation and parity participation at UNCCD COP14</b>	All the Parties with delegations to COP14
<b>Inclusion of gender considerations within LDN country profiles</b>	30 LDN country profiles posted on the UNCCD web page (see Annex V for list of countries)
<b>Inclusion of gender considerations in NDPs</b>	48 NDPs, including those posted on the UNCCD webpage and final drafts provided by the Secretariat (see Annex VI for list of countries)
<b>Inclusion of gender considerations in PRAIS</b>	55 countries selected for the gender profiles (see Annex IX for list of countries)
<b>Inclusion of land, drought and desertification in national reports to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)</b>	55 countries selected for the gender profiles (see Annex IX for list of countries)

#### The analysis sought to identify:

- Percentage of women in the delegations of State Parties at COP14 UNCCD
- Participation of women and men in delegations in the five Regional Implementation Annexes: I. Africa, II. Asia, III. Latin America and Caribbean, IV. Northern Mediterranean, V. Central and Eastern Europe, VI. Countries not belonging to a Regional Implementation Annex (Annex II)
- Participation of women and men in delegations from the 55 countries selected for the country gender profiles

### A.REPRESENTATION AND PARITY PARTICIPATION AT UNCCD COP14

One method of ascertaining women's participation in environmental decision-making is to analyze whether countries assign women as members of international environmental delegations. One metric to reflect this is the registration of females and males on government lists of participants who attend the Conferences of Parties (COPs).

Data was analyzed on the numbers of females and males registered by governments to attend the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD COP14), which was held from 2-13 September 2019, at the India Expo Center and Mart in New Delhi, India. For this dataset, the source of information was the official Lists of Participants provided by the Secretariat.

A relative and percentage frequency analysis, and related tables and graphs, were prepared for each Regional Implementation Annex, to quantify the presence of women at COP14. A comparative graph illustrating numbers of female and male representatives in percentage terms by regions was prepared, to identify which regions had a greater or lesser presence of women and men.

Ch.IV

A

B

C

D

E

F

## ASSESSMENT OF GENDER EQUALITY WITHIN THE CONVENTION BODIES AND MECHANISMS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

### A.REPRESENTATION AND PARITY PARTICIPATION AT UNCCD COP14

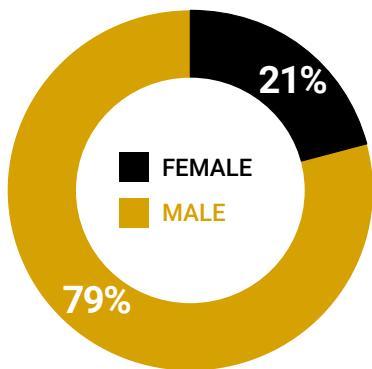
## Findings

The average sex composition of all the delegations, including observers, was 21% female and 79% males (see Graph No. 16). Without counting observers' countries (Holy See and Palestine), the composition was 22% females and 78% males (see Annex III).

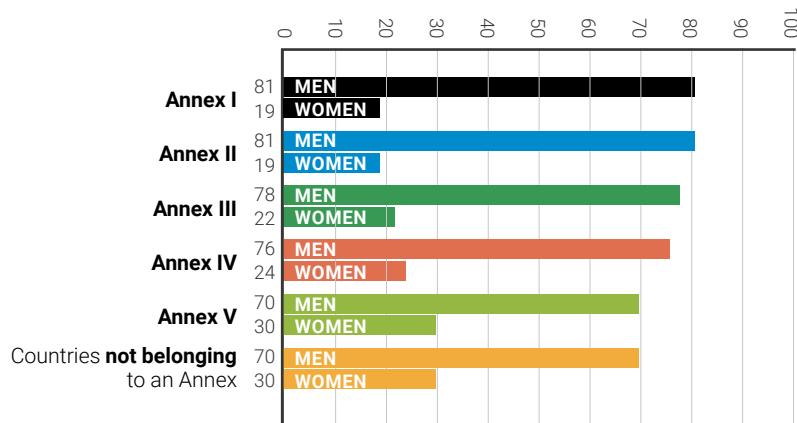
The percentage of women participating by Regional Implementation Annex (see Graph No. 17) was as follows:

- **Annex I:** Africa 19%
- **Annex II:** Asia 19%
- **Annex III:** Latin America and Caribbean 22%
- **Annex IV:** Northern Mediterranean 24%
- **Annex V:** Central and Eastern Europe 30%
- Countries **not belonging** to an Annex 30%

**GRAPH NO. 16** Sex composition of all delegations to COP14



**GRAPH NO. 17** Percentage of women and men by Annex



The proportion of women in the delegations of the 55 countries selected for country gender profiles is reflected in Graph No. 18.

A more in-depth analysis shows that from the 55 countries: 35% had no women participants, 43% had one to three women participants, 13% had four to six women participants, and 9% had seven or more participants (See Table No. 15 and Annex IV).

Ch.IV

A

B

C

D

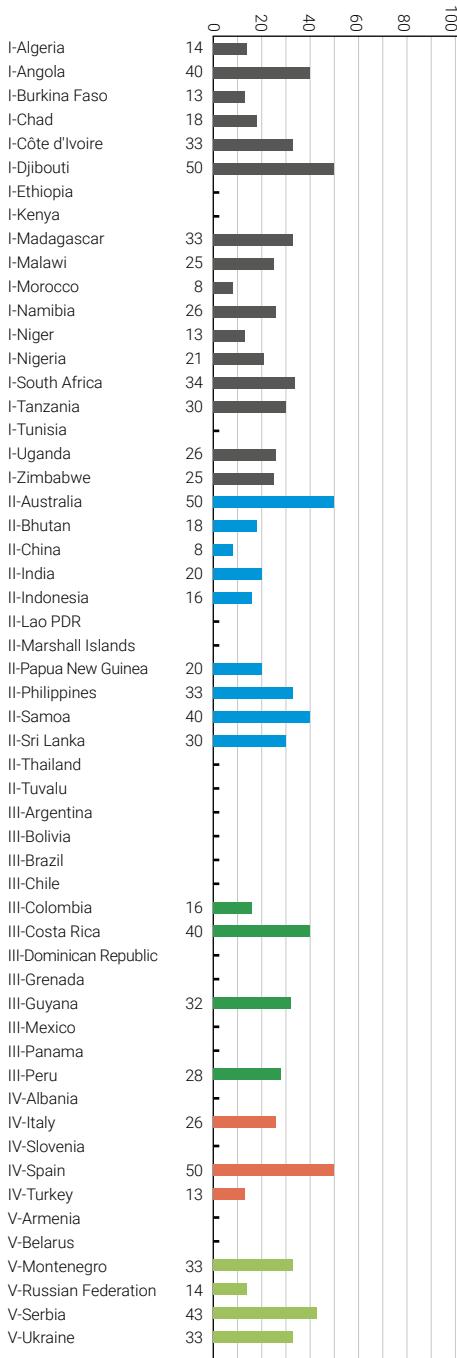
E

F

## ASSESSMENT OF GENDER EQUALITY WITHIN THE CONVENTION BODIES AND MECHANISMS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

### B. INCLUSION OF GENDER CONSIDERATIONS WITHIN LAND DEGRADATION NEUTRALITY (LDN) COUNTRY PROFILES

**GRAPH NO. 18** Percentage of women in  
COP14 delegations from countries selected  
for gender profiles



**TABLE NO. 15** Percentage of women's participation by countries selected for the country gender profiles

Number of women participants	Percentage of women participants
0	35%
1-3	43%
4-6	13%
+ 7	9%
Total	100

## B. INCLUSION OF GENDER CONSIDERATIONS WITHIN LAND DEGRADATION NEUTRALITY (LDN) COUNTRY PROFILES

According to the Convention, LDN is defined as “a state whereby the amount and quality of land resources necessary to support ecosystem functions and services and enhance food security, remains stable or increases within specified temporal and spatial scales and ecosystems.”<sup>118</sup>

As stated by the UNCCD: LDN represents a paradigm shift in land management policies and practices. It is a unique approach that counterbalances the expected loss of productive land with the recovery of degraded areas. It strategically places the measures to conserve, sustainably manage and restore land in the context of land use planning.<sup>119</sup>

Through the LDN Target Setting Programme, the Global Mechanism (GM) and the UNCCD Secretariat – in collaboration with multiple international partners – are supporting interested countries with their national LDN target-setting process, including setting national baselines, targets and associated measures to achieve LDN.

The LDN country profiles present evidence-based arguments that support investment in LDN by showcasing the importance and multiple benefits of taking actions to avoid, reduce and reverse land degradation. The country profiles specifically highlight the role that land issues play in two key areas of the global agenda:

- Sustainable Development Goals that feature in several cases the national voluntary and measures set by countries in the context of SDG Target 15.3 on LDN
- Climate change, showcasing those land-based commitments as stated in the nationally determined contributions – a cornerstone of the Paris Agreement

<sup>118</sup> <https://www.unccd.int/actions/achieving-land-degradation-neutrality>

<sup>119</sup> <https://www.unccd.int/actions/achieving-land-degradation-neutrality>

Ch.IV

A

B

C

D

E

F

## ASSESSMENT OF GENDER EQUALITY WITHIN THE CONVENTION BODIES AND MECHANISMS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

### B. INCLUSION OF GENDER CONSIDERATIONS WITHIN LAND DEGRADATION NEUTRALITY (LDN) COUNTRY PROFILES

This dataset analyzed the extent and context of gender equality in the 30 LDN country profiles posted under the UNCCD web page<sup>120</sup> (see Text Box No. 6 or Annex V) from Parties to the Convention.

#### The objectives were to:

- Define the frequency with which gender equality considerations are discussed
- Identify the strategies utilized by the countries to address and promote gender equality considerations in the LDNs

## Findings

### TEXT BOX NO. 6

#### Countries with LDN country profiles

Armenia, Belarus, Benin, Bosnia Herzegovina, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Central Africa Republic, Chile, Eswatini, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mongolia, Montenegro, Namibia, Panama, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Thailand, The former Yugoslavia Republic of Macedonia, Zimbabwe

In 100% of the LDN country profiles under the section "The way forward" an identical text is found which is not context-specific: "Investing in LDN also accelerates the advancement of other SDGs due to the close linkages between land and other goals and targets, such as: SDG1 (No poverty), SDG2 (Zero hunger), SDG5 (Promote gender equality), SDG6 (Clean water and sanitation), SDG8 (Decent work and economic growth) and SDG13 (Climate action)."

#### Out of the 30 country profiles, only two (6.66%) include references to women:

- Namibia's LDN, under the section of ongoing projects and programs, includes the project "Scaling Up Community Resilience to Climate Variability and Climate Change in Northern Namibia, with a Special Focus on Women and Children". The project aims to strengthen the adaptive capacity to reduce the vulnerability of rural communities in responding to droughts and floods in northern Namibia, with a special focus on women and children.
- The Gambia's LDN acknowledges a country study "Comparative Study of Sustainable and Non-Sustainable Interventions in Technology Development and Transfer to the Women's Vegetable Gardens in the Gambia".

Ch.IV

A

B

C

D

E

F

120 <https://www.unccd.int/actionsldn-programme/ldn-country-profiles>

## ASSESSMENT OF GENDER EQUALITY WITHIN THE CONVENTION BODIES AND MECHANISMS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

### C. INCLUSION OF GENDER CONSIDERATIONS IN NATIONAL DROUGHT PLANS (NDP)

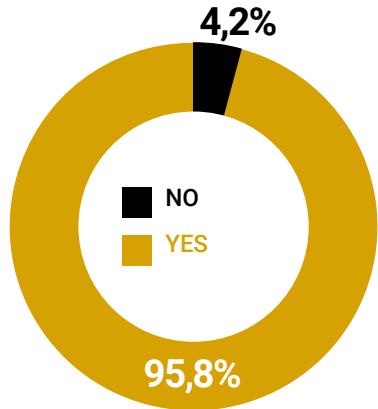
## C. INCLUSION OF GENDER CONSIDERATIONS IN NA- TIONAL DROUGHT PLANS (NDP)

The Global Mechanism and the UNCCD Secretariat have been supporting countries in designing National Drought Plans (NDPs). To date, more than 70 countries are engaged in the process of designing such national-level action plans. This study analyzed the extent to which gender equality is integrated in 48 national NDPs (see Annex VI) prepared by the Parties to the Convention.<sup>121</sup>

### The objectives were to:

- Define the frequency with which gender equality considerations are discussed
- Identify the strategies utilized by the countries to address and promote gender equality considerations in the NDPs

**GRAPH NO. 19** Percentage of NDPs that include gender keywords



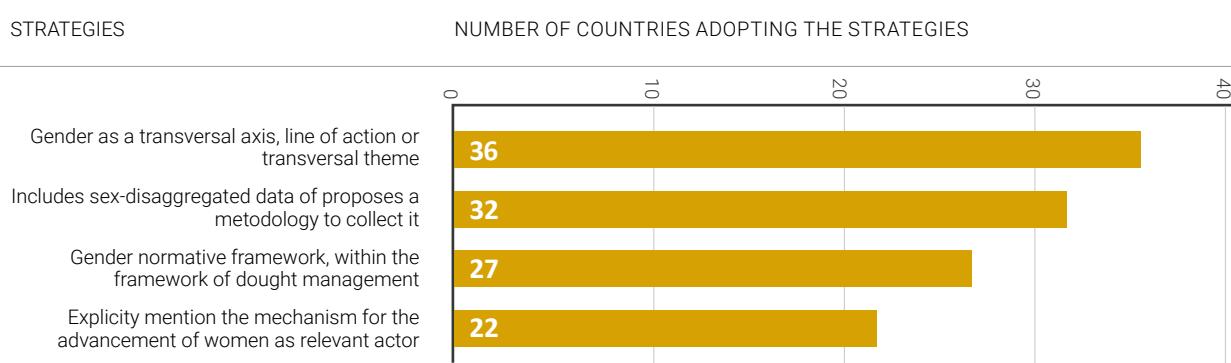
### Findings

Of the 48 NDPs, 46 (95.8%) include references to the keywords listed above (Graph No.19).

Four strategies were utilized by the countries to address and promote gender equality considerations in the NDPs (noting that some NDPs include more than one of these strategies) (Graph No. 20).

It should be noted that the incorporation of gender in the NDPs is due, to a large extent, to the fact that the Secretariat has incorporated clear and precise gender criteria in the summary of the key elements that should appear in a NDP. These have been grouped according to the proposed chapter structure provided as a template to consultants (See Annex VII for a short summary of the key elements that should appear in an NDP including, gender requirements).

**GRAPH NO. 20** Strategies utilized per country



Ch.IV

A

B

C

D

E

F

<sup>121</sup> <https://knowledge.unccd.int/drought-toolbox/page/drought-planning>

## ASSESSMENT OF GENDER EQUALITY WITHIN THE CONVENTION BODIES AND MECHANISMS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

### D. INCLUSION OF GENDER CONSIDERATIONS IN UNCCD PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT OF IMPLEMENTATION SYSTEM (PRAIS)

## D. INCLUSION OF GENDER CONSIDERATIONS IN UNCCD PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT OF IMPLEMENTATION SYSTEM (PRAIS)

The first reporting process under the UNCCD 2018-2030 Strategic Framework – known as PRAIS – concluded on 31 August 2018. The elaboration of the current database is constructed for the 55 countries selected for the gender profiles. Of the 55 countries, six reports were not available. The study analyzed the extent and context of gender equality in 49 PRAIS reports (see Annex VIII) from Parties to the Convention.<sup>122</sup> The analysis determined whether and how often PRAIS reports discussed gender equality by counting mentions of gender-related keywords in each plan.

### Findings

There is a pre-established structure for elaboration of the PRAIS reports. The format includes three questions where countries can indicate issues related to gender. Under the “Implementation Framework” section, the questions included are:

- Would you like to share an experience on how your country institution has established or helped establishing policies and enabling environments to promote and/or implement solutions to combat desertification/land degradation and mitigate the effects of drought?
- Does your country promote alternative livelihoods practice in the context of DLDD?
- Would you like to share experiences on programs/activities that promote women’s access to knowledge and technology?

Of the 49 reports, 31 (63.3%) responded to one or more of the three questions, and 18 (36.7%) did not respond to any of the three questions within the format provided to the Parties to prepare the PRAIS (see Graph No. 21).

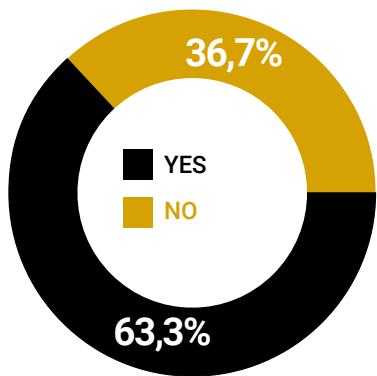
**Zimbabwe.** Promote gender equality and empower women.

**Montenegro.** Reduce, by at least half, the share of men, women, and children who live below the absolute poverty line.

**Nigeria.** Improve the economic power of women by empowering them, especially rural women, to discourage them from further degradation as against 2015.

**Angola.** Promote, with the support of civil society, equal rights, obligations and opportunities between men and women and substantially improve the standard of living of families by promoting an appropriate balance between reducing fertility and reducing mortality.

Moreover, four countries included targets relevant to gender/women under strategic objectives 1 and 2:



Ch.IV

A

B

C

D

E

F

122 <https://prais.unccd.int/unccd/reports>

## ASSESSMENT OF GENDER EQUALITY WITHIN THE CONVENTION BODIES AND MECHANISMS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

### E. INCLUSION OF LAND AND DESERTIFICATION TOPICS IN NATIONAL REPORTS TO THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW)

## E. INCLUSION OF LAND AND DESERTIFICATION TOPICS IN NATIONAL REPORTS TO THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW)

Even though CEDAW is not a UNCCD Convention body nor a mechanism for implementation, the analysis of these reports has been included due to the pertinent of the topic and in light of the discussion topics theme of "Climate Change and Environment Disaster Risk Reduction" during the UN 66th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW66).

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), adopted in 1979 by the UN General Assembly, is often described as an international bill of rights for women. Consisting of a preamble and 30 articles, it defines discrimination against women and sets up an agenda for national action to end such discrimination.<sup>123</sup>

In accordance with the international normative framework of human rights, states must respect, protect and fulfill human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction of ethnicity, sex, gender, language, religion, political or other opinions, origin, national or social status, economic position, birth, disability, or other condition. Human rights instruments, and specifically CEDAW, which has been ratified by 189 countries, all of them member Parties to UNCCD, establish states' obligations to guarantee substantive equality, exercise women's rights and requires States to adopt measures to put an end to all forms of discrimination against women. The obligations are binding on State Parties and apply to all sectors, including the environment. Under these obligations, countries that have ratified CEDAW are required to submit regular reports on how the rights of the Convention are implemented.

Due to the above, this dataset reviewed the reports mandated by CEDAW for the last 11 years for the 55 countries selected. The source of the reports analyzed were the websites of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the UN Treaty Data Base.

This analysis sought to determine the inclusion of related terms – agriculture, land, land degradation, arid land, environment, food, water, drought, desert and water – in the CEDAW reports.

**TABLE NO. 16 Percentage of CEDAW  
reports submitted by year (total of 55  
countries)**

Years	Percentage
2010-2014	15
2015-2019	67
2020-2021	18
Total	100

Ch.IV

A

B

C

D

E

F

### Findings

A total of 18% of the 55 countries have submitted their CEDAW reports in recent years, while 67% have presented their reports between 2015-2019, and a meager percentage, 15%, submitted reports between 2010 and 2014 (see Table No. 16)

123 <https://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/>

## ASSESSMENT OF GENDER EQUALITY WITHIN THE CONVENTION BODIES AND MECHANISMS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

### E. INCLUSION OF LAND AND DESERTIFICATION TOPICS IN NATIONAL REPORTS TO THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW)

Over the last five years, the CEDAW reports include a section titled Sustainable Development Agenda. However, that agenda is treated in a perfunctory manner.

The CEDAW reports focus to a greater degree on the policies related to domestic violence, participation of women in political and public life, nationality/citizenship, education, employment, health, social and economic benefits and women in rural areas, and to a lesser degree on the inclusion of gender in national policies related to land rights, agriculture, food, food security, drought, desert, water and climate change. Data substantiating this finding is detailed below:

#### **Land rights and access**

67% of the reports refer to the obstacles faced by women in accessing land and land ownership; 35% of the reports include the legal limitations related to customary and statutory law; and 14% mention Islamic norms and their precedence over civil law.

18% of the reports indicate the lack of a comprehensive national legal framework and the implementation of existing country laws that promote the advancement of women, resulting in de facto discrimination of women in the access to land, especially in rural areas. The data on this indicator is contained in the section on rural women.

#### **Food and food security**

Only 18% of reports include food, and food security of women, a surprising finding given the high-level poverty of rural women.

The word agriculture is mentioned in 13% of the reports.

#### **Drought**

3% of CEDAW reports mention drought as an adverse climate condition.

#### **Desertification**

Only 2% include desertification and its relationship to the migration of women and girls.

No reports inform on the indicators concerning desertification topics.

#### **Water**

36% of the reports include the subject of water in the section related to rural women and the problems they face in accessing water and safe potable water.

#### **Climate change**

21% of the reports provide information on issues related to the impact of climate change on women and its association with the impacts of projects in extractive industries, deforestation caused by mining activities, natural disasters, drought and rising sea levels.

The issues described above are only mentioned marginally in the CEDAW reports and primarily in the rural women section. There is no mention of public policies to address these issues comprehensively. Also, there is no mention of National Gender Plans related to women's rights regarding the environment, water and food security.

The CEDAW reports also refer to the need for sex-disaggregated data and an intersectional approach:

- 55% of the reports indicate the lack of disaggregated data by sex, age, national and ethnic origin.
- 27% of the reports indicate the limited availability of sex-disaggregated data.
- 13% of the reports point out that it is not possible to provide in-depth statistical analysis with the existing data.
- 5% indicate that sex-disaggregated data is increasingly found in national statistics.

Ch.IV

A

B

C

D

E

F

F. RECOMMENDATIONS

## F. RECOMMENDATIONS

### Recommendations for Parties, observer organizations, civil society organizations and Secretariat

- Promote the equal participation of women and men in UNCCD processes and structures and analyze the barriers which may be preventing a gender balance.
- Increase the commitments of countries for equal participation of women and men.
- Facilitate access to and use of digital and other communications technologies and modalities, including hybrid meetings, to increase the inclusion of women, in all their diversity, and their contributions to analysis and decision-making on key policy commitments.
- Adopt robust mechanisms to guarantee representatives of marginalized voices (inclusive nomination) to attend UNCCD meetings and committees, in particular the COPs and Committees for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRICs).

### Recommendations for Parties

#### At the national level:

- Build the capacity of national women's machineries (i.e., Ministry of Women Affairs) so that they can engage in the topics pertinent to UNCCD in consultation processes in a substantive and informed manner.
- Build the capacity of women commission/ groups who are working on the implementation of CEDAW to include and report on environmental related indicators.
- Regularly share information on gender parity in staffing of national organizations working on desertification, land degradation and drought.
- Build awareness and capacities in government ministries and departments to address specific topics related to gender and DLDD, including gender-responsive budgeting.<sup>124</sup>
- Promote ongoing linkages, communication and data sharing among offices and committees working on gender in DLDD.
- Promote trans-sectorial initiatives to mainstream gender in DLDD policies and programs.

Ch.IV  
A  
B  
C  
D  
E  
F

<sup>124</sup> An example is the work currently being carried out under the EnGenDER project in 9 Caribbean countries. More information on EnGenDER is available here: <https://www.bb.undp.org/content/barbados/en/home/engender.html>

## Recommendations for the Secretariat

### F. RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Concerning the constituted bodies:

- Include progress made in integrating gender in their respective workstreams in regular annual reports to the governing body.
- Invite the Secretariat to provide capacity building to all constituted bodies, and the Secretariat teams supporting these bodies, to assist them in integrating gender.
- Facilitate dialogues between Chairs of constituted bodies to share experience and lessons learned in their work to integrate gender.

Establish a formal mechanism to integrated objectives, targets and strategies related to the UNCCD Gender Action Plan.

#### With regards to gender parity, the Secretariat may take the following actions, in line with COP decisions:

- Earmark specific resources within its travel budgets to ensure that women have every opportunity to attend and participate in COPs.
- Monitor gender balance of delegations at each COP and CRIC meeting and list the Parties which achieve balanced delegations.
- Monitor and analyze the actual engagement of women and men during key sessions of the Convention, by tracking speaking time with sex-disaggregated data.
- Record and report data on the gender composition and participation in Constituted Bodies<sup>1</sup> established under the Convention, including information on women's representation from regional groups.
- Record data on the gender composition of delegations to sessions under the Convention and report on this data to the COP to better monitor progress towards the goal of gender balance.

#### With regards to reporting, the Secretariat may take the following actions in line with COP decisions:

- Expand guidelines for mainstreaming gender equality in reporting. Other multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), specifically those in the "biodiversity cluster", have developed guidelines for reporting that could be used as reference, such as NBSAPs (National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan) under the CBD and the NDCs (National Determined Contributions), and National Communication Reports under the UNFCCC.
- Encourage the exchange of information among Parties around their efforts to mainstream gender equality into their reports, using the Gender Caucus, the UNCCD's gender webpage and interactive dialogues during intersessional sessions of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention to facilitate this exchange.

#### Synergies

Enhance synergies among the Rio Convention secretariats, other relevant UN entities and processes through reinvigoration of the Joint Liaison Group, as well provision of guidelines, checklists and cross-convention capacity-building activities.

Ch.IV

A  
B  
C  
D  
E  
F

<sup>1</sup> The Committee on Science and Technology (CST). The Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC).



## CHAPTER V

# COMPILATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

THIS CHAPTER INCLUDES A COMPILATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS DEVELOPED IN THE CONTEXT  
OF THE PRESENT STUDY

Ch.V

A

B

C

## A. LAND

### **Recommendations for Parties, observer organizations, civil society organizations and Secretariat**

Collect and disseminate information about the progress toward gender-equal land rights over time.

Design, implement or support policy advocacy initiatives such as:

- Promotion of women's access to common lands.

Explore innovative options to support land tenure for women (e.g., concessions).

Facilitation of women's active participation and leadership.

Close the gender data gap to move toward evidence-based interventions and responses by:

- Disaggregating data, gender targets and baselines by sex, age and disability, race/ethnicity, geography, class, livelihood source, migrant status, gender identity.
- Regularly collecting and publishing this disaggregated data.
- Tracking the land rights and land ownership of women and men.
- Pairing land degradation indicators with socio-economic indicators.
- Supplementing PRAIS with gender and land tenure data.
- Aligning gender data to be collected with national, regional and global indicators.
- Presenting gender-environment issues to the groups collecting data to highlight data opportunities.
- Creating a universal digital platform for harmonizing and standardizing gender data and information, including consideration of the creation of a regional and global data bank.

Provide better targeted, available and flexible finance (opportunities) with attention to the specific needs of women in rural communities and indigenous populations.

### **Recommendations for Parties**

Ensure gender-equal and meaningful participation in land and natural resource governance at the national and landscape levels through:

- Inclusive national-level coordination.
- Community and women-led participation, planning and leadership.

Strengthen and enforce legal protections for the land rights of vulnerable groups and women via:

- Legal protections for communities and women, including ensuring equality in compensation and access to grievance mechanisms.
- Eliminating the barriers that impede the access to women to the land.
- Implementation and enforcement of policies and laws.
- Promotion of women's access to common lands.
- Fulfilling international mandates such as the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas UNDROP and Article 26 of the UNDRIP.
- Gender-equal land rights, under both customary and statutory law.
- Availability of legal information and advice to communities, in their own languages and according to their culture (e.g., local law desks/offices).
- Support communications and awareness-raising campaigns on land rights.
- Acknowledge and consider the gender gaps linked to land rights that could lead to GBV.

Equalize the access to, use and control over land, forests and natural resources through:

- Better access to technology, services and resources for women and marginalized groups.
- Gender-responsive land and natural resource use and management, including the use of the SLM Gender Responsive Tool.
- Mechanisms facilitating women's acquisition of land for restoration.

Require financial mechanisms to incorporate measures to increase women's access to available finance.

Ch.V

A

B

C

## B. DROUGHT

### Recommendations for Parties and civil society organizations

Ensure national and local authorities guarantee that drought preparedness,<sup>125</sup> drought response<sup>126</sup> and drought recovery,<sup>127</sup> efforts, initiatives and policies are gender responsive.

Support communities, and especially women, to identify and pursue adaptation strategies that positively respond to drought (where possible, this support should include identifying women practicing optimal adaptation strategies who can then mentor other young women).

Ensure that adaptation initiatives within short-term humanitarian programming focus more effectively on the specific needs and issues that women and girls face.

Expand support to mitigate the uncertainties faced by women in relation to sudden and slow onset events, including droughts, land degradation and other disaster risks (i.e., gender-responsive carbon credit markets for rangelands).

Establish flexible social protection, insurance and financing mechanisms to support economic and social displacement arising from drought (i.e., climate and disaster risk financing and insurance).

Increase investment in labor-saving sustainable infrastructure systems as well as mechanization, for enhanced access to energy, water, and sanitation, and the improvements in service provision (notably social services, such as health, education, childcare, reliable and safe transportation and care for the elderly) to reduce women's and girls' unpaid care and domestic work and increase their resilience and recovery from environmental crises and disasters. Examples include:

- Provide inputs adapted to climate change trends, such as seeds, fertilizers and pesticides.
- Build the technical capacities of women producers by providing access to new production technologies and agro-meteorological assistance.

■ Establish and restore facilities providing water for domestic needs, livestock and to support market gardens as an income-generating activity.

■ Promote water and soil conservation activities, and the diversification of agricultural production and food products.

### Recommendations for Parties, observer organizations, civil society organizations and Secretariat

Seek the commitment of states to review existing domestic laws, bilateral and multilateral agreements, and regional migration arrangements, and consider new laws and agreements, to facilitate migration as an adaptation measure acknowledged under international human rights law and international labor law.<sup>128</sup>

In drought risk management (DRM):<sup>129</sup>

- Ensure that data and information gathered for risk analysis and evaluation is sex disaggregated.
- Guarantee that gender considerations are an integral part of the development, implementation, and review of decisions to reduce, control, accept or redistribute drought risks.

Enhance existing monitoring systems utilized by state and non-state actors to tangibly measure and document the impact of drought on vulnerable communities. Data should be consistently disaggregated by age, sex and disabilities (SADD).

Recognize that temporary, circular, or permanent migration can be an important means for persons to adapt to drought and cope with disasters and, in order to expand the number and range of regular pathways for affected persons.

Advise of the risks of increasing women's and girls' unpaid care and domestic work in drought mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity conservation, or disaster risk reduction programs and initiatives; solutions must reduce, not increase, women's and girls' unpaid care and domestic work.

Ch.V

A

B

C

<sup>125</sup> Established policies and specified plans and activities taken before drought to prepare people and enhance institutional and coping capacities, to forecast or warn of approaching dangers, and to ensure coordinated and effective response in a drought situation (contingency planning). <https://knowledge.unccd.int/unccd-terminology>

<sup>126</sup> Drought response (such as the provision of assistance or intervention during or immediately after a drought disaster to meet the life preservation and basic subsistence needs of those people affected). <https://knowledge.unccd.int/unccd-terminology>

<sup>127</sup> Drought recovery refers to the decisions and actions taken after a drought with a view to restoring or improving the pre-drought living conditions of the stricken community, while encouraging and facilitating necessary adjustments to reduce drought risk. <https://knowledge.unccd.int/unccd-terminology>

<sup>128</sup> Based on IOM. 2017. [https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/environmental\\_migrants.pdf](https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/environmental_migrants.pdf)

<sup>129</sup> DRM focuses on delivering a drought-resilient society by reducing drought risks and promoting environmental, societal and economic opportunities. <https://knowledge.unccd.int/unccd-terminology>.

## C. GENDER EQUALITY WITHIN THE CONVENTION BODIES AND MECHANISMS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

### **Recommendations for Parties, observer organizations, civil society organizations and Secretariat**

Ensure that the equal participation of women in the UNCCD aligns to the principles and objectives of international instruments and relevant multilateral processes – such as the CEDAW and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action – which recognize the importance of women's empowerment and their full participation on equal terms with men in all spheres of society, decision-making and access to power.

Promote the equal participation of women and men in UNCCD processes and structures and analyze the barriers which may be preventing a gender balance.

Increase the commitments of countries for equal participation of women and men.

Facilitate access to and use of digital and other communications technologies and modalities, including hybrid meetings, to increase the inclusion of women, in all their diversity, and their contributions to analysis and decision-making on key policy commitments.

Adopt robust mechanisms to guarantee representatives of marginalized voices (inclusive nomination) to attend UNCCD meetings and committees, in particular the COPs and CRICs.

### **Recommendations for Parties**

At the national level:

- Build the capacity of national women's machineries (i.e., Ministry of Women Affairs) so that they can engage in the topics pertinent to UNCCD in consultation processes in a substantive and informed manner.
- Build the capacity of women commission/groups that are working on the implementation of CEDAW to include and report on environmental related indicators.
- Regularly share information on gender parity in staffing of national organizations working on desertification, land degradation and drought.
- Build awareness and capacities in government ministries and departments to address specific topics related to gender and DLDD including gender-responsive budgeting.<sup>130</sup>
- Promote ongoing linkages, communication and data sharing among offices and committees working on gender in DLDD.
- Promote trans-sectorial initiatives to mainstream gender in DLDD policies and programs.

**Ch.V**

A

B

C

<sup>130</sup> An example is the work currently being carried out under the EnGenDER project in 9 Caribbean countries. More information on EnGenDER is available here: <https://www.bb.undp.org/content/barbados/en/home/engender.html>

## Recommendations for the Secretariat

Concerning the constituted bodies:

- Include progress made in integrating gender in their respective workstreams in regular annual reports to the governing body.
- Invite the Secretariat to provide capacity building to all constituted bodies, and Secretariat teams supporting these bodies, to assist them in integrating gender.
- Facilitate dialogues between Chairs of constituted bodies to share experience and lessons learned in their work to integrate gender.

Establish a formal mechanism to integrated objectives, targets and strategies related to the UNCCD Gender Action Plan.

With regards to gender parity, the Secretariat may take the following actions, in line with COP decisions:

- While acknowledging that governments have sovereignty on the attending nomination of delegates, the Secretariat may earmark specific resources within its travel budgets to ensure that women have every opportunity to attend and participate in COPs.
- Monitor gender balance of delegations at each COP and CRIC meeting and list the Parties which achieve balanced delegations.
- Monitor and analyze the actual engagement of women and men during key sessions of the Convention, by tracking speaking time with sex-disaggregated data.
- Record and report data on the gender composition and participation in Constituted Bodies<sup>131</sup> established under the Convention, including information on women's representation from regional groups. Additionally, record data on the gender composition of delegations to sessions under the Convention and report on this data to the COP to better monitor progress towards the goal of gender balance.

With regards to reporting, the Secretariat may take the following actions in line with COP decisions:

- Expand guidelines for mainstreaming gender equality in reporting. Other multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), specifically those in the "biodiversity cluster", have developed guidelines for reporting that could be used as reference, such as NBSAPs (National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan) under the CBD and the NDCs (National Determined Contributions), and National Communication Reports under the UNFCCC.
- Encourage the exchange of information among Parties around their efforts to mainstream gender equality into their reports, using the Gender Caucus, the UNCCD's gender webpage and interactive dialogues during intersessional sessions of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention to facilitate this exchange.

## Synergies

- Enhance synergies among the Rio Convention secretariats, other relevant UN entities and processes, through reinvigoration of the Joint Liaison Group, as well provision of guidelines, checklists, and cross-convention capacity-building activities.

Ch.V

A

B

C

<sup>131</sup> The Committee on Science and Technology (CST). Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC).

## CHAPTER VI

# FINAL REMARKS



---

## FINAL REMARKS



Three multilateral environmental agreements emerged from the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), known as the Earth Summit, held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992: CBD, UNFCCC and UNCCD. Among these three, UNCCD, since its inception, contained a firm mandate on the importance of involving women in all its spheres of action. In fact, it was the first environmental convention to have a gender focal point that helped countries mainstream gender in their national plans to combat desertification. In the context of COP11 (2011) it developed its Gender Policy Framework (GPF) and, in September 2017, it approved its first Gender Action Plan (GAP) at COP13. Furthermore, at the international level, there is a robust normative framework on gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment concerning sustainable development (e.i., Agenda 2030, SDGs, CEDAW, among others).

Along the same lines, the Human Rights Council (October 2021) adopted the resolution A/HRC/48/L.23 Rev.1 which acknowledges that environmental degradation, climate change and unsustainable development constitute some of the most pressing and serious threats to the ability of present and future generations to enjoy human rights, including the right to life, recognizing, therefore "the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment as a human right that is important for the enjoyment of human rights."

Despite these above-mentioned frameworks, which express the commitment of countries towards a more just, inclusive and equitable world, many efforts to address gender within desertification, land degradation and drought initiatives and policies are limited to interventions that, in their implementation, have not yet managed to dismantle unequal power structures, influence the closing of gender gaps, or promote the enjoyment of women's and girls' rights.

Therefore, gender inequalities continue to hinder sustainable development and are manifested in different areas and sectors, and initiatives related to UNCCD's scope of work are no exception.

This study has shed light on the impacts of land degradation and drought as heterogeneous and related to what the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) has identified as structural nodes of gender inequality:<sup>132</sup> socio-economic inequality and the persistence of poverty; inequitable control of and access to natural resources (including land); lack of or limited access to markets, capital, training, technical assistance, financial services and technologies; patriarchal, discriminatory and violent cultural patterns; the sexual division of labor and the unfair social organization of care; and the concentration of power and hierarchical relations that prevail in the public domain, where institutional decision-making structures in the field of sustainable development demonstrate women's limited access to the exercise of power and decision-making processes.

---

<sup>132</sup> ECLAC. 2017. Estrategia de Montevideo para la Implementación de la Agenda Regional de Género en el Marco del Desarrollo Sostenible hacia 2030 (LC/CRM.13/5), Santiago. Two more nodes, in addition to the ones identified by ECLAC have been added for the purpose of this study: inequitable control of and access to natural resources (including land) and lack of or limited access to markets, capital, training, technical assistance, financial services and technologies

## FINAL REMARKS

These structural nodes of gender inequality, as stated by Picard,<sup>133</sup> are socially constructed drivers of risk, and efforts to ensure more gender-responsive outcomes need to begin by tackling the structural nature of the challenge.

Regrettably, gender continues to be “one of the world’s strongest markers for disadvantage,” which is why reducing inequality is fundamental to achieving the SDGs and other internationally agreed-upon goals. Today, gender disparities remain among the most pervasive of all inequalities, hindering the best of development efforts. Unlike the coronavirus, there is not, nor will there be, a vaccine against environmental deterioration or gender inequalities. Effectively facing challenges such as land degradation, disasters and climate change requires profound structural changes, and many of them are associated with behavior.

The time for action has never been more imperative. The recovery plans post-COVID-19 and the global commitment towards the transition to a greener economy open up the possibility to build a new future based on the three dimensions of sustainable development (economic, social and environmental) where gender equality is at the basis of a progressive structural change. A gender transformational shift requires understanding the interconnectedness of the social, economic and environmental pillars of sustainability to be able to assess and balance the potential implications of an action, program or policy on the different pillars.

As asserted by the United Nations Secretary-General, it is important to step up commitments to realize all the goals and visions outlined in intergovernmental instruments and outcomes and ensure that commitments undertaken at the international level are implemented at the national, local and community levels, in cooperation and together with women and girls, especially those who will be most affected by such international decisions and commitments.

“Let us shift the view, let us shift the narrative – women and girls are agents and leaders, they are not vulnerable; they are portrayed as vulnerable and are made to behave as vulnerable by the society, the culture, the institutions, practices, laws that they cannot avoid and are forced into and that they are forced to operate in,” he said.

“We need to dismantle the power structures that allow discrimination, violence and economic hardship to keep one half of humanity down.”<sup>134</sup>

---

<sup>133</sup> Picard, M. 2021, Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programmes, Discussion draft paper Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on the priority theme of the sixty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW66).

<sup>134</sup> SDGs high-level meetings. 2021. <https://www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/2021/09/world-leaders-bts-sdgs>

# BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

---

## BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

- Achiron, M. 2005. Nationality and Statelessness. A Handbook for Parliamentarians. United Nations High Commissioner for refugees. Switzerland.
- Agarwal, B. 2003. Gender and land rights revisited: Exploring new prospects via the state, family and market. *Journal of Agrarian Change* 3(1–2): 184–224. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1111/1471-0366.00054>.
- Agarwal, B. and Panda, P. 2007. Toward Freedom from Domestic Violence: The Neglected Obvious. *Journal of Human Development* 8(3): 359–388. Available at: <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/14649880701462171>.
- Aguilar, L. 2021. Gender equality in the midst of climate change: what can the region's mechanisms for the advancement of women do? *Gender Affairs series*, No. 159 (LC/TS.2021/79). Santiago, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).
- Aguilar, L., Granat, M. and Owren, C. (eds.). 2015. Roots for the Future: The Landscape and Way Forward on Gender and Climate Change. IUCN. Washington, D.C. USA.
- Akongo, T., Chonde, C. 2020. Gendered Adaptation and Coping Mechanisms to Climate Variability in Eastern Uganda Rice Farming Systems. In: Singh, B., Safalaoh, A., Amuri, N., Eik, L., Sitaula, B. and Lal, R. (eds). *Climate Impacts on Agricultural and Natural Resource Sustainability in Africa*. Springer, Cham. Available at: [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-37537-9\\_4](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-37537-9_4).
- Basanta, S. 2019. Coping with droughts: Gender Matters. Available at: <https://www.indiawaterportal.org/articles/coping-dro>.
- Castañeda Camey, I., Sabater, L., Owren, C. and Boyer, A.E. 2020. Gender-based violence and environment linkages: The violence of inequality. Wen, J. (ed.). IUCN. Gland, Switzerland.
- CARE. 2021. Rapid Gender Analysis, Drought in Afghanistan: Balkh, Ghazni, Herat, and Kandahar Provinces. Available at: <https://reliefweb.int/report/afghanistan/rapid-gender-analysis-drought-afghanistan-balkh-ghazni-herat-and-kandahar-0>.
- CARE. n.d. Hope dries up? Women and Girls coping with Drought and Climate Change in Mozambique. Care International. Mozambique.
- Carmi, D. 2016. The gender dimension of drought in Fedis Woreda district, Ethiopia. Working paper 2016-8. United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD). Geneva, Switzerland.
- Doss, C. et al. 2013. Gender inequalities in ownership and control of land in Africa. Myth versus reality. IFPRI Discussion Paper 01308.
- Euro-Mediterranean Women's Foundation. 2017. *We Have the Floor: Mediterranean Civil Society Calls for Gender Equality to Become a Reality*. Available at: <https://www.euromedwomen.foundation/pg/en/documents/view/7339/we-have-floor-mediterranean-civil-society-calls-for-gender-equality-to-become-reality>.

**B.Ref**

---

## BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

Fapojuwo, O.E., Ogunnaike, M.G., Shittu, A.M., Kehinde, M.O., and Oyawole, F.P. 2019. Effect of Women Empowerment on Household Food Security among Cereal Farmers in Nigeria. African Journal of Gender and Development. 6(1&2).

Felker, M.E, Bong, I.W., DePuy, W.H. and Jihadah L.F. 2017. Considering land tenure in REDD+ participatory measurement, reporting, and verification: A case study from Indonesia. PLoS ONE 12(4): e0167943. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0167943>.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). 2022. Deploying a Humanitarian–Development–Peace Nexus Approach. Exploring, Strengthening and Reviving Dryland Ecosystems. Forestry Discussion Paper. January 2022. Available at: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/8efcbd4edc5f4922be1ab51791c54015>.

2017. Guidelines on Gender Mainstreaming and a Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA). FAO. Rome. Available at: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i6808e.pdf>.

2014. The State of Food and Agriculture. FAO. Rome. Available at: [www.fao.org/3/a-i4040e.pdf](http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4040e.pdf).

2011. Economic and Social Perspectives: Gender and land rights. Issue Brief No. 8. Available at: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/012/al059e/al059e00.pdf>.

2002. Land Tenure and Rural Development. FAO Land Tenure Studies 3. Rome, Italy. Available at: <https://www.fao.org/publications/card/en/c/c6d-ed0bb-c052-5802-9659-b93746c82019>.

n.d. Gender and Land Rights Database [website]. Available at: <http://www.fao.org/gender-landrights-database/data-map/statistics/en>.

Geere, J.A.L., Hunter, P.R. and Jagals, P. 2010. Domestic water carrying and its implications for health: a review and mixed methods pilot study in Limpopo Province, South Africa. Environ Health 9, 52. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1186/1476-069X-9-52>.

Grabe, S., Grose, R. G. and Dutt, A. 2015. Women's Land Ownership and Relationship Power: A Mixed Methods Approach to Understanding Structural Inequities and Violence Against Women. Psychology of Women Quarterly 39(1): 7–19. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0361684314533485>.

B.Ref

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC). 2021. Global Report: Internal displacement in a changing climate. Available at: [https://www.internaldisplacement.org/sites/default/files/publications/documents/grid2021\\_idmc.pdf](https://www.internaldisplacement.org/sites/default/files/publications/documents/grid2021_idmc.pdf).

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). 2015. Land Tenure Security and Poverty Reduction. Available at: <https://www.ifad.org/en/web/knowledge/publication/asset/39397937>.

International Labor Office (ILO). 2018. Care work and care jobs for the future of decent work. ILO. Geneva, Switzerland.

---

## BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

- IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change). 2019. Climate Change and Land: an IPCC special report on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security, and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems. P.R. Shukla, J. Skea, E. Calvo Buendia, V. Masson-Delmotte, H.-O. Pörtner, D. C. Roberts, P. Zhai, R. Slade, S. Connors, R. van Diemen, M. Ferrat, E. Haughey, S. Luz, S. Neogi, M. Pathak, J. Petzold, J. Portugal Pereira, P. Vyas, E. Huntley, K. Kissick, M. Belkacemi, J. Malley, (eds.). WMO and UNEP. Available at: [https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/4-SPM\\_Approved\\_Microsite\\_FINAL.pdf](https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/4-SPM_Approved_Microsite_FINAL.pdf).
2014. Summary for policymakers, Climate Change 2014: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Part A: Global and Sectoral Aspects. Contribution of Working Group II to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. C. B. Field and others (eds.). Cambridge University Press, Cambridge/New York.
- IUCN, UNISDR and PNUD. 2009. Making Disaster Risk Reduction Gender-Sensitive Policy and Practical Guidelines. UNISDR, UNDP and IUCN. Geneva, Switzerland.
- Kälin, W. and S. Weerasinghe. 2017.'Environmental Migrants and Global Governance: Facts, Policies and Practices', in McAuliffe, M. and M. Klein Solomon (Conveners) (2017) Ideas to Inform International Cooperation on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. IOM: Geneva, Switzerland.
- Kevane, M. 2003. Ratification of CEDAW. Department of Economics Santa Clara University Santa Clara. Available at: [https://eml.berkeley.edu/~webfac/bardhan/e271\\_sp03/mcvane.pdf](https://eml.berkeley.edu/~webfac/bardhan/e271_sp03/mcvane.pdf).
- Klugman, J., et al. 2014. Voice and agency: empowering women and girls for shared prosperity. World Bank. Washington DC, USA.
- Loomba Foundation. 2015. The Global Widows Report 2015: A Global Overview of Deprivation Faced by Widows and Their Children. Available at: <http://www.theloombafoundation.org/images/The%20Global%20Widows%20Report%202015.pdf>.
- Mahanty, S., Dressler, W., Milne, S., Filer, C. 2013.Unravelling property relations around forest carbon. Singap Journal of Tropical Geography. Vol. 34: Issue 2:188-205.
- Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock and FAO. 2019. Afghanistan Drought Risk Management Strategy. Report to UNCCD.
- Myeni, S., Wentink, J. 2021. A gendered approach to drought-coping mechanisms: A case of the Lubombo region, Eswatini. The Journal of Transdisciplinary Research in Southern Africa. Vol 17, No.1.
- Neumayer, E. and Plümper, T. 2007. The Gendered Nature of Natural Disasters: The Impact of Catastrophic Events on the Gender Gap in Life Expectancy, 1981–2002, Annals of the Association of American Geographers, 97:3, 551-566, DOI: 10.1111/j.1467-8306.2007.00563.x.
- OECD. 2019. SIGI 2019 Global Report: Transforming Challenges into Opportunities. Social Institutions and Gender Index. OECD Publishing. Paris. Available at: [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/bc56d212-en/1/1/7/index.html?itemId=/content/publication/bc56d212-en&csp\\_3c7e048c80fc5e8e6616e1289a989dd3&itemIGO=oecd&itemContentType=book](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/bc56d212-en/1/1/7/index.html?itemId=/content/publication/bc56d212-en&csp_3c7e048c80fc5e8e6616e1289a989dd3&itemIGO=oecd&itemContentType=book).

B.Ref

---

## BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

OHCHR. 2013. Realizing women's rights to land and other productive resources. Available at: <https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/RealizingWomensRightstoLand.pdf>.

Picard, M. 2021, Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programmes Draft discussion paper for Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on the priority theme of the sixty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW66).

Quandt, A. 2021. Coping with drought: Narratives from smallholder farmers in semi-arid Kenya. International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction 57 (2021) 102168.

Quesada-Aguilar, A. 2019. Plan de Acción de Género de la Estrategia Nacional REDD+. Secretaría REDD+-Banco Mundial, MINAE, FCPF. Washington, D.C. USA.

Kiumbuku, S., Baaru, M., and Mutinda, J. 2020. Gender Analysis of Smallholder Farmers' Adaptive Capacity to Drought in Semi-arid Kenya. Gender and Women Studies. 2020; 3(1):5.

Salam, R., Ghose,B., Shill, K.S., Islam, A., Reza, A., Islam, T., Sattar, A., Alam, G. M., and Ahmed, B. 2021. Perceived and actual risks of drought: household and expert views from the lower Teesta River Basin of northern Bangladesh. Natural Hazards (2021) 108:2569–2587.

Sunderlin W.D., Larson A.M., Duchelle A.E., Resosudarmo I.AP., Huynh T.B., Awono A., et al. 2014. How are REDD+ Proponents Addressing Tenure Problems? Evidence from Brazil, Cameroon, Tanzania, Indonesia, and Vietnam. World Dev. Vol.55. March 2014. Available at: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0305750X13000193>.

Tzili, M. 2018. Towards a Gender-Responsive Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. UN Women. New York, USA.

UNCCD. 2019. New and emerging issues: land tenure. ICCD/COP (14)/20. Bonn, Germany. Available at: <https://www.unccd.int/official-documents/cop-14-new-delhi-india-2019/iccdcop1420>.

UNICEF. 2017. Horn of Africa. A Call for Action. Available at: [https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/HOA\\_CALL\\_FOR\\_ACTION\\_Leaflet\\_Feb2017\\_1.pdf](https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/HOA_CALL_FOR_ACTION_Leaflet_Feb2017_1.pdf).

University of Colorado at Boulder. 2019. When more women make decisions, the environment wins: Gender quotas lead to greater forest conservation, study shows. ScienceDaily, 21 March 2019. Available at: <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2019/03/190321152838.htm>.

UNDP. 2020. Human Development Report. New York. USA.

UN Women. 2021. Report of the Expert Group. Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programmes. Sixty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW66, 2022). New York, USA.

World Bank. 2015. Women Business and the Law 2016: Getting to Equal. World Bank. Washington, D.C., USA.

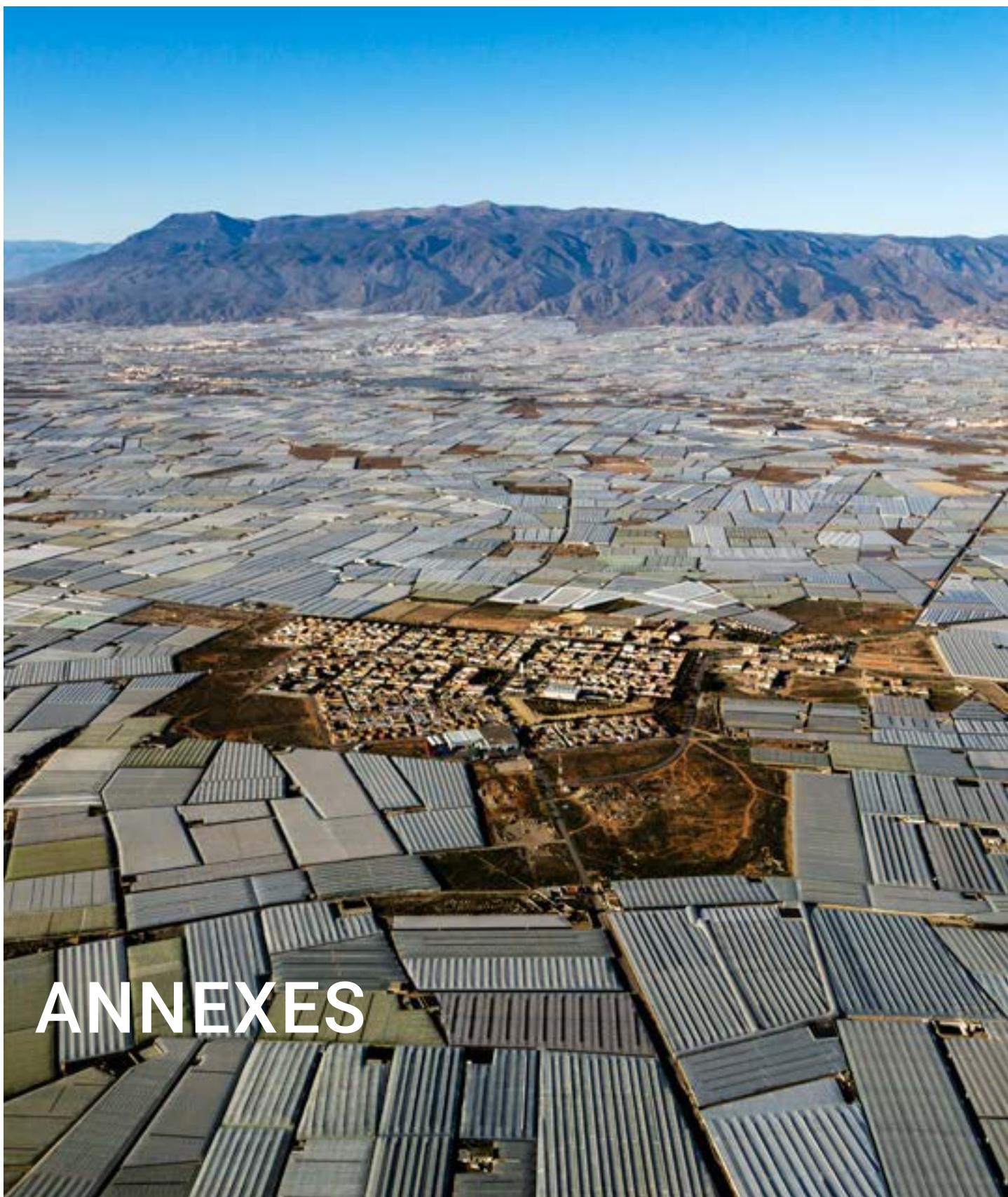
B.Ref

---

## BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

- World Bank. 2012. Toward Gender Equality in East Asia and the Pacific: A Companion to the World Development Report. The World Bank Group. Washington, D.C., USA.
- World Bank and the International Centre for Research on Women (ICRW). 2015. Girls Not Brides. World Bank. Washington, D.C., USA.
- Yami, M., Snyder, K.A.2015. After all, land belongs to the State: examining the benefits of land registration for smallholders in Ethiopia. *Land Degrad. Dev.* 27 (3), 465–478.

**B.Ref**



# ANNEXES

## ANNEX I. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

### COUNTRIES GENDER PROFILES

INDICATOR/METRIC	SOURCE
<b>Category 1: Livelihood</b>	
Population living below the national poverty line	UNDP Human Development Report, 2020 <a href="http://hdr.undp.org/en/2020-report">http://hdr.undp.org/en/2020-report</a> <a href="https://data.worldbank.org/indicator">https://data.worldbank.org/indicator</a>
Prevalence of anemia among non-pregnant women	World Health Organization <a href="https://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.imr.ANEMIANPW?lang=en">https://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.imr.ANEMIANPW?lang=en</a>
Proportion of population using at least basic drinking water services (%)	SDG Country Profile. <a href="https://country-profiles.unstatshub.org/dza#goal-6">https://country-profiles.unstatshub.org/dza#goal-6</a>
Proportion of population using at least basic sanitation services (5)	SDG Country Profile. <a href="https://country-profiles.unstatshub.org/dza#goal-6">https://country-profiles.unstatshub.org/dza#goal-6</a> World Bank Data. <a href="https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.STA.BASS.ZS">https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.STA.BASS.ZS</a>
<b>Category 2: Gender-based rights and participation</b>	
CEDAW ratification	New dataset UN Human Rights Office of the Right Commissioner. <a href="https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrbodies/cedaw/pages/cedawindex.aspx">https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrbodies/cedaw/pages/cedawindex.aspx</a>
Employment to population ratio (% ages 15 and older) by sex.	UNDP 2020. Human Development Report <a href="http://hdr.undp.org/en/2020-report">http://hdr.undp.org/en/2020-report</a>
Employment in agriculture by sex.	World Bank Data. <a href="https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.AGR.EMPL.ZS">https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.AGR.EMPL.ZS</a> Our World Data. Employment in Agriculture <a href="https://ourworldindata.org/employment-in-agriculture">https://ourworldindata.org/employment-in-agriculture</a>
Percentage of seats in local government by sex	UN WOMEN. Women in politics:2020 <a href="https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2020/03/women-in-politics-map-2020#view">https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2020/03/women-in-politics-map-2020#view</a>
Percentage of women in the total number of representatives of the lower or single House of the Parliament	Inter-Parliamentary Union (via UNSD) <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/database/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/database/</a>
Percentage of women in the latest UNCCD COP delegations	New dataset <a href="https://indico.un.org/event/19479">https://indico.un.org/event/19479</a>
<b>Category 3: Gender-based education and assets</b>	
Secure access to land	SIGI 2019. <a href="https://www.genderindex.org/sigi/">https://www.genderindex.org/sigi/</a>
Access to credit	SIGI 2019. <a href="https://www.genderindex.org/sigi/">https://www.genderindex.org/sigi/</a>
Women with bank accounts	SIGI. <a href="https://www.genderindex.org/sigi/">https://www.genderindex.org/sigi/</a>
Literacy rate, adult (% ages 15 and older) women	UIS. <a href="http://data.uis.unesco.org/">http://data.uis.unesco.org/</a>
Percentage of young women (aged 15-24 years) not in education, employment or training (NEET)	ILO. <a href="https://www.ilo.org/ilostat">https://www.ilo.org/ilostat</a>
<b>Category 4: Gender considerations within country reports</b>	
Inclusion of gender in the UNCCD national reports	New dataset <a href="https://prais.unccd.int/unccd/reports">https://prais.unccd.int/unccd/reports</a>
Inclusion of gender in LDN country profiles	New dataset <a href="https://www.unccd.int/actionsldn-programme/ldn-country-profiles">https://www.unccd.int/actionsldn-programme/ldn-country-profiles</a>
Inclusion of gender in national drought plans	New dataset <a href="https://knowledge.unccd.int/drought-toolbox/page/drought-planning">https://knowledge.unccd.int/drought-toolbox/page/drought-planning</a>
Inclusion of land and desertification topics in CEDAW reports	New dataset. UN Human Rights Office of the Right Commissioner. <a href="https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrbodies/cedaw/pages/cedawindex.aspx">https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrbodies/cedaw/pages/cedawindex.aspx</a> UN Treaty Body Database. <a href="https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/TB-Search.aspx?Lang=en&amp;TreatyID=3&amp;DocTypeID=27">https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/TB-Search.aspx?Lang=en&amp;TreatyID=3&amp;DocTypeID=27</a>
<b>Category 5: Land degradation</b>	
Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area	SDG Global Database (SDG 15.3.1) at: <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/UNSDG/IndDatabasePage">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/UNSDG/IndDatabasePage</a>

## ANNEX II. COUNTRIES IN EACH REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION ANNEX

<b>AFRICA</b>	Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burundi, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo (Republic of), Cote d'Ivoire, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Djibouti, Eritrea, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, South Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe
<b>ASIA</b>	Afghanistan, Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Cook Islands, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Korea (Democratic People's Republic of), Korea (Republic of), Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Niue, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Philippines, Qatar, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Syria, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen
<b>LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN</b>	Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela
<b>NORTHERN MEDITERRANEAN</b>	Albania, Croatia, Cyprus, Croatia, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Israel, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey
<b>CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE</b>	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Georgia, Latvia, Montenegro, Moldova, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Ukraine
<b>COUNTRY NOT BELONGING TO A REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION ANNEX</b>	Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, European Union, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Monaco, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, San Marino, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America
<b>OBSERVERS</b>	Holy See Palestine

### ANNEX 3. PROPORTION OF WOMEN AND MEN AND THE PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN IN THE PARTIES' DELEGATIONS BY COUNTRY

	# Female	# Male	# Total	%Female per country
Albania	0	0	0	0
Afghanistan	0	0	0	0
Algeria	1	6	7	14
Andorra	0	0	0	0
Angola	2	3	5	40
Antigua and Barbuda	0	0	0	0
Argentina	0	4	4	0
Armenia	0	2	2	0
Australia	1	1	2	50
Austria	1	2	3	33
Azerbaijan	1	4	5	20
Bahrain	0	0	0	0
Bangladesh	0	8	8	0
Barbados	0	0	0	0
Belarus	0	2	2	0
Belgium	0	3	3	0
Belize	0	0	0	0
Benin	3	11	14	21
Bhutan	2	9	11	18
Bolivia	0	3	3	0
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1	2	3	33
Botswana	2	5	7	28
Brazil	0	7	7	0
Brunei Darussalam	0	0	0	0
Burkina Faso	4	27	31	13
Bulgaria	0	0	0	0
Burundi	1	4	5	20
Cambodia	0	6	6	0
Cameroon	0	3	3	0
Cape Verde	0	0	0	0

	# Female	# Male	# Total	%Female per country
Central African Republic	1	4	5	20
Chad	2	9	11	18
Chile	0	5	5	0
Canada	0	3	3	0
China	2	22	24	8
Colombia	1	5	6	16
Comoros	0	1	1	0
Congo (Republic of the)	1	3	4	25
Cook Islands	1	1	2	50
Costa Rica	4	6	10	40
Côte d'Ivoire	2	4	6	33
Croatia	2	3	5	40
Cuba	1	3	4	25
Cyprus	0	0	0	0
Czech Republic	0	2	2	0
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	5	4	9	55
Democratic Republic of the Congo	1	3	4	25
Denmark	0	0	0	0
Dominica	0	0	0	0
Dominican Republic	1	1	2	50
Djibouti	0	1	1	0
Ecuador	2	4	6	33
Eq. Guinea	0	5	5	0
Egypt	1	5	6	20
El Salvador	0	0	0	0
Eritrea	0	4	4	0
Estonia	1	1	2	50
Eswatini	1	7	8	12

	# Female	# Male	# Total	%Female per country
Ethiopia	0	3	3	0
European Union	2	6	8	25
Fiji	0	4	4	0
Finland	9	16	25	36
France	6	15	21	28
Gabon	0	3	3	0
Gambia	0	8	8	0
Georgia	3	3	6	50
Germany	11	19	30	36
Ghana	1	13	14	7
Greece	0	0	0	0
Grenada	0	3	3	0
Guatemala	0	4	4	0
Guinea	0	8	8	0
Guinea-Bissau	0	2	2	0
Guyana	8	17	25	32
Haiti	1	5	6	16
Honduras	0	1	1	0
Hungary	1	3	4	25
Iceland	2	5	7	28
India	9	35	44	20
Indonesia	2	10	12	16
Iran	0	5	5	0
Iraq	3	11	14	21
Ireland	0	1	1	0
Israel	1	6	7	14
Italy	7	20	27	26
Jamaica	0	0	0	0
Japan	2	7	9	22
Jordan	0	1	1	0
Kazakhstan	1	3	4	25
Kenya	0	15	15	0

	# Female	# Male	# Total	%Female per country
Kiribati	2	2	4	50
Kuwait	3	3	6	50
Kyrgyzstan	0	2	2	0
Lao PDR	0	4	4	0
Latvia	0	0	0	0
Lebanon	1	5	6	16
Liechtenstein	0	0	0	0
Lesotho	3	6	9	33
Liberia	0	2	2	0
Libya	0	0	0	0
Lithuania	1	2	3	33
Luxembourg	0	2	2	0
Madagascar	3	6	9	33
Malawi	1	3	4	25
Malaysia	0	0	0	0
Mali	1	4	5	20
Maldives	0	2	2	0
Malta	1	9	10	10
Marshall Islands	0	1	1	0
Mauritania	1	4	5	20
Mauritius	0	1	1	0
Mexico	0	3	3	0
Micronesia	0	0	0	0
Monaco	0	0	0	0
Mongolia	0	1	1	0
Montenegro	1	2	3	33
Morocco	1	12	13	8
Mozambique	0	5	5	0
Myanmar	0	3	3	0
Namibia	5	14	19	26
Nauru	0	0	0	0
Nepal	0	6	6	0

	<b># Female</b>	<b># Male</b>	<b># Total</b>	<b>%Female per country</b>
Netherlands	3	6	9	33
New Zealand	0	0	0	0
Nicaragua	0	3	3	0
Niger	5	32	37	13
Nigeria	4	15	19	21
Niue	0	0	0	0
Norway	3	4	7	43
Oman	0	6	6	0
Pakistan	0	0	0	0
Palau	1	2	3	33
Panama	0	3	3	0
Papua New Guinea	1	4	5	20
Paraguay	1	0	0	100
Peru	2	5	7	28
Philippines	5	10	15	33
Poland	0	4	4	0
Portugal	2	3	5	40
Qatar	0	2	2	0
Republic of Korea	5	21	26	19
Republic of Moldova	2	3	5	40
Republic of North Macedonia	0	0	0	0
Romania	0	0	0	0
Russian Federation	1	6	7	14
Rwanda	0	2	2	0
Samoa	2	3	5	40
San Marino	0	0	0	0
Sao Tome & Principe	0	2	2	0
Saudi Arabia	1	10	11	9
Serbia	3	4	7	43
Senegal	0	6	6	0
Seychelles	1	4	5	20
Sierra Leone	0	0	0	0

	<b># Female</b>	<b># Male</b>	<b># Total</b>	<b>%Female per country</b>
Singapore	0	0	0	0
Slovakia	1	3	4	0
Slovenia	0	0	0	0
Solomon Island	1	2	3	33
Somalia	3	10	13	23
South Africa	14	27	41	34
South Sudan	0	2	2	0
Spain	1	1	2	50
Sri Lanka	3	7	10	30
St. Kitts and Nevis	0	1	1	0
St. Lucia	2	3	5	40
Saint Vicente and the Grenadines	1	4	5	20
Sudan	8	19	27	29
Suriname	2	2	4	50
Swaziland	0	0	0	0
Sweden	0	1	1	0
Switzerland	5	9	14	36
Syria	1	3	4	25
Tajikistan	1	3	4	25
Thailand	6	14	20	30
Timor-Leste	0	3	3	0
Togo	1	3	4	25
Tonga	0	0	0	0
Trinidad and Tobago	0	1	1	0
Tunisia	0	1	1	0
Turkey	2	13	15	13
Turkmenistan	0	5	5	0
Tuvalu	0	2	2	0
Uganda	10	28	38	26
Ukraine	1	2	3	33
United Arab Emirates	2	3	5	40

	# Female	# Male	# Total	%Female per country
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2	6	8	25
United of Republic of Tanzania	0	3	3	0
United States of America	5	14	19	26
Uruguay	0	1	1	0
Uzbekistan	0	6	6	0
Vanuatu	0	0	0	0
Venezuela	2	4	6	33
Viet Nam	1	3	4	25
Yemen	0	3	3	0
Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	0	0	0	0
Zambia	4	13	17	23
Zimbabwe	3	9	12	25
Subtotal	265	968	1232	
Percentage	22	78	100	
Observers				
Holy See	0	5	5	0
Palestine	0	5	5	0
Subtotal	0	10	10	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>978</b>	<b>1243</b>	
<b>Percentage</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>100</b>	

## ANNEX IV. PROPORTION OF WOMEN AND MEN IN COP14 FROM SELECTED COUNTRIES

		# Female	# Male	# Total	%Female per country
1	Albania	0	0	0	0
2	Algeria	1	6	7	14
3	Angola	2	3	5	40
4	Argentina	0	4	4	0
5	Armenia	0	2	2	0
6	Australia	1	1	2	50
7	Belarus	0	2	2	0
8	Bhutan	2	9	11	18
9	Bolivia	0	3	3	0
10	Brazil	0	7	7	0
11	Burkina Faso	4	27	31	13
12	Chad	2	9	11	18
13	Chile	0	5	5	0
14	China	2	22	24	8
15	Colombia	1	5	6	16
16	Costa Rica	4	6	10	40
17	Côte d'Ivoire	2	4	6	33
18	Dominican Republic	1	1	2	50
19	Djibouti	0	1	1	0
20	Ethiopia	0	3	3	0
21	Grenada	0	3	3	0
22	Guyana	8	17	25	32
23	India	9	35	44	20
24	Indonesia	2	10	12	16
25	Italy	7	20	27	26
26	Kenya	0	15	15	0
27	Lao PDR	0	4	4	0
28	Madagascar	3	6	9	33
29	Malawi	1	3	4	25

		# Female	# Male	# Total	%Female per country
30	Marshall Islands	0	1	1	0
31	Mexico	0	3	3	0
32	Montenegro	1	2	3	33
33	Morocco	1	12	13	8
34	Namibia	5	14	19	26
35	Niger	5	32	37	13
36	Nigeria	4	15	19	21
37	Panama	0	3	3	0
38	Papua New Guinea	1	4	5	20
39	Peru	2	5	7	28
40	Philippines	5	10	15	33
41	Russian Federation	1	6	7	14
42	Samoa	2	3	5	40
43	Serbia	3	4	7	43
44	Slovenia	0	0	0	0
45	South Africa	14	27	41	34
46	Spain	1	1	2	50
47	Sri Lanka	3	7	10	30
48	Thailand	6	14	20	30
49	Tunisia	0	1	1	0
50	Turkey	2	13	15	13
51	Tuvalu	0	2	2	0
52	Uganda	10	28	38	26
53	Ukraine	1	2	3	33
54	United of Republic of Tanzania	0	3	3	0
55	Zimbabwe	3	9	12	25

---

## ANNEX V. LIST OF COUNTRIES THAT HAVE SUBMITTED LAND DEGRADATION NEUTRALITY (LDN) COUNTRY PROFILES AS OF 17 NOVEMBER 2021, BY ANNEX

<b>AFRICA</b>	Benin Botswana Burkina Faso Central African Republic Eswatini Gambia Ghana Guinea Guinea-Bissau Lesotho Madagascar Malawi Mauritius Namibia Sierra Leone Zimbabwe
<b>ASIA</b>	Cambodia Kyrgyzstan Lao Mongolia Thailand
<b>LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN</b>	Chile Guyana Panama
<b>CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE</b>	Armenia Belarus Bosnia and Herzegovina Montenegro Republic of North Macedonia Serbia

---

## ANNEX VI: LIST OF COUNTRIES WITH NDPS AS OF 15 DECEMBER 2021

<b>AFRICA</b>	Algeria, Burundi, Central African Republic, Cote d'Ivoire, Eswatini, Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Zambia, Zimbabwe
<b>ASIA</b>	Afghanistan, Cambodia, Jordan, Marshall Islands, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Turkmenistan, Viet Nam
<b>LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN</b>	Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Venezuela
<b>CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE</b>	Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Montenegro, Republic of North Macedonia, Serbia, Ukraine

## ANNEX VII. IMPORTANT ELEMENTS FOR NATIONAL DROUGHT PLANS

Below is a short summary of the key elements that should appear in a National Drought Plan (DNP), grouped according to the proposed chapter structure provided as a template in the material to consultants.

### 1. BACKGROUND

Drought should be defined using a consistent definition, e.g., that used by the US National Drought Mitigation Center [in the case of agriculture]: Drought is a protracted period of deficient precipitation resulting in extensive damage to crops, and a consequential loss of yield.<sup>135</sup> The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) also has a simple definition: Drought is a prolonged dry period in the natural climate cycle that can occur anywhere in the world.<sup>136</sup>

The different types of droughts should also be clearly identified and defined: meteorological, agricultural, hydrological, socio-economic.

The scope and specific objectives of the NDP should be clearly stated, and follow closely the three key pillars:

- Implement drought monitoring and early warning systems
- Assess drought vulnerability and risk
- Implement measures to limit impacts of drought and better respond to drought

The innovation and added value of the NDP plan should be clearly described.

### GENDER ENTRY POINTS

Pledge to include women and men, particularly from marginalized socio-economic groups, in decision-making processes and in implementation of actions.

Commit to reducing the gender gap between women and men by undertaking actions to empower women and meet the different priorities of women and men in responding to drought.

Include in the plan's vision the achievement of equality between men and women of different ages in order to build their resilience.

Develop gender-sensitive indicators to monitor results.<sup>137</sup>

See also the suggestions in Annex II: Mainstreaming gender into NDPs.

135 <http://drought.unl.edu/Education/DroughtIn-depth/WhatisDrought.aspx>

136 <https://public.wmo.int/en/our-mandate/water/drought>

137 Examples of gender-sensitive indicators can be found: World Bank (n.d.): Gender Informed Monitoring and Evaluation in Disaster Risk Management, p. 9. <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/313481468262140205/Gender-informed-monitoring-and-evaluation-in-disaster-risk-management>; UNISDR, UNDP and IUCN (2009): Making Disaster Risk Reduction Gender-Sensitive Policy and Practical Guidelines, p. 107-118. [https://www.unisdr.org/files/9922\\_MakingDisasterRiskReductionGenderSe.pdf](https://www.unisdr.org/files/9922_MakingDisasterRiskReductionGenderSe.pdf); ADB (2013): Tool Kit on Gender Equality Results and Indicators <https://www.adb.org/documents/tool-kit-gender-equality-results-and-indicators>

## **2. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PLANS AND POLICIES**

---

It is important to identify all relevant policies, plans and forms of legislation related to agriculture, land use planning, rural economic development, water resource management and development, ecosystem and biodiversity conservation, and built infrastructure; drought has the potential to impact all these sectors.

---

A table listing the policies, plans and legislation, and some assessment of where drought has impact and is relevant in each, would help highlight the importance of the NDP.

---

The policies, plans and legislation identified must include those developed and applied at local, regional and global levels (i.e., not just national level).

---

### **GENDER ENTRY POINTS**

---

Review existing national policy and plans for drought/disaster risk reduction from a gender perspective to ensure that gender issues and women's concerns are addressed at policy level.

---

Is gender recognized in discussions and research vis-à-vis agriculture, land use planning, rural economic development, water resource management and development, ecosystem and biodiversity conservation, and infrastructure?

---

Is gender mainstreamed at institutions dealing with agriculture, land use planning, rural economic development, water resource management and development, ecosystem and biodiversity conservation, and infrastructure?

---

Is sex and age-disaggregated data collected and published at every level, wherever this is possible?

---

Is the importance of support to women and vulnerable groups underscored in the development of sustainable ecosystems and natural resource management, including the planning of land use to reduce risk?

---

Do the development of sustainable ecosystem and natural resource management plans underscore risk reduction and the importance of support to women and vulnerable groups?

---

Does the development of financial risk-sharing mechanisms prioritize the involvement of women, and are these mechanisms accessible and appropriate to the needs of women at risk of drought disasters?

---

Each country must navigate its own path towards gender equality through the drought/disaster risk reduction laws, policies and national frameworks, bearing in mind international standards and the national context. The checklist can be designed for analysis of legislation on disaster risk reduction or management of emergency situations, and should address the following issues:

- Reveal gender-based discrimination found in current legislation
  - Uncover gaps in, or lack of specific legislation for, the promotion and protection of gender equality
  - Suggest ways that such gaps and discrimination might be addressed
-

### **3. OVERVIEW OF DROUGHT IN THE COUNTRY**

---

Should reinforce that drought is a climatic phenomenon that can potentially occur anywhere in the world.

---

Preferably provide some summary of projected changes to drought duration, frequency and intensity in view of observed climate change trends.

---

Common and widely accepted climate-based (e.g., precipitation, temperature) indicators should be used to graphically present historical drought occurrences. Table 1 in the DRAMP Technical Guidelines should be consulted for the most relevant indicators. Use of any unusual indicator should be justified, and the method clearly explained.

---

Historical impacts and historical responses to drought should be summarized by sectors – agriculture, forestry, water supply, environment, public health, indigenous and minority groups (where relevant).

---

An inventory of natural, built, social, financial and human capital of the country should appear here, including identification of any constraints that may impede the planning process.

---

#### **GENDER ENTRY POINTS**

---

Include (if available) a brief synopsis on impacts of drought on different gender, age and social class groups:

- Any mechanisms for scaling up good practices and lessons learned.
  - Any post drought assessments or needs assessments that analyses the situation for different population and age groups.<sup>138</sup>
- 

### **4. ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES**

---

An explicit listing of the key ministries and stakeholders should appear here, and should include senior representation from agriculture/forestry, water, environment, meteorology, finance/treasury and social services ministries. Would be good to also have representation from research institutes, NGOs and community groups (e.g., farmer and irrigator groups) and the private sector (e.g., key organizations in the food supply chain).

---

Responsibilities and leadership roles should be clearly assigned.

---

A visual representation (e.g., institutional map) indicating institutions responsible for drought preparedness and response in the country is very advantageous.

---

#### **GENDER ENTRY POINTS**

---

Identify stakeholders that represent the views of women and minority groups in institutional mechanisms for drought/disaster planning and implementation.

---

<sup>138</sup> As an example see: Malawi drought 2015-2016 Post-disaster needs assessment (PDNA) <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/640011479881661626/pdf/110423-WP-PDNAMalawispreadsFINAL-PUBLIC.pdf>

---

Stakeholders with gender expertise can help to identify entry points for gender mainstreaming and implement a mainstreaming approach throughout the entire policy-making cycle. These experts are important allies. Such expertise might be found with policy-making colleagues, academics, consultants, civil society organizations/community groups, or development partners. Bringing this expertise aboard is mainstreaming at its most basic level.

---

Obtain an overview of the country's gender mechanism and gender-related capacities. This may include, for example, gender focal points in line ministries and other decision-makers, experts, civil society and academia. These allies can help to build political will, and statistics offices can provide valuable quantitative data. NGOs and other community-based organizations will be able to provide a direct link to men and women in the community and can help identify and articulate their needs and wishes in terms of organizational, legal and policy frameworks; capacities; risk identification, assessment, monitoring and early warning; knowledge management and education, reducing underlying risk factors and ensuring preparedness for effective response and recovery.

- What resources and capacities are available?
  - How could these capacities be activated for the development of a national drought plan?
  - What are the priorities?
  - Which resources and capacities are not available but needed?
- 

Develop win-win partnerships and networks with different stakeholders, especially with development policy makers, planners and practitioners whose roles will be essential in mainstreaming gender-responsive drought/disaster risk reduction into development sectors.

---

## 5. DROUGHT MONITORING, FORECASTING AND IMPACT ASSESSMENT

---

Well-known and scientifically robust indicators should be used (see pages 7-15 and Table 1 in the DRAMP Technical Guidelines).

---

Ideally the data for indicators presented here would already be compiled by the country (e.g., by the meteorological agency) or could relatively easily be compiled from existing data collected in country. Some indicators (e.g., SPI) are collected globally and could be used, but the resolution may be too coarse if the country area is small.

---

Preferably there would be some presentation and discussion of regional climatic processes, which may cause unusually long dry periods, reinforcing that drought are part of the climate cycle.

---

Where available, spatially explicit data on historical drought impacts should be presented by sector (e.g., agriculture, water supply, environment, society) especially in terms of economic impacts. However, such data may be rare.

---

Should include an assessment of the country's institutional capacity for establishing and maintaining drought monitoring and early warning systems, including capacity for data collection and sharing, and data interpretation to support decision making.

---

### GENDER ENTRY POINTS

Develop recommendations for a gender-responsive systematic, standardized process to collect, assess and share data, maps and trends on drought and vulnerability as well as for an effective drought monitoring and warning service that considers the abilities and needs of women and men.

- Are women and women's organizations involved in the development of national standards for the systematic collection, sharing and assessment of drought and vulnerability data development?
  - Are women and men's traditional knowledge considered equally in forecasting drought?
  - Are women's and men's traditional knowledge and perceptions included in the analysis and evaluation of the characteristics of drought?
  - Is there a central 'library' or GIS databases with gender and age-differentiated data established to store all disaster and drought risk information?<sup>139</sup>
  - Are gender and age-differentiated data and analysis from regional networks, adjacent territories, and international sources available accessible?
  - Are women and men trained on forecasting drought using various resources?
  - Is the participation of women encouraged in early warning systems?
  - Is there equal involvement of women and men in the committee that sets up technical warning systems for drought?
  - Are early warning systems appropriate for, and accessible to, both women and men? This means that communication alerts, media and technology need to be tailored to the preferences and behavior patterns of women and men.
- 

## 6. DROUGHT RISK AND VULNERABILITY

---

Important to apply the standard definition of Risk = Vulnerability X Hazard

---

For defining vulnerability this equation can be used: Vulnerability (V) = Exposure (E) + Sensitivity (S) – Adaptive Capacity (AC).

---

A risk assessment that excludes an estimate of vulnerability is not very useful to support decisions and policy. The DRAMP Technical Guidelines, pages 17-24 have much information and guidance on how to conduct a risk assessment, including a list of indicators and data sources for the vulnerability assessment.

---

### GENDER ENTRY POINTS

---

Recommend use of a gender-responsive risk assessment. This can be achieved if gender issues are considered when planning and conducting the main steps entailed in risk assessment: identifying the nature, location, intensity, and probability of drought; determining the existence and degree of vulnerabilities and exposure to risk; identifying the capacities and resources available to address or manage droughts; and determining acceptable levels of risk.

---

A good example to follow is the "Checklist for gender-sensitive risk assessment" UNISDR, UNDP and IUCN (2009): Making Disaster Risk Reduction Gender-Sensitive Policy and Practical Guidelines, p. 52 et seq [https://www.unisdr.org/files/9922\\_MakingDisasterRiskReductionGenderSe.pdf](https://www.unisdr.org/files/9922_MakingDisasterRiskReductionGenderSe.pdf)

---

<sup>139</sup> An overview on gender-differentiated data needs that may be useful for a gender-informed drought monitoring and a drought risk and vulnerability assessment respectively, can be obtained here: UN-Women/UNDP (2018): Gender and disaster risk reduction in Europe and Central Asia, Workshop Guide for Facilitators, p. 27-29. [http://www.eurasia.undp.org/content/dam/rbec/docs/Gender%20and%20disaster%20risk%20reduction%20in%20Europe%20and%20Central%20Asia%20-%20Workshop%20guide%20\(English\).pdf](http://www.eurasia.undp.org/content/dam/rbec/docs/Gender%20and%20disaster%20risk%20reduction%20in%20Europe%20and%20Central%20Asia%20-%20Workshop%20guide%20(English).pdf)

---

Gender-responsive risk assessment, based on a gender-based vulnerability analysis, takes into account the gender inequality practices in political, social, cultural, and economic spheres as well as the different roles that men and women play at national and local levels.

---

Tools:

- Gender-responsive capacity and vulnerability assessment. CARE International in Mozambique (2014): Gender-sensitive Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis (GCVCA) Practitioners Guide. <http://www.eldis.org/document/A76274>
  - Oxfam Australia (n.d.) Integrated Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Participatory Capacity and Vulnerability Analysis (PCVA) Toolkit, [https://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/cancun\\_adaptation\\_framework/adaptation\\_committee/application/pdf/pcba\\_toolkit\\_oxfam\\_australia.pdf](https://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/cancun_adaptation_framework/adaptation_committee/application/pdf/pcba_toolkit_oxfam_australia.pdf)
  - Action Contre la Faim 2013) Participatory risk, capacity & vulnerability analysis a practitioner manual for field workers. <https://www.actionagainsthunger.org/publication/2013/01/participatory-risk-capacity-vulnerability-analysis-practitioner-manual-field>
  - UN-Women/UNDP(2018): Gender and disaster risk reduction in Europe and Central Asia, Workshop Guide for Facilitators, p. 47-49. [http://www.eurasia.undp.org/content/dam/rbec/docs/Gender%20and%20disaster%20risk%20reduction%20in%20Europe%20and%20Central%20Asia%20-%20Workshop%20guide%20\(English\).pdf](http://www.eurasia.undp.org/content/dam/rbec/docs/Gender%20and%20disaster%20risk%20reduction%20in%20Europe%20and%20Central%20Asia%20-%20Workshop%20guide%20(English).pdf)
- 

Are there equal opportunities for men and women to be part of the scientific and technical expert groups assessing and reviewing the accuracy of the available risk data and information?

---

Are there actions under way to increase women's capacity and knowledge on gender-sensitive risk assessment and vulnerability analysis in drought disaster risk reduction?

---

Are both women and men involved equally in the development of risk and hazard maps and in the identification of data and indicators for the assessment of gender-specific aspects of risk and vulnerability?

---

Are women and men equally involved in the process to review and update risk data each year, and include information on any new or emerging vulnerabilities and drought/hazards?

---

Are men and women's perceptions of risk considered separately?

---

Do risk maps reflect gender-differentiated impacts of the risk and include gender-differentiated vulnerability data?

---

Are gender differentiated results of risk assessment integrated into local risk management plans and warning messages?

---

Do research, analysis and reporting assess emerging issues that might impact women's risk levels?

---

Do risk assessment training programs and other capacity-building activities contain mechanisms to ensure the participation of both men and women?

---

Is there a strategy to actively engage women and men from the communities in local drought and vulnerability analyses?

---

## **7. DROUGHT COMMUNICATION AND RESPONSE ACTIONS**

---

Need to ensure that the declaration of drought is informed by and tied to appropriate indicators used to monitor drought, in conjunction with monitoring of impacts.

---

Response action for different drought level and its communication target has to be clearly specified.

---

Early warning systems should take advantage of ICT infrastructure (especially mobile phones which are prevalent worldwide) to ensure rapid and efficient communication. The use of indigenous knowledge is also relevant.

---

Need very clear, unambiguous identification of who has what responsibilities to declare communicate and respond.

---

### **GENDER ENTRY POINTS**

---

Check whether gender-responsive dissemination and communication systems are used that take into consideration women's practices, concerns and needs. Knowledge, acceptance and respect for gender differences and strong social norms can improve response. An appropriate response is based on drought knowledge dissemination, which would include information and training, as well as promoting women as key agents of change.

- Are gender perspectives mainstreamed in all the processes, roles and responsibilities of all the organizations generating and issuing warnings?
- Does the warning dissemination chain ensure that both women and men receive information?
- Are the communication and dissemination systems are tailored to the needs and social behavior of both women and men?
- Is warning communication technology is accessible, and does it reach women and men equally?
- Are gender experts or women's groups are consulted to assist with identification and procurement of appropriate equipment or mechanisms?
- Are multiple communication mediums for warning dissemination used, encompassing also those used or preferred by women?
- Is women's ability to respond effectively to early warnings assessed?
- Is gender-differentiated response to previous droughts analyzed and gender-sensitive lessons learned incorporated into future capacity-building strategies?
- Are women-focused organizations engaged to assist with capacity building?
- Is simple information on drought, vulnerabilities, risks and how to reduce impacts disseminated equally to vulnerable women and men, and in a language, they can understand?
- Are women and men and other minority groups educated on how warnings will be disseminated, which sources are reliable, and how to respond to drought after an early warning message is received?
- Are public awareness and education campaigns tailored to the specific needs and concerns of women and men?
- Are public awareness strategies and programs evaluated at least once per year to determine if women are effectively involved in the response process?
- Is the traditional knowledge of women, as well as men, taken into consideration when assessing available resources and capacities for reducing vulnerability?

## **8. DROUGHT MITIGATION AND PREPAREDNESS**

---

In line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, emphasis should be on drought prevention and risk mitigation.

---

Close linkages to the existing policy, plans and legislation identified in Section 2 above is advised.

---

Actions that mitigate drought risk and increase resilience should be outlined here. Sources of information include IDMP<sup>140</sup>, FAO<sup>141</sup>, WOCAT<sup>142</sup> and the UNCCD Drought Toolbox (currently under development).

---

Drought preparedness should include a mixture of demand management and supply augmentation actions.

---

Integrated land use and spatial planning approaches should be encouraged.

---

It must be clear which national/local organizations are responsible for implementing the actions that mitigate drought risk and increase resilience.

---

### **GENDER ENTRY POINTS**

---

Propose/consider actions that address gender issues and women's concerns, and which enhance women's [economic] empowerment in order to eradicate their extreme poverty and boost their resilience.

---

Include livelihoods activities that respond to the different needs, priorities and preferences of men and women; and ensure women's home-based businesses and activities are included.

---

Introduce labor- and resource-saving technology for women,

---

Support actions to improve the access of women, and other marginalized groups, to land and property rights (e.g., joint titling of land and house, legal reforms of discriminatory laws).

---

Ensure women have access to extension and information services oriented to their productive roles.

---

Ensure that eligibility criteria for micro-finance, micro-insurance and savings schemes/products do not inadvertently exclude women (e.g., targeting only male heads of households, or requiring collateral that female household members may not have).

---

Improve access to employment opportunities for women.

---

Support replacement of productive assets of both poor men and women within the same household (e.g., agricultural/gardening tools).

---

Ensure that women have safe access to payment systems (e.g., direct labor wage payment, mobile banking for women with restricted mobility, in-kind if risk of male relatives taking part of payment, etc.).

---

Involve men and women from diverse groups actively in the selection, design, construction, and maintenance of risk mitigation works.

---

Require that some sub-projects identified as priorities by women be supported, alongside those of men.

---

Train women, as well as men, in drought-resilient techniques accounting for their different time constraints, workloads, education levels and preferences.

---

140 The Integrated Drought Management Program (IDMP) has a helpdesk to support decision making, see <http://www.droughtmanagement.info>

141 For example see <http://www.fao.org/land-water/water/drought/droughtandag/en>

142 A very valuable source of information on sustainable land management practices, see <https://www.wocat.net/en>

---

Assess the gender impact of proposed changes to, or development of land use plans, environmental legislation and tenure rights.

---

Community awareness-raising must be undertaken on the need to engage women and men equally in all preparedness activities, including how to address socio-cultural barriers to women's participation in community decision-making and preparedness activities (e.g., working with community leaders to engage women in decision-making).

---

See also suggestions under Point 2.

- Are preparedness plans and response capacities gender-sensitive, and do they address the main gender-based differences in disaster preparedness and response?
  - Are local drought/disaster prevention plans developed in a gender-responsive way, by ensuring that women and men are equally involved, and consulting with minority groups?
  - Is there gender equality in opportunities for financial access to economic and livelihood support, and is environmental viability and equal access to land and resources ensured?
  - Have measures been identified to support the economic needs of marginalized and vulnerable members of society, including isolated and remote communities, people with disabilities, those with mobility barriers or severe illness?
  - Are sex-disaggregated data collected, to understand different groups' needs related to vulnerable natural resources?
  - Do women-headed households participate in the contingency planning?
  - Do both men and women participate in the contingency plan testing and provide feedback on drought/disaster risk reduction-related technologies and techniques?
  - Are women and men's traditional knowledge about the drought utilized in preparedness strategies?
- 

## 9. RECOMMENDATIONS AND IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

---

Provide key recommendations from each of the Sections 5-8 above.

---

Summarize key actions to be taken at the different levels to trigger varying responses to drought.

---

Compile a list of country needs and deficiencies on drought management.

---

Establish a set of procedures for adequate plan evaluation (ongoing and post-drought evaluation).

---

### GENDER ENTRY POINTS

---

Include also all gender-related recommendations and implementation actions.

---

---

## ANNEX VIII LIST OF COUNTRIES WITH PRAIS AS OF 13 DECEMBER 2021

1	Albania	26	Madagascar
2	Algeria	27	Malawi
3	Angola	28	Mexico
4	Argentina	29	Montenegro
5	Armenia	30	Morocco
6	Australia	31	Namibia
7	Belarus	32	Nigeria
8	Bhutan	33	Panama
9	Bolivia	34	Papua New Guinea
10	Brazil	35	Peru
11	Burkina Faso	36	Philippines
12	Chile	37	Russian Federation
13	China	38	Samoa
14	Colombia	39	Serbia
15	Costa Rica	40	Slovenia
16	Côte d'Ivoire	41	South Africa
17	Dominican Republic	42	Spain
18	Ethiopia	43	Sri Lanka
19	Grenada	44	Thailand
20	Guyana	45	Tunisia
21	India	46	Turkey
22	Indonesia	47	Uganda
23	Italy	48	Ukraine
24	Kenya	49	Zimbabwe
25	Lao PDR		

## ANNEX IX: LIST OF 55 COUNTRIES

### ANNEX I – AFRICA | 19 COUNTRIES

<b>Northern Africa</b>	Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia
<b>Western Africa</b>	Burkina Faso, Chad, Niger, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria
<b>Eastern Africa</b>	Ethiopia, Djibouti, Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda
<b>Southern Africa</b>	Angola, Madagascar, Namibia, South Africa, Zimbabwe

### ANNEX II – ASIA | 13 COUNTRIES

<b>Asia</b>	Australia, Bhutan, China, India, Indonesia, Lao, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand
<b>Pacific</b>	Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Tuvalu

### ANNEX III – LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN | 12 COUNTRIES

<b>Northern and Central America</b>	Costa Rica, Mexico, Panama
<b>South America</b>	Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil Chile, Colombia, Peru
<b>Caribbean</b>	Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana

### ANNEX IV – NORTHERN MEDITERRANEAN | 5 COUNTRIES

Albania, Italy, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey

### ANNEX V – EASTERN AND CENTRAL EUROPE | 6 COUNTRIES

<b>Eastern Europe</b>	Armenia, Belarus, Ukraine
<b>Central Europe</b>	Montenegro, Russian Federation, Serbia

## ANNEX X

### Trend measures on the percentage of population using safely managed water services by Regional Implementation Annexes

Regional Implementation Annexes	TREND MEASURES IN %			
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Median
Total	7,0	98,6	66,0	71,7
Annex I	7,0	92,6	39,6	28,3
Annex II	16,0	84,4	48,4	46,6
Annex III	42,8	98,6	71,7	73,2
Annex IV	65,2	98,4	85,3	95,0
Annex V	74,7	97,0	90,3	93,5

### Trend measures on the percentage of population using safely managed sanitation services by Regional Implementation Annexes

Regional Implementation Annexes	TREND MEASURES IN %			
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Median
Total	6,3	96,6	51,4	49,8
Annex I	9,6	78,1	32,9	26,6
Annex II	6,3	76,6	52,2	54,9
Annex III	17,0	87,1	49,6	49,2
Annex IV	39,0	96,6	78,7	89,6
Annex V	24,7	80,1	58,6	64,9

## ANNEX XI

### Multivariable analysis per category

#### Multivariable analysis for the gender-based rights and participation category

For this analysis, five of the seven variables were used, omitting: "percentage of employment to women ratio in ages 15 and older" and "percentage of women in agriculture" because the tolerance margins created to develop this indicator (50-50%), are not applicable. For the analysis of the other five variables, a maximum tolerable distribution percentage margin of 40-60% was established.

Regarding the categories retained, they are shown as 1 to indicate presence and 0 to indicate absence, referring to the ratification of CEDAW by country and whether the country has a national women's machinery for the advancement of women. For continuous variables, each variable was transformed into a category variable expressed in the following way: if the percentages were within the tolerance margin, this was indicated as 1, which means that there is a high degree of parity, and 0 if the percentages were not within the tolerance margin, or if data is not available. The variables that were documented are: "percentage of female seats in local government," "percentage of women in the total number of representatives in the lower or single House of Parliament," and "percentage of women in the latest UNCCD COP delegation."

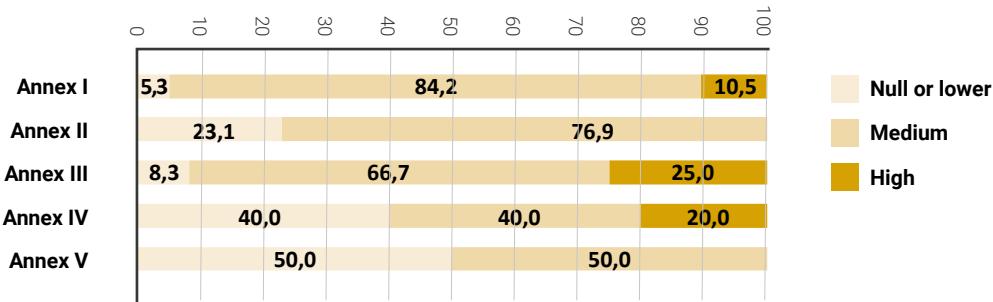
Given the above, in the five category variables obtained, values ranging from 0 to 5 are applied, with 0 indicating no gender-based rights and participation, and 5 indicating that the country has a high level of gender-based rights and participation.

Based on the sum of these variables, it was arbitrarily decided to classify countries at three levels, as follows:

- Low or null: variables with a sum of 0 or 1.
- Medium: variables with a sum of 2 or 3.
- High: variables with a sum of 4 or 5.

Based on the above, the following graph is obtained:

**GRAPH NO. 22 Percentage distribution of gender-based rights and participation index by Annex**



In the above graph (No. 22), it can be observed that Annex II and Annex V have no percentage of countries with a high level of gender-based rights and participation. In contrast, in Annex III one quarter of the countries show a level of gender-based rights and participation, with the highest rate among the five Annexes. Next highest are Annex IV and Annex I, with 20.0% and 10.5%, respectively, under this classification system.

At the other extreme, the countries with the highest percentage in the null or low gender-based rights and participation level are found in Annex V and Annex IV, with 50% and 40% respectively, and the smallest percentage of countries with gender-based rights and participation null or low is found in Annex I, at 5.3%.

Annex II stands out because of every four countries that comprise it, approximately one country has a null or low level of gender-based rights and participation, and the other three a medium level of gender-based rights and participation. In Annex V, half of the countries have a zero or low level of gender-based rights and participation, and the other half have a medium level. Finally, in the section on this category and the indicator, out of every five countries in Annex IV, one has a high level, two have an average level, and the remaining two have a low or no level.

### Multivariable analysis on gender-based education and assets

For this analysis, three of the four variables were used, leaving out the “percentage of young women (aged 15-24 years) not in education, employment or training (NEET)” since to create this index, the margins of tolerance regarding percentage’s ranges are of 50-50% which are not applicable for this indicator.

For the rest of the variables, a maximum tolerable distribution margin of 40-60% was established. Each variable used was transformed into a categorical variable where if the percentages were within the tolerance margin, it was assigned a 1, meaning there is a high degree of equity, or 0, denoting that there is no equity or that the information was not available. The variables that were categorized are: “percentage of females with access to land,” “percentage of women with access to formal financial services,” and “percentage of literacy among young women”

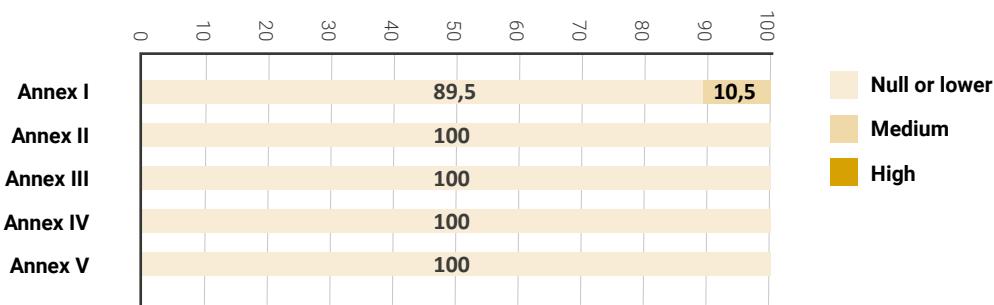
Given the above, the three categorical variables obtained the values ranging from 0 to 3, with 0 where there is no gender equality, and 3 where the country has a high level of gender equality in this category.

Based on this sum, it was decided to classify the countries at three levels as follows:

- Low or null equality: variables with a sum of 0 or 1.
- Medium equality: variables with a sum of 2.
- High equality: variables with a sum of 3.

Based on the above, the following graph is obtained:

**GRAPH NO. 23 Percentage distribution of Gender-based Education and Assets Equality Index by Annex**



It should be noted that none of the Annexes presents a high level of equity, while only Annex II does not present a 100% low or null equity in the aspects evaluated. Only Annex I presents 10.5% of the countries with a medium level of equity for this indicator.





**United Nations**  
Convention to Combat  
Desertification

United for land