Women all over the world deal with the consequences of climate change, in ways that men simply do not. Women globally share a responsibility to provide for their families, which causes them to be more dependent on natural resources. Due to an unequal access to these resources, women are forced to stay in rural areas. Additionally, the need for water is greater for women, due to the increased need for sanitation caused by menstruation.

The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development (1992) as well as the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action recognized the importance of women in sustainable development. In addition, the UN conference on Sustainable development made it a goal to promote women in their policies and programs. The Women’s Environment & Development Organization is a non-governmental organization whose goal is to “promote and protect human rights, gender equality and the integrity of the environment.” These goals are common for women globally, and cover important topics that need to be discussed.

As previously mentioned, women require more water for sanitation due to menstruation. Because of cultural practices in the Islamic religion, Muslim women require more water for their ‘[ghusl](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ghusl).’ Subsequently, the women in Bosnia and Herzegovina require policies to be put in place so that they may be environmentally conscious when disposing of their menstrual waste. No previous actions have been taken by Bosnia and Herzegovina on this specific subject. Policies could include finding a community-based, environmentally friendly solution that would not impose on their religious views and norms.

Bosnia and Herzegovina would benefit greatly from an increase in educational information taught about this subject to their schools. This would be most efficient if the UN chose to create a strategic educational plan that would better inform the population on the importance of women in sustainability and the roles they hold in it. In addition, the country would greatly benefit from a change in political policies, making political roles more attainable for women. The strong Islam community in Bosnia and Herzegovina makes it difficult for women to be their own people.