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**BU201: Community Engagement and Action**

**Midterm**

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To begin with the case, it achieves presenting the challenge of gender weakness when experiencing or after CRE and disasters, including floods, droughts, and cyclones (Nasreen, 2022). As likely, such events increase precedent risks, and since most women and girls have limited access to resources owing to their roles in society, they are particularly affected (Bradshaw & Fordham, 2015). Moreover, they are responsible for ownership of critical necessities such as food and water, and that becomes tough when the methods of obtaining natural sources are affected by climate change (Ross, 2017). However, this amplified workload not only results in higher physical and psychological pressure towards women but they are also likely to face sexual and physical violence during long travels to get resources (Kaijser & Kronsell, 2013). As worsening this is the access to health services, especially the sexual and reproductive health services, that becomes of a big concern (Masson, 2022). For example, pregnant women’s access to prenatal care may be cut off or limited for relatively long periods, which threatens the lives of these ladies (Denton, 2002). Hence, these challenges characterize structural gender inequalities that CRE grow rapidly, thereby undermining other values within the community such as equity, safety, and dignity (Ross, 2017).

Furthermore, the exclusion of aspects of women’s needs from frameworks of disaster response and recovery remains the core of the issue (Nosheen et al., 2023). In response measures of food, shelter, and water, which are basic human needs during crises, women have additional needs for reproductive health services and protection against sexual violence in crises (Masson, 2022). Thus, this exclusion is not a new sounding at all but is an extension of structural gender violence inherent in strong matches’ culture (Bradshaw & Fordham, 2015). For example, reproductive justice, a framework that clearly has to do with women’s ability to control their bodies and well-being, access to safe and sustainable living conditions, is missing in climate change policies in Bangladesh (Nosheen et al., 2023). Because of this, the exclusion of reproductive justice from those frameworks sustains inequities, and women do not have adequate support to address the CRE conveniently (Ross, 2017). While aided by some consideration from international organizations and women’s rights organizations, the awareness of local legislatures and the general public remains almost negligible, which in turn slows down the action (Kaijser & Kronsell, 2013).

Not only that, in the context of women and climate change, therefore, intersectionality is perhaps the only adequate tool that helps us unravel the multiple ways that women are endangered (Bowleg, 2012). In addition, intersectionality points out that different characteristics like social class and geographical position, among others, blend to worsen inequalities (Kaijser & Kronsell, 2013). Likewise, women and girls in rural Bangladesh who depend on natural resources for their source of income are worse off during climate-induced disasters compared to those living in urban areas (Nasreen, 2022). Specifically, why women get these layered disadvantages are mostly the pregnant women, marginalized ethnic groups, which are usually overly suppressed, and the economically disadvantaged women. Such as, this intersectional understanding also highlights that there is a requirement of targeted as well as specialized approaches for the many facets of the community since the roles and experiences of people of color are not uniform (Denton, 2002).

Whereas, from the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals, the challenges described here best correspond with SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), & SDG 13 (Climate Action) (United Nations, 2015). Similarly, these goals are met by addressing these challenges utilizing a reproductive justice framework and aims including the provision of SHR, the rights of women, and climate change (Nosheen et al., 2023). For example, promoting women to seek medical services including antenatal and postnatal care as well as reproductive health services, even during disasters, is linked to better maternal and child health SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being), as well as women’s decision-making on their bodies and lives SDG 5 (Gender Equality) (Nasreen, 2022). Moreover, the integration of women into climate change policies will improve their participation in policy making in relation to climate change adaptation and mitigation, which will improve the achievement of SDG 13 (Climate Action) (Ross, 2017). In the same way, a reproductive justice approach is thus the missing link between health, gender, and climate change intervention in addressing CRE.

On the other hand, if women and other marginalized genders are to be involved and participate in the production of more safe spaces, their voices need to be incorporated in the formulation of issues relating to disaster management and climate politics (UN Women, 2020; Kaijser & Kronsell, 2013). Moreover, specific measures should be heading to the promotion of women’s rights through education, training, and leadership in disaster management and climate change processes (Denton, 2002; Bradshaw & Fordham, 2015).

For example, the wish creation of disaster awareness and disaster consciousness among women, such as through community-based organizations (Nosheen et al., 2023). Also, providing safe environments and resources in and after disasters might greatly minimize incidents of GVB (gender-based violence) (Masson, 2022). These go further in addressing needs in the short term but also sow the seed for long-term support and capacity building (Ross, 2017).

Skilling-up these communities is an important factor that should be taken into consideration for countering climate issues in Bangladesh. Certainly, effective community engagement approaches, planning which is gender-sensitive, and policy makeover are some skills that can bring change (Bowleg, 2012). Significantly, interaction with local communities helps to build fellowship and cooperation since the officials will be in a position to appreciate the conditions facing the populations, while gender-responsive planning is a sound strategy that will make sure that gender factors in all policies and programs are well addressed (Kaijser & Kronsell, 2013). In particular, at national and local levels, advocacy can seek to have reproductive justice incorporated into climate change for women's rights and needs (Ross, 2017). Also, data analysis skills would be useful in measures specific to the gendered impacts of CRE and, subsequently, properly addressing the issues (Nosheen et al., 2023)

Subsequently, sustainability and equitable inclusion are the formula that can be used to solve these challenges (Nasreen, 2022). As measures should enhance sustainable development and the future of each of the community members, including those who are directly affected by the change in climate (Ross, 2017). Next, gender mainstreaming means that women and minorities are included in realization, access to resources, and decision-making (Bradshaw & Fordham, 2015). For instance, creating more centers, for instance health facilities, can ensure that reproductive health services are accessed without fluctuation, even during disasters (Masson, 2022). Indeed, the independence of women through vocational training and economic recovery from the impacts of CRE can be improved since women can easily get jobs after training (Nosheen et al., 2023).

Above all, it is also therefore important that the above goals are approached using a gender-sensitivity perspective (Kaijser & Kronsell, 2013). Assigning gender-specific solutions to the identified problems enables policies to meet the goals of narrowing down gender-based differences and inequalities (Bowleg, 2012). For example, providing safe homes for women living in disaster-risky areas, as well as making sure they are able to get appropriate health and education services, is likely to bring more happiness to their lives (Ross, 2017). Furthermore, changing culturally defined gender expectations redefines women’s sphere and restricts their mobility and decision-making power (Bradshaw & Fordham, 2015). As such, those measures not only help satisfy the clients' needs in the present moment but also make a step toward developing a society that is suitable for everyone (Nasreen, 2022).

To sum up, the additional research identified a complicated and pressing social issue of gendered climate change and inequality in Bangladesh (Denton, 2002). Because the response to most of these challenges reified issues of reproductive injustice and since the framers of the SDGs approached the goals with a view to aligning development goals to the goals of sustainable development, righting these challenges offers an opportunity to work at the roots of these problems (United Nations, 2015). Hence, all the three dimensions under this goal of empowering women through education, health, and employment are crucial to reinforce resilience to climate change and promote a fair world (Ross, 2017). As a result, solving these problems implies the energetic striving of governments, communities, and international organizations for the formation of such a society where every woman and man will be able to prosper regardless of her/his sex or status (Nasreen, 2022).

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