

NGO CSW Advocacy Research Group
CSW66 Recommendations Brief
on Disaster Reduction and Resilience

***Recommendation 2:** Prioritization of knowledge management and strategies for **disaster risk reduction and resilience** that focus on the care, protection and support of women and girls who are dependent on as well as manage natural resources for their well-being and livelihoods.*

UN Precedent language

CEDAW/C/GC/37 “Increase resilience to the impacts of disasters and climate change among women by identifying and supporting livelihoods that are sustainable and empowering, and develop gender-responsive services, including extension services to assist women farmers, that enable women to gain access to and benefit from those livelihoods”

CEDAW/C/GC/34 “States parties should address specific threats posed to rural women by climate change, natural disasters....They should effectively address the impact of such risks on rural women in the planning and implementation of all policies concerning the environment, climate change, disaster risk reduction, preparedness and management and ensure the full participation of rural women in designing, planning and implementing such policies. States parties should also ensure the protection and security of rural women and girls in all phases of disasters and other crises, ranging from early warning to relief, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction”.

E/CN.6/2020/L.1 “Mainstreaming a gender perspective into climate change, disaster risk reduction (DRR) and environmental policies, recognizing the disproportionate effect of climate change, natural disasters and environmental degradation on women and girls, in particular those in vulnerable situations, strengthening the resilience and adaptive capacities of women and girls to respond to the adverse impacts of climate change, natural disasters and environment, and promoting women’s participation and leadership in decision-making on climate change, DRR and environmental issues”

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 “Women and their participation are critical to effectively managing disaster risk and designing, resourcing and implementing gender-sensitive disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programmes; and adequate capacity building measures need to be taken to empower women for preparedness as well as build their capacity for alternate livelihood means in post-disaster situations”. “A gender, age, disability and cultural perspective in all policies and practices; and the promotion of women and youth leadership; in this context, special attention should be paid to the improvement of organized voluntary work of citizens”.

Evidence in statistical data and relevant reports

“In developing countries, agriculture is one of the most important economic sectors for female employment; and women farmers tend to be more vulnerable to climate change and disasters than male farmers. The domestic burden also tends to increase after a climate risk and disaster, and women usually bear the brunt of this, at the cost of missing out on other income-generating activities. Their lack of access to bank accounts and financial schemes also means that women’s assets are less protected than men’s and less opportunities for women to proactively recover from economic loss. Female farmers dedicate more hours to unpaid household and care work, have lower access to off-farm labor and, when they do get laboring work, are paid less than men” (FAO 2011; ILO 2016). [*Gender Dimensions of Disaster Risk and Resilience*](#) (GFDRR & World Bank Group)

Good Practices

UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (2000): Some countries include DRR in their National Action Plans. By sharing good practices on DRR from various sites across the globe, a real and long-lasting “culture of prevention” and gender-responsive and social inclusive disaster preparedness build back better (BBB) in recovery and reconstruction can be established based on communication and mutual learning. [*Good practices in disaster risk reduction*](#) (UNESCO)

Discriminatory Laws and Lack of Affirmative Policy

“Disaster laws often do not contain the specificity or make the necessary linkages with other gender and social inclusion frameworks to protect and include vulnerable groups in times of disasters. Law and policy must go further than aspirational statements and provide concrete and practical measures to better support protection and inclusion with a gender and diversity perspective”. [Protection and Inclusion: The Importance of Disaster Law and Policy](#)

Enabling Policy and Legal Environments

“Disaster Law and Policy is integral to ensure that all people are included in, and protected by, disaster and climate change actions. Most countries have some form of disaster risk management system that is underpinned by one or more laws. These frameworks establish the legal basis for all aspects of disaster risk management from risk reduction, to preparedness, response, recovery and reconstruction and provide the enabling environment for actions downstream....Used effectively, Disaster Law and Policy can support more integrated, inclusive and equitable approaches to building resilience. They can mandate governmental actors to identify, plan, resource and meet the specific needs of vulnerable groups. They can require the direct and meaningful participation of vulnerable groups in decision-making, design and implementation of disaster and climate change activities”. [Protection and Inclusion: The Importance of Disaster Law and Policy](#)

“Encourages Governments to promote the full, equal and effective participation and leadership of women, as well as of persons with disabilities, in the design, management, investing, resourcing and implementation of gender-responsive and disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programmes, and recognizes in this regard that women and girls are disproportionately exposed to risk, increased loss of livelihoods and even loss of life during and in the aftermath of disasters, and that disasters and the consequent disruption to physical, social, economic and environmental networks and support systems disproportionately affect persons with disabilities and their families”; [A/RES/76/204 Disaster risk reduction](#) (Para 42)