Emissions down – women rights up!

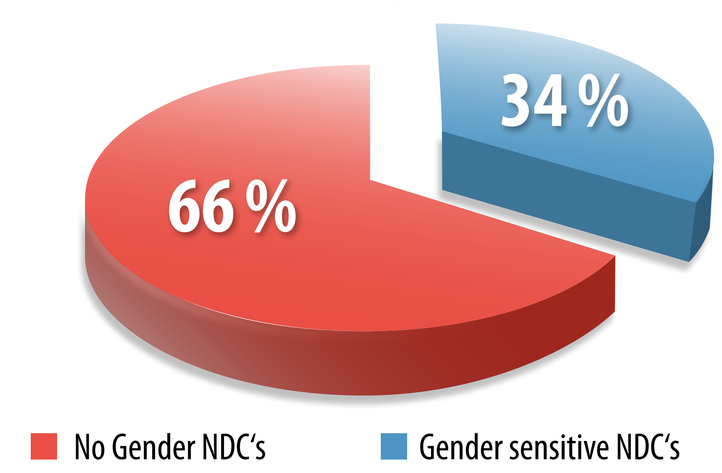
Gender & Climate Mitigation

FACTS

▶ There is evidence of **gender differences in behaviours and priorities regarding climate** change and policy responses. Women significantly tend to prefer safe technologies and avoid high-risk solutions. Research shows that women have a **considerably smaller carbon footprint than men**, largely due to transport use, consumption habits, etc.

▶ **Women are still strongly underrepresented in policy decision making processes,** especially in mitigation-relevant sectors. Women hold only 7 % of all environment, natural resources and energy ministerial posts, and only 3 % cover science and technology. This is true for developing as well as for developed countries. (UNIDO-UN Women 2011)

Only 1/3 of NDC's integrate gender



▶ Only 33 % of all submitted NDCs explicitly integrate a gender dimension, yet mostly in the context of adaptation and only developing countries, making commitments conditional to funding.

▶ **Structural gender inequality continues to exist** in both developing and developed countries. Therefore, **gender- blind mitigation action excludes long term sustainable benefits for people and communities** and can further exacerbate existing gender inequalities

MAIN CHALLENGES

- ▶ Current climate mitigation policies are gender-blind
- ▶ Climate footprint differs between men and women
- ▶ Women are underrepresented in climate policy decision making

Efficient cook stoves save CO2 and improve women's livelihood

RECOMMENDATIONS

70 % of the world poorest are women

1. Mitigation action must recognise women as key climate agents

we must prioritise policies which bring social co-benefits for women and men, such as:

- gender-responsive training to address skills gaps
- more public transport and decentralised solutions
- incentives to encourage women's employment win the RE sector
- upscaling women-led sustainable energy initiatives with adapted financing

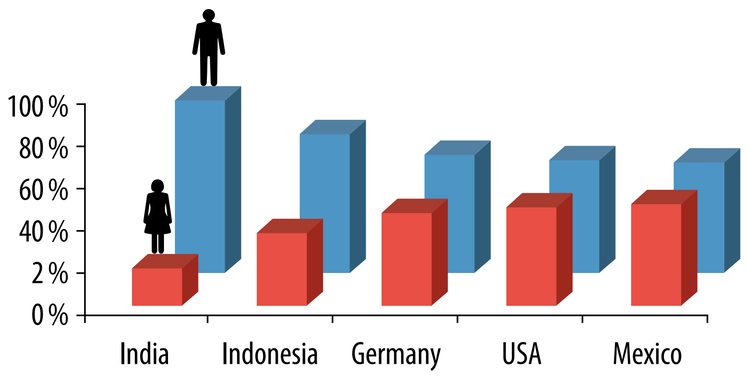
2. Women want mitigation strategies that result in a real transition

We need drastic emissions reductions in line with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR), thus mitigation strategies should involve structural and lifestyles changes (particularly in industrialised countries) rather than promoting false solutions such as market-based mechanisms or unsafe technologies, such as nuclear, CCS, fracking, etc.

3. Mitigation action must be based on gender-disaggregated data

and use of gender approaches, including tools and methodologies such as gender impact assessments in planning, implementation and monitoring of mitigation policies.

Women's Consumption have less climate impact



Car consumption habits

% of men and women intending to buy a car in the next 2 years

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Let Women Grab The Toolbox !

Gender & Climate Technology

FACTS

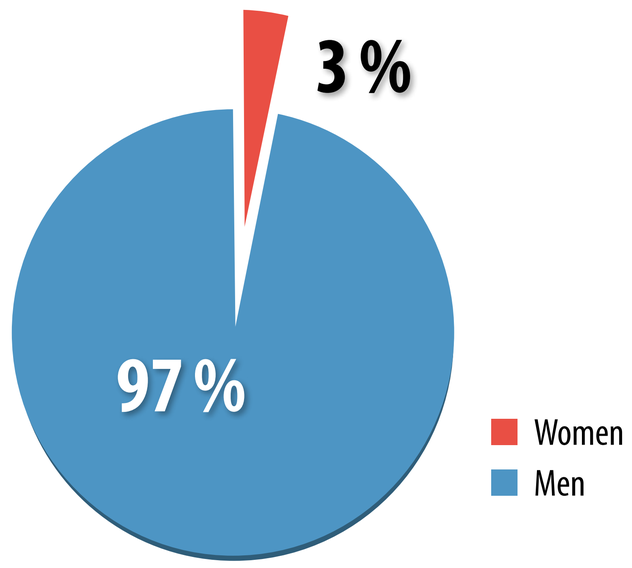
▶ The Paris Agreement's Technology Framework does not include gender responsiveness; technical, social and environmental assessments are not mandatory. Yet women in most countries have less access to climate technology than men, due to lack of financial means or to patriarcal rules and tradition.

▶ The Technology Executive Committee (TEC) counts only 25 % women and only 15 % in the Advisory Board of the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) – the two bodies of the UNFCCC's Technology Mechanism.

▶ Unlike the gender mandates developped for the GCF, technology transfer does not consider gender mainstreaming as an obligation. Thus it is not a priority for Parties. Actual financing of climate technology transfer does not address gender issues.

1,6 bn **people worldwide have no access to electricity – most are rural women**

Women are underrepresented in environment science and energy ministries.
National government positions of importance in science and technology



UNIDO-UN-WOmen 2030

MAIN CHALLENGES

- ▶ Paris Agreement does not ensure gender-responsive, safe and environmentally sound technology transfer
- ▶ Women are underrepresented in technology development processes
- ▶ Little political will to mainstream gender in technology undermines climate policies' effectiveness

Women installing solar lamp

Technology training for women

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Traditional knowledge systems, innovation, capacities and technologies developed at local level by communities and especially women, must be recognized and upscaled.

2. To facilitate women's engagement in the development and transfer of climate technologies at global and national levels, it is necessary to ensure greater skill-sharing, capacity building and knowledge opportunities for all women.

3. Establish a multilateral mechanism under the Technology Framework that actively involves women in ensuring that climate technologies are gender-responsive, safe, environmentally and socially sound, respect human rights and uphold the precautionary principle.

Women still a minority in Solar energy workforce (USA)

IRENA: Women's employment in the USA solar industry, 2013 / 2014

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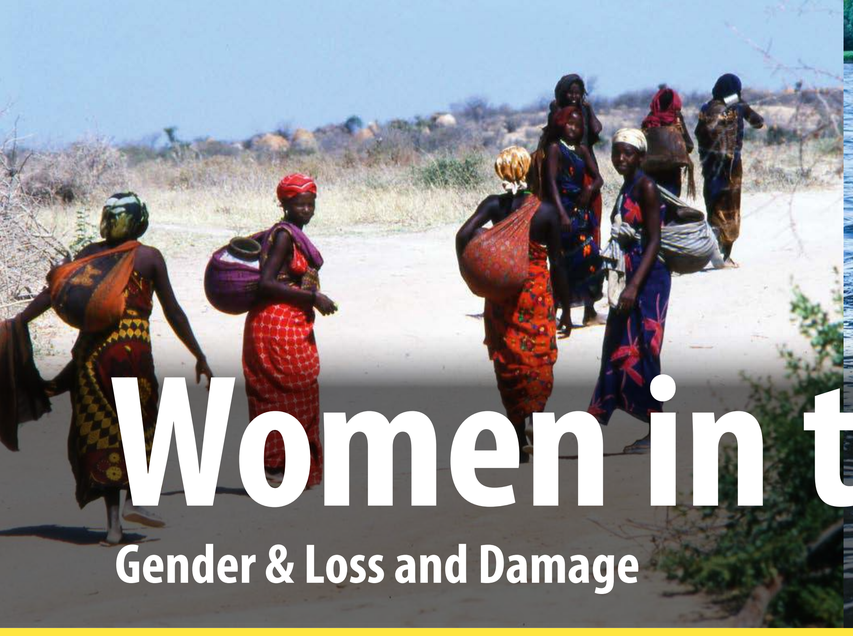


Women in the frontline

Gender & Loss and Damage

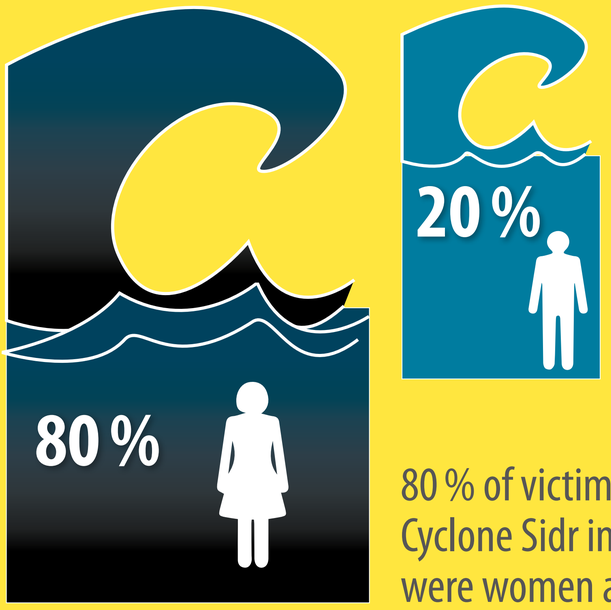
▶ Climate-induced migration, both within and between countries, is increasing with estimates ranging between 50 to 200 million displaced people. Large-scale climate-induced migrations increase the risk of conflict in host communities as tensions and competition over land and resettlement areas arise.

▶ Climate change exposes women to increased risks of conflict, violence and trafficking. In the last 60 years, at least 40 % of all intrastate conflicts have had a link to natural resources and the environment. Conflicts, along with the lack of resources and need to secure livelihoods, further aggravate migration flows.

▶ Women are disproportionately vulnerable to the impacts of conflict or migration. Women are not exposed only to the traditional threats of a violent environment, but also to the dangers of long migrations such as hunger, dehydration and extreme weather, economic instability, resource and livelihoods insecurity, limited access to basic services and increased risk of gender based violence.

FACTS & CHALLENGES

Women and children are 14 times more likely to die than men from natural disasters



80 % of victims of Cyclone Sidr in Bangladesh were women and girls

Tsunami in the Philipines

MAIN CHALLENGES

- ▶ Irreversible loss and damage affects women more
- ▶ Climate damages exacerbate gender inequalities and discriminations
- ▶ Climate damages increase forced migration, and trigger conflicts

Local rescue training in Vietnam

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Adopt a redress process and a compensation fund for countries and communities the most impacted by climate change through the Warsaw International Mechanism.

2. Adopt an international legal protection framework for climate refugees and migrants where their human rights are fully respected and include "climate refugee" as a criteria to obtain the refugee status.

3. Ensure the participation of climate change-affected communities, particularly women, in climate and environmental policy making processes as well as in peace and security policy dialogues and negotiations.

Natural disasters cause women to loose their source of income

In 2008, Nargis typhoon in Myanmar caused the loss of main source of income for 87 % single women and for 100 % married women.

UNFPA, WEDO, Women in the frontline, 2009

50 - 75 % **of girls forced to quit school after a hurricane**

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Women Ensuring Our Futures

Gender & Adaptation

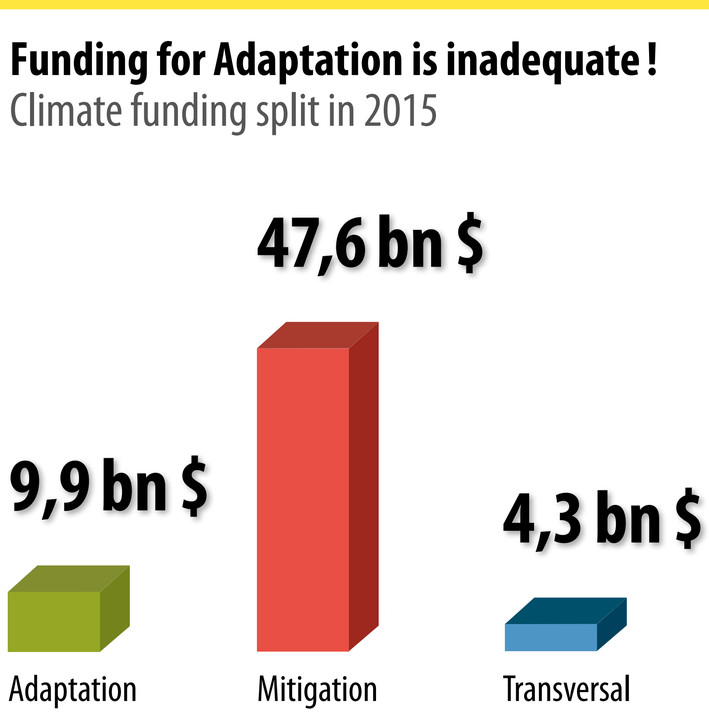
FACTS & CHALLENGES

▶ Climate change affects women disproportionately, because they have less access to revenue, education and political decision-making processes. Therefore they are seen as climate victims. But women develop on all continents climate adaptation strategies that are especially adapted to the needs of their communities, as they often own traditional knowledge for ecological, resilient agriculture, water source protection and watermanagement, or food and energy conservation.

▶ Developed countries are not complying to their obligations for funding and supporting adaptation actions in developing countries. Climate finance in general is unsufficent: in 2016 the Green Climate Fund committed less than half the resources it was originally planned to allocate to low-emission and climate-resilient development (1B$ vs 2,5b$ promised), and less than 10 % goes towards adaptation.

▶ If gender is overlooked in the planning of adaptation actions and women not consulted, the measures may not be appropriate nor sustainable climate action. For example, women are often in charge of water management but, if they are not consulted about where to build new wells or toilets, the wells or toilets may be placed too far from the village, thereby actually increasing women's burden and vulnerability.

Funding for Adaptation is inadequate !
Climate funding split in 2015



OECD-CPI, 2015

Girls empowerment programm

MAIN CHALLENGES

- Women are often viewed as "victims" and not as agents of climate resilience
- Gender- blind adaptation programmes are less effective.
- Climate adaptation needs more financial means, technology transfer and capacity building.

Woman on local market – Latin America

RECOMMENDATIONS

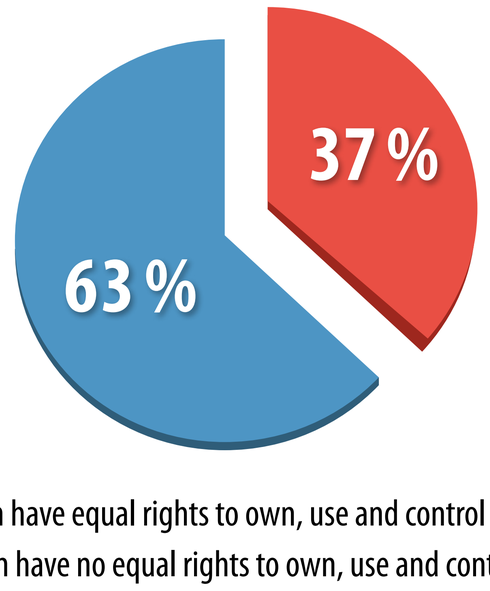
90 % **of household care services are ensured by women**

1. Recognize women as fundamental actors of sustainable climate solutions and as agents of change: they bring insights, knowledge and other resources in decision making and development processes, and in the implementation and monitoring of adaptation initiatives.

2. Include women in community based adaptation (CBA) initiatives. Effective climate adaptation action must be community driven, and women are valuable contributors as they manage natural resources for their families' subsistence and have to develop strategies to cope with climate-related risks.

3. Strengthen women's capacities to advance their leadership for community resilience and for national and international climate policies. Women should be actively involved in addressing climate change adaptation programmes, especially in the area of agriculture, food security, energy and health.

Women have less rights to own, use and control land
Out of 160 countries, only 37 % give women land rights.



women have equal rights to own, use and control land
women have no equal rights to own, use and control land

OECD, 2014

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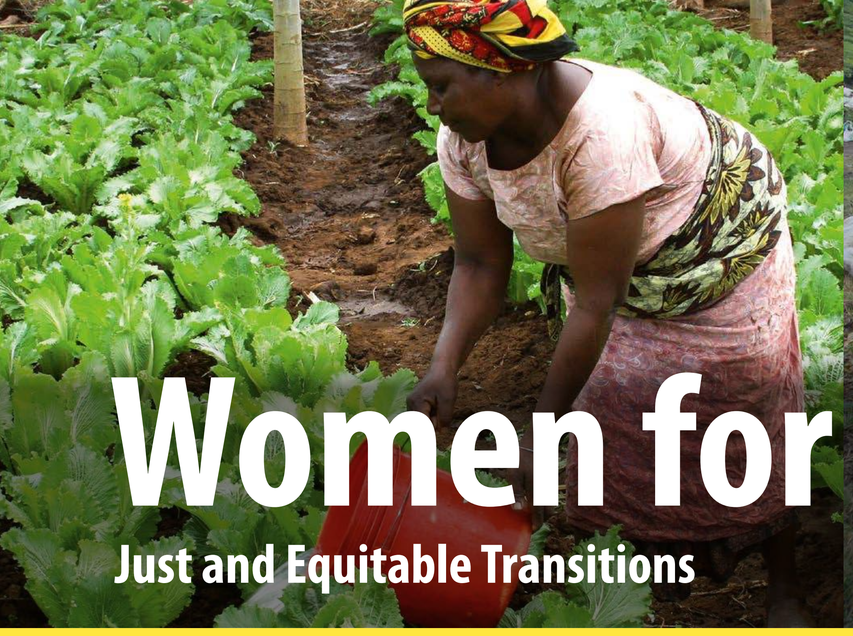


Women for sustainable economies

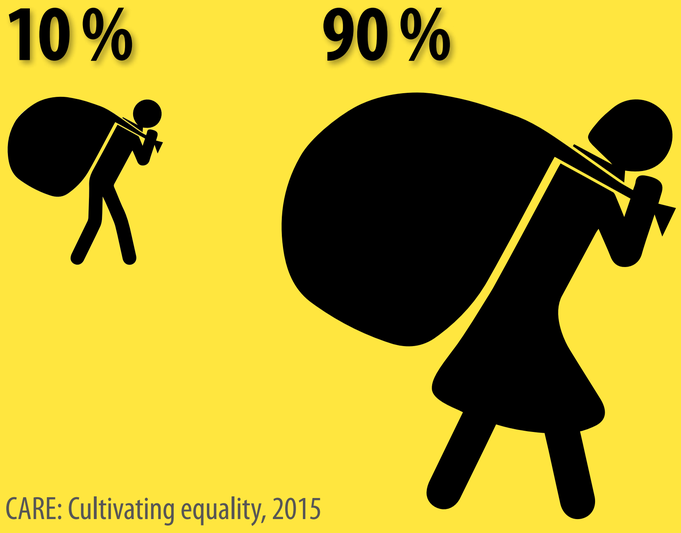
Just and Equitable Transitions

▶ **The necessity to plan transitions to new, sustainable economies provides** opportunities to create more just, equitable, gender-sensitive and localised economies that deliver decent work for all and equitable distribution of resources, time and power.

▶ **As just transitions are prioritised and planned, we must recognise women's burden in assuming an essential "care role":** subsistence farming, health and childcare services, domestic work, but also women's role in implementing sustainable development and business models, such as agro ecology, micro-businesses, cooperatives. Just and equitable transitions must address the gendered-division of labour and support women's potential for promoting alternative development models and skills.

▶ **A just and equitable transition provides the opportunity to re-think the value of labour and the social benefits of increasing non-work time,** growth of community, expansion of the commons and enhanced democratic engagement, rather than the growth of consumption, production and profit.

Women bear the burden of care-work
90 % of care services in Eastern & South-eastern Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa is ensured by women



CARE: Cultivating equality, 2015

MAIN CHALLENGES

- The transition to low-carb on economies must respond to scial challenges
- The concept of just transitions must integrate gender equality
- Local, fair and sustainable economies based on the preservation of ecosystems and traditional knowledge are key for just transitions

FACTS & CHALLENGES

Local market create revenues for women

Women washing clothes in a river

RECOMMENDATIONS

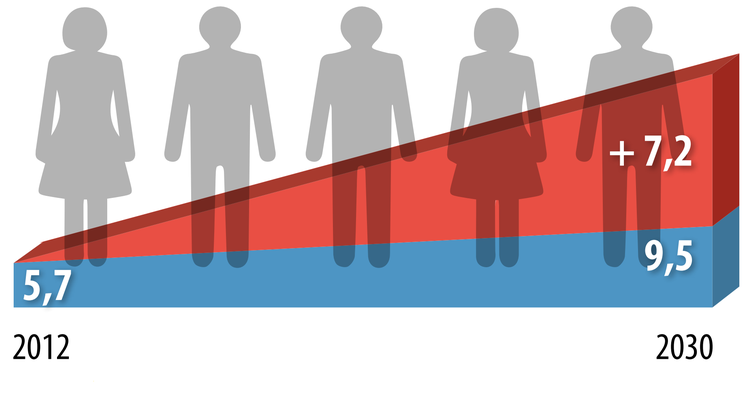
15 - 50 % **Gender Pay Gap:** women earn 15 % to 50 % less than men

1. Gender-just transitions must recognize the value of the unpaid care work and informal labour, largely assumed by women throughout the world, and redistribute it fairly.Strengthen the place of women in the STEM academic fields (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)

2. Support community-led initiatives, such as energy democracy, agro-ecological cooperatives, the restoration of public goods, public services and public employment that advance women's human rights and safeguard the environment

3. Promote systemic shifts in global economic governance towards sustainable, circular economies as well as reforms in national fiscal and monetary policies. States must be able to regulate in the public interest without being impaired by investor protections within preferential trade agreements, debt obligations or world trade organisation limitations.

Millions of green jobs for men and women?
RE Employment perspectives until 2030



IRENA – 2012

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Finance – women deserve more !

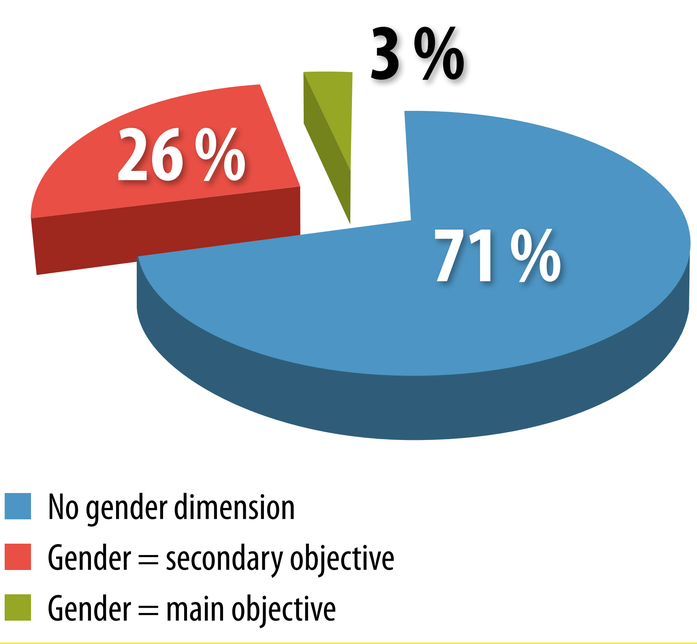
Gender-responsive climate finance

▶ Most climate funding mechanisms, despite existing gender strategies, do not support gender responsive actions. They target scalability or bankability, not the social co-benefits for local communities. Women are not included in national processes that determine funding priorities.

▶ Actual climate finance flows do not respond to the needs of the most affected. Small-scale, community-driven initiatives – critical to tackle climate change – are usually not considered a funding priority.

▶ Developed countries seek to replace their financial obligations under the Convention by using scarce public funding to leverage private investments. This has led to large-scale projects that do not meet the needs of the most affected, while having adverse impacts on Indigenous Peoples and women. Private investors are rarely held accountable for human and women's rights violations.

Climate funding is not gender-responsive
Bilateral CAD-OECD climate funding in 2013



FACTS & CHALLENGES

Investing in sexual health and sexual rights for women, India

Argan oil cooperatives for women ensure their financial autonomy

MAIN CHALLENGES

- Women have too little access to climate financing.
- Global climate finance does not meet actual needs in developing countries.
- Without proper safeguards, gender-blind climate finance can exacerbate existing inequalities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

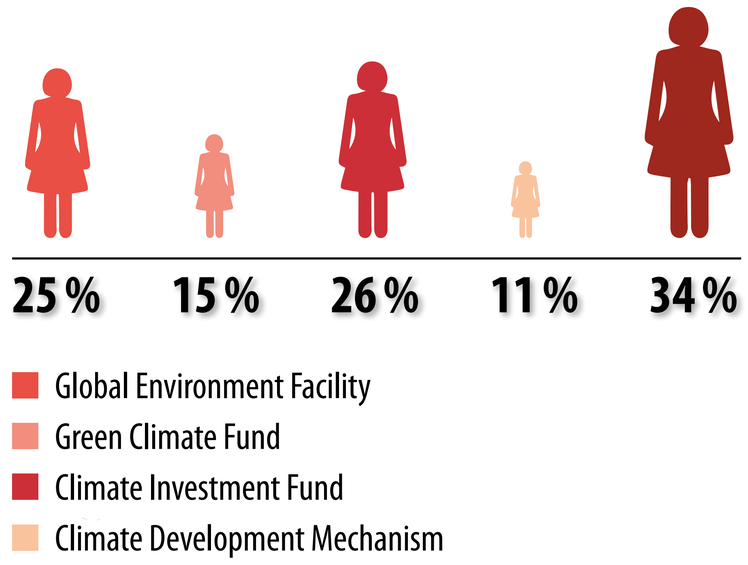
90 % **Women spend 90 % of their earned income for their families**

1. Increase climate funding mechanisms that advance women's rights and demonstrably incorporate gender equality as a core objective, in particular through direct access to micro-grants for community driven adaptation, solutions addressing energy poverty, and guaranteed financial support for loss and damage.

2. Establish gender and environmental integrity safeguards and accountability through participatory involvement of women and communities for the implementation of all climate-related finance.

3. Establish new and innovative public sources of revenue for public climate finance to support developing countries, such as a global financial transaction tax, the elimination of all fossil fuel subsidies, or the redirection of military budgets.

No gender parity in Climate fund boards in 2015
Womens participation on climate finance boards



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