Feminist framework for gender equitable climate disaster response

Description of the project
Baithak CSO and DASTAK Foundation, in their collaborative efforts to respond to the disastrous droughts and floods in Pakistan with a gender-just and an intersectional approach, developed a strategic framework tool for policymakers and practitioners. It offers actionable recommendations for gender-equitable response measures that meet the specific needs of women and girls during climate disasters and prioritize their health, well-being, and safety. This feminist policy resource builds on extensive stakeholder engagement, including social media listening targeting 30,000 menstruating individuals, direct consultations with 5,000 women and girls affected by floods, and collaboration with 40 grassroots organizations.

Transformative outcomes

Climate impact
- Nation-wide mapping and ground research on climate emergency impacts on women and girls and existing response measures.
- Relevant policy recommendations for an adequate use of Loss and Damage Funds allocated to Pakistan.

Gender impact
- Awareness raising on the gender differentiated impacts of climate disasters i.e., exacerbated gender-based violence and additional unpaid care work.
- Intersectoral approach to ensure gender equitable disaster response: menstrual products, WASH facilities, pregnancy kit, pre- and postnatal care services.
- Inclusion of women in policy processes and grassroots initiatives.

Scalability / replicability
- The framework is an open source document where insights and expert opinions are crowd sourced.
- Government, INGOs, NGOs, and grassroots organizations are invited to integrate recommendations into their existing climate crisis response programs and actions.
- Partnership with 40 local organizations to develop the framework tool.

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Weerwi: breaking taboos about menstrual health and climate justice

Description of the project
A unique initiative launched by social enterprise ApiaAfrique in Senegal, Weerwi, helps girls and women monitor their menstrual cycle and sexual health through a free mobile app, an online forum and educational content in the form of a web series. The company also offers a printed booklet and community exchange workshops. Weerwi responds to the climate crisis by promoting and manufacturing reusable hygiene products locally. After 12 months in business, Weerwi already counts over 100,000 followers on social networks and 20,000 downloads of their App.

Transformative outcomes

Climate impact
- Reduces waste from disposable hygiene products, a raising concern for Africa.
- Promotes alternative products with a reduced carbon footprint.

Gender impact
- Contributing to the fight against temporary school drop-out for 45% girls in Senegal.
- Weerwi provides reliable and accessible information for women and girls on a topic related to their health and well-being.
- Contributes to promote sexual and reproductive rights for individuals, Human Centered Design.

Scalability / replicability
- The mobile App can be easily replicated: Weerwi is developing an English version for other countries in Africa
- Broad dissemination via social media, partnerships with health professionals and local sustainable enterprises.
- Facilitates the emergence of a local, sustainable value chain of menstrual products that can be delivered to Niger and Mali.

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