



GENDER AND CLIMATE CHANGE
Capacity development series
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC Training module **2**

Gender and adaptation

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I Purpose of the training module

Box 1: Icon key



Activity or
exercise



Link to other
training modules



PowerPoint or
video presentation



Readings



Important
information



Timing
indication



Internet
link

IA Rationale

The lack of international, regional and national gender-specific expertise on climate change and sustainable development issues poses one of the most pressing challenges to addressing the gender dimensions of climate change in developing countries.

To respond to this challenge, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has developed a series of gender and climate change training modules and policy briefs directed at practitioners and policy makers in the Asia-Pacific region. The covered themes are specifically relevant to the region and focus on climate change issues such as adaptation and mitigation, disaster risk reduction, energy and finance.

These materials draw on the capacity development work being undertaken in partnership with other members of the Global Gender and Climate Alliance and complement the Alliance's existing training modules, resource guides and related knowledge products. They are designed to facilitate the work of the regional cadre of national experts and other partners in the Asia-Pacific region to mainstream gender into climate change efforts. The materials' preparation has been made possible by contributions from the Government of Finland and the Government of Denmark.

The materials target a range of practitioners and policy makers. The materials are designed to be used by those with experience in gender and development or by those with backgrounds in climate change, the environment and sustainable development. Readers will gain a greater and shared understanding of how gender and climate change intersect. The learning goals of this module are outlined in the Part II.

This second module in the series addresses gender issues in the context of adaptation to climate change.

IB *Module structure and method*

This module provides the basic information and learning tools needed to understand and advocate for integrating gender perspectives into regional, national and community-level climate change initiatives. It covers the following topics:

- Gender-differentiated impacts of climate change in the Asia-Pacific region;
- Gender-differentiated impacts of adaptation; and
- Need and options for gender-sensitive adaptation planning and finance.

Part II of this module outlines learning objectives and what users are meant to understand upon conclusion of the training. Part III presents the key messages followed by parts IV and V, which provide background, core information and analyses of the relationship between gender and adaptation to climate change. Part VI discusses pathways for integrating gender outlooks into adaptation efforts.

The module also presents case studies and other learning tools (e.g. handouts and group activities) to help facilitate use of the module and think through issues to consider when designing and implementing gender-sensitive responses to climate change. In addition, the module employs seven icons to help make it user-friendly (see Box 1). The module includes several cross-references in order to encourage facilitators and participants to consult the other modules in this series.

Training based on this module can be delivered in three sessions:

- Session 1: Part II, III and IV (1 hour)
- Session 2: Part V (1.5 hour)
- Session 3: Part VI (1.5 hour)

Total estimated session time: 4 hours

See Appendix C, Learning Tools, for a breakdown of time for different activities.

II Learning objectives

- Understand the gender dimensions of adaptation to climate change.
- Identify gender-based vulnerabilities and women's needs and positive contributions to adaptive actions.
- Propose solutions for gender-responsive adaptation to climate change.



III Key messages



- With the potential for climate change to adversely affect communities and endanger livelihoods within the Asia-Pacific region, adaptation is an indispensable pillar of the climate effort. It is imperative to adopt meaningful adaptation strategies in order to limit climate change's negative impacts on people's lives and livelihoods and, broadly, its ill effects on sustainable development and progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).
- Climate change is not gender neutral; women are disproportionately (and, often, more severely) affected by its impacts. Gender inequities lead women to face more adverse climate change impacts than men.
- Given that most countries in the Asia-Pacific region are prone to disasters, and given that women tend to be disproportionately victimized in disaster situations, more emphasis needs to be placed on gender-conscious disaster adaptation.
- Women are key agents of change. Their unique knowledge is essential to ensure the effectiveness and sustainability of climate change adaptation efforts; their full and effective participation is essential.
- Women are under-represented in decision-making processes at local, national and international levels. Their needs and concerns are not often adequately integrated into developmental efforts. This is particularly distressing because well-intended actions could lead to unintended adverse outcomes for women and girls.
- Investing in women as part of climate change responses can lead to greater returns across the MDGs and other, broader development objectives.
- Adaptation planning and financing need to reflect women and men's different needs and priorities.
- Ongoing adaptation actions (including the implementation of national adaptation programmes of action and the Cancún Adaptation Framework) should fully integrate gender perspectives.
- The analytical and advocacy tools, guidelines and case studies available on gender mainstreaming in climate change, as well as development in general, need to be employed.
- Adaptation needs to address the underlying factors of gender-based vulnerabilities (e.g. poverty and political marginalization). Women need to be empowered at the global, national and local levels in order to meaningfully participate in decision-making processes related to adaptation.

IV Gender and adaptation

Learning objective: Understand the importance of incorporating gender considerations into adaptation efforts

1. Different parts of the world will be affected by climate change differently—geographic and demographic realities put the Asia-Pacific region at a particular detriment.
 - 1A. Countries in the Asia-Pacific region are sensitive to multiple exposures. Hales et al. (1998) describe five factors that make the region particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts: 1) poverty, 2) rapid increases in population size, 3) political rigidity (susceptibility of tight, centralized political systems to climate-related disasters), 4) dependency (such as reliance on others for information) and 5) geographic isolation (Hales et al. 1998). To expand on the first factor, 60 percent of the world’s population (two-thirds of which live in poverty) live in the Asia-Pacific region. With such a large and poor population, climate change impacts on water resources, agriculture and food security, the environment and human health could exacerbate existing environmental and developmental challenges and endanger the welfare of millions.
 - 1B. The Asia-Pacific region is also very susceptible to disasters. For example, according to Re-Swiss, a major re-insurance company, 90 percent of the world’s climate-related disasters occur in Asia (CANA 2009, UNESCAP 2011). The 22 Pacific Island states contribute less than one-tenth of a percent of the world’s greenhouse gas emissions but are projected to suffer the harshest impacts in the warming world. An Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report focusing on Island states predicts that the impact of climate change on the Pacific and other Small Island States “are likely to be of a magnitude that would disrupt virtually all economic and social sectors in these countries” (See Box 2 for illustrative impacts) (Parry et al. 2007).
2. The effort to stabilize current greenhouse gases in the atmosphere is important, but hardly adequate. With climate change impacts already hitting communities and endangering livelihoods, adaptation is increasingly being viewed as an indispensable pillar of the effort in addressing the climate challenge. The Human Development Report notes that absent meaningful adaptation, the adverse effects of climate change on people’s lives and livelihoods could derail progress towards achieving sustainable development and MDG objectives (UNDP 2011b, 2007; World Bank 2010b). (See Table 1 for how climate change could affect the MDGs.).

Box 2: Impacts of climate change in the Asia-Pacific region

<p>Asia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>By the 2050s, freshwater availability is projected to decrease in Central, East, South and South-East Asia, particularly in large river basins.</i> ➤ <i>Coastal areas, especially heavily populated megadelta regions in East, South and South-East Asia, will be at greatest risk due to increased flooding from the sea and, in some megadeltas, flooding from the rivers.</i> ➤ <i>Climate change is projected to compound the pressures on natural resources and the environment associated with rapid urbanization, industrialization and economic development.</i> ➤ <i>Endemic morbidity and mortality due to diarrhoeal disease (primarily associated with floods and droughts) are expected to rise in East, South and South-East Asia due to projected changes in the hydrological cycle.</i>
<p>Small Islands and the Pacific</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Sea level rise is expected to exacerbate inundation, storm surge, erosion and other coastal hazards, thus threatening vital infrastructure, settlements and facilities that support the livelihood of island communities.</i> ➤ <i>Deterioration in coastal conditions, for example through erosion of beaches and coral bleaching, is expected to affect local resources.</i> ➤ <i>By mid-century, climate change is expected to reduce water resources in many small islands to the point where resources become insufficient to meet demand during low-rainfall periods.</i> ➤ <i>With higher temperatures, increased invasion by non-native species is expected to occur, particularly on mid- and high-latitude islands.</i>

Source: Pachauri and Reisinger 2007.

2A. Adaptation is a process by which individuals, families, communities and countries deal with the impacts of climate change and variability; it entails a range of possible policy, technological and behavioural change. The degree to which such change may be needed is determined by the level of vulnerability, exposure and sensitivity of a unit and its adaptive capacity (see Table 2). The drivers, stressors and impacts of climate change and variability are complex; coping strategies therefore need to be carefully designed, and include long-term solutions that also seek to improve human security and welfare. They need to be proactive—not just a reaction to climatic impacts at present.

2B. Vulnerability to climate change is not solely shaped by environmental dynamics—social factors also play a big role. For example, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change notes that “poor communities can be especially vulnerable, in

Table 1. Some ways in which climate change could affect the MDGs

 <p>1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger</p>	<p>Agricultural production and food security, access to clean and abundant water resources and gainful employment are vulnerable to climate change. With respect to shifting weather patterns, rainfall and cropping cycles/patterns, overflowing and flooding water courses can contaminate water supplies, hampering access to clean water and hindering agricultural production. As female-headed households are more likely to be affected by this and make up the majority of households living below the poverty line, they will need extra support to overcome these challenges.</p>
 <p>2. Achieve universal primary education</p>	<p>When climate change poses additional burdens on agricultural production and other subsistence activities (e.g. water collection), families may react by removing their children from school. Climate change also threatens to destroy infrastructure—possibly schools—and increase the chances of displacement and migration of families, thus disrupting and limiting education opportunities.</p>
 <p>3. Promote gender equality and empower women</p>	<p>Women's traditional roles as the primary users and managers of natural resources, water and sanitation managers, subsistence farmers, primary caregivers and unpaid labourers mean they are involved in (and dependent on) resources that are put most at risk by climate change. Further, women lack rights and access to resources and information vital to overcoming the challenges posed by climate change.</p>
 <p>4. Reduce child mortality</p>	<p>Climate change can reduce food and water security, increase the incidence of water-borne diseases associated with poorer water quality due to floods and drought, create more favourable conditions for vector- and airborne diseases to spread and increase the level of heat stress.</p>
 <p>5. Improve maternal health</p>	<p>See effects for MDG 4.</p>
 <p>6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases</p>	<p>See effects for MDG 4.</p>
 <p>7. Ensure environmental sustainability</p>	<p>Climate change threatens environmental sustainability because it will cause fundamental alterations in ecosystem relationships, change the quality and quantity of available natural resources and reduce ecosystem productivity. The poor depend on these resources for their day-to-day survival and livelihoods in many parts of the developing world.</p>
 <p>8. Develop a global partnership for development</p>	<p>Climate change threatens to exacerbate challenges to achieving the MDGs. Funding for development and adaptation must be greatly increased in order to meet the needs of the poor.</p>

Source: Adapted from http://www.undp.org/climatechange/cc_mdgs.shtml.

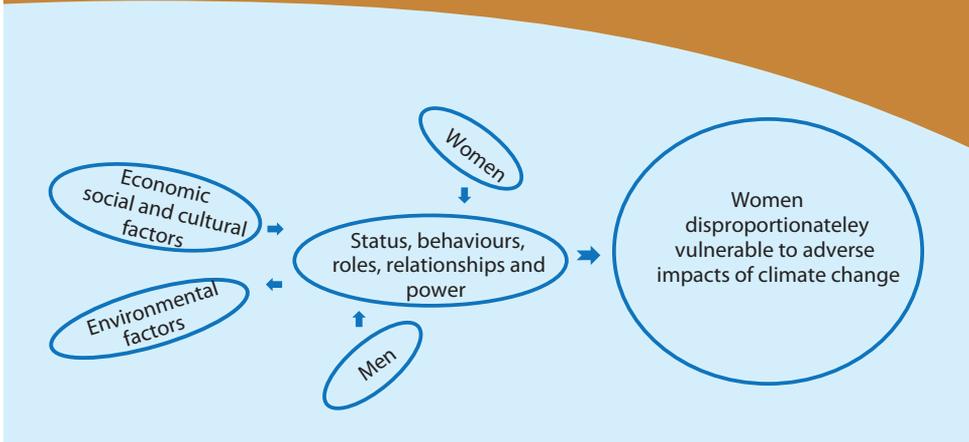
Table 2: Definitions from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

Adaptation	<i>Adjustment in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities (Parry et al. 2007).</i>
Sensitivity	<i>The degree to which a system is affected, either adversely or beneficially, by climate variability or change. The effect may be direct (e.g. a change in crop yield in response to a change in the mean, range or variability of temperature) or indirect (e.g. damages caused by an increase in the frequency of coastal flooding due to sea-level rise) (Parry et al. 2007).</i>
Exposure	<i>The nature and degree to which a system is exposed to significant climatic variations (Houghton et al. 2001) For example, a system can be exposed to hazards such as drought or conflict and also underlying socio-economic, institutional and environmental conditions (Burton et al. 2006).</i>
Vulnerability	<i>The degree to which a system is susceptible to and unable to cope with adverse effects of climate change including climate variability and extremes. Vulnerability is a function of the character, magnitude and rate of climate change and variation to which a system is exposed its sensitivity and its adaptive capacity (Parry et al. 2007).</i>
Adaptive capacity	<i>The ability of a system to adjust to climate change (including climate variability and extremes) to moderate potential damages, to take advantage of opportunities or to cope with the consequences (Parry et al. 2007).</i>

particular those concentrated in high-risk areas. They tend to have more limited adaptive capacities, and are more dependent on climate sensitive resources such as local water and food supplies.” (Parry et al. 2007) This is particularly true for female-headed households, which tend to make up the majority of poor households in most countries. A diversity of factors make women more vulnerable to the effects of climate change, including an over-reliance on climate-sensitive resources, economic and political marginalization, constraining social norms and values and lower levels of access to financial, technological and other resources (Cheema and Rajivan 2011, FAO 2011, IFC and World Bank 2011, Levin 2011, United Nations 2009, World Bank 2010a). Adaptation is therefore imperative to the survival of the poorest and most marginalized segments of society; adaptive efforts need to be pro-poor and gender-conscious.

2C. Another compelling reason for gender-conscious adaptation: women bring added value to adaptive efforts in terms of sustainability and efficiency (Bertini 2011, Carvajal-Escobar et al. 2008, FAO 2011, UNDP 2011a, World Bank 2011).

Figure 1: Gender relations and vulnerability



(See Asia-Pacific region Training Module 1 for details.) Adaptation actions therefore need to be gender-sensitive not only to prevent a further worsening of gender-based disparities, but also to capitalize on women’s unique expertise and knowledge, which will increase adaptation policies and programmes’ substantive impacts.



See Module 1



Cambodia: Empowering women – strengthening communities

(video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MwJ5szC7Xu4>)



India: Rural women and climate change

(video: <http://www.climateadapt.asia/events/seminars/view/24>)

v Women's issues, needs and contributions in adaptation

Learning objective: Understand implications of the lack of inclusion of gender concerns in adaptation initiatives, including in adaptation planning, disaster planning and financing

3. As discussed further in Part IV, low-income women are disproportionately vulnerable to the ill-effects of climate variability and change, in part because of gender inequalities (e.g. unequal political, social, economic and cultural rights; lower levels of access to resources, information and education; and lower levels of participation and influence in shaping policies and decision making processes at all levels, including the household). In addition, climate change may exacerbate existing societal inequalities, including those relating to gender (Aguilar et al. 2009; UNDP 2007, 2011; World Bank 2010a). Gender inequality and concomitant gender-based vulnerabilities expose women to an assortment of direct and indirect hazards and ill effects, such as:
 - Natural disasters (e.g. droughts, floods and storms) kill more women than men and kill women at a younger age than men (see paragraph 5B) (Neumayer and Plumper 1997, WHO 2011). For example, following the 2004 Asian Tsunami, Oxfam found that females in many villages in Aceh, Indonesia and in parts of India accounted for over 70 percent of the dead (see Asia-Pacific region Training Module 3 for details) (Oxfam 2005);
 - Women suffer excessive health consequences in times of disaster (e.g. women suffer health drains due to the need to travel longer distances to collect water and fuel wood), and, as households managers of water and sanitation, are exposed to more water-borne diseases (WHO 2011);
 - Women and girls are more likely to become victims of domestic and sexual violence following disasters, especially in overcrowded emergency shelters (Brody et al. 2008); and
 - Climate change-induced strains on natural resources (such as fuel wood and water) also make women time-poor, leading them to miss out on self-nurturing activities such as education (see Asia-Pacific region Training Module 1) (Dankelman 2010, United Nations 2009, World Bank 2006). Other strains include agricultural stresses, changes in crop and seasonal patterns and stresses on biodiversity that affect women's activities in food production, healthcare and natural resources management. See Table 3 for a summary of vulnerabilities and gender dimensions of key sectors in the Asia-Pacific region.

Table 3: Gender dimensions of vulnerability to climate change in Asia and the Pacific

Sector	Impacts	Gender dimension
<p><i>Water and sanitation</i></p>	<p><i>In the Asia-Pacific region, between 60 and 90 percent of water withdrawal is used in agriculture. Water availability varies from 50,000 cubic metres of water per person annually in the Pacific to less than 2,500 cubic metres of water per person annually in East and North-East Asia and South and South-West Asia (UNESCAP 2011). For example, groundwater resources in northern China and Pakistan are being depleted at a much higher volume than their replenishment rate (Butler 2009). By the 2050s, freshwater availability in Central, East, South and South-East Asia, particularly in large river basins, is projected to decrease. By mid-century, climate change is expected to reduce water resources in many small islands to the point where the resources will be insufficient to meet demand during low-rainfall periods (Parry et al. 2007).</i></p>	<p><i>Women and girls are responsible for collecting water for cooking, cleaning, health, hygiene and growing food. Increasingly limited water supplies, poor service delivery, water contamination and pollution jeopardize their and their families' survival (Dankelman 2010, United Nations 2009).</i></p>
<p><i>Agriculture and food security</i></p>	<p><i>Climate change is likely to worsen agricultural production and food security in Asia and the Pacific in the coming decades. Food production is being disrupted by climate change-related increases in the frequency and severity of flooding. (Butler 2009, Douglas 2009). Changing seasonal weather patterns and unpredictable weather affect crop production and may require shifting cultivation patterns and crops.</i></p>	<p><i>Although women are the principal food producers and key to ensuring food security, they face gender-based barriers in access to land, credit, extension services and technology. Removal of these barriers would increase productivity and help female farmers deal with stresses from natural shocks, shifting cropping patterns and changes in seasonal weather patterns. (FAO 2011, World Bank 2010b). Women have specific nutritional needs, especially during pregnancy. Women also bear huge responsibilities during food shortages as a result of their role in providing food for their families.</i></p>

Table 3 (cont-d): Gender dimensions of vulnerability to climate change in Asia and the Pacific

Sector	Impacts	Gender dimension
<p><i>Biodiversity and ecosystems</i></p>	<p><i>There are projections of significant plant and animal extinctions. It is estimated that between 15 and 37 percent of natural species (up to 60 percent of mountain plant species) may be extinguished by 2050 as a result of climate and habitat change (Thullier 2007).</i></p> <p><i>South-East Asia lost 13 percent of its forest cover during the past 20 years (about 332,000 square kilometres, roughly equal to the size of Viet Nam). Indonesia alone lost around 241,000 square kilometres. The Asia-Pacific region accounts for nearly one-third of all the threatened species in the world. Roughly two-thirds of Asia-Pacific countries experienced an increase in the number of threatened species between 2008 and 2010. The greatest increase was in India, where 99 species have been added to the threatened species list (UNESCAP Statistics 2011).</i></p>	<p><i>Traditionally, women are the custodians of local knowledge about the properties and uses of wild plants and the keepers of seeds for cultivated varieties. Understanding the gender-differentiated biodiversity practices and knowledge of women and men enhances biodiversity conservation. (Aguilar et al. 2009). The gendered nature of resource management and the unequal access to rights in certain countries leaves many women particularly vulnerable to the effects of biodiversity loss. Biodiversity loss (in the form of plummeting forests fresh water supply) causes women and young girls to travel longer distances to collect firewood and water for their families. This entails further drudgery, high opportunity costs (e.g. girls lose out on educational opportunities), and exposure to sexual harassment and gender-based violence (Brody et al. 2008).</i></p>
<p><i>Natural Disasters</i></p>	<p><i>Between 2001 and 2010, the Asia-Pacific region included 90 percent of those affected by natural disaster, 65 percent of deaths due to natural disaster and 38 percent of economic damage from natural disasters. In high-income Asia-Pacific countries, about 1 in every 1,000 people was affected by disasters and 1 in 1 million died annually from 2001 to 2010; in contrast, in low-income countries nearly 30 in 1,000 people were affected and 52 in 1 million people were killed (UNESCAP 2011). Sea level rise is expected to exacerbate inundation, storm surge, erosion and other coastal hazards, threatening vital infrastructure, settlements and facilities that support the livelihood of island communities (Parry et al. 2007).</i></p>	<p><i>Natural disasters kill more women than men and kill women at a younger age than men. In areas where women have low socio-economic status, they die in greater numbers during and after natural disasters. (Neumayer and Plumper 2007, WHO 2011) (see paragraph 5B of this Module and Module 3).</i></p> <p><i>Women and children are 14 times more likely to die than men during disasters as a result of limited mobility and, in the case of women and many young girls, caring for small children (Brody et al. 2008).</i></p>

Table 3 (cont-d): Gender dimensions of vulnerability to climate change in Asia and the Pacific

Sector	Impacts	Gender dimension
<p>Natural Disasters</p> <p>(cont-d)</p>		<p>Women are also likely to be exposed to gender-based violence following disasters.</p> <p>Social factors (e.g. prohibitive dress codes for women) also contribute to women's disproportionate vulnerability to climatic risk (Dankelman 2010) (see also Asia-Pacific region Training Module 3).</p>
<p>Coasts</p>	<p>Coastal areas are exposed to increasing climatic risks, including coastal inundation and erosion from sea-level rise, displacement of communities, increased coastal management cost and the potential for more cyclones. Coastal areas are more vulnerable to damage caused by floods and storms; about 30 percent of the coastal wetlands may disappear (Parry et al. 2007).</p> <p>Coastal areas in heavily-populated cities in Asia are vulnerable to climate disasters. Sea-level rise could endanger the lives and livelihoods of millions of poor rural communities in low-lying areas of the Pacific Islands and South and South-East Asia such as Bangladesh, India and Viet Nam.</p>	<p>Women engage in many types of fishing in the Pacific Islands: deep-sea fishing alongside men, community fishing, reef gleaning and freshwater trapping. Women are particularly much more involved in fishing activities in shallow, near-shore waters.</p> <p>Coastal plans are not adequately reflecting women's interests in relation to fisheries (Aguilar et al. 2009).</p>

Table 3 (cont-d): Gender dimensions of vulnerability to climate change in Asia and the Pacific

Sector	Impacts	Gender dimension
Health	<p>Climate change will lead to increased incidences of malnutrition and gastrointestinal, cardiorespiratory and infectious diseases. Heat waves, floods and droughts will lead to increased mortality and changes in disease vectors (e.g. increased average temperatures will expand mosquitoes' habitat and range, which will lead to an increase in the incidence of malaria). Health services will also be burdened by an increase in patients (Aguilar et al. 2009, WHO 2011). Projected changes in the hydrological cycles of East, South and South-East Asia are likely to cause a rise in endemic morbidity and mortality from diarrhoeal diseases (Parry et al. 2007).</p>	<p>Climate change is likely to exacerbate gendered differences in health risks (WHO 2011). Climate-induced stress on water and forest resources could lead to increased drudgery and associated health risks to women, while their domestic tasks will increase their exposure to unsafe water and water-borne disease. Water-borne diseases such as Cholera are likely to be exacerbated by climate-induced flooding. Because women normally stay at home taking care of the sick, they are also likely to be exposed to communicable diseases.</p>
Cities	<p>More than half of the world's population lives in urban centres. Asia's urban population increased from 32 percent of its total population in 1990 to 42 percent in 2010. The region's urban population will increase by around 700 million in just over 15 years. Climate change presents multiple hazards for urban dwellers in the region (e.g. sea-level rise and flooding); especially the poor (UN-HABITAT 2010).</p>	<p>One consequence of unplanned and rapid growth is the urban poor's increasing vulnerability to climate change impacts. For example, many areas lack essential infrastructure and building regulations that could have provided protection from storm events. Housing is often of poor quality and does not resist natural hazards (Dankelman 2010).</p>

Unlike many other NAPAs, the Bangladesh NAPA contains a number of references to gender and women and recognizes the reality of “gender differentiated impacts” in its adaptation framework. The plan also maintains that a “gender perspective” was considered as an important criterion in the prioritization of adaptation needs and activities. It is also noted that various community-based organizations as well as “indigenous women” were involved in the development of the adaptation plan (Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh 2005). It should be noted that the NAPA presents women mainly as one of the most vulnerable groups; women’s valuable contributions to adaptive efforts were not de-emphasized.

Source: WEDO 2008.

4. Despite their disproportionate vulnerability to climatic risk, rural women are also important actors of change—they have unique skills and experience that are indispensable to the climate effort.

4A. There is a growing body of evidence that promoting gender equality and women’s empowerment leads to gains in sustainability, agricultural productivity and helps ensure greater returns on investments in the MDGs (see Table 1) (FAO 2011, UNDP 2011b, World Bank 2011). In fact, in its World Development Report, the World Bank argues that gender equality can enhance economic efficiency and improve development outcomes because 1) removing barriers that restrict women from having the same access to resources increases productivity gains and outputs; 2) improving women’s status contributes to other development objectives and those of their children; and 3) creating equal opportunities for women and men to be socially, economically and politically active can lead to more inclusive institutions and policy choices (World Bank 2012).

4B. Rural women's unique skills and wisdom in natural resources management (partly due to their interactions with natural resources as well as their family and communal roles and responsibilities), should be brought to bear when designing and implementing adaptation solutions (Alexander et al. 2011, Carvajal-Escobar et al. 2008, Dankelman 2010, UNDP 2010c, WEDO 2007). Anderson (2002) provides a simple yet important example of how women's communal knowledge of island hydrology was employed to find potable water by digging a new well that reached the freshwater lens.

In addition to directly benefiting adaptation projects and programmes, women's contributions can strengthen a society's overall adaptive capacity. By promoting women's unique capacities in adaptation, it is possible to simultaneously build communities' resilience and promote gender equality (Levin 2011). Adaptive efforts would thus be even more worthwhile if they place special accent on women and other vulnerable members of society.



Climate Change and Rural Women

(video: <http://www.climateadapt.asia/events/seminars/view/24>)

5. Despite the enormous added value to climate change adaptation efforts, women's empowerment and gender-responsive approaches are still far from where they need to be. Even well-intended actions, if gender-blind, could end up leading to unintended adverse outcomes for women and, more broadly, for gender equality.

5A. Adaptation initiatives including plans and specific projects that are not gender-sensitive may unintentionally exacerbate gender inequality. One example of such challenges and opportunities vis-à-vis gender and adaptation planning can be shown with national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs). NAPAs were designed to address the urgent and immediate adaptation needs of the least developed countries, under United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) processes. As of 2013, 49 NAPAs have been finalized and submitted (UNFCCC 2013). Of the 49, 14 have been submitted by least developed countries in the Asia-Pacific region (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu and Vanuatu).

Table 4: Gender in NAPAs

Country	Gender equality programming	Gender equality programming	Participation	Other comments	Projects		
					A	B	C
Bangladesh	Gender is recognized as a vulnerability factor related to livelihood. The poor are recognized as the most vulnerable within each community; within poor groups, women are recognized as the most vulnerable, together with children, the elderly and the sick. The NAPA says that any adaptation actions must have a special emphasis on protecting and helping these most vulnerable groups (p. 17).	Gender equality is listed as an activity selection criteria (p. 22). “Poverty reduction and security of livelihoods with a gender perspective has been ranked as the most important set of criteria for prioritization of adaptation needs and activities” (p. 23) 15 projects are outlined; three include women among beneficiaries.	Indigenous women mentioned as stakeholders participating in NAPA development. In general, community participation has been ensured throughout the process.	One sectoral working group was dedicated to food security, livelihood, gender and local governance. Gender-differentiated impacts recognised in figure 7 (p. 17), but is mentioned as a separate issue, not mainstreamed. Figure 7 is important to understand how Bangladesh interprets its risks.	15	3	0
Bhutan		Gender equality and empowerment of women, especially to reduce the gender disparity in tertiary education, is one of the goals chosen to guide the NAPA (pp. 11,12).	Member of National Women's Association of Bhutan in the health working group.	The NAPA process promoted equal participation of both men and women right from the formation of the NAPA Taskforce. Gender equality was also emphasized during the regional consultations.” (p. 12) 11 of 39 task force members are women.	9	0	0

Key: A: All projects; B: Projects that include gender; C: Women-specific projects.

Table 4 (cont-d): Gender in NAPAs

Country	Gender equality programming	Gender equality programming	Participation	Other comments	Projects		
					A	B	C
Cambodia			Women's association beneficiaries of Training of Trainers in malaria project (human health sector).		20	1	0
Kiribati			Women were consulted in the process. However, they were placed in the same group as youths, including younger men.		10	0	0
Maldives				Objective 2 for prioritisation of adaptation activities is on the promotion of equality in order to enhance adaptation capacity. One indicator is the degree to which women's empowerment has been achieved. One of the indicators for objective 3 is on the degree to which employment opportunities have been increased for youth.	12	0	0

Key: A: All projects; B: Projects that include gender; C: Women-specific projects.

Table 4 (cont-d): Gender in NAPAs

Country	Gender equality programming	Gender equality programming	Participation	Other comments	Projects		
					A	B	C
Solomon Islands	<p>"Climate impacts that lead to changes in agricultural production will have a major and direct impact on women because of their central role in agricultural production. Their work could be made much harder, leading to less time for other activities and potentially forcing them to seek other sources of income to be able to provide food for the family. There could be resulting social issues and health issues such as nutritional deficiency." (p.32)</p> <p>"Changes to the quality and quantity of water will have a large impact on women and girls and their safety and security if they need to travel further to collect water, also leading to less time for other activities." (p. 36-37)</p> <p>Health issues and increased disease will put extra burden on women and children (p. 39).</p>	<p>Women and youth target group for training on health impacts, disease prevention, contamination of water supply prevention and managing sanitation during and after climate related disasters (component of project 1).</p>	<p>Women and men participated; gender balance was "often" achieved. The consultation team made an effort to get input from all people in the community, especially youth and women.</p>	<p>Gender was one criterion to select adaptation options and was taken into account in participation.</p> <p>National Council of Women made commitments to the report.</p> <p>"Schools, institutions, youth and village communities have a key role to play in dissemination of awareness so therefore should be a target for capacity and awareness-raising. Women play a key role in education and awareness in the family and community." (p. 53)</p>	7	1	0

Key: A: All projects; B: Projects that include gender; C: Women-specific projects.

Table 4 (cont-d): Gender in NAPAs

Country	Gender equality programming	Gender equality programming	Participation	Other comments	Projects		
					A	B	C
Samoa			Women and men were equally consulted in the process. It also outlines that it has a community participatory approach, including women and men.	One criterion for selecting projects is called "local and community-based" with gender equality being a dimension of this. One mention of women's and youth's current contribution to adaptation actions: their responsibility to maintain water source areas.	9	0	0
Tuvalu			Gender balance was ensured in NAPA consultations.	An afforestation project to avoid coastal erosion carried out by the Tuvalu Council of Women is presented as a good practice.	7	0	0
Vanuatu		A project on food security emphasizes inclusion of all stakeholders, including women's associations, in order for the project to succeed.		An example on women's adaptation on use of alternative food sources is presented.	5	1	0

Key: A: All projects; B: Projects that include gender; C: Women-specific projects.

Source: Extracted from OCHA/Gender Advisory Team, 2009.

Gender perspectives have not been adequately incorporated into the bulk of NAPA documents that have been submitted for funding. Less than one-third of NAPAs mention gender equality as an important underlying principle, although some NAPAs have identified gender equity as a tool for achieving national adaptation and development goals (see Asia-Pacific Training Module 1) (Perch 2011, UNDP 2011a). Table 3 provides gender analysis of select least developed countries in the Asia-Pacific region, and provides references to where information on the particular item being discussed can be found within the corresponding NAPA.

Although the NAPA process began as a way to communicate urgent and immediate adaptation needs, projects that were identified and prioritized during the NAPA preparation phase are just entering the implementation phase. Moreover, the Cancún Adaptation Framework, a new (albeit related) UNFCCC process, will enable developing countries to formulate and implement National Adaptation Plans through which they are expected to identify medium-term and long-term adaptation needs and then build on their NAPA experiences to develop strategies and programmes to address those needs. The Cancún mandate states that the process has to be gender-responsive. National Adaptation Plans and the implementation stage of existing NAPAs provide opportunities for making advances on incorporating gender perspectives into adaptation plans and projects. (UNFCCC 2011).

5B. Because disaster is a risk closely associated with climate change adaptation, it is crucial that adaptation strategies, initiatives and policies utilise a gender approach when addressing risk management (and vice versa). The fact that disasters have greater adverse effects on women than men means that disaster adaptation strategies should pay special attention to gender issues. The ultimate aim of risk management processes is the permanent reduction and control of disasters in society. This is a function of the society's capacities to address risk by acting on its external and underlying causes, including intervention methods and means that tend to reduce, mitigate or prevent disasters (Aguilar et al. 2009).

A number of studies have underscored the disproportionate victimization of women in natural disasters. Others have examined the gender dimension of different disasters such as heat waves, flooding and tsunamis, and in both industrialized and poor nations (Alam et al. 2005, Bradshaw 2004, Cannon 2002, Duncan 2007, FAO 2000, Gault et al. 2005, Hartmann et al. 2006, Oxfam 2005, Peterson 2007, Pirard et al. 2005). Researchers at the London School of Economics, the University of Essex and the Max-Planck Institute of Economics analysed disaster events in 141 countries and found that in areas where women had low socio-economic status they were more likely

Mainstreaming a gender perspective “is the process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies or programmes, in all areas and at all levels. It is a strategy for making women’s as well as men’s concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality.”

Source: UNECOSOC Agreed Conclusions 1997/2.

than men to die in disasters. Societies where women enjoy high socio-economic status showed a more even distribution between females and males in the likelihood of death (Neumayer and Plumper 2007).

These statistics illustrate that much more needs to be done in order to ensure women’s priorities and concerns are incorporated into climate change and disaster adaptation. Doing so would help ensure that women have the adequate tools and skills necessary to adapt and to decrease their vulnerability to such risks.

5C. The relationship between women’s empowerment and climate change warrants incorporating gender outlooks into adaptation financing efforts.

Adaptation is a very costly exercise and the adequacy and accessibility of funding sources is a subject of continuing debate (see Asia-Pacific region Training Module 5). There are a growing number of national, regional and global climate finance mechanisms, many of which are designed to finance adaptation efforts. These include United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change processes, including the Least Developed Countries Fund, the Special Climate Change Fund, the Kyoto Protocol Adaptation Fund, the Pilot Program on Climate Resilience (under the Strategic Climate Fund) and the Green Climate Fund, launched in Copenhagen at COP-15 (See Internet links below for a list and description of climate finance sources).

Investing in women is one of the most effective ways to advance sustainable development, adapt to climate change and fight climate change devastation (WEDO 2008). Studies on finance mechanisms show that more work needs to be done to ensure that gender considerations are duly factored in the design and operationalization of adaptation finance (Schalatec 2009; UNDP 2010a, 2010b, 2010c, 2011; WEDO 2008). (See Asia-Pacific region Training Module 5 for more information.)



www.climatefinanceoptions.org
www.climatefundsupdate.org



Module 1, Module 3, Module 5



Analysis of NAPAs from a gender perspective
(See Appendix B, Task 1)

VI Incorporating gender perspectives in adaptive efforts

Learning objective: Identify and propose a gender-conscious policy and programming response for adaptation to climate change

6. Women's disparate vulnerability to climate change impacts underscores the need to ensure that climate change-related policies and actions are gender-sensitive. Women's valuable skills and contributions to natural resources management and developmental and environmental ventures are equally important to aiding overall climate response efforts. The benefits that stem from their skills and contributions underscore the need to mainstream gender in adaptation efforts. This would not only help avert climate change impacts from reinforcing gender disparities (and hence make adaptive efforts fairer), but also render the efforts more effective and sustainable.

6A. Gender mainstreaming is an integrated approach intended to facilitate the equitable participation of both women and men in decision-making processes so as to adequately address their strategic and differing needs. A gender approach is a working tool that should be integrated into the entire policy planning and implementation process and includes:

- Gender analysis;
- Disaggregation of all data by sex;
- Gender-responsive indicators to measure results, benefits and impact;
- Building capacity and strengthening sustainable development strategies and institutional frameworks; and
- Documenting and dissemination best practices to continually promote learning and innovation.

Applying a gender lens to the adaptation context can help increase the understanding of climate change impacts and identify appropriate climate change adaptation response measures. The main issues for integrating gender into adaptation strategies include strengthening women's position by building their capacity to respond and adjust to climate change induced shifts, disasters and shocks.

Box 3: Steps for gender mainstreaming in adaptation initiatives

- *Analyse the effects of climate change from both male and female perspectives;*
- *Analyse gender trends in access, control and distribution of benefits;*
- *Assess the viability of communal and natural resources;*
- *Assess the levels of vulnerability, resilience and autonomy of men and women when confronted with different threats;*
- *Analyse and address gender differences in capabilities to cope with climate change adaptation and mitigation;*
- *Integrate local knowledge of women and men;*
- *Ensure disaggregation of qualitative and quantitative data by sex in all assessments and stocktaking;*
- *Incorporate female perspectives when designing and implementing projects;*
- *Capitalize on the talents and contributions of both women and men;*
- *Set targets for female participation in activities;*
- *Consult with both female and male targets, beneficiaries and participants;*
- *Work closely with formal and non-formal women's representative organizations, networks and community groups;*
- *Ensure that women are adequately represented in all decision-making processes at all levels;*
- *Consult (when necessary) with regional and national gender specialists to ensure gender considerations are integrated throughout the project implementation process;*
- *Make women's equal access to information, economic resources and education a priority;*
- *Develop and apply gender-sensitive criteria and indicators for monitoring and evaluation of results;*
- *Undertake a gender analysis of budget lines and financial instruments to determine the differentiated impact on women and men of the budget (for more information see <http://www.gender-budgets.org/>);*
- *Consider (if relevant), reallocating resources to achieve gender equality outcomes from the actions planned; and*
- *Develop and apply gender-sensitive criteria and indicators.*

6B. There are a range of tools, methods and resources that could be used in gender mainstreaming. Box 3 presents a checklist of specific steps that could be followed in addressing adaptation.

6C. Gender-related differences in impacts of, and vulnerabilities to, climate change and their underlying causes are comparatively similar across regions, although data from assessments show variation within countries (due, for example, to factors such as age, class and community/society-specific circumstances). Therefore, strategies for gender-responsive climate change adaptation should differ with local context. Box 4 demonstrates a country-level experience with gender mainstreaming activities within an adaptation project in the Asia-Pacific region.

7. All stakeholders involved should make efforts to help promote the empowerment of poor and rural populations as well as women, as a strategic priority in the fight against climate change.

Box 4: Gender mainstreaming experiences and opportunities in climate initiatives—Papua New Guinea

In Papua New Guinea, entry points for mainstreaming gender into climate change mitigation and adaptation initiatives at the country level have been identified in the United Nations Country Programme for 2008 to 2012, particularly in the areas of gender and sustainable livelihoods. Possible areas for action include increasing and enhancing women's leadership skills in government work on climate change and in formulating climate change policy. Papua New Guinea was in the process of preparing its Second National Communication report where it was determined that there was an opportunity to incorporate gender assessment into mitigation and adaptation strategies. Other opportunities for gender mainstreaming include integrating gender equality and women's empowerment concepts into the United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD). Challenges, such as the lack of institutional coordination, data and capacity to follow-up on gender issues still remain an issue within the country. However, the Gender Strategic Plan 2008–2012 and the Annual Work Plan 2009 show that there is a way forward for gender inclusion in awareness and advocacy activities.

Source: UNDP 2009.

7A. Adaptation actions need to be tailored towards strengthening poor and marginalized groups' resilience and helping them lead sustainable livelihoods (Dankelman 2010, UNFPA and WEDO 2009). Special efforts should be made to enhance women's access to crucial resources such as information, land, technology and credit in order to help boost their adaptive capacity. To this end, institutional capacity to mainstream gender and consult with women participants in adaptive efforts needs to be strengthened; meticulously drawn gender strategy and action plans need to be developed to guide such mainstreaming efforts. It is imperative that plans recognize that women are agents of positive change, not primarily victims.

7B. Because women and girls are disproportionately vulnerable to disaster situations, gender-based differences in vulnerabilities, the associated factors and differences in disaster situations and women's unique adaptive skills and knowledge need to be taken into account and particularly emphasized when devising disaster adaptation strategies in order to ensure equity and the success of adaptive policies and measures (UNDP 2009).

7C. Finance is critical for adaptation efforts; adaptation finance should, therefore, leverage gender equality (UNDP 2011b). Similarly, gender-sensitive criteria need to be developed for all new and proposed climate change adaptation financing instruments, mechanisms and processes.



Module 1, Module 3

VII Conclusion

Climate change has gender differentiated impacts—women are often affected more harshly, relative to men. This is largely due to gendered differences in vulnerability and adaptive capacity, which are often attributable to varied political and socio-economic factors that are stacked against women. The negative effects of climate change tend to exacerbate existing gender disparities.

Women's needs, concerns and abilities need to be addressed when assessing vulnerabilities and designing adaptation options. It is also critical that women are meaningfully involved in relevant decision-making processes at all levels. A better understanding of how climate change interfaces with socio-economic factors and gender roles will improve actions taken to reduce vulnerability and will increase capacity to manage climate-change induced challenges.

Women have unique skills, experience and knowledge of natural resources management, food production, climate and weather patterns, the use of medicinal plants and coping and survival skills. If this knowledge and skill are applied to climate change adaptation, greater returns will accrue across the MDGs and broader development objectives. Women's greater involvement in adaptive efforts would render adaptive efforts more equitable, more effective and more sustainable. Hence, adaptation planning and financing at all levels need to build on women's contributions and integrate a gender perspective.

Appendix A. Case studies

Case study 1

Promoting gender-responsive and inclusive state climate change plans—India

Source: Climate & Development Knowledge Network, 'Promoting gender-responsive and inclusive state climate change plans in India', 2013, available at: <http://cdkn.org/project/gender-and-state-climate-change-action-plans-in-india/>.

“Compared to men, women are affected differently, and often more severely by climate change and associated natural disasters such as floods, droughts, cyclones and storms. This is largely because men and women are bound by distinct socio-economic roles and responsibilities that give rise to differences in vulnerability and ability to cope with these climate change consequences.

An excellent case study of the extent and how gender concerns are being integrated into the planning process is India. Each state has been mandated by the centre to prepare State Climate Change Action Plans and that these be ‘inclusive and sustainable development strategy that protects the poor and vulnerable sections of society from adverse effects of climate change.’ State Climate Change Action Plans are expected to include impacts and vulnerability assessments as well as adaptation and mitigation options with funding avenues.

Initial research by Alternative Futures indicates that that both gender concerns and concerns of the socially and economically marginalized communities like lowest castes and minorities are not being factored into the plans. The vulnerability studies being done are looking primarily at natural resource crisis from only the physical angle, not the social angle, not from the users’ angle.

However, Alternative Futures also stress that best practices do exist, but these have tended to be led by civil society, and are not well documented.

As part of a Climate and Development Knowledge Network project, Alternative Futures is advancing global understanding on this issue, and is assessing four State Climate Change Action Plans through a gender and rights-based lens. The project will also engage with officials, legislatures and the public to raise awareness of the gender dimension of climate change.

It includes the following components:

- To analyse and understand four State Action Plans on Climate Change from the two-fold perspective of gender equality and inclusiveness.
- To add to the knowledge on climate science by scientifically documenting, with gender analysis, approximately six emerging and viable adaptation models in three vulnerable agro-climatic zones – flood, drought and cyclone-prone—and some climate-resilient traditional knowledge which is often owned by women. These models will be taken from civil society group initiatives and government’s research institutions.
- To advocate and influence four State governments to incorporate gender and inclusive components into their adaptation plans, based on evidence from best practices and learnings from this research. The gender and inclusive lens will seek answers to questions like (a) is there gender disaggregated data on impacts of climate change? (b) Are the gender differential impacts of adaptation measures understood and addressed? (b) Do the adaptation programmes reach poor women? (c) Are the ‘additional’ financial resources for women and men? (d) Are women present in the decision-making structures in climate-sensitive areas? (e) Is there recognition of rights/ entitlements for poor women and men in adaptation programmes?
- To engage with elected legislators in order to make them more gender-responsive and able to move from gender-neutral or gender-sensitive policies to making gender-just policies and programmes.
- To initiate a public debate on gender and climate change, including catalysing more research on the subject and wide dissemination of the outputs of this research through niche scientific journals and popular media, including the new media.”



Download the research project case study here

(video: <http://cdkn.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/Project7-Gender—and—State—Climate—Change—Action—Plans—in—IndiaRSAS-0015.pdf>)

Case study 2

Duck rearing in the face of climatic vulnerability—Bangladesh

Source: CARE, 'Duck Rearing in the face of Climatic Vulnerability: CARE Bangladesh: Chameli Begum's Story of Livelihood Adaptation', available at: http://www.careclimatechange.org/files/stories/Chameli_Begum_Duc_%20Rearing.pdf.

“Northwest Bangladesh is characterized by chronic food insecurity and an intense vulnerability to seasonal flooding. Katihara is a remote village in the district of Gaibandha in northwest Bangladesh. The village is no stranger to serious flooding and, with the reality of climate change bearing down upon it the future is likely to bring even more extreme weather. Katihara is surrounded by fertile, low-lying paddy fields and an intricate maze of waterways filled with flowering water lilies. The landscape is strikingly flat and most of the peoples' livelihoods depend on livestock rearing and agriculture, principally growing rice, maize and potato.

For the most part, the only areas that protrude above water level are the thin, dirt pathways that snake through the village connecting adjoining crop fields. Most of the houses, built from corrugated iron and thatch, are elevated no more than a half metre above the water line. The low-lying level of infrastructure and many rivers leaves the region exceptionally vulnerable to floods and climate change, impeding agricultural productivity, shelter and settlement, as well as economic and livelihood options. For women, unequal gender power relations including social and cultural barriers further constrains their income and livelihood opportunities.

To combat this susceptibility, CARE Bangladesh utilizes a participatory community led development initiative. This initiative is the evolving operating approach of CARE that critically analyses the underlying causes of poverty and vulnerabilities and thereby facilitates community based livelihood adaptation. Duck rearing was identified as one of the adaptive livelihood options for the people living in flood prone areas, especially for women. It is in this village of Katihara that three women participated in a CARE Bangladesh duck hatching and rearing intervention initiated by the SHOUHARDO project.”

“This has been fundamental in furthering women's empowerment in the locality and developing practical skills along the way.”

Case study 3

Women the risk managers—Sri Lanka

Source: Madhavi Ariyabandu, *Women: the risk managers in natural disasters*, 2003

A concise version of the paper was published in 'Voice of Women', *Sri Lanka Journal for Women's Liberation*, Volume 6, Issue 1, August 2003, Colombo <http://www.ssri.hawaii.edu/research/GDWwebsite/pdf/Ariyabandu.pdf>.

“Women play a major role in risk and emergency management. Taking care of the family in emergencies, taking children and animals to safety, and the storage of food and other essential items, are some of the functions carried out entirely by women in such situations. The social role assigned to women in South Asian societies as caregivers and nurturers naturally extend to risk management, to secure life and the continuity of livelihoods, and to maintain the life support systems in times of disasters.

Research studies carried out in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka on gender issues in disasters show the risk management strategies deployed by people for surviving the vagaries of nature. The studies reveal that there is a clear division of labour based on gender, in how disaster risk is managed. Often, men and women complement each other by taking on gender specific roles and responsibilities in overall risk management.”

The following is an example of how women have put to use their specialized skills to cope with landslides and rockfalls in Sri Lanka:

“Gondennawa, in Nawalapitiya, Sri Lanka is an area where people live in constant fear of dual threats—landslides and rock falls. The area has been identified and declared high risk by the authorities, but people continue to occupy the houses with cracked walls, which is a clear sign of possible landslides. The occupants claim that they have nowhere else to go. The Government has offered settlement in an alternative location, however, the people claim that it will jeopardise their income earning opportunities, which are linked with the Nawalapitiya township. Men go out for labour and other work opportunities in the town, while women stay at home occupying themselves in petty income generating activities such as preparing various food items for sale. Living in risk, women keep regular vigil, and observe signs of cracks on earth, and the walls. Women in this area have taken the initiative to form themselves into vigilant groups along with men to keep vigil in the nights, for possible threats of rock fall during the heavy monsoons, so that they can alert the neighbours to run for safety.”

Appendix B. Learning tools

Task 1: Assessing NAPAs from a gender perspective (breakout groups and plenary)

Learning objective: Understand the challenges and opportunities of NAPAs in incorporating gender perspectives into climate change adaptation measures



Analysis of NAPAs from a gender perspective



30 minutes: group breakout discussions

15 minutes: presentations of findings (three presentations of 5 minutes each)

20 minutes: plenary discussion



Afghanistan (2009), <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/napa/afg01.pdf>

Kiribati (2007), <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/napa/kir01.pdf>

Vanuatu (2007), <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/napa/vut01.pdf>

Notes to the facilitator

- Divide the participants into three groups.
- Give each group one country NAPA each and have the groups appoint their leader.
- Ask the groups to use the information on the above-cited materials and do a SWOT analysis of the NAPA at hand, from the vantage point of gender consciousness. (SWOT analysis for purposes of this task is a method used to evaluate the Strengths, Weaknesses/Limitations, Opportunities and Threats involved in a project/plan).
- Ask each group to present their findings to the plenary.
- Ask the participants to discuss what they have learned from the assignment.

Task 2: Women empowerment and adaptation— Cambodia (group discussion and plenary)

Learning objective: Appreciate the importance of adaptation to women in poor communities



Cambodia: Empowering women—strengthening communities

(video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MwJ5szC7Xu4>)



India: Rural women and climate change

(video: <http://www.climateadapt.asia/events/seminars/view/24>)



Cambodia: 3 minutes

India: 4 minutes

Group discussion and reflections: as needed

Notes to the facilitator

Show both clips and encourage a general discussion on how adaptation efforts could benefit women and vice versa.

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*Empowered lives.
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