

# EnGenDER Climate Resilience

## Analysis: Saint Lucia



**EnGenDER**  
Enabling Gender-Responsive Disaster Recovery,  
Climate and Environmental Resilience in the Caribbean

A gender-based climate resilience analysis was undertaken from September 2020 to April 2021 in Saint Lucia under the Enabling Gender-Responsive Disaster Recovery, Climate and Environmental Resilience in the Caribbean (EnGenDER) Project. The project is being led by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and funded by Global Affairs Canada and the United Kingdom Government. Its overall goal is to enhance gender-responsive climate and disaster resilience in the Caribbean.

The analysis focused on existing gender and social inequities, how climate change will impact on and shape the vulnerabilities among men, women, boys and girls and vulnerable groups (e.g. elderly, disabled and poor), and key gaps and opportunities to mainstream gender in three priority sectors in Saint Lucia:

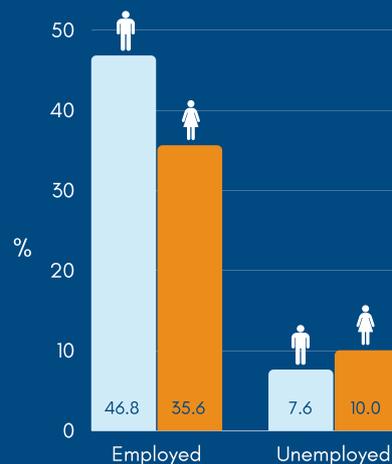
- Agriculture (crops and livestock)
- Fisheries
- Water

### Saint Lucia's economy and priority sectors are extremely vulnerable to Climate Change



Key impacts include loss of income and jobs, increased costs of living, such as higher expenses for purchasing food, decreased crop and fisheries productivity and inadequate access to water and sanitation. This can increase food insecurity and poverty.

Total Saint Lucia labour force, First QTR 2020



While men, women, girls and boys are all at risk from the negative impacts of climate change, labour force and other data indicates gender inequalities (e.g. in access to employment and income) are creating disproportionate vulnerability for women and the children and youth in their care. The elderly, persons with disabilities and rural communities are also marginalised and among the most vulnerable.

For more information:

<https://www.bb.undp.org/content/barbados/en/home/projects/EnGenDER.html>

# Progress and Gaps

Climate change adaptation and mitigation planning in Saint Lucia is increasingly taking gender considerations into account, including via the National Climate Change Adaptation Policy, National Adaptation Plan and Sectoral Adaptation Strategies and Plans (SASAPs) for agriculture, fisheries and water and recent project interventions. A gender policy and strategic plan is currently being developed focused on governance, capacity building, health, gender-based violence and climate change. Key gaps in response remain, however, including:



Climate change adaptation and mitigation plans do not fully take into account the differential vulnerabilities of men, women and key vulnerable groups



Limited gender-responsive budgeting, and lack of formal institutional mechanisms for facilitating inter-sectoral and coordinated action on gender



Relatively high poverty rates and low social protection coverage which increases vulnerability and risk to climate hazards among marginalised groups

## Recommendations

### Agriculture and fisheries

- Reform existing skills training programmes to be gender-responsive, and target young women and young men to become involved in climate-smart agriculture and fisheries, taking into account the full value chain for current and emerging commodities
- Support business skills training to support women-led businesses and penetration into the most lucrative arenas in agriculture and fisheries value chains like export markets
- Address inequality of access to grants, loans and micro-finance opportunities for women farmers and fisherfolk through targeted and gender-responsive financing schemes
- Target incentives and guarantor schemes to young men and women farmers and fisherfolk to promote climate-smart innovation and provide opportunities for small business development

### Water

- Invest in infrastructure for the provision of adequate water and sanitation to the most poor and vulnerable communities, including Anse la Raye, Bexon, Canaries, sub-urban/rural Castries, Dennery, Gros Islet, Laborie, Marc, Micoud, Ravine Poisson and Soufriere

### Cross cutting

- Expand the application of gender analysis for planning and implementation of policies and programmes to ensure more equitable distribution of opportunities and resources among women and men
- Set gender equality goals to measure progress, and develop targeted services that meet the needs of men, women and those in their care
- Strengthen social protection mechanisms and ensure that they are gender-responsive and efficiently target those most in need
- Increase institutional support to the Division of Gender Relations so they can expand gender-responsive capacity building services and lend technical expertise to the priority sectors on gender mainstreaming

