

**Second Regional Workshop on Supporting the
Integration of Gender Considerations into
MRV/Transparency Processes in the Western
Balkan Countries and Lebanon”**

**Belgrade, Serbia, on 14th and 15th November
2018**

Marina Hughson, PhD, gender consultant



Setting the Stage

aims

- To map out conceptual framework for “gender and climate”
- To connect gender, development and climate
- To argue for transformative approach and human based approach in connection to gender and climate
- To offer an overview of the tools for integration of gender into the climate considerations

What motivates us for action?



Learning process...

- Movements
- Research
- Theory
- Codification – legal norms
- International legal standards
- Implementation of the standards
- Institutionalization
- Back to new movements, new theories, new knowledge...

Sex and gender

- **Sex** refers to a set of biological attributes in humans and animals. It is primarily associated with physical and physiological features including chromosomes, gene expression, hormone levels and function, and reproductive/sexual anatomy. Sex is usually categorized as female or male but there is variation in the biological attributes that comprise sex and how those attributes are expressed.
- **Gender** refers to the socially constructed roles, behaviors, expressions and identities of girls, women, boys, men, and gender diverse people. It influences how people perceive themselves and each other, how they act and interact, and the distribution of power and resources in society. Gender is usually conceptualized as a binary (girl/woman and boy/man) yet there is considerable diversity in how individuals and groups understand, experience, and express it.

<http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/47830.html>

Gender and Development

- Women-in-Development (WID) - practical needs
 - Aims at **integrating a women perspective** into existing development processes in order to counteract the exclusion of women (special projects, increase their productive incomes – ease household chores)
- Gender and development (GAD) strategic needs - aims at **empowerment and transformation**
 - explores power relations between women and men and aims to promote social and economic transformation towards sustainable environment, societies and economies.

Gender related concepts

- GENDER EQUALITY: Equal rights, responsibilities, and opportunities for women and men.
- WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT: The ability of women to make and act on choices they value. When women are fully empowered, they have access to resources and the agency—free of violence, retribution, or fear—to make decisions over how resources are used.

More 1...

- Gender Discrimination- The systematic, unfavorable treatment of individuals on the basis of their gender, which denies them rights, opportunities or resources
- Gender Division of Labour - The socially determined ideas and practices which define what roles and activities are deemed appropriate for women and men
- Gender Needs- Shared and prioritized needs identified by women that arise from their common experiences as a gender

More 2...

- Gender Mainstreaming - An organizational strategy to bring a gender perspective to all aspects of an institution's policy and activities, through building gender capacity and accountability
- Gender Planning - The technical and political processes and procedures necessary to implement gender-sensitive policy
- Gender Analysis - The systematic gathering and examination of information on gender differences and social relations in order to identify, understand and redress inequities based on gender

More 3...

- Intra-household Resource Distribution - The dynamics of how different resources that are generated within or which come into the household, are accessed and controlled by its members
- Patriarchy - Systemic societal structures that institutionalize male physical, social and economic power over women

More 4...

- Social Justice - Fairness and equity as a right for all in the outcomes of development, through processes of social transformation
- Women's Empowerment - A 'bottom-up' process of transforming gender power relations, through individuals or groups developing awareness of women's subordination and building their capacity to challenge it
- Women's Human Rights - The recognition that women's rights are human rights and that women experience injustices solely because of their gender

- <http://www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/sites/bridge.ids.ac.uk/files/reports/re55.pdf>

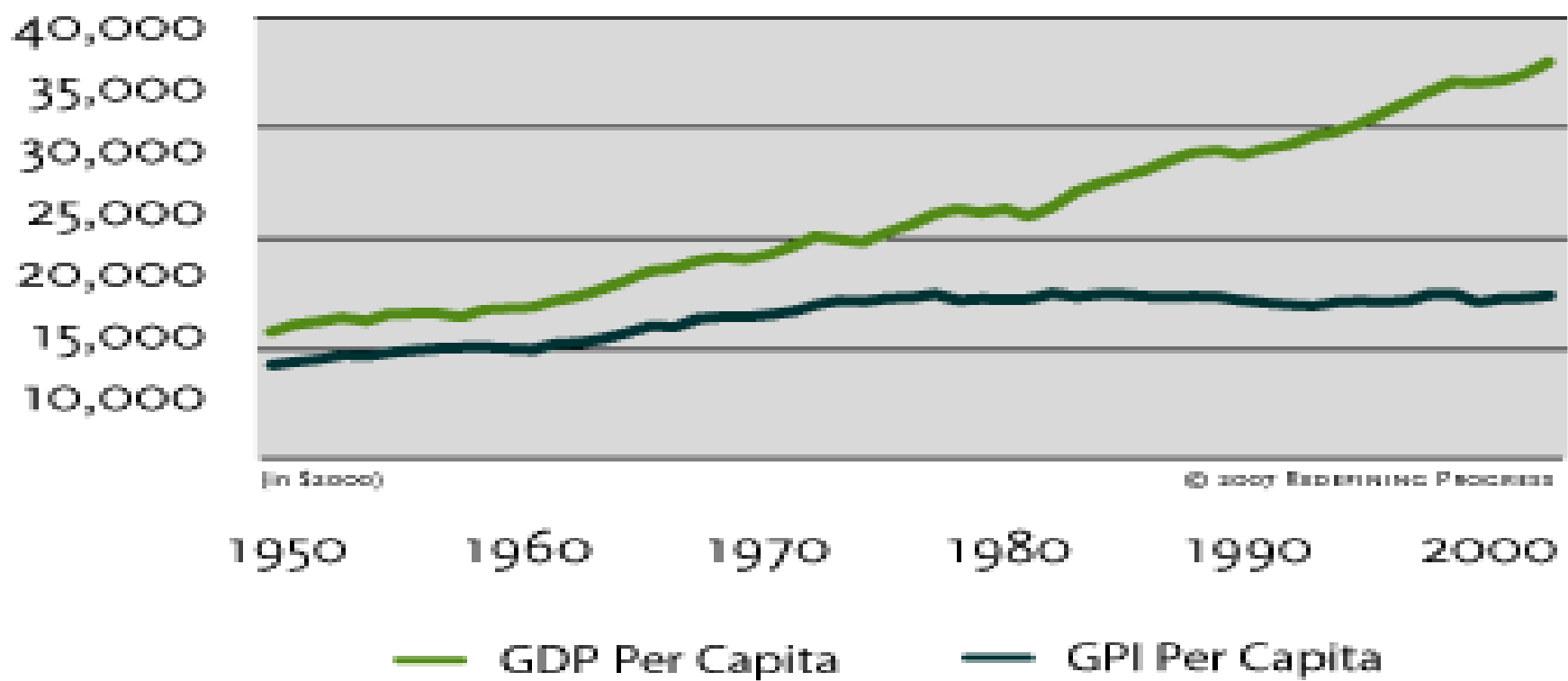
What kind of development?

- ◉ Alternative approaches to development
- ◉ The use of gross domestic product (GDP) as the central measure of progress in the current growth-based paradigm has serious limitations. GDP only measures and aggregates marketed economic activity and does not distinguish between those activities that create benefit and those that signify decline in wellbeing, nor does it include activities that are outside the market, such as unpaid work. To properly assess wellbeing outcomes, a more integrated measurement system that balances the ecological, social, economic and cultural dimensions of development is needed.
- ◉ More holistic, balanced and inclusive approach to development, which recognizes the interdependent nature of reality and the inescapable connectedness of human happiness and wellbeing with the wellbeing of all life on our precious and finite planet.
(<http://www.newdevelopmentparadigm.bt/about-us/>)

Genuine Progress Indicator

- Policy-makers should measure what really matters to people—health care, safety, a clean environment, and other indicators of well-being, then economic policy would naturally shift towards sustainability.
- Redefining Progress created the Genuine Progress Indicator (GPI) in 1995 as an alternative to the gross domestic product (GDP). The GPI enables policymakers at the national, state, regional, or local level to measure how well their citizens are doing both economically and socially.

GROSS PRODUCTION VS. GENUINE PROGRESS, 1950-2004



How to Measure Progress

- The GPI starts with the same personal consumption data that the GDP is based on, but then makes some crucial distinctions. It adjusts for factors such as income distribution, adds factors such as the value of household and volunteer work, and subtracts factors such as the costs of crime and pollution.
- Because the GDP and the GPI are both measured in monetary terms, they can be compared on the same scale. Measurements that make up the GPI include:
- **Income Distribution**
- **Housework, Volunteering, and Higher Education**
- Much of the most important work in society is done in household and community settings: childcare, home repairs, volunteer work, and so on. The GDP ignores these contributions because no money changes hands. The GPI includes the value of this work figured at the approximate cost of hiring someone to do it. The GPI also takes into account the non-market benefits associated with a more educated population.
- **Crime**
- GPI subtracts the costs arising from crime.
- **Resource Depletion**
- If today's economic activity depletes the physical resource base available for tomorrow, then it is not creating well-being; rather, it is borrowing it from future

Measuring progress, 2

- **Pollution**
- **Long-Term Environmental Damage**
- **Changes in Leisure Time**

As a nation becomes wealthier, people should have more latitude to choose between work and free time for family or other activities. In recent years, however, the opposite has occurred. The GDP ignores this loss of free time, but the GPI treats leisure as most Americans do—as something of value. When leisure time increases, the GPI goes up; when Americans have less of it, the GPI goes down.
- **Defensive Expenditures**

The GDP counts as additions to well-being the money people spend to prevent erosion in their quality of life or to compensate for misfortunes of various kinds. Examples are the medical and repair bills from automobile accidents, commuting costs, and household expenditures on pollution control devices such as water filters. The GPI counts such "defensive" expenditures as most Americans do: as costs rather than as benefits.
- **Lifespan of Consumer Durables & Public Infrastructure**

The GDP confuses the value provided by major consumer purchases (e.g., home appliances) with the amount Americans spend to buy them. This hides the loss in well-being that results when products wear out quickly. The GPI treats the money spent on capital items as a cost, and the value of the service they provide year after year as a benefit. This applies both to private capital items and to public infrastructure, such as highways.
- **Dependence on Foreign Assets**

If a nation allows its capital stock to decline, or if it finances consumption out of borrowed capital, it is living beyond its means. The GPI counts net additions to the capital stock as contributions to well-being, and treats money borrowed from abroad as reductions. If the borrowed money is used for investment, the negative effects are canceled out. But if the borrowed money is used to finance consumption, the GPI declines.

Climate change is a global crises

- Solutions have been overly focused on scientific and economic development, but that is not enough.
- What is needed for sustainable solutions are more people-centered, gender-aware climate change policies and processes
- Rights based approach to climate change.
- Climate change policies and processes should connect with human rights frameworks as well as finding and redifining alternatives to market-based approaches.

What is a transformative approach to gender and climate change?

- **Not about adding gender**, but making gender an important consideration which is in the core of the **casual explanation of what has produced crises**, not only mitigating the consequences.
- Significant changes are needed at all levels and in all domains of social and economic life, from local to global entities.
- Climate change could be seen as **an opportunity** to reframe current development challenges through a new lens that examines **global inequalities and the unequal power relations between men and women**.

Gender transformation

- **Gender transformation is both an important condition and a potential end goal of effective climate change responses and poverty reduction.**
- **Learning from below** - learning from **people focused gender transformative approaches** at the local level and apply these lessons to national and international policy.

<https://www.genderingdevelopment.net/custom/images/contentBildergalerie/bilderGalerie1000514/BRIDGE-GIZ-Gender-and-climate-change-2011-EN.pdf>

More on transformative approach...

END RESULT (how it should look like?):

- women are not disproportionately affected by climate change
- both women and men have an equal voice in decision-making on climate change and broader governance processes;
- climate change policymaking institutions and processes at all levels are not biased towards men or women;
- both women's and men's needs and knowledge are taken into account in all policy and practice;
- and the broad social constraints that limit women's access to strategic and practical resources no longer exist

gender blindness

- Gender blindness leads to **ineffective policies** that fail to address the needs of half of the population and misses the opportunity for transformation, failing to challenge rigid gender norms that prevent households, communities, countries, or global transnational and international institutions, from strengthening overall resilience to climate change.
- Climate change policies and processes will be neither effective nor fair unless they become more gender aware.
- Gender blindness brings uneffectiveness.

Mitigation and adaptation, causes and consequences of climate change

- Gender analysis should not be limited to adaptation and to domestic issues traditionally associated with women (cooking or other household tasks).
- Rather, a gender perspective needs to be an integral part of all areas of climate change thinking and policy.
- This includes considering the relevance of gender issues for mitigation strategies and the implications of gender inequalities and power imbalances for the current market-based responses that are proposed to address climate change.
- It is also vital to ensure that mitigation and adaptation approaches are considered together rather than being treated as separate concerns.

Gender justice, social justice and climate justice

- „**Gender justice**“ refers to equitable treatment of men and women, women’s rights, the granting of full citizenship rights to women and the acknowledgement that equality between men and women requires a process of social transformation.
- It is particularly helpful in the context of understanding climate change because it leads to consideration of the inherent inequalities present in the current system, and suggests a **complete transformation** rather than „adding gender“ to the existing climate change structures.
- It is useful in that it highlights the importance of rights, entitlements, responsibilities and accountability of key political, economic and social institutions that have relevance for climate change.

Social justice and climate change

- **Climate change responses need to promote social and gender justice.**
- Social justice refers to the creation of societies and institutions that are based on equality and human rights, and that recognize and respect diversity.
- Social justice is not only a desired outcome of a transformative approach to climate change but also needs to underpin efforts to develop equitable processes. The notion of putting social justice at the heart of equitable solutions to climate change has been encapsulated in the term „**climate justice**“, which, according to the Mary Robinson Foundation, „**links human rights and development to achieve a human-centered approach, safeguarding the rights of the most vulnerable and sharing the burdens and benefits of climate change and its resolution equitably and fairly**“ (Mary Robinson Foundation website 2011).

Affluence, responsibility and climate change

- Although the linkages between poverty and climate change are now widely recognized, less attention has been paid to the relationship between **affluence and climate change**.
- While environmentalists strive to raise awareness about the way in which **current models of production and consumption may be driving climate change, there has been a reluctance among policymakers to address issues of affluence or inequality in access to energy and resources or to acknowledge the responsibility of those in the North to alter their lifestyles and consumption patterns in order not to create worsening conditions for those in the South.**
- There are obviously strong gender implications to the rising levels of affluence in both developing and developed countries, with high earning potential and wealth often tending to **be concentrated in the hands of men.**

Gendered consumption patterns and ecological footprints

- A Swedish study that analyses differences in male and female consumption patterns in the global North and South concludes that **women account for lower carbon emissions** than men due to different needs and inequalities in access to resources. It shows that men's ecological footprint tends to exceed women's due to their higher energy use, particularly through emission-intensive modes of transport (higher levels of air travel, car usage and lower usage of public transport) (Johnsson-Latham 2007).
- Another study of energy use in four European countries found significant differences between men and women's total energy use, particularly in Greece and Sweden, with the largest differences for travel and consumption patterns (Raety and Carlsson-Kanyama 2010).

Gender-aware perspective

- The complex and all-encompassing nature of climate change requires a holistic and multidisciplinary approach.
- It is essential to acknowledge that science is not the only framework for examining climate change and that there are a multiplicity of **other possible framings of the problem**, whether as an issue of global injustice, over-consumption, market failures, technological hazards or even as a natural phenomenon (Hulme 2009).
- **A gender-aware perspective that acknowledges the influences of social relations, cultures, beliefs, values and attitudes on our understanding, experience and perceptions of the risks of climate change could contribute to a more balanced, nuanced approach to the problem that can take on board these multiple understandings.**

Engendering policies – practical implications

- What is the goal of engendering policies in the area of environmental protection? Due to the fact that men and women have different roles in the family, community, workplace, it is possible to have **different priorities** when it comes to environmental protection, especially at the **local level**. These different roles may represent an advantage and to open up **different opportunities and bring different solutions** to environmental problems. It is possible, therefore, that men and women apply different strategies, other resources and knowledge to protect the environment. (Milojević, 2013)

Women – both victims and agents

- women are **more vulnerable** than men in the face of climate change
- But, they are **more than just victims**: they are also **key agents** in adapting to and mitigating climate change, with valuable knowledge gained from practical experience (Mitchell, Tanner et al. 2007).
- Men and women have different but equally valuable and relevant **responses and contributions**, so need not only to be equally represented in policy and programme planning at household, local, and national levels but also need to be present in high-level decision-making processes at the international level.

Vulnerability

- Vulnerability is best defined as an negative aggregate measure of human welfare that integrates environmental, social, economic and political exposure to a range of potential harmful effects.
- It can be discussed in ecological terms, in relation to political economy and class structure and as a reflection of social relations including ethnicity, caste, age, citizenships, ability, gender, sexuality etc.

Paradox of power, responsibility and vulnerability

- The most powerful ones are also not the most responsible ones.
- The most vulnerable ones are those with the small amount of power.
- How to reconnect responsibility and power?
- Political movements - power of agency
- Green parties, green technologies
- Increased awareness and individual and group responsibility
- Increased scientific knowledge and knowledge sharing
- Pragmatic approach – to institutionalize the positive change (i.e. action plans for governments etc.)

Marginality, vulnerability and intersectionality

- Marginal groups, based on inherited and/or ascribed characteristics
- Vulnerability of marginal groups
- Vulnerability as multidimensional continuum
- Intersectionalities and accumulative effects of multiple exclusions
- Women ARE NOT a marginal group!

Threat of overgeneralizations

- There is **no one-size-fits-all approach** for ensuring fair and equitable treatment for women and men. Generalised assumptions about women, men, boys and girls entrench stereotypes and perpetuate the status quo.
- Also, gender is a very important but never the only factor in a person's vulnerability to climate change. Strategies and actions **need to be tailored to context**, whether at community or national level, and need to address the spectrum of factors that lead to entrenched **poverty and vulnerability for certain groups**.
(<http://www.klimatskeprome.rs/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/First-Study-on-Gender-and-Climate-Change-in-the-Republic-of-Serbia.pdf>)
- **And individuals!**

What are the relevant questions?

- Gender and power – who makes decisions?
- Gender and resources – who owns what?
- Gender and work – who does what?
- Gender and knowledge, skills, experiences- who knows what?
- Gender and inequalities – who is where in a social hierarchy?
- Gender and vulnerability – who pays the price?
- Gender and agency – who brings the change?
- Gender and health – gendered consequences
- Etc.

Climate change-induced resource shortages

- Food production
- Food security
- Energy poverty
- Water scarcity

- Conflicts
- Health
- Poverty

Who is affected by climate change?

- The degree to which people are affected by climate change impacts is partly a function of their **social status, gender, poverty, power and access to and control over resources**.
- Women still have lesser economic, political and legal power and are hence less able to cope with—and are more exposed to—the adverse effects of the changing climate.

Women and climate change

- Women have less access to resources that would enhance their capacity to adapt to climate change—including land, credit, education etc. – making them vulnerable
- Vulnerability depends in large part on access to resources and assets (physical, financial, human, social, and natural) “The more assets, the less vulnerability”
- It is widely acknowledged that the negative effects of climate change are likely to hit the poor/poorest the most. 60 % of the world’s poorest one billion people are women and girls. (UNFPA 2008.

State of World Population 2008)

Risks by gender

- In many natural disasters, women are more likely to die and are less able to adapt.
- After the 2004 tsunami in the Indian Ocean, surviving men outnumbered women by almost 3 to 1 in Sri Lanka, Indonesia, and India. After Hurricane Katrina hit the United States in 2005, the majority of those trapped by extreme flooding were African-American women and children.
- Approximately 80 percent of people displaced by natural disasters are women, and climate change also ignites conflict over natural resources, causing further displacement of women.

Poverty and climate change

- Poverty and climate change are closely related. The poorest and most disadvantaged groups tend to depend on climate-sensitive livelihoods (e.g. agriculture), which makes them disproportionately vulnerable to climate change.
- These groups also lack the resources needed to weather harsh climatic impacts (e.g. better houses, drought resistant crops).
- This **diminished adaptive capacity** makes them even more vulnerable, forcing them to engage in unsustainable environmental practices such as deforestation in order to sustain their well-being.

Fairness and Justice

- **Responsibility and resources for addressing climate change need to be allocated fairly.**
- The brunt of responsibility for effecting real change lies with those whose actions cause the bulk of greenhouse gas emissions and environmental degradation, and who also have the most negotiating power and the available resources to take effective action.
- At the same time, the focus of support to aid climate change adaptation needs to be on the groups and communities who are least likely to access such support easily. These include people who, due to their social position, education levels, limited mobility, etc., are both most vulnerable to climate impacts and at the same time facing the greatest difficulties in accessing resources and services.

Cummulative effects of gender inequalities

- The cumulative effects of poverty and social, economic and political barriers is that women will often be disadvantaged in coping with the adverse impacts of the changing climate.
- Compared to men, women face huge challenges in accessing all levels of policy and decision-making processes. This renders them less able to influence policies, programmes and decisions that impact their lives.
- Socio-cultural norms can limit women from acquiring the information and skills necessary to escape or avoid hazards (e.g. swimming and climbing trees to escape rising water levels).
- Similarly, dress codes imposed on women can restrict their mobility in times of disaster, as can their responsibility for small children who cannot swim or run.
- Such social influences render women disproportionately vulnerable to disasters and related negative effects of climate change.

Gender sensitive data

- Often there is a lack of sex disaggregated data in all sectors (e.g. livelihoods, disasters' preparedness, protection of environment, health and well-being) which creates invisibility of the problems.

Some statistics on women

- For those developing countries globally for which data was available, only between 10 and 20 percent of all landholders are women.
- Burning biomass fuel indoors leads to 2 million deaths per year (mainly women and children).
- In 2007, the estimated number of women and girl children who were “missing”—the number of excess female deaths—was 484,000 in Asia (excluding central Asia). Globally, 3.9 million women and girls go “missing” each year.

Rural women

- Women are in a subordinate position
- Live in household, community and society where gender inequality/ is more or less pervasive
- Their labor is less visible and appreciated
- Gender inequality in decision making about finances and investments
- Time poverty of women because of the care work
- Lower education, lower access to credit, land, and power
- Exposed to gender based domestic violence

Representation of women

- Women are not well represented in decision-making processes, which constrains their ability to meaningfully participate in decisions on adaptation and mitigation.

Rationale from different perspectives

- The human rights perspective
 - Women have as much right to participate in the production of knowledge and right to be part of that knowledge
 - The power to know and power to have one's knowledge influence mainstream knowledge should be considered as part of human rights
 - Global development of technology and finance has been based on what is termed as a "sexist definition"
 - We cannot afford to waste human resource – right to intellectual input in re-conceptualizing new future development models
- Environmental rationale
 - Women have knowledge, they are also users and consumers of environmental products, they are often active caretakers and in need to cleaner and more efficient technologies
- The economic rationale
 - The intellectual and labor input of men and women are equally important for development
 - Womens' projects are on the average more sustainable and bring higher benefits for communities

Gender blind policies increase the risks!

- Gender-blind climate change policy and programming, which does not take into account the gender differentiated roles of both women and men (i.e. their distinct needs, constraints and priorities).
- As such, such policies and programming can have the unintended effect of actually increasing gender-based vulnerability.

CLIMATE-RESILIENT BUSINESS

- Businesses that can anticipate, absorb, accommodate, and rapidly recover from climate events in their own operations and throughout their value chain.
- These businesses also contribute to resilient societies, which means moderating harm to socio-ecological systems and enabling people, local economies, and natural systems to rebound quickly in the face of adversity.
- <https://www.bsr.org/en/our-insights/blog-view/business-case-building-climate-resilience-into-your-supply-chain>

Why to involve women in climate related projects?

- Justice
- Efficiency
- Equity
- Sustainability
- Inclusion of women's perspective (caring dimension, community focus, wellbeing, networking)

Gender Equality and Disaster Risk Reduction

- Natural disasters affect women, men, girls and boys differently. In fact, in many contexts, due to socio-economic conditions as well cultural beliefs and traditional practices, women and girls are more likely to be disproportionately affected by disasters, including through loss of life during and in the aftermath of disasters, loss of livelihoods and productive assets, and increased gender-based violence.

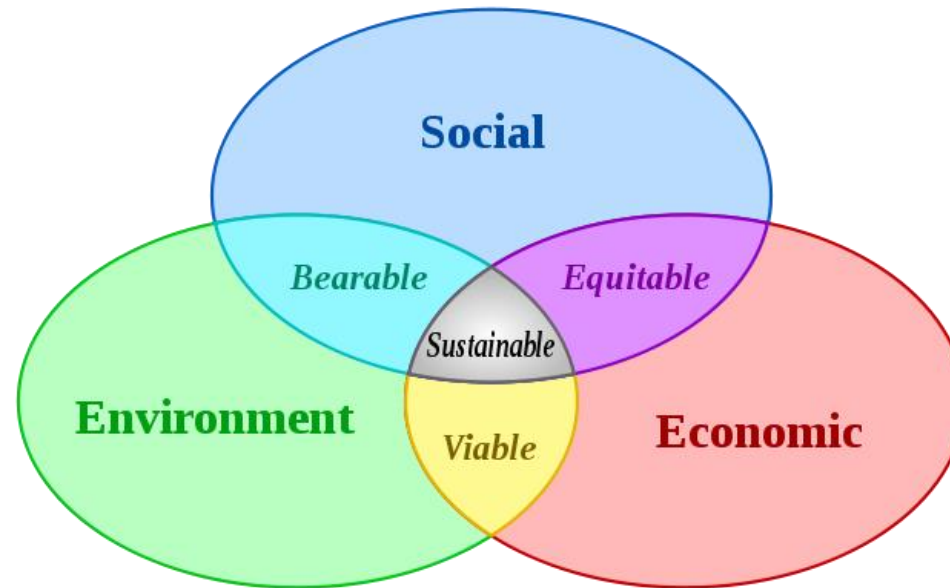
Decision making in disaster management mechanisms

- In many cases, women have limited access to formal disaster management mechanisms or to any kind of information and resources related to disaster preparedness and prevention. Furthermore, women's accumulated skills, experiences and capabilities in times of natural catastrophes are often not adequately identified, recognized and promoted, as women's participation in disaster risk reduction (DRR) decision-making processes at all levels throughout the world is particularly low. Hence, an effective gender-sensitive DRR strategy should both help take better into account women's vulnerabilities in specific cultures without forgetting to highlight women's potential and capabilities in order to prepare, confront, and recover from disasters. <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/priority-areas/gender-and-science/cross-cutting-issues/gender-equality-and-disaster-risk-reduction/>

What could be done?

- Gender perspective can and should be integrated into mitigation and adaptation actions related to climate change.
- Long run change - social and economic transformation are necessary to achieve goals related to sustainable development and gender equality is both the precondition, as a goal for itself.

Gender Approach for holistic Sustainable Development





- Thank you for your attention!