

US Womens Caucus: Climate - Women, Technology and Financing

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Summary

Gender responsive climate action must take precedence, in order for us to effectively advocate to protect humanity against climate change, and fast forward to building a sustainable future. Despite, women, and girls being disproportionately impacted by climate change, their role as change agents has yet to translate into equitable inclusion in leadership of climate change technology, accessing financing and a voice in climate investing.

Climate change funding has largely ignored gender in their funding allocations and decision making, ultimately failing to incorporate gender dimension into their policies, programs, and projects.

Technological advances and solutions are dependent on equitable access to capital.

Womens active role as technology drivers is essential to accelerate development of technological advances in climate impact areas such as food production, soil conservation, reforestation, carbon sequestration, and renewable energy. Yet women continue to be marginalized.

Financing mechanisms can greatly improve gender equitable deployment of funds by assessing projects through a gendered lens and by including small scale projects in their investment portfolios, especially those that are community-based and derive from indigenous knowledge.

Key Facts

- Women comprise 43% of the agricultural labor force in developing countries and 50% to 60% in parts of Asia and sub-Saharan Africa (1)
- Fiscal policies responsive to women's need and gender equality objectives contribute to better economic outcomes and social benefits, IMF 2016 (2)
- Only 5 out of 68 Global Environmental Facility projects included financial and technical resources are assigned for supporting gender equality, and only 30% of projects had gender analysis. (3)
- Shockingly in the ICT arena women make up only 17 % of students, 19 % of managers and 9 % of developers. (4)
- Men continue to be overrepresented on all constituted bodies on climate process with only 33 % women government delegate, indicating to lack of progress. (5)
- Climate financing can either alleviate or exacerbate gender equity and poverty, such funding mechanisms for climate action should enable, not hinder women (6)

Recommendations

A. Empower women to empower climate action by inclusion of women at all levels to participate in decision making at all levels of financing and technology

- B. Recognize women are powerful change agents and possess specific knowledge and skills to effectively contribute to climate change adaptation and mitigation
- C. Address women, climate, and SDGs by effectively considering the gendered dimension of climate change as key for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals
- D. Recognize gender impacts and bolster equitable support for adaptation, mitigation innovation, by providing women equal access to financial and technological resources
- E. Attain gender parity on climate change fund governing boards, mandate the collection of gender disaggregated data and institute gender equitable financing policies.

Suggested Reading

UN Framework Convention on Climate Change

unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/conferences/glasgow-climate-change-conference

Technology Innovations for Climate Resilience

<https://www.ces.tech/Articles/2019/Technology-Innovations-for-Climate-Resilience.aspx>

International Monetary Fund [imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2021/09/advancing-gender-equality-through-climate-action-COP26.htm](https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2021/09/advancing-gender-equality-through-climate-action-COP26.htm)

Center for International Forestry Research forestsnews.cifor.org/70589/structuring-climate-finance-to-benefit-women-and-alleviate-poverty

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change <https://www.ipcc.ch/>

Special Climate Change Fund [SCCF Adaptation Monitoring and Assessment Tool](#)

Generation Equality Forum [GEF Updated Handbook Technology Needs Assessment for Climate Change](#)

Footnotes

1. [Deliver for Good \(2019\) Invest in Girls and Women to Tackle Climate Change and Conserve the Environment](#)
2. [Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security \(2015\) Women and Climate Change](#)
3. [UN Women \(2016\) Leveraging Co-Benefits between Gender Equality and Climate Action for Sustainable Development](#)
4. ericsson.com/en/blog/2020/3/women-in-tech-2020-climate-gender-ict
5. unfccc.int/news/overrepresentation-of-men-in-un-climate-process-persists
6. forestsnews.cifor.org-climate-finance-to-benefit-women-and-alleviate-poverty

