GENDER JUST CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

WOMEN & GENDER CONSTITUENCY 2021
The Women and Gender Constituency (WGC) is one of the nine stakeholder groups of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Established in 2009 and granted full constituency status in 2011, the WGC consists of 33 women’s and environmental civil society organizations, who are working together to ensure that women’s voices are heard and their rights prioritized in the fight against climate change. The Women and Gender Constituency, consisting of a broad variety of national and regional network organizations, represents hundreds and thousands of people across the globe, with advocates from over 90 countries.
Our Background
Since the Earth Summit in 1992, the United Nations has been working with governments and civil society to tackle one of the greatest challenges the planet has faced; climate change. At the summit the Member States of the UN agreed to a new convention on climate change; a non-legally binding international treaty. The convention provided a new framework through which nations could work together to agree on limiting emissions of greenhouse gases, those which cause climate change, principally carbon dioxide. This UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, or UNFCCC, is an evolving commitment that develops through the ongoing discussions and agreements of governments around the world. There are now around 1,400 such organizations observing the annual conferences, and many have grouped themselves into constituencies. These constituencies provide focal points for easier interaction with the UNFCCC Secretariat, based in Bonn, and individual governments. There are currently nine constituencies and they are broadly grouped by the type of organizations they represent: businesses and industry organizations; environmental organizations; local and municipal authorities; trade unions; research and independent organizations; and organizations that work for the rights of indigenous people; young people; agricultural workers; and women and gender equality.

Our Goals
The WGC promotes human rights and gender equality and the full and effective participation of women at all levels of decision making, as well as a gender responsive approach in all policies and measures related to climate change. The WGC provides a voice to women to formalize and unify the perspectives of women and gender civil society organizations active in the UNFCCC processes. We provide a space for the Constituency members to raise their concerns and suggest priority actions, and together formulate democratically shared positions, which we strengthen and promote. The Constituency aims to further expand its outreach and engagement with various groups and unify a global movement demanding climate justice. We want to ensure that global commitments around the world. There are now around 1,400 such organizations observing the annual conferences, and many have grouped themselves into constituencies. These constituencies provide focal points for easier interaction with the UNFCCC Secretariat, based in Bonn, and individual governments. There are currently nine constituencies and they are broadly grouped by the type of organizations they represent: businesses and industry organizations; environmental organizations; local and municipal authorities; trade unions; research and independent organizations; and organizations that work for the rights of indigenous people; young people; agricultural workers; and women and gender equality.

Our Principles
WGC members work to promote full realization of the human rights of women and girls through specific goal-oriented, clear and measurable purposes and objectives. The Constituency embraces principles of democratic and participatory governance, ensuring respectful collaboration between members, especially of diverging positions. Providing a platform for women’s leadership with broad and participatory access, procedures of the WGC are transparent, timely and flexible, further facilitating the potential for wide and inclusive membership. The WGC also emphasizes an equitable approach to representation, affiliation, age, and ability, encouraging members to build on our collective and individual history. As an official stakeholder body of the UNFCCC, the WGC also strives to mentor the younger generation and newcomers to the movement and the Constituency.
Our Gender Just Climate Solutions Awards

The Women and Gender Constituency, along with other women, gender, and human rights advocates, has been actively pushing world leaders to ensure just and equitable climate policies that put respect of people’s rights and the integrity of the planet first, while responding to injustice among and within countries in relation to climate impacts and resilience.

We know the solutions to a more sustainable future already exist — and it is time to showcase them far and wide, and demand change!

As the Paris Agreement enters into force, the Gender Just Climate Solutions shown in this publication are aimed at making gender equality and women’s rights central to just climate action.

The Gender Just Climate Solutions Award comprises three categories:

• Technical Solutions
• Non-Technical Solutions
• Transformational Solutions

SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Provides equal access to benefits for women, men and youth
2. Aims to alleviate and/or does not add additional burden to women’s workload (such as via additional natural resource management or care responsibilities without compensation)
3. Empowers women through better mobility/accessibility, enhanced livelihood security, enhanced food security, improved health, access to safe water, etc. (as many benefits as possible)
4. Promotes women’s democratic rights and participation by ensuring decision-making by local women, men, women’s groups, cooperatives and communities
5. Is locally led and/or locally driven (decentralised and appropriate)
6. Ensures self-sufficiency & a low input of resources (safe, affordable and sustainable)
7. Contributes to climate change mitigation, emissions reduction and/or climate adaptation (the project is sustainable)
8. Results can be shared, spread & scaled up (replicable elsewhere, not just benefiting one individual)
9. Shows interlinkages to cross-cutting issues, such as (including, but not restricted to) peace-building, natural resources management, food security and/or health, water and sanitation

In order to implement the transformative shift needed to appropriately respond to climate change, gender-just solutions must be strengthened and scaled up in every country.

With special thanks to our jury members:

Description of the project:
Since 2018, the Solar Age project supports Syrian women refugees in Turkey. The Solar Engineering Course, a 10-day theoretical and practical training in solar energy, benefitted 200 women refugees. Among them, 20 have also been trained to build EFE (Energy For Everyone) solar batteries, which are sold on the local market to generate revenues. The EFE batteries are specifically designed for the needs of refugees. They integrate a flashlight for SOS signals and provide an autonomous source of energy for mobile phones to facilitate life-saving communication. The program additionally offers educational and language courses to children refugees.

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Financially supported by: Individual donors

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TRANSFORMATIVE OUTCOMES
Climate impact
- Promoting renewable energy through solar panels and EFE-Battery
- Training of new technicians in solar technology

Gender impact
- Access to local jobs for women refugees through links with Turkish solar enterprises
- Financial autonomy for women working as EFE battery manufacturers
- Childcare to reduce women's burden of care and enable their attendance to the training

Scalability / replicability
- International partnerships with other organisations: A replication project was launched in Bosnia just before the COVID crisis
- Train-of-Trainers allowing beneficiaries to take ownership of the program

Loan insights: de-risking business loans for climate micro-entrepreneurs with a gender lens

Description of the project:
As of 2019, a loan insight software company, Aeloi Technologies, has helped fifty women access affordable financing through an innovative digital token loan system. As a pilot project, Aeloi software tracks impact sector funds, with the goal of bridging the financing gap for 700,000 climate entrepreneurs. They have successfully lowered per-unit costs and de-risked loans in the electric minibuses -safa tempo- industry of Kathmandu and now target the agriculture sector. Because financial technology -fintech- is male dominated, Aeloi Technologies currently supports women entrepreneurs to increase their business assets and income, get rid of toxic interest rates, gain decision making power and social freedom.

CONTACT
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Country: Nepal
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Financilly supported by:
One Young World Lead 2030;
UNEP Young Champion of the Earth 2019; UNCF/UNESCAP Women MSME Innovation Challenge; National Geographic Emerging Explorer

TRANSFORMATIVE OUTCOMES
Climate impact
- Promotes carbon credits for local business ecosystems
- Old “safa tempo” minibuses are upcycled with electric batteries. Expected GHG emissions reduction of 94,561 t CO2 per year over the next ten years

Gender impact
- Increases women’s access to formal financial systems, lowering interest rates
- Training materials designed for unschooled women who are financially excluded

Scalability / replicability
- Replicable software model that can be applied in many sectors and micro-small and medium businesses (MSMBs)
- Organisation will launch a second product, ReGrow, targeted at sustainable agricultural entrepreneurs

WINNER TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS
TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS
Casa Grata: youth-led and gender-responsive clean energy solution for rural communities in Colombia

**Description of the project:**
Casa Grata is a decentralised and affordable youth-led solution that brings solar energy to dispersed and hard-to-reach rural households. The system includes a solar panel, light bulbs, a battery and a solar charge controller. This solution allows electronic devices to be charged and light bulbs to be plugged in, reducing school dropout rates, particularly among girls, and improving families’ livelihoods. Through the ‘Guardians of Light’ programme, rural women are trained as technicians to install, monitor and repair the systems, ensuring long-term sustainability in a difficult context of internal conflict.

**TRANSFORMATIVE OUTCOMES**

**Climate impact**
- Reduce CO$_2$ emissions by replacing candles or diesel lamps with solar photovoltaic systems
- Decentralised solar energy solution based on a community approach

**Gender impact**
- 36 rural women are members of the Guardians of Light committee
- Through a Train-of-Trainer approach, rural women are trained in financial savings and technical skills

**Scalability / replicability**
- Payment system based on interest-free credit and adjusted to the user’s income ensures wide dissemination
- Communities empowered to follow their own development pathway
- Internal conflict victims and displaced communities return to the land and find some peace

**CONTACT**
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- **Financially supported by:** Alliure Foundation, Turkish Cooperation for Development

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Roof farming for climate resilience and women’s empowerment in urban areas of South Asia

**Description of the project:**
The project trains women and youth in the set-up and management of roof farming alternatives for urban areas, such as hydroponics and aquaponics. Women are empowered to produce nutritious and safe organic food for their family, using minimum water and space, while earning new income. This ideal solution for highly dense urban areas is supported by a mobile application that enables knowledge sharing and monitoring. This effectively addresses any challenge faced by users in the farming process.

**TRANSFORMATIVE OUTCOMES**

**Climate impact**
- Greener urban spaces reduces air pollution
- Safe, affordable and organic food security for urban families

**Gender impact**
- Contributes to gender equality through training and knowledge sharing for women
- Women’s economic empowerment via the sales of farming production

**Scalability / replicability**
- The project has a good scope of being propagated to all urban areas in Nepal
- Simple and affordable method easy to scale up and expand
- Digital tool enhances access to support and broad dissemination

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- **Financially supported by:** Race to Zero Award

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- **Representative:** Jenifer Colpas
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- **Financially supported by:** Alliure Foundation, Turkish Cooperation for Development
Description of the project:
Community Agriculture and Environmental Protection Association (CAEPA) Cameroon improves the livelihoods of women farmers in the Northwest by introducing new sustainable farming technologies and ensuring their equal access to land ownership. 500 families have been trained in enhancing soil quality, protecting water sources and developing sustainable cropping systems. They were supported to build their own “integrated farm plans”. 40 women’s groups have acquired skills to identify adapted tree species for reforestation; they planted 85,000 trees so far. Conducting research on laws and women’s rights, CAEPA also promotes equal land tenure rights and gender equality among rural communities.

TRANSFORMATIVE OUTCOMES

Climate impact
- Community-based development of integrated farm plans with agroecological principles
- Reforestation actions: over 85,000 trees planted
- Soil and water source protection

Gender impact
- Advocating for women’s land tenure rights and access to natural resources
- Capacity building for marginalized women and girls on farming, entrepreneurship and financial management
- Achieved cultural shifts regarding gender rights and the treatment of widows

Scalability / replicability
- Community-led organization starting with needs assessment prior to any programme
- “Education and Community” and “Infrastructure Delivery” components ensure a comprehensive approach
- Continuous evaluation during the project’s life cycle ensures sustainability

CONTACT
Country: Cameroon
Organisation: Community Agriculture and Environmental Protection Association (CAEPA)
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Financially supported by:
Global Fund for Women
Mealflour: empowering indigenous women in Guatemala for climate resilient food sovereignty

Description of the project:
Todas Juntas works since 2016 with indigenous women in Guatemala to improve their nutrition and environment. Supported by university researchers, the association trained 100 women in 4 communities, to set up mealworm farms that ensure an affordable and sustainable source of protein. Rural women are empowered as “ambassadors” of mealworm farming through a Train-of-Trainers program. They initiated a catalog of local food sources to preserve indigenous knowledge and improve food sovereignty, incl. dietary recommendations. The catalog “Bienes Forestales” is disseminated in local Mayan language and will be used to transfer ancestral knowledge to children and set up gardens of local plants.

TRANSFORMATIVE OUTCOMES

Climate impact
- Sustainable protein production with reduced water use in a drought prone region
- Saving GHG emissions via reduced use of land and inputs
- Biodiversity and climate protection through ancestral knowledge

Gender impact
- Alleviates women's workload for food production
- Train-of-Trainers model with local “ambassadors” of mealworm farming
- Income generation for women via local sales

Scalability / replicability
- Program replicated in 3 departments of Guatemala
- Open source approach and international partnerships with Universities and Foundations

CONTACT
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Financially supported by: Individual donors, foundations

www.mealflour.org

Energy ambassadors challenge gender norms in STEM and advance Jordan’s energy transition

Description of the project:
The SEED project implements a holistic and gender-responsive approach to energy transition in Jordan, providing technical training to women and empowering local communities to adapt to climate change and advocate for climate solutions. Women energy ambassadors learn to install solar water heaters and photovoltaic systems, thereby challenging gender stereotypes in the male-dominated sector of energy efficiency and renewable energy (EE&RE). SEED also facilitates women’s participation in the labour force thanks to individual coaching, innovation grants, and employment opportunities. The SEED team conducts awareness-raising and national advocacy activities to scale-up the project’s impacts.

TRANSFORMATIVE OUTCOMES

Climate impact
- Strengthening local technical skills for the EE&RE sector, thus bringing Jordan closer to achieving national climate goals
- Energy savings in private households and public institutes installation of 1,500 solar PV systems and 1,700 solar water heaters
- Social justice in climate adaptation through the use of EE&RE solutions in areas of poverty.

Gender impact
- Challenging gender norms in a male-dominated sector
- Economic empowerment and enhanced participation in the labour force for women
- Capacity building of female organisations’ leaders, who take on inspirational roles within their communities

Scalability / replicability
- Holistic incentive program providing capacity-building, coaching, and financial support to innovators in disadvantaged communities
- Revolving fund to ensure financial sustainability of the project
- Willingness to scale up the solution’s outcomes in the local roadmap to national sustainability and climate change initiatives

CONTACT
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Financially supported by: Global Affairs Canada, Jordan Ministry of Energy & Mineral Resources

www.seedjo.org
**Description of the project:**
PIFEVA - Pilier aux Femmes Vulnérables Actives, focuses on documenting and revitalizing the traditional knowledge held by indigenous communities to protect forest biodiversity in the Mwenga territory of the DRC. The project strengthened the capacities of 60 indigenous women and 60 young people in forest communities, to enhance the climate resilience of their agricultural practices. PIFEVA also promotes the identification and dissemination of ancestral seeds and plants via knowledge exchange among indigenous women and youth.

**TRANSFORMATIVE OUTCOMES**

**Climate impact**
- Traditional agroforestry, using indigenous seeds and plants, contributes to carbon capture
- Indigenous agricultural practices are adapted for climate resilience and shared among communities and small farmers

**Gender impact**
- Women's knowledge on climate adaptation is strengthened
- Women’s inclusion in the National Adaptation Plan’s sectoral policy

**Scalability / replicability**
- The project was designed and is led by indigenous women
- Intentional programming for other indigenous women and youth, with goal to translate information in local languages

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- **Financially supported by:** Pawanka Fund, RSF Social Finance

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**Description of the project:**
For urban poor, home is also a workplace, especially for women in Indian cities. Rising temperatures and heatwaves interfere with productivity, subsistence and home comfort. Through this project, Mahila Housing Trust provided cool roofing solutions to lower indoor temperature and enhance well-being. Pro-poor solutions in roofing,walling and housing-ventilation were devised, demonstrated and validated, with support to test prototypes. Women from community-based organisations were consulted and designs were revised according to their feedback. The lack of financial mechanisms and gender sensitive technical solutions was tackled through a women-led, community-wide approach, so that today credit cooperatives bring financial support to ensure a gender just access to cool roofs.

**Cool roofs for climate resilience and women’s economic empowerment in urban centers of India**

**TRANSFORMATIVE OUTCOMES**

**Climate impact**
- Simple and cost-effective solution to urban heat challenges in dwelling units.
- Reduced indoor temperature and savings in electricity bill due to lower energy consumption.

**Gender impact**
- Cool roofs enhance income earning capacity of urban home-based workers in India where 40% are women.
- Cool homes aid good health and alleviate women’s domestic workload

**Scalability / replicability**
- Successfully implemented in several cities in South Asia; it can easily be replicated in other cities.
- The technology is simple, cost-effective and easy to implement.

**CONTACT**
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- **Financially supported by:** Grant funds, charitable donations, and interest income

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**www.mahilahousingtrust.org/**

**NON-TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS**

Women protect forest biodiversity and resilience through indigenous knowledge

Cool roofs for climate resilience and women’s economic empowerment in urban centers of India
Women in urban slums act for climate resilience and COVID-19 recovery in Kenya

Description of the project:
This project brings useful responses to specific gendered impacts of the COVID pandemic, which left many women in urban slums without a job while increasing their household responsibilities. AWAK trained 700 urban women in slums to convert former domestic dumping sites into vegetable gardens, using organic compost to enrich the soil and biomass waste to produce biochar. The project provides women with sustainable sources of livelihood, including from vegetable sales, and promotes table funding as well as access to formal banking. It builds a holistic recovery program, with beneficiaries training more women, economic empowerment reducing domestic violence, and access to education for children.

TRANSFORMATIVE OUTCOMES
Climate impact
- Reducing methane emissions by converting dumping grounds into green spaces
- Promoting organic farming, including organic compost
- Re-greening of urban areas

Gender impact
- Economic empowerment for women who sell vegetables, briquettes and soap
- Women gain technical and business skills and transfer knowledge to other women
- Promoting women’s leadership in the community

Scalability / replicability
- Systemic approach to solve climate and covid crisis
- Women as demonstrators and leaders for the community
- Objective to reach 10,000 households countrywide

CONTACT
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Financially supported by:
Compassion International, SIANI, HiveOnline, UAF – Africa

Women-led mangrove reforestation in Sunderbans, India

Description of the project:
Frequent cyclones in the Indian state of West Bengal damage mangroves, destroy agricultural land and affect soil fertility. In this context, inland and mangrove afforestation, as well as efforts to increase community resilience are crucial. This project, carried out by indigenous women, aims to train beneficiaries in the preparation of seedlings and the planting of mangroves. This protects the area from soil erosion and reduces the intensity of climate disasters. Women are also empowered economically through an organic farming and vermicomposting programme, which provides a sustainable source of income and ensures food security for local communities.

TRANSFORMATIVE OUTCOMES
Climate impact
- Resilience to climate disasters: mangroves reduce the impact of frequent cyclones.
- Mangrove plantation improves climate mitigation efforts through CO2 absorption
- Organic waste management with vermicomposting contributes to climate mitigation and sustainable local farming

Gender impact
- Women’s economic empowerment through capacity-building and income-generation
- Indigenous women from vulnerable communities take on local leadership roles

Scalability / replicability
- Easy-to-replicate concept using local knowledge with little financial cost
- Training of Trainers model ensures the sustainability of the project
- Improving food security and nutrition

CONTACT
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Financially supported by:
Gender CC Women for Climate Justice, supported by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Natural Conservation and Nuclear Safety

www.aiwceccolkata.org/
Demand national climate policies that mainstream gender justice
Strengthening women environmental defenders through a digital and advocacy network

Description of the project:
‘Defensoras Ambientales’ empowers women environmental rights defenders from indigenous peoples and local groups in Argentina, Bolivia and Paraguay, with a gender justice perspective. A network of over 1,200 women has been built, and an innovative mobile phone application (PLAC) was launched to inform, connect, protect and communicate efficiently. This supports the protection of territories deteriorated by extractivism, agrochemical contamination and the restriction of local actors’ civic space. A feminist school was established in 2021 to strengthen local knowledge, technical and advocacy skills for climate adaptation and mitigation, with the aim to improve the groups’ resilience and amplify their demands.

TRANSFORMATIVE OUTCOMES

Climate impact
- Active conservation of natural resources, promoting the right to land, access to clean water, and organic food production via small grants
- Fosters significant climate action through meaningful participation processes using advocacy and systemic transformation
- Rehabilitation of cultural and ancestral knowledge for environmental protection

Gender impact
- Mobile application to inform, protect, and connect women human rights defenders with each other
- Creation of the Feminist School for Climate Action as an education space for political advocacy
- Strengthening the political participation of women environmental leaders in international human rights and SDG frameworks

Scalability / replicability
- Network building advocacy alliances in the Latin America region
- Expansion of the PLAC mobile application to other countries

Support program for women prisoners in Rwanda’s prisons

Description of the project:
Esperanza Humura carries out a program supporting women prisoners in Rwanda with a holistic approach. It includes awareness raising on their human rights and legal assistance, capacity building for future economic self-sufficiency, promotion of their nutritional health and that of their young children detained with them, as well as organic waste management for biogas production, composting and sustainable agriculture in the prisons vegetable plots. Launched as a pilot in Nyamagabe penitentiary institution, the project aims to be replicated in 12 more prisons of the country, benefiting more than 6,450 women.

TRANSFORMATIVE OUTCOMES

Climate impact
- Promoting organic waste management and sustainable agriculture in prisons
- Production of biogas for use in prison kitchens, thus reducing the use of firewood

Gender impact
- Economic empowerment of women, trained to develop income-generating micro-projects
- Awareness raising of women prisoners on their human rights, hygiene, reproductive and nutritional health, environmental protection
- Support to marginalised women who are invisibilized in social policies and public debate

Scalability / replicability
- After the pilot project in Nyamagabe prison, Esperanza Humura’s ambition is to extend the project to 12 other prisons in Rwanda
- Cooperation with the Rwandan national authorities and penitentiary institutions: Rwanda Correctional Services
Women-led community water governance safeguards drinking water in Bangladesh

Description of the project:
This project, launched in 2015 by the Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh (CCBD), responds to the local drinking water crisis by establishing a community led water management system. The approach to ‘Bring Women into Action’ was implemented in three coastal sub-districts, where women had to face acute problems in fetching drinking water due to increased soils’ salinity. Women gathered in groups aimed at identifying challenges and introducing sustainable, participatory water governance systems. They gained decision-making power at the local level, further enhancing the livelihoods of over 4,500 inhabitants, thanks to inclusive climate action.

CONTACT

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Financially Supported by: Bread for the World Germany

Latinas for Climate: amplifying the voices of girls and young women in Latin America

Description of the project:
Latinas for Climate is an international network of young Latin American feminists that raises awareness about the climate emergency from a gender, human rights and cultural perspective. This project educates girls and young women in the region on understanding climate issues by supporting them in creating virtual content, empowering themselves through action, and raising their voices. Latinas for Climate create dialogue spaces where young women can exchange about their struggles, achieve more representation, and inspire more people. They defend multiple human rights that help reduce gender inequalities.

CONTACT

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Financially supported by: Individual donations

TRANSFORMATIVE OUTCOMES

Climate impact
- Climate adaptation through rainwater collection during monsoons: creates new sources of drinking water
- Properly stored rainwater via Pond Sand Filters (PSF) gives more safe drinking water and reduces waterborne diseases

Gender impact
- Women’s technical and governance skills have been strengthened
- Women’s leadership in local decision making institutions

Scalability / replicability
- Easy to replicate, low cost technology and ‘Women-led Community Water Governance System’
- Participatory approach ensures social acceptance of the solution
- Good governance contributes to resolve water conflicts among communities

Climate impact
- Environmental education and training with a climate justice approach
- Promotes intersectional dialogues to learn about the climate emergency

Gender impact
- Girl- and youth-led virtual platform to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals
- Visibilisation of the work of Latin American women environmental defenders, particularly indigenous and BIPOC women
- Shares information and virtual resources to educate and bridge gender gaps

Scalability / replicability
- Platform used in more than 13 Latin American countries
- Generating secure virtual spaces to share information in a transparent manner
### Description of the project:
Since 2007, Church World Service has supported isolated communities in Kenya through a programme called Asset Based Community Development Framework (ABCD) to address both gender inequalities and climate adaptation. It includes gender-power workshops, parental education promoting girls’ schooling, and the creation of locally-led water management committees. The programme also tackles women’s economic empowerment through revenue diversification: adolescent girls and young women are trained in beekeeping, entrepreneurship and leadership. Community-led solutions are created and maintained to improve food security and climate resilience for over 7,000 beneficiaries, and transform gender power relations.

### TRANSFORMATIVE OUTCOMES

#### Climate impact
- 53 sand dams have been built, with water facilities benefitting
- 75% of farmers now grow drought tolerant crops

#### Gender impact
- Girls’ schooling is supported via self-managed village savings, reducing forced marriage and GBV
- Community allows a power shift that alleviates women’s workload
- Gender-power workshops for all community members

#### Scalability / replicability
- Consultations with the local community to inform project activities and desired outcomes
- Water management committees form a replicable model for climate resilience

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### Description of the project:
ECAP is a female-youth-led project that offers a holistic climate education and advocacy programme based on computerized simulations. Using an MIT Sloan computer model, the ECAP team facilitates interactive simulation workshops, and guides participants on how to tackle climate change from a scientific and systemic perspective testing the effectiveness of solutions via a computer model. They encourage young people to advocate for ambitious climate action by sharing science news and stories of inspiring changemakers. Finally, ECAP works with schools and State representatives to advance local environmental policies and national legislation on cross-cutting issues related to climate.

### TRANSFORMATIVE OUTCOMES

#### Climate impact
- 16 climate simulation workshops facilitated for 150 participants from 7 countries
- Linking participants’ theoretical reasoning to practical knowledge through experiments with computer models

#### Gender impact
- Female-led and implemented project focusing on young women’s education and empowerment
- Opportunities for young women and men to engage in local and national advocacy activities

#### Scalability / replicability
- Bottom-up approach reaching out to regional legislators to implement local climate policies and action
- Easy-to-replicate educational model linking theoretical knowledge and policy change
- Development of a training program which equips young leaders to facilitate workshops locally using culturally-relevant approaches

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### CONTACT

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**Financially supported by:**  
Buhler Family Foundation

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### CONTACT

**Country:** United States of America  
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**Financially supported by:**  
Plan International, General Motors STEM for Changemaking challenge, Ashoka and T-Mobile Changemaker challenge

**Website:** [www.effectiveclimateaction.org](http://www.effectiveclimateaction.org)

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Empowering rural women through integrated, climate resilient development

Description of the project:
Since 2016, UEWCA has enhanced the climate resilience and livelihoods of over 49,000 women in rural communities of Ethiopia, with an integrated approach. Their capacities have been strengthened in climate mitigation and adaptation techniques, environmental protection strategies and income diversification. By implementing integrated agroecology - crop and livestock -, efficient stoves and watershed management, women have developed climate resilient, long-term sustainable development models. Knowledge of existing climate change policies have been raised, building institutional capacities of local governments and 12 civil society organizations.

TRANSFORMATIVE OUTCOMES

Climate impact
- Awareness raising campaigns to local communities on sustainable resource management
- Use of drought tolerant seeds and small-scale irrigation to increase agricultural production
- Mainstreaming climate resilient economic development

Gender impact
- Rural women have acquired new technical skills on integrated agroecological practices
- Economic empowerment of 49,000 women and vulnerable community groups

Scalability / replicability
- Development of knowledge management system for informing best practices to policy makers
- Replicable agricultural practices for drought prone areas

Eperara women of Ecuador claim collective health in times of COVID-19

Description of the project:
The project is carried out in the indigenous Ecuadorian community of Eperara de Santa Rosa. Women’s groups organised themselves to reclaim their ancestral medicine culture, while strengthening their climate resilience. Based on a collective decision in favor of the community’s health, they decided to take their own actions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. They carried out a mapping process to identify medicinal plants for use as a resource to protect their health and that of their families. The community thereby realised that the food production and habitat management depend on many factors such as ancestral culture, gender-responsive economy, biodiversity conservation, education and housing.

TRANSFORMATIVE OUTCOMES

Climate impact
- Establishment of a medicinal bank for the conservation and management of endemic plants
- Conservation of 70 hectares of forest
- Mapping and identification of fauna and flora with climatic and ancestral relevance.

Gender impact
- Shifting gender roles in the traditionally male-dominated sector of medicine
- Promoting new leadership among girls, adolescents and women within community assemblies.
- Community task-sharing that eases women’s workloads

Scalability / replicability
- Capacity building replicated and scaled-up among women in other Ecuadorian villages
- Information sharing on the stages of the process with other indigenous communities in Ecuador
- Creation of the Ceremonial Centre for Collective Health to empower the leadership of women and girls

CONTACT

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Financially supported by: CEDU, Aprendizaje en Movimiento, MINKA SUR
Local women’s groups engaging with the Green Climate Fund (GCF) in Nigeria

Description of the project:
This two-year project has built the capacities of local women’s groups in Nigeria to advocate for gender responsive climate finance and actively engage in the Green Climate Fund’s evaluation processes. By training women on the fundamentals of climate finance and the GCF mechanism, the project facilitates women’s groups collaboration with Nigeria’s National Designated Authority, Direct Access Entities, and GCF Readiness Support programs. It has contributed to the development of "No objection" procedures for endorsing projects presented on behalf of Nigeria by international accredited entities and opened up opportunities for local women to benefit from climate finance.

TRANSFORMATIVE OUTCOMES

Climate impact
- Provides inputs into Nigeria’s National Adaptation Communication document adopted recently and Nigeria’s GCF readiness Support programs
- Women-led climate adaptation solutions and gender responsive Technology Needs Assessments are now considered in Nigeria’s readiness support programs

Gender impact
- 165 women and 81 men trained on understanding the GCF and its readiness processes
- Women CSOs recognized as observers in the GCF’s funding mechanism and their climate solutions can benefit from climate finance flows

Scalability / replicability
- Women’s Community of Practice on climate finance and GCF with 55 organizations
- Access to and collaboration with other local women in different spaces across Nigeria and Africa
- Link to global governance processes and global CSO networks

Amplifying women’s voices in climate adaptation policies through visual storytelling

Description of the project:
Recognizing the need to amplify the voices of underrepresented women in National Adaptation Plan (NAP) processes, the NAP Global Network has partnered with Lensational, a social enterprise whose mission is to empower women from marginalised groups and communities using photography. The project is providing participatory photography and storytelling training to women affected by climate change in Ghana and Kenya. Through visual stories, the trainees will communicate their experiences and their visions of resilience to adaptation decision makers at the national level, facilitating dialogue on priorities for NAP processes to enable gender-responsive and locally led adaptation action.

TRANSFORMATIVE OUTCOMES

Climate impact
- NAP processes will drive investments in adaptation over the coming years and foster policy coherence across sectors
- Improved effectiveness and sustainability in adaptation planning processes via gender integration

Gender impact
- Women-led and gender-responsive adaptation action builds resilience for most impacted populations
- Women are empowered to share their experiences and priorities with decision makers at local and national levels
- National policymakers gain understanding of and support women’s priorities in adaptation action

Scalability / replicability
- Builds on the Lensational’s tested approach of visual storytelling and education tools
- Creation of new revenue sources for women via the sale of the trainees’ photographs on an online platform
- Replication in other countries has the potential to increase the number of gender-responsive NAP processes

CONTACT

Country: Nigeria
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CONTACT

Country: Ghana and Kenya
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Partners: Both ENDS, Lensational

Address: Centre for 21st Century Issues, www.c21st.org
Financially supported by: Both ENDS

Address: www.iisd.org
Financially supported by: Global Affairs Canada
Description of the project:
The project, implemented by WECF Germany & ARUWE, promotes affordable and decentralized renewable energy solutions with a gender perspective. Implemented technologies include biogas, briquettes (replacing firewood), off-grid photovoltaic systems and solar pumps for farming and household needs. 50 women and girls have benefited from a “Female Energy Ambassadors” training with technical and practical information about renewable energies, their economic and ecological advantages and productive use. With this training, women are empowered to transfer their expertise within their communities. WECF and ARUWE also developed gender just funding mechanisms in cooperation with local banks.

TRANSFORMATIVE OUTCOMES

Climate impact
- Promoting renewable energy through off-grid solar technologies
- Promoting clean cooking solutions that reduce firewood emissions
- Technical training of local populations in solar and briquetting technologies

Gender impact
- Women and girls are empowered to develop technical and leadership skills
- Reduced health hazards by using clean cooking technologies
- Access to finance for women through a gender just funding mechanism

Scalability / replicability
- The cooperatives model ensure sustainability of the project
- Multiplying effect of the “energy ambassadors” concept
- Improved sustainability of agricultural value chain through productive use of renewable energy

CONTACT
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Green energy in rural Uganda for households and agricultural cooperatives

SDG FOCUS
- Gender
- Climate Action

AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY
GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
QUALITY EDUCATION

Jamila Idbourrous, COP25, Madrid
Women Engage for a Common Future (WECF)

International Network NGO focusing on local ecofeminist approaches to sustainable development, i.e. climate change, energy democracy, water management, and toxic free environment.

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Support for Women in Agriculture and Environment (SWAGEN)

National grassroot Organization working on an Equitable and Gender Sensitive Social, Economic and Environmentally Sustainable Development. Plan 921/6, Block 170, Kijabijjo LC1, Kira Town Council Wakiso District, East Africa, Uganda. Tel: +256-903-127-552, nkekobah@ruwes.org, www.ruwes.org.ng

Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture & Natural Resource Management (WOCAN)

International NGO network focusing on climate change, economic empowerment, sustainable development, women’s leadership and measurement and certification of impact for gender equality. 77-6412 Kepano Pl., Kailua Kona, Hawai’i, 96740 USA

Watershed Organisation Trust (WOTR)

Indian National NGO focusing on rural poverty, ecosystems rejuvenation and community’s resilience to climate change. 147 Prince Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, USA
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Women Environmental Programme (WEP)

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Rural Women Energy Security (RUWES) Initiative


Women’s Environment & Development Organization (WEDO)

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This publication has been produced by WECF, in partnership with the Women and Gender Constituency, with the financial support of the Climate Technology Centre & Network (CTCN).

WECF’s contribution to the Women and Gender Constituency Award coordination, advocacy and mentoring work is supported by:

With a special thank to our jury members involved over the years:

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