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Review of the Gender Action Plan (GAP): Localizing the Belém Gender Action Plan in Nepal



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Background

Climate change does not affect everyone the same way, and in Nepal that becomes evidently clear through the lens of gender. Women, especially women in rural areas, and women from indigenous, Dalit, Madheshi, and other marginalized communities, depend more directly on biodiversity and natural resources for their livelihoods, carry a heavier share of unpaid care burdens and household work, and have less control over land, income, ownership, and decision-making. When climate shocks like droughts, floods, or erratic monsoons hit regions like Nepal, these existing social inequalities determine who bears the most hardship and challenges. Everything from who gets consulted in local adaptation planning, who gets a seat at the decision-making table, who gets access to resources and capacity building, to who has access to climate finance is dictated by the unequal and patriarchal elements of the society. Thus, the disproportionate impacts of climate change highlighted by the existing inequalities stay well within the broader goal of climate equity and climate empowerment, which must be accordingly reflected in our climate priorities and policies.

International policy spaces, like the UNFCCC, took over a decade to catch up to this concept and explicitly form this understanding. Gender was first understood in its processes in 2001 when a decision on women's participation in delegations was made, but it stayed mostly symbolic for years and was unable to manifest any meaningful outcomes. A strong momentum around it started in 2014 with the Lima Work Programme on Gender (LWPG), which set out to integrate gender into the climate conventions and later the Paris Agreement. Three years later, the first Gender Action Plan was made at COP23 in 2017, which stepped little further than general encouragement and named explicit activities for gender work in climate actions. Following that, an enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender and its Gender Action Plan came out of COP25 in 2019, an intermediate review at COP27 in 2022, and Parties concluded the final review of the enhanced programme at COP29 in 2024, extending it for another ten years.

All of the above progress set the stage for the Belém Gender Action Plan, adopted at COP30 in Belém, Brazil, in November 2025. It is a nine-year plan set to run from 2026 to 2034, and the third generation of the UNFCCC's gender action plans, which carries forward the same five priority areas as before while pushing harder on areas left thin by the earlier plans, like direct funding access for indigenous women, care work, women's health, and protection for women environmental defenders. Thus, the Belém GAP adopted at a global stage is a calling and a mandate that now needs to be translated into our local realities by mapping what is already happening here in Nepal, from the National Climate Change Policy to the Local Adaptation Plan of Action framework, and this report is an attempt at starting that translation.



Summary

This report entails a multi-stakeholder consultation held in Kathmandu on 5 August 2026, convened by the SHE Changes ClimateNepal Network, together with a coalition of youth, women-led, and civil society organizations working across Nepal's climate and gender space. The consultation brought together government representatives, civil societies, youth networks, and gender and climate practitioners to thoroughly analyze the newly adopted Belém Gender Action Plan against Nepal's background and context and work out what localizing the GAP would require.

Participants were organized into groups aligned with its five priority areas: capacity-building, gender balance and women's leadership, coherence, gender-responsive implementation, and monitoring and reporting. Participants were also organized into an additional area encompassing cross-cutting topics, asked to name the gaps in Nepal's policies and implementations right now, and identify concrete steps to close those gaps, including whose responsibility it would be. A sixth group looked across all five areas through an intersectional lens, focusing on indigenous women, women with disabilities, and other groups whose experiences don't fit neatly into a single priority area.

What this report entails is a record of what practitioners and stakeholders directly reported in the consultation structured around the Belém GAP's framework, to give Nepal's climate and gender actors, including government ministries already working on national policy, a starting point for what localization could look like in practice.

Introduction

Gender considerations in the UNFCCC process formally began with the Lima Work Programme on Gender in 2014 and have moved through successive iterations since then, culminating in the Belém Gender Action Plan adopted at COP30 in November 2025. As a nine-year plan running through 2034, the Belém GAP has set a renewed mandate that Nepal's gender and climate stakeholders now need to work out how to apply nationally.

In response, the SHE Changes Climate, Nepal Network convened a preparatory meeting on 5 August 2026 with representatives from government, civil society, youth networks, and gender and climate practitioners. That meeting agreed to hold a full Gender Action Plan review, bringing a wider group of stakeholders together to reflect on the Belém GAP's implications for Nepal and to start identifying what localizing it would look like in practice.



The consultation took place at Hotel Anupam Foodland in Battisputali, running from 1:00 PM to 5:30 PM, and was organized by SHE Changes Climate Nepal Network in collaboration with FIG, NYCA, NIDWAN, NELIS Nepal, NCH, NIWF, NYN, Suveri Impact, NAYA, WEWIN, WYCJ, Visible Impact, WFF Nepal, YASEN, and YCGN. After opening remarks, the session opened with a plenary overview of the Belem GAP itself from Nepal government's Gender and Climate Focal Person, who covered how it built on the earlier Lima Work Programme and what it introduces that previous gender action plans didn't have. The core of the event was a small-group and plenary discussion mapping Nepal's priorities against the Belém GAP's five priority areas, followed by a way-forward session to consolidate what had come out of the discussions.

The starting point for the consultation was that Nepal already has a meaningful policy foundation to build on, including the National Climate Change Policy (2019), the third Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0), the GESI and Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan 2020, and the National Adaptation Plan 2021-2050 alongside the Local Adaptation Plan of Action framework. The gap, as reviewed at national and provincial levels and repeatedly pointed out, sits less in policy itself and more in implementation, financing, and monitoring. The objective of the 5 August consultation was to bring stakeholders together to examine that gap directly against the Belém GAP's five priority areas, and to surface concrete, Nepal-specific recommendations, along with a sense of who should be responsible for acting on them for the years ahead.

Overview of the Belém Gender Action Plan:

Theme A: Capacity Building, Knowledge Management and Communication

Convened stakeholders identified three key gaps about the first focus group category. First, we must address the combination of weak institutional and data systems that limits local governments' capacity to collect, verify, and use gender- and age-disaggregated data (GADD). This lack of capacity occurs primarily at the ward level. Existing national surveys and censuses, including but not limited to the agriculture census and the living standard survey, contain data inconsistencies and harmonization challenges.

Second, capacity-building programs already in place have many limitations. Training programs are fragmented, typically following short-term, project-based timelines. Furthermore, weak follow-up procedures and reporting mechanisms are linked to limited behavioral change, creating uncertainty about the long-term sustainability of current capacity-building programs. Training programs also do not presently take into account and address local systems of knowledge, ownership and resources, which would help bolster longer-term capacity-building efforts. Additionally, women are often included only tokenistically, with little regard for creating pathways for deliberate engagement and participation. Female leaders also tend to experience burnout due to multiple responsibilities and a lack of meaningful representation.



Lastly, capacity-building programs in Nepal often fail to reflect local contexts and incorporate inclusive communication strategies. There are specific local contexts, such as Indigenous knowledge and practices, that must be taken into account when designing and implementing capacity-building initiatives. Baseline gender-sensitive communication tools and locally appropriate approaches remain insufficient to address the gender-equity gap in Nepal's climate policy.

With these gaps in mind, focus group participants designed three priority actions that should be addressed in Nepal's forthcoming gender equity policies. First, institutionalize gender-responsive local climate planning. Every municipality should formulate and implement a Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPA) in alignment with the Belém GAP. The LAPA should integrate gender priorities into the seven-step municipal planning process, beginning at ward level.

In addition, to strengthen inclusive capacity-building mechanisms and communication strategies, Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) sessions should be mandated in all community-based climate projects and promote equal participation of women and men through an intergenerational approach. These sessions must also use gender-sensitive, participatory, pictorial, and locally facilitated communication methods. Current barriers, including but not limited to social norms and taboos, should be addressed to ensure accessibility.

The third recommended priority action is to bolster accountability and reporting by making age- and gender disaggregated reporting mandatory, establishing cross-sectoral coordination mechanisms, and strengthening the role of gender focal persons. These changes must coincide with improvements to already-existing monitoring and reporting systems.

The parties primarily responsible for considering and instituting these recommendations are as follows: government, civil society organizations (CSOs), and private sector industries. The government's role will be to create streamlined climate change and gender focal points from the federal to the local level with clear Terms of Reference (TOR) and well-defined deliverables, and to support capacity-building for focal persons. The government must also, with the help of the private sector on technology infusion, produce integrated open-access data systems at the municipal level. CSOs will be crucial to the lobbying and advocacy necessary in the planning processes to devise, produce, and implement these strategies. The private sector can help provide technological support.

Proactive planning and budgeting to implement these key recommendations will be required to ensure that the climate and gender inclusivity gaps discussed in this report are addressed promptly and efficiently. While the effects of these strategies might not manifest immediately, they are essential to bridging inequities in climate and gender in the long term, which will enhance resilience and boost local capacity to cope with increasing climate disasters.



Action Points:

Institutionalize LAPA under the Belém GAP → Require every municipality to formulate and implement a Local Adaptation Plan of Action, embedding gender priorities into the seven-step planning process from ward level up.
Mandate disaggregated reporting and coordination → Require age- and gender-disaggregated reporting, set up cross-sectoral coordination mechanisms, and strengthen gender focal persons.
Mandate Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion Sessions → Require GEDSI sessions in all community-based climate projects and promote equal participation of women and men through an intergenerational approach

Theme B: Gender Balance, Participation and Women's Leadership

Focus group participants addressed women's leadership and participation in Nepal's climate governance. Overall, stakeholders found that there is weak climate governance relating to gender equity and a lack of increasing female participation and leadership. This further exacerbates the gender equity gap in Nepal and excludes women from creating, implementing, and participating in climate governance mechanisms. This must change, however, as women face and will increasingly continue to face some of the harshest effects of climate change in the country.

The group identified three key gaps in Nepal's current gender climate governance sphere. The first is that existing land and environmental laws are not enforced, and those who violate such laws face little to no repercussions. Second, the importance of Indigenous women and girls as traditional knowledge holders and caretakers of the environment is not recognized. This group has been historically overlooked when it comes to climate governance, yet they are crucial to bridging the gender equity gap and increasing Nepal's climate resilience. Lastly, there is no documented history of the oral experiences of women from various geographic regions and communities. These stories are often passed down orally, contributing to the lack of written documentation to preserve them. However, they are an equally important perspective to consider when it comes to strengthening climate governance, so their histories must be taken into account.

Taking these gaps into account, the group also generated priority actions intended to bolster climate governance and increase female participation and representation in Nepal's climate work. Firstly, the role of Indigenous women and girls as climate leaders and holders of knowledge must be formally acknowledged and explicitly recognized. Second, local governments should form committees to oversee the effects of climate change in their jurisdictions.



A primary focus of these committees will be to reintegrate Indigenous environmental protection practices, such as seed bank preservation. In addition, the government must mobilize resources to map specific regions' vulnerabilities to the detrimental effects of climate change, taking care to delineate based on geography and gender. Another priority action is to implement laws that strengthen the land rights of Indigenous women and girls, using Free, Prior, and Informed Consent to give Indigenous communities the authority to approve or disapprove projects that affect their lands and resources.

While the above are key actions, we also recommend additional steps to strengthen women's governance capacities in the climate sphere. Facilitating more targeted focus group discussions in highly vulnerable regions, including with Indigenous women and girls, women with disabilities, rural, Madheshi, Muslim, Dalit, Kamlari, and queer women, documenting and acknowledging key contributors engaging in environmental work in local communities, and ensuring that information around climate change is accessible to Indigenous and local communities in their own languages are measures that can be taken to increase gender equity and allow communities to be active participants in building resilience.

Effective ways of implementation include ensuring consistent capacity-building workshops and fellowships for Indigenous women and girls, as well as other local women actors, and producing a documented record of the oral experiences of women from various regions. Furthermore, the approach to conducting vulnerability and risk assessments should be intersectional, taking factors such as region, women, communities, and gender into account. Focus groups and women-centered climate discussions that include Indigenous communities should form the oversight body of these risk assessments.

Overall, we must produce better policies and frameworks for climate-affected communities, focused on a fair and just transition, and all programs must position diverse women and girls as agents of climate action, amplifying their important contribution to climate governance.

The parties primarily responsible for incorporating these recommendations are local governments, disaster management committees, provincial governments, Indigenous Peoples, women's groups, young women's groups, local actors and CSOs, and industries.



Measurable outcomes of carrying out these recommendations are as follows:

- Constitutional Amendment
- Adoption of GAP
- GEDSI
- Formal recognition as climate leaders
- 50% representation of women and diverse genders in decision-making: Ensuring 50% women leadership requires a transparent and fair appointment system in LAPA and disaster-management bodies
- Accessibility (language, braille, textile, SLI, infrastructure)
- Dedicated climate committee
- Documentation of Indigenous practices

Action Points:

Recognize capacity of Indigenous women and girls → Formally acknowledge Indigenous women and girls as climate leaders, knowledge holders, and protectors of the environment.
Form a committee in local governments to oversee climate change and post-disaster effects → These committees would re-integrate Indigenous ways of protecting the environment, such as implementing policies to better preserve seed banks.
Mobilize resources to map vulnerabilities to harmful climate change effects based on geography and gender
More effectively implement active laws that concern land rights of Indigenous women and girls → This includes strengthening land rights enforcement through Free, Prior, and Informed Consent that grants Indigenous communities the authority to consent to projects that affect their lands and resources.
Facilitate more targeted focus group discussions among local communities in vulnerable regions
Document key contributors engaging in environmental work in local communities → This helps establish ownership.
Ensuring that all kinds of information about climate change are accessible to Indigenous peoples and local communities in their own language



Theme C: Coherence

Stakeholders addressed the theme of coherence, finding that Nepal's current condition is overall negative. The ministries at the central level work in silos with separate gender and climate plans. For instance, the MoAFE handles climate, while the MOWCGSMSS works on gender issues. Agriculture and Forestry/Environment recently merged into MoAFE, improving collaboration. However, coordination gaps remain within the ministry's sections. Furthermore, Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) policies lack any dignified measurement standards, and there is poor coordination between gender and climate focal persons across ministries.

Stakeholders also highlighted the need to integrate Dignified Menstruation as a cross-cutting issue connecting gender justice, climate justice, and human rights. Originating in Nepal, the concept gained further national recognition through a resolution motion unanimously approved by the National Assembly on 21 March 2025, as noted in stakeholder feedback.

Bearing the current situation in mind, stakeholders identified three key gaps that must be addressed to increase coherence. Firstly, there is a lag in policy implementation that stems from financial and monitoring challenges. In addition, there is an intergovernmental disconnect, particularly between federal, provincial, and local governments. Last but not least, capacity constraints, such as funding, are prevalent within different departments, breaking down levels of coherence.

With that said, focus group participants produced recommended priority actions that must be taken to address coherence challenges. They are as follows: 1) establish a formal coordination mechanism; 2) conduct sectoral mapping on GAPS; 3) establish regular dialogue and collaboration mechanisms; 4) integrate policies across local, provincial and federal levels with consistent, meaningful participation; 5) work to address equity in gender roles, beliefs and values at a grassroots level; 6) advocate for better carbon financing (Nepal is paid far below the market rate for carbon sequestration, and we must negotiate more funding); 7) call for the proper utilization of the gender budget; and 8) educate men and boys to be allies for climate and gender justice.

The parties responsible for implementing can be outlined in the following ways:

- **Federal**: Conduct sectoral mapping, create a proper framework, create and find a gender and climate budget (one that focuses on climate issues within gender or vice versa), create national coordination mechanisms
- **Provincial**: Translate or relay the policies and findings on implementation from both the local and federal levels, set up subnational coordination units, ensure policy work occurs within provinces
- **Local**: Build LAPAs for gender analyses, segregate budgets for women and marginalized groups, find out priorities at the local levels



- **Private sector**: Align investments with national priorities, channel green finance and jobs to women and marginalized communities
- **Youth**: Feed grassroots and Indigenous women's voices into coordination
- **Individuals**: Be active and accountable, work on campaigns

In order to effectively implement these policy recommendations, responsible parties must be responsible, accountable, and stick to their oath to serve the Nepali people with equity. In terms of tangible resources needed to support these priority actions, it is imperative that there is a carbon and climate fund, along with a focal point person in each ministry. We must also aim to build capacity and increase access to community resources, such as Traditional Knowledge.

Measures of enforcement stem from Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning (MEAL), a direct flow of funds, and the adaptation of data systems. Most importantly, a change in social behaviors and anthropology is crucial to increasing coherence.

Action Points:

Establish a formal coordination mechanism
Conduct sectoral mapping on GAPS
Establish regular dialogue and collaboration mechanisms
Integrate policies across local, provincial and federal levels with consistent, meaningful participation
Work to address equity in gender roles, beliefs and values at a grassroots level
Advocate for better carbon financing → Nepal is paid far below the market rate for carbon sequestration, and we must negotiate more funding.
Call for the proper utilization of the gender budget
Integrate Dignified Menstruation into gender and climate policies → Incorporate menstrual dignity into GEDSI frameworks, climate adaptation plans, and gender-responsive budgeting at all levels.
Educate men and boys to be allies for climate and gender justice



Theme D: Gender-Responsive Implementation and Means of Implementation

When it comes to gender-responsive implementation, Nepal already has gender-responsive budgeting outlined in the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) 2021–2050 and Nepal's Third Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0). However, these policies are often implemented separately. For instance, climate projects may be labelled gender-responsive because women attended activities, without assessing whether women influenced decisions, controlled resources, gained access to technology, or became more resilient. Therefore, Nepal's NAP and NDC provide an existing policy entry point to localize and improve means of implementation.

Stakeholders identified specific categories of gaps hampering the effectiveness of current implementation methods. The first category is agriculture. Agricultural tools and technologies are not designed for women's physical needs, workload or working conditions, placing an extra burden on women. Female farmers also have limited access to the appropriate machinery, technical training, finances, and repair services needed to ensure productivity. In general, existing gender-responsive agriculture policies are not translated into practical local programs that effectively meet the needs of women farmers.

To address these gaps in agriculture, we recommend taking the following actions: 1) develop gender friendly agricultural tools; 2) provide practical training, demonstrations and maintenance support locally; and 3) consult women farmers on tool design, selection and testing. Primary responsibilities are designated as follows: 1) government sets supportive policy/standards/subsidies; 2) CSOs advocate at the ground level; 3) private sector designs and supplies women-friendly tools, provides after-sales service, and uses CSR for innovation; 4) women's groups/cooperatives identify suitable tools and monitor their usefulness.

Another category outlined by stakeholders is clean energy. Women face indoor air pollution from kitchen work, and many low-income and remote households depend on firewood and traditional cooking. Additionally, clean energy technologies, such as micro-hydro, biogas, and improved cookstoves, are not affordable, accessible, or consistently included in local government plans.

To address these gaps in clean energy, we recommend taking the following actions: 1) localize clean energy tools; 2) prioritize low-income, female-headed households and remote communities; and 3) link clean energy programs to health and livelihoods and reduce women's workload. Primary responsibilities are designated as follows: 1) the local government invests in and plans micro-hydro/clean energy programs annually; and 2) CSOs, youth and women's groups raise awareness, identify vulnerable households, and monitor benefits to women.



An additional category of challenges identified relates to localizing SDGs and Environment-Friendly Local Governance (EFLG). Technical climate information is often not translated into locally understandable language, making accessibility harder. Moreover, climate funds rarely reach local women's groups, Indigenous communities, and community-based organizations directly.

To address these gaps in localizing environmental policy, we recommend taking the following actions: 1) improve climate fund access, allowing people to obtain funds easily through local government; 2) disaggregate local-level data; 3) build stakeholder capacity; 4) translate technical content into a local context; 5) establish a revolving fund for climate resilience; and 6) give grants instead of loans to local people. Primary responsibilities are designated as follows: 1) government coordinates across levels and disaggregated data; 2) CSOs do advocacy and training, and act as a bridge between the local government and community members; 3) the private sector allocates CSR funds for climate action and quick post-disaster relief; and 4) youth and women amplify local voices and push for the inclusion of women, marginalized groups, and persons with disabilities.

Finally, stakeholders also identified another category of struggles in implementation. Currently, local governments are not accountable for micro-finance and credit mechanisms, and women and low-income households lack the collateral needed for credit. To address this, we recommend that local governments regulate micro-finance and credit, which entails being more accountable for insurance policy. Primary responsibilities are designated as follows: 1) the federal government develops supportive financing policy; 2) local governments ensure subsidies reach people who need it the most through an accessible, monitored process; 3) banks/microfinance mechanisms provide affordable loans using alternative collateral; 4) insurance offers accessible crop and livestock insurance with timely claims; and 5) CSOs and women's groups build awareness, support applications, and monitor inclusion.

Theme E: Monitoring and Reporting

Another theme analyzed by stakeholders is monitoring and reporting, where the following gaps were pinpointed: 1) inadequate gender responsive budget and policies; 2) fragmented data plus a lack of disaggregated data; 3) a lack of meaningful participation, and what participation there is is mostly tokenism; 4) little to no translation of quantitative data, and qualitative experience is poorly captured; 5) an unequal monitoring and reporting capacity across local government levels; 6) weak grievance, feedback and reporting mechanisms; and 7) a deficiency in gender- and climate-responsive audits, as well as public/social audits.



With these gaps identified, we propose a series of actions that should be taken to improve monitoring and reporting mechanisms. Firstly, local-level consultations should be held with inclusive participation in policy and budget discussions. Also, governments ought to prepare uniform frameworks that all CSOs and institutions must follow (e.g., a national indicator dictionary or depository). Relevant parties must also develop participatory toolkits for monitoring, pre- and post-surveys, results evaluations, follow-ups, and leadership skills training to ensure meaningful participation of marginalized groups. In addition, specialized individuals should collect data and make it accessible to all. There must also be consistent training and capacity-building programs in place. Lastly, we must establish clear grievance mechanisms and a responsible government portal. This ensures feedback policy at every level, as well as monitoring that is performed pre-, during, and post-climate events. It can be noted that a third-party audit system could help facilitate some of these actions.

When designing and implementing policy tailored towards revising monitoring and reporting systems, we must remember to ask the following questions to seek equity:

1. What special measures are needed in the national GAP to ensure meaningful inclusion and participation of diverse groups?
2. How can gender auditing go beyond gender indicators to incorporate the lived realities of diverse groups?

Action Points:

Local-level consultations should be held with inclusive participation in policy and budget discussions
Governments ought to prepare uniform frameworks that all CSOs and institutions must follow → (e.g. a national indicator dictionary or depository)
Develop participatory toolkits for monitoring, pre- and post-surveys, results evaluations, follow-ups, and leadership skills training to ensure meaningful participation
Specialized individuals should collect data and make it accessible to all
Consistent training and capacity building programs
Establish clear grievance mechanisms and a responsible government portal → This ensures feedback policy at every level, as well as monitoring that is performed pre-, during, and post-climate events.



Theme F: Cross-Cutting Issues and Intersectional Focus (extra theme)

Stakeholders also addressed an extra theme during focus group discussion, that being an intersectional focus, specifically an attention to the meaningful inclusion of Indigenous peoples and local communities, Afrodescendants, and women with disabilities. The current situation in Nepal arises from an array of discriminatory conservation laws (e.g., the 1973 National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act) that prioritize animal and plant protection over human rights, leading to harassment, exploitation, and restricted resource access for Indigenous women. Furthermore, entrenched gender role burdens, such as unpaid care, are exacerbated by climate disasters. Water and firewood collection and other agricultural work responsibilities fall disproportionately on women, and structural change is imperative to address these. Awareness programs on equity ("women supporting women") are needed. Additionally, across the country, the system of ground-level implementation and enforcement of gender equity and environmental laws is weak. The gender wage gap, which sees men earn more than women for equal work, persists. Land and property registration falls predominantly under men's names, stripping women of the freedom to own property and resources. Limited access to technological skills, digital tools, and market linkages for grassroots women produces livelihood and digital gaps. Last but not least, reproductive health needs during climate disasters (e.g., perimenopause, menstruation issues, PCOS) are typically unaddressed. Dignified Menstruation should be incorporated into climate adaptation and disaster response efforts, ensuring access to menstrual materials, safe sanitation, privacy, and dignity, particularly for marginalized communities during climate-related emergencies.

The aforementioned is a broad analysis of equity gaps in Nepal, and stakeholders narrowed the focus down to three key gaps that must be resolved in order to even begin to achieve any kind of gender climate equity. The first shortfall is that intersectionality and queer disability face a system of severe double exclusion, as they are invisible from both disability platforms and gender and sexual minority networks. Second, social and marriage difficulties for women with disabilities are compounded by complex bureaucratic disability categorization processes, making an already tough life even harder to navigate. Third, inaccessible infrastructure (e.g., shelters, public buildings) and early warning systems fail to reach sensory-impaired and remote populations, leaving them even more vulnerable during climate events.

The first recommendation of utmost priority is to generate legal reform to amend restrictive conservation laws, protect Indigenous rights, promote joint and/or single land titles for women, and mandate 50% female and intersectional representation in LAPAs and CFUGs. These rights must be codified into law. Next, we must create and disseminate inclusive tech and livelihood support, seed funding, vocational training, and green labor-saving tech (e.g., agricultural drone training, climate-adaptive inputs) that specifically target women and persons with disabilities. And we must also deploy universal, accessible early warning systems (IVR, multi-format) and equip female community health volunteers with delivery kits to aid pregnant women during climate disasters.



Primary responsibilities are designated as follows: 1) government amends discriminatory laws, enforces equal wages, allocates at least 50% of the local climate budget to vulnerable groups, simplifies disability categorization, and implements gender audits; 2) CSOs and INGOs conduct DRR trainings, lead community awareness programs, and establish protection mechanisms for female environmental defenders; 3) the private sector bridges vocational skills with the market, invests in assistive devices and labor-saving tech, and offers micro-insurance and fair wage employment pathways; 4) youth, women, and loose networks drive peer storytelling and lead grassroots climate actions and DRR committees; and 5) individuals build women supporting women peer networks and participate in participatory hazard and evacuation mapping.

Examples of specific ways to implement some of the inclusive policies mentioned above are:

- Multi-hazard early warning with IVR voice messages for illiterate populations and persons with disabilities
- Shift to women-led governance in climate tech and adaptation
- Full-phase DRR capacity building, including agricultural drone use and hazard mapping
- Distribute maternal emergency delivery kits to FCHVs
- Participatory mapping of evacuation routes, multi-stakeholder checks between government, CSOs, and private entities on climate-adaptive agriculture

This work cannot be done with the following resources, which include seed funding for green enterprises, climate-adaptive agriculture inputs, direct access to GCF/GEF/Adaptation Fund for local groups, assistive devices, FCHV emergency kits, agricultural drones, labor-saving renewable energy tech, market-oriented vocational training, storytelling and media platforms, disaggregated data training, proper nutrition and tailored relief packages.

Indicators of success include monitoring and evaluating the percentage of committees with 50% female and intersectional representation, the number of local governments using accessible EWS and reaching 100% of high-risk households, the % increase in land titles for women, the % reduction in the gender wage gap, the number of FCHVs equipped with emergency kits, and the % of local climate budget allocated to GESI priorities verified through audits. We also must not forget to ensure targeted integration of queer disability into policy and advocacy and standardized disability categorization to ensure social protection and relief access.



Action Points:

Generate legal reform to amend restrictive conservation laws, protect Indigenous rights, promote joint and/or single land titles for women, and mandate 50% female and intersectional representation in LAPAs and CFUGs
Create and disseminate inclusive tech and livelihood support, seed funding, vocational training, green labor-saving tech (e.g., agricultural drone training, climate-adaptive inputs) that specifically target women and persons with disabilities
Deploy universal, accessible early warning systems (IVR, multi-format) and equip female community health volunteers with delivery kits to aid pregnant women during climate disasters.

Climate change affects the whole world. Not half of it.

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Glimpses of the Session













