Climate Justice, Gender Equality and SRHR

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a. How are people in Asia and the Pacific, and in particular people in vulnerable situations, affected by climate change? What are the challenges?

- The Asia-Pacific region is at the forefront of experiencing the impact of climate change and its related disasters (IPCC-AR5 2014a) and has its annual loss of $675 billion due to climate-induced disasters (UNESCAP Asia-Pacific Disaster Report in 2019).

- Most of the countries in the region at the top of the most vulnerable countries in the world according to the global risk report assessments.

- Low income countries contribute least to the climate crisis and suffer the most.

- Climate change is not gender-neutral and disproportionately impacts women and girls in all their diversities and gender diverse communities. Despite being inextricably linked, their sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) gets further deteriorated due to deprioritisation during the humanitarian crisis.
b. Who is excluded from climate justice, gender justice and SRHR? How can one overcome exclusion and ensure that people in vulnerable situations and those faced with intersecting forms of discrimination are included and can participate meaningfully in climate justice, gender justice and SRHR

- Women in all their diversities and gender diverse people
- Marginalised communities, including women with disabilities and indigenous women and girls

Inclusive, Meaningful and Equitable Participation in all levels of decision making including design, planning, implementation and monitoring and incorporate gender equality policies throughout all levels of policymaking.
c. Are there any good practices and lessons learned in advancing climate justice in the region/nationally and in local context?

- Natural disasters response plans and policies significantly limit or explicitly exclude gender and SRHR.

- Dominating and damaging population control narrative.
d. What are recommendations to achieve climate justice and fulfillment of SRHR for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific?

1. States must implement their commitments to gender equality and to uphold SRHR when responding to the climate crisis. This includes ensuring inclusive and meaningful participation of the most affected and marginalised communities in decisions related to climate change at all levels of the planning, development, implementation and monitoring processes.

2. States must prioritise climate-resilient health systems that ensure SRH services in times of crises.

3. Climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programs must be developed and implemented with an intersectional, equitable lens, and a human right-based approach. Including applying human rights, gender and a social-justice based approach to climate action that includes the full range of SRHR and to commit robust and feminist financing for the climate and SRHR intersections.
There is no climate justice without gender justice!