Session 4: Women and environmental sustainability

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Gender and Climate Change
UN Women Asia and the Pacific Regional Office

Expert Group Meeting
Implementing Beijing+25 Commitments in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic

Session 4: 16 September 2020, Virtual, 10.30 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.
BEIJING+25 DECLARATION
A CALL TO ACTION

Equitable and inclusive development, shared prosperity and decent work

Poverty eradication, social protection and social and public services

Freedom from violence, stigma, harmful stereotypes and negative social norms

Participation, social dialogue, accountability and national women’s machinery

Peaceful and inclusive societies

Environmental conservation, climate action and resilience-building

Data and statistics

Partnerships and regional cooperation
Recommendations from the Beijing+25 Asia-Pacific Declaration

- Recognizing active role of women as holders of knowledge and as agents of change
- Integration of a gender perspective into environment and climate policies and policy implementation
- Encouraging women’s participation in decision-making and leadership and strategies and mechanisms to achieve it, including through gender-responsive planning, delivery, implementation, monitoring and evaluation
- Building synergies between environmental conservation and protection of human rights
- Recognizing specific circumstances of women with disabilities, elderly women and girls, indigenous and local communities
Challenges reported in national B+25 review reports

- **Unbalanced access to resources:** Women’s vulnerability to climate change is shaped by inequalities in access to resources, dependence and overrepresentation in climate-vulnerable livelihoods and industries and unpaid care work

- **Gender-blind policies:** Gender inequalities are reinforced through a lack of gender-responsive environment and climate policies

- **Inclusive planning processes:** Appropriate policy planning and implementation require participatory and inclusive processes that reflect the knowledge and experiences of women and indigenous populations

- **Exposure to increased violence:** Increase in reported violence linked to climate-related conflicts, tension and hazards

- **Lack of sex disaggregated data and evidence:** Insufficient evidence base about gender-specific vulnerabilities to environmental hazards and climate change

- **Unpaid workload:** Due to climate change, time spent on care and domestic work increases
Keynote speaker and panelists

Angie Dazé
Associate on resilience and climate change adaptation, International Institute for Sustainable Development

Keya Khan
Joint Secretary, Gender Focal Point, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of Bangladesh

Ruth Manoroma
National Alliance of Women, National Federation of Dalit Women, National Centre for Labour, India

Noelene Nabulivou
Political adviser and co-founder, CSO “Diverse Voices & Action (DIVA) for Equality”, Fiji

Mozaharul Alam
Regional Coordinator, Climate Change Programme, Asia and the Pacific Office, United Nations Environment Programme

Fleur Newman
Action Empowerment Unit Lead, ACE, Gender and Youth; Gender Focal Point and Focal Point for Women, UN Climate Change Secretariat
## Outline of the session

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<td>Introduction: purpose of the session</td>
<td>Ms. Inkar Kadyrzhanova, UN Women</td>
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<td>10:40-10:55</td>
<td>Keynote address</td>
<td>Ms. Angie Dazé, International Institute on Sustainable Development</td>
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<td>10:55-11:25</td>
<td>Interventions on:</td>
<td>Ms. Keya Khan, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bangladesh</td>
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<td>• Impacts of environmental degradation and climate change on women in the new COVID-19 reality</td>
<td>Ms. Ruth Manorama, National Alliance of Women, India</td>
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<td>• Views on actions (by state actors, civil society, international community and private sector) to alleviate this situation</td>
<td>Ms. Noelene Nabulivou, DIVA for Equality, Fiji</td>
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<td>11:25-11:50</td>
<td>Discussion Q&amp;A</td>
<td>Mr. Mozaharul Alam, UNEP Regional Asia and the Pacific Office</td>
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<td>11:50-12:00</td>
<td>Summary of discussion</td>
<td>Ms. Fleur Newman, UN Climate Change secretariat</td>
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<td>Ms. Inkar Kadyrzhanova</td>
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Guiding questions

- **What are the impacts of environmental degradation and climate change on women?**

- **How have these impacts been exacerbated due to COVID-19?**

- **Noting the priority actions highlighted in the Beijing+25 Asia-Pacific Declaration:**
  - What **policy actions should be prioritized** to enable gender-sensitive transformation in climate and environment policy space?
  - Which **other actions** (by state actors, civil society, international community and private sector) should be put in place, to **accelerate efforts in this area**?
  - What are some emerging **good practices or examples of innovative policies** by governments, CSOs or private sector that have demonstrated how COVID recovery packages could be designed to be more inclusive?
THANK YOU!