

FAST FACTS



On climate and gender equality

1. Empowering women and girls to have a voice and a role in decision-making on climate change-related issues is essential for sustainable development and greater gender equality.
2. As early adopters of many new agricultural techniques, first responders in crises, entrepreneurs of green energy and decision-makers at home, women offer invaluable insights and solutions into better managing the climate and its risks.
3. The climate crisis is not “gender neutral.” It exacerbates existing inequalities, leaving women and girls to experience unique threats to livelihoods, health and safety.
4. Women are less able to confront climate change due to limited access to and control of environmental goods and services, less participation in decision-making and the distribution of environmental management benefits.
5. During periods of drought and erratic rainfall, many women in low- and lower-middle income countries, who depend on agriculture, work harder to secure income and resources for their families.
6. Current climate finance rarely reaches women and their organizations, and only a tiny proportion of funding focuses on their needs, rights and solutions.
7. As climate change drives conflict across the world, women and girls face increased vulnerabilities to all forms of gender-based violence.
8. When disasters strike, women are less likely to survive and more likely to be injured due to limited access to information, mobility, decision-making, as well as resources and training.
9. Women’s and girls’ health is endangered by climate change and disasters by limiting access to services and health care, as well as increasing risks related to maternal and child health.
10. Extreme heat increases incidence of stillbirth. Climate change also increases the spread of vector-borne illnesses such as malaria, dengue fever, and Zika virus, which are linked to life threatening maternal and neonatal outcomes.

