

WMG Webinar on SDG 11

*Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe,
resilient and sustainable*

Policy approach to Gender, Disaster and Informality in Cities



Shaila Shahid
ICCCAD

E-mail: shahinshaila@gmail.com

Disaster & Climate Induced Push Factors in Cities

- Increasing frequency of extreme events and hydro-meteorological hazards
- Loss of working days due to frequent disaster warning
- Rapid Land use transformation leading to occupational change;
- Decreasing productivity & increasing health risks
- Rising insecurity (life, Health, property, investment, status)
- Coastal and Riverbank erosion
- Coastal inundation and salinity intrusion
- Lack of disaster/climate adaptive employment opportunities
- Insecurity, low wage and general lack of female employment
- General lack of health, economic and recreation facilities

SDG 11: From a Gender Lens

For women, gender discrimination magnifies and adds to the risks to live in a city.

- Women in cities face challenges accessing safe and secure housing, land rights and land tenure and access to basic services like water and sanitation
- Not being able to take a bus to a clinic to deliver a child can result in permanent disability or death.
- In general, natural disasters kill more women than men and kill women at a younger age than men. If she survives a disaster such as a flood or earthquake, a woman will likely have fewer options to recover.

Women and children are 14 times more likely to die in ecological disasters than men. Why?

• **2004 Tsunami in Aceh, Sumatra**

- In Aceh, more than 75% who died were women.
- As so many mothers died -> infant mortality, early marriage of girls, neglect of girls' education, sexual assault, trafficking in women and prostitution.

• **1991 cyclone and flood in Bangladesh, 90% of victims were women and children. Why?**

- Warning information
- Confinement
- Not swimmers
- Caregiving
- Risk of sexual assaults

In 2007 cyclone Sidr, the ratio of male and female death was 1: 5



Women's role in Resilience

***WOMEN ARE KEY
ACTORS IN
BUILDING,
SHAPING AND
SUSTAINING
RESILIENT
COMMUNITIES &
RESILIENT CITIES***



Empowerment Approach for Gender



Inclusiveness and Awareness

Participation of women in Urban governance, in WMGs group.

Capacity Building

Understanding Gender, Identifies the social relations between men and women and how these relationships are socially constructed. Encourage leadership role.

- Apply an empowerment approach with 4 interacting elements (physical, socio-cultural, economic & political)



Empowerment of Women and Youth



Gender sensitive Technology

Water points, design of toilet, access to new technology and innovation, infrastructure should focus on the use, preferences and needs of different group including disable like Cyclone shelter, Rainwater harvesting etc. Access to information, CCA & DRR measure properly



Gender Budgeting

Gender sensitive resource allocation, involve a gender-sensitive analysis of budget priorities, allocation and distribution pattern and equity issues on DRR Committee & WASH. Women's representation at local government level

Empowerment: Key Demand on SDG 11

- ❑ Cities and their citizens, including women's organizations, participate in decision-making of the urban planning and their management, and also a global governance where women's organisations and the feminist movement are represented.
- ❑ Local governments should use planning power to integrate obligatory sustainable energy and energy efficiency, ensuring gender parity in decision-making.
- ❑ Rethink and redevelop human settlements, including cities, from a feminist perspective.
- ❑ Feminist development of space demands that persons must be at the centre of the design and planning of human settlements giving greater prominence to and revaluing care and reproductive work.
- ❑ Broadening the scope/meaning of SDG 11 Indicators: Gender differences play double roles in the non-economic losses of disaster. First, women often contribute to their families and their communities in non-monetary ways - often termed 'care work'. Therefore, an assessment of loss and damage that is based only on monetary or financial quantification should also take into account the value of women's contribution to society.

