

Dialogue on disaster risk reduction



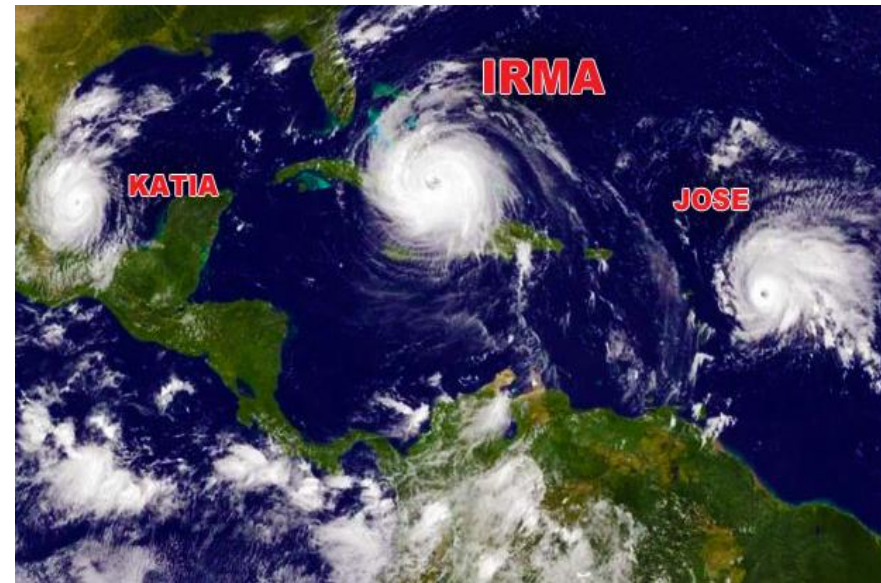
Entidad de las Naciones Unidas para la Igualdad
de Género y el Empoderamiento de la Mujer

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#ParlAmericasCC #Switch2Sendai

Climate change, natural disasters, and gender

- The repeated natural disasters in 2017, such as the earthquakes in Mexico, the successive hurricanes in the Caribbean, and the fires in Central America and South America confirm that disasters in the region are increasing in frequency and strength.
- In the Caribbean, there were 10 hurricanes recorded in 2017 alone.
- Hurricane Irma was the most powerful in history in the Atlantic, devastating the smallest islands and affecting 265,000 people.



Climate change, natural disasters, and gender

Impact of natural disasters in recent years on women

AÑO	DESASTRE/PAÍS	MORTALIDAD FEMENINA	MORTALIDAD MASCULINA
1991	Ciclón OB2 – Bangladesh	90%	10%
2004	Tsunami-Aceh – Indonesia	77%	23%
2004	Tsunami-Tamil Nadu – India	73%	27%
2008	Ciclón Nargis – Myanmar	61%	49%
2009	Tsunami – Tonga and Samoa	70%	30%
2014	Inundaciones - Solomon Island	96% mujeres y niños	4%
2015	Terremoto - Nepal	55%	45%

- It is estimated that **60% of maternal deaths occur during humanitarian emergencies.**
- All forms of **violence against women and girls reach peak levels in disaster situations.**

Climate change, natural disasters, and gender

Prevention

Through DRR that applies a gender lens and features the participation and leadership of women

Differentiated impact

Women and girls have different needs and are differentially impacted based on the gender roles and discrimination they are subjected to

Response and recovery

Effective and sustainable response that meets these needs, visibilizes women's voices, ensures their protection, recognizes their leadership and participation in recovery initiatives



Climate Change Convention and the Gender Action Plan

UN Women has worked to ensure that, through the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)**, **gender equality is visible, prioritized, and integrated**, and that women are considered as key facilitators and beneficiaries of climate action.

- The **Paris Agreement (2015)** called upon governments to respect, promote, and consider their obligations related to gender equality and women's empowerment when acting to address climate change.
- At **COP 23 (2017)**, the **first Gender Action Plan (GAP)** was adopted to support the implementation of approximately 70 decisions and mandates related to gender in the UNFCCC process.
- The **GAP** seeks to promote the full, equal, and meaningful participation of women, **gender-sensitive climate policy**, and the application of a gender lens in the implementation of the Convention.

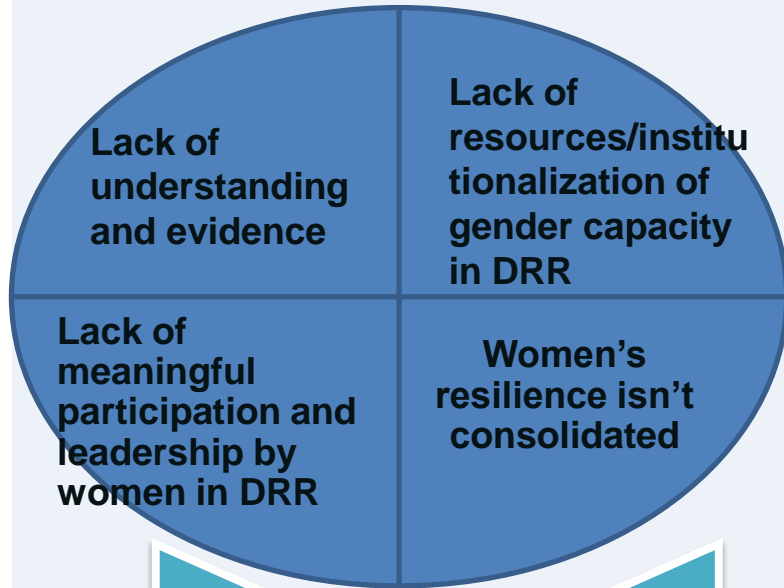
GIR: inclusive and gender approach to disaster risk

The **GIR Programme: Addressing the gender inequality of risk and promoting community resilience to natural hazards in a changing climate**, is a joint initiative between UN Women, IFRC and UNISDR that seeks to address the gender inequality that exists in disaster situations, both in terms of impact, effects, and consequences, and in the response and recovery of women, men, girls, and boys.

To support countries in operationalizing and **achieving the gender commitments under the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction**, the GIR Programme proposes the following inclusive approach:

- Strengthening women's leadership in DRR
- Promoting gender-responsive risk management
- Understanding the gender dimensions of risk
- Strengthening women's capacity to respond and recover

The traditional approach to disaster risk reduction



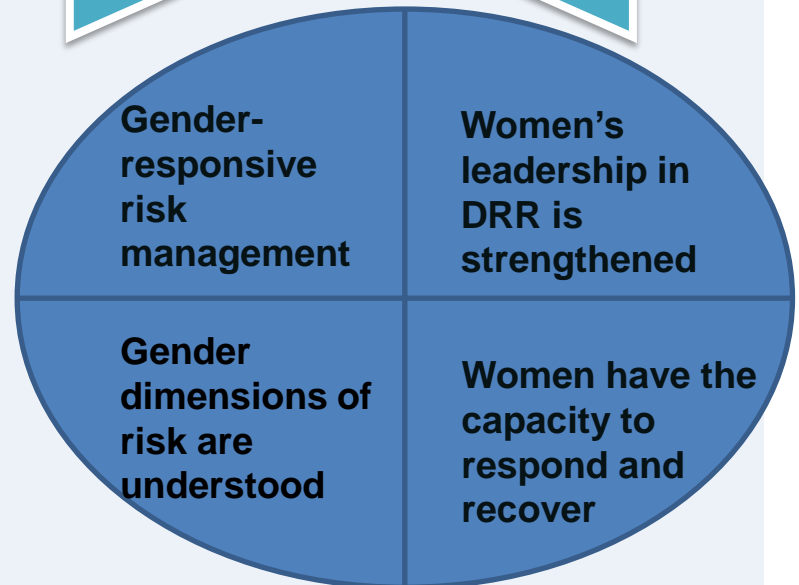
Less effectiveness in saving lives and reducing loss and damage; doesn't make use of women's leadership and strengths

Sendai DRR commitments not achieved

The approach proposed by GIR

Reduced loss of life. Sendai and SDG commitments achieved.

An innovative and powerful partnership for transformative and efficient change



UN Women response to LAC emergencies

Hurricane Matthew in Haiti

UN Women primarily promoted response actions in the protection sector and early recovery:

- Establishing, in conjunction with UNICEF, local spaces for protection, empowerment and information on violence against women and girls, care pathways and women's rights.
- Incorporating a gender perspective into the food security programmes.
- Developing a monitoring tool for the United Nations system's humanitarian response plan with a gender perspective.
- Incorporating a gender perspective into early recovery programmes, primarily "cash for work" programmes.



UN Women response to LAC emergencies

Hurricane season in the Caribbean 2017

UN Women supported the humanitarian response to the hurricanes in a variety of ways:

- Deploying human resources that ensured access to the government's emergency response, as well as participation and involvement during the response and the recovery phase.
- Issuing a gender alert with key action points to integrate a gender perspective in the humanitarian response.
- Supporting needs assessment with a gender perspective and ensuring the creation of sex-disaggregated data.
- Distributing Dignity Kits in Dominica, the British Virgin Islands, and Antigua.



UN Women response to LAC emergencies

Mexico earthquake, September 2017

UN Women supported the humanitarian response in a variety of ways:

- Developing a document with key messages for providing a comprehensive humanitarian response with a gender perspective and ensuring women's leadership in the humanitarian response.
- Organizing and facilitating a meeting between the mayor of Mexico and the United Nations system.
- Supporting the work of the UNDAC mission, the UNETE Group, and the establishment of a Protection Group under the leadership of ACNUDH.
- Strengthening gender mechanisms supported at the national and local levels



Key actions to mainstream gender in emergencies

Effective prevention and response that responds to the different needs of women and girls requires that regional and national frameworks include:

1. The collection of data disaggregated by sex and age in the early stages of the emergency
2. Ensuring that women's leadership is identified, recognized, and highlighted as central for an effective emergency response
3. Promoting the participation of women and women's organizations in education, training in disaster risk management, and the formulation of DRR strategies
4. Ensuring that gender mechanisms at the local and national levels are trained, prepared, and actively involved in prevention, response, and reconstruction
5. Strengthening training and capacity building for humanitarian response with a gender perspective in LAC

Lessons learned by UN Women



View the document here:

<http://lac.unwomen.org/en/digiteca/publicaciones/2017/11/onu-mujeres-ante-los-contextos-de-crisis-y-emergencias>

UN WOMEN IN CRISIS AND
EMERGENCY CONTEXTS
IN LATIN AMERICA AND
THE CARIBBEAN



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Thank you!

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