

Charting Transferability

Advancing gender equality in the response to climate change through transferable lessons from the field of sexual and reproductive health and rights

CSW66 side event: 22nd March 2022

Women and girls face heightened vulnerabilities to the adverse effects of climate change, and efforts are increasingly underway to integrate a gendered perspective into responses to climate change with the ultimate goal of advancing gender equality. With the increasing prioritisation of these efforts, there is an opportunity to draw on learning and evidence from other areas, particularly sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). The SRHR field has an extensive body of evidence evaluating gender-responsive programming and has been at the forefront of advancing gender equality in health. This session will build on an extensive analysis of SRHR evidence led by The United Nations University International Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH) and will focus on charting the transferability of promising approaches and lessons on gender programming from the SRHR space to strategies and interventions aimed at mitigating and responding to climate change. The session brings together representatives from government, UN agencies, civil society organisations, and researchers in both the SRHR and climate change arena to share transferable lessons to advance gender equality through efforts to mitigate and respond to the impacts of climate change. The main contributions of this session are:

- To highlight promising approaches for advancing gender equality derived from SRHR interventions that could be integrated into climate change responses and disaster management.
- To provide space to hear from thought leaders on some of the challenges and opportunities to integrate transferable lessons from SRHR interventions into responses to climate change and disaster management.

Proposed Report Launch

Date: Tuesday 22nd March 2022 between 8 am - 9 am EST

Potential co-hosts (TBC): Government of Mexico, ARROW, ICCASA, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP

Target audience: This side event is targeted at those working on gender equality and climate change including civil society organisations, governments, those working in multilateral organisations, donors, and academics.

Intended outcomes: Engagement with key stakeholders working at the intersection of gender equality, SRHR, and climate action and disaster management, to initiate a dialogue on charting transferability of lessons from SRHR to advance gender equality in response to climate change and disaster management.

Proposed programme:

Duration	Agenda item	Proposed speaker(s) - TBC
5 min	Welcome and opening remarks	Dr Natalia Kanem , Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund
13 min	Presenting evidence from the extensive analysis of gender explicit SRHR interventions and charting possible transferable lessons for integrating gender into climate change response and mitigation efforts.	Dr Anju Malhotra , Visiting Fellow, United Nations University International Institute for Global Health
40 min	<p>Moderated panel discussion and Q&A session (interaction via chat)</p> <p>Guiding questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The review of evidence on gender and SRHR shows that programs have primarily focused on individuals and communities, with very little work being done to change health systems. What can be done to prevent such an imbalance with regard to gender and climate change programs? • Social protection schemes, cash incentives and subsidies were identified as effective mechanisms for increasing women’s demand for SRHR services in case cases. What constructive role could cash transfers and subsidies play in supporting women to tackle climate change? • In the SRHR field, there remains a broad range of unconsolidated success measures on changing gendered norms, attitudes, and behaviors. This has made it difficult to determine success. What do you think success with regards to gender equality in climate change programmes would look like? Would it be helpful to have a small number of strong measures? What might these be? 	<p>Moderator: Dr Johanna Riha, Research Fellow, United Nations University International Institute for Global Health</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <p>Dr Mary Nyasimi, Director, Inclusive Climate Change Adaptation for a Sustainable Africa</p> <p>Dr Karla Berdichevsky, Head National Center for Gender Equity and Reproductive Health, Ministry of Health, Mexico</p> <p>Ms Verania Chao, Programme Specialist, Gender and Climate Change in the Nature, Climate and Energy Team, UNDP</p> <p>Ms Sivananthi Thanenthiran, Executive Director of the Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women</p>
2 min	Closing remarks	Professor Pascale Allotey , Director, United Nations University International Institute for Global Health