



CONCEPT NOTE

TRAINING ON GENDER AND SOCIAL INCLUSION IN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION, CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND RISK-INFORMED DEVELOPMENT

21-25 March 2022, Abuja, Nigeria

BACKGROUND

The Sahel, the vast semi-arid region of Africa separating the Sahara Desert to the north and tropical savannas to the south, is as much a land of opportunities as it is of challenges. It is blessed with abundant human, cultural and natural resources, offering tremendous potential for rapid growth. Yet there are deep-rooted challenges - environmental, political and security—that affect the prosperity of the Sahel. Countries in the Sahel have been dealing with successive political and humanitarian crises for years. Weak governance and its impact on State institutions, including insufficient border management, have dramatically diminished the capacity of the Sahelian States to effectively deliver basic services, promote broad-based political participation and protect human rights. The situation has left the Sahelian countries increasingly vulnerable to insecurity resulting from armed conflict, terrorist activities, illicit trafficking and related organized crime. Human development in the region is among the lowest in the world. Over the years, recurring food and nutritional crises caused by climate change, environmental degradation, drought, floods, poorly functioning markets, low agricultural productivity, poverty and conflict have seriously eroded the ability of households to withstand repeated and increasingly frequent shocks.

With the achievement of the SDGs partly predicated on the extent to which Sahelian countries enhance their resilience to disaster and climate risk, there is a compelling need to develop extensive and long-term capacity in resilience-building, integrating Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change (CC) into development to fully address the predictable, quick-onset and slow-onset phenomena. Furthermore, as women and girls and people with disabilities face greater vulnerability and exposure to disasters due to the gendered dimensions of disaster risk there is

need to strengthen the gender mainstreaming capacity of all actors and stakeholders to ensure integration of gender equality and women's empowerment in all aspects of DRR and CC, including in coordination and leadership, capacity development, data, analysis, and advocacy, and targeted programming.

Towards achieving this objective, UN Women, together with the UNDP, is conducting a regional training on disaster risk reduction and risk-informed development. The said training is an integral part of a multi-partner regional project titled "***Strengthening capacities for disaster risk reduction and adaptation for Resilience in the Sahel Region: fostering risk-informed solutions for sustainable development - Sahel Resilience Project, 2019-2022***" implemented by UNDP in the western Sahel and Lake Chad Basin countries of Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, and Senegal, with the support of the Government of Sweden.

The project is a regional initiative with the aim to ensure that regional institutions and national governments have institutionalized and domesticated risk-informed development planning, programming, and investment for resilience building. The Project has 5 main outputs:

1. Increased capacity of tracking and monitoring progress on SFDRR and AU Program of Action implementation in the Sahel region through enhanced data collection, analysis, and reporting systems;
2. Strengthened regional and multi-country regulatory, policy, and budgetary frameworks for translating disaster and climate data into risk-informed development;
3. Enhanced regional recovery and resilience-building processes that address underlying disaster and climate change risks and restore pathways to sustainable development in the Sahel countries;
4. Enhanced Regional capacities for urban risk management;
5. Enhanced innovations and knowledge on risk-informed development through Regional Dialogue and South-South exchange

A critical component of the project is the collection and analysis of sex, age, and disability disaggregated data as part of strengthening national damage and loss accounting systems as well as the mainstreaming of gender into national DRR/CC Strategies and policies and ensure the participation of women in national and regional DRR/CC Platforms.

In order to ensure a comprehensive disaster risk reduction, climate change and risk informed development that is gender sensitive, UN Women and UNDP have conceived a joint-training that will bring together relevant DRR/CC stakeholders as well as Women Led Organizations/Women Right Organizations (WLOs/WROs) to reflect, brainstorm and develop a joint plan of action that ensures a gender transformative Disaster Risk reduction and climate change action in the Sahel region.

OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of the training is to strengthen the capacities of relevant DRR/CC stakeholders including WLOs/WROs for effective implementation of national and regional action plans that leave no one behind.

The specific training objectives for the two groups are as follows:

- **WLO/WRO group**
 - To develop a common understanding on disaster risk reduction (preparedness, response, recovery, risk-informed development) policies and tools, and its implications for women, men, boys and girls as well as marginalized groups in the Sahel.
 - To discuss hazards and vulnerabilities in the region and identify knowledge gaps.
 - To identify needs and capacities of women and marginalized groups.
 - To discuss coordinated strategies and approaches to influence decision-making in disaster risk reduction and resilience building.
 - To identify opportunities for risk-informed development by building resilience to shocks, focusing on women's resilient livelihoods.

- **DRR/CC actors**
 - To raise awareness of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Disaster Risk Management (DRM) and climate change (CC) practitioners on the necessity to have gender-responsive and inclusive DRR strategies and mechanisms in their countries and regions and to facilitate the participation of Women-led and Women-rights organizations in decision-making processes.
 - To provide guidance on how to identify and integrate specific needs and capacities of women and marginalized groups.
 - To discuss entry points for the participation of women-led and women-rights organizations in DRR and CC-related decision-making processes as well as actions.
 - To provide guidance on how to translate gender-sensitive security, disaster and climate data into risk-informed development and resilience-building processes.
 - To discuss coordinated strategies and approaches to gender-responsive disaster risk reduction and resilience building (south-south exchange and regional collaboration).

OUTCOME

At the end of the joint training session, it is expected that the capacities of relevant stakeholders in disaster risk reduction and risk-informed development would be strengthened for effective implementation of national and regional action plans that leave no one behind. Specifically, the following are the expected results for each group:

- **WLO/WRO participants**
 - Understanding on disaster risk reduction (preparedness, response, recovery, risk-informed development) policies and tools, and its implications for women, men, boys and girls as well as marginalized groups in the Sahel is enhanced.
 - Hazards and vulnerabilities in the region are discussed and knowledge gaps identified.
 - The specific needs and capacities of women and marginalized groups are identified.
 - Coordinated strategies and approaches to influence decision-making in disaster risk reduction and resilience building are discussed.

- Opportunities for gender-sensitive and risk-informed development for resilience building, focusing on women's resilient livelihoods are identified.
- **DRR/CC actors**
 - Awareness of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Disaster Risk Management (DRM) and climate change practitioners on the necessity to undertake gender responsive and inclusive DRR strategies and mechanisms in their countries and regions and to facilitate the participation of Women-led and Women-rights organizations in decision-making processes is increased.
 - Understanding of DRR actors on how to identify and integrate specific needs and capacities of women and marginalized groups in DRR and CC-related decision-making processes as well as actions is enhanced.
 - Possible entry points for the participation of women-led and women-rights organizations in DRR and CC-related decision-making processes as well as actions are identified.
 - Understanding of DRR actors on how to translate gender-sensitive security, disaster and climate data into risk-informed development and resilience-building processes is strengthened.
 - Coordinated strategies and approaches to gender-responsive disaster risk reduction and resilience building are discussed.

TRAINING DATES FOR THE TWO GROUPS OF PARTICIPANTS

The participants will join the training at two different stages to meet the training needs of the combined target groups. WLOs/WROs will participate in a full 5-day training. DRR/CC stakeholders will join for the last 3 days of the training.

Group 1 is composed of women-led and women's rights organizations (WLOs/WROs), from Nigeria, focusing on advocacy to influence the integration of gender equality and human rights into DRR/CC. The training will be held **from Monday 21st to Friday 25th March, in Abuja.**

Group 2 is composed of DRR/CC regional and national stakeholders, primarily government officials from Nigeria responsible for disaster management and gender aspects as well as representatives from regional inter-governmental organizations, focusing on gender mainstreaming into DRR/CC policy and action. The training will be held from **Wednesday 23rd to Friday 25th March, in Abuja.**

A logistics note and a specific agenda for each group will be sent in due course.