



EnGenDER

Enabling Gender-Responsive Disaster Recovery,
Climate and Environmental Resilience in the Caribbean

Gender Inequality of Climate Change and Disaster Risk: A Focus on Economic Empowerment

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Gender & Climate Change Resilience Series

16 of 18

Climate Change, Disaster Risk Reduction and Economic Empowerment

Research shows that women are overrepresented in the low paying jobs and jobs in the informal sector which are at risk from climate invariability and climate shocks.¹ Thus, women are more susceptible to the economic risks of climate change impacts and disaster events.

Women's economic empowerment through climate change mitigation and disaster risk reduction fosters economic growth and socioeconomic development which reduces poverty, while keeping environmental problems in check and increases the potential for adaptation, which benefits both women and men.

Incorporating economic empowerment into development opens new avenues for initiatives, such as innovative financing, which bridge the gap between what is available and what is needed to reach the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Economic empowerment in development also takes into consideration traditional forms of financing for development and women's economic empowerment, which are under threat from climate change.



¹ Women's Economic Empowerment and Climate Change: A Primer. Work and Opportunities for Women Helpdesk Guidance Note No.3., April 2021.

Actions to Achieve Economic Empowerment Post-Disaster Impact

Efforts to promote economic empowerment in a multi-hazard environment should consider:



Livelihood Support
Provide direct payments to persons impacted in key sectors to boost recovery.



Social Protection Programming
Create flexible social protection programmes and mechanisms with effective payout periods.



Entrepreneurship and Incentives
Promote opportunities for micro and small business owners to market their goods and services.



Innovative Financing
Advance initiatives and mechanisms which create windows to provide financial intermediation services to different types of women entrepreneurs.

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