



Gender Mainstreaming in the Environmental Management System in Jordan

National Workshop on “Gender Empowerment and Entrepreneurial Development in the Rural Context: The Role of Renewable Energy”

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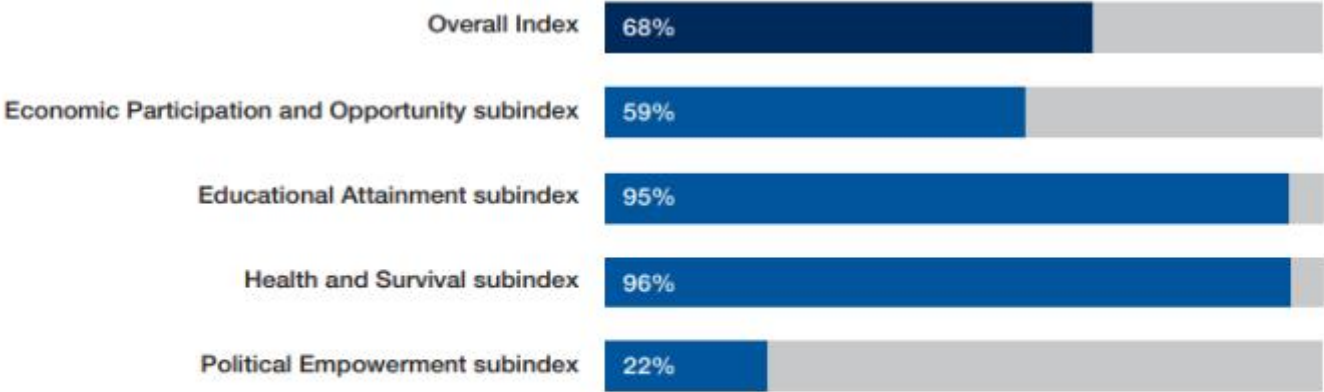
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Resilient nations.

The Global Context

The Global Gender Gap Index 2018



Source: Global Gender Gap Index 2018.
Note: Population-weighted averages. Covers all 149 countries featured in the 2018 index.

Disparity Parity

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(UNDP Gender and Environment, 2011)

FAST FACTS

United Nations
Development Programme



Gender and Environment

Dependent as they are on the environment to feed their families and eke out a living, the world's poorest people suffer the most from changes in climate and the degradation of natural resources. The world's poorest inhabitants – six out of ten of whom are female – are therefore most severely affected by increasingly longer droughts, more severe storms and flooding, species depletion, soil degradation, deforestation, and other negative alterations to the natural environment.

While changes in the environment affect everyone, they affect men and women differently. Women's and girls' traditional responsibilities as food growers, water and fuel gatherers, and caregivers connect them intimately to available natural resources and the climate, making them more vulnerable to environmental hardships.



Photo: Abbie Trasler Smith/Panos Pictures

MATTERS OF FACT

- The degree to which countries have succeeded in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment plays an important role in determining their ability to adapt to climate change and respond to natural disasters.
- A growing literature supports the view that societies with greater gender equality may achieve better environmental outcomes.
- Civic activism and gender equity are positively associated with a more robust record of environmental governance.

Affected first and worst, poor women are rendered all the more vulnerable by longstanding inequalities that silence their voices and neglect their needs. Identifying and addressing women's needs, as well as promoting women as decision makers, are critical elements to ensure the success of environmental policy and programming.

Yet women are not only victims of climate change and environmental degradation – they also possess the knowledge and skills that are critical to finding local solutions. Environmental policies, programmes and finance, therefore, should incorporate and benefit from this know-how while supporting women in the face of today's unprecedented environmental challenges.

Given the requisite tools and the support, women are a driving force for development. Indeed, experience shows that the resiliency of households and communities depends in great part on the resiliency of women. UNDP seeks to provide women with the support they need to get their families, their communities, and nations, on the right track.

To assist poor women (and men), UNDP helps governments to:

- Include women in environmental planning, budgeting, and policy-making processes;
- Deliver energy and environment services, such as clean water and mechanized power, to poor women;

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How UNDP does Gender

- ✓ Gender equality is a human right
- ✓ Within the framework of the SDGs, there are:



45 Targets and 54 Gender-related Indicators

(not only under SDG 5!)

- ✓ Gender Equality is one of the Six Signature Solutions of UNDP in which gender equality is localized and mainstreamed in programming including

ENVIRONMENT



Keeping people out of **POVERTY**



GOVERNANCE for peaceful, just, and inclusive societies



Crisis prevention and increased **RESILIENCE**



ENVIRONMENT: nature-based solutions for development



Clean, affordable **ENERGY**



Women's empowerment and **GENDER** equality

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What we found through programme implementation

- ✓ Environmental-related policies/strategies are not gender-sensitive
- ✓ Weak understanding among decision makers on the gender differentiated vulnerabilities to most of the environmental challenges in Jordan e.g. climate change, biodiversity loss...etc.
- ✓ Women in rural areas are *the de facto* managers of the natural resources and bearing the responsibility for its conservation, they have limited authority to do so

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Linking Conservation with Women Empowerment (Success Stories)

Disi Women Cooperative:

Reproduction of Al-Ghadha Native Plants in Wadi Rum Protected Area



Linking Conservation with Tourism for economic development

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Linking Conservation with Women Empowerment (Success Stories)

**Al-Jawhara Charitable Society:
Rehabilitation of Natural Medicinal Plants and Pastural Lands**



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Linking Conservation with Women Empowerment (Success Stories)

**Badia Rangelands Cooperatives (11 RLCs):
Establishing a value-chain marketing system for sheep dairy products in Jordan Badia**



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Linking Conservation with Women Empowerment (Success Stories)

Badia Rangelands Cooperatives (11) : sustaining livelihoods through enhancing production and quality of sheep wool in the Jordan Badia



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Access to Markets: Key Challenge

Establishment of Permanent Exhibition for Rural Products in Amman



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Lessons Learned

- Women are known for their role in rural resources management, but are rarely in the driver seat for rural development
- Women can drive local development in rural areas with higher enthusiasm ability to learn new skills
- Women in rural communities showed higher commitment to environmental programmes that involved livelihood opportunities
- Women-led organizations have higher ability for community penetration and awareness components
- Women-led organizations tend to have better programme continuation after funding ceases

Challenges that still exists

- Women-led organizations are still very limited in numbers, and are usually facing criticism
- Women-led organizations have limited access to funding due to mobility issues
- There still exists some gaps in the technical environmental knowledge for women in rural areas

THANK YOU



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