

THE KVINNA TILL KVINNA FOUNDATION

EXTENDING THE WPS AGENDA: **WOMEN, PEACE AND CLIMATE SECURITY**

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KVINNA TILL KVINNA

The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation has defended women's rights since 1993.
For every woman's right to be safe and to be heard.

Today we are one of the world's leading women's rights organisations, working directly in areas affected by war and conflict to strengthen women's influence and power. We work closely together with more than 100 local partner organisations across 20 countries to end violence against women, reach lasting peace and close the gender gap once and for all.

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DATE: 2025

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Introduction



Wangari Maathai,
Nobel Peace Laureate

In the course of history, there comes a time when humanity is called to shift to a new level of consciousness, to reach a higher moral ground. A time when we have to shed our fear and give hope to each other. That time is now.

Conflict, environment and climate crises are increasingly interacting, resulting in deepened inequalities and vulnerabilities of women, LGBTQI+ and other marginalised groups, alongside exploitation and degradation of the planet. Women's rights organisations have long demonstrated how gender equality is essential to sustainable peace and climate resilience. While they work to respond to the impact of armed conflict, they are also at the forefront of defending land, biodiversity, and the environment. Their leadership is critical not only for mitigating environmental and climate crises but also for shaping inclusive and equitable systems that prioritise care, justice, and sustainability. While women's rights organisations have seen these connections for years, an evidence base for these connections is only now beginning to build.^{1 2}

Feminist movements are increasingly bridging silos, linking women's rights and environmental activism, strategising together, and generating the gendered data missing from climate discourse. At policy level, actors such as the European Centre for Development Policy Management and the Women and Gender Constituency of the UNFCCC, are highlighting the gendered impacts of climate change and conflict and the need for gender-

sensitive climate finance, particularly in international negotiations like the COP.³ The efforts are too few. The urgency to build peaceful, sustainable, and just societies has never been greater, and it cannot be achieved if women, in all their diversities, remain sidelined.

The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation believes that it is useful for the road ahead, where conflict, environment and climate change merge, to learn from the work that women's rights organisations, and the Women, Peace and Security Agenda (WPS) community more broadly, have invested in creating, implementing and monitoring the WPS agenda over the years. We must draw from the hope that feminist movements hold – that the transformation of society away from patriarchal orders, will begin to address the root causes of armed conflict, people induced climate change and extractive environmental degradation.

For the past 30 years, Kvinna till Kvinna has been working alongside, and in support of, women's rights and feminist movements on the frontlines of crises. Our partners do not see silos and moving forward neither will we. We know that the WPS agenda has its flaws, but we also know its strength. Structured within the normative framework of WPS's four pillars (participation, prevention, protection, relief and recovery), this policy brief begins by capturing the ways in which environment and climate change manifest and interact under each WPS pillar, then moves into sharing ways in which WPS can better integrate and provide solutions to crises induced by the convergence of climate change, environment, and conflict.

¹ See: Okoyeuzu, C. R., Ujunwa, A. I., Ujunwa, A., Nkwor, N. N., Kalu, E. U., & Al-Faryan, M. A. S. (2024). Interactive effects of armed conflict and climate change on gender vulnerability in Sub-Saharan Africa. *International Journal of Social Economics*, 51(3), 347–363. <https://doi.org/10.1108/IJSE-09-2022-0595> and Ide, T., Ensor, M. O., Le Masson, V., & Kozak, S. (2021). Gender in the climate-conflict nexus: “forgotten” variables, alternative securities, and hidden power dimensions. *Politics and Governance*, 9(4), 43–52. <https://doi.org/10.17645/pag.v9i4.4275> and Ensor, M. O., Ashtari Abay, N., & Kuehnast, K. (2022). Women's participation in peacebuilding in contexts of pervasive insecurity and natural resource competition

² Butt, M. N., *How climate change fuels gender-based violence* (March 15, 2023), *Oxfam Views & Voices*, <https://views-voices.oxfam.org.uk/2023/03/how-climate-change-fuels-gender-based-violence/>.

³ European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM), *COP27 can do more for women bearing the brunt of climate change and conflict* (November 7, 2022), <https://ecdpm.org/work/cop27-can-do-more-women-bearing-brunt-climate-change-and-conflict>.



Women, Peace and Security Resolution 2242

For the past 25 years the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda has promoted women's access to resources and decision making in the prevention of, and response to, armed conflict. The inclusion of environment and climate change in UN Security Council Resolution 2242 (2015) was a starting point for formally linking climate security to WPS and setting an important precedent for global policy. However, progress in mainstreaming the climate-WPS connection across national and international policies has been uneven.⁴ Women remain largely excluded from decision-making processes on environmental governance, climate adaptation, and access to climate finance. For example, only 3% of all official development assistance (ODA) related to climate action had gender equality objectives in 2022.⁵

⁴ Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security (GIWPS). (2024). *Practical guidance for integrating climate into WPS National Action Plans*. <https://giwps.georgetown.edu/resource/practical-guidance-for-integrating-climate-into-wps-national-action-plans/>

⁵ UN Women. (2024, November 10). *UN Women calls for increased gender-focused climate finance at COP29*. <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news-stories/press-release/2024/11/un-women-calls-for-increased-gender-focused-climate-finance-at-cop29>

The issues – missing the full picture

Participation

The participation barrier is well known within WPS; women hold valuable expertise in the prevention of, and response to, peace and security but remain underrepresented and undervalued despite commitments in the WPS resolutions and other policies promoting women's inclusion in peace processes and recovery. Likewise, the gender dimensions of climate and environmental crises are largely absent from national and global responses, as women's perspectives, experience, and priorities are rarely incorporated into decisions that affect them. For example, at COP29, only 6 out of 78 government leaders (less than 8%) mentioned the impact of climate change on women and four of those six were women themselves.⁶

When women are invited to participate, it is often late in the process and without meaningful influence. Kvinna till Kvinna's 2022 study on feminist movements in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) revealed significant barriers to participation in environment and climate change policy spaces including political repression and limited access to technical language. As a result, the report found that many Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) lacked a gender perspective because they are adopted in parliaments where women are underrepresented.⁷ The same barriers confirmed by women's organisations in Rwanda in our 2024 report on gender transformative climate finance: technical and exclusionary language, and complex funding modalities prevent women's rights and grassroots organisations from accessing or shaping climate policies and finance mechanisms.⁸

The gendered impacts of war further compound exclusion. Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, Israel's genocide in Gaza, and the Syrian conflict have all led to destroyed ecosystems, wrought deforestation, polluted water sources, and degraded soils. For example, in Eastern Ghouta (Syria), years of bombardment destroyed sewage systems

and essential infrastructure, leading to contamination and public health crises. In Ukraine, extreme weather events, including heatwaves have caused a crisis for those without adequate housing, insulation, or access to cooling systems. Women-headed households, which have increased in number due to the war, are particularly strained. Managing childcare, household responsibilities, and securing energy resources has led many women into energy poverty, lacking access to reliable, affordable, or adequate energy services.⁹

Against these backdrops, women's rights organisations struggle to simply meet urgent community needs, let alone put their efforts into accessing environmental policy spaces.



It feels like living in a hospital's emergency room-like society... Talking about something like climate appears to be a luxury.¹⁰

Prevention

Women's rights organisations are well placed to lead community-based responses that address the intersection of conflict, environmental degradation, and climate change. Women's organisations and activists often play a crucial role as mediators and conflict resolvers within local communities. They are also among the first to notice how climate change affects daily life and can therefore help identify emerging needs and effective local responses. As environmental pressures rise, women and girls face greater exposure to harassment and violence. Without integrated prevention approaches that connect climate adaptation with gender-based violence (GBV) risk reduction, sexual and reproductive

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation. (2022). *Feminist movements and climate justice in the Middle East and North Africa*. <https://kvinna.tillkvinna.org/publications/feminist-movements-and-climate-justice-in-middle-east-and-north-africa/>

⁸ The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation, *From gender-relevant to gender-transformative climate finance: Rwanda case study* (2024), <https://kvinna.tillkvinna.org/publications/from-gender-relevant-to-gender-transformative-climate-finance-rwanda-case-study/>

⁹ Women, Peace and Security Helpdesk. (2024, December). *Gender, climate and security in Ukraine*. https://wpshelpdesk.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Gender-Climate-and-Security-in-Ukraine-FINAL-draft_to-publish.pdf

¹⁰ Kvinna till Kvinna, *Feminists Movements and Climate Justice in MENA* (2024).

health and rights (SRHR), and social protection, climate shocks can easily cascade into displacement, insecurity, and deepened inequality.

Preventive measures must move beyond environmental management to explicitly address the gendered nature of climate risk, ensuring that early warning systems, peacebuilding programmes, and adaptation policies reflect women's realities and leadership.

Protection

Kvinna till Kvinna and its partners across sub-Saharan Africa and MENA region have documented how communities report increases in both domestic and public violence linked to environmental degradation and climate change. As documented in our 2021 study on Rwanda, economic shocks associated with droughts, failed crops, and displacement drive harmful coping mechanisms such as child marriage, transactional sex for survival, and unsafe migration. Women's sexual and reproductive health also becomes threatened as sexually transmitted infections rise while families are pushed into precarious living situations and essential sexual and reproductive health supplies are limited.¹¹ In eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) similar reporting has shown how climate change has intensified disputes over land and water, which are already contested and militarised resources, further undermining adaptation capacity. When these local tensions flare, women and youth struggle to maintain livelihoods, food security, and access to natural resources.¹²

The UN Spotlight Initiative 2025 report similarly documents how extreme weather, displacement, food insecurity, and economic instability are key factors increasing the prevalence and severity of gender-based violence. Intimate partner violence, in particular, is associated with a 4.7 % increase with 1°C rise in global temperature. In a 2°C warming scenario, 40 million more women and girls

are likely to experience intimate partner violence each year by 2090.¹³

Women environmental defenders and activists face growing threats across the world from governments, corporations, and non-state armed actors. In contexts like the Western Balkans, global and regional corporations often wield more power than governments themselves, enabling the intimidation, harassment, and silencing of activists who protest extractive or polluting projects. There have been physical attacks on women environmental defenders, and many activists have been sued for protesting and demonstrating.¹⁴ The financial burden, such as paying for lawyers and court fees, can easily destroy their livelihood.

At the same time, shrinking civic space and democratic backsliding are limiting activism across many regions. Evidence shows that women defending land, water, and ecosystems face the same risks as other women human rights defenders (smear campaigns, surveillance, sexualised threats, and physical attacks) but often with even less institutional protection.¹⁵

Relief and recovery

In the aftermath of climate and environmental crises, women's organisations are crucial agents in raising awareness about the perspectives and needs of marginalised communities, and their efforts must be supported. Yet, their insights and contributions remain under-recognised and underfunded. Current adaptation, mitigation, development, and humanitarian measures are failing to address the needs and uphold the basic rights of women on the frontlines of both conflict and climate crises.¹⁶

In the DRC, for instance, Kvinna till Kvinna partners reported that after devastating floods in 2023, authorities failed to assess how women were specifically affected. Without gender-disaggregated

¹¹ The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation, *Gender, women's rights, environment and climate change in Rwanda* (2021),

<https://kvinna.tillkvinna.org/publications/gender-womens-rights-environment-and-climate-change-in-rwanda/>.

¹² Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). (2025, March). *Climate, peace and security in eastern DRC*.

https://www.sipri.org/sites/default/files/2025-03/2025_02_climate_peace_and_security_in_eastern_drc.pdf

¹³ United Nations News, *Every 1°C rise in global temperature will push an additional 140 million women into poverty: UN report* (April 4, 2025), <https://news.un.org/en/story/2025/04/1162461>.

¹⁴ See for ex: Frontline Defenders (2023), <https://www.frontlinedefenders.org/en/case/bosnia-and-herzegovina-experts-appointed-court-case-against-environmental-women-human-rights> and Amnesty International (2022), <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2022/10/bosnia-and-herzegovina-young-environmental-activists-face-baseless-defamation-charges-from-belgian-owned-hydropower-company-in-bosnia/>

¹⁵ International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), *Addressing gender-based violence and environment linkages: Strengthening environmental action for women and girls* (2021), https://www.iucn.nl/app/uploads/2021/03/iucn-srjs-briefs-wehrd-gbv-en_01.pdf.

¹⁶ Oxfam, *Gendered dimensions of loss and damage in Asia* (2022), <https://policy-practice.oxfam.org/resources/gendered-dimensions-of-loss-and-damage-in-asia-621556/>.

data or support, the response overlooked the needs of women and girls, leaving them more vulnerable to poverty, food insecurity, and GBV. When women's groups attempted to fill these gaps, they lacked the resources to do so effectively. These experiences demonstrate a simple truth: when the full picture is missing, decisions are less effective.

The global climate finance architecture also remains misaligned with women's priorities. Adaptation critical for communities already facing climate shocks receives only about one-third of all climate finance, compared to 60% directed toward mitigation, which offers quicker financial returns for investors. According to Oxfam, more than half of adaptation finance to the least-developed countries comes in the form of loans rather than grants.¹⁷ These loans deepen debt distress, squeezing national budgets and diverting funds away from social protection systems, including GBV services, SRHR programmes, and community-led recovery.

Women's rights organisations, though crucial actors in leading community-based responses and adaptation measures, continue to face substantial barriers to accessing climate finance. In 2024, research by Kvinna till Kvinna and Development Initiatives found that climate and gender data remain fragmented and difficult to track, with inconsistent use of gender and climate markers and limited comparability between donors. During focus group discussions in Rwanda, women's organisations identified several barriers to accessing climate finance:

- Limited awareness of available funding opportunities
- Insufficient capacity to navigate complex technical application processes
- Eligibility criteria that often favour traditional environmental NGOs over women-led or feminist organisations.¹⁸

Across regions, similar challenges persist. In the South Caucasus, young activists have been at the forefront of environmental justice activism, analysing and protesting against state policies, but they often reject formal NGO structures, leaving them excluded from traditional donor systems let alone climate financing mechanisms.

Lastly, relief and recovery from conflict and environmental damage will continue in a perpetual cycle as long as military spending and rearmament remain high. In 2024, military spending was higher than it has ever been – hitting \$2.7 trillion compared to just \$212 billion in official development assistance the same year.^{19,20} Militaries are also amongst the biggest emitters of greenhouse gas yet the scale isn't truly known as countries do not have to report military emissions under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).²¹ There is a pressing need to problematise the money flow and what is seen as effective investments: research shows that preventive measures are 100 times less costly than crisis response.²²



¹⁷ Oxfam, *Climate finance shadow report 2025: Analysing progress on climate finance under the Paris Agreement* (2025), <https://policy-practice.oxfam.org/resources/climate-finance-shadow-report-2025-analysing-progress-on-climate-finance-under-621735/>.

¹⁸ Kvinna till Kvinna, *From gender-relevant to gender-transformative climate finance: Rwanda case study* (2024).

¹⁹ United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), *Record military spending threatens global peace and development, new UN report warns* (April 22, 2024), <https://www.undp.org/press-releases/record-military-spending-threatens-global-peace-and-development-new-un-report-warns>

²⁰ Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), *Official development assistance (ODA) 2024 figures* (April 11, 2025), <https://www.oecd.org/en/about/news/press-releases/2025/04/official-development-assistance-2024-figures.html>.

²¹ Russia's invasion of Ukraine prompted the first comprehensive estimate of the climate impact of an ongoing armed conflict, with researchers estimating that the first two years of the invasion caused emissions greater than the annual output of an industrialised country like the Netherlands. Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI), *The military emissions gap: How military emissions impact global warming* (May 9, 2024), <https://ccpi.org/guest-article-ccpi-x-military-emissions-gap-how-military-emissions-impact-global-warming/>.

²² One.org, *Conflict Prevention is 100 Times Less Costly than Crisis Response* (2025), <https://data.one.org/analysis/conflict-prevention-less-costly>

The solutions and learnings – building gender-transformative climate action

Participation

When it comes to participation, the Women, Peace and Security agenda offers important lessons. Over the past 25 years, it has demonstrated that peace is less likely to be sustained when women are excluded from mapping solutions or from peace deals and policies. Meaningful participation requires more than symbolic inclusion; it demands structural power and the ability to influence priorities, budgets, and accountability frameworks.

The same is true for environmental and climate policy. Studies show that women adopt and advance climate change policy more often than men. A study of 130 countries showed a positive correlation between the participation of women in national administrations and the likelihood that a country would ratify international environmental treaties.²³

As with WPS, participation and influence must occur at all levels:

- Locally, to ensure responses are contextualised and sustainable
- Nationally, through the integration of gender perspectives in WPS National Action Plans (NAPs), Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation
- Globally, within multilateral processes such as COP negotiations, climate finance mechanisms, and other climate-peace and security fora

Supporting women's rights and environmental organisations with flexible, long-term funding is the number one way to increase their participation in climate and environmental policy and decision-making. Evidence shows that funding women's

rights organisations and movements helps deliver gender equality, and that women's rights organisations play an important role in climate action.



Women play a crucial role in climate adaptation, mitigation and disaster risk reduction. They are not the passive recipients of aid that they are often painted to be, women and marginalised communities are driving transformative, gender-just climate action. Grassroots feminist activists and organisations have lobbied hard for women's and LGBTQIA+ rights in climate policy decision making at community and national levels.²⁴

Prevention

Women's rights organisations' expertise and proximity to affected communities make them uniquely positioned to identify gendered risks and design inclusive, locally grounded solutions. Research from Ukraine, for example, shows how women-led organisations have played key roles in promoting community-based solutions for access to energy, water, and sustainable agriculture.²⁵

²³ Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security (GIWPS). (2024, February). *WPS Index climate brief*. <https://giwps.georgetown.edu/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/GIWPS-WPS-Index-Climate-Brief.pdf>

²⁴ International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED). (2024). *Climate change, gender justice, and backlash*. <https://www.iied.org/climate-change-gender-justice-backlash>

²⁵ Women, Peace and Security Helpdesk, *Gender, climate and security in Ukraine* (December 2024), https://wpshelpdesk.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Gender-Climate-and-Security-in-Ukraine-FINAL-draft_to-publish.pdf.

Climate change and environmental degradation are not peripheral issues to WPS; they cut across all four pillars of the WPS agenda and integrating them throughout is crucial. The UN Secretary-General's 2023 report on WPS warned that governments must 'establish specific actions and targets, including by supporting the role of women peacebuilders in resolving conflicts linked to control of natural resources and ensuring the protection of women environmental human rights defenders.'²⁶

WPS National Action Plans are a strong and important vehicle for ensuring that climate-related risks are recognised and addressed in national security and peacebuilding agendas. As of 2024, 45 countries have active NAPs, and 64% include at least one reference to climate change. However, most references are superficial, often appearing only in background sections or as token mentions without concrete actions or budgets.²⁷

NAPs also offer an important opportunity to connect WPS implementation with other climate instruments at the country level such as NDCs and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs for climate). Explicit and coordinated references in these documents and dedicated inter-government coordination mechanisms will ensure gender-responsive climate action is aligned across agendas.²⁸ We know from years of monitoring WPS NAP design and implementation that they should specify who does what, with which resources and should have metrics. That same structure can be mirrored against NDC and National Adaptation Plan trackers. Aligning these instruments allows for joint reporting and monitoring and enables civil society to hold governments accountable for their gender commitments across peace and climate agendas.²⁹

WPS experience also underscores that prevention is not only about early warning, but about reform. Designing climate finance as a preventive measure with gendered needs in mind is crucial. This should be done through grant-first, needs-based climate finance models with gender safeguards that can resource adaptation efforts before crises escalate.³⁰

Protection

The WPS agenda has placed protection at its core, with the aim to safeguard women and girls from sexual and gender-based violence and other rights violations during conflict and crisis. Many of the mechanisms developed under this pillar (such as survivor-centred service models, community risk mapping, and safe reporting channels) offer valuable lessons for addressing gendered vulnerabilities in the context of environmental and climate crises.³¹

The same principles should guide climate adaptation and mitigation efforts. As women and girls increasingly face risks while performing essential survival tasks, such as collecting water, gathering firewood, or farming degraded or drought ridden land, protection frameworks must evolve to meet the realities of climate-affected communities. This can include for example, mapping high-risk points for SGBV during environmental crises (water and firewood collection sites etc), ensuring mobile and confidential reporting mechanisms and trained and in place, maintaining access to sexual and reproductive health supplies and services during climate shocks, and ramping up efforts to provide safe shelters.

For women human rights and environmental defenders, specific protections must be in place. The WPS agenda already recognises civil society actors' critical role in promoting peace and human rights,³² but the protection measures extended to them rarely cover women environmental defenders. These activists face specific threats, ranging from surveillance and smear campaigns to physical attacks for challenging extractive industries or exposing environmental harm.³³ Moving forward, WPS implementation must explicitly include women environmental defenders within its protection scope. All rapid-response funds, legal aid, relocation protocols and digital-security support provided under WPS must be inclusive of environmental defenders whose activism impacts the lives of women and girls living through conflict and climate change.

²⁶ United Nations, *Report of the Secretary-General on women and peace and security* (September 2023), <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/4024756?ln=en&v=pdf..>

²⁷ Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security (GIWPS), *Practical guidance for integrating climate into WPS National Action Plans* (2024), <https://giwps.georgetown.edu/resource/practical-guidance-for-integrating-climate-into-wps-national-action-plans/>.

²⁸ Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), *Climate, peace and security thematic fact sheet: Women, peace and security* (2025), <https://www.sipri.org/publications/2025/partner-publications/climate-peace-and-security-thematic-fact-sheet-women-peace-and-security>

²⁹ GIWPS, *Practical guidance for integrating climate into WPS National Action Plans* (2024).

³⁰ The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation, *COP29: Pay up, phase out, and include* (2024), <https://kvinnaatillkvinna.org/publications/cop29-pay-up-phase-out-and-include/>.

³¹ IUCN, *Addressing gender-based violence and environment linkages: Strengthening environmental action for women and girls* (2021).

³² UNSC Resolution 2493

³³ IUCN, *Addressing gender-based violence and environment linkages: Strengthening environmental action for women and girls* (2021).



Photo: Mohammad Ayssi

Palestinian Women Water Network

Relief and recovery

The WPS agenda's fourth pillar offers critical guidance for building gender-responsive climate and environmental action. Women's rights organisations have long been at the forefront of relief and recovery acting as first responders, advocates, and accountability actors.

Drawing on lessons from WPS implementation, relief and recovery processes must prioritise flexible *and* rapid funding mechanisms for women's rights and environmental organisations to respond to holistic local needs in conflict, climate and environmental disasters. Women-led organisations must be recognised as legitimate recovery actors when it comes recovering from climate and environmental crises, not sidelined or left out.

To do this, participants in Kvinna till Kvinna partners in the MENA region stress the urgency of investing in feminist movement building and supporting 'unconventional' or emerging groups.³⁴ These actors are already addressing environmental challenges and articulating new forms of feminist climate justice but often lack the resources to sustain their work. Donors must therefore move beyond short-term project grants and ensure that flexible, long-term funding reaches feminist and grassroots organisations so they can flexibly respond to *all crises*.

Women's organisations should have direct access to climate and recovery funds, which are often earmarked for 'environmental actors.' Such funding mechanisms would ensure that the holistic needs of communities are captured and addressed in post-crisis recovery and reconstruction.

Recommendations



Women, Peace and Security brings 25 years of experience of inclusive processes to ensure sustainable and peaceful societies. Women's movement can contribute and are present everywhere. Their knowledge, experiences and lessons learnt can be used to identify effective measures to adapt and mitigate against environmental damage and climate change induced crises.

1

WPS framework

- Must further evolve to explicitly incorporate environment and climate change in all future resolutions.
- The 'Relief and recovery' pillar must also mean ecosystem recovery: the needs of the planet are the needs of women.

2

Policy (National level)

- WPS National Action Plans are typically formatted along the lines of the four WPS pillars (participation, protection, prevention, relief and recover). Environment and climate change commitments must be mainstreamed across all four pillars of NAPs, not left to one or two 'buzzword' commitments.
- Ensure gender-responsive environmental policies that are harmonised and address the specific challenges women face – including but not limited to WPS NAPs, Nationally Determined Contributions, and National Adaptation Plans.

3

Resourcing & funding for women's rights organisations

- Flexible and long-term funding must be provided to enable women's rights organisations (WRO) to respond holistically to all types of crises (including environment and climate).
- Climate financing frameworks must include small grant schemes for civil society which WROs must be aware of and supported to apply.
- Equip women's organisations with skills in sustainable agriculture, water conservation, and energy efficiency to apply in their day-to-day work.

4

Participation

- Continue pushing for women's representation and meaningful participation in international, regional and national decision-making spaces for climate and environment. Women's representation helps to ensure gendered perspectives are accounted for.
- Provide platforms for women's rights activists and environmental activists to come together – local, national, regional and international. Intentional platforms to bridge the gap between the two movements are needed to strengthen the nexus of environment and climate crises and WPS, share lessons learned and discuss avenues for change in all policy spheres.
- Offer leadership programmes for women's rights activists to strengthen their capacity to engage in policy, research and advocacy on environment and climate issues.

5

Filling the knowledge gap

- Support WPS and environmental actors to document the interlinkages between conflict, climate change and environmental degradation. Knowledge products produced must always be in the hands of the most relevant advocacy actor, so that critical information is not siloed to one policy space or another.

Readings

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