EMPOWERING WOMEN TO RESPOND TO CLIMATE CHANGE THROUGH INFORMED ADAPTATION: A POLICY BRIEF

Introduction

Climate change disproportionately impacts women. Socio-economic barriers, traditional gender roles, and limited resource access. Limited land ownership, education, and financial opportunities hinder their coping capacities, while their concentration in unpaid and seasonal work increases vulnerability to climate-related disruptions.

Addressing these disparities is essential for effective and gender-inclusive climate adaptation.

Key findings

- Women face greater challenges in agriculture, food security, health, water, energy and climate-related disasters.
- Limited access to resources, training, and decision-making power restricts women's ability to adapt.
- Women employ diverse strategies like water harvesting and crop diversification but face structural constraints.
- Climate-smart agriculture raises women's incomes by improving yields and resource efficiency, but adoption is hindered by high costs, technical training needs, and women's limited access to technology

Policy suggestions

- Improve women's access to education, finance and land to strengthen adaptive capacities.
- Develop mechanisms to ensure women's active participation in climate adaptation strategies.
- Provide training and financial support to women farmers to enhance resilience and economic independence.
- Engage men in efforts to shift traditional gender roles and promoting women's leadership in agriculture.

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