

REGIONAL ASIA-PACIFIC CONFERENCE ON

## GENDER AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

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Ha Noi, Viet Nam

# PROGRESS ON GENDER EQUALITY AND RESILIENCE BUILDING IN ASIA-PACIFIC

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# Common Gender Equality Issues in Asia-Pacific

- Women out-number men around the world, but in the Asia men outnumber women with 50 million 'women missing' .
- Discrimination of girls starts even before birth! High female -Girls valued less than men
- Women, children and elderly make up > 80% of those living on less than \$2 per day in Asia;
- High rates of SGBV: 60-80% of Pacific women aged 15 to 49 years experienced violence
- Lowest decision making power and political participation when Asia-Pacific combined
- Lower literacy levels among females



# Gender Equality Issues Cont'd

- Feminisation of Agriculture- Vietnam, Bangladesh
- Limited ownership of resources
  - 10% of land in Nepal is owned by women;
  - China 70 % of farm operators without land are women
- High dependence on natural resources, which are highly exposed to disasters
- High risk of human trafficking
- High girl child marriage, Nepal, India
- High burden of work and time poverty
- Women viewed as victims rather than agents of change





# Gender Disaster Fatalities

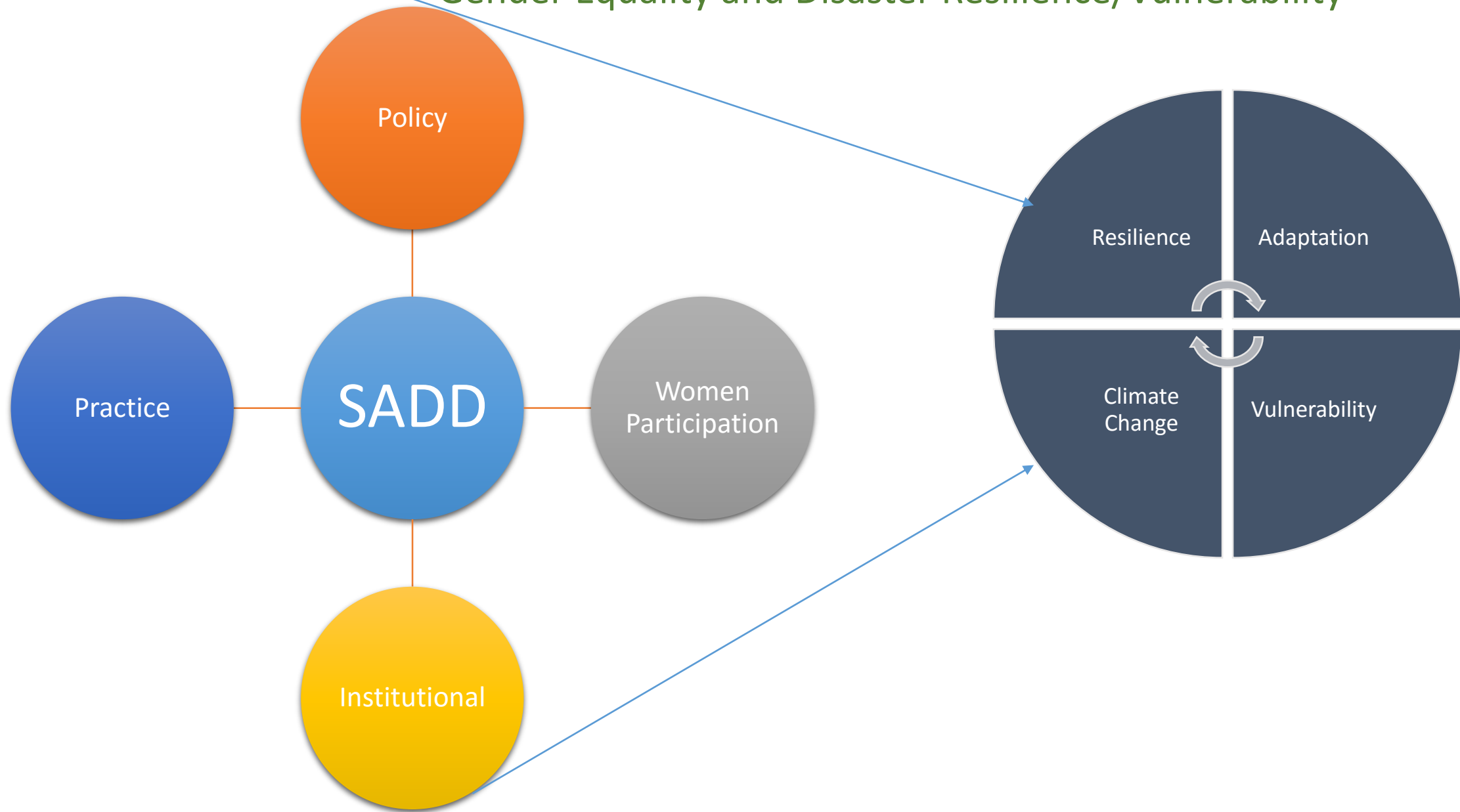
Year	Disasters and Country	Female Mortality
1991	Cyclone OB2 Bangladesh	90%
2004	Tsunami – Aceh, Indonesia	77%
2004	Tsunami- Tamil Nadu, India	73%
2008	Cyclone Nargis- Myanmar	61%
2009	Tsunami – Tonga and Samoa	70%
2014	Solomon Islands Floods	96% women& children
2015	Nepal Earthquake	55%
2015	Myanmar Floods	42%
2016	Fiji Cyclone Winston	50% (92% iTaukei)



# Resilience to Disasters and Climate Change



## Gender Equality and Disaster Resilience/Vulnerability



# Policy Support



## Progress

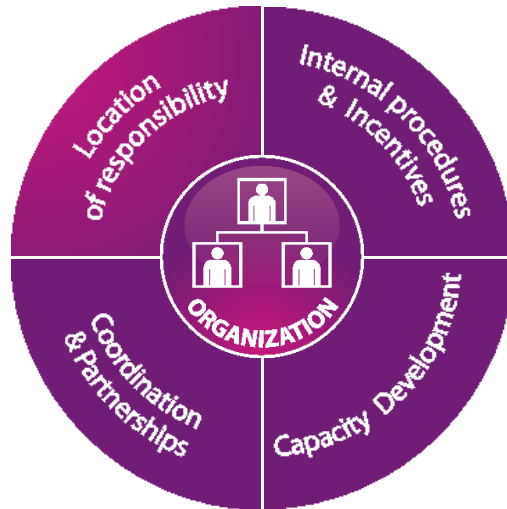
- Significant progress from largely gender blind disaster laws, DRR and CC policies 10 years ago
- Increase in specific policies to address gender equality- e.g. *Pakistan National Policy Guidelines on Vulnerable Groups in Disasters*, Samoa draft *Gender Equality and DRR policy*
- Most national Gender Equality policies recognise & draw linkages with climate change and Disasters

## • Gaps

- Pacific disasters laws still gender blind
- Only a 3<sup>rd</sup> of NAPA included gender analysis
- Wide recognition of gender but nothing beyond the rhetoric
- No gender related resources allocated for implementation
- No indicators formulated for monitoring
- No coherent approach to gender equality and social inclusion



# Institutional Arrangements



- **Opportunity-**

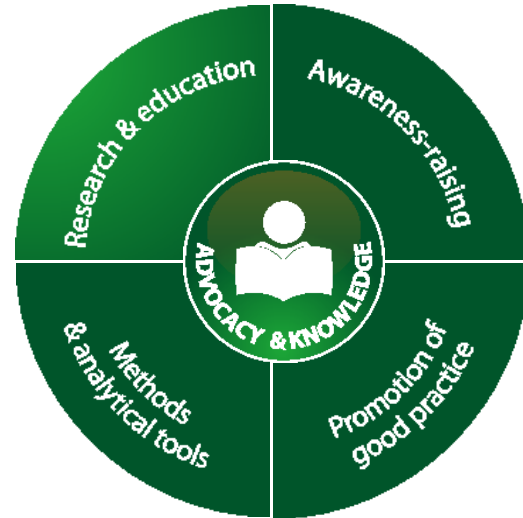
- Some national government are realigning their institutional structures to address these gaps, e.g. Tonga Joint National Action Plan structure

- **Gaps**

- Different government structure address CC (MoE), DRR (NDMO) and gender inequality (MoWA)
- Limited technical knowledge by gender machineries
- Limited know-how from technical line ministries
- Prioritisation of gender equality in programmes influenced by own biases on gender
- Gender focal points with no/ltd say on CC resource allocations and priorities



# Knowledge and Data



- **Progress**

- Some progress in collecting sex and age data on disaster impact, especially mortality data
- Good ground work being done by NGOs & INGOs

- **Gaps**

- No SADD at national, regional and global levels (e.g. DisInventor/EM-DAT)- (14% for Asia-Pacific on DRR);
- Climate and disaster assessments focused on infrastructure, productive sectors, GIS, without the analysis of human capacity and vulnerability
- Vulnerability assessment and gender analysis delinked from risk assessments- e.g. women see livestock management as a key priority in CC adaptation, yet livestock is not addressed in

# Women's Participation & Leadership



- **Progress**

- Progress in wider consultations with CSO in the formulation of DRR and CC policies
- Women are human resource in CCA, disaster preparedness and response at the grassroots level- 3 million self-help groups in India
- Women led emergency response in Bangladesh
- Initiatives such as the Community Resilience Fund, which devolves financing to grassroots women's groups for disaster planning based on local priorities, offer potential models

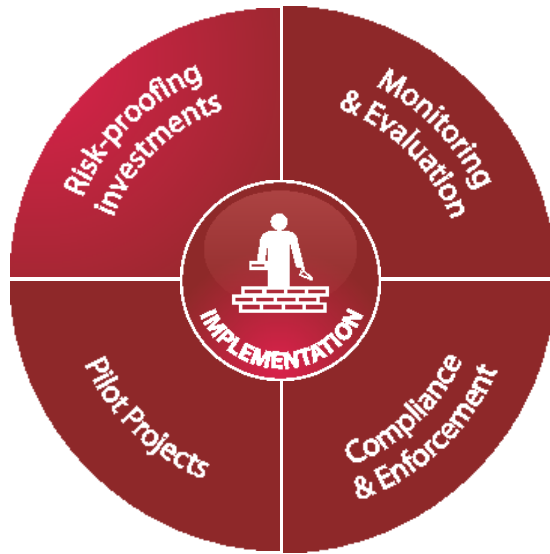
# Women's Participation & Leadership



- **Gaps**

- Limited women's participation and leadership in DRR and CC- (review of Hyogo framework- countries 2.4% reported involvement of women organisations)
- CSO (Oxfam, Care International, Action Aid) engagement at local level not linked with DRR and CC policy development
- Limited consultation of women in CC programme/project designs at the national and community levels
- Women present but do not participate e.g. in Samoa women serve food

# Practice and Implementation

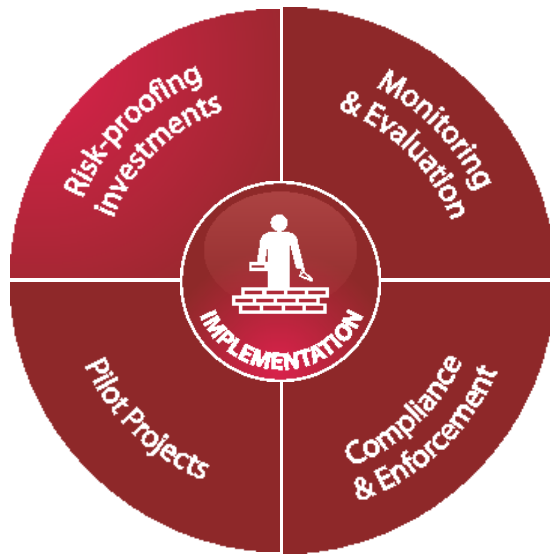


- **Progress and Opportunities**

- Green Climate Fund has gender equality criterion for accessing funds
- Renewable energy opportunities
- Private Sector investment in green growth
- Indicative best practices by Adapt Asia-Pacific Programme



# Practice and Implementation

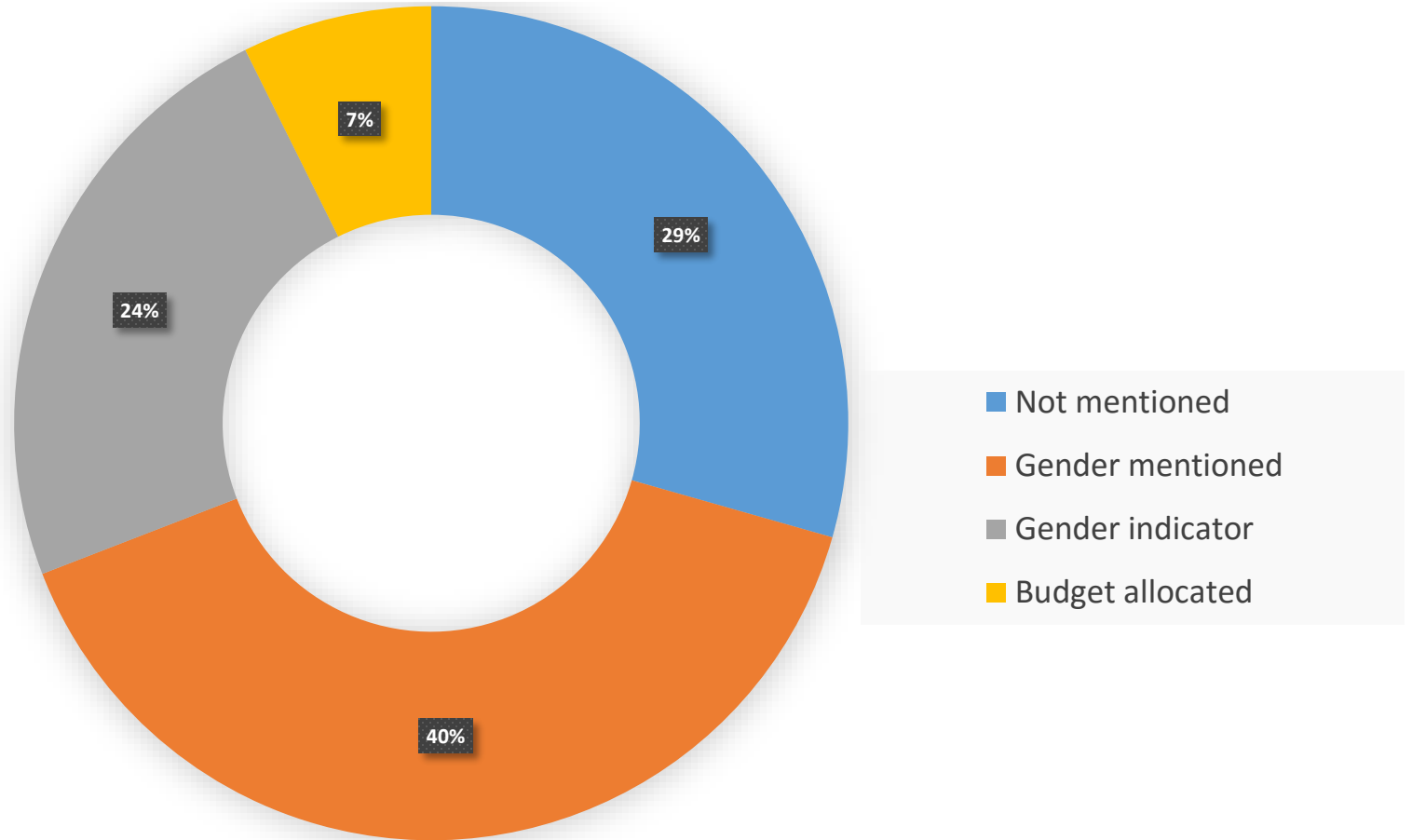


- **Gaps**

- No demonstrated evidence on DRR and CC delivering on gender equality
- No evidence of specific financial commitments to support gender equality
- Delivering on gender equality not mandatory in current climate funds (GFDRR, GEF, LDCF, etc)
- Gendered adaptation concentrated on agriculture, which might leave women more vulnerable
- Design and implementation rarely based on vulnerability assessment and gender analysis
- No gender equality M&E Safeguards

# Tabulation of Gender Equality in GEF Projects in Asia-Pacific

68 Projects  
worth over  
**\$4.8**  
**billion** in  
S.E. Asia &  
Pacific over  
past 10 years





THANK YOU