REGIONAL SHAREFAIR ON GENDER AND RESILIENCE

Convening Report on
‘Strengthening Resilience by Empowering Women’

SAFARI PARK HOTEL, NAIROBI, KENYA • 9 – 10 NOVEMBER 2016

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<tr>
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

UN Women wishes to acknowledge its partnership with the agencies that contributed resources and supported the 2016 Sharefair on Gender and Resilience. They include: Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), African Development Bank (AfDB), African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR).

We also acknowledge our partnership with the agencies which enabled a successful Knowledge Fair. They comprise: ACORD, Groots Kenya, IOM, OCHA, SEI, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNEP, UN HABITAT, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNV, WFP among others. In this regard, we wish to recognize the efforts of the Technical Planning Committee based at UN Women and other partner agencies in managing a successful assembly of the Sharefair.

We appreciatively acknowledge the overall leadership and guidance provided by Izeduwa Derex-Briggs - Regional Director, Simone ellis Oluoch-Olunya - Deputy Regional Director and Asa Torkelsson - Advisor: Women’s Economic Empowerment- UN Women Eastern and Southern Africa in the organization and coordination of the Sharefair on Gender and Resilience.

Specifically, we recognize contributions from the following who are affiliated to the multi stakeholder technical planning committee for the Sharefair - Jack Onyisi Abebe, Raymond Brandes, Loise Maina, Flavia Ciribello, Patterson Siema, Edwin Fardinant, Alka Gulati, David Lubanga, Dickson Maranga, Philomena Mathiu, June Ndeti, Maurice Ngila, Jacinta Okwaro, Francis Onditi, Edwin Thumbi and Martha Wanjala all of UN Women.

We would also like to express our gratitude to our moderators for their wonderful contribution in ensuring the success of the convening. They include Tacko Ndiaye, Head of Gender – FAO Regional Office for Africa and Josephine Odera, Director of Africa Centre for Transformative & Inclusive Leadership (ACTIL).

Please note that all photos are accredited to various innovations and good practices on gender and resilience submitted for the Sharefair on Gender and Resilience in addition to those taken by UN Women.
GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. **Gender** - Gender is the cultural and social definition of behaviour defined as appropriate to the sexes in each society at a given time. Gender is a set of cultural roles. Gender has also been defined as the structure of social relations that centres on the reproductive arena, and the set of practices that bring reproductive distinctions between bodies into social processes. Gender is relational and refers not simply to women or men but to the relationship between them.

2. **Gender Equality** - This refers to the equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of women and men and girls and boys. Equality does not mean that women and men will become the same but that women’s and men’s rights, responsibilities and opportunities will not depend on whether they are born male or female. Gender equality implies that the interests, needs and priorities of both women and men are taken into consideration, recognizing the diversity of different groups of women and men. Gender equality is not a women’s issue but should concern and fully engage men as well as women. Equality between women and men is seen both as a human rights issue and as a precondition for, and indicator of, sustainable people-centered development.

3. **IDDRSI Framework** - The IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative Framework is providing guidance and coordination and drought resilience in 7 Priority Intervention Areas (PIAs)
   - Natural Resources and Environment Management
   - Market Access Trade and Financial Services
   - Livelihood Support and Basic Social Services
   - Disaster Risk Management Preparedness and Effective Response
   - Research Knowledge Management and Technology Transfer
   - Conflict Resolution and Peace Building
   - Coordination, Institutional Strengthening and Partnerships

4. **Resilience** - The ability to cope with change, it encompasses a broad-based multi-sectoral development that includes the many ways in which individuals, (men and women, boys and girls) and livelihood systems mitigate, adapt, recover, and learn from shocks and (protracted) stresses.

5. **Sharefair** - It is a sharing and learning convening that also enables the creation of a long-term collaboration amongst stakeholders with the aim of identifying problems using data and predictive methods and mobilising support and resources to incubate accelerate and scale effective solutions.
# LIST OF ACRONYMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACTIL</td>
<td>African Centre for Transformative and Inclusive Leadership</td>
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<tr>
<td>AF</td>
<td>Adaptation Fund</td>
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<td>AGIR</td>
<td>Global Alliance for Resilience</td>
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<tr>
<td>AWARD</td>
<td>African Women in Agricultural Research and Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>CC</td>
<td>Climate Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CILSS</td>
<td>Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIF</td>
<td>Climate Investment Funds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRR</td>
<td>Disaster Risk Reduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECOWAS</td>
<td>Economic Community of West African States</td>
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<tr>
<td>EGDC</td>
<td>ECOWAS Gender Development Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>FAO</td>
<td>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</td>
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<tr>
<td>GA</td>
<td>Gender Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>GCCI</td>
<td>Global Climate Change Initiative</td>
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<tr>
<td>GCF</td>
<td>Green Climate Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>GDP</td>
<td>Gross Domestic Product</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEF</td>
<td>Global Environment Facility</td>
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<tr>
<td>GHG</td>
<td>Green House Gas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIS</td>
<td>Geographic Information System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GoK</td>
<td>Government of Kenya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HoA</td>
<td>Horn of Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICF</td>
<td>International Climate Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICFI</td>
<td>International Climate and Forest Initiative</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICPAC</td>
<td>IGAD Climate Predictions and Application Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICRC</td>
<td>International Committee of the Red Cross</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICT</td>
<td>Information &amp; Communications Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDDRSI</td>
<td>IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience Sustainability Initiative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFAD</td>
<td>International Fund for Agriculture and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IGAD</td>
<td>Intergovernmental Authority on Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>IGETI</td>
<td>Integrating Gender Equality in Territorial Issues</td>
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<tr>
<td>IKI</td>
<td>International Climate Initiative</td>
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) in collaboration with key partners held the Regional Sharefair on Gender and Resilience in Africa from 9th–10th November 2016 at Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya.

Focusing on the main theme of “Strengthening Resilience by Empowering Women”, the Sharefair provided a platform for sharing and learning, availed an opportunity to further explore the role of women in building and strengthening resilience and promoted dialogue and sharing of experiences on gender responsive resilience related programmes and policies in Africa. This is expected to accelerate development and humanitarian response and the overall achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Sharefair also endeavor to facilitate long term collaboration amongst regional stakeholders with the aim of identifying problems, using data and predictive methods and mobilizing support and resources to incubate, accelerate and scale effective solutions.

The outcome of the two-day event was the creation of a strong regional network to amplify resilience solutions, sustaining change in policy and practice within relevant macroeconomic frameworks. Hundreds of participants gathered at the Sharefair to discuss interventions, innovations, good practices, evidence from research and documented data, legal frameworks and policies. They including policymakers, development agencies, United Nations agencies, the African Union, civil society organizations, private sector representatives and experts in various sectors. A series of plenary and interactive parallel sessions identified challenges, solutions and recommendations for empowering women towards strengthening their resilience. The exhibition booth featured eight innovations and/or good practices showcasing diverse interventions that seek to empower women and girls while increasing their capacities towards resilience. Through high level policy dialogues, panel interventions and parallel sessions, day one of the Sharefair focused on establishing ways to ensure that resilience policies and programmes are gender responsive. It also sought to identify solutions and innovations in sustainable energy and climate change to strengthen rural women’s resilience and increase their capacity to mitigate and adapt to effects of climate change. It provided an opportunity to identify challenges, share good practices and identify solutions to address the gender gap in climate financing and creating awareness on existing frameworks and tools for resilience analysis.

The convening lasted two days. The second and last day focussed on identifying challenges and opportunities in gender responsive disaster risk management, preparedness and effective response, migration and urbanization, armed conflict and drought. The second day also featured a young innovator’s award ceremony followed by a policy dialogue on “Youth Engagement in Agriculture”. The award ceremony sought to showcase and award innovations in the agricultural sector by young people; encouraging and motivating young innovators to develop and showcase cutting edge innovations and technologies which address the specific challenges faced by different groups of women in rural farming. Two young innovators were rewarded with cash prizes worth USD8000 to accelerate scalability of their innovations and solutions. A policy dialogue was also held on the second day of the convening which identified barriers of entry for young people in the agricultural sector while creating awareness on policies and programmes initiated by various stakeholders in a bid to encourage young people to actively participate in agriculture.
The two-day convening culminated into an outcome document that detailed numerous challenges women are facing that threaten their overall resilience and their capacity to cope with external shocks. It outlined a Call to Action on all stakeholders in the resilience space including inter alia governments, UN agencies, Regional Economic Communities and Bodies, Civil Society Organizations and the private sector to implement actions that build men and women’s resilience.

From a survey conducted by UN Women at the end of the convening, participants reported that the Sharefair provided opportunities for productive and enriching discussions which resulted in concrete resilience solutions for women and girls, business linkages and partnerships in the agenda of resilience. Majority of the respondents affirmed the linkages were a very important outcome of the event with 70% of the respondents appreciating the convening as effective. The survey concludes that gender equality and women’s empowerment is a critical strategy to building resilience and accelerating the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. A recommendation on creating a network and/or alliance that can link women’s associations and groups from across Africa to build women’s transformational leadership in the resilience agenda was strongly recommended by participants. The Sharefair further highlighted the relevance of a strong regional network to amplify resilience solutions beyond the event. This will subsequently contribute to transformation in practice and sustained change within appropriate policy frameworks.
BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aim to address the root causes of poverty, and underline the universal need for an inclusive and resilient development. Investing in gender equality and women's empowerment in policies and programmes are pre-requisites for effective delivery of the SDGs.

The concept of ‘resilience’ is becoming increasingly utilized in development programming. It is commonly understood to encompass a broad-based multi-sectoral development that includes the many ways in which individuals (men and women, boys and girls) and livelihood systems mitigate, adapt, recover, and learn from shocks and stresses; the longer-term goal being to reduce vulnerability and increase well-being. In the context of development, ‘resilience’ hence bridges humanitarian responses and longer-term development. The frequent exposure to multiple and interlinked resilience challenges, slows down development progress and threaten sustainability of programmatic interventions.

Despite recent positive economic trends, many countries in the African continent, particularly the Horn of Africa (HoA), are characterized by multiple and interlinked resilience challenges, notably conflicts and climatic variations. This results in social and economic drought, forcing livelihoods to organize in a context of scarcity, scant resources and high degree of uncertainty. Market variability – such as dramatic increases in food staple prices and generally weak public institutions – further constrain the ability of poor, rural households to meet their basic needs.

The region is also threatened by conflicts and terrorism, further undermining livelihood security, agricultural production and economic growth as well as the health and psycho-social well-being of people.

Although shocks strike without discrimination, the lack of gender-integration in current development approaches imbalanced access to resources and uneven division of responsibilities, considerably tests the resilience of women and girls. In the context of general and chronic vulnerability, women and girls are often exposed to additional, gender-specific barriers, which exacerbate the challenges they already face.

There is need for a binary strategy that on the one hand strengthens women’s individual resilience and empowers women to claim their rights in development planning and programming, and on the other strengthens the capacities of Government and Partners to enhance community resilience in affected countries.

To focus on the role of women in building and strengthening resilience, promote dialogue and sharing of experiences on gender-responsive resilience, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment (UN Women) and Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), in collaboration with key partners hosted a Regional Sharefair on Gender and Resilience. This was aimed at discussing solutions that increases the resilience dividend.

The combined knowledge, expertise and skills will be utilized to diagnose women’s resilience needs, and upscale suitable innovative rural technologies in the Horn of Africa (HoA) region.
The objectives of the Sharefair were as follows:

- **Strengthening multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral dialogue:** Provide a one-time platform for bringing together governments, development partners, civil society, academic and research institutions and the private sector to discuss and consult on the key issues, opportunities and barriers in promoting gender equality within the gender and resilience agenda.

- **Expanding the evidence base:** Gather, present and discuss existing, new and forthcoming research and knowledge regarding gender equality and resilience including evidence that women’s empowerment is a critical strategy to building resilience and the achievement of sustainable development goals.

- **Promoting solution oriented South-South collaboration:** Showcase and share good practices of gender-sensitive resilience-related policies, interventions and development models that can be adapted and scaled up. Within the international frameworks, explore the local specificity for a more effective national implementation.

- **Uniting women in building resilience:** Provide and create a durable network/platform to link women’s associations and groups from across the region and to build women’s transformational leadership in resilience.

- **Joint Theory of Change:** The establishment of a multi-stakeholder platform aimed at informing the development of a Theory of Change that, based on a solid body of evidence, would ensure the Sharefair brought to bear, a clear proposition on the key role of women in building resilience and in accelerating implementation of SDGs.

- **Framework/roadmap for programmatic and policies actions to upscale gender-sensitive resilience solutions:** the platform was aimed at creating an opportunity for actions to amplify resilience solutions and create sustainable change beyond the Sharefair within the SDGs implementation framework.

The discussions and recommendations were deliberated under three key thematic areas, namely;

- Climate Smart Agriculture - Energy and Sustainable Livelihoods.
- Disaster Risk Management, Preparedness and Effective Response
- Conflict Prevention, Resolution and Peace Building.
Participation at the Regional Sharefair

The Sharefair was attended by 235 participants from diverse parts of Africa consisting of representatives from governments, United Nations agencies, Regional Economic Communities and intergovernmental Authorities and bodies, Civil Society Organizations, private sector agencies, Community Based Organizations, academic and research institutes and experts from different countries. The Sharefair was a meeting point for stakeholders from Africa and beyond. Its objective was to among other things, identify problems and possible solutions using data and where possible predictive methods with the aim of mobilizing support and resources to incubate, accelerate, and scale effective solutions.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGENCIES</th>
<th>NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UN Agencies</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSOs</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grassroot Women</td>
<td>45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private Sector</td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic/Research Institutes</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Bodies</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>235</td>
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Distribution of Participants at the Sharefair by Country/ Region

Participants came from 21 countries with those based in Kenya (From diverse countries but based in Kenya at the time of the convening including Kenyans) being the highest.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRY</th>
<th>PARTICIPANTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chad</td>
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<tr>
<td>Djibouti</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
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<td>Ghana</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kenyan Based Participants</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
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<td>Rwanda</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senegal</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>COUNTRY</td>
<td>PARTICIPANTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Sudan</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
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**Overall Participants’ Impression on the Sharefair**

From the survey conducted by UN Women at the end of the convening, participants reported that the Sharefair provided opportunities for productive and enriching discussions which resulted in concrete resilience solutions for women and girls, business linkages and partnerships in the agenda of resilience. Most of the respondents affirmed the linkages were a very important outcome of the event with 70% of the respondents appreciating the convening as effective. The survey concludes that gender equality and women’s empowerment is a critical strategy to building resilience and accelerating the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. The Sharefair highlighted the relevance of a strong regional network to amplify resilience solutions beyond the event and thus contribute to transformation in practice and sustained change within appropriate policy frameworks.

Over 80% indicated that the session on resilience programming and policy intervention was (very) effective with only 12% indicating reservations on the session.

**Resilience programming and policy intervention**
REPORTING THE SHAREFAIR ON GENDER AND RESILIENCE

DAY ONE

SESSION 1: WELCOME AND OPENING STATEMENTS

The session involved a series of opening statements and presentations from representatives of the various leading organizations who had partnered to organize the two-day Regional Sharefair on Gender and Resilience. They included the UN Women, IFAD, FAO, UN-HABITAT, UNISDR, AWARD, UNDP and the Government of Kenya. In their statements, they highlighted various challenges and obstacles that women in Africa faced, and provided an overview of gender and resilience. Key among the numerous challenges highlighted included those stemming from effects of climate change, and from the increase in disasters and conflicts that are experienced in various parts of Africa. The speakers accentuated several opportunities and ways to strengthen women’s resilience in Africa.
Rugalema, Representative in Kenya, FAO; Elizabeth Ssendiwala, Regional Gender and Youth Coordinator, IFAD; Christine Musisi, Director for External Relations, UN-Habitat and Mary Kinyanjui, Gender Officer, Ministry of Energy and Petroleum, Government of Kenya representing the Cabinet Secretary. The opening keynote speech was made by Anne Juepner, Director of Global Policy Centre in Resilient Ecosystems and Desertification, UNDP.

The moderator for the session, Josephine Odera set the tone and context for the session by indicating that the Sharefair was meant to provide a forum for exchange on knowledge, good practices and experiences on the topic of gender and resilience. She noted that the unpreparedness of the continent towards climate change and its effects, often led to adverse effects among women and Africa and more so being a continent that was dependent on agriculture. She stressed the need to define strategies for building and mainstreaming resilience for women in Africa.

Simone ellis Oluoch-Olunya, Deputy Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment (UN Women), via Video Address.

In her welcome remarks, Simone welcomed all participants and expressed the objective of the Sharefair as a platform and an opportunity to further explore the role of women in building and strengthening resilience. She added that the event would also serve to promote dialogue and experience sharing on gender-responsive resilience-related programs and policies in Africa to accelerate development and humanitarian response, as well as contribute to the overall achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). She said that the SDGs, and the broader sustainability agenda, was to address the root causes of poverty and the universal need for inclusive, sustainable and resilient development. Simone pointed out that the resilience of the continent and that of the African woman is frequently tried and on a regular basis exposed to political, economic and environmental shocks, challenging development progress and sustainability of programmatic interventions. Some of the challenges comprise climatic variations, land degradation, drought, and floods. These result in chronic vulnerabilities such as altering food insecurities, economic losses, chronic displacement as well as heightened tensions as especially vulnerable populations are forced to compete for access to key, but increasingly scarce, livelihood resources. In the context of general and chronic vulnerability, women and girls are also often exposed to additional, gender specific barriers which exacerbate the challenges women face. There is need for a twofold strategy that, strengthens women’s individual resilience and capitalizes on community resources to enable women and youth claim their rights and participate, more meaningfully, in development planning. There is also a need to expand the body of knowledge and exchange information on successful ways to enhance women’s resilience in the region and to better integrate a
gender perspective in the resilience agenda. She concluded by calling for strengthened collaboration among various stakeholders to amplify resilience solutions and promote sustained change in both policy and practice. This would be achieved through active sharing of knowledge, innovations, good practices and experiences by everyone present, so solutions and partnerships could be leveraged to accelerate direct impact within the SDG framework.

**Wanjiru Kamau-Rutenberg, Director, African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD)**

Wanjiru Kamau-Rutenberg reminded the plenary that in celebrating the resilience of African women, it was important to reflect on the fundamental causes of over-reliance on women’s resilience. This must not be forgotten nor should the failure of systems and structures which have forced the African woman to seek ways to close the gap be overlooked. She pointed out that women were diverting energy meant for development, growth and multiplication of wealth, to activities that ensure their survival. She called on all present to challenge the State institutions to meet their mandate in the key sectors of health, education and agriculture and at the same time wipe out inefficiencies within the systems. Wanjiru said it was not fair, neither was it efficient for Africa to abandon the goal of systematic transformation by focusing on resilience. She however indicated that resilience needed to be used as a stop-gap measure and not a permanent solution or way of being.

**Amjad Abbashar, Head of Office, Regional Office for Africa, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR)**

“Let us move from disaster mitigation to responsive risk”, was Amjad Abbashar rallying call. In his address to the plenary, he noted that the Regional Sharefair was held at an opportune moment, following closely the International Day for Disaster Reduction commemorated on 13th October 2016 and the first World Tsunami Awareness Day commemorated on 5th November, 2016. He explained that in 2015 there were a series of global agreements which together could make a significant contribution to joint efforts in promoting resilience of communities and nations. The global frameworks and agreements were meant to provide an opportunity to focus on gender equality and women’s empowerment. The adoption of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 at the recent Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda at the United Nations Third International Conference on Financing for Development, the Climate Change Agreement among others, recognized women’s participation in disaster risk reduction (DRR). The Sendai framework recognized that women and the participation of women were critical in designing, researching and implementing gender sensitive DRR policies, plans and...
programmes. The framework also identified the need for adequate capacity building measures to increase women’s preparedness and to build their capacity for alternative means of livelihoods in post disaster situations. The Sendai Framework provided a critical shift where DRR moved from being an object of development to an integral part of development.

Abbashar noted that emphasis on a gender focused approach to DRR was imperative, citing the steps his organization had taken to ensure gender mainstreaming in DRR such as developing a checklist to ensure that gender was integrated in all DRR activities. He concluded with a call for all institutions to begin with their own small steps towards gender mainstreaming.

Gabriel Rugalema, Representative in Kenya, United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Gabriel Rugalema noted that the world was going through uncertain times precipitated by climate change, as evidenced by for example the current drought experienced in Kenya and other parts of the world. He noted that the lives and the livelihoods of rural women were threatened by the twin phenomenon of El Niño and La Niña adding that climate change had become a reality which could not be ignored. Resilience in Africa was essentially highlighted as a feature among women. The majority of women are in the rural areas and are the engines of rural economies. He indicated that FAO’s vision of resilience was that it must be transformational in that it facilitated social economic change, fostered empowerment, and aimed to lessen women’s work load, bringing about food security and easing the burden among the poor and vulnerable. He noted that FAO had learnt from resilient communities and believed in the possibility of building stronger resilience by empowering women. Some of the highlighted methods for women empowerment include:

1. Having in place an efficient legal, financial, social, economic, political and technological system that was favorable to women.

2. A socio-cultural environment that recognizes and embraces women power, skills and innovation.

3. Practical interventions that address practical needs in a way that took care of barriers that stop women from being full partners in development.

4. Supportive men who understand the need for inclusion of women.

Gabriel assured the plenary that FAO was determined to remain a key partner in the organization of similar Sharefair events in the future and would remain a steadfast advocate and facilitator of women empowerment particularly in the rural areas where the mandate of FAO lies. He called for knowledge sharing and strengthened collaborations among all stakeholders noting that government
alone cannot bring about women empowerment, neither can institutions nor agencies on their own. However, with joint effort, responsibility, and shared partnerships it would be feasible to achieve resilience.

Elizabeth Ssendiwala, Regional Gender and Youth Coordinator, International Fund for Agriculture and Development (IFAD)

Elizabeth Ssendiwala appreciated the partnership with UN Women and other agencies to organize the Regional Sharefair focusing on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment with the focus on the resilience agenda.

Elizabeth affirmed the mandate of IFAD as the only United Nation’s specialized agency focused exclusively on reducing poverty and food insecurity in rural areas through agriculture and rural development. She stressed that IFAD recognizes gender equality and women’s empowerment as critical in achieving its core mandate. This commitment is evident in its five principles of engagement including targeting empowerment; gender equality; innovation, learning and scaling up and partnerships.

She emphasized that IFAD’s work on gender is guided by its policy on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment. The policy seeks to achieve three strategic objectives which articulate the theme of the Sharefair. These incorporate; promoting economic empowerment to enable rural women and men to have equal opportunity to participate in, and benefit from profitable economic activities; enabling women and men to have equal voice and influence in rural institutions and organizations and achieving a more equitable balance in workloads and in the sharing of economic and social benefits between women and men.

In conclusion, the speaker stressed that IFAD was committed multi stakeholder partnerships including such partnerships that share good practices as well as inform policy and programs on gender and women’s empowerment. In addition, she indicated that IFAD was also focusing on young women and men with the aim of motivating them to participate in agriculture.

Christine Musisi, Director for External Relations, United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

In her opening statement, Christine Musisi underscored the universality of resilience, having become a global agenda that required all to be engaged to address it due to its complex dimensions. She noted that the 2016 Sharefair was timely as it provided an opportunity to assess how certain interventions were addressing the issues of gender in the continent and the world in general. She noted that urban resilience needed more awareness to be created on it, as most times resilience had been associated with the rural areas, yet there were many people in urban centres who had to deal with various effects such as those of climate change. Also, notable from her presentation was
that 50% of people in the world were currently living in cities with an estimation that by 2050, 70% of the world population would be living in urban areas and contributing about 80% of the global GDP (Gross Domestic Product). Further, 1 billion people were living in urban slums, majority of whom were women faced with a lack of basic amenities such as water and sanitation. Christine expressed concerns over the fact that natural disasters kill more young women than men yet recovery programs had long tended to target men as the entry point. On the other hand, empowering women in urban areas could promote the resilience in urban cities and as such, Christine called for support towards building resilience equitably, particularly reaching out to women in cities to enable them to rebuild their lives in a sustainable manner, and within a context where opportunities provided were equal for both men and women.

Some of the recommendations on building urban resilience with gender in mind that were highlighted in her presentation include:

- Developing cities in a more a systematic manner to achieve balance and sustainability.
- Urban developers should focus more on inclusivity of women so that they are empowered, able to influence and drive the decisions made concerning her life sustainably.
- There should be identification of how well the programs were meeting the overall goals set in the 2030 agenda.
- Women should be provided with opportunities to lead in all spheres of life giving them hope for sustainable urban dwelling.
- Interventions should focus on the inclusion of the needs of women mainly social, economic, inclusivity in decision-making, planning design and legislation as the world moves more into a predominantly urbanized one.

**Hon. Charles Keter, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Energy and Petroleum, Government of Kenya**

Hon. Charles Keter stated that gender equality and women empowerment in the present society has become a significant topic of discussion regarding development and economic fundamentals, for the realization of human rights and is key to effective and sustainable development outcome. The empowerment of women is also critical in alleviating hunger, disease and stimulating development. Therefore, deliberate efforts to foster gender equality and women empowerment demonstrate a society with faster economic growth where women play a critical role leading to greater agricultural productivity, improved food security, improved health and education of the next generation and effective peace advocates, as well as community leaders and human rights advocates.

The Cabinet Secretary noted that food insecurity remains unacceptably high in the Africa region but the population continues to increase thus requiring food assistance and measures to protect livelihoods and combat malnutrition, adding that women are involved in all areas of food production. Despite this fact, access to land, inputs and credit amongst other productive resources reveals ingrained gender inequality that has left women at a disadvantage in managing their land. It was emphasized that women are the majority of the agricultural workforce yet the importance of their role largely remains unrecognized, their voices and concerns as farmers is scarcely heard at the national and local level, the result is a mismatch between rural women, their decision-making roles and their enormous contribution to rural private change action. Further, renewable green energy and gender equality are preconditioned for sustainable development as envisioned.

1. The speech by the Hon. Charles Keter Cabinet Secretary for Energy and Petroleum, was read on his behalf by Ms. Mary Kinyanjui, Gender Officer in the Ministry of Energy and Petroleum.
in the sustainable development agenda 2030. Therefore, women’s knowledge, empowerment and collective action are central to finding and building more environmental sustainable paths to manage natural resources in a more equitable and sustainable way, to adapt to climate change, and to secure energy services. The Cabinet Secretary emphasized that gender, environment and climate change are cross cutting issues that need to be addressed simultaneously to achieve sustainable development goals and to address the existing inequalities.

Some emerging recommendations from his remarks, towards ensuring women empowerment and strengthening resilience include:

- Development of initiatives which empower women, uphold land planning, agroforestry, soil conservation practices and use of energy saving stoves.
- Integration of gender into agricultural related climate change activities and policies to empower women to become important agents of change and innovators.
- Investment in climate change adaptation, livestock development, education and health services and social protection programmes among others.
- Focus on recognition of women, their knowledge, their role, contribution and interest and increase women representation in decision making.
- Distribution of resources in more equitable ways which would open new spaces for more participation of women.
- Decentralization of renewable energy systems offering a greater opportunity for women empowerment through increased participation in the decision-making process.
- Increased efforts in designing and implementing gender sensitive climate change policies and programs that address energy issues given that energy plays a critical role in enabling sustainable development.
- Efforts towards sustainable energy delivery must be intensified and accelerated at the regional national and local level.
- Small scale operations to be developed and women opportunities enhanced.
- Investment in women’s access to renewable energy and climate smart technologies to catalyze women empowerment and accelerate women economic advancement.

The Cabinet Secretary concluded by stating that women are the primary energy managers at the household level and in the community and can be powerful actors for change in sustainable energy and economic development. Although policy changes are emerging, several challenges remain in integrating gender issues in policies in Africa and implementation of those activities. Africa has
enormous potential for clean energy given its ample resources in terms of hydro power and wind among other sources of power.

**Keynote Address for the Sharefair on Gender and Resilience**

**Anne Juepner, Director of Global Policy Centre in Resilient Ecosystems and Desertification, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**

In her remarks, Anne Juepner, noted that the Regional Sharefair 2016 was timely in its thematic focus of gender and resilience, and in bringing representatives from different sectors like civil society, government, private sector, UN and other development actors. The gender dimension was again brought to the fore and how it manifested particularly with the increase in disasters in both frequency and severity, resulting from climate change, human conflict and other causes, in Africa as well as elsewhere around the world. With the great potential, these disasters must reverse economic growth and progress towards poverty alleviation, deteriorate environmental conditions, and lead to human suffering, the speaker spoke of the need for concerted effort to cushion those likely to bear the impact such as women and girls. She highlighted that different gender and age groups experience disaster and climate change impacts differently with women and girls being particularly prone to face greater hazard risks, and to suffer higher rates of mortality, physical harm and damage to their livelihoods. Remarkable progress towards gender equality that UNDP together with other UN agencies had realized since 2000 included ensuring a higher number of girls stayed in school and increased engagement of women in paid jobs outside of agriculture.

In addressing the critical role that women play as agents of change. Anne also noted that:

- The available evidence shows that, once empowered as agents of change, women often play a transformational role to deliver long-term climate-resilient development in their communities, for example, by introducing advanced technologies or innovative practices.

- Enhancing gender equality and empowering women was not only a basic human right but critical in achieving disaster-resilient and sustainable development. These efforts have been proven to have a multiplier effect, helping to mitigate disaster risks and contribute to economic growth and development across the board.

- In Africa, women are at the frontline, producing, processing, storing and cooking food and caring for the welfare of infants, young children and other family members. In addition, particularly in rural Africa, women are responsible for finding and collecting water and firewood to meet energy needs for their families.

“No society can develop successfully without providing equitable opportunities, resources and right prospects to men and women to shape their own lives and contribute to their families and communities.”

**Hon. Charles Keter, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Energy and Petroleum, Government of Kenya at the Sharefair on Gender and Resilience.**

“The struggle must not just be a women struggle but a societal.”

**Hon. Charles Keter, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Energy and Petroleum, Government of Kenya at the Sharefair on Gender and Resilience.**
Some recommendations made towards achievement of women empowerment and gender equality include:

- Working towards implementation of significant agreements such as Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and its related SDGs, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, create roadmaps which integrate disaster-resilient and gender for sustainable development.
- Considering women not solely as vulnerable parties but also as agents of change ensuring they are perceived as passive beneficiaries but be engaged as actors to deliver the solutions.
- Taking advantage of the unique gender-specific needs and knowledge to craft the solutions to build a more prosperous, resilient and sustainable world for all, without leaving anyone behind.

**SESSION 2: SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SOLUTIONS TOWARDS STRENGTHENING RURAL WOMENS RESILIENCE IN AGRICULTURE**

This high-level panel discussion session provided a platform to share current policies and practices and advocate gender related issues within the energy sector. It also sought to identify gaps in accessing sustainable energy solutions and to find ways to address them. The session was moderated by Josephine Odera, Director, Africa Centre for Transformative and Inclusive Leadership (ACTIL). It brought together a team of experienced panelists including: Fareed Ismail, Academic, Cape Peninsula University of Technology; Francis Johnson, Senior Research Fellow, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI); Janet Oyuke, Climate Change Specialist, Project Coordination Unit, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, Kenya; Patricia Mbogo, Marketing and Communications Manager - East Africa, Global Alliance for Clean Cook Stoves; Tacko Ndiaye, Head of Gender, Regional Office for Africa, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

**Fareed Ismail, Academic, Cape Peninsula University of Technology**

Fareed Ismail gave an overview of the innovations that had been developed by the Cape University of Technology in empowering resilience of women. He provided an example of his “Modular Solar Powered Aquaponics” innovation in which they were empowering women and children through a technology transfer in Aquaculture (growing fish) and Hydroponics (growing vegetables or fruit). The innovation is cost effective and utilizes renewable energy hence can be replicated in rural areas to provide women with a source of income, food security and providing children with an opportunity to learn.

He noted that women are in charge of all household energy needs and should therefore take the lead in steering growth in the renewable energy sector and further challenged women to take up engineering courses so that they could actively participate in developing energy solutions that meet their needs. He challenged members to identify ways in which universities can develop innovative and sustainable energy solutions to strengthen the resilience of rural women in agriculture. He stressed the importance of addressing root causes of the problem to understand the needs of the target market. Fareed in conclusion implored on universities to develop sustainable projects that would be implemented in communities close to the universities so that they are not only
Francis Johnson, Senior Research Fellow, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)

After giving an overview of the role of SEI, Francis Johnson indicated that SEI strived to mainstream gender in all the research projects undertaken by the institute. The presentation laid emphasis on, biomass/bio-energy, climate and development. He highlighted the cost of various sources of fuel such as traditional biomass, charcoal in urban areas and advantages and disadvantages associated with each while providing alternatives to these traditional sources of fuel. Some of the disadvantages mentioned for use of traditional sources of fuel, include negative health effects, reduced adaptive capacity and unsustainability of these sources. He highlighted the relationship between use of traditional biomass, use of charcoal in urban areas and climate and development as follows:

- Electricity would not be available or would not be affordable for cooking and heating for a long time, therefore alternatives would be needed.
- High dependence on traditional biomass in rural and peri-urban areas negatively affects health, productivity and the well-being of women and their families.
• Biomass scarcity in some areas leads to worse nutrition as women and families heavily rely on this source of energy.
• High dependence on traditional biomass negatively affects adaptive capacity.
• 5-10% of the energy coming from traditional biomass is important for development and poverty reduction.
• Increasing use of charcoal in urban areas is contributing to negative impacts on ecosystems, water resources, soil quality, greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and land use.
• Charcoal is socially inequitable in that the profits accrue mainly to traders and middlemen, who are overwhelmingly male.

Johnson noted that there are various alternatives (with respective limitations) in using traditional biomass and charcoal:

Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG), which was often seen as the easiest option for urban areas; it would address health impacts and improve energy services but is non-renewable and often imported and creates few jobs.

LPG would also take some jobs away from rural areas where charcoal is produced.

Other options include wood pellets with advanced stoves, bioethanol from sugarcane and other crops and biogas from animal waste and other sources.

Such renewable options, if scaled up, would create significant numbers of jobs and create agri-businesses that can support women entrepreneurs.

These renewable options can also synchronize with the structural transformation in agriculture that is needed in sub-Saharan Africa; look for creative intersections between agriculture, energy access and development.

In conclusion, he emphasized that:

• Globally, traditional biomass is the majority of biomass used for energy, and this must change drastically for economic, social and environmental reasons.
• New opportunities exist for renewable energy and agri-businesses.
• Agro-forestry, wood pellets and use of residues could provide sustainable bio-energy supply.
• The cost of technology in the rural areas with socio-cultural context in place is necessary as it a significant role in the success of projects.
• The social and cultural context must be taken into consideration when providing energy solutions.

Janet Oyuke, Climate Change Specialist, Project Coordination Unit, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, Kenya

Janet Oyuke pointed out that more than 80% of farms in Kenya are run by women who were using outdated machines and irrigation systems with minimum resources. She noted that there was still...
a high dependence on traditional sources of fuel putting many women at risk of significant health problems and even death. She emphasized that the increasing use of charcoal with lower energy output was leading to emission of harmful gases directly affecting women.

She recognized that:

- For women to produce more, they needed to be in good health, and have access to efficient irrigation technology such as solar powered drip irrigation. This would subsequently thrive in the farms and produce more ensuring household food security.
- The need for awareness to promote increased uptake of alternative sources of energy such as biogas, energy saving cook stoves, fireless cookers among others to reduce the negative health impacts caused by harmful emissions from other energy sources.
- The alternative sources of energy which did not deplete the environment are attainable in rural areas.
- The use of biomass in Africa is only yielding 5 - 10% of the energy requirement which could be enhanced to yield more using technology.
- Establishment of sustainable forms of support for women to increase access to cleaner sources of energy and health related benefits.

She concluded that climate adaptation is critical since it can lead to increased crop and livestock productivity.

**Patricia Mbogo, Marketing and Communications Manager - East Africa, Global Alliance for Clean Cook Stoves**

Patricia Mbogo stated that each year globally 4.3 million people die from domestic air pollution, while in Kenya 15,000 people die annually this way. She pointed out that the Global Alliance for Clean Cook Stoves emphasizes a market based approach which includes awareness creation, promoting accessibility and affordability of clean energy solutions, capacity building, financing and increasing value chains. As a result of their the population is able to identify what they can do to enable them play their part in reducing household pollution.

She noted that majority of people are using open fire for cooking translating to women and girls spending much time fetching firewood instead of engaging in other income generating activities or even attending school. Mbogo argued that climate change is affecting energy sources and therefore placing clean cook stoves which use less wood and produce less smoke as one of the critical factors to mitigate against climate change and to reduce the negative health impacts on women.

To help curb the negative effects of traditional sources of energy, she put across the following recommendations;

- There is need to maintain focus on influencing policy to improve livelihoods whilst sustaining the environment.
- Stakeholders ought to move beyond scope of work to empower women to take up more significant economic roles.
- Under sustainable energy, there in need to differentiate between energy for cooking and energy for lighting to provide a platform for women to engage in economic activities.
Tacko Ndiaye, Head of Gender, Regional Office for Africa, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Tacko Ndiaye began by highlighting the effects of lack of sustainable energy solutions for women and girls. The effects include:

- Inability to engage in economic activities outside the household and engage instead in meaningful employment.
- In some cases, girls were unable to go to school as they spend their time searching firewood.
- Fatigue caused by fetching and carrying huge loads of firewood is a public health concern for women and girls.

Mbogo provided examples of alternative technologies developed by FAO in various sectors. These include; solar energy technology for drying of grains and improved smoking and fish drying technologies in Cote d’Ivoire, which led to increased amount of fish smoked, better food safety and cleaner smoking techniques leading to improved health among women fish smokers.

In order to work towards increased access to sustainable energy solutions, she recommended that:

- A boost in investment for sustainable energy solutions for women needs to be made.
- Multi-sectoral approaches to support women’s care work in the household hence freeing them up to take up income generating activities.
- Sustainable energy for agro processing, better management of water, wood and solar

The conclusion was a call for the recognition of the catalytic role of energy, especially in empowering women with technology to enhance productivity.

CHALLENGES ON SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SOLUTIONS TO STRENGTHEN RURAL WOMEN’S RESILIENCE IN AGRICULTURE

- Unparalleled access to energy between men and women creating different impacts leading to distinct socio-economic outcomes.
- Limited access by women to appropriate energy technologies for post-harvest handling and food processing.
- Household pollution due to use of inefficient energy cooking technologies were a source of a myriad of diseases and deaths, in particular among women, in Sub-Saharan Africa.
RECOMMENDATIONS TO SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SOLUTIONS TO STRENGTHEN RURAL WOMEN’S RESILIENCE IN AGRICULTURE

• Build on strategies that enhance women’s access to sustainable energy solutions that can ultimately increase agricultural production and productivity which would in turn improve livelihoods and ensure food security.

• Initiate and unlock new opportunities to accelerate universal sustainable energy access efforts through decentralized solutions.

• Stimulate market transformation and policy efforts for universal sustainable energy access to ensure equal benefits to men and women entrepreneurs and optimize the use of public resources to catalyze private investment.

• Set up systems that appeal to rural women by providing them with space, building their capacity, equipping them with the right tools and information to access finance.

• Influence market based approaches to increase demand for energy efficient technology solutions, and on the other hand, build the capacity of women in related sectors.

• Influence budget processes to fund the implementation of gender-sensitive energy and climate solutions.

• Call for a cross-sectoral approach to gender, climate and energy policy and programming and target policy processes and build capacity to mainstream gender, climate and energy in an integrated manner.

• Promote women’s productive use of renewable energy, and reduce women’s time dedicated to unpaid care and domestic work.

SESSION 3A: INNOVATIONS FOR WOMEN TO MITIGATE AND ADAPT TO THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

The objective of this parallel session was to share gender-responsive innovations targeted at building resilience against the effects of climate change and disaster. It particularly targets the technological advancements that have been developed to help women farmers cope with climate change, and to influence how ICT (Information and Communications Technology) solutions can be leveraged to improve the resilience of disaster-vulnerable communities.

In setting the tone for the session on Innovations for Women to mitigate and adapt to the effects of Climate Change, Susan Chomba, the moderator of the session, noted that women have different social and economic needs that are not a uniform category. She pointed out that technology was the greatest asset for women to improve sustainably in agriculture productivity, which is Africa’s mainstay. The panelists for the session were Diana Rusu, Knowledge Management Analyst, UN Women Empower Women; Emmanuel Cyoy, Commonwealth Professional Fellow in Sustainable Energy and Climate Change Resilience, Practical Action; Faith Muthoni Livingstone, Project Coordinator, Upper Tana Natural Resource Management Project (UTaNRMP); IFAD-Government of Kenya (GoK); Marie Grace Byukusenge, Rwanda Development Organization; and Robert Basil, Gender Advisor and Analyst, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Somalia.
Diana Rusu, Knowledge Management Analyst, UN Women Empower Women

Diana Rusu underscored the need to understand knowledge and its importance to build resilience for women. Poverty was feminized and there was a dominance of patriarchal values hence women had less capacity and opportunity to cope with the impact of climate change. This called for creative thinking and a participatory approach in empowering women to mitigate climate change like taking advantage of the geographical landscape and use local knowledge to bring about innovation based on good practices and lessons learnt.

She highlighted the use of social media as another innovation. Social media platforms had applications developed to support the education of women and girls to adapt and mitigate effects of climate change using a virtual platform. Such applications are intended to empower and build the resilience of women. She added that Agenda 2030 requires that for each problem, there are transferable skills across time and sectors and that careful design of programs and gender inclusion will provide a stable platform for uptake of technology and change that builds on the resilience of women to adapt to climate change.

Diana also noted that there is a risk that change that results from the adoption of new technologies can be disruptive at first. However, if carefully designed and implemented while taking into account gender considerations and with the full participation of women, these technologies could create major breakthroughs for economic development, social welfare, poverty reduction and environmental sustainability.
Emmanuel Cyoy, Commonwealth Professional Fellow in Sustainable Energy and Climate Change Resilience, Practical Action

Emmanuel Cyoy discussed challenges that women face in energy enterprises, especially in solar energy value chains. Some of the challenges include: Low mobility of women to market access due to lack of institutional support; lack of collateral to grow and expand businesses since all land is owned by men; time limitation due to conflicting domestic duties; reproductive responsibilities take up most the time for women who are the primary care-givers; and that most women’s involvement was in the lower end of the agricultural value chain where the work was hardest and paid the least.

Some recommendations for empowering women in energy enterprises towards mitigation and adaptation included:

- Increased exposure to markets.
- Capacity building on enterprise skills and to enhance women’s confidence and esteem to come up with solutions for their challenges.
- Devolve gendered programs to target women who will hold decision-making roles in energy enterprises.
- Mentorship through agency based empowerment as an innovation.

Faith Muthoni Livingstone, Project Coordinator, Upper Tana Natural Resource Management Project (UTaNRMP), IFAD-Government of Kenya (GoK)

Faith Muthoni Livingstone highlighted challenges women in the Upper Tana region were facing in adapting to effects of climate change such as Reduced land holding leading to small-scale farming. For instance; over-reliance on rain-fed agriculture and climate-smart and drought responsive agriculture is not practiced, leading to environmental degradation. There are also high levels of conflict for the diminished and scarce resources of water, wood-fuel and agricultural land. There is some conflict between humans and animals - both domestic and wild within the project area.

Muthoni also shared some existing good practices indicated as below:
• Heavy focus on and involvement of community based institutions in the catchment area.

• Increased use of affirmative action in leadership to ensure inclusion of men and women and youth in decision-making.

• Clean energy technologies as well as water saving technologies for sustainable and climate friendly agricultural practices were being used.

• Mobile money platforms ensure economic resilience through mobile banking.

• Women were being empowered with market information through mobile platforms.

• Women empowerment in operation and maintenance of all activities.

• Use of Gender Action Learning Systems/household methodologies in gender mainstreaming.

• Tree nurseries by youth and women.

• Use of rainwater harvesting.

• Implementation of sanitation campaigns.

Marie Grace Byukusenge, Rwanda Development Organization

In her remarks, Marie Grace Byukusenge, who has extensive experience in supporting women in agriculture, shared the following good practice being implemented in Rwanda. It is known as the “Buy from Women” initiative, a project that was being implemented in partnership with UN Women and WFP.

The programme in Rwanda involved the following good practices:

• Pre-contracting and linkages to markets for women farmers.

• Use of modern farming technologies to support in environmental conservation and soil erosion preservation, which increase agricultural production.

• A platform to market excess farm produce and increase household incomes is provided.

• Targeting over 5,000 women has helped unlock women’s potential in the agricultural value chain.

Robert Basil, Gender Advisor and Analyst, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Somalia

In his remarks, Mr. Robert Basil noted that energy needs from the environment contribute to the effects in climate change and it is important to apply smart farming technologies like the “push and pull” technology which was a strategy for controlling agricultural pests by using repellent “push” plants and trap “pull” plants that frees time for women to engage in economic activities hence strengthening their resilience to climate shocks. Other innovations such as farmer field school
approaches would provide women with a chance to participate in decision-making and planning on climate change mitigation. He added that afforestation also helped to build the ecological circle and minimize the loss of forests and wood fuel and indicated that there has been an effort to collect data, and aggregation to inform the policies and programmes developed.

CHALLENGES ON INNOVATIONS FOR WOMEN TO MITIGATE AND ADAPT TO THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

- Programs and policies have often been designed as one-size-fits-all, lacking the consideration that women are not homogenous and have varied social and economic needs.

- There has been lack of a platform for knowledge sharing by various agencies implementing programmes on gender and resilience. Institutions design and adopt their own convenient framework which may be prone to bias as they are tailored to meet the institution’s needs leading to duplication of programmes that lack the women’s voice in decision-making.

- Lack of adequate exposure to markets and market trends which often leads to women’s inability to innovate, grow and expand their businesses.

- Women’s time poverty caused by the unbalanced burden of unpaid care responsibilities as well as their reproductive roles hinder the mobility of women and their ability to engage in business.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON INNOVATIONS FOR WOMEN TO MITIGATE AND ADAPT TO THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Farming Technologies

- The importance of identifying smart farming technologies like the “push and pull” technology that frees time for women to engage in economic activities that strengthens their resilience to climate shocks.

- There are climate innovations such as farmer field school approaches that include women and thereby give them room for inclusion in decision-making.

- Afforestation would also help to build the ecological circle and minimize the loss of forests and wood fuel.

- Use of clean energy technologies as well as use of water saving technologies for sustainable and climate friendly agricultural practices.

Social Media Platform

- The use of social media platforms with applications developed to support the education of women and girls that intend to empower and build the resilience of women.

- Careful design of programs and gender inclusion would provide a stable platform for uptake of technology and change that builds on the resilience of women to adapt to climate change.
Innovations related to markets

- Innovation for women in energy that exposes them to markets is required.

Participation in decision-making

- Devolve gendered programs and empower women to hold decision-making roles in energy enterprises, even if men are included.
- Use of affirmative action in leadership to ensure inclusion of men and women and youth in decision-making.

Access to financial services

- The use of mobile money platforms to ensure economic resilience through mobile banking and mobile market information dissemination.

Personal Development/ Self Awareness

- Mentorship through agency based empowerment as an innovation that could help women to build self confidence and self-esteem.

SESSION 3B: GENDER-RESPONSIVE CLIMATE SMART FINANCING

African women are heavily reliant on environment-related livelihoods - predominantly found in subsistence agriculture, the production of economic crops, agriculture linked market and retail trade, and eco-tourism. Therefore, increasing women’s access to finance would increase local ownership while transforming climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts. This parallel session provided an opportunity for identifying challenges that women face in accessing climate finance that would support them to effectively engage in mitigation efforts and adapt to effects of climate change, identify existing gaps in gender responsive climate financing and ways to address them. The session also offered an avenue for good practice sharing, awareness raising/advocacy on gender issues relating to climate financing and climate finance opportunities available for women.

The session was facilitated by Jackson Kiraka, Director, Regional Integration Impact Monitoring Network (RIIMNet-Africa) Panelists included: Anderson Chikomola, Assistant Chief Agriculture Extension Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development, Malawi; Esther Mwaura-Muiru, National Coordinator, GROOTS Kenya; Guido Laurens Rutten, Technical Analyst on Environment and Climate, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD); Jasper Mwesigwa, Agrometeorologist, ICPAC; and Zipora Otieno, National Technical Coordinator, Global Support Programme on Integrating Agriculture in National Adaptation Plans, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Kenya.

"Women spend about 4,000 hours in a year searching for water, energy and fuel." Mr. Jasper Mwesigwa, Agrometeorologist, IGAD Climate Predictions and Application Centre (ICPAC), at the Sharefair on Gender and Resilience.

"There is Love at home when there is food at home." Mr. Jasper Mwesigwa, Agrometeorologist, IGAD Climate Predictions and Application Centre (ICPAC), at the Sharefair on Gender and Resilience.
Anderson Chikomola, Assistant Chief Agriculture Extension Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development, Malawi

Anderson Chikomola recognized that the livelihoods of African women were very climate sensitive due to over reliance on environment related livelihoods such as agriculture for their household food and income. He provided a detailed overview of the challenges to women’s access to finance in Malawi and efforts that stakeholders could take in order to ease the process and increase women’s access to climate financing.

The challenges highlighted were as follows:

- Women have low financial literacy and hence have limited knowledge and access to financial services including loans.
- Climate financing programs were largely designed and implemented with men as the entry point as they are considered the heads of households, and in so doing often the benefits do not trickle down to women.
- Failure to recognize that women are active, productive and engaged economic agents, who have their own distinct financial needs and constraints.
- Limited decision making roles with regard to household economic affairs due to cultural and traditional norms which reduces their capacity and undermines their potential to participate in implementing strategies for adaptation to climate change.
- Women are often used as proxies in accessing credit so they end up shouldering the burden of repayments and debts in many cases.
- The networks that women participate in were more social focused and less strategic for economic gains.

Anderson recommended the following as ways to increase awareness, access and uptake of climate financing for women:

- Develop specific credit lines for women farmers to support potential high value crops that adapt to climate change and identify business niches that are profitable for women producer groups.
- Design interventions that transform inter and intra-households gender dynamics to increase women capacity to make decisions at the household level.
- Tailor capacity building and mentorship programmes that focus on business management and financial literacy to help women producer groups to manage these credit lines in a way that they can expand their operations and benefit from them.
- Encourage partnerships that enhance the chances of women to benefit from multiple credit lines.
- Promote and enhance women’s access to climate smart agricultural technologies that help women farmers to increase productivity and build their resilience.
Esther Mwaura-Muiru, National Coordinator, GROOTS Kenya

Esther Mwaura-Muiru has worked extensively with women farmers in Kenya and shared her firsthand experience on the effects of climate change. She was categorical that even though climate change was affecting everyone, rural women continue to shoulder the greatest burden. She stated that women living in slums were heavily affected. Data shows that most families are enduring the effects of climate change due to the resilience shown by women in those households to be innovative in adaptation to climate change. She regretted that institutions with decision making powers on climate financing have failed to take into consideration the plight of the rural women and those living in the slum areas. She also highlighted some of the challenges that hinder women from accessing and/or benefitting from the climate financing that currently exist as:

- Climate fund institutions have complex and bureaucratic partnership processes that prevent rural women and small organizations from accessing climate funds.
- Inadequate awareness on the existence of climate funds and climate financing.
- Lack of direct access to climate financing. Funds are distributed through large organizations and governments ensuring that local women have no control over what trickles down to them.

The speaker however, put forward the following recommendations as ways of ensuring the needs of the rural women are taken into consideration:

- Climate funds and other institutions should carry out a needs assessment among rural women and women living in slum areas to understand their needs before designing and implementing climate change related programs and policies.
- Men and women should be equal decision makers in climate financing matters at all levels.
- Scale up innovations that are targeted towards empowering grassroots women to be able to mitigate and adapt to climate change.
- Establishment of knowledge hubs with the objective of promoting good practices sharing.

Guido Laurens Rutten, Technical Analyst on Environment and Climate, International Fund for Agricultural and Development (IFAD)

Guido Laurens Rutten discussed IFAD’s climate finance initiatives, climate finance from the funder’s point of view, what IFAD has been doing right and what can be improved. He indicated that IFAD is one of the organizations at the forefront of climate financing with a large portfolio and specifically financing climate adaptive agricultural initiatives. An example is the Adaptation for Small Holder Agricultural Programme launched in 2012 which is dedicated to supporting the adaptation of poor smallholder farmers to climate change. He was keen to clarify that access to financing should not be equated to access to climate financing. IFAD receives money from governments to - mitigate and adapt to climate change. IFAD will soon be managing the Green Climate Fund (GCF) which is yet to be operationalized. He indicated that there was much funding for investment in programmes that were gender responsive and climate smart. Guido detailed some of the good practices that IFAD was involved in. He cited:
• Promoting livelihood diversification.
• Providing easy access to climate risk information.
• Clarifying the term “resilience for communities” to understand the meaning of a “resilient household.”
• Identifying and building climate investment scale mechanisms for example through the private sector and public policy.
• Increasing participation of the local communities, women and men, in planning, design and implementation of climate change initiatives.

Rutten also highlighted ways in which IFAD could improve their operations to ensure that women severely affected by climate change could benefit from climate funding:

• Improved gender monitoring systems to ensure that IFAD funded projects are gender inclusive and gender responsive.
• IFAD should ensure that they have more influence in the projects being implemented to enable ease of monitoring to ensure they are adhering to the gender agenda.
• Simplify the language of climate change, resilience and adaptation for communities to better understand and hence increase their participation in the mitigation and adaptation efforts.

Jasper Mwesigwa, Agrometeorologist, IGAD Climate Predictions and Application Centre (ICPAC)

As an Agrometeorologist, Jasper Mwesigwa noted that the increased climate risk to agriculture increases the burden of women searching for food. In the course of his work he has witnessed the negative effects of climate change on women, like:

• Imbalance in families leading to an increase in cases of domestic violence against women and separations.
• Increased cases of school drop outs especially among young girls leading to early marriages and in some instances prostitution.
• Women are forced to participate in hard labor activities previously reserved for men such as fishing and engage in impractical coping practices.

He highlighted a number of case studies based on the implementation of a community-based climate services project by ICPAC in collaboration with the Rockefeller Foundation, KMD, UoN, JOOUST and other partners between 2011 and 2014. The project sought to build capacity of communities to address challenges brought about by climate change and variability in order to improve food production and food security. The success of the project yielded a major lesson that: capacity building of communities, including financial empowerment, can undoubtedly increase climate change adaptation and resilience, and enhance food security. In addition, he underscored the following points, as steps that IGAD could take to promote resilience among communities and women;

• Capacity building in gender mainstreaming across IGAD institutions and member states.
• Advocacy for formulation, adoption and implementation of appropriate gender policy.
• Advocacy for economic empowerment of women groups involved in creative value addition chains.

• Bridging partnerships and funding.

Zipora Otieno, National Technical Coordinator - Global Support Programme on Integrating Agriculture in National Adaptation Plans, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Kenya

Zipora Otieno provided an overview of the global climate financing landscape, the gender integration efforts in existing climate funds. She recommended key principles and actions that could be taken by government agencies, development partners, financial institutions and other stakeholders to enhance gender responsive financing.

She clarified the global climate finance setting as follows:

• Multilateral institutions such as; Global Environment Facility (GEF), Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF), Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF), Adaptation Fund (AF), Strategic Climate Fund (SCF), and United Nations programme on Reducing Emission, Deforestation and Forest Degradation (UN-REDD).

• Bilateral organizations such as; International Climate Initiative (IKI), International Climate and Forest Initiative (ICFI), International Climate Fund (ICF), Global Climate Change Initiative (GCC) and Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA) Facility.

• National climate funds such as; Kenya Climate Fund, Bangladesh CC Trust Fund, Amazon Fund, Indonesia CC Trust Fund, Rwanda National Climate and Environment Fund.

It was noted that whereas historically there had been no integration of the gender component in designing and implementation of climate financing mechanisms, internal pressure and sub optimal outcomes of gender blind projects had led to considerable attention to gender smart climate financing in recent years.

She also shared ways in which climate funds were integrating gender in existing United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) financial mechanisms as follows:

• Adoption of operational guidelines that require inclusion of gender considerations in project planning.

• Approval of gender mainstreaming policies and gender equality action plan by GEF.

• Inclusion of a gender focal point in the GEF secretariat.

• Establishment of policies, strategies and action plans that promoted gender equality and demonstration of efforts to integrate gender considerations by GEF IPs and in GEF IPs projects.

• Inclusion of references to gender and women in the governing instrument of the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the financial mechanism under the UNFCCC in the funds objectives, governance and operational modalities. It also mandates gender balance for its staff and board.
Otieno’s recommendations towards achieving gender responsive climate financing include:

Requirement that fund recipients conduct a gender analysis (GA) and engage gender experts. GA should be conducted at the start of a project to inform project design and the development of tools.

- Promotions of a gender balance in decision making forums so that women’s voices are represented. This would mean at a minimum, an equal number of men and women on steering committees and governing boards of Climate Funds.
- Enable capacity building of women to improve their access to climate finance.
- Provide opportunities for community level information sharing and support to access funds.
- Proposal writing training for women and youth.
- Build capacity across government departments to understand climate change and the impacts on women and local and county government officials given that most climate policy implementation will take place at these levels.
- Reach out to national machineries responsible for gender or women’s issues e.g. women’s ministries and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) with gender-oriented mandates to raise awareness about financing mechanisms.
- Ensure gender-responsive budgeting.
- Increase the possibility of direct access to funds including for sub-national actors.
- Support country readiness to access climate finance for gender-sensitive climate projects.
- Ensure effective gender auditing of finance flows and climate change programs.

CHALLENGES ON GENDER-RESPONSIVE CLIMATE SMART FINANCING

- Women have low financial literacy and limited access to financial services including loans and funds which can enable them respond to challenges and losses arising from climatic vagaries and be able to use appropriate technologies that help them adapt to climate change effects.
- Climate financing programs were largely designed and implemented with men as the entry point as they are considered the heads of household, and in so doing often the benefits did not trickle down to women.
- Failure to recognize that women were active, productive and engaged economic agents, who had their own distinct financial needs and constraints.
- Due to cultural and traditional norms, women had limited decision making power in household economic affairs, which reduces their capacity and undermines their potential to participate in implementing strategies for adaptation to climate change.
• Women often are used as proxies in accessing credit while often end up shouldering the burden of repayments and debts in many cases.

• The networks that women participate in are more social focused and less strategic for economic gains.

• Lack of a gender responsive climate financing governance framework which citizens could refer to when holding the government accountable for the lack of inclusion of women.

• Complex partnership processes and lack of awareness of climate financing opportunities, keeps local communities especially women and youth from accessing climate financing.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON GENDER-RESPONSIVE CLIMATE SMART FINANCING

Develop specific funds for women farmers to support potential high value crops that adapt to climate change and identify business niches profitable for women producer groups.

• Design interventions that transform inter and intra-households gender dynamics.

• Tailor capacity building and mentorship programmes that focus on business management and financial literacy to help women producer groups to manage funds in a way that they can expand their operations and benefit from them.

• Encourage partnerships that enhance the chances of women to benefit from climate funds.

• Promote and enhance women’s access to climate smart agricultural technologies that help women farmers to increase productivity and build their resilience.

• Promote appropriate agricultural insurance packages that are tailored to women farmers’ needs and aspirations; specifically, the Weather Index Based crop insurance should be scaled up to reach women farmers.
FEEDBACK FROM PLENARY

Esther Mwaura Muiru shared some success stories in the rural areas increasing women’s resilience. For example:

- Women have increased capacity to purchase land.
- Increased access to finance in banks without the need for collateral due to a credible credit history and guarantee offered by GROOTS Kenya.
- Women in Kitui are earning more from rearing and selling Kienyeji Chicken.

Two women entrepreneurs, who are vegetable exporters working with rural women small holder farmers, sought clarification on whether IFAD had the capacity to fund such initiatives. Ms. Elizabeth Ssendiwalwa responded that IFAD has funded previous projects especially through the Adaptation
of Small Holder Agriculture Programme. She encouraged the two women to constantly be on the lookout for such funding opportunities by checking IFAD’s website and applying for funding.

**SESSION 3C: GENDER AND RESILIENCE INDICATORS**

This parallel session explored ways in which stakeholders could create awareness on existing frameworks and tools for resilience analysis. It also sought to understand how much gender disaggregated data and indicators were considered in those frameworks. Case studies of community engagement and stakeholder policies and programmes were presented. The moderator for the session was Mr. Raymond Brandes, Gender and Resilience Expert, UN Women and the panelists were: Mr. Amin Malik, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Somalia; Ms. Leisa Gibson, Regional Gender Advisor for Eastern and Southern Africa, United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF); Mr. Saif Abdelrhman, Resilience Analysis Unit Coordinator and Senior Socio-economist Advisor, Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD); Ms. Yuko Kurauchi, Policy Specialist, Global Policy Centre in Resilient Ecosystems and Desertification, United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

**Amin Malik, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Somalia**

Describing the situation in Somalia, Amin Malik said that up to 931,000 people remain in “crisis” and 22,000 more in “emergency”. In total 4.7 million people, 38 percent of the population was acutely food insecure and struggling to meet their minimum daily food needs. Additionally, households belonging to this group remain highly vulnerable to major shocks, such as drought or floods, which could easily push them back into food security crisis.

Consequently, linking information on resilience, food security and nutrition, to policies and programs was key for decision making, and more so in addressing gender resilience indicators. As the situation was fragile, any gains made to at least counter these effects by putting in place efficient result based monitoring and evaluation framework was important and particularly reflecting on indicators early enough would be a welcome option. Notably, FAO over the recent years had given technical support and information to staff both regionally and in state federations, to conduct resilience analysis at a national level. For example, INFORMED (Information for Nutrition, Food Security and Resilience for Decision Making) is a global program coordinated by FAO’s Agricultural Development Economics Division, funded by the European Union and implemented in Somalia by FAO’s Resilience Team for Eastern Africa and its Somalia Office. It aims to increase the resilience of Somali people and reduce food insecurity and malnutrition.
However, he indicated three key ways to address indicator gaps within the region as follows:

- Understanding how resilience programs would help understand the impact on communities on the ground.
- Training would enable relevant stakeholders to understand best measures to put in place to address indicator gaps.
- Good working partnership between county governments and FAO is key in achieving goals of building resilience in the future and sufficiently addressing indicators in the future.

**Leisa Gibson, Regional Gender Advisor for Eastern and Southern Africa, United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF)**

Leisa Gibson had in the past participated in the formulation process of gender resilience indicators that contributed to the larger framework and policies for identifying the indicators at regional level. Highlights from her presentation showed that much of the information required for early warning systems to counter shocks and stresses caused by disasters for example drought indicators, had been collected regularly for more than 20 years but had not analyzed in a holistic way leading to general lack of credibility in the data. The methodology for vulnerability assessments that had been developed was a combination of an outcome methodology and a process approach. Thus, an analysis of the structure and function of the studied units such as livelihoods or household economy was combined with studies of stressors. “Stressors were defined as the driving forces that can cause disruptions or perturbations of livelihoods or communities. However, it was noted that although this approach was increasingly being applied for areas suffering from drought and food insecurity, there was not yet a generally accepted, coherent model that described the statistical relationships and further methodological development was needed. Nevertheless, the framework for multi-stressor vulnerability assessments had been identified as the most appropriate approach for the present study on drought and vulnerability.

**Saif Abdelrhman, Resilience Analysis Unit Coordinator and Senior Socio-economist Advisor, Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)**

In his presentation, Saif Abdelrhman indicated that his capacity at the resilience analysis unit, led by IGAD and supported by FAO, UNDP, UNICEF and WFP, was to identify a “gender and resilience indicators” analysis framework with the aim of better understanding resilience indicators and their undue effects on the population, and particularly on women.
He noted that IGAD’s capability to identify gender and resilience indicators as an organization has been enabled by approaches which include both quantitative and qualitative methods, accompanied by inputs from the communities concerned and key informants. Notably, key areas where these methodologies had been effected, the shocks and stresses which had commonly affected the population especially women included three significant “resilience capacities” which intently distinguish resilient households. These were listed as: absorptive, adaptive and transformative. Saif called on relevant stakeholders to adopt a cross-sectoral resilience context analysis, presented on various occasions, throughout the presentations to efficiently and effectively monitor and evaluate indicators and ultimately provide an understanding of resilience in each context through analysis of available quantitative and qualitative data, supplemented by community consultations and key informant interviews. He placed emphasis on assistance in the scooping of available data to identify gaps for understanding resilience in each context. Additionally, he observed that given those features; the analysis may serve as an entry point for further in-depth study of resilience seeing that it would be a flexible approach that could be adapted according to the context, available data and objectives. He added that this would provide guidance and a basis for national or local level resilience analysis.

“Much of the past programming in the region was short-term, delivered as humanitarian or “transition” (from emergency to development) assistance. Could be because of the prevailing insecurity in the region or globally, funding constraints, and led to an inadequate strategic vision for sustainable development and capacity-building in most areas exposed to disaster risks.” Ms. Yuko Kurauchi, Policy Specialist–United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Global Policy Centre for Resilience at the Sharefair on Gender and Resilience.
Yuko Kurauchi, Policy Specialist, Global Policy Centre in Resilient Ecosystems and Desertification, United Nations Development Program (UNDP)

Yuko Kurauchi’s overall presentation and general input strongly suggested that there were issues to be considered concerning the way development or humanitarian interventions were delivered.

She also stressed that stakeholders focused on short-term planning instead of coming up with policies that are long-term. It was noted that much of the past programming in the region was short-term, delivered as humanitarian or “transition” (from emergency to development) assistance, perhaps due to the prevailing insecurity in the region or globally, but also arguably due to funding constraints, and which led to an inadequate vision for sustainable development and capacity-building in most areas exposed to disaster risks.

She criticized planning and coordination efforts and ardently emphasized that better coordination and harmony of actors was called for and could possibly begin with a comprehensive mapping of stakeholders and activities. In conclusion, she noted that the remoteness of location of implementers, security constraints, agency modes of working and limited local agency staff had contributed to a sense of inaccessibility between implementers and those on the receiving end of development interventions.
CHALLENGES ON GENDER AND RESILIENCE INDICATORS

- Lack of a mainstreamed gender-result based monitoring and evaluation frameworks that lead to inefficiency and ineffectiveness of programmes.
- Lack of synthesis and adoption of mainstreamed gender resilience indicator monitoring and evaluation programmes to adequately inform the extent of action plans based on substantive cross-sectoral regional or global gender resilience indicator consultations.
- Vast gaps that limit the monitoring and evaluation processes that seek to address gender resilience indicators and mechanisms to cushion envisaged disaster shocks and stresses.
- Inadequacies of policy, strategy and budget frameworks that inform the IDDRSI processes affect the conducive creation and adoption of macro-level policies. These policies seek to address gender resilience indicators and the crucial impact they portend for both women and men.
- Lack of long term solutions; much of the past programming in the region was short-term, delivered as humanitarian or “transition” (from emergency to development) assistance.
- Remoteness of implementers. Security constraints, agency modes of working and limited local agency staff have contributed to a sense of remoteness between implementers and those on the receiving end of development interventions.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON GENDER AND RESILIENCE INDICATORS

- Target policy processes and build capacity to bridge gender indicator gaps.
- Apply a cross-sectoral approach to measure and analyze resilience of women among broad resilience programs and policy processes.
- There is need for a stand-alone framework tailored to exhaustively address monitoring and evaluation processes for different institution base analysis to counter disaster shocks within a cross-sectional approach programme to ultimately strengthen outcome.
- Call for early warning and action plus reaffirmation of commitments by shareholders’ development partners and private sector actors to strengthen technical capacities.
- Influence budgetary processes to cushion disaster shocks and stresses that affect both genders stakeholders and politics in the region and the globe.
DAY TWO

SESSION 6: A GENDER PERSPECTIVE TO DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT, PREPAREDNESS AND EFFECTIVE RESPONSE

The high-level panel discussion deliberated on the vulnerabilities and impacts that natural and human-made disasters have on women and girls and how these factors compromise their resilience. It also sought to show how migration a result of disasters greatly impacts the ability of women to remain resilient through effective gender risk reduction at the grass root level to reduce the need for migration. It extensively deliberated on the importance of a gender sensitive approach to urbanization to reduce the negative impacts and review successful cases of gender sensitive urbanization. The session was moderated by Animesh Kumar, Deputy Head of Office, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR). The panelists were: Hon. Jenipher Namuyangu, Minister of State for Local Government, Uganda; Michela Martini, Migration Health Regional Specialist for Horn, East and Southern Africa, International Organization for Migration (IOM); Philip Osano, Africa Lead for the Global Initiative on Transforming Development and Disaster Risk, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI).
Hon. Jenipher Namuyangu, Minister of State for Local Government, Uganda.

After years of experience as a Minister in the Ugandan Government and a politician, Hon. Jenipher Namuyangu noted that her path of life was not for the faint hearted as it was a tough one and largely male dominated. The career called for high-level of skills and technical capacity and to some extent hard headedness.

Throughout her presentation, she highlighted the vast and upward steps that the Uganda government administration had taken to engage women in several chambers of leadership and policy formulation. Currently, the Speaker of Parliament in Uganda is a woman and she is the third highest in command in the country. There are many ways women can equally engage in leadership roles in whichever capacity they are in at the moment, including:

- Empowering women by offering them an education.
- Offering effective systematic processes both at national and government levels that lessen women exposure in disaster risk management.
- Government policies and frameworks instigated to stall cultural practices that have negative effects on the girl child, for example Female Genital Mutilation.
- Including policies that mitigate women exposure against disaster risks by empowering them to counter shocks that affect them.
- Empowering women economically, so that they can have access to financial control and to enable them to come up with ways to counter disasters.

Michela Martini, Migration Health Regional Specialist for East, Horn and Southern Africa, International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Michela Martini argued that gender and specifically women migration had increased over the last 25 years to alarming levels. However, there had been little concerted effort to incorporate gender into theories of international migration. Yet, understanding of gender was critical in the migration context.

In part because migration theory had traditionally emphasized the causes of international migration over questions of who migrates, it had often failed to adequately address gender-specific migration experiences.

Michela’s presentation cautioned that without clear theoretical underpinnings, framework and policies, it would be difficult to explain, for example, the conditions under which women migrate, or the predominance of women in certain labour flows and not in others. This bias was attributed to lack of equal opportunities when they reach hosting countries, eminent and higher gender risk of
rape HIV and trafficking, women being prone to death when exposed to disasters which influenced infant mortality besides, child mortality during migration had also increased.

Some of the techniques that could counter the above risks include:

- Organizing for safe and efficient migration systems during disaster.
- Promote the health systems and ensure that they are in place during migration, for example, family planning, vaccination among other ingenuities to counter disaster risks.
- Policies and frameworks should be coined with a sensitive approach to gender based migration among relevant stakeholder organizations.

Philip Osano, Africa Lead for the Global Initiative on Transforming Development and Disaster Risk, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)

Philip Osano addressed the quest for effective ways to counter disaster risks based on his experience at SEI and as a policy maker on different levels over the years.

He placed emphasis on sanitation as imperative in addressing disasters and consequently necessary precautions had to be taken to cushion women from being exposed to contaminated areas post disaster. Relevant stakeholders were challenged to offer sanitary intervention in key areas like engineering which is predominantly covered by men who narrow their interests to their own gender and not to women or girls. The following could be ways to counter risks pre-dominantly posed on women and girls:

- Technology like Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping ought to conceptualize the gender dimensions in relation to potential disasters.
- Focus on the gender context should be emphasized by providing all round research to mitigate against gender bias.
- Conceptualizing policies and frameworks that cater to women needs.

Virginia Nduta, Director, Women Empowerment Link

In her remarks Virginia noted that women in communities are faced with unequal power relations, often to their detriment. Women are rarely included in disaster planning, implementation and management. She noted that there is a great mismatch in policy and practice both at community and national level. Technological advancement continually adversely affects women’s ownership of these resources. Women have also endured enormous challenges in cases of violence reporting during times of conflict. Disaster reduction fails to look at dealing with issues that violate women as a result of disaster.
CHALLENGES ON GENDER PERSPECTIVE ON DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT, PREPAREDNESS AND EFFECTIVE RESPONSE

“Stakeholders should mitigate for safe and efficient migration systems during disasters for women and children.” Ms. Michela Martini, Migration Health Regional Specialist for East, Horn and South Africa, International Organization for Migration (IOM) at the Sharefair on Gender and Resilience.

“Yet, understanding gender is critical in the migration context so that we can better understand the impact of natural and human-made disasters on women and girls which compromise on their resilience.” Ms. Michela Martini, Migration Health Regional Specialist for East, Horn and South Africa, International Organization for Migration (IOM) at the Sharefair on Gender and Resilience.

- Failure to recognize women as active, productive and engaged economic agents who have their own able input in offering solutions that inform disaster risk management, preparedness and effective response.
- Women experience high risk of violence, constraints in employment, in mobility and in leadership, all of which reflect gender based inequalities.
- Informal settlements that are often found in urban areas frequently suffer from inaccessible, poor or non-existent basic social services water, sanitation, health and waste collection facilities, often exposing women and girls to a higher degree of risk than their male counterparts.
- Health services are also often rendered inaccessible or limited during disasters. Women and girls being the most affected since they are exposed to unequal health services. When women are pregnant, absent or inaccessible health facilities often leads to rise of maternal and neonatal deaths.
- Damage and destruction to infrastructure such as water and sanitation supplies because of disasters means that the family’s basic need for clean water and sanitation facilities is compromised. Women roles are often, focused on the family and home and as such they are considered responsible for maintaining the health status of the family and the community at large.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON GENDER PERSPECTIVE ON DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT, PREPAREDNESS AND EFFECTIVE RESPONSE

- Promote and afford core health systems during migration e.g. Family planning vaccination etcetera to counter disaster risks. The deficiency of such levels of mitigation affects the ability of women and youth to respond effectively to disaster shocks especially to maternal and childbirth emergencies.
- Conceptualize gender sensitive policies and frameworks focused on building capacity and resilience of women and youth to counter adversities.
- Strategies to empower women to participate in the conceptualizing of frameworks and
to take part in advocacy among stakeholders on areas of disaster risk management, preparedness and effective response.

- Stakeholders should pursue strategic collaborations with a view to develop gender sensitive urbanization mapping, and as such identify gender sensitive strategies to mitigate against shocks.

**SESSION 7A: MIGRATION AND RAPID URBANIZATION: RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES IN GENDER-RESPONSIVE RESILIENCE PROGRAMMING FOR ENHANCING LIVELIHOODS AND WELL-BEING**

Women migrate from rural to urban areas mainly in search of employment or to escape from poverty, gender based violence, gender discrimination and disinheriance. Urban poverty is strikingly different from rural poverty, since urban economies are heavily associated with secondary and tertiary sectors and therefore more dependent on cash incomes to meet essential needs. As a result, urban poverty has a distinctive gender dimension as it puts a disproportionate burden on those members of communities and households responsible for unpaid care-work: predominantly women.

The parallel session provided an opportunity to discuss the opportunities and challenges that migration and rapid urbanization pose to gender equality and women’s empowerment. The moderator of the session was Saidou Hamani, Regional Coordinator for the Disasters and Conflicts Programme for the Regional Office for Africa, UNEP, The panelist speakers were David Thomas, Gender and Human Rights Expert, UN-Habitat; Gary Jones, Senior AIDS Security and Humanitarian Advisor, UNAIDS; Lilyanne Ndinda, Markets & Livelihoods - Urban Programme, Oxfam Kenya; Michela Martini, Migration Health Regional Specialist for Horn, East and Southern Africa, International Organization for Migration (IOM).

**David Thomas, Gender and Human Rights Expert, UN-Habitat**

David Thomas summarized the challenges women are facing because of rapid urbanization in the cities as follows:

- Lack of access to information - there are hardly any platforms that empower women with information prior to, during and after disasters; these disadvantages making situations worse and their resilience is negatively impacted;

- Ownership of resources - women have no property or rights to property that can be used as collateral for economic improvement; when disasters strike, they lose more as they do not have fallback options;

- Lack of representation and involvement in decision making - women are not participating in governance issues.
As a recommendation, Thomas indicated that to mitigate these challenges, gender must be a priority and opportunities for women should be created.

**Gary Jones, Senior AIDS Security and Humanitarian Advisor, UNAIDS**

Gary Jones started his presentation with a call to challenge traditional values and develop innovative responses to HIV/AIDS and the energy, and resilience that is innate to drive the victory against HIV/AIDS. He emphasized the need for new and innovative ways to build gender resilience in mitigating HIV/AIDS. There is need to focus on building the resilience of women with a special focus on women and girls who are the most vulnerable. The understanding of what it means to be “at risk” and its local perception is an area of need, in the efforts to realize greater and lasting resilience for all gender groups from a human rights perspective. It was noted that there is a need to tailor responses to the threat of HIV in urban migrant population. The aspect of culture in response to urbanization is threatened and urban cities are expected to provide a platform for this change. As part of the preparation for response to urban population needs, provision of and access to health facilities and health information is vital. In conclusion, Jones stressed the need to come up with terms on how to deal with HIV now especially for young women living in the urban context.
is need to focus on empowering men so that there can be a reduction in the spread of HIV and to ensure issues of resilience of women in the urban setting is successfully dealt with.

**Lilyanne Ndinda, Markets & Livelihoods - Urban Programme, Oxfam Kenya**

In her remarks, **Lilyanne Ndinda** noted that there are challenges faced by women especially in the urban cities because of migration; they include gender based violence, poverty and lack of representation of the voice of the poor women in the urban cities; women's voice was often not heard or included in decision making.

The speaker argued that holistic interventions like economic and social empowerment through processes of social protection schemes, social safety nets, rights awareness, if properly identified, developed and implemented with the inclusion and participation for women would go a long way in improving the resilience of women in urban dwellings.

She called on development partners and implementing agencies to explore opportunities that come along with technological advancement that supports the rural women.

**Michela Martini, Migration Health Regional Specialist for Horn, East and Southern Africa, International Organization for Migration (IOM)**

In her address, **Michela Martini** pointed out that the targeted urbanization targets for 2050 had been achieved in 2010 and believed migration was fast and a positive element for development. However, she noted that there were three major challenges: migration numbers grew too rapidly and did not match the economic growth which had generated inequalities; urban social services were not equally distributed among women and men; migrants still faced cultural, social and legal vulnerabilities that stigmatized them. Urbanization had changed the disease profile burden.

She offered some recommendations to deal with the issue of rapid urbanization and to enhance inclusive economic growth and development.

- Focus on the social and cultural well-being of the migrants by ensuring the migrants were integrated in urban planning.
- Ensure key services were equitably available to migrants

**CHALLENGES ON MIGRATION AND RAPID URBANIZATION; RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES IN GENDER-RESPONSIVE RESILIENCE PROGRAMMING FOR ENHANCING LIVELIHOODS AND WELL-BEING**

- Migration growth is too rapid and does not match the economic growth which has generated inequalities.
- Urban advantages are not equally distributed among women and men.
- Migrants have cultural, social and legal vulnerabilities that stigmatize them.
- Urbanization has changed the disease profile burden.
- Women are faced with poverty which in some instances leads to gender based violence.
• Lack of representation of the voice of the poor women in the urban cities agenda; women’s voice is not heard or included in decision-making.

• Lack of access to information; there are no platforms that empower women with information prior to, during and after disasters; these disadvantages make their situations worse and their resilience is negatively impacted.

• Ownership of resources - women have no property that can be used as collateral for economic improvement or to aid their economic recovery. If the house is destroyed as a result of a disaster, women lose the most as they do not have a fallback option - all they own is normally kept in the house.

• Lack of representation and involvement in decision making - women are not participating in governance issues.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON MIGRATION AND RAPID URBANIZATION; RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES IN GENDER-RESPONSIVE RESILIENCE PROGRAMMING FOR ENHANCING LIVELIHOODS AND WELL-BEING

• Enhance support for women to own property to enhance their resilience and support their economic empowerment.

• Inclusion of women in decision-making processes further enhances their resilience.

• Improved understanding of what it means to be at risk and its local perception and accordingly tailor responses, policies and activities.

• Cities are encouraged to offer greater potential to realize greater and lasting resilience for all gender groups with emphasis on human rights.

• Develop holistic interventions like economic and social empowerment through processes of social protection schemes.

• Increase focus on social and cultural well-being and integration of migrants in the urbanization plan.

FEEDBACK FROM PLENARY

1. During the plenary session, a participant sought to know whether a cure for HIV had been found. The response was that there are still medical trials going on. At the moment, prevention of infection was the focus to stem the spread of the disease.

2. Another participant wanted to find out why there was focus of mitigating the spread of HIV/AIDS in the urban areas yet there were people in the rural areas that needed the information more than the urban populace. She was informed that response to HIV/AIDS interventions followed where the population went and in this case, the response was informed by the rural-urban migratory patterns.
3. A participant from Moi University wanted to find out whether urbanization was a challenge only in Africa. The response was that there was no definite answer to that question given that migration to different cities created different kinds of problems related to climate change. In terms of economic growth, and this has been determined by history that, cities develop where there has been a reason to migrate. As a result of the migration, various opportunities and challenges are presented to the migrant communities.

4. Another participant sought to know what practical inexpensive social safety nets can be implemented as solutions to empower urban poor. Vulnerability assessments of target population were important before any measures could be defined for social intervention. An example of a tried and tested intervention were the hunger safety nets that worked well whether in the arid and semi-arid land or in urban areas.

**SESSION 7B: RESILIENCE PROGRAMMING AND POLICY INTERVENTION FOR WOMEN IN COMPLEX SITUATIONS: ARMED CONFLICT AND DROUGHT ZONES**

This parallel session sought to explore strategies for designing protection, prevention and adaptation for building gender responsive programmes and policies. A series of presentations provided an overview of women’s and youth experiences in complex conflict environments. Also, opportunities for women’s access to decision making processes to counter conflict and disasters were identified. This parallel session was moderated by Francis Onditi, Regional Program Analyst - Leadership and Governance, UN Women, and Jackson Kiraka, Director of RIIM-Africa. Panelists included: Andrea Sanchez Enciso, Gender and Participatory Communication Specialist, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Dimitra, David Quesne, Deputy Head of Delegation, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Fauzia Abdi, United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Kizito Sabala, Ceasefire Monitoring, Intergovernmental Authority of Development (IGAD), Masheti Masinjila, Executive Director, Collaborative Centre for Gender and Development; Morris Odhiambo, President, National Civil Society Congress; Regina Gai, Deputy Permanent Representative, United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP)/ United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat).

**Andrea Sanchez Enciso, Gender, Women’s Leadership and Participatory Communication Specialist, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Dimitra Project**

Andrea Sanchez Enciso shared the experience of the Dimitra Clubs in fostering social cohesion in rural areas of Niger and DR Congo. Through these clubs, rural women and men discuss their challenges and take collective action to overcome them. Their experiences can be shared through community radios and inspire other communities. Thanks to this community-led approach, social dialogue has notably improved, triggering changes in gender discriminatory practices (food taboos and early age marriage) and better power relations between women and men. In conclusion, Andrea stressed that the Dimitra experience shows how interventions investing in community ownership and empowerment have greater potential to be sustainable.
David Quesne, Deputy Head of Delegation, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

David Quesne said it was a dangerous account to only address issues from a woman’s approach specifically while seeking solutions to serious issues like armed conflict and drought. He stressed the importance of relevant stakeholders and government institutions’ adaptation of a humanitarian approach to create a gender based programmes solutions.

Fauzia Abdi, United Nations Development Programmes (UNDP)

Fauzia Abdi laid emphasis on the need for relevant stakeholder institutionstoenhancesecuritypolicies that address armed conflict both regionally and globally. These are mostly triggered by political, communal and government aspects. She also brought to attention the informal luring of young people to join extremist activities and unlike before it was no longer about financing but their ease in adopting religious, political and social ideologies peddled by extremists. Notably, over the recent past increasing number of security attacks have worked against tourism and overall development of government. Thus, the need for regional commitment in engaging relevant institutions since armed conflict is a transnational issue and not gender based. She said stakeholders together with relevant government institutions should create interventions that counter the role of women and youth in the thriving of armed conflict since they are no longer victims but in some instances financiers of extremist activities. Similarly, she the need to advocate for gender specific capacity engagements that respond to disaster shocks. For example, armed conflict and to understand why the youth are easily drawn into participating in extremists’ activities.

Ms. Michela Martini, Migration Health Regional Specialist for East, Horn and South Africa, International Organization for Migration (IOM) at the Sharefair on Gender and Resilience.

“Yet, understanding gender is critical in the migration context so that we can better understand the impact of natural and human-made disasters on women and girls which compromise on their resilience.”

Fauzia Abdi- Womens Activist United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Addis Ababa at the Sharefair on Gender and Resilience.

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Kizito Sabala, Ceasefire Monitoring, Intergovernmental Authority of Development (IGAD)

In his remarks Kizito Sabala called on all stakeholders and governments of affected regions to demystify extremist groups by educating the people without the usual handling of such issues with secrecy. He emphasized the need to acquire a holistic approach from the grass root levels to the regional levels. The need to take account of what is at stake at all levels was also emphasized. Regional and global institutions ought to adequately report the challenges that enlighten gender responsive programmes that address armed conflict and drought at a holistic level by capturing details from the household level to acquire efficient policy frameworks.

In conclusion, he stressed the need to endorse auditing of regional and global frameworks to formulate policies that address gaps in the current intervention.

Masheti Masinjila, Executive Director, Collaborative Centre for Gender and Development

Masheti Masinjila identified reasons why women and the youth are motivated to become participants of regional extremists’ groups as follows:

- In the spirit of adventure - they not only wanted to function at the sidelines they want to take part in the real war and experience the thrill as well.
Women also identified with men to defend their ideologies - they believed that the men were fighting a good cause and ought to be supported.

They also wanted to be part of the solution while joining extremist groups.

Relationships to their male counterparts giving them a sense of belonging or mission.

State structures were largely unaccountable to citizens; least of all to women.

Considering this, it is essential to adopt inclusive measures that integrate women in the decision levels that counter extremist movements or activities to make them part of the solution.

**Morris Odhiambo, President, National Civil Society Congress**

Morris Odhiambo said that the role of women and youth to bring relevant perspective in capacity building programmes and in addressing complex situations should be accentuated. He further stressed the importance of hastily addressing the menace of inter global and local extremists once and for all; because they feed into each other and have polarized the world.

**Regina Gai, Deputy Permanent Representative, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)/ United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)**

Regina Gai reflected on the effects of armed conflict in South Sudan. She pointed out that since it was the youngest of the countries in the region it had been continually rocked with armed conflict during its transition to become a self-governed state. Desolately, response to armed conflict initiated disasters was not countered as expected in the country due to inadequate funding with limited resources to initiate gender responsive programmes. The other reason is lack of political will, driven by patriarchal systems in the public sector. Ms. Gai called to action all relevant stakeholders to empower women so that in their various capacities they would be able to counter these disasters themselves. She made the following suggestions;

- Activate strategies where women are empowered to participate in the laying of governmental framework and policies as they had, though partially, participated in South Sudan's transition to being a self-governed state.

- Include women to build capacities by exploring their acquired knowledge and expertise in the construction of strategies and policies to achieve gender responsive programs.

- Security sectors needed to include women to initiate and strategize on legal frameworks that govern on various facets regionally and globally.

**CHALLENGES ON RESILIENCE PROGRAMMING AND POLICY INTERVENTION FOR WOMEN IN COMPLEX SITUATIONS: ARMED CONFLICT AND DROUGHT ZONES**

- Rural women exposed to conflicts adapt to institutional programs in a gradual process since most limiting frameworks in their beliefs and principles are deeply entrenched in their culture. This hinders their ability to cope with future resilience threats.

- Women are disproportionately affected by armed conflict instigated by natural disasters or as a result of political, social or other forms of friction between communities. When
women are left behind when spouses do not return from war they need to care for the family and livelihood while facing challenges by not receiving entitlements because of inheritance issues or other forms of ill treatment.

- Women are unequally represented in government and make up two thirds of the global illiterate population. As such, women have far less access to information before, during and after disasters. This amplifies existing inequalities and further prevents women from equal access to resources and help.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON RESILIENCE PROGRAMMING AND POLICY INTERVENTION FOR WOMEN IN COMPLEX SITUATIONS: ARMED CONFLICT AND DROUGHT ZONES

- Integration of gender resilience programmes and policy intervention for women in complex situations to ensure impact deduction on effects of armed conflict on women and children.
- Development of a central strategy towards ensuring that women and children are protected against harsh effects of armed conflict and droughts in the region and globally.
- Trigger relevant conversations among stakeholders in respect to building gender responsive programmes that adequately address women exposure to conflict and drought by initiating dialogue and social cohesion in all affected frontiers and boundaries.
- Stakeholders to adequately influence policy formation processes to be more gender responsive and promoting sustainability including the development of sound economic arguments for the women by including women in their creation.
- Identify and initiate opportunities for women to participate in the decision-making process in complex armed conflict resolution.
- Provide support for champion agencies and women civil society groups to advocate for and monitor for their realization into feasible frameworks.
- Designing of frameworks that offer protection and prevention programmes from economic, social and political fragility that include the diverse needs of women, families and their communities in complex armed conflict.
SESSION 7C: WOMEN’S RIGHTS TO LAND

Equal access to land, regardless of sex, is needed for development and resilience to disasters and climate change. Equal land rights increase food security and sustainable natural resource management initially decreasing the probability of conflict.

The parallel session was meant to introduce UN Women’s Regional Campaign on Gender and Land Tenure Security, deliberate on the causality of the gender sensitive land management and conflict prevention and identify gaps within the land governance programmes in the region and the main drivers for conflict within the land sector.

The session was moderated by Sami Frestadius, UN Women Campaign Manager on Gender and Land Tenure Security. He introduced the campaign whose objectives include overall support to women’s land rights and security tenure, data collection and distribution and establishment of a community of practice. The panelists in the session included: Esther Obaikol, Land Expert, Intergovernmental Authority of Development (IGAD); Eugene Rutabagaya, Programme Coordinator, UN Women Rwanda; Francisco Carranza, Head of Natural Resources Management and Land Tenure, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Kenya; Fridah Githuku; Acting Chief Executive Officer, GROOTS Kenya; Rene Claude Niyonkuru, Regional Coordinator, International Land Coalition (ILC); Tuomo Heinonen, Chief Technical Advisor and a Land Administration Specialist, IULHFMS Project in Ethiopia.

Esther Obaikol, Land Expert, Intergovernmental Authority of Development (IGAD)

Esther Obaikol begun by stating that only 10% of land in the region is formally registered in the various systems that exist while 90% is managed through customs, cultural practices and norms meaning that most land is owned outside the protection of the legal framework. She provided an example of Uganda, where the law states that any law that undermines women is null and void, however practices on the ground takes the lead on how rights play out which are mostly to the disadvantage of women. She noted that women oversee food security in their households even though they have no decision-making power on land use.

She highlighted steps that IGAD is taking towards bringing about changes in the women’s rights to land in the region including among others;
• IGAD’s country profiles status of land governance assessment found Uganda at the forefront in terms of integration of gender in their land governance frameworks. IGAD has taken steps towards developing a common gender responsive land governance framework for the region.

• By 2025, IGAD envisions that 30% of land in the region shall be formally recorded hence positioning more women under the protection of the law.

• The first regional platform on land governance will be held in 2017. The regional platform will provide women with an opportunity to raise their voices on issues relating to women’s rights to land.

• IGAD will be working on a legal framework that seeks to ensure that communal land ownership is gender sensitive with the role of women being well documented in this framework.

Eugene Rutabagaya, Programme Coordinator, UN Women Rwanda

Eugene Rutabagaya shared the case of Rwanda in terms of women’s rights to land considering that Rwanda is considered a global leader in matters of women empowerment. He stressed that Rwanda has made great strides towards women’s rights to land especially at the policy level. The land tenure reform in Rwanda is incorporated in the constitution, inheritance law which recognizes the right of women to inherit land and the organic land law. Eugene noted that despite the backings
of policies and reform towards women’s land rights, the conversation around women’s land rights in Rwanda continued for several reasons including:

- Women represented 70% of the labour force in Rwanda; the majority of them working in agricultural land.
- Despite the constitution’s mandate supporting women’s land rights there were still traditional and cultural practices that governed women’s land rights hence the prevalence of land disputes.
- Women need clear ownership rights to be able to use land as collateral to access loans and credit facilities and membership to cooperatives and farmer organizations.

He highlighted some of UN Women’s interventions towards women’s land rights in Rwanda covering advocacy on women’s access to land and control over land resources; supporting civil society organizations that support women’s land rights; sensitization and engagement of men and other stakeholders to accelerate women’s access to and control over land; and development of programmes that support women to map their land for production purposes and be able to use the data to negotiate for loans.

Francisco Carranza, Head of Natural Resources Management and Land Tenure, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Kenya

Francisco Carranza introduced an initiative by FAO on Integrating Gender Equality in Territorial Issues (IGETI). He stated that gender equality is a priority especially when dealing with territorial issues. He noted that for a long time, women’s voice in territorial disputes had been suppressed hence the deliberate measure to ensure that the methodology incorporates gender equality.

The benefits realized from the intervention include integration of principles of inclusiveness, dialogue and empowerment to ensure that women’s needs are taken into consideration and women are effectively empowered to actively participate in territorial matters.

Fridah Githuku, Acting Chief Executive Officer, GROOTS Kenya

Fridah Githuku discussed the experiences that the women she has worked with have faced due to conflicts arising from land disputes. GROOTS Kenya developed the community land watchdog model, through which women were able to map conflicts and violation related to women’s right to land at the grass root level. These conflicts and violations she noted, manifested in different forms from family separations, abandonment, physical violence, psychological and economic torture. She illustrated some of the challenges to women’s right to land are as follows:

- Majority of people equate land governance to law and policy and it was evident in the amount of advocacy that had gone into law and policy reform that this is not the only step.
- There was a huge disparity between law and policy (that guarantee women’s right to land) and women’s actual enjoyment of these rights.
- Ineffectiveness of customary laws to deal with land issues at the community level even though customary laws were adopted and formally recognized in the constitution of Kenya and other African countries.
• Gender insensitivity of decentralized state institutions responsible for land administration. This was manifested through the many legal cases queued in court today on illegal and irregular transactions of land in total disregard of women’s right to those land titles.

• The persistent lack of administrative support to women to secure their land rights.

• Reforms at legal and policy level have not in any way translated into institutional reforms, more so at the local level. This means that the impact of progressive laws and policies is often undercut at the administrative level.

Considering the above challenges, the following recommendations were offered on women’s access to land;

• Strongly advocate for inclusion of grassroots women in land administration within the devolved /decentralized power structures like land control boards.

• Conduct a regular state-led land assessment (the impact of legal and policy reforms on women access and control over land – the percentage of women who own and control land in Kenya within prescribed timelines).

• Deliberately enhance the capacities of local land state institutions on gender sensitivity.

• Invest in building capacities of cultural institutions on gender sensitivity and more importantly hold such institutions accountable on matters of women’s land rights; such institution should be mandated to champion for a progressive culture that is in harmony with the law always.

• Accord women’s rights the weight and respect it deserves.

Rene Claude Niyonkuru, Regional Coordinator, International Land Coalition (ILC)

Rene Claude Niyonkuru explained the role ILC has played to promote women’s land rights and gender justice in the region. The speaker noted that women’s land rights were crucial as a lack of access and ownership to land exposes many women to food insecurity and social inequality.

The speaker further highlighted a number of activities on gender justice that ILC is engaged as follows:

• Building capacity of organizations in the fight for women’s land rights.

• Providing and assessing tools being used by stakeholders to be able to effectively execute their mandate.

• Pushing the land rights agenda with the African Union.

• Supporting the Kilimanjaro Initiative for rural women in Africa.

ILC has realized major advancements including the evolution in terms of the legal framework surrounding land justice and a significant change in attitude at the community level in a way that girls and women are inheriting land, women do not need to ask for permission to use land as collateral and there is a significant increase in joint titling. Rene cited the failure to recognize women’s land rights as an agenda during policy making, land grabbing and climate change as some of the key challenges in the push for women’s rights to land. He cited the lack of inclusion of
women’s rights to land as an agenda during policy making, land grabbing and climate change as some of the key challenges in the push for women’s rights to land. Some of the recommendations provided included monitoring and evaluation that provides a clear picture of what is happening on the ground, strengthening women’s capacity to stand up for their rights and enhancing their legal literacy on land rights.

Niyonkuru stressed the need to increase women’s economic capacity to enable them to buy land noting that the SDGs will not be achieved if women will not have access and control over land as a resource.

**Tuomo Heinonen, Chief Technical Advisor and a Land Administration Specialist, IULHFMS Project in Ethiopia**

Tuomo Heinonen shared different country experiences as narrated by women land experts in those countries such as Finland, Palestine and Ethiopia. The experiences indicated that women all over the world have had to fight for their rights to land in both the developed and developing world. There were various reasons why countries had not been able to achieve full equality in land rights. Reasons included religious, social, political, cultural reasons, education status, wealth status and decision making capacity. Tuomo noted that there was need to engender land adjudication by building the capacity of women to take up positions in land governance and adjudication boards and offices.

**CHALLENGES ON WOMEN’S RIGHTS TO LAND**

- Despite the constitution’s mandate supporting women’s land rights there were still traditional and cultural practices that govern women’s land rights hence the prevalence of land disputes.

- Investment in advocacy of land laws and policy reform which does not translate on the ground where there is huge resistance to women’s rights to land.

- There was a huge disparity between law and policy (that guarantee women’s rights to land) and women’s actual enjoyment to these rights.

- Ineffectiveness of customary laws to deal with land issues at the community level even though customary laws are adopted and formally recognized in the constitution of Kenya and other African countries.

- Gender insensitivity of decentralized state institutions responsible for land administration.

- The persistent lack of administrative support to women to secure their land right.

- Reforms at legal and policy level had not in any way translated to institutional reforms, more so at the local level. This meant that the impact of progressive laws and policies was often undercut at the administrative level.
RECOMMENDATIONS ON WOMEN’S RIGHTS TO LAND

- Enhance private-public land partnership to promote optimal benefits to small holder farmers.
- Develop effective engendered legal frameworks that support women’s rights to land.
- Build the capacity of decentralized state institutions such as land offices at the county and sub county level and land governance and adjudication practitioners to be more gender sensitive.
- Influence the land governance curriculum at the university level to include women’s land rights.
- Increase awareness about women’s land rights at the grass-root level to curb against resistance at the local level.
- Increase the number of women in land adjudication offices and land boards especially at the community level.
- Ensure that communal land ownership was gender sensitive and the communal role of women is well documented in the legal framework.

FEEDBACK FROM PLENARY

- A participant from Uganda observed that access and control of land isn’t enough noting that most rural men who have this access and control are still languishing in poverty. He argued that there is a need for awareness creation and capacity building for both genders to ensure the access and control of land as a resource is beneficial to them.
- An academic recommended the land governance curriculum at the university level should include women’s land rights to ensure that all land practitioners such as architects and valuers have this knowledge.
- An elderly lady from Kakamega, Kenya sought to encourage women to own land indicating that she owns two acres of land in Nairobi and emphasised the need for joint titling, hence protecting women’s rights.
- A lady from Kiambu County, Kenya narrated her story that portrayed the real picture about what women go through when fighting for their rights to land. She highlighted her struggle which started when her parents died and as an only child she was entitled to her parents’ land. In her quest, she had to overcome numerous challenges such as hindrances from relatives, discrimination from land governance practitioners, corruption in land governance offices and high costs associated with the process. Through her story she expressed the need for capacity building of land practitioners at the county and community level on women’s rights to land to be able to handle such cases.
SESSION 10: YOUNG INNOVATORS IN AGRICULTURE AWARD AND POLICY DIALOGUE

The Young Innovators in Agriculture Award was incorporated in the Sharefair. This is to encourage and support young scientists and innovators to develop and showcase cutting edge innovations that best provide solutions on how women and their communities can build and strengthen resilience. This can be done through resilient technologies and associated innovative strategies, projects, interventions and methods. A policy dialogue dubbed “Youth Engagement in Agriculture” followed the award ceremony. The policy dialogue sought to understand the mindset of young people with regard to the topic of agriculture, identify challenges they are facing, offer solutions and create awareness on existing programmes targeting the youth.

By showcasing and awarding innovations by young people, young innovators were given a chance to develop and tap into opportunities and networks which may otherwise not be available to them. This was also meant to encourage and motivate students to design and submit innovations of highest possible standards.

AWARD CEREMONY

The award session was moderated by TV personality, Nimrod Taabu. The panelists included: Elizabeth Ssendiwala, Regional Gender and Youth Coordinator, International Fund for Agriculture and Development (IFAD) and Joseph Ogutu, Director, Strategy and Innovation Division, Safaricom.

Agriculture presents a good opportunity for the youth to improve their livelihoods and innovation is one of the ways to make sure that agriculture is more profitable and attractive to young people. 23 entries were received for the competition,

The overall innovation Winner Kuku Kienyeni Farm receiving his Award
Elizabeth Ssendiwala, Regional Gender and Youth Coordinator, International Fund for Agriculture and Development (IFAD)

Elizabeth begun by pointing out that agriculture presented a good opportunity for young people to improve their livelihoods and innovation is one of the ways to make sure that agriculture is more profitable and attractive to young people. She explained that the objective of the event was to recognize innovation from young people, their contribution to agriculture. It was also meant to promote development of innovation, dissemination of innovation, and scale up innovations and adaptation. She said that 23 entries were received for the competition. One application was received from Nigeria and 22 from Kenya. They all had gone through a rigorous vetting process.

Safi Organics had emerged second while the 2016 Young Innovator Award went to Kuku Kienyeji Farm. Safi organics, a social enterprise in Kenya that transforms agricultural waste into carbon negative soil conditioner known as Safi Sarvi (R). The product reduces farm waste, and reduces carbon in the atmosphere by making use of farm waste that would otherwise be burned. It also reduces soil acidity and increases farmers yields and income.

Kuku Kienyeji farm, is an out grower social franchise network for rural women in free range chicken farming using mobile technology to provide quality farm inputs, training, technical support, financing and access to markets for women in rural communities.
Joseph Ogutu, Director, Strategy and Innovation Division, Safaricom

Joseph Ogutu started by pointing out that according to the Federation of Kenya Employers (FKE), youth account for more than 35% of Kenya’s population most of who are unemployed. For this reason, there is need to provide the Kenyan youth an opportunity to earn a livelihood to enable them find a way out of poverty and make a positive contribution to the society. Ogutu noted that the main challenge facing innovators and innovation in this country is lack of sufficient structures and institutions that support and fund the development and monetization of the innovations.

To tackle this issue, Ogutu emphasized the need for public and private partnerships - government agencies, private sector and civil society to leverage on the strengths and assets that each brings to provide opportunities for the youth. He touched on the disconnect that exists between the way education systems develop our human resource and the skill requirements in the business world.

To address the challenge of skills gap, Safaricom had partnered with JKUAT, Moi University and Strathmore University by supporting them in various ways while using their equipment (Safaricom) to train a generation of students in telecommunications to provide game changing solutions in the industry. So far over 100 students have graduated from the various programmes in these Universities. Ogutu also noted that there was a shortage of inflow capital to the telecommunication space especially at the early stage of a start-up. To bridge this gap, Safaricom started a Spark venture funding (worth 1 billion dollar) to support early stage start-ups with capital, technical advisory and business development services needed to grow their businesses. Ogutu sought to clarify the notion that young people in Kenya are not interested in agriculture. He pointed out that the appetite for information on agriculture from young people is evident through Blaze; a platform that provides products tailor made for the youth and in addition provides a mentorship service known as “Be your own Boss”. Through the program, agriculture has been a main attraction where young people are being mentored by a young entrepreneur in the agricultural sector like Eric Muthomi of Stawi Foods. The speaker concluded by assuring the public of Safaricom’s commitment to supporting this country in developing agriculture and making positive a contribution towards the achievement of the SDGs.

Policy Dialogue Youth Engagement in Agriculture

The policy dialogue “Youth Engagement in Agriculture” was aimed at discussing various challenges young people face in their pursuit to engage in agriculture, understanding the youth mindset towards agriculture, creating awareness on different ways Africa’s governments and other stakeholders are undertaking to encourage young people into agriculture. The session was moderated by TV personality Nimrod Taabu. The panelists included: Elizabeth Ssendiwala, Regional Gender and Youth Coordinator, IFAD; Gabriel Rugalema, Representative in Kenya, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); James Angawa Anditi, Director, Operations Support, World Vision. Others were Randall Purcell, Senior Adviser and Manager, Rural Resilience, World Food Programme; Hon. Willy Bett, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, Kenya. Hon. Bett was the chief guest of the event.

Elizabeth Ssendiwala, Regional Gender and Youth Coordinator, International Fund for Agriculture and Development (IFAD)

Role of partners/stakeholders in empowerment of youth to engage in agriculture

Elizabeth Ssendiwala stated that development partners worked very closely with governments in designing and implementing projects on the ground to ensure maximum benefits for the
intended beneficiaries. For example, currently there are projects in dairy, cereals, natural resource management and rural finance being implemented in collaboration with the government of Kenya and which would be used as avenues to reach out to young people.

**How to recognize and enhance innovation in agriculture**

Ssendiwala highlighted the need for more forums such as the Sharefair to share information and showcase innovation and for young innovators and scientist to learn from each other. She also called for support for young people with great innovation through establishment of an Innovation Start-up Kit to provide funding necessary for the development, monetization, scaling up and adoption of these technologies.

**Gabriel Rugalema, Representative in Kenya, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)**

**Agriculture as a priority in Africa**

Gabriel Rugalema indicated that agriculture is indeed a priority in Africa but noted that there is still a lack of significant investment in the sector. He observed that the African farmer is a “SHE” and a very old “SHE”. The Kenyan farmer averages 63 years and this scenario needs to change. He said that the above phenomenon provided young people with an opportunity to engage in agriculture to ensure food security in the continent. Gabriel emphasized on need for consistent policies in agriculture that are implemented noting that African agriculture had a history of too many policies that were not implemented leading to stagnation. He also called for increased capital investment in agriculture in terms of machinery and modern technology to improve efficiency and increase production.

**Dissemination of agricultural knowledge**

Gabriel stressed the need to think innovatively in terms of dissemination of information. He described ways which could be spread in the following ways:

- The use of mobile technology considering that an average farmer had a mobile device.
- Traditional newspapers have recently been dedicating space for agricultural information.
- The influx of vernacular radio and television stations should play a vital role in dissemination of agricultural information in a language that farmers understand.
- Revival of the extension services system especially now that there were devolved governments and increased resources in the country.
- Setting up of centers of excellence for agriculture management and dissemination in schools of higher learning, which could act as custodians of information and reach out to young people with agricultural information.
- Inclusion of agriculture in the school curriculum.

**James Angawa Anditi, Director, Operations Support, World Vision**

James Angawa Anditi discussed various challenges hindering the participation of young people in agriculture as largely being their perception that agriculture is a dirty man’s job and lack of access to capital resources like land. He however noted that the environment was changing with the
emergence of different agriculture related livelihoods. He pointed out that Kenya cannot separate from agriculture and that losing young people’s involvement in agriculture is detrimental to the future of this country.

**Access to extension services in Kenya**

Anditi argued that the need for old extension services had been overtaken by modernization and the emergence of the mobile phone as the preferred means of communication for most people, even in rural areas. He recommended that providing a platform to deliver timely and useful information was the best way to provide information especially to young people. Formation of youth groups was another way of accessing information from members of the group and other stakeholders including government agencies.

**Randall Purcell, Senior Adviser and Manager, Rural Resilience, World Food Programme**

**Indicators on agriculture as a priority in Africa**

Randall Purcell said that according to the history of Europe, USA and Asia, agriculture had been the agent of growth in the world. Smallholder farmers and small holder farmer households make up the majority of the population in Kenya, Africa and the world. Despite the rapid urbanization, he noted that Kenya and Africa will continue to depend on agriculture for its growth. The government of Kenya with the sort of programmes that focus on youth had demonstrated commitment towards agricultural development and youth employment. County governments had also taken a leading role in developing agriculture through capital investment in machineries and programmes that seek to bring youth into agriculture.

**Importance of agribusiness to the economy**

Agriculture is the backbone of the economy of Kenya and with 68% of arable land, there is a huge opportunity for young people in Kenya to open more land through purchase and/or leasing and hence involve themselves in agribusiness. At the policy level, there is a new leadership that is committed to agricultural development.

**Hon. Willy Bett, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, Kenya**

**Governments take on youth unemployment in Kenya.**

Hon. Willy Bett indicated that the government recognizes that 35% of Kenya’s population was comprised of the youth who were graduating from universities and colleges. Most of the young people had been schooled to look for jobs which were few, hence the need for the government to look for alternative ways to engage the youth and tackle the challenge of unemployment. The Cabinet Secretary stated that agriculture had been identified as the sector with the largest capacity to employ most of the youth and clarified that the Government of Kenya was working towards modernizing and revolutionizing agriculture through technology adoption and mechanization to attract young people into agriculture and make it a viable industry for the youth.

**Investment in youth in agriculture**

Hon. Willy Bett outlined the lack of collateral due to lack of ownership of factors of production like land as one of the main challenges facing the youth. He indicated that the Government of Kenya was looking to assist the youth to access credit through mainstreaming them in the credit system.
in Kenya. This would be achieved through capacity building of the financial institutions to come up with products that were tailor made for the youth while the government shall act as a guarantor for these loans. The Government of Kenya was already implementing PROFIT, a project that sought to build the capacity of financial institutions to cater for the needs of young people and the agriculture sector. In addition, he indicated that the Government of Kenya was facilitating the leasing of land by youth, facilitating establishment of cottage industries and increasing capacity for the youth to access the funds available specifically for them such as Youth Enterprise Fund and Uwezo Funds.

**Access to land for youth**

Hon. Willy Bett assured the youth that there was plenty of arable land. He pointed out that the Government of Kenya was already at the forefront of utilizing the land available for farming with the example of the Galana Kulalul project. He stated that land access was possible through leasing and the Government of Kenya was working with development partners to increase more irrigated land by establishing irrigation schemes targeting the youth as the beneficiaries.

**SESSION 11: IGAD-CILSS REGIONAL RESILIENCE FRAMEWORKS: STRENGTHENING RESILIENCE GOOD PRACTICE SHARING AND UPTAKE IN THE EAST AND WEST AFRICA REGION.**

This session sought to identify the way forward for establishing and reinforcing mechanisms for documenting experiences within the CILSS and IGAD regions, for sharing knowledge and uptake by member states. The platform was to create an opportunity for actions to amplify resilience solutions and create sustainable change beyond the Sharefair within the SDGs implementation framework. The session presenters were Issa Martin Bikienga, Coordinator, Regional Technical Unit Global Alliance for Resilience (AGIR), Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), Frederique Matras, Knowledge Management Sharing Consultant, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and M. Jamal, Knowledge Management, IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI), Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD). This session was moderated by Edward Kilawe, Forestry Officer, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Sub-regional Office for Eastern Africa.

**Issa Martin Bikienga, Coordinator, Regional Technical Unit Global Alliance for Resilience (AGIR), Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS)**

In his presentation to the plenary, Issa Martin Bikienga gave an overview of CILSS, whose mandate is investing in the search of food security and the fight against desertification and the effects of drought for a new ecological balance in the Sahel. The Global Alliance for Resilience (AGIR) - Sahel and West Africa was the result of a political will to federate efforts for a long-term partnership to eradicate hunger. It grew out of a common understanding of the Sahelians and West Africans and their partners in the international community on the structural and chronic nature of food and nutritional crises affecting the livelihoods and resilience of vulnerable households, whether they were dependent on agriculture or fisheries as an economic livelihood. The Alliance identified 50 (fifty) good practices in resilience that have been identified through field surveys in four countries. These are Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Togo as well as interviews with practitioners and document review. The good practices were shared using illustrated brochures with testimonials, broadcasts...
of 42 minutes in national languages, video testimonials and trailer introductions on resilience. A knowledge management strategy/system was also presented and sharing on good resilience practices and possible areas of collaboration between CILSS, FAO and IGAD were cited.

**Frederique Matras, Knowledge Management Sharing Consultant, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**

In her presentation, Frederique Matras defined knowledge management as a voluntary process of transferring, disseminating, exchanging tactics and explicit knowledge (information, skills, or expertise) from one person to another person or group in an organization. Knowledge management involved not only enriching own individual learning, but also of creating or maintaining a common repository of reusable knowledge objects. She outlined the broad process of converting tacit knowledge to explicit knowledge through platforms that include technology based webinars and online platforms. She shared a framework that can be used to document good practices that build upon the resilience of vulnerable communities.

**M. Jamal, Knowledge Management, IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI), Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)**

In his presentation, M Jamal gave an overview of Knowledge Management in IGAD - IDDRSI. He noted that IGAD Member States agreed that the IGAD Secretariat will establish a Platform Coordination Unit to serve the Regional Platform on Drought Resilience and Sustainability by providing the necessary services relevant to IDDRSI. He further noted that Research and Knowledge Management and Technology Transfer was a priority intervention area and the main objective is to enhance generation, access, use and integrated management of research, knowledge, technology and innovations in the IGAD region.

A participant sought to know how organizations better document processes that were good practices but were not in the field amongst the member organizations. In responding, to this concern, it was emphasized that the Regional Sharefair was one of such forums and that it was open to non-member organizations to ensure an all-inclusive platform that upscale the sharing and replication of good practices that respond to building resilience amongst the vulnerable groups especially women and girls.

**CHALLENGES ON IGAD - CILSS REGIONAL RESILIENCE FRAMEWORKS:**

**STRENGTHENING RESILIENCE GOOD PRACTICE SHARING AND UPTAKE IN THE EAST AND WEST AFRICA REGION.**

- More than one institution is needed to upscale sharing knowledge and uptake by member states; there is no one institution that can be mandated with the up scaling of good practices and knowledge shared to strengthen the resilience of women by empowering them in member states.
- There are challenges of duplication if activities are done by different development partners and not well coordinated.
- Lack of commitment from some stakeholders and need for concerted effort
• Rapid technological changes despite the availability of real-time online platforms for good practice sharing: rapid technological changes affect the replication of successful good practices. There are also different levels of ability to use the said platform that are not able to respond in real-time.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON IGAD - CILSS REGIONAL RESILIENCE FRAMEWORKS: STRENGTHENING RESILIENCE GOOD PRACTICE SHARING AND UPTAKE IN THE EAST AND WEST AFRICA REGION

• Organizations need to accelerate and share the good practices to see what can be adopted and supported as part of knowledge management.

• The policy framework, like the data sharing policy, coming up to enable the coming together of work to help guide all work in the country.

• There is need to document the uptake of good practices to be shared in the next Sharefair.

• Develop partnerships to implement knowledge management platforms.

SESSION 12: CLOSING CEREMONY

The closing ceremony comprised of Ms. Josephine Odera, Director of Africa Centre for Transformative and Inclusive Leadership (ACTIL), Mr. Ibrahim Lumumba, Deputy Executive Secretary, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Hon. Jenipher Namuyangu, Minister for Local Government in Uganda and Hon. Willy Bett, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, Kenya.

During the closing ceremony Odera moderated the session and, presented an outcome document showcasing critical areas of development that can offer sustainable interventions on gender and resilience while detailing the way forward to strengthening resilience by empowering women. The documented findings identified key challenges and included a call to action for all Governments, UN Agencies, Regional Economic Communities and Bodies, Civil Society Organizations and the Private Sector to implement actions that build the resilience of women and men.
Ibrahim Lumumba, Deputy Executive Secretary, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), emphasized the ECOWAS commitment towards empowering women and strengthening their resilience giving the example of the ECOWAS Gender Development Centre (EGDC). He outlined the mandate of the EGDC in gender development as follows:

- Networking and coordination. EGDC has supported the creation and coordination of regional networks:

- Capacity-building through training and raising awareness. EGDC has developed training tools to transfer knowledge and build skills on gender and development.

- Development programmes. EGDC works to achieve gender equality through programmes in health, education, economic empowerment and technical support that target women.


- Advocacy. Incollaboration with its partners, EGDC advocates for the effective implementation of existing commitments and mechanisms to ensure gender equality in the ECOWAS region.
Hon. Jenipher Namuyangu, Minister of State for Local Government, Uganda noted that the Sharefair would go a long way in influencing gender issues and called on men and women to empower each other. She further challenged all participants to choose a lesson or a best practice from the Sharefair and ensure that it was implemented and makes an impact on women and the society.

Hon. Willy Bett, Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, Kenya acknowledged that the issues of resilience were very relevant in the agriculture sector noting that rural women are engaged in agricultural activities that were subject to many shocks including climate change. The Minister commended the organizers of the Sharefair and called on them to ensure that the information gathered would be used to positively impact on the lives of women who currently face diverse adversities due to the negative effects of climate change. With a call to action for all participants to do their part, Hon. Willy Bett declared the UN Women Sharefair 2016 officially closed.

**SESSION 13: RESILIENCE SHAREFAIR INNOVATION SPACE**

“Women who have made it you have a duty to mentor other women and men who are for the women do the same-empower other women.” **Hon. Jennipher Namuyangu, Minister of State.**

The Sharefair Innovation Space for Gender and Resilience sought to identify, strengthen and showcase knowledge and innovations that are gender focused and help communities plan, manage and recover from disasters quickly and build back their lives in a better way.
How the Innovation Space Work?

Some of the Exhibitors at the Innovation Space

During the Sharefair an innovation space was set up at the Sharefair venue. Participants and participating agencies were invited to showcase their innovations in gender and resilience programming that have been deployed within the Africa region. Exhibitors included key partners with programmes on gender and resilience in Africa in addition to academic research institutions and innovation hubs. The innovators were allocated a conference space or booth to showcase their work to create an environment for knowledge exchange and learning. The innovation also enabled the participants to identify areas of mutual interest for collaboration.

Sharefair Innovation Space Hosts Young Innovators in Agriculture Award

According to the World Bank, Africa is a young continent. With more than 60% of its population is youth. Young people play an important role in promoting social and economic progress. The scope and depth through which their resources are nurtured, deployed and utilized will directly influence the resilience status of the continent. Young people have fresh innovative ideas and are quick to take advantage of new tools and new ways of doing things to address challenges associated with disasters. It is for this reason that Sharefair on innovation hosted an innovation space that will allow participants to exhibit their ideas and interact with innovative ideas that are helping communities deal more effectively with manmade and natural disasters.

The innovation space also hosted the Young Innovators in Agriculture Award, a key element of the 2016 Sharefair. It aimed at encouraging young people to innovate for agriculture through a gender focused perspective. Through the Sharefair, the innovation space provided young people with an opportunity to develop and showcase cutting edge innovations that best provide solutions on how women and their communities can build and strengthen resilience through resilient technologies and associated innovative strategies, projects, interventions and methods. A meet up presentation was hosted at Meta Nairobi- an innovation hub aimed at identifying nurturing and growing ICT entrepreneurs.
Annex 1: Outcome Document/Call to Action on ‘Strengthening Resilience by Empowering Women’

REGIONAL SHAREFAIR ON GENDER AND RESILIENCE

Outcome Document/Call to Action on
‘Strengthening Resilience by Empowering Women’

Photo: Lutheran World Relief
Outcome Document/Call to Action: Strengthening Resilience by Empowering Women

The 2016 Regional Sharefair on Gender and Resilience was organized by UN Women in collaboration with the following categories of Partners:

**Convening Partners** – UN Women and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)

**Funding Partners:** Africa Development Bank (AfDB), Africa Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR).


**About the Sharefair**

The Regional Sharefair on Gender and Resilience was held on 9th and 10th November 2016 at Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya. Its theme was; ‘Strengthening Resilience by Empowering Women’.

The 2-day sharing and learning platform provided opportunity to;

i) dialogue and share experiences on resilience and related programmes and policies from a gender-responsive perspective;

ii) examine the role of women in building and strengthening resilience;

iii) contextualize gender and resilience in Africa’s humanitarian response; and

iv) examine the resilience agenda within the overall development goals including the achievement of the SDGs in Africa.

The Sharefair was a meeting point for regional stakeholders to identify problems and possible solutions using data and where possible predictive methods with the ultimate aim of mobilizing support and resources to incubate, accelerate, and scale effective solutions. The Sharefair highlighted the relevance of a strong regional network to amplify resilience solutions beyond the event and thus contribute to transformation in practice and sustained change within appropriate policy frameworks.

In the context of the Sharefair, resilience is broadly defined as the multiple ways in which individuals (men and women, boys and girls) and livelihood systems mitigate, adapt, recover, and learn from shocks and stresses with the longer-term goal being to reduce vulnerability and increase well-being.
Issues and Call to Action

Recalling the gender-related commitments made in several key international agreements and frameworks including:

- **Convening on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)** which establishes the international legal guidelines for the protection and promotion of gender equality.

- **The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action** which consistent with the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights instruments recognizes the equal rights and inherent human dignity of women and men, girls and boys including women’s empowerment and their full participation on equal terms with men in all spheres of society.

- **The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)**, and in particular resolutions 56/2 and resolution 58/2 on gender equality and the empowerment of women in natural disasters.

- **Africa’s Agenda 2063** which envisions that women, including rural women, will be fully empowered in all spheres, with equal social, and economic rights, including the rights to own and inherit property, sign a contract, register and manage a business. It seeks to enhance women’s contribution and benefit from formal agriculture and agribusiness value chains and stresses the need to integrate gender responsive indicators in the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Results Framework of the Malabo Declaration. It also seeks to ensure that the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) promotes the empowerment of women in agribusiness and agricultural value chains.

- **The IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI) framework** which provides guidance and coordination on drought resilience. The Drought Resilience and Sustainable Livelihoods Programme component of the IDDRSI framework aims at improving the living conditions of targeted rural communities by improving the availability and access to water and increase farm incomes by reducing sustainable resilience to drought vulnerable groups reference to provision of inputs to women for agricultural and livestock related products and marketing.

- **The UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience** which promotes an integrated, comprehensive and gender-sensitive approach to assessing and addressing factors that undermine communities’ and countries’ resilience, including climate risk, environmental sustainability and social inequalities/exclusion.

- **The United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women Peace and Security** which seeks the protection of women from sexual and gender-based violence in conflict and post-conflict situations. It also advocates for the full participation of women throughout all processes for design and implementation of post-conflict reconstruction, decision making, policy making and operationalizing measures for post-conflict peace-building; and ‘gender mainstreaming’ in the formulation and implementation of all peace-building policies, practices and laws.
• **The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030)** which calls for “a gender, age, disability and cultural perspective in all policies and practices; and the promotion of women and youth leadership. It also emphasizes that “women and their participation are critical to effectively managing disaster risk and designing, resourcing and implementing gender-sensitive disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programmes; and adequate capacity building measures need to be taken to empower women for preparedness as well as build their capacity for alternate livelihood means in post-disaster situations.”

• **The Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)** which emphasizes the importance of women’s and girls’ human rights and stresses that women’s empowerment can make a significant contribution to economic development for all. It commits countries to undertake legislation and administrative reforms to give women equal rights, and promotes gender-responsive budgeting and tracking among other measures.

• **The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)** and:
  
  o **Decision 15/CP.18** of the Doha work programme on Article 6 of the Convention which reaffirms the importance of taking into account gender aspects and the need to promote the effective engagement of children, youth, the elderly, women, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, local communities and non-governmental organizations in activities related to Article 6 of the Convention
  
  o **Decision 23/CP.18 Promoting gender balance and improving the participation of women in UNFCCC negotiations and in the representation of parties in bodies established pursuant to the Convention or the Kyoto Protocol**
  
  o **The Kyoto Protocol** which calls for advancing of gender balance and women’s empowerment in international climate change policy
  
  o **The Paris Agreement** on climate change

• **The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** and related gender targets underline the universal need for inclusive and resilient development and in particular goal 2 to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture; goal 5 to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls and goal 7 to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Recognizing that in Africa, the frequency, nature and magnitude of shocks and stresses threaten resilience and challenge development progress and sustainability of programmatic interventions.

Aware that men, women, boys, and girls experience specific vulnerabilities to shocks and stresses that decreases their capacity to adapt to adversity and contribute to positive change and that in the context of general and chronic vulnerability, women and girls are often exposed to additional, gender-specific barriers, which exacerbate the challenges they already face.

Convinced that women’s knowledge, empowerment and collective action are central to finding and building more environmentally sustainable pathways to manage our environment; adapt to climate change; secure access to sustainable energy; reduce and manage disaster-related risks and build peaceful and sustainable communities. Therefore, investing in gender equality and women’s
emPOWERMENT IN POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES ARE PRE-REQUISITES FOR EFFECTIVE DELIVERY OF THE SDGS.

NOTING THAT PERSISTENT GENDER INEQUALITIES STILL PREVAIL AND THAT WOMEN STILL FACE SPECIFIC AND NUMEROUS CHALLENGES AND OBSTACLES THAT THREATEN THEIR OVERALL RESILIENCE AND ABILITY TO COPE WITH SHOCKS AND STRESSES INCLUDING INTER ALIA;

I. SOCIAL & CULTURAL VULNERABILITIES

• Women’s time poverty caused by the unbalanced burden of unpaid care responsibilities and reproductive roles hinder the mobility of women and their ability to engage in business.

• Cultural and traditional norms still limit women’s decision making roles within households, which undermines their capacity to effectively implement strategies for adaptation to climate change.

• While urbanization is often associated with greater independence and opportunities for women, it comes with high gender-related risks of violence and constraints on mobility and employment, including attaining leadership positions.

• Cities are disproportionally affected by the HIV epidemic. Gender inequality and unequal power relations between women and men significantly increase women and girls’ vulnerability to HIV.

• The contribution of women to disaster risk reduction is often overlooked and their leadership in building communities’ resilience to disasters, frequently disregarded.

• Women and girls often have unequal or limited access to health services and this is accentuated during disasters. Pregnant women are most affected when health facilities are absent or inaccessible leading to a rise in maternal and neonatal mortality rates.

II. ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

• Research reveals that disasters reinforce, perpetuate and increase gender inequality, making bad situations worse for women, which negatively impacts their resilience.

• Natural disasters can instigate conflict among communities due to the resulting scarcity of resources. Health and sanitation can be compromised when infrastructure is destroyed/damaged. Disasters increase the burden and vulnerability of women and in particular poor women who must still fend for their families in the midst of scarcity and danger.

III. POLITICAL INSTABILITY AND CONFLICT

• Though conflicts affect both men and women, women face additional challenges such as sexual violence and other forms of physical abuse like rape and its long-term psycho-social consequences.

• Disasters and conflicts often result in displacement of people. Women are disproportionately affected by conflict (instigated by natural disasters or as a result of political, social or other forms of friction between “communities”) and often have to take on additional roles when spouses are either absent or killed during conflict. Resilience strategies must take into account these additional roles and burdens.
iv. **Economic Marginalization**

- Policies and frameworks on gender and resilience are not often designed with the participation of women and may be prone to real or inadvertent bias.
- Inadequate exposure to markets and market trends constrain women’s ability to innovate, expand and grow their businesses.
- Low financial and policy literacy rates limit access to financial products and services including loans and funds necessary for response to and recovery from climatic vagaries.
- Climate financing programs are largely designed and implemented with men as the entry point as they are considered the heads of households, and this may result in women’s reduced access to the benefits.
- Complex partnership processes and lack of awareness of climate financing opportunities, keeps local communities especially women and youth from accessing climate financing.
- Women have fewer formal land rights. As such, they are far more vulnerable if their housing is damaged during a natural disaster may be left homeless.
- Unparalleled access to energy between men and women creating different impacts leading to distinct socio-economic outcomes.
- Women have limited access to credit yet often end up shouldering the burden of repayments and debts.

Participants at the innovators meetup aimed at promoting participation in the innovation awards
v. **Policy & Institutional Challenges**

- Programs and policies have often been designed as one-size fits-all, lacking the consideration that women are not homogenous and have varied social and economic needs.

- Lack of a gender responsive climate financing governance framework which citizens can hold the government accountable for lack of inclusion of women.

- Although there have been recent advancements made in regards to resilience measurement by a number of actors, there is still scope to ensure fully gender sensitive methodologies that it systematically embeds resilience measurement in programmes in the region and that it feeds into evidence-based policy development.

- Informal settlements that are often found in urban areas frequently suffer from inaccessible, poor or non-existent basic social services like water, sanitation, health and waste collection facilities, often exposing women and girls to more risk, including violence, than their male counterparts.

- Women are unequally represented in government and make up two thirds of the global illiterate population. As such, women have far less access to information, before, during and after disasters. This amplifies existing inequalities and further prevents women from equal access to resources and help.

vi. **Technological Challenges**

- There is limited access by women to appropriate technologies for post-harvest handling and food processing.

- Household pollution due to use of inefficient energy cooking technologies are a source a myriad of diseases and a cause of many deaths, and in particular among women, in Sub Saharan Africa.

**Now call on all Governments, UN Agencies, Regional Economic Commissions and Bodies, Civil Society Organizations and the Private Sector to implement actions that build men and women’s resilience as follows:**

i. **Economic Empowerment**

- Financial services providers should develop specific credit lines for women farmers to support potential high value crops that adapt to climate change and business niches that are profitable for women producer groups.

- Design interventions that transform inter and intra-households gender dynamics that will ensure funds go into appropriate use.

- Encourage partnerships that enhance the chances of women to benefit from multiple credit lines.

- Stimulate market transformation and policy efforts for universal sustainable energy access. This will ensure equal benefits to men and women entrepreneurs and optimize the use of public resources to catalyze private investment.
Integrate and support women to participate higher up in the value chains to have them reap optimum economic value.

Tailored capacity building and mentorship programmes that focus on business management and financial literacy to help women producer groups to expand their operations.

Promote appropriate agricultural insurance packages that are tailored to women farmers’ needs and aspirations; the Weather Index Based crop insurance should be scaled up to reach women farmers.

Secure quotas for women producers to sell their products e.g. through appropriate programmes like Purchase for Progress (P4P).

Establish interventions that seek to strengthen women’s capacity to produce competitive products including branding, packaging and ability to market their products.

Lobby large private sector firms, chain stores, and companies to sign up to supporting and buying from women entrepreneurs and producers.

Promote women’s productive use of renewable energy, and reduce women’s time dedicated to unpaid care and domestic work.

**Policy & Programming**

- Implements systemic gender-responsive and multi-sectoral interventions focused at individual level, household level, institutional level and policy level. This will ensure an integrated and comprehensive approach to enhance gender resilience.

- Include women in design, development and implementation of innovations developed to enhance their resilience and their economic contribution.

- Ensure that policies and programs are gender focused to promote stable platforms for uptake of technology.

- Ensure policy and programs consider and respond to the needs of women based on their heterogeneity.

- Ensure a gender perspective to disaster risk reduction to focus attention on the distinct gender-specific capacities and vulnerabilities to prepare, confront, and recover from disasters.

- Carry out gender diagnostics on barriers and challenges to women’s ability and capacities to respond to climate change, and use the findings to shape policy and programs.

- Invest in clean energy sources which will safeguard women’s health and help the environment.

- Dedicate adequate technical and financial assistance for effective gender mainstreaming in resilience programming and implementation.

- Create a system that supports the visibility, financing and scaling of agricultural research innovations by African male and female scientists.

- Stakeholders with diverse experience should initiate the design of uniform gender and resilience framework that can exhaustively function for different institutions.
• Initiate and unlock new opportunities to accelerate universal sustainable energy access efforts through decentralized solutions.

• Influence market based approach to increase demand for energy efficient technology solutions, and build the capacity of the women in related sectors.

• Call for a cross-sectoral approach to gender, climate and energy policy and programming and target policy processes and build capacity to mainstream gender, climate and energy in an integrated manner.

• Ensure women’s rights are explicitly considered and that women participate in designing and implementing land policies and programs.

• Involve women in negotiations to end fighting, in the development of peace accords and in reconstructing communities.

• Organize for safe and efficient migration systems during disasters.

• Ensure health systems are in place during migration, for example family planning, vaccination to counter disaster risks.

• Consider replicating the Regional Sharefair on gender and resilience at the national and local levels to enhance sharing of in-country experiences.

iii. **Technologies and Innovations**

• Enhance usage of mobile technology by women to provide real-time information to strengthen their capacity to manage agricultural operations.

• Promote and enhance women’s access to climate smart agricultural technologies that helps women farmers to increase productivity and build their resilience.

• Promote gender responsive agricultural research that addresses the needs and priorities of both men and women across the entire agricultural valuechain.

• Support and develop capacity of African scientists, innovators and their institutions to conduct gender responsive research and to protect their inventions through intellectual property rights. However, where appropriate products and services should be easily accessible and available as public goods to prevent they become too expensive or difficult to get for the poor and other marginalized groups.

iv. **Measurements**

• Improved measurement of outcomes from resilience investments in the region including more robust information sharing and knowledge management systems.

• Build awareness and the capacity of government on gender and resilience indicator frameworks to enhance their utilization in policy formulation.

• Ensure budgetary allocations to measure gender and resilience indicators within the region and beyond to boundlessly enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of functional programmes.
Documented in Nairobi Kenya on 10th November 2016 in English
UN WOMEN IS THE UN ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO GENDER EQUALITY AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN. A GLOBAL CHAMPION FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS, UN WOMEN WAS ESTABLISHED TO ACCELERATE PROGRESS ON MEETING THEIR NEEDS WORLDWIDE.

UN Women supports UN Member States as they set global standards for achieving gender equality, and works with governments and civil society to design laws, policies, programmes and services needed to implement these standards. It stands behind women’s equal participation in all aspects of life, focusing on five priority areas: increasing women’s leadership and participation; ending violence against women; engaging women in all aspects of peace and security processes; enhancing women’s economic empowerment; and making gender equality central to national development planning and budgeting. UN Women also coordinates and promotes the UN system’s work in advancing gender equality.
Convening Partners

Funding Partners

Collaborating Partners