



## Gobeshona-6

# International Conference on Climate Knowledge Research into Action Session by UN Women Gender Responsive Resilience; Panel Discussion Date:20-24 January

As a part of 6th Annual Gobeshona Conference 2020, the National Resilience Programme (NRP) of UN Women hosted a panel discussion session about “Gender Responsive Resilience” at The Independent University of Bangladesh (IUB) on 20th January 2020. The discussion session was moderated by Ms. Dilruba Haider, Programme Specialist, DRR, Climate Change and Humanitarian Actions.

Country Director of BBC Media Action Mr. Richard Lace, MS. Sadia Sharmin, Senior Assistant Engineer from LGED, Raquibul Amin from IUCN Bangladesh and Youth Researcher Anusree Ghosh were the panelists in the session who talked about Women’s role for Resilience building in the community level and media.



Ms. Dilruba Haider, Programme Specialist, DRR, Climate Change and Humanitarian Actions, UN Women emphasized that, *“climate change affects different gender differently because of historical, socio economic and cultural reasons. People are required to understand the differences therefore, strategize, mitigate and attract the problems of climate change. Sociologists have been saying this for many years that, climate change and disaster have special impact on those who are grounded in social system. This problem wasn’t being addressed earlier but now the climate change community has started to think and take actions about this.”*

# Quotes from the Panelists



MS. Sadia Sharmin, Senior Assistant Engineer from LGED, shared experience and importance of establishing Gender Marker for Infrastructure.

According to her, *"In Bangladeshi context it is sometimes very critical to access those constructions for the rural people due to not having convenient infrastructure. From this thinking the requirement of creating gender marker tool arose. So, we started to formulate a demo gender marker tool within the projects of LGED to examine if it is considering gender & gender inclusive disaster management perfectly or not."*



Ms. Rose Wamalwa from Women's Climate Centers International (WCCI), shared experience on establishing WCCI to adopt and mitigate climate change at grassroots level.

She said, *"When we came up with the idea of model of Women Climate Centers we realized that, climate change impact hit women more in the community level as we are working in the areas such as- water & food security therefore from our findings we realized two aspects that, it disorganizes all the things which women have been doing for a long time and also there is lack of strong connection between women in the grass root level and Global world thus we came up with a model for ensuring women participation in the response of climate challenges and crisis."*



Raquibul Amin from IUCN Bangladesh provided insightful knowledge about the link between women roles and biodiversity. He said, *"Recently I have undertaken a research on gender-based violence and we found that, the gap in terms of conservation which we need to understand and address it. From the both perspective that if we can understand why the violence is taking things, what is environmental linkage and understand the type then we can design projects/programmes that can be mitigated which will eventually help and contribute to biodiversity conservation."*



Country Director of BBC Media Action Mr. Richard Lace, talked about the role of media in women's resilience building. He asserted that, *"we also need to work with men, families and societies to make sure the discussion is happening within the family group to allow the men to disseminate the information within the family & community. We know from a very concrete evidence that; the combination of information and discussion is much more effective to draw behavioral change. We need to make sure our communication is showcasing those women who have already acted because their roles can be quite effective to push people to bring the changes in the society. Therefore, our work is finding places where people are taking actions, to showcase those and encourage them. At the same time media has the power to shift the social norms and change the social system"*.



Youth Researcher Anusree Ghosh, discussed her research findings regarding Climate Resilient, ICT and Gender. She said, *"In my research I found that 65% women are able to operate mobile phone. They are utilizing mobile phone for managing their agricultural practices. They are prompt to adopt climate change. 59% women are actively participating in various community activities through which their leadership qualities have developed. 6% women can use mobile phones very effectively. There is a good scope of promoting citizen science as the rural women can play role as citizen scientist."*

## Note

The Gobeshona conference is an annual international conference on knowledge dissemination focusing on research practices, that attract academics, practitioners, policy makers and delegates who are involved in work related to climate change and development. This conference has created relationships with over 40 partners that includes Development Partners, Academic Institutions, NGOs, and INGOs.