

# DIVERSE WOMEN CLIMATE ACTIVISTS IN 2021: ISSUES AND GOALS

Gender inequalities are magnified by the effects of climate change. Diverse women activists around the globe are needed to curb this crisis. What issues and goals do they have in current legal regimes?

**80 PERCENT OF CLIMATE REFUGEES ARE WOMEN**<sup>1</sup>

## U.N. Gender Action Plans



The UNFCCC's Gender Action Plans (GAPs) launched in 2014 to make the UNFCCC more gender responsive.<sup>2</sup> The GAPs are increasingly ambitious, but progress has been limited and women remain the minority of UNFCCC delegates.<sup>3</sup> More training of women climate activists is especially needed.<sup>4</sup> Still, these GAPs can be valuable tools of non-legally-binding international law to supplement binding, domestic climate change law.

**U.N. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 5: Achieve Gender Equality**



## GENDER-RESPONSIVE LEGISLATION IS LACKING IN MANY COUNTRIES



These countries, such as Fiji and Senegal, can look to other countries with gender-responsive measures, such as Peru, for inspiration in developing their own gender-responsive legislation.<sup>5</sup> Indeed, the GAPs ask countries to share their gender mainstreaming strategies.<sup>6</sup>

## INCREASE DIVERSE WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN CLIMATE DECISIONS



At the upcoming climate change conference of the UNFCCC in 2021, COP26, Parties can support women's climate activism by bringing more diverse women to the negotiation table. Women's voices are proven defenses against climate change: countries with greater female parliamentary representation and Human Development Index rankings were found to be more likely to make decisions that protect natural resources and curtail carbon dioxide emissions.<sup>7</sup>

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## LINKS TO SOURCES

<sup>1</sup><https://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/gender/Gender%20and%20Environment/UNDP%20Linkages%20Gender%20and%20CC%20Policy%20Brief%201-WEB.pdf>

<sup>2</sup><https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/docs/2014/cop20/eng/10a03.pdf>

<sup>3</sup>[https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/CP2019\\_09E.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/CP2019_09E.pdf)

<sup>4</sup><https://unfccc.int/news/strengthened-5-year-action-plan-on-gender-adopted-at-cop25>

<sup>5</sup>[https://climate-laws.org/legislation\\_and\\_policies?q=gender](https://climate-laws.org/legislation_and_policies?q=gender)

<sup>6</sup>[https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/SBI2019\\_15Add1.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/SBI2019_15Add1.pdf)

<sup>7</sup>[http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/reports/271/hdr\\_2011\\_en\\_complete.pdf](http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/reports/271/hdr_2011_en_complete.pdf)