

**Women, SDGs and climate related adaptation -  
A Practitioner Perspective**

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**Tapping into collective wisdom :  
Gender sensitive development  
and water ecosystems**

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\* Sri Lanka -multiple and parallel extreme climate related events

\* Living laboratory for disasters

\* Droughts in the North, floods in the South and landslides in between

\* Need to move from a dependence on a post disaster response to risk reduction







- \* Women in Sri Lanka 51%
- \* High literacy but low political participation,
- \* Poor access to information and decision making related to NRM
- \* DRR and Dependency syndrome - Every one loves a good drought -P Sainath
- \* Insufficient gender desegregated data so No information No Action
- \* Whose responsibility ? state agencies ? A partnership of civil society and private sector ?
- \* Ground level programs focused on building resilience through information, capacity building and adaptation of community wisdom.





- Jalavahini - NetWwater / Brandix Lanka Pvt
- Collaboration interactive training programmes on climate change adaptation

● Hands-on capacity building programs grassroots level women leaders in the water sector

● However handover issues - the lack of access to state agencies extension , low financing for district level organizations





- \* Sri Lanka Water Partnership and Hatton National Bank
- \* Site specific ground level interventions
- \* Illicit logging heightening the threat of future landslides
- \* Lack of awareness of CC impacts
- \* Citizen science programs in Aranayake after Samasara landslide



- \* Promotion of gender sensitive SDG policy - moving from the stratospheric to worms eye view
- \* Policy level initiatives lacking in a gendered approach , local realities, ground level issues and traditional knowledge marginalized
- \* Global documentation related to gender and climate change - HLPF and VNR
- \* National need to push for gender desegregated data



- \* Women led collective initiative ( NetWwater, Centre for Women Research(CENWOR), women water professionals from all sectors with support from Sri Lanka Water Partnership, )

- \* Review of climate related challenges and documentation December 2017

- \* Development of a shadow document highlighting ground realities countering “ Paradise on Paper “?





- \* Supportive environment building up gender desegregated data and gender sensitive initiatives
- \* Right to Information (RTI) Act in 2016
- \* Open Data platform being developed
- \* Need for a catalytic collaboration of stakeholders



\*Thank you