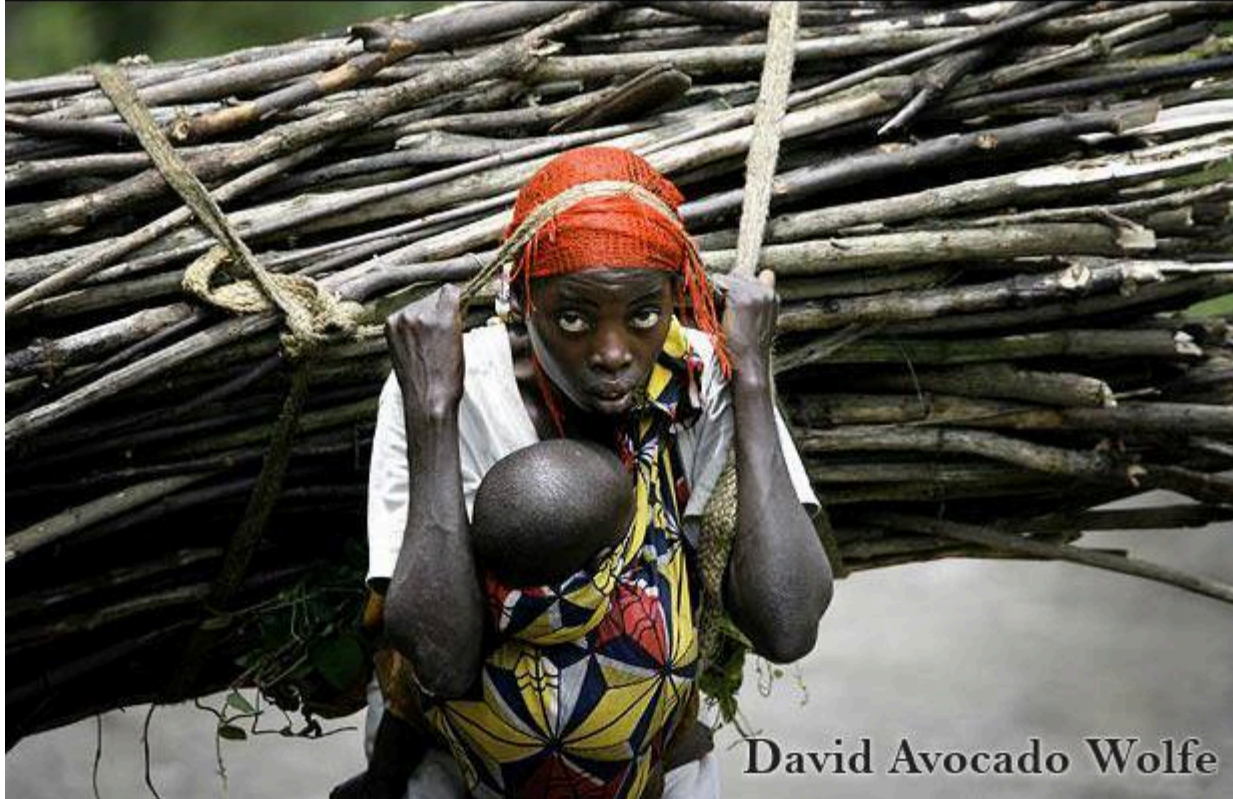


**'If wealth was the inevitable result of hard work and enterprise, every woman in Africa would be a millionaire.'**

— George Monbiot



Evidence show that the threats of Climate Change are not Gender-Neutral :The most affected will likely be the poor , namely women living in rural areas in developing countries

GENDER SUMMIT for AFRICA 5

**INTEGRATING HUMAN BEHAVIOR INTO  
UNDERSTANDING CLIMATE CHANGE**

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*29 April 2015, Capetown*

# OUTLINE

## **Part I. Why do we integrate human behaviour into understanding climate change**

- Understanding the concepts
- Causes of climate changes (natural, manmade)
- Impacts of climate changes (on environment, on men, women and girls)
- Solutions to climate changes and results

## **Part II. How do we integrate human behaviour into understanding Climate change**

- Using gender approach from the climate change situation analysis to adaptation and mitigating measures
- Improving gender monitoring and evaluation system to inform climate change
- Challenges to integrating human behaviour into understanding climate change, namely in view of reducing the burden on poor women

## **Part III. Challenges**

- Insufficient political will
- Insufficient information and data
- Lack of capacity

## **Part VI. Way forward**

- Political commitment at all levels (international, national, local)
- Capacity building to design gender responsive mitigating and adaptation measures
- Women commitment to become agents of change and development

# Part I. Why do we integrate human behaviour into understanding climate change ?

## **Understanding the concepts**

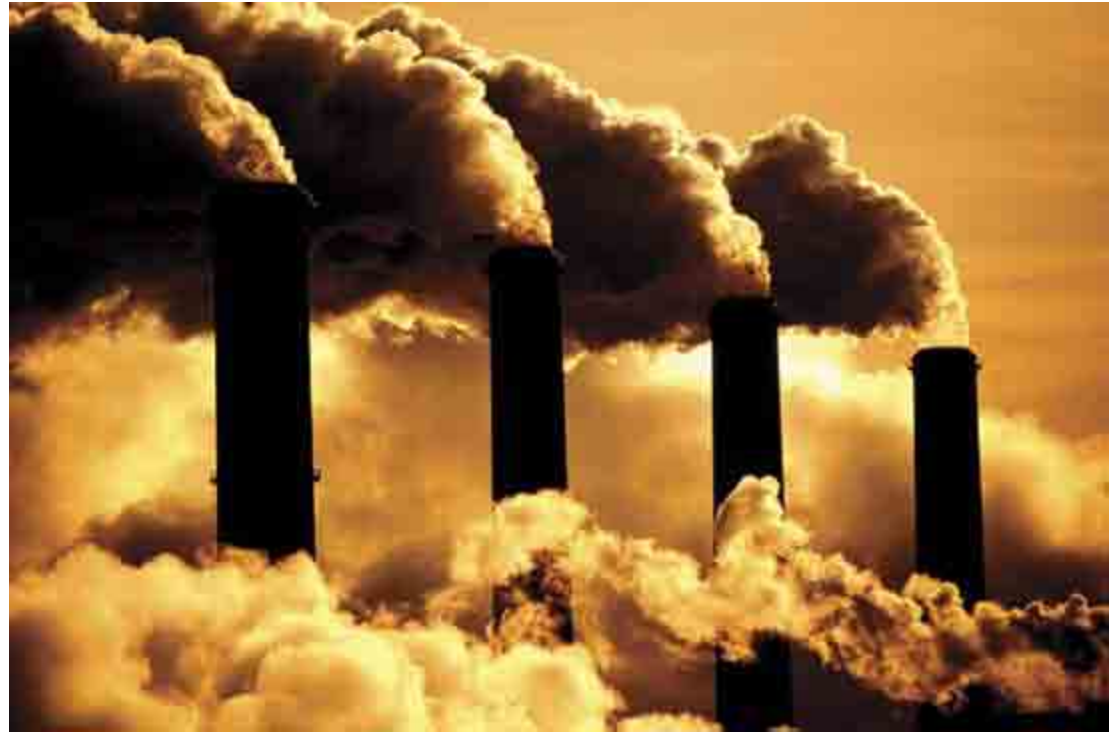
- Human behaviour :The capacity of mental, physical, emotional, and social activities experienced during the five stages of a human being's life - prenatal, infancy, childhood, adolescence, and adulthood. Includes the behaviors as dictated by culture, society, values, morals, ethics, and genetics.
- Climate change :for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) it is "a change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods".

- “Gender” refers to social relations between, and among, women and men and girls and boys
- Gender Analysis cover
  - Reproductive Role of men and women
  - Productive Role
  - Community Managing Role
  - Political Role at all levels
- Integration :The act or process of making whole or entire
- Mitigation : To the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), mitigation refers to the actions taken to reduce the *Green House Gas (GHG) emissions* in order to minimize their effects on global climate change .
- Adaptation :is the *adjustments that society or ecosystems make to limit negative effects of climate change*. It can also include taking advantage of opportunities that a changing climate provides.



# Climate change is already happening

- increase of extreme weather conditions such as severe and prolonged drought
- water shortages and decreased crop production
- heavy storms , cyclones,
- flooding , rising sea levels, increasing temperature of sea
- Increased migration
- Increased sexual violence on girls in emergency camps
- Heavy toll on boys , girls, men and women life





# Causes of climate changes (men, women)

Men , women, boys and girls contribute to climate change

- ❑ **Energy (consumption, waste...)** :Four fifth of the CO2 emissions that keep heating up our planet come from burning fossil fuels.
- ❑ **Deforestation and forest degradation** are responsible for 12 to 17 percent of all Green House Gas (GHG) emissions.
- ❑ **Limited diversification** of agriculture : most African economies are largely dependent on rainfed agriculture which in turn is highly susceptible to climate related hazards
- ❑ **Increased water stressed African populations** (75-250 Millions by 2025, and 350-600 Millions by 2050, IPCC) and areas (Northern and Southern Africa by 2055, IPCC)



# Human beings' contribution to climate change are different

- ❑ Men, women, girls and boys contribute to climate change through their behavior ; they are all using the same type of energy dominated by fossil fuel ; they use cars ; they participate in deforestation ect.....
- ❑ Conclusion : Men responsibility to climate change is however most important , being the dominant group in decision making at political ,economical and social level : in Subsaharan Africa women occupy only 19.8 percent of parliament seats



Climate changes mean women throughout the region may have to walk longer distances to fetch water, including these women in Madagascar in 2013. Photo: Zotonantenaina Razanadratefa

# Impacts of climate changes on boys, girls, men, women are different

*Women are most affected because of their position in the gender division of labour –*

- ❑ *their social roles* to secure water, food and energy and their productive role (agriculture) which are highly dependent on local natural resources which are heavily deteriorating because of CC
- ❑ *Their limited access to decision-making and economic assets* that compound the challenges of climate change.
  
- Crop failure : women experience increased agricultural work and overall household food production burden
- Conflict :while men are likely to be killed in fighting, women and girls suffer from other consequences such as rape, violence
- Fuel shortages : many women in developing countries can spend between 2-9 hours a day collecting fuel and performing cooking chores
- Water scarcity : increased burden on girls and women walking further distances to access safe water, impacts the education

Conclusion :the negative impacts of climate change aggravate gender inequalities.



**It is therefore imperative that a gender analysis be applied to  
all actions on climate change at all levels, so that **women's and  
men's specific needs and priorities are identified and  
addressed****

# Solutions to climate changes : aiming at reducing human's impact on climate

- ❑ Continental climate-change programmes and initiatives endorsed by African Union :
  - Reforestation : Great Green Wall of the Sahel and Sahara
  - The Africa Green Fund
- ❑ New Technology helps Africa cope with climate change
  - ✓ Mobile Technology
  - ✓ A handful of software companies are developing tools that give African farmers a chance to increase food security and maximize their incomes by connecting them with real-time market information.
  - ✓ Renewable energy (solar,hydro, bio fuel,wind...)

**How gender sensitive are those measures ?**

# SOLUTIONS SUPPORTED BY UNDP AND PARTNERS

To assist and empower poor women and men, UNDP helps governments and other partners Leverage financing for women's organizations and entrepreneurs working to mitigate and/or adapt to climate change

- ❑ **Global Gender and Climate Alliance** to ensure that climate change policies, decision-making and initiatives at the global, regional, and national levels are gender responsive. recognized as a unique and effective partnership that is bringing a human face to climate change decision-making and initiatives
- ❑ **Women's Green Business Initiative** is designed to promote women's employment and entrepreneurship opportunities around the green economy and related climate change responses. The WGBI also increases women's access to climate change funds, creates opportunities for new business enterprises, and promotes and supports government efforts to create conducive policy environments for women's green businesses.
- ❑ **National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs)** NAPAs are then implemented through the support of the LDC Fund (LDCF) under the Global Environment Facility (GEF). UNDP is the largest implementing agency of the LDCF, delivering US\$88 million to support the design and implementation of priority NAPA\ interventions in 24 LDCs.
- ❑ **UNDP assists countries to formulate and implement green, low-emission and climate-resilient development strategies (Green LECRDS)**
- ❑ **Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+)** is a financial mechanism designed to compensate developing countries for measurable, reportable and verifiable reduction in emissions from specific activities in the forest sector. In Africa, over 70 per cent of the population depends on forest for their livelihoods) .





A woman works with clay to create a mud stove in Mozambique.  
*Photo: Alice Banze*

# Is there any significant lessening of the burden on African women in rural areas

- ❑ The solutions to CC have not been effective in reducing inequalities between men and women ;
- ❑ If women farmers were given the same access to resources (such as finances and land), women's agricultural yields could increase by 20 to 30 per cent ; national agricultural production could rise by 2.5 to 4 per cent (FAO 2011; Bertini 2011). Studies show that gender equality and women's empowerment are crucial to the success of all- round development, including fight against climate change (Carvajal-Escobar et al.2008)

Part II How do we integrate human behaviour into understanding climate change ?



Over to the decision makers to take forward the post 2015 gender and climate change agenda.

# Increase the participation of youth and women in decision-making on climate change at different levels

- Cancun Agreement I. 7 recognises “...that gender equality and the effective participation of women and indigenous peoples are important for effective action on all aspects of climate change”.
- In 2012, the UNFCCC Conference of Parties COP18 Gender Decision adds new provisions to increase women’s participation, striving toward gender balance on delegations, and giving more attention and resources toward the goal of gender balance

❑ *WOMEN AT DECISION MAKING POSITION ARE EXPECTED TO BEHAVE DIFFERENTLY AND INFLUENCE DECISIONS NOT TO SUSTAIN THE ERRORS FROM THE PAST*

# Developing gender analysis and gender monitoring system integrating climate change

- ❑ Research work to improve gender monitoring and evaluation system to integrate evidence on climate change
- ❑ Research to develop indicators linked to gender and climate change similar to the Gender related development index defined by UNDP (**The Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM), The Gender Inequality Index (GII) to advocate for gender equity for development**)
- ❑ Advocacy to the use of such gender sensitive indicators to conduct analytical work on the causes and the impacts of climate change and to design gender responsive solutions (policies, finances, technology, programmes)
- ❑ SADC Gender Protocol 2014 Barometer is using gender analysis in explaining climate change

## Part III. Challenges to integrating human behaviour into understanding climate change

- Lack of **political commitment** to gender mainstreaming : Women seen as victims not as an actor

- **Information Gaps** on Gender & Climate Change in Africa :

Studies on Gender and Climate Change, **particularly in Africa**, are limited – this limits evidence to inform and influence Development/Climate) policy

- Lack of gender sensitive **financial resources** (domestic and external resources) .Climate finance to Africa has been growing considerably . USD 2.3 billion has been approved for 453 projects and programs throughout Sub-Saharan Africa since 2003. But only 45% of approved funding is delivered for adaptation measures.

# Part 4 Way forward

To reduce the burden due to climate change on poor women :

- ❑ **Political commitment** at all levels to implemented in practice existing gender-sensitive climate change policies are currently (international, national, local)
  
- ❑ **Women empowerment** in governance at all levels, and in economy,
- ❑ **involve both women and men** and draw on their gender based experiences in the formal and informal workforces, in communities and in households to make climate responses more effective and sustainable
- ❑ **Scale up investment on women** as part of climate responses : can lead to greater returns across the MDGs , the SDGs and broader development objectives
- ❑ Mobilizing ,allocating and **engendering finances** (domestic) to support gender responsive programmes



Women should commit to fully participate and contribute to decision-making and leadership related to the nexus of climate change

in order to ensure effective and socially-just

climate change interventions



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THANK YOU