

Linking Gender Inequalities/Inequities with Impacts of Climate Change in the Global South

UNIVERSITY
OF MIAMI



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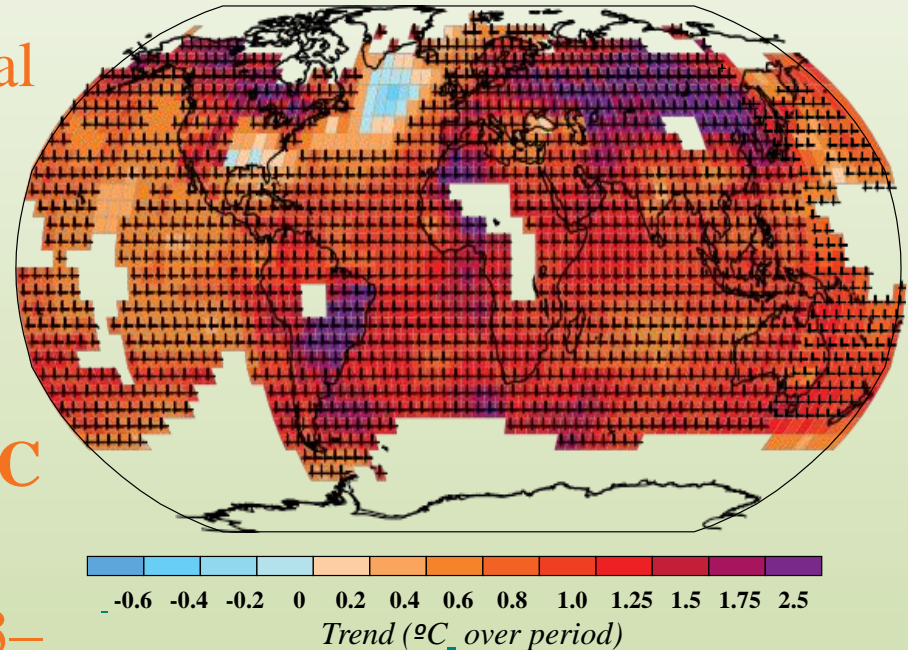
Presentation Structure

- IPCC AR5 Findings
- Why the Global South?
- Spatial patterns of Gender inequalities/Gaps
- Spatial patterns of Climate Vulnerability
- Future Studies



IPCC Fifth Assessment Report (AR5)

- Entire globe has experienced warming, although with substantial decadal & inter-annual variability.
- The average global linear trend for combined land & ocean surface temperatures indicate a warming of **0.85 (0.65 to 1.06) °C between 1880 and 2012**.
- For the most recent decade, 2003–2012, this trend is **0.78 (0.72 to 0.85) °C**.

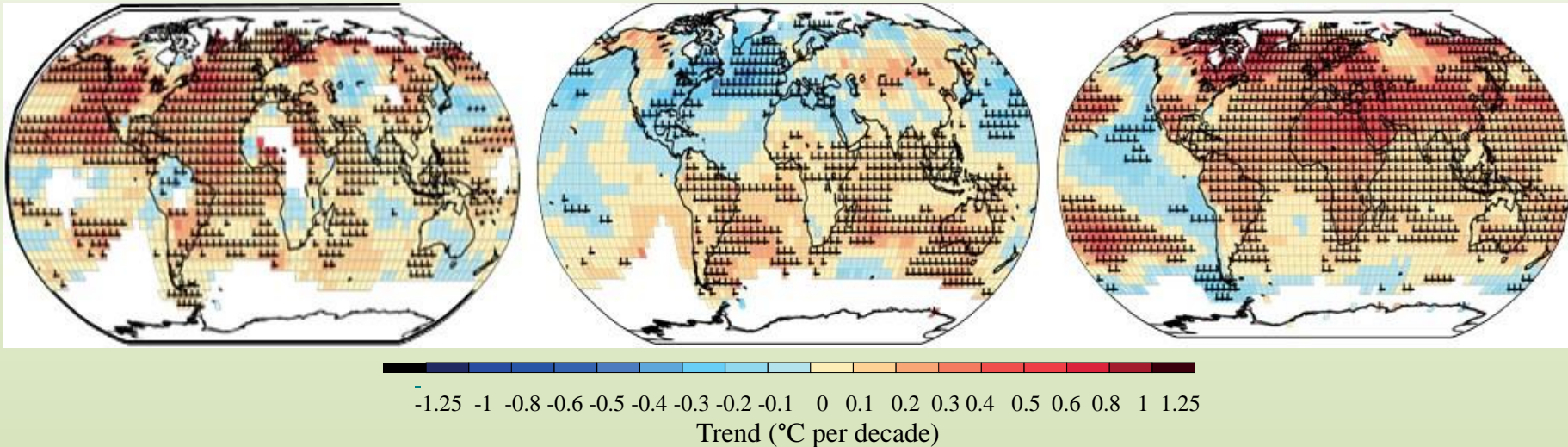


IPCC Fifth Assessment Report (AR5)

(a) 1911–1940

(b) 1951–1980

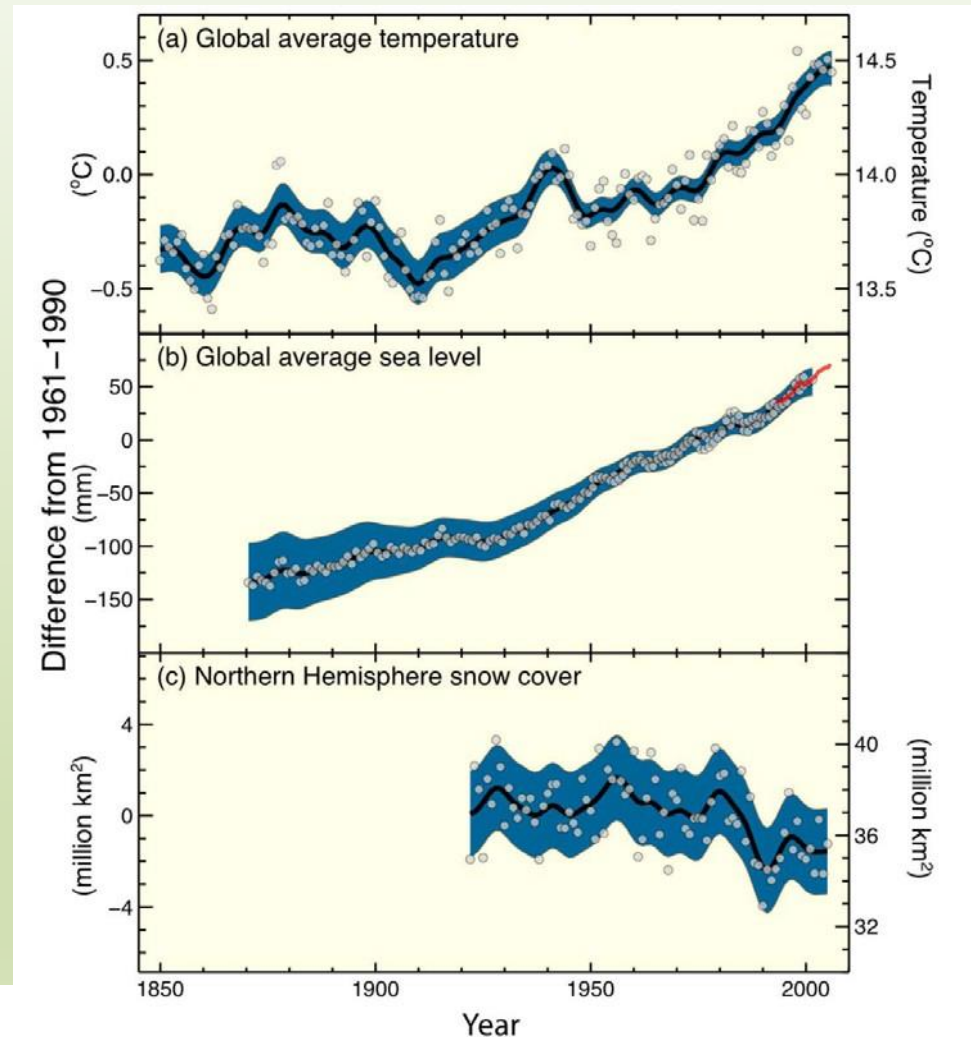
(c) 1981–2012



Trends in surface temperature from NCDC MLOST dataset for three shorter periods (a) 1911–1940; (b) 1951–1980; (c) 1981–2012.

IPCC Fifth Assessment Report (AR5)

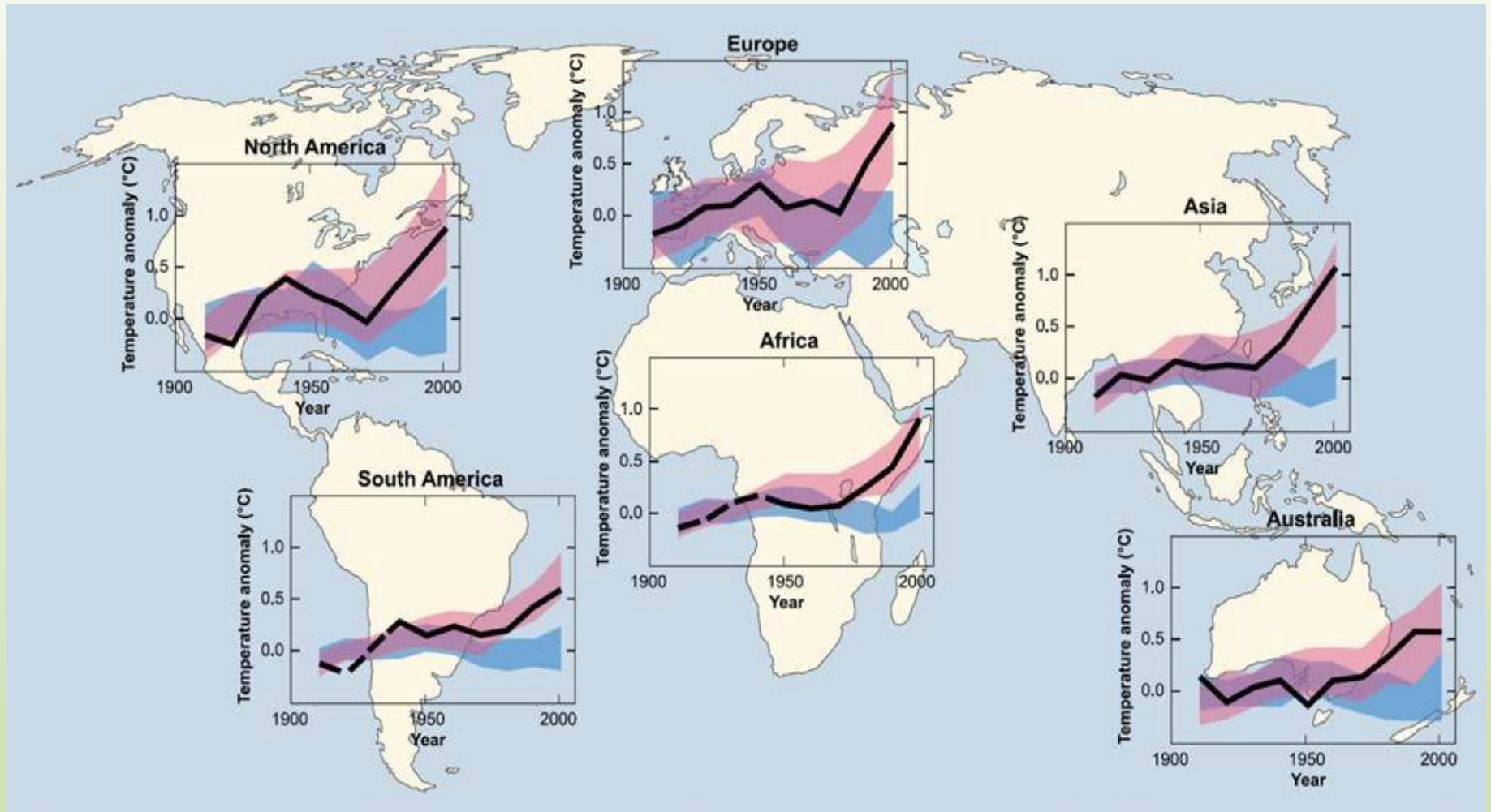
- There is **significant evidence** demonstrating the very likely **decrease** in the number of **cold days and nights**, as well as an **increase** in the number of **warm days and nights** on a global scale. These findings are further intensified by the **higher frequency of heat waves** in parts of Europe, Asia, and Australia.



Climate Change Impacts



Why the Global South?



Gaps in the weather map

The location of the world's key weather stations shows huge areas where information is not gathered



SOURCE: WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANISATION

Climate Change Impacts

- These long-term trends in climatic conditions are of particular significance for **vulnerable populations in the Global South**.
- However, much uncertainty exists concerning regional variations in climate change impacts because of inadequate long-term data records as well as coverage in these countries.
- Additionally, the adverse social and economic impacts of climate change are **further aggravated by widespread poverty and lack of adequate public infrastructure in the Global South**.

IPCC Fifth Assessment Report (AR5)

- In addition increases in number of heavy
ded in

20 February 2015: South America - Severe weather / floods



SITUATION

ARGENTINA

- Strong winds and heavy rainfall affected central Argentina over 14-16 February, with 116mm recorded in the city of Córdoba in 24h on 15-16 February. Consequent to the rainfall, rivers overflowed in the province of Córdoba, killing eight people, according to local

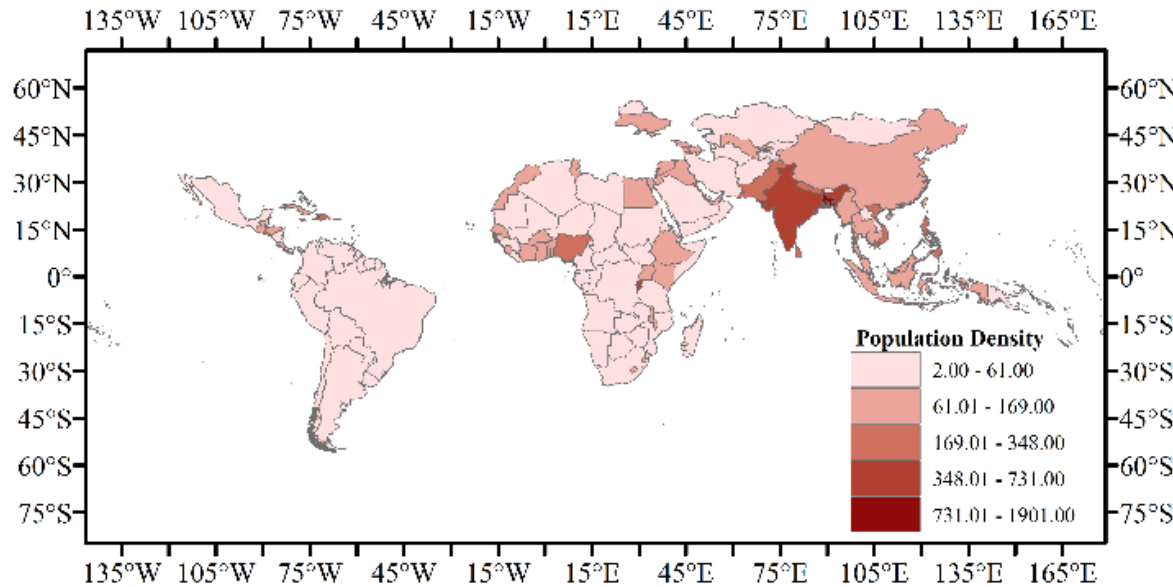


Climate Change Impacts

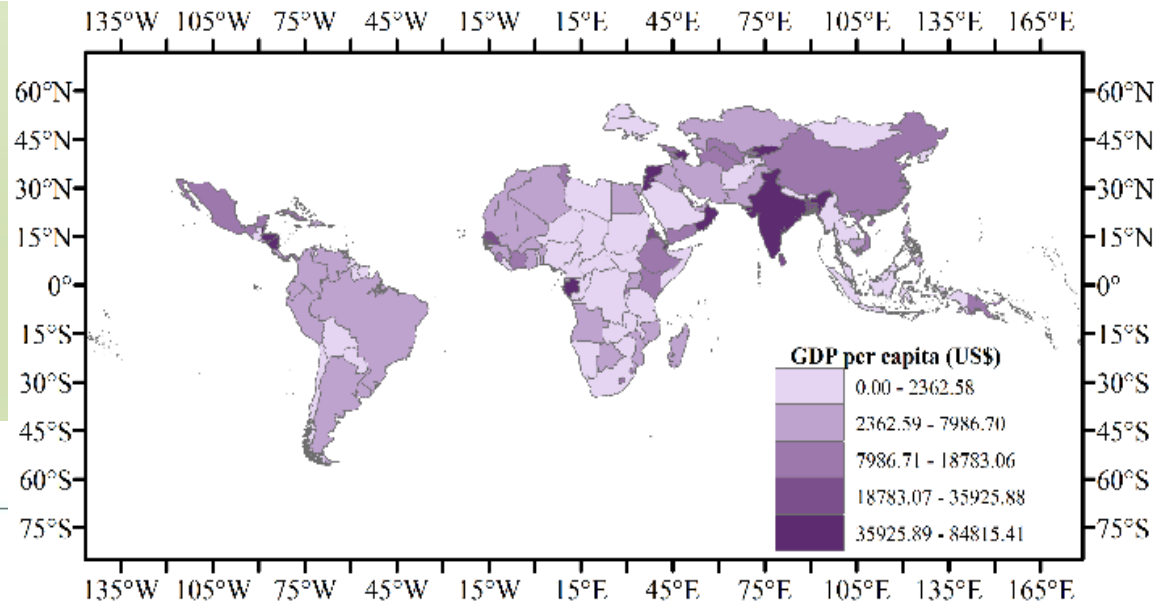
- Therefore, a better understanding of the impacts of global environmental change will require an integrated international effort to collect, synthesize, analyse the pertinent data, and effective action (Stern, 2007).
- More specifically, there is much uncertainty as to how different ecosystems and local population will be affected by and adapt to these changing conditions at various spatial scales.

Why Global South?

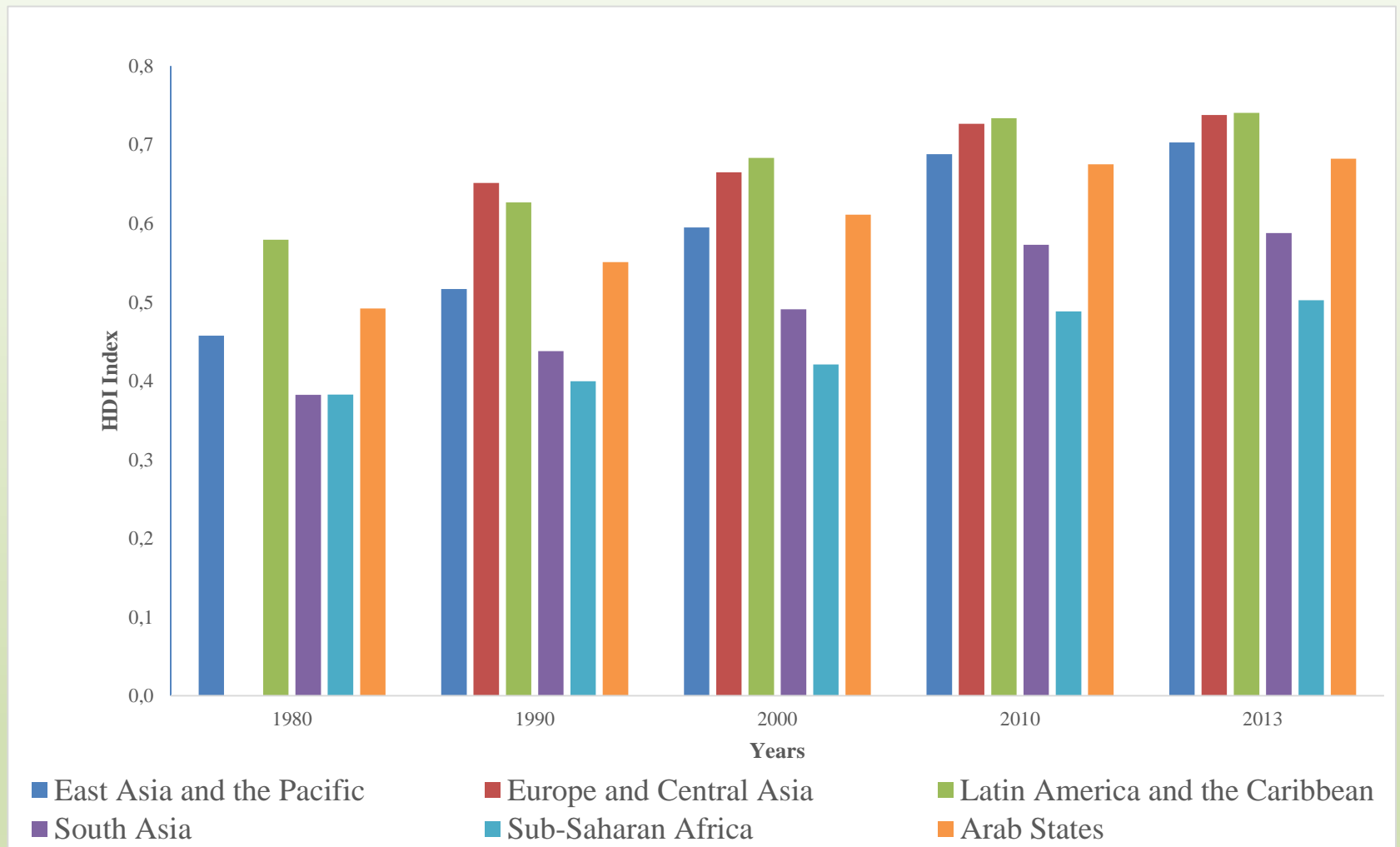
Population Density



GDP Per Capita (US\$)



Regional level changes in HDI Index 1980-2013



Are climate change impacts gender neutral?

GOAL 5

ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER ALL
WOMEN AND GIRLS

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

More at sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgsproposal

Global Gender and Climate Alliance (GGCA)

- Integrate a gender perspective into policy and decision making in order to ensure that the UN mandates on gender equality are fully implemented.
- Ensure that financing mechanisms on mitigation and adaptation address the needs of poor women and men equitably.
- Build capacity at all levels to design and implement gender-responsive climate change policies, strategies and programmes.
- Develop, compile, and share practical tools, information, and methodologies to facilitate the integration of gender into policy and programming.

Gender Facts

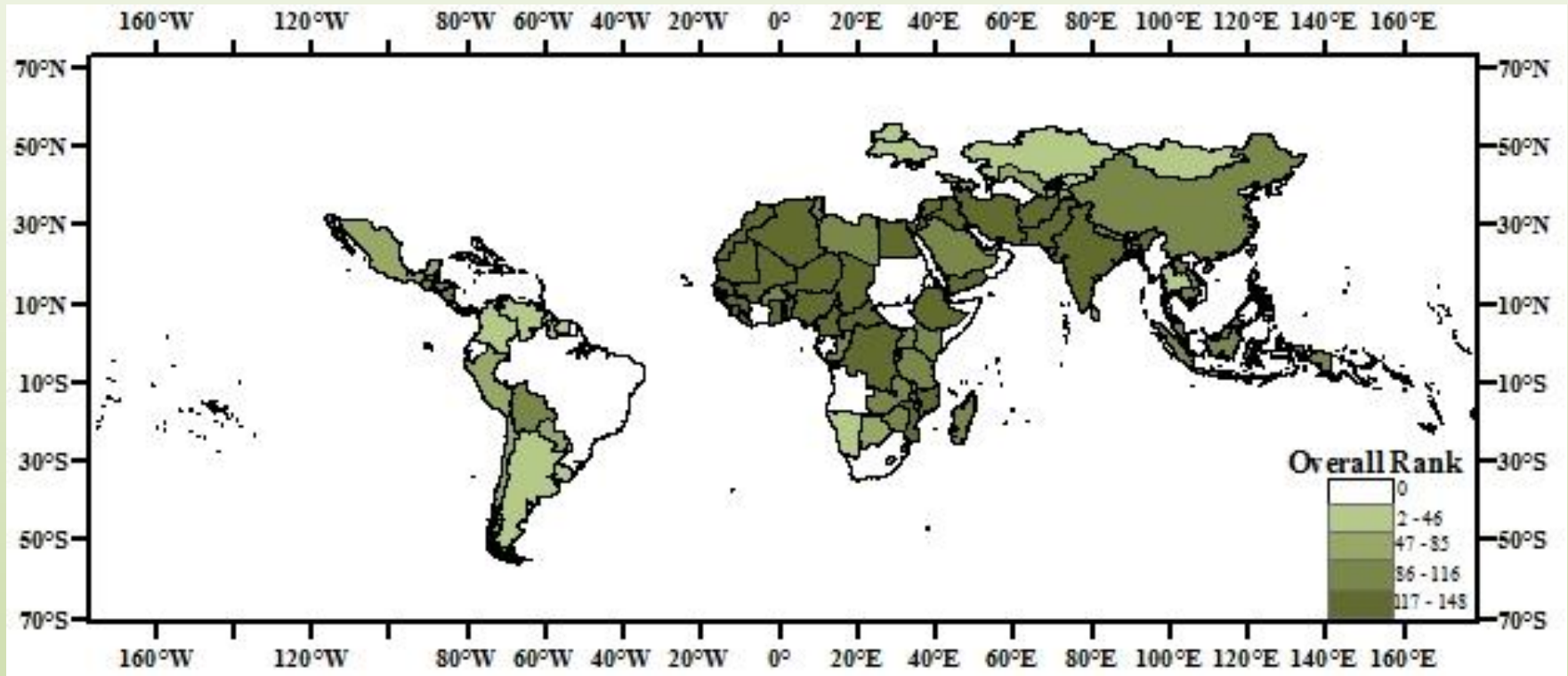
- 66% of the world's working hours are worked by women?
- 1% of property worldwide is owned by women
- 17% of parliamentary seats worldwide are held by women.
- 75% of the 876 million illiterate adults are women.
- 33% of women worldwide are homeless or live in inadequate dwellings, such as slums.
- In a sample of 141 countries over the period 1981 to 2002 it was found that, natural disasters (and their subsequent impact) on average kill more **women** than men or kill **women** at an earlier age than men.

Gender Facts

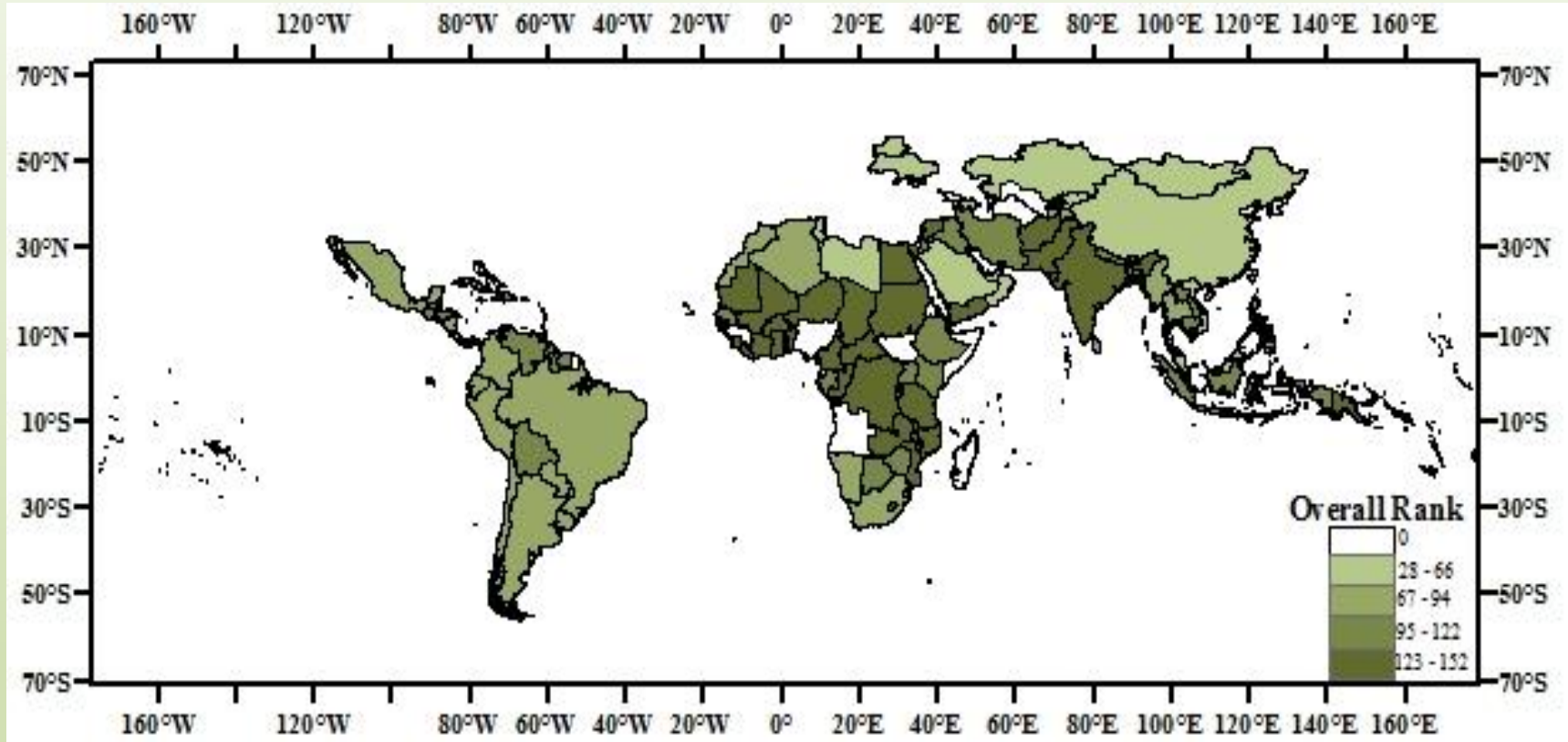
- Four million women die from unsafe cooking conditions every year.
- In 2000 the UN Security Council passed resolution, which recognized that the impacts of war are not gender neutral, rather that women are affected more adversely. Therefore, through this resolution greater participation of women was stressed. However, in reality between 1992 and 2011 only 9% of negotiators at the peace tables were women.

**Therefore Gender
mainstreaming is critical for
effectively addressing climate
change impacts at various
spatial scales.**

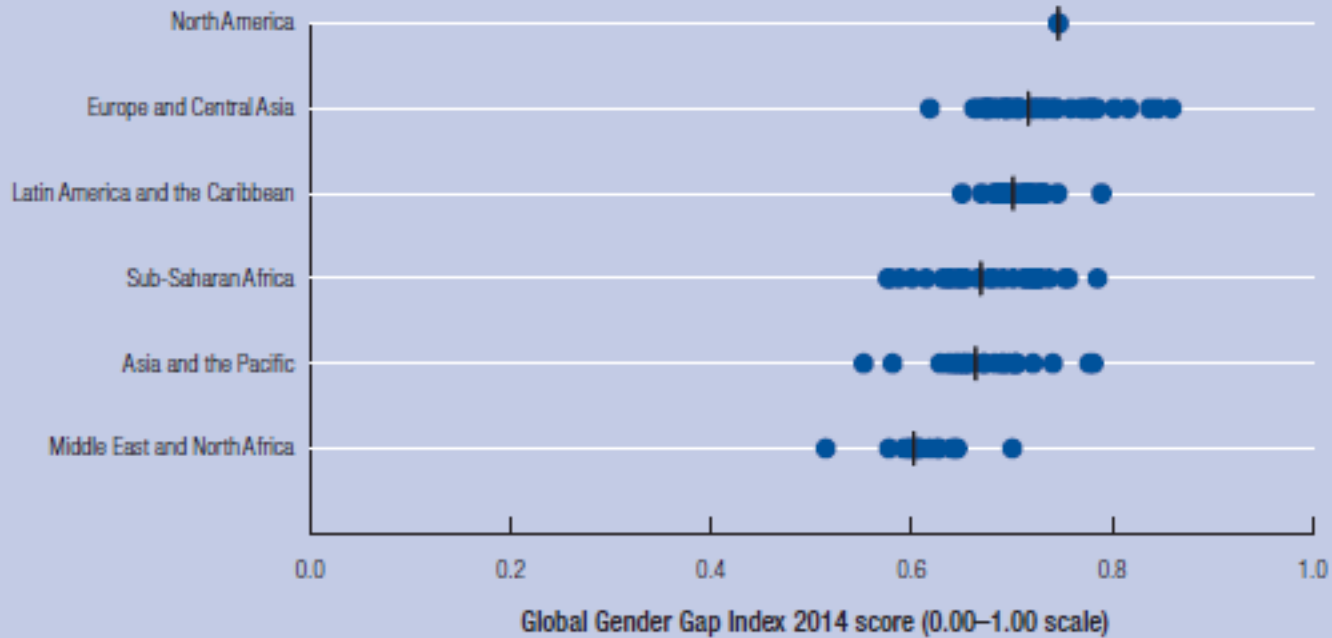
Gender Development Index (GDI)



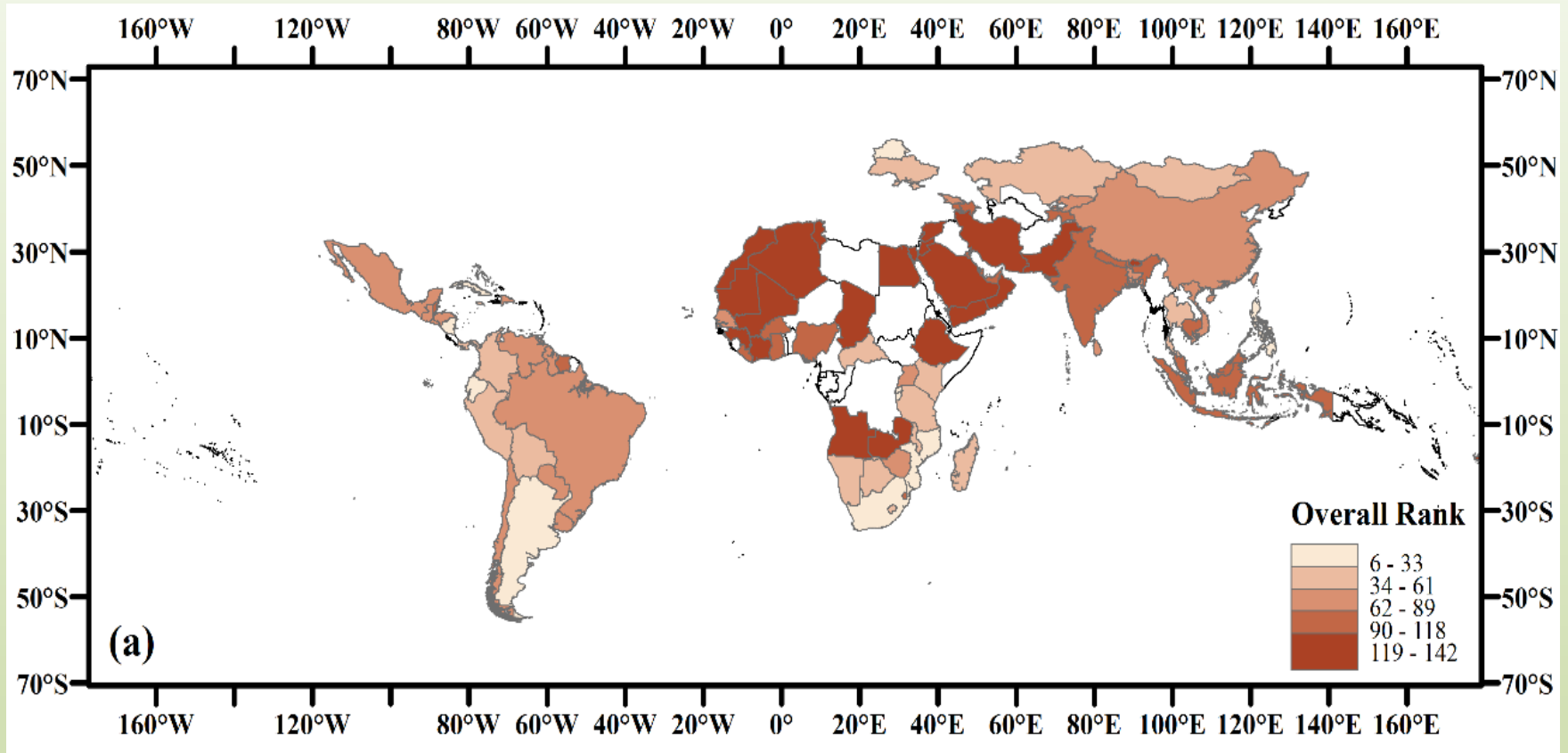
Gender Inequality Index (GII)



Global Gender Gap Index



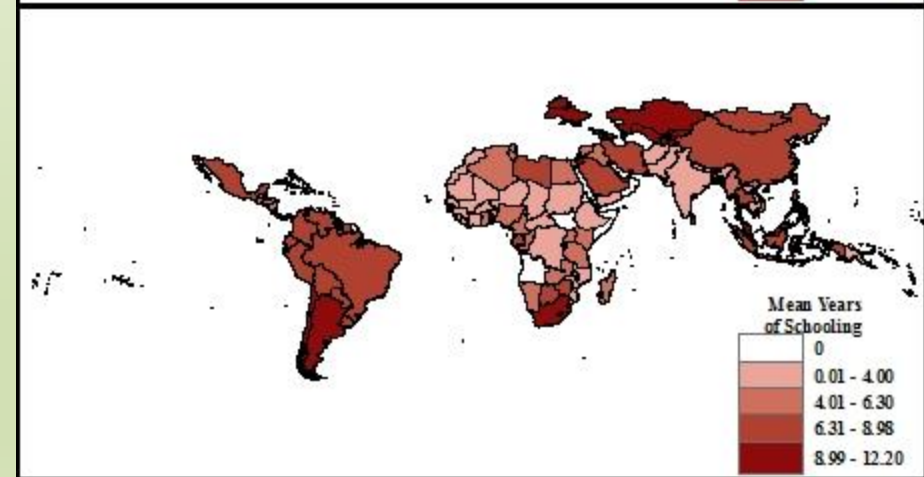
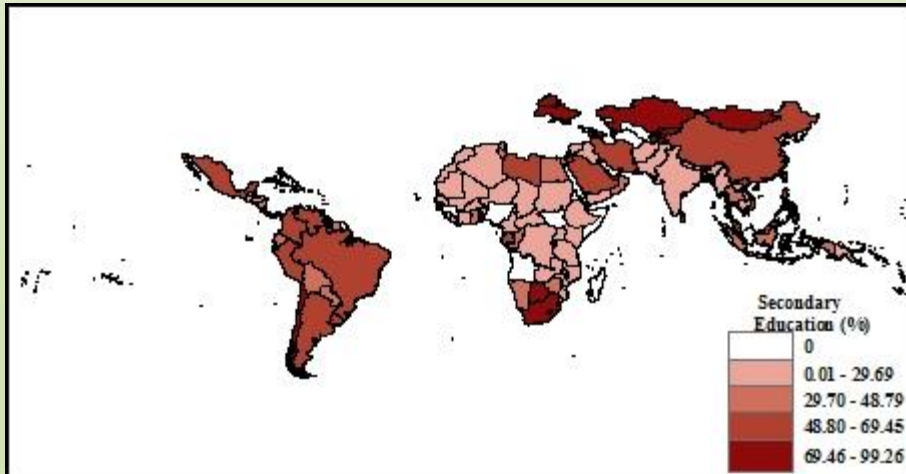
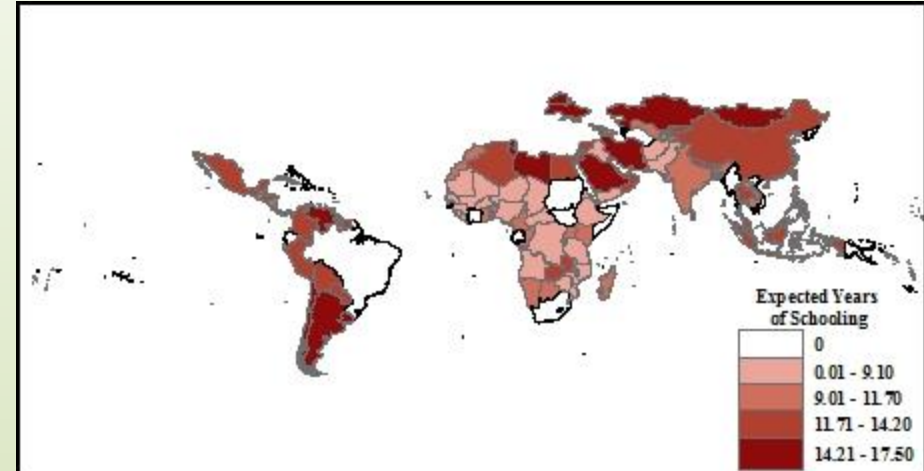
GGGI Ranks



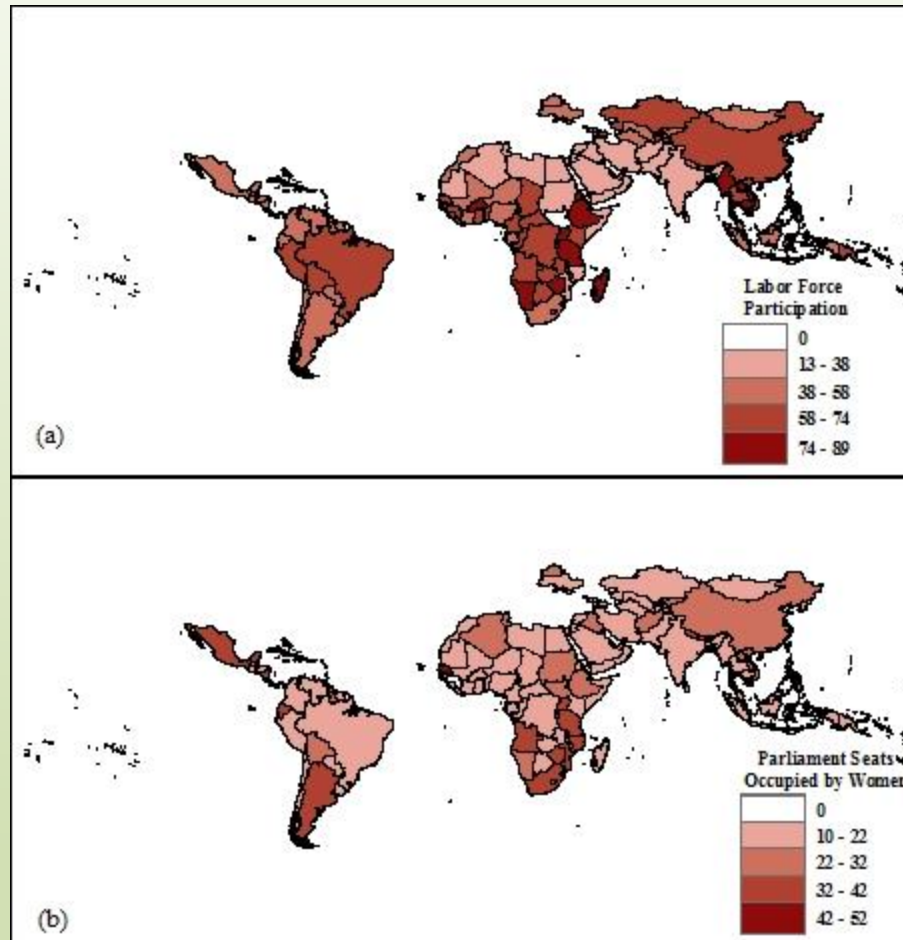
Education

AH, SHE SAYS SHE WANTS TO BE AN ENGINEER. ISN'T THAT CUTE?

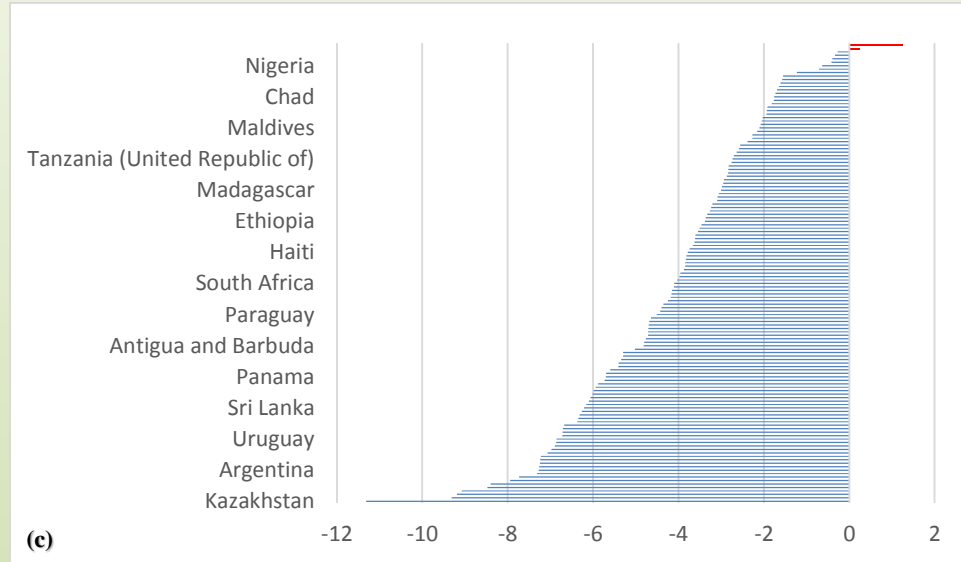
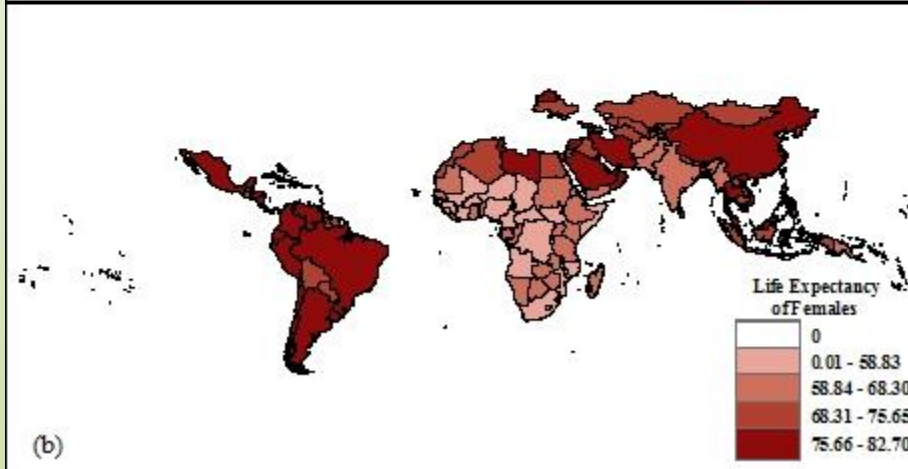
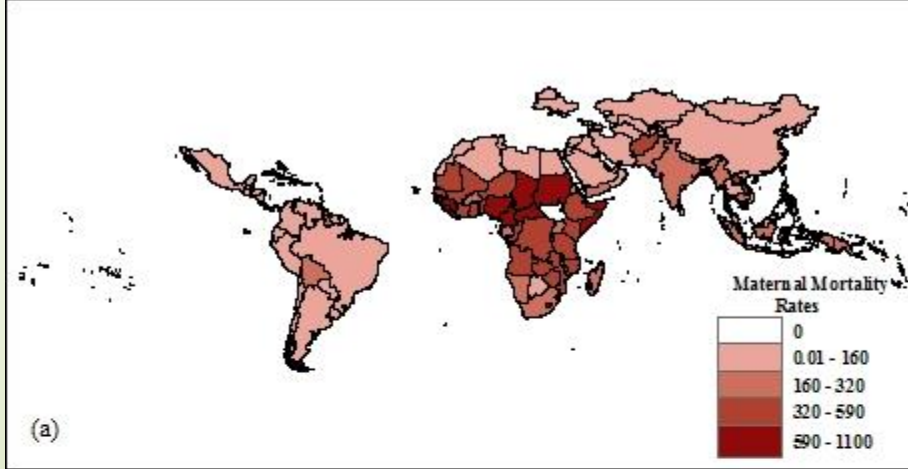
LET'S SEE YOU CALL ME CUTE WHEN I'VE BUILT A FEW MISSILES...



Empowerment



Health and Survival

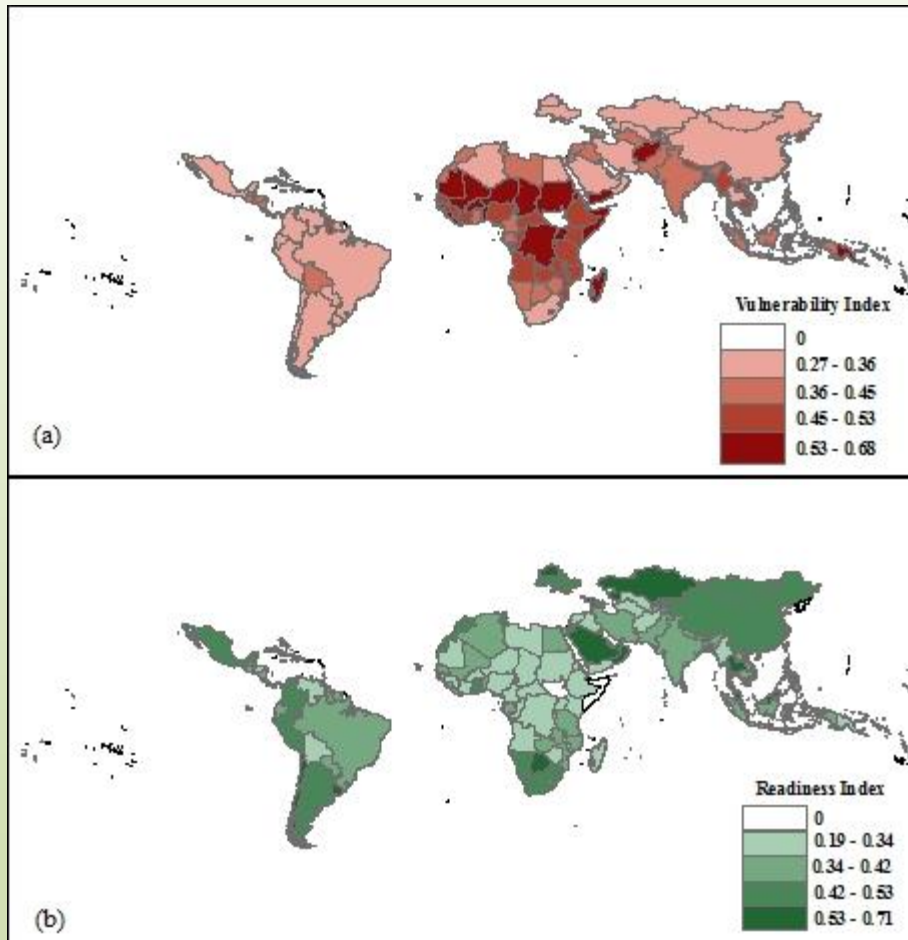


Gender Inequalities/Inequities/Gaps

- Certain countries/regions consistently show up as the areas with higher gender inequalities, which include **South Asia, and Sub Saharan Africa, and parts of the Middle East, particularly Yemen.**
- Patriarchal norms, inequities, and inequalities often make women more vulnerable in South Asia and the Middle East.
- More complex processes in Sub Saharan Africa, where other than societal norms the impacts of climate change may also indirectly impact resource allocation, resulting conflicts in several regions.

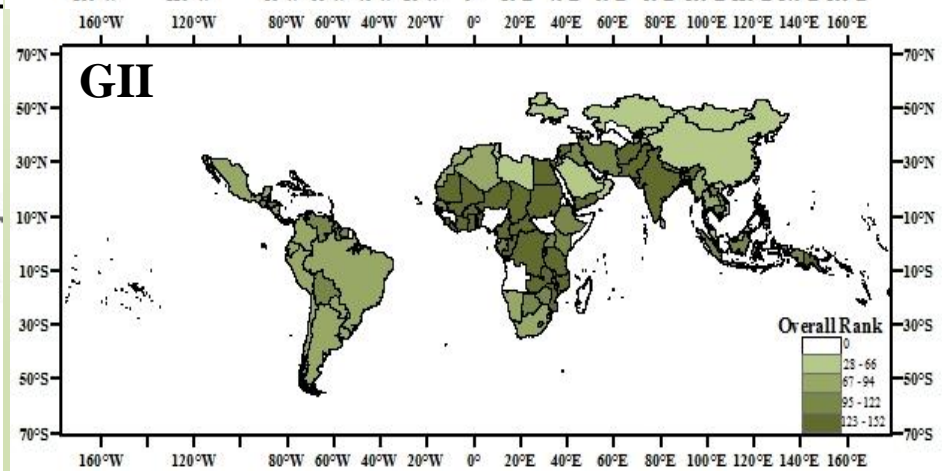
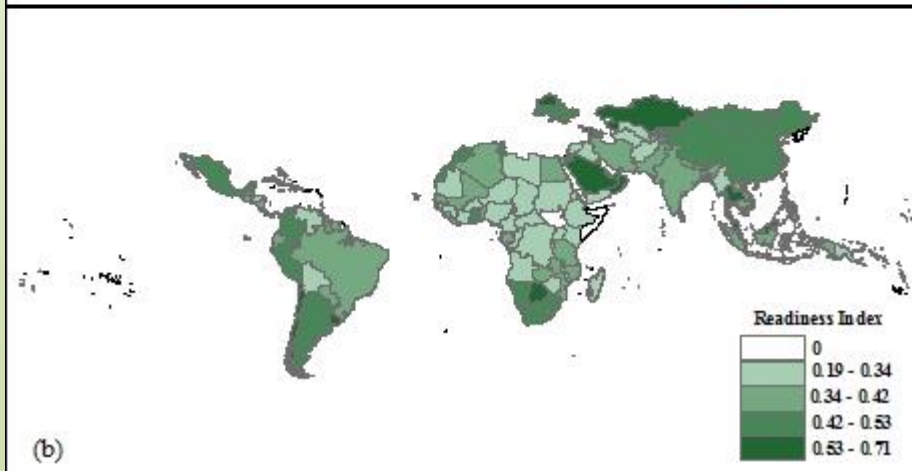
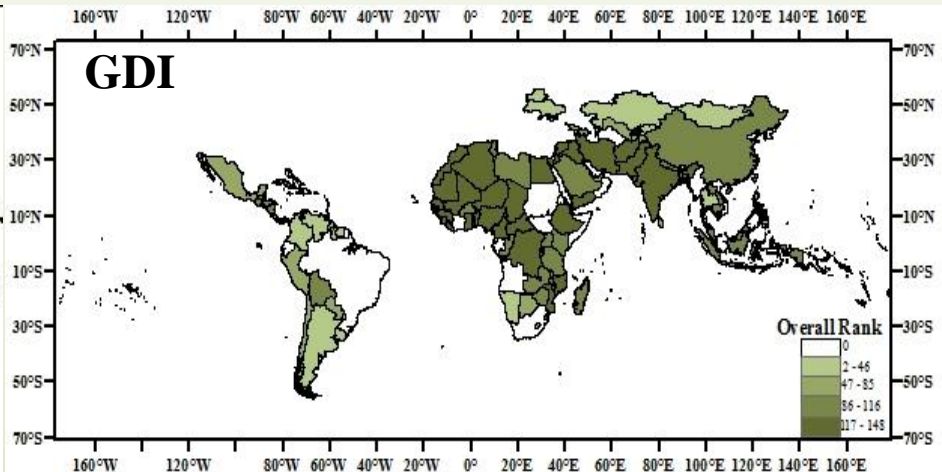
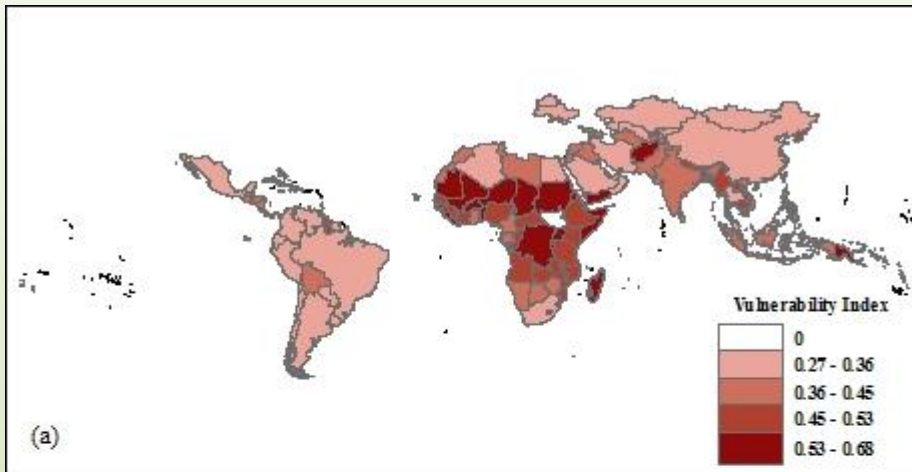
Climate Vulnerability Index (CVI)

- Notre Dame-Global Adaptation Index (ND-GAIN) is an open-source index that reveals the **vulnerability and exposure** to climate change impacts at the country level.
- **Vulnerability** levels of each country are measured by its exposure, sensitivity, and capacity to adapt to the impacts of climate change.
- **Readiness** levels of each country is determined by levels of economic, government, and social readiness.



CVI summary

- **South America and Asia** (except South Asia) experienced a *lower vulnerability index along with higher levels of readiness* in terms of their preparedness for the impacts of climate change.
- **Sub Saharan African** countries experienced the highest levels of vulnerability to climate change processes, such as increased intensity of *droughts, water scarcity, and health impacts (e.g. spread of infectious diseases)*.
- Certain countries, such as **Rwanda** in Sub Saharan Africa have been able to reduce their vulnerability to climate change impacts, through the *improvement in health indicators such as reduced malnutrition among children and slum population*.



CVI summary

- Impacts from sea level rise have also made some of the Pacific islands (such as the Solomon Islands, and Papua New Guinea) rank very high in terms of the vulnerability index.
- In Asia and the Middle East, Afghanistan (0.58) and Bangladesh (0.5), and Yemen showed the highest vulnerability.
- Bolivia which consistently ranked high in gender inequality indices also ranked high in climate vulnerability index but not the exposure index.
- **Thus, the analysis reveals regions with relatively higher gender inequalities are also more vulnerable to impacts of climate change.**

Future Studies

Health

Pollution

Conflicts and Violence

Water

Education

Food Security

Migration

Changing Urban Social Landscapes

Questions and Suggestions

