

## Delivering Results:

# How climate finance can generate lasting impact through feminist movements

Women's rights organizations and feminist movements are designing and delivering solutions that tackle the climate crisis on multiple fronts. Underresourced and under-acknowledged as pivotal climate actors, they consistently punch above their weight. With deep ties to their communities, they offer context-specific solutions that are built to last. Importantly, their focus on root causes means they have the ability to advance climate solutions and

gender equality simultaneously, while also advancing progress on related issues like conflict, unjust global economic policies, and Indigenous rights. Through it all, they get concrete results that improve lives. As the climate crisis accelerates across the world, it's crucial that government and other climate funders resource women's rights organizations and feminist movements in order to deliver the lasting results we need.

**This document outlines key climate results and how feminist organizations are crucial to delivering on them.**

Delivered results are 

- 01** Increased adoption of sustainable agricultural practices
- 02** Strengthened governance of natural resources like land, forests, and water
- 03** A gender just transition from a fossil fuel to a green economy
- 04** More effective national and international climate policymaking

Increased  
adoption of  
sustainable  
agricultural  
practices



The agriculture sector is one of the most urgent and high potential sectors for climate action. The climate crisis is felt most profoundly in agriculture, from degraded soil to reduced crop yields. This has led to severe food insecurity and compromised livelihoods, especially in the Global South. The sector is also a significant source of greenhouse gas emissions. Including land use change, it accounts for approximately [25% of total global emissions](#). Yet transformational practices are already underway, like [agroecology](#), which leverage local and traditional knowledge to design and maintain sustainable agricultural ecosystems.

[400 million women worldwide work in agriculture](#), a highly gendered sector. In the Global South, women produce [between 60 - 80% of food](#). They do this despite often lacking access to training, agricultural inputs, formal land tenure, and even recognition of their pivotal role in food production. The [Food and Agriculture Organization](#) estimates that if women farmers had the same access to resources as men, national agriculture production could rise by up to 4%, and the number of malnourished people could decrease by up to 17%.



Helen's Daughters

In Saint Lucia, gender norms mean that women's valuable participation in the agriculture value chain is often under-acknowledged and under-supported. In response, [Helen's Daughters](#) is supporting prospective and current women farmers to engage in sustainable, climate smart agriculture. This women's rights organization takes a multi-sector approach that recognizes and addresses the complex dynamics of gender, climate justice, and agriculture. Its holistic programs include education (training programs, scholarships, apprenticeships), farmer supports (subsidies, market access), and health and wellness (telehealth services, wellness retreats, mental health and self-care initiatives). One of Helen's Daughters' most profound impacts is redefining what it means to be a woman in the agricultural field, starting with women farmers themselves. It has sparked a transformation from women feeling invisible to recognizing their important role in increasing Saint Lucia's food security.

RESULT 02

Strengthened  
governance  
of natural  
resources like  
land, forests,  
and water



Carefully stewarded, natural resources play double duty in addressing the climate crisis. They mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and help communities adapt to climate impacts. Stopping the degradation and loss of natural resources like [forests](#) and [water](#) and promoting their restoration absorbs significant carbon and bolsters the wellbeing and livelihoods of the communities that rely on them. Conversely, natural resource management choices can harm vulnerable communities and compound the climate crisis.

Women, girls, and gender expansive people often hold natural resource management roles, with commensurate deep knowledge of their environment and their communities' needs. They are also disproportionately affected by climate impacts that compromise these resources. However, many face structural barriers to participating in natural resource governance, including for climate action.

RESULT 02: CASE STUDY



Immaculata Casimero

[Wapichan Wiizi Women's Movement](#) is a women's rights organization advancing climate action through sustainable stewardship of natural resources. A highland region of Guyana, the Wapichan territory boasts tropical rainforests, savannah land, wetlands, mountain ranges, and the headwaters of the Amazon and Essequibo rivers. Land is central to the Wapichan people's identity, whose livelihoods are based on rotational farming, low pressure hunting and fishing, gathering, and ranching. A healthy environment is essential not only to the Wapichan but the world. Their territory contains 1.6 million carbon-storing hectares of forest the Wapichan have pledged to conserve. The Wapichan Women's Movement is supporting Wapichan women to take up leadership positions and develop recommendations and priorities for community development, including natural resources management for climate resilience.

## RESULT 03

### A gender just transition from a fossil fuel to a green economy



One of the key goals of the [Paris Agreement](#), an international treaty on climate change, is to hold the global temperature increase to below two degrees. Meeting that goal requires that fossil fuels stay in the ground. Doing so prevents significant greenhouse gas emissions, both from the extraction process itself (mining, drilling, transporting, and refining) and burning fossil fuels.

Crucially, a [just transition](#) from a fossil fuel to a green economy is an opportunity for systemic change in how our economies and societies operate. Organizations like the [Women’s Environment and Development Organization](#) calls for “a shift in the existing economic model, a transformation of social institutions and relations, a reconfiguration of power in public and private spheres, and a reinventing of global governance with a central focus on people’s well-being rather than mere profit.”

## RESULT 03: CASE STUDY



STEMInist Foundation

The [STEMInist Foundation](#) mobilizes and trains women and girls to advocate for gender-just policies and engage in energy decision-making for a just transition of Ghana’s energy sector. Ghana has shown its commitment to transitioning its energy sector by enacting several renewable energy policies. However, these policies’ enactment and implementation have lacked a gender perspective, highlighting the need for greater involvement and leadership from women. Access to reliable electricity poses a significant challenge for remote island and lakeside communities in Ghana, leading to socio-economic issues such as limited healthcare, inadequate education, deforestation, and indoor air pollution. In response, leading up to Ghana’s 2024 elections, The STEMInist Foundation trained women and girls to demand their right to electricity, equipping them to hold the government accountable for its 2020 promise to electrify their villages with solar mini-grids. In 2024, the Foundation co-hosted a National Dialogue on Ghana’s Pathway to a Just Transition, broadcasting participants’ [recommendations](#) via Ghana’s radio waves and through the halls of COP29.

## RESULT 04

### More effective national and international climate policymaking



The severity and reach of the current climate crisis demands a rigorous and well-resourced policy response at all levels—from local to national to global. Policymaking is most effective if it includes all stakeholders affected by the policy problem at hand. For the climate crisis, that is everyone.

Unfortunately, the highest climate decision-making body, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its annual Convention of the Parties (COP) has [historically devalued local and women-generated forms of knowledge](#), in favour of complex technological solutions and large-scale, regional and multilateral efforts. This occurs even as [the UNFCCC highlights](#) that “better integrating women and marginalized groups into decision-making at all levels would help to improve both mitigation and adaptation policies.” Despite an uphill battle to do so, feminist activists and movements are mobilizing to bring their analyses, lived experiences, and perspectives to policymaking tables, from local to global.

## RESULT 04: CASE STUDY



[LILAK](#) is an organization of Indigenous women leaders and allies who support the struggle for Indigenous women’s rights in the Philippines. Its “cross-movement” approach brings Indigenous women’s voices and priorities into the women’s, environmental rights, and human rights movements. In 2024, LILAK supported Indigenous women farmers to document their traditional farming practices and draft and present their policy recommendations for combating the climate crisis to government officials.

Key outcomes of 2024’s [COP16](#) (the biodiversity COP) reflect a recognition of the pivotal role Indigenous and local communities play in policymaking and stewardship of the world’s natural riches. A permanent body under the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was established to amplify Indigenous participation in biodiversity-related decision-making and monitor commitments to preserve traditional knowledge. The [Podong Indigenous Peoples Initiative](#), an advocacy win led by and for Indigenous peoples, will invest in Indigenous-led conservation and climate actions and support Indigenous rights and leadership—especially among women and youth—in global biodiversity and climate policy spaces.

As the climate crisis grows, women's rights organizations and feminist movements are delivering durable solutions at the local, national, and international levels. Combining expertise with deep ties to their land and communities, they bring a specific ability to strengthen the governance of natural resources and advance sustainable agricultural practices. They are also leading the way toward a just transition

to a green economy and developing more effective policies. Together, these leaders are crafting the innovative approaches we need to secure a just and sustainable future. By trusting in their leadership and investing boldly in their work, government and climate funders can accelerate concrete progress on the urgent response needed for the climate crisis globally.



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