



Missing from the Evidence, Missing from the Response: Disability inclusion in Climate-SRHR Programming

Background

SRHR and disability inclusion

- **16% of people in the world have disabilities.** 1 in 5 women live with a disability.
- **WHO and UN data show that:**
 - People with disabilities are three times more likely to be denied health care.
 - 22% of married women with disabilities have unmet needs for contraception.
- **People with disabilities face many barriers to accessing SRHR information, education, and services.** Barriers can be physical, financial, cultural, attitudinal, informational.
- **People with disabilities also face unique forms of violence owing to gender and disability,** including forced sterilization, abortion, pregnancy or continuation of pregnancy, denial or delay or safe abortion and/or post-abortion care.





Background

Climate and disability inclusion

- **Climate change disproportionately impacts people with disabilities**, such as inaccessible early warning systems and information, evacuation barriers during floods/droughts, not considered in prevention and response plans to climate events and disasters, disruption in access to needed health services and/or assistive devices (e.g., For hearing, seeing, and mobility).
- People with disabilities are **4 times more likely** to die in the event of a disaster.
- According to United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), **only one in four people with disabilities can easily follow evacuation instructions** in the event of a disaster, and **only 11% say they are aware of the existence of a disaster management plan** in their community.

Background

SRHR and climate

- Extreme weather events damage health infrastructure and supply chains, limiting access to essential SRH services
- Climate-related crises (droughts, floods, displacement) increase exposure to GBV
- Climate-driven displacement disrupts SRHR access (In 2023, 26.4 million disaster-related displacements occurred globally ~13.1 million involved women and girls)
- Loss of livelihoods and displacement push families toward
 - Child marriage as a coping strategy
 - Increased teenage pregnancy



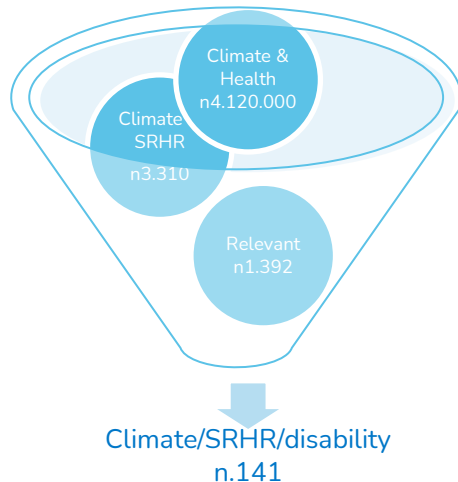


What about the intersection of SRHR, disability inclusion and climate?

- **Growing evidence showing impact of triple planetary crisis on human health and justice, disproportionately affecting marginalized communities; who contribute the least to its cause.**
Women and girls at high risk and people experiencing intersecting forms of discrimination, including people with disabilities.
- **But robust evidence is lacking about triple planetary health, SRHR and disability inclusion.**
Most literature about impact of air pollution on fetal development.
There is a severe lack of data on how disability inclusion, gender, and climate interact, preventing targeted interventions

Scoping review October 2024

("triple planetary crisis" OR "climate emergency" OR "climate change" OR "biodiversity loss" OR "environmental crisis" OR "sustainability" OR "ecological crisis" OR "planetary health crisis" OR "biodiversity collapse" OR "global warming" OR "pollution") AND ("sexual and reproductive health" OR "SRH" OR "SRHR" OR "sexual health" OR "reproductive rights" OR "reproductive justice" OR "family planning" OR "sexual education" OR "reproductive health") AND (disability OR "people with disabilities" OR "person with disabilities" OR "disabled" OR "differently-abled" OR "accessibility" OR "functional diversity" OR "impairment" OR "special needs")*

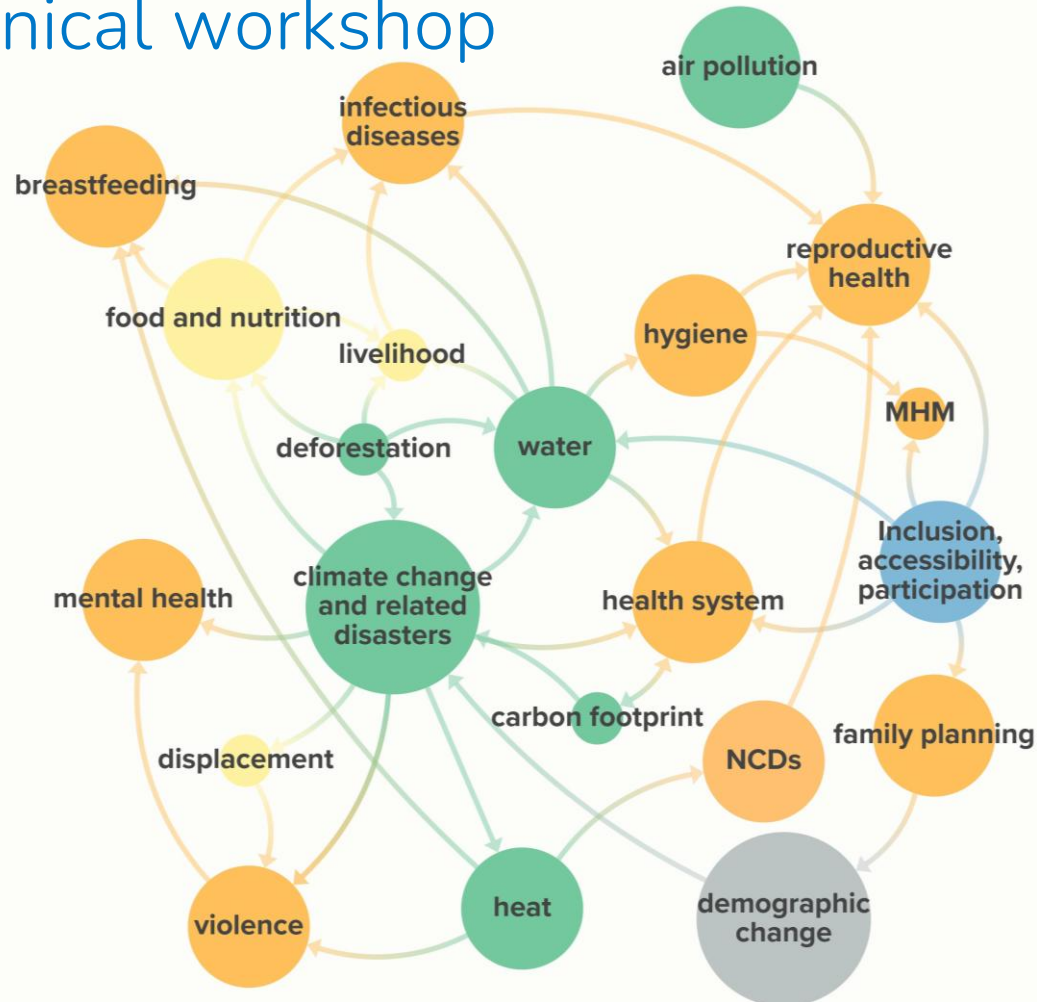


There is an important lack of discussion about triple planetary health, SRHR and disability inclusion.

Although a scientific debate on triple planetary health and disability inclusion or on triple planetary crisis and SRHR is beginning to open up, **evidence and guidance are lacking when operating at the interface of the triple planetary health, SRHR and disability inclusion**



Experts technical workshop



Lived experiences of women with disabilities &
climate impact on health equity:
a participative qualitative study in Kenya and
Uganda (2026)



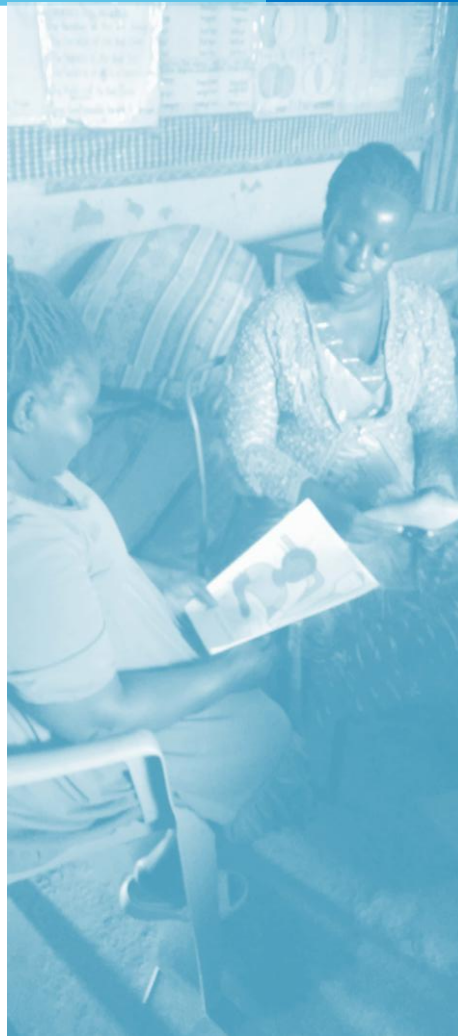
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“Maybe the husband cannot work on a farm where there is flood. If the man cannot bring food, then the quarrel starts...

As a result of the flood, I suffered GBV”



“There was a lot of water. As a woman with disabilities, it is difficult to leave, because I don't know the depth of the water in the trenches. I can't leave without help.”



“My diet changed because I can’t afford fruits like avocados. I now eat margarine instead.”



“During heat, we face hygiene problems since water is far and dirty. Since my disability is associated with urination challenges, I really need water throughout”





Missing from evidence, missing from response

Call for action

- Invest in targeted intersectional research (climate, disability inclusion & SRHR)
- Ensure National Adaptation Plans address SRHR needs of persons with disabilities.



Thank you for your attention

For further information, please contact:

Alessandra Aresu, Director Health &
Protection Division, a.aresu@hi.org

Vidya Vanniasingam, Institutional Funding
and Advocacy Officer,
v.vanniasingam@hi.org