

From Care to Leadership Women Health Providers Strengthening Climate-Resilient SRHR

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A global movement of the largest network of women and allies working to **challenge power and privilege for gender equity in health**

Mission: Advocacy Areas

- ✓ **Equal representation** in global health leadership
- ✓ **New social contract** for women health and care workers
- ✓ **Gender equity** in Health Emergency Preparedness and Response
- ✓ **Gender-Responsive** Universal Health Coverage (UHC)
- ✓ **Movement and alliance** building for gender equity in global health

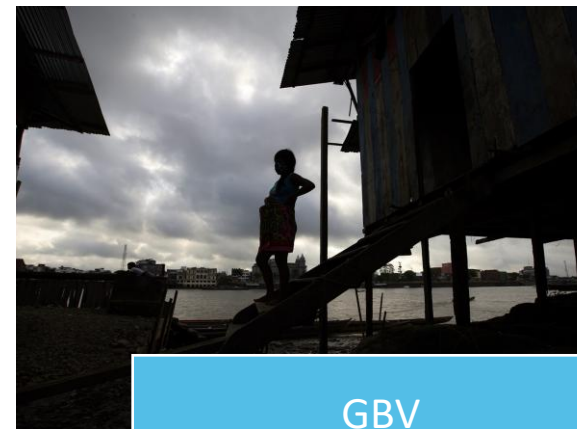
Climate Change in SRHR



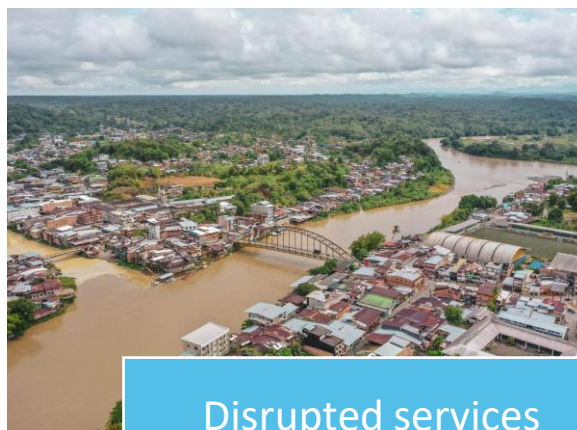
Climate impacts on SRHR



Maternal/perinatal outcomes



GBV



Disrupted services



Disproportionate impact on women & girls

Images: UNFPA Colombia



Climate Resilience in Practice



Impact of floods in Bangladesh

Midwife in Humanitarian response. Photo: UNFPA Bangladesh

Climate & SHRH in Bangladesh

- Female providers carry a *double burden*
- Women and girls disproportionately impacted
- **Bangladesh:** highly climate-vulnerable (floods, cyclones) that disrupt maternal care
- Climate change + inequality + weak access = **lives at risk**

What does this look like in Practice?



Double affection for female health care providers.

Photo: [UNFPA Bangladesh](#)

Female health care providers face a double dilemma – caring for patients, whilst their family's also impacted at home

Climate & SRHR in Bangladesh - Midwives on the Frontline

- Deliver essential care in crisis-affected and hard-to-reach areas
- Home visits, mobile SRH camps, community outreach

They are more than 'just' healthcare providers

- **Advocate** for women's health & gender equality
- **Promote safe deliveries**, prevent complications, support family planning
- **Strengthen health systems resilience** in climate crises

In the eye of the storm

Cyclone Mocha hits Cox's Bazar

- Khadija, 21, goes into labour in a refugee camp
- Midwife Nasrin acts fast: to save lives on the line

→ At what cost? Who cares for those who care for others?



Nasrin and Kadija during Cyclone Mocha

Nasrin Khatun, Midwife in Humanitarian response. Photo: UNFPA Bangladesh

The Missing Link

*Women in health are
visible in response, yet
invisible in decision-
making*



What does the Evidence Show?



1. Frontline Role

- Maintain SRHR services during crises
- Especially SRMNAH



2. Community Trust = Resilience

- Cultural knowledge
- Access to vulnerable population



3. Structural Barriers

- Gender norms
- Limited leadership pathways
- Exclusion from climate governance

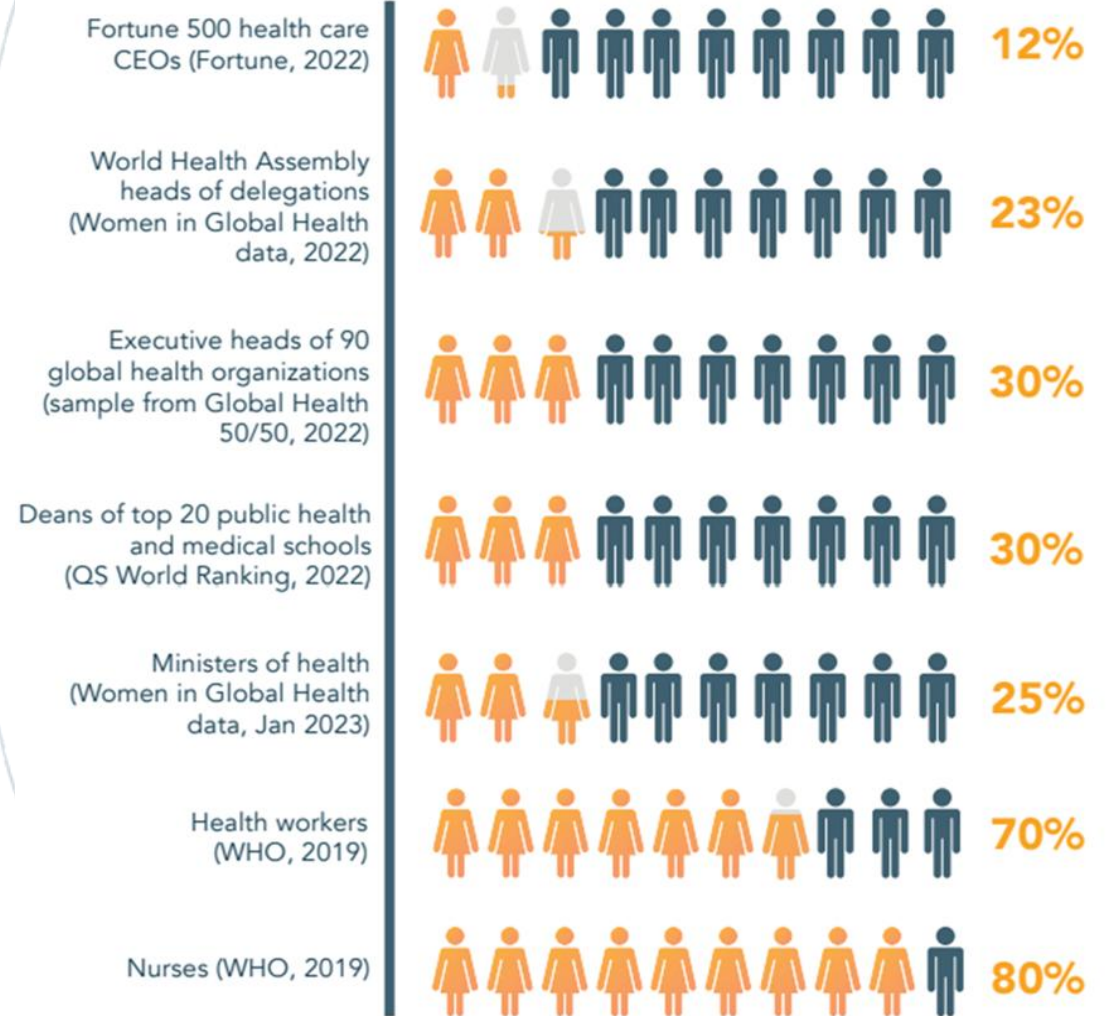


Why is this a Justice Issue?

- **Widest pay gap** in the health sector is in reproductive and maternal health – where most midwives work.
- Women comprise ~70% of global health workforce, yet hold only 25% of senior role.

Midwives are 93% health workforce – only 20% in leadership roles

- Evidence shows women leaders change health agendas and increase health investment.



WGH Leadership Pyramid 2023





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What must change?

1. Policy

Integrate SRHR into climate plans (38:119)

2. Leadership

Include female health providers in decision-making bodies (15%)

3. Systems

Training, funding, recognition

4. Data

Gender disaggregated climate-health data



Photo: DFID - UK Department
for International Development

Success Story

Neha Mankani

Midwife; Mama Baby Fund – Pakistan

Women's leadership - rooted in community, equity, and lived experiences, can drive transformative solutions at the nexus of climate justice and global health.



Neha Mankani
Humanitarian Engagement and Climate Advisor ICM



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Women health
providers are not only
responders - **they are
essential leaders in
climate-resilient SRHR
systems.**



We are the Core Group



Bárbara
Battistotti



Carmen Sant Fruchtmann



Michaela Told



Ana Vélez



Meghna Joshi-von Heyden



Helen Prytherch



Join the Movement



Our values

- Support and respect one another in a **non-competitive, psychologically safe**
- We are **inclusive** of women in all of their diversity.
- We **embody the change** we want to see in global health: transparency, fairness, encouragement and support.
- We are relentless... often **hilarious**.
- We **celebrate!**



Learn more: www.womeningh.org



Contact us: info@WomeninGH.org



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