

International Workshop on Gender and Disasters

Singapore | 20–21 February 2025

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**Workshop Agenda
20–21 February 2025****Location:** Institute of South Asian Studies, 29 Heng Mui Keng Terrace (Block B), Singapore

Day 1: 20 February 2025, Thursday

9:30 AM – 10:00 AM **Registration****Plenary Session**

- **Emcee:** Madhavi Pundit, Senior Economist, Asian Development Bank

10:00 AM – 10:30 AM **Welcome Remarks**

- Teoh Su Chin, Deputy Regional Director, Singapore Office, Asian Development Bank
- Iqbal Singh Sevea, Associate Professor and Director, Institute of South Asian Studies

10:30 AM – 10:45 AM **Group Photo and Coffee Break**10:45 AM – 11:05 AM **Presentation: Overview of the Sendai Framework Gender Action Plan (Sendai GAP)**

- Mary Picard, Director and Senior Consultant, Humanitarian and Development Consulting
- Athena Denise Galao, Programme Coordinator Gender and Climate Action, UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

11:05 AM – 12:15 PM **Panel Discussion: Implementation of Gender-Responsive Disaster Risk Management and the Sendai GAP**

- Razwanur Rahman, Director General, Department of Disaster Management, Bangladesh
- Major General Udaya Herath (Rtd), Director General, Disaster Management Centre, Sri Lanka
- Anil Pokhrel, Senior Advisor, Planeight Risk Consulting, Nepal
- Sonia Akter, Associate Professor, Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University

Moderator: Zonibel Woods, Senior Social Development Specialist, Asian Development Bank

12:15 PM – 12:30 PM **Discussion Session**

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12:30 PM – 1:30 PM Lunch

Technical Session 1: Presentation of Technical Papers on Gender and Disasters

(20 minutes for presentation, 5 minutes for discussion, and 10 minutes for Q&A, per presenter)

Session Chair: Farzana Munshi, Professor, BRAC University

1:30 PM – 2:05 PM

Kabalen Lipata: Gendered Repertoires of Climate-Related Disaster, Finance, and Debt Among Women Borrowers of Microloans in Sri Lanka

- Nedha de Silva, Research Fellow, Monash University
- *Discussant: Sanchita Basu Das, Economist, Asian Development Bank*

2:05 PM – 2:40 PM

The Impact of Community-Disseminated Early Warning Systems on Flood Preparedness in Rural India

- Jenna Allard, Associate Director of Research and Policy, Inclusion Economics at Yale University
- *Discussant: Olivia Jensen, Deputy Director and Lead Scientist (Environment and Climate), IPUR, National University of Singapore*

2:40 PM – 3:15 PM

Gendered Exposure to Heat Waves in South Asia

- Deepak Malghan, Assistant Professor, Indian Institute of Management Bangalore
- *Discussant: Lydia Law, Co-Director, Heat Resilience and Performance Center, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore*

3:15 PM – 3:30 PM

Coffee Break

Technical Session 2: Presentation of Technical Papers on Gender and Disasters

(20 minutes for presentation, 5 minutes for discussion, and 10 minutes for Q&A, per presenter)

Session Chair: Amitendu Palit, Senior Research Fellow and Research Lead, Institute of South Asian Studies

3:30 PM – 4:05 PM

Political Economy of Gender and Government Responsiveness in Disaster Risk Reduction

- Joyita Roy Chowdhury, Associate Professor, FLAME University
- *Discussant: Caroline Brassard, Adjunct Assistant Professor (Executive Education), LKYSPP*

4:05 PM – 4:40 PM

Do Cyclones Affect Men and Women Differently? Evidence from Bangladesh using Sex-Disaggregated Rapid Survey Data after Cyclone Remal

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- Sonia Akter, Associate Professor, Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University
- *Discussant: Ranjita Dilraj, PhD Candidate, South Asian Studies Programme, Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, National University of Singapore*

4:40 PM – 5:15 PM

Are Natural Disasters Disastrous for Learning? Evidence from Seven Asian Countries

- Minhaj Mahmud, Senior Economist, Asian Development Bank
- *Discussant: Liu Tong, Assistant Professor, LKYSPP, National University of Singapore*

6:00 PM onwards

Welcome Dinner

Day 2: 21 February 2025, Friday

9:30 AM – 10:00 AM

Registration

10:00 AM – 10:10 AM

Opening Remarks

- Abdul Abiad, Director, Asian Development Bank

Practice and Policy: Integrating Gender in Disaster Risk Management

(15 minutes for presentation followed by the discussion)

Moderator: Madhavi Pundit, Senior Economist, Asian Development Bank

10:10 AM – 10:25 AM

Integrating Gender into Disaster Mitigation and Preparedness

- Veronica Cedillos, President & CEO, GeoHazards International

10:25 AM – 10:40 AM

How Gender Issues are Integrated in Disaster Management Policies: The Case of Bangladesh

- Fahmida Khatun, Executive Director, Centre for Policy Dialogue

10:40 AM – 10:55 AM

Group Photo and Coffee Break

10:55 AM – 11:10 AM

Gender-Responsive DRRM in Nepal: Amplifying Women's Voices in Decision-Making for Resilience Building

- Krishna Karkee, Coordinator, Women Humanitarian and Disaster Risk Reduction Platform

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11:10 AM – 11:25 PM Improving Inclusion in Disaster Risk Governance Mechanisms

- Ramona Miranda, Steering Committee Member/Director, Duryog Nivaran

11:25 AM – 11:40 PM Integrating Gender into Heat Action Plans

- Zonibel Woods, Senior Social Development Specialist, Asian Development Bank

11:40 AM – 12:15 PM Discussion Session**12:15 PM – 1:30 PM Lunch****Finance and Insurance Solutions**

(10 minutes per presentation, followed by Q&A/open discussion)

Moderator: Andreas Lunding, Senior Climate Change Specialist (Climate Finance) / Fund Manager, Asia-Pacific Climate Finance Fund (ACiFF) | Asian Development Bank

1:30 PM – 1:40 PM Introduction to the session**1:40 PM – 1:50 PM ACiFF-Sponsored Project - Micro Insurance Solutions for Climate-Induced Risks Faced by Vulnerable Communities in India**

- Andreas Lunding, Senior Climate Change Specialist (Climate Finance) / Fund Manager, Asia-Pacific Climate Finance Fund (ACiFF) | Asian Development Bank

1:50 PM – 2:00 PM Financial Protection to Women in the Informal Sector Against Extreme Heat Exposure

- Bijal Brahmbhatt, Director, Mahila Housing Trust

2:00 PM – 2:10 PM Climate Smart Insurance Solutions for MSMEs

- Manoj Pandey, Regional Coordinator – Asia Pacific, UNEP FI – V20 Sustainable Insurance Facility

2:10 PM – 2:20 PM Integration of Climate Risk Insurance to Secure/Support the Financial Stability of MSMEs by Regional Development Bank in Sri Lanka

- Uthpala Gunawardana, Deputy Manager Sustainability Unit, Regional Development Bank, Sri Lanka

2:20 PM – 3:00 PM Q&A/Open Plenary Discussion: Opportunities and Challenges**3:00 PM – 3:15 PM Closing Session**