

Gender Mainstreaming and Women Empowerment Initiatives in ASEAN

Accelerating Women's Economic Empowerment in Agricultural Value Chains:
Launch of the Guidelines for Transformational Partnership and WEE in
Agricultural Value Chains

ASEAN Secretariat



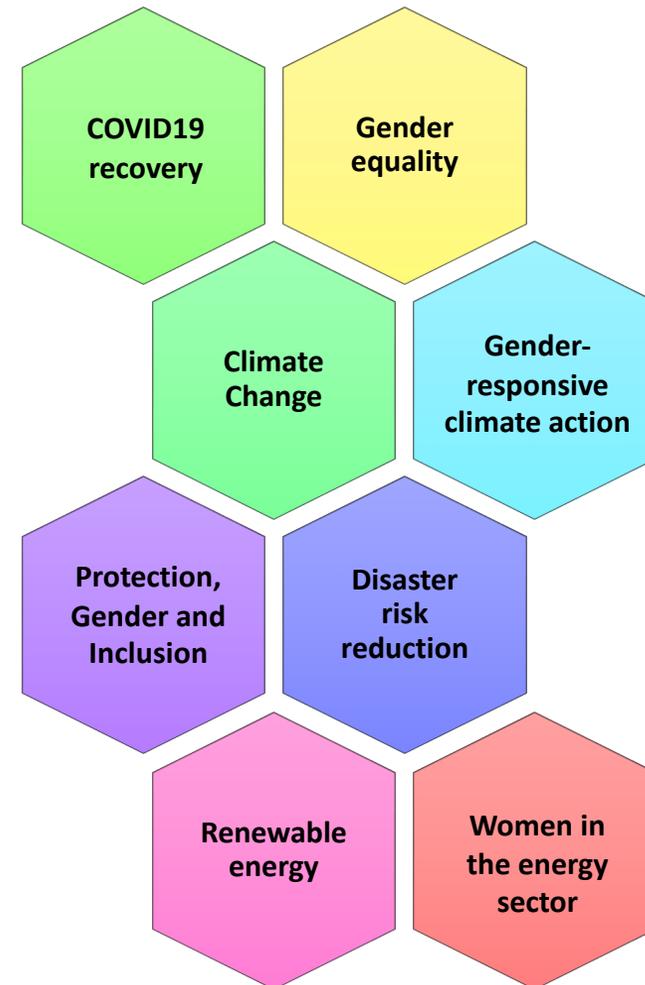
Agriculture

- In the ASEAN region, the **agriculture sector employs 26.7 percent of all working women** (*OECD, 2021, p. 14*), with 46 percent of the farmers are women dominate in terms of their labour force in various Southeast Asian countries
- However, women farmers experiences within the agricultural sector vary significantly based on age, ethnicity, religion, social class and location.
- Women faces gendered impediments relating to:
 - Lack of legal access to and control over the use of resources
 - Being relegated to low-levels of the economic value-chain
 - Unequal access and control over productive agricultural resources(*Resurrección et al., 2019*).



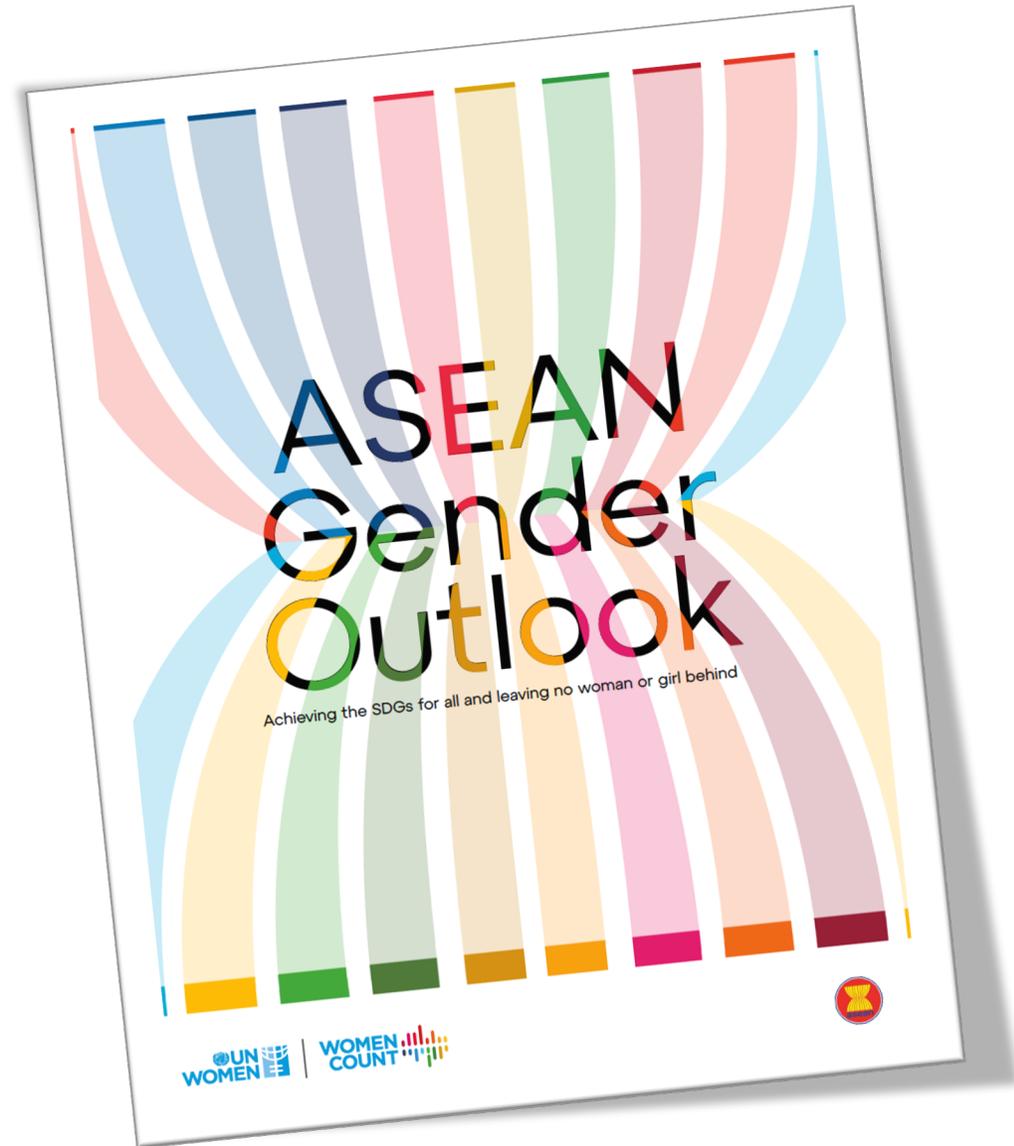
ASEAN Gender Outlook: Background

- The **ASEAN Declaration on the gender-responsive implementation of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025**, and the **ASEAN Gender Mainstreaming Strategic Framework** adopting an intersectional approach to leaving no one behind, considering disproportionate effects of climate and ecological emergencies on women and girls
- The ACW Work Plan 2021-2025 includes the thematic areas on **Gender responsive climate and disaster resilience** with the realising **the gender inequalities from impacts of the changing climate. It recognizes the resilience of women and girls.**
- The **ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework** include **Advancing towards a More Sustainable and Resilient Future** and states ASEAN's commitment to pursue an inclusive, **gender and climate-responsive approach to strengthen integrated policy frameworks**



ASEAN Gender Outlook

- The **ASEAN Gender Outlook: Achieving the SDGs for All and Leaving No Woman or Girl Behind**, launched on **1 March 2021**, is a regional flagship jointly produced by the ACW, the ASEAN Secretariat, and UN Women.
- The study provides evidences to continue investing in women and girls to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Gender equality are building blocks and accelerators for progress across SDGs.
- Sustainable development calls for comprehensive responses to social, economic, and environmental challenges.

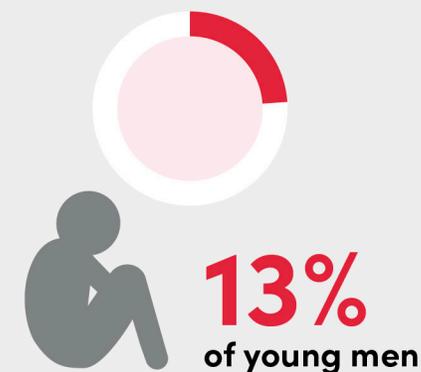


Findings

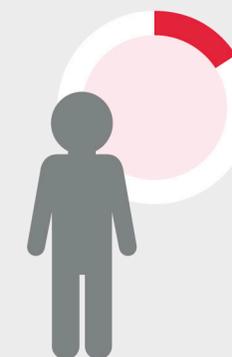
- Analysis of existing data in ASEAN shows that **women and girls living in poor households and rural areas face multiple deprivations** when **two or more forms of discrimination overlap**, the barriers women face tend to increase;
- The study looks at each SDG through **tracking progress towards gender equality**;
- The **ASEAN Gender Outlook** calls for increased investment in **gender data and statistics**. It is crucial to inform decision-making and policy responses are **inclusive** in responding needs of marginalised women and girls.



ASEAN has successfully slashed poverty rates, but aggregates hide women's disadvantage



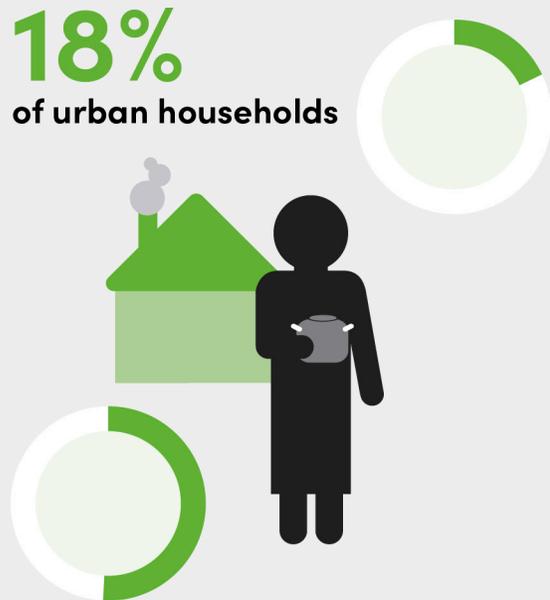
Since COVID-19,



Environmental degradation is putting ASEAN women's health and livelihoods at stake

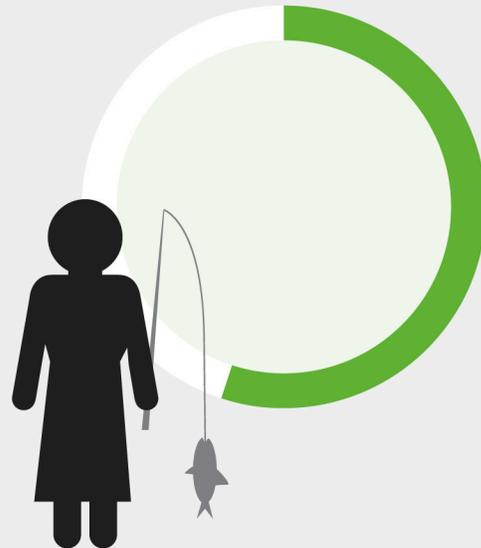


18%
of urban households



51%
of rural households
lack clean cooking fuels.

This affects women, who are often in charge of cooking



Women account for up to **55%** of workers in fish processing and are more likely to work in tourism. They have high stakes in ocean protection.

Land degradation is prompting male urban migration and a feminization of agriculture.



But **85%** of agricultural land holders are men - who make decisions impacting conservation.



Men are **7 times** as likely to engage in mining, a heavily polluting activity



Women have the final say on small purchases in **90%** of households. Both play important roles in sustainable consumption.

Gender Mainstreaming in Rural Development and Poverty Eradication

Empowering Rural Women

- Cultivating rural women's voice in national and regional platforms;
- Create policy environment for enhancing rural women's access to knowledge, technology, and resources
- Empower rural women at national and regional levels and facilitate recovery from the pandemic



Gender Integration in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

- Underlined in the recently adopted *ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme 2021-2025*
- The *AADMER 2021-2025* serves as a promising step towards an inclusive framework first time that gender considerations have been integrated into the AADMER Work Programme
- Disaster impacts are deeply gendered:
 - Gender different on the problems face : women's reproductive health can be threatened by disaster
 - Gender differences in capacity to cope : Persistent inequalities and power differences in Southeast Asia shape people's capacities to respond and adapt to disasters and climate change impacts.
 - Systematic increase in gender-based violence.



Assessment Report on Gender Equality and Climate Change in ASEAN

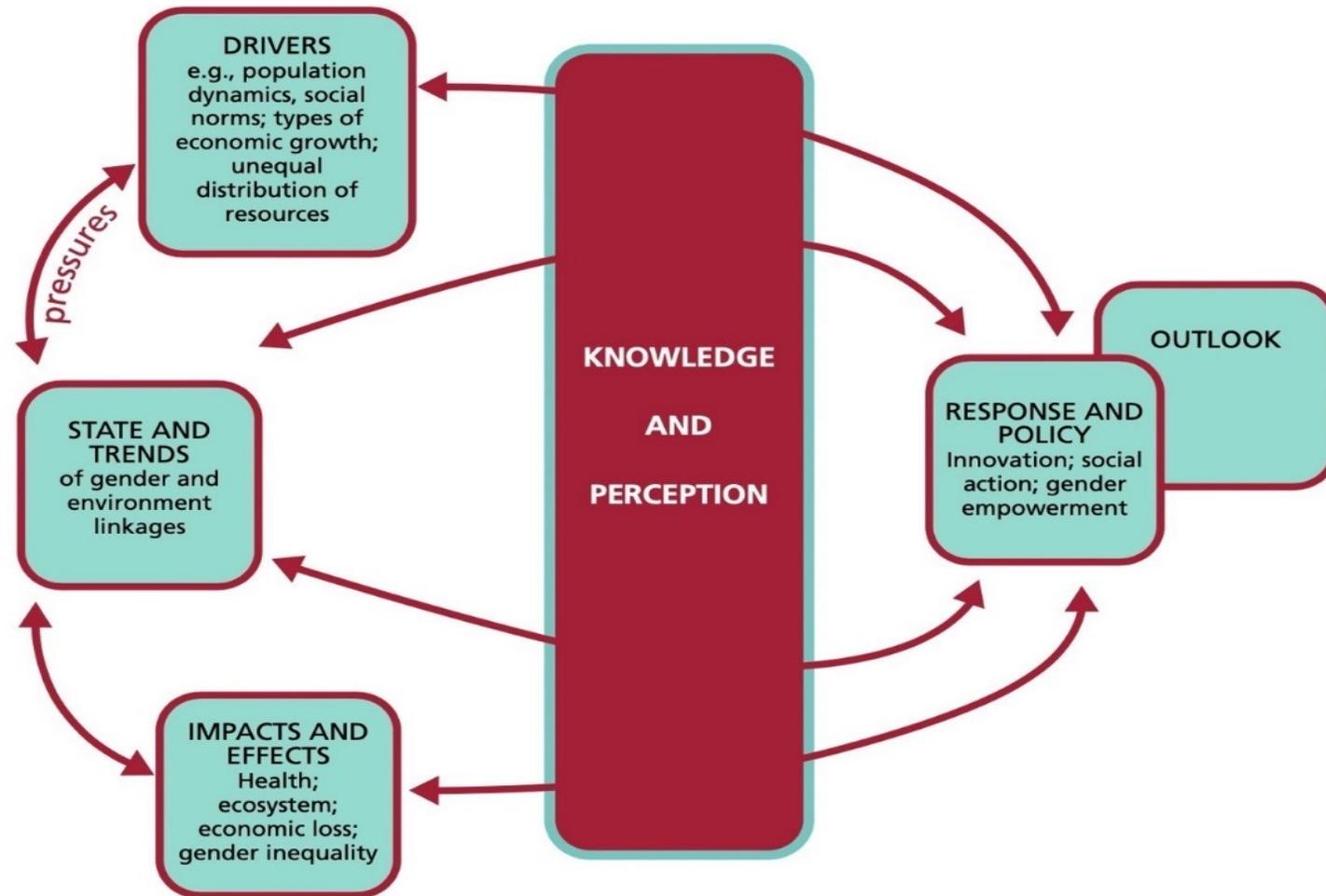
- Report support ASEAN's advancing gender-responsive climate action and resilience building, including COVID-19 recovery efforts by providing analytical assessment in the three selected sectors: **Agriculture, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), and Renewable Energy (RE)**.
- **Shared with ACW** in April 2021 . A series of FGDs and KIIs were conducted leading to the development of the first draft shared with ASEAN sectoral bodies on 26 November 2021. The Report has undergone two rounds of consultation and is now in its **finalisation** stage.
- **Raise awareness on the need for gender-responsive climate action**; analyse gendered impacts of climate change; and suggest ways to mainstream gender equality into climate-relevant ASEAN sectoral policies.



Analytical Framework

Analysis guided by a revised DPSIR framework

(Drivers – Pressures – State - Impacts
- Response/ Policies)



Modified DPSIR framework mediated through knowledge and perception (Seager et al., 2016).

Moving Forward

- **ASEAN Gender Outlook** determine the levels of inequalities inferred in the ASEAN Member States. It is necessary to generate high-quality data with multi-level disaggregation to assess who is being left behind.
- **ASEAN Strategic Framework on Gender Mainstreaming** is advancing gender equality in the region. A key entry-point is to enhance consistency across sectors to identify the gender gaps remaining and mainstream a transformative approach by addressing the structural inequalities and power dynamics.
- **Assessment Report on Gender Equality and Climate Change in ASEAN** is guiding AMS in formulating policy and programme interventions for increased public investments and cross-sectoral development cooperation to advance inclusivity to ensure no woman or girl is left behind.





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