

The 4th Arab Partnership Meeting for Disaster Risk Reduction

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) Voluntary Stakeholder Group
on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Climate Change and Migration

Updates on the Voluntary Commitments

10 December 2019 Cairo, Egypt

Voluntary Action Statement

Overview of commitments: Long term

1. Data on gender, DRR, CC, migration collected and tools developed for policy formulation and implementation;
2. Participation of women in decision making in the fore-mentioned agendas promoted;
3. Capacities of government on implementing these linked agendas developed.

Overview of commitments: Short and Mid Term

1. Create a website and brochure about the group – **AWC with feedback from UN Women**;
2. Produce stakeholder mapping of relevant civil society and mapping of national mechanisms on DRR - **RAED, IFRC and UN Women**;
3. Produce stakeholder mapping of private sector entities on Gender, DRR, Climate change and migration in the Region - **RAED**;
4. Collect secondary data sources on the themes of gender, DRR, CC and migration from group members and their partners to inform Regional Assessment Report on DRR - **Egyptian Red Crescent**.

Achievements Between Sept 2018 and May 2019

- Tunis Declaration by Arab Governments at Africa-Arab Platform on DRR addresses gender, DRR, CC, migration, a breakthrough in a context where this agenda has been relatively unaddressed;
- Development of GEWE Voluntary Action Statement (VAS) facilitated by UN Women as Chair, unanimously endorsed by Arab Governments;
- Inputs provided to outline of Regional Assessment Report on DRR;
- GEWE representative from Arab Water Council advocated promoting women's leadership in decision-making on these agendas and highlighted how the VSAG on Gender could support governments implement SENDAI at a Special Session on Policy Coherence organized by UNDRR in partnership with UN Women, UNESCWA and UNOPS at Arab Forum on Sustainable Development April 2019, Lebanon;

Achievements Between Sept 2018 and May 2019

- GEWE Chair, UN Women presented progress of the group at Stakeholders Consultation organized by UNDRR at Global Platform on DRR, May 2019, Geneva;
- GEWE Chair, UN Women presented progress of group and requested govts to include women's groups on DRR, CC, migration on national mechanisms to formulate DRR strategies; and include women's and girl's priorities in the same, at Arab DRR Partnership Dialogue organized by UNDRR at Global Platform on DRR, May 2019, Geneva;
- Preliminary gender stakeholder mapping and analysis has been undertaken;

Achievements Between May 2019 and December 2019

- Advocacy with Arab governments at the Global Platform on DRR Geneva on Gender and DRR and need to include women and their priorities on DRR, CC and migration in national DRR strategies via on national mechanisms
- TOR now co-chaired by UN Women and the Arab Water Council formally adopted and membership expanded through a process of consultation
- Enhancing the developed Brochure and Web Portal of the group by AWC through a process of consultation
- Conducting GEWE 2nd partnership group meeting



<http://gewe.arabwatercouncil.org/>



Achievements

Between May 2019 and December 2019



- Presentation by AWC on preparations for the ASDW at Sept GEWE meeting soliciting ideas for activities at the ASDW. This resulted in
 - (a) booth with featuring of information, publications and video films on GEWE in CC/disasters, as an advocacy measure –AWC, UNW and UNDRR;
 - (b) panel on social vulnerability to CC on which GEWE had representation on Gender, Climate Change, Disasters and impacts (The gender dimension under the contribution of UN Women as Chair of the GEWE group was reflected in the SDW report that is currently under preparation including the main findings and outcomes of the discussion from all panelists) – LAS & AWC Co-Convened the Session – The Panel Speakers from the World Bank, FAO, WFP, UN Women and Desert Research Center.

Plan for 2020

1. Preparations for formal launch of GEWE Group with policy dialogue in March (parallel with International Women's Day)

Challenges and Opportunities:

1. Seeking funds for activities (Trainings, etc.)
2. Seeking more interaction from partners regarding data collection (Case Studies, Guidelines or Useful Tips) for GEWE website
3. Some attention needed by members on rules of procedure to ensure continuity, coordination, and avoidance of duplication of work

Thank you