

Gender inequalities, the climate crisis and the ecological transition

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We live in a deeply unequal world, where 70% of the poorest people are women. Because they are poorer and therefore more vulnerable, and victims of discriminatory social labelling, women are more affected by the devastating consequences of climate change and biodiversity loss. This is a disturbing finding, especially as women are major players in the ecological transition but are less involved than men in environmental and climate decisions.

In the 2004 Tsunami, which affected Indian Ocean countries, 70% of those who died were women



Only
35%

the members of the permanent delegations to the COP26 climate change conference were women

IN FIGURES

What are the solutions for building a sustainable and gender-equal society?

By addressing this issue at the crossroads of two major themes that concern everyone's future, the ESEC affirms that protecting our planet goes hand in hand with profound changes in our society, of which gender equality is a major focus.

The ESEC's opinion is based on a particularly well-documented report, which notes the significant

gap between strong and repeated institutional declarations on the need to consider the situation of women and involve them in collective action, and the fact that these declarations are rarely implemented. This is why the ESEC proposes operational solutions, identifying the actors involved and proposing a timetable for implementation.

These solutions also aim to increase the visibility of the environmental injustices suffered by women, by developing gender figures, and to resolve them, by removing the many obstacles that currently prevent women from assuming their full role in the ecological transition.

Building a sustainable and gender-equal society

OPINION

1 IMPROVE KNOWLEDGE AND RESEARCH ON THE DIFFERENTIAL IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON WOMEN

- Integrate available gender-specific climate studies and data into IPCC reports in order to build ecological transition scenarios that integrate gender inequality.
- Systematise at international, national and local levels, the collection of gender disaggregated data when assessing the effects of environmental degradation and natural and technological disasters.

2 BUILD PUBLIC POLICIES ON THE CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL TRANSITION BASED ON GENDER-DISAGGREGATED DATA

- Take into account the gender dimension in the preliminary impact assessment of executive-branch and legislative-branch bills that concern the ecological transition and in their evaluation.
- Integrate a gender inequality indicator and, more broadly, an environmental justice indicator into national environmental planning.

3 COMMIT ALL ACTORS TO THE FULL INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN THE FIGHT AGAINST GLOBAL WARMING AND THE ECOLOGICAL TRANSITION

- Identify gender-specific data in companies' carbon footprints, train carbon footprint experts in gender issues, and provide technical and financial support to companies involved in this activity.
- Increase the gender mix of 'green and greening' professions and the promotion of women to positions of responsibility in these professions.

4 ENVIRONMENTAL DEMOCRACY: ENABLE WOMEN TO BE KEY PLAYERS IN THE DEBATE

- Establish gender balance in French representation at the COPs and in the decision-making bodies of climate mechanisms and funds (e.g. the Green Climate Fund (GCF) or Global Environment Fund (GEF)).
- Adapt the times of democratic debate taking into account the constraints on women (meeting times, childcare, etc.), introduce new participation spaces that are more favourable to women (Living Labs, third places, project houses, etc.), and develop egalitarian and innovative techniques (non-formal education, alternating speaking, single-sex workshops etc.).

THE RAPPORTEURS

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