



ZONTA
INTERNATIONAL

BUILD A BETTER WORLD
FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS



Intercontinental Think Tank

Zoom Meeting – 18 February 2024
10 am to 11.30 am UTC



Today's Journey

Welcome

Actions since the last meeting

Women's Environment and Development Organisation (WEDO)

Interview with Mwanahamisi Singano "Mishy"
Senior Global Policy Lead

News / Other Business

Discussion / Feedback

Introducing the Disaster-Ready Guides

Nomena Rasoamanandraibe
ZC Madagascar
District 18

Next Meeting



Welcome



https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---relconf/documents/meetingdocument/wcms_882219.pdf



World Day of Social Justice
20 February

“All human beings, irrespective of race, creed or sex, have the right to pursue both their material well-being and their spiritual development in conditions of **freedom and dignity, of economic security and equal opportunity**”.



six events
on 20 Feb

Universal Human Rights
and capabilities

Fair Distribution of
outcomes

Equal access to
opportunities

Just transitions



Zonta Says NOW Working Group



Back Row:

Karin Lange, ZC Berlin 1989, Germany, D27
Angela Brokmann, ZC Louisville, USA, D5
Jane Austin, ZC Minneapolis, USA, D7
Errick Elavia, ZC Bombay I, India, D25
Bobbee Cardillo, ZC Fairfax County, USA, D3

Front Row:

Carole Theobald, ZC Perth, Australia, D23
Julie Trone, ZC Fort Collins, USA, D12
Pia Hultgren, ZC Lidingo, Sweden, D21

Insets:

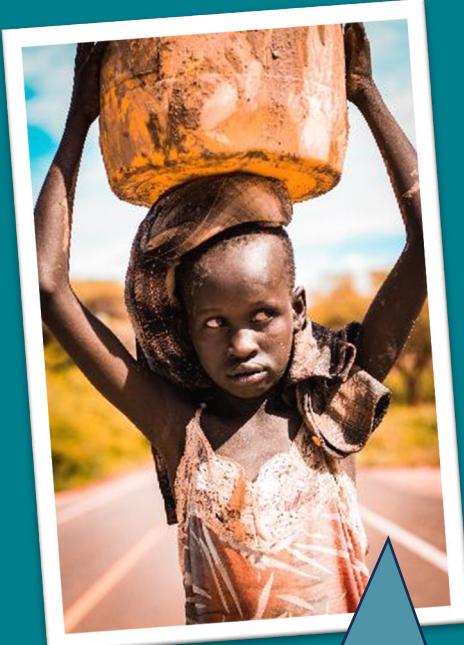
Dilruba Ahmed, ZC Chittagong, Bangladesh, D25
Pamela Morgan, ZC Essex County, USA, D3
Joan Kabayambi, ZC Kampala, Uganda, D18



Why does Zonta Say NOW?



The women and girls who inspire Zonta Says NOW



Dabor, 9, Sudan
Drought means that she walks further for water, fuel and food. No time for school.



Aayan, 11, Mozambique
Floods destroyed her family's home, they became destitute and sold Aayan into child marriage.



Judith, 42 and Clare 7, Canada
Wildfire smoke triggered Clare's asthma so Judith stayed home to look after her. She is worried she will lose her job.



Maria, 79, Australia
She has a heart condition and cannot afford air conditioning. She is worried about surviving the extreme heat this summer.



Our Purpose

**Zonta Says NOW
seeks climate justice
for women and girls**

So women and girls can prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from the impacts of climate change on the same basis as men.

We do this by taking gender-equal climate action
locally, nationally and internationally



Our Tools

Website

Our Causes
Zonta Says NOW
To Gender-EQUAL Climate Action

Zonta International envisions a world where every woman can achieve her full potential. It is our mission to support, encourage and enable women to make positive lives in an equal relationship with men, and then without fear of violence.

By taking gender-equal climate action now, we can keep this vision alive.

ABOUT HISTORY ACTIONS
RESOURCES THINK TANKS VIRTUAL ART EXHIBITION

zonta.org

Think Tanks

ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
BUILD A BETTER WORLD
TOGETHER AND GLOBALLY

ZONTA SAYS NOW
TO GENDER-EQUAL CLIMATE ACTION

Intercontinental Think Tank

Resources

STRATEGIC PLAN
Zonta, Gender Equality, and a Vision for 2050 & Beyond

STATEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE
A GENDER EQUALITY ISSUE

Action Guide 01
Raising Awareness

Action Guide 02
Lead by Example

Virtual Art Gallery

Action Framework





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Actions since the last meeting

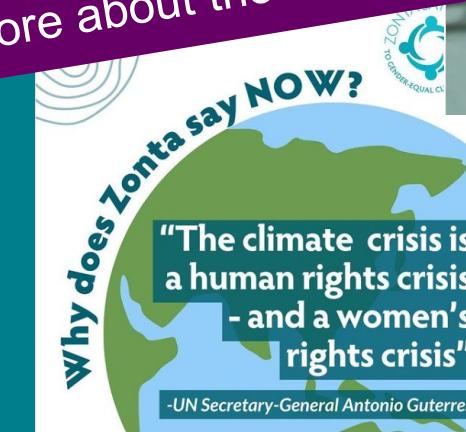


Virtual Art Gallery
Closing Date 29 February
Launch on
Mother Earth Day 22 April



NGO CSW 68
Presentation on
Sunday 17 March
at 10.30pm UTC

Plus the Disaster-Ready Guides
(more about those later in the meeting)





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Introducing the Disaster-Ready Guides

Next Meeting

Mwanahamisi Singano (Mishy)



Global Policy Lead
Women's Environment and Development
Organization (WEDO)

WE DO

ISSUES

CLIMATE CHANGE

[EXPLORE](#)

BIODIVERSITY

[EXPLORE](#)

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

[EXPLORE](#)

SUSTAINABLE CITIES & TRANSPORT

[EXPLORE](#)

PEACE, CONFLICT & NATURAL RESOURCES

[EXPLORE](#)

INTERNATIONAL FINANCE & TRADE

[EXPLORE](#)

OUR PROGRAMS

GENDER-JUST CLIMATE POLICY

[EXPLORE](#)

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP: THE WOMEN DELEGATES FUND

[EXPLORE](#)

FEMINIST ACTION NEXUS FOR ECONOMIC AND CLIMATE JUSTICE

[EXPLORE](#)

U.S. ADVOCACY

[EXPLORE](#)

GENDER + ENVIRONMENT DATA ALLIANCE (GEDA)

[EXPLORE](#)

GENDER JUST CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

[EXPLORE](#)

Mwanahamisi Singano
"Mishy"
Program Manager,
Global Policy, WEDO





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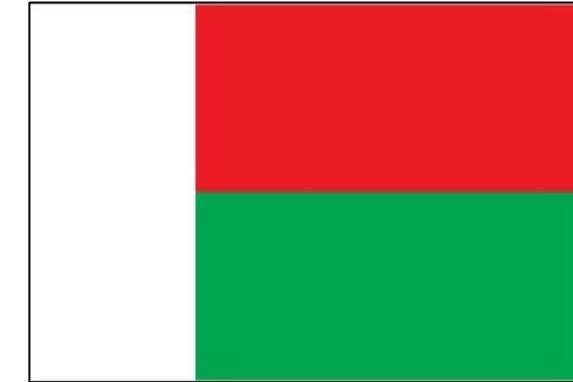
Next Meeting



Nomena Rasoamanandraibe



ZC Madagascar
District 18



MADAGASCAR

Land area: 587,041 sq km

Population: 28.8 million



Antananarivo

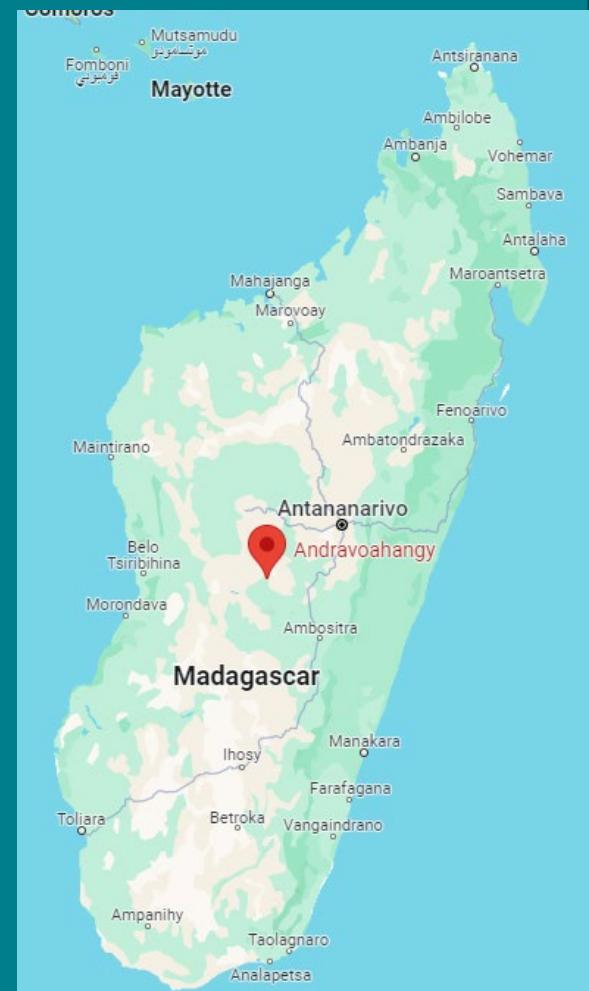




Agriculture

Andravoahangy is a place where farmers bring and sell their produce in the early morning.

Photos taken during interviews last Wednesday.



















Health

Women queue and wait for medical consultations at a "Centre de Santé de Base".

Photos taken last week.







Vehicle
exhausts







Unsafe
rivers after
rainfalls.











Plastic
pollution in
our
waterways







Life in
the
country







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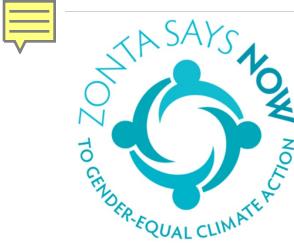
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Discussion / Feedback

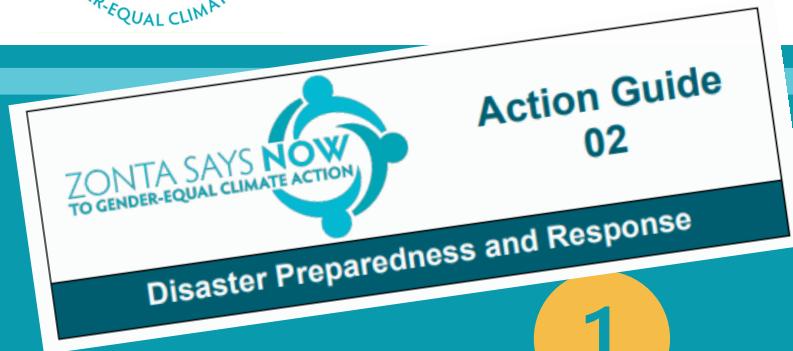
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Introducing the Disaster-Ready Guides



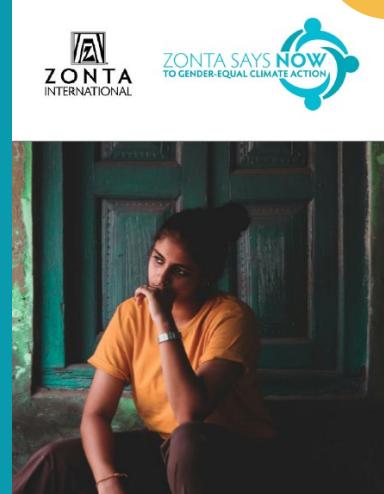
1



Disaster-Ready Guide 1
Why are
women and girls
more vulnerable to the
impacts of disasters?

This document is designed to be read onscreen
as it contains hyperlinks

2



Disaster-Ready Guide 2
**Is your
household
disaster-ready?**

This document is designed to be read onscreen
as it contains hyperlinks

3



Disaster-Ready Guide 3
**Is your
community
disaster-ready?**

This document is designed to be read onscreen
as it contains hyperlinks

4



Disaster-Ready Guide 4
**Where are
your local
disaster relief
organizations?**

This document is designed to be read onscreen
as it contains hyperlinks

5



Disaster-Ready Guide 5
**Is your
country
disaster-ready?**

This document is designed to be read onscreen
as it contains hyperlinks



1

Disaster-Ready Guide 1

Why are women and girls more vulnerable to the impacts of disasters?

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"It is a plain and simple truth that disasters reinforce, perpetuate and increase gender inequality, making bad situations worse."

*Margareta Wahlström,
the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative
for Disaster Risk Reduction ([UNISDR, 2012](#))*

Why are women and girls more vulnerable to the impact of disasters?

Women and girls may have:

- **less access to information**, education, and early warning systems that can help them prepare for and avoid disasters.
- **more responsibility for caring** for the home and the people in it, including children, older people, and people with disabilities that prevent them from evacuating, accessing relief services, or finding alternative livelihoods after a disaster.
- **less mobility and autonomy** to evacuate or relocate to safer places due to cultural norms, caregiving responsibilities, or lack of resources.
- **lower socioeconomic status, fewer assets**, and less access to land, credit, and insurance that can help them mitigate the losses and damages caused by disasters.
- **higher rates of malnutrition, illiteracy**, and chronic diseases that can increase their susceptibility to harm and reduce their resilience.

- **less participation and representation** in decision-making processes, leadership roles, and community engagement activities related to disaster risk management.
- **less access to skills, training, and livelihood opportunities** that can help them cope and recover from disasters.

These factors can result in higher mortality and morbidity rates, lower well-being and dignity, and increased risks of gender-based violence for women and girls in disaster situations.

Therefore, it is important to address gender inequality in disaster risk reduction and resilience building. This is why, in the *Statement on Climate Change*:

Zonta International calls on governments to include women in the formation of disaster preparedness and response plans. These should address the unique needs of women and girls, prioritize their health and safety and include responses to gender-based violence.

What are the unique needs of women and girls in disasters?

Women and girls have unique needs in disasters because of their gender roles, social norms, and biological differences. Some of these needs are:

- **Protection from gender-based violence:** Women and girls are more likely to face domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, and other forms of abuse during and after disasters. They need safe shelters,

- legal support, psychosocial counseling, and access to health services.
- **Reproductive health care:** Women and girls may face challenges in accessing reproductive health care, such as family planning, maternal health, menstrual hygiene, and sexual health. They need adequate supplies, information, and services to meet their reproductive needs during and after disasters.
- **Mental health and psychosocial support:** Women and girls may experience trauma, stress, anxiety, depression, and other mental health issues due to disasters. They need access to mental health and psychosocial support services that are sensitive to their needs and preferences.
- **Livelihood and education opportunities:** Women and girls may lose their sources of income, assets, and education due to disasters. They need opportunities to restore their livelihoods, access financial assistance, and continue their education.
- **Participation and leadership:** Women and girls are often excluded from decision-making and leadership roles in disaster management. They need to be involved and empowered to voice their concerns, needs, and solutions.
- **Food security and nutrition:** Women and girls may face food insecurity and malnutrition due to limited access to food, water, and cooking facilities. They may also prioritize feeding their families over themselves, or face discrimination in food distribution. They need adequate and nutritious food, safe water, and hygiene supplies.
- **Shelter and housing:** Women and girls may lose their homes or face displacement due to disasters. They may also face challenges in

finding safe, dignified, and accessible shelter and housing. They need protection from the elements, privacy, security, and accessibility in their shelter and housing options.

- **Education and information:** Women and girls may miss out on education or information due to disasters. They may face barriers in accessing schools, learning materials, or communication channels. They need opportunities to continue their education, access information, and communicate their needs and feedback.

By recognizing and addressing these needs, we can support the well-being and empowerment of women and girls.

The Zonta Says NOW [Disaster-Ready Guides](#) support Action Guide 02: *Disaster Preparedness and Response*.



Photo: Pexels

Further Information

- [Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction](#)
- [UN Women's Resilience to Disasters Knowledge Hub](#)
- [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#)
- [World Bank's Gender Dynamics of Disaster Risk and Resilience](#)
- [Women and Girls in Disasters](#)
- [Women are hit hardest in disasters, so why are responses too often gender-blind?](#)
- [Women's Resilience to Disasters](#)
- [Understanding the experiences of women in disasters: lessons for emergency management planning](#)
- [Why we must engage women and children in disaster risk management](#)
- [Women and Girls in Emergencies](#)

2

Disaster-Ready Guide 2

Is your household disaster-ready?

This document is designed to be read onscreen as it contains hyperlinks

This leaflet is designed to get you thinking about your personal preparedness so you can assess if you are disaster-ready. Use it as a conversation starter with your family and friends.

1. Getting ready

- **What kind of disasters are likely in your area?** Are they storms, tornadoes, floods, sea-level rise, drought, heat, fires, or other hazards?
- **Are you mentally ready for a disaster?** How do you react to stress? How does your body feel when stressed? What can you do to manage your feelings and thoughts so you prepare your mind for an emergency, e.g. breathing, positive thoughts.
- **Do you have a household disaster plan?** What does it include? Does everyone in the household know where it is and what to do in an emergency? Has everyone in the household practised the actions in the plan? Do you review the plan? If so, how often? Does the plan include where you will go if you need to evacuate, how you will communicate with each other, who will take care of your pets and plants, and what documents and supplies you will need?
- **How will you find out about a disaster?** Are you familiar with the early warning systems in your area and where to get information about current disasters?
- **What if you are away from home?** Do you know what to do if you are on holiday or away from home during a disaster? What if you have visitors staying with you?
- **Do you know your neighbors?** They may be the first people you call on for help in a disaster.

- **Do you know first aid?** Have you had training in first aid and mental health/psychological first aid?
- **What will you pack in an emergency kit?** Does it include water, food, flashlight, radio, first aid kit, cash and important documents. Can you carry it easily?

2. What does your household disaster plan include?

Print out your plan, make sure everyone knows where it is, and take it with you. Don't rely on your phone for information as there may be no power.

Does your plan include:

- **Your emergency information:** This includes your name, contact details, medical conditions, medications, allergies, and any support network or out-of-town contacts you have.
- **Your important services:** This includes the company name, account number and contact details for electricity, gas, water, internet, phone, insurances, and roadside assistance.
- **Your local radio emergency broadcast frequency:** This is the radio station that broadcasts emergency information and alerts in your area.
- **Your agreed meeting places:** This is the location where you can meet with your family or friends near your home, or where you will evacuate to during an emergency. It could be a friend's house, a relative's house, a hotel room, or a public shelter.
- **Your medical plan:** This includes the name and contact details of each person who can

2

help you in an emergency e.g your doctor, hospital emergency department, chemist, optometrist, dentist, and any other medical providers you need to contact in an emergency.

- **Your medical conditions** and how you plan to manage these conditions during and after an emergency.
- **Your current medications, medical aids and equipment:** This includes the name and dose of each medication you are currently taking and contact details for the prescribing doctor, any allergies and sensitivities (food, medication). Note the serial numbers of medical aids/equipment in case they are lost or damaged.
- **Your pet management plan:** Can you take your pet with you? What about large animals? Do you have a plan for them if you are not at home when the emergency happens?
- **What else** would you include in your plan?

3. What to pack?

How quickly may you need to leave your home?

- *What would you keep packed and ready to go within 5 minutes?* (For example, the police have knocked on the door and you need to get out now)
- *What you would add if you had 30 minutes warning?* (For example, rising flood waters)
- *What you would add if you had a day's warning?* (For example, cyclone approaching)

How will you pack and carry the items?

- Will you use a backpack so your arms are free or a small suitcase with wheels, or boxes?

Discuss this checklist with your household members. Which items will you need?

Water and Food

- Will you need food and water? If so, how much? How often will you rotate it in your disaster kit?
- Will you need to purify water, such as boiling, filtering, or chlorinating?
- Do you need food for people with special dietary needs, such as infants, elderly, or people with allergies?

Medical Supplies

- What will you put in your first aid kit?
- Can you quickly access prescription medications, eyeglasses, contact lenses, hearing aids, and other medical devices that you or your family members need?
- Will you need face masks and hand sanitizer?

Clothing and Footwear

- How many changes of clothes and footwear per person will you take? Will you need, jackets, hats, gloves, boots etc?
- Will the clothing need to protect you from rain, wind, sun, cold, heat, etc?
- Will you need sleeping bags, blankets, a tent, or tarpaulin?

Tools and Equipment

- Do you have a flashlight, a radio, and extra batteries to receive information and see in the dark?
- Will you need a whistle, a signal mirror, or a flare to attract attention and call for help?
- Will you need a knife, a multi-tool, a can opener, and a fire starter to cut, open, and cook food and other items?
- Will you need a map, a compass, and a GPS device to navigate and locate your position?
- Do you have a phone, a charger, and a power bank to communicate and access information?

Important Documents and Money

- Do you have
 - ◊ copies of your identification, passport, birth certificate, marriage certificate, insurance, bank account, property deed, etc.
 - ◊ contact information of your family, friends, neighbors, doctors, employers, etc.
 - ◊ cash and coins in local currency and small denominations.
- Can you store all documents in a waterproof and fireproof container or a digital format?

Personal items / Irreplaceable items

- Are there photographs, paintings, family heirlooms, awards, or jewellery that you want to take with you?
- What about children's toys?

4. Write your plan

Now you have discussed the plan, it is time to write it down. Many organisations have templates to help you write a disaster plan for your household. Check what resources may be available in your country from your:

- government disaster agency or
- national Red Cross or Red Crescent agency.

Alternatively, get started by downloading the Australian Red Cross [RediPlan](#) resources. Watch Liz Witham's [presentation](#) (ZC Prowers County, District 12) where she shares how she prepares for evacuation from cyclones and fires.

The Zonta Says NOW [Disaster-Ready Guides](#) support Action Guide 02: Disaster Preparedness and Response.



3

Disaster-Ready Guide 3

Is your community disaster-ready?

This document is designed to be read onscreen as it contains hyperlinks



This leaflet is designed to inspire Zonta clubs to find out more about their community's disaster preparedness and response plans and how the plans meet the needs of women and girls.

Disasters can strike at any time, and they can have devastating impacts on the lives and livelihoods of people, especially women and girls.

Zonta International calls on governments to include women in the formation of disaster preparedness and response plans that:

- Recognise the unique needs of women and girls.
- Prioritize their health and safety.
- Include responses to gender-based violence.

Do you know what happens in your community before, during, and after, a disaster? Does your community's disaster and preparedness response plan adequately address the needs of women and girls? How can your club support local disaster response initiatives?

Meet with your local government or emergency service representatives and ask them these questions. Invite them to attend a meeting to share their knowledge and experience with members.

1. What does your organization know about the community?

- **Types of disaster:** What are the main types of disaster that affect the community and how often do they occur?
- **High risk areas:** Which areas are prone to fires, floods, or other extreme weather events?

- **Data collection:** Do you know where vulnerable people are located? How do you measure the impacts that disasters have on the community's health, safety, environment, economy, and social well-being? Do you collect any gendered data?
- **Early warning:** When and where are early warning systems used and how do you know they have reached everyone?
- **Testing response plans:** How are disaster preparedness and response systems tested? Are evacuation procedures practised? Are local communities involved?
- **Funding:** How is disaster planning, response and recovery funded? Is disaster relief funding available for affected community members?

2. How does your organization include women in disaster preparedness and response planning?

- **Stakeholder engagement:** How do you involve women, women's groups, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders in the planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of disaster response plans?
- **Women's participation and leadership:** How many women and men are involved in your disaster planning processes? How many women are in decision-making roles?

3

The Zonta Says NOW [Disaster-Ready Guides](#) support Action Guide 02: *Disaster Preparedness and Response*.

See also [Disaster-Ready Guide Where are your local disaster organizations?](#)

- **Needs assessment:** How do you assess the gender-specific needs and vulnerabilities of women and girls in your community before, during, and after a disaster? For example,
 - ◊ How do you address the specific needs and challenges of women and girls who are menstruating, pregnant, lactating, or are caring for young children or elderly people in disaster situations?
 - ◊ How do you prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) in disaster settings?
 - ◊ How do you support the poor who cannot afford cooling/heating and the homeless?



Photo: Pexels

What can our club do to raise awareness of disaster preparedness?

1. Gather the facts:

- Invite local emergency services, local disaster management groups, NGOs and Red Cross or Red Crescent agencies to speak to the club to:
 - ◊ Describe local disaster management planning processes.
 - ◊ Explain how local disaster plans cater for women's safety, menstrual health, incontinence, disability, and child and elder care.
 - ◊ Describe how women feature in their agencies' goals, strategies, and disaster plans and whether there are women on their board or in senior roles.
 - ◊ Suggest how Zonta may best advocate and provide support to the community's disaster planning processes.
- Invite women who have been impacted by climate change-related disasters to share their stories at meetings e.g., women from a refugee agency.

2. Lead by example:

- Encourage members to:
 - ◊ Prepare a household disaster readiness plan.
 - ◊ Undertake physical and psychological first aid training.
- Include a disaster readiness session at a club meeting, area workshop or district conference.

3. Use our voice:

- Share what we have learned about disaster preparedness and the actions we have taken, with

our family, friends, neighbours, work colleagues and on social media.

- Develop a guide/video/podcast to raise awareness of local disaster management agencies and useful websites.

4. Advocate:

- Advocate to local disaster management committees to:
 - ◊ Safeguard women's health and safety during an emergency.
 - ◊ Involve women in the management of shelters and refugee camps.
- Advocate for adequate funding and resources for local disaster management agencies to prepare and support their communities before, during and after a disaster.

5. Collaborate:

- Work with members of other Zonta, Golden Z, and Z clubs to host a community event on local disaster response initiatives and careers.
- Work with other service organizations, e.g., Soroptimists, Rotary to raise awareness and advocate for disaster management issues.
- Create an alliance with an emergency organization.

Further reading

[A practical guide to gender-sensitive approaches for disaster management](#)

[Tool 18: Gender Responsive Disaster Preparedness](#)

4



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TO GENDER-EQUAL CLIMATE ACTION



Photo: Shutterstock

Disaster Ready Guide 4

Where are your local disaster relief organizations?

This document is designed to be read onscreen
as it contains hyperlinks

Insert the names of, and links to, the organizations that provide these services in your community and share with your club members.

- Zonta Club of [redacted]

Before a Disaster

- Emergency warnings: [redacted]

- Disaster preparedness plan template: [redacted]

- Emergency apps: [redacted]

- What to do with pets in an emergency: [redacted]

- Physical and psychological first aid training: [redacted]

During a Disaster

- Agency/Radio Station (AM or FM) to listen to: [redacted]

- Emergency Services: [redacted]

After a Disaster

- Mental health support: [redacted]

- Tips to clean up, dry out and repair your home: [redacted]

- Donations: [redacted]

Disaster Management Agencies

- National government agency that develops and implements the national strategy for disaster risk reduction: [redacted]

- National government agency that oversees disaster coordination and funding: [redacted]

- State/province government agency that develops and implements the state/province disaster management plans: [redacted]

- Local government where this Zonta club meets: [redacted]

- Local government disaster management plan: [redacted]

- Red Cross or Red Crescent agency: [redacted]

- Weather agency: [redacted]

Further Reading

- ◊ District 23, [Guide to Disaster Management](#)
- ◊ [Is your community disaster-ready?](#)
- ◊ [Disaster-Ready Guides and Action Guide 02: Disaster Preparedness and Response.](#)
- ◊ [What 3 Words location app](#)

5

Disaster-Ready Guide 5

Is your country disaster-ready?

This document is designed to be read onscreen as it contains hyperlinks



This leaflet is designed to inspire Zonta clubs to find out more about their national disaster preparedness and response strategies and if they adequately consider the needs of women and girls.

Answer the questions in the boxes provided and share the responses with your club members.

What are the main hazards and risks that your country faces?

Disasters can strike anytime, anywhere, and affect anyone. They can cause loss of lives, injuries, damages, and disruptions to essential services and livelihoods. They can also worsen existing inequalities and vulnerabilities, especially for women and girls, who often face greater risks and barriers in disaster situations.

Different countries face different types of hazards, such as floods, cyclones, earthquakes, droughts, fires, landslides, and pandemics. Some hazards are more frequent, intense, or widespread than others, depending on the geographic, climatic, and socio-economic factors of each country.

Knowing the main hazards and risks that your country faces can help you understand the potential impacts and consequences of disasters, and the measures needed to prevent, mitigate, or cope with them.

Find out the main hazards and risks facing your country from the:

- ***National agency coordinating disaster management activities***
- ***National agency providing information and advice on natural hazards and climate change.***

What is a national disaster response strategy?

A national disaster response strategy outlines the goals, objectives, and key actions that the country will take to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters. It should be based on a comprehensive assessment of the country's disaster risk and capacity, and reflect the needs and priorities of the affected communities.

Where can you find your national disaster response strategy?

There are several international frameworks that provide guidance and support for national disaster response strategies. Nations regularly report on their progress in implementing these frameworks:

- The [Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030](#), outlines seven targets and four priorities for action to prevent new and reduce existing disaster risks. All reports are [mapped and analysed](#) against the global targets. *Has your country adopted the Sendai Framework?*
- The [Paris Agreement](#) on climate change, seeks to limit the global average temperature rise to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, and preferably to 1.5°C. This is how countries [report and review](#) their progress on the Paris Agreement. *Has your country adopted the Paris Agreement?*
- The United Nations's [17 Sustainable Development Goals](#), aim to end poverty, achieve gender equality, protect the planet, and ensure peace and prosperity for all. [SDG Progress Reports](#) are published annually. *Has your country adopted the SDGs?*

5

The national disaster response strategy should be aligned with these frameworks, and demonstrate how the country is contributing to their goals and targets. It should also show how the country is collaborating with other countries and stakeholders in the region and globally to enhance disaster preparedness and resilience.

The [UN Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction](#) describes the worldwide efforts to reduce disaster risk.

Why is it important to address the needs of women and girls in the national disaster response strategy?

Women and girls are not only victims of disasters, but also agents of change and resilience. They have valuable knowledge, skills, and resources that can help their families and communities cope with and recover from disasters. However, they also face specific challenges and barriers that can limit their access to information, services, and opportunities in disaster situations. These include gender-based violence, discrimination, poverty, lack of education, and lack of representation and participation in decision-making.

The needs of women and girls should be considered and addressed in the national disaster response strategy, to ensure that they are protected from harm, empowered to act, and included in the solutions. This is not only a matter of human rights and justice, but also a matter of effectiveness and sustainability. By addressing the needs of women and girls, the country can reduce their vulnerability, enhance their resilience, and leverage their potential to contribute to the disaster response and recovery.

Ideally, disaster response plans should collect gendered data to understand and address the specific needs, risks, and impacts of disasters on people of different genders.

Why is collecting gendered data important?

Gendered data can help disaster response plans to:

- Provide humanitarian assistance that is appropriate, accessible, and safe for women, men, girls, and boys.
- Prevent and respond to gender-based violence, which often increases during and after disasters.
- Promote the participation and leadership of women and gender-diverse people in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery.
- Ensure that disaster response and recovery interventions do not reinforce or worsen existing gender inequalities, but rather contribute to gender equality and human rights.

Some examples of gendered data that are collected in disaster response plans are:

- The number and proportion of women, men, girls, and boys affected by the disaster, disaggregated by age, disability, and other relevant factors.
- The specific risks and vulnerabilities of women, men, girls, and boys in the disaster context, such as exposure to violence, discrimination, or exploitation.
- The different roles and responsibilities of women, men, girls, and boys in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery, such as participation in decision-making, leadership, and coordination.
- The different needs and preferences of women, men, girls, and boys in terms of humanitarian assistance, such as food, water, sanitation, health, shelter, protection, and education.

Collecting gendered data can make disaster response plans more inclusive, effective and accountable.

Does your national disaster response strategy collect gendered data?

How to promote gender-responsive disaster management?

To promote gender-responsive disaster management, you can:

- Learn and educate others about gender and disaster issues.**
- Join or create a network or coalition of gender and disaster actors and collaborate with them.**
- Engage with your national disaster management authorities and other stakeholders.**
- Participate in disaster risk assessment, planning, and decision-making processes, and ensure that all genders are heard and considered.**

Further reading

[A practical guide to gender-sensitive approaches for disaster management](#)

[Climate action and disaster risk reduction](#)

[Gender, adaptation and disaster risk reduction](#)

[Gender responsive disaster risk management](#)

[Gender dimensions of disaster risk and resilience](#)

[Climate Reports](#) contains links to all of the major climate-related reports from the United Nations

The Zonta Says NOW [Disaster-Ready Guides](#) support Action Guide 02: Disaster Preparedness and Response.



Today's Journey

Welcome

Actions since the last meeting

Women's Environment and Development Organisation (WEDO)

Interview with Mwanahamisi Singano "Mishy"
Senior Global Policy Lead

News / Other Business

Discussion / Feedback

Nomena Rasoamanandraibe
ZC Madagascar
District 18

Introducing the Disaster-Ready Guides

Next Meeting



Discussion



Feedback from
discussion groups

How can we encourage Zontians to use the disaster-ready guides?

How can we collaborate with organizations to progress climate justice nationally and internationally?



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News / Other Business



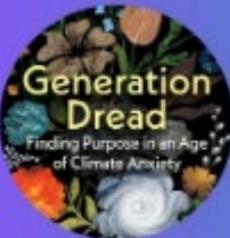
Registrations
are open!



Webinar Event

Western Alumni



 **BRITT WRAY** 

How to Cope with Climate Anxiety

Britt Wray is a ground-breaking researcher and storyteller, and a growing voice around the mental health effects of climate change.

Western University, Ontario, Canada

Thursday 29 February

5 pm to 7 pm (Ontario time)

Register at:

[https://www.westernconnect.ca/site/Calendar?
view=Detail&id=146472](https://www.westernconnect.ca/site/Calendar?view=Detail&id=146472)

*Thanks to Sheena Poole,
District 4, for sharing this event*



**What's your
present for the
future of
women and
girls?**

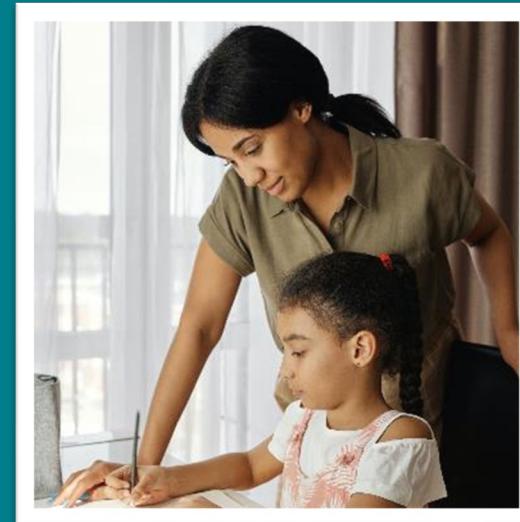
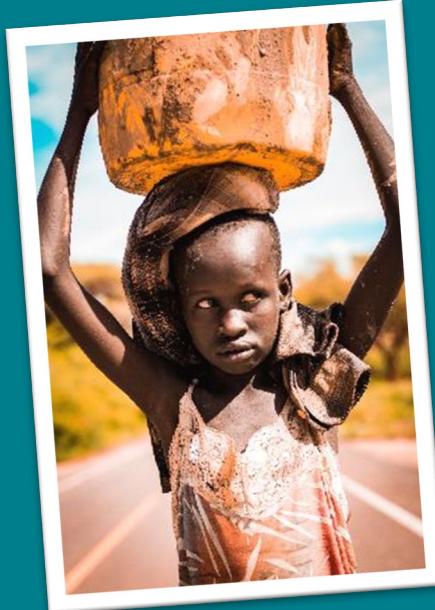
Donate to the Foundation's
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Working to achieve climate justice for women and girls





What action will you take this month?

How about reading the leaflets and preparing a disaster-readiness plan for your household?



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Next Meeting



**Sunday 17 March
NGO CSW68 Event**
6.30 pm to 8.30 pm Eastern Time
(10.30 pm to 00.30 am UTC)

Register at:
[Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

For 2024's MEETING DATES and the video and slides from today's meeting, visit:
<https://zontasaysnow.org.au/intercontinental-think-tank/>



Intercontinental Think Tank Thank you

Resources: zonta.org/zontasaysnow

Draft resources, meeting notes, videos: www.zontasaysnow.org.au

Email: info@zontasaysnow.org.au