

## #SheLeadsInCrisis

### Putting gender-justice at the centre of the global response to conflicts and climate crises

The greatest inequalities in the world are reflected in the causes and consequences of conflict and climate change, which threaten the livelihoods of billions of people - especially women and girls. A gender-just response to these crises is within reach. It involves working with women and girls to demand more ambitious and gender-just responses to the crises that will define our future.



**Join CARE in calling on policymakers to put women and girls' unique needs and priorities at the centre of every response to conflict and climate change.**

#### **Uphold Paris Agreement commitments by:**

- Scaling up public finance for climate action for developing countries, while directing at least 50% of investments towards adaptation and ensuring that at least 85% of those funds target gender equality
- Systematically engaging women and girls in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of ambition-raising public policies and actions on climate change.

#### **Uphold Grand Bargain commitments by:**

- Directing at least 15% of humanitarian funding to local women-led or feminist organizations
- Ensuring that women and girls are able to play meaningful roles in shaping humanitarian policies and programs and holding humanitarian actors accountable.

## Key Messages

**#1 Conflict and climate change are driving the world's greatest challenges.** After decades of decline, global hunger is on the rise, affecting 821 million people in the last year. Weather-related hazards like flood and drought account for more than 87% of all displacement, forcing families from their homes. Competition over increasingly scarce natural resources is driving instability and conflict. Climate change threatens to push an additional 100 million people into extreme poverty by 2030, eroding decades of progress in social and economic development. The humanitarian consequences of climate change will only escalate if global warming is not kept below 1.5°C.

**#2 Conflict and climate change hit those that are the least responsible for causing them hardest.** The poorest 1 billion people are responsible for just 3% of global greenhouse gas emissions. Yet developing countries are already bearing up to 80% of the costs of climate change – including through food insecurity, forced migration, damages to property and productive assets, and diminished livelihoods. An estimated 67 million women and girls are in need of humanitarian assistance worldwide. Women and girls in emergencies are at heightened risk of gender-based violence and trafficking, unintended pregnancy, maternal morbidity and mortality, unsafe abortions and child, early and forced marriage.

**#3 Conflict and climate change worsen inequalities between men and women.** Women and girls are highly dependent on local natural resources and are more likely to be vulnerable than men to the impacts of climate change and conflict, due to social and cultural conditions that influence access to resources and division of labour, as well as lack of participation in decision-making. In emergency response and recovery, women and girls' unique needs are not treated with the same urgency as 'mainstream' issues like shelter, water and food aid.

**#4 Women and girls are the best representatives of their needs in crises, yet they are severely under-resourced.** Grand Bargain donors and aid organizations committed to providing 25% of global humanitarian funding to local and national responders by 2020. Yet only 3% of humanitarian aid was directed to local and national organizations in 2017, with even less going to initiatives and organizations focused on girls and women.

**#5 Support for adaptation is critical for women bearing the brunt of the climate crisis, and must go hand-in-hand with efforts to limit global warming.** Developed countries have agreed to mobilize \$100 Billion per year by 2020 to help developing countries deal with the impacts of climate change, and for those resources to be balanced between adaptation and mitigation. Yet global climate finance remains woefully inadequate, and the proportion of that finance for adaptation makes up less than 20% of the total. Ambitious investments in adaptation are critical to reduce future costs of confronting climate change, while cutting emissions quickly to limit climate change.