



# SVRI FORUM

## SVRI Forum 2026 Learning Series: Climate Change & Preventing GBV



# Housekeeping

- **Format:** Zoom
- **Duration:** 1 hour
- **Recording:** Event will be recorded and shared
- **Audience:** Online audience is muted – please introduce yourself and add questions & comments to the chat or the Q&A box
- **Language:** Event will take place in English - Live captions available

# SVRI Forum 2026

[www.svriforum2026.org](http://www.svriforum2026.org)

- **Venue:** Centara Grand Hotel and Bangkok Convention Centre, Bangkok, Thailand
- **Dates:** 5–9 October 2026
- **Cohosts:** SVRI with the Southeast Asia GBV Prevention Platform & UN Joint Programme on GBV Prevention in Southeast Asia (UN Women and UNFPA)

## Current opportunities:

- **Registrations now open**
- **Exhibition stands:** Includes one conference registration
- **Participant driven events:** Bookings now open – limited space available
- And so much more!

"What an incredible, nourishing experience - despite the long-haul travel. I am back at work **invigorated, inspired and very motivated**. Thank you so much for this experience for myself and my colleagues." - SVRI Forum delegate

# Speakers

## MODERATOR



**SUJATA TULADHAR**

UNFPA / UN Joint  
Programme on GBV  
Prevention in Southeast Asia

## PANELLISTS



**JOSEPHINE KAMISYA**

Executive Director of  
CEDOVIP, Uganda



**NAOMI CLUGSTON**

Senior researcher on the  
Ending VAWG Helpdesk

# Gender Based Violence: Overcoming an unseen barrier to effective climate action

## Gender Based Violence: Overcoming an unseen barrier to effective climate action

Naomi Clugston, Francesca Rhodes, Onyeka Nneli and Dr. Erika Fraser



# Types of climate and environmental programming

- **Adaptation and resilience**
- **Climate-induced disasters**
- **Climate and Environmental Activists**
- **A “Just Transition” to a low-carbon economy**



# Key reasons for addressing GBV through climate and environmental action

1. Supports women, girls and gender-diverse people's equal decision-making, leadership and participation in adaptation and resilience efforts
2. Strengthens community and household resilience to climate shocks.
3. Supports efforts keep whole communities safe in climate-induced disasters
4. Enables climate activists to work without fear or intimidation
5. Contributes to a 'just transition' towards a low carbon economy by minimising harm.



# Types of climate and environmental programming

- 1. Conservation:** forests, wetlands, biodiversity
- 2. Blue economy:** sustainable fishing practices
- 3. Climate-smart agriculture:** drought tolerant crops, sustainable livestock management
- 4. Nature-based solutions:** Protecting carbon sinks, planting trees to reduce soil erosion, rewilding rivers to connect with floodplains and reduce flood risks.
- 5. Green infrastructure and energy:** Solar panels, wind farms, green transport networks
- 6. Anticipatory action:** Climate-induced disaster response
- 7. Climate finance:** Green bonds, debt-for-climate swaps, carbon markets

# Supports equal decision-making, leadership and participation in adaptation and resilience efforts

42% of women environmental human rights defenders surveyed in Cambodia and Lao PDR cited safety concerns as the greatest barrier to their participation in natural resource management

IUCN 'COP28: Funding for tackling gender-based violence amid climate change surpasses \$14 million following pledge by Norwegian government'



# Supports efforts to do no harm and keep whole communities safe in climate-induced disasters

LGBTQIA+ people in cyclone-affected Pacific communities felt safer remaining in make-shift shelters in cyclone-affected areas, than staying in evacuation centres, because of the risks of violence they faced.



# Enables climate activists to work without fear or intimidation

A global survey of over 1000 girl activists, including climate and environmental activists, found that only 50% felt comfortable speaking out about their activism within their communities for fear of abuse, harassment or ostracism.



Plan International (2023) Turning the world around: girl and young women activists leading the fight for equality. Plan International.



# Supports and 'just transition' to a low carbon economy

A 2022 survey found that 43% of female STEM graduates, 50% of women in science, and 58% of women in academia reported having experienced sexual harassment.

YouGov. (2022). YouGov/ Global Witness Survey Results. YouGov



# What works to address GBV through climate action

- **GBV prevention**
- **GBV response**
- **GBV risk mitigation**
- **Robust safeguarding mechanisms**



# CEDOVIP's story: protecting wetlands and communities from harm in Uganda



Lessons from past programmes show that failure to address GBV can undermine wetlands restoration. Addressing GBV can:

- Improve the safety of alternative livelihoods
- Increase the sustained uptake of restoration efforts
- Strengthen household resilience to climate shocks




# CEDOVIP's Intervention

- **Funded by** FCDO through What Works II
- **In partnership with** the Ministry of Water & Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Pallisa District Government
- **Implementing** the SASA! Community Mobilisation approach, originally developed by Raising Voices.
- **Evaluated using** a quasi-experimental approach by Makerere University, Equality Institute, and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

# Lessons from working with climate/ environmental actors

- Environmental behaviour change programmes are natural entry points for GBV prevention and social norms change.
- Co-design with climate actors improves the relevance and buy in for the programme and evidence.
- Tailored messaging to different stakeholders is crucial.

## Government Recognizes the Impact of GBV on Conservation Efforts

by [Walakira John](#) — 19 hours ago in NEWS  0  0 



# Lessons from working with climate/ environmental actors

- Building the capacity of senior climate stakeholders is key to supporting scale.
- Tailoring curricula to the environmental context improves engagement.
- Flexible, long-term funding is essential for both GBV and environmental programmes.



# Any Questions or Reflections?



- What do we need as a field to engage more with the climate space?
- What should our priorities be for engaging more with climate space?

