

CONCEPT NOTE

2-Hour Virtual Programme on Role of Women in Climate Change Adaptation Date: 31 August 2026

1. BACKGROUND

Climate change is not gender-neutral in regards to its impacts. Rising temperatures, erratic rainfall, drought, and water scarcity affect women and men differently, largely due to existing social roles, responsibilities, and access to resources. In Gujarat, women — particularly in drought-prone regions such as Saurashtra and Kachchh, and in coastal areas affected by salinity ingress — bear a disproportionate burden of climate stress which heightens the health risks, and reduced access to decision-making platforms on adaptation planning.

At the same time, women are not merely passive victims of climate change; they are active agents of adaptation. Women-led self-help groups, community health and nutrition workers, and grassroots networks are already playing a critical role in building household and community resilience. Several government departments — including Women and Child Development, Rural Development, Health and Family Welfare, Agriculture, and Panchayati Raj, among others — engage directly with women as primary beneficiaries and participants through their schemes and outreach networks (such as ICDS/Anganwadi centres, self-help group platforms like Mission Mangalam, ASHA/health worker cadres, and women-focused livelihood and agricultural extension programmes). Officials across these departments are therefore uniquely positioned, collectively, to mainstream gender-responsive climate adaptation into their ongoing schemes and community engagement.

This programme is designed to build awareness among officials from departments with a strong focus on women beneficiaries on the gendered dimensions of climate change, and to equip them with practical entry points to integrate climate resilience considerations into their respective departmental mandates.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME

The programme aims to:

- Build a shared understanding among officials of departments working closely with women beneficiaries on how climate change impacts women differently, and why gender-responsive adaptation matters.
- Highlight the existing and potential roles of women and of relevant departmental platforms and schemes.
- Introduce practical, actionable entry points for integrating gender-responsive climate considerations into respective departmental schemes, outreach, and convergence efforts.

- Enable participants to identify at least one concrete action they can take within their role to support women's leadership in climate adaptation.

3. TARGET PARTICIPANTS

The programme is designed for officials from government departments whose mandate has a strong focus on women beneficiaries, including but not limited to:

- Women & Child Development Department— including ICDS/Anganwadi supervisory staff
- Panchayat, Rural Housing and Rural Development Department
- Agriculture, Farmers Welfare and Co-operation Department
- Forest and Environment Department
- Climate Change Department

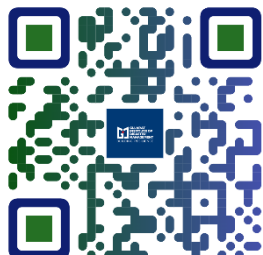
4. PEDAGOGY

The programme will use a participatory, discussion-based approach suited to a virtual format, rather than a one-way lecture model. Key pedagogical elements include:

- **Focused lecture session:** A focused lecture by the subject matter expert covering core concepts on the gendered dimensions of climate change and adaptation, delivered concisely to respect the attention span constraints of virtual learning.
- **Case studies:** Locally relevant examples (with a Gujarat focus where possible) will be discussed by the resource person to illustrate practical, replicable models of women-led adaptation and livelihood initiatives.
- **Open interaction and Q&A:** Dedicated time for participants to raise questions, share observations, and discuss how the concepts apply to their own departmental context, facilitated through chat and live discussion.

The pedagogy combines expert-led input with structured interactivity — polls, case studies, and open discussion — to keep participants engaged within the 45-minutes-per-session structure.

5. PROGRAMME DETAILS

QR Code for Registration:	Other Details:
	Date: 31st August 2026 (Monday) Duration: 2.5 Hours Mode of Programme: Online Meeting Platform: Zoom
