

# Sendai Gender Action Plan (GAP) Learning Lab: Completing the Puzzle for Gender-Responsiveness

## Concept Note

7 November 2024 | 15:15- 16:00 (CET) | Budva, Montenegro

As the world faces multiple crises that put immense pressure on communities, achieving gender equality is more vital than ever. The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 emphasizes the need for an inclusive approach to disaster risk reduction (DRR) that considers the specific vulnerabilities and capacities of different groups, including women, children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. In March 2024, the [Gender Action Plan to support implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030](#) (Sendai GAP) was launched with a renewed focus on accelerating progress toward gender equality and reducing disaster risk. The Sendai GAP aims to ensure that DRR efforts are gender-responsive and that they actively promote and support women's empowerment and leadership. It emphasizes the mutually reinforcing goals of gender equality and disaster risk reduction, as well as recognizes that gender inequalities exacerbate the impacts of disasters and that women's leadership is critical to effective DRR. Despite global recognition of these issues, many DRR initiatives still lack the necessary gender focus.

This Learning Lab is designed to address this gap by equipping stakeholders with the knowledge and tools needed to enhance gender-responsive disaster risk reduction and implement the Sendai GAP effectively. It will also look into gender-responsive case studies and experiences of different stakeholders from the field. In order to “complete the puzzle” for gender-responsiveness in DRR, various stakeholders will bring their own perspectives to complete and implement a holistic gender action plan.

### Objectives

This session will address three main objectives:

1. Engage in collaborative discussions with experts and peers to identify challenges, opportunities, and actionable steps for advancing gender equality in DRR efforts in Europe and Central Asia Region.
2. Gain a comprehensive overview of the Sendai GAP and its role in enhancing the effectiveness of the Sendai Framework by integrating gender-responsive strategies.
3. Discuss opportunities for greater engagement of women and women-led organizations in decision making across all levels of governance, and highlight recommendations for enhancing women's leadership in DRR.
4. Explore successful experiences that highlight the implementation of gender-responsive approaches in DRR, emphasizing lessons learned and replicable models from Europe and Central Asia.

### Speakers



**Moderator: İlayda Eskitaşçıoğlu  
Karavelioğlu**  
Young Leader for the SDGs endorsed by  
the United Nations, Co-founder and  
President of We Need to Talk  
Association, Türkiye



**Armine Hayrapetyan**  
SENDAI Focal Point, and  
Representative of Ministry of  
Emergency Situations, Armenia



**Ivana Vojinovic**  
Director of the Center for  
Climate Change, Natural  
Resources, and Energy at the  
University of Donja Gorica,  
Montenegro



**Şeyda Sever**  
Founder, Neighbourhood Disaster  
Volunteers, Türkiye