

06-02-2025

Evaluating Gender Equality for a Better Future: Insights for Environmental Sustainability, Inclusion, and Peace

Antra Bhatt, UN Women

Gendered Analysis of the Impact of Climate Change on Poverty, Productivity, and Food Insecurity.

Climate change is intensifying the frequency and severity of hydrometeorological hazards. As temperatures change, rain patterns become erratic, and severe weather intensifies, livelihoods and ecosystem are increasingly affected.

Unabated climate change will derail progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. The magnitude of its effects, including on female poverty and hunger, remains unknown but is expected to be substantial.

Evaluation frameworks need to support a just, gender-equal future including focusing on evaluation from a multi-faceted lens which includes a gender focus in everything including on environmental sustainability

The statistics in the next few slides will emphasize the 'why'

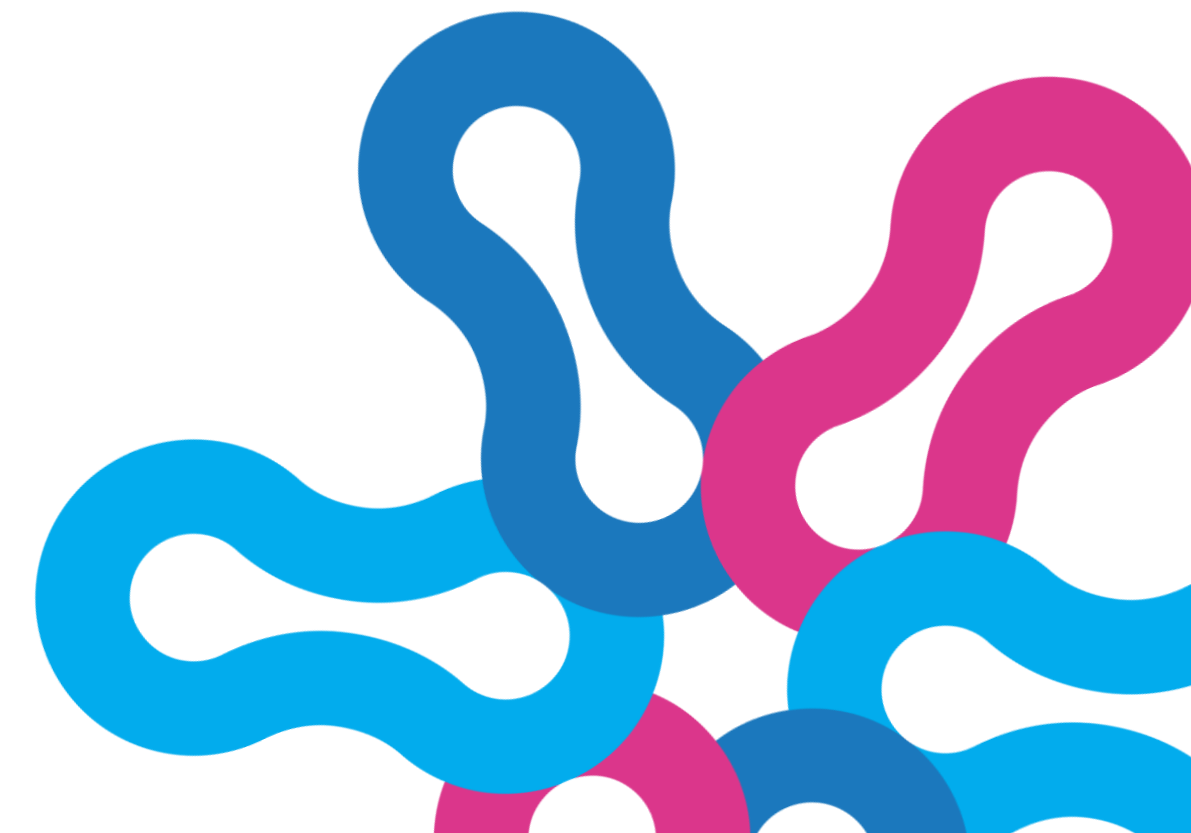
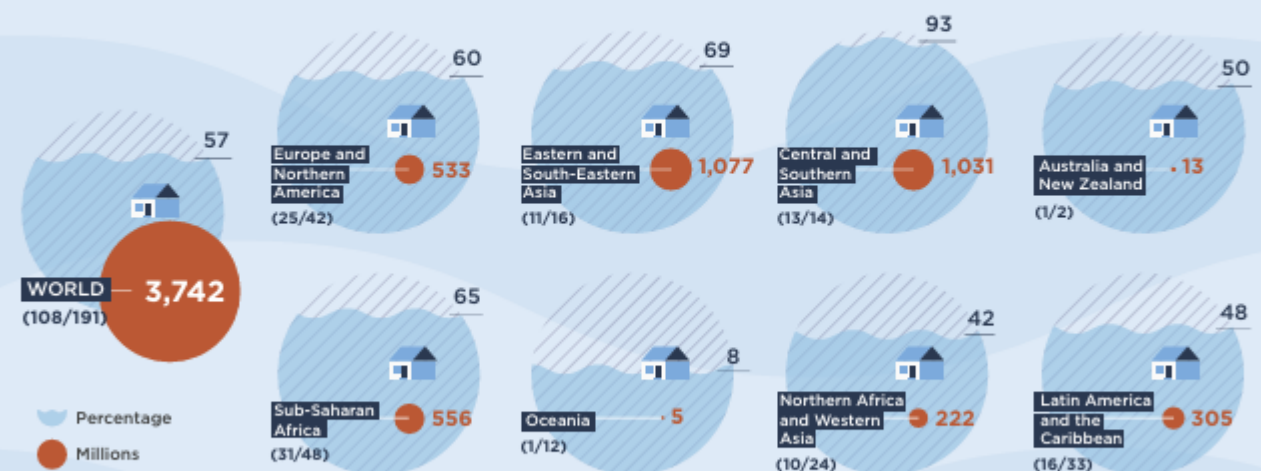


FIGURE 1a

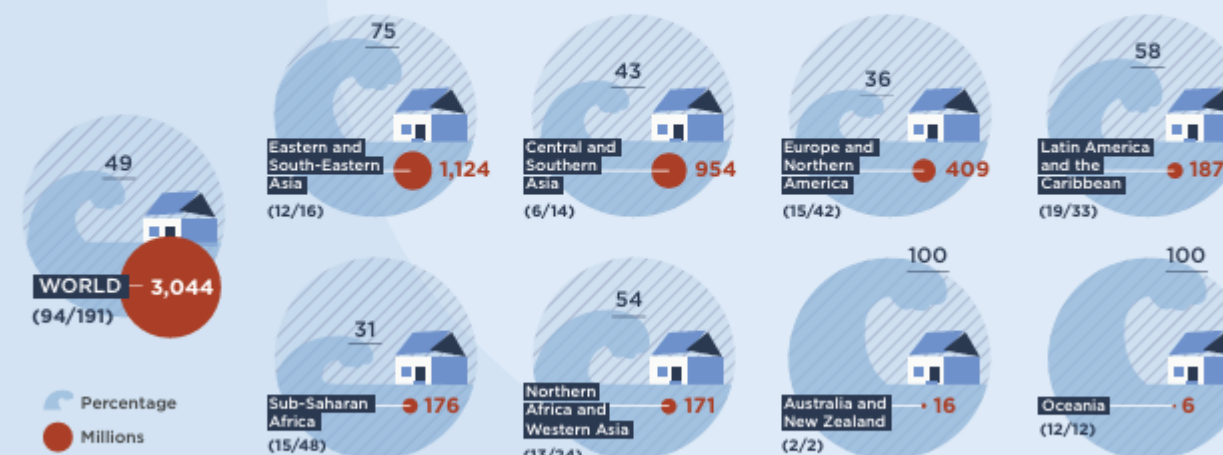
COUNTRIES WITH HIGH OR VERY HIGH EXPOSURE TO FLOODS (PERCENTAGE AND RATIO) AND THE FEMALE POPULATION IN THESE COUNTRIES (NUMBER), BY REGION, 2023



Source: UN Women calculations using European Commission, 2023; United Nations Population Division, 2022. See endnote i for detailed notes.

FIGURE 1b

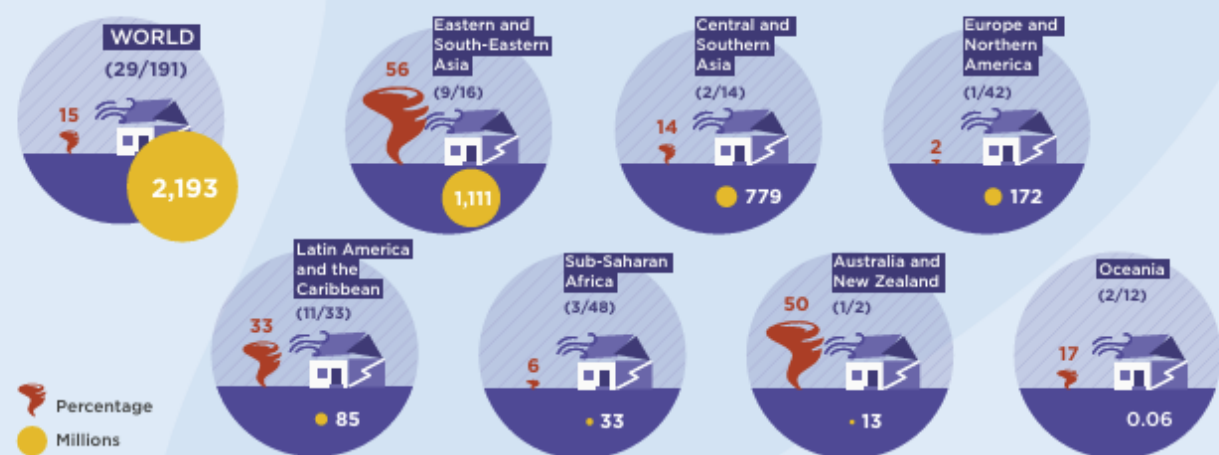
COUNTRIES WITH HIGH OR VERY HIGH EXPOSURE TO TSUNAMIS (PERCENTAGE AND RATIO) AND THE FEMALE POPULATION IN THESE COUNTRIES (NUMBER), BY REGION, 2023



Source: UN Women calculations using European Commission, 2023; United Nations Population Division, 2022. See endnote ii for detailed notes.

FIGURE 1c

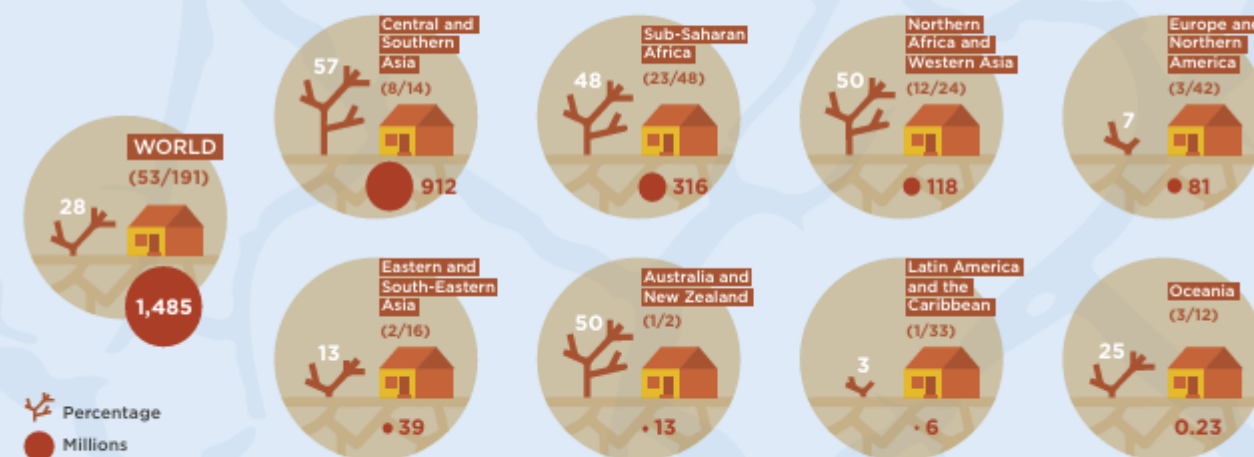
COUNTRIES WITH HIGH OR VERY HIGH EXPOSURE TO TROPICAL CYCLONES (PERCENTAGE AND RATIO) AND THE FEMALE POPULATION IN THESE COUNTRIES (NUMBER), BY REGION, 2023



Source: UN Women calculations using European Commission, 2023; United Nations Population Division, 2022. See endnote iii for detailed notes.

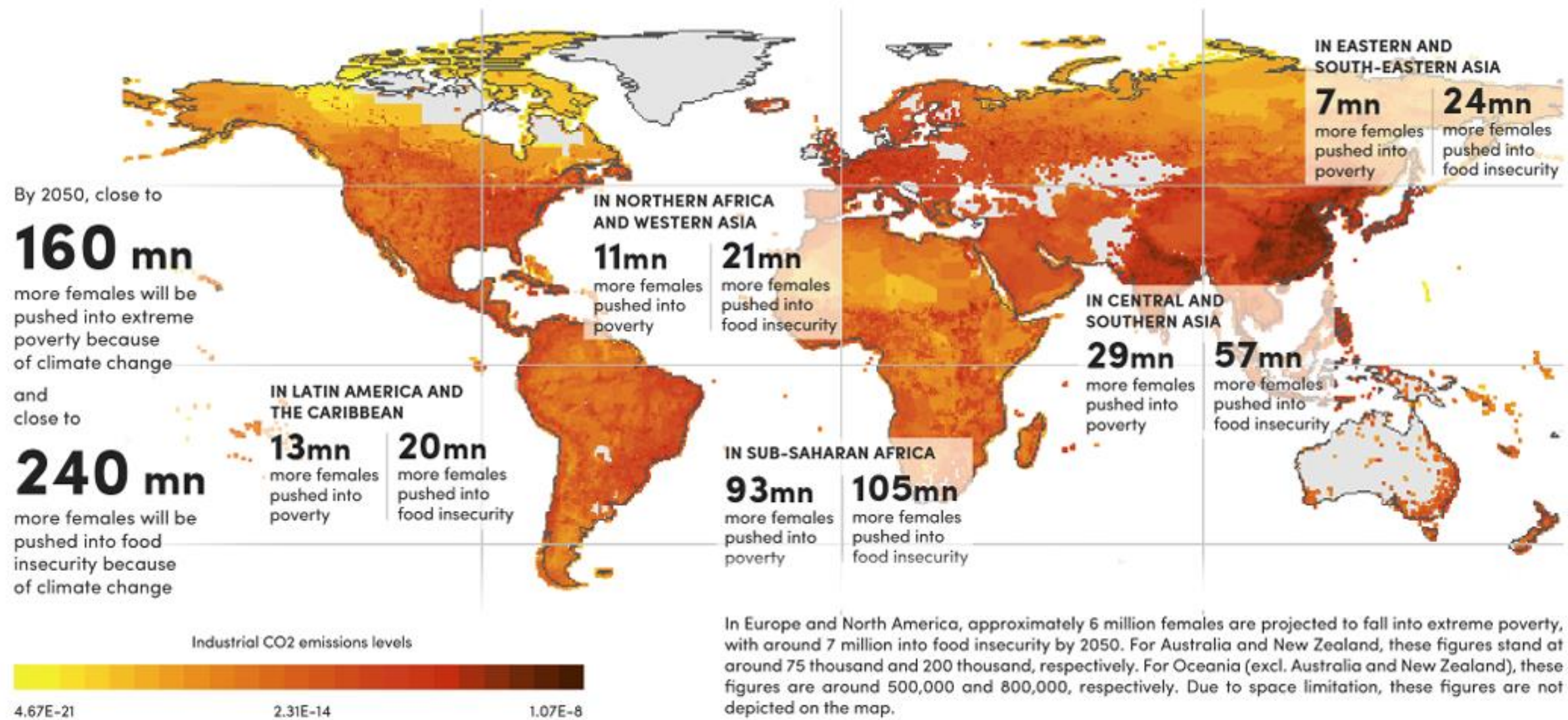
FIGURE 1d

COUNTRIES WITH HIGH OR VERY HIGH EXPOSURE TO DROUGHTS (PERCENTAGE AND RATIO) AND THE FEMALE POPULATION IN THESE COUNTRIES (NUMBER), BY REGION, 2023

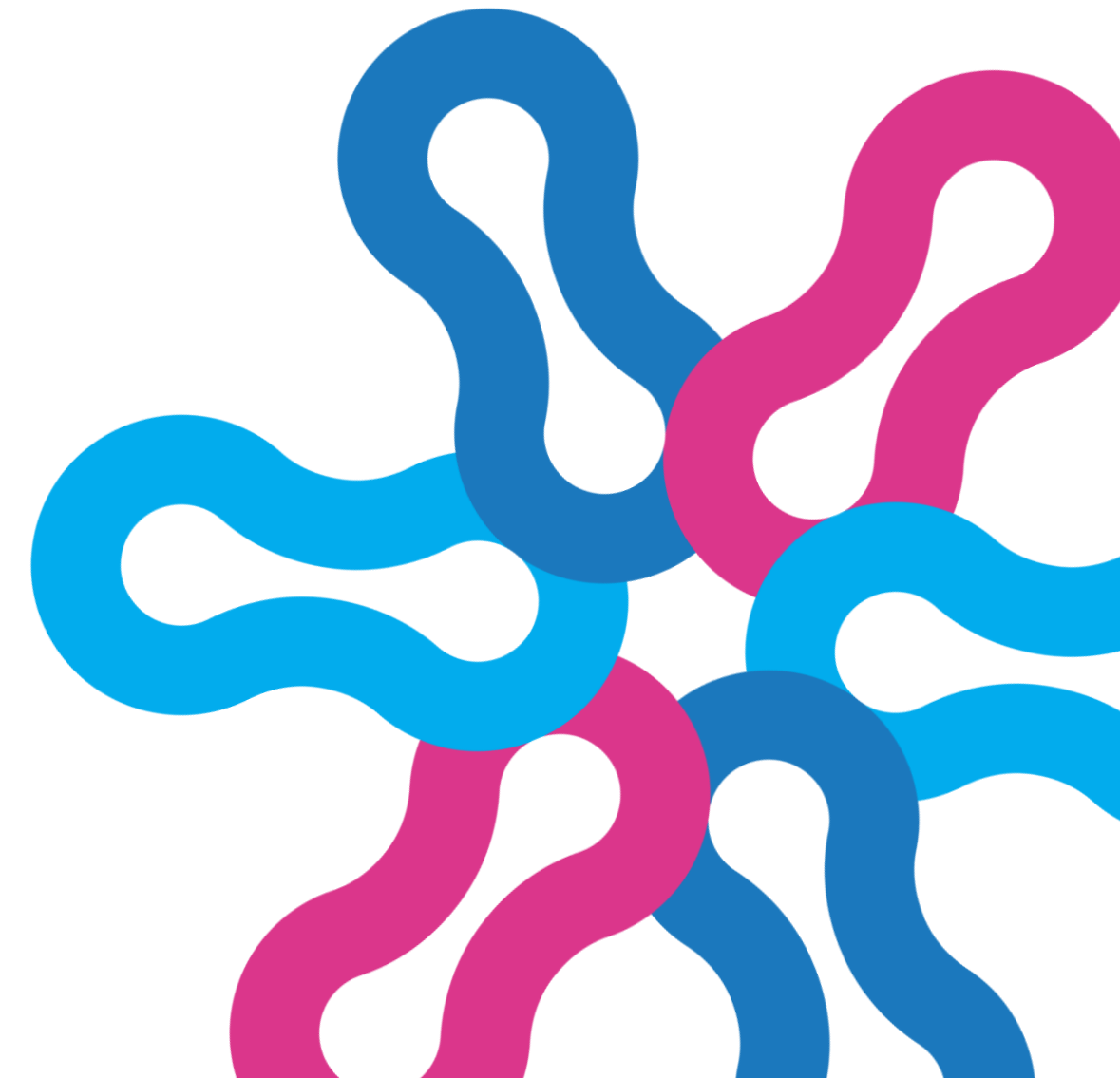


Source: UN Women calculations using European Commission, 2023; United Nations Population Division, 2022. See endnote iv for detailed notes.

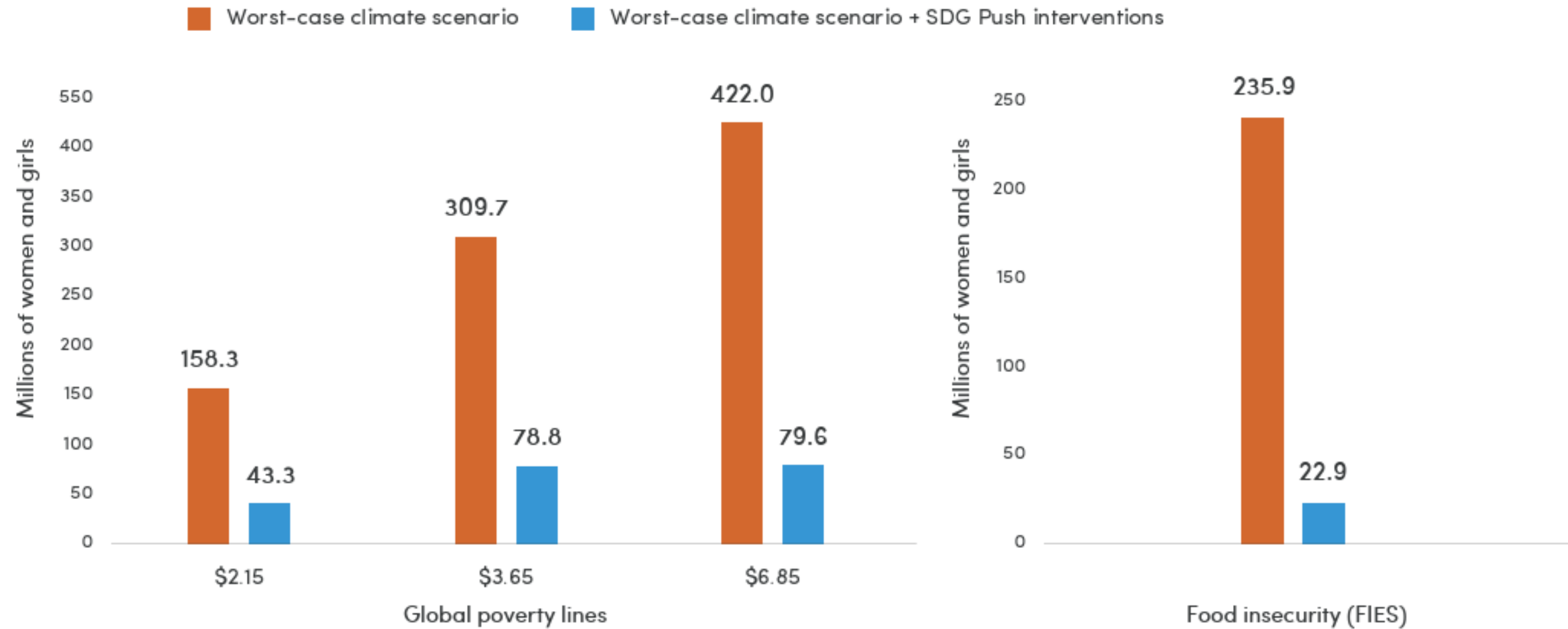
Projected impacts of climate change on poverty and food insecurity among women and girls, worst-case scenario, 2050 (millions)



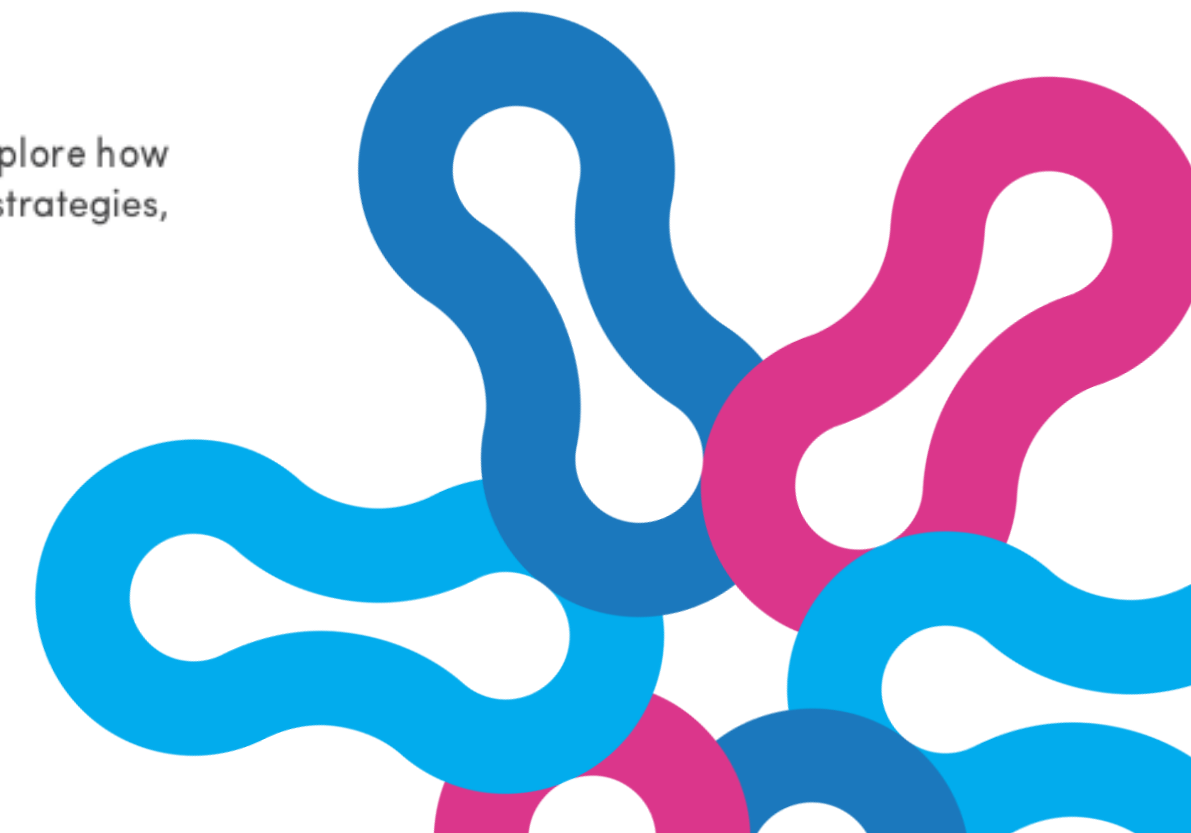
Note: The carbon emissions presented in the map are for combustion and processing industries for Representative Concentration Pathway 6.0, which corresponds to an average 2.2°C increase in global temperature by 2100. For further details, see Table 2.1 in IPCC, 2023.



Climate-attributable women pushed into poverty and food insecurity in a Worst-case Climate Path scenario and the potential mitigation effect of SDG push interventions, 2050



Note: The SDG Push scenario is drawn from previous work modeling policies that improve SDG outcomes (see Hughes et al. (2020)) to explore how developmental costs of climate change modeled in the Worst Climate Path scenario can be offset by additional development policy strategies, including policy strategies particularly focusing on gender equality.

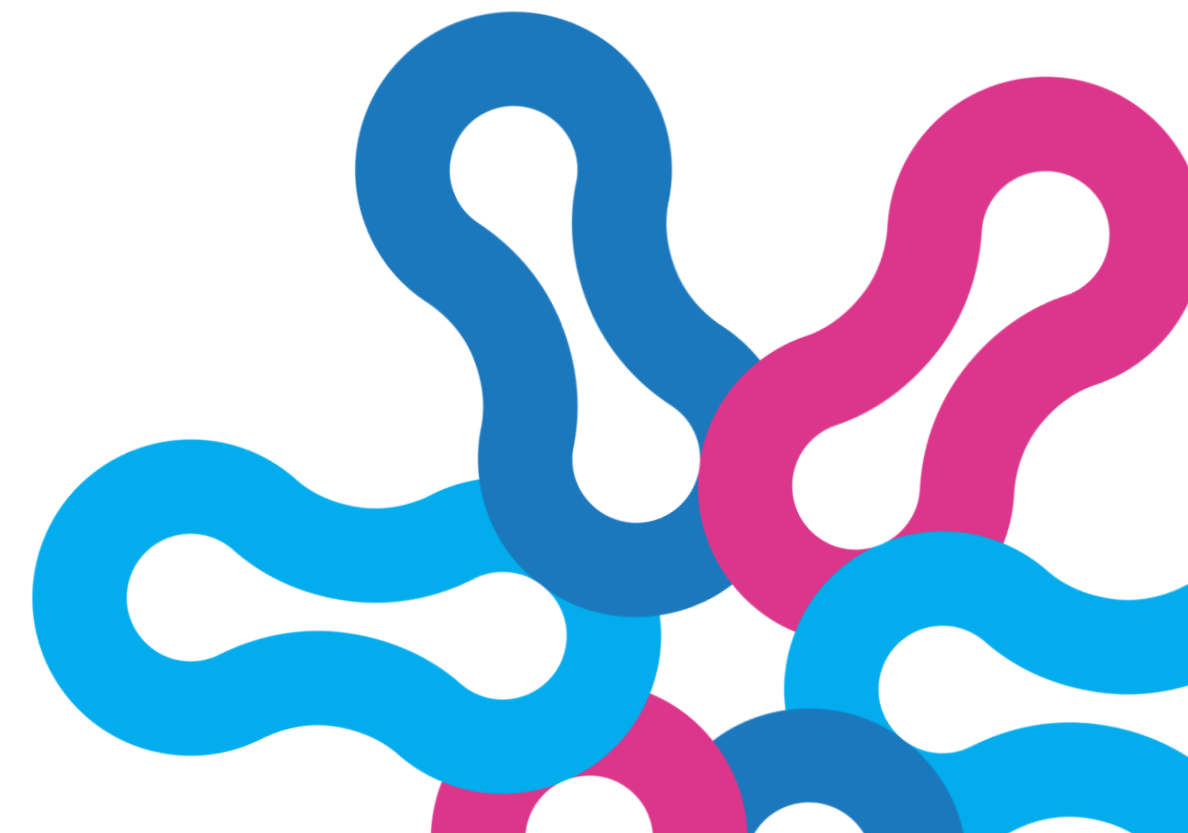


In summary...

Women and men face differentiated climate impacts, yet policy frameworks generally omit or inadequately address women's specific needs. Women also remain largely under-represented in climate action bodies and fora.

Only 55 national climate action plans make a specific reference to gender equality and only 23 recognize women as agents of change in accelerating progress on climate commitments. At COP 27 women only made up 35 per cent of party delegates and 20 per cent of heads of delegation.

Indigenous women, often holders of traditional ecological knowledge, with strong ties to Nature, have long advocated for respect, reciprocity, and sustainable utilization of the Earth's resources. But, gender inequality, pervasive, across countries, means these perspectives are often sidelined.

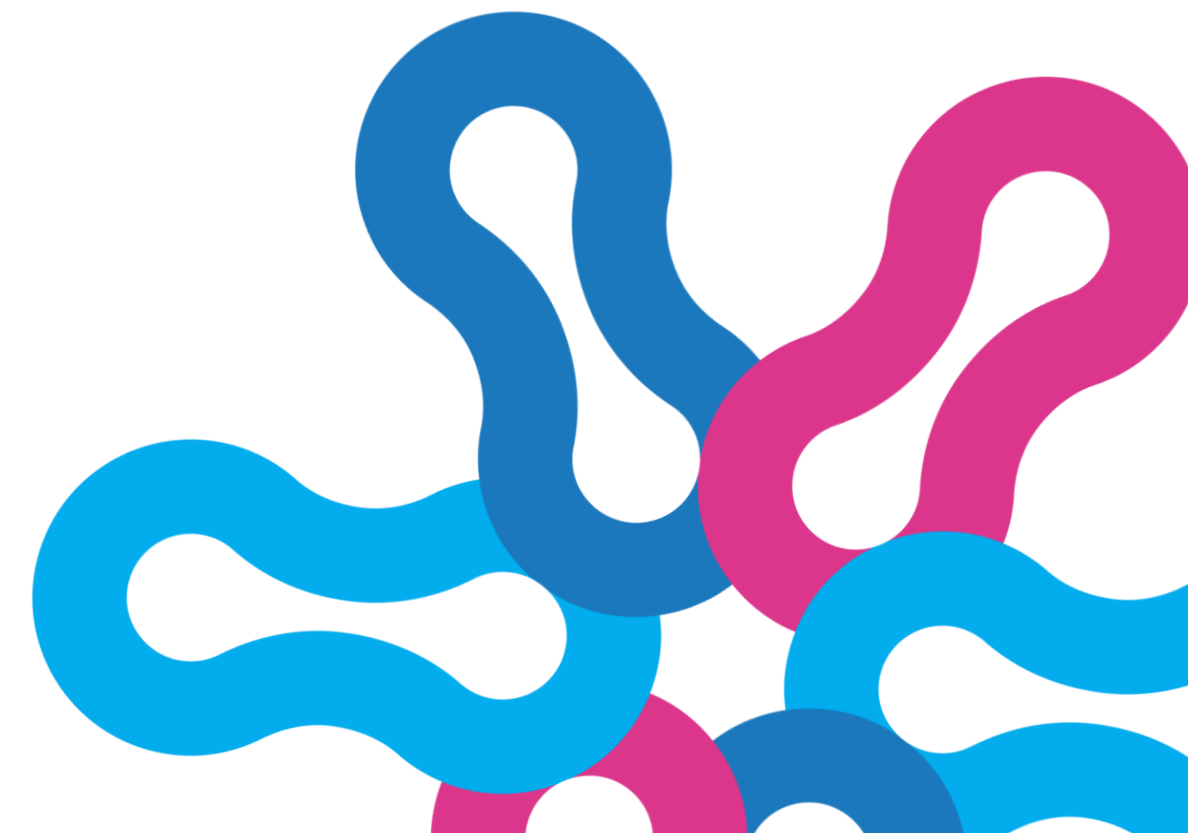


Equality and Ecology: How to build a sustainable future (1/2)

Protecting our planet and ensuring the rights and wellbeing of women and girls go hand in hand.

Women in all their diversity must have equal leadership roles at decision-making tables where climate challenges and solutions are being discussed.

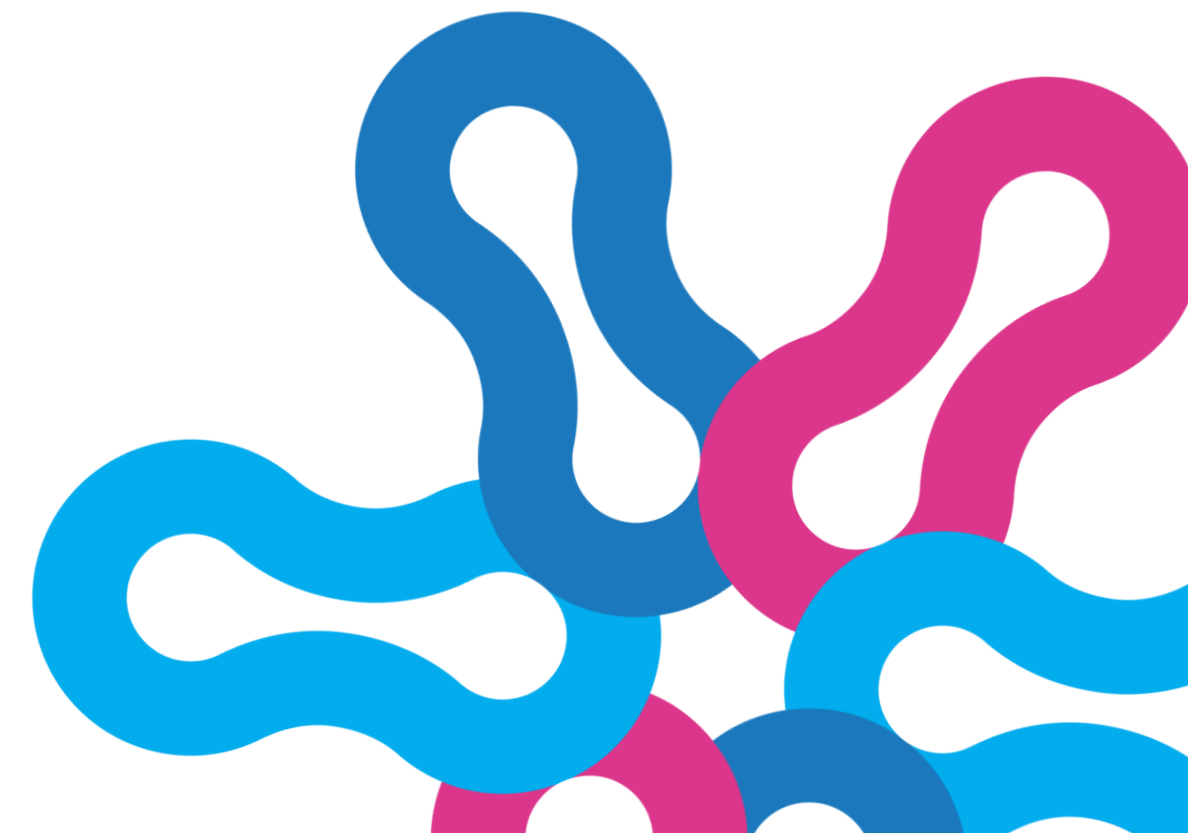
Data and research on climate change and climate solutions must include a gender assessment, where the impact on women and girls, particularly those furthest behind, is surfaced.



Equality and Ecology: How to build a sustainable future (2/2)

Improving the production and use of statistics on the gender and environment nexus is critical. This includes enhanced gender data production and use efforts in the areas of climate change, environmental conservation and pollution, in order to effectively tackle the triple planetary crisis.

Investments in gender-responsive climate mitigation and adaptation policies are vital as we work together to build a more resilient future.





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Thank you!

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06-02-2025

Gender Equality Beyond 2030: The Critical Role of Evaluation in the Post-SDG Era

Laura Rahm, EUI

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Shiny Goals



UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:

- 5 years left to implement 17 ambitious goals
- 17% of Goals on track

Common critique:

- Cherry-picking of goals
- Weak implementation/political will
- Insufficient accountability
- Voluntary, non-binding nature
- Underfunded
- Vague and weak
- Lack of prioritization



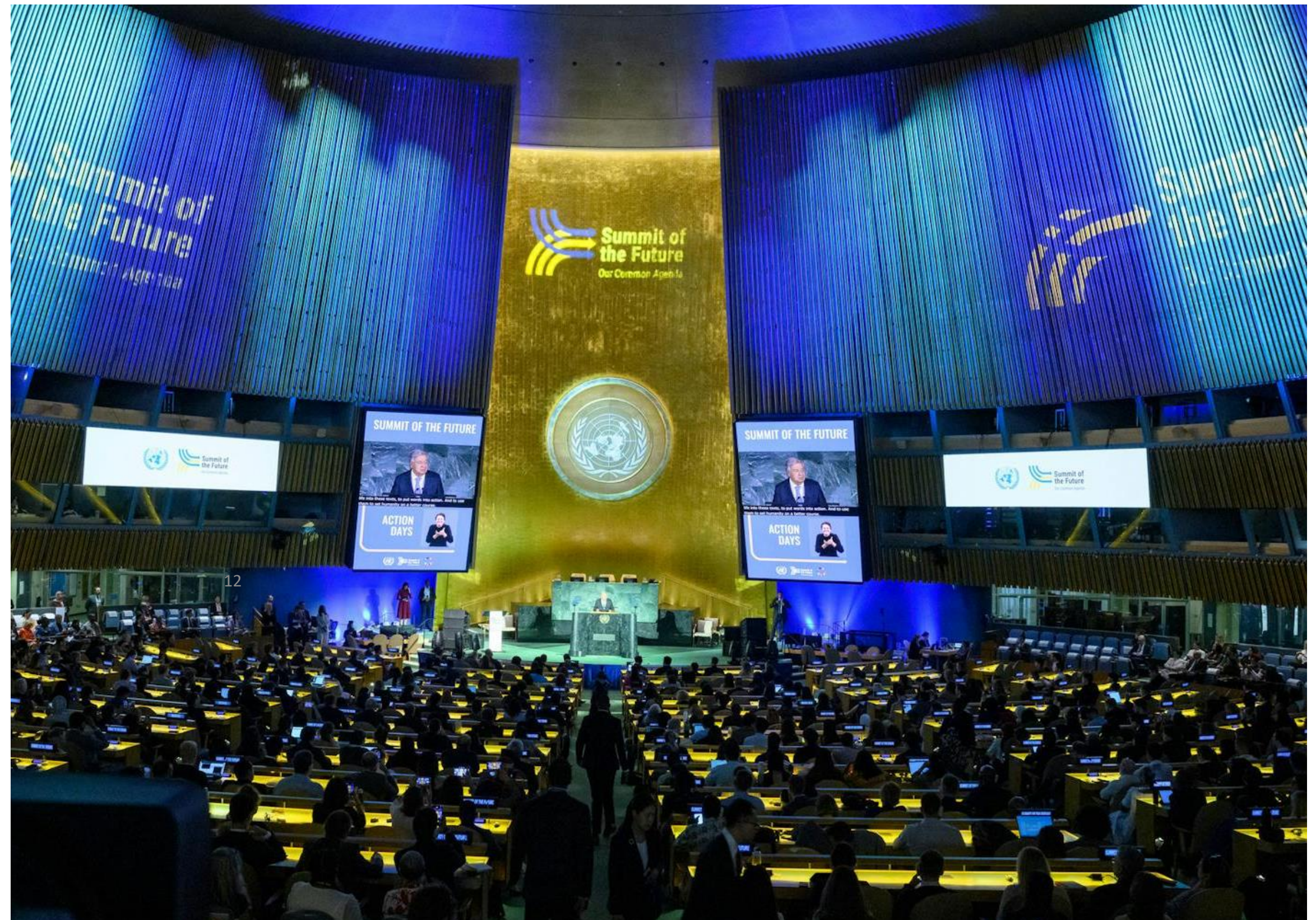
Bleak Future?

Summit for the Future:

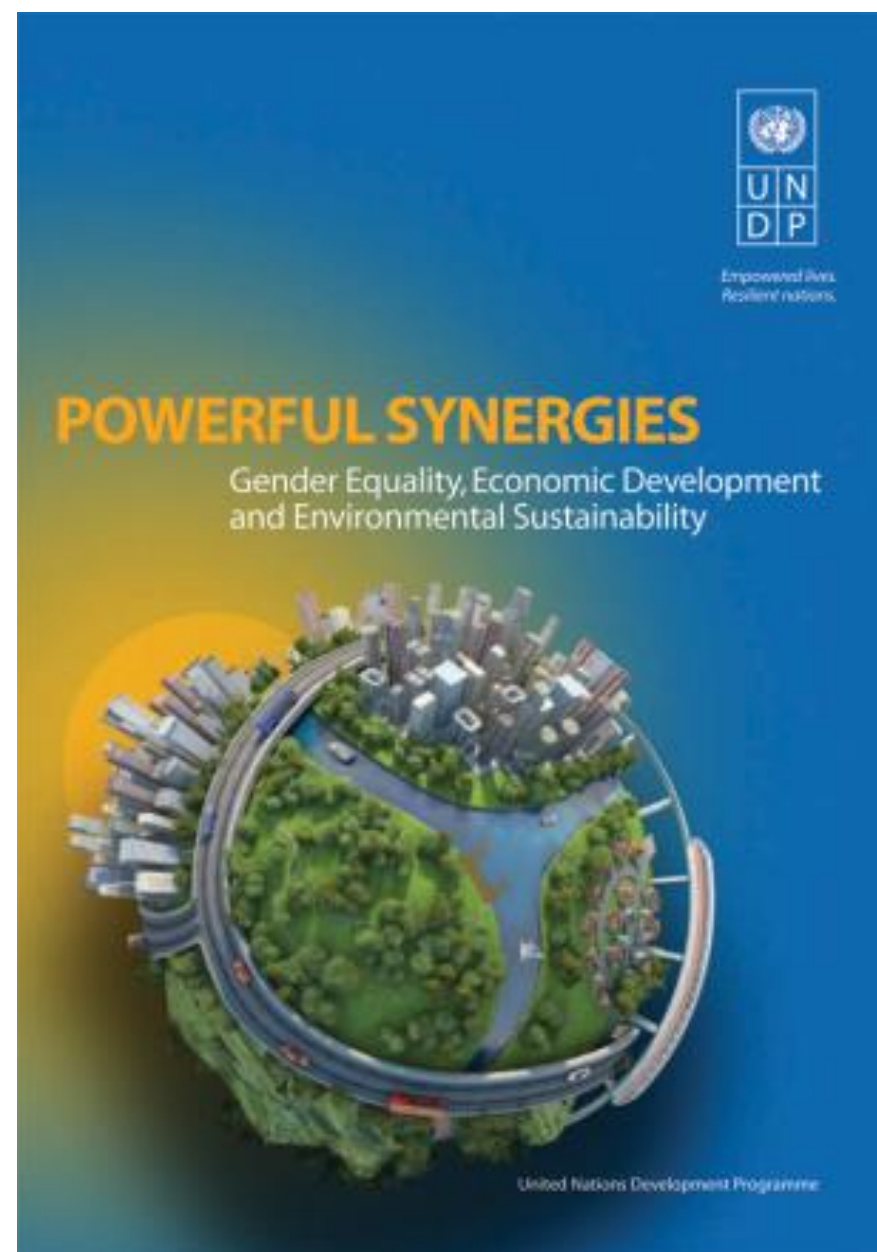
- Recommitment to sustainable development to and beyond 2030

Efforts towards a more ambitious post-2030 Agenda are challenged by:

- Geopolitical tensions
- Conflicts and war
- Weak multilateralism
- Global fragmentation/polarization
- Rise of autocrats and populists
- Backlash against gender equality



Why focus on Gender Equality (SDG 5)?



- SDGs are interlinked, requiring a holistic approach (Breuer et al. [2023](#); Liu et al. [2018](#)).
- Gender equality drives progress across goals (Anderson et al. [2022](#); Leal Filho et al. [2023](#)).
- Investing in women and girls has proven to have **powerful synergy effects**, i.e.:
 - Poverty reduction (Patel [2019](#); Ngwakwe [2020](#)).
 - Food security (Agarwal [2018](#); Venkatramana and Shah [2021](#)).
 - Health, maternal health, intergenerational spillovers, and nutrition (Langer et al. [2015](#)).
 - Education, preventing child marriage and early pregnancy (Malhotra and Elnakib [2021](#)).
 - Economic development and inclusive growth (Duflo [2012](#); Kabeer [2021](#)).
 - Environmental sustainability¹³ (UNDP [2015](#); Roy et al. [2022](#); IUCN [2024](#)).
 - Peace-building and conflict recovery (True and Hewitt [2019](#); Good [2024](#)).
- Prioritizing gender equality for sustainability or 'engendering sustainability' (Fornalé [2023](#), 3): not just an ethical and human rights-based imperative, but also a strategic solution.

Gender Mainstreaming across 5 Pillars of the SDGs

People

End poverty and hunger and ensure dignity and equality.



Partnership

Implement the agenda through solid global partnerships.



Peace

Foster peaceful, just, and inclusive societies.



Planet

Protect the planet's natural resources and climate for future generations.



Prosperity

Ensure prosperous and fulfilling lives in harmony with nature.



Evaluating the 5 P's through a gender lens



- **People: Poverty and hunger disproportionately impact women.**
 - SDG 1: In 2024, 1 in 10 women live in extreme poverty under \$2.15 p.p./p.d.
 - SDG 2: In 2023, food insecurity affected 30% of the global population, 2.33 billion people. According to the World Food Programme, 150 million more women than men were affected.
- **Prosperity: Gender gaps in labor and income.**
 - SDG 10: Women's labor participation is lower than men's: 65% women vs. over 90% men.
 - Gender wage gap: women's share of total earned labor income is only 34%.
- **Planet: Access to water and impact of climate change on women.**
 - SDG 6: In 2023, 380 million (9.5% of the world's women) lived in 26 countries with critical water stress.
 - Women are primarily responsible for water carriage in 7 in 10 households without piped water.
- **Peace: Women in conflict zones and increased vulnerability.**
 - SDG 16: More Women live in conflict zones: over 600 million (2022), a 50% increase from 2017.
- **Partnerships: Funding gaps in support for gender equality.**
 - SDG 17: Only 4% of total bilateral aid in 2020-2021 was dedicated to gender equality and women's empowerment as the principal objective, a decrease from previous years.

SDG Indicator Framework and its Limitations

“What is counted, counts.”

- Indicators play a vital role in steering efforts at global, national, and local levels.
- Constructing indicators at the global level is complex – raising questions about:



- Indicators do not fully capture gender discrimination (SDG 5.1) or unpaid care responsibilities (SDG 5.4).

- Context-blind indicators fail to account for vast differences (in-/cross-country), e.g. SRHR (SDG 5.6).

- Data inconsistencies across countries and persistent gender data gaps, e.g. in remote areas (Seidler et al. 2023).

Post-2030: Heavy Lifting

4 Reform Areas and Their Relevance for Evaluators:



Intersectional & Qualitative Data:
Expand data beyond gender-blind aggregates to include intersectional and qualitative insights for deeper evaluations.



Accountability:
Integrate evaluation and foresight to strengthen accountability and adapt to emerging global challenges.



Track Implementation:
Monitor gender-responsive policies, funding, and partnerships to evaluate not just outcomes but processes behind them.



Close Funding Gaps:
Invest in disaggregated gender data and robust data collection systems to enhance monitoring and evaluation.



Call for Evaluators

- Illuminate the unseen through disaggregated, intersectional gender data.
- Track what works and what doesn't, why, across diverse contexts.
- Hold systems accountable, ensuring resources follow rhetoric.
- Bridge past insights and future risks, integrating foresight into gender-transformative evaluation.

Evaluators are not just observers—they are changemakers.



Acknowledgement of Co-authors



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initiative

Thank you!

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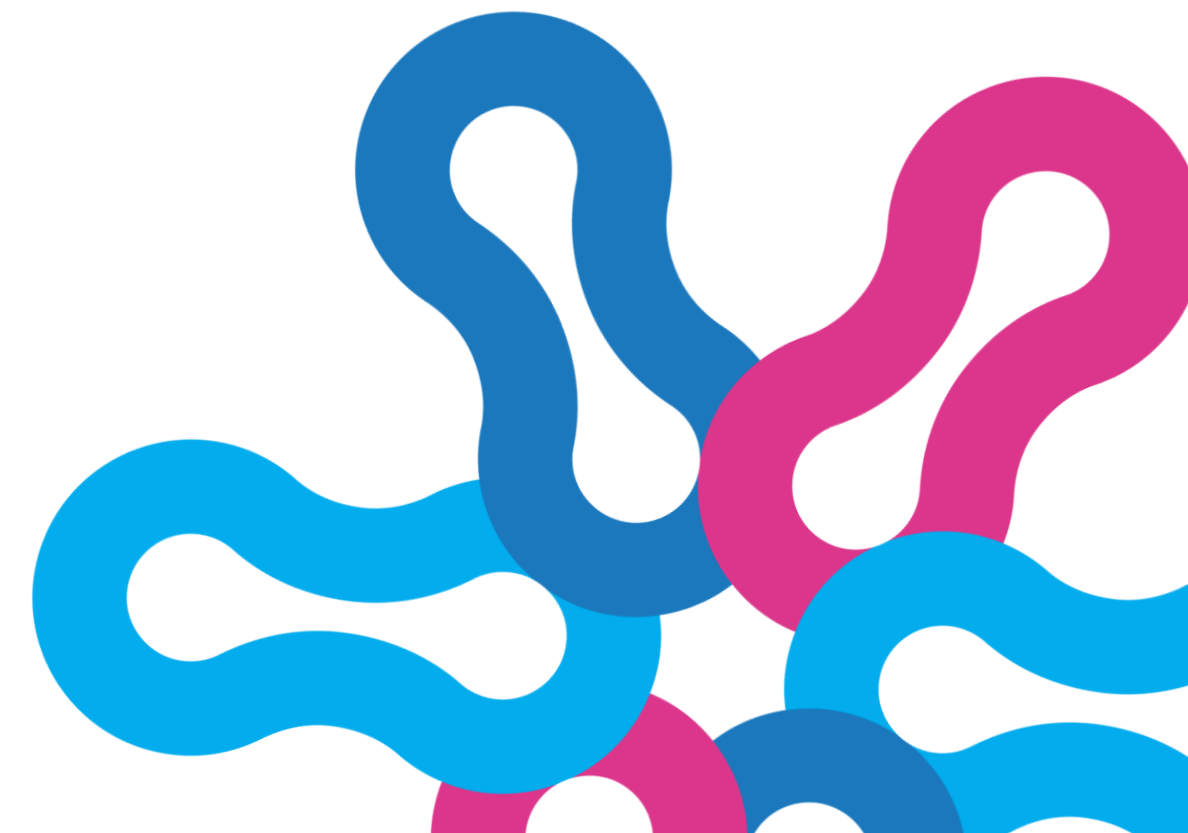
1-06-2025

Merging Applied Behavioral Science and Systems Analysis for Improved GBV Policy Implementation in Guatemala.

Emiliano Díaz del Valle —
Engagement Director for Latin
America (BUSARA)

OUR GOAL

How can we identify policies, protocols, and interventions that, when effectively implemented, enable the Healthcare System to enhance support and care for Gender-Based Violence survivors in Guatemala?





Mixed-Methods Research

1. We collected extensive quantitative data from the **Propel Health Project Office in Guatemala** concerning gender-based violence and the support services provided by the country's health system.
2. In July 2023, we identified **Quiché, Huehuetenango, and Guatemala City** as priority regions for an in-depth examination of the issue.
3. Between **September 2023 and March 2024**, we conducted focus group sessions, interviews, and data collection visits.



We researched existing statistics and reports on GBV in Guatemala.



5 Group Workshops
Guatemala City
(Sep 2023)



80 Interviews with
Stakeholders
(Nov 2023 – Jan 2024)



3 Focus Groups
Quiché and Huehuetenango
(Feb 2024)



3 Visits to Healthcare
Facilities
(Feb 2024)

4. This enabled us to understand the journey of a victim, the policies and protocols involved, their current implementation status, and **other systemic variables impacting victims of GBV in Guatemala.**

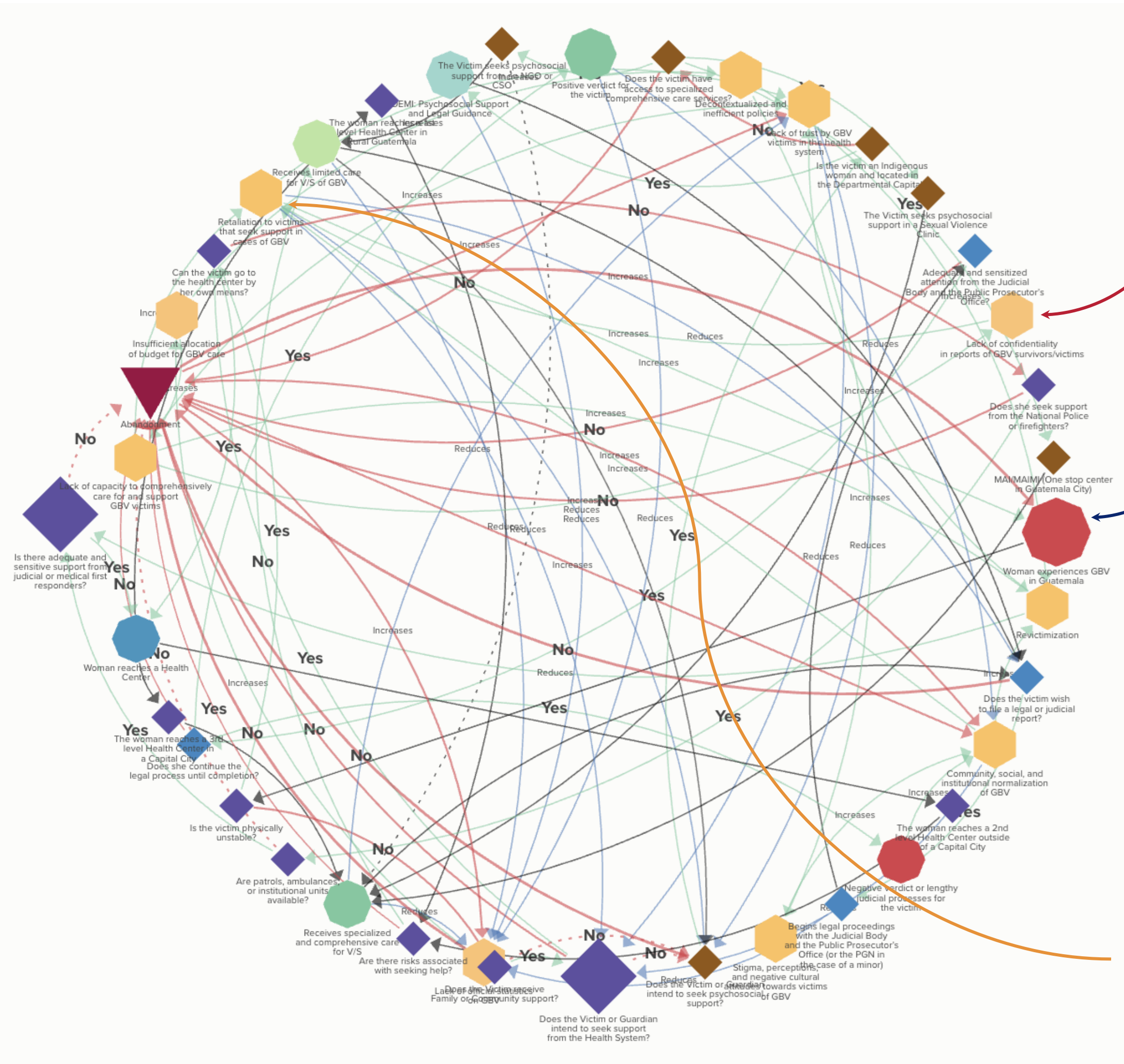
V/S Journey Experience

Implementation Failures

Current outcomes and decision-making processes.

The systemic map visually represents all the research gathered.

Direct and Indirect Causes

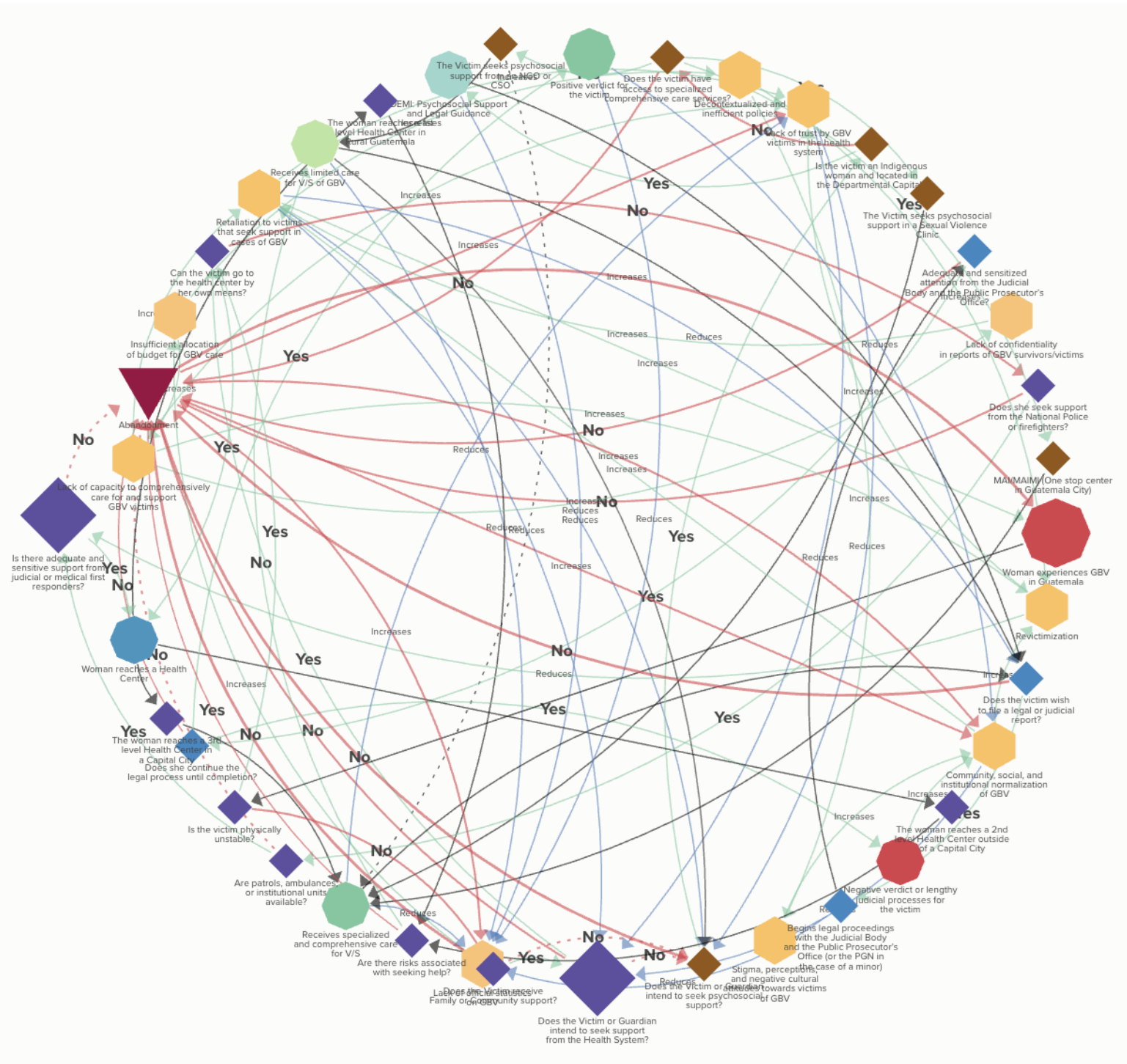


The system map itself provides significant value through qualitative analysis, as it highlights behavioral dynamics and other elements affecting the experience and support available to GBV victims.

How can we make sense of so much complexity when we try to analyze 9 inter-related negative feedback loops with various interconnections amongst them?

*To enhance the value of this information, we translated it into a **computational laboratory powered by an Agent-Based Model.***

Transforming Victim Pathways into Behavioral Functions



```

class Hospital(Agent):
    """
    Class representing a hospital agent in the simulation.
    """

    # -----
    # @Decide Functions
    # -----

    def decide_if_ambulance_available(self, person_pvs) -> bool:
        """
        Check if emergency services are available based on whether the hospital is in a rural area.
        Returns:
            True if emergency services are available, False otherwise.
        """
        if (person_pvs.is_rural):
            return self.model.random.random() < self.prob_ambulance_available_rural
        else:
            return self.model.random.random() < self.prob_ambulance_available_urban

    def decide_admission(self, person_pvs) -> bool:
        """
        Admit a person to the hospital if there is capacity.
        Args:
            person: The person who is asking to be admitted.
        Returns:
            True if the person is admitted, False otherwise.
        """

        admit = False

        # Decision logic to admit VSPersons based on severity and hospital's concern about GBV
        # if self.capacity is not None and (len(self.patients) >= self.capacity):
    
```

- Actor Data Points (Demographics and current status regarding abuse).
- Decision Functions (Reasons for choices like why and when to seek help).
- Action Functions (Actions that agents in the model take).

Simulation of multiple scenarios

At this stage, we tested **29 distinct policy variations that impact the systemic elements influencing the journey of a GBV victim or survivor** seeking support from the health system.

Some of the changes we examined include:

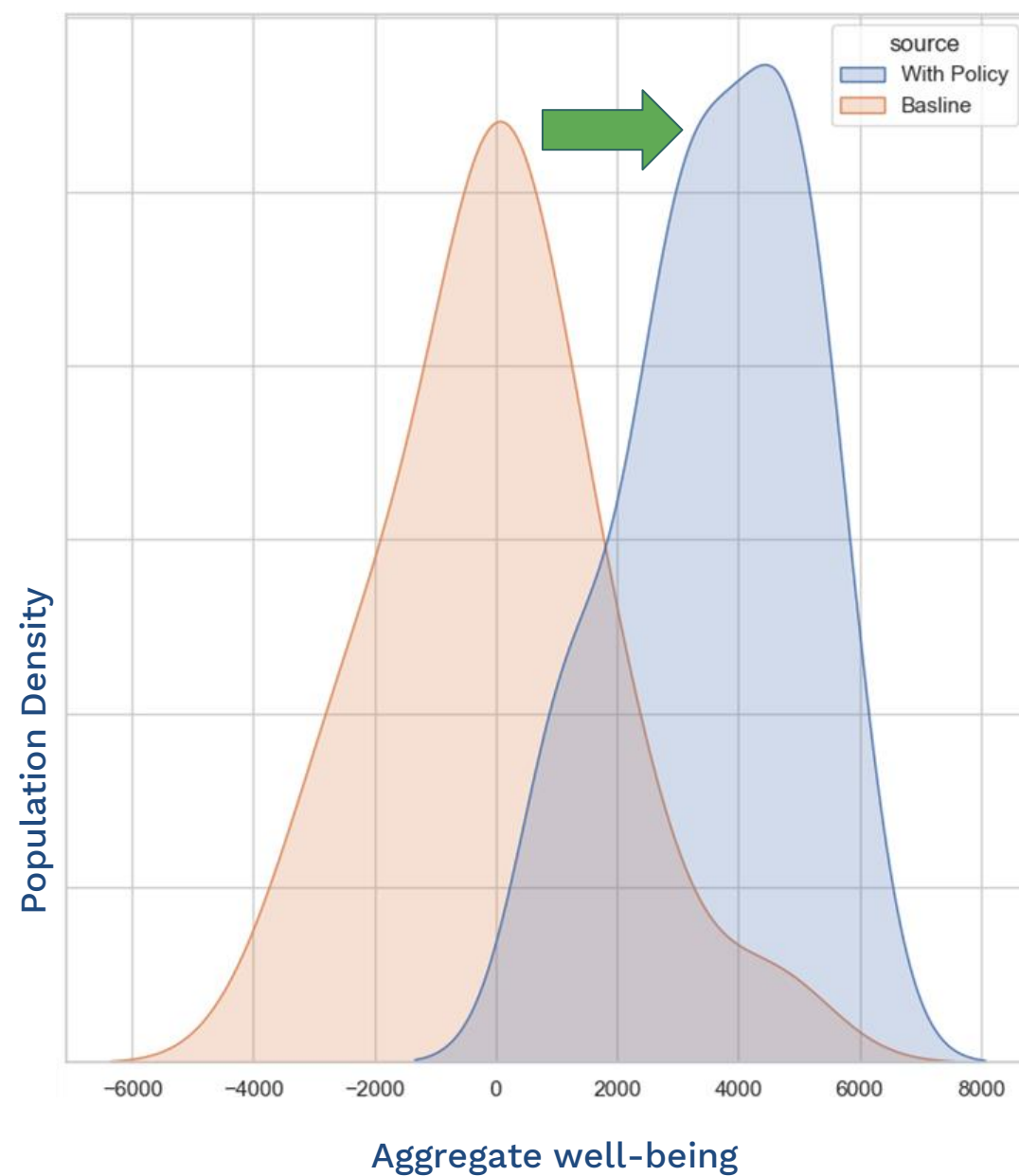
- **Providing local interpreters for indigenous women**
- **Implementing education programs in schools**
- **Supplying rape kits in 1st and 2nd level hospitals**
- **Increasing accessibility to health centers through enhanced police support**
- **Ensuring confidential reporting mechanisms for GBV**
- **Teaching response strategies and de-escalation of violence in schools**
- **Increasing the rate of GBV screening in hospitals**
- **Boosting referrals to social work and psychological services**
- **Reducing community and social normalization of GBV**
- **Enforcing protective measures for GBV victims and survivors**

Our goal was to identify and prioritize policy changes that could significantly **enhance the well-being of GBV victims and survivors**, while also recognizing those with **minimal or even negative impact**.

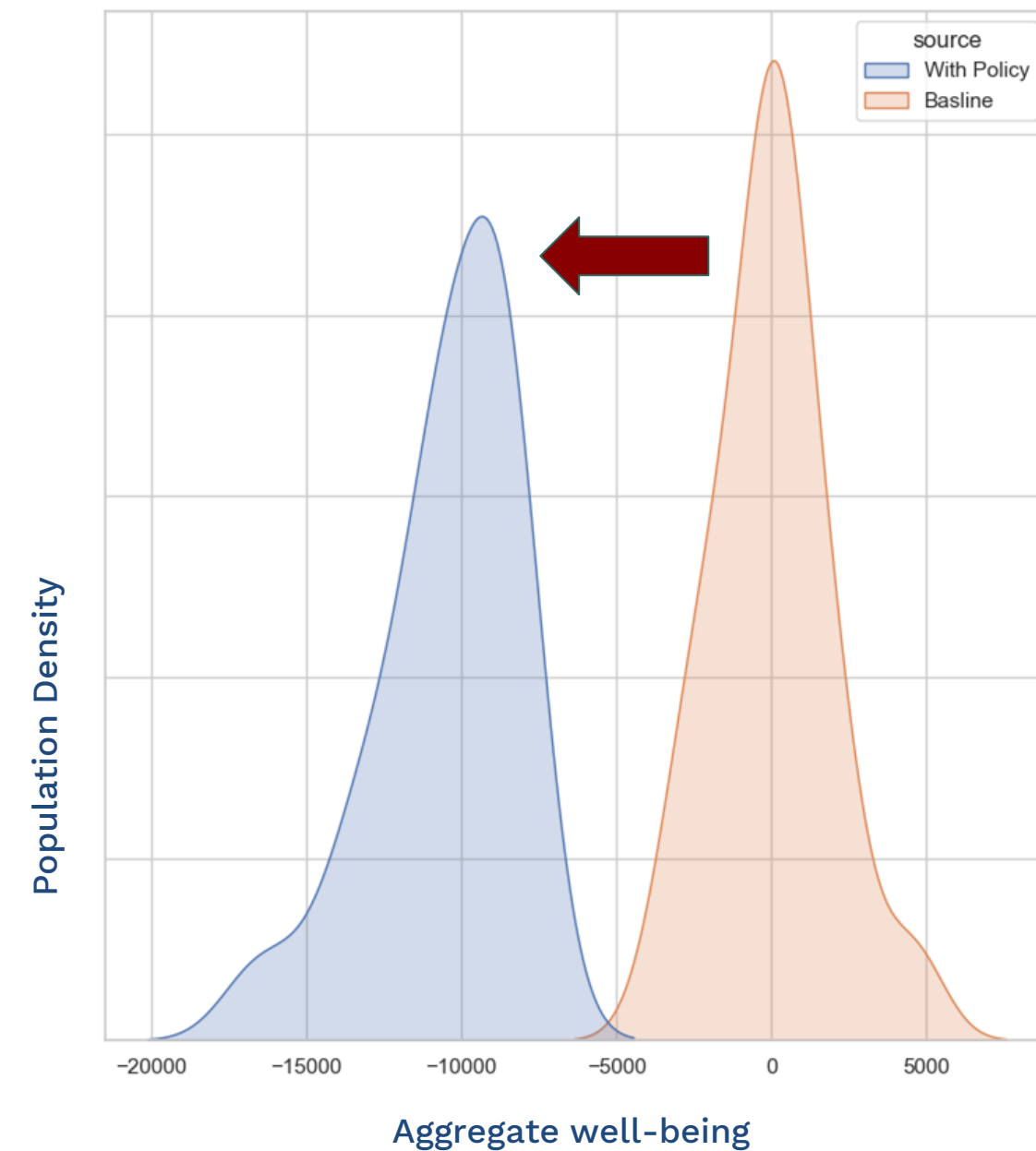
Simulation of multiple scenarios

After running hundreds of thousands of simulations, we identified the system elements that have the greatest (and the least) impact on the aggregate well-being of a GBV victim in Guatemala.

Effect of Policy Implementation (Patient Education to expect retaliation) on Aggregate Wellbeing



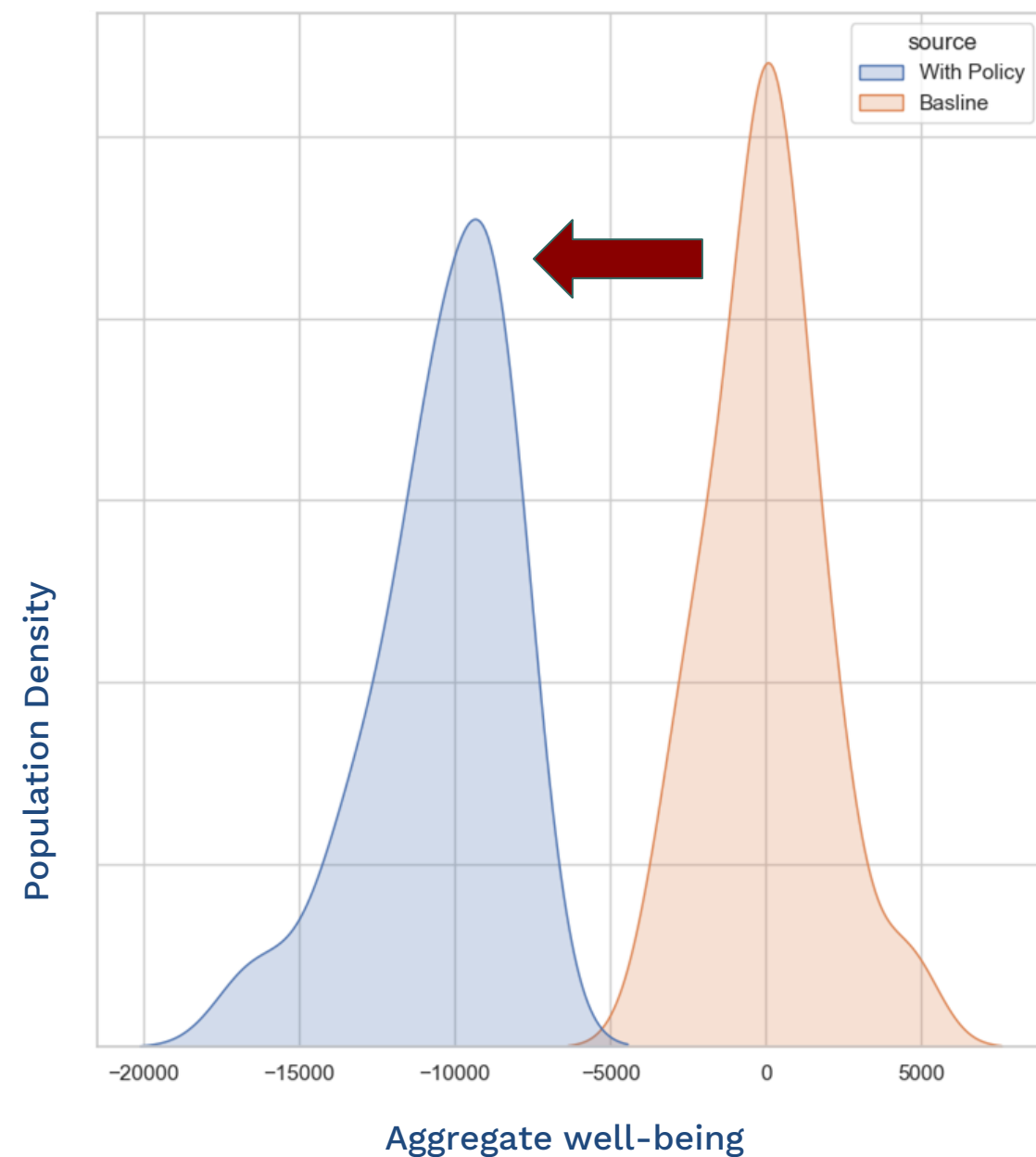
Effect of Policy Implementation (Screening for Violence) on Aggregate Wellbeing



The simulation results served as the primary input for prioritizing and pursuing behavioral interventions and policy changes aimed at improving the system. Moreover, they uncovered non-obvious effects and feedback loops that proved crucial to our investigation.

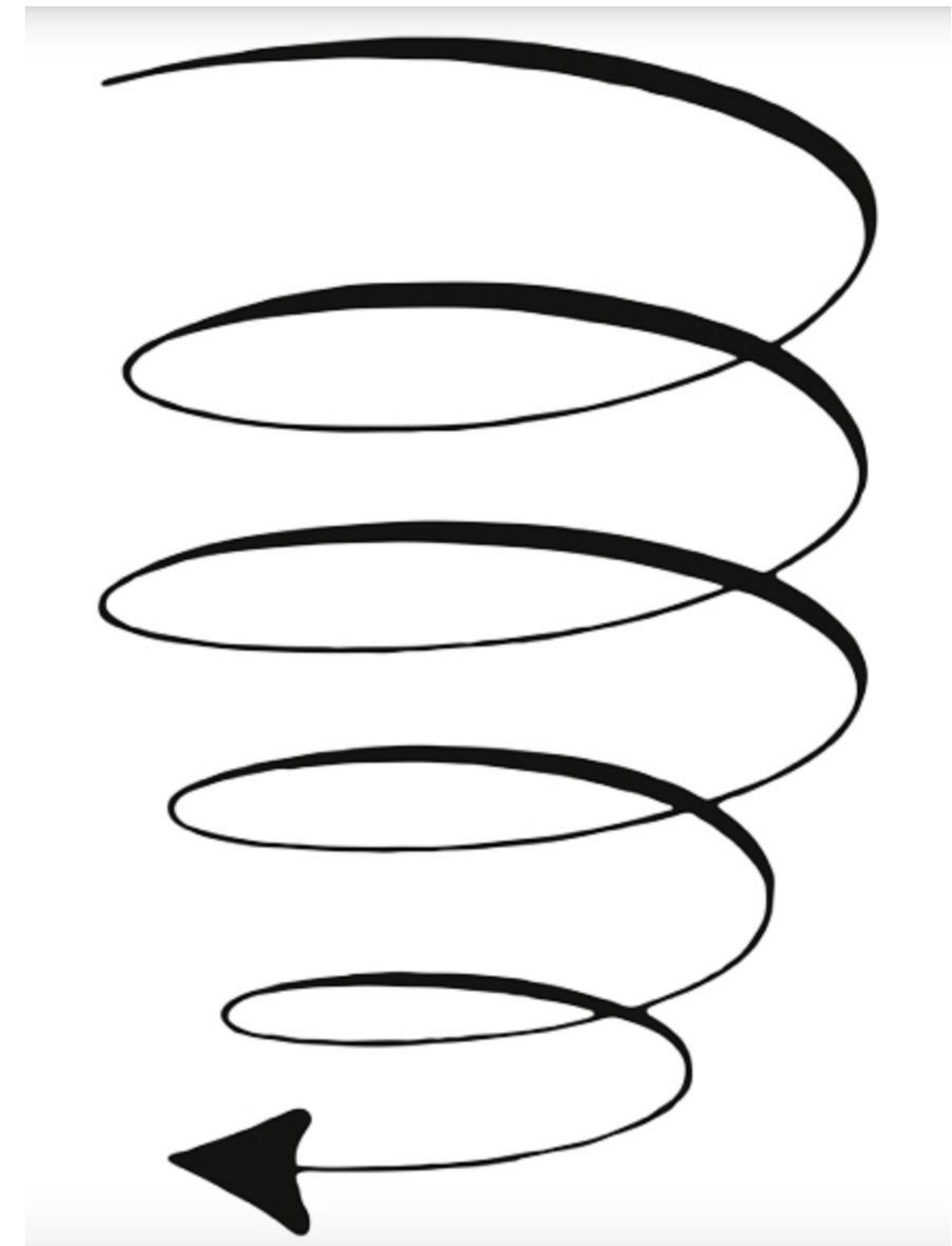
Increased Screening for GBV in Hospitals

Effect of Policy Implementation (Screening for Violence) on Aggregate Wellbeing

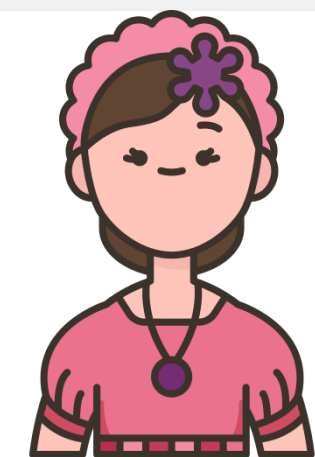


While hospital screening for violence is globally recognized as good practice for GBV support, Guatemala's current system often allows reports to reach the perpetrator, **risking retaliation and worsening the victim's situation (increased violence, stigma, normalization and many others).**

Screening for violence itself is not inherently wrong, **but conducting it without ensuring confidentiality or safeguards against retaliation can do more harm than good.**



As these loops occur, GBV finds less and less resistance and other behavioral and structural barriers worsen, making it less likely for any 'Petri-Dish' interventions to work and improve the outcomes for V/S's of GBV.



Therefore, secure and confidential mechanisms for accessing support and reporting GBV are essential **to drive meaningful change and ensure the effectiveness of hospital-based violence screening.**



← **Greater impact on the system for V/S initially**

Opportunity areas with significant benefits in strengthening system conditions →

Ensure confidential reporting mechanisms

GBV Education

Improved quality of care

Response strategies

De-normalization of GBV

Intervention areas that strategically prevent and respond

Increase in ambulances

Information on access to services

Referral to social work and psychological services

Increase in police cars

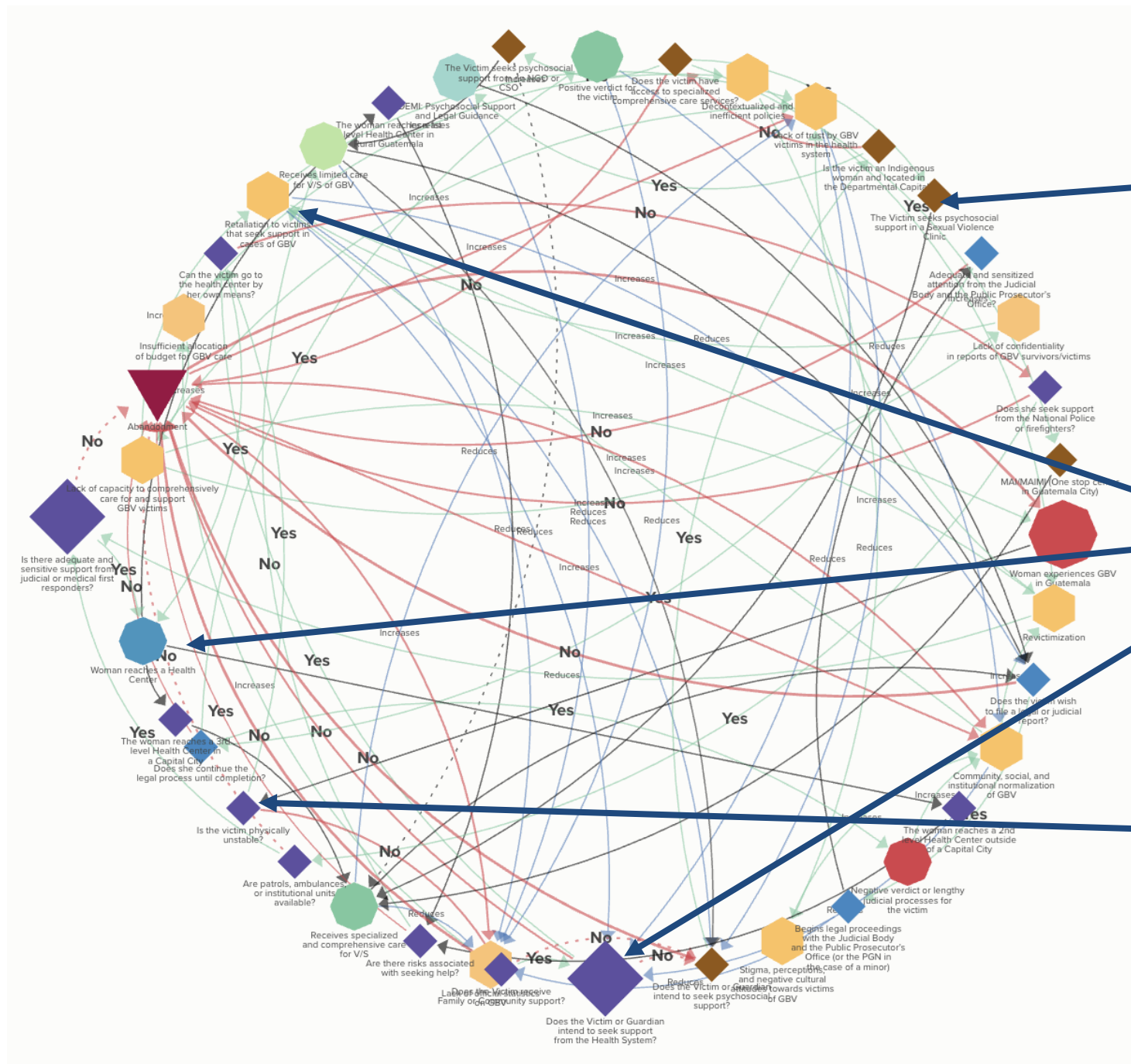
Education exclusively for women and girls

Techniques for identifying GBV in hospitals

Techniques to increase reporting

Additional measures

These are **ESSENTIAL** interventions that, when accompanied by other initiatives, catalyze change.



Ensure confidential reporting mechanisms

GBV Education

Improved quality of care

Response strategies

De-normalization of GBV

These interventions were in the process of being implemented, leveraging our behavioral science expertise to strengthen key elements of the system. However, the Propel Health Project, funded by USAID, was unexpectedly discontinued.

We are now seeking a new opportunity to apply this methodology and analysis in another health system in Latin America.



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