Gender equality: An essential condition for achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals

Accelerating Progress on Agenda 2030: Good Practices for Parliamentary Action
What is Sustainable Development Goal 5?

**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 5**
Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

**Addresses:**
- Sexual violence
- Genital mutilation
- Socioeconomic disadvantages
- Rights to Economic Resources
- Empowerment

**Targets:**
- Political underrepresentation
- Reproductive health
- Gaps in legal protection
- Gender budget data accessibility
- Child marriage
Impact of SDG5 on the Achievement of Other SDGs

“We need to make sure that women and girls are empowered to reach their full potential so they can earn their own livelihoods, which will benefit families as well as the economic growth of their communities and countries.”

Marie-Claude Bibeau
Minister of International Development and La Francophonie

“We believe that the best way to eradicate poverty and leave no one behind is through a feminist international assistance policy.”

“Canada’s long-term economic success depends on an inclusive society in which all individuals have the ability to contribute to their full potential, regardless of gender or other identity factors.”

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What is Canada Doing to Meet the SDGs?

Nationally

Two-month public consultation in 2019 that reached nearly 42,000 people online and engaged almost 2,500 Canadians in person in over 30 cities, in 13 provinces and territories.

Internationally

Canada’s Policy seeks to eradicate poverty and build a more peaceful, more inclusive and more prosperous world.

Women and girls will be at the heart of Canada’s new approach.

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Parliamentary Action SDG5

1995
Federal Plan for Gender Equality

2004
The House of Commons Standing Committee on the Status of Women

2015
Canada's first gender-balanced Cabinet
First full Minister for Status of Women appointed

2016
GBA+ becomes mandatory for all Memoranda to Cabinet and Treasury Board submissions

2017
Canada's first ever Gender Statement published

2018
Budget 2018 establishes Canada's Gender Results Framework
Parliament passes the Canadian Gender Budgeting Act
Department for Women and Gender Equality is created

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Gender Budgeting

Canadian Gender Budgeting Act (2018)

**Information**
Promote the principle of gender equality and greater inclusiveness in society.

**Equality**
Consider gender and diversity in taxation and resource allocation decisions.

**Transparency**
Make information available to the public on the impacts of Government decisions in terms of gender and diversity.

**Policy**
Strengthen the capacity of departments to consider gender and diversity in the development of budgetary policy.
Gender-based Analysis Plus

GBA+ is an **analytical process** designed to help us ask questions, challenge assumptions and identify potential impacts.

GBA+ acknowledges that GBA goes **beyond** biological and socio-cultural differences and considers many other identity factors, like race, ethnicity, religion, age, and mental or physical disability.
Gender and Climate Change

Gender influences how individuals experience climate change

There are greater risks, burdens and adverse impacts on women and girls during and following disasters, including a heightened risk of gender-based violence.

There are well-documented gender differences in displacement from extreme events, especially when women lose their social networks or their social capital.

Women and children are 14 times more likely than men to die during a natural disaster.
The Canadian Government has identified **six key areas** where change is required to advance gender equality.

- **Economic participation and prosperity**
- **Leadership and democratic participation**
- **Poverty reduction, health and well-being**
- **Education and skills development**
- **Gender-based violence and access to justice**
- **Gender equality around the world**

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Progress on SDG5 in Canada

- **Goal: Increased labour market opportunities for women**
  - Women are **less likely** to participate in the workforce than men (61% versus 70% in 2018).

- **Goal: More women in higher-quality jobs**
  - In 2018, women and men were **almost equally likely** to hold temporary jobs (14% versus 13%) and be working involuntarily part-time (5% versus 3%).

- **Goal: Increased full-time employment of women**
  - Only **74%** of employed women work full-time compared to 88% of men in 2018.
Progress on SDG5 in Canada

Goal: Equal sharing of family responsibilities
- In 2015, women spent 90 minutes more per day on unpaid domestic and care work than men.

Goal: Better gender balance across occupations
- Women represented only 17% of those working in front-line public protection services and 4% of those working in industrial, electrical and construction trades.

Goal: Reduced gender wage gap
- The median hourly gender wage gap for full-time workers was 12% in 2018.
Contribution of Women Parliamentarians

Rwanda was the first country to break the halfway mark (56%) in Parliament leading to:

- Women’s rights reforms resulting in boys and girls attending school in equal numbers
- Women opening bank accounts; mothers pass citizenship to their children
- Women and girls inherit, buy, and own land
- Both genders now conduct affairs largely on an equal legal footing

That’s 10 more than in the last House of commons and a record high for Canada.

1918
Women gained the right to vote in Canada

1929
Women gained the right to become Senators

48
Women currently appointed as Senators in Canada

47%
Of all Canadian Senators

98
Women elected to Parliament last week

27%
Of all Members of Parliament

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Disaggregated Data

**Disaggregation:** Breaking down data into smaller categories

Disaggregation shows how different socio-economic groups and geographic areas are progressing across all the SDGs and will help to identify gaps in progress.

The importance of collecting appropriately disaggregated data is critical to ensuring **no one** is left behind.
Conclusion

Social progress

Long-term sustainable economic growth

National, political, social, cultural and economic development

Sustainable development

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Thank you!

¡Gracias!

Obrigado!
Supplementary Slides
Progress on SDG5 in Canada

• data on violence against women
• valuing unpaid work
• women in leadership
• in Canada women only comprise 25% of environmental professionals. Women are also a minority in engineering, which has implications for employment in the renewable energy sector. This tendency can be reversed.
• Majority women-owned businesses have lower growth rates, experience more difficulty accessing growth capital, and have less developed networks than men-owned businesses. (In Canada)
Canada’s Feminist International Assistance Policy aims to achieve the following:

- support women’s leadership and decision-making in climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts, resilience building and sustainable natural resource management;
- ensure that the Government of Canada’s climate-related planning, policy making and financing acknowledge the particular challenges faced by women and girls; and
- support employment and business opportunities for women in the renewable energy sector.

[Image of SDG5]

“women and girls are uniquely affected by the damaging effects of climate change.”
Women are disproportionately affected by the impacts of climate change all over the world. Women’s traditional roles as the primary users and managers of natural resources, primary caregivers, and keepers of the home mean they are involved in and depend on livelihoods and resources that are put most at risk by climate change.

Women and girls are particularly at risk when it comes to threats from climate change and environmental degradation. Resource scarcity, coupled with a gender imbalance in household responsibilities, means that climate change has a disproportionate impact on women and girls. However, overwhelming evidence shows that investing in gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls acts as a force multiplier on all other development goals, including environmental goals.
Gender and Climate Change

• Climate disasters have also been shown to increase gender-based violence (GBV), including sexual harassment and violence, domestic violence, sexual exploitation of children, and human trafficking. Displacement and migration following a disaster can result in overcrowding and unsafe living conditions in evacuation centers, temporary housing, internal displacement camps, and other shelters. Girls and women become more vulnerable to harassment and violence, while increased poverty and loss of community increases the propensity for violence.

• According to the UN Development Program, “women, boys and girls are 14 times more likely than men to die during a [natural] disaster.”

• Climate change could also exacerbate water scarcity, with gender-related consequences. In most developing countries, women and girls are responsible for meeting their family’s need for water. Increasing the distance required to access potable water sources could lead to higher opportunity costs for women and girls and potential spinal damage from carrying water a longer distance.

• The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) secretariat noted that “women’s unequal participation in decision-making processes and labour markets compound[s] inequalities and often prevent[s] women from fully contributing to climate-related planning, policy-making and implementation.”

• in Canada women only comprise 25% of environmental professionals. Women are also a minority in engineering, which has implications for employment in the renewable energy sector. This tendency can be reversed.
Contribution of Women parliamentarians

• In Canada, women gained the right to vote in 1918 and the right to become senators in 1929, through a decision of the Privy council, thanks to the activism of the Famous Five.

• Newly elected House of commons will consist of 98 women accounting for 29% of all MPs. That’s 10 more than in the last House of commons and an all time record for Canada. It is also just shy of the 30% critical mass tipping point which is thought to the point at which women can change male dominated culture in parliament..

• There are currently 48 senatrices out of a total of 102 occupied seats, representing 47% of all senators

• Rwanda was the first country to break the halfway mark (56%) in parliament 16 years after the genocide, lead women’s rights reforms resulting in boys and girls attending school in equal numbers; women opening bank accounts; mothers pass citizenship to their children; women and girls inherit, buy, and own land; and both genders conduct affairs largely on an equal legal footing.