

## **Gender and Environmental Law. Challenges and opportunities for promoting the role of gender in environmental justice**

V Tarragona International Environmental Law Colloquium (TIEC)  
25-26 June 2020



**PANEL 2: Climate change and gender, a feminist approach: adaptation strategies, gender environmental justice, migration and displacement, Climate Action Plan under the UNFCCC, gender dimensions of national climate laws and National Determined Contributions (NDCs).**

### **The relationship between the concepts of gender based adaptation and socio-economic resilience under the transnational climate regime.**

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Climate change is non-discriminatory but women in general are disproportionately affected. In many rural societies, women have a lesser standing in comparison to men and are less able to cope with the changing climate. On the other hand, despite the increasing social barriers they experience through climate impacts - women have been significantly contributing to sustainable development through primarily engaging in livelihood management and reproductive activities at the household and community levels. It is therefore imperative that the collective climate adaptation efforts are influenced by factors that enhance resilience of women.

In doing so, law can play a critical role by acting as a vehicle for strengthening resilience. Transnational law can specifically strengthen climate resilience of rural women by highlighting its relationship with gender between, around, and outside of the existing regulatory frameworks; and fill in governance gaps within gender based approaches in existing doctrinal perspectives.

Against this background, this research reviews the gender considerations within existing frameworks such as the UNFCCC regime, the EU's climate law strategies, and the Arctic Council's guiding principles on resilience and gender equality; and their relevance to socio-economic resilience of rural women. This is one part of a PhD project that explores the role of transnational law in enhancing socio-economic resilience of rural women in Bangladesh and the Finnish Arctic through adaptation. These two regions have been chosen as they provide the basis for an integrated comparative analysis on the topic.

It is anticipated that this research will contribute to the transnational climate law scholarship by expanding its application to gender based adaptation.