

Social Inclusion



GWSP
GLOBAL WATER
SECURITY & SANITATION
PARTNERSHIP



WORLD BANK GROUP
Water

PROMOTING SOCIAL INCLUSION IN THE WATER SECTOR



Water is at the core of development, yet some individuals and groups remain excluded from its benefits. Women, youth, indigenous groups, persons with disabilities, and others are still underrepresented among those who provide or receive services, make decisions, and control water resources.

Our objective is to ensure that water benefits are equitably and sustainably accessible to all. This requires the removal of structural barriers that prevent access to water resources and services, and that limit participation in water institutions and processes. It means ensuring that excluded groups have a voice in water planning and distribution.



We work to reform institutions and processes so that they become more inclusive and accountable to citizens, reflect greater diversity in their management and staff, and extend services to all.

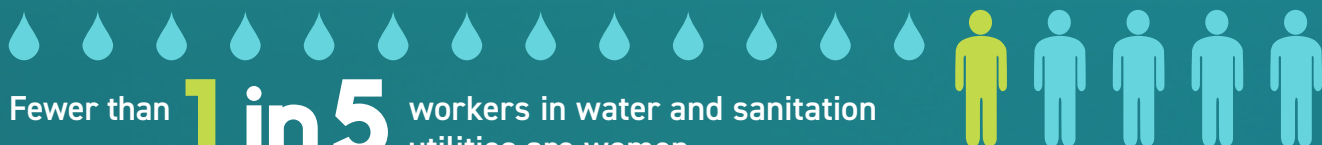
TO SUPPORT THE COVID-19 RESPONSE AND RECOVERY, WE WORK TO:

- Support entrepreneurship and other income-generating opportunities for women, youth, indigenous communities and other excluded groups.
- Ensure that advances made in broadening participation of women and marginalized groups in water institutions and distribution schemes are maintained in the context of tight budgets.
- Design interventions tailored to the needs of those who are excluded.



It is estimated that climate change will force over

140 million people to migrate within their countries by **2050**



Fewer than **1 in 5** workers in water and sanitation utilities are women.

Gender diversity in leadership = **27%** higher corporate value creation.



Over **60%** of women in Southern Africa work in agriculture, but legal, legal cultural, and procedural barriers limit their access to extension and irrigation services.



About **1 billion people**

have some form of disability. Where public sanitation facilities are not accessible, a large share of the population is excluded.

Over **400 million people in indigenous groups**

live in areas highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change.



Ensuring that water is equitably and sustainably shared requires an inclusive approach. Disadvantaged groups and individuals need to have a voice, access, and employment opportunities in the water sector.



Access involves removing barriers to obtaining water, sanitation, irrigation, and other services.



Voice means ensuring that all people, regardless of identity, are able to have a say in planning and measuring the delivery and quality of water and related services.



Employment in the water sector is highly unequal. Utilities and water resource management bodies can play an important role in reducing and eliminating barriers faced by women and other excluded groups.