Social construction of climate change: How and what can feminist research contribute to gendered climate policy?

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Side Event: Gender innovations - strategies to address “gender” in climate change policy
How and what can feminist research contribute to gendered climate policy?

Outline

1. Gender-speak:
   How is gender conceptionalized in climate politics?

2. Neoliberalization of climate change:
   What are gender implications of a greening regime?

3. Bridging gender theory and practice:
   What are the contributions and questions of feminist climate research for a gender responsive climate change policy?

4. Conclusions beyond gender balancing
1. **Gender specific vulnerability**: “women are more vulnerable by climate change impacts”
   -> Quantitative studies (cases of death after extreme events) and qualitative studies (increasing poverty in regions with extreme climate variability)

2. **Perception of climate risks**: “women are more sensitive for environmental risks”
   -> Surveys on environmental consciousness

3. **Involvement in climate change**: “gender specific mobility and consumption patterns”
   -> Quantitative correlation of income and GHG emission

4. **Adaptation**: “gender specific options of adaptive capacity”
   -> Quantitative and qualitative studies on uneven access to information, land property and resources.

5. **Burden of cc policy**: “Women are more engaged for adaptation and mitigation”
   -> Surveys on environmental behaviour

6. **Participation in decision making processes**: “Women are excluded from decision making”
   -> Statistics at international, national and local level
Gender implications of climate discourses

**Green economy discourse:**
Market-inclusion of women for economic growth

**Sustainability discourse:**
Empowerment of women as local resource managers

**Vulnerability discourse:**
Women as victims of multiple vulnerabilities

Narratives of gender dichotomy and spatial division of Global North and Global South

climate and gender justice
Conclusions beyond gender balancing

1. **Deconstruction of gender-speak:**
   Arguing not only with equality of binary gender categories but diversity of gender identities in intersection with race, class, sexual plurality.

2. **Critique of a gender hierarchical neoliberalization of climate change:**
   Degendering division of labor and feminized responsibilities for mitigation and adaptation.

3. **Specification of criteria for a gender-responsive climate policy:**
   Feminist interventions in the ongoing transformation debate with concretion of the objects, subjects and goals of transformation.

4. **Awareness for politics of scale:**
   Connections between scales, sites, and struggles call for urgent ways of developing alliances across geographical scales and social differences.

5. **Input and output-perspective on climate and gender:**
   As climate change is an issue of ecological and social relations, the impacts and origins of climate change are always gender relevant.

6. **Bridging of gender theory and practice:**
   Extend research programs for gender responsive climate policy research for theoretical and applied questions on gender and climate relations.