



R20 GREEN FUND FOR WOMEN



Together, enabling women to take action for the planet



WOMEN: VICTIMS OF GLOBAL WARMING AND ACTRESSES OF CHANGE

Women are differently and more severely affected by climate change than men. In question, the impacts on agriculture, the frequency and severity of natural disasters, social constructs, the tasks they are given, discrimination and poverty. And yet, women play a **major role in the implementation of adaptation and mitigation strategies**, and are more committed to finding concrete solutions for their community than men.



Source : UNIFEM 2008

Women make up of the world's poor.

75%

"One of the keys to inclusive and sustainable development, and thus to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), is understanding and effectively taking into account the gender dimension of climate change."

Source : Unesco



The risk of death in a **natural disaster** is **14 times higher** for women and children.

Source : UNISDR 2011



Source : Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition 2017

In Asia and Africa, due to the scarcity of sources, women spend an average of **17,5** hours per week collecting water.



Source : UN Women 2015

On the African continent, **70% of farmers are women**, responsible of **75%** of the tasks related to food production.

ENHANCING WOMEN'S ACTION IN 5 KEY POINTS

Our goal is **to empower women to work for the planet** by facilitating the realization of their **green projects**. The activities of the R20 Green Fund can be broken down into **five main steps** and will be developed in conjunction with the **2030 Agenda** and the **UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.



1

INTENSIVE PERSONALIZED TRAINING PROGRAM

- ✓ **Remove barriers** related to **gender inequalities** in the creation and development of green jobs through the establishment of **dedicated training workshops**.

2

FINANCING, PROJECTS, FEASIBILITY STUDIES

- ✓ **Fund feasibility studies** for green projects **led by women entrepreneurs** or dedicated to **women's empowerment**.

3

ACCESS TO ENERGY AND COMMUNICATION TOOLS

- ✓ Allow women to **access technical and technological innovations** (clean energy sources, WI-FI, digital services, health, communication, etc.).

4

INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL FORUMS

- ✓ **Support women workers** by giving them better control of their **social, economic, political and ecological conditions** as well as **privileged access to forums**.

5

GLOBAL WOMEN ENTREPRENEUR FELLOWSHIP (GWEF)

- ✓ **Build a global network** of people active in the **green economy sector (GWEF)** and showcase **inspiring women**.

LEARNING TO CREATE AND MANAGE COMPANIES TOGETHER

In a report from 2011, the FAO shows that **if women could access technology, education, markets, financial services and land as much as men, the resulting increase in agricultural production could help decrease hunger by 17%** and increase agricultural production in developing countries by **2.5 to 4%**.

Women bring **promising solutions** for the developing world. Yet, they are still often faced with **the lack of technical, financial, and technological resources** to set up their own businesses (limited access to agricultural wealth, land ownership, education, technology, and power). In collaboration with **our expert partners** in different regions of the world, we will regularly organize **training sessions tailored to women and the creation of green businesses**. We will:

Step 1

Provide the audience with **the necessary training materials** (access to energy, solar cooking materials, clean farming tools, etc.)

Step 2

Consolidate the achievements (theoretical and practical) of the participants through the intervention of **specialist partners**.

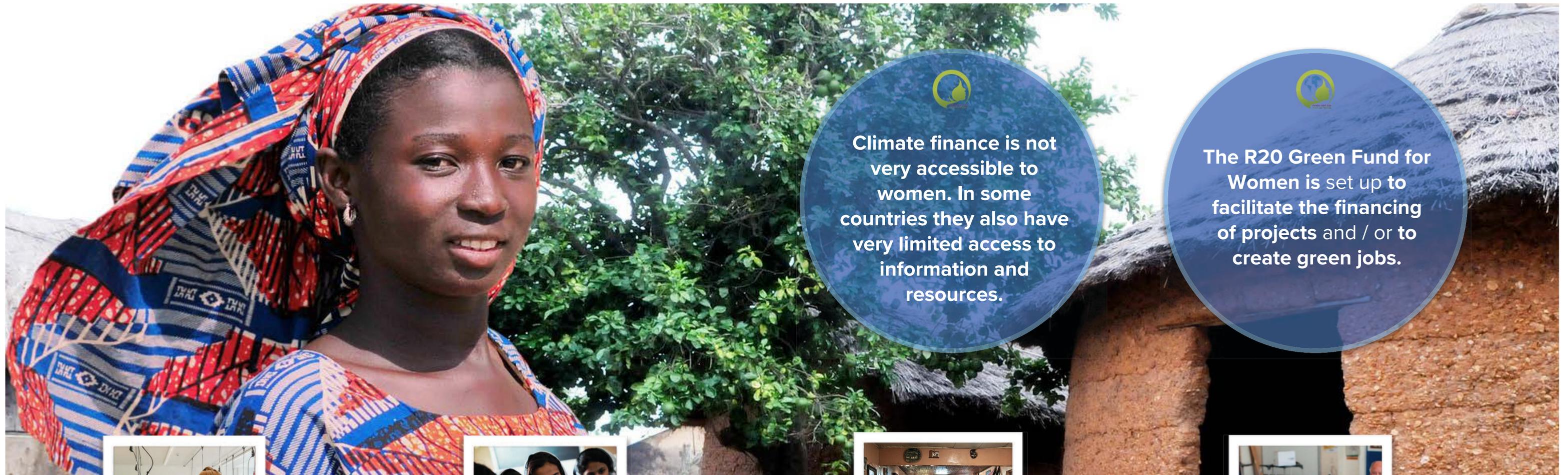
Step 3

Set up an informative section on **opportunities and regulations for local, regional and international markets** (development of adapted digital tools).

Step 4

Train women entrepreneurs **to access markets and climate finance**.

FINANCE WOMEN CREATIVITY AND ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT



Climate finance is not very accessible to women. In some countries they also have very limited access to information and resources.

The R20 Green Fund for Women is set up to facilitate the financing of projects and / or to create green jobs.



✓ **Financing feasibility studies** of green projects proposed by women entrepreneurs.

✓ **Deployment of infrastructures** (virtual or physical) and **networks** for women (financing, insurance, information, health, education).

✓ **Monitoring and control** of the application and results of the projects involved.

✓ Creation of a **portfolio of green projects** led by women and / or for **their emancipation**.

CREATION AND INSTALLATION OF CONNECTED SERVICE HUBS MANAGED BY WOMEN

Energy plays a vital role in the **economic and social development** of a country; **1.4 billion people** did not have access to it in 2016 (source: Schiller Institute). Since the “**connected**” in developing countries represent only about 5% of global users (source: Cahiers du Numériques), **access to means of communication** is still very unequal. **Women are, once again, at the heart of these inequities.**

The **R20 Green Fund**, in partnership with experts, will contribute to **the creation and installation of connected service hubs managed by women.**

These structures will allow:



Clean energy coverage for isolated communities



Access to specialized digital services (agriculture, health, education, banking, etc.)



Training for women entrepreneurs, at the heart of the new green and digital economy



The deployment of entertainment activities (modular playground, cinema area, refreshment bar, etc.)



Internet access for thousands of homes



Sale of consumables and value-added products

MAXIMIZING THE REPRESENTATION AND IMPACT OF WOMEN IN DECISION-MAKING

Despite an increase in gender **commitments** in **international climate agreements** over the years, women are still **underrepresented** in **public policy forums devoted to climate change**. Today, it seems, therefore, **essential to ensure their effective participation in these climate decision-making processes**:

Regional and international forums will be organized to highlight **the contribution of women to climate change actions**. They will allow **to extend active women's speeches** and highlight **their claims** at the highest level of decision-making bodies.



These events will also allow participants to:



- ✓ Identify and discuss sustainable innovative practices
- ✓ Build reliable networks
- ✓ Bridge gaps in knowledge and information



The NGO **Jeunes Volontaires pour l'Environnement-Côte d'Ivoire** (JVE), environmental organization has opted for **training and awareness young women in rural areas** to share **their knowledge and rights**. The organization aims to **implement a law** that would benefit **women's empowerment** by securing land ownership and allowing for long-term investment in the agricultural sector. Farmers could thus **improve the quality of their soils and reduce the destruction of the remaining forests**. In 2012, **JVE initiated meetings** with women and men from Tankéssé district and surrounding villages, 300 km from Abidjan. The participants chose four lines of action: **perfecting the managing women's cooperatives, identifying the distribution channels for their agricultural products, training in sustainable agriculture and develop access to solar energy**. The operation is so popular that women have mobilized to **share information** and discuss these different initiatives. Other villages in the district have been invited and are now part of the project. Young Ivorians intend to continue **to fight for food security, against deforestation and consequently against climate change**.

INSPIRATION FROM WOMEN AND INTERACTION

We want to highlight women **role models**, who have distinguished themselves in their fight for the planet, so that they can become a **source of inspiration** for others. With **GWEF**, the aim is also **to connect dynamic women** willing **to share** their knowledge and good practices.

The mission: to strengthen solidarity between women workers and **enable them to build strong networks**.



Marina Silva, illiterate until her 16th birthday, was appointed **Minister of the Environment in Brazil** from 2003 to 2008. She has established a **national plan to fight against deforestation**, including drastic measures against any illegal deforestation activities.



Manika Begum, a Bangladeshi farmer, invented a **practical and ingenious method of selecting and saving seeds** that she shared with other women in her community.



In 2004, **Wangari Maathai** becomes the first African woman to receive the **Nobel Prize** for her ecological activism: the **"Green Belt Movement"**, initiated in Kenya.

GWEF will be a **specific program** which aims **to connect local and international entrepreneurs** so that they can consider **new opportunities for professional exchanges**. In developing this **"network of active"**, the project will create **an exchange platform** for women in the green economy sector.

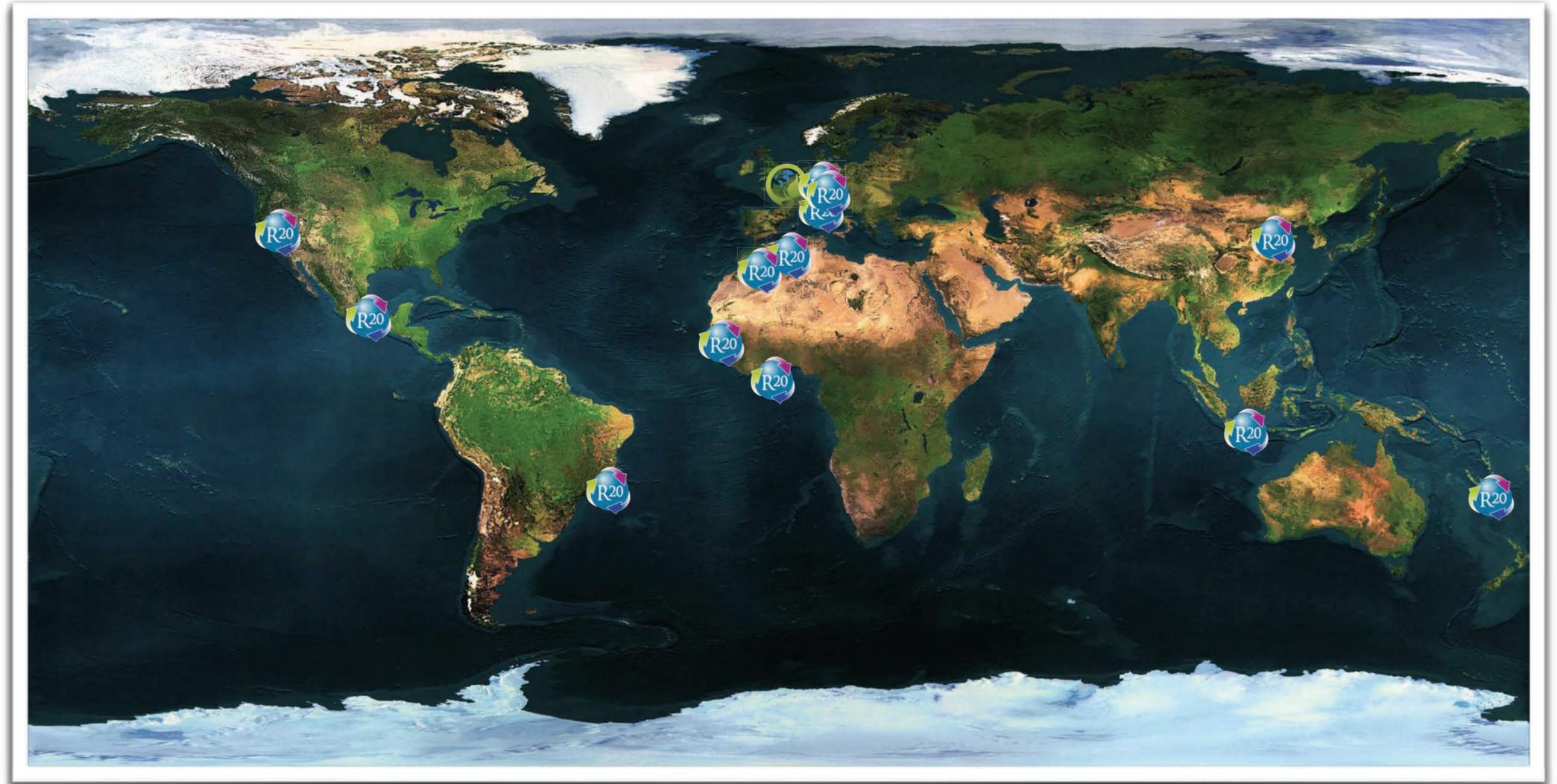
THE WORLD IN FRONT OF US | REGIONS OF CLIMATE ACTION

We have a strong interest in developing countries. R20 partner regions and local governments in Africa, Asia and Latin America will play a major role in the implementation and success of this project's activities.



"In order to make trade decisions more inclusive and more conducive to poverty reduction, it is essential to engage with actors in developing countries, better suited to build trust and local ownership."

Michèle Sabban
R20 Honorary President
& President of the R20 Green Fund for Women



 Our R20 offices around the world

The differences between these regions of the world (energy resources, popular dynamics, access to connectivity, ability to adapt to the effects of climate change), will determine the project's approach, tailored to the specific needs of each.



Focusing on developing countries, we want to empower women in their social and professional lives while helping them overcome the many challenges of climate change.

1



Strengthen the professional training of women entrepreneurs and develop their knowledge in company management

2



Support manufacturers in accessing finance and climate investment, banking data and credit

3



Guarantee privileged access to energy, communication, health, safety and well-being for women workers

4



Offer active workers the opportunity to assert their social demands and gain access to political decision-making

5



Enhance women's empowerment and build a global network of women entrepreneurs in the green economy (GWEF)



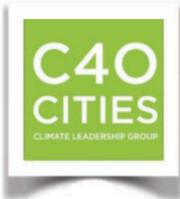
We would like to thank all the partners who supported R20 during the genesis of the project and will continue to support us in the effective development of our activities in the field.



In accordance with its mandate, UN Women is implementing a three-pronged approach to climate change: working to make climate negotiations and normative instruments gender-sensitive; build the capacity of partners to integrate gender into their efforts and actions; and support transformative and multi-stakeholder initiatives to demonstrate and build on the co-benefits of co-ordinated implementation of climate and gender approaches.



The Global Fund for Cities Development (FMDV) is an NGO that enables local emerging and developing communities to access the resources needed to finance their urban development projects. It is an instrument of technical assistance and financial engineering. It supports local communities in all urban development projects: design, planning, fundraising, implementation and evaluation.



The C40 brings together the most influential cities in the world, to agree on concrete ways to fight against global warming. Through the Women4Climate initiative, the goal is to enable women leaders on the international stage to support women working on local climate policies.



Founded internationally in 1993 by Mikhail Gorbachev, chaired by Jean-Michel Cousteau, Green Cross is an environmental and humanist NGO, mobilized through advocacy and structured projects. Its ambition is to give to territories the keys to act concretely as they are the firsts affected by climatic disturbances. The NGO focuses on water, coastline and ocean, food, energy, sustainable cities and territories, circular economy and finally cooperation and solidarity



GreenWish develops electricity access and connectivity solutions with a mix of centralized and decentralized solutions offering clean and reliable energy to people and economic actors at a competitive cost.



Akuo Energy is the leading independent French producer of energy generated exclusively from renewable energies. The group is present throughout the entire value chain: development, financing, construction and operation.





Arnold Schwarzenegger, former governor of California Founding Chair of R20 – Regions of Climate Action



Michèle Sabban, President of FVF R20, Anne Hidalgo, President of C40 and Célestine Ketcha Courtès, President of REFELA

R20 - Regions of climate action - is an independent non-governmental organization based in Switzerland and founded by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2010, whose mission is to help infra-state governments, local authorities and mainly regions, to develop projects to reduce carbon emissions, or put in place systems that promote renewable energy and energy efficiency.

The bottom-up approach of R20 brings together more than 500 members from local governments and aims to highlight opportunities for entrepreneurship in the green economy. R20 also works closely with local government associations, such as the Climate Group, ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability), the Global Fund for Cities Development (FMDV), etc. By managing requests from these local governments, the structure will benefit from a portfolio of local opportunities around the world.

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