

Glossary

Term	Definition	Source
Adaptation (in climate change)	Adaptation refers to adjustments in ecological, social or economic systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli and their effects. It refers to changes in processes, practices, and structures to moderate potential damages or to benefit from opportunities associated with climate change.	(UNFCCC, n.d. ^[11])
Adolescence	Adolescence is the phase of life between childhood and adulthood, from ages 10 to 19.	(WHO, n.d. ^[2])
Agroecological approach	Agroecology (or regenerative agriculture) is a holistic and integrated approach that simultaneously applies ecological and social concepts and principles to the design and management of sustainable agriculture and food systems. It seeks to optimise the interactions between plants, animals, humans, and the environment while also addressing the need for socially equitable food systems.	(FAO, n.d. ^[3])
Assisted reproductive technology (ART)	Assisted reproductive technology (ART) includes all fertility treatments in which either eggs or embryos are handled. ART procedures involve surgically removing eggs from a woman's ovaries, combining them with sperm in the laboratory, and returning them to the woman's body or donating them to another woman. They do not include treatments in which only sperm are handled (i.e. intrauterine – or artificial – insemination) or procedures in which a woman takes medicine only to stimulate egg production without the intention of having eggs retrieved.	(CDC, 2019 ^[4])
Biomass	Biomass refers to the biodegradable fraction of products, waste and residues from agriculture (including vegetal and animal substances), forestry and related industries, as well as the biodegradable fraction of industrial and municipal waste.	(European Environment Agency, 2001 ^[5])
Black carbon	Black carbon, or soot, is part of fine particulate air pollution and contributes to climate change. It is formed by the incomplete combustion of fossil fuels, wood and other fuels. Complete combustion would turn all carbon in the fuel into carbon dioxide (CO ₂), but combustion is never complete and CO ₂ , carbon monoxide, volatile organic compounds, and organic carbon and black carbon particles are all formed in the process. The complex mixture of particulate matter resulting from incomplete combustion is often referred to as soot. Black carbon is a short-lived climate pollutant with a lifetime of only days to weeks after release in the atmosphere.	(Climate & Clean Air Coalition, n.d. ^[6])
Bodily autonomy	Bodily autonomy refers to the power of women to make choices about their own bodies without facing coercion or violence.	(UNFPA, 2021 ^[7])
Child marriage	Child marriage refers to any formal marriage or informal union between a child under the age of 18 and an adult or another child.	(UNICEF, n.d. ^[8])
Climate change	Climate change refers to the long-term changes in the Earth's climate and temperature that are warming the atmosphere, ocean and land.	(United Nations, n.d. ^[9])
Climate finance	Climate finance refers to local, national or transnational financing – drawn from public, private and alternative sources of financing – that seeks to support mitigation and adaptation actions that will address climate change.	(UNFCCC, n.d. ^[10])
Climate information services (CIS)	Climate information services refer to decision aides which derive from climate information that assists individuals and organisations in society to carry out improved ex-ante decision making.	(WMO, 2013 ^[11])
Climate-resilient agriculture (CRA)	Climate-resilient agriculture (CRA) refers to the ability of an agricultural system to anticipate and prepare for, as well as adapt to, absorb, and recover from the impacts of changes in climate and extreme weather.	(Alvar-Beltrán et al., 2021 ^[12])
Climate-smart agriculture (CSA)	Climate-smart agriculture (CSA) is an integrated approach to managing landscapes – cropland, livestock, forests and fisheries – that addresses the interlinked challenges of food security and accelerating climate change. CSA aims to simultaneously achieve three outcomes: increased productivity, enhanced resilience, and reduced emissions.	(World Bank, 2021 ^[13])

Climate justice	Climate justice means linking human rights with development and climate action. It entails having a people-centred and human rights approach to climate action. This entails ensuring representation, inclusion, and protection of the rights of those most vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Pursuing climate justice means combatting social, gender, economic, intergenerational and environmental injustice.	(UNICEF, 2022 ^[14])
Climatological disaster	A climatological disaster refers to hazards caused by long-lived, meso- to macro-scale atmospheric processes ranging from intra-seasonal to multi-decadal climate variability. They include droughts, forest and land fires.	(CRED, n.d. ^[15])
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)	The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) is the body of independent experts that monitors implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.	(United Nations, n.d. ^[16])
Comprehensive sexuality education (CSE)	Comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) is a curriculum-based process of teaching and learning about the cognitive, emotional, physical and social aspects of sexuality. It aims to equip children and young people with knowledge, skills, attitudes and values that will empower them to: realise their health, well-being and dignity; develop respectful social and sexual relationships; consider how their choices affect their own well-being and that of others; and understand and ensure the protection of their rights throughout their lives.	(UNESCO, 2023 ^[17])
Conscientious objection	Conscientious objection refers to healthcare workers or service providers refusing to provide information on or carry out an abortion based on personal beliefs which may be often anchored in culture or religion.	(Center for Reproductive Rights, n.d. ^[18])
Disaster	A disaster refers to a situation or event, which overwhelms local capacity, necessitating a request to national or international level for external assistance. An unforeseen and often sudden event that causes great damage, destruction and human suffering.	(CRED, n.d. ^[15])
Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)	Disaster risk reduction is aimed at preventing new and reducing existing disaster risk and managing residual risk, all of which contribute to strengthening resilience and therefore to the achievement of sustainable development.	(UNDRR, n.d. ^[19])
Discriminatory social institutions	Discriminatory social institutions are the complex web of formal and informal laws, social norms and practices that restrict women's and girls' access to rights, justice, empowerment opportunities and resources, undermining their agency and authority.	(OECD Development Centre/OECD, 2023 ^[20])
Domestic violence	Domestic violence refers to violence that occurs within the private sphere, generally between individuals who are related through blood, intimacy or law.	(CEDAW, 2017 ^[21])
Edutainment	Edutainment (short for "entertainment-education") is the use of entertainment media with educational and development objectives. Edutainment can take the form of movies, television shows, documentaries, social media campaigns, music and games.	(World Bank, 2023 ^[22])
Employment	Employment is defined as persons of working age who were engaged in any activity to produce goods or provide services for pay or profit, whether at work during the reference period or not at work due to temporary absence from a job, or to working-time arrangement.	(World Bank, 2023 ^[23])
Energy poverty	Energy poverty is a situation in which households are unable to access essential energy services and products. It occurs when energy bills represent a high percentage of consumers' income, or when they must reduce their household's energy consumption to a degree that negatively impacts their health and well-being.	(European Commission, n.d. ^[24])
Family planning	Family planning refers to use of modern contraceptives or natural techniques to limit or space pregnancies.	(The DHS Program, n.d. ^[25])
Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C)	Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C) refers to all the procedures involving the partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other injuries to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons.	(OHCHR et al., 2008 ^[26])
Feminisation of poverty	Increasing incidence and prevalence of poverty among women compared to men, as a result of structural discrimination that affects women's lives and is reflected in lower salaries, lower pensions, fewer benefits, etc.	(European Commission, 1998 ^[27])
Food security	Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food which meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.	(FAO, 2003 ^[28])
Gender-Based Violence (GBV)	Gender-based violence (GBV) refers to any harmful act directed against individuals or groups of individuals on the basis of their gender or sex.	(UN Women, n.d. ^[29])

Gender-responsive plans	Gender-responsive plans are programmes which intentionally employ gender considerations to affect the design, implementation and results of programmes and policies. Gender-responsive programmes and policies reflect girls' and women's realities and needs, in components such as site selection, project staff, content, monitoring, etc. Gender-responsiveness means paying attention to the unique needs of females, valuing their perspectives, respecting their experiences, understanding developmental differences between girls and boys, women and men and ultimately empowering girls and women.	(UNICEF, 2017 ^[30])
Geophysical disaster	Geophysical disasters are events originating from solid earth. They include earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic activity, and mass movement.	(CRED, n.d. ^[15])
Global warming	Global warming refers to changes in the surface-air temperature, referred to as the global temperature, brought about by the greenhouse effect which is induced by emission of greenhouse gases into the air.	(European Environment Agency, 2000 ^[31])
Greenhouse gases	Greenhouse gases (GHG) are gases in the atmosphere, such as carbon dioxide, methane, water vapor, and ozone, that absorb solar heat reflected by the surface of the Earth, warming the atmosphere.	(National Geographic, 2022 ^[32])
Greenhouse effect	The greenhouse effect happens when certain gases – known as greenhouse gases – collect in Earth's atmosphere. Greenhouse gases let the sun's light shine onto Earth's surface, but they trap the heat that reflects back up into the atmosphere. In this way, they act like the insulating glass walls of a greenhouse. The greenhouse effect keeps Earth's climate comfortable. Without it, surface temperatures would be cooler by about 33 degrees Celsius.	(National Geographic, 2022 ^[32])
Hydrological disaster	Hydrological disasters are hazards caused by the occurrence, movement and distribution of surface and subsurface freshwater and saltwater. They include floods, landslides and wave action.	(CRED, n.d. ^[15])
Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)	Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) is an infection that attacks the body's immune system, specifically the white blood cells called CD4 cells. HIV destroys these CD4 cells, weakening a person's immunity against opportunistic infections, such as tuberculosis and fungal infections, severe bacterial infections, and some cancers.	(WHO, n.d. ^[33])
In vitro fertilisation (IVF)	In vitro fertilisation (IVF) refers to a procedure in which eggs are removed from a woman's ovary and combined with sperm outside the body to form embryos. The embryos are grown in the laboratory for several days and then either placed in a woman's uterus or cryopreserved (frozen) for future use.	(National Cancer Institute, n.d. ^[34])
Informal economy	Informal economy refers to all economic activities by workers and economic units that are – in law or in practice – not covered or insufficiently covered by formal arrangements. Their activities are not included in the law, which means that they are operating outside the formal reach of the law; or they are not covered in practice, which means that – although they are operating within the formal reach of the law, the law is not applied or not enforced; or the law discourages compliance because it is inappropriate, burdensome, or imposes excessive costs.	(ILO, 2023 ^[35])
Informal laws	Informal systems are also often referred to as “traditional”, “indigenous”, “customary” or “non-state” justice systems. Informal justice systems tend to address a wide range of issues of significant concern to the people, including personal security and local crime; protection of land, property and livestock; resolution of family and community disputes; and protection of entitlements, such as access to public services.	(United Nations, n.d. ^[36])
Infertility	Infertility is a disease of the male or female reproductive system defined by the failure to achieve a pregnancy after 12 months or more of regular unprotected sexual intercourse.	(WHO, 2023 ^[37])
Intimate-partner violence	Intimate partner violence refers to behaviour by an intimate partner or ex-partner that causes physical, sexual or psychological harm, including acts of physical aggression, sexual coercion, psychological abuse and controlling behaviours.	(WHO, n.d. ^[38])
Land tenure security	Land tenure security is the certainty that a person's rights to land will be recognised by others and protected in cases of specific challenges.	(FAO, 2002 ^[39])
Masculinities	Masculinities refer to socially constructed definitions of being a man, which can change over time and from place to place. The term relates to perceived notions and ideals about how men should or are expected to behave in a given setting.	(United Nations, 2014 ^[40])
Maternal health	Maternal health refers to the health of women during pregnancy, childbirth and the postnatal period.	(WHO, n.d. ^[41])
Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR)	The maternal mortality ratio (MMR) is the number of maternal deaths during a given time period per 100 000 live births during the same time-period.	(WHO, 2023 ^[42])
Meteorological disaster	Meteorological disasters are events caused by short-lived/small to mesoscale atmospheric processes (in the spectrum from minutes to days). They include storms and extreme temperatures.	(CRED, n.d. ^[15])
Mitigation	Mitigation refers to the lessening or limitation of the adverse impacts of a hazardous event through proactive measures taken before an emergency or disaster occurs. It should be noted that, in climate change policy, “mitigation” is defined differently, and is the term used for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions that are the source of climate change.	(UNDRR, 2017 ^[43])

Modern methods of contraception	Modern methods of contraception include oral contraceptive pills, implants, injectables, contraceptive patch and vaginal ring, intrauterine device (IUD), female and male condoms, female and male sterilisation, vaginal barrier methods (including the diaphragm, cervical cap and spermicidal agents), lactational amenorrhoea method (LAM), emergency contraception pills, standard days method (SDM), basal body temperature (BBT) method, TwoDay method and sympto-thermal method.	(WHO, n.d. ^[44])
Newborn health	Newborn health refers to the health of babies in their first 28 days of life. It includes birth-attendances, measures to prevent and manage newborn illness, and encompasses the physical, social, and emotional well-being of newborns.	(WHO, n.d. ^[45])
Newborn mortality	Newborn mortality (or neonatal mortality) refers to deaths among live births during the first 28 completed days of life.	(WHO, 2022 ^[46])
Parental consent laws	Parental consent laws refer to consent given on a minor's behalf by at least one parent, or a legal guardian, or by another person properly authorised to act for the minor, for the minor to engage in or submit to a specified activity. Laws of some jurisdictions require parents' consent to be given for a minor to legally engage in certain activities.	(US Legal, 2023 ^[47])
Perinatal health	Perinatal health refers to the health of women and babies from 22 completed weeks of gestation until 7 completed days after birth.	(WHO, n.d. ^[48])
Renewable energy	Renewable energy is energy that is derived from natural sources that are replenished at a faster rate than they are consumed, including hydro, bioenergy, geothermal, aerothermal, solar, wind and ocean.	(Sustainable Energy for All, 2013 ^[49]).
Reproductive age	Reproductive age refers to people in the age range between 15 and 49 years old.	(WHO, 2023 ^[50])
Reproductive justice	Reproductive justice is an intersectional concept born out of social justice movements led by Black women in the 1990s in the United States. It emphasises how intersecting social identities (including gender, race and class) affect a person's right to have a child, not to have a child and the right to parent any children one has.	(In Our Own Voice: National Black Women's Reproductive Justice Agenda, n.d. ^[51])
Resilience	Resilience is defined as the ability not only to withstand and cope with challenges but also to undergo transitions, in a sustainable, fair and democratic manner.	(European Commission, n.d. ^[52])
Roe v. Wade	"Roe v. Wade" was a landmark decision of the U.S. Supreme Court in 1973 in which the Court ruled that the Constitution of the United States generally protects a pregnant individual's liberty to have an abortion under the 14 th Amendment that protects individual privacy and liberty. Once overturned in 2022 by the Supreme Court following "Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization", several states in the United States took immediate action to ban or strongly restrict women's reproductive rights.	(Center for Reproductive Rights, n.d. ^[53])
School-Related Gender-Based Violence (SRGBV)	School-related gender-based violence (SRGBV) refers to acts or threats of different forms of violence that occurs in and around schools, concerns millions of students across cultural, economic and geographic barriers.	(UNESCO and UN Women, 2016 ^[54])
Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)	Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are spread predominantly by unprotected sexual contact. Some STIs can also be transmitted during pregnancy, childbirth and breastfeeding and through infected blood or blood products. The most common and curable STIs are trichomonas, chlamydia, gonorrhoea, and syphilis. STIs have a profound impact on health. If untreated, they can lead to serious consequences including neurological and cardiovascular disease, infertility, ectopic pregnancy, stillbirths and increased risk of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). They are also associated with stigma, domestic violence, and affect the quality of life.	(WHO, n.d. ^[55])
Social institutions	Social institutions are patterns of belief, practice and organisation that shape the lives of individuals and groups in society. Functional social institutions can be found in education, health, justice and social protection, and include norms, practices and laws. Social institutions are shaped by power dynamics, social values, social norms, and stereotypes.	(UNESCO, ISSC and Institute of Development Studies (IDS), 2016 ^[56])
Social norms	Social norms are the perceived informal, mostly unwritten, rules that define acceptable and appropriate actions within a given group or community, thus guiding human behaviour. They consist of what we do, what we believe others do, and what we believe others approve of and expect us to do. Social norms are therefore situated at the interplay between behaviour, beliefs and expectations.	(UNICEF, 2021 ^[57])
Sustainable agriculture	To be sustainable, agriculture must meet the needs of present and future generations for its products and services, while ensuring profitability, environmental health and social and economic equity.	(FAO, n.d. ^[58])
Third-party reproduction	Third-party reproduction, also referred to as donor-assisted reproduction, is defined as an alternative human reproduction technique in which DNA or pregnancy is provided by a third party (gamete donors and/or gestational carriers), that is, a person other than the prospective parents, who will raise the resulting baby. There are four different types of third-party reproduction arrangements, which at the same time allow combinations between them: egg donation, sperm donation, embryo donation/adoption and surrogacy.	(Ballesteros et al., 2022 ^[59])

Traditional methods of contraception	Traditional methods of contraception include rhythm method (periodic abstinence), withdrawal (coitus interruptus), fertility awareness-based methods, etc.	(United Nations, 2016 ^[60])
Unmet need for family planning	Unmet need for family planning refers to the gap between women's reproductive intentions and their contraceptive behaviour, defined as the proportion of currently married or in-union women of reproductive age (15-49 years) who want to cease or delay childbearing but are not using any method of contraception.	(United Nations, 2014 ^[61])
Unpaid Care and Domestic Work (UCDW)	Unpaid care and domestic work (UCDW) refer to non-market, unpaid work carried out in households (by women primarily, but also to varying degrees by girls, men and boys). This work includes both direct care (of persons) and indirect care (such as cooking, cleaning, fetching water and fuel, etc.).	(ActionAid, 2023 ^[62])
Unsafe abortion	Unsafe abortion refers to a procedure for terminating an unintended pregnancy carried out either by persons lacking the necessary skills or in an environment that does not conform to minimal medical standards, or both. The following conditions typically characterise an unsafe abortion, sometimes only a few conditions prevail, and sometimes all or most of them: no pre-abortion counselling and advice; abortion is induced by an unskilled provider, frequently in unhygienic conditions, or by a health practitioner outside official/adequate health facilities; abortion is self-induced by ingestion of traditional medication or hazardous substances; abortion is provoked by insertion of an object into the uterus by the woman herself or by a traditional practitioner, or by a violent abdominal massage; a medical abortion is prescribed incorrectly or medication is issued by a pharmacist with no or incorrect instructions and no follow-up.	(WHO, 2021 ^[63])
Violence against women (VAW)	Violence against women means any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.	(United Nations, 1993 ^[64])
Young people	Young people refer to those persons between the ages of 10 and 24 years.	(WHO, n.d. ^[65])
Youth	Youth is the period of transition from the dependence of childhood to adulthood's independence and refers to those persons between the ages of 15 and 24 years.	(United Nations, n.d. ^[66]) (WHO, n.d. ^[65])

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