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# Building Resilient Rural Livelihoods

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# Huairou Commission

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- ❑ Women-led global movement
- ❑ Empowers grassroots women
- ❑ To build resilient, gender-just, sustainable communities.
- ❑ Active in 42 countries

# Women's leadership in advancing pro-poor solutions

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- ❑ Huairou Commission strives to build a **collective leadership** model that promotes **collaborative learning, alliance building and advocacy**
- ❑ Women's solutions are **inclusive**, not exclusively focused on women
- ❑ Grassroots-led resilience initiatives often **bundle together multi-dimensional solutions** that address vulnerable households and create public goods for communities.

# How women's groups are building climate-resilient rural communities

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1. Diversification
2. Regenerative Farming
3. Resilient Food Systems
4. Social Protection

# 1. Diversification

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- ❑ Livelihoods activities: farming, livestock, enterprise
- ❑ Diversifying crops: increasing food crops; indigenous varieties
- ❑ Conserving bio-diversity: seedbanks, preservation of indigenous seed varieties

## 2. Regenerative farming

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- ❑ Restoring soil health
- ❑ Planting trees and reviving indigenous species
- ❑ Conserving water
- ❑ Bio-fertilizer, bio-pesticide

## 3. Resilient food systems

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- ❑ Community kitchens
- ❑ Kitchen gardens, Backyard gardens, Sack gardens, Roof gardens
- ❑ Farming food crops
- ❑ Reviving traditional resilient foods

## 4. Social protection

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- ❑ Hyper local, up-to-date data to identify vulnerable households
- ❑ End to end assistance to access government programs or services
- ❑ Monitoring and reporting corruption
- ❑ Community resources to provide food, shelter, restore livelihoods



# Financing resilient livelihoods: Flexible funds in women's hands

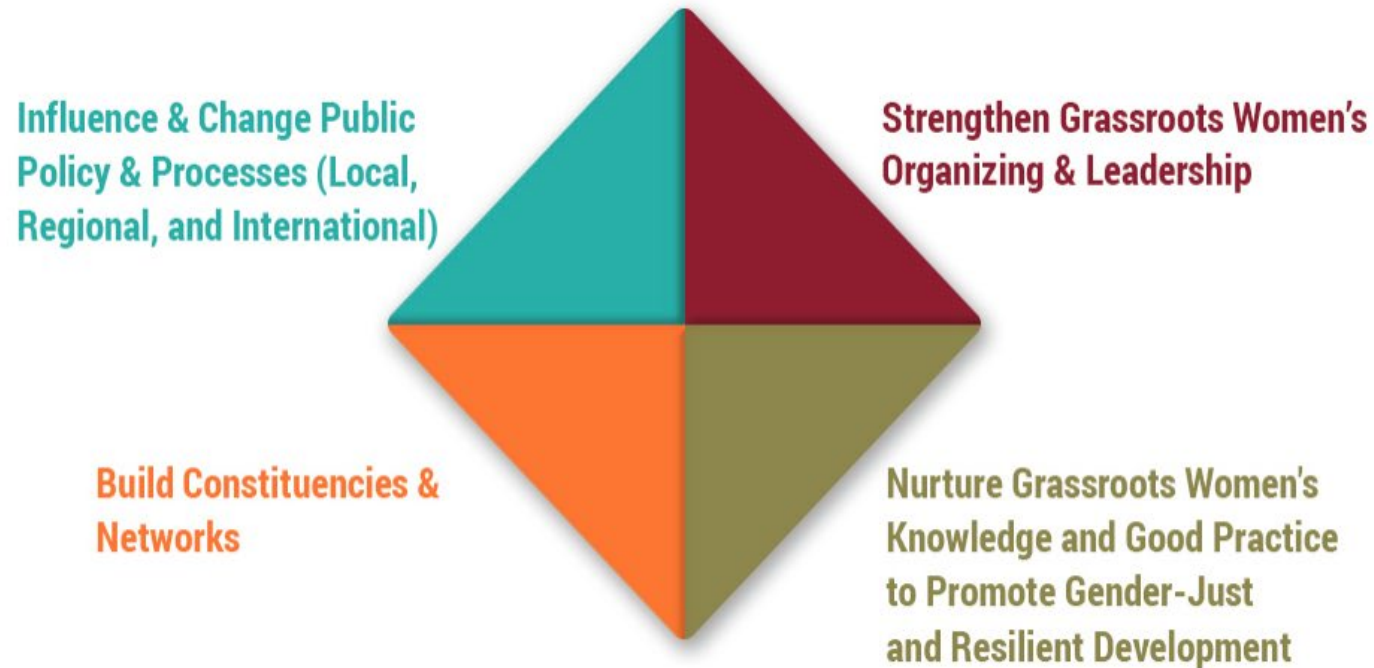
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Community Resilience Funds finance a multi-dimensional, empowerment based approach to resilience building.

- ❑ Funding priorities are set by local groups
- ❑ Demonstration of practices allows them to leverage support from local government
- ❑ Iterative funding allows groups to test solutions and innovate
- ❑ Groups establish a track record for managing finances

# Climate resilient initiatives are located inside processes advancing women's empowerment

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# Grassroots women are driving transformational partnerships

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- ❑ Re-negotiating their roles and status in the household, community and with government
- ❑ Demonstrating how grassroots women can bring their priorities into decentralized decision making processes
- ❑ Showing a track record and capacities for managing money
- ❑ Innovating and demonstrating agile responses to crises
- ❑ Building partnerships to develop effective solutions

# Reflections

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In designing the CRPP we have to recognize that:

1. Grassroots women's organizations advancing resilient livelihoods are often operating inside of a policy environment where incentive structures contradict women's initiatives.
2. Grassroots organizations in HC have a set of tested tools for transferring learning and practice to support context specific scaling up.
3. Grassroots women's organizations can be effective intermediaries between vulnerable communities and government institutions, leading to more effective design and delivery of government programs



**Thank you!**