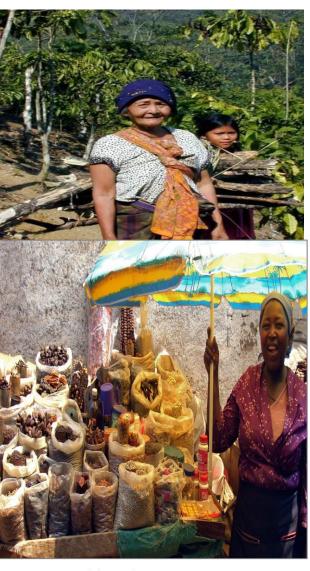
Gender implications of climate change and ecosystem degradation



Rural women primarily in the global South:

- Connected to all aspects of ecosystems services due to their primary social reproduction and food provisioning roles at household and community levels;
- Play a much stronger role relative to men in the management of ecosystems services;
- have specialized knowledge of biological resources and ecosystems functions;

Paradoxically,

- They are the segment of the rural population most vulnerable to the negative effects of ecosystem degradation and climate change impacts;
- Are often excluded in decisions on its exploitation for productive use and its management due to skewed power relations and inequitable social and cultural norms.

- Women's voices, responsibilities and knowledge, and the challenges they face need to be a central part of the adaptive responses to climate change vulnerability and ecosystem degradation
- Learning from women and building their resilience by investing in them can be a critical catalyst In ecosystem conservation, restoration and sustainable management
- Imagine the possibilities if women are given due recognition, voice and space to directly influence international discourse and policy processes on ecosystems management as strategically important actors in their own right.

