

**There is no hope for sustainability in
social development without women.**



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**GENDER SUMMIT 8
NORTH & LATIN AMERICA**

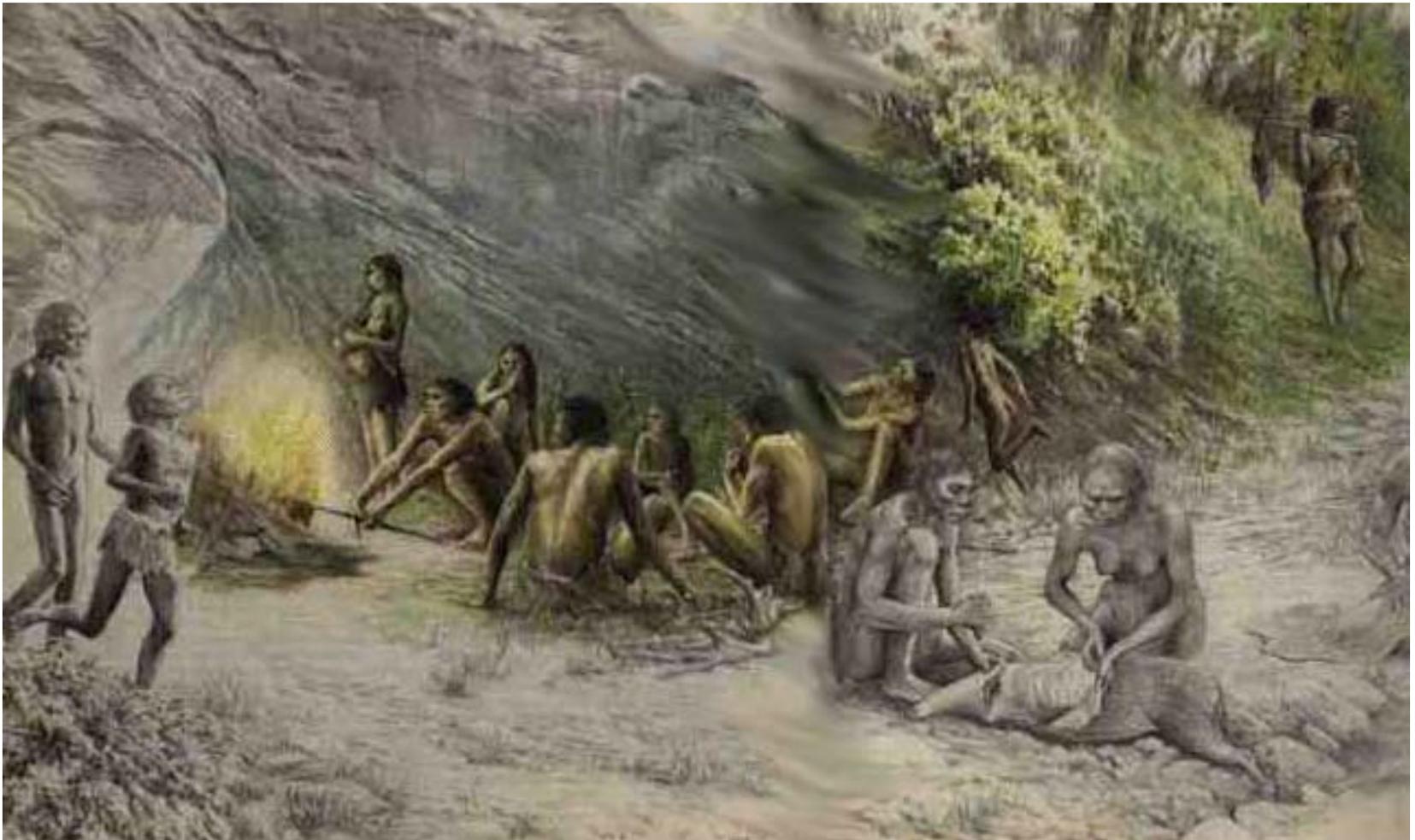
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No hope for sustainability in social development without women

- Not just because they represent half of humankind
- But because we miss having fully their vision of the world, their creativity, and their own mode of contribution to our wellbeing

Production systems are not gender neutral

- Ecosystem management to obtain environmental goods and services is often different between women and men;
- Ecosystem degradation and trade offs have different implications for both.
 - Women often are disadvantaged in terms of access to forest resources and other natural resources (FAO 2013).
- Women empowerment could create significant opportunities to promote sustainable development and enhance food security in developing countries (FAO2013).



Women in the Mexican countryside

- Key role in strategies to achieve food sovereignty .
- Huge potential for the development of their capacities strengthened by their survival strategies and adaptation.
- This work is vital to the food system comprising links between production, distribution and consumption of food (Lahoz 2011).
- While the work of women is more visible in the areas of distribution and consumption, it is important to note that according to SAGARPA (2015), 15.1% of production is in the hands of women.



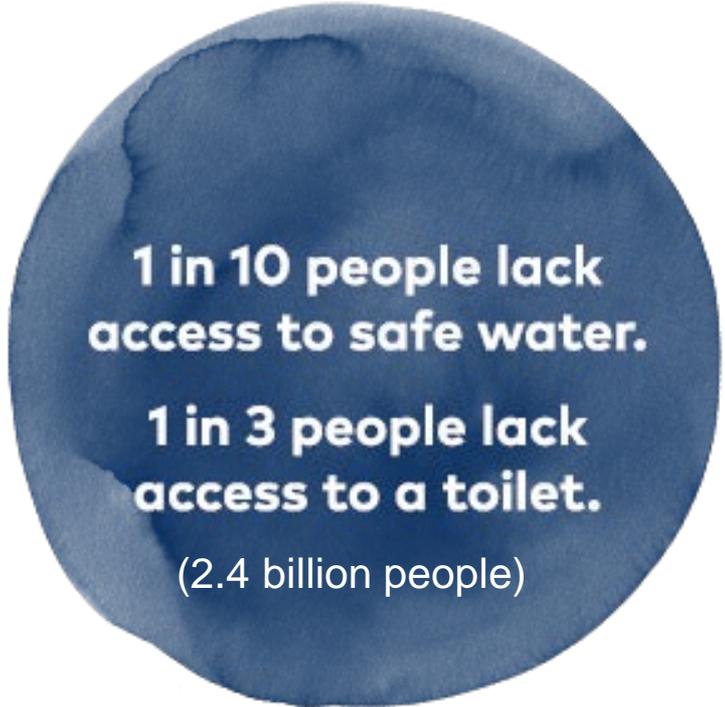
Water and its gender impacts

- Women in rural communities use water for life sustenance and productive activities.
- If water is scarce, their workload increases and their quality of life deteriorates.



**Women & children
spend 125 million
hours each day
collecting water.**

This is time spent not working, caring for family members or attending school.



**1 in 10 people lack
access to safe water.
1 in 3 people lack
access to a toilet.**

(2.4 billion people)

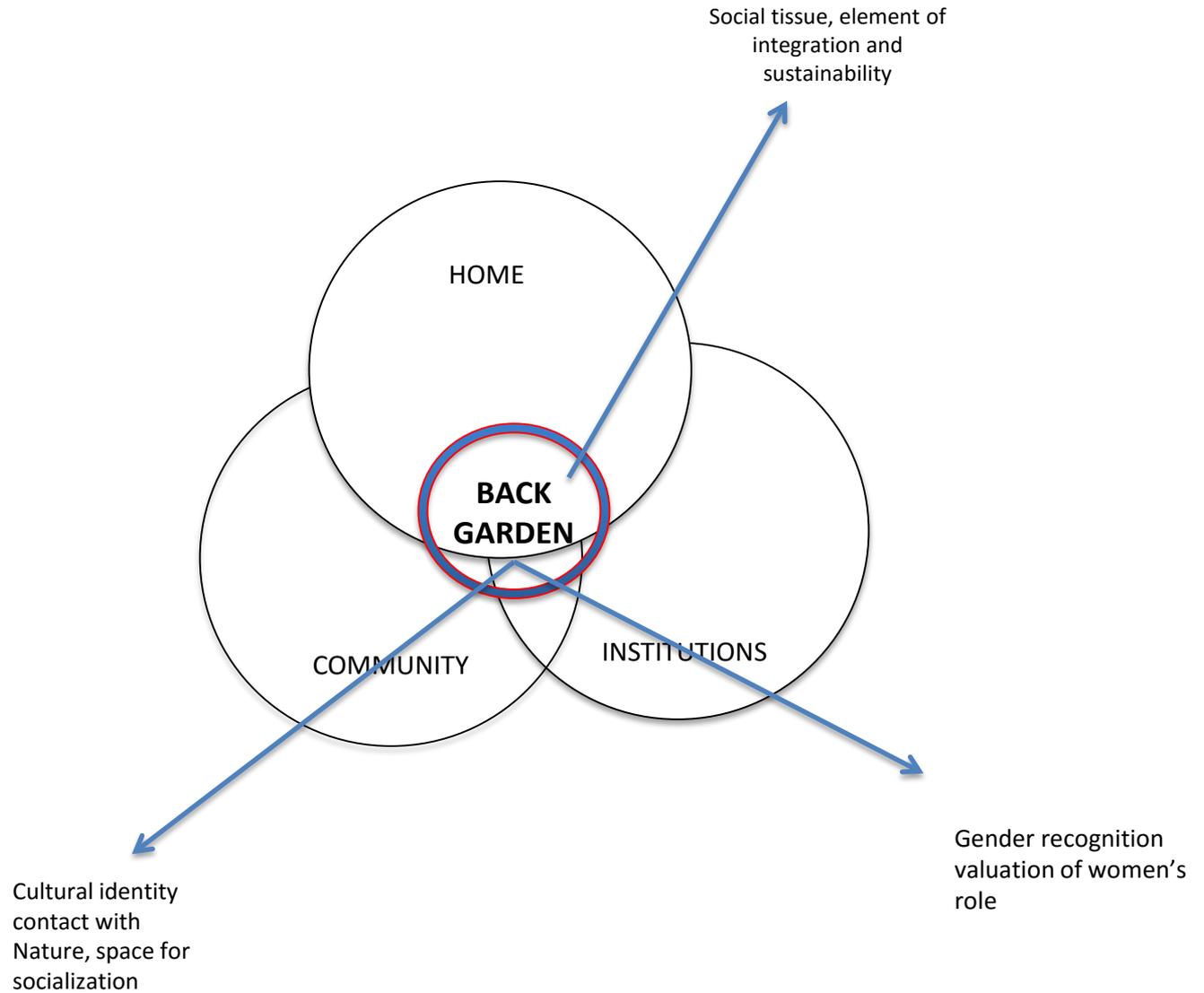
Women and girls with no toilet spend 266 million hours/day finding a place to go.

Women`s role on sustainability in engineering in the U.S.

- The percentage of women in the sustainability leader industry positions is much higher (39%), than the percentage of women in general management positions (8%).
- The % of women attending the workshops on sustainability is much higher (32%) than the % of women in engineering faculty (12%).

Gender data was collected for the “sustainability leader” at 79 of the largest design and construction companies in the U.S. Similar data was also compiled for engineering faculty attending workshops to share best practices for teaching sustainability
Jennilee Harrison May 2010 Thesis Graduate School, Clemson University

The women's realm in rural Mexico



Land tenure

- Critical issue for both sustainability and for gender equality.
- only 19% of ejido property rights are held by women (PA 2014).
- But, women can play matriarchal roles in the life of ejidos...



Savings and loans Group

SerFUENTE

We are six communities of the Lacandon Forest close to the rivers, which are givers of life, in the same manner that we women are

When we save and offer loans, in the same way as rivers, we also offer liquidity to the activities of the community

We have six rivers, but together we are one single fountain: because of that we call ourselves SerFuente



The Bank built with the group's resources

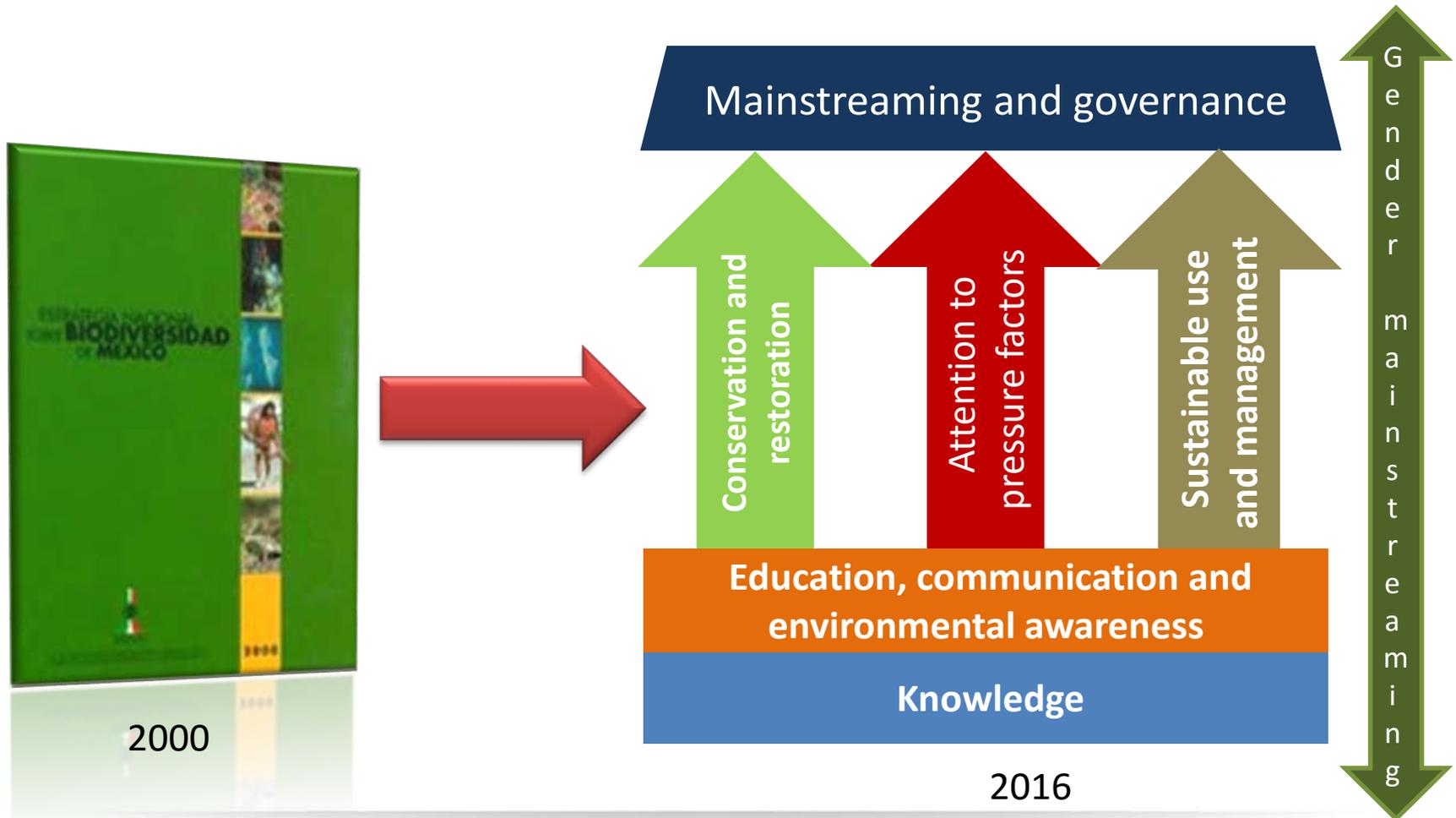
Forest products

- Women are more involved in NTFP collection and processing.
- Great potential to promote their integration in local and specialty markets.



National Biodiversity Strategy Update process (ENBiOMEX 2016-2030)

Mexico is the first country that incorporates the gender perspective in its national biodiversity strategy



Principles

1. Coordination.
2. Responsibility.
3. Participation.
4. Precautionary principle.
5. **Equal rights**, opportunities and conditions for men and women for decision-making.
6. **Inclusion and non-discrimination** to avoid any distinction, exclusion or restriction which has the effect of preventing or nullifying the recognition or exercise of the rights and equal opportunities.
7. **Recognition and respect for cultural differences** in the design and implementation of local strategies to promote conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.
8. Transparency and access to information.
9. Environmental sustainability.

Participation of women and men in National Biodiversity Strategy update process

Thematic and strategic axis workshops

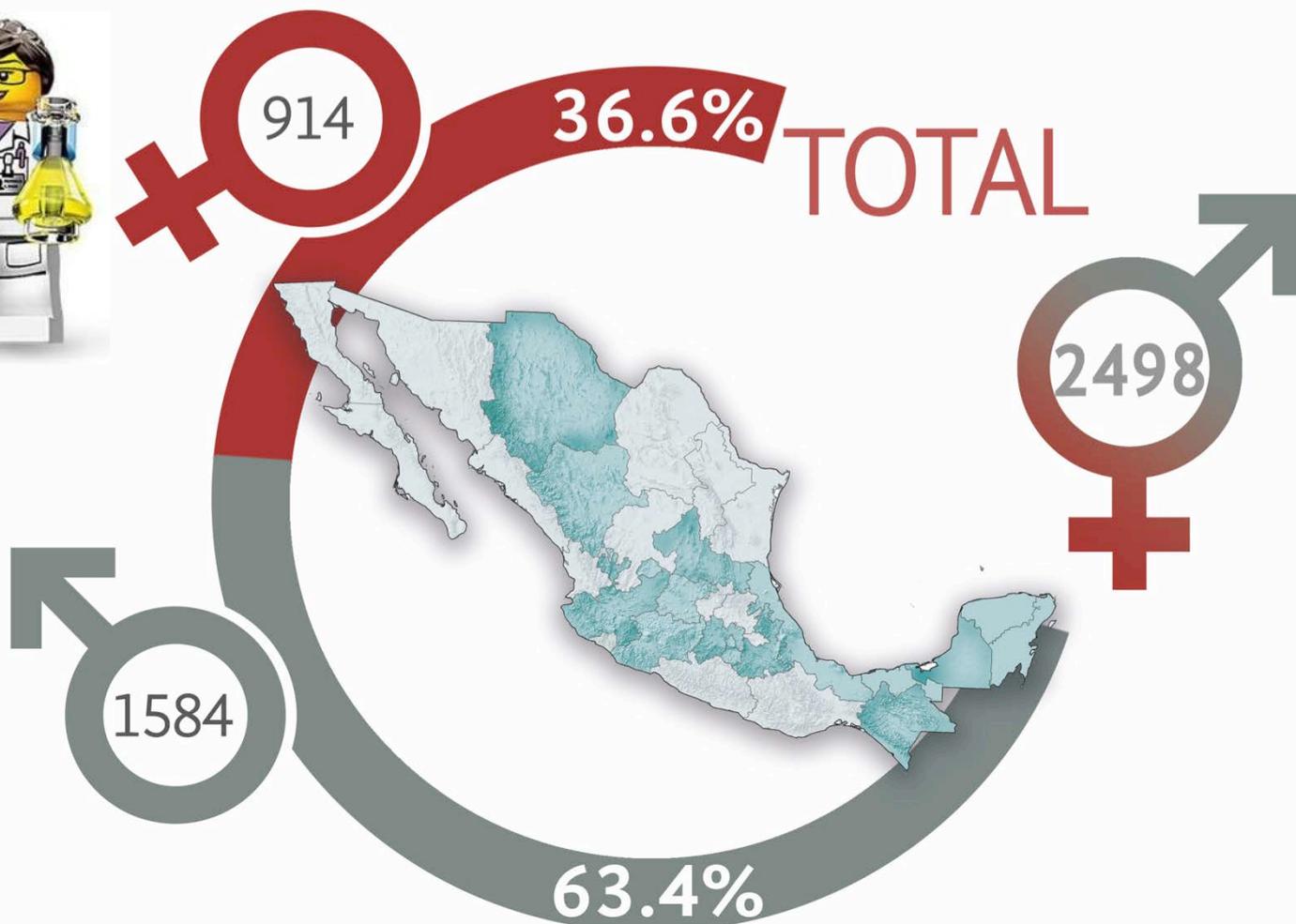


National target workshop (2012)	33	47
1. Knowledge (2013)	12	13
2. Conservation and restoration (2013)	15	20
3. Sustainable use and management (2013)	13	8
4. Attention to pressure factors (2013)	22	13
5. Education, communication and environmental awareness	12	12
6. Mainstreaming and governance	8	10
Gender mainstreaming workshop (2016)	59	6
TOTAL	180	131



INMUJERES

Women experts participation in biodiversity state studies



A fundamental role of women towards sustainability

Food production has been the most important cause for loss of biodiversity

Diet tendencies have enormous impacts on ecological and human health

Global environmental problems result from styles of human behavior: women are the main shapers of that behavior





Thank you

