

## **Statement by Ms. Tauli-Corpuz**

Research is central to our work as we are strengthening the capacities on the ground and we have to know what kind of support is needed there. We develop education materials for communities.

On the weekend during the climate negotiations in June 2010 in Bonn over 20 indigenous representatives from 14 countries met to share their experience with the effects of climate change. In all the 14 case studies conducted gender was included and the differences and underlying power relations of indigenous and dominant women were portrayed. Differentiation is crucial to understand the dynamics at work. From Kenya it was evident that the drought has severe effects on food security, but also on the schooling rate of children. Two typhoons struck the Philippines and lasted for 10 days each, which is unusually long and caused a lot of erosion. The shelters were very crowded; women have been harassed and their needs have not been addressed in the basic packets, distributed nappies were missing. Mitigation measures like oil plant plantations and hydropower have to be analysed regarding their effects on women.

With the right data you can challenge a whole development paradigm.

Starting from feminist economics and sustainable development you revisit how women have been affected by the global finance system. Regarding the methodology participatory research is crucial. The perspective we offer might be closer to the people than that of an outsider, but it never covers the experience of the people, they are knowledge producers. It is important to have an enabling environment in order to access the means of finance and technology for the women. The assessment of needs has to be done with and by the women themselves. Furthermore opportunities and solutions tailored to the needs of women have to be disseminated; they should have access to information. Most popular are CDs and other multimedia, but also posters.

Besides the social and economic consequences, the cultural consequences of climate change bear heavy on women. The cultural consequences are also vital for the continuity of communities. Here a cultural analysis informed by a gender analysis could provide a framework. Traditional systems are the best way of forest management; they have ensured that the rainforest still exists. These traditional systems deserve respect and should not be undermined. All activities putting traditional livelihoods at risk have to be avoided and the capacities of the people to make informed decisions have to be increased.