



# GENDER IN SAINT LUCIA

KEY FACTS

SECTOR OVERVIEW

March

## 2026

Factsheet

### ● KEY STATISTICS

**~50%**  
of population are women

**64%**  
of women are in the work force

**42.3%**  
of female headed households among the poor

**11.96%**  
2024 unemployment rate among women

### ● WHERE WOMEN WORK

#### Hospitality & eco-tourism

Strongly represented but concentrated in lower-paid, informal roles — limiting economic advancement.

#### Agro-processing

Lead value-added food production and household food security with deep local knowledge.

#### Market vending & trade

Vital role in local supply chains, yet face barriers accessing finance and raw materials.

#### Micro-enterprises

Significant share of operators, contributing to the green rural economy despite limited market access.

### KEY BARRIERS WOMEN FACE

Limited land ownership

Restricted finance access

Climate vulnerability

Low decision-making power

Informal / lower-paid roles

Raw material access gaps

### ● WHY GENDER-RESPONSIVE NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS MATTER

## WHY GENDER-RESPONSIVE NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS MATTER

- ✓ Strengthens women's economic empowerment & livelihood security
- ✓ Diversifies the green rural economy
- ✓ Increases access to finance, markets & inclusive supply chains
- ✓ Enhances innovation through women's local knowledge

This factsheet was produced by the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) as an output of the “Valuing Nature and Nature-based Solutions for Sustainable Green and Blue Pathways for the Tourism, Food and Urban sectors in Saint Lucia” or Blue-Green Islands Saint Lucia Project, which is being executed by CANARI, in collaboration with the Department of Sustainable Development and implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

To learn more about the Blue- Green Islands Saint Lucia (BGI SLU) project, visit: <https://canari.org/projects/nature-based-solutions-slu/>

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