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## **Soft City: Women in Progressive Climate Adaptation Planning**

What is progressive planning in general ? It is a new, more inclusive and more gender-balanced planning approach. It is important for general urban planning research and practice, and climate adaptation is a good starting point to start engaging more women in planning.

- we are witnessing the tendencies to “soften” the city, not only in terms of bringing more female planners or gender-sensitive approaches, but also in terms of greater understanding, openness and sharing. Public spaces are at the frontline of the “soft city” phenomenon, and public spaces are also the main arena where the climate adaptation in urban areas will take place in the years to come.
- one way to help more engagement of women-planners but also other women urban professionals in the realm of climate action and climate adaptation is to find the female “champions” leading the innovation, but also to formulate projects in such a way that there is a space for including them from the beginning. (some examples on slides)
- Small scaled climate adaptation projects (on the neighbourhood level, for example) are ideal / can play a critical role in engaging both women professionals and women community leaders. Those scales are also where the soft city values are most palpable. (some examples on slides)

In conclusion, there is a lot of work ahead still on balancing the genders in urban planning and architecture, so let’s start using climate adaptation projects as a vehicle of this change.