



### **Research partnerships and collaborations helping to address the sustainable development goals**

Below are examples demonstrating our response to Target 5.5 and Target 5.a:

*Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life; undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws*

Research by Michelle Ryan and Alex Haslam has uncovered a previously unknown empirical phenomenon, the 'glass cliff'; whereby women are more likely to be appointed to risky and precarious leadership positions in times of crisis. The idea of the glass cliff continues to have an impact on public, political, and global attitudes and discourse. It provides an enhanced cultural understanding that women leaders may fail due to subtle bias rather than to them being poor leaders; by 2016, the 'glass cliff' had become one of the 2016 Oxford English Dictionary's Words of the Year. The glass cliff has been used as a basis of the analysis for female leaders, including the 2016 and 2020 US Presidential elections, Theresa May's Prime Ministership during Brexit, and Christine Lagarde's role at the IMF to promote an understanding of why women have a higher chance of being promoted during a crisis; and in 2020 to frame understanding about ethnicity and leadership. Awareness of the concept is now sparking wider debates globally and is represented in web guides and blogs (e.g. Fundera, LinkedIn, Home Business) on how women can avoid "falling off" the glass cliff and being reflected in popular fictional TV programmes and as a concept is being extended into intersectional contexts.

In Bolivia within the Itonama indigenous community of Versalles (VIIC), archaeological research has supported greater empowerment of women and young people in traditional communities to lead new biocultural tourist programmes. The VIIC had been economically dependent on activities undertaken by men (Brazil nut harvesting and fishing guides) while the unpaid female roles of managing homes, garden plots and family nutrition were marginalised. By stressing the value, heritage and biodiversity represented by Amazonian plant cultivation, the research has raised the profile of women as vital caretakers of this global asset. This recognition has begun to address gender inequalities and enabled pathways for female-generated income.