



**Submission by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
To the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
In relation to Lessons learned among Parties that have integrated gender into national climate
policies, plans, strategies and action, and on the actions that Parties are taking to mainstream gender
in any updates thereto (table 4, D6, Annex to 3/CP.25)**

Introduction

FAO fully supports the adoption of the Enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender and its Gender Action Plan (GAP). FAO welcomes the opportunity to provide its views on the implementation of Activity D.6 of the GAP in relation to the exchange of information on lessons learned among Parties and relevant organisations that have integrated gender into national climate policies, plans, strategies and action, as appropriate (e.g. information on results, impacts and main challenges), and on the actions that Parties and organisations are taking to mainstream gender in any updates thereto, as appropriate, as mandated by Decision 3/CP.25.

Gender equality is central to FAO's mandate to achieve food security for all by raising levels of nutrition, improving agricultural productivity and natural resource management, improving the lives of rural people, and reducing the impacts of climate change. FAO further recognises that gender equality is a defining factor of Sustainability according to its Quality Assurance and Performance Assessment criteria and therefore mandates gender mainstreaming into all areas of its work. This guides the organization's support to countries through projects and programmes in agriculture. This submission builds on previous FAO submissions towards the implementation of the GAP, including on other related issues under the UNFCCC.

Lessons learned - FAO support to countries in integrating gender into national climate policies, plans, strategies and actions

The following are examples on FAO's support to countries on the integration of gender equality into policy, plans, strategies, projects, programmes, and actions. Key results will be highlighted, including impacts and challenges.

1. Forestry REDD+/National Forest Monitor Cluster - FAO as a partner agency to the UN-REDD Programme

FAO as a partner agency of the UN-REDD Programme, has been active in supporting a gender responsive approach within the framework of Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+) since 2008. FAO/UN-REDD have identified three key goals: (i) ensure gender equality and women's empowerment principles inform and are fully integrated into the formulation, prioritization, and implementation of policies and measures for REDD+; (ii) realize the gender equality provisions contained in international agreements on REDD+, including on safeguards; and (iii) promote the mainstreaming of gender in REDD+ planning, implementation, monitoring and knowledge management activities, to achieve gender-responsive REDD+ action and contribute to SDG #5 on gender equality.

To catalyse and promote a gender-responsive approach to REDD+, FAO/UN-REDD integrates gender equality and women's empowerment as both stand-alone and cross-cutting issues across UN-REDD's thematic areas and within its technical support at national, regional and global levels. It supports UN-REDD partner countries to systematically integrate gender responsive activities within the design, implementation and delivery of their REDD+ action, so that all stakeholders, including women, men and youth (and boys and girls, when relevant), can equitably and meaningfully engage, participate and benefit from national REDD+ processes and action. FAO/UN-REDD has

structured its support on gender around five workstreams: STREAM 1: Gender-responsive assessments and gender-specific analyses; STREAM 2: Awareness raising and capacity building on gender; STREAM 3: Gender-responsive participation; STREAM 4: Gender-responsive planning and monitoring; STREAM 5: Knowledge management on gender.

The UN-REDD Programme's support on gender to a large number of countries and over more than 10 years (with more intense support in the last 5 years) has enabled the accumulation of experience and lessons learned in gender mainstreaming, particularly in the forestry sector.

Results

- FAO/UN-REDD has published a number of useful tools to provide guidance on gender mainstreaming in the context of REDD+. These include the Methodological Brief on Gender,¹ the Checklist on Gender Responsive Workshops² and the UN-REDD Gender Marker Information Brief.³
- FAO/UN-REDD has provided its advisory support by setting up criteria and indicators for evaluating and tracking, on an annual basis, etc. within the framework of the FAO Gender Marker System. Advisory support is provided to help colleagues identify entry points and implement gender actions.
- FAO/UN-REDD in organizing events and capacity building activities reinforces the UN Economic and Social Council guidance that women, at a minimum, should at least make up 30 percent of any decision-making body, committee, consultation, or workshop. Gender disaggregated data is regularly collected and compiled for monitoring purposes.
- FAO/UN-REDD has documented and shared its experience on gender through various channels including the UN-REDD Newsletter,⁴ the FAO website, and related social media. In addition, FAO/UN-REDD through the Discussion group on REDD+ and Forest Governance⁵ in 2020 has organized a webinar entitled Empowering rural and indigenous women in forest-related climate actions.⁶
- FAO has conducted a number of gender analyses to support the formulation of new projects including the initiatives such as 'Building global capacity to increase transparency in the forest sector (CBIT-Forest)' and 'Global Transformation of Forests for People and Climate: a focus on West Africa', a project where FAO is actively engaged with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

Impacts

Impacts are primarily observed at the country level. Some indicative examples from 2018 – 2019 include:

- At the national level, guidance provided to Peru⁷ helped mainstream a gender approach in its proposed Climate Change Law and in the 2018-2020 Stakeholder Participation Plan.
- A gender approach was integrated into the Honduras⁸ draft REDD+ National Strategy, including in its main objective statement.

¹ <https://www.unredd.net/documents/global-programme-191/gender-and-womens-empowerment-in-redd-1044/global-gender-resources/15951-un-redd-methodological-brief-on-gender.html>

² <https://www.unredd.net/documents/global-programme-191/gender-and-womens-empowerment-in-redd-1044/global-gender-resources/17255-checklist-for-gender-responsive-workshops.html?path=global-programme-191/gender-and-womens-empowerment-in-redd-1044/global-gender-resources>

³ <https://www.unredd.net/documents/global-programme-191/gender-and-womens-empowerment-in-redd-1044/global-gender-resources/17254-un-redd-gender-marker-information-brief.html?path=global-programme-191/gender-and-womens-empowerment-in-redd-1044/global-gender-resources>

⁴ <https://www.un-redd.org/newsletter-archive>

⁵ <https://dgroups.org/fao/law-for-redd-plus/>

⁶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cfj4IHrqvIM&feature=youtu.be>

⁷ <https://www.unredd.net/regions-and-countries/latin-america-and-the-caribbean/peru.html>

⁸ <https://www.unredd.net/regions-and-countries/latin-america-and-the-caribbean/honduras.html>

- With UN-REDD support, Bangladesh⁹, Colombia and Myanmar undertook gender-specific analysis to help promote the integration of a gender approach and increase women's active participation within nationally-led REDD+ action.
- In Viet Nam, through a collaborative effort with women and men from ethnic minorities and private companies in Lao Cai on traditional herbal medicinal products, ethnic minority women are seeing positive changes to livelihoods, both in terms of income as well as access to markets. The Government REDD+ institutions continue to be gender-balanced. The State Steering Committee Office on Sustainable Forest Development and REDD+ houses four staff, of which at least two are women.
- In Myanmar, acting on the 2018 findings of the gender and REDD+ analysis, concrete actions were taken to strengthen the gender-responsiveness of its engagement processes, wherein women's participation in consultations on the REDD+ National Strategy increased from 21 percent in 2017 to 42 percent in 2019.

Main Challenges

- The forestry field is generally male dominated. Forestry department staff in many countries are primarily men, particularly in management and decision-making positions. It is only recently that the FAO Forest Resources Assessment has begun collecting gender disaggregated data on employment in the sector, while many countries are still not able to comply. The important role that women play in the informal forestry sector is largely undocumented and their tenure rights and access to resources are more limited, making them more vulnerable and marginalized.
- Recognition of women's specialized knowledge and valuable contribution in the forestry sector is lacking. In particular, their inclusion in more technical forestry work or field work such as in forest monitoring and national forest inventories has been very limited.
- Engaging with women, particularly with those at the local level, is constrained by their heavy household burdens. Rural women in the region play a major role in agricultural production, besides having heavy responsibility for household tasks, including childcare, cooking, cleaning, and ensuring food security for the family. It can be challenging for them to find time to actively participate in REDD+ related activities.
- There are limited resources to conduct the important work of gender analyses, awareness raising and capacity building on gender, and sharing of lessons learned, among others.

2. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and FAO's *Integrating Agriculture in National Adaptation Plans Programme (NAP-Ag)*¹⁰

The programme supported 11 countries to address climate change adaptation concerns related to the agriculture sectors (2015-2020). The gender mainstreaming activities¹¹ of the programme included capacity assessments, trainings on gender analysis and gender in planning, analytical studies, collection of sex-disaggregated data for adaptation monitoring and increased participation in adaptation planning by women/women's groups. Lessons from efforts in two NAP-Ag countries, Uganda and Uruguay are provided below.

Uruguay

With the support of FAO and UNDP, the government of Uruguay¹² undertook a policy-oriented study to close data gaps relevant to agriculture and climate change. The process of developing the National Adaptation Plan for the agriculture sector in Uruguay was seen as an opportunity to explore the different attitudes that men and women

⁹ <https://www.unredd.net/regions-and-countries/asia-pacific/bangladesh.html>

¹⁰ Please also refer to previous UNDP-FAO Submission to the Adaptation Committee: https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/SubmissionsStaging/Documents/201907161801---UNDP-FAO_joint_submission_to_Adaptation%20Committee_on_Gender_and_NAPs.pdf

¹¹ <http://www.fao.org/in-action/naps/overview/programme-activities/gender-mainstreaming/en/>

¹² Full case study: Making the case for gender-responsive adaptation planning in Uruguay: The importance of sex-disaggregated data <http://www.fao.org/3/ca5081en/ca5081en.pdf>

have, and the strategies they employ in response to the challenges associated with climate change and variability. In addition to strengthening agricultural and rural statistics with a gender approach, this would be a crucial baseline for establishing indicators that allow the country to analyze the contribution of women to primary production, as well as challenges presented by climate change.

Lessons learned

- *Inter-institutional collaboration on gender analysis is needed at the outset of adaptation planning.* Collaboration between institutions guarantees the commitment of different actors and ensures better use and dissemination of results. However, it also requires negotiation and mediation among stakeholders to satisfy different interests.
- *Preparing an adaptation plan can be made more robust by incorporating gender analysis.* The quantitative and qualitative methods used in Uruguay illuminated the gender dimensions of the adoption of adaptation practices, roles in decision-making, visits by technicians, and participation in trainings, which can help in targeting resources to promote adaptation practices among different groups.
- *Implementation of an adaptation plan should address the gender and intergenerational relations which can affect adoption of adaptation options.* In the Uruguay context, data suggests that more adaptation practices are adopted when women and youth are more active in decision-making. However encouraging their participation is not as straightforward as increasing numbers of trainings or visits by technicians. Changes in social norms to close gender gaps are needed as part of adaptation plan implementation. Addressing issues of empowerment, isolation, and inclusion will be critical inputs to ensuring uptake of adaptation options.
- *In order to track gender issues of adaptation, data can be collected through existing methodologies.* The agricultural census and the Registry of Family Farmers are two existing processes for collecting sex-disaggregated data; additional variables can illuminate who is adapting and in what ways, for example access to and use of socio-economic assets, participation in groups, roles in household decision-making, capacity to implement practices, adoption of practices and access to government services.

Impacts and Results

- *Country Gender Analysis* conducted reveal the diversity of experiences depending on farm size, sector, socio economic group, location, and age, and can help in targeting resources to promote gender-responsive adaptation practices among different groups. Uruguay's experience collecting and using gender-disaggregated data finds that preparing an adaptation plan can be made more robust when informed by gender analysis.
- *Sex-disaggregated data* is key in addressing the gender and intergenerational household relations in the context of adaptation planning, showing that gender relations can affect the adoption of adaptation actions.

Uganda

The Government of Uganda¹³ through the Climate Change Task Force of its Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries (MAAIF), adopted a gender-responsive approach to developing a National Adaptation Plan for the agriculture sectors. FAO and UNDP provided technical assistance, together with the Climate Change Department (CCD) of the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE). The participatory process involved actions throughout the NAP cycle: stocktaking to clarify gender gaps in agriculture (Element A); stakeholder analysis and consultations (Element B); workshops to strengthen gender capacity at all levels (Element C); inclusion of gender priorities in the NAP for agriculture (Element C); case Study Implementation.

Lessons learned:

- Local government implements climate change action while the central government plays a stronger role in policy making. This calls for engagement of different levels of government in the planning process.

¹³ Full case study, Gender and adaptation planning in the agriculture sectors – the case of Uganda <http://www.fao.org/3/I8282EN/i8282en.pdf>

- Strengthening gender-responsive planning and budgeting for adaptation in the agricultural sector requires recognizing and building on different stakeholders' mandates and capacities and tailoring capacity development.
- Cultural and religious institutions are key in promoting and advancing gender equality and management of the natural resources at the community level.

Impacts and Results

- *Gender Budgeting* – NAP for the Agriculture Sectors incorporated a budgeted gender component to climate change adaptation as one of its eight priorities, including a significant allocation to conduct a gender-specific assessment of climate change impacts on agriculture, and to develop and apply tools for gender-sensitive climate smart agriculture budgeting and planning, resulted in co-benefits, such as improved collaboration across ministries and improved skills among key stakeholder at parliamentary, national, district, non-state actors, private sector and local communities.
- *Sex-disaggregated data* affected the adoption of gender-sensitive adaptation policies and actions.

Challenges

Challenges and gaps identified in the NAP-Ag Programme and common to countries include:

- *Addressing structural inequalities (e.g. in policies, laws, norms, institutions, etc.) and inequitable power relations in adaptation planning and implementation.* Typical approaches to the integration of gender considerations in adaptation planning have focused on increasing women's participation in activities- whether training, extension, or others. Less attention has, until recently, been paid to addressing these inequalities.
- *Mainstreaming gender in appraisal and prioritization of adaptation options.* Key tools and approaches used in appraisal and prioritization such as Cost-Benefit Analysis, Cost-Effectiveness Analysis, and to a lesser extent, Multi-Criteria Analysis, have typically lacked attention to gender.

Other action FAO is taking to support countries in mainstreaming gender in policies, plans, strategies, and NDCs updates

The following are examples of FAO's support to countries.

1. FAO and UNDP Joint Programme on Scaling up Ambition on Land Use and Agriculture through NDCs and NAPs implementation (SCALA)

In 2020, FAO and UNDP are launching a new, €20 million, multi-country support programme SCALA. Gender mainstreaming will be a cross-cutting area of work throughout the program's support to countries to translate their NDC and NAPs into actionable and bankable transformative interventions in agriculture and land use. FAO and UNDP are also promoting their guide for trainers, *Gender in adaptation planning for the agriculture sectors*¹⁴ (2019), as a tested, practical and comprehensive resource for countries to draw on as they work to integrate gender into their adaptation planning processes, including NDC revisions. The guide has been used in the preparation of workshops for *subnational planners in The Gambia*¹⁵ (organized by the NAP Global Network) and *national planners in Asia Pacific*¹⁶ (hosted by the government of The Philippines and organized by the NDC Partnership). It was also featured in a UNDP webinar on gender mainstreaming¹⁷ for the NDC and NAP communities.

¹⁴ <http://www.fao.org/in-action/naps/resources/learning/gender-training-guide/en/>

¹⁵ <http://napglobalnetwork.org/event/training-of-trainers-on-gender-and-climate-adaptation-in-the-gambia/>

¹⁶ <http://ndcpartnership.org/news/ndc-partnership-gender-strategy---catalyzing-more-impactful-climate-action>

¹⁷ <https://www.ndcs.undp.org/content/ndc-support-programme/en/home/ndc-events/virtual-events/mainstreaming-gender-in-ndcs--gender-in-adaptation-planning.html>

2. Mitigation of Climate Change in Agriculture Programme (MICCA)

The MICCA work generates technical knowledge, working on the ground and with partners and include the following objectives: monitor and assess greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and to mitigate potential in agriculture; develop capacity of stakeholders working on national GHG inventories and farmers using CSA; give guidance on climate change mitigation and adaptation options, including for peatlands and organic soils; and mainstream gender in CSA through online communities of practices and online learning events. These activities are support countries in terms of gender sensitive and transformative policies, plans, strategies and actions, including on future revised NDCs and implementation of the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture.

3. Project on Scaling up Implementation of the Enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender and its Gender Action Plan (Enhanced LWPG and GAP) in agriculture and KJWA

This project supports the implementation of the Enhanced LWPG and GAP and involve seven Least Develop Countries¹⁸ through a number of activities that will include supporting gender sensitive and transformative revised NDCs.

Conclusion and recommendations

FAO is committed to scaling up its support for the implementation of the Enhanced LWPG and its GAP and looks forward to working closely with Parties, UNFCCC Secretariat, civil society and others. From the experiences and lessons learned from FAO's work, the following are recommendations to better integrate gender into national climate plans, particularly in the agriculture sector:

- Employ a participatory and inclusive approach in adaptation planning processes to capture diverse perspectives from women and men across different socio-economic and regional backgrounds and from across levels of government, including community, local, central levels and civil society organizations.
- Operationalize existing acts, regulations and guidelines that address gender issues, such as budget regulations.
- Draw on research and evidence on gender-based vulnerabilities and impacts in order to improve awareness and acceptance of addressing gender among different sectors.
- Develop institutional/staff capacity in gender analysis and mainstreaming for government and other non-state stakeholders. Addressing gender capacity development promotes women's equitable representation and participation in implementation of the climate change interventions.
- Strengthen partnerships with state and non-state actors to support gender mainstreaming and gender specific actions and cost leveraging and scale up lessons learnt from the capacity development and case studies using the Farmer Field School (FFS) approach.

¹⁸ Ethiopia, Kiribati, Myanmar, Nepal, Senegal, Solomon Islands and Uganda.