



United Nations  
Climate Change

#ActOnTheGAP

# Submission to the UNFCCC: Progress, challenges, gaps and priorities in implementing the gender action plan (GAP) and future work to be undertaken on gender and climate change

*Submission by: Society of Gender Professionals (SGP)*



Society of  
Gender Professionals



## Identification

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## Bridging Theory-Practice Gaps with Communities of Practice (CoP) at the Society of Gender Professionals (SGP)

The intersection of climate change and gender brings out the urgency to interweave the above thematics to render cross-cutting themes of inter-species climate justice and queer climate justice as part of mainstream narratives for gender justice across intergenerational climate leadership. The multiple marginalizations of socially excluded populations cause their narratives to become peripheral. In congruence with the aforementioned deprivations, regular capacity-building, co-learning sessions facilitate the co-creation of climate knowledge with indigenous leaders across races, castes, classes, disabilities and gender spectrums. Society of Gender Professionals (SGP) addresses various clauses of the Enhanced LWPG Gender Action Plan in an integrated manner throughout 2023-2024.

### *Methodology implemented by the Society of Gender Professionals*

The Society of Gender Professionals has adopted a community-of-practice approach ([Holmes and Meyerhoff, 1999](#), [Wenger, 2000](#)) to build learning ecosystems that encourage knowledge, capacity-building and create safe spaces for co-learning by creating a network of gender professionals. In such capacities, we co-convene numerous Circles of Practice ([Logan, 2006](#)) such as the Gender and Climate Justice Circle, Breaking Binaries Circle, Employment and Peer Support Circle, Preventing Sexual Harassment at Workplace Circle, Feminist Self-Care Circle and most essentially, the Communications Circle. These circles of practice indulge in convergences across vocational pedagogies and academic learnings, therefore creating ‘situated learning’ contexts. We remain committed to implementing theory to practice in terms of feminist movements and feminist organization building, thereby questioning traditional hierarchies ([Hartley et al., 2020](#)) and decolonizing feminist transnational advocacy networks. At Society of Gender Professionals (SGP) we adopt the co-leadership model across all Circles of Communities of Practice (CoP).

Transnational Feminist Networks (TFNs) ([Mogadham, 2021](#)) have been discussed in traditional in-person settings to enrich the lives of cis-women. Filling in the gap of Mogadham’s conception of TFNs, the Society of Gender Professionals Gender and Climate Justice Circle utilizes the digital space to generate transnational feminist networks for intersectional gendered climate justice. We thereby queer the meanings of TFNs by expanding their scope from only cis-women to folks across the gender spectrum across intersections and such co-creation and co-sharing of knowledge coheres with gender-transformative processes. In brief, to account for the myriad expressions of masculinities and femininities conducive to gender-transformative climate justice, a more comprehensive understanding of TFNs in theory and practice is required ([Bhardwaj, 2023](#)). A hybrid format enables the connection of all intergenerational gender professionals beyond borders, however may become a barrier for those experiencing the gendered digital divide. Nonetheless, creating solidarities and partnerships across gender movements is intrinsic to our operations.

### *Methods adopted by the Society of Gender Professionals*

Monthly or bi-monthly capacity building, co-learning gatherings through feminist facilitation techniques such as co-evolving concept notes and agenda setting of the capacity building events with



invited experts and sourcing facilitators from within our network. Scaling local and indigenous knowledge, practice and research to a transnational scale helps in entrenching empowering perspectives of young women, indigenous women and queer community in terms of climate justice. Society of Gender Professionals is a core member of the Gender and Environment Data Alliance (GEDA), co-convened by WEDO and IUCN. This is in synergy with the commitment to gender-disaggregated data collection, interpretation and analyses. We are also one of the organizations in GEDA's Steering Committee for 2024.

The Society of Gender Professionals has been proactive regarding the following clauses of the Enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender (LWPG) and its [Gender Action Plan](#).

### **Priority area A: capacity-building, knowledge management and communication**

*A.4 Strengthen the evidence base and understanding of the differentiated impacts of climate change on men and women and the role of women as agents of change and on opportunities for women*

*A.5 Promote the use of social media, web resources and innovative communication tools to effectively communicate to the public, in particular reaching out to women, on the implementation of the Lima work programme on gender and its gender action plan and on gender equality*

#### **Practice based recommendations**

- i) Holding regular bi-monthly/monthly virtual knowledge co-creating sessions and workshops in consonance with intergenerational equity mainstreams the usage of Transnational Advocacy Networks (TANs) for advancing gender-diverse climate justice perspectives.
- ii) Holding regular bi-monthly/monthly virtual knowledge co-creating sessions and workshops in consonance with intergenerational equity mainstreams the usage of Transnational Advocacy Networks (TANs) for advancing gender-diverse climate justice perspectives.
- iii) Knowledge-sharing across geographies helps in synthesizing converging and diverging dimensions of climate injustice in different communities, segregated along gender, sexuality, race, caste, class, disabilities.
- iv) Women restoring environmental communities through audio-visual records become a repository for local and indigenous climate knowledge, thereby enhancing environmental communications. For instance, if we look at the regeneration of urban commons and how that helps in resisting climate change, including the voices of women of all ages, ethnicity and at risk from low-income, marginalized rural and urban communities ([Dazé et al., 2022](#); [Chandler et al., 2020](#); [Ama & Dupar, 2019](#)).
- v) Dalit-queer populations ([Ponniah & Tamalapakula, 2020](#)) are positioned as marginal narratives ([Chandni, 2022](#)) in terms of climate crises and climate change negotiations despite their



contributions. Therefore, the LGBTQIA2S+ community must be positioned as knowledge leaders and teachers of their lived experiences.

vi) Climate resilience through satire is a novel method of communication that “help navigate the cultural aspects of environmental politics and can be a tool for women across marginalized identities to further local environmental advocacy.” ([Zekavat & Scheel 2023](#), [Cataldi et al., 2023](#))

## Priority area B: gender balance, participation and women’s leadership

*B.1 Promote initiatives for capacity-building in leadership, negotiation and facilitation of negotiation for women delegates including young women, indigenous women and women from local communities, including through webinars and in-session training to enhance women’s participation in the UNFCCC process*

i) Co-facilitation and convening communities of practice enable the exchange of local and indigenous knowledge in terms of transformative adaptation, mitigation and loss and damages. A continuously evolving agenda-setting results in evidence-based capacity-building sessions for researchers, practitioners, activists and academicians.

ii) Consolidation of learning outcomes aids in synthesizing technical and scientific know-how of climate justice paradigms across society. Thereby, the integration of traditional ecological knowledge with climate science is imminent.

iii) Centering inequities undergone by Dalit women in narratives of climate injustices ([Tandale, 2019](#)) highlight the nature of transnational caste atrocities ([Sebastian, 2022](#), [Appadurai, 2020](#)) becoming conflated with gender-climate deprivations. This is an emerging intersecting barrier in the discourses of climate justice for the Dalit women and the Dalit queer.

iv) To de-escalate ecocide caused by conflicts and war in environmental contexts, women engaged in negotiations for peacebuilding must utilize their sensitivity to cultural context and disrupt narratives through their decolonizing praxis ([Church & Halle, 2018](#)). Gendered dimensions to environmental peacebuilding amount to climate change adaptation and greater involvement of women in sustainable peace ([Ensor, 2022](#))

v) Indigenous women and girls are pioneers in climate-related solutions, such as land rights resistance and coastal communities ([Oaster et al., 2024](#))

vi) Synergy between LWPG and the newly launched [Sendai Gender Action Plan](#) to strengthen the co-benefits of interventions that support gender mainstreaming and ensure coherence in addressing the needs of women, marginalized groups, and hyper-marginalized groups, including gender minorities.

vii) The [CBD Gender Plan of Action](#) in alignment with the Enhanced LWPG and its Gender Action Plan mainstreams leadership of women and girls in ecosystems across crosscutting identities



of ethnicity, age, abilities, race and caste. Resultantly, coalescing National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) with National Action Plans (NAPs) can be the climate-resilient policy solution for local communities.

viii) Acknowledge the power dynamics at both the local and global levels, that disfavor and inhibit the meaningful and representative participation of women and gender-diverse people, especially from the global south ([WEDO, 2023](#)).

#### **Priority area D: gender-responsive implementation and means of implementation**

*D.4 Support the collection and consolidation of information and expertise on gender and climate change in sectors and thematic areas as well as identifying experts on gender and climate change, as needed, and enhance knowledge platforms on gender and climate change*

*D.7 Enhance the availability of sex-disaggregated data for gender analysis, taking into consideration multidimensional factors, to better inform gender responsive climate policies, plans, strategies and action, as appropriate*

i) Consolidation of learning outcomes from our transnational virtual gender cafes traverse distinct intersections of gender-data justice. One learning outcome interalia, emphasizes gender-based associations can fill data gaps for transgender persons across geographies to bring about data justice. ([Arora et al.,2023](#))

ii) Research studies by pastoral communities reflect better qualitative and quantitative data about climate-induced displacement and Gender Based Violence (GBV) than top-down analysis by non- stakeholders. Therefore, indigenous, pastoral and agro-pastoral communities are producers of knowledge rather than mere ‘subjects’ of research studies ([Spring of the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands, 2023](#)). In this manner, we exhort that the decolonizing of data by these marginalized communities enriches gendered climate justice from intersectional perspectives.

iii) Queer communities are data stewards and data gatherers and require their voice to be institutionalized in data and statistics of climate resilience across National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), climate resilience strategies and programs.

iv) Critical analysis of data on climate change involves an intersectional gendered approach in which queer information and data regarding displacement and racial accountability in the data on climate-related displacement adhere to decolonial data integrity ([Gay-Antaki, 2022](#))

v) Transnational solidarities across civil society organizations and youth collectives to consolidate depth in gender-collection and gender interpretation techniques, ]- both in terms of divesting artificial intelligence from racial biases for women ([Ananya, 2024; Hardesty, 2018](#)) and traditional qualitative and qualitative methods.



vi) Promote gender-responsive climate budgeting that blends gender-responsive budgeting and climate financing approaches, to support sustainable and strategic approaches to gender-transformative climate change action at global and local levels including the urgent needs of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) ([Wilkinson & Robertson, 2023](#)).

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## Annexure. Society of Gender Professionals (SGP) Gender and Climate Justice Circle event-related thematics

| S.No. | Themes for Panels/Workshops  | Month         | Speakers  |
|-------|--|---------------|---|
| 1.    | Locating Gender in Inter-Species Climate Justice   | April 2024    | Irma Nugrahanti (Youth, Indonesia)<br>Tania Roa (Youth., Colombia)<br>Parimala Sharma (Youth, USA)<br>Dhanya Rajagopal (Youth, India) |
| 2.    | Human Trafficking - Climate Justice Nexus: Case Studies Across Philippines and India                         | March 2024    | Ritwika Mitra (India)<br>Dr. Marta Furlan (Italy)<br>Purity Ashkoe (Kenya)  |
| 3.    | #Workshop: Walkability as a Catalyst for Intersectional Climate Justice                                      | February 2024 | Annika Lundkvist (Poland)<br>Radha RH (Youth, India)  |
| 4.    | Book Discussion on 'Queer Ecofeminism: From Binary Feminist Environmental Endeavours to Postgender Pursuits' | January 2024  | Dr. Asmae Ourkiya (Youth, Morocco)  |



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| 5. | Resisting Environmental Racism: Arriving at Gender Justice   | November 2023  | Salome Owuonda, (Youth, Kenya)<br>Ghramawit Haile (Ethiopia)                                   |
| 6. | Race and Cybersecurity for Advocates of Gender- Climate Justice Nexus  | October 2023   | Tabitha Wangechi (Youth, Kenya)  |
| 7. | Workshop #2 for the Youth: How to Enter Gender-Environmental Consulting (in collaboration with SGP Employment and Peer Support Circle) | September 2023 | Racha Zahira Ammati (Youth, Morocco)   |
| 8. | Workshop #1 for the Youth: How to Enter Gender-Environmental Consulting (in collaboration with SGP Employment and Peer Support Circle) | August 2023    | Sinem Hun (UK)   |
| 9. | Centering Dalit Feminist Inequities in Narratives of Climate Justice   | July 2023      | Dadasaheb Tandale (Youth, USA)<br>Dr. Ghulam Hussain (Pakistan)<br>Kamna Singh, (Youth, India) |
| 10 | Queer and Feminist Political Ecologies (in collaboration with SGP Breaking Binaries Circle)  | June 2023      | Sacha Knox (Youth, South Africa)<br>Debasmita Boral (Youth, UK)                                |
| 11 | Artivism and Climate Justice: Local Resistances in Pakistan  | May 2023       | Nirmal Riaz (Youth, UK)<br>Dr. Rafique Wassan (Pakistan)                                       |
| 12 | Gender Based Violence and Climate Change – Grassroots Study in Kenya by the Spring of the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (SASAL)             | May2023        | Mana Omar (Youth, Kenya)<br>Dorrah Munjaru (Youth, Kenya)                                      |





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|----|---|------------|--|
| 13 | Exploring Interlinkages Between SRHR and Climate Change | April 2023 | Christine Samwaroo (Youth, Guyana)<br>Radha Paudel (Youth, Nepal)<br>Gurpreet Kaur (UK)<br>Shubhangi Thakur (Youth, India) |
| 14 | Situating Climate and Gender (In)Justice in Bangladesh  | March 2023 | Sohanur Rahman (Youth, Bangladesh)<br>Monira Rahman (Bangladesh)<br>Mahmuda Rahman (Bangladesh)                            |

Sociologists for Women In Society has awarded the Society of Gender Professionals with a financial grant to convene workshops for the youth for June- July 2024 to advance gender-just climate leadership among the youth. We will explore how gendered climate curriculum and pedagogies are embedded in climate leadership among youth for intergenerational climate mobilization, particularly women, non-binaries and other queer folk steering climate action via gender-just climate leadership.