

# WOMEN & GENDER CONSTITUENCY

**WGC feedback to the Climate High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership on the Five-Year Vision and Plan for the Global Climate Action Agenda (GCAA).**

**18 August 2025**

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The Women and Gender Constituency (WGC) welcomes the opportunity to provide inputs on the five-year vision and plan for the Global Climate Action Agenda (GCAA). We emphasize the urgent need for the GCAA to advance the full delivery of the Global Stocktake (GST), Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), while ensuring inclusive, equitable, and gender-responsive processes. We also underscore the necessity of integrating underrepresented groups and regions, particularly from the Global South, and strengthening transparency, reporting, and follow-up mechanisms.

## **1. What should success look like for the GCAA in the next five years, and how can it be measured effectively?**

Current measurement frameworks rely heavily on Integrated Assessment Models (IAMs), which are often dominated by Global North institutions. For the GCAA to succeed, these systems must be made open, transparent, gender-responsive, and inclusive of Global South perspectives. Global South climate databases, research centers, communities of practice should be actively involved in measurement frameworks.

Success must be measured not only in terms of emissions reduction, but also in terms of equity, participation, and justice outcomes, particularly for women and girls in all their diversity, vulnerable groups, and communities most impacted by climate change. To support developing countries' conditional NDCs, the GCAA must include information on the provision and mobilization of new, additional, adequate, and predictable finance. What is needed is not merely a report during COPs, but an action plan to deliver concrete outcomes. This is a key element for ramping up ambition and ensuring that climate action is both just and effective.

## 2. How can the GCAA facilitate direct and impactful engagement between Parties and Non-Party Stakeholders (NPS) to support implementation efforts at both national and sectoral levels?

The **Global Climate Action Agenda (GCAA)** can play a pivotal role in strengthening direct and impactful engagement between Parties and Non-Party Stakeholders (NPS) by creating structured, inclusive, and action-oriented platforms for collaboration.

First, the GCAA can serve as a **bridge between national policy processes and on-the-ground action** by ensuring that NPS, such as civil society, women's groups, youth, Indigenous peoples, local communities, and the private sector, are systematically consulted in the design, implementation, and monitoring of climate actions. This requires institutionalized mechanisms, such as regular multi-stakeholder dialogues linked to the UNFCCC process, with clear pathways for NPS recommendations to inform climate action programming.

Second, the GCAA can support **sectoral partnerships** that connect Parties and NPS in areas such as energy, food systems, biodiversity, adaptation and equity. By creating thematic coalitions, the Agenda can accelerate technical collaboration, resource mobilization, and knowledge exchange, while ensuring these processes are guided by principles of equity, rights, and just transition.

Third, to be impactful, engagement must go beyond symbolic consultation. The GCAA can strengthen accountability by providing **transparent reporting mechanisms** that track how Party commitments integrate NPS inputs, as well as by recognizing and scaling up effective initiatives led by NPS especially rights holder non state actors that align with national climate priorities.

Finally, at both national and sectoral levels, the GCAA can help build **trust and alignment** by resourcing participation of underrepresented groups, particularly from the Global South, ensuring that engagement is not only formal but also **equitable, inclusive, and transformative**.

For example; when looking at the recently published NDC 3.0 we have generally been disappointed by the low level of ambition of industrialized countries and lack of meaningful participation of non sector actors especially civil societies during the entire cycle of NDC development. But we have observed very inspiring trends from the smallest and most vulnerable countries such as Vanuatu. Vanuatu's new NDC aims for a fossil fuel-free Pacific, rapid decarbonization, and a complete shift to a circular economy. It embodies high levels of ambition on adaptation, mitigation, and loss and damage, all grounded in human rights, justice, and equity.

Lastly but critically important, the GCAA must shift towards approaches that incorporate Global South-driven data collection, scenarios and grassroots, community-led knowledge. This shift is essential for meaningful engagement between Parties and NPS and for the full delivery of the GST, NDCs, and NAPs.

### 3. How can the GCAA promote an inclusive and equitable engagement, in particular from underrepresented groups and regions?

Procedural justice, ensuring the participation of underrepresented groups and regions in decision-making, is a central tenet of climate justice. The Just Transition delivery mechanism can be a key tool to help governments promote/support inclusive and equitable engagement and get the mandate to increase ambition domestically and globally, implementing the COP28 decision to transition away from fossil fuels.

Broadly GCAA can

- **Resource participation** by providing financial and logistical support for underrepresented groups to engage meaningfully in dialogues, consultations, and implementation efforts.
- **Create accessible entry points** through regional hubs, multilingual platforms, and localized consultations that reflect diverse realities and knowledge systems.
- **Institutionalize accountability** by tracking participation and ensuring that inputs from marginalized groups are visibly integrated into outcomes, policies, and sectoral initiatives.
- **Recognize and scale up community-led solutions**, amplifying innovations that are often overlooked but critical for adaptation and resilience.

The WGC calls for a [GST Global People Assembly](#), a grassroots-driven, locally rooted and globally affirmed process that ensures frontline communities, WEHRDs, Indigenous Peoples, feminists, youth, and other vulnerable groups actively participate in the upcoming GST processes. Such a mechanism would democratize climate action and strengthen collective resilience.

### 4. What improvements can be made to ensure better transparency, reporting, and follow-up of the GCAA, including in existing tools such as the Global Climate Action Portal (NAZCA) and the Yearbook of Global Climate Action?

Transparency and accountability require not only better technical tracking, but also broader participation in monitoring processes. With greater inclusion of grassroots actors, reporting becomes more legitimate and representative.

The NAZCA portal and the Yearbook of Global Climate Action should include good practice examples and gender-sensitive datasets coming from platforms of grassroots organisations, communities of practice and frontline actors. For the Yearbook of Global Climate Action, the focus should shift from cataloguing initiatives to assessing outcomes and impact. This means providing analysis of how commitments align with Paris Agreement goals, highlighting implementation gaps, and showcasing lessons learned. Linking the Yearbook more explicitly to the UNFCCC process, for example by informing the Global Stocktake, would strengthen its relevance and uptake.

The proposed Global Climate Assembly mechanism, already under development and welcomed in initial discussions with the UNFCCC secretariat, should be formally integrated into the GCAA as a means to strengthen follow-up, oversight, and accountability. It promotes a **paradigm shift in global climate governance** by

embedding structured community participation as a core, complementary to party-driven processes. It offers a new model for integrating the knowledge, experiences, and **priorities of frontline communities and environmental defenders into multilateral dialogues in a transparent and organized manner**. It is not a consultation, but a political intervention designed to embed justice, reparations, and rights into multilateral climate processes. With Local Assemblies bringing together diverse actors from entrepreneurs, social partners, local communities to policy makers, academics and climate scientists that build structured knowledge grounded in local realities, the GCA mechanism foresees learning phases, consolidated policy proposals at regional level, relying on existing UNFCCC events such as regional climate weeks and Monitoring & Evaluation mechanisms that ensure accountability and progress.

## **Conclusion**

The Women and Gender Constituency urges the Climate High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership to embed gender-responsive, equitable, and Global South-inclusive approaches into the five-year vision for the GCAA. By institutionalizing mechanisms such as the Global Climate Assembly, shifting measurement systems beyond Global North-dominated IAMs, and ensuring procedural justice, the GCAA can evolve into a genuinely transformative framework that advances the Paris Agreement with gender equity and justice at its core.