

Submission of the Philippines on the Elements and Guiding Principles for the Advancement of the Lima Work Program on Gender and Climate Change

1. Climate change is a global challenge that burdens all of humanity, but not equally, particularly those who living in already vulnerable situations. The plight of women, who constitute half of the world's population and bear the severe gendered impacts of climate change, should be at the core of the climate change discussion. Women from various backgrounds should also be able to lead negotiations and participate in the design and implementation of programs.
2. Women face unique and sometimes disproportionate burdens as a result of climate change, but they are not merely victims. To the contrary, women are also agents with important perspectives and knowledge which can inform and influence solutions to address climate change. There is therefore a need to reposition women from victims to change agents, and recognize their critical role in mitigation and adaptation processes.
3. Women are often responsible for managing the household, even when they are not perceived as heads of household. Despite this, studies have shown that poor access to resources has always been a problem of grassroots women and this often hinder their full and meaningful participation in decision-making at various levels and stages of climate change and disaster risk management. Ensuring that women, both in the rural and urban areas, have equitable access to resources in various forms-technology, capital and finance, and capacity-building, is one concrete indication that a State recognizes the gendered impacts of climate change.
4. In addition to the above-mentioned critical points, the Philippines also recommends the following components and activities:
 - a. Develop **skills and capacity-building training programs** on gender and climate change for both UNFCCC Secretariat and State Parties;
 - b. As mandated by the UN System Wide Action Plan, appoint a **Gender Focal Point** in the UNFCCC that will ensure the conscious application of critical gender analysis by all units in the UNFCCC at all levels;
 - c. Establish a **gender audit mechanism** within the UNFCCC which will track the allocations and gender-related outcomes; and
 - d. Incorporate a gender perspective in the **Guidelines on National Communication**, including financial commitments of Parties that are in line with women's human rights and gender equality.
5. Lastly, there should be a clear provision on appropriations as the implementation of the above-mentioned activities will require both financial and human resources.