

Tools for Developing Gender-Responsive Climate Change (Adaptation) Projects

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Climate change and finance is not gender-neutral

- Women are the **majority of the more than one billion poorest** worldwide (“feminization of poverty”)
 - Women often **disproportionally affected by climate change due to persisting gender-specific norms and gender-based discriminations and barriers**, including:
 - **Reproductive and unpaid care work**: care duties performed to maintain the household and its members generally unpaid, often directly impacted by climate change.
 - **Wage and income gaps**: Women work two-thirds of the world’s working hours, receive only 10 percent of the world’s income. Women comprise majority of those working in the informal employment sector, often worst hit by climate change-related disasters and other shocks
 - **Access to finance**: Women often experience greater barriers to accessing finance than men, (lack of necessary collateral). This creates structural under-investment in women’s enterprises & undermines long-term effectiveness of climate change responses
 - **Access to information**: Of 876 million illiterate people worldwide, two-thirds are women, and three-fifths of the 115 million children that do not go to school are girls
 - **Lack of property rights**: Worldwide, women own 1 percent of all property, although they perform 66 percent of all work. In Africa, on average, 15 percent of landholders are women; range from below 5 percent (Mali) to above 30 percent (Botswana, Cape Verde and Malawi).
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- IPCC 5th Assessment underscores that CC hazards increase or heighten existing gender inequalities
- UNFCCC decisions (Cancun, Doha) acknowledge gender equality and effective participation of women as relevant for all climate actions
- Men and women contribute to climate change responses in different ways and have different capabilities to mitigate and adapt – woman as **key actors and “agents of change”**, not just victims
 - Frequently already engaged in strategies – often without recognition or payment -- **to cope with and adapt to climate change** (switching to drought-resistant seeds; leading community-based restoration efforts; employing low-impact agriculture or organic soil management)
 - **In mitigation**, women often primary decision-makers of household consumption (women in developing countries represent half of the buyers of home solar lighting systems); importance of addressing “black carbon” related to biomass dependent cookstoves

→ **Gender-responsive climate funds & funding processes are needed**

REASON 1: climate finance decisions are not made within normative vacuum → acknowledge and honor **women’s rights as basic human rights** (see AF ES principles; national CEDAW commitments – almost all Parties to UNFCCC are also Parties to CEDAW)

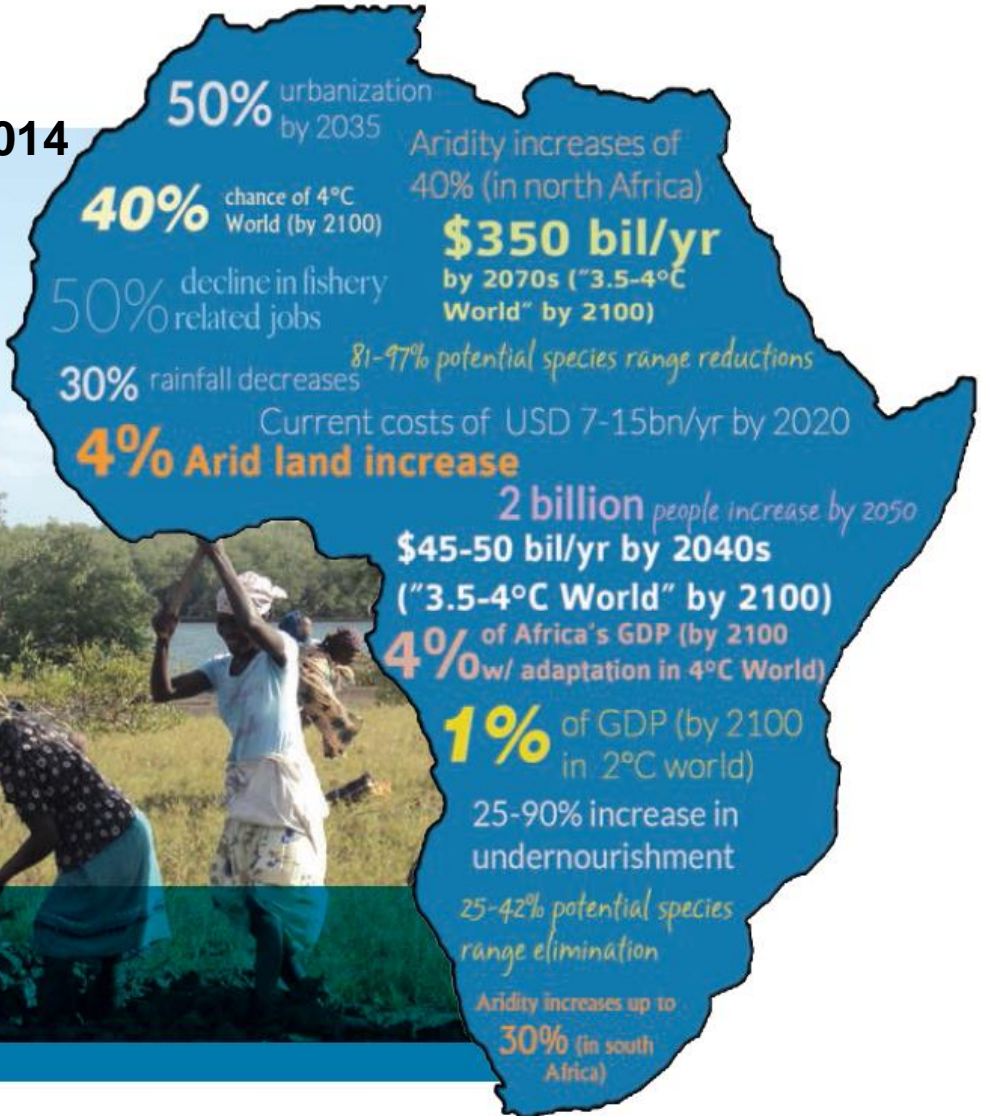
REASON 2: using scarce public resources in an **equitable, efficient and effective** way → cannot afford to ignore 50% of project-relevant actors or beneficiaries of any project → draw on experience of development finance

Illustrative Sector Examples:

AGRICULTURE:

- More than three quarters—79 percent—of women in LDCs report agriculture as their primary economic activity.
 - Women make up the majority of small-scale farmers, between 50 and 80 percent of people engaged in food production globally.
 - Women’s food production is often limited to marginal soils in rain-fed agricultural systems more susceptible to climate change impacts.
 - Worldwide, women receive only 5 percent of agricultural extension services.
 - FAO estimate that improving women’s access to fertilizers, improved seeds, irrigation systems or other mechanical tools would increase women’s agricultural yields by 20 to 30 percent (reducing the number of malnourished people globally by 12 to 17 percent)
 - Rural women have traditional knowledge of seed varieties/maintain seed banks
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African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN)/UNEP Report, 2014



Africa's

Adaptation Gap

DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT AND REDUCTION:

- People-centred early warning systems and information management are key. Disaster mortality rates are generally higher for women than for men due to cultural gender norms and roles (for example, forbidding women to leave the house or attend community preparedness meetings without a male guardian or preventing them from learning how to swim or climb trees)
- Need to address any gender-specific cultural constraints on mobility and information access, for example by engaging women's organizations and women leaders in design and planning at national and community levels

WATER:

- Care burden of up to 86 percent of rural women in LICs to fetch freshwater for their families; burden increased by CC-induced scarcity
- Adaptation focusing on water resource management more effective with **a gender-informed participatory approach** that looks at different agricultural and reproductive responsibilities and resulting water needs of men and women in the communities involved and implements gender-sensitive strategies (f.ex. leadership in management of water user groups)

Gender analysis of climate/adaptation-relevant investments --- METHODOLOGY

What makes a project and its implementation gender-responsive? 2012 hbs/Gender Action Evaluation of 32 MENA adaptation projects – checklist used to measure if and how gender was integrated. Did the project...?

- Approach gender issues from a **human rights perspective** (focus on provision of basic services; right to water, food, adequate housing, CEDAW)
- Acknowledge and seek to **redress gender inequalities**
- Provide and analyze **gender data** (project design – baseline and M &E)
- **Analyze gender relations** in social, legal, historical and economic context
- Look at **equitable gender access** to project benefits
- Promote **equal opportunities for men and women to provide input and participate** throughout project cycle
- Plan project **outcomes and outputs** that respond to differential gender needs
- Consider longer-term **gender impacts** of projects

Key tools for developing gender-responsive climate change (adaptation) projects

AT FUND/FUNDING INSTITUTION LEVEL:

- **(Gender-balance and) gender-expertise** in all fund decision-making (Board, Ctes) and advisory bodies (panels) as well as in a fund's Secretariat to ensure that gender equality principles are considered in project review and approval and the monitoring, reporting, verification and evaluation of the fund's portfolio
- **Gender-responsive funding guidelines , allocation and investment decision criteria** (focus on smaller scale, bottom-up, beneficiary centered projects ; possibility of funding set-asides; looking for multiple-benefits approaches)
- “Best practice” set of **social, gender and environmental safeguards** that stipulate gender equality, women's rights and women's full participation in compliance with existing international obligations, including on human and women's rights,
- A **regular audit & independent evaluation of the gender impacts of funding allocations** to create accountability for gender-responsive delivery at fund level
- **Independent recourse mechanism**– allowing negatively impacted women to seek redress and compensation (ideally both at funding institution and IE level)

AT NDA LEVEL:

- **Country coordination and outreach efforts** that include countries' existing "gender machinery" (= relevant ministries, government commissions) and women's civil society groups as key stakeholders in determining national (adaptation) funding priorities and country funding programs

AT IE LEVEL:

- In-house staff of NIE/MIE/RIE with gender and social development expertise (no routine "outsourcing" of gender work to consultants)
 - Commitment at highest level to gender equality and improving the gender competency of all IE staff → ability to improve gender capacities of EEs
 - Active inclusion of women and gender civil society groups as EEs
 - Mandatory) **socio-economic and gender analysis** of the proposed project or program with a **gender baseline**; a **gender budget**; some clear **gender-relevant indicators** measuring how projects contribute to gender equality objectives, as well as the systematic collection of **sex-disaggregated data** and **qualitative assessments** via focus groups/interviews, time-use surveys etc..
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AT IE LEVEL – continued:

- Special efforts to seek and financially support **the input and participation of women as stakeholders and beneficiaries** throughout the funding cycle from the planning and preparation, to implementation to monitoring and evaluation of a project (encouraging **participatory monitoring** for continuous feedback during project implementation and corrective action)
- Comprehensive information disclosure and provision in gender-responsive way (language, media)
- Document learning on gender-responsive adaptation implementation and exchange knowledge (upstream with funding institutions, NDAs and downstream with EEs and beneficiary communities)

Gender a belated “retrofit” in existing climate funds

- Multilateral dedicated funds did NOT consider **gender equality** in original set-up
- Retroactive (but not always systematic) integration of gender aspects gaining ground
 - **WB Clean Technology Fund (CTF)** has no gender-integration
 - **WB Pilot Program on Climate Resilience (PPCR)** does not include gender in operational principles, but has some gender dimensions in project proposals
 - **WB SCREP** requests the inclusion of “social and gender co-benefits”
 - After CIF 2012 gender review, in 2014 a new gender focal point in CIF AU added with two year CIF Gender Action Plan (focus on M&E and analytical support)
 - **REDD programs (WB FIP and UN-REDD)** have guidelines targeting women in consultations
 - **GEF (LDCF and SCCF)** –Gender mainstreaming policy and improved gender expertise since 2011; requires GEF (partner) agencies to have own gender policy for accreditation, has gender focal point and since late 2014 a Gender Equality Action Plan – instituting a set of GEF wide core gender indicators

Gender integration in Adaptation Fund policies & procedures

- Gender integration in AF over several years and policy updates piece-by-piece, guided by lessons learned, but as of yet no comprehensive gender policy
 - Adopted environmental and social policy in November 2013 based on 15 principles, including access & equity; human rights; core labor rights; marginalized & vulnerable groups; and gender equity and women's empowerment;
 - inclusion of gender consideration is an important review criterion for IE project funding request (project justification; description of consultative process; assessment and management of risk against all 15 ESP principles);
 - Gender considerations are part of project eligibility criteria in review process – AFB has sent proposals back for missing gender considerations
 - AF Results Framework: requests disaggregation of data by gender throughout project implementation, including for core indicator “number of beneficiaries”; as part of the Project Performance Report (PPR) results tracker (see table)
 - April 2015 Board decision to consider whether there need to develop an explicit gender policy; asked Secretariat to compile all gender-related policies & procedures
 - Ethic and Finance Board to consider paper with recommendation to adopt an AF gender policy; draft policy proposed (principles based, drawing on GCF and GEF precedent)
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Gender-related Indicators in the AF Results Tracker

<p>Impact: Increased resiliency at the community, national, and regional levels to climate variability and change</p> <p>Outcome 1: Reduced exposure to climate-related hazards and threats</p>	<p>Core Indicator: No. of beneficiaries</p> <p>Indicator 1: Relevant threat and hazard information generated and disseminated to stakeholders on a timely basis</p>	<p>Total number of beneficiaries</p> <p>Total number of targeted stakeholders</p>	<p>% of female beneficiaries</p> <p>% of female stakeholders targeted</p>
<p>Outcome 2: Strengthened institutional capacity to reduce risks associated with climate-induced socioeconomic and environmental losses</p> <p>Output 2.1 Strengthened capacity of national and sub-national centres and networks to respond rapidly to extreme weather events</p>	<p>Indicator 2: Capacity of staff to respond to, and mitigate impacts of, climate-related events from targeted institutions increased</p> <p>Indicator 2.1.1: No. of staff trained to respond to, and mitigate impacts of, climate-related events</p>	<p>Total number of staff targeted</p> <p>Total number of staff trained</p>	<p>% of female staff targeted</p> <p>% of female staff trained</p>
<p>Output 3: Targeted population groups participating in adaptation and risk reduction awareness activities</p>	<p>Indicator 3.1.1: Percentage of targeted population awareness of predicted adverse impacts of climate change, and of appropriate responses</p>	<p>Total number of targeted beneficiaries</p>	<p>% of female beneficiaries targeted</p>
<p>Outcome 6: Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted areas</p>	<p>Indicator 6.1: Increase in households and communities having more secure access to livelihood assets</p>	<p>Total number of targeted households</p>	<p>% of female headed households</p>
	<p>Indicator 6.2: Increase in targeted population's sustained climate-resilient alternative livelihoods</p>	<p>Total number of targeted households</p>	<p>% of female headed households</p>

GCF: opportunity for gender-responsive climate financing?

- GCF governing instrument contains five key references to gender -- **first climate fund with mandate to integrate gender considerations from the outset**
 - **“gender-sensitive approach”** in section on objectives and guiding principles (Art.3)
→ anchoring gender-responsiveness as cross-cutting issue
 - **gender-balance** as goal for Board and Secretariat staff (Arts. 11 and 21)
 - **gender aspects of stakeholder involvement** to develop fund priorities (Art.31)
 - **women as crucial group** for input and participation of strategies and activities of the Fund (Art. 71)
- Gender advocacy with “dual strategy” in GCF: **GCF gender policy and action plan** (adopted at BM9 in March 2015), but also simultaneous and early integration in key operational policies, including **accreditation requirements**; results management and **performance measurement** ; inclusion in **investment criteria**; **readiness program** via NDA/focal point support for country coordination & stakeholder engagement
- Important gain: gender consideration included in Enhanced Direct Access US\$ 200 Mio Pilot (f.ex. via Small Grants Facility approaches SANBI/AF) as part of request for proposals;
- Still needed: integration in private sector MSME approach (RFP for US\$200 Mio in development); consideration stakeholder participation mechanism; participatory monitoring approach as part of M&A framework; information disclosure approach

GCF Gender Policy and Action Plan – adopted March 2015

Principles of the GCF GENDER POLICY:

- **Commitment** to contribute to gender equality
- **Comprehensiveness** in scope and coverage of all GCF activities
- **Accountability** = monitoring gender impacts – RMF/PMF, GCF Management & staff, IRM
- **Country-Ownership** – NDAs/focal points informed
- **Gender competencies** – staff, key advisory & decision-making bodies & readiness support
- **Resource allocation** contributes to gender equality, including via – if necessary – targeted funding for women’s activities

GCF Gender Action Plan (2015-2017) Priority Areas:

- **Governance and institutional structure** – appointment of senior gender specialist
- **Administrative and operational guidelines** – guidance for NDAs and IEs
- **Capacity building** -- gender training for GCF external partners GCF Board and staff
- **Monitoring and reporting** – integration in RMF; specific gender portfolio indicators
- **Resource allocation and budgeting** – extra weight for good gender-integrated projects ?
- **Knowledge generation and communication** – support for knowledge exchange, part of GCF communication outreach

Thank you !

Hbs North America work on climate finance, including gender dimension @
<http://us.boell.org/categories/climate-policy-finance>