



# From CSW66 to COP27: Examining Gender Under the UNFCCC



Women's Environment  
& Development Organization



# Agenda

- The History of Gender under the UNFCCC
- The Enhanced Lima Work Programme and its Gender Action Plan
- National Gender and Climate Change Focal Points
- Gender in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)
- Opportunities for Engagement





**WEDO**

## **Our Vision**

A just world that promotes and protects human rights, gender equality and the integrity of the environment.

## **Our Purpose**

To advance feminist leadership and solutions towards a just and healthy planet for all.

# Women and Gender Constituency (WGC)

The goal of the WGC is to formalize the voice of the women's and gender civil society organizations present and regularly active in UNFCCC processes, and to develop, streamline and advocate common positions. The Constituency draws upon global commitments to gender equality and women's rights, especially as they relate to climate change, and toward the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and related commitments and Rio-Conventions. The Constituency works to ensure that human rights and gender equality are firmly anchored in all climate actions under the UNFCCC and to challenge the extractive, exploitative and patriarchal economic model which has resulted in the climate crisis.



**WOMEN & GENDER  
CONSTITUENCY**





# History of Gender under the UNFCCC



## GENDER CLIMATE TRACKER



A product of the Women's Environment  
and Development Organization

# Gender Mandates in the UNFCCC

Over 80 gender mandates from 2001 onward cover most areas of the negotiations: adaptation and mitigation, technology, capacity-building, finance, etc.

Various ways of integrating gender:

- Gender Equality
- Gender Mainstreaming
- Gender Balance
- Women as 'Vulnerable Group'

[www.genderclimatetracker.org](http://www.genderclimatetracker.org) to search and read





# First Gender Decision: COP7

1. *Invites* Parties to give active consideration to the nomination of women for elective posts in any body established under the Convention or the Kyoto Protocol;
2. *Requests* the secretariat to bring this decision to the attention of Parties whenever a vacancy arises for any elective post in any body established under the Convention or the Kyoto Protocol;
3. *Further requests* the secretariat to maintain information on the gender composition of each body with elective posts established under the Convention or the Kyoto Protocol, and to bring this information to the attention of the Parties whenever such a vacancy occurs.





# WOMEN & GENDER CONSTITUENCY

2009: Founded as an Observer constituency to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

2011: Granted full Observer Constituency status

2015: Launched the Gender Just Climate Solutions Awards Program

2022: 34 member organizations (with official accreditation to UNFCCC) plus hosted advocacy network of over 600 groups and individuals



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# Cancun Shared Vision

7. *Recognizes* the need to engage a broad range of stakeholders at the global, regional, national and local levels, be they government, including subnational and local government, private business or civil society, including youth and persons with disability, and that gender equality and the effective participation of women and indigenous peoples are important for effective action on all aspects of climate change;

8. *Emphasizes* that Parties should, in all climate change related actions, fully respect human rights;



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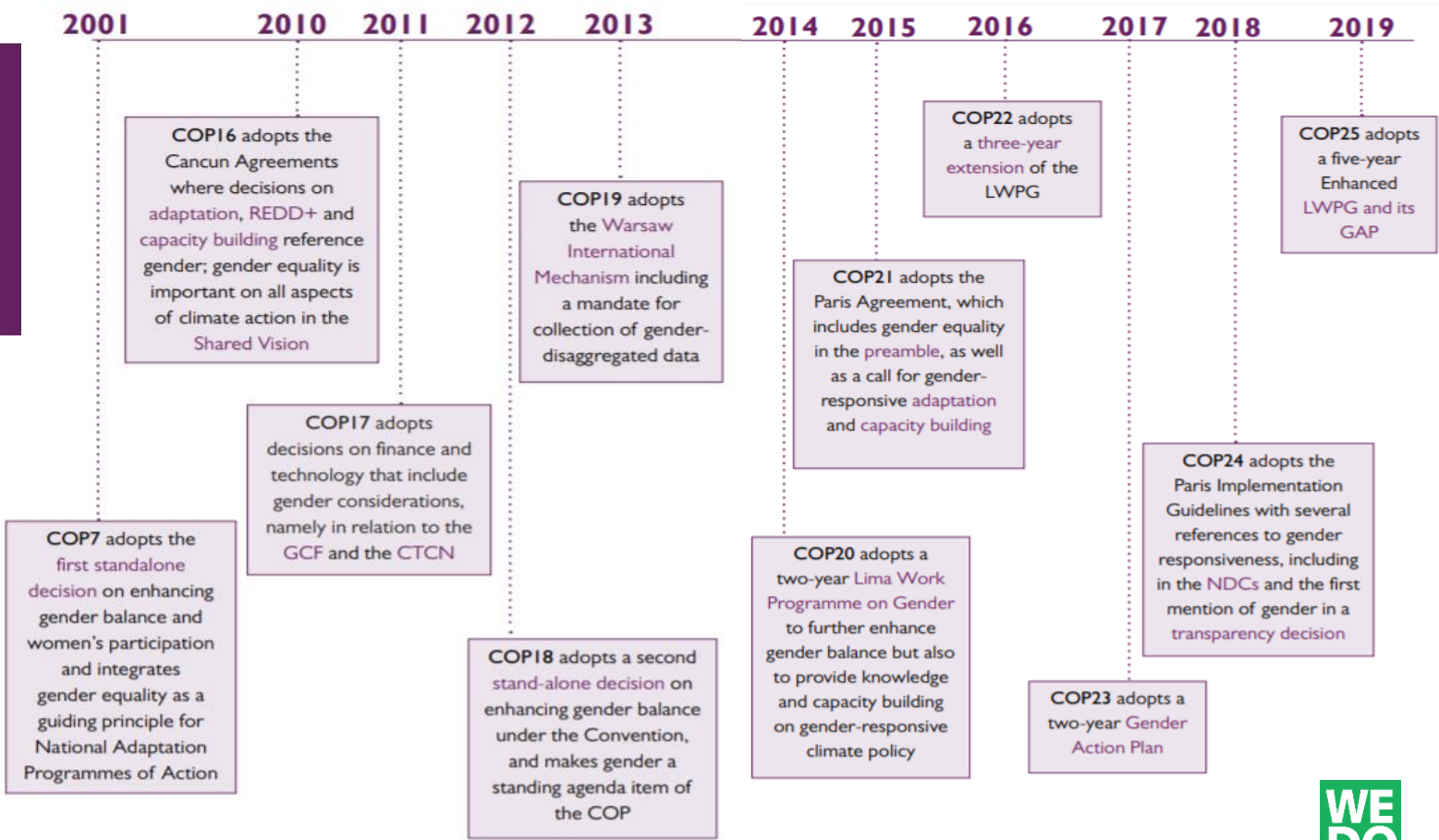
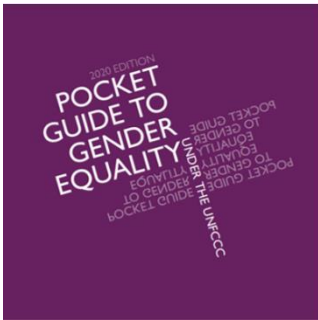


# Preamble to the Paris Agreement



*Acknowledging* that climate change is a common concern of humankind, Parties should, when taking action to address climate change, respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, the right to health, the rights of indigenous peoples, local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations and the right to development, as well as gender equality, empowerment of women and intergenerational equity,

# UNFCCC Gender Timeline





# The Enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender and its Gender Action Plan





# Enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender

*Selections from the Preamble*

## **Precedent matters**

*Recalling decisions 36/CP.7, 1/CP.16, 23/CP.18, 18/CP.20, 1/CP.21, 21/CP.22 and 3/CP.23, the Paris Agreement and the Katowice climate package,*

## **Gender Equality as vital**

*Acknowledging the continuing need for gender mainstreaming through all relevant targets and goals in activities under the Convention as an important contribution to increasing their effectiveness, fairness and sustainability,*

## **Appreciating gender-differentiated impacts**

*Recognizing with concern that climate change impacts on women and men can often differ owing to historical and current gender inequalities and multidimensional factors and can be more pronounced in developing countries and for local communities and indigenous peoples,*

## **Considering relevant dimensions**

*Taking into account the imperatives of a just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work and quality jobs in accordance with nationally defined development priorities,*





# Enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender

*Selections from the Operative Paragraphs*



7. *Recognizes* that the full, meaningful and equal participation and leadership of women in all aspects of the UNFCCC process and in national- and local-level climate policy and action is vital for achieving long-term climate goals;

8. *Acknowledges* that coherence with relevant United Nations processes, in particular the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as applicable, and within national implementation will contribute to improving the efficiency and effectiveness of efforts to integrate gender considerations into climate action;

9. *Notes* that gender-responsive implementation and means of implementation of climate policy and action can enable Parties to raise ambition, as well as enhance gender equality, and just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work and quality jobs in accordance with nationally defined development priorities;

13. *Invites* Parties to submit information on efforts and steps taken to implement the enhanced Lima work programme on gender and its gender action plan in their national reporting under the UNFCCC process, as applicable;

14. *Also invites* relevant public and private entities to increase the gender-responsiveness of climate finance with a view to strengthening the capacity of women;



# Gender Action Plan

- Annex to the Enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender
- Five priority areas with activities, responsibilities, timelines, and deliverables led and contributed to by various actors
- Neither a mandate to create national gender and climate change action plans nor a roadmap to national GAPs

## Five Priority Areas

### A. Capacity-building, knowledge management and communication

4. To enhance the systematic integration of gender considerations into climate policy and action and the application of understanding and expertise to the actions called for under the Lima work programme on gender and its gender action plan, and facilitate outreach, knowledge-sharing and the communication of activities undertaken to enhance gender-responsive climate action and its impacts in advancing women's leadership, achieving gender equality and ensuring effective climate action.

### B. Gender balance, participation and women's leadership

5. To achieve and sustain the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in the UNFCCC process.

### C. Coherence

6. To strengthen the integration of gender considerations within the work of UNFCCC constituted bodies, the secretariat and other United Nations entities and stakeholders towards the consistent implementation of gender-related mandates and activities.

### D. Gender-responsive implementation and means of implementation

7. To ensure the respect, promotion and consideration of gender equality and the empowerment of women in the implementation of the Convention and the Paris Agreement.

### E. Monitoring and reporting

8. To improve tracking of the implementation of and reporting on gender-related mandates under the Lima work programme on gender and its gender action plan.



# Limitations and Opportunities

Weak action on climate finance

Failure to set forth indicators of progress

“Relevant organizations” can contribute to fulfilling GAP activities

Intermediate review of progress on implementation forthcoming in June 2022



# SRHR Opportunities in the GAP

## Analysis by the Danish Family Planning Association

*A.1 Strengthen capacity-building efforts for governments and other stakeholders in mainstreaming gender in formulating, monitoring, implementing and reviewing, as appropriate, national climate change policies, plans, strategies and action, including nationally determined contributions, national adaptation plans and national communications*

Parties, relevant organizations, national gender and climate change focal points and the UNFCCC secretariat must have the capacity to include SRHR in mainstreaming of gender across climate change policies, plans, strategies and action including the [National Adaptation Plans \(NAPs\)](#) and [Nationally Determined Contributions \(NDCs\)](#)

*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*

Parties, relevant organizations and the research community must contribute in strengthening the evidence base on the intersections between climate change and SRHR, including how the violation *and* realization of the full range of SRHR impacts women's and girls' opportunities in engaging in climate solutions and their role as agents of change.

*C.3 Strengthen coordination between the work on gender considerations of the subsidiary bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement and other relevant United Nations entities and processes, in particular the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as applicable*

The UNFCCC secretariat, Parties, constituted bodies and relevant organizations must aim to strengthen the coordination with [UNFPA](#) among others on the intersections between SRHR, gender equality and the climate crisis, and must use the existing data related to SRHR (SDGs 3, 5 and 13) as well as take into consideration how women's SRHR are impacted by the climate crisis with regard to other SDGs.



# National Gender and Climate Change Focal Points



# National Gender and Climate Change Focal Points

## **Decision 21/CP.22**

*Invites Parties to appoint and provide support for a national gender focal point for climate negotiations, implementation and monitoring*

## **Decision 3/CP.25**

*Encourages Parties to appoint and provide support for a national gender and climate change focal point for climate negotiations, implementation and monitoring;*

## **Decision 20/CP.26**

*Reminding Parties of its encouragement to appoint and provide support for a national gender and climate change focal point for climate negotiations, implementation and monitoring and noting that 94 countries have appointed such a focal point to date,*



## Status of NGCCFPs

- 94 Parties have appointed an NGCCFP
- All NGCCFPs contact information is listed publicly on the UNFCCC website
- NGCCFPs' remit and responsibilities vary by Party
- The UNFCCC Gender Team has led a series of needs assessments, capacity-building, and discussions since 2018 to explore and support this role



# NGCCFPs in the GAP

*Contributing to Activity A.1,  
strengthening capacity-building efforts  
for mainstreaming gender*

*Contributing to Activity A.2,  
discussing and clarifying the role of  
NGCCFPs*

*Contributing to Activity D.1,  
Share experience and support capacity-  
building on gender budgeting*

*Contributing to Activity D.6,  
Exchange information on lessons learned  
among Parties that have integrated  
gender into national climate policies,  
plans, strategies and action*

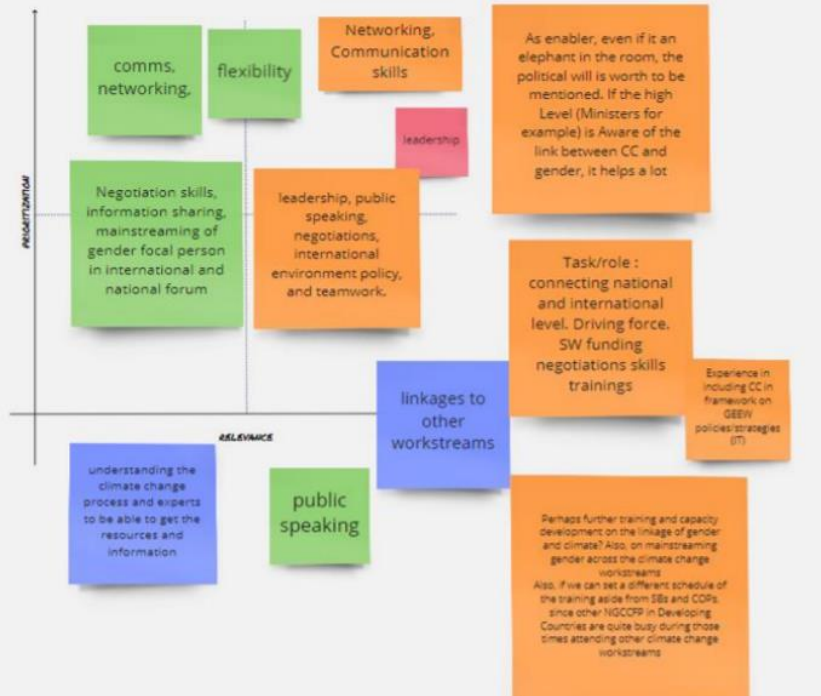


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# NGCCFP GAP Activity

Describe the type of skills and abilities needed to be successful in the role (work experience, language skills, computer/technology skills, education and knowledge background, etc)



*A.2 Discuss and clarify the role and the work of the national gender and climate change focal points, including through providing capacity-building, tools and resources, sharing experience and best practices, workshops, knowledge exchange, peer-to-peer learning, mentoring and coaching*

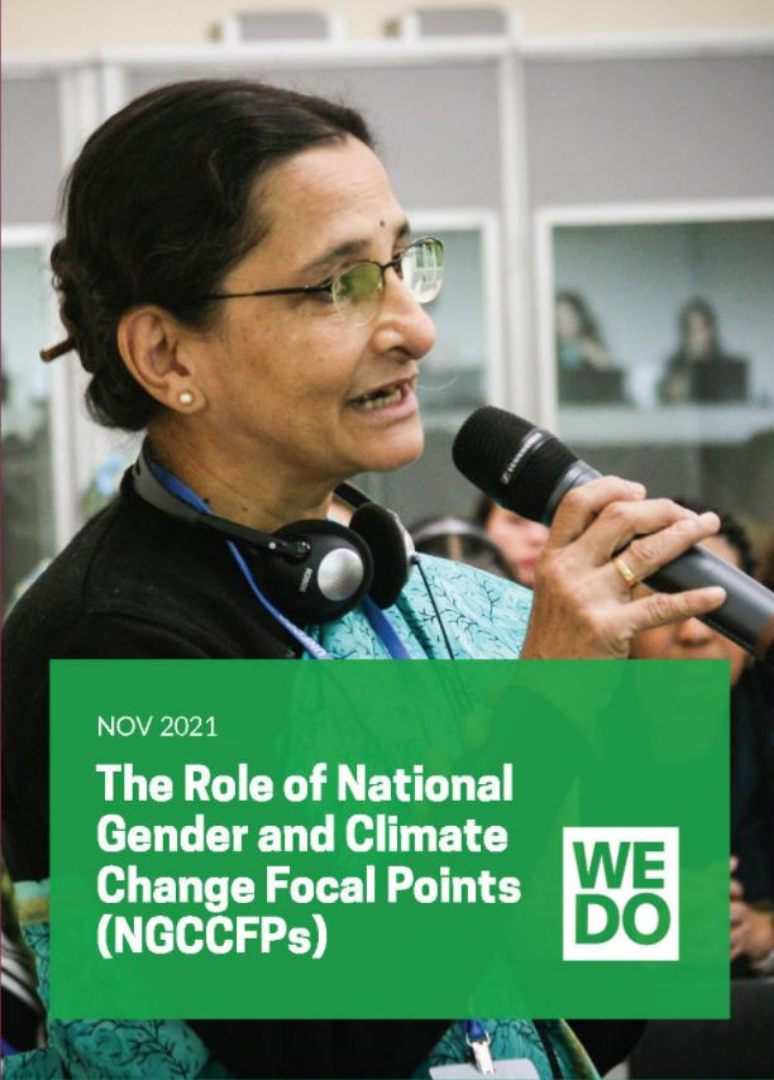
**Five virtual workshops in 2020**

**In-session workshop Nov 1 and 2 at COP26**

## Decision 20/CP.26

11. *Requests* the secretariat to prepare an informal summary report prior to the fifty-sixth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation reflecting clearly the proposed responsibilities of and support for national gender and climate change focal points to enable them to perform their role, taking into account the multifarious, evolving and Party-driven nature of the work and role of such focal points;

12. *Takes note* of the recommendations arising from the workshop on the role of national gender and climate change focal points and invites Parties to consider those recommendations and take action, as appropriate, to provide support for the focal points in undertaking their activities;



NOV 2021

## The Role of National Gender and Climate Change Focal Points (NGCCFPs)



# The Role of NGCCFPs

**Institutional arrangements matter.** The remit, direction, and overall set of activities possible for an NGCCFP is largely influenced by existing in-country institutional arrangements for coordinating gender and climate change, usually as two separate areas of work. As the NGCCFP bridges these areas, they must navigate systems that have not historically coordinated together, and do not often speak to each other.

**The NGCCFP role exists outside of one individual and can include a working body.** The co-NGCCFPs or NGCCFP team often bring different institutional backgrounds and experiences to the role and body of work, speaking to the variety of cross-sectoral work, multilevel facilitation of advocacy and representation in decision-making spaces, along with coordination and support for on-the-ground work.

**Party priorities shape the Terms of Reference.** Recognizing that Party priorities influence the key ToR responsibilities includes acknowledging that national priorities may exist outside of the Convention and can vary widely, from the desire to build and expand upon governance structures for efficient and effective public service to advancing a specific programme of work.

**Terms of Reference are not workplans.** A ToR should be revisited over time but should be general enough to encompass workplanning and programming...A ToR should be relevant to the role, not a particular individual, so that if an individual does transition, the scope of work work and responsibilities for the incoming NGCCFP is defined by the existing ToR, though ToRs may be updated periodically as appropriate.





# Gender in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)





# Gender in NDCs

WEDO has analyzed gender and related dimensions in first, updated, and second NDCs, featuring them in the Gender Climate Tracker (GCT), considering:

Participatory process

Monitoring/implementation mechanism

References to gender or women

- commitments to mitigation and/or adaptation
- women as a group that is vulnerable
- women as beneficiaries of projects or policies
- women as agents of change
- women as stakeholders
- gender-mainstreaming, sensitivity

September 2016



RESEARCH PAPER- Gender & Climate Change  
Analysis of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs)





## Progress since 2016

**Expectations Set:** Decision 4/CMA.1 outlines planning information that could be mentioned: "Domestic institutional arrangements, public participation and engagement with local communities and indigenous peoples, in a gender-responsive manner"

**Better Process:** Slight increase in participatory development process, during a pandemic, as well as monitoring and implementation information

**Greater Recognition:** More Parties are including a reference to women or gender, including Annex 1 countries

**Broader References:** How robustly gender is integrated continues to vary, but most NDCs that reference gender are doing so in a way that is cross-cutting and/or indicates gender mainstreaming, and there is greater likelihood of support for the principle of gender equality; very few gender references are limited to adaptation

*"Parties are increasingly recognizing gender integration as a means to enhance the ambition and effectiveness of their climate action."*

*– NDC Synthesis Report, September 2021*

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# Other NDC Analyses

## CARE's Report Card

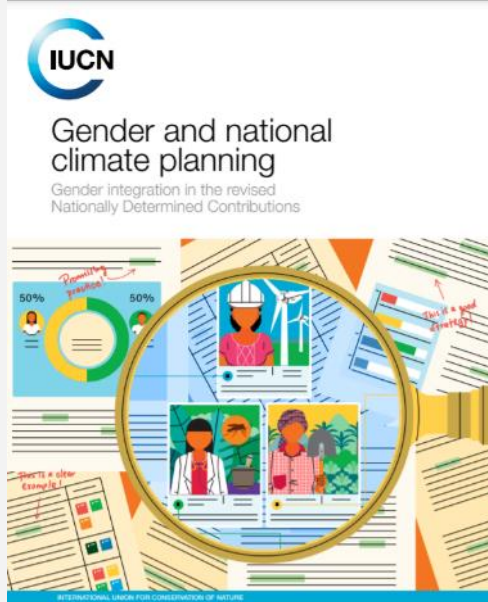
Using the GCT Methodology, CARE identifies role models in gender integration

## IUCN's Update on Gender Integration

*"The 20 Parties that did not include gender mentions in their updated NDCs emitted more than 3 times the amount of greenhouse gases (GHGs) as the 69 Parties that include gender."*

## Care about Climate's NDC Equity Tracker

- Analyzes over 20 NDCs, highlighting youth corps' unique knowledge of country-specific circumstances, elevating voices frequently underrepresented
- Produces concrete recommendations for how countries can improve their commitments, and provides an international platform to highlight the experiences of vulnerable populations



Gender in the NDCs

## NDC Equity Tracker

Care about Climate's NDC Equity Tracker provides both a platform and key education structures for international youth to develop local analysis, criticism, and suggestions for growth on their countries' Nationally Determined Contributions (or NDCs).





# SRHR in NDCs

## Key Findings

Six out of the 50 NDCs included references to aspects of SRHR but there is scope for greater and more meaningful inclusion of the full range of SRHR.

Sexual and reproductive health and rights is a cross-cutting issue and should receive a stronger focus in climate policy and programming.

An intersectional approach that explicitly considers existing barriers and inequalities will best promote the full realization of SRHR with corresponding benefits for climate adaptation and resilience.



## SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS IN NATIONAL CLIMATE POLICY

A REVIEW OF 50 NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTION DOCUMENTS



# Opportunities for Engagement



# Become a Gender Climate Tracker

Submit resources to be featured on the GCT website!



## Become a Gender Climate Tracker

Share your relevant documents and publications related to a specific country or region, including regional, national, and local action plans, linking gender equality and climate change.



# Reach out to National Gender and Climate Change Focal Points

Does your Party have an NGCCFP?

→ If so, use the public directory to identify and reach out to them!

→ If not, advocate for the appointment of an NGCCFP!



## What should I know about gender equality in new and updated NDCs?

**NDCs = Nationally Determined Contributions**  
aka commitments of each individual country towards the climate action goals of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement



**Advocacy for gender responsive climate action** is crucial in the upcoming months as countries deliver new and updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) until COP26, expected to take place at the end of this year. Real ambition would urgently bridge the current gap in pledges and the dire predictions of the latest IPCC report, while simultaneously addressing the Sustainable Development Goals and including actions for building resilience and adapting to climate change impacts.

Ambitious climate action does not only refer to emission reduction targets but also to ensuring that through those targets the transformation of economies and societies is achieved in a feminist way, leaving no one behind. The accelerating timeline of worsening climate impacts on lives, livelihoods, biodiversity, and ecosystem functioning marks this as the last chance for countries to

make their ambition reflective of the promises to aim towards keeping warming under 1.5 degrees while respecting human rights.

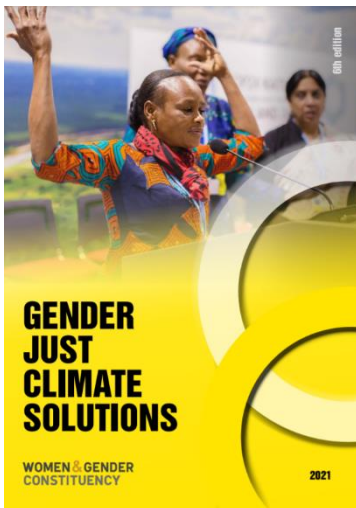
### Gender issues were not adequately reflected in the first round of NDCs :

- In total 64 of 190 NDCs included a reference to women or gender;
- All 64 countries that included a gender reference were non-Annex I (developing) countries;
- Women or gender were most commonly mentioned in relation to adaptation (27 countries), followed by mitigation (12 countries);
- 22 countries, however, referred to women or gender as a cross-cutting issue mainstreamed across several sectors.

# Engage with the NDC Process

WGC Advocacy Brief (2021) highlights what you need to know to engage with your national NDC process:

- What should I know about gender equality in new and updated NDCs?
- What are Nationally Determined Contributions?
- What rules does the Katowice climate package (rulebook) give about gender & NDCs?
- Where can I find more information on NDCs?
- How does the UNFCCC Gender Action Plan support gender-responsive NDCs?
- How do I learn more and do more?
- What should I look for when analyzing my country's NDC?



### Key Demands for COP26

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As feminists, gender equality and women's rights advocates from around the world—led by and accountable to the demands of frontlines, indigenous and grassroots leaders—the Women and Gender Constituency have outlined below our key demands for the outcomes of COP26.

We share these views in the reality of a world of ever increasing climate impacts and disasters, where a global pandemic has worked to deepen gross inequalities between and within countries and to further exacerbate inequalities and force millions into greater poverty and instability, especially in the Global South.

While the science is clear on the devastating impacts of failing to keep warming below 1.5 degrees, countries' current emissions reductions targets are woefully inadequate to meet the promises of Paris—nor are we close to the US\$100 billion per year in climate finance promised from Copenhagen. At the same time, in 2020 and 2021 a record number of environmental human rights defenders working to protect the environment and marginalized people's rights were murdered—losing their lives while trying to protect the planet, other species and ourselves.

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WGC | @wgc\_climate | #WomenConstituency | #GenderJusticeNow



# Engage with the WGC on the road to COP27

To receive all information about on-going activities and meetings, join the WGC advocacy list.

All UNFCCC non-governmental observer organizations can join the WGC as official members!

Get involved in:

- the communication team during UNFCCC meetings (for actions, media, and many more)
- ad-hoc working groups on specific topics
- WGC experts for specific UNFCCC meetings
- technical advocacy (e.g., writing submissions and interventions)
- mentoring new and young feminists
- facilitating trainings and meetings
- Gender-Just Climate Solutions' jury



# Four Upcoming UNFCCC Submissions :GAP

Submissions are opportunities for organizations to submit their input on a topic. The WGC may organize joint submissions.

## **Activity A.4** (and [Decision 20/CP.26, para. 9](#))

31 March 2022

To 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, parties, relevant organizations and the research community are invited to share submissions on dimensions and examples of the gender-differentiated impacts of climate change; the role of women as agents of change; and opportunities for women.

## [Decision 20/CP.26, para. 3](#)

31 March 2022

Information on the progress of implementation of the activities contained in the gender action plan, areas for improvement and further work to be undertaken, including, as appropriate, information on the multidimensional impacts of the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic on progress, and consideration of other diverse challenges that may impact future implementation of the gender action plan at all levels.

## **Activity D.1**

31 July 2022

Share experience and support capacity-building on gender budgeting, including on the integration of gender-responsive budgeting into national budgets to advance gender-responsive climate policies, plans, strategies and action, as appropriate.

## **Activity D.5**

Ongoing call to COP 30

For the five years of the LWPG and GAP, Parties and observers are invited to share information on engaging women's groups and national women and gender institutions in the process of developing, implementing and updating climate policies, plans, strategies and action, as appropriate, at all levels.



# Contact Information

## Websites

<https://unfccc.int/gender>

[www.genderclimatetracker.org](http://www.genderclimatetracker.org)

[www.womengenderclimate.org](http://www.womengenderclimate.org)

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# Discussion

