



Women's Environment & Development Organization

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The Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO)¹ encourages Parties to assess the differential needs of women and men in order to truly account for long term climate financing needs of various Parties. Recognizing the barriers to climate finance, WEDO also encourages Parties to consider gender equality in creating enabling environments for climate finance as making these funds equitably accessible to men and women will be critical to implementing adaptation and mitigation actions.

Gender Equality in Needs Assessment

The report of the co-chairs of the Long Term Financing Workshops recommend that the climate finance needs assessment should be integrated into the ongoing work programmes of the various bodies under the Convention, many of which include gender equality in their principles or gender equality criteria and/or approaches in their work plans. Therefore, it will be important for parties to assess the differential needs of men and women. Particularly, para 44 of the report states that estimates of adaptation financing needs is more challenging than for mitigation because of high degrees of uncertainty and lack of good methods and tools to assess vulnerability. Given women and girls' vulnerability to climate change it will important to employ methodologies that are able to appropriately collect and assess data on women and girls' differential needs to finance adaptation mechanisms that properly address their needs. Also, as para 46 (e) states the engagement of multiple stakeholders is key to needs assessments; this is especially true for women's civil society stakeholders as well as women and gender national machineries.

Gender Equality and Enhancing Enabling Environments

The co-chairs' report points to various activities that can help to enhance countries' enabling environments in order to reduce barriers to climate finance. In doing so, it will also be important to reduce barriers to accessing finance for those populations that most need it, often women and children. In enhancing enabling environments, Parties should consider cross-sectoral enablers including gender equality that will improve accessibility of climate finance to both adapt to and mitigate climate change. Particularly, para 75 of the report discusses tracking of climate finance at the international and national levels to understand how developed countries are channeling their climate finance in a comparable way and also how finance is used within countries. The monitoring, reporting, verification and evaluation of how the finance is used can be done in a gender-sensitive way to account for how climate finance is impacting and addressing the differential needs of women and girls in country. As the report states, civil society involvement in MRV & E will be critical in climate finance accountability.

As Parties continue to develop methodologies and innovations to bring climate finance to 100bn/year by 2020, it will be important to consider gender sensitive approaches to needs assessments and enabling environments in order to effectively use financing for climate change adaptation and mitigation.

¹ For more information please contact WEDO Advocacy Coordinator, Rachel Harris, at rachel@wedo.org.