

# Gender mainstreaming in adaptation to climate change in Rwanda



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#### Dancilla Mukakamari

- National FP of REFADD /African Women Network for Sustainable Development
- Resource Person of GGCA/Global Gender and Climate Alliance
- National Coordinator of ARECO-RWANDA NZIZA / Association Rwandaise des Ecologistes



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Like in other LDCs, women in Rwanda are more affected by CC effects;

Women are the majority of the population (53%) and the poorest heading 30% of households;

- Almost 86% of women are enrolled in agriculture which supports livelihoods for over 80% the population and remains the most vulnerable to CC(fertility deterioration, flooding, droughts,....);
- Women, key actors in other vulnerable sectors: energy, water, sanitation, heath,...
- A lot has been done but more efforts are needed for effective integration of gender



# National framework and gender mainstreaming in adaptation



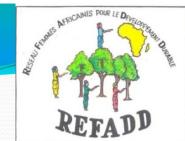
- □The national legal, policy, strategic planning and governance framework indicates good references:
- ➤ the national constitution provides at least 30% of women in decision making organs. It states that every citizen is entitled to a healthy and satisfying environment, and every person has the duty to protect, safeguard and promote the environment
- ✓ Women in decision making: 56% of MPs, 47% of Cabinet and state ministers, 50% of Permanent Secretaries/ministries;....
- ✓ Women heading key departments for gender and adaptation: <u>Ministries</u>: gender, agriculture, health, disaster management, energy and water;

<u>Authorities</u>: environment&CC, forestry, gender monitoring;



### National policy framework

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- Strategic planning mechanisms: Vision 2020 and Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy(EDPRS) taking gender, environment and CC as cross cutting
- Gender responsive sectoral policies and strategies:
- ✓ The National Gender Policy aimed at gender mainstreaming and women empowerment for equal rights and opportunities
- ✓ The National Agriculture Policy and Agriculture transformation Strategy aimed increasing agriculture production and income generation
- ✓ The agriculture gender strategy aimed at to ensure gender equality and to redress the existing disparities in the sector,
- Other sectoral policies and strategies: environment, water &sanitation, energy, forestry, health, decentralization, land,



### National policy framework

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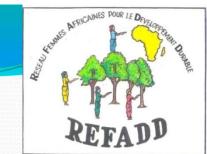


- ✓ The Decentralisation policy through District Development Plans(DDPs) and Performance contracts called "IMIHIGO"
- ✓ The land policy has the ambition to guarantee equal rights on land tenure for every user of the land especially women;
- ✓ The Organic Laws on the use and management of land (2005), and the law regarding Matrimonial Regimes gives to women the right to inherit land as men (1999);
- National gender budgeting;
- NAPA developped based on the vulnerability of sectors;
- ➤ Key Institutions: Ministries and Authorities in charge of gender and women empowerment, ENR, agriculture, health, energy, disaster management; National Women council, Districts, Gender Clusters, Gender FP, Development partners

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# Some Achievements and opportunities

- □Programs and projects initiated to mitigate impacts of CC, poverty alleviation and gender equality involve at least 30% of women: LDCF project, VUP for terracing, tree planting and other intensive (HIMO)works;
- □ Pilot projects involving women: Biogaz energy through one Cow/one family, rainwater harvesting, cooking stoves,....
- ☐ Financing schemes: FONERWA, Women guarantee fund and other Savings and Creditsopportunities (SACCO, COPEDU,...)
- Early warning initiation through AAP project





### Main gaps and challenges



- Lack of gender references in the national NAPA;
- Insufficient baseline information and indicators on specific vulnerabilities and adaptation mesures;
- Issue of disaggregated data at all levels and some data not updated;
- Low level of stakeholder participation in NAPA development process especially departments in charge of gender and women empowerment(Ministry, authorities, CSOs, Private sector,...)
- □ The NAPA process was not decentralized to local structures and most vulnerable communities to consider their views;
- Insufficient knowledge on the link between gender and adaptation to CC;
- ☐ Issue of coordination, planning and monitoring/evaluation

#### Conclusion and recommendations

Gender mainstreaming in adaptation is the way to reach MDGs. The GoR and partners should work hand in hand to ensure effective integration of gender in adaptation strategies, programs and projects.

#### **Recommendations:**

- Development baseline and vulnerability indicators;
- Development of gender strategy for each key sector;
- Development of short, medium and long term National Action Plans with attention on specificities of involved groups and sectors;
- Capacity building and advocacy on gender mainstreaming and increase of coordination between sectors;
- Increasing financing opportunities for women;
- Increasing collaboration with stakeholders

