

As the February 18, 2015 submissions will contribute directly to the priorities and outcomes of the SBI 42 Gender Workshop on Mitigation and Technology development and transfer, in June 2015, **we would invite you to consider addressing the following questions as part of your submission:**

1. **PRACTICE** - What actions have you taken to implement gender equality in your national climate change policy and practice, especially in mitigation, technology development and technology transfer?

Women Environmental Programme (WEP) implemented the following actions:

Capacity Building for Women Farmers in Rural Communities in Benue and Kebbi States for Knowledge Dissemination and Innovative Farming Practices – to combat food security due to the fast rate of desert encroachment in the northern region. This project was supported by Global Environment Facility.

Capacity Building on the use of Fuel Efficiency Woodstoves – In other to reduce deforestation WEP built the capacities of some rural women across the 11 frontline states in northern Nigeria targeted by the Great Green Wall project. The stoves constructed with stones or mud blocks and clay soil to cover. It took about 30 minutes to construct one stove, which had a small opening feed with wood to burn. The stoves were discovered to save on average 40% of cooking time and firewood than when using the open wood stoves to cook the same meals. The open woodstoves wastes about 60% of fuel wood which has devastating effect on women health. The project was supported by the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development.

Enhancing Energy Security and Rural Entrepreneurship: Capacity Building of Rural Women on Solar Dryers – The project is an intervention aimed at catalyzing, promoting and supporting an expansion of renewable energy services to support private sector led economic development. WEP was supported by Irish Aid in Benue State Nigeria to address the energy crisis using one of the renewable energy sources called solar dryer. The objective is to promote rural women entrepreneurs, using modern energy services as an instrument for efficient drying of farm harvest at low cost, reduce post-harvest losses, low pollutant source of energy to dry agricultural products and promote food security. The targets are rural women farmers.

2. **BEST PRACTICES AND CASE STUDIES** – Are there any best practices or case studies of activities undertaken to promote gender equality and gender responsiveness under mitigation / technology development and transfer that you would like to highlight?

Capacity Building on the use of Fuel Efficiency Woodstoves – This project aimed at reducing deforestation and desert encroachment in 11 frontline states in northern Nigeria under the Great Green Wall project. This is a best practice on gender responsiveness under mitigation and adaptation to climate change by way of constructing fuel efficient woodstoves with local materials that is within the reach of rural women as well as reduce their exposure to health related diseases from black carbon, gender based violence, etc.

3. **CHALLENGES** - What challenges have you faced in implementing gender-sensitive climate policy and in pursuing gender balance in the UNFCCC regime?

- Lack of funding and complex requirements for eligible participation to access climate change related funds
- Lack of technical know-how in implementing gender-sensitive climate policy programmes and activities
- Lack of and poor representation of gender needs and capacity to negotiation within the UNFCCC regime to address gender needs and Africa

- Limited number of women working on environmental issues and climate change in Africa. This affects the level of gender-responsive initiatives to combat climate change issues
- Unsustainable cultural practices to agricultural farming
- Poor level of sensitization at the grassroots on climate change and gender

4. NEEDS - What tools, resources, or training would be most valuable to better support and facilitate your progress towards gender-sensitive climate policy, especially with regard to measures and programs relating to mitigation action and technology development and transfer?

- Training on technological development and transfer of renewable energy solutions for mitigation and adaptation
- Review and update of policy documents that are not climate change gender and responsive
- Training on sustainable development practice and application within the context of developing countries
- Mapping of existing and traditional knowledge of adaptation strategies in developing countries for knowledge transfer
- Gender specific tool to ensure compliance, monitoring and evaluation progress on climate change
- Funding opportunities to implement programmes and actions to achieve the overall goal of gender-sensitive climate policy
- Technological training for gender responsiveness to climate change in Africa
- Adequate representation and space of African women in climate change meetings
- Capacity building for African women on negotiation skills, understanding and applicability of legal languages in meetings, discussions on climate change related issues.
- Provision of scholarships to assist women and young girls to acquire education on environmental issues especially climate change and development.