



## Submission for Gender Responsive Climate Policy

### Solidaritas Perempuan

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Solidaritas Perempuan/SP (Women's Solidarity of Human Rights) is a feminist organization established in 1990 based in Jakarta, Indonesia, which consistently fighting for gender justice and defending women's rights of the grassroots women on the issues of conflict over natural resources and climate change, food sovereignty, migration and trafficking, and pluralism and religion politicization. SP is an individual based membership organization, with 720 members spread all over Indonesia in 10 communities/branches in Aceh, Palembang (South Sumatera), Yogyakarta, Jabotabek, Sumbawa and Mataram (West Nusa Tenggara), Makassar (South Sulawesi), Palu and Poso (Central Sulawesi) and Kendari (South East Sulawesi).

### Preface

Women in Indonesia, like women in most developing countries are facing social, economic, political and cultural barriers that limit their access to and control over resources, capacities and decision making. That barriers that comes from the existing `patriarchal system and cultural that form a gender construction that domesticate women and placed women in the reproductive and domestic sphere that considered to have not economic role and therefore are not taken into account. Their gender role that created an unequal relation between men and women then also excludes women from information and decision making processes. Their situation, problems, and particular needs and interests are hidden. These situations make women to be marginalized, more vulnerable to be rights violated, and become victims of gender injustices.

The climate crisis then prolonged the gender injustices faced by women. Although, in general, the impact of climate change are felt equally by the society - men and women. However, the greatest impact is certainly felt by women where women are not only thinking about agricultural issues with inconsistent income, resulting from climate changes. Women also have to think hard to get the economy for family needs. Climate changes had affected agriculture is the number of women who must leave the village to look for additional work with uncertain time, if the rainy season come. Some of the women also work as labor in the oil palm plantation, domestic worker, or migrant worker. Not only in terms of economy. Health problems became the greatest impact felt by women.

Their gender role as well as their relation and dependency to nature make women more vulnerable to the effects of climate change. The responsibility to secure water, food, and other family needs, then unequal access to resources and to decision-making processes, limited mobility places women in rural areas in a position where they are disproportionately affected by climate change. On the other hand, women are not only vulnerable to climate change but they are also effective actors or agents of change in relation to both mitigation and adaptation. Women often have a strong body of knowledge and expertise that can be used in climate change

mitigation, disaster reduction and adaptation strategies. Women continue to develop initiatives to respond to and prevent climate change situation, individually and collectively. Various initiatives were made by women in the community in responding to and preventing climate change situation, ranging from finding new ways to farm, manage and utilize forest products without destroying their habitat. Furthermore, women's responsibilities in households and communities, as stewards of natural and household resources, positions them well to contribute to livelihood strategies adapted. It is thus important to identify gender-sensitive strategies to respond to the environmental and humanitarian crises caused by climate change.(52<sup>nd</sup> session of the Commission on the Status of Women (2008) "Gender perspectives on climate change" - UN Women Factsheet on Women, Gender Equality and Climate Change, 2009)

Unfortunately, women's initiatives in response to the situation has not been fully recognized by the government, even there is no allocation of funds specifically for women in response to climate change. Governments are developing policies and mitigation projects that threaten and restrict women's access to and control over their natural resources. Government policies and mitigation projects are not ensure the protection of women's rights in the management of natural resources.

Protection of women's rights have not become a principle in policy development and climate projects. Though the facts have shown that women are vulnerable to climate change situation, but the fact also indicates that women have had the initiative to respond to the climate change situation. As an effort to maintain and protect the initiatives, it is necessary to build a mechanism for the protection of women's rights both in adaptation, mitigation and climate finance to ensure the protection of women's rights.

COP 20 in Lima, Peru has agreed on **Lima Work Program on Gender** that gives mandates to set gender-responsive climate policies on all focus within climate change and request secretariat of UNFCCC prepare material for consideration as mention in the para 11-12 of the Lima Work Program on Gender, therefore Solidaritas Perempuan find it importance to submit our submission related to the principles and requirement for Gender responsive climate policy, both on mitigation and adaptation, as well as on capacity building and technology development and transfer.

Gender Responsive Climate Policy should apply and integrate the gender justice perspectives, which are integrating the gender inclusive, sensitive and responsive principles, defines as follows:

- Inclusiveness defines as a principle that women are represented not only physically but include their particular needs and interest, and that women's views, knowledge, and experiences are included and take into account in all processes, in particularly decision-making process
- Sensitive defines as a principle that predicate the awareness of particular needs and interest of women based on their social, political, economic and cultural situation of women in the existing gender construction and in regards of their views, knowledge and experiences.
- Responsive defines as a principle that predicate the need to be responsive to the gender construction that differentiates social roles and responsibilities amongst women and men

in the community, by taking special measures to ensure that women are the subjects of each and every process of decision-making and that women's views, knowledge, and experiences become the basis of decision-making with the full involvement and participation of women.

Gender Responsive Climate Policy should sets:

1. Gender safeguard for all climate action as requirements for approval, which based on the principles of inclusiveness, sensitive and responsive regarding information, consultation and participation, consent, grievance, safety and security in all stages from planning, preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, in order to protect and guarantee women's access and control over natural resources management and the environment as their space and source of livelihood.
2. Gender disaggregated data and gender differentiated analysis (situation, risks and impacts) in and as basis of all climate actions and initiatives, taking into account the social, political, economic and cultural situation of women and their particularities
3. Proactive approach and mechanism to ensure meaningful participation and involvement of women in decision-making, inter alia provide and facilitate a safe space for women to discuss and have meetings prior to a decision-making process, by ensuring that women have equal understanding of information; as well as integrate the views, knowledge and experiences of women as considerations in making decision.
4. An allocation of Gender budget within all climate action and initiatives to address the vulnerabilities of women from climate change impact which has been exacerbated by the gender injustices and marginalization of women that occurs due the unequal power relation between men and women within the society, among others for capacity building, women's empowerment for participation and control over public decision making, including to provide a safe space for women.
5. A Priority funding portfolio for local/indigenous community women initiatives to encourage and strengthen initiatives based on local wisdom and traditional knowledge of women, in response to the climate crisis, including in climate mitigation action, that can be access directly by women, with a simplification of requirements, including requirements in regards to administration, and by providing allocation/grant for capacity building on planning and preparation phase.

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