



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

UNFCCC Secretariat
Martin-Luther-King-Strasse 8
D 53153 Bonn
Germany

February, 2015

I. Background

1. At the Twentieth Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP- 20) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (Lima, December 2015), Parties adopted the Lima Work Programme on Gender, which aims to advance implementation of existing gender mandates across all areas of the climate negotiations. Parties are encouraged to actively engage in the development of the two year work programme on gender, including, submitting views on the matters to be addressed at an in-session workshop on gender-responsive climate policy related to mitigation action and technology development and transfer. The workshop is scheduled during the Forty-second Session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (June 2015)¹.
2. In response to this invitation, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) welcomes the opportunity to provide this submission to address practical suggestions on the organization, as well as, sharing experiences at the global, national and community levels, best practices and policy implementation gaps, which could inform the content of the in-session workshop on gender-responsive climate policy related to mitigation action and technology development and transfer. UNDP looks forward to working within the UNFCCC process and partnering with other interested agencies and organizations to provide this critical support.

II. Responding to the invitation made by the COP in Lima

3. UNDP puts specific emphasis on utilizing a multi-pronged approach in its climate change and environment work in promoting gender balance, women's empowerment and gender sensitive policy and programming at all levels. At the global level, UNDP has worked successfully with partners in the Global Gender and Climate Alliance (GGCA) to integrate gender equality

¹ As stated in paragraph 11 of the decision: *Requests the secretariat to organize an in-session workshop on gender-responsive climate policy with a focus on mitigation action and technology development and transfer during the forty-second session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (June 2015); and prepare a report on the workshop for consideration at its forty-third session (November–December 2015);*



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

principles into global climate change policy dialogue and climate finance structures. At the national level, UNDP supports governments to integrate gender sensitive and women's empowerment principles into decision making and policy. At the local level, UNDP is also engaging directly with communities to reduce vulnerabilities of women and empower them as agents of change. Many lessons are emerging from our work, across several regions and in different contexts, of effective approaches and valuable results achieved when engaging women's groups. In this regard, UNDP along with its national counterparts has collected relevant experiences that could provide a significant reference in supporting training actions.

4. This submission draws upon concrete, replicable examples and practical tools that have been leveraged through UNDP at all levels, to actively incorporate gender considerations in mitigation programming. It should be noted, the ideas and proposals contained in this submission are open to be refined and broadened so as to make them universally beneficial in the goal of supporting gender responsive programming.
5. At the global level, UNDP along with its partners from the GGCA and the UNFCCC Secretariat has been supporting the integration of gender equality in the climate negotiations processes and into the policy and governance structures of key climate finance mechanisms, such as the Green Climate Fund. Moreover, GGCA Programme Partners have been supporting general awareness among UNFCCC delegates of the gender dimensions of climate change and providing technical and financial support to facilitate women delegates' leadership and participation as representatives of their national governments through the Women's Delegates Fund.
6. At the national level, through the UNDP Low Emission Capacity Building (LECB) Programme – a global mitigation programme active in 25 countries - a step-by-step guide has been developed to help practitioners incorporate gender-sensitive considerations into low-emission development planning and implementation². This practical guide provides suggested entry points for gender mainstreaming and is accompanied by a comprehensive 'Toolkit'³ which provides users with hands-on resources to accompany the process of gender inclusion. It also provides first-hand data on how to operationalize and incorporate gender considerations that simultaneously support national low-carbon commitments.

This guideline is already being applied under the LECB Programme. For example, in Bhutan under the LECB Programme the government is undertaking the design of NAMAs and LEDS in

² See: http://www.lowemissiondevelopment.org/docs/LECB_Information_Brief_-_Incorporating_Gender_Considerations.pdf

³ See: http://www.lowemissiondevelopment.org/docs/LECB_Incorporating_Gender_Considerations_-_Resource_Toolkit.pdf



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

the sector of transport, waste and industry. Given the perception in Bhutan that gender disparities are considered low (due in most part to the country's matriarchal tradition which gives women equal status in the eyes of the law), stakeholders in Bhutan had not initially considered assessing GHG emissions reductions through a gender lens. However, this initial skepticism gave way to solid action as stakeholders received training to apply a rapid gender needs assessment and identified numerous gender issues in the transport, housing and waste sectors. As a result of the gender needs assessment a number of entry points and key needs were identified to address gender concerns and speed up progress towards the stated national climate goals. This serves as just one example of how gender considerations may be addressed, and subsequently incorporated in climate mitigation actions.

7. At the community level, a number of project activities are being implemented which provide concrete examples of valuable gender-sensitive approaches for linking mitigation/renewable energy actions and technology development and transfer. For example, the Canada-UNDP Climate Change Adaptation Facility (CCAF) is a global project which incorporates six national projects all contributing to strengthening climate-resilient approaches to agriculture and water management, with an emphasis on gender-sensitive approaches. While this programme is focused on adaptation action in LDCs, it also showcases some interesting ways to integrate adaptation with mitigation/renewable energy actions and technology development and transfer. In most of these countries water access and agricultural practices are intricately tied to energy needs (e.g. for transportation, pumping water or processing food). Further, many of the most vulnerable communities are located in remote, rural areas where they do not have access to the main energy grids. Therefore, new technologies, which promote renewable energy systems that are available off the grid (e.g. solar or wind), are valuable win-win solutions that also contribute to development outcomes.

For example, in **Cambodia**, the project aims to reduce the vulnerability of agriculture to changing availability of freshwater. In order to improve water access, the project has supported over 1400 households in 37 villages through the construction of new water supply technologies. This includes the establishment of 35 solar pumping systems which use low-emission technology to solve the chronic problem of water shortage they have faced in the past. With the water available through the pumps, particularly in the dry season, many villagers are now able to diversify their livelihood to grow vegetables on small gardens near their home. This is particularly important for women, who are often left at home while the men go to the rice fields or migrate to other areas for work when the rice crop is not doing well due to unpredictable rainfall. Women are also responsible for fetching water, which in the past has taken time away from doing their own gardening. With the new solar pumps, concrete results are being seen on



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

livelihoods. For example, Ms. Roun March, in Preah Vihear, began growing vegetables around her house in Thoamachiet village in Preah Vihear province about a year ago, with the support of the solar water pumps introduced by the project. She now not only can feed her family with the vegetables, but makes an average of 20,000 riel (US\$5) a day from the vegetable sales to a local market.

A further example is in **Pakistan**, where UNDP has supported energy efficient cooking, heating and housing technologies, leading to fuel wood consumption falling by more than 50% in the concerned households freeing up valuable disposable income, improving indoor air quality, and allowing women and children to spend more time on productive activities such as education. Energy efficient and housing improvement products have been installed in 2,610 households and an additional 14,331 households have since adopted these measures. In total, 64 kilotons of fuel wood has been saved and approximately 118,000 tonnes of CO2 emissions avoided. This project has had numerous positive outcomes on mitigation and gender, reducing deforestation by reducing wood burning and reducing the exposure of women and children to hazardous indoor air pollution. In addition, village resource persons, 90% of whom are women, have earned a livelihood through the promotion and sale of the cook stoves and more than 20 local enterprises now have the capacity to manufacture and install energy efficient products, providing a boost to the local economy

8. Paragraphs 5, 6 and 7 are just a few examples that draw on UNDP's vast climate change portfolio, providing support at the global level for governments to engage in the UNFCCC negotiation process, at the national level in helping implement the mechanisms of the convention (e.g. through NAPs, NAMAs, LEDs and National Communications) and implementing activities on both adaptation and mitigation in over 140 countries. Our expertise in this area can act as an important source of technical guidance and advice on good practice in integrating gender considerations, as well as guidance on potential entry points and opportunities for scaled up gender action. In this regard, UNDP will strengthen the capacity of the National Communications Support Programme and member countries in integrating gender equality as an entry point to advance gender responsive policymaking processes.
9. Through this extensive experience, the vast tools and guidance developed, and our rich knowledge base, UNDP hopes to serve as a resource, supporting the Secretariat in its development and implementation of the Lima Work Programme on Gender.



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

10. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) thanks the Conference of the Parties and the Secretariat for the opportunity to suggest concrete examples and resources for the in-session workshop's agenda that can then be up-scaled to be used more widely and to contribute with examples and experiences. Moreover, UNDP recognizes the value of the Lima Work Programme on Gender and congratulates the UNFCCC for advancing gender-responsive actions and promote awareness-raising and capacity-building efforts.



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

Annex: UNDP Publications

The following publications are an additional source of good practice examples and guidance from UNDP to inform the Lima Work Programme's work on mitigation and technology transfer

1. **"Incorporating Gender-Sensitive Considerations Into Low Emission Development and Planning"**
http://www.lowemissiondevelopment.org/docs/LECB_Information_Brief_-_Incorporating_Gender_Considerations.pdf
2. **"Incorporating Gender-Sensitive Considerations Into Low Emission Development and Planning: A Resource Toolkit"**
<http://web.undp.org/gef/document/UNDP-GEF%20Gender%20Report%202012.pdf>
3. **"Low Emission Capacity Building Bhutan Case Study":**
<http://www.lowemissiondevelopment.org/case-studies/bhutan>
4. **Global Good Practice on Integrating Gender Targets in LEDS and NAMAs:**
<http://www.mitigationpartnership.net/gpa/integrating-gender-targets-leds-and-namas>
5. **"Gender in Action: Report of UNDP Supported GEF Actions" :**
<http://web.undp.org/gef/document/UNDP-GEF%20Gender%20Report%202012.pdf>
6. **"2013 UNDP GEF Annual Report"** *(see page 26 onwards for Gender)*
http://web.undp.org/gef/document/APR_2013_UNDP_GEF_13MAY2014.pdf