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

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Submission by the United Nations Development Programme on the development of the in-session workshop on gender-responsive climate policy with a focus on adaptation and capacity building, and training for delegates on gender issues

I. Background

1. 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 local levels, best practices and policy implementation gaps, which could inform the content of the in-session workshop on adaptation and capacity building, and training for delegates on gender issues. UNDP looks forward to working within the UNFCCC process and partnering with other interested agencies and organizations to provide this critical support.
2. As the UN's global development network, UNDP works with countries to achieve their own solutions to global and national development challenges in the face of a changing climate. UNDP is one of the largest service providers in the UN system on climate change and our \$2.3 billion climate change portfolio of mitigation and adaptation projects supports over 140 countries to transition toward zero-carbon, resilient, and sustainable development. UNDP draws upon its decades of experience in delivering results under the Global Environment Facility (GEF) managed funds, Adaptation Fund (AF), Green Climate Fund (GCF), UN-REDD Programme and other global and bilateral programming. Our climate change portfolio focuses on integrated climate strategies, cross-sectoral climate resilient livelihoods, climate information and early warning systems, ecosystem-based adaptation, resilient water management, food security, promoting access to clean and affordable energy services, promoting low emission and climate resilient urban and transport infrastructure and access to new finance mechanisms.
3. UNDP has both a global and bottom-up approach to addressing climate change. We provide on-the-ground technical assistance through all of the mechanisms of the UNFCCC as well as support to global dialogues that address climate change issues, such as the Financing for Development and Agenda 2030. Recognizing the significant challenge that climate change presents to



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developing countries, UNDP has placed climate change at the heart of its 2014-17 Strategic Plan, including output indicators on adaptation, mitigation, energy, and disaster risk reduction. This will help better position UNDP to implement action on the ground in developing countries that tackles climate change, advances poverty reduction and promotes sustainable development, in line with advancing gender equality and women's empowerment.

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

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 adaptation and capacity building programming. It should be noted, the ideas and proposals contained in this submission are open to be explored, refined and broadened so as to make them universally beneficial in the goal of supporting gender responsive programming.
5. 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 responsive 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 principles into global climate change policy dialogue and climate finance structures. At the national level, UNDP supports governments to integrate gender responsive 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.
6. UNDP has a substantial portfolio of adaptation interventions with a growing evidence base of successful adaptation measures as interventions mature. In other words, interventions need to be designed and grown based on lessons learned and tailored to specific national and local vulnerabilities. This customization of approaches applies to incorporating gender concerns in UNDPs climate change adaptation programs as well. One key area is capturing and measuring the gender impact of adaptation interventions, through incorporation of tools such as the gender marker.
7. 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



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into the policy and governance structures of key climate finance mechanisms, such as the Green Climate Fund and the Global Environment Facility. Moreover, UNDP has been developing capacity building tools to strengthen gender integration into relevant global support programmes, such as the Global Support Programme for National Communications and Biennial Update Reports and the Low Emissions Capacity Building Programme.

8. At the national level, through the UNDP-UNEP National Adaptation Plan – Global Support Programme (NAP-GSP), funded by the GEF-LDCF and GEF-SCCF, least developed countries and other developing countries are provided technical assistance in advancing their national adaptation plan processes. Within UNDP, a strong collaboration between the UNDP programme team and gender advisors has been forged, to ensure that this assistance incorporates gender concerns. A training module on gender mainstreaming into adaptation planning is under development. This module will be part of the GIZ-UNDP-UNITAR training package on NAP, which is delivered in requesting countries. It will help increase the awareness and capacities of senior technical staff of ministries and civil society on the link between gender and adaptation and how to enhance gender equality through the NAP process and advance gender-responsive policymaking processes.
9. Further, as part of the Government of Germany (BMUB) funded programme on “Integrating agriculture into the NAP”, that commenced in 2015, UNDP and FAO are developing and applying a gender-sensitive approach in their support to eight countries (Kenya, Nepal, Philippines, Thailand, Uganda, Uruguay Vietnam and Zambia) to integrate climate change concerns related to agriculture-based livelihoods within existing national planning and budgeting processes. A strong emphasis is placed on using gender disaggregated data and applying gender tools towards ensuring gender responsive and gender targeted programme impact at national and subnational level. In particular, a gender-sensitive impact assessment framework of adaptation measures in the agriculture sector will be developed; capacity building activities will be implemented to train government officials on gender mainstreaming into the agriculture sector; and the role of women-led micro and small enterprises will be strengthened through targeted interventions.
10. At the community level, a number of project activities are being implemented which provide concrete examples of valuable gender-responsive approaches to addressing vulnerabilities to climate change and strengthening resilience to specific impacts. 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. All six national projects have an emphasis on gender-responsive approaches,



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through targeting women and women-headed households (which are often more vulnerable to climate-related impacts) to organize together, build capacity of adaptive measures, and engage in leadership roles and decision-making bodies. In addition, capacity is being built at local and national levels of government on how to better integrate gender considerations into climate-related policies, planning and budgets.

For example, recognizing the central role women play in agriculture and food-related activities and the need for specific technologies to strengthen productivity, the CCAF places a strong emphasis on providing women with the capacity and knowledge needed to strengthen their own resilience and diversify livelihoods. For example, in **Niger**, the project is supporting micro-projects to strengthen and diversify livelihoods and increase income generating activities for women. These include training women in livestock farming, vegetable gardening, access to water and food processing, as well as providing them with the necessary resources to initiate new livelihood opportunities. Similarly, in **Mali**, women are being supported to initiate small-scale gardening activities to diversify livelihoods. This includes providing them with the inputs and equipment needed to increase their own productivity. They are then generating income from their gardens, using this new technology and access to water and gardening inputs, in order to pay for household needs, such as school fees and healthcare. In **Cambodia**, the project has helped to strengthen access to water for both domestic needs and irrigation of small-scale gardening in over 6,048 rural communities. Most often, the primary beneficiary of these activities is the women, who are responsible for fetching water, maintaining the small-scale gardens and other domestic activities while the men focus on the cash crop. In addition these local activities, Cambodian Government has also developed a Master Plan on gender and Climate Change and established a special division on Gender and Climate Change within the Ministry of Women's Affairs in order to further strengthen and scale up these types of gender-responsive adaptation measures.

In addition to these activities, the CCAF – through its global project component, is supporting the documentation, analysis and sharing of experiences and lessons learned related to gender and climate change adaptation. Several case studies were developed in 2015, as well as an infographic illustrating the different gender dynamics across the six CCAF countries and lessons learned on addressing adaptation in the context of these dynamics. Further, a more in-depth publication will be finalized and disseminated in 2016 which address the question: *how does gender-responsive adaptation lead to more successful and cost-effective adaptation*, by building on practical experiences from the CCAF projects.

III. Suggestions for next steps



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11. These are just a few examples drawing 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 at the local level implementing gender-responsive adaptation activities in over 140 countries, and documenting and sharing this experience. 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.
12. UNDP will continue to strengthen the range and depth of gender responsive policy making processes through its ongoing and future planned climate change adaptation measures on the ground and its support to the NAPs processes and climate finance work through the NAP Global Support Programme as well as the NAPs Agriculture programme. In addition, it will incorporate gender concerns in its ongoing support to the capacity building of LDC Negotiators both by participation of senior and emerging women negotiators, as well as by incorporating gender concerns in the training curriculum under the programme.
13. Through this extensive experience, the vast tools and guidance developed, and our rich knowledge base in implementing gender responsive climate change activities, UNDP hopes to serve as a resource, supporting the Secretariat in its development and implementation of the Lima Work Programme on Gender.
14. 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.