

Parties and accredited observers are invited to *submit to the secretariat by 5 March 2012, their views on modalities and procedures for financing results-based actions and considering activities related to decision 1/CP.16, paragraphs 68-70 and 72*. Paragraph 72 of 1/CP.16 referred to in the invitation for submissions *requests developing country Parties, when developing and implementing their national strategies or action plans, to address, inter alia, drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, land tenure issues, forest governance issues, **gender considerations** and safeguards*. Therefore, for reasons elaborated below, WEDO<sup>1</sup> recommends that gender considerations are integrated in modalities and procedures for financing results-based actions.

Gender inequalities obstruct good forest governance and could therefore jeopardize the success and sustainability of results-based actions that depend on the full and effective involvement of relevant stakeholders. Moreover, the sources or type of financing should be consistent with relevant provisions of 1/CP.16, including the safeguards and addressing gender considerations.

Case studies demonstrate significant differences between the rights of women and men and that, in many countries, gender inequalities tend to limit and restrict women's roles in various areas related to forest activities. Women in these countries can not participate in REDD+ decision-making and/or can not obtain benefits from REDD+ because:

- Persistence of discriminatory customs and practices restrict women's land and forest tenure.
- Women do not participate fully and effectively in consultations or decision-making processes.
- Women have limited access and/or control of information, technology and tools.
- Women do not participate in income generating forest activities.
- Multiple roles of women – women may have less time to be involved in forest management programs than men, hence women are not likely to benefit.
- Women lack or have restricted resources, skills and capacities that prevent them for engaging in finance schemes
- Discriminatory cultural practices and patriarchal values lead to inequitable distribution of benefits
- Women receive an unequal share of benefits due to gender blind benefit-sharing schemes.

Regardless of the source or type of financing, all procedures and modalities should include a preliminary gender analysis to assess the main inequalities that impact women and men at the local and national levels. Once this analysis is conducted tailored options can be proposed to support the establishment of gender responsive finance schemes. Options proposed as modalities and procedures for financing results-based actions should acknowledge the importance of including this gender dimension.

Some countries have started thinking of potential actions that could address gender considerations in REDD+, through the creation and implementation of *Gender and REDD+ Roadmaps*<sup>2</sup>. The roadmaps identify entry points for mainstreaming gender considerations in the REDD+ national strategy and propose country-specific actions for each of the three phases of REDD+. In all the country roadmaps, a primary objective is to ensure that both women and men can participate in and benefit from REDD+. In one country, to ensure equitable distribution of benefits it is proposed that actions focus on assessing benefit sharing schemes to identify opportunities and constraints for women; adapting existing benefit sharing schemes or creating new ones to promote opportunities and address constraints for women; training women on benefit sharing schemes (e.g. Payment for Environmental Services, Community Forestry, Forest Royalties) and negotiation techniques; and preparing an evaluation (with sex-disaggregated data) of benefit sharing systems to determine revenue distribution, utilization and monitoring of REDD+ fallouts. In another case, to ensure the implementation of gender-sensitive benefit-sharing schemes, it is proposed that efforts should create a forest conservation and women protection fund; secure resources for funds (through Tree Fund, private sector); train local women on fund acquisition procedures; and reflect on options to make the fund acquisition process easy and affordable to women farmers' organizations and other women stakeholders.

It is recommended that these cases are considered in modalities and procedures for financing results-based actions for REDD+. Such modalities and procedures should not increase the gender gap but instead promote gender equality by including gender considerations through gender analyses and assessments.

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<sup>2</sup> The Gender and REDD+ roadmaps are the product of multi stakeholder process supported by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO) in Cameroon, Ghana and Uganda as part of IUCN's Pro-poor REDD Initiative.