

**Submission by UNDP and UN-Women to the Transitional Committee for the design of the Green Climate Fund  
Workstream I: Scope, guiding principles and cross-cutting issues**

As observers, UNDP and UN Women acknowledge and appreciate the numerous interventions on gender equality and women's empowerment made by Transitional Committee members during their second meeting in Tokyo. The Green Climate Fund has an opportunity to distinguish itself from existing funds by being the first to integrate a gender perspective from the outset, and this submission responds to those interventions by suggesting how these issues can be embedded into text the Transitional Committee will forward to COP-17 in Durban.

**Workstream I: Scope, guiding principles and cross-cutting issues**

**GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF THE GREEN CLIMATE FUND**

The GCF can set a precedent by learning from experiences of other funds and being the first to incorporate in its design, from the outset, guidelines towards operationalizing a gender responsive climate finance mechanism.

- *Text suggestion:* The Fund will operate in alignment with the guiding principle of gender equality in order to ensure equity, efficiency and effectiveness in its operations.

**GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THEMATIC SCOPE**

Gender-responsive funding guidelines and criteria should be developed for each funding window.

- *Text suggestion:* The functions of the Board shall include the following:... To develop gender-responsive funding guidelines and criteria for each of the thematic funding windows.

Gender-balance and gender expertise should be included among the staff and in all bodies of the GCF.

- *Text suggestion:* The Board will have gender balance and regional balance, comprise an equal number of members from developing and developed country, and include gender expertise. Gender balance and inclusion of gender expertise shall also apply to the GCF Secretariat, the GCF staff and all GCF expert or advisory panels.

**GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR COUNTRY-LED AND RESULTS-BASED APPROACHES**

In line with the principle of country-ownership, allocation of GCF funding should be coherent and consistent with national development plans and national mitigation and adaptation strategies that have been developed in a country-driven, gender-sensitive, participatory and fully transparent multi-stakeholder approach.

- *Text suggestion:* The Fund shall adopt a participatory approach to support recipient countries to implement climate policies, measures, actions and activities which are efficient and gender sensitive.

## **Submission by UNDP and UN-Women to the Transitional Committee for the design of the Green Climate Fund Workstream II: Governance and Institutional Arrangements**

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### **Workstream II: Governance and institutional arrangements**

#### **SUB-Workstream II.2: The Board**

Taking into account Decision 36/CP.7, which aims for gender parity, and the need for gender expertise and regional balance within the GCF board and other decision-making structures and advisory bodies of the Fund:

- *Text suggestion:* The Board will aim for regional and gender balance, comprise an equal number of members from developing and developed country Parties, and include gender expertise.

#### **Sub-workstream II.3: The Secretariat**

The staff of the GCF Secretariat should strive for gender expertise, along with other needed expertise, in order to ensure that gender equality principles are considered in all phases of GCF activities.

- *Text suggestion:* The Secretariat shall be staffed with professionals with experience in management, administration, finance, development, climate change, **gender** and other relevant fields, taking into account equitable geographical distribution and gender balance.
- *Text suggestion:* The functions of the independent Secretariat may include, *inter alia:* ...Preparing performance reports on the implementation of activities under the Fund for review by the Board, including on the activities' responsiveness to gender considerations throughout funding operations;

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### **Workstream III: Operational modalities**

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### **Workstream III: Operational modalities**

#### **Sub-workstream III.1: Finance Entry Points**

In order to promote gender equality objectives, efforts should be made to target balanced representation of women and men in capacity building activities.

- *Text suggestions:* Capacity building activities should:
  - Strengthen integrated approaches and the participation of various stakeholders, including women and gender experts, in relevant social, economic and environmental policies and actions; ...
  - Support women and men's existing and emerging capacity-building needs identified in the areas of mitigation, adaptation, technology development and transfer, and access to financial resources; ...
  - Strengthen climate change communication, education, training and public awareness at all levels, taking into account gender-based differences in access to information and ensuring balanced representation of men and women; ...

#### **Sub-workstream III.2: Managing Finance**

Each funding window should respond to gender-differentiated needs and address gender equality as a cross cutting issue.

- *Text suggestion:* The Fund, as an operating entity of the financial mechanism of the Convention, shall address the following thematic areas, taking gender into account as a cross-cutting issue:

### **Sub-workstream III.3: Accessing Finance**

In applying the principle of country-ownership, GCF country-programmes should be gender-sensitive and based on national climate and development plans which have been developed in the recipient country with the full participation of all relevant stakeholders, including women.

- *Text suggestion:* The Fund shall allocate funding coherently and consistently with national development plans and national mitigation and adaptation strategies that have been developed in a country-driven, gender-sensitive, participatory and fully transparent process.

### **Sub-workstream III.5: External Inputs**

The GCF must ensure active civil society and community-level participation, including women's organizations, in program preparation, decision-making and program implementation.

- *Text suggestion:* The Fund will adopt inclusive and gender-sensitive participatory approaches in all decision-making and programming, promoting active outreach to ensure participation of marginalized groups.

## **Submission by UNDP and UN-Women to the Transitional Committee for the design of the Green Climate Fund Workstream IV: Monitoring and Evaluation**

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### **Workstream IV: Monitoring and Evaluation**

The Board of the GCF should monitor how GCF funding is contributing to sustainable development goals, including gender equality, in recipient countries; use a participatory approach; and establish a robust results framework to track progress

- *Text suggestion:* The Board shall submit annual reports to the Conference of the Parties on operational matters including...The status of the Fund in promoting and achieving sustainable development targets, including gender equality.
- *Text suggestion:* The GCF will establish a clear framework for measuring and reporting results, including gender indicators and sex-disaggregated data.

### **Safeguards**

The GCF must develop a robust set of social, gender and environmental safeguards and guidelines for their implementation.

- *Text suggestion:* The GCF Board will establish a robust set of social, gender and environmental safeguards. Guidelines for their implementation must comply with and support existing international obligations, including on human and women's rights, labor standards and environmental law.
- *Text suggestion:* GCF safeguards will be developed with multi-stakeholder input and participation.

### **Stakeholder Engagement**

In accordance with decision 1/CP.16, the input and participation of women as stakeholders and beneficiaries must be guaranteed in all GCF initiatives.

- *Text suggestion:* Efforts to take both women and men's views into account will be ensured in GCF governance as well as in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all projects and programmes.