

WOMEN GENDER CONSTITUENCY

**2nd Dialogue on Article 6 of the Convention
Bonn, June 2014**

Public Participation

**Lessons learned in fostering public participation
in climate change policy decision-making and action**

Gotelind Alber

GenderCC-Women for Climate Justice

www.gendercc.net

Why public participation?

- ▶ **To give a chance to everybody to contribute to climate change decisions, as they affect everybody**
- ▶ **To respond to different needs**
- ▶ **To ensure equity & justice, and leverage inequalities**
- ▶ **To complement conventional science with traditional and practical knowledge**
- ▶ **To ensure broad acceptance of policies**

Public participation and linkages to the UNFCCC process

- ▶ **International level: Involvement of civil society (-> SBI)**
- ▶ **National level: National Plans and Programmes, including NAPs, NAMAs, in particular upcoming Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)**
- ▶ **Local and community levels:
Consultation and involvement of stakeholders and local communities in UNFCCC funds & mechanism;
Participatory vulnerability assessments,
Community based adaptation and mitigation actions**

Requirements for effective and meaningful participation

- ▶ **Transparency & access to information**
- ▶ **Mechanisms & processes that allow for public participation**
- ▶ **Institutional settings facilitating & supporting involvement of civil society**
- ▶ **Inclusiveness to ensure participation of disadvantaged and marginalised groups**
- ▶ **Equitable access to participatory processes, including balanced representation of the genders**
- ▶ **Technical capacity and knowledge to enable civil society to participate meaningfully**

Gender-inclusive participation

- ▶ **Gender is a cross-cutting issue in all Article 6 activities including public participation**
- ▶ **Strong women's networks (grassroots and professional) required, and channels for their input into decision-making**
- ▶ **Gender expertise in planning, decision-making, implementation & evaluation**
- ▶ **Gender considerations included in funding mechanisms for Article 6 activities; e.g. assist Parties to support increased participation of women in intergovernmental & national level decision-making processes**