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

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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