

# From Gender Commitments to Climate Finance Access: What Works in Practice

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# From Gender Commitments to Climate Finance Access



## **Gap Between Policy and Finance**

There is a persistent gap between gender commitments in climate policy and access to climate finance in practice.

## **Complexity of Climate Finance Systems**

Technical finance institutions prioritize viability and risk, making standalone gender elements less competitive.

## **Gender as Strategic Asset**

Integrating gender improves project quality, resilience, and long-term climate impact beyond compliance.

## **Practical Insights for Policymakers**

Experience-based insights guide translation of gender commitments into finance-ready investments and pipelines.

# The Gap Between Commitments and Access to Finance



## **Policy vs. Finance Coordination**

Policy and financing institutions often work in silos, limiting effective coordination on gender and climate finance integration.

## **Late Gender Integration**

Gender considerations are often added late in project designs, resulting in weak analysis and insufficient budgeting.

## **Institutional and Capacity Gaps**

Limited cross-sector collaboration and capacity constraints hinder effective use of gender-sensitive tools in climate finance.

## **Need for Practical Gender Integration**

Rethinking gender as a practical design element can strengthen climate investments beyond policy obligations.

*Despite strong Gender Action Plans and gender-responsive NDCs, translation into climate finance pipelines remains limited.*

# Practical Approaches That Strengthen Climate Finance Proposals



## **Early Gender Integration**

Introducing gender analysis early in project design improves identification of impacts and opportunities.

## **Institutional Coordination**

Collaboration among climate, finance sector, and gender institutions creates coherent and strong proposals.

## **Use of Practical Tools**

Gender action plans and indicators demonstrate measurable outcomes and improve proposal credibility.

## **Enhanced Proposal Quality**

Integrating gender strengthens social impact, risk management, and stakeholder engagement in proposals.

# Country Experiences: Moving from Policy to Implementation



## Eswatini: Sector-Based Gender Integration

Eswatini linked gender considerations to priority sectors like agriculture, water, and energy, aligning with national and climate fund goals.



## Sri Lanka: Embedding Gender in Planning

Sri Lanka embedded gender objectives within national adaptation planning and project pipelines, clarifying institutional roles and data use.



## Key Lessons on Gender Integration

Gender integration works best when embedded in investment design, bridging policy commitments and funded action effectively.

*In both cases, progress happened when gender was treated as part of investment logic not as a social safeguard.*



# Key Takeaways for Turning Commitments into Funded Action

## **Gender Integration Strengthens Investments**

Well-designed gender components improve both bankability and development impact of climate projects.

## **Cross-Institutional Coordination**

Effective climate finance requires sustained collaboration among climate, finance, sector, and gender actors.

## **Effective Use of Tools and Frameworks**

Existing gender tools must be linked to project logic, budgets, and monitoring for credible pipelines.

## **Shifting Mindsets for Implementation**

Prioritizing action and learning over reporting ensures meaningful delivery of Gender Action Plans.

**National Designated Authority (NDA) and line ministries** can play a catalytic role by embedding gender requirements early in project concept development.

**Funds and delivery partners** can strengthen gender outcomes by signalling clearer investment expectations early in the project cycle.