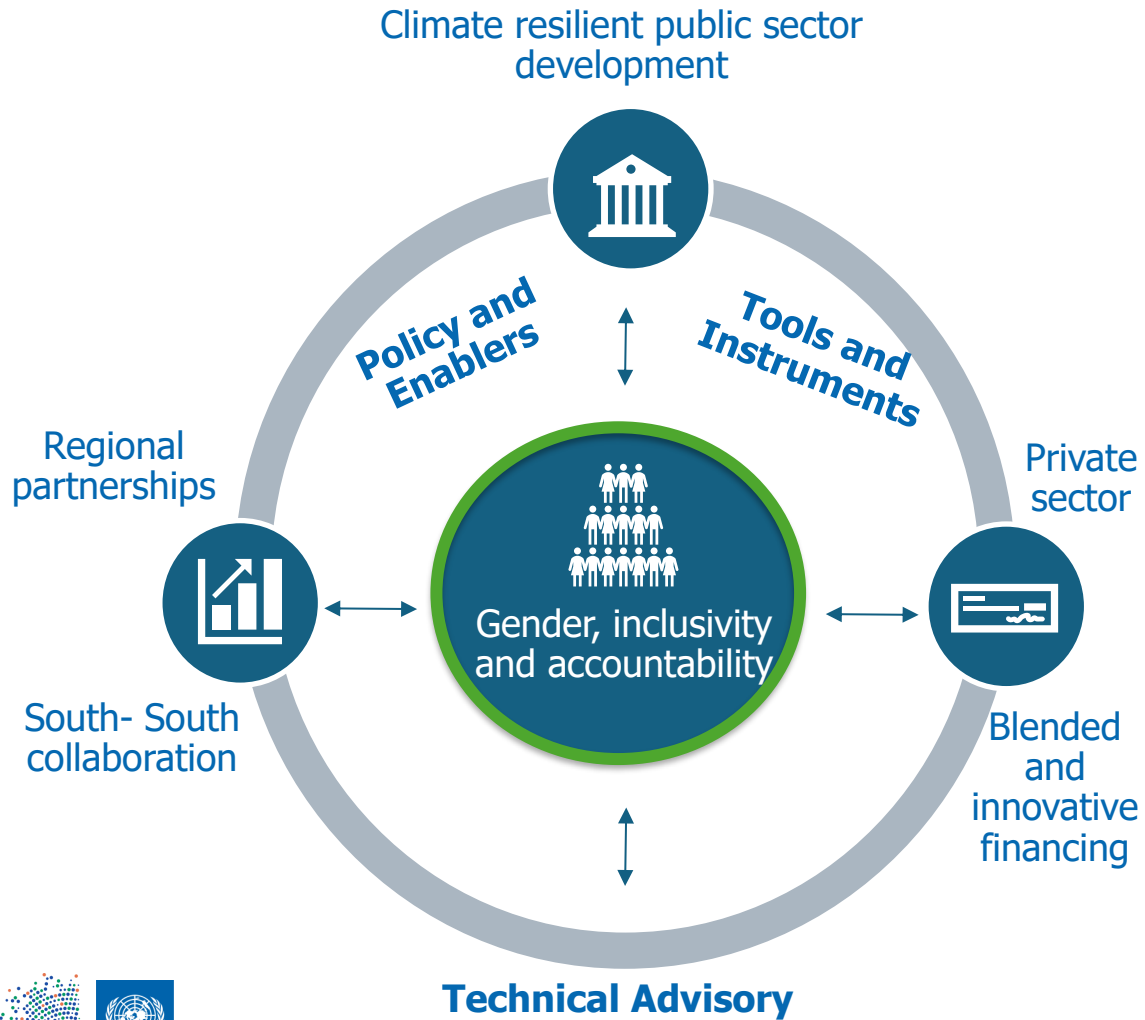


Innovative Gender-Responsive Finance for Climate Action

Session objectives

- Examine how gender-responsive innovative finance is applied in practice to reach women-led enterprises, SMEs and community level climate initiatives across different levels.
- Explore key enablers and design features that make these mechanisms effective in advancing gender-responsive climate finance
- Identify constraints to scaling and explore what is required to strengthen their impact and replication across national, subnational and local contexts.
- Understand how regional platforms such as the Gender and Climate Finance Collective (GCFC) leverage partnerships to advance gender-responsive climate finance;
- Examining how programmes are operationalized and scaled; and draw insights on impacts and lessons from implementation based on experiences from GGGI and other organisations working on the ground.

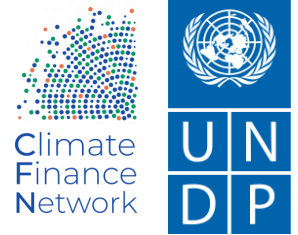
CFN Approach



CFN workstreams



Across the Climate Finance Network Portfolio



Integrate: Strengthening systems and policy

- **Public investment:** Gender-responsive Climate Budget Tagging (CBT), CCBII++ assessments and climate-informed investment frameworks in Cambodia and Bangladesh.
- **Strategic planning:** Risk-Informed GESI processes across the Pacific (Fiji, Tonga, Vanuatu).
- **Regulatory frameworks:** Finalizing the Thematic Bond framework with the Bangladesh Securities Exchange Commission.



Target: Deploying inclusive finance

- **Resilient MSMEs:** Scaling up and De-risking instruments for women-led small businesses in high-vulnerability zones (Bangladesh/Cambodia/Nepal/Sri Lanka).
- **Adaptive resilience:** Operational models for financial resilience prioritising women-headed households in Fiji, Bangladesh and Cambodia.
- **Sub-national action:** Localizing gender-responsive adaptation programs at in Surabaya (Indonesia) and Pattani (Thailand).
- **Innovative instruments:** Facilitating thematic bond issuances – orange bonds - and integrating Climate Vulnerability Index (CVI) disclosures for financial institutions in Bangladesh.



Learn: Knowledge and regional influence

- **Partnerships:** Regional resource network with UN Women and UNEP on Gender and Climate Finance Collective -[GCFC](#)
- **Evidence Base:** Generating policy notes, publications, and case studies.

Scene setting presentations

- Gender and Climate Finance Collective (GCFC), a joint platform co-led by UNDP, UN Women and UNEP which brings together governments, development partners, women's rights organisations, civil society, private sector stakeholders, and researchers around a shared agenda: to embed gender and social inclusion across climate finance reforms, planning, implementation, and monitoring of investments by Ms. Athena Denise Galao, Portfolio Lead and Programme Coordinator, UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
- Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)'s Green Rehabilitation Investment Project for Karakalpakstan Republic to address impacts of the Aral Sea Crisis by Sohna Ngum, Senior Officer, Gender and Social Development

An initiative of

Supported by



GENDER AND CLIMATE FINANCE COLLECTIVE (GCFC)

Athena Denise Galao
Portfolio Lead, Resilience and Programme Coordinator
UN Women



WHY?

Gender commitments are strong; translation into finance systems is weak.

We solve similar problems, address similar institutional issues, and search for what works in parallel.

Belém Gender Action Plan as a guiding framework

Climate finance decisions are **clearer**, and **more consistent**.

OUR STARTING POINT: POLICY ANCHORS

- The Belém Gender Action Plan
- New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance (NCQG)
- 4th International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) Outcome Document
- Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)
- National Action Plans (NAPs)



WHAT IS GCFC?

GCFC is:

- ✓ A regional advisory and peer-learning platform
- ✓ Focused on how climate finance is governed, allocated, and assessed
- ✓ Designed to connect policy commitments with financial decision-making

GCFC is not:

- ✗ An implementing programme
- ✗ A new funding mechanism
- ✗ A substitute for country or institutional processes



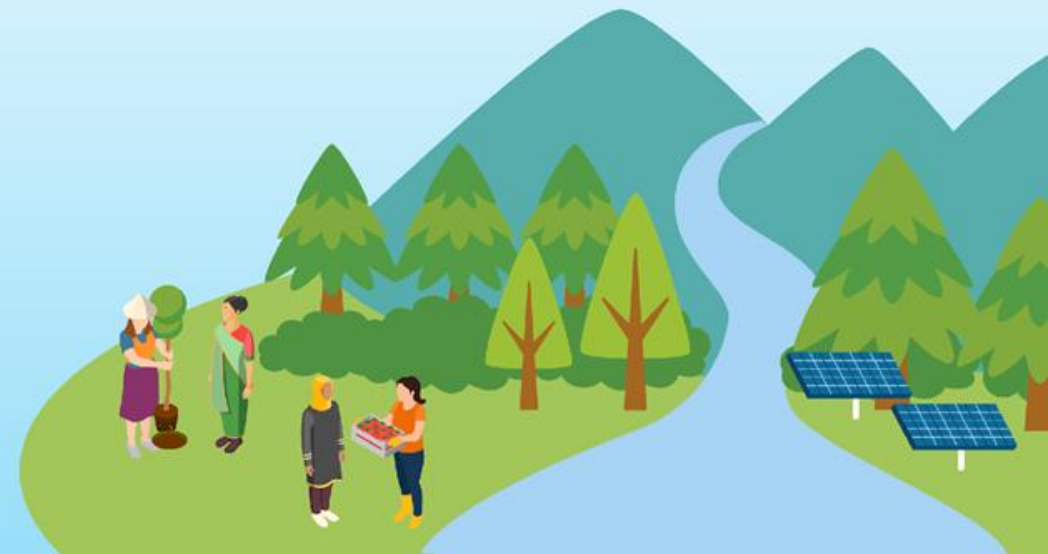
FOUR PILLARS OF THE GCFC

Themes

1. Policy and Planning
2. Investments and Markets.

Means of implementation

1. Peer Learning
2. Global Advocacy



WHAT WILL THE GCFC PRIORITIZE?

It will prioritize:

- ✓ Targeted technical dialogues on specific bottlenecks
- ✓ Peer exchanges around emerging questions and dilemmas
- ✓ Co-development where there is clear demand and traction

It will avoid:

- ✗ Broad, generic capacity-building
- ✗ Duplicating institutional mandates
- ✗ Producing guidance (practice existing ones)



Four Pillars (2025-2027)

A comprehensive approach connecting local policy to global advocacy



O1: Policy & Planning
Strengthening frameworks at national and sub-national levels



O2: Peer Learning
Facilitating cross-country knowledge exchange



O3: Investments & Markets
Influencing private sector and capital market strategies



O4: Global Advocacy
Amplifying regional priorities in international forums

Ref slides 12-15.



WHAT GCFC IS ALREADY DOING

PEER LEARNING AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

- Strategy to Scale Webinar Series
- Open resource hub
- Case studies

Organized by: Climate Finance Network, UN Women, UN Development Programme, UN Women, United Nations Climate Change, The Alliance for Green Investment, IFC, arrow

Convening Partner: United Nations Climate Change

Technical Partners: The Alliance for Green Investment, IFC, arrow

Gender and Climate Finance Collective: Strategy to Scale Series

From Commitments to Capital: Climate Finance for the Belém Gender Action Plan

4 December 2025
11:00–12:30 (GMT+7) Bangkok

Supported by: Ministry of Economic and Financial Affairs, Sweden Sverige, UK International Development

The poster features an illustration of a sustainable landscape with wind turbines, solar panels, trees, and people walking along a path.

POLICY INFLUENCE AND ALIGNMENT

- Sessions/events (APAN, Asia Climate Week, Investor Forum)
- NAP/NDC implementation
- Just Transition

An initiative of: Climate Finance Network, UN Women, UN Development Programme, UN Women

Supported by: Ministry of Economic and Financial Affairs, Sweden Sverige, UK International Development

Gender and Climate Finance Collective (GCFC): Strategy to Scale Webinar 2

Climate Capital for Women-Focused MSMEs

5 February 2025
11:00–12:30 (GMT+7) Bangkok

The poster features an illustration of a rural market scene with people, trees, and solar panels.

FOCUS AREAS

- Direct access modalities for women's organizations
- Climate-resilient, gender-focused MSMEs
- Adaptive financial resilience – savings, credit, insurance, assets, social protection.
- Gender and climate-informed sub-national financing
- Just transition and opportunities for women

Pillar 1: Policy & Planning

Strengthen Gender-Responsive Climate Policy

•Core Goal:

- Support the integration of gender equality and social inclusion into national and sub-national climate policies, plans, and budgeting processes.

Key Actions:

- Provide peer review and technical inputs to policy tools.
- Promote fiscal instruments: Gender-responsive budgeting (GRB) and Climate budget tagging.
- Facilitate dialogue between national and sub-national actors.

STRATEGIC MILESTONE

Q4 2025

Case study planned on gender-integration in sub-national level climate budgeting

Pillar 2: Investment & Markets

Influence Development and Investment

Core Goal:

Integrate gender equality into public policy, private sector engagement, and capital market strategies.

Key Actions:

- Promote gender-responsive climate finance tools at local/national levels.
- Facilitate dialogue between public institutions, private investors, and capital market actors.
- Showcase gender-smart investments: Blended finance

STRATEGIC MILESTONE

Q1 2026

Learning event in February on climate finance for women-focused MSMEs

Case study on the same topic

Pillar 3: Knowledge Exchange

Facilitate Peer Learning

Core Goal:

Enable members and external partners to share lessons on inclusive climate finance.

Key Actions:

- Organize regional peer learning events.
- Document and disseminate lessons from CFN and non-CFN countries.
- Host thematic sessions on emerging issues: Just transitions, Local finance, and Intersectionality.

STRATEGIC MILESTONE

Q1 2026

Learning event planned in March on gender responsive risk insurance and social protection

Pillar 4: Global Advocacy

Amplifying the Voice

Core Goal:

Ensure inclusive climate finance priorities are visible in regional and international policy spaces.

Key Actions:

- Co-develop advocacy briefs and talking points.
- Support participation in high-level platforms: COP, UNFCCC, and SDG finance forums.
- Highlight country innovations through blogs, briefs, and side events.

STRATEGIC MILESTONE

Q1 2026

Initial policy dialogue organized on Belém Gender Action Plan (GAP) post COP30

Case study/advocacy brief on gender-responsive design of adaptation projects / programmes

Innovative Gender-Responsive Finance for Climate Action



**Green Rehabilitation
Investment Project for
Karakalpakstan Republic
to Address Impacts of
the Aral Sea Crisis**

Aral Sea GRIP > ggkp.org/aralseagrip



GGGI KOICA

Green Rehabilitation Investment Project for Karakalpakstan Republic to Address Impacts of the Aral Sea Crisis

Assist the green rehabilitation of the Republic of Karakalpakstan in addressing the impacts of the Aral Sea ecological crisis

- **Objective 1:** Establish an effective green rehabilitation investment plan targeted on agriculture and agri-businesses that reduces disaster risk, enhances rural food security and sustainable livelihoods, and promotes equitable employment in green and climate-smart value-chains in Karakalpakstan;
- **Objective 2:** Respond to the most urgent needs of the workforce and micro-, small-, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to tackle pressing human security needs, focusing on disaster-related threats to health, livelihoods, productive assets, and agri-business risk management.
- **Objective 3:** Demonstrate viable climate-resilient agri-business models to rebuild the economic foundation of Karakalpakstan's agrarian economy;
- **Objective 4:** Support the government and banks in mobilizing green/climate finance in support of green MSMEs development in Karakalpakstan



Aral Sea Policy

Outcome 1

Climate-Smart Agriculture-related Strategy adopted

- Legal Framework Review
- Climate Resilience and Green Growth Assessment
- Green Investment Analysis
- Capital expenditure for infrastructural adaptation measures for agriculture
- GGGI/UNMPTF White Paper – SL policy recommendations



Human Security

Outcome 2

Dehkan and private farmers have increased resilience to climate and Aral Sea disaster risks (50% women)

- 3 000+ green jobs supported
- CC/SDS Risk Profiles and 6 training modules
- +17,000 Climate Change Adaptation awareness raising (Youth, Women, Men)
- +280 Million total views of CSA awareness-raising media campaign



Climate Resilient Agri-business

Outcome 3

Local entrepreneurs of Karakalpakstan are equipped with climate resilient agri-business models

- Climate resilient farming (greenhouse, water saving technologies and agroforestry) on 819 ha
- 4 Value Chain Analyses
- Online learning & business platform (JasilAwil)
- \$28m funding Climate Smart Agriculture Finance Facility



Green & Climate Finance

Outcome 4

Agri-MSMEs and farmers have improved access to finance from commercial banks and government green financing

- +\$1 Billion mobilized in sustainable and green finance by banks
- \$50M Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) Financing Facility development with SQB
- \$974M Grant & Investment Project Pipeline development



GGGI Uzbekistan Key achievements (2021 – 2024)

People reached:

17 000+ Youth, Women, and Farmers enhanced awareness of climate change adaptation measures

800+ trainees on CSA/ farm entrepreneurship

280M+ views on climate change adaptation videos in 1 month

40 people trained on greenhouse & drip irrigation course

16 women with disabilities trained & supported in microgreen production

833 consultations on CSA via Greenaral.uz – business development platform with **1625** registered users

Thank you!



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Innovative Gender-Responsive Finance for Climate Action

Innovative Gender-Responsive Finance for Climate Action: Case Studies

- EmPower Model by Ayako Sakamoto, Associate Climate Finance Expert, UNEP
- Asia Gender Equality Fund by Joyita Ambett, Director, Gender Equality Platform, AVPN
- ICIMOD on MSME-oriented applied financing solutions in HKH region by Anu Joshi Shrestha, Rural Enterprise and Value Chain Specialist, ICIMOD
- Sustainable finance for inclusive climate action by Francesco Dinmore, Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Analyst, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)

Innovative Gender-Responsive Finance for Climate Action

Q&A

Innovative Gender-Responsive Finance for Climate Action

Group Work

(15:30-16:30 Hrs KST)

Instructions

- Participants will be divided into three groups.
- Each group will have a designated moderator to guide the discussion.
 - Group I- Bindu Bhandari
 - Group II- Cristina Gregorio
 - Group III- Jay Malette
- The discussion will take place in two segments:
 - **Round I:** Sharing concrete examples from your own context/country (30 mins)
 - **Round II:** Deep dive on enablers, constraints, way ahead (30 mins)
- Each group will assign a rapporteur for report back

Instructions

Report Back (per group)- 16:40-17:00 (20 minutes)

Each group has 3 minutes to present:

- **1 Key Enabler**
Factors that consistently support effective gender-responsive climate finance
- **1 Key Constraints**
Common barriers or gaps limiting reach, access, or impact
- **1 Priority Way Forward**
A concrete action or change needed to strengthen or scale approaches
- **1 Notable Example or Insight**
An interesting or innovative approach shared during the discussion

Segment I- 30 minutes

Discuss/Share concrete examples of innovative gender-responsive climate finance from your own contexts/ countries.

Guiding Questions:

- What is the initiative or approach?
- How is it designed to reach and benefit women including women-led enterprises? What specific features or mechanisms support this?
- What evidence can you share on its impacts, or projected impacts, particularly in terms of improving climate resilience outcomes for women?

Segment II: Deep Dive on Enablers, Challenges and Way Ahead (30 minutes)

Enablers

- What factors have enabled these approaches to work/ function effectively in practice? What types of partnerships or coordination mechanisms have strengthened delivery and impact?

Challenges:

- What are the main barriers in existing approaches to deliver finance to women for climate resilience and where do key gaps persist? (access, design, implementation, data, capacity?)
- Which actors, roles, systems or coordination mechanisms are currently missing, underresourced or weak?

Way Forward:

- What would strengthen or support scaling existing approaches? What type of support or resources are critical?
- What needs to change in design, policy or partnership models to improve reach and effectiveness?

Report Back (per group)- 16:40-17:00 KST (20 minutes)

Each group has 3 minutes to present:

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Innovative Gender-Responsive Finance for Climate Action

14:20-13:30 HRS (KST Time)

April 22