

Expert meeting on enhancing gender equality within climate finance, including through gender budgeting



Environmental **Investment** Fund
of **Namibia** | ensuring sustainability



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13 & 14 June 2023 | Bonn - Germany

- At country level, Namibia has made enormous strides in the gender space, duly recognized by **its 2017 accolade, “African Excellence Gender Awards for 2017”**, for its efforts in implementing the national gender policies and initiatives towards promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women in Namibia.
- The Environmental Investment Fund has aligned its gender policy to the national policy and taking into consideration the Green Climate Fund gender requirements which are mostly alike.
- This is also expected to be reinforced in all GCF climate change projects that the Fund is managing to ensure that the overall gender – climate change mainstreaming is achieved.
- Although there is a significant improvement in women participation in politics, private sector and including our executive and legislature in Namibia, more needs to be done especially at regional, local and community level.

Governance and Coordination

- There is a strong political will towards supporting gender mainstreaming across the board in Namibia
- In 2000 (that's 23 years back), the government of the Republic of Namibia established the Ministry of Gender and Child Welfare by then called, Ministry of Women Affairs and Child Welfare and currently known as Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare
- This demonstrated a high political will to empower women in the country
- The ruling political party in government has made it a policy in their operation to use a “ Zebra Style” in their list to National Assembly. This has pushed up the number of women in the law-making house especially from the ruling party.
- The ministry of gender has the mandate to coordinate gender mainstreaming affairs across all government operations, and other role players in Namibia

Gender Responsive Budget

- The government of the Republic of Namibia makes budget allocation to the ministry of gender and to respective ministries for their gender activities
- All ministries have gender focal unit that deals with gender related issues, and they receive their budget allocation to implement gender related activities
- The Environmental Investment Fund (EIF) which is a State-Owned Entity has a Gender policy and Gender Unit with budget allocation to that function and extensively ensure gender and climate change matters are address
- The UNFCCC National Gender Focal Person's activities are supported from the EIF's budget as well as from the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism to implement the annual work plan of this portfolio

Gender Responsive Budget

- There is a positive effort from multilateral funded projects to support the work plan of the UNFCCC National Gender Focal Point financially
- There is a strong harmonization of project resources from multilateral funding allocated to gender activities to address gender and climate change initiatives
- We have learned that proper coordination of gender mainstreaming activities at national level can make a difference as the little allocated resources once combined can make a difference.

Thank you



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