

# **Networking as a National Gender and Climate Change Focal Point**

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# Introduction

- Mozambique is signatory to most international Conventions, Protocols and Treaties regarding the protection and defense of Women's Rights and Promotion of Gender Equality.
- The Republic Constitution is clear proof that the Mozambican State is committed to the equality of rights between Men and Women through the gender equality expressed in Article 36 that states “Men and Women are equal under the Law in all facets of the political, economical, social and cultural life”.
- Besides the Constitutional provisions, the Government has in place policies and plans for promotion of Gender Equality and Women Empowerment, such as the Government Five Year Program, the Gender Policy and Implementation Strategy, as well as the sectoral gender strategies.



# Institutional Arrangements for Gender

- The Ministry in charge of gender issues is the Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Affairs, and under the ministry is the National Council for the Advancement of Women (CNAM) which does intersectoral coordination, with the main objective of boosting and monitoring the implementation of policies and programs approved by the Government for the areas of women and promotion of gender equality.
- I represent the Ministry of Land and Environment in the CNAM and work with this Gender Ministry on a regular basis.
- There are also ordinary meetings of the CNAM to discuss gender related policies, plans, projects and activities.



# My Networking Story

- In 2010, I started and lead a process to engage the environmental sector in institutionalizing gender considerations in the environmental plans that led to creation of a specific department of Gender and Environment, now Gender and Environment Unit.
- I started attending gender and climate change related seminars and workshops in 2012 in Ethiopia. There I presented the country's Gender, Environment and Climate Change Strategy.



# My Networking Story

- The introduction to UNFCCC negotiation processes was made by the African Working Group on Gender and Climate Change (AWGGCC) and then consolidated through Women Delegates Fund negotiations training, pre-session technical meetings, and attending UNFCCC COPs since 2017. The training sessions were a great opportunity to improve and strengthen negotiations skills on climate change.
- I am convinced that the knowledge and skills gained in these sessions contributed to my nomination for NGCCFP.



# My Networking Story

- The Gender and Environment Unit interacts with specific stakeholders to advocate the need to mainstreaming gender in environmental and climate change related activities.
- I have colleagues whom I call or email quite often to request or share information regarding different ongoing actions and initiatives regarding gender mainstreaming. I particularly share with them the efforts that my sector is doing to mainstreaming gender in the environmental agenda.
- When I hold seminars, I invite colleagues from the Ministry of Gender to participate and present a specific theme. Their role is to advocate, influence and report ongoing activities that ensure gender mainstreaming development processes in the country.



# My Networking Story

- I am also part of the Gender Coordination Group (GCG), a mechanism for political dialogue, consultation, information sharing, policy and programme analysis, technical support and advocacy for the progress of gender equality and women's empowerment as part of Mozambique's development process. The group brings together government institutions, members of civil society and multilateral and bilateral cooperation partners.
- Continued lobbying and advocacy with different departments to engage them on mainstreaming gender into their work and activities is part of my daily work.
- This requires systematic connections with different departments as well as with individuals in order to show that inclusion is the better way to tackle environmental challenges.





# The Way Forward

As NGCCFP, I will continue to participate in and influence continuous dialogues with different sector departments and stakeholders so that gender and climate change considerations are an integral part of my country's development processes.



**Thank you!**