

Draft provisional programme of the 2024 Forum on accelerating climate action and resilience through gender-responsive financing – Version 31 May 2024

Day 1

Time	Description
08:30–09:00	Registration
09:00–09:30	<p>Session 1: Opening session</p> <p>In the opening session, high-level speakers, including the head of relevant UN Agency and the head of the host institution, will deliver opening remarks. These remarks will highlight the critical importance of gender-responsive finance in achieving a low-emission climate-resilient (LECR) development and poverty eradication that will be equitable and inclusive.</p>
09:30–10:30	<p>Session 2: Scene-setting session on gender-responsive finance</p> <p>A high-level representative will deliver a keynote presentation, focusing on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An overview of the existing multilateral commitments to gender equality and gender-responsive finance; 2. Benefits of implementing climate action and resilience through gender-responsive finance; 3. Importance of gender-responsive just transitions towards LECR development pathway, which can strengthen social legitimacy and political support for climate actions and resilience at all levels and promote and improve human rights and; 4. Identification of key enablers and actions that can unlock and deliver gender-responsive finance to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement and the sustainable development goals (SDGs). <p>Following the presentation, a diverse panel of senior representatives from governments, financial institutions, scientific bodies and non-governmental organisations will share their insights, including on how to define gender-responsive finance, evidence on gender-compounding vulnerability to climate change impacts, data on the current level of gender-responsive finance and possible ways to scale it up.</p>
10:30–10:45	Coffee break and family photo

Time	Description			
10:45–12:00	<p>Session 3: Breakout session on gender-responsive finance</p> <p>Participants will be invited to a breakout session to: (i) identify linkages between gender and the multi-faceted challenges presented by climate change and potential opportunities presented by climate action and; (ii) explore how gender-responsive finance can address/minimize the challenges and harness the opportunities.</p> <p>Objective of this session is to enhance participants’ holistic understanding of the issues underlying climate change, gender equality and approaches to gender responsive financing and identify possible key questions to be addressed during the two-day Forum.</p> <p>Importantly, participants in each group will be encouraged to bring in perspectives from their unique contexts and/or lived experiences and to undertake discussions in a manner which is inclusive of the views of others. Participants will also be encouraged to consider different factors (which may include factors such as relevant national and regional contexts, social, economic and cultural context, including other relevant elements such as age, disability, race, ethnicity and Indigeneity) that may underpin and inform different context specific approaches to gender-responsive financing.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="320 603 2047 963"> <tr> <td data-bbox="320 603 1149 963"> <p>Group #1: How gender-responsive finance can address/minimize the challenges and harness the opportunities in the context of climate change mitigation</p> <p><u>Example of issues to be discussed:</u> The intersection between gender equality and mitigation across a range of sectors, including: energy, agriculture, transport and infrastructure, links between climate change and gender equality, economic diversification and development and workforce planning and transition, as well as approaches to and examples of financing mitigation from a gender responsive perspective</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1149 603 2047 963"> <p>Group #2: How gender-responsive finance can address/minimize the challenges and harness the opportunities in the context of climate change impacts, including adaptation and loss and damage</p> <p><u>Example of issues to be discussed:</u> Impacts of climate change and how and where they intersect with gender equality and other relevant social, political environmental and economic factors, including: health, climate risk and gender equality, and approaches to financing transformative adaptation and averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage from a gender responsive perspective.</p> </td> </tr> </table>		<p>Group #1: How gender-responsive finance can address/minimize the challenges and harness the opportunities in the context of climate change mitigation</p> <p><u>Example of issues to be discussed:</u> The intersection between gender equality and mitigation across a range of sectors, including: energy, agriculture, transport and infrastructure, links between climate change and gender equality, economic diversification and development and workforce planning and transition, as well as approaches to and examples of financing mitigation from a gender responsive perspective</p>	<p>Group #2: How gender-responsive finance can address/minimize the challenges and harness the opportunities in the context of climate change impacts, including adaptation and loss and damage</p> <p><u>Example of issues to be discussed:</u> Impacts of climate change and how and where they intersect with gender equality and other relevant social, political environmental and economic factors, including: health, climate risk and gender equality, and approaches to financing transformative adaptation and averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage from a gender responsive perspective.</p>
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12:00–12:45	At the end of session 3, each group will report back in plenary, followed by a short panel discussion among the discussion leaders			
12:45–14:00	Networking lunch			
14:00–15:00	<p>Session 4: From plans to actions: implementing gender-responsive development strategies, climate change plans and investment frameworks</p> <p>This plenary session will focus on the topic of mainstreaming gender and climate change into development strategies, NDCs, NAPs and climate financing strategies. It will emphasize the importance of integrating gender into national, subnational and local levels of planning in consultation with relevant actors and stakeholders, and look into concrete activities, such as gender-responsive budgeting and scaling-up existing gender-responsive climate solutions. Additionally, the session will explore the benefits and challenges of incorporating gender into public and private investment frameworks.</p>			

Time	Description		
15:00–16:30	Session 5: Breakout group discussions on implementing gender-responsive development strategies, climate change plans and investment frameworks		
	<p>Group 1: Climate- and gender-responsive public financial management</p> <p>This group will discuss insights gained in mainstreaming climate change and gender into public financial management. Discussion elements include climate- and gender-responsive budgeting, integration of gender and climate risk assessments into public investment decisions, fiscal and tax policies that promote objectives of climate change and gender and public monitoring and reporting systems on gender-responsive financial flows. The group will also discuss key enablers, such as inter-ministerial coordination, mechanisms for engaging sub-national and local governments, policies and legal frameworks and international partnerships and networks.</p>	<p>Group 2: Public interventions that can integrate gender-responsive finance in the financial sector</p> <p>This group will discuss public policies, tools and measures that can facilitate the integration of climate change and gender into the financial sector. Discussion will focus on public policies such as rules and regulations that encourage financial institutions to include gender and climate risk assessments in investment and lending decisions and regulatory framework on disclosure of gender and climate-related financial risks. It may also focus on tools and measures, such as gender and climate risk assessment tools, capacity-building and training for asset managers, stakeholder engagement mechanism to guide financial policies and partnerships and networks.</p>	<p>Group 3: Needs and priorities relating to gender-responsive finance</p> <p>This group will focus on country experience in identifying and assessing needs and priorities for gender-responsive finance in different sectors. Examples of the gender-related needs identified in the NDCs and NAPs will be showcased to share insights, best practices and lessons learned, as well as examples of bottom-up approaches to defining and articulating gender responsive financing needs. It will also focus on national efforts to address the identified needs, including through national climate finance strategies and investment plans and the role of international technical support providers and financing institutions in this regard.</p>
16:30–16:45	Coffee break		
16:45–17:30	After a short coffee break, breakout groups will report back in plenary, followed by a short panel discussion among the discussion leaders		
17:30–17:45	Wrap-up of day 1		

Day 2

Time	Description		
09:00–10:00	<p>Session 6: Sources, instruments and enabling environments: scaling-up and improving the gender-responsiveness of climate finance</p> <p>This plenary session will explore potential sources, channels and instruments for mobilizing and incentivizing scaled-up gender-responsive finance, highlighting examples from all levels, as well as how existing sources of finance can better integrate gender considerations, to deliver greater impact. It will present the latest available figures on gender-responsive financial flows, identify gaps in financing gender-responsive climate action and resilience and explore when and how various sources and instruments can be tapped to address these gaps. Furthermore, the session will examine enabling environments that can incentivize gender-responsive climate investments, as well as the financial and technical support available to developing countries.</p>		
10:00–10:15	<p>Coffee break</p>		
10:15–11:30	<p>Session 7: Breakout groups on sources, channels and instruments</p>		
	<p>Group 1: Sources and channels of gender-responsive finance</p> <p>This group will explore available international sources and channels of gender-responsive finance, such as multilateral development banks, multilateral climate funds, regional institutions and bilateral cooperation agencies and philanthropic organisations. Discussions will focus on insights drawn from the sources' gender action plans, strategies and policies as well as complementarity and coherence of the different sources and instruments. The group will also explore domestic sources of finance, including philanthropies, dedicated trust funds and corporate social responsibility programs, featuring the different programming areas and processes relating to gender equality and climate.</p>	<p>Group 2: Innovative financing mechanism and instruments</p> <p>This group will share experiences in designing and utilizing financial instruments to mobilize gender-responsive finance for climate action, with a focus on effectiveness and impact. Instruments to be discussed may include green (or climate) bonds with gender equality criteria, taxonomies for gender-responsive financing, blended finance, gender-responsive climate insurance and microfinancing. Examples should encompass women's funds, including indigenous women-led climate funds, other small grants approaches, and funding advocacy on gender equality and climate change. Participants will reflect on the potential benefits, implications and requirements of designing and utilizing the instruments, including for locally-led implementation, as well as available technical support.</p>	<p>Group 3: Unlocking gender-responsive private finance</p> <p>This group will discuss successes and challenges faced by the private sector in making the case to integrate gender and climate into their investment decisions. Discussion elements may include environmental, social and governance investment criteria, assessment of risk and impacts relating to gender-climate investments and the financial and technical support available for businesses, including with a particular focus on micro and small enterprises and the informal sector.</p>
11:30–12:15	<p>At the end of session 7, breakout groups will report back in plenary, followed by a short panel discussion among the discussion leaders</p>		

Time	Description		
12:15–13:30	<p>Lunch with video: Inspiring success stories and lessons to share</p> <p>Audio-visual presentations on projects that are advancing and accelerating investment in gender and climate change projects which demonstrate useful lessons learned in gender responsive financing. The projects may be chosen from winners of UNFCCC Momentum for Change or other relevant programs.</p>		
13:30–14:30	<p>Session 8: Financing the project management cycle of a gender-responsive climate project: experience, best practices and lessons learned</p> <p>This plenary session will focus on hands-on experience, best practices and lessons learned by governments, practitioners and financial institutions with gender-responsive climate projects. Participants will examine effectiveness and efficiency of a project lifecycle in a holistic manner, focusing on gender and climate at each stage – ranging from building readiness, assessing the needs, preparing project proposals to identifying and accessing sources of gender-responsive finance, showcasing where possible, locally-led projects. The session will also provide insights on ensuring the effectiveness and impact in relation to climate and gender equality of projects through monitoring, evaluation and learning processes.</p>		
14:30–14:50	<p>Coffee break</p>		
14:50–16:30	<p>Session 9: Breakout group the project or program management cycle of a gender-responsive climate project</p>		
	<p>Group 1: Project preparation and implementation</p> <p>This group will discuss best practices and lessons learned during the preparation and implementation phase of gender-responsive climate projects. Participants will examine issues, such as aligning the project focus with the needs and priorities articulated in the NDCs and NAPs, building readiness and capacity activities to prepare and implement project proposals and conducting inclusive stakeholder engagement through effective governance mechanisms. The group will also share information on available tools that project managers can utilize.</p>	<p>Group 2: Improving and simplifying access, including direct access.</p> <p>This group will reflect on experience relating to access to gender-responsive finance, including as it relates to direct access and efforts to improve and simplify access, and ways to build strong, diverse, inclusive and effective intermediaries in developing countries. Participants will share insights on building and strengthening direct access entities, including from women’s groups and on enhancing the participation and inclusion in the operations of existing implementing entities, especially direct access entities. Furthermore, the group will discuss on available financial and technical support for accreditation to international climate funds with a focus on gender equality.</p>	<p>Group 3: Monitoring, evaluation and learning: data, reporting and transparency</p> <p>This group will highlight the importance of both qualitative and quantitative data, reporting and transparency relating to gender-responsive finance that can strengthen the monitoring, evaluation and learning of climate projects. Participants will be invited to discuss best practices and challenges in collecting accurate, timely and reliable data and share information on tools and methodologies for data collection and reporting. The group will also focus on transparency and disclosure mechanisms in both public and private sectors that can enhance accountability of gender-responsive finance.</p>
16:30–17:15	<p>At the end of session 9, breakout groups will report back in plenary, followed by a short panel discussion among the discussion leaders</p>		

Time	Description
17:15–17:45	Session 10: Takeaway messages from the Forum Based on the two days of discussions, participants will deliberate on actions that can be pursued by actors and entities at all levels to accelerate the mobilization and delivery of gender-responsive finance. The discussions on the way forward will include key takeaway messages and potential recommendations by the SCF for consideration by the COP.
17:45–18:00	Session 11: Closing session