

Speakers and Facilitators

In-session workshop on progress, challenges, gaps and priorities in implementing the gender action plan and on future work to be undertaken on gender and climate change

3-5 June, 2024 - Bonn, Germany

Opening and closing remarks delivered by:



Nathalie Flores

Vice-Chair of the SBSTA

Nathalie is an international public policy specialist with almost 15 years of experience providing senior services on climate change policy, international development and environmental issues. Since 2010 Nathalie has contributed to help understand, develop and enforce the climate change agenda in her various roles in the government of the Dominican Republic. Nathalie served as Director for Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation at the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of the Dominican Republic for the past three years and now, while performing Strategy and Government Affairs consulting, she serves as voluntary/probono Senior Advisor to the Government of DR for the UN Climate Change Negotiations. She was also the country's Art. 6 of the Paris Agreement, Lead Technical Negotiator and served as Head of the DR Delegation. In June 2023 Nathalie was elected Vice-Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice of the Convention, which she'll perform during the Bonn Climate Talks and at the Conferences of the Parties (CoPs) for the next year.



Amb. Nabeel Munir

Chair of the SBI

Nabeel Munir (Pakistan), elected Chair of the SBI at COP 27 (November 2022) in Sharm el-Sheikh, is currently serving as Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the Republic of Korea since March 2022. Born in 1969, he holds a Master's degree in English Literature. He joined Foreign Service of Pakistan in 1993 and served in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Assistant Director (1995-1997), Deputy Director (2000-2003), Director (2009-2011), Director General (2019-2020), and Additional Secretary (2020-2022). He also served as Director in the President's Secretariat (2011). His diplomatic assignments at Pakistan Missions abroad include: South Africa (1997-2000), Belgium (2003-2006), Kenya (2006- 2009) and Deputy Permanent Representative, Pakistan's Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York (2012-2019).



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Speakers and Facilitators (In alphabetical order):



Angie Dazé (Facilitator)

Director of Gender Equality and Social Inclusion for Resilience, IISD

Angie Dazé has been working with IISD's Resilience team since 2014. Her work focuses on policy and practice related to climate change adaptation, resilience, gender equality, and social inclusion. This includes analysis, guidance, and technical support for National Adaptation Plan (NAP) processes through the NAP Global Network. In addition, she leads research projects exploring the gender dimensions of climate change adaptation in different contexts. Past projects include the analysis and development of tools and guidance on different aspects of resilience, such as migration and conservation, ecosystem-based adaptation, and the role of financial services in supporting climate risk management. She has extensive experience facilitating training and learning processes. Angie's past work includes positions with CARE International and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).



Ermira Fida (Speaker)

Deputy Secretary, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

Ermira Fida is the Deputy Secretary of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. She has more than 30 years of work experience at the national and international level with progressively growing management and leadership functions on climate change policy, programming, finance, science, and navigating the intergovernmental process. Her career has taken her from former chief climate change negotiator and Head of the UNDP climate change program for Albania to addressing the priority needs of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and other developing countries by leading the UNEP's climate change program and the partnerships between UNEP and the Global Funds



Fleur Newman (Speaker)

Action for Climate Empowerment Unit Lead, UNFCCC

Fleur Newman leads the intergovernmental work on gender and climate change under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement. She is also the Gender Focal Point for the UN Climate Change secretariat. Fleur is a lawyer by training who, before joining the UN, spent ten years practicing law in the private sector in areas including climate change, sustainability, energy and international law. Throughout her career, Fleur has been an advocate for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. Fleur has a Bachelor of Science in Sustainable Development and Master of Laws in International law.



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Gabriela Balvedi Pimentel (Speaker)

Gender Associate Programme Officer, UNFCCC

Gabriela Balvedi Pimentel is an Associate Programme Officer at the Gender team of the UNFCCC. With experience in gender equality, just transition, indigenous peoples' rights, and human rights, she has worked at the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). She holds a master's degree in Anthropology and Sociology of Development from the Graduate Institute Geneva, focusing on legal, political, and environmental anthropology. Prior to this, she completed qualifying legal studies in Brazil and has been a member of the Brazilian Bar Association since 2015.



Jamie Wen Besson (Facilitator)

Senior Gender Programme Manager, IUCN

Jamie is a Senior Gender Programme Manager at the International Union for Conservation of Nature, focusing on gender integration in sustainable development and environmental programming. Managing a partnership with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) on Advancing Gender in the Environment (AGENT). Jamie also contributes to wider mainstreaming and messaging efforts on gender equality and women's empowerment across IUCN's networks and portfolios. Jamie is a strategy, programming and communications specialist with a wide range of experience in various International Organizations like the United Nations and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and bilateral diplomacy such as the UK Ministry of Defence's British Defence Staff - United States. Jamie holds an M.A. in International Affairs from Institut d'études politiques de Paris (SciencesPo Paris), a Certificate of Leadership from the United States Army War College and a B.A. in International Relations from the University of Southern California, with studies completed at The New School in New York City and the War Studies programme at King's College London in the United Kingdom.



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Mwanahamisi Salimu Singano (Speaker)

Senior Global Policy, WEDO

Mwanahamisi (“Mishy”) Singano is an African feminist passionate about fighting structural and intersecting inequalities while contributing to a more just, equal, fairer and sustainable world. Over the last 15 years, she has worked with women’s rights organizations, civil societies, and governments in developing strategies, building partnerships, managing programs, and engaging communities towards the promotion and protection of women’s rights and the health of the planet. At WEDO, Mwanahamisi serves as Senior Global Policy Lead.



Radha Wagle (Speaker)

Representative of the Facilitative Working Group of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform

Dr. Radha Wagle was working as a Joint Secretary and Chief of Climate Change Management in the Ministry of Forests and Environment. She served as a Secretary for Ministry of Industry, Tourism, Forests and Environment Lumbini Province, Chief of Central Forestry Training Center and REDD Implementation Center, Nepal before. Along with her responsibility under the Ministry, she is currently serving as a National Gender and Climate Change Focal Person and National Focal Person for UNFCCC and National Focal person for IPCC. She is also representing in FWG of LCIPP from LDC groups. Dr. Wagle has more than 20 years of experience in the field of Climate change, Forestry, REDD+ and Sustainable Forest Management, Protected Area Management and Biodiversity Conservation, Gender Integration and Women Empowerment in forestry and climate change.

Dr. Wagle holds PhD Degree from Monash University, Australia in Gender and Forestry and Master’s Degree from Swedish Agricultural University (SLU), Sweden with a major Environmental Science. She has published a book along with some scientific articles on Gender, forestry and climate change.



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Rohemir Ramirez-Ballagas (Speaker)

Member of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB)

Rohemir Ramirez Ballagas (“Roh”) is a Foreign Affairs Officer for the Office of Global Change at the U.S. Department of State. He is the U.S. lead negotiator on IMO GHG issues and Capacity Building, but his portfolio also includes international carbon markets, international aviation GHG emissions, and climate bilateral relationships with European countries. Mr. Ramirez is also a member of the Paris Committee on Capacity Building. Mr. Ramirez holds an LL.M. from Harvard Law School and received his J.D. from the University of Puerto Rico School of Law. Before joining the U.S. Department of State, Roh was a Staff Attorney for the Conservation Law Foundation in Boston, MA.



Sinéad Magner (Facilitator)

Leadership and Learning Associate, WEDO

Sinéad Magner is an Irish feminist, campaigner, trainer and climate justice activist. At WEDO, she works on capacity strengthening of women and feminist leaders in the environment and global climate policy spheres, including via the Women Delegates Fund. Her passion for nature and social justice is rooted in the rural, agricultural community she grew up in. Within the WGC, Sinéad coordinates on Just Transition and also works on Agriculture.



Soma Chakrabarti (Moderator)

Senior Gender Consultant

Soma is an independent professional with over 20 years' work experience in development agencies, and over 15 in developing countries (Asia and Africa). For the last +12 years Soma has been working on gender and social inclusion issues, mainly at country level, and focusing on climate change, the environment and the institutions/ policy/ leadership nexus.



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Tabea Höfig (Speaker and Facilitator)

Senior Planning Office, GIZ

Tabea Höfig currently works as a Senior Planning Officer and Technical Advisor for social, ecological, and digital transformation of the economy at GIZ headquarters. She has long standing experience in the development space. She helped implement the EnDev project in Mozambique, which aimed at supporting households in gaining access to the national grid and bringing quality photovoltaic products to the markets. Previously she has worked for the World Bank doing economic research on public-private partnerships and procurement and continues to draw from her experience at PwC in the private sector helping companies steer their transformation processes.

Tabea holds university degrees in Political Economy from the University of California, Berkely and in Public Policy from Georgetown University. In addition, she co-founded the Diverse Women in Tech initiative within GIZ which up-skills and brings together participants across GIZ around the intersection of gender and digital transformation.



Venge Nyirongo (Speaker and Facilitator)

Intergovernmental Specialist (Rio Conventions and Sustainable Development), UN Women

Venge Nyirongo is Inter-governmental Specialist at UN-Women's Inter-governmental Support Section working as the organization's focal point for gender and the Rio Conventions and supports agency-wide work on the gender and climate/environment nexus. Prior to this, he spent 9 years supporting UN-Women's work on economic empowerment where he contributed to the advancement of gender equality and sustainable development and led the Action Coalition on Economic Justice and Rights where he focused on how a global multi-stakeholder movement can support economic institutions to work for gender equality and for people and planet. Before UN-Women, Venge worked for UN Environment in Nairobi, UNDP in Malawi and independent consulting on development.



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Verania Chao (Speaker and Facilitator)

Global Inclusivity Advisor, UNDP

Verania has worked for UNDP for more than a decade. She is working as the Global Inclusivity Advisor under the UNDP Climate Hub at Headquarters. She is currently spearheading the work on Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and gender equality and social inclusion, including the work with Indigenous Peoples and Youth, supported by the Climate Promise initiative. Previously, she worked as a Policy Specialist for Environment and Climate Change in the UNDP Gender Team at Headquarters. She also oversaw the environment, energy, and climate change portfolio in UNDP's country office in Mexico, where she worked with national and subnational governments, civil society organizations, and at the community level. Verania holds an MSc in Environment and Development from the London School of Economics and Political Science.



Wiebke Bender (Speaker)

Gender Programme Officer, UNFCCC

Wiebke Bender works as a Gender Programme Officer with UNFCCC and has supported the negotiations on gender and climate change since 2018. Prior to joining the secretariat, Wiebke studied and worked in seven countries, including for UNDP and the private sector on energy, environment and women's economic empowerment. Wiebke holds a Bachelor of Arts in International Economics and Development and a Master of Science in Gender, Development and Globalization. She is also Gender Focal Point for the UN Climate Change secretariat.



Young Hee Lee (Speaker)

Governance Specialist (Legal & Gender Focal Point), Adaptation Fund

Young Hee Lee, a Korean national, is governance specialist and gender coordinator at the AF. She has been leading the gender work at the AF since 2016. As a lawyer by training, she is also responsible for providing legal and policy advice on the matters related to the Fund including the AF complaint handling mechanism. She holds Juris Doctor degree as well as LL.M (Magister Legum) from American University Washington College of Law in D.C., USA, where she studied as a Korean government scholar. She also has a Master of Laws and BA in Diplomacy and Political Science from Yonsei University, Seoul, Korea.

