

## **Summary of the Workshop on Gender Integration in NDCs and LT-LEDs, 28th – 30th Nov 2024, Windhoek, Namibia.**

From November 28th to 30th, the UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Center for East and Southern Africa, in collaboration with UN Women, delivered a transformative 3-day workshop in Windhoek, Namibia. The event focused on integrating gender into Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Long-Term Low-Emission Development Strategies (LT-LEDs). The workshop was hosted by Namibia's Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) and the Environmental Investment Fund (EIF), with funding support from the African Development Bank. This is the fourth workshop that has been organized under the Capacity Building project for Women and Gender climate change negotiators in East and Southern Africa.

A total of 38 participants from 17 East and Southern African countries attended, including representatives from Angola, Botswana, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Seychelles, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. The participants comprised 17 men and 21 women, reflecting a strong gender balance. The training primarily targeted gender experts and sectoral experts involved in NDC processes. It was attended by 17 National Gender Focal Points (11 female, 6 male), 8 Gender Experts (7 female, 1 male), 9 NDC Experts (7 male, 2 female), and 4 Climate Change Experts (1 female, 3 male).

The three-day workshop was officially opened by Ms. Josefina Kakololo, Chief Conservation Scientist, Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, Namibia; William Otieno, Regional Lead, RCC East and Southern Africa; Dr. Alfred Latigo, Africa Climate Change Fund; and Ms. Aina-Maria, NGCCFP, Environmental Investment Fund.

The opening remarks highlighted the collaboration among UNFCCC RCC EASA, ACCF, UN Women, and the Government of Namibia in building capacity for women climate change negotiators in Eastern and Southern Africa. They emphasized the critical need to integrate gender considerations into updated NDCs and LT-LEDs, ensuring NDC 3.0 reflects inclusivity and leaves no one behind.

### **Workshop Proceedings**

#### **Day one**

Day 1 focused on introducing a roadmap for integrating gender into NDCs and LT-LEDs. Participants learned about the work of the ACCF as a cornerstone of the Bank's climate finance strategy, and its Gender Transformative Approach and Rights Based Approach to its portfolio of projects on gender equality and climate resilience. The session also provided an overview of key IPCC/UNFCCC sectors, explaining emission sources and mitigation actions in areas like Energy, Agriculture, LULUCF, IPPU, and Waste. Additionally, participants were introduced to relevant COP decisions on NDCs, LT-LEDs, and land management, with a particular focus on how these decisions affect women, especially in forestry-related projects and issues like share of proceeds and leakage.

#### **Day two**

Day 2 provided an opportunity to explore the basics of gender equality, including its importance, key concepts, and its connection to climate change, with a focus on integrating gender into NDCs and LT-LEDs. A case study from Burkina Faso illustrated practical approaches to gender integration, offering participants valuable insights and tools to address gender considerations in future NDCs. During breakout sessions, participants built on knowledge from Day 1, working in groups to examine specific sectors (Agriculture, Energy, LULUCF, or Waste), identify gender gaps, and prepare presentations to share on Day 3.

#### **Day three**

On Day 3, participants explored gender-responsive and transformative approaches. Group representatives shared findings on gender framing gaps in their NDC sectors and proposed activities for the next round of NDCs. The day also featured a validation exercise for the UN Women NDC checklist and participant presentations on drafting roadmaps to integrate gender into NDCs and LT-LEDs.

## Key outcomes

### 1. Enhanced Understanding and Knowledge of Gender Integration

- Participants developed a deeper understanding of the step-by-step methodology for integrating gender into LT-LEDs.
- Increased awareness of the importance of addressing gender considerations in NDCs, LT-LEDs, and other climate policies and instruments.
- Participants gained practical tips, tools, and knowledge to identify and address gender-related issues in climate policies.

### 2. Actionable Insights and Best Practices

- Participants drew lessons from the Burkina Faso case study and methodology, identifying actionable insights that can be adapted to their respective country contexts.
- Enhanced capacity to recognize and articulate the linkages between key gender concepts (e.g., gender-responsive and gender-transformative approaches) and the intersection of gender and climate change.

### 3. Improved Collaboration and Peer Learning

- Strengthened networks among stakeholders across East and Southern Africa working on gender integration in NDCs and LT-LEDs.
- Facilitated opportunities for peer learning and knowledge exchange, particularly through group discussions on successful gender integration practices and country-level success stories.

### 4. Practical Outputs for Gender Integration in NDCs and LT-LEDs

- Drafted country-specific roadmaps for integrating gender considerations into NDCs and LT-LEDs.

### 5. Enhanced Knowledge on Gender Issues and Concepts

- Participants gained increased confidence and expertise to advocate for gender inclusion in NDCs, LT-LEDs, and climate strategies.
- Strengthened capacity to engage meaningfully in policy discussions, negotiations, and decision-making processes related to gender and climate change.

## Next steps

- The workshop facilitated peer-to-peer learning among East and Southern African countries and support partners, providing a platform for meaningful exchanges. Country representatives identified gender framing gaps within NDC sectors and proposed activities for the next round of NDCs. RCC EASA will review questionnaire results and group exercise presentations to inform the development of country-specific, step-by-step guides for integrating gender into NDCs and LT-LEDs. The RCC EASA Gender Consultant will collaborate closely with National Gender and Climate Change Focal Points (NGCCFPs) to finalize these guides, with input from participating countries. Support will also be extended to countries unable to attend the workshop.
- Participants recognized the training as a valuable starting point for addressing gender integration gaps. Follow-up discussions will be scheduled to ensure continued collaboration and practical implementation of the guides.
- A comprehensive workshop report will be prepared to document the key outcomes, insights, and recommendations to guide next steps and future actions.

## Acknowledgment

This workshop was successfully executed within just six weeks, made possible by active collaboration and unwavering support.

Special thanks to:

- The RCC Team for their tireless efforts in conceptualizing this workshop, managing logistics, and coordinating participants from across East and Southern Africa.
- Patricia Elotu for facilitating the workshop
- The ACCF Secretariat for its flexibility in embracing the concept and providing essential support and approvals.
- UN Women for stepping in on short notice to share invaluable knowledge and expertise.
- Our Host—the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, Namibia—and Ms. Aina Maria Iteta, National Gender Focal Point, Namibia, along with her team, for their outstanding collaboration and support, particularly with visas, participant invitations, and other logistical arrangements.
- Our Participants from East and Southern Africa, whose commitment to driving gender-transformative change is truly appreciated.

The closing remarks stressed the importance of integrating gender into NDCs and LT-LEDs, emphasizing the need for transformative and rights-based approaches to address structural inequalities. The call to action emphasized innovation, collaboration, continuous learning, and knowledge sharing, urging participants to commit to building a sustainable, inclusive, and gender-equitable future while preparing for the 2025 NDC submissions. As a next step, the RCC EASA Gender Consultant will coordinate follow-up discussions with countries to co-design practical, step-by-step guides tailored to their specific contexts.

#### **A.O.B**

All presentations and materials will be updated on the existing [event webpage](#)

#### **Photos:**

Day 1 - <https://gallery.studio7nam.net/eifandrceasa/>

Day 2 - <https://gallery.studio7nam.net/eifandrceasa-1/>