



**Advancing actions of the Lima Work Programme on Gender:  
organization of an in-session workshop at SB42 (June 2015)**

*A Submission from the Global Gender Office  
of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN GGO)  
to the UNFCCC*

At COP20 in Lima, Peru, Parties took another important step forward in ensuring that climate change responses and mechanisms are effective, equitable and efficient by agreeing the Lima Work Programme on Gender (LWPG). Among its key components, the decision mandated the development of a two-year work programme for promoting gender balance and achieving gender-responsive climate policy. While the world cannot wait two years for imperative, widespread gender-responsive action on climate change, other LWPG elements must—in tandem—be pursued to their fullest extent.

A key activity of this decision will be the organization of an in-session workshop on *gender-responsive climate policy with a focus on mitigation action and technology development and transfer* (as per para 11 in the LWPG.) To that end, IUCN Global Gender Office (GGO) takes pleasure in submitting the following suggestions for the organization of the workshop and pledges its commitment to participate in its creation and implementation.

1. IUCN GGO finds that the language of the LWPG clearly indicates the **purpose of the workshop**: to advance understanding of gender-responsive climate policy (and, as GGO finds, its obligatory partner, *practice*.) with a focus on mitigation and technology. Indeed, this scope is wide, and yet a comprehensive overview and linking of these issues is essential to remaining within the 1.5- to 2-degree limit as set forth by Parties and increasing co-benefits of climate responses, as well as to meeting global and national commitments on women’s rights and gender equality.
2. In GGO’s experience working at national level in dozens of countries over the last few years, particularly on climate change policymaking and programming, it is evident that **gender is relevant in all sectors pertaining to mitigation**. *To put it another way, every sector demands and will benefit from gender responsive policy and practice.* Pulling examples from the fourteen national Climate Change Gender Action Plans (ccGAPs),<sup>1</sup> which GGO has facilitated over the last five years in every region of the world, three things are clear: 1.) national stakeholders have identified gender concerns across all priority sectors; 2.) mitigation activities targeting women and gender concerns are seen as useful, necessary, and not only possible but scalable; and 3.) in many cases, women and women’s organizations are already leading the way toward sustainability—creating innovative means for mitigation action across multiple levels.

The following table presents a snapshot view of some of the mitigation activities identified or being implemented from recent ccGAPs:

Country	Sector	Women’s Mitigation Activity
<b>Egypt</b>	Transport	Reducing emissions and expanding livelihoods: creating women-managed water-taxi network on the Nile
<b>Bangladesh</b>	Transport	Ensuring women’s safe use of public transport: Safe ticketing and sitting areas for women in bus and train terminals, and introduction of day passes and a common ticket for buses, trains and boats
<b>Mozambique</b>	Energy	Reducing emissions and reliance on traditional fuel sources:

<sup>1</sup> IUCN. (2012) [The art of implementation: gender strategies transforming national and regional climate change decision making](#).

		creating and running women's community 'energy shops'
<b>Jordan</b>	Energy	Reducing carbon footprints: supporting women's campaigns for reducing household emissions
<b>Mozambique</b>	Forestry	Advocating sustainable forest governance: education campaigns for women and girls in the forest sector
<b>Tanzania</b>	Forestry	Pursuing co-benefits: identifying and implementing REDD+ benefit-sharing schemes for women
<b>Bangladesh</b>	Forestry	Pursuing locally owned restoration: supporting women's mangrove nurseries
<b>Nepal</b>	Agriculture	Prioritizing women's access to productive resources: creating campaigns to ensure women's access to land, seed, credit and information
<b>Cuba</b>	Agriculture	Fostering productivity, efficiency, and food security at community level: scaling up women's best-practice seed banks
<b>Panama</b>	Agriculture/ Land Use	Defining restoration opportunities: training workshops for women on soil restoration, organic fertilizers and other conservation techniques
<b>Bangladesh</b>	Waste	Managing community waste: promoting sustainable practices via women's waste cooperatives
<b>Nepal</b>	Waste	Reducing waste and promoting livelihoods: developing women's "waste to wealth" programs

In terms of *energy*, IUCN GGO's specific work mainstreaming gender in the renewable energy sector at multiple levels has allowed for the adapting and updating of gender methodologies available. The same can be used by policy makers and project implementers to inform their climate mitigation actions, including ensuring *technology development and transfer* is locally and culturally appropriate as well as responsive to women's energy and development needs.<sup>2</sup> Moreover, these efforts have allowed for the identification of best practices and case studies where IUCN GGO partners have integrated gender- and culturally appropriate means to improve the efficiency of their energy projects as well as increase the economic benefits of their interventions.

Country	Sector	Women's Mitigation Activity
<b>Guatemala</b>	Renewable Energy	Reducing emissions, expanding energy access and enhancing livelihoods:  Use of gender and cultural sensitive methodologies for rural electrification projects, supporting women's participation in non-traditional economic activities (including IT) and management of community electricity companies
<b>Nicaragua</b>	National Electrification Program	Ensuring women's participation in the energy value chain: Increasing women's participation in energy distribution chain and support to energy-based micro and small women-led enterprises
<b>Uruguay</b>	Energy Access	Reducing emissions and reliance on traditional fuel sources and

<sup>2</sup> ROJAS (A.V.) and SILES (J). (2014) [Guía sobre Género y Energía para Capacitadoras\(es\) y Gestoras de Políticas Públicas y Proyectos](#). ENERGIA, IUCN, OLADE; and ROJAS (A.V.), Schmitt, F. and Aguilar, L (2012). [Guidelines on Renewable Energy Technologies for Women in Rural and Informal Urban Areas](#). IUCN and ENERGIA.

Policies

increasing energy security:

Addressing the needs of most vulnerable communities, including women, to ensure access to more efficient and appropriate energy technologies, as a tool to achieve higher development goals

Most recently, GGO developed a [White Paper](#)<sup>3</sup> in 2014 to identify the current knowledge gap at the intersection of clean energy, climate change mitigation and gender equality, which is an impediment to reaching development and economic goals. This knowledge gap is particularly tangible when looking at the energy value chain connected to large-scale or utility-scale renewable energy production (i.e. 10 Mw or more) and for LEDS and NAMAs. The paper identifies initial strategies for closing those gaps, while acknowledging and building on existing research and experience on gender issues around energy.

On *forestry, REDD+ and landscape restoration*, GGO's experience has found that there is a strong demand for gender responsive policies and plans, as gender responsive programmes and projects have found successful mitigation results in conjunction with—importantly—opportunity for social and economic co-benefits. In partnership with the U.S. and others, GGO's [technical workshop on gender and REDD+](#)<sup>4</sup> last year examined nearly twenty unique projects that are achieving results with gender well integrated. GGO is also currently working in five countries to advance Gender and REDD+ national strategies, ensuring policies and processes integrate the experience and capacities and respond to the needs of women and men. Moreover, continued effort on forest landscape restoration has shown the need for the inclusion of a gender perspective, as women are major land-users and play a large part in managing natural resources for their families and communities. Women's existing knowledge and expertise can be leveraged to enhance the restoration process along with providing economic and sustainable development benefits. Capacity building for a wide range of decision-makers, from government authorities to programme practitioners to community stakeholders, has been key to integrating comprehensive gender concerns and promoting the positive impact that a gender-responsive approach will serve at local and national levels.

A key lesson learned while examining partners' best practices and pursuing GGO's ongoing programming on gender and climate change has been that ***gender-responsive mitigation action can effectively promote women's rights and open new doors to advance gender equality***. For example, GGO's [Environment and Gender Index \(EGI\)](#) uses 'access to land by women in the agricultural sector' as one of its indicators. Gender responsive REDD+ projects in some countries are changing the results: while working on gender and REDD+ with numerous countries and stakeholders, GGO compared the REDD+ countries<sup>5</sup> against the list of EGI countries<sup>6</sup> where women have no/few legal rights to access or own land, or access is severely restricted by discriminatory practices. Of the seven lowest ranked countries (Sri Lanka, Ghana, Benin, Gambia, Uganda, Cameroon and Burundi), four are "REDD+" countries—and, in three of them, Ghana, Uganda and Cameroon, GGO has developed gender-responsive REDD+ road maps, which are having influence on the land and forest tenure policies. GGO partners, like REFACOF, are achieving dramatic progress in tenure reform, including by ensuring women and women's networks are aware of and engaged in decision-making opportunities. If environmental initiatives fully embrace the

<sup>3</sup> IUCN (2014). Women at the Forefront of the Clean Energy Future. A White Paper of the USAID/IUCN Initiative Gender Equality for Climate Change Opportunities (GECCO). ([Workshop report](#) also available)

<sup>4</sup> IUCN (2014). Gender and Climate Change Technical Workshop Summary Report. (view these and other documents on <http://www.genderandenvironment.org>)

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/redd-country-participants>

<sup>6</sup> The EGI, in its 2012 pilot phase, ranked 72 countries along 27 dimensions divided into six categories (Livelihood, Ecosystem, Gender-based Rights & Participation, Governance, Gender-based Education and Assets, and Country-Reported Activities.) Providing some of the best quantitative data to date on how nations are translating gender and environment mandates into national policy and planning, the EGI showed that nations which take seriously their commitment to tackling women's advancement in their environmental efforts are making huge strides beyond survival to long term well-being for all of their citizens.

principles of gender equality and women's empowerment, they can have an unprecedented impact on improving the planet—and the lives of people on it.

3. On timing, IUCN GGO encourages the organization of the workshop to fall at **the start of the second week of negotiations**. This is both strategic timing for delegate engagement and timing that can benefit from a wide range of participants, including from the GGO office and from partner organizations and networks, such as the Women and Gender Constituency.
4. Timed effectively, the workshop can contribute important capacity and shared understanding for the remainder of the June negotiating session. Information from the workshop may influence coinciding ADP negotiations on guiding principles, for example, which are crucial to ensuring that UNFCCC decisions comply with and advance action on global commitments to gender equality.

However, the **key outcomes of the workshops should include targeted recommendations** for key Convention bodies and/or work programmes, as well as the financial mechanisms. These recommendations could serve as input for the two-year work programme mandated by the LWPG, including the development of a technical paper on guidelines or other tools on integrating gender considerations into climate change related activities under the Convention by the Secretariat, as mandated per para14 of the LWPG.

5. To achieve the points above, GGO proposes a **workshop structure** that ensures a comprehensive reflection of priority issues, including the gender issues of all key sectors pertaining to mitigation, such as energy (from the household-level to large-scale,) forests/REDD+, land use (including agriculture), and technology opportunities. A technical expert presentation that reviews the critical interlinkages between advancing gender equality and opportunities for increasing mitigation and advancing technology could introduce the session, followed by panel discussions categorized by theme and highlighting, to the extent possible, the different methodological approaches used to achieve gender mainstreaming in mitigation and technology development and transfer initiatives as part of the case studies and experiences presented. This would be an important capacity-building component for the workshop, as well as helping to inform outcome recommendations.

It would be essential to ensure participation from local and subnational levels, including local authorities and women's organizations/networks, to present their experiences, challenges and promising practices.

GGO would recommend inviting best-case examples to be presented from various sectors and regions; some of the projects noted above, throughout this submission, could be considered, and GGO offers support the Secretariat in identifying others. As GGO's Global Senior Gender Advisor has had the pleasure to participate on the Board of Momentum for Change, GGO would also suggest featuring some of the winners under the 'women' pillar—such as Solar Sisters, 1 Million Women or Thailand SPCG Solar.

Additional examples would be:

- Mozambique Ministry of Energy – women's solar panel construction and maintenance program
- Semilla de Sol (Guatemala) – women solar engineers and rural electrification with a gender and social component
- Fundacion Solar (Guatemala) – a mitigation project that included gender considerations in rural electrification
- ENATREL (Nicaragua) – achieving gender equality through national electrification programmes
- National Energy Directorate and Climate Change Division in Uruguay – energy policies as a tool to reduce gender inequalities and vulnerabilities which inform NAMA development

- Biogas Support Programme (Nepal) – achieving gender equality and engagement of women in non-traditional economic activities in the biogas sector; BSP is a registered PoA under the CDM
- CRT/Nepal (Nepal) – improving women lives and economic activities through improved stove program; CRT's ICS program is a registered PoA under the CDM
- REDD+ national strategies: Gender and REDD+ Roadmaps from Ghana, Cameroon, Uganda; MREDD in Mexico; REDD+ SES experiences in Brazil, Tanzania, Nepal and Ecuador
- REDD+ projects such as Hariyo Ban, Nepal; Trees for Global Benefit, Uganda; PRISAI, Indonesia
- IUCN/U.S. collaboration on GECCO program on clean energy and REDD+

IUCN GGO looks forward to a fruitful collaboration with the UNFCCC Secretariat, as well as all Parties and Observers, toward a successful workshop.