

Gender Equality & Climate Change

Tailoring interventions for superior results



The impacts of climate change are gendered. The response needs to be as well. Women are disproportionately vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. Persistent gender inequalities continue to limit women's participation in decision-making, restrict their access to financial and technical resources, and prevent them from contributing to and benefitting from new responses to the challenges associated with climate change and ecosystem degradation.

UN agencies, working in close collaboration with governments, multilateral organizations, civil society agencies and the private sector, work to integrate gender equality and women's empowerment principles into climate change policies and programmes. This effort aims to ensure that climate change decision-making and initiatives at all levels address the needs and allow for the contributions of women and men equitably.



**United Nations System
Chief Executives Board for Coordination**

Gender Equality and Climate Change Objectives

UN agencies support Governments and partners to:

- Enhance realization of women's equal rights and empowerment, including in decision-making processes
- Increase effectiveness of interventions related to climate change through use of gender analysis, enhanced capacity, and holistic strategies

Activities

UN system agencies are:

Raising awareness to ensure the integration of gender perspectives into global and national policy and programmes.

Developing capacity to mainstream gender in the governance of climate finance, as well as building capacities at all levels to design and implement gender-responsive climate change policies, strategies and programmes.

Providing research, lessons learned, practical tools and guidance on how gender considerations can be incorporated into climate change adaptation and mitigation projects, climate finance, and technology transfers to support pro-poor, climate-resilient, low-emissions development.

Supporting Governments and other partners **to develop and implement strategies** that target multiple complementary objectives, including gender equality, sustainable development, and poverty and disaster risk reduction.

Results

Women's and girls' education, health, nutrition, economic livelihoods and political empowerment have been enhanced by work of the entire UN

Moving forward

UN agencies will continue to support Governments and other partners to identify gender gaps and tailor their climate interventions to differentiated needs through, *inter alia*, capacity building and technical assistance in the interest of equity and effectiveness.

Contact

Hannie Meesters, UNDP Gender Team, Tel: +1 212 906 6222, Email: hannie.meesters@undp.org, Website: www.undp.org/climatechange/gender.shtml
Tracy Raczek, UNIFEM (part of UN Women), Tel: +1 212 906 6897, Email: tracy.raczek@unifem.org, Website: www.unifem.org/partnerships/climate_change/

system, which is mandated to mainstream gender in its initiatives - increasing women's resiliency to emerging challenges and expanding their opportunities to act on their own behalf.

Gender equality gaps have been identified and addressed in national development, adaptation, mitigation, poverty reduction and disaster risk strategies in dozens of countries.

Disaster risk reduction (DRR) capacities of Government Ministries and civil society have been strengthened to ensure that the gendered aspects of disasters and disaster risk reduction are concretely addressed.

In over 40 countries gender-responsive budgeting has been implemented to help ensure women's needs on the ground are being assessed, and responses are adequately funded and monitored.

The establishment of UN Women, to become operational in January 2011, will strengthen coordination and enhance achievements of the UN system to further advance gender equality.

UN system-wide response to climate change

Under the chairmanship of the Secretary-General, the Chief Executives Board (CEB) brings together the leaders of 29 UN system organizations to jointly support Member States in meeting the global challenges faced by the international community.

In 2008, the CEB adopted the Climate Change Action Framework, a joint, action-oriented approach in line with the ongoing UNFCCC negotiating processes and the emerging agendas of the Parties of the Convention.

The UN system stands ready to support Member States in implementing their commitments. At COP 16 / CMP 6, it is presenting its ongoing work and practical tools available through side events, exhibits and by sharing a joint package with thematic information.

For more information on the CEB and its joint work on climate change, please visit: www.unsceb.org/climatechange

CEB Secretariat
ceb@un.org