

SUBMISSION BY COSTA RICA ON THE REVIEW OF THE LIMA WORK PROGRAMME ON GENDER AND THE GENDER ACTION PLAN

At its forty-ninth session celebrated in Poland, on December 2018, the Subsidiary Body of Implementation (SBI) (FCCC/SBI/2018/2), encouraged Parties and observers to submit via the submission portal, by 31 August 2019, information on the implementation of the gender action plan (GAP), identifying areas of progress, areas for improvement and further work to be undertaken in subsequent action plans so as to inform the synthesis report on this topic to be prepared by the secretariat for consideration at SBI 51.

Additionally, the COP requested SBI 50 to initiate the review of the areas of progress, areas for improvement and further work to be undertaken under the LWPG and its GAP on the basis of all submissions received and reports produced under the LWPG and its GAP, for consideration and adoption at COP 25 (December 2019).

For Costa Rica, the implementation of the activities under the current Lima Work Programme and the GAP has proven effective by enhancing the continued integration of gender considerations in the work under the Convention, and by driving the process of parties that are working in creating and promoting gender-responsive climate policies and actions. The negotiating phase, has advanced and significant milestones have been reached, however now more emphasis is needed in the implementation phase and activities of the GAP should reflect this juncture.

Although success stories can be underlined, there is room for improvement on activities under the priority areas of the GAP. For instance, future activities under the GAP should be decided acknowledging the findings of science, as the basis for achieving an effective implementation. Therefore, requesting a report on gender and climate change to the IPCC will contribute to the understanding of the effects of climate change on marginalized groups, and drive a more effective and inclusive climate action.

Also, ensuring the participation of women on different fora should be strengthened by establishing clear criteria for the selection of beneficiaries of travel funds, while encouraging this participation amongst actors from different

regional areas and different backgrounds. Capacity building activities for participants, but also for Parties and the Secretariat, should also be revised, in order to ensure that capacity building needs are considered when drafting the activities under this priority area.

On the review of the Lima Work Programme, we have limited our proposal to general ideas to let the Programme continue serving the purpose of providing the necessary framework for advancing gender equality and women's empowerment in the UNFCCC process. In this regard, its strengthening, timeframe alignment and even structural changes might be instrumental to achieve these goals.

We have considered different sources of information to define the activities suggested for the priority areas, including the outcome of the recent Bonn workshop, information of the IPCC gender task force, as well as the commitments proposed by the Social and Political Drivers track of the Secretary General Climate Action Summit.

LIMA WORK PROGRAMME
GENERAL SUGGESTIONS:

- The LWP should continue serving the purpose of providing the necessary framework for advancing gender equality and women's empowerment in the UNFCCC process.
- In order to do that, timeframes, scope and objectives should be aligned with those from the GAP and vice versa.
- It should also have a permanent status under the Convention and should be reviewed at least every 5 years, with a 3 year mid-term review in order to assess its effectiveness when contributing to the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the Convention.
- Also, its structure should respond to the needs and priority and strategic areas identified by parties.
- Special emphasis should be given to the creation and strengthening of capacity building for transformative actions in developing countries.

PRIORITY AREAS AND ACTIVITIES SUGGESTED

A) PRIORITY AREA: KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT¹ AND COMMUNICATION

- Request the Secretariat to develop and conduct a communication strategy by SBI 52 that could take into consideration the following elements:
 - Addressing barriers to reaching women, e.g., internet access and language
 - Employing new communication tools like blogs
 - Finding solutions to effectively communicating on the GAP
 - Campaign to address the private sector
 - Intensify online knowledge-sharing and learning
- Request IPCC to produce a comprehensive report on gender and climate change by 2021
- Invite Parties, relevant and observer organizations to make a submission that could support the development of the IPCC comprehensive report on

¹ Knowledge management understood as the process of creating, sharing, using and managing the knowledge

gender and climate change by December 2020. Possible elements of the submission: information on the differentiated impacts of climate change on women and men, and the role of women as agents of change on climate change.

B) PRIORITY AREA: CAPACITY BUILDING

- Enhance the capacity of Parties and stakeholders to develop gender-responsive policies, plans, and programs on adaptation, mitigation, capacity-building, technology, and finance, through the use of such mechanisms as workshops, technical assistance, amongst others.
- Provide capacity-building to chairs and members of UNFCCC constituted bodies and technical teams of the secretariat on how to integrate gender considerations into their respective areas of work and on meeting the goal of gender balance.
- Foster cooperation between CTCN and women/science/tech organizations operating at the national level to support the implementation of national gender-responsive policies.
- Strengthen the NGCCFP through specific capacity building, knowledge-exchange, and networking opportunities.

C) PRIORITY AREA: GENDER BALANCE, PARTICIPATION AND WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP

- Create an online “Roster of Experts” on gender and climate change issues for the UNFCCC website or add “gender” as a thematic area to the current roster of experts.
- Include in regular notifications to Parties, at the time of nominations, to UNFCCC bodies the latest report on the gender composition of the relevant body.
- Call upon the Secretariat to:
 - Conduct an in-session workshop on SBI 53 to:
 - Clarify the role of the gender focal points at national level, in the constituted bodies and in the Secretariat and ways and means in which they should engage with one another.
 - Define an outreach strategy with Parties to confirm the designation of gender and climate change focal points at the national level.

- Revise and examine the governance rules and procedures (i.e., period of designated representatives, regional representation, regional balance, decision-making process) of the Women and Gender Constituency and invite other major groups to share their governance procedures. This analysis should be supported by the Observer Organizations Liaison Team of the Secretariat.
 - Prepare a report and timetable for the execution of recommendations from the workshop.
 - Request parties to present submissions.
- Request the constitute bodies to appoint a gender focal point
 - Invite Party and non-Party stakeholders to support travel funds through voluntary contributions to enhance the participation of women delegates from developing countries, ensuring clarity and transparency on the mechanism on how travel funds select participants, by:
 - Institutionalizing travel funds for women delegates through set quotas on the UNFCCC travel fund
 - Assigning resources directly to national or regional organizations from developing countries
 - Invite Parties to ensure the full, equal, and meaningful participation of women from all backgrounds, stakeholders from all levels of society, in national consultations on their NDC implementation and review.
 - Request the ES of the UNFCCC to establish a directive to mainly support the Secretariat's participation in panels that respect gender parity and restrain the participation of the Secretariat in all-male panels.
 - Invite Parties to commit to gender balance in co-leadership or rotating leadership positions and among speakers when constituting panels.
 - Based on the recommendations of the IPCC Task Force on Gender:
 - Mainstream consideration of gender balance and gender-related issues in soliciting nominations of potential authors, review editors and expert reviewers, and bureau membership.
 - Monitor gender balance in the national nominations and participation in IPCC's activities.
 - Encourage governments to set up targets for gender balance in the nomination process.
 - Encourage nomination of national gender focal points.

- Set up an informal process to share best practices among Focal Points (these last two in combination with above GFP activities)

D) PRIORITY AREA: GENDER-RESPONSIVE IMPLEMENTATION AND MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

- Invite Parties to adopt and implement gender-responsive climate change action plans, policies or strategies.
- Invite Parties to track progress by including in their regular reporting to UN bodies and other related fora: i) efforts, actions, initiatives supporting the implementation of gender-responsive climate policies and programs; ii) percentage of climate-related programs that incorporate gender considerations.
- Request Parties, donors, and non-parties to promote and enhance innovative tools that demonstrate and measure the transformative power of women's and girls' leadership in modifying patterns of consumption to reduce carbon emissions.
- Appeal to Parties, donors, and non-parties to support and promote initiatives that foster women's and girls' full participation and leadership in mitigation and adaptation measures, including in science, technology, research, and development.
- Request UNWomen, in alliance with Parties and non-party organizations, to develop a community of practice and expertise-knowledge hubs (i.e., transport, renewables, REDD+, landscape restoration, urbanism) to provide technical advice and advance the capacity of Parties to accelerate gender-responsive efforts of initiatives, programs, and projects at the national level.
- Conduct an in-session workshop at SBI 52 to exchange information on lessons learned by Parties that integrated gender in their first NDCs (results, impacts achieved, main challenges, among others), as well as the actions that Parties are taking to mainstream gender into their NDC revisions. Secretariat to prepare a synthesis report on guidance and tools for Parties (from the workshop).
- Request IPCC to develop a Gender Policy and an associated Implementation Plan to provide objectives and goals, means of action, and ways of monitoring the development of gender balance and treatment of gender-related issues in the IPCC.

- Provide guidance to the GEF and the GCF, as operating entities of the financial mechanism:
 - To move from gender-sensitive to gender-responsive approach when assigning funds to workshop or session participation, special projects or panels, capacity building, and for the work of women's groups and organizations.
 - To develop simplified procedures to facilitate direct access to climate finance for grassroots women organizations and indigenous and local communities (e.g., national and sub-national small grants facilities under Enhanced Direct Access).
 - To institute the rule of subsidiary (i.e., implementation at the most local level possible) to strengthen the role of local women's and indigenous people's groups and local communities to serve as executing entities for on-the-ground project/program implementation, in partnership with accredited implementing entities.
- Request the SCF to invite the GCF and other entities of the financial mechanism to prioritize the increase of access of funds and enhance the financial readiness of gender-responsive climate interventions and talk about this at their 2020 Forum.
- Call upon implementing entities / financial service providers (including multilateral, regional development banks, climate funds, bilateral development agencies, national banks, cooperatives, local government/cities coalitions, philanthropic organizations, private sector) to commit to earmark specific funds for mitigation and adaptation initiatives led by women and women's groups.
- Invite Parties to hold finance fairs, at the local/national level, with climate experts and funds- including domestic funds, to share and exchange information on climate finance and enhance the capacity of women's groups related to proposal development and project/program implementation.
- Encourage commercial banks and other private sector actors to promote gender-responsive banking procedures and support women's access to resources for climate adaptation and mitigation actions, including through public support in the form of risk guarantees, and revised regulatory requirements.

- Incite that climate finance provision through domestic commercial banks, ensure benefits accrue to women as customers (i.e., relevant conditionalities such as passing on of concessionally of finance via subsidized green credit lines or affordable micro-credits).

E) PRIORITY AREA: MONITORING AND REPORTING

- Request GCF and GEF to report to the COP on: how gender-responsive considerations have been mainstreamed in the projects related to the implementation of NDCs; the percentage of climate-related programs submitted to climate finance mechanisms that incorporate gender considerations; and the impact of climate finance on the enhancement of women's and girls' lives.
- Request the Secretariat to keep track and produce a synthesis report (at the end of 2020 and updated every year) on Parties that have produced gender-responsive climate change action plans, policies or strategies and keep track and analyzed the primary regular reporting by Parties to UN bodies and other related fora in relation to efforts, actions, initiatives supporting the implementation of gender-responsive climate policies and actions.
- Request the Constituted Bodies to report yearly on implementation of gender mandates and request the Secretariat to prepare a synthesis report on this.
- Request the Secretariat to report biannually on the implementation of the GAP, including on the use and management of financial resources managed by the Secretariat for the Lima Work Programme and the Gender Action Plan.
- Encourage knowledge exchange activities about tracking and reporting on gender mandates among secretariat staff across all themes.
- Call for disaggregated data on climate finance (on access, destination, and impact) to strengthen gender-responsive climate interventions and increase the transparency on the priorities of climate finance.
- Identify technologies that are more gender-responsive and use knowledge of indigenous people and local communities to feed into TEC report.