



Viale d Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, IT www.fao.org

Our Ref.:

Your Ref.:

3/CP.23 (Gender Action Plan, activity A.2)

Submission by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in relation to Activity A.2, Priority Area A: Capacity Building, Knowledge Sharing and Communication, as mandated by Decision 3/CP.23.

FAO welcomes the establishment of the Gender Action Plan,¹ which recognizes the need for gender-responsive policies in all aspects of climate change adaptation and mitigation activities. FAO also welcomes the opportunity to submit its views and inputs to help shape the Plan's implementation.

It is FAO's view that gender must be mainstreamed and anchored in national and sectoral policies, strategies and plans, with special attention paid to the gender implications of the agriculture sectors² in the context of climate change. The agriculture sectors provide diverse opportunities for empowering women and reducing their vulnerability to climate-related shocks.

There is growing consensus on the need to address gender equality in responses to the impacts of climate change, particularly in the agriculture sectors, because socially constructed institutions, relations and roles shape women's and men's vulnerabilities and adaptive capacities. There is strong evidence that gender equality is crucial for sustainable agricultural development. Action to promote gender equality in climate change responses would lead to positive effects for other goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG 5: "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls". The Paris Agreement and many SDG targets recognize gender equality and women's empowerment both as an objective and as a solution to the sustainability challenges faced globally. Development actions must "leave no one behind" and be socially inclusive and just.

The inextricable linkages between the agriculture sectors, climate change, food security and poverty have been outlined in detail in previous FAO contributions to the UNFCCC, as well as in a forthcoming submission on the Koronivia joint work on agriculture and in a submission under Activity E.1 of the Gender Action Plan mandated by Decision 3/CP.23. Those contributions are complementary to this submission.

A. Systematic integration of gender-sensitive and participatory education, training, public awareness, public participation and public access to information from national to local level into all adaptation and mitigation activities

FAO adopted its Policy on Gender Equality in 2012, underscoring the Organization's commitment to promoting gender equality and women's empowerment as a key to eradicating hunger and poverty globally.³ The policy provides a framework for guiding the Organization's efforts to achieve gender equality in all its technical work and for assessing results. It has 13 minimum standards,⁴ which have been in place since 2015 to systematically address gender dimensions relevant to FAO's normative work and country-level programmes and projects. FAO adopted its Strategy on Climate Change⁵ in 2017, which, among other things, aims to enhance the capacity of member countries on climate change through FAO as a provider of technical knowledge and expertise in agriculture. The strategy takes into consideration gender-specific vulnerabilities, needs, opportunities and capabilities. Both the Policy on Gender Equality and the Strategy on Climate Change mandate the systematic integration of gender-sensitive considerations

¹ Decision 3/CP.23.

² For the purposes of this document, the "agriculture sectors" comprise crops, livestock, fisheries and aquaculture, and forestry.

³ www.fao.org/docrep/017/i3205e/i3205e.pdf

⁴ www.fao.org/docrep/017/i3205e/i3205e.pdf (for a guide on assessing gender mainstreaming, see www.fao.org/3/a-bd714e.pdf)

⁵ www.fao.org/3/a-i7175e.pdf

into all FAO projects and programmes on climate change mitigation and adaptation, including through participatory education, training public awareness, public participation and public access to information. Moreover, since 2014, FAO's indigenous peoples' team has been working to ensure implementation of the Organization's 2010 Policy on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples,⁶ which was drafted by FAO's gender team with indigenous leaders.

Examples are presented below of approaches, tools and guidelines developed and implemented by FAO in its work in member countries to promote the systematic integration of gender into its climate change work.

Mainstreaming gender in FAO's project cycle. *The Guide to Mainstreaming Gender in FAO's Project Cycle*⁷ supports the mainstreaming of gender in the Organization's project cycle as a way of ensuring the sustainability of interventions, supporting equitable growth, increasing production and encouraging gender equality. Projects are designed and implemented in the context of country programme frameworks and build on information in country gender assessments. This is applicable to project activities that have education, training and public participation elements.

Leadership School of Indigenous Women. FAO and the International Indigenous Women's Forum started the Leadership School of Indigenous Women⁸ in 2015 as a priority area of work. It aims at empowering indigenous women leaders and activists to become advocates for human rights, food security and nutrition. Two sessions have been held in seven countries in Asia and Latin America; a third session is underway in 2018, including a "training of trainers" module. The programme has enabled 97 indigenous women from Peru, Bolivia and India to strengthen their knowledge and capacities to become advocates for food and nutritional security, as well as gender equality in their communities.

Climate-smart agriculture training. FAO promotes climate-smart agriculture (CSA) as an approach that can transform and reorient agricultural systems to effectively support development and ensure food security in a changing climate while addressing the specific needs of men and women. *How to Integrate Gender Issues in Climate-smart Agriculture Projects*,⁹ a training module published by FAO, IFAD and the World Bank, presents tools for integrating gender into the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of CSA projects. A pilot project in Kenya under FAO's Mitigation of Climate Change in Agriculture (MICCA)¹⁰ program, where women in the Kamotony area received training in CSA practices, reported increased milk productivity after applying the knowledge gained through training in improved fodder production, feed storage, and dairy cattle management.

Bioenergy and food security training events. FAO encourages the equal participation of women and men in training on the Bioenergy and Food Security Approach (BEFS) methodology and the use of BEFS Rapid Appraisal tools. Most recently, BEFS training¹¹ has targeted energy experts working in ministries of energy and research institutes in seven African countries. A gender-balanced training team promotes the active and equal participation of women in the training process and ensures that the learning environment is suitable for both women and men. Analyses of country context – part of the BEFS methodology – examine the gender dimension of people's access to energy.

Gender-responsive disaster risk reduction in the agriculture sectors. In gender-responsive approaches to disaster risk reduction (DRR), gender-based differences and issues are taken into account in the design of policies, strategies, plans and programmes, and gender equality is promoted in their implementation. The aim of FAO's *Gender-responsive Disaster Risk Reduction in the Agriculture Sector: Guidance for Policy-makers and Practitioners*¹² is to assist policy-makers and practitioners in the development of gender-responsive DRR policies, strategy and plans for

⁶ www.fao.org/docrep/013/i1857e/i1857e00.pdf

⁷ www.fao.org/3/a-i6854e.pdf

⁸ www.fao.org/indigenous-peoples/our-work/indigenous-women

⁹ www.fao.org/3/a-i6097e.pdf

¹⁰ <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5546e.pdf>

¹² www.fao.org/3/b-i6096e.pdf

the agriculture sectors. FAO has provided assistance to the Syrian Arab Republic¹³ on the Agriculture Damage, Loss and Needs Assessment and have also supported the Pakistan's National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) have reviewed the Government disaster risk management (DRM) system to mainstream DRM approaches into agriculture and rural development, which both have training and gender responsive components.

E-learning tool on community-based adaptation to climate change. FAO's e-learning tool, *Planning for Community Based Adaptation (CBA) to Climate Change*,¹⁴ is designed for development practitioners – specifically, national agricultural extension workers, community-based organizations and field-level professionals – wanting to improve their understanding of climate change adaptation in agriculture. The tool aims to assist those actors facing the challenge of initiating and facilitating community-level adaptation processes, and it integrates several cross-cutting aspects of adaptation, including gender. The e-learning tool has been successfully implemented in a number of countries, which include Saint Lucia, Dominica, Sudan, Nepal, Philippines and China with very positive reviews on the usefulness of the tool to building their knowledge base and confidence.

Blue Growth Initiative. FAO's Blue Growth Initiative (BGI)¹⁵ builds on the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) and its related instruments such as the *Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Alleviation* ("SSF guidelines").¹⁶ The BGI focuses on capture fisheries; aquaculture; ecosystem services; trade and social protection and aims at advocating ways to balance economic growth, social development, food security, and sustainable use of aquatic living resources. Training for trainers¹⁷ were held as part of trainings in fisheries and aquaculture emergency response and best practice to allow both men and women trainers to understand key messages and the methodology that they are expected to deliver in their own contexts.

Mainstreaming gender into forestry. FAO published *How to Mainstream Gender in Forestry: A Practical Field Guide* in 2016 with the aim of helping forestry officers identify actions for mainstreaming gender in forestry projects and programmes. Possible actions include seeking ways to increase women's participation in community forest management groups, small and medium-sized forest enterprises, non-governmental organizations, and village administrations. In the 10 countries where FAO's Farm and Forest Facility¹⁸ is active, projects to improve gender mainstreaming are underway, notably through the promotion of FAO *Market Analysis and Development* training, which in particular benefits women and as well as its gender sensitive *Monitor and Learning framework*.

Food-loss assessment tools. As part of the SAVE FOOD Global Initiative on Food Loss and Waste Reduction, FAO has developed a methodology for analysing food loss¹⁹ to identify entry points for food-loss reduction and it addresses gender as a cross-cutting theme. FAO has also produced a guiding note on gender and food loss in sustainable food value chains to help conceptualize and raise awareness of the nexus between gender equality and food loss. In 2017, national level training²⁰ on gender in value chains was provided in Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Rwanda and Tunisia and aimed to develop the expertise in order to build a pool of experts to support agribusiness and gender mainstreaming in value chain development at country level.

Mainstreaming gender in water programmes. The *Passport to Mainstreaming Gender in Water Programmes*²¹ is a rapid appraisal tool for identifying the main gender-related issues and gaps that require attention in the design, implementation and monitoring of agricultural water management projects and programmes. The *Socio-Economic*

¹³<http://www.fao.org/3/b-i7081e.pdf>

¹⁴ <http://www.fao.org/climatechange/24444-0ed5117aa4b7b6355bca46e0cf60eb161.pdf>

¹⁵ www.fao.org/policy-support/policy-themes/blue-growth

¹⁶ www.fao.org/fishery/ssf/guidelines

¹⁷ <http://www.fao.org/blogs/blue-growth-blog/training-of-trainers-on-fisheries-and-aquaculture-emergencies-arpitas-story/es/?rss=1>

¹⁸ <http://www.fao.org/partnerships/forest-farm-facility/43150-036ec0f0ac9459208d0a8e20043a4dcd0.pdf>

¹⁹ www.fao.org/3/a-az568e.pdf

²⁰ <http://www.fao.org/3/a-bd710e.pdf>

²¹ www.fao.org/docrep/017/i3173e/i3173e.pdf

and *Gender Analysis (SEAGA) Irrigation Sector Guide*²² supports the participatory planning of irrigation schemes and the integration of socio-economic and gender issues into planning processes. FAO conducted a pilot project on irrigation in Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco, consisting of three components in which one was dedicated to workshops organized on the role of women in the irrigation sector in the countries of North Africa and the Middle East.

B. Adaptation and mitigation gender activities on education, training and public awareness

The following list of FAO's gender-sensitive and participatory education, training, public-awareness and public-participation activities in climate change mitigation and adaptation undertaken between 1 January 2017 and 31 January 2018 is not exhaustive. It provides a snapshot to the commitment of the Organization to the gender agenda and to be complements FAO's 2017 submission on capacity building, as well as an upcoming submission on capacity building and FAO's contribution to the UNFCCC Capacity Building Portal.

High-level forum on indigenous women in Latin America and the Caribbean. The Empowerment of Indigenous Women for the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition in Latin America and the Caribbean High-level Forum²³ provided an opportunity for government ministers and indigenous leaders in Latin America and the Caribbean, and United Nations agencies, to discuss the policy changes needed to achieve zero hunger and SDG 5 in the region, in the context of climate change.

Launch of global campaign for empowerment of indigenous women. The Global Campaign for the Empowerment of Indigenous Women for Zero Hunger was launched in January 2018 with the aim of making indigenous women more visible and empowering them. In the campaign, FAO, in partnership with NOTIMIA (Agencia de Noticias de Mujeres Indígenas y Afrodescendientes) and the International Indigenous Women's Forum, is calling for the inclusion of intercultural elements and concerns in sectoral policies. Fourteen indigenous organizations and networks, including universities, have already endorsed the campaign.

Roundtable on gender-responsive and climate-smart agriculture. FAO convened a roundtable in the lead-up to the 23rd Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UNFCCC aimed at raising awareness among COP delegations and agricultural agents of the importance of gender responsiveness and providing evidence of women's economic empowerment. The roundtable also provided a forum for consultation and discussion on the function of the Agriculture Gender Task Force.

Training on mainstreaming gender in climate-responsive agricultural planning. FAO, the Government of Viet Nam and the Netherlands Development Organization (SNV) collaborated to convene a training workshop in Hanoi, Viet Nam, aimed at encouraging the mainstreaming of gender into climate-responsive agricultural planning. The workshop presented the concepts of gender equality and women's economic empowerment and their relevance in agriculture and climate change; pinpointed gender gaps in agricultural priority areas; and identified emerging needs in gender capacity building.

Workshop on mainstreaming gender in climate change adaptation activities in the agriculture sectors in Africa. The objectives of this workshop were to support decision makers at all levels of planning to meet gender-sensitive commitments in policy development and implementation and to integrate gender issues into climate change workplans and budgets. The workshop was a collaborative effort by the Government of Uganda, the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety of Germany (BMUB), FAO, and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Addressing agriculture in national adaptation plans. One of the aims of *Addressing Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in National Adaptation Plans [Supplementary Guidelines]*²⁴ is to ensure the systematic mainstreaming of

²² www.fao.org/docrep/012/ak209e/ak209e00.pdf

²³ www.fao.org/americas/eventos/ver/en/c/1028024

²⁴ www.fao.org/3/a-i6714e.pdf

gender in the agriculture sectors as a way of enhancing the integration of adaptation into national agricultural development policies, programmes and plans. A workshop convened by FAO to disseminate the supplementary guidelines examined (among other things) a case study on gender and adaptation planning in the agriculture sectors in Uganda²⁵ arising from the FAO–UNDP programme on integrating agriculture in national adaptation plans (NAPs). A training guide is under development on mainstreaming gender in NAPs for agriculture based on FAO–UNDP training events in Colombia, Kenya, Nepal, Uganda, Viet Nam and Zambia.

Workshop on integrating gender into adaptation planning in the agriculture sectors in Latin America. The aim of this workshop, held in Bogotá, Colombia, was to identify opportunities for promoting gender-responsive adaptation in the agriculture sectors. Among other things, the workshop identified links between adaptation and the promotion of gender equality, taking as points of entry the country context and gaps in existing gender mainstreaming activities. The workshop was a collaborative effort by BMUB, FAO and UNDP.

Webinars. FAO convened the following webinars to help build capacity for integrating agriculture in the NAP development process: Addressing Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in National Adaptation Plans – Supplementary Guidelines; The Role of Climate Information Services in Adaptation Planning for Agriculture; Mainstreaming Gender in Climate Change Adaptation Planning for the Agriculture Sectors; and adaptation dialogues in Uruguay with youth and rural women as part of the FAO–UNDP programme on integrating agriculture in NAPs.

Knowledge-sharing platform on resilience. KORE (“Knowledge Resilience”) is an integrated, action-oriented knowledge-sharing platform to help build resilience to food insecurity and malnutrition in the face of shocks and stresses, including climate-induced changes and disasters. Gender is a cross-cutting theme in KORE and features in a number of the platform’s publications and tools. Two KORE webinars on safe access to fuel and energy²⁶ covered topics such as protection and gender, education, environment, health, food security and nutrition, livelihoods, displaced-persons camp management, and multistakeholder coordination.

Conclusion

The information provided in this submission confirms FAO’s commitment to the gender agenda through its work. The approaches, guidelines and tools described above are not exhaustive but provide examples of how FAO is supporting countries in strengthening and enhancing their capacity, knowledge based, sharing and communication of information on the systematic integration of gender sensitive and participatory training, public awareness, public participation and access to information on agriculture and food systems.

Agriculture has enormous potential in advancing both the climate and gender agendas and plays a key role in the implementation of the Gender Action Plan. FAO is at the forefront of the discussions on the nexus between gender and climate change in agriculture and food security, with extensive expertise and experience to offer in this area. FAO stands ready to further support countries in the implementation of the Gender Action Plan and gender-related objectives included in their NDCs.

²⁵ www.fao.org/3/i8282en/i8282EN.pdf

²⁶ www.fao.org/in-action/kore/news-and-events/events-details/en/c/461741