GENDER AND CLIMATE CHANGE:
Considerations for the implementation of the Lima Work Programme on Gender, the UNFCCC Gender Action Plan and its review process
(Decision 3/CP.23, Activity E.1 and FCCC/SBI/2018/L.22/Add.1)
Submission by Costa Rica

Background

In Decision 3/CP.23, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) requested Parties to report on actions that can inform the implementation of the Convention’s Gender Action Plan (GAP) including the design of a technical workshop during SB 50. In addition, the Chair conclusions FCCC/SBI/2018/L.22/Add.1 request Parties and observers to provide further information to identify areas of progress, areas of improvement and further work to be undertaken in subsequent action plans.

Moreover, under the Paris Agreement Parties are working to achieve their mitigation and adaptation goals through their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Decision FCCC/CP/2018/L22, on further guidance in relation to mitigation actions, calls on Parties to prepare their NDCs taking into account the engagement with local communities and indigenous peoples, as well as the use of a gender responsive approach. Meanwhile, Decision FCCC/CP/2018/L. 21 reiterates the call for Parties to report on gender-responsive adaptation actions, and decision FCCC/CP/2018/7 calls for the technology framework principles to guide the Technology Mechanism in implementing the Paris Agreement, taking into account gender considerations.

Therefore, Parties need to work in integral strategies across the Convention, its mechanisms and protocols, to address national and global gender needs and ensure roadmaps to fulfill the Gender Action Plan in a programmatic fashion.

Advancements for addressing gender equality in climate change action

Information on differentiated impacts on women and men, local communities and indigenous peoples

Costa Rica, aware of the need to promote and properly address gender issues, has taken the leadership through the FOR ALL Coalition aimed to work at the global level to ensure that the main multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) are working coherently towards the achievement of gender equality through their implementation actions. The request for the provision of sex-disaggregated data and inclusion of gender-responsive activities are essential to the efforts undertaken by the FOR ALL Coalition. In this regard, the development of technical capacities to develop national statistics is crucial, mainly in developing countries. A more
programmatic work needs to be done, along with technical support from Parties and the MEAs focal points.

Integration of gender considerations in adaptation, mitigation, capacity building, Action for Climate, technology and finance policies, plans and actions

Costa Rica has identified specific needs to advance gender-responsive technologies. In this regard, besides global and focused efforts to promote effective technologies, harder work needs to be done to ensure technological penetration. Costa Rica is still working in the planning of such instrument to support national and institutional policies. Closer work is expected to take place with TEC and CTCN to ensure successful technologies and gender-segregated data collection analysis.

Furthermore, projects implemented under the umbrella of EUROCLIMA+, an EU funded regional program, include a gender perspective to forest and disaster risk reduction actions.

Policies and plans for and progress made in enhancing gender balance in national climate delegations

Costa Rican Delegation is mainly composed by women: Chief Negotiator and two Deputy Chief Negotiators, along with at least 4 more women as negotiators. Also, this year the Delegation will be co-Chaired by a Woman, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Lorena Aguilar Revelo. Another 3 negotiators, one Deputy Negotiator and the Head of Delegation are men.

Elements for LWPG and Gender Action Plan workshop

Financing mechanisms such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Climate Investment Funds (CIF) and the multilateral development banks have recently implemented and revised their gender strategies and action plans; the results of which may be of interest for Parties and their support or potential areas of improvement may be of relevance to future activities under the gender action plan. In addition, the Paris Rulebook has provided a stronger mandate for the technology mechanism to address gender equality in its actions; bringing to the attention of Parties the manner in which this will be done, beyond the on-going work of the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) will be relevant to Parties.

Hence, Costa Rica will welcome a session where key stakeholders involved in both the finance as well as the provision of technical assistance for the design of climate actions, as part of the upcoming gender workshop under SB50. This session will be complimentary to other sessions and Parties could share their progress, identify areas of improvement and address areas of further work under the follow up on the gender action plan.