

GENDER AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Responding to the UNFCCC Gender Action Plan Priority Area E and A (Decision 3/CP.23, and FCCC/SBI/2018/L.22/Add.1)

Submission by the Philippines

25 April 2019

I. Background

1. In Decision 3/CP.23, Parties decided that all the topics of the annual in-session workshops taking place in the first sessional period of 2018 and 2019 will be based on the submission referred to in *Activity E.1 of priority area E (Monitoring and reporting)* of the Gender Action Plan (GAP).
2. Under Activity E.1, Parties are invited to make a submission on the following, including sex- disaggregated data and gender analysis, where applicable:
 - a. Information on the differentiated impacts of climate change on women and men, with special attention paid to local communities and indigenous peoples;
 - b. Integration of gender considerations into adaptation, mitigation, capacity-building, Action for Climate Empowerment, technology and finance policies, plans and actions; and
 - c. Policies and plans for and progress made in enhancing gender balance in national climate delegations.
3. Under Activity A.2 of priority area A (*Capacity-building, knowledge-sharing and communication*), Parties are requested to make a submission on the 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 mitigation and adaptation activities implemented under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, including into the implementation of nationally determined contributions (NDC) and the formulation of long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies.
4. Responding to these requests, the Philippines provides below its initial contribution to Activities E.1. and A.2 of the GAP.

II. Information on the differentiated impacts of climate change on women and men, with special attention paid to local communities and indigenous peoples

5. The Philippines has recognized the need to identify the “differential impacts of climate change on men, women, and children” as mandated under its Climate Change Act of 2009.

In addition, the Philippines, through the Climate Change Commission, has issued Resolution 2019-001 on the implementation of the National Climate Risk Management Framework, which aims to systematically identify, quantify and address the country’s climate change risks as a basis for systematic anticipatory climate change adaptation.

Further, in its NDC formulation, gender mainstreaming opportunities are systematically being undertaken to harness the significant potential contribution of women in greenhouse gas (GHG) mitigation towards sustainable development.

Moreover, the Climate Change Commission has issued Resolution 2019-02 to strengthen gender-based approaches in the formulation and implementation of climate change policies, plans, programs, and activities in the country, including the generation of sex-disaggregated data and conduct of gender analysis.

6. In view of these policies, the Philippines needs to complete and organize its national climate change statistics, specifically on climate-related hazards, population vulnerabilities focusing on women, children, elderly and persons with disabilities, climate change impacts over time, and targeted, “fit for purpose” adaptation and mitigation measures. For these outcomes, it will have to set up inter-operable and accessible data bases and an over-all platform to calculate risks and their mitigation, as well as, the country’s GHG generation and mitigating measures, the implementation of which are envisioned to be heavily anchored on women’s participation.
8. **For the above, a deliberate build up of gender-disaggregated data on the relevant aspects of the Philippines’ climate change work would require targeted capacity building, finance and technology, which are similar needs of other developing country Parties of the UNFCCC and its Paris Agreement.**

Support is needed to (i) develop statistical datasets on the impacts of both extreme weather and slow onset events, including displacement and migration, on women and men; (ii) develop/access tools and models to determine sectoral impacts of climate change including impacts on women and men; (iii) institutionalize a centralized sex-disaggregated database to support gender-responsive climate actions; and (iv) use gender analysis and monitoring tools.

III. Integration of gender considerations into adaptation, mitigation, capacity-building, Action for Climate Empowerment, technology and finance policies, plans and actions *(including requested information under Activity A.2 - Capacity-building, knowledge-sharing and communication)*

9. *Enabling Policy* - The Philippine Climate Change Act of 2009 declared it a policy of the State to incorporate a gender-sensitive, pro-children, and pro-poor perspective in all climate change and renewable energy efforts, plans, and programs. It mandated the provision of a capacity-building program for local governments on climate change, with focus on women and children, especially in the rural areas.
10. *Local Adaptation Fund* - The utilization of its “People’s Survival Fund,” a local adaptation fund legislated in 2012, takes into account the local projects’ “responsiveness to gender-differentiated vulnerabilities,” among other criteria.
11. *National Climate Change Action Plan* - The National Climate Change Action Plan of the Philippines highlighted the need to mainstream gender considerations into the following areas: (i) research and development; (ii) planning and policy making; (iii) knowledge and

capacity development; and (iv) enhancing women's participation in climate change adaptation.

12. *Gender Budget* - As early as 1995, national government agencies in the Philippines have been allocating five percent of their respective annual budgets for Gender and Development (GAD). This includes activities relating to improvement of gender statistics, education, capacity building, livelihood projects, credit and financial assistance, and provision of agricultural technologies, among other purposes.
13. *NDC* - The Philippines is developing a gender-responsive NDC. This endeavor includes the identification of gender gaps in the NDC and corresponding entry points in the Philippine NDC's adaptation priorities and mitigation options and development of gender-responsiveness indicators of NDC implementation.
14. *Capacity-Building* - The Climate Change Commission, the National Focal Point to the UNFCCC, undertakes capacity-building programs for national government agencies, higher educational institutions, and local government units through the Communities for Resilience and Support to Climate Field Schools programs. It also holds project proposal development writeshops and trainings to facilitate access of local government units to climate finance facilities, such as the People's Survival Fund. The government ensured gender balance of participants, trainers, experts, and coordinators involved in these programs. It engages indigenous cultural communities who are particularly vulnerable, in its knowledge-sharing and capacity-building programs.
15. *Agriculture* - National government agencies, local governments, and non-government organizations in the Philippines implement Climate Field School programs for farmers and fisherfolk to understand climate-related risks and integrate weather and climate information in agricultural decision-making and disaster risk management. In 2018, the Climate resiliency Field Schools (CrFS) piloted of the Rice Watch Action Network (R1) gained the recognition of the Women and Gender Constituency of the UNFCCC for engaging women and youth, promoting diversification of income sources, and building the capacities of women on activities traditionally dominated by men.
16. *Knowledge Exchange* - In 2018, the Philippines, together with the Asian Development Bank, the Government of Palau, and the United Nations Environment Programme, Secretariat of the Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN), organized the 6th Asia Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum in Manila.

Through this international knowledge exchange platform, the Philippines, with the Stockholm Environment Institute, organized sessions of leading experts and champions of gender mainstreaming to promote the integration of gender perspectives in climate impact assessments and climate actions. The Forum advanced the following recommendations:

- *Gender equality aspects should be integrated into climate adaptation plans, strategies and actions. This supports and strengthens existing capacities, and facilitates women's economic empowerment, and builds women's leadership and skills – particularly in plans relating to migration, resettlement/relocation, and disaster preparedness and response.*
- *There is a need to establish a knowledge management platform on gender mainstreaming in climate change adaptation. This would allow for upscaling efforts, including attracting investments in technology and data, which would assist in*

equipping women to build resilience in their communities, in the face of projected disasters.

- *Research must work across sectors and utilize all available expertise. It is important to strive for gender parity in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, to make the best use of human resources.*

17. Building on these gains, support is needed to improve knowledge, competencies, and institutional capacities on the following areas:

- **Conduct of gender-sensitive sector impact studies and researches in climate-sensitive sectors;**
- **Conduct of gender needs assessment;**
- **Systematic application of gender mainstreaming methods in adaptation and mitigation interventions;**
- **Use of gender-responsive monitoring and evaluation methods;**
- **Fostering gender equality in green jobs creation and promotion;**
- **Designing gender-responsive climate actions to enhance access to climate finance;**
- **Gender-responsive climate budgeting;**
- **Identification of community-based organizations to form part of a community of practice/knowledge exchange and strengthen women leadership in the grassroots; and**
- **Knowledge management.**

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

18. The Philippine Magna Carta of Women, enacted in 2009, stipulates that “the State shall take all appropriate measures to ensure the opportunity of women, on equal terms with men and without any discrimination to represent their government at the international level and to participate in the work of international organizations.”

The Philippine Delegation to the annual Conference of the Parties is comprised of at least 40% women, including senior negotiators, experts, and technical staff.

The Philippines regularly monitors the composition of participants to climate change conferences, fora, trainings, meetings, and events, disaggregating women and men.

The country holds capacity-building activities for its international climate negotiators, ensuring gender balance of participants and experts.

19. Support is needed to build the expertise of women delegates to effectively engage in all negotiation workstreams.

20. The Philippines further submits that enhancement of gender balance in national climate delegations can be encouraged by an explicit recognition of disaggregated gender data in general, moving towards delegation-level data reporting over time.