

Submission from the International Institute for Sustainable Development Gender and Climate Change: Implementation of the Gender Action Plan Mandate: FCCC/SBI/2018/L.22, paragraph 6

This submission presents views from the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) on the implementation of the Gender Action Plan (GAP).

We recognize the progress made in implementing the GAP, particularly in the following areas:

Enhancing the capacity of Parties and stakeholder to develop gender-responsive policies, plans and programmes on adaptation, mitigation, capacity-building, technology and finance (A1), for example:

- A number of countries have undertaken gender analyses to inform their National Adaptation Plan (NAP) processes, including [Côte d'Ivoire](#), [Ethiopia](#), [Kiribati](#) and [Madagascar](#).
- The Government of Jamaica held a capacity building [workshop](#) for gender and climate change focal points across different government institutions.
- South-South peer learning on gender in NAP processes has occurred, for example through this [event](#).
- Provision of finance through the redirection of government subsidies to fossil fuels towards climate action, gender empowerment and resilience benefits. For example, sharing lessons from countries (such as [Ghana](#), [Morocco](#), the [Philippines](#) and [Peru](#)) that have undertaken a reform of subsidies and redirected financing towards education, cash transfers and health programmes and for the benefit of women and girls.
- Further capacity building between countries on smart targeting of Liquid Petroleum Gas cooking subsidies towards women and those currently without access to clean energy as in [India](#) and [Peru](#).

We feel that improvement is needed in the following areas:

- Given the importance of capacity building, we suggest that this should be a dedicated priority area under the GAP, with expanded scope as follows:
 - Highlight that capacity building is a sustained, longer-term process.
 - Recognize that sustained capacity building requires more than workshops and technical assistance. Other relevant approaches include South-South learning, communities of practice, synthesized guidance and mentoring.
 - Frame the need for capacity building more broadly to target the range of different actors who must be involved in implementation of the Paris Agreement, including government institutions, civil society, private sector actors and grassroots organizations.
 - Acknowledge that capacity building approaches must be tailored to the particular actor and the context they are working in.

- Focus capacity development on knowledge and skills that enable gender-responsive implementation, including through access to and appropriate allocation of finance.
- Clarify which aspects of capacity development are within the scope of the Secretariat and which must be taken up by Parties, United Nations and relevant organizations.
- Clear linkages should be made between capacity building and the other priority areas, particularly implementation. This could be addressed by treating capacity building as a cross-cutting priority.
- With regard to communication and knowledge sharing:
 - Emphasize engagement of actors beyond the gender and climate change focal points, to raise awareness of the GAP and gender issues among negotiators across the different agenda items.
 - Use more creative ways to share knowledge, including online tools and platforms, as well as in-person dialogue.
- Gender-responsive implementation requires more attention and an expanded scope of activities:
 - Consideration of what is needed for actors not directly engaged in the UNFCCC process to enable implementation of climate action.
 - Recognition of key in-country processes, such as NAP and Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA) processes, in facilitating implementation, highlighting the need for these processes to be gender-responsive.

In terms of further work to be undertaken in subsequent action plans, we recommend:

- A longer time frame for the GAP, to allow sufficient time for progress to be made, results to be tracked and learning to be synthesized.
- Integrating reporting on gender in other processes, including national communications, adaptation communications and the global stocktake.
- Annual knowledge sharing events at SB sessions.

In the context of the new GAP, IISD will continue to work with governments and other partners to promote gender-responsive climate action, for example by:

- Providing evidence-based analysis technical assistance and capacity development to support gender-responsive planning, policy development and implementation.
- Facilitating South-South knowledge exchange on gender-responsive approaches to climate change adaptation and mitigation.
- Synthesizing and disseminating experiences, lessons and knowledge related to gender-responsive climate action at the global level.

