

Submission AILAC

Title: Information on the progress, challenges, gaps and priorities in implementing the gender action plan (GAP) and future work to be undertaken on gender and climate change

Mandate: Decision 15/CP.28, para. 2

1. AILAC welcomes Decision 15/CP.28 of the Conference of the Parties, and the opportunity to provide information on the on the progress, challenges, gaps and priorities in implementing the gender action plan (GAP) and future work to be undertaken on gender and climate change.
2. AILAC recognizes the valuable progress that has been made within the framework of the Convention to improve gender integration in climate policies, gender balance and the empowerment of women. In addition. AILAC also recognizes that at present, most efforts to incorporate gender equality in responses to climate change (both mitigation and adaptation) are limited to interventions that, in their implementation, have failed to break unequal power structures, to have a structural impact to close gender gaps and to promote the enjoyment of women and girls' rights, including indigenous peoples and people with disabilities rights.
3. AILAC recognizes that the negative impacts and damage caused by climate change are also the result of social and political processes and the existing structural knots of inequality. Climate change encompasses unequally distributed impacts on women, youth, the elderly, people of different ethnic groups, the urban poor, and socially excluded groups, exacerbated by unequal distribution and poor access to resources. Structurally disadvantaged people, who are subject to social, economic, and political inequalities, historically resulting from discrimination, marginalization, or disenfranchisement, are disproportionately vulnerable to the negative impacts of the hazards associated with climate change¹.

According to the IPCC conclusions, women are not just victims of climate change, they are change agents with valuable knowledge and skills, and therefore powerful leaders in the fight against climate change. However, it should be noted that women are not a homogeneous group and local gender roles are not immutable or generalizable².

Inclusive governance that prioritizes equity and justice in both planning and implementing responses linked to climate change mitigation and adaptation leads to more effective and sustainable outcomes. Climate-resilient development is made possible when governments, civil society and the private sector make inclusive development decisions through the careful design and implementation of laws, policies, processes, and interventions that address context-specific inequalities (such as those based on gender, ethnicity, disability, age, location, and income) and when decision-making processes, finances, and actions are integrated across all levels of governance and sectors³.

4. Progress on GAP

¹ IPCC AR6 Report.

² <https://genderandenvironment.org/es/gender-considerations-in-the-ipcc-sixth-assessment-report-ar6/>

³ <https://genderandenvironment.org/es/gender-considerations-in-the-ipcc-sixth-assessment-report-ar6/>

Under the implementation of the Enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender and the Gender Action Plan (GAP) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), it has been developing some activities in coordination with Latin America and the Caribbean Parties. The following progress has been made by LAC in the GAP priority areas.

A. Capacity-building, knowledge management and communication

The National Gender and Climate Change Focal Points (NGCCFP) of AILAC began to work together in 2022, and it has been formalized a gender workgroup under AILAC in October 2023. This group identified that it was necessary to have some work sessions to start discussing the new Gender Action Plan under UNFCCC.

AILAC countries have implemented multiple workshops and webinars to strengthen capacities for gender integration in climate change management with public officials, women's organizations, indigenous people's organizations, and other civil society organizations.

- a) During September 2021, a Regional Meeting on Climate Change and Gender Equality was held through several virtual sessions. These sessions showcased experiences, good practices, challenges, and opportunities for integrating gender equality into climate action in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) and the roadmap of the Gender Action Plan (GAP) of the UNFCCC. During the meeting, experiences were presented and analysed, good practices, challenges, and opportunities to integrate gender approach in climate actions in LAC, and to build a roadmap for the implementation of the gender action plan (GAP) in the region. It has published a document with the results of this meeting “Acción climática con igualdad de género: hacia una recuperación transformadora para la sostenibilidad y la igualdad de género en América Latina y el Caribe”.
- b) With the support of the Human Rights in Conservation Team (HRCT) from the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the Kaschak Institute for Social Justice for Women and Girls at Binghamton University, it held a “Gender Negotiators to the UNFCCC updates workshop”, during July 2023 at Binghamton University. This workshop had as an objective to improve capacities of NGCCFP and Gender Negotiators. In this activity, NGCCFP and negotiators from Chile, Guatemala, Panama and Perú participated. Additionally, to NGCCFP and negotiators from Dominican Republic and a representative of Mexico.
- c) During the LAC Climate Week in Panama, a “Workshop to discuss inputs from LAC to the UNFCCC Gender Action Plan III” was held, with the support of IUCN, Kaschak Institute, ECLAC, UN Women, UNDP, and UNEP. In this activity, AILAC NGCCFP from Chile, Colombia, Guatemala, and Panama participated, as well from Mexico, Dominican Republic and Uruguay. As result of these work sessions, there is a preliminary proposal of ideas of a new Gender Action Plan (Annex I), that has been shared with NGCCFP under COP28.
- d) The work of the region transcends other spaces such as the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean. The XXI meeting of the Forum held in Argentina in 2018, included for first time a gender decision related to the pollution, decarbonization and the sustainable use of natural resources. In November 2019, in Barbados, the Regional Working Group on Gender and Environment was created, with the mission of drafting a Work Plan on the topic, to be presented at the next meeting of the Forum. A website

compiles all results of this group⁴. There is an analysis document from 2020, “Gender and the environment: a preliminary analysis of gaps and opportunities in Latin America and the Caribbean⁵”.

B. Gender balance, participation, and women’s leadership

AILAC countries have implemented broad and inclusive participatory processes for the formulation of their goals and measures for mitigation and adaptation to climate change, implementing protocols that guarantee the full, effective, and substantive participation of women in all their diversity, with an intersectional approach that promotes the participation of Afro-descendant, indigenous, young women, and girls. Likewise, AILAC countries promote the participation and leadership of women in the formulation of projects, programs, plans, and policies for the management of climate change, as well as their means of implementation.

C. Coherence

AILAC countries are making progress in incorporating gender equality into climate change initiatives. They are implementing gender-sensitive budgets throughout the process, from formulating projects to implementing them. This aligns with their commitments under the UNFCCC, particularly the Enhanced Lima Work Program on Gender and its Gender Action Plan.

Additionally, AILAC countries are basing their climate policies and actions on studies that reflect the experiences of women and girls. This allows them to identify areas where gender mainstreaming is necessary to achieve their compliance goals under the NDCs, as well as their adaptation and mitigation strategies.

AILAC countries are advancing in the implementation of affirmative actions in institutional processes, promoting governance, empowerment, managing resources for the development of activities, as well as creating and strengthening capacities for a more equitable climate action.

D. Gender-responsive implementation and means of implementation

AILAC countries have implemented diverse strategies to achieve gender-responsive implementation of climate change mitigation and adaptation goals and measures reported in the NDC and LTS. These strategies include the formulation and implementation of the National Gender and Climate Change Plans, certification with gender equity seals by public entities and companies with responsibility for climate change management, as well as the management of climate finance for the development of activities to address gaps in access to resources and affirmative actions to achieve participation in the distribution of benefits.

⁴ <https://www.unep.org/genero-y-medio-ambiente-acciones-del-pnuma-en-america-latina-y-el-caribe>

⁵ UNEP, 2020. Gender and the environment: a preliminary analysis of gaps and opportunities in Latin America and the Caribbean. United Nations Environment Programme. Panama City: PNUMA. https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/34929/GEN_EN.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y

E. Monitoring and reporting.

AILAC countries report their progress in the implementation of actions under the Enhanced Lima Work Program on Gender and its Gender Action Plan through Submissions on the UNFCCC portal.

AILAC countries develop various actions to integrate gender into MRV and M&E systems. Likewise, as member countries, they report their progress in integrating the gender perspective in climate change management, in the BUR and now, in the BTR.

5. Challenges

Ensure gender-sensitive climate finance in the different NDCs or gender action plans that allow countries to promote investment in the territory and promote a transformative recovery with gender equality.

Ensure the participation of Gender Focal Points and Gender Negotiators, as well as mainstream gender issues at other negotiating tracks and other areas, such as the Bureau of the COP, CMP, and CMA organization.

6. Gaps

AILAC recognizes the need of intersectoral coordination, international and regional cooperation is necessary to continue advancing in the implementation of the commitments assumed under the Gender Action Plan of the UNFCCC, as well as in other mechanisms such as the Commission on the Status of Women.

7. Reflection on Future work to be undertaken on gender and climate change

LAC countries have been actively working on the climate change and gender agenda in recent years. As a result, Annex I presents a proposal for Priority Areas and Activities for a new Gender Action Plan (GAP III). This GAP builds upon the successful framework of the GAP 2019-2024, while incorporating the latest decisions on gender and climate change from the UNFCCC and WCCSW. It strategically maintains core priority areas while ensuring alignment with the evolving global landscape.

The priority area proposed are the following:

Priority area proposed	Objective	Comments/Fundaments
A. Gender-responsive climate action	To enhance the systematic integration of gender considerations in the design and implementation of policies, programmes, and actions, including in mitigation, adaptation, and resilience.	This proposal intended to stress the Gender-responsive implementation, of Priority Area D. This activity looks to move forward to the implementation of gender-transformative climate actions, with focus on local and community level.
B. Gender-responsive capacity building, finance, and technology transfer	Ensure the development of gender-responsive means of implementation related to mitigation, adaptation, and resilience.	This proposal puts together all activities associated to means of implementation, related to capacity building, finance, and technology

		transfer, following Priority Area A and D.
C. Gender balance, inclusive participation, people's safety, and women's leadership	To achieve and sustain the full, equal, meaningful, and safe participation of women in the UNFCCC process, recognizing that women in different contexts have particular needs and priorities, requiring appropriate responses.	It based on Priority Area B. Gender balance, participation and women's leadership, integrating "inclusive and safety participation" to connect with WCCSW
D. Coherence and gender mainstreaming	To strengthen the integration of gender considerations within the work of UNFCCC constituted bodies, the secretariat, and other United Nations entities and stakeholders towards the consistent implementation of gender-related mandates and activities.	It based on Priority Area C. Coherence, and it integrates gender mainstreaming, that its main tool to advance in gender considerations within the work of UNFCCC
E. Transparency, monitoring and reporting	To improve the monitoring of the implementation and reporting of gender-related mandates under the enhanced Lima work programme on gender and its gender action plan.	It based on Priority Area E. Monitoring and reporting and it is integrate "Transparency", to be in line with Paris Agreement and its reports.

ANNEX I

Initial Draft for UNFCCC Gender Action Plan

Priority Areas

A. Gender-responsive climate action

To enhance the systematic integration of gender considerations in the design and implementation of policies, programmes, and actions, including in mitigation, adaptation, and resilience.

B. Gender-responsive capacity building, finance, and technology transfer

Ensure the development of gender-responsive means of implementation related to mitigation, adaptation, and resilience.

C. Gender balance, inclusive participation, people's safety, and women's leadership

To achieve and sustain the full, equal, meaningful, and safe participation of women in the UNFCCC process, recognizing that women in different contexts have particular needs and priorities, requiring appropriate responses.

D. Coherence and gender mainstreaming

To strengthen the integration of gender considerations within the work of UNFCCC constituted bodies, the secretariat, and other United Nations entities and stakeholders towards the consistent implementation of gender-related mandates and activities.

E. Transparency, monitoring and reporting

To improve the monitoring of the implementation and reporting of gender-related mandates under the enhanced Lima work programme on gender and its gender action plan.

Priority Area A: Gender-responsive climate action

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Deliverable/outputs</i>	<i>Level of Implementation</i>
A.1 Encourage Parties to develop guidelines and tools that incorporate criteria to design and implement gender-responsive climate actions (i.e., to address existing structural barriers, negative social norms, and gender stereotypes)				
A.2 Encourage Parties to present annual submissions on the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Implementation of gender-responsive mitigation and adaptation actions at local level that create opportunities for women and women’s grassroots organizations (with special attention to small-scale food producers, indigenous peoples, and local communities), recognizing that women in different contexts have particular needs and priorities, requiring appropriate responses. b. Implementation of comprehensive and intersectoral protocols, with an intersectional, intercultural, gender, and human rights-based approach 				
A.3 Request the secretariat to prepare a synthesis report on the submissions received under activity A.2				
A.4 Encourage Parties to design and implement gender-responsive programmes, policies, and plans, with the support of UN agencies and other observer organizations				
A.5 Request the secretariat to develop and maintain a user-friendly platform to collect, inform, and share data related to implemented gender-responsive climate actions				
A.6 Exhort Parties to integrate a gender perspective into the design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of mitigation, adaptation, and				

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Deliverable/outputs</i>	<i>Level of Implementation</i>
resilience policies, projects, and programmes				
A.7 At SBI XX hold a dialogue, in coordination with UN Women, other UN agencies and observer organizations on the linkages between care and climate change				
A.8. Request the secretariat to hold an annual dialogue with women's grassroots organizations to advance in the GAP implementation, within the framework of the Regional Climate Weeks, and to present a consolidated report with its conclusions at the COP	regional workshops to exchange good practices on GAP implementation			
A.9 Strengthen the evidence base and understanding of the differentiated impacts of climate change on men and women and the role of women as agents of change and on opportunities for women				

Priority Area B: Gender-responsive capacity building, finance, and technology transfer

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Deliverable/Outputs</i>	<i>Level of Implementation</i>
B.1 Strengthen the capacities of the Parties at all administrative levels in mainstreaming gender in formulating, monitoring, implementing, and reviewing, as appropriate, national climate change policies, plans, strategies, and actions, including Biennial Transparency Reports (BTR), Long-Term Strategies (LTS), Nationally Determined Contributions, National Adaptation Plans, and National Communications.				
B.2 Enhance capacity-building for governments and other relevant stakeholders to collect, analyse and apply sex and/or gender-disaggregated data, and gender analysis in the context of climate change				
B.3 Promote the use of online, offline, and innovative communication tools to the public, in particular for reaching out to women in different contexts, on the implementation of the enhanced Lima work programme on gender and its gender action plan				
B.4 Promote capacity-building in leadership, negotiation, and facilitation of negotiation for women through webinars and in-session trainings to enhance women's participation in the UNFCCC process, recognizing that women in different contexts have particular needs and priorities, requiring appropriate responses				
B.5 Inform Parties on financial and technical support available to enhance gender integration into climate policies, projects, plans, strategies, and actions, including good practices to facilitate access to climate finance to grassroots women's organizations, indigenous peoples, local communities, and people with disabilities				

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Deliverable/Outputs</i>	<i>Level of Implementation</i>
B.6 Invite the financing mechanisms to host a dialogue on how they are supporting and can support the implementation of the enhanced Lima work programme on gender and its gender action plan				
B.7 Promote the implementation of gender-responsive technological and nature-based solutions to address climate change, including the protection and preservation of local, indigenous, and traditional knowledge and practices, and for improving climate resilience, and by fostering the full participation and leadership of women and girls in science, technology, research and development; recognizing that women and girls in different contexts have particular needs and priorities, requiring appropriate responses				
B.8. Strengthen and ensure women's full participation in technology transfer activities such as training, workshops, and peer-to-peer exchange, among others; recognizing that women in different contexts have particular needs and priorities, requiring appropriate responses				
B.9. Enhance the capacity of Parties, negotiation teams, heads of delegations, and gender and climate change focal points on gender and climate change.	Open-access short courses			
B.10 Continue strengthening the role and the work of the national gender and climate change focal points, including through providing capacity-building, tools, and resources, sharing experiences and best practices, workshops, knowledge exchange, peer-to-peer learning, mentoring, and coaching				
B.11 Provide technical and financial support for the implementation of planned actions and activities included in the gender actions plans submitted by the Parties				

Priority Area C: Gender balance, inclusive participation, people’s safety, and women’s leadership

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Deliverable/Outputs</i>	<i>Level of Implementation</i>
C 1. Request the secretariat to support the attendance of national gender and climate change focal points, ensuring a regional balance, at relevant mandated UNFCCC meetings				
C.2 Promote travel funds, managed by regional groups, as a means to support women’s equal participation in all national delegations at UNFCCC sessions, as well as funds to support the participation of grassroots organizations and indigenous communities from developing countries				
C.3 Encourage Financial Entities and Parties to take into consideration the importance of supporting gender balance and gender focal points/gender negotiators in all national delegations at UNFCCC sessions			Gender focal points/gender negotiators balance, participation balance, negotiators balance	
C.4 Promote initiatives for capacity-building in leadership, negotiation and facilitation for women, recognizing that women in different contexts have particular needs and priorities, requiring appropriate responses, to promote their full, equal, and meaningful participation	In-session webinars and trainings to enhance women’s participation in the UNFCCC process			
C.5 Request the secretariat: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. To conduct a survey for the participants on perceptions of safety in the context of UNFCCC COPs, and Subsidiary Bodies (SBs) b. Elaborate a diagnostic report on the safety of all people who attend COPs, in particular women, recognizing that women in different 				

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Deliverable/Outputs</i>	<i>Level of Implementation</i>
<p>contexts have particular needs and priorities, requiring appropriate responses; and ensure inclusive facilities for all people during COPs</p> <p>c. Enhance/create comprehensive security protocols that include intersectional and intercultural perspectives.</p>				
<p>C.6 Require the secretariat to define a protocol to facilitate the full and effective participation of people with care responsibilities in UNFCCC meetings</p>				
<p>C.7 Exhort Parties to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Include the Mechanism for the Advancement of Women (MAW) as part of climate change governance b. Create national gender and climate change working groups c. Ensure that women’s groups and civil society organizations (CSO) are involved in the design, implementation, and revision of national and sectoral climate policies, strategies, and actions d. Promote a multi-stakeholder, consultative and inclusive approach that includes gender in NDC implementation and policy development processes e. Promote initiatives for capacity-building in leadership and negotiation for national women representatives of women’s groups 				

Priority Area D: Coherence and gender mainstreaming

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Deliverable/Outputs</i>	<i>Level of Implementation</i>
D.1 Request the secretariat to take actions to ensure that members of constituted bodies are introduced to gender-related mandates and the relevance of consistently and systematically mainstreaming gender in their work			Tools and trainings	
D.2 Encourage Parties and relevant UNFCCC constituted bodies, in line with their respective mandates, to support action and implementation of the enhanced Lima work programme on gender and its gender action plan				
D.3 Request SBI and SBSTA chairs to regularly report on gender-responsive mitigation and adaptation decisions and measures implemented				
D.4 Request SBI and SBSTA chairs to promote gender mainstreaming to ensure coherence across negotiation tracks or bodies				
D.5 Encourage Parties to keep the nomination of gender and climate change focal points updated				

Priority Area E: Transparency, monitoring, and reporting

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Deliverable/outputs</i>	<i>Level of Implementation</i>
E.1 Continue monitoring and reporting on women in leadership positions within the UNFCCC process in the context of the gender composition report, including the measurement of intervention time				
E.2 Enhance monitoring and reporting of the implementation of gender-responsive climate policies, plans, projects, initiatives, strategies, and action, by encouraging: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Parties to report on the implementation of the enhanced Lima work programme on gender and its gender action plan. b. The secretariat, UN Agencies, and observers to socialize monitoring and reporting systems and tools to support UNFCCC gender monitoring and reporting c. Communication & reporting instruments under the Convention, including Biennial Transparency Reports (BTR), Biennial Update Report (BURs), and National Communications to include <i>[a section]</i> to report on progress in advancing gender and climate change considerations d. Parties in regular reports and communications under the UNFCCC process 				
E.3 Conduct at least one expert workshop in alliance with IPCC to identify gender and climate indicators to measure the impacts of climate change and gender-differentiated contributions to GHG reduction				
E.4 Encourage Parties to include gender indicators, collect sex-disaggregated data and/or conduct gender analysis in MRV and Transparency Frameworks				