

Submission by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda on elements of the Gender Action Plan

Decision 21/CP.22 calls on Parties to integrate local and traditional knowledge in the formulation of climate policy and to recognise the value of the participation of grassroots women in gender-responsive climate policy at all levels.

To facilitate this, the Gender Action Plan should identify avenues for the participation of grassroots women in discussions under the Convention to allow them to share experiences and inform the development of gender-sensitive climate policy.

Decisions on climate change must be participatory and the voices of the most vulnerable to climate change must be heard and acted upon. The work of the Gender Action Plan should be guided by the right to participation, facilitating the creation of appropriate spaces for a broad range of actors to directly engage with the development of gender-responsive climate policy. This will facilitate greater recognition of the value of the local knowledge and expertise that the meaningful participation of grassroots communities, and grassroots women in particular, can bring to climate action at all levels.

The Gender Action Plan would benefit from building the capacity of negotiators under the UNFCCC to better understand how the incorporation of local and traditional knowledge in decision making can inform their work. One activity in this regard could be to engage grassroots community leaders, and grassroots women in particular, through a workshop on the margins of SB 47. Outputs of this and other workshops can inform the development of the Gender Action Plan.