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| Center for Research and Policy Making – Gender Budget Watchdog Network  |
| Gender and climate change monitoring report of local plans and programs in Macedonia |
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| Biljana Matevska7/13/2022 |

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# Introduction

The climate crisis is not gender neutral. Women are more vulnerable to climate change effects than men. Having in mind that up to 87% of natural disasters worldwide occur as a result of climate change, women are those being more affected by the consequences. If we examine the numbers of the great tsunami, 26 December 2004, in Indonesia, India, and Sri Lanka in particular at how it has affected women, we can come to an obvious conclusions. So far we know that the tsunami killed more than 220,000 people in 12 countries spanning South-East Asia, South Asia, and East Africa while, according to the Red Cross, more than 1.6 million people have been displaced. The information most urgently needed relates to mortality and displacement figures, disaggregated by sex. One research made by Oxfam showed the following. In Aceh province in Indonesia, and in India and Sri Lanka, there is abundant, if partial, evidence that many more women and children have died than men. In Indonesia, in the four villages in the Aceh Besar district, only 189 of 676 survivors were female. Male survivors outnumbered female survivors by a ratio of almost 3:1. In four villages in North Aceh district, out of 366 deaths, 284 were females: females accounted for 77 per cent (more than three-quarters) of deaths in these villages. In the worst affected village, Kuala Cangkoy, for every male who died, four females died -- or in other words, 80 per cent of deaths were female. In the Borongon camp, just outside Banda Aceh, a room accommodates 21 widowers who have chosen to live together to cope with the responsibilities of caring for their surviving children. In Cuddalore in India, almost three times as many women were killed as men, with 391 female deaths, compared with 146 men. In Pachaankuppam village, the only people to die were women. In Sri Lanka too, partial information such as camp surveys and press reports suggest a serious imbalance in the number of men and women who survived. [[1]](#footnote-1)

Some of the causes of these patterns are similar across the world, especially in the developing countries with traditional gender roles: many women died because they stayed behind to look for their children and other relatives; men more often than women can swim; men more often than women go fishing at open sea; men more often are involved in the decision making processes related to climate change and DRR… Both women and men that rely on natural resource sectors, such as agriculture, are likely to be affected. Thus, the natural disasters that occur as a result of climate change, like tornadoes and severe storms, hurricanes and tropical storms, floods, wildfires, earthquakes and droughts, affects these groups the most. This was case on 15th of August in Tetovo and surrounding villages (Shipkovica, Dzepchishte, Mala Recica, Gorna Recica) were strongly hit by heavy rain. The Tetovo hospital confirmed that 4 victims have been registered (three children aged 7, 14, an 15 and one elderly aged 83), and 16 have sought help directly at the hospital, while on the ground teams have provided assistance to more than 30 people - mainly due to bruises and stone blows. Worse was in the Roma settlement in Tetovo, where people lost their dwellings and were evacuated.[[2]](#footnote-2) Another disaster happened on 6thof August, 2016, in Stajkovci (rural area in the city of Skopje, North Macedonia) whereas result of big flood, 22 people lost their lives, of which 11 women and 10 men. 5000 households and 600 hectares of agriculture land were completely destroyed. 5000 families that rely on agriculture were strongly affected by the disaster.

When considering climate change from a gender equality perspective, there are various aspects to be taken into account. One consideration relates to the question of power and participation in policy-making: Who plans and decides, and how is the planning and decision-making carried out? This addresses the issues of the proportion of women and men in decision-making positions, in climate change research and technology development, as well as in international negotiations or participatory processes in general. Additionally, account should be taken of how equal representation of women and men shapes debates and solutions. The reality is that women have limited access to and control of environmental goods and services; they have negligible participation in decision-making, and are not involved in the distribution of environment management benefits. Consequently, women are less able to confront climate change. Other consideration is how the psycho-social dimension influences women’s and men’s perceptions and attitudes towards climate change. This is particularly prominent in countries where there is still a strong division between the traditional roles of men and women in societies. There are different contributions and perceptions of climate change, thus different solutions women and men prefer for mitigation and adaptation. For this aspect, the policy makers must take into account how the socio-economic factors such as income, class and age impact women’s and men’s mitigation strategies. Climate policies should also consider various gender-related aspects of climate change impact on women and men. Based on the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), it is evident that people who are already most vulnerable and marginalized will also experience the greatest impacts. The poor, primarily in developing countries, are expected to be disproportionately affected and consequently in the greatest need of adaptation strategies in the face of climate variability and change. Women who are often the lowest paid and who do most of the unpaid (care) work make up the majority of this vulnerable population. This is a result of the socio-economic inequalities and cultural factors that are directly correlated with people's ability to mitigate the effects of climate change.

The European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) identified 6 dimensions where climate change causes gender-specific and differentiated effects[[3]](#footnote-3):

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| Dimensions  | Gender-specific aspects/approaches |
| Socio-psychological | Gender identities are rooted in cultural understandings of what it means to be masculine or feminine, whereas gender roles are based on societal expectations of being a man or a woman. Both can be translated into different consumption patterns, potentially resulting in more or less energy-intense lifestyles, and in differentiated attitudes and perceptions, based on different values (e.g. fairness and ethics v cost-performance-ratio). |
| Socio-economic | The gender division of labor, in paid and unpaid work, leads to differences in the effects of climate change and in requirements for low carbon development. For example, time-use studies show that even in the Nordic countries, and when both partners have full-time jobs, women spend more time on household and family work than men.Economic disparities lead to differences in the capacity to cope with, and to mitigate, climate change.On average, women’s salaries and assets are lower. Thus, women (in particular single mothers and elderly women) are disadvantaged if expensive adaptation and mitigation measures are required. |
| Socio-cultural | It is not only the household in which social roles play out: other areas of social life also exhibit andentrench cultural patterns, such as the use of public services (e.g. parks, transportation systems) or theradius within which women and men move. |
| Legal | Although legal rights in EU Member States are gender-neutral, this does not necessarily mean thatgender equality is implemented and all forms of discrimination removed. Indices for inequality whichmight influence gendered impacts of climate change policies are, for example, gender income gapsand gendered access to loans. |
| Political | Several social sectors which have the greatest influence in climate-related decision-making — both mitigation and adaptation — are male-dominated. This is a detrimental shortcoming, as women and men show great differences in their perceptions of, and attitudes towards, climate change-related problems and display different risk perspectives. |
| Physical,biological | There are indications that the health impacts of climate change can differ between women and men for biological reasons, in addition to the social reasons of health impacts such as being cared for by partners or suffering exposure to chemicals. |

Women and men are not helpless victims of climate change, but use various methods and strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change. It is increasingly recognized that empowering women, children and other marginalized groups is beneficial not only as a policy in itself, but also as a means of strengthening the effectiveness of climate change measures. Often, climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies that are adopted are related to the social norms concerning what is acceptable for men and women.[[4]](#footnote-4)

## Climate change mitigation strategies

Mitigation strategies are ones that contribute directly in reducing the climate change phenomena and usually include alternative/renewable energy, carbon capture, planting trees, and international agreements. One study from 2019[[5]](#footnote-5) showed that the greather participation of women in the decision making results with more rigorous climate change policies, that are climate neutral or even climate positive. Given that the greater womens participation at local level associates with better nature resources managment, it can be consluded that sustainable future is not possible without gender equality. For more sustainable future, women must be part of the policy making process, as their specific needs must be equaly adressed with the climate change mitigation policies.

## Adaptation strategies

As climate change is getting urgent issue worldwide, people use their creativity, knowledge and technology to introduce adaptation measures, which are opposite to mitigation measures. If we see agriculture as most vulnerable to climate change, there are many developed adaptation measures. For example, In Scotland, owners of farms and agricultural businesses have been encouraged to introduce climate change adaptation strategies to protect the industry from harm. Some suggestions include:

* Buildings fences and walls to protect from increased rainfall.
* Introducing SUDS (sustainable urban drainage systems) where appropriate to combat increased rainfall and reduce the risk of land being submerged.
* Store and manage water supplies.

At the individual level, women and men use a range of different strategies to adapt to climate change, many of which are highly gendered. For instance, while men may opt to migrate or travel to towns or cities to earn money, this option is less open to women because of the social norms that tie them to the home. Women may instead opt to increase day labouring in the nearby villages and towns or change the pattern of farming or crops. In addition to looking at gender norms, there is a further need to look at socioeconomic status and underlying power relations to fully understand climate change impact and adaptation strategies. Understanding the layered identities of and discrimination faced by individuals provides a more complete picture of the limitations they face and the opportunities that are available to them. A focus on ‘power-laden social structures such as dependency, caste- and gender-unequal relations can potentially craft more holistic adaptive responses that tap into opportunities to improve the wellbeing of vulnerable peoples’.[[6]](#footnote-6)

In this context, each of the six abovementioned dimensions must be equally addressed, intersected and complemented in a comprehensive approach, related to the adaptation or mitigation strategies. Thus, it is of eminent importance to raise the decision makers’ awareness for implementing the existing national and international framework of rights and commitments that support the inclusion of gender concerns in national climate change policies and legislation.

# International framework for gender and climate change

Numerous international agreements and mechanisms address human rights, population issues, sustainable development, climate change and disaster planning. Together they offer a framework of rights and commitments that support the inclusion of gender concerns in national climate change policies and legislation. Designing and implementing policies in a complementary fashion increases their efficacy as well as their funding potential. Why is it important to address gender issues in climatepolicies at all levels and in all regions of the world? The gender equality aspects in climate change policies are important as they represent a question of equality and equity:both women and men need to be equally and meaningfully involved in planning and decision-making. Furthermore, different implications for women and men of planned legislation,policies and programmes need to be assessed because climate change and climate policy might otherwise exacerbate existing inequalities. Secondly, it is a question of effectiveness and efficiency. If climate change policies are not targeted at all relevant consumers, they are likely to be less effective. Only inclusive and gender-sensitive climate policies will be able to reach a majority of citizens.[[7]](#footnote-7)

Here in chronological order are presented the majority of the existing international agreements and mechanisms:

**1948 - Universal Declaration of Human Rights**The Universal Declaration of Human Rights strengthens the Charter’s call for equality between women and men. Articles applicable to women’s ability to adapt to climate change include the right to own property, consensual marriage, freedom of movement and equal protection before the law.

**1966** - **International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)** Article 7 calls for fair wages, equal compensation and good work conditions for all, especially women, 9 principles that should underlie all climate change policies for technology transfer and capacity building.

One key agreement, the Programme of Action from the **1994** International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), highlights the potential connections among policy areas. Its explicit link between sustainable development and the rights of all people and communities has direct implications for climate change-related risks and paves the way for women’s full participation in all aspects of action to tackle them.

**1979 - Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)**Signatory governments to CEDAW—also known as the first international bill of women’s rights—agree to take action to promote and protect the rights of women and to include the principle of equality in legislation and ensure it is operationalized. CEDAW has direct implications for climate change, obliging parties to take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in rural areas in order to ensure that they participate in and benefit from rural development and are involved in all levels of development planning. The text also links to population issues, affirming women’s maternal and reproductive rights, which enhance women’s decision-making power and affirm women’s rights to equal health care and to participate fully in family, work and public life.The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) is an international legal instrument that requires countries to eliminate discrimination against women and girls in all areas and promotes women’s and girls’ equal rights.On the February 7th **2018**, the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) enacted its first general recommendation which focuses on climate change and the gendered impact of disasters entitled: [General Recommendation No. 37 on Gender-related dimensions of disaster risk reduction in the context of climate change.](https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CEDAW/Shared%20Documents/1_Global/CEDAW_C_GC_37_8642_E.pdf) The adoption of GR37 follows a number of programmes and statements which have called on States to advance gender mainstreaming into all areas and elements of climate action.Moreover, this convention ensures the opportunity for women to represent their governments at the international level and to participate in the work of international organizations (art. 13 and 14). It ensures equal rights to bank loans, mortgages and other forms of financial credits/loans; It ensures that women in rural areas can participate in rural development and planning activities at all levels; to receive training, education and extension services; have access to agricultural credits and loans, appropriate technology; to be treated equally in agrarian reforms.

**1992 - Earth Summit, Rio**Officially known as the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), the Earth Summit led to several historic outcomes related to sustainable development. **Agenda 21**, the outcome document of the Summit, is a blueprint for sustainable development and among the first UN conference documents to systematically refer to women’s positions and roles. Agenda 21 builds on and recognizes previous plans and conventions C that advocate for gender equality in areas such as land ownership, resource stewardship, education and employment. It is to be achieved through actions that recognize women’s critical economic, social and environmental contributions to environmental management and sustainable development. It recognizes the synergy between demographic dynamics and sustainability, the chapter on women calls on governments to eliminate all obstacles to women’s full involvement in sustainable development and public life.

**1992 –United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)** The UNFCCC was adopted in 1992 in Rio de Janeiro. This international environmental agreement was, however, the only Rio Convention that did not make any reference to gender and social issues. The gender concept in this Convention was introduced in **2005.** It supports the focus on gender and climate change with the Paris Agreement, which states that "Parties should, when taking actions to address climate change, respect, promote and consider their obligations on human rights, the right to health, peoples, local communities, migrants, children, persons with special needs and people in vulnerable situations and the right to development, as well as gender equality, women's empowerment and intersectional equality. It makes a recommendation on gender balance in bodies established by the Kyoto Convention and Protocol, with the aim of improving women's participation and creating more effective climate change policies that reflect the needs of women and men alike. This Framework Convention also calls for the process of preparation of the national plan for adaptation and mitigation in each country to respect the principles of introducing the gender perspective, i.e. to be gender sensitive, and the Green Climate Fund to promote environmental, social, economic and development benefits by promoting the application of gender sensitive approach.

**1992 – UN Convention on Biological Diversity**The UN Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) was adopted in 1992 for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. The CBD has clear sustainable development and climate change implications, but it mentions women only in the preamble. D Targeting women’s biodiversity knowledge is crucial because of the link to household-level food security.31 It promotes women's knowledge and practices in the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in the agricultural sector. It also promotes gender-specific ways of documenting and preserving women's knowledge of biological diversity and calls for respect for gender balance in decision-making bodies. The gender and cultural impact of tourism is pointed out as well.

**1993 - World Conference on Human Rights, Vienna**The Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action reaffirm and strengthen human rights around the globe, including the right to development. Governments and regional and international organizations are urged to facilitate women’s access to decisionmaking processes; monitoring bodies are urged to use gender-specific data and include the status and the human rights of women in their deliberations and findings. Both are vital for responsive climate change policies that recognize women as agents of change.

**1994 - International Conference on Population and Development , Cairo** The ICPD stands out as a pivotal moment in the history of rights-based development, asserting that individual and human rights are the centre of population and development concerns. It highlighted the linkages between the cornerstones of women’s empowerment—reproductive health and rights—and other aspects of development. Conference participants agreed to a 20-year Programme of Action that focuses on people’s reproductive needs, particularly women’s, rather than demographic targets. The ICPD highlights that the health needs of women, men and children must be met and that women have the right to family planning and reproductive health services that can impact sustainable development and poverty (and thus potentially respond to climate change). The Programme of Action encourages governments to address women’s lack of access to land, education, health services and reproductive rights; enhance rural development; increase the capacity of local governments to manage urban development; and “give migrants, especially females, greater access to work, credit, basic education, health services, child-care centres and vocational training”.

**1994 - UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)** The UNCCD is implemented through participatory national action programmes to address ecosystem-specific needs. The UNCCD recognizes the role of women in rural livelihoods and the importance of local women’s knowledge in addressing issues such as climate change. The convention instructs national action programmes to “provide effective participation of women and men, particularly resources users, including farmers and pastora.

**1995 - UN Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing** The conference resulted in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPfA), in which governments and the UN agreed to promote mainstreaming a gender perspective in policies and programmes at all levels—local, national and international— and in all developments efforts. The Beijing Declaration addresses population issues and land and credit policies and makes an explicit link to sustainable development. In the BPfA, Strategic Objectives K and C respectively address women and the environment and resources for and access to health care for women, including initiatives to address sexual and reproductive health.

**2000 - Millennium Summit and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)**The Summit resulted in the Millennium Declaration in which member States outlined a global partnership to address the world’s most pressing development needs through the specific targets and timelines of the MDGs. The Declaration aims “to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women as effective ways to combat poverty, hunger and disease and to stimulate development that is truly sustainable.”All eight MDGs are relevant to gender equality, population dynamics and climate change. Climate Change, the Millennium Development Goals and Women’s Rights Achievement of the eight MDGs by 2015 is in jeopardy. Climate change is reducing the liklihood of reaching a number of the Goals related to gender and sustainable development that are already at risk as a result of the deep and continued bias against women and girls. Although the MDGs have been criticized by some women’s rights advocates as “top-down”, their concrete targets and timeline provide entry points to monitor the progress of both gender equality and women’s empowerment. Also, with the Goals receiving international attention, active women’s groups and civil society organizations have much better access to highlevel officials and decision-making arenas than through previous agreements such as the BPfA. The eight MDGs are: end poverty and hunger; universal education; gender equality; child health; maternal health; combat HIV/AIDS; environmental sustainability; and global partnership.

**2000 - United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325** The Resolution and follow-up statements on women, peace and security call for equal and full participation of women in the promotion of sustainable peace and security and for the incorporation of a gender perspective in peacekeeping operations. Climate change is likely to increase conflicts throughout the world. As women are major stakeholders in conflict prevention and peace building, capacity building and strategic inclusion of women in related activities is needed to incorporate a gender perspective.

**2001 – COP7 in Marrakesh** UNFCCC parties have recognized gender equality and women’s participation, as important principles.

**2005 - Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA)**Developed at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, with a goal to substantially reduce disaster losses by 2015, this explicitly incorporates gendered aspects of disaster planning and response. The HFA states that “a gender perspective should be integrated into all disaster risk management policies, plans and decision-making processes, including those related to risk assessment, early warning, information management, and education and training.” It also recognizes that climate change, climate variability and demographic shifts contribute to the vulnerability of both peoples and places.

**2005 and 2008 - Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)** The CSW meets annually to follow up on implementation of the BPfA, to ensure the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into UN work and to identify relevant emerging issues and trends. Its 49th session in 2005 is known as Beijing + 10, and the resultant Declaration reaffirmed the BPfA, calling for all actors to intensify their efforts to implement the Millennium Declaration and fulfil obligations under CEDAW.22 Resolution 49/8, Economic Advancement for Women, urges States to implement policies to recognize non-market labour, allow parents to choose family size and spacing, encourage men to share household duties and ensure women have a right to social security and other entitlements; recognize the contributions of migrant women and reduce the cost of remittances; and enhance the income-generating power of rural women and improve security of land tenure and property ownership for resource mobilization and environmental management. The CSW’s 52nd session in 2008 selected “Gender perspectives on climate change” as its key emerging issue. The session’s report, in the agreed conclusions on Financing Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (21(jj)), urges governments, agencies and financial institutions to: “Integrate a gender perspective in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation and reporting of national environmental policies, strengthen.

**2007 - United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples** This non-binding statement recognizes indigenous rights to self-determination, education, institutions and political and economic development as well as the right to participate in the life of the state. By confirming the rights of indigenous peoples, the declaration strengthens a rights-based development agenda and encourages better understanding of traditional land tenure and the need to recognize its validity for women and other vulnerable groups in the face of climate change and shifting population dynamics. In the development of new climate change mitigation mechanisms such as REDD,B reinforcement of indigenous rights is increasingly important.

**2007 - United Nations: High Level Focus on Climate Change**High-level sessions increasingly recognize climate change as a global issue: The UN General Assembly held an informal thematic debate on Climate Change as a Global Challenge. In September, the Secretary-General convened a High-Level Event on Climate Change. On that occasion WEDO and the Council of Women World Leaders organized a Roundtable on Gender and Climate Change with keynote speaker Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland, UN Special Envoy on Climate Change. Consequently, the November International Women Leaders Global Security Summit “acknowledged that climate change poses significant security risks, particularly for women, and that women have to be included in decision-making at all levels.” The Human Security Network, under the Hellenic Presidency for 2007–2008, concentrated on the impacts of climate change on vulnerable populations. See WEDO’s Gender, Climate Change and Human Security 40 report.

**2008 - Aid Effectiveness Commitments** Through the 2008 Accra Agenda for Action, which built on the 2005 Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, developing countries and donors commit to ensure that their respective development policies and programmes are designed and implemented in ways consistent with their agreed international commitments on gender equality, human rights, disability and environmental sustainability. The Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation endorsed in 2011 agreed to accelerate and deepen efforts to address gender equality and women’s empowerment in all aspects of development efforts, from accountability mechanisms to peacebuilding and state building.

**2008/2009 - UN Human Rights Council** At its seventh session in March 2008 the UN Human Rights Council adopted by consensus Resolution 7/23 on Human Rights and Climate Change; as a result, the Office of the High Commissioner released a follow-up report in January 2009. The report recognizes the need for more country-specific and gender-disaggregated data to effectively assess and address gender-differentiated effects of climate change. It states both that women have high exposure to climate-related risks exacerbated by unequal rights, and that women’s empowerment and the reduction of discriminatory practices has been crucial to successful community adaptation and coping capacity.

**2011 – COP17 in Durban** UNFCCC adopted Decision 5/CP.17 on Guidelines for National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) should be country-driven, participatory, with a gender-sensitive approach.

**2012 – COP18 in Doha** UNFCCC adopted decision 23/ CP.18 on promoting gender balance and improving the participation of women in negotiations and in the representation of Parties in bodies established pursuant to the Convention or the Kyoto Protocol.

**2012 - The**[**United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development**](http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/) **- Rio+20.**It brought Heads of State and Government to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012 and appraised progress and gaps in implementation of agreements reached at the landmark 1992 UN Conference on the Environment and Development, and beyond. Two primary themes discussed were: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication; and the institutional framework for sustainable development. The final outcome document, [The Future We Want](http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/futurewewant.html), recognized the importance of gender equality and women’s empowerment for sustainable development and our common future, and reaffirmed commitments to ensure women’s equal rights, access and opportunities for participation and leadership in the economy, society and political decision-making. It underscored women’s vital role in achieving sustainable development, including as leaders, and drew links between gender equality and issues such as energy, health, education and disaster risk reduction.

2013 -

**2014 – COP20 in Lima** UNFCCC adopted decision 18/ CP.20 requested the secretariat to prepare an Action Plan for the development of the two-year work program on gender, also known as the Lima Work Programme on Gender.The enhanced gender action plan sets out objectives and activities under five priorityareas (i. Capacity-building, knowledge management and communication; ii. Gender balance, participation and women’s leadership; iii. Coherence; iv. Gender-responsive implementation and means of implementation; vi.Monitoring and reporting)that aim to advance knowledge and understanding of gender-responsive climate actionand its coherent mainstreaming in the implementation of the UNFCCC and the work ofParties, the secretariat, United Nations entities and all stakeholders at all levels, as well aswomen’s full, equal and meaningful participation in the UNFCCC process. As part of this process, the secretariat maps decisions and implementation on gender and climate change, and compiles these for the COPs.

**2015 – COP21 in Paris** in the UNFCCC Paris Agreement, gender aspects included in Preamble, Adaptation, Capacity Building; but not in the sections on mitigation, technology development and transfer, or financing. In decision 1/CP.21, an Annex, Parties acknowledge:

…*climate change is a common concern of humankind, Parties should…respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, the right to health, the rights of indigenous peoples, local com­munities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations and the right to development, as well as gender equality, empower­ment of women and intergenerational equity.*

**2015 – Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction** Adopted at the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, it calls for stronger gender, age, and disabil­ity perspectives in policies and practices; promotion of women’s leadership; women’s participation in DRR; resourcing and implementing gender-sensitive DRR; and adequate capacity building measures for women’s empowerment and livelihoods.

**2015 – The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** Has a strong gender focus in SDG5 (achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls) – with nine specific targets and gender-sensitive targets for most other SDGs. Also, SDG 10 (reducing inequality) is rele­vant in this context. All SDGs, including SDG 13 (climate action), have important gender-equality implications and require a gender-sensitive approach to meet the 2030 targets.

**2016 – COP22 in Marrakech** UNFCCC Parties reviewed progress made toward the goals of gender balance and the implementation of gender-responsive climate policy and decided to continue and enhance the Lima work pro­gramme on gender for a period of 3 years. Decision 21/ CP.22 was adopted by the COP: a call for submissions on38October 2019 views on possible elements of the gender action plan to be developed under the Lima work programme on gender (UNFCCC, 2016a).

**2017 – COP23 in Bonn** UNFCCC Parties adopted a new roadmap to incorporate gender equality and women’s empowerment in climate change discourse and actions. The creation of a Gender Action Plan was agreed upon by the Parties, to bolster the role of women in climate action.

**2018 – COP24 in Katowice** UNFCCC Parties adopted the Paris Implementation Guidelines with explicit refer­ence to the importance of gender responsiveness, gender balance, taking into account social aspects, and including traditional/indigenous/local knowledge in several areas: the Nationally Agreed Contributions (NDCs), Adaptation Communication, Finance, Technology Framework, Transparency Framework, and Compliance. This con­text is also promoted in the work of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body on Implementation to use a gender-spe­cific approach, including in the review of the Lima Work Programme on Gender in 2019.

**2018-2023 – The UNFCCC Gender Action Plan (GAP)**Sets out priority areas of adaptation; mitigation; and the means of implementation including finance, technolo­gy development and transfer, capacity building as the activities that will help achieve the gender mainstreaming objective in climate change. These range from increasing knowledge and capacities of women and men through workshops and information exchanges, to pursuing the full, equal and meaningful participation of diverse women in national delegations. Also prioritized was the need to increase integration of the gender considerations into the areas of work of all Parties to the Convention; and to increase climate-related financial resources that integrate gender priorities and reflect the needs of women and girls. Lastly, the GAP seeks to improve tracking of the implementation of the gender-related decisions.[[8]](#footnote-8)

2020 - EU GENDER ACTION PLAN (GAP) III - An ambitious agenda for gender equality and women’s empowerment in EU external action. The plan addresses all gender related challengesincluding climate change. One of the key thematic areas in the GAP III is 3.Towards a gender-equal world: focusingon key thematic areas of engagementwhere special attention is given on the key thematic area - Addressing the challenges and harnessing theopportunities offered by the green transition and thedigital transformation.

On the other hand, there are non-obligatory mechanisms and initiatives that helps national officials and governments with implementation of the climate change and gender equality policies and actions. Some of the most important and widely used are:

2020 - The Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability (PEFA) framework for assessing climate responsive public financial management (PFM)—the PEFA Climate framework—is a set of supplementary indicators that builds on the PEFA framework to collect information on the extent to which a country’s PFM system is ready to support and foster the implementation of government climate change policies, i.e. is “climate responsive”. The purpose of a good PFM system is to ensure that the policies of governments are implemented as intended and achieve their objectives.

2013 - The Environment and Gender Index (EGI) is a project of the Global Gender Office of International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), a leader on gender issues in the environmental sector, piloted in 2013. Since then, the International Union for Conservation of Nature– IUCN identifies and fills data gaps to inform more robust gender-responsive environmental policymaking and programming through its Environment and Gender Information (EGI) data and analyses.

# National legal, strategic and institutional framework for gender and climate change

As stated in the Constitution of RN Macedonia, Article 9 that is related to civil and political freedoms and rights, it is regulated that: “The citizens of Republic of Macedonia are equal in freedoms and rights regardless of gender, race, skin color, national and social origin, political and religious beliefs; property and social status." Moreover, the Article 43 states that "Every person has a right to a healthy environment." The Constitution and all ratified international instruments oblige the Government to create policies and a strategic framework that will ensure equal opportunities as well as healthy living environment for every citizen.

The main national framework for climate change is within the Law on Environment, which contains an article on the preparation of national inventories of greenhouse gases, but it does not include any gender aspect. On other hand, the Law on Equal Opportunities of Women and Men does not envision measures for introduction and practice of equal opportunities related to environment and climate change. The areas covered by this law, according to Article 5 paragraph 1, determine the basic measures for achieving the principle of equal opportunities in different social spheres of life, as well as equal access to goods and services, but does not take into account the environment and climate changes as special area of interest. This will be overcome in the new proposed Law on Equal Opportunities of Women and Men, where the areas of climate change and environment will be explicitly explained.

The Law on Agriculture and Rural Development (69/2013) introduces a gender component in Art. 89 paragraph 4 with the following provision: "Civil organizations for environmental protection, agricultural producers, youth and women in rural areas must be represented by at least 50% in the LAP for the development of rural areas". However, this represents only one independent measure, which is not included in a developed system of provisions for the inclusion of women in the development of mitigation and adaptation measures, but is primarily related to the participation of women in non-institutional formations of association.

There are other laws, by-laws and strategies that contain aspects related to the mitigation of climate change such as: The Strategy for Energy Development inthe Republic of Macedonia until 2030 (2010), the Renewable Energy Strategy of Macedonia until 2020, the Energy Efficiency Strategy of the Republic of Macedonia until 2020, and the Third Action Plan for Energy Efficiency of the Republic of Macedonia (2016-2018).

The Environment and Climate Change Strategy 2014-2020 is gender-blind, starting from the non-consultation of the legal and strategic framework for equal opportunities, to the non-distribution of data divided by gender, which represents an absence of a basic gender component.

The Strategy for improving energy efficiency in the Republic of Macedonia until 2020 does not provide gender sensitive or gender responsive measures and is gender blind. The strategy points out the vulnerable groups of families in the gap between the real and regulated price of electricity that needs to be overcome, and that process will be followed by the establishment of a social package for vulnerable groups of families (which is not further defined).

The absence of gender in the sphere of climate change, in the sections for resilience, mitigation and adaptation, would represent a threat to the human rights by the institutions due to failure of adequate care for vulnerable categories of citizens. That was a trigger for the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy to develop a Strategy for Gender Equality 2021-2026, where for the first time a specific objective is introduced:

Specific objective 2.3: Strengthened mechanisms for environmental protection and creation of gender-responsive policies for climate change and climate-resilient policies for gender equality.

The Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning (MoEPP) is the institution responsible for climate change policies and presents a national contact body for the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)and the Kyoto Protocol. Other ministries that have an obligation to cooperate and coordinate specific activities related to climate change are the Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management and Ministry of Labor and Social Policy. The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs is responsible for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and is also the national designated entity for the Green Climate Fund (GCF).

In order to improve the coordination for meaningful implementation of joint initiatives, the Government of North Macedonia established the National Committee for Climate Change. It represents a comprehensive political platform that supports the development and implementation of climate change activities. It is consisted of representatives nominated by the key stakeholders from national institutions, academic institutions, the private sector, civil society and climate change coordinators.

In Macedonia the efforts to highlight the connection between gender and climate change began in 2015. The starting point was to collect and communicate data in order to raise awareness among the policy makers who needed to make the changes. The Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning in collaboration with UNDP and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) began working on this task first by translating technical reports on climate change into climate-friendly tools in order to initiate transformational changes in sectoral policies. The gender aspect of climate change in our country has been actively analyzed within the Regional Project supported by the Global Support Program and UNDP. MOEPP, in cooperation with UNDP, started incorporating the gender perspective in climate change documents with the First Biennial Report on Climate Change submitted to the UN Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2015, as the first document in which gender representation in climate change context was analyzed. The inclusion of climate change in gender policies and vice versa will increase the transparency and effectiveness as well as the sustainability of climate policies and actions as stated in the Preamble of the [Paris Agreement](https://unfccc.int/files/essential_background/convention/application/pdf/english_paris_agreement.pdf) (2016) and subsequently in the [Lima Gender Program](https://unfccc.int/topics/gender/workstreams/the-enhanced-lima-work-programme-on-gender) and in The Action Plan for Gender Equality of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Macedonia has taken serious steps towards the intersection of gender and climate policies at the political and institutional level, which is recognized in the region as good practice. Within the framework of the UNDP/GEF[[9]](#footnote-9) projects, a systematic approach is being implemented to include the gender perspective in the reports of the Republic of North Macedonia to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, starting with providing support and preparing methods, indicators and recommendations within the study: "[Gender and Climate Change in Macedonia: Applying a Gender Lens to the Third National Communication on Climate Change"](http://unfccc.org.mk/content/Publikacii/Gender%20and%20Climate%20Change%20in%20Macedonia.pdf) (Huyer, Sophia; Risteska, Marija). The report provides an assessment of the gender implications of climate change impacts, mitigation,adaptation and policy in Macedonia and focuses on key sectors identified in the TNC as well as key factors toensure that gender dimensions and differential trends for men and women in the country are recognized andaddressed in planning and implementation of climate change strategies. Then, the[Proposed Action Plan for Gender Equality and Adaptation/Mitigation to Climate Change - Annex to the First biennial report on climate change](http://www.unfccc.org.mk/content/Documents/Action%20Plans/MK-FBUR-gender.pdf) and [Proposed Action Plan for integrating gender issues in the preparation of the 4th National Communication/3rd Biennial Report on climate change](https://api.klimatskipromeni.mk/data/rest/file/download/9d2deb47ef993e8856e2b6e00bab2727993f42e596519ba75156915277c8249a.pdf) are developed (2019). Moreover, two very essential processes were realized through the developed [gender indicators for climate change in the Republic of North Macedonia and a narrative study - Gender and climate change](https://api.klimatskipromeni.mk/data/rest/file/download/8d47e610e8991b47f1377ecb0d5af3f4821d9541987d6e7044806ad522835cb3.pdf), [Macedonia - micronarratives.](https://narratives-study-georgia.github.io/gender-climate-change/index.html?fbclid=IwAR0vmKFbXEPoYxQSnt0EgdgHSlxIsbQjXs-J_hWoEBFX8O79IgTEwddcMas)

International institutions and donors, especially the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), provide financial and technical support for the reporting process of the country. The MoEPP is currently developing along-term Strategy and Law for climate action in accordance with the EU legislation.

The Ministry of Labor and Social Policy actively supports and participates in the implementation of the abovementioned strategic documentsin order to introduce a systematic approach for boosting the implementation of the Proposed Action Plan on gender and climate change. The Strategy for gender equality (2021-2026)was identified as a starting point for this process, in which a new strategic area for gender and climate change will be introduced. This is also supported with establishment of a permanent sub-group on gender and climate change within the framework of the Inter-departmental Group for Equal Opportunities of Women and Men asagroup responsible for monitoringthe implementation of strategic activities.On the other hand, the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning is preparing a Climate Action Strategywhere the gender dimension of this issue will be taken into account. Through the support of UNDP theseparallel processes are monitored and supported with the intention of linking gender policies more stronglyon climate change. The Gender Equality Strategy will address the effects of climate change, while the Climate Action Strategy will be gender responsive and include the issue of gender equality.

A huge delay is noticeablein adopting the new Law on climate action which will additionally strengthen the gender component in terms of this theme; it regulates the framework for climate action in Macedonia for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the atmosphere and its removal through natural and other sinks, as well as adaptation to climatechanges. Though expected to be adopted in spring this year, additional polishing was announced by the vice-minister on environmentin the July Q&A parliamentary session. In the draft version, in Art. 7 where the principles of the law are enlisted, the principle of equity and non-discrimination is noticeable which touches upon the gender component as well:

*“once (the law)takes actions to respond to climate change, the revelant actors shouldrespect, promote and take into account human rights, the rights ofvulnerable groups, communities, environmental and social protectionprotective mechanisms, as well as equal opportunities for women and men.”*

Additionally in Art. 8is foreseen establishing of a National Climate Change Council that should be composed of 15 members (in gender balanced way according to paragraph 6 of Art. 8), out of which “one representative of the National Focal Point on Gender and Climate Change, in accordance with the Convention”. The gender component is present in the next article where the functions of the council are enlisted; the different needs of men and women are taken into consideration by stipulating that “(Council) cares about the relevance of gender in the context of their work, on a consistent basis and systematic way”.

# Gender mainstreaming of climate change relevant local policies and budgets

In the past three years in Macedonia, there were huge efforts to strengthen knowledge and understanding on the gender dimension of climate change and how to introduce gender perspective in designing measures related to adaptation and mitigation plans for climate change. Namely, in the frame of the project “Strengthening the institutional and technical capacities for improving transparency for climate change in within the Paris agreement (CBIT project)”, implemented by the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning with financial and technical support from GEF and UNDP, in cooperation with the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, three years in a row (2020, 2021 and 2022) a series of Gender Equality and Climate Change trainings were delivered. More than 500 relevant representatives on local and central level attended these trainings. Target groups were the officials that work in the departments for Equal Opportunities, Environment, Public Procurement, Crisis Headquarters, Municipal Councils and Public Enterprises. The training objectives were to strengthen knowledge and understanding on the gender dimension of climate change, acquire skills and knowledge how to introduce gender perspective in designing measures related to adaptation and mitigation plans for climate change. Moreover, there was mentoring program for the trained representatives in order to provide continuous support, guidance and advice for the local self-government officials, public procurement and administratorsin order to incorporate gender and climate change perspective into local policies.

Since now, there has been no analysis of existing measures and activities that are foreseen in the local plans and programs, which refer to both - gender and climate change. For the needs of this report, various plans and programs from the following 17 municipalities that participated the abovementioned training and introduced measures for gender and climate change are analyzed: Valandovo, Sveti Nikole, Aerodrom, Delcevo, Kochani,Zelenikovo, Vinica, Berovo,KrivaPalanka, Tearce, Bogdanci, GaziBaba,Kumanovo, Probishtip, Centar, Zhelino andResen.



Pic.1. Monitored municipalities

##

## Municipality ofAerodrom

At municipal level, the municipal officials are aware of the climate change impact but the Equal Opportunities Program for the Municipality of Aerodrom for 2020 does not include any activity regarding climate change mitigation and/or adaptation measures. The Municipality is implementing other programs in sectors related to climate change and has green agenda as well.

Equal Opportunities Program for the Municipality of Aerodrom for 2022 was subject of analysis.

**NEW Adopted measure 1:** in the trainings for awareness rising for gender based violence, to include prevention of gender based violence in crisis situations as a result of climate changes (fires, floats…);

Budget and sub-program: X1 – gender equality. The budget is not specified by measures, there is a budget line for Education-raising awareness for gender equality through campaigns: 240,000.00 MKD which refers to all activities for education. Program budget: 463110-Transfers to Citizens' Associations. The deadline is 2022.

**NEW Objective 4 - Education - Raising awareness of gender equality through campaigns and education; Measure 8:** In order to acquaint the general public and to raise the awareness of the need for equal opportunities for men and women, the Municipality of Aerodrom, in cooperation with the NGOs, through campaigns will act on the education-raising of the gender equality. The campaigns will be developed based on the results from the public opinion survey (which is also part of this program), and will aim to break down gender stereotypes.

**NEW Adopted measure 2:** for raising the awareness for equal opportunities, the Municipality of Aerodrom will also include presentation of the new Strategy for gender equality that has special measures on gender and climate.

Budget and sub-program: X1 – gender equality. The budget is not specified by measures, there is a budget line for Education-raising awareness for gender equality through campaigns: 240,000.00 MKD which refers to all activities for education. Program budget: 463110-Transfers to Citizens' Associations. The deadline is 2022.

##

## Municipality of Kocani

At municipal level, the municipal officials are aware of the climate change impact and the Equal Opportunities Program for the Municipality of Kocani for 2022 was subject of analysis.

**NEW Activity 1 - Collection of gender-disaggregated statistics for employees in municipal institutions and for certain areas, conditions and issues**;

**NEW Adopted measure 1:**Collection of sex-disaggregated statistics for employees in municipal institutions and for certain areas, conditions and issues arising from the strategies that the state has adopted at national levels in various areas.

**Indicator** - Gender disaggregated statistics for municipal institutions as a basis for gender analysis and development indicators.

**NEW Adopted measure 2:** Gender disaggregated statistics for municipal institutions as a basis for gender analysis and development indicators projects. Overview of strategic documents, implying responsibilities at the local level for collection of gender disaggregated statistics.

Measure indicator: Regularly (monthly) collected gender disaggregated statistical data from institutions and by areas as a basis for gender analysis and development projects.

Budget: No financial implications.

Responsible body: Municipality of Kocani; Other institutions; Civil sector.

Deadline: 2022.

Status: Final program proposal.

**NEW Activity 3 - Trainings for the development of gender responsive policies towards climate change;**

**NEW Adopted measure 3:** Training and coordination for the development of gender responsive policies to reduce greenhouse gases, climate change adaptation and impact on women and men.

**Indicator -** Trained representatives of the local community and citizens' associations for protection from the impacts of climate change.

**NEW Adopted measure 4:** Trained representatives of the local community and citizens' associations for recognition and introduction of measures to reduce the consequences and protection from the impacts of climate change. Coordination of local climate change initiatives (public enterprises, local institutions and associations, business sector) and their impact on the quality of life of women and men locally.

Measure indicator: Trained at least 20 people /women / farmers representatives of the local community and citizens' associations to recognize and introduce measures to reduce the consequences of the climate change effects.

Budget: No financial implications.

Responsible body: Municipality of Kocani; Un Women.

Deadline: 2022.

Status: Final program proposal.

**NEW Activity 4. Trainings for economic empowerment of women.Indicator:** Economically empowered women for entrepreneurship, managerial skills and online sales and digital marketing.

**NEW Adopted measure 5:** Economically empowered women for entrepreneurship, managerial skills and online sales and digital marketing with a special focus on women farmers and opportunities for their registration and information on opportunities to support the processes of adapting their production to climate change.

Measure indicator: Realization of recommendations / analyzes / studies, resulting from civil and initiatives of members of the Council of the Municipality of Kocani, in order to implement the goals and objectives arising from LEO and the new Strategy for Gender Equality

Responsible body: UN Women.

Deadline: 2022.

Status: Final program proposal.

**NEW Activity 8 - Implement other types of legal measures to establish equal opportunities for women and men. Indicator:** Realization of the goals and tasks arising from the Law for equal opportunities.

**NEW Adopted measure 6:** Realization of the goals and tasks arising from the Law for equal opportunities and the new Strategy for Gender Equality that have special measures on gender and climate change.

Measure indicator: 20-30 economically empowered women for entrepreneurship, management skills and online sales and digital marketing with a special focus on women farmers and opportunities for their registration and information on opportunities for support in the processes of adapting their production to climate change

Responsible body: Un Women.

Deadline: 2022.

Status: Final program proposal.

In addition, eight (8) municipal programs are reviewed which are gender mainstreamed: Program for public lightening, Program for waste management, Program for environment, Program for abandoned dogs, Program for parks and vegetation, Program for urban planning, Program for public transportation and Program for public cleanliness.

## Municipality of Valandovo

The Municipality of Valandovo has Local Action Plan for Equal Opportunities 2019-2021, in which there was no raising awareness activities related to the impact of climate change on women and men.

The Local Action Plan for Equal Opportunities 2022-2023 was subject of analysis.

**NEW Goal 3 - Raising public awareness of a healthy and clean environment and the impact of climate change on women and men.**

The goal was consisted of four measures:

**NEW measure 1: Application of new agricultural practices**

**NEW Activity 1:**Debates or educational workshops on adaptation of agriculture to climate change and involvement of women in the processes.

**Indicator:** Number of held debates

**NEWActivity 2:** Announcing a public call for sustainable solutions in agriculture (innovations, modern solutions for agricultural development in conditions of climate change)

**Indicator:** Number of visitors women and men

**NEW Activity 3:** Support for candidates who will offer sustainable solutions in reducing negative climate change on agriculture.

**Indicator:** Number of initiatives and proposed solutions

**Responsible body:** Sector / department for agriculture in cooperation with local communities and NGOs

**Budget:** Not specified

**Deadline:** 2022-2023

**NEW measure 2: Providing support to rural women engaged in agriculture**

**NEW Activity 1:** Open info day in the municipality for rural women farmers to provide direct support and assistance in applying and preparing projects from the IPARD 2 program

**Indicator:** Number of women farmers from rural areas, how many of them are beneficiaries of measures from the IPARD Program

**NEW Activity 2:** Determining material compensation for rural women due to damage caused by climate change (drought, floods, etc.)

**Indicator:** Established special material compensation for rural women in agriculture

**Responsible body:** LED Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy

**Budget:** Not specified

**Deadline:** 2022-2023

**NEW measure 3: Public toilets on public areas in the city (market, park, picnic places)**

**NEW Activity 1:** To develop conceptual plan for construction or reconstruction of public toilets

**Indicator:** Developed plan

**Proposed Activity 2:** Involvement of the business sector

**Indicator:** Number of reconstructed/constructed public toalets

**Responsible body:** LED Department, Truism and Urbanism

**Budget:** Not specified

**Deadline:** 2022-2023

**NEW measure 4: Enterprises social responsibility**

**NEW Activity 1:** Campaign / debate on the importance of implementing measures for enterprises social responsibility for healthy and clean environment

**Indicator:** Identified points for cooperation and investment opportunities

**Responsible body:** LED Department

**Budget:** Not specified

**Deadline:** 2022-2023

##

## Municipality ofSveti Nikole

Municipality of Sveti Nikole do have vivid women movement in the municipality. Programme for energy efficiency is a multi-annual program ending 2022 and do not have yearly operational plans. The PROPOSAL – PROGRAM of Municipality of Sveti Nikole activities in the field of social protection for 2022 was revised and it was noticed that there no line for financial support in cases of fire or floats, but since the program is under preparation; there is no available information for the funds. The proposed measure is in that correlation:

**NEW Adopted measure 1:** Granting a one-time financial aid to families affected by natural disasters

**Responsible body:** Center for social affairs

**Budget:** 100.000 MKD

As for the PROPOSAL –PROGRAMfor equal opportunities for women and men in the Municipality of SvetiNikolefor 2022, it was noticed that the climate change is not included as subject for discussion for development of the Local Action Plan for Equal Opportunities, so the proposed measure was as follows:

**NEW Adopted measure 2:** Conduct training on climate change for women farmers

**Responsible body:** The Municipality in cooperation with the Commission for Equal Opportunities

## Municipality of Delcevo

Municipality of Delcevo has a Strategy for equal opportunity till 2022 in which there is no activity regarding raising awareness and impact of climate change on women and men

The PROGRAM for gender equality of women and men of the Municipality of Delchevo and work of the CEO for 2022 was subject of review.

**NEW Adopted priority: The impact of climate change on the quality of life of women and men,**

According to the UNFCCC definition of climate change: "Climate change is change that is caused directly or indirectly by human activity and affects the composition of the atmosphere and contributes to natural climate change."

The direct consequences of climate change are: floods, droughts, fires, land erosion, landslides, cold and heat waves, extreme temperature differences, unpredictable weather conditions, heavy rains (large amounts of rain per unit area in a short period of time ), snowstorms and other events.

In the short or long term these consequences cause: uncertainty of the source of income / livelihood, human and material losses, limitations of natural resources (fires in large areas of forests, endangerment of biodiversity, loss of animals, etc.), lack of water and energy, damage to infrastructure (small hydropower plants, homes, roads, transmission lines, telephone infrastructure, etc.), changes in biodiversity, consequences for human health (sudden temperature changes cause changes in pressure, heart disorders, strokes, etc.), migration, loss of arable land, loss of cultural and natural heritage.

In cases where the availability of natural resources such as timber, arable land and basic natural resources is reduced as a direct impact of climate change, families' earning opportunities are limited. This often leads to forced migration of labor (men) and increased responsibilities of women in households (to provide food and water for children and the elderly, to take care of their needs, etc.).

Marginalized communities, especially women tied to their homes where they care for less mobile family members, are more likely to suffer and die from the effects of climate-related disasters, including storms and floods.

Low socio-economic status, unsafe homes and environmental conditions make women more vulnerable to flooding.

In agricultural fields, extreme heat events and high temperatures can cause excessive dehydration, headaches, kidney disease, and heat stroke in exposed workers, most of whom are women.

The link between climate change and gender is complex and dynamic, and addresses not only vulnerability to adverse effects of climate change, but also adaptability to them, as well as finding ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions caused by climate change. .

Climate change mitigation / prevention or "mitigation" means primarily reducing or preventing greenhouse gas emissions and sustainable use of natural resources. This means the use of new technologies and renewable energy sources, the use of equipment that is more energy efficient or a change in energy management and consumption.

The measures can be complex: from urban planning of entire cities, to small interventions such as replacement of stoves, replacement of a vehicle with a vehicle with lower CO2 emissions, better waste management, sustainable development in agriculture and livestock, to the arrangement of bicycle paths and pedestrians.

Adaptation or "adaptation" to climate change is a process of adapting to real or expected climate change and its effects. Adaptation tries to reduce or avoid harm, ie to find ways to take advantage of existing opportunities. "In some natural systems, human intervention can facilitate adaptation to the expected climate and its effects." (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

An example of a predictable adjustment can be when a farmer decides to grow cereals that need less water, knowing that the climate will become drier in the future.

Aspects to consider when making a decision and creating policies, action plans and measures to reduce or adapt to climate change:

• Impacts of the effects of climate change on men and women;

• Contribution to climate change;

• Different capabilities to mitigate climate change at the individual level;

• Perceptions and attitudes towards climate change;

• Impacts of proposed / implemented policies and measures on men and women;

• Gender participation in decision making.

The most important is:

• to collect and analyze gender sensitive data;

• to consult women, as well as men, beneficiaries, civil society representatives about problems and solutions;

• to formulate measures and activities that will ensure the participation of women, especially as beneficiaries of the program, but also in the decision-making processes;

• anticipate gender sensitive indicators and apply gender responsive funding

**NEW Adopted Activity 1:** Assessment of the damage from fires and the impact on women and men (whether someone lost their job, moved from the place, got sick from a disease as a result of smoke, if they were engaged in collecting forest grasses and fruits - which are damages, damage to beekeepers and sl)

**NEW Adopted Activity 2:** Survey with the population through the local communities to identify the problems and challenges faced by women and men as a result of climate change (indicators: number of respondents, number of settlements where data were collected, identified challenges and possible solutions )

**NEW Adopted Activity 3:** Education of all engaged in agriculture and women and men (not just registered farmers who are mostly men) to adapt agriculture to climate change and apply new varieties or methods of planting, irrigation, composting at home, dealing with pests in an organic way, etc ... Opportunity to get acquainted with biodynamic production - from here can arise proposals for subsidies for next year

**NEW Adopted Activity 4:** Organizing a course for women and men for giving first aid and dealing with natural disasters (fires, floods, ...) (from the health center for first aid, and fire-fighters for teaching techniques can teach, or how to act in floods, how to put out fires, etc.). Additionally, fire fighting techniques can be demonstrated in physical education for all students.

**NEW Adopted Activity 5:** Organizing additional health systematic examinations of fire-fighters who were involved in extinguishing fires in order to prevent lung diseases (which in the long run may cause municipal costs due to sick leave and additional burden on women to care for the sick ...)

**NEW Adopted Activity 6:** Campaign in secondary and primary schools: I am also part of the solution! Have them discuss the problem and suggest measures in biology or similar classes. The municipality's website may contain a brief description of how each individual can reduce greenhouse gas emissions (which may also result from the survey) and invite high school students by name to write measures that they will respect, such as: I turn off the light, I will use a bicycle when I can, I will not burn the stubble, I will collect my waste behind me and throw it where it should be, I will not burn bottles, I will not let the tap flow, etc. This activity can be done if there is an ecology section. Then it is good to make an analysis of what women signed and what men signed.

**NEW Adopted Activity 7:**Public campaign for the possibilities of using alternative energy sources - I do not know if you have any subsidies, if so, then you will include the gender perspective in the ads for subsidizing the population which will encourage women and men to apply for subsidies.

**Responsible body: Equal Opportunities Coordinator, Agriculture Sector, LED, Education**

**Deadline: 2022**

**Budget: 62.000 MKD**

## Municipality of Bogdanci

The introduction of the gender perspective within the program for "Financing of activities in the field of environmental protection in Municipality of Bogdanci 2022" will contribute to its more efficient implementation, through the coverage of the overall population affected by this program.

The introduction of the gender perspective, ie equal opportunities for women and men in the program for "Financing of activities in the field of environmental protection of the Municipality of Bogdanci 2022" will not cause changes in the planned measures and will not cause any fiscal implications.

**NEW Adopted activity 1:** Educational projects for environmental protection in schools and for citizens, public campaign, education for waste selection, etc.

**NEW Adopted activity 2:** Determination of protection zones of the wells from which drinking water is supplied to the settlements in the Municipality of Bogdanci.

**NEW Adopted activity 3:** Measures for protection of the environment and human health.

## Municipality ofTearce

The introduction of the gender perspective within the program for Waste management plan of the municipality of Tearce 2022 will contribute to its more efficient implementation, through the coverage of the overall population affected by this program.

The introduction of the gender perspective, ie equal opportunities for women and men in the program for Waste management plan of the municipality of Tearce 2022will not cause changes in the planned measures and will not cause any fiscal implications.

**NEW Adopted activity 1:** Participation of women in the process of creating the program,

**NEW Adopted activity 2:** Creating content that will address the female population and female health within the Campaign for proper waste management.

##

## Municipality of Resen

Prespa Lake is withdrawn over 30 meters;there is evident problem withgroundwater reduction. They have not started the program for environment - new mayor - they have a concept with certain sub-programs with measures, activities, but it needs to be harmonized. Financial construction, time frame, priorities - are missing. Mr. Ayman pointed out that there are excellent laws and strategies but unfortunately, there is lack of implementation, monitoring and regulation control as well.

The PROGRAM for protection of the environment and nature on the territory of the Municipality of Resen for 2021 was a subject of review.

**NEW Adopted measure 1:**In the part of the goals of the program to develop Activities that will reduce the vulnerability of single parents and people who live alone in the household and are over 65 years old.

**NEW Adopted measure 2:**To introduce the gender perspective in the measures and activities of the program.

**NEW Adopted measure 3:**Developing state analysis of gender equality in the program.

**NEW Adopted measure 4:**Development of strategies and activities for reduction of environmental risks in the program of the municipality that will include the gender perspective in the planning process.

**NEW Adopted measure 5:**In the section measures and activities, the gender perspective should be introduced.

**NEW Adopted measure 6:**Preparation of strategic and planning documents related to the environment and gender equality.

**NEW Adopted measure 7:**Organizing trainings on gender equality and climate change.

**NEW Adopted measure 8:**The Natural Monument Management Plan should guarantee equitable representation of men and women in the governing and operating bodies of the Monument of Nature.

**NEW Adopted measure 9:**Support for NGO projects that lead to increasing public awareness and education of the local population - It is desirable that these NGOs work in the areas of human rights and gender equality and that is explicitly stated in the call for NGO support.

**NEW Adopted measure 10:**Gender perspective included in the Adoption of a Management Plan for Lake Prespa.

**NEW Adopted measure 11:**Gender perspective included in the Development and adoption of the PP Ezerani Management Plan.

**NEW Adopted measure 12:**Gender perspective included in the Development of the Waste Management Plan of the Municipality of Resen 2021 - 2025.

**NEW Adopted measure 13:**In the preparation of the register of polluters to have an insight in the management structure of the polluters which is the percentage representation of men and women.

## Municipality ofKumanovo

So far, the municipality hasnotseen the programs from gender equality aspect - providing budgetwas a majorproblem. The need for closecooperationwith the coordinator / deputycoordinator for equal opportunities isemphasized.

The "PROGRAM of activities in the field of environmental protection and nature of the Municipality of Kumanovo for 2021" was revied.

**NEW Adopted measure 1:** In the subject of the program, it is envisaged that when planning activities in the field of environment and budget allocation, to take into account the introduction of the gender perspective in all phases of the implementation of the program.

**Indicator:** Number and type of gender responsive measures in the Strategy

**NEW Adopted measure 2:** In the area of ​​ambient air protection, CSOs in the field of climate change and gender equality should be involved in activities.

**Indicator:** % of women participating in capacity building and awareness raising activities

**Budget:** 600.000 MKD

**NEW Adopted measure 3:** Cooperation with CSOs in the field of climate change and gender equality in the area of ​​educating and encouraging the population to use almost 100% usable, financially affordable and environmentally friendly energy

**Indicator:** % of women participating in capacity building and awareness raising activities

**Budget: 400.000 MKD**

**NEW Adopted measure 4:** "Raising public awareness of the negative consequences of waste incineration and use of unsuitable heating fuels in cooperation with CSOs in the field of climate change and gender equality and the environment ".

**Indicator:** Number and type of gender responsive measures in the Strategy

**Budget:** 600.000 MKD

**NEW Adopted measure 5:** Gender perspective should be included in the strategy for reduction and adaptation of climate change.

**Indicator:** Number and type of gender responsive measures in the Strategy

**NEW Adopted measure 6:** The activities in the strategy for reduction and adaptation of climate change should include the preparation of an analysis of the different impacts of climate change on women and men.

**Indicator:** Number and type of gender responsive measures in the Strategy

**Budget:** 10.000.000 MKD

**NEW Adopted measure 7:** In the envisaged activities, the envisaged activities in the strategy to include CSOs in the field of environmental protection, climate change and gender equality.

**Indicator:** Number and type of gender responsive measures in the Strategy

**Budget:** 10.000.000 MKD

**NEW Adopted measure 8:** In the section Raising public awareness of the importance of the environment and other operational costs to organize educational events on the role of women in environmental protection.

**Indicator:** % of women participating in capacity building and awareness raising activities

**Budget:** 370.000 MKD

**Responsible body:** Council of the Municipality of Resen

**Deadline:** During the Program’s implementation

## Municipality of Centar

The energyefficiencyprogramfailed the tendertwice in 2021. The newmayor stated that strong cooperationwithcouncilorsisneeded.In the tender announcement should be stated that genderequalityshouldbeincluded in the offer (according to the Lawonequal opportunities, genderequalityshouldbeincluded in allspheres). This will allow the companies when preparingtheir bids to pay attention to the gender perspective as well. Moreover, energy efficient measures, such as thermalinsulation of buildings, elevators and other should be considered when publishing and evaluating a public tender, as crucial in both, mitigating and adapting to climate change.

The "PROPOSED PROGRAM FOR AMENDMENT AND SUPPLEMENTATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION PROGRAM OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF CENTAR for 2021" was a subject of review.

**NEW Adopted measure 1:** In the section Expenditures for undertaking measures and activities for protection and improvement of the environment, the gender responsible budgeting should be taken into account.

**NEW Adopted measure 2:** Organization of informational workshops on how to select the waste.

**NEW Adopted measure 3:** In the section Cleaning of illegal landfills, landfills and cleaning of canals to be added especially in the parts where there are households with single parents and households consisting of one person over 65 years and monthly income below 12,000 MKD.

**NEW Adopted measure 4:** In the section Construction of thermal insulation of facade walls of JUODG 13th November - building JASMIN - It is necessary for each of these expenditures that are intended for individuals to maintain and publish a list of sex disaggregated data of people who got subsidies - for facades (which is the composition of households in the building), and for both mobility components to collect and publish disaggregated data men / women and age of winners.

**NEW Adopted measure 5:** The part for inter-municipal cooperation and cooperation with PE Lajka keeping records that will be publicly available with sex disaggregated data, how many of the pets are adopted by men and how many by women. This reflects which sex has more opportunities, but also more compassion and empathy to adopt a pet.

These data are a legal obligation arising from the Law on Equal Opportunities, so it would be good if the coordinator for equal opportunities is involved and informed that he/she should collect this data from the municipal services and report to the MLSP Sector for Equal Opportunities and to publish on the official channels of the municipality.

**NEW Adopted measure 6:** When subsidizing bicycles, the Project "Whole Center on Bikes" should include women and vulnerable categories of citizens who will have priority to receive a subsidy when announcing a public call with previously prepared criteria.

**NEW Adopted measure 7:** In granting subsidies for E-bicycles and E-scooters to include women and vulnerable categories of citizens who will have priority to receive a subsidy when announcing a public call with previously prepared criteria.

##

## Municipality of Probishtip

Indicatorsshouldbeincluded in the actionplans and a gendercomponentshouldbeincluded in allprograms. The Program for waste management of the municipality of Probistip for 2021, Plan for energy efficiency and activities for 2021 and the Program for support of the local economic development of the municipality of Probishtip for 2021 were subject of review.

NEW Adopted measures for the Program for waste management of the municipality of Probistip for 2021:

**NEW Adopted measure 1:** In the waste management program, in the parts for the implementation of the public campaign for home composting, the active participation in the project "Macedonia without waste" and increasing the capacities for monitoring the problems in the field of environment will be equally covered women and men.

**NEW Adopted measure 2:** Forming a team with representatives from all structures and gender equality, for revision / preparation of the Program for waste management of the municipality of Probistip

NEW Adopted measures for the Plan for energy efficiency and activities for 2021:

**NEW Adopted measure 3:** Establishment of a team and activities for Audit of the existing and preparation of the new Plan for energy efficiency and activities, according to the latest method for the period 2022-2026, with representatives from all structures and gender equality, representation of men and women.

**NEW Adopted measure 4:** The part of the EE Plan will also emphasize the involvement of women in the preparation and revision of these plans and in the part of raising awareness and making flyers about the importance of EE.

NEW Adopted measures for the Program for support of the local economic development of the municipality of Probishtip:

**NEW Adopted measure 5:** In the section for support of local civil associations, CSOs working in the area of gender equality will be emphasized.

**NEW Adopted measure 6:** Forming a team with representatives from all structures and gender equality, for revision / preparation of a Local Action Plan - LEAP for the Municipality of Probistip

**NEW Adopted measure 7:** Forming a team with representatives from all structures and gender equality to implement activities for the preparation of a Waste Management Plan.

**NEW Adopted measure 8:** Implementation of activities for cleaning illegal landfills and landscaping in cooperation with PEs and civil activists with equal representation of men and women.

**NEW Adopted measure 9:** In drafting the strategic documents for tourism and rural development, LEAP, equal representation of women, equal participation and representation in the regional project, Local Action Groups (LAGs), and promotion of women entrepreneurship.

###

## Municipality of Zelino

The greatest problems in Zelino are related to water supply (watersupplyinfrastructure) and air pollution due to heating and industry.

The Program for maintenance of public cleanliness in the territory of the municipality of Zelino for 2021 was reviewed.

**NEW Adopted measure 1:** To add a goal for mapping of vulnerable families, enabling and cleaning public spaces around their households, especially households with a single parent and households with persons over 65 who live alone.

**Indicator:** % of women aged 65+ with monthly income beyond 12.000 MKD single, divorced or widower and live alone

**NEW Adopted measure 2:** In the program subject, to add removal of glass rubble and construction debris in addition to arable land accompanied by an information campaign on arable land where the population density is lower.

**Indicator:** % of women participating in capacity building and awareness raising activities

**NEW Proposed measure 3:** In the action for snow removal - to ensure safe movement of women on sidewalks when there is snow, because they walk more often; Cleaning sidewalks; Access to schools, kindergartens, health centers and bus facilities to provide safe, secure access for women and children.

**Indicator:** Policies and measures targeting women and vulnerable groups

###

## Municipality of Vinica

The main detected issues in the Municipality of Vinica are the low capacity for preparing documents and very limited budget.

The introduction of climate change and gender equality measures in the following programs and plans were analyzed: Three Years Action Plan for Gender Equality of the Municipality of Vinica For 2022 - 2024 Year, Energy Efficiency Program and Program for Construction, Reconstruction and Maintenance of Public Lighting, Program for support of local economic developmentand Program for agricultural developmentwith gender sensitive aspects, Strategy for Climate Change 2015-2025.

NEW Adopted measures for the THREE YEARS ACTION PLAN FOR GENDER EQUALITY OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF VINICA FOR 2022 - 2024 YEAR, Energy Efficiency Program and Program for construction, reconstruction and maintenance of public lighting:

**NEW Adopted measure 1:** Detection of dark zones and public areas and their lighting to increase the sense of security among citizens, especially girls and women

**NEW Adopted measure 2**: Increasing the sense of security among the citizens, especially among women and girls

Activities related to the measure:

**NEW Adopted Activity 1:** Research on how many and which parts of the municipality are unlit (this especially affects the safety of women and their sense of security), but also other specific data on how many faulty lamps there are, how many have been replaced and so on.

Indicator: Number of mapped unlit areas in the municipality

**NEW Adopted Activity 2:** Installation of public lighting in dark zones

Indicator: Number of lighten zones

**NEW Adopted Activity 3:** Preparation of a plan for replacement of existing lamps with energy-saving lamps

Indicator: Number of existing bulbs replaced with energy-saving ones.

Responsible body: Municipality of Vinica

Deadline: 2024

**NEW Adopted measures for theLocal Economic Development Support Program:**

**NEW Adopted measure 1:**Providing support to rural women engaged in agriculture

**NEW Adopted activity 1:** Insight into statistical data and research (how many rural women are registered farmers, whether agriculture is their primary or additional activity, how many of them are beneficiaries of IPARD measures, number of women receiving agricultural pension)

Indicator: Number of women farmers from rural areas, Number of women receiving agricultural pension, Number of women beneficiaries of measures from the IPARD Program

**NEW Adopted activity 2:** Working meetings (at least 2 years) with women farmers from rural areas in order to map their needs and adopt appropriate measures according to the needs

Indicator: Number of women farmers participated at the meetings

**NEW Adopted activity 3:** Open info day in the municipality for rural women-farmers for providing direct support and assistance in applying and preparing projects from the IPARD 2 program

Indicator: Number of women farmers attended at the info-day

**NEW Adopted activity 4:** Determination of material compensation for rural women due to damages caused by climate change (drought, floods, etc.)

Indicator: Number of women received compensation

Responsible body: Municipality of Vinica, LED Department, MAFWE

Deadline: 2024

**NEW Adopted measures for the Agricultural Development Program for Vinica:**

**NEW Adopted measure 1:** Subsidies for innovation in agriculture (finding and using new modern ways to maintain agriculture in conditions of climate change)

Indicator: Number of subsidies used by women

**NEW Adopted activity 1**: Debates (total 2) on the impact of climate change on agriculture with emphasis on the impact of climate change on women farmers.

Indicator: Number of tribunes held

**NEW Adopted activity 2**: Announcing a public call for sustainable solutions in agriculture (innovations, modern solutions for agricultural development in conditions of climate change)

Indicator: Number of submitted sustainable solutions in agriculture

Responsible body: Municipality of Vinica

Deadline: 2024

Proposed measures for the Climate Change Strategy 2015-2025:

**NEW Adopted measure 1:**Construction of bicycle paths

**NEW Adopted activity 1:** Detection of key paths that will be used equally by women and men in the municipality for bicycle transport

Indicator: Length of the bicycle path

Responsible body: Municipality of Vinica

Deadline: 2024

###

## Municipality of Zelenikovo

The main detected issues in the Municipality of Zelenikovoare the low capacity for preparing documents and conduct analysis in order to collect gender sensitive data. In order to implement the proposed measures and activities, the Municipality needs additional training for some employees (designated persons) to introduce a gender perspective in the programs, strategies and action plans.

The municipality does not have prepared Strategy for Gender Equality as well as no gender sensitive database for the municipality.

The introduction of climate change and gender equality measures in the following programs and plans was analysed: Gender Equality Strategy, Operational plan for protection against floods, 2021-2024, Threat assessment on the territory of the Municipality of Zelenikovo, and Establishment of gender sensitive database.

As a basis for all plans and programs that the municipality aims to prepare it is necessary to start collecting gender sensitive data and establishing a database. The database should include mapping of vulnerable groups of people, men and women, the needs for improvement of the energy efficiency in their homes, etc. The plan of the Municipality is to start collecting and sorting data in 2022 year, from different institutions or using surveys and continue collecting data in the next years.

Next measures that the municipality should take are preparation of the Strategy for Gender Equality and Operational plan for protection and defense against floods, 2021-2024 and Threat Assessment on the territory of the Municipality of Zelenikovo.

**NEW Adopted measure 1:** Appointment of a responsible person and team for preparation of the strategy Preparation of an Action Plan, who will take into account the activities for adaptation of the inhabitants of the municipality (equally men and women, children and the elderly) to climate change

**NEW Adopted measure 2:** To create a database of gender sensitive data in the municipality (at least for the last 3 years) and its constant updating. The database should contain data on the population, especially those living in rural areas that are at risk of floods or fires (natural disasters). Mode of transport used by the population, how many men and how many women have a car and a driver's license. Do they use public transport and how do they get to the bus stops? The data can be taken from the Social Center and the Crisis Center.

**NEW Adopted measure 3:** Mapping vulnerable groups of the population, employed men and women, needs to improve energy efficiency in the home, etc.

NEW Adopted measures for Threat assessment on the territory of the Municipality of Zelenikovo:

**NEW Adopted measure 4:** Establishment of gender sensitive data

**NEW Adopted measure 5:** Cleaning and arranging torrential canals, paying special attention to priority locations where the elderly population or single mothers live.

**NEW Adopted measure 6:** Involve the most vulnerable categories of the population that would be most affected by natural disasters and climate change in order to plan effective support and assistance.

NEW Adopted measures for the Operational plan for protection against floods 2021-2024:

**NEW Adopted measure 7:** Detection of flood critical areas where vulnerable categories of people live (elderly, single parents)

## Municipality ofGazi Baba

The main detected issues in the Municipality of Gazi Baba are the low capacity for preparing documents, limited budget and high air pollution. The municipality is facing high air pollution in the urban part of the municipality, while in the rural part of the municipality farmer face various challenges and losses caused by climate change. The Program for local economic development of the Municipality of Gazi Baba for 2022 and Equal opportunities for men and women for 2022, were subject of review.

**NEW Adopted measure 1:** Public promotion and education for energy efficiency in homes, appropriate way of heating homes and choosing electrical appliances in the home.

There is a greater need for the women to be better informed in order to be able to choose the best solution for their household (campaigns that are simple and understandable for all)

**Indicator:** Number of campaigns; Number of people involved (women and men)

Proposed measures for the Strategy of equal opportunities for men and women for 2022 are the following:

**NEW adopted measure 2:** Working meetings (at least 2 years) with women farmers from rural areas in order to map their needs and adopt appropriate measures according to the needs.

**Indicator:** Number of working meetings; Number of women participants in the working meetings

**NEW Adopted measure 3:** Creating gender-disaggregated statistics by collecting data from a gender perspective, analyzing, and building a knowledge management system

**Indicator:** Gender-disaggregated data

**Responsible body:** Municipality of Gazi Baba

**Deadline:** 2022

## Municipality of KrivaPalanka

Key issue in the Municipality of KrivaPalanka in terms of gender aspects is the non-existing capacity for preparation of documents. Moreover, the current situation of the Municipality was discussed during the mentoring session, the programs the municipality has had for the previous years and the future ideas and plans relevant for the adaptation to the climate change of the municipality itself.The municipality still does not have a finalized Gender responsible strategy together with a gender sensitive database for the municipality.  Several documents were subject of review: Gender Responsive Strategy for Sustainable Development 2021-2025, the Program for activities in the field of equal opportunities for women and men in the Municipality of KrivaPalanka for 2022 and the Program for Local Economic Development Municipality of KrivaPalanka for 2022. The Program for local economic development of the Municipality of KrivaPalanka for 2022 is the main subject of review.

The NEW measures in the Program for local economic development of the Municipality of KrivaPalanka for 2022 are the following:

**NEW Adopted measure 1:** Participation at specialized trainings, trainings, seminars, conferences, online in the country and abroad of the municipal officials for climate change and gender mainstreaming

**Indicator:** Higher level of professional training of the municipal administration; Increased transparency; Established national and international cooperation networks.

**Budget:** 100.000 MKD

**NEW Adopted measuremeasure 2:** Finalizing the Gender Responsive Strategy for Sustainable Development 2021-2025

**Indicator:** number and type of available and transparent data

**Responsible body:** Municipality of KrivaPalanka

**Deadline:** 2022

##

## Municipality of Berovo

The main detected issues in the Municipality of Berovoare the low capacity for preparing documents and area with high risk of nature disasters (like forest fires, landslides etc.). Having in mind the huge fires that burned a large area of forests in Maleshevo, including Berovo, the mentoring sessions showed that a new Plan for assessment of the risk of natural disasters in the Municipality of Berovo is needed that will be gender responsive, ie will include the gender dimension.In recent years, the municipality has faced many fires that have destroyedforest and areas that were used by farmers. Even though several documents were reviewd, such as: The Energy Efficiency Program of the Municipality of Berovo for 2021 / LED; The Strategy for Gender Equality at the Regional Level 2020-2022 and the Action Plan of the Municipality of Berovo for the implementation of the Regional Strategy for Gender Equality 2020-2022, the main document for review was the Plan for assessment of the risk of natural disasters in the Municipality of Berovo.

**NEW Adopted measure 1:** Inclusion of gender sensitive data

**NEW Adopted measure 2:** Mapping the most vulnerable categories of the population that would be most affected by natural disasters and climate change in order to plan effective support

## Summary of newly adopted measures

The reviewed plans and programs presented above have new 100+ adopted measures and activities regarding climate change and gender. They are all presented in the table below:

Table 1. Summary of adopted measures

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Program | Adopted measures | Budget |
| Municipality of Aerodrom |
| Equal Opportunities Program for the Municipality of Aerodrom for 2020 | * + - In the trainings for awareness rising for gender based violence, to include prevention of gender based violence in crisis situations as a result of climate changes (fires, floats…);
 | Education - raising awareness of gender equality through campaigns: 240,000.00 MKD which refers to all education activities. (for this and the next measure) |
| * + - For raising the awareness for equal opportunities, the Municipality of Aerodrom will also include presentation of the new Strategy for gender equality that has special measures on gender and climate.
 |  |
| Municipality of Sveti Nikole |
| PROGRAM of Municipality of Sveti Nikole activities in the field of social protection for 2022 | 1. Granting a one-time financial aid to families affected by natural disasters
 | 100.000 MKD |
| PROGRAM for equal opportunities for women and men in the Municipality of Sveti Nikole for 2022 | 1. Conduct training on climate change for women farmers
 | No financial implications. |
| Municipality of Delchevo |
| PROGRAM for gender equality of women and men of the Municipality of Delchevo and work of the CEO for 2022 | 1. Priority 2.4 The impact of climate change on the quality of life of women and men
 | 62.000 MKD |
| **Activity 1:** Assessment of the damage from fires and the impact on women and men (whether someone lost their job, moved from the place, got sick from a disease as a result of smoke, if they were engaged in collecting forest grasses and fruits - which are damages, damage to beekeepers and sl) |
| **Activity 2:** Survey with the population through the local communities to identify the problems and challenges faced by women and men as a result of climate change (indicators: number of respondents, number of settlements where data were collected, identified challenges and possible solutions ) |
| **Activity 3:** Education of all engaged in agriculture and women and men (not just registered farmers who are mostly men) to adapt agriculture to climate change and apply new varieties or methods of planting, irrigation, composting at home, dealing with pests in an organic way, etc ... Opportunity to get acquainted with biodynamic production - from here can arise proposals for subsidies for next year |
| **Activity 4:** Organizing a course for women and men for giving first aid and dealing with natural disasters (fires, floods, ...) (from the health center for first aid, and fire-fighters for teaching techniques can teach, or how to act in floods, how to put out fires, etc.). Additionally, fire fighting techniques can be demonstrated in physical education for all students. |
| **Activity 5:** Organizing additional health systematic examinations of fire-fighters who were involved in extinguishing fires in order to prevent lung diseases (which in the long run may cause municipal costs due to sick leave and additional burden on women to care for the sick ...) |
| **Activity 6:** Campaign in secondary and primary schools: I am also part of the solution! Have them discuss the problem and suggest measures in biology or similar classes. The municipality's website may contain a brief description of how each individual can reduce greenhouse gas emissions (which may also result from the survey) and invite high school students by name to write measures that they will respect, such as: I turn off the light, I will use a bicycle when I can, I will not burn the stubble, I will collect my waste behind me and throw it where it should be, I will not burn bottles, I will not let the tap flow, etc. This activity can be done if there is an ecology section. Then it is good to make an analysis of what women signed and what men signed. |
|  | **Activity 7:**Public campaign for the possibilities of using alternative energy sources - I do not know if you have any subsidies, if so, then you will include the gender perspective in the ads for subsidizing the population which will encourage women and men to apply for subsidies. |  |
| Municipality of Kochani |
| Local Action Plan for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men for 2022 in Kocani | 1. Collection of sex-disaggregated statistics for employees in municipal institutions and for certain areas, conditions and issues arising from the strategies that the state has adopted at national levels in various areas.
 | No financial implications. |
| 1. Gender disaggregated statistics for municipal institutions as a basis for gender analysis and development indicators projects. Overview of strategic documents, implying responsibilities at the local level for collection of gender disaggregated statistics.
 | No financial implications. |
| 1. Training and coordination for the development of gender responsive policies to reduce greenhouse gases, climate change adaptation and impact on women and men.
 | No financial implications. |
| 1. Trained representatives of the local community and citizens' associations for recognition and introduction of measures to reduce the consequences and protection from the impacts of climate change. Coordination of local climate change initiatives (public enterprises, local institutions and associations, business sector) and their impact on the quality of life of women and men locally.
 | No financial implications. |
| 1. Economically empowered women for entrepreneurship, managerial skills and online sales and digital marketing with a special focus on women farmers and opportunities for their registration and information on opportunities to support the processes of adapting their production to climate change.
 | N/I |
| 1. Realization of the goals and tasks arising from the Law for equal opportunities and the new Strategy for Gender Equality that have special measures on gender and climate change.
 | N/I |
| Gender mainstreamed programs in Kochani:Program for public lightening;Program for waste management;Program for environment;Program for abandoned dogs;Program for parks and vegetation;Program for urban planning;Program for public transportation - Program of technologies for urban transport planning, direct measures mobility - subsidizing. Subsidizing is in order to develop a dialogue between all stakeholders on various aspects of movement (mobility), to propose and test innovative traffic solutions, new technologies or measures for urban transport planning that will meet the mobility needs of women / girls and men / boys):- Subsidizing municipal line transport: 700,000.00 MKD- Subsidizing bicycles for sustainable urban transport is planned 350,000.00 MKDProgram for public cleanliness. |
| Municipality of Bogdanci |
| Financing of activities in the field of environmental protection in Municipality of Bogdanci 2022 | 1. Educational projects for environmental protection in schools and for citizens, public campaign, education for waste selection, etc.
 | N/I |
| 1. Determination of protection zones of the wells from which drinking water is supplied to the settlements in the Municipality of Bogdanci.
 | N/I |
| 1. Measures for protection of the environment and human health
 | N/I |
| Municipality of Valandovo |
| The Local Action Plan for Equal Opportunities 2022-2023 | Goal 3 - Raising public awareness of a healthy and clean environment and the impact of climate change on women and men. | N/I |
| Measure 1.Application of new agricultural practices | N/I |
| Activity 1:Debates or educational workshops on adaptation of agriculture to climate change and involvement of women in the processes. | N/I |
| Activity 2: Announcing a public call for sustainable solutions in agriculture (innovations, modern solutions for agricultural development in conditions of climate change) | N/I |
| Activity 3: Support for candidates who will offer sustainable solutions in reducing negative climate change on agriculture | N/I |
| Measure 2: Providing support to rural women engaged in agriculture | N/I |
| Activity 1: Open info day in the municipality for rural women farmers to provide direct support and assistance in applying and preparing projects from the IPARD 2 program | N/I |
| Activity 2: Determining material compensation for rural women due to damage caused by climate change (drought, floods, etc.) | N/I |
| Measure 3: Public toilets on public areas in the city (market, park, picnic places) | N/I |
| Activity 1: To develop conceptual plan for construction or reconstruction of public toilets | N/I |
| Measure 4: Enterprises social responsibility | N/I |
| Activity 1: Campaign / debate on the importance of implementing measures for enterprises social responsibility for healthy and clean environment | N/I |
| Municipality of Tearce |
| Waste management plan of the municipality of Tearce 2022. | 1. Participation of women in the process of creating the program
 | N/I |
| 1. Creating content that will address the female population and female health within the Campaign for proper waste management.
 | N/I |
| Municipality of Resen |
| Program for protection of the environment and nature on the territory of the Municipality of Resen 2022 | 1. In the part of the goals of the program to develop Activities that will reduce the vulnerability of single parents and people who live alone in the household and are over 65 years old.
 | N/I |
| 1. To introduce the gender perspective in the measures and activities of the program.
 | N/I |
| 1. Developing state analysis of gender equality in the program.
 | N/I |
| 1. Development of strategies and activities for reduction of environmental risks in the program of the municipality that will include the gender perspective in the planning process.
 | N/I |
| 1. In the section measures and activities, the gender perspective should be introduced.
 | N/I |
| 1. Preparation of strategic and planning documents related to the environment and gender equality.
 | N/I |
| 1. Organizing trainings on gender equality and climate change.
 | N/I |
| 1. The Natural Monument Management Plan should guarantee equitable representation of men and women in the governing and operating bodies of the Monument of Nature.
 | N/I |
| 1. Support for NGO projects that lead to increasing public awareness and education of the local population - It is desirable that these NGOs work in the areas of human rights and gender equality and that is explicitly stated in the call for NGO support.
 | N/I |
| 1. Gender perspective included in the Adoption of a Management Plan for Lake Prespa.
 | N/I |
| 1. Gender perspective included in the Development and adoption of the PP Ezerani Management Plan.
 | N/I |
| Municipality of Centar |
| Program for amendment and supplementation of the environment protection program of the municipality of Centar for 2021 | 1. In the section Expenditures for undertaking measures and activities for protection and improvement of the environment, the gender responsible budgeting should be taken into account.
 | N/I |
| 1. Organization of informational workshops on how to select the waste.
 | N/I |
| 1. In the section Cleaning of illegal landfills, landfills and cleaning of canals to be added especially in the parts where there are households with single parents and households consisting of one person over 65 years and monthly income below 12,000 MKD.
 | N/I |
| 1. In the section Construction of thermal insulation of facade walls of JUODG 13th November - building JASMIN - It is necessary for each of these expenditures that are intended for individuals to maintain and publish a list of sex disaggregated data of people who got subsidies - for facades (which is the composition of households in the building), and for both mobility components to collect and publish disaggregated data men / women and age of winners.
 | N/I |
| 1. The part for inter-municipal cooperation and cooperation with PE Lajka keeping records that will be publicly available with sex disaggregated data, how many of the pets are adopted by men and how many by women. This reflects which sex has more opportunities, but also more compassion and empathy to adopt a pet. These data are a legal obligation arising from the Law on Equal Opportunities, so it would be good if the coordinator for equal opportunities is involved and informed that he/she should collect this data from the municipal services and report to the MLSP Sector for Equal Opportunities and to publish on the official channels of the municipality.
 | N/I |
| 1. When subsidizing bicycles, the Project "Whole Center on Bikes" should include women and vulnerable categories of citizens who will have priority to receive a subsidy when announcing a public call with previously prepared criteria.
 | N/I |
| 1. In granting subsidies for E-bicycles and E-scooters to include women and vulnerable categories of citizens who will have priority to receive a subsidy when announcing a public call with previously prepared criteria.
 | N/I |
| Municipality of Probishtip |
| Program for waste management of the municipality of Probistip for 2021 | 1. In the waste management program, in the parts for the implementation of the public campaign for home composting, the active participation in the project "Macedonia without waste" and increasing the capacities for monitoring the problems in the field of environment will be equally covered women and men.
 | No financial implications. |
| 1. Forming a team with representatives from all structures and gender equality, for revision / preparation of the Program for waste management of the municipality of Probistip
 | 50.000 MKD |
| Plan for energy efficiency and activities for 2021 | 1. Establishment of a team and activities for Audit of the existing and preparation of the new Plan for energy efficiency and activities, according to the latest method for the period 2022-2026, with representatives from all structures and gender equality, representation of men and women.
 | No financial implications. |
| 1. The part of the EE Plan will also emphasize the involvement of women in the preparation and revision of these plans and in the part of raising awareness and making flyers about the importance of EE.
 | No financial implications. |
| Program for support of the local economic development of the municipality of Probishtip: | 1. In the section for support of local civil associations, CSOs working in the area of gender equality will be emphasized.
 | 60.000 |
| 1. Forming a team with representatives from all structures and gender equality, for revision / preparation of a Local Action Plan - LEAP for the Municipality of Probistip
 | No financial implications. |
| 1. Forming a team with representatives from all structures and gender equality to implement activities for the preparation of a Waste Management Plan.
 | No financial implications. |
| 1. Implementation of activities for cleaning illegal landfills and landscaping in cooperation with PEs and civil activists with equal representation of men and women.
 | No financial implications. |
| 1. In drafting the strategic documents for tourism and rural development, LEAP, equal representation of women, equal participation and representation in the regional project, Local Action Groups (LAGs), and promotion of women entrepreneurship.
 | No financial implications. |
| Municipality of Zelino |
| Program for maintenance of public cleanliness in the territory of the municipality of Zelino for 2021 | 1. Added a goal for mapping of vulnerable families, enabling and cleaning public spaces around their households, especially households with a single parent and households with persons over 65 who live alone.
 | No financial implications. |
| 1. In the program subject, added removal of glass rubble and construction debris in addition to arable land accompanied by an information campaign on arable land where the population density is lower.
 | N/I |
| Municipality of Zelenikovo |
| Operational plan for protection against floods, 2021-2024,  | 1. Detection of flood critical areas where vulnerable categories of people live (elderly, single parents)
 | N/I |
| Threat assessment on the territory of the Municipality of Zelenikovo, | 1. Establishment of gender sensitive data
 | N/I |
| 1. Cleaning and arranging torrential canals, paying special attention to priority locations where the elderly population or single mothers live.
 | N/I |
| 1. Involve the most vulnerable categories of the population that would be most affected by natural disasters and climate change in order to plan effective support and assistance.
 | N/I |
| Developing Gender Equality Strategy for Municipality of Zelenikovo | 1. Appointment of a responsible person and team for preparation of the strategy Preparation of an Action Plan, who will take into account the activities for adaptation of the inhabitants of the municipality (equally men and women, children and the elderly) to climate change
 | N/I |
| Establishment of gender sensitive database | 1. To create a database of gender sensitive data in the municipality (at least for the last 3 years) and its constant updating. The database should contain data on the population, especially those living in rural areas that are at risk of floods or fires (natural disasters). Mode of transport used by the population, how many men and how many women have a car and a driver's license. Do they use public transport and how do they get to the bus stops? The data can be taken from the Social Center and the Crisis Center.
 | N/I |
| Municipality of KrivaPalanka |
| Program for local economic development of the Municipality of KrivaPalanka for 2022 | 1. Participation at specialized trainings, trainings, seminars, conferences, online in the country and abroad of the municipal officials
 | N/I |
| 2. Finalizing the Gender Responsive Strategy for Sustainable Development 2021-2025 | 100.000 MKD |
| Municipality of Berovo |
| Plan for assessment of the risk of natural disasters in the Municipality of Berovo | 1. Inclusion of gender sensitive data
 | N/I |
| 1. Mapping the most vulnerable categories of the population that would be most affected by natural disasters and climate change in order to plan effective support
 | N/I |
| Municipality of Kumanovo |
| PROGRAM of activities in the field of environmental protectionand the nature of the Municipality of Kumanovo for 2021 | 1. In the subject of the program, it is envisaged that when planning activities in the field of environment and budget allocation, to take into account the introduction of the gender perspective in all phases of the implementation of the program.
 | No financial implications |
| 1. In the area of ​​ambient air protection, CSOs in the field of climate change and gender equality should be involved in activities.
 | 600.000 MKD |
| 1. Cooperation with CSOs in the field of climate change and gender equality in the area of ​​educating and encouraging the population to use almost 100% usable, financially affordable and environmentally friendly energy
 | 400.000 MKD |
| 1. Raising public awareness of the negative consequences of waste incineration anduse of unsuitable heating fuels in cooperation with CSOs in the field of climate change and gender equality and the environment.
 | 600.000 MKD |
| 1. Gender perspective should be included in the strategy for reduction and adaptation of climate change.
 | No financial implications |
| 1. The activities in the strategy for reduction and adaptation of climate change should include the preparation of an analysis of the different impacts of climate change on women and men.
 | 10.000.000 MKD |
| 1. In the envisaged activities, the envisaged activities in the strategy to include CSOs in the field of environmental protection, climate change and gender equality.
 | 10.000.000 MKD |
| 1. In the section Raising public awareness of the importance of the environment and other operational costs to organize educational events on the role of women in environmental protection.
 | 370.000 MKD |
| Municipality of Vinica |
| Three Years Action Plan for Gender Equality of the Municipality of Vinica for 2022 - 2024 Year | 1. Detection of dark zones and public areas and their lighting to increase the sense of security among citizens, especially girls and women

**Activity 1:** Research on how many and which parts of the municipality are unlit (this especially affects the safety of women and their sense of security), but also other specific data on how many faulty lamps there are, how many have been replaced and so on.**Activity 2:** Installation of public lighting in dark zones**Activity 3:** Preparation of a plan for replacement of existing lamps with energy-saving lamps | N/I |
|  | 1. Increasing the sense of security among the citizens, especially among women and girls
 | N/I |
| Local Economic Development Support Program | 1. Providing support to rural women engaged in agriculture

**activity 1:** Insight into statistical data and research (how many rural women are registered farmers, whether agriculture is their primary or additional activity, how many of them are beneficiaries of IPARD measures, number of women receiving agricultural pension)Indicator: Number of women farmers from rural areas, Number of women receiving agricultural pension, Number of women beneficiaries of measures from the IPARD Program**activity 2:** Working meetings (at least 2 years) with women farmers from rural areas in order to map their needs and adopt appropriate measures according to the needsIndicator: Number of women farmers participated at the meetings**activity 3:** Open info day in the municipality for rural women-farmers for providing direct support and assistance in applying and preparing projects from the IPARD 2 programIndicator: Number of women farmers attended at the info-day**activity 4:** Determination of material compensation for rural women due to damages caused by climate change (drought, floods, etc.) | N/I |
| Agricultural Development Program for Vinica | 1. Subsidies for innovation in agriculture (finding and using new modern ways to maintain agriculture in conditions of climate change)
 | N/I |
| 1. Debates (total 2) on the impact of climate change on agriculture with emphasis on the impact of climate change on women farmers.
 | N/I |
| 1. Announcing a public call for sustainable solutions in agriculture (innovations, modern solutions for agricultural development in conditions of climate change)
 | N/I |
| 1. Construction of bicycle paths
 | N/I |
| 1. Detection of key paths that will be used equally by women and men in the municipality for bicycle transport
 | N/I |
| Municipality of Gazi Baba |
| Program for local economic development of the Municipality of Gazi Baba for 2022 | 1. Public promotion and education for energy efficiency in homes, appropriate way of heating homes and choosing electrical appliances in the home.
 | N/I |
| Strategy of equal opportunities for men and women for 2022 are the following: | 1. Working meetings (at least 2 years) with women farmers from rural areas in order to map their needs and adopt appropriate measures according to the needs.
 | N/I |
| 1. Creating gender-disaggregated statistics by collecting data from a gender perspective, analyzing, and building a knowledge management system
 | N/I |

# IV Conclusion and recommendations

Having in mind that climate change and gender as concept was introduced for the first time in Macedonia in 2015, it can be concluded that the country offers very rich legal, policy and institutional framework for this matter. Governmental capacities are boosted by the international organizations and that process is ongoing and will continue in the future.

The great number of adopted measures at local level indicates the raised awareness among the municipal officials for the importance of introducing gender and climate change into the local policies. Nevertheless, it is assumed that it is necessary to further work towards building the capacities and raising the awareness among the governmental representatives nationwide, not just for improving the local policies, but also to change mutual experience and knowledge in sustainable fashion**.**

Moreover, it is of crucial importance to follow the implementation of the adopted measures and budgets and to report on the municipals credibility, by monitoring the indicators accordingly. Here the civil society and its’ watchdog role should put and extra pressure on the governments to fully and meaningfully implement all envisioned actions in terms of climate change and gender.

The inter and multi sectorial approach will significantly facilitate the process of achieving the Nationally Determined Contribution of the country, the global targets set out in the Paris Agreement as well as the UN SDGs.

Some of the recommendations for future actions at national and local level are:

* 1. Adoption of the Law for climate action;
	2. Continuous strengthening the knowledge and understanding of national and local authorities on the gender dimension of climate change.
	3. Provide mentoring program for the authorities on local and national level to start with implementation of gender mainstreaming within strategic planning process, to understand the gender roles and stereotypes, how to use the sex-disaggregate data and to take into consideration the needs, priorities and benefits of all marginalized persons, men and women, children and adults in rural and urban areas;
	4. Allocation of budgets for each measure introduced in the local policies.4
	5. Setting measurable and localised SDG indicators and reporting accordingly, by the local authorities; Support to the municipalities to develop their Strategy on Climate change that could include the identification of the main climate change impacts, main sectors impacted and how the gender roles in that sectors could be used to develop the action plan for adaptation or mitigation measures.
	6. Organisation of forums for knowledge and best practice exchangebetween different municipalities and sectors.Greater inclusion of women in the decision making processes related to climate change as effective actors or agents of change in relation to both mitigation and adaptation.
	7. Empowering women and achieving gender equality are important goals in themselves, but are also critical components of managing climate change and creating a sustainable future.
	8. Long-term protection of women from the climate change impact as they are in the frontline.
	9. Sex-disaggregated data.Quality, accessible, timely and reliable disaggregated data is needed to help with the measurement of progress and to ensure evidence-based policy making. It is crucial to anticipate gender sensitive indicators and apply gender responsive
	10. Improve the cooperation between the LSGU and the civil society organizations on issues related to gender and climate change;
	11. Education for NGOs and establishment ofwatchdog networks and coalitions to monitor the implementation of measures related to climate change and gender;
	12. Identification of tools for raising public awareness on climate change in general;
	13. Education for media for gender and climate change in order to have greater media pressure.
1. <https://oxfamilibrary.openrepository.com/bitstream/handle/10546/115038/bn-tsunami-impact-on-women-250305-en.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. [**https://mk.voanews.com/a/2899338.html**](https://mk.voanews.com/a/2899338.html) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. <https://eige.europa.eu/publications/gender-equality-and-climate-change-report> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. <https://gsdrc.org/topic-guides/gender/gender-and-climate-change/> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0176268017304500> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. <https://www.academia.edu/25294970/Human_Ecological_Implications_of_Climate_Change_in_the_Himalaya_Investigating_Opportunities_for_Adaptation_in_the_Kaligandaki_Basin_Nepal> [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. <https://eige.europa.eu/publications/gender-equality-and-climate-change-report> [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Resurrección, B.P., Bee, B.A., Dankelman, I., Park, C.M.Y, Halder, M., & McMullen, C.P. (2019). “*Gender-transformative climate change adaptation: advancing social equity*” Background paper to the 2019 report of the Global Commission on Adaptation. Rotterdam and Washington, DC. Available online at www.gca.org. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. "Fourth National Plan and Third Biennial Report on Climate Change" and “Strengthening the institutional and technical capacities for improving transparency for climate change in within the Paris agreement (CBIT project)” [↑](#footnote-ref-9)