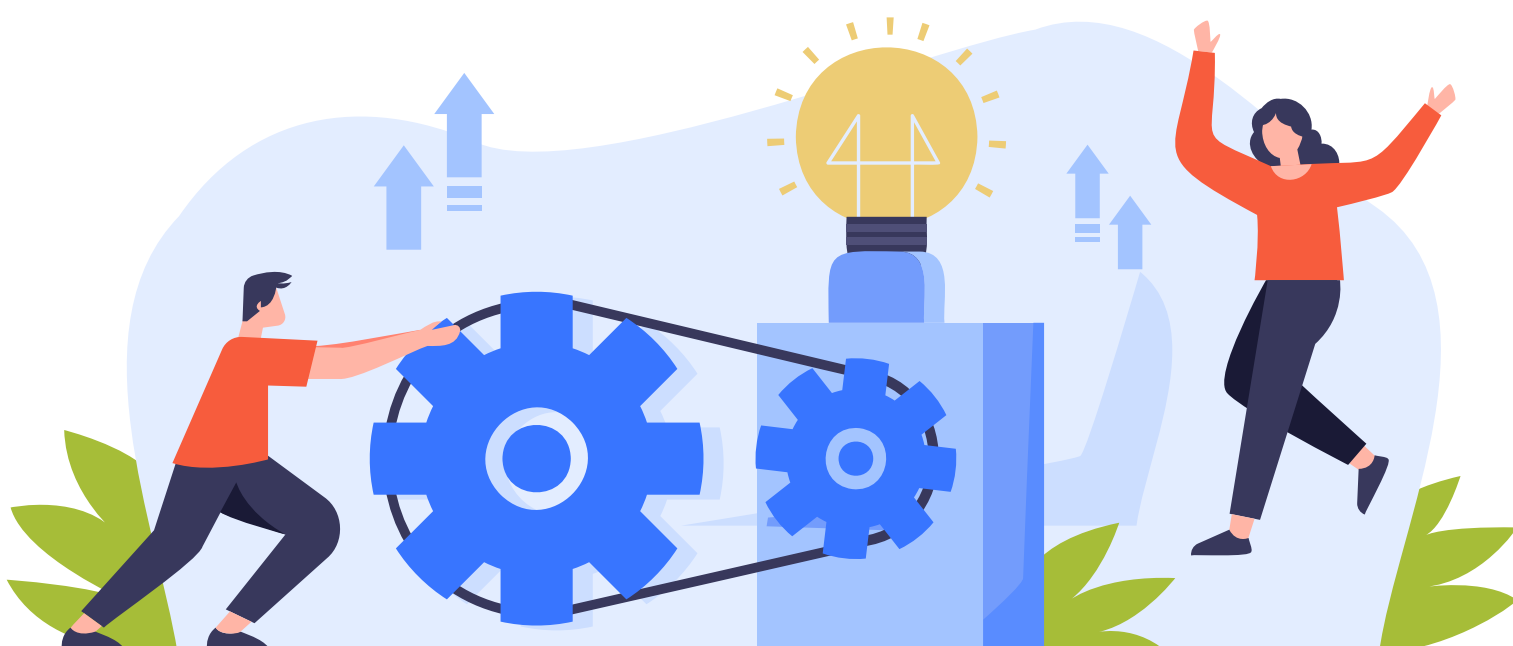


GUIDEBOOK

FOR GENDER BUDGET WATCHDOGGING

in Climate Change Financing





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INTRODUCTION:

The Guidebook for gender budget watchdogging in climate change financing has been prepared in the scope of the project “Strengthening transparency and accountability for gender equality in Western Balkans and Moldova (Gender Budget Watchdog Network, Phase II)”. The project follows the Gender Budget Watchdog Network (GBWN) in the Western Balkans and Moldova’s previous, successful ADA and SIDA-supported project and the objective is to improve public commitments for gender responsive climate action and increase available financing to implement gender-responsive climate action in the Western Balkans region and Moldova.

The overall aim of the Guidebook is to improve the understanding of gender concerns in climate change policy-issues both in the common and country specific perspective and to support CSOs to estimate gender responsiveness of the funded climate actions and policies.

Requirements for gender responsive climate actions are becoming stronger, particularly since Lima Gender Action Plan under the UNFCCC. There are also commitments made as part of the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans (funding provided by European Union, International Funding Institutions, domestic budget funding) and the NDCs under the Paris Agreement. There are strong demands for gender justice in climate actions and improved reporting on gender mainstreaming in development and implementation of climate change responses by the state parties.

This guidebook should assist the CSO organisations (Women’s rights organizations, Men’s organizations, CSOs working on environment protection and climate change and CSOs working on implementation of UN Resolution 1325) in presenting the links between climate responsive and gender responsive budgeting.

The first part of the guidebook is explaining the climate change, factors and consequences on women and men, girls and boys, as well as the importance of gender mainstreaming in climate change policies.

The second part is short overview of the international framework for climate changes and how gender perspective is incorporated in that framework.

The last part is describing Climate financing and tools how CSO organisations can apply Gender responsive budgeting in climate change financing.

01

Climate change



The term climate refers to a set of all-weather phenomena, that is, atmospheric processes that characterize the average physical state of the atmosphere over a location on the globe.

The climate is conditioned by: the regime of solar radiation, the regime of earth radiation, air currents, air humidity, air and soil temperature. Climate is also determined by the circulation of the atmosphere, the arrangement of the land and water surface, the geographical area, the altitude, the characteristics of the substrate and so on.

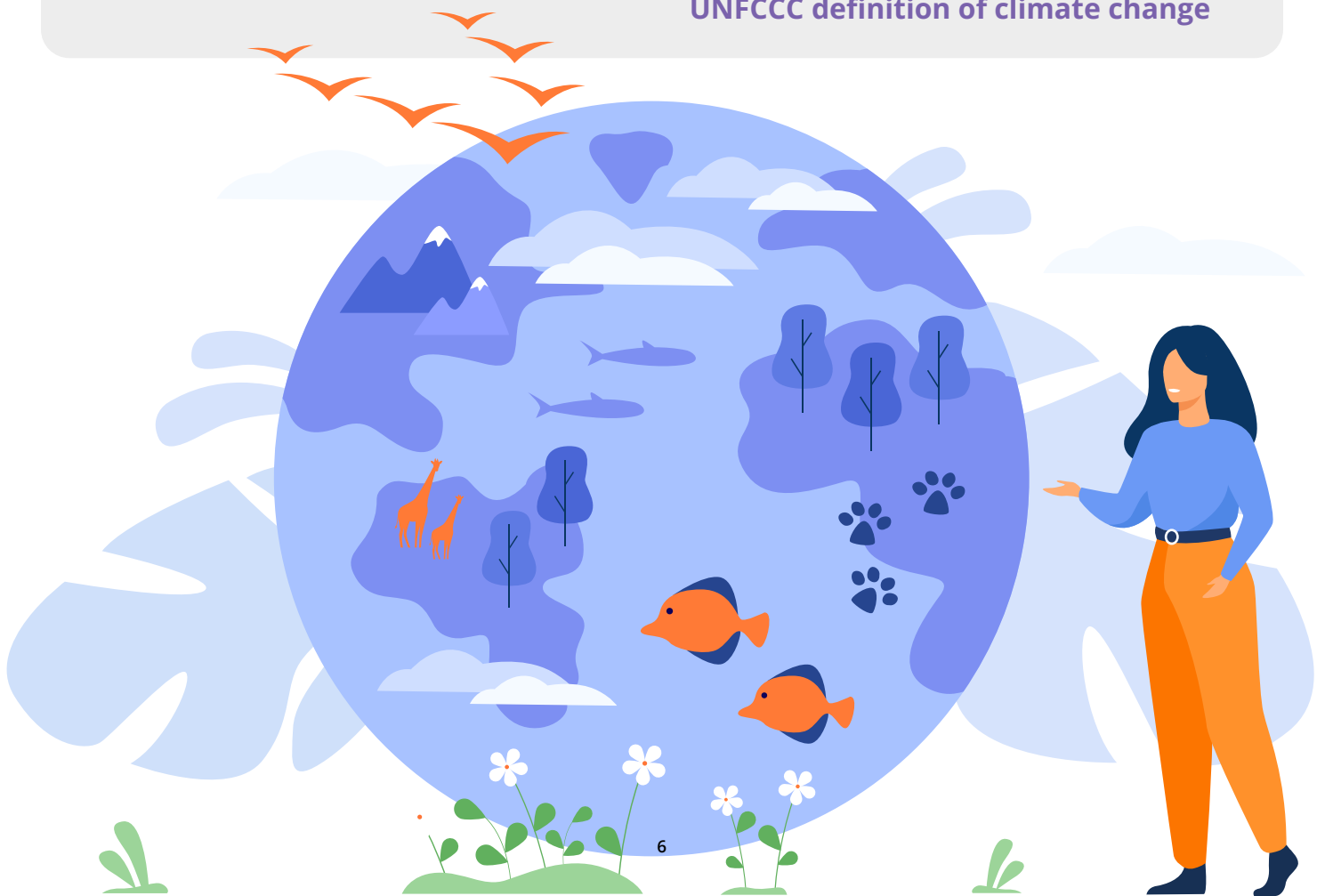
The dependence of people on the weather, climate and natural environment can be one of the basic conditions for existence in a certain territory. The same applies to the impact on agricultural and livestock production, the cultivation of forest crops, as well as the impact of atmospheric conditions on the environment and on spatial and urban planning.

On the other hand, it is increasingly evident that there is a connection between the impact of human activities with the increase of greenhouse elements, global warming and climate change.

Climate change is a huge challenge for all of us and we are already intensely feeling the effects of climate change such as: increase in temperature, decrease in precipitation, melting of glaciers, increase in sea level, etc. The changes include frequent extreme weather events such as droughts, cyclones and floods, which put the population at risk, destroy agriculture and human crops, and threaten the extinction of many plant and animal species.

“Climate change” means a change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods.

UNFCCC definition of climate change



1.1 Glossary of Climate Change Terms

Adaptation

Adjustment or preparation of natural or human systems to a new or changing environment which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities.

Adaptive Capacity

The ability of a system to adjust to climate change (including climate variability and extremes) to moderate potential damages, to take advantage of opportunities, or to cope with the consequences.

Aerosols

Small particles or liquid droplets in the atmosphere that can absorb or reflect sunlight depending on their composition.

Carbon Dioxide

A naturally occurring gas, and also a by-product of burning fossil fuels and biomass, as well as land-use changes and other industrial processes. It is the principal human caused greenhouse gas that affects the Earth's radiative balance. It is the reference gas against which other greenhouse gases are measured and therefore has a Global Warming Potential of 1.

Carbon Dioxide Equivalent

A metric measure used to compare the emissions from various greenhouse gases based upon their global warming potential (GWP). Carbon dioxide equivalents are commonly expressed as "million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents (MMT_{CO2Eq})."

The carbon dioxide equivalent for a gas is derived by multiplying the tons of the gas by the associated GWP.

$MMT_{CO2Eq} = (\text{million metric tons of a gas}) * (\text{GWP of the gas})$

Climate

Climate in a narrow sense is usually defined as the "average weather," or more rigorously, as the statistical description in terms of the mean and variability of relevant quantities over a period of time ranging from months to thousands of years. The classical period is 3 decades, as defined by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). These quantities are most often surface variables such as temperature, precipitation, and wind. Climate in a wider sense is the state, including a statistical description, of the climate system. See weather.

Climate Change

Climate change refers to any significant change in the measures of climate lasting for an extended period of time. In other words, climate change includes major changes in temperature, precipitation, or wind patterns, among others, that occur over several decades or longer.

Deforestation

Those practices or processes that result in the conversion of forested lands for non-forest uses. Deforestation contributes to increasing carbon dioxide concentrations for two reasons: 1) the burning or decomposition of the wood releases carbon dioxide; and 2) trees that once removed carbon dioxide from the atmosphere in the process of photosynthesis are no longer present.

Emissions

The release of a substance (usually a gas when referring to the subject of climate change) into the atmosphere.

Fossil Fuel

A general term for organic materials formed from decayed plants and animals that have been converted to crude oil, coal, natural gas, or heavy oils by exposure to heat and pressure in the earth's crust over hundreds of millions of years.

Global Average Temperature

An estimate of Earth's mean surface air temperature averaged over the entire planet.

Global Warming

The recent and ongoing global average increase in temperature near the Earth surface.

Global Warming Potential

A measure of the total energy that a gas absorbs over a particular period of time (usually 100 years), compared to carbon dioxide.

Greenhouse Effect

Trapping and build-up of heat in the atmosphere (troposphere) near the Earth surface. Some of the heat flowing back toward space from the Earth's surface is absorbed by water vapor, carbon dioxide, ozone, and several other gases in the atmosphere and then reradiated back toward the Earth surface. If the atmospheric concentrations of these greenhouse gases rise, the average temperature of the lower atmosphere will gradually increase.

Greenhouse Gas (GHG)

Any gas that absorbs infrared radiation in the atmosphere. Greenhouse gases include, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, ozone, chlorofluorocarbons, hydrochlorofluorocarbons, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, sulphur hexafluoride.

Heat Waves

A prolonged period of excessive heat, often combined with excessive humidity.

Mitigation

A human intervention to reduce the human impact on the climate system; it includes strategies to reduce greenhouse gas sources and emissions and enhancing greenhouse gas sinks.

Renewable Energy

Energy resources that are naturally replenishing such as biomass, hydro, geothermal, solar, wind, ocean thermal, wave action, and tidal action.

Solar energy

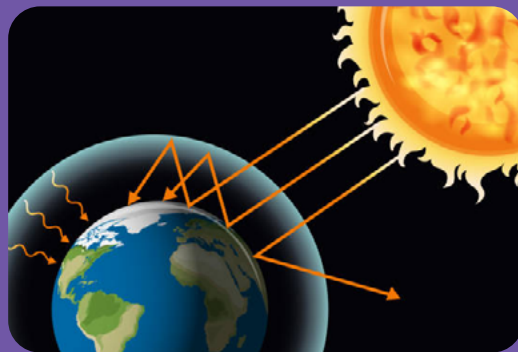
The radiation from the Sun capable of producing heat, causing chemical reactions, or generating electricity. The total amount of solar energy received on Earth is vastly more than the world's current and anticipated energy requirements. If suitably harnessed, solar energy has the potential to satisfy all future energy needs.

Vulnerability

The degree to which a system is susceptible to, or unable to cope with, adverse effects of climate change, including climate variability and extremes. Vulnerability is a function of the character, magnitude, and rate of climate variation to which a system is exposed; its sensitivity; and its adaptive capacity.

1.2 Glossary of Climate Change Terms

Earth's climate changes naturally over very long periods of time. Natural changes in climate are studied through gases trapped in ice in places like Greenland and Antarctica, or through sediments from the bottom of oceans or lakes. Tree rings and rock layers also provide information about what the climate was like in the past. Through such records, the conclusions are drawn that the climate of the earth varied even before the people and their activities on the earth. During the last 400,000 years, the earth's climate changed from cold glacial periods (ice ages) to warmer interglacial periods.



Greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO₂) in the earth's atmosphere have a similar effect as a greenhouse; they reflected some of the energy back to earth instead of letting it escape into space. This greenhouse effect enables average temperatures of 15 °C, while without it, the earth would have an average temperature of about -19 °C, and would suffer such extreme temperatures that there would be no life on it.

Although volcanoes seem like they are the main causes of increasing temperatures, in fact, by spewing rivers of lava as hot as 700 and 1,200 °C, they also release large amounts of gas and particles into the atmosphere, which can temporarily block solar radiation. which reaches the surface of the earth and thus cools the planet.

1.3 Anthropogenic activities that affect the climate and consequences of climate change

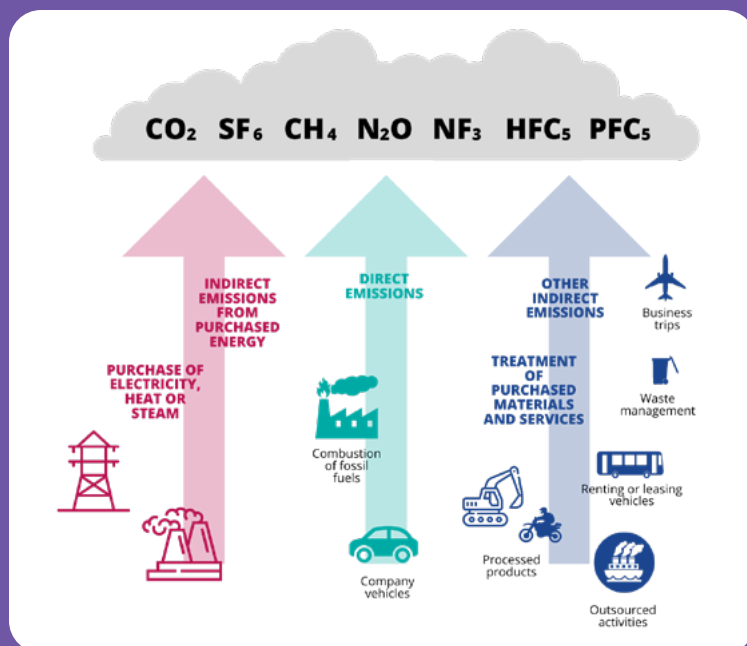
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Greenhouse gases are natural and when they are in the right amount they are of great benefit to the Earth. Greenhouse gases make life possible on Earth. They increase the temperature of our planet and without them it would be too cold to survive.

The seven greenhouse gases listed in Annex A that are subject to analyzes within the framework of the Kyoto Protocol and that contribute to climate change at the global level are:

- carbon dioxide (CO₂),
- methane (CH₄),
- nitrous oxide (N₂O),
- hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs),
- perfluorocarbons (PFCs),
- sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆),
- nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃).

Nitrogen trifluoride was added for the second compliance period during the Doha Round.



There are also new synthetic gases such as chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and halons, which have also been found to contribute to the greenhouse effect. It is predicted that the emission of greenhouse gases will continue to increase in parallel with the growth of the global economy.

Greenhouse gases contribute to the increase of the greenhouse effect, which affects directly the warming of the planet Earth, which occurred by disrupting the energy balance between the amount of radiation from the Sun that remains on Earth and that which is reflected to space.

In modern times, the largest percentage of greenhouse gases come from electricity generation (40% of all carbon dioxide emissions in the USA come from fossil fuel electricity generation). Approximately 65% of all electricity in the world is generated by fossil fuel steam turbines.

Transportation is also a major consumer of energy and producer of greenhouse gases (about 20% of the energy used worldwide is used for transportation). Transportation is becoming more accessible and people are increasingly using cars and airplanes in their daily lives. The world is becoming more globalized and more and more products and goods are traded (plastics, textiles, food, goods, etc.) that are transported using trains, trucks and ships.

The commercial sector, that is, shops, restaurants, hotels, business facilities, shopping centres are big consumers of energy. They use energy for heating and cooling systems, lighting and other equipment.

The industrial sector uses about 50% of the world's energy, for manufacturing (eg. factories producing electronics, textiles and electrical household appliances, furniture cars, etc.), agriculture, mining and construction, etc. Industries that work with chemicals, metals (iron and aluminium), minerals, paper and food processing use a lot of energy and contribute to the creation of large amounts of greenhouse gases.

The direct consequences of climate change are:

- floods,
- droughts,
- land erosion,
- cold and heat waves,
- extreme temperatures,
- unpredictable weather conditions
- heavy rains, snow storms.



The latest research of the Human Rights Council (2019 Climate change and poverty) indicates that the situation with the negative impacts of climate change is alarming:

- Due to increasing temperatures, the last five years are the warmest in the history of modern measurements;
- Carbon dioxide emissions are increasing, and global energy consumption is predicted to grow by 28% between 2015 and 2040, leading to the so-called “floods with a probability of recurrence once in 1000” and devastating hurricanes;
- On the other hand, millions of people in the world face malnutrition due to droughts which leads to a forced choice: migration or starvation.

In the short or long term these consequences cause: the uncertainty of the source of income/ livelihoods, human and material losses, limitations of natural resources, lack of water and energy, damage to infrastructure (small hydro plants, homes, roads), change in the biological diversity, consequences for human health, migration, loss of arable land, loss of cultural and natural heritage.

In cases where the availability of natural resources, such as wood, fish and basic natural resources is reduced as a direct impact of climate change, earning opportunities for families are limited. This often leads to forced labour migration (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.).

“Women are disproportionately affected by climate change impacts such as droughts, floods and other extreme weather events. They also have critical role in combating climate change but need to be better represented at all levels in the decision-making process. Empowering women will be a significant factor in meeting the climate challenge.”

UNFCCC Former Executive Secretary Christina Figueres, 2014



Marginalized communities, especially homebound women caring 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 heatstroke in exposed workers, who are mostly women.



In central Africa, where up to 90% of Lake Chad has disappeared, nomadic indigenous groups are particularly at risk. As the lake’s shoreline recedes, women have to walk much further to collect water. “In the dry season, men go to the towns... leaving women to look after the community,” explains Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim, coordinator of the Association of Indigenous Women and People of Chad (AFPAT).

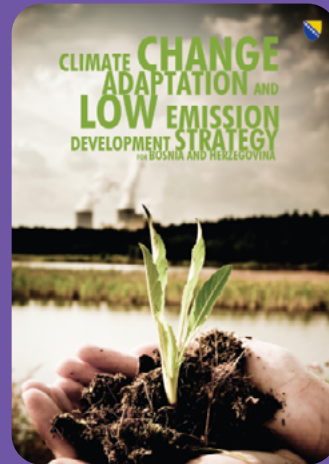
With dry seasons now becoming longer, women are working harder to feed and care for their families without support. (<https://www.bbs.com/news/science-environment>)



Disaster mortality rates are higher for women than for men, which may also be due to socially determined differences in the vulnerability of men and women. After the 2004 Asian tsunami, Oxfam found that in some villages in Indonesia and some parts of India, women made up over 70% of the victims. The 1991 cyclone killed 140,000 people in Bangladesh, 90% of whom were women and young girls (Oxfam, 2010)

In their traditional roles, women in Bosnia and Herzegovina have a major influence in stewardship and supply of natural resources in households and communities, and often women's livelihoods are most affected through reductions in livelihood assets (energy, water, agricultural products, production changes and marketability). In certain areas, such as coalmining regions which traditionally employ men, restructuring due to climate-related objectives can also have a negative gender-specific impact on men.

Source: Climate change adaptation and low-emission development Strategy for Bosnia and Herzegovina (June 2013)



1.4 Gender and climate change

Factors affecting vulnerability to climate change

The need to mitigate and adapt to climate change and to tackle the degradation and unsustainable use of ecosystems and their associated biodiversity are the two greatest environmental challenges of the 21st century and are closely related to human well-being and sustainable development.

Climate change impacts women and girls, men and boys in each society differently due to socio-economic class and other intersectional demographic characteristics such as age and location. Advancing gender¹ equality in the context of the climate crisis² and disaster risk

¹ The World Health Organisation summarises the difference between sex and gender in the following way: Sex refers to "the different biological and physiological characteristics of males and females, such as reproductive organs, chromosomes, hormones, etc."

Gender refers to "the socially constructed characteristics of women and men – such as norms, roles and relationships of and between groups of women and men. It varies from society to society and can be changed. The concept of gender includes five important elements: relational, hierarchical, historical, contextual and institutional. While most people are born either male or female, they are taught appropriate norms and behaviours – including how they should interact with others of the same or opposite sex within households, communities and work places. When individuals or groups do not "fit" established gender norms they often face stigma, discriminatory practices or social exclusion – all of which adversely affect health."

² International Women's Day 2022: "Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow" | UN Women – Headquarters

reduction is one of the greatest global challenges of the 21st century. The issues of climate change and sustainability have had and will continue to have, severe and lasting impacts on our environment, economic and social development. Those who care amongst the most vulnerable and marginalized experience the deepest impacts. Women are increasingly being recognized as more vulnerable to climate change impacts than men, as they constitute the majority of the world's poor and are more dependent on the natural resources which climate change threatens the most.

The connection between climate change and gender is complex and dynamic, and at the same time dependent on the contextual social arrangement and economic development of the state. The relationship is not only about vulnerability to the negative impacts of climate change, but also about adapting to those impacts, as well as finding ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions that cause climate change.

The changes may be different depending on the nature, variability, strength, speed of occurrence, sensitivity of the area, location, etc. But they all have one **constant in common** – poor, marginalized and vulnerable people are the most affected groups in society by all variations of climate change. **Women and men perceive the consequences of climate change differently.**

The factors that influence the vulnerability and the way of dealing with climate change as individuals are mainly:

- **Biological** - age, gender, disability, health;
- **Territorial or physical** - the rural population is poorer and more vulnerable compared to the population in urban centres;
- **Economically** - the poor are more exposed to risks, because they have fewer resources and fewer opportunities to invest in new technologies;
- **Social** - lifestyles in the family, discrimination, availability of education, health services, hygiene conditions, etc.;
- **Skills and information** - the opportunity to learn to swim, drive a bicycle or a car, ways and opportunities to inform, first aid training, energy efficiency training, etc.;
- **Political activity** – participation in decision-making and active involvement in making plans, actions and decisions related to climate change, political power and social inclusion.

According to data obtained from the Kosovo Agency of Statistics, in 2018 about 86% of the population of Kosovo was supplied with water through the public system managed by Regional Water Companies, while 14% of the population did not have access to public water supply service.

In Gjilan, in 2021, residents were left without water as a result of decreasing of the water levels in Perlepnica Lake. Previously, they had used tap water, but as a result of the shortage they were forced to buy it in bottles. Residents have often been forced to supply water from several wells in the village of Pasjan and the Monteith camp. During the winter they are forced to heat the water and collect and store it. **Usually, women complete these duties.**



Understanding the risks and different impacts of climate change on women and men is essential in addressing those risks and achieving sustainable development. To do this, their different needs and interests must be identified, and women's as well as men's contribution to developing solutions must be encouraged. This inclusive approach will result in more effective and sustainable outcomes. To ensure a gender responsive implementation of the national climate agenda, countries should ensure that gender equality is considered systematically and in a mutually reinforcing way. A gender perspective needs to be taken into account when developing resource mobilization strategies, applying climate finance instruments, and ensuring equal participation in the deployment of financial resources, particularly at the local level³.

Gender inequality due to gender roles, discrimination and cultural norms increase the negative effects of climate changes on women and girls. Persistent exclusion, unequal access to land, water and productive assets, and unequal participation in decision-making processes continue to constrain women and men from equally participating in, contributing to, and benefitting from projects and programs for mitigation and adaptation of climate changes.

Integrating gender equality across all levels of climate action, from climate policy development to climate finance resource mobilisation and disbursement, right through to project design, implementation and monitoring, is important for inclusive outcomes that consider the ways climate change affects different groups – and in particular the disproportionate burden on women and young people, due to existing social inequalities. Mainstreaming considerations into climate change projects, policies and planning of measures to mitigate or to adapt to the impacts of climate change in the Western Balkan can help achieve co-benefits of advancing gender equality and ensuring greater efficiency and returns on climate action investments.

3 Gender and Climate Change Finance | UNFCCC



1.5 Measures to mitigate or to adapt to the impacts of climate change

Measures to mitigate and reduce impacts

The mitigation/prevention or “mitigation” of climate change means primarily the reduction or prevention of greenhouse gas emissions and the 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 its consumption.

Measures can be complex: from urban planning of entire cities, to small interventions such as replacing stoves, replacing a vehicle with a vehicle with lower CO2 emissions, better waste management, sustainable development in agriculture and livestock, to providing more bicycle lanes and paths for pedestrians.

Climate change mitigate measures to for the energy sector:



- Retrofitting buildings to make them more energy efficient;
- Adopting renewable energy sources like solar, wind, and small hydro;
- Helping cities develop more sustainable transport such as bus rapid transit, electric vehicles, and biofuels; and
- Promoting more sustainable users of land and forests.

Promote innovation and technology transfer for sustainable energy. Technology is one of the keys to reducing or slowing the growth in greenhouse gas emissions, and to stabilize their concentrations focusing on:

- De-centralized renewable power with energy storage;
- Electric drive technologies and electric mobility;
- Accelerating energy efficiency adoption and,
- Cleantech innovation.



Action to mitigate climate change⁴ has the potential to also bring about local gender-positive impacts. This may be achieved by the general nature of a mitigation project or programme, such as clean energy for household lighting or cooking, or by gender equity impacts being specifically considered early in the project planning stage e.g. considering where revenues will flow in order to have potentially positive impacts on the lives of women by improving livelihoods and health and allowing time for the pursuit of additional opportunities.

4 Gender and Climate Change Mitigation | UNFCCC

Measures to adapt to the impacts of climate change

“Adaptation” to climate change is a process of adaptation to real or expected climate changes and their effects. Adaptation tries to reduce or avoid damages, that is, to find ways to take advantage of existing opportunities. In some natural systems, human intervention may facilitate adaptation to expected climate and its effects.” (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

An example of predictive adaptation might be when a farmer decides to grow crops that need less water, knowing that the climate will become drier in the future.

An example of a planned adjustment could be in the form of introducing changes to building regulations, in order for new buildings to be sustainable in a warmer climate.



Climate change adaptation measures for the agriculture sector:

- Optimization of theirrigation systems, including the use of central system for supervision and control and management of resources (to save both water and electricity);
- Diversifying water sources, such as combining surface and underground water abstraction;
- Clearing irrigation canals to avoid possible flooding;
- Providing trainings for the farmers to plant plants that require less water.

Climate change adaptation measures for the health sector:

- Placing greenery on the rood and external walls of buildings to reduce the temperature of the building itself and prevent it from emitting heat;
- Planting trees on the streets to reduce the temperature of the streets.

Climate change adaptation measures for the cultural heritage sector:

- Planting the trees next to the existing archeological sites to prevent soil erosion and subsequent landslides and floods.

A gender-responsive measure would be to invest in and provide bicycle lanes and, to consult with women and men who ride bicycles, discuss the needs and problems and the necessary arrangement of the lanes. To improve public transport by increasing the network, acquiring new ecological buses, etc.

In energy efficiency efforts in buildings, a gender-neutral measure would be, for example, training managers of residential buildings in energy efficiency, while a gender-responsive and motivating measure would be training tenants, in order to engage and understand the benefits

of energy efficiency and ways that they can contribute to improving the functioning of the residential building, in which women would also be included.

Integrating considerations of gender into medium- and long-term climate change adaptation⁵ can help to ensure that adaptation is effective and implementable on the ground. It can help to ensure that the implementation of adaptation activities will not exacerbate inequalities and other vulnerabilities, it can help to fulfil the specific needs of the most vulnerable, and it can ensure the equal participation of men and women in the decision-making and implementation phases of these activities.

5 Gender and Climate Change Adaptation | UNFCCC



02

International Framework for Climate Change



2.1 Introduction of Gender in International Framework for Climate Change

Climate change is one of the greatest threats to human rights of our generation and poses a serious risk to the basic rights to life, health, food and an adequate standard of living of individuals and communities around the world. All over the world, people are experiencing the negative effects of declining ecosystems in environmental degradation, including water scarcity, depletion of natural resources, natural disasters due to deforestation, and the unsafe management and disposal of toxic and hazardous products and waste.

These facts clearly show the close links between the environment and the enjoyment of human rights and justify an integrated approach to the environment and human rights.

Gender equality is a human right that is enshrined in a number of declarations and conventions, including the legally binding Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW-1979). CEDAW is often considered the international bill of rights for women and is fundamental to advancing gender equality. Signatory governments are bound to take action to promote and protect the rights of women; they agree to include the principle of equality in legislation and ensure it is operationalised throughout their country. In Article 14, special attention is paid to discrimination against rural women, toward ensuring their access and benefits to rural benefit.

(Further reading: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/cedaw>)



The Stockholm Declaration, and to a lesser extent the Rio Declaration, show how the connection between human rights and dignity and the environment was very prominent in the early stages of the United Nations' efforts to address environmental problems. And principle 20 of **the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development (1992)** says - "Women have a vital role in the management and development of the environment." Therefore, their full involvement is essential to achieve sustainable development.



There is also the **Convention on Biodiversity (1992)** which promotes women's knowledge and practices in the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in the agricultural sector. It promotes gender-specific ways of documenting and preserving women's knowledge of biodiversity. It calls for gender balance in different bodies. The gender and cultural impact of tourism is pointed out.

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Countries Experiencing Severe Drought and/or Desertification (2002) aims to promote effective action through innovative local programs and support of international partnerships. The agreement recognizes that the struggle to protect drylands will be long and there will be no quick results, as the causes of desertification are many and complex, ranging from international trade patterns to unsustainable land management practices.

This convention highlights the **important role of women** in regions affected by desertification and/or drought, especially in rural areas of developing countries, and the importance of ensuring the full participation of men and women at all levels. And it calls for national action programs that increase the participation of local populations and communities, including women, farmers and pastoralists, as well as the delegation of greater management responsibilities to these target groups.

A basic premise of the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)** - 1997 represents the drafting and implementation of policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions as an obligation for all countries, especially for the developed ones that have the largest share in greenhouse gas emissions (the USA, Europe and Japan).

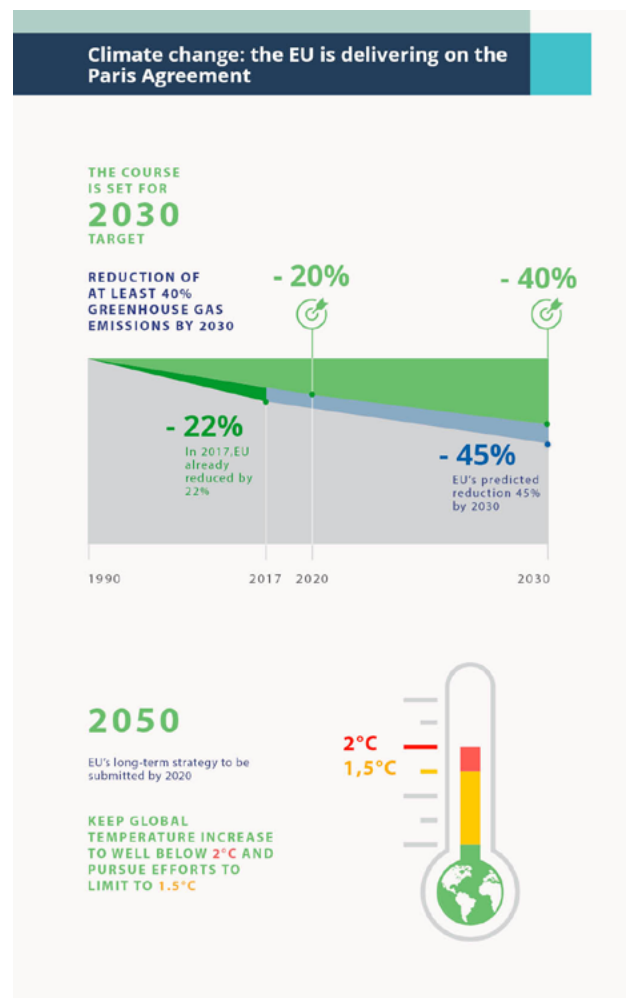
And it set a series of obligations towards the signatories, counting on their joint and individual responsibilities.

The **gender concept** in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was introduced in 2005. It maintains the focus on gender and climate change with the Paris Agreement, which states that “Parties should, when taking action 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 intergenerational equality”.

The **United Nations Human Rights Council** recognized the threat of climate change in its resolution 7/23, “Human rights and climate change” (28 March 2008), expressing concern that climate change “poses an immediate and far-reaching threat to people and communities around the world”. Through Resolution 64/2921, in 2010 the United Nations General Assembly confirmed the growing consensus that the environment is directly tied to human well-being and to the realization of human rights.

One of the most significant multilateral agreements in the field of environment and strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change is the **Paris Agreement**, which was adopted on December 12, 2015 in Paris, France at the Global Summit on Climate Change organized by the United Nations.

The agreement aims to improve the global response to climate change, in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication efforts by: continuing efforts to keep the temperature increase below 2 0C, increasing the ability to adapt to climate change in a way that will not harm food production, aligning financial flows with ways to achieve low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development.



The 2015 Paris Agreement marks the steps in the evolution of the UN climate change regime and charts a new course in the global effort to combat climate change. It recognizes the involvement of different stakeholder at national and international level but also call upon transparent policies public awareness, public participation, and public access to information and cooperation. The agreement acknowledge that climate change is a common concern of humankind and that Parties should, when taking action to address climate change, 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.

UN resolution 48/13⁶ (as of October 2021) of the **Right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment** “Recognizing also that, while the human rights implications of environmental damage are felt by individuals and communities around the world, the consequences are felt most acutely by those segments of the population that are already in vulnerable situations, including indigenous peoples, older persons, persons with disabilities, and women and girls”. Human Rights Council: “4. Encourages States: (a) To build capacities for the efforts to protect the environment in order to fulfil their human rights obligations and commitments, and to enhance cooperation with other States, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the rest of the United Nations system and other relevant international and regional organizations, agencies, convention secretariats and programmers, and relevant non-state stakeholders, including civil society, national human rights institutions and business, on the implementation of the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, in accordance with their respective mandates;”.

The 2022 United Nations Climate Change Conference or Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC, more commonly referred to as **COP27**, was the 27th United Nations Climate Change conference, held from November 6 until November 20, 2022 in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. It took place under the presidency of Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs Sameh Shoukry, with more than 92 heads of state and an estimated 35.000 representatives, or delegates, of 190 countries attending.

At the conference, a Loss and Damage Fund was agreed for the first time. The loss and damage fund is an agreement to provide funding to countries who are most vulnerable and affected by climate change.

6 Access to a healthy environment, declared a human right by UN rights council | UN News



The European Green Deal, approved in 2020, is a set of policy initiatives by the European Commission with the overarching aim of making Europe climate neutral in 2050. It is an ambitious package of measures ranging from ambitiously cutting greenhouse gas emissions, to investing in cutting-edge research and innovation, to preserving Europe's natural environment.

First climate action initiatives under the Green Deal include:

- **European Climate Law** to enshrine the 2050 climate-neutrality objective into EU law
- **European Climate Pact** to engage citizens and all parts of society in climate action
- **2030 Climate Target Plan** to further reduce net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030
- **New EU Strategy on Climate Adaptation** to make Europe a climate-resilient society by 2050, fully adapted to the unavoidable impacts of climate change.

The right to an ecologically clean environment is guaranteed in over 100 constitutions around the world – it is defined by the United Nations Environment Program as “any declaration of an environment of a certain quality as a human right”. According to the definition of the Program, environmental rights can be substantive and procedural. While essential rights refer to the possibility of protection from the consequences that environmental degradation has on civil and political rights, the rights to life and freedom of expression, cultural and social rights, such as the right to health, water, food and culture, procedural rights are a necessary prerequisite for the realization of the first type of rights. They represent a key point where environmental law and human rights law intersect – they provide for formal steps to be taken in the process of defending human rights. Procedural rights include the right to request prior, informed consent from citizens, access to information, participation in decision-making and access to justice.

International and regional norms are complementary and require national implementation to be effective. In that direction, National norms should be in line with international and regional standards. International and regional mechanisms provide legal protection when all national remedies/opportunities are exhausted.

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development - Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs, 2030)

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), 169 targets and 232 indicators to track humanity's progress towards fundamental well-being for all, reflects a global political consensus to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development globally.

The 2030 Agenda balances the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development and calls for a holistic approach. When planning and implementing interventions, attention should be placed on inter-linkages and integrated actions that can create co-benefits and meet multiple objectives in a coherent way. Interventions should be designed to address several SDGs simultaneously to enhance the impact and effectiveness of the resources used. This is also relevant for EU reporting on its contribution to the implementation of the SDGs.

The principle of Leaving No One Behind (LNOB) is a central commitment of the 2030 Agenda (restated in the 2017 European Consensus on Development). It is a reminder that our development interventions are targeted towards eradicating poverty in all its forms, reducing

vulnerabilities and addressing inequalities to promote equal opportunities for all (more information: Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development).

The SDGs⁷ are grouped into five main categories: People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnerships. Gender equality and empowering women and girls (SDG 5) is a goal in and of itself in the People category. The legislative conditions for gender equality are referenced in the Peace, People and Prosperity categories (SDG 16, SDGs 1 to 4 and SDGs 7 to 11 respectively). Women's and girls' empowerment is referenced in five Planet goals and their targets and indicators (SDG 6 and SDGs 12 to 15), all of which are directly related to the environment.

With respect to environmental sustainability, five goals comprise the Planet category: SDG 6 (Clean water and sanitation), SDG 12 (Responsible consumption and production), SDG 13 (Climate change), SDG 14 (Life below water) and SDG 15 (Life on land). The environment is also an important aspect of three Prosperity goals: SDG 7 (Affordable and clean energy), SDG 9 (Industry, innovation, and infrastructure) and SDG 11 (Sustainable cities and communities). In addition, promoting sustainable agriculture is part of SDG 2 (Zero hunger). Thus, a total of nine SDG goals are linked to the environment.

Both gender equality and environmental sustainability have a prominent role in the 2030 Agenda. Across all the SDGs, only 20 unique indicators (out of a total of 231) incorporate both gender and environment.

The 2030 Agenda makes clear the responsibilities of all states to respect, protect and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction of any kind. The 2030 Agenda is not itself binding but it is a means to progress binding human rights obligations. The 2030 Agenda is to be implemented in a manner that is consistent with the obligations of states under international law.

2.2 Western Balkans Green Deal

Beyond the EU, **the Green Deal EU** standards in relation to environmental and climate challenges were endorsed by the Western Balkans in the Sofia Summit of 2020 in the format of **the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans**, which is a reflection, extension and adaptation of the EU Green Deal tailored for the region. The Action Plan includes 58 actions and 7 roadmaps for implementation related to topics of climate policy, sustainable energy, sustainable mobility, circular economy, depollution, sustainable agriculture and food supply and protection of nature and biodiversity.

Among others, the Plan envisions the adoption of the 2030 Energy and Climate Policy targets to include carbon pricing, coal phase-out plans, pollution control, nature, and biodiversity protection, regional integration, and an indicative timeframe for the harmonization with the EU Emissions Trading System as of 2024.

The Green Agenda for the Western Balkans is a new growth strategy for the region, leaping from a traditional economic model to a sustainable economy, in line with the European Green Deal.

7 1. Gender equality and sustainable development | Gender and the Environment : Building Evidence and Policies to Achieve the SDGs | OECD iLibrary (oecd-ilibrary.org)

It is embedded in the Economic and Investment Plan, which has a truly transformative potential and aims to spurt the long-term recovery of the Western Balkans and their economic convergence with the EU.

2.3 Stakeholders' engagement, information and public participation in climate change planning process

The main legal requirements with stakeholder involvement, on international and national level, are defined by international agreements that the Western Balkans countries have already ratified and in European Union Directives that are or still need to be transposed into national legislations.

The **Aarhus Convention (convention on public participation)** is the first international document that allows the public direct access to information, public participation in decision-making and better access to justice issues related to environmental protection.

The three pillars of the Aarhus Convention are:

- # 1 Providing public access to environmental information provided by the public authorities;
- # 2 The right of the public to participate in decision making processes related to the environment;
- # 3 Access to justice in environmental matters.



The EU directives related to public information and public participation in the decision-making process (like developing strategic planning documents related to climate actions) are:



Access to Environmental Information Directive (2003/4/EC)

The goal of this Directive is to ensure freedom of access to, and dissemination of information held by public authorities. The definitions of “public authority” and “environmental information” are widened and more clearly defined. Information should, in general, be made available within one month of the request. The Directive also implements part of the Aarhus Convention.

Public Participation in respect of drawing certain plans and programs and access to justice Directive (2003/35/EC)

Is the main legal instrument to align Community legislation with the provisions of the Aarhus Convention. It updates provisions on public participation in the permitting procedures at national level under legislation on environmental and climate issues and it introduces rules on access to justice.



Nationally Determined Contributions form an integral part of the Paris Agreement and are instrumental to achieving its goals of enhancing climate action and sustainable, green, climate-resilient development. The UNFCCC process has highlighted the need for multi-stakeholder driven climate action, at all levels of activities related to all levels of the NDC and national adaptation plan processes. The engagement of CSOs can be crucial to advocate for higher ambitions and amplify the voices of the most vulnerable, poor, or marginalised populations.

According to the Nationally Determined Contribution's, the priority sectors for implementing measures to mitigate and reduce or adopt impacts from climate changes in the Western Balkan Countries (Kosovo, Republic of Albania, Republic of Serbia, Republic of North Macedonia, Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republic of Montenegro) are **Agriculture, Forestry and other Land Use, Energy generation and access (together with IPPU) and Health food and water security.**

Through advocacy, outreach, awareness creation, capacity building, technical support, research, resilience building, and the creation of networks and platforms, CSOs can contribute to and participate in the official process, bring ground-level vulnerabilities into the decision-making process, and take their roles as key stakeholders in this space. There are a number of gaps and obstacles for CSOs to integrate their activities into the national NDC review process.

CSO engagement can be facilitated in a number of ways, for example by building technical capacity among CSOs, enacting laws or policies related to stakeholder engagement in climate processes, taking active measures to engage CSOs in decision-making, conducting regular meetings and communications for sharing updates on climate action, providing technical, coordinating, and financial support for CSOs, establishing an independent monitoring and evaluation process for NDC-related activities, and addressing the issues of financial support.

According to the Nationally Determined Contributions, the priority sectors for implementing measures to mitigate and reduce or adapt impacts from climate changes in the Western Balkan Countries (Kosovo, Republic of Albania, Republic of Serbia, Republic of North Macedonia, Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republic of Montenegro) are Agriculture, Forestry and other Land Use, Energy generation and access (together with IPPU) and Health food and water security.

In Annex 1 are given examples for measures defined in the updated NDC documents in WB countries.

2.4 Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) under the Paris Agreement and role of CSOs

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS (CSOs) are Non-State, not-for-profit, voluntary entities formed by people in the social sphere that are separate from the State and the market. CSOs represent a wide range of interests and ties.

In their operations, CSOs can be involved in identification, execution and monitoring of different programs and projects, to influence its governance and decision-making process, liaising with communities, and advocating with governments at national and local level. Civil society actors often serve as both a driving force in guiding development policies and as a watchdog to make sure policies get implemented, in any field. They are important partner in all national activities for Agenda 2030 implementation.

Monitoring Gender perspective on the climate change financing refers to Gender analysis/assessment⁸ through a gender mainstreaming prism and methods used to understand relationships between men and women, their access to resources, their activities, and the constraints they face relative to each other. A comprehensive gender analysis/assessment entails the examination of the different roles, rights, needs, and opportunities of women and men, boys and girls in a given project/program or climate change initiative's context. It is a tool that helps to promote gender – relevant entry points, policies and identify opportunities for enhancing gender equality in a particular project/program or climate change initiatives.

At UN level⁹, the term Gender mainstreaming is defined as: Process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policy or programmes, in all areas and at all levels.

Gender mainstreaming¹⁰ has been embraced internationally as a strategy towards realising gender equality. It involves the integration of a gender perspective into the preparation, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies, regulatory measures and spending programmes, with a view to promoting equality between women and men, and combating discrimination.

8 Form 9: Gender Analysis/Assessment and Gender and Social Inclusion Action Plan Templates of the application package of the Green Climate Fund

9 https://unterm.un.org/unterm/Display/record/UNDP/NA?OriginalId=imp-2015-11-11_14-16-25-144

10 <https://eige.europa.eu/>

Dimensions of gender mainstreaming are:

- ✓ Equal presentations of women and men in the process of policy creation, implementation but also as beneficiaries of the implemented policies
- ✓ Gender perspective in the content of policy

Main questions for gender mainstreaming are:

Are the needs of men and women recognized and taken into account



Do men and women make decisions equally



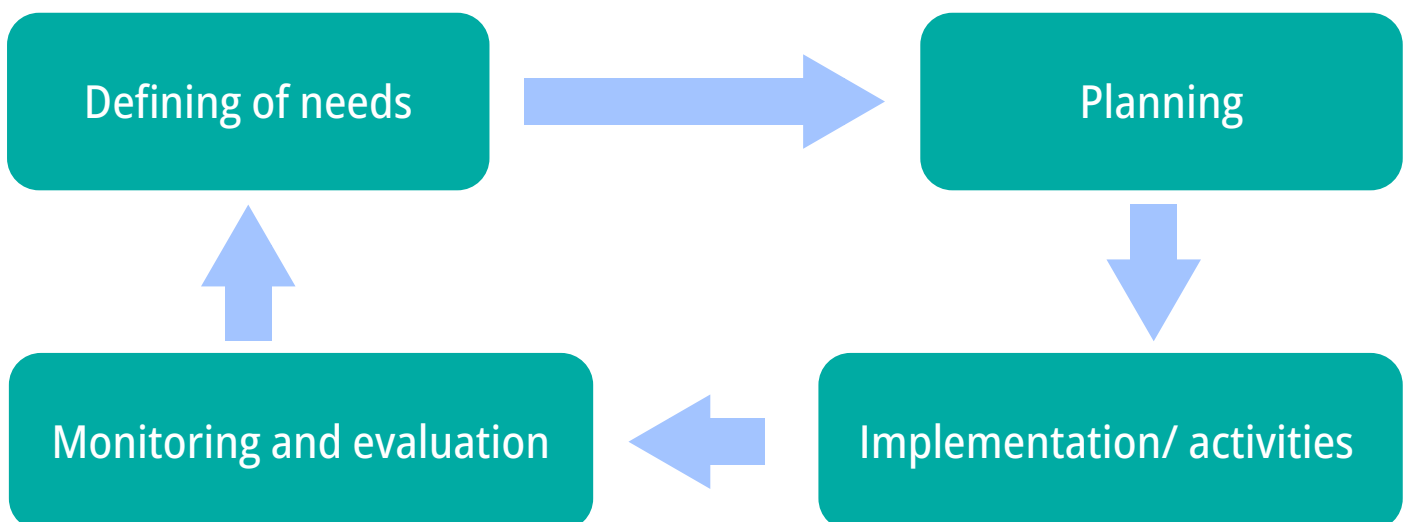
Do men and women have equal access to resources? Control over resources



Do men and women benefit equally from resources



Process of gender mainstreaming is following the process of policy creation at local and national level and leave a space for CSOs to engage in any of the phases:



A gender sensitive or gender responsive initiatives reflects the application of gender analysis to intervention design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Tools and methods for Gender mainstreaming that can be used for each stage are given in Table 1:

Table 1: Tools and methods for Gender mainstreaming

Tools for the needs assessment	Tools for planning phase	Tools implementation phase	Tools for policy monitoring and evaluation
Gender statistics	Setting gender indicators	Capacity building for gender equality	Gender audit
Gender analysis	Gender sensitive planning of interventions/ policies	Gender sensitive transformation of institutions	Gender sensitive monitoring
Gender assessment	Gender responsive budgeting	Raising awareness for gender issues	Gender sensitive evaluation
Stakeholder consultation	Gender sensitive public procurements		

Gender analysis¹¹ is a tool to diagnose the differences between women and men regarding their specific activities, conditions, needs, access to and control over resources, and their access to development benefits and decision-making. It studies the links between these and other factors in the larger socio-cultural, economic, political and environmental context. There is a difference between practical needs and strategic needs and interests of women and men. Understanding this difference helps us to identify positive measures that can be undertaken to rectify inequalities between women and men.

Practical needs are those that can be considered as immediate necessities for both women and men (basic needs such as water, food, income, shelter and health care). Initiatives that only aim to meet practical needs seek to respond to issues arising from inadequate living conditions.

Strategic interests pertain to the relative status of women and men within their society. These interests differ from one context to another, and relate to changing women’s position or status through addressing gender roles and expectations, as well as gender division of labour, resources and power. Examples of initiatives to promote strategic interests include protection from domestic violence, closing wage gaps and increasing women’s decision-making opportunities.

Assessing access to and control over resources and benefits allows us to understand which resources and benefits are viewed as valuable by a community, and who can exercise the right to have access¹² to and control¹³ over those resources¹⁴.

11 ABC of Women Worker’s Rights and Gender Equality, International Labour Organization (2007)

12 Access refers to the right or opportunity to use resources and to enjoy benefits (Oxford Dictionaries)

13 Control is the ability to decide how resources or benefits will be used

14 Resources are economic, political and social assets; benefits relate to food, money, shelter, etc.

03

Climate Financing





Established by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and serving the Paris Agreement, the Green Climate Fund (GCF)¹⁵ is the world's largest climate fund.

15 <https://www.greenclimate.fund/>

GCF is a climate finance catalyser. It uses its funds to accelerate green market creation, unlocking the financial flows needed for developing countries to transition to low-emission, climate-resilient development pathways. GCF is mandated to equally support adaptation and mitigation projects through a country-driven approach that prioritises direct access and targets the most vulnerable developing countries.

With 1,3 billion dollars currently invested, GCF is the world's largest fund dedicated to the fight against climate change.

The GCF seeks to have an impact within eight mitigation and adaptation results areas: Forestry and other Land Use; Buildings, cities, industries and appliances; Ecosystems and ecosystem services; Energy generation and access; Health, food and water security; Infrastructure and built environment; Livelihoods of vulnerable communities and Transport (Figure 1). The Fund aims to achieve equal allocation of its resources towards mitigation and adaptation.

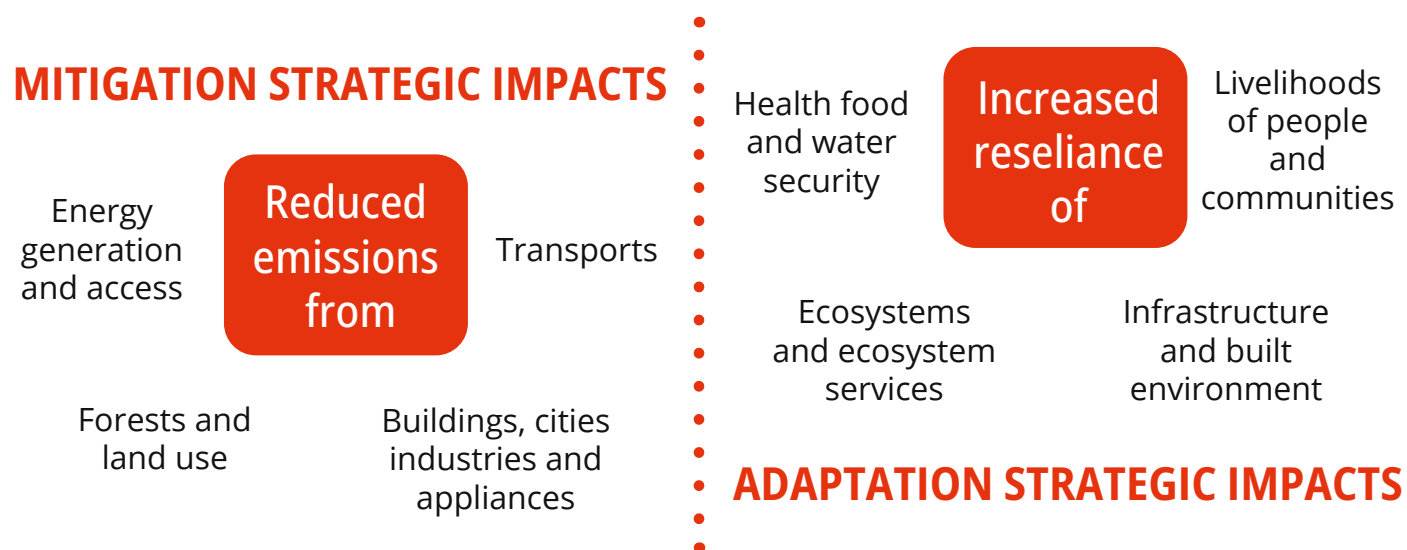


Figure 1: Mitigation and adaptation results areas in GCF

More information about the application for financing of climate change projects in front of GCF and information about the National Designated Authority in each country could be found on the following link: <https://www.greenclimate.fund/about/partners/nda>.

In Annex 2 are provided Types of measures that could be financed by GCF and several exams for projects financed by GCF

GCF is the first climate finance mechanism to mainstream gender perspectives from the outset of its operations as an essential decision-making element for the deployment of its resources. GCF has placed gender as a key element of its programming architecture, and its commitment to gender equality centres on gender-responsive climate action programmes and projects that benefit women and men. One of the documents that **must be submitted with the application** for financing of the climate change project is the Gender Analysis/Assessment and Gender and Social Inclusion Action Plan¹⁶

For national initiatives, UNDP have developed “A Guidance Note for Governments to Integrate Climate Change into Budgeting” with focus on Medium-Term Budgets. Based on that, methodology for Climate Budget Tagging have been developed for national initiatives since implementation of enhanced NDCs requires financing strategies that mobilize resources from national and international public and private sectors.

Explanation is provided in Annex 3 Climate Budget Tagging

16 [Gender assessment and action plan: Annex 4 for Simplified Approval Process Funding Proposals | Green Climate Fund](#)



3.1 Example for GCF project: Bosna and Hercegovina - Scaling-up Investment in Low-Carbon Public Buildings

About the project:

Reducing emissions from Bosnia-Herzegovina's public sector buildings through better energy efficiency and fuel substitution from fossil fuel to biomass.

Bosnia-Herzegovina has a large stock of ageing buildings with high energy consumption and that are heated by high-emission fossil fuels. This is a consequence of neglect and under-investment during and after the Bosnian war (1992-1995), and leaves buildings in urgent need of upgrade.

Energy efficiency retrofits and substituting coal and fuel oil to biomass will significantly reduce emissions from public buildings. The project will impact 7-8% of stock, some 360 public buildings. Technical assistance will also help address non-financial barriers and create supportive policies, regulations, and capacities to support the transformations and encourage replication. **The project has an estimated lifespan of 20 years.**

One of the mandatory documents that are developed under the GCF project is the **Gender Action Plan**. The Gender Policy and Gender Action Plan will be implemented throughout GCF project life cycle and operational processes, and this implementation will consist of a set of agreed upon or predetermined activities that will lead to greater understanding and oversight of gender-related organizational goals.

The Gender Action Plan provides information on:

- # 1 Energy efficiency in buildings in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- # 2 Background on gender related national policies and gender equality profile in BiH, and
- # 3 Gender issues in energy efficiency in relation to women access to finance and women Economic empowerment.

There is a Gender Analysis included that provides an overview of the gender situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina and highlights gender issues that could be relevant for the proposed project. The assessment is based on the available data from studies conducted by the Government of BiH, donor agencies and other development partners. This analysis further underpins the Gender Action Plan (Figure 2) that entails a set of activities to be implemented by the proposed project with the purpose of fully integrating solutions to the constraints towards gender equality and women economic empowerment within the scope of the project.

The monitoring and evaluation activities will need to enlist a gender responsive approach and gender sensitive data collection. The project will report, reflect, codify and disseminate best practices and the evaluative knowledge generated by the project to inform and influence the government and other development partners approach to future programs and projects in order to make them progressively more gender responsive.

PROPOSED GENDER ACTION PLAN

Objective	Action	Indicator	Target	Timeline	Responsible Institution
Component 1. Policy de-risking: Addressing non-financing barriers to investment in climate smart buildings and infrastructure					
Activity 1.1.6 Awareness raising among buildings' end-users					
Strengthened municipal and cantonal level institutions, human resources, awareness and knowledge for gender sensitive climate smart policy making	Active involvement of women in capacity building and awareness seminars	Number of public sector technical staff and policy makers (% of women) trained	200 (30% women)	EoP (end of project)	Municipal and cantonal government representatives
		Number of social and gender responsive measures (including targeted measures that facilitate energy connection for women headed households and vulnerable households) included in the SECAPs supported by the project	20	EoP	UNDP project
		Number of updated gender responsive SECAPs supported by the project	40	EoP	
Increased understanding of the benefits of the climate smart solutions at community level	Organisation of a nationwide PR campaign consisting in a series of events, designed around different gender needs and roles, responsibilities and women's access to and use of energy	Number of PR events (including media broadcasts) highlighting the challenges and opportunities to address the needs of women and men in relation to energy service and use	40	EoP	UNDP project team Municipal and local institutions Women led NGOs identified during the project implementation
	Mobilization of local communities to participate in gender based activities and events	Number of participants trained (30% women) in clean energy solutions in building and in maintenance of the energy efficient technologies installed in	500	By end of yr.2	

Figure 2: Proposed Gender action Plan from the GCF project from Bosna and Hercegovina

04

Gender perspective on the climate change financing



In the case of climate change initiatives (projects/programs) at local or national level, a well-done gender analysis/assessment helps to identify multiple causes of vulnerability, including gender inequality. It also helps to identify and build on the diverse knowledge and capacities within communities/households that can be used to make them more resilient to climate related shocks and risks.

Gender analysis¹⁷ provides the necessary data and information to integrate a gender perspective into policies, programmes and projects. One of the tools that capture variation in the type of gender results of interventions or policies with five categories is the Gender Results Effectiveness Framework (GRES)¹⁸ that provides guidance on implementing a gender responsive analysis of results in evaluations or assessments on diverse use cases, highlighting how to integrate the GRES in programme design, implementation and evaluation phases. The purpose of GRES is to provide evaluators with guidance on implementing a gender responsive analysis of results in evaluations or assessments. The following scale have been used to rank the gender mainstreaming interventions and activities: gender negative, gender blind, gender sensitive, gender responsive and gender transformative depending if intervention/policy is taking into consideration gender inequalities.

Gender negative	Has a negative outcome that aggravated or reinforced existing gender inequalities and norms.
Gender blind	Fails to take into account the different socially constructed roles of women, men, boys and girls and fails to address each group's diverse needs. They maintain the status quo and will not help transform the unequal structure of gender relations.
Gender sensitive	Recognizes gender differences and attempts to redress existing gender inequalities.
Gender responsive	Describes laws, policies programmes and public services that are formulated and/or delivered in ways that take into account gender inequalities and responds proactively to overcome and eliminate such inequalities in order to achieve gender equality, women's rights and women's empowerment
Gender transformative	Attempts to redefine women and men's gender roles and relations to create gender equality. These are interventions that seek to target the structural causes as well as the symptoms of gender inequality, leading to lasting changes in the power and choices women (and men) have over their own lives, rather than just a temporary increase in opportunities.

* The scale is adapted from the *Evaluation of UNDP Contribution to Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment*.

CSO's can use the following Guiding questions for assessment of initiatives and interventions¹⁹ (programs, projects) and tracking the funding as well as negative and positive effects of the

17 [Gender analysis | EIGE \(europa.eu\)](https://eige.europa.eu/gender-analysis)

18 [GRES_English.pdf \(undp.org\)](https://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/en/publications-and-reports/gres-english.pdf)

19 Guiding questions for assessment of initiatives (programs, projects) for climate change activities and actions through gender mainstream prism are based on the following documents: [How to Conduct a Gender Analysis: A Guidance Note for UNDP Staff \(2016\)](#), Gender Results Effectiveness Framework (GRES) that capture variation in the type of gender results with five categories, UNCT Gender Equality Marker Guidance Note, methodology of The Green Climate Fund (GCF) and methodology for conducting gender analysis developed by European institute for gender equality (EIGE).

climate actions on gender equality, through gender mainstream prism, in each phase of the interventions no matter if they are implemented by state actors or CSO's (design of the intervention, implementation of the intervention, monitoring of implementation and evaluation of the interventions):

A

Design of the initiative/intervention (program/project/activities):

1. Are different needs/priorities of women and men addressed in the design of the initiative: What is the situation of women and men in the specific sector of intervention or in the initiative footprint area? In terms of the proposed initiative to be founded, will there be any anticipated differences in men's and women's vulnerability? Whether the identified problems regarding climate change have the same impact on women and men? What resources (economic, financial, physical, natural, other assets) do women and men have access to? Who manages or controls access to these resources? Whether disaggregated information is included in the analysis of the problem? Is there any gender gap identified and what are the underlying causes of the gaps associated to problem analysis?

Example: Air pollution in cities directly contributes the climate changes but projects for reduction of air pollutions should take into consideration that there is an indoor and outdoor air pollutions and sometimes, indoor pollution is much higher than outdoor pollution. Since men are usually working on the constructions or jobs related to mobility and transportation, they will be more exposed to outdoor pollution. Women from the other side, are spending 3-4 times more time at homes and have indoor jobs (textile workers, teachers, nurses...) so women will be more exposed to indoor pollution. Do we have statistics for deaths of women/men by age group caused by air pollution? Do we have numbers of stillborn or miscarriages as a result of long exposure to air pollution? if there are any differences in heating habits of women and men taking also into consideration the gender and Thermal Comfort and Individual Perception of Indoor Environmental Quality²⁰.

20 [Gender Matters! Thermal Comfort and Individual Perception of Indoor Environmental Quality: A Literature Review | SpringerLink](#)

2. Identification of existing national capacities in response to the gender inequalities associated with the problem to be addressed by the initiative: Whether recommendations for the country made by UN organizations and reporting mechanisms (CEDAW, UPR ...) are taken into consideration? Whether comparative advantages of UN or other international organizations assistance have been identified? Does the initiative liaise or coordinate with gender stakeholders (women's organizations and machineries) and/or experts?

Example: All of the countries involved in the project are aspirants for EU accession and have ratified most of the international binding document regarding human rights, gender and climate. Under each convention our countries are obligated to submit reports for

progress and EU is also issuing annual reports for the progress of the countries. Those reports are valuable sources of information.

3. Intervention strategies: Has the intervention recognized the distinct vulnerabilities of women and men and developed specific response strategies for each target group? Will the intervention be able to address respective needs and priorities of women and men? If so, how? Is there an anticipated negative impact of the intervention on women and men (i.e. increased workload, loss of access to resources such as credit, water, land and technology)? Does the intervention diminish or challenge existing inequalities in the situation of men and women? Will the intervention change the perceptions or stereotypes about women and men, and their roles, in any way? Are there any specific mechanisms that are proposed to encourage and enable women to participate in the intervention, despite their disadvantaged position? Whether is it anticipated the long-term impact of women's increased ability to take charge of their own lives, and to take collective action to solve problems?

Example: If the project is supporting subsidies for heating devices at home, who is deciding what device will be both, how it will be used? What measures can we initiate to encourage women to apply for subsidy?

4. Intervention (project/programme) Results: What is/are the explicit gender objective/s described in the intervention proposal? What type of tools, actions identified to address possible gender inequalities emerging from the intervention? Do the outputs and activities included in the capacity development measures reduce gender inequalities related to the issue? Do women and men from vulnerable communities have equal access to information and opportunities necessary to participate and benefit fully from the anticipated outcomes of the intervention? Are the specific knowledge and skills of women and men, especially from vulnerable groups, being utilized to contribute to project outcomes and solutions? Has the intervention identified opportunities to challenge gender stereotypes and increase positive gender relations through equitable actions? If so, what are these opportunities and actions. Are access and equal participation of women and men a key criteria defined in the project for opportunities, benefits and resources? Will services, capacity development and technologies provided by the intervention be available and accessible to both women and men? Does the intervention include gender indicators?

Example: When discussing climate change (adaptation or mitigation measures) women are not encouraged to participate or give opinion for solutions. If there is a measure that specifically address collection of ideas from women how to organize rescue missions from flood or fire, it would be considered as a gender sensitive or gender specific measure.

5. Intervention Budget: Are the gender-responsive activities accompanied by budget with in the budget for climate actions, to ensure their implementation? Is there gender-focused resource allocation for gender equality and women ´s empowerment? Will be it possible to track the flow of these resources?

Example: Is it possible to read and track the funds for the measure from the previous example (asking women for ideas for recue missions)? In this stage some of the GRB tools (gender budget analysis of costs and benefits, gender budget analysis of effectiveness, gender budget analysis of expenditures and revenues) can be applied.

B

Implementation stage /management of the initiative:

Equal participation of women and men in management arrangements and as beneficiaries, partners and key stakeholders? • Equal participation of women and men in decision-making processes? Usage of gender friendly language? Tools to encourage women to participate in the management of the intervention? Does the intervention implementation staff include gender and/or social inclusion experts? Does the intervention develop the capacity of staff to address gender considerations and the use of gender-responsive and participatory tools in the context of the intervention and its implementation?

Example: Usual answer when realising climate change interventions are that there are no women engineers. If monitoring of the process of engagement of project staff reflect the situation, than one of the suggested measures could be connection with technical faculties and identification of women engineers and offering them an interim position since many women engineers due to the gender bias are employed in different sectors, usually with their high school diploma.



Does the monitoring framework include measures to monitor and evaluate progress on gender equality? Does the framework include measurable gender indicators appropriate to the intervention? Are there any tools for collecting sex-disaggregated data? Are there specific activities, resources and responsibilities to track contributions of the intervention on gender equality and women's empowerment?

Example: In this part, tools for for collecting sex-disaggregated data should be specified and in which activities, what are needed resources and responsibilities to track contributions of the interventions (project/programme) on gender equality and women's empowerment.

For climate change interventions that includes studies and research, attention should be paid to determine whether the study includes a gender component. Gender-sensitive research²¹ takes into account the differences between men and women in all aspects of the research, from an initial idea, formulating research questions, objectives and methodologies to the outcomes and presentation of results. Apart from integrating gender into the content, gender-sensitive approach strives to provide equal participation of both women and men in scientific work.

Sex-disaggregated baseline information is essential²² to demonstrate changes over the life of a program, project, or other initiative²³. Baseline information provides a reference point for assessing gender equality results. When assessing changes in gender relations, baseline information needs to be well informed by quality gender and social analysis.

Basic questions for review of the studies with gender lenses are:

- ✓ Composition of the research team (inclusion of women and men researchers)
- ✓ Collection of sex disaggregated data (intersectional approach)
- ✓ Identification of gender gaps depending of the scope of the research that can influence further activities in the area of the initiatives using behavioral theory

All of the above guiding questions can assist to CSOs but also to all interested stakeholders in Gender budget tagging i.e. tracking how programmes and activities support gender equality objectives, helping to quantify financial flows.

21 Toolkit for Integrating GenderSensitive Approach into Research and Teaching: [garcia_toolkit_gender_research_teaching.pdf \(europa.eu\)](#)

22 Gender Research: A How-To Guide: Microsoft Word - HOW_TO.doc ([genderaveda.cz](#))

23 Introduction to Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Indicators

Many of the financial instruments for climate changes have implemented gender mainstreaming as a principle and a key element of its programming architecture, and their commitment to gender equality centres on gender-responsive climate action programmes and projects that benefit women and men.

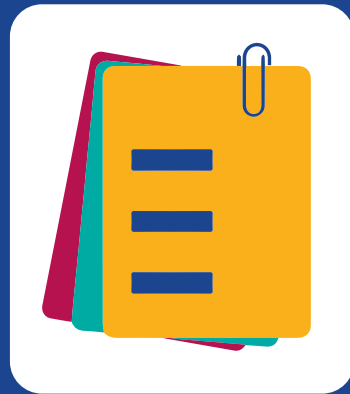
Green Climate Found -GCF is a critical element of the historic Paris Agreement - is the world's largest climate fund, mandated to support developing countries raise and realize their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) ambitions towards low-emissions, climate-resilient pathways. Gender mainstreaming is central to the GCF's objectives and guiding principles, including through engaging women and men of all ages as stakeholders in the design, development and implementation of strategies and activities to be financed.

For projects that are applied in front of the Green Climate Found, it should be noted that Gender mainstreaming is central to the Global Climate Found objectives and guiding principles, including through engaging women and men of all ages as stakeholders in the design, development and implementation of strategies and activities to be financed. GCF have developed a guidebook: [Mainstreaming Gender in Green Climate Fund Projects](#) that can be downloaded from the following link: [Mainstreaming gender in Green Climate Fund projects | Green Climate Fund](#)



05

Annexes



Annex 1



Priority sector for implementation measures to mitigate or to adapt to the impacts of climate change in the Western Balkan Countries and Examples for measures defined in the updated NDC documents in WB countries.

Nationally Determined Contribution, is a climate action plan to cut emissions and adapt to climate impacts. NDC plan include policies and measures governments aim to implement in response to climate change and as a contribution to achieve the global targets set out in the Paris Agreement.

NDCs are the first greenhouse gas targets under the UNFCCC that apply equally to both developed and developing countries.

NDCs are where countries set targets for mitigating the greenhouse gas emissions that cause climate change and for adapting to climate impacts. The plans define how to reach the targets, and elaborate systems to monitor and verify progress so it stays on track.

According the Nationally Determined Contribution's, the priority sectors for implementing measures to mitigate and reduce or adopt impacts from climate changes in the Western Balkan Countries are shown in the Table 2 and Table 3.

Table 2: Priority sectors for implementing measures to mitigate and reduce impacts from climate changes in the Western Balkan

Priority sector/ Country	Republic of Kosovo	Republic of Serbia	Republic of Albania	Republic of North Macedonia	Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina	Republic of Montenegro
Energy generation and access (together with IPPU)						
Agriculture, Forestry and other Land Use						
Buildings, cities, industries and appliances						
Transport						
Waste						

Table 3: Priority sectors for implementing measures to adapt to the impacts from climate changes in the Western Balkan

Priority sector/ Country	Republic of Kosovo	Republic of Serbia	Republic of Albania	Republic of North Macedonia	Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina	Republic of Montenegro
Ecosystems and ecosystem services						
Infrastructure and build environment						
Livelihoods of vulnerable communities						
Health food and water security						
Agriculture, Forestry and other Land Use						
Tourism						

The highest priority sectors in the Western Balkan Countries (Republic of Kosovo, Republic of Albania, Republic of Serbia, Republic of North Macedonia, Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republic of Montenegro) are Agriculture, Forestry and other Land Use, Energy generation and access (together with IPPU) and Health food and water security.

Below you can find several examples for measures defined in the updated NDC documents in WB countries.

Example for mitigation measure from RNM climate related priority sectors
Waste – Solid waste Disposal to mitigate and reduce impacts from climate changes

Environmental protection and meeting the highest European standards:

- Rehabilitation of the existing landfills and illegal (“wild”) dumpsites with very high, high and medium risk in each of the five waste management regions. Closure of existing landfills.

Opening of new regional landfills in all waste management regions with installed system for mechanical and biological treatment and composting. Mechanical and biological treatment (MBT) in new landfills with composting.

Example from R. Montenegro priority sector Energy

New renewable power plants to mitigate and reduce impacts from climate changes

The following renewable power plants are planned:

- New G8 turbine-generator unit in HPP Perucica (additional 58,5MW, 50GWh)
- HPP Piva reconstruction (no additional capacity)
- WPP Gvozd (54,6 MW, 150 GWh)
- SPP Brajici (100MW, 277 GWh)
- SPP Briska Gora (250MW, 450GWh)
- HPP Komarnica (172MW, 213 gwh)
- SPP Velje Brdo (50MV, 90Gwh)
- SPP prosumers (10MW, 18GWh)

Example for measures in R. Albania priority sector Tourism

Adaptation measures to the impacts from climate changes

Climate proofing residential and productive infrastructure, touristic accommodation and assets and health (and other social) facilities.

- Climate proofing buildings (covering of buildings walls and roofs with thermal insulating materials, the using of double glass windows and doors, green roofs, natural ventilation, free evacuation routes and fire protection systems)

Climate proofing coastal buildings and facilities to prevent further damage and degradation:

- Determining (green and blue) buffer zones in risk-prone areas (in the coast and inland)
- Construction and maintenance of protective infrastructure (e.g. sea defenses/ concrete gates, increasing the level of river beds (desilting, widening channels)

Adaptation measures in R. Serbia priority sector Water:

Increased efficiency of water supply systems including:

- Optimum decrease of losses
- Economic pricing of drinking water
- Optimal organization of waterworks
- Application of best available irrigation techniques and cooperation with upstream countries (bilateral commissions, with respect to water quantity)
- Reduction in specific water use by industry and irrigation, especially for new industrial and irrigation systems
- Transferring water from water-abundant to water-deficient areas.



Annex 2

Types of measures that could be financed by GCF and several exams for projects financed by GCF



Mitigation: In the context of climate change, a human intervention to reduce the sources or enhance the sinks of greenhouse gases. Examples include using fossil fuels more efficiently for industrial processes or electricity generation, switching to solar energy or wind power, improving the insulation of buildings, and expanding forests and other “sinks” to remove greater amounts of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

Example: Project idea with main aim to promote investments in renewable energy sources (the activities will lead to reduction of greenhouse emissions)

Adaptation: Adjustment in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities.

Example: Project idea with main aim to develop the early warning system in vulnerable flood areas (the activities will strengthen the resilience to flood).

**** Attention: The Project Idea should be in line with at least one national priority sectors ****

Several examples for projects financed by GCF and relevant GCF results area:

Example 1: The Project for scaling-up investment in Low-Carbon Public Buildings in Bosnia and Herzegovina has focus only in mitigation GCF results area, specifically in Buildings, cities, industries and appliances due to the fact that the main aim of the project and project activities are focused on implementation of low-carbon building retrofits in 430 public build EE and RE measures. For more details visit: www.greenclimate.fund/projects/fp051

Example 2: The Project Supporting climate resilience and transformational change in the agriculture sector in Bhutan has focus on few GCF results areas: Health, food and water security, Livelihoods of people and communities and Infrastructure and built environment.

As the main activities will promote climate resilient agricultural practices, integrate climate change risk data into water and land management to support smallholders, and reduce the risk and impact of climate change-induced landslides during extreme events that disrupt market access. For more details visit: www.greenclimate.fund/projects/fp107

Example 3: The Energy Efficient Consumption Loan Programme in Mongolia has focus on two GCF results areas: Energy generation and access and Buildings, cities, industries and appliances. This programme will provide loans to energy efficiency heating appliances and housing products, with heating appliances certified to achieve at least a 20 percent reduction in energy usage. The use of grant funding will include the disposal of old heating appliances and energy efficient housing, while also contributing to a shift in consumer behavior. For more details visit: www.greenclimate.fund/projects/sap004

Example 4: The Programme Green Cities Facility has focus on several GCF results areas: Energy generation and access, Transport, Buildings, cities, industries and appliances, Livelihoods of people and communities and Infrastructure and built environment. The Green Cities Facility Programme will address cities' climate change challenges while building the market case for private sector investment in sustainable urban infrastructure.

The Facility is based on a country driven and evidence-based approach that systematically priorities and then finances transformational municipal climate related infrastructure investments. For more details visit: www.greenclimate.fund/projects/fp086

Gender analysis needs to take place early in the planning process so that an understanding of gender roles and power relations is built into the project. All projects/programs should include an analysis of gender and include data on gender issues within the overall situation analysis.

Gender analysis/assessment refers to methods used to understand relationships between men and women, their access to resources, their activities, and the constraints they face relative to each other. A comprehensive gender analysis/assessment entails the examination of the different roles, rights, needs, and opportunities of women and men, boys and girls in a given project/program context. It is a tool that helps to promote gender – relevant entry points, policies and identify opportunities for enhancing gender equality in a particular project/program. In the case of climate change projects/programs, a well-done gender analysis/assessment helps to identify multiple causes of vulnerability, including gender inequality.



Gender analysis/assessment questions that need to be addressed at the project planning / preparatory stage:

1. What is the maternal mortality rate, infant mortality rate, educational status of girls and boys, adult literacy rate (disaggregated by sex), poverty rate, labour force participation rate (disaggregated by sex), employment rate (disaggregated by sex), unemployment rate (disaggregated by sex), political participation rate (disaggregated by sex), life expectancy (disaggregated by sex) in the country of intervention and/or the project/program footprint area?
2. What is the legal status of women in the country of intervention?
3. What are commonly held beliefs, perceptions, and stereotypes related to gender in the project/program footprint area or the country of intervention?
4. What is the division of labour among women and men in the project/program footprint area and/or the country of intervention?
5. What is the participation between women and men in the formal/informal economy in the country of intervention or in the project/program footprint area?
6. What is the situation of women and men in the specific sector of intervention or in the project/program footprint area?
7. In terms of the proposed project/program, will there be any anticipated differences in men's and women's vulnerability and adaptive capacity to climate change? If so, what are these?
8. Are there existing gender inequalities that may be exacerbated by climate change impacts in the proposed project/program footprint area?
9. What are some of the inequalities that exist between different social groups in the project/program footprint area? How do these inequalities affect people's capacity to adapt to climate change?
10. What roles women and men are anticipated to play in the context of the project/program? What will these entail in terms of time commitment and need for mobility?
11. What resources (economic, financial, physical, natural, other assets) do women and men have access to? Who manages or controls access to these resources?
12. Do women and men from vulnerable communities have equal access to information and opportunities necessary to participate and benefit fully from the anticipated outcomes of the project/program?
13. Do women have equal access to education, technical knowledge, and/or skill upgradation?
14. Will services and technologies provided by the project/program be available and accessible to both women and men?
15. To what extent do women and men from vulnerable communities participate in decision – making processes? What type of decisions are made by women? What are the constraints (social, cultural, economic, political) that restrict women's active participation in household and community level decision – making processes?

16. Are there any opportunities to promote the leadership of women in local governance/ political systems and formal/informal institutions? If not, what are some of the constraints that hinder women from assuming leadership roles?
17. What are the differential needs/priorities of women and men in the context of the project/program? Will the project/program be able to address their respective needs and priorities? If so, how?
18. Have the needs of specific (and vulnerable) sub-groups been taken into account by the project/program (e.g. children, girls, women and men with disabilities, the elderly, widows)?
19. Has the project/program recognized the distinct vulnerabilities of women and men and developed specific response strategies for each target group?
20. Are the specific knowledge and skills of women and men, especially from vulnerable groups, being utilized to contribute to project/program outcomes and solutions?
21. Has the project/program identified opportunities to challenge gender stereotypes and increase positive gender relations through equitable actions? If so, what are these opportunities and actions?

GCF is the first climate finance mechanism to mainstream gender perspectives from the outset of its operations as an essential decision-making element for the deployment of its resources. GCF has placed gender as a key element of its programming architecture, and its commitment to gender equality centres on gender-responsive climate action programmes and projects that benefit women and men.



Annex 3

Climate Budget Tagging



For national initiatives, UNDP have developed “A Guidance Note for Governments to Integrate Climate Change into Budgeting” with focus on Medium-Term Budgets. Link: [Budgeting for Climate Change: A Guidance Note for Governments to Integrate Climate Change into Budgeting | United Nations Development Programme \(undp.org\)](#).

Based on that, methodology for Climate Budget Tagging have been developed for national initiatives since implementation of enhanced NDCs requires financing strategies that mobilize resources from national and international public and private sectors. Much of the international support received is used to finance projects predominantly to mitigate the effects of climate change. A significant portion of domestic funding is also mobilized to finance climate related activities. Most of the adaptation actions will need to be managed by national and subnational governments through their domestic budget systems. Therefore, a strong performance oriented domestic budget framework which integrates climate risks and reduces GHG emissions is required to provide the enabling environment to align national and international finances.

The change is a cross-cutting issue. The public sector activities relevant to climate change adaptation and mitigation are often scattered across a number of ministries. This dispersion of climate change activities poses challenges for the Public Financial Management (PFM) system to facilitate planning, identifying, and reporting on climate change expenditure.

These challenges can be overcome by introducing Climate Budget Tagging -CBT, which helps mainstream climate change in the budgetary system in order to address the economic, social, and environmental impacts of climate change by identifying, classifying, weighting, and marking climate-relevant expenditure in the budget system. In addition, the CBT provides an entry point to track resources for sustainable development goals (SDGs), which is closely linked to climate change in achieving most of the SD goals as well as to mitigate activities under the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

LINK: [Knowing What You Spend: A guidance note for governments to track climate change finance in their budgets | United Nations Development Programme \(undp.org\)](#)

The objective of CBT is to enable the government to make informed investment decision, facilitate better integration of climate change into national and sub-national plans and allow tracking and monitoring of resource allocations that are relevant to climate change in the budget system.



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