

G G G C O

Launch of the Global Gender and Climate Alliance

Recalling that integrating a gender perspective into environmental and poverty eradication policies has been recognized in a wide range of global agreements and forums, including chapter 24 of Agenda 21; the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation; paragraph K of the Beijing Platform for Action, the Fourth World Conference on Women; the World Conference on Human Rights; the Millennium Declaration (2000); and the requirements and agreements set out in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women;

Acknowledging that climate change impacts will affect all countries, however its impacts will be differently distributed among different regions, generations, age classes, income groups, occupations and between women and men. Poor women and men, especially in developing countries, will be disproportionately affected;

Recognizing that climate change does not and will not affect women and men in the same way and it has, and will have, a gender-differentiated impact. Therefore all aspects related to climate change (i.e. mitigation, adaptation, policy development, decision making) should include a gender perspective;

Emphasizing that women are powerful agents of change. Women's leadership is critical in addressing all aspects of sustainable development and natural resource management, including development of scientific research and technologies and policy making, among many others;



Taking note of the need to develop a common understanding of the inextricable link between gender and the impact of climate change;

Admitting that the efforts required to address climate change call for collaboration between sectors and institutions. Therefore four of the global development, environmental and women's institutions — UNDP, IUCN, WEDO and UNEP — have agreed to form the Global Gender and Climate Alliance (hereinafter the GGCA).

Bearing in mind the different mandates of these institutions, the main goal of the GGCA is to ensure that climate change policies, decision-making, initiatives at the global, regional and national levels are gender responsive.

The GGCA will undertake the following:

1. Provide support to UNFCCC and its bodies to ensure that the UN mandates on gender equality are fully implemented.
2. Ensure that UN financing mechanisms on mitigation and adaptation address the needs of poor women and men equitably.
3. Set standards and criteria for climate change mitigation and adaptation that incorporate gender equality and equity principles.
4. Build capacity at global, regional and local level to design and implement gender-responsive climate change policies, strategies and programmes.
5. Establish a network for learning, knowledge exchange and advocacy on gender and climate change.

The core partners of the GGCA are seeking collaborative partnerships with other organizations interested in ensuring that gender considerations are addressed in all climate change efforts. The GGCA welcomes support from governments, UN agencies, and other institutions to further this effort.

For further information you can contact:

IUCN: lorena.aguilar@iucn.org

UNEP: janet.macharia@unep.org

WEDO: rebecca@wedo.org

UNDP: hannie.meesters@undp.org