

Ad hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action (AWG-LCA)
Gender and Social Dimensions
Compendium of Submissions and Key Issues¹

I. Context

Parties are quickly approaching the first drafting of negotiation text in preparation for the next UNFCCC session in June. Many have expressed that decisive action is needed in the areas identified in the Bali Action Plan (BAP, Decision 1/CP.13) in a balanced manner: a shared vision for long-term cooperative action, adaptation, mitigation, financing and technology. In each of these pillars, special attention is required on the associated social aspects, including those related to gender equality.

While recognizing the need to focus the work of the AWG-LCA5, there are important areas of the Bali Action Plan, supported by Submissions in the Assembly Document² and in subsequent Submissions from Parties, IGOs and NGOs, which reflect critical aspects related to social and economic conditions, including gender. These aspects need to be strengthened and incorporated into the negotiating text.

II. Key Issues and Submissions

The following issues are: (a) supported by current Submissions by Parties and Observers and (b) indicative of areas demanding urgent attention from Parties in the form of new Submissions.

Shared Vision

The Bali Action Plan reaffirms that economic and social development and poverty eradication are global priorities [Decision 1/CP.13, *preamble* and 1, (a)]. A simple but profound Shared Vision provides an opportunity for the international community to evidence this commitment, and succinctly describe its Vision for implementation.

Key Points include:

- Effective and responsive implementation requires **balanced participation of all relevant stakeholders, including women and men**. This requires the participation of women leaders, gender experts, and women's affairs Ministries in climate change decision-making processes at all levels
- **Prioritization of the most vulnerable groups must include women** and must be addressed in all response measures (adaptation, mitigation, technology and financing)
- A sound foundation for **long-term cooperative action needs to be based on relevant scientific, technical, social and economic considerations** and regularly re-evaluated in the light of new findings in these areas³

Related or supporting Submissions included in the Assembly Document:

- On joining forces to combat climate change [*Pakistan*] with gender considerations and balanced gender participation being important in this regard [*Iceland, para 13 (g)*]
- Ensure equitable and effective participation of all stakeholders in the future negotiation process [*Pakistan, para 16 (k)*]
- Addressing equity within countries [*ILO and ITUC, para 23 (a)*]
- On including social and gender considerations [*WEDO/GCCA, para 23 (iv)*]

¹ Compiled and recommended by the Global Gender and Climate Alliance (GGCA).

² Refers to FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/16/Rev.1

³ Refers to FCCC/AWGLCA/2009/4, para 2(j), Part II

Key Points include:

- The comprehensive “framework” for implementation should address the need to consider particularly vulnerable groups, **recognizing that “women, children and the poor”⁴ are among the most disproportionately affected**
- Enhanced action on adaptation requires **gender balanced participation and the engagement of women⁵, supported by gender experts**, to strengthen the catalytic role of the Convention, called for in the Bali Action Plan [*para 1(c)(v)*]
- The formulation and implementation of **adaptation plans, including NAPAs, should be responsive to the differentiated needs and draw upon the capacities of women and men** to ensure their optimum implementation⁶
- **Disaster risk management and reduction strategies, including early-warning systems, should consider differentiated impacts and prioritize the needs of the most vulnerable** populations, including women, in alignment with Hyogo Framework for Action⁷
- **International and national statistical data and information should be sex-disaggregated for all actions and in all sectors related to adaptation⁸** and must be available to all stakeholders to contribute to an enabling environment for knowledge-sharing and policy development⁹
- **Financial, technological and capacity-building support for adaptation** should be scaled up and prioritize the most vulnerable groups, including women and indigenous communities, through **appropriate guidelines and criteria^{10, 11}**

Related Submissions included in the Assembly Document and subsequent submissions (Jan/Mar 2009):

- Gender-balanced participation [*Iceland, para 13(g) and 99(h)*]
- The principles of a Work Programme on Adaptation must include as a principle the need to “take into account differing and specific characteristics of sub-national and national, and sub-regional and regional vulnerability, combining both physical, biological, and socio-economic aspects, including gender sensitivity, as integral parts of adaptation actions” [*Lesotho on behalf of LDCs LCA/2009/Misc.1, pg 53*]
- “Consider technological transference according to the needs of forced adaptation of each country to integrate women (practice of gender), indigenous communities...” [*Guatemala on behalf of Central America LCA/2009/Misc.1, pg 40*]
- Adaptation should be prioritized towards the most vulnerable, including women [*CAN, para 112(j)*]
- Prioritize women and other vulnerable groups for financial support on streamlining and scaling up financial support [*WEDO/GGCA, para 113 (a)*]
- The need for gender analysis and sex-disaggregated data should be taken into account [*WEDO, para 112 (h)*]

Additional Related Documentation:

- AWG-LCA Chair’s Summary of Views highlighted many Parties acknowledgement that the discussions on adaptation should include the need to consider particularly vulnerable groups,

⁴ Refers to FCCC/AWGLCA/2009/3, para 28

⁵ Refers to LCA/2009/4, para 11(g), 17, and 21(c), Part II

⁶ Refers to LCA/2009/4, para 11, Part II

⁷ Refers to LCA/2009/4, para 20 and 21, Part II

⁸ eg. agriculture, commerce, energy, environment, industry, finance, natural resources, trade, transportation

⁹ Refers to LCA/2009/4, para 11 (d), 14 and 16 (c), Part II

¹⁰ Refers to LCA/2009/4, para 26(c), Part II

¹¹ See details under Finance and Technology

recognizing that “women, children and the poor are among the most disproportionately affected”¹²

- o Technical Paper FCCC/TP/2008/3: Physical and socio-economic trends in climate-related risks and extreme events, and their implications for sustainable development

Mitigation

Key Points include:

- **Ambitious emission reductions commitments must be made by Copenhagen**, in the ranges provided by IPCC's 4th Assessment Report and in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, in response to the uncontested threat of climate change, and the differentiated impact on women and men in the global community
- Mitigation efforts, recognizing differentiated responsibilities, need to ensure that all stakeholders, both **men and women, can contribute to and benefit from the reduction of emissions on a pathway that does not compromise but fosters sustainable development** [Decision 1/CP.13, para 1, (b), i and ii]
- As affirmed in Decision 5/CP.7, and reaffirmed in Decision 2/CP.11 (the Nairobi Work Programme,) and 21/CP.11, “responses to climate change should be coordinated with social and economic development in an integrated manner with a view to avoiding adverse impacts of the latter, taking into full account the legitimate priority needs of developing countries for the achievement of sustained growth and the eradication of poverty.” To address economic and social consequences of response measures, **gender considerations must be taken into account** in critical areas such as employment and livelihoods, health, and food security, as well as in sectors where women often play an important or central role, such as agriculture, water and management of other natural resources¹³
- **Policies and programmes should be designed to enhance women’s participation and access to positive incentives in conservation, sustainable forest management and enhancement of forest carbon stocks**¹⁴, as women’s livelihoods are often dependent on natural resources and women often lack land rights, access to legal support and information

Finance and Technology

Key Points include:

- **Finance should be scaled up** in accordance with the provisions of the Convention to support needed action on mitigation, adaptation and technology cooperation
- **Delivery of funds should prioritize women and vulnerable groups through appropriate guidelines and criteria**, including:
 - Funding *criteria* must ensure women as a vulnerable group remains a priority;
 - *Portion of funds* must be allocated exclusively to these groups;
 - *Gender-responsive budgeting* and audits must ensure funds reach all stakeholders, especially sectors in which women are strongly represented, and must ensure delivery of resources are measurable, reportable and verifiable;
 - *Gender indicators* must be used to demonstrate that benchmarks and targets for access, allocation, and budgeting are being met¹⁵; and
 - *Capacity-building* funds must be directed to enhance the ability of vulnerable groups to access and manage these funds.

¹² Refers to LCA/2009/3, para 28

¹³ Refers to LCA/2009/4, para 67 and 68, Part II

¹⁴ Refers to Decision 1/CP.13, para 1, (b), iii

¹⁵ Refers to LCA/2009/4, para 40 (a), 93, 95, 96, 98 Part II

- **Technology transfer and capacity-building should prioritize outreach to vulnerable groups, including women**¹⁶
- **Participatory processes should be used to actively involve women and men** in the design, selection, promotion and use of energy resources and technologies, especially at the local and household level, and in industries or sectors where women are disproportionately represented
- Transfer of technology and development research should **draw on, and further enhance, women's technological expertise and innovative capacity** and must ensure that technology at strategic (household) and productive (community and industrial) levels properly address the needs of women and do not unduly burden informal work (eg. fetching water, collecting firewood, feeding animals)
- **Gender analysis and disaggregated data** should be used to identify and assess technology needs of women and men and ensure this technology enhances sustainable development and improves the livelihoods of women and men equally, thus enabling all of society to optimize mitigation strategies and adapt to climate change

III. Supporting Documentation

Calls for Action

*The Manila Declaration on Gender in Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction (October 2008)*¹⁷

*The Monrovia Call for Action on Gender and Climate Change (March 2009)*¹⁸

*Nairobi Action Plan for African Parliamentarians on Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation] (March 2009)*¹⁹

*The Nordic Summit Declaration on Gender and Climate Change (February 2009)*²⁰

Agreements, Resolutions and Reports

ECOSOC Res. on Mainstreaming a Gender Perspective into all Policies and Programmes in the UN System (2005/31)

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

Agenda 21

Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters (HFA)

UN Declaration on Human Rights

UN Convention on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Beijing Platform for Action

Human Development Report 2007/2008 — Fighting climate change: Human solidarity in a divided world

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Fourth Assessment Report

Report of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights – Relationship between climate change and human rights

Millennium Developments Goals (MDGs)

The **Global Gender and Climate Alliance (GGCA)** is a group of 25 UN agencies, IGOs and NGOs working together to ensure that climate change policies, decision-making processes, and initiatives at all levels are gender responsive.

¹⁶ Refers to LCA/2009/4, para 93, 95, 96, 98 Part II

¹⁷ <http://www.capwip.org/finaloct228pmManila%20Declaration.pdf>

¹⁸ <http://www.intracen.org/womenandtrade/documents/Monrovia-Declaration.pdf>

¹⁹ Available in hard copy, info@gender-climate.org

²⁰ http://www.norden.org/gender/doks/sk/Nordisk_Summit_deklaration_final.pdf