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## **REPORT**

# **GENDER AND CLIMATE CHANGE: NETWORKING FOR GENDER EQUALITY IN INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE NEGOTIATIONS – UNFCCC COP13/CMP3**

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## I. PREPARING FOR THE CONFERENCE

Concrete preparations for the conference started as soon as the funding for the activities was approved in October 2007. We focussed on three main activities: composition of, and arrangements for, the women's delegation, drafting of position papers, and preparation of the side events and the exhibition booth.

Beforehand, a meeting between the gendercc-network and the special advisor to the COP13 president – Indonesian Environmental Minister Witoelar – took place during the SBSTA in May in Bonn. The meeting focused on discussing and recommending activities to improve women's involvement in the conference and in climate change policy in general and to ensure the endorsement of the host country. In addition to women's activities at the UNFCCC conference itself, the host country wished to put a special focus to the involvement of Indonesian women's organisations. The outcome of these deliberations was the „Conference on Indonesian Women's Local Wisdom: Adaptation and Mitigation of Global Climate Change“, which was convened by the seven largest national women's organisations. The conference took place in Jakarta on the eve of the COP and was attended by 800 participants, most of them spouses of the leaders of regional governments. The Civil Society Forum, which took place in parallel to the UNFCCC conference, provided an opportunity for grassroots women's initiatives to get involved in the climate change debates.

### *I.1 Selection of the members of the women's delegation*

In order to conduct an open and transparent selection process, we disseminated the announcement about the opportunity for travel funding for women from developing countries/countries in transition via the gendercc listserve, the women-csd list and WEDO's sustainability list as well as the mailing lists of CAN (Climate Action Network) and climate\_l. This guaranteed a broad dissemination to cover the entire climate change community. Additionally, we sent it to existing gender networks dealing with issues related to climate change, namely ENERGIA, the Gender & Water Alliance and the Gender and Disaster Network who distributed the information in their networks and were also asked to nominate representatives.

Criteria for the selection of representatives were:

- working on women/gender and climate change issues in their countries/regions;
- committed to lobby for gender mainstreaming in climate change policy during and beyond the conference; and
- representing different regions and different fields of work.

Based on these criteria we identified seven women, representing indigenous organisations, research, gender& energy networks, environmental organisations from South Africa, Uganda, Uruguay, Fidji Islands, India, Bangladesh, and Ukraine.

Each of the representatives was expected to

- take on duties in the framework of the gender activities undertaken during the conference;
- provide input on gender into the debates;

- lobby governments, constituencies and networks to include gender in the negotiations; and
- distribute position papers and other materials.

### *I.2 Drafting of position papers*

In order to make women's involvement more visible and efficient, we decided to draft position papers on the most important issues to be addressed during the negotiations in Bali and beyond. The issues identified were: Future Climate Regime, Reducing emissions by avoided deforestation and degradation (REDD), financing mitigation and adaptation.



A first draft of the papers were elaborated and sent to the representatives as well as to the women / gender mailing lists and networks mentioned above, asking for their comments. The comments received were included in a second draft, the version we brought to Bali to be finalised by the women's caucus. Additionally, we collaborated with MADRE who drafted a fourth position paper on agrofuels. The paper was processed in the same way like the other ones.

### *I.3 Preparing for the events and the exhibition booth*

In order to meet the UNFCCC secretariat's deadlines, we had to be decide in early October, which issues should be addressed in the side event and the exhibition. Because the gendercc-network had more general discussions on gender and climate change during side events at previous COPs, it was decided to focus on REDD (see II). The second side event, aiming to present and discuss the position papers to heads of delegations, was planned to take place outside the conference area in order to be able to decide on the date and the time for the event. As for the exhibition, it was decided to focus on messages to politicians, which were provided by women in order to make heads of G8-states aware of women's voices for a strong and equitable climate policy. The messages are displayed on photos which are printed on banners. Additionally, the gendercc-network planned for the daily women's meeting and a capacity building workshop for women.

## **II. ACTIVITIES DURING THE CONFERENCE**

### *Pre Meetings*

A representative of the network attended the *Indigenous Peoples' Capacity Building Workshop* from 25 until 28 November. During this workshop she facilitated sessions and participated actively in strengthening the gender issues relevant to forest conservation, displacement, mining and water source loss and contamination issues. From 29 November to 2 December she was working with the *Durban Group Strategy Meeting* to develop positions and strategies on REDD (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation in Developing Countries), agro- and biofuels, the emerging prominence of hydro power and the proposal for the eligibility of nuclear energy under the Clean Development

Mechanism. During this meeting they also offered substantial inputs regarding the specific effects of these policies on women of indigenous communities and on children, including the impacts due to displacement, loss of productive lands and arising conflicts due to these.

#### *Exhibition and booth*



The exhibition got a lot of attraction, and the booth provided a good opportunity to discuss gender issues with participants passing by, and to distribute information and position papers. Especially in the second week it was an excellent way to access passing negotiators, ministers or members of parliaments, to hand over the position papers to them and to brief them about our activities. Service at the booth was provided for most of the time – although the women had to face the difficulty of the distance between the exhibition space in the Bali International Convention Center (BICC) and the Grand Hyatt accommodating the daily women’s meetings (as well as the meetings of the other groups), the offices of observer constituencies and all the side events.

#### *Capacity building workshop*

The workshop took place on Tuesday, Dec. 4 from 9.00 to 13.00. It focussed on the one hand on the main elements and principles of the UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol and how the process is organised, on the other hand on the gender issues related to the process and the content (see attached presentations). The workshop was attended by 25 women. Because of lack of time especially the discussion of gender aspects of the negotiated issues and the position papers went short. It was therefore agreed to install a working group dealing with at least the most controversial issue: CDM and funding mechanisms and their a gender dimension. The group met twice during the COP and agreed an agenda of issues to be discussed via mailing list after the COP.

#### *Daily women’s caucus and participation in climate justice caucus*

An important anchor of the women’s participation was the daily Women’s Caucus meeting. It took place each morning from 9.00 to 10.00 and was attended by 15 to 25 women during the first week, and a few less during the second week. The meetings had a generic agenda, including 1) sharing information (side events attended, requests for gender experts, other important information), 2) lobbying efforts (contacts, progress), 3) activities (our own events and events of others, discussion of papers/statements, to do’s), 4) division of labour (who will do what, who will attend what).



During the first week, the four position papers were finalised in the meetings and in working groups, and finally endorsed during the caucus meetings. Additionally, a new position paper was prepared by WECF in cooperation with the gendercc network, dealing with Japan’s suggestion to include nuclear energy into CDM. The position papers were distributed to the delegations, in particular to those whom representatives of the gendercc-network had access to.

Further statements and papers, like the press release and the statement for the plenary on Friday, Dec. 14., were drafted in working groups and equally finalised during the women’s caucus meetings.

*Side event I: Women in the forest: no fairy tale*



The first side event took place on Dec. 6, 10:30 to 12:30. Its aim was to discuss one of the main issues on the COP agenda, reducing emissions from deforestation, from a women’s perspective. The event started with a fairy tale, presented by Isolde Alber (a trainer for speakers and actors and director at theatres, who was in Bali with LIFE to support our

work), followed by case studies from Africa (Rachel Nampinga), India (Anna Pinto) and Uruguay (Ana Filippino). They explained how women use forest resources, how they contribute to forest conservation, and gave clues how market based forest policies could impact local communities and in particular women. The impressive examples were followed by a presentation of Simone Lovera, (Global Forest Coalition, Paraguay), who gave a brief overview on the proposals to reduce emissions from deforestation and degradation (REDD) in developing countries and their potential impacts on women. The panel commented on the proposals and Simone’s conclusions, before the discussion was opened to the audience. The main focus of the general debate was on the need to broaden the scope of views perceived in the climate negotiations to encompass women’s knowledge and contexts. The side event was covered in “ENB on the Side”, a special daily newsletter on selected side events at the UN Climate Change Conferences. It attracted about 80-100 participants. A full report of the side event is available.

*Side event II: Integrating gender into climate change policy: challenges, constraints, perspectives*



The second side event was hosted in cooperation with UNDP, UNEP and FAO and took place on Monday Dec. 10 in Inna Putri Bali Hotel. The aim of the event was to present the network’s gender positions and to discuss them with high-level delegates. It was opened by Ulrike Roehr from LIFE/gendercc, followed by a welcome address by Prof. Dr. Hatta Swasono, Minister for Women Empowerment in Indonesia. Winnie Byanyima, Director of UNDP’s Gender Unit gave the keynote speech, before brief presentations of the position papers were given by representatives of the gendercc network. The subsequent panel was composed of Barbara Helfferich, Spokesperson of the EU Commissioner for the Environment, Pepetua E. Latasi, Prime Minister’s Office of Tuvalu, June Budhooram representing the UNFCCC Secretariat, and Yianna Lambrou from the FAO. The discussion was facilitated by Janet Macharia, UNEP’s Senior Gender Adviser. Panellists discussed the advantages and



obstacles in integrating gender into climate change policy. They highlighted activities undertaken by their institutions and expressed their further commitment to mainstream gender into climate change negotiations. They welcomed the position papers, and recommended to draft concrete wording to be inserted in the negotiation texts. Additionally, they criticised the rejection of market-based instruments and suggested to replace the wording “instead of” by “in addition” when talking about other policy instruments and other ways of funding.

The event was attended by about 80 participants, among those the Minister for the Environment of Fiji Islands, the Deputy Minister for the Environment from South Africa, the Indonesian Minister for Women Empowerment and the wife of the South African Ambassador.

### *Plenary Statement*



At the last day of the conference during the high-level segment, there is usually the possibility for statements from some observer groups in the plenary. Because time is limited, only 7 to 10 NGO representatives are given the opportunity to speak. Like in previous years, gendercc was asked to nominate a speaker on behalf of women. In our daily meeting, the group decided to nominate Titi Soentoro from Indonesia. The statement itself was

drafted by a group of women and finalised in the women’s meeting. It focused on two main issues: the rejection of nuclear energy to be included in CDM, and the traditional knowledge of women and women’s contribution to forest conservation. Both issues got a lot of positive response and applause from the audience, some Ministers were afterwards congratulating the group for the important statement.

### *Meeting NGOs – UNFCCC Executive Secretary Yvo de Boer*

During a meeting of the UNFCCC Executive Secretary with NGO representatives three representatives of the gendercc-network had the possibility for making statements and asking questions. They highlighted the importance of assessing the impacts of climate change mechanisms like CDM on women, and asked the Executive Secretary about his efforts to mainstream gender into the negotiations. His answer: “Tell me how”. They explained that knowledge is available, what is lacking is the implementation and a strong commitment to do so.

### *Media coverage*



Highlight of the press relations was a press briefing of the gendercc network in the early afternoon of Dec. 7, taking place in the main Press Conference Room in the BICC. The press briefing was attended by about 25 journalists and additionally was webcasted at the UNFCCC web site. A press release *Women’s milestones for the Bali roadmap* was distributed to journalists at the event and in the media center.

Members of the gendercc network were the driving force for a press release and action against nuclear energy: *Don't nuke the climate*, which got a lot of media attention. A photo of the women with their banner was even displayed at the UNFCCC web site the following day.

gendercc's activities were covered by the Australian Television, BBC, Spanish Television, Deutsche Welle, ENB, Jakarta Post, some daily newspapers and many online news services around the world, among others in India, Australia, Germany, Belgium, Austria, Spain, Uruguay, USA.

#### *Involvement/presentations in side events and workshops organised by others*

Members of the gendercc network gave presentations as panellists in various events, e.g.

- in the side event *Women, Security and Biodiversity* on December 7;
- at the Solidarity Village on December 10 and 11 on *Human Rights and Climate Change* and on *The World Bank, Clean Development Mechanisms and the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*;
- in a workshop by Helios, aiming to assess *adaptation criteria*; and
- at the workshop on *Regional experience and information on nuclear energy – scientist, witnesses, and activists speak out*.

Additionally, they took part in numerous side events, raising their voices to bring gender issues and the importance of women's involvement in planning adaptation measures to the attention of participants.



On Dec. 11, the high-level side event "Gender and Climate Change", organised by the Indonesian Ministry for Women's Empowerment, took place. The keynote speech was given by the First Lady of Indonesia, Ms. Ani Mambang Yudhoyono, addressing 'Women as a driving force to fight climate change'. The Minister for Women Empowerment, Prof. Dr. Meutia Hatta Swasono illustrated activities undertaken in the run-up to the UNFCCC conference, in particular the 'Conference on the Indonesian women's local wisdom: adaptation and mitigation of the adverse impacts of climate change'. Ulrike Roehr from gendercc presented the activities to mainstream gender into UNFCCC negotiations, and Sjamsiah Achmad, former deputy minister for women and member of the CEDAW committee, gave an overview of decisions related to gender equality at the international level, and possible entry points. The discussion was facilitated by Ms. Erna Witoelar, wife of the

Environmental Minister and COP13 president and UN Ambassador for the achievement of the MDGs in Asia Pacific. The event gained a lot of recognition, and was covered by Indonesian television.

#### *Further collaborations*

Main partners for cooperation among constituencies and observer organisations were:

- a) Trade unions: Due to a brief capacity building on gender and climate change during one of their daily meetings, we were able to add a short paragraph on gender equity to their lobbying paper.

b) Durban Group and Climate Justice Caucus: These are the groups most aware of gender issues (besides Youth).

c) Climate Action Network: Some of the organisations represented in the gendercc network are members of this most prominent network of environmental NGOs. Although most environmental NGOs are reluctant to address gender issues, there seems to be an emerging window of opportunity for cooperation with organisations based in developing countries.

### **Excursus concerning the link between gendercc and Indonesian CSOs**

*A new paradigm for the Indonesian women's groups: 'no climate justice without gender justice'*

(by Titi Soentoro)

The issue of climate change was introduced for the first time to a women's group in Indonesia in August 2006. It was at the National Gathering on Women, Environment and Natural Resources held by Solidaritas Perempuan/SP (Women's Solidarity for Human Rights) as one of the topics of women's issues related to environment and natural resources. This is not to ignore that some women worked already on this issue; but only to highlight that it started to be looked with a gender perspective by a big national organization since SP is a feminist organization with 13 regional office and more than 1000 members nationwide. The issue was not carried forward, however, because there were other urgent issues to be worked on related to the raising religious fundamentalism, abuse of Indonesian women migrant workers abroad, advocacy for people affected by projects funded by international financial institutions such as World Bank and Asian Development Bank, also affected by mining companies, etc.

As the Bali Climate Change Conference was heating up, Indonesian civil society, including SP started to prepare activities in Bali by setting up "The Indonesian Civil Society (CSO) Forum". There were two groups who developed issues related to women within the Forum, which were SP and 'the Woman Major Group'. The latter was a formation of woman activists during the PrepCom of WSSD in Bali in 2002 and it is active for major UN conferences held in Indonesia. SP invited its members from the regional offices to participate in the process of Bali Climate Change Conference. 25 women came; three of them were registered as observers to the COP 13. Most of them were not familiar with the issues of women and climate change yet, and therefore, they were encouraged to take the opportunity of Bali Climate Conference to learn more on those issues and to influence gender perspectives into all discussions particularly within the Indonesian CSOs. They received valuable input from attending the workshop of gendercc Network to develop their understanding; or in other words, gendercc network was the main source of information and knowledge for SP during the Bali Climate Conference.

As one of the members of SP, who had the opportunity to work with the gendercc Network, my role was to bridge the knowledge and information from the gendercc network to SP and then to other women presence in Bali particularly and to other activists at the Indonesian CSO Forum. This was particularly important because mostly the women don't speak English or limited English knowledge and encountered difficulties to be involved directly in discussions within the gendercc network during the Bali Climate Conference. Discussions were carried out to update information from gendercc network activities.

After studying the call of gendercc Network on gender justice for climate justice, SP decided to join and adopt the call and introduces it to the Indonesian groups and activists. A statement was

formulated that was used as a base for a press release and lobby activities to the Indonesian delegates.



"No climate justice without gender justice" was conveyed as a statement of SP to the President of COP 13, Mr. Rahmad Witoelar, who is also the Environment Minister of Indonesia, at the meeting with the Indonesian CSO Forum. He responded positively to the call by saying that he acknowledged the importance of gender justice and would encourage Indonesian delegates to incorporate this to their position at the UN negotiations. The event was covered by Indonesian media. In order to hold onto Witoelar's statement, SP did a press conference on the next day to reiterate it.

Furthermore, this call was introduced to the Indonesian Minister for Women Empowerment, Ms. Meutia Hatta-Swasono. She particularly asked SP to brief her on women and climate change. In a very short briefing at Bali's airport, the Minister and SP delegates sat and formulated sentences for her speech for the workshop organized by gendercc Network. SP sent her also some lines for the Minister's speech at the discussion on nuclear power plant which said that nuclear power is not an answer for climate change problems.



This new paradigm of 'no climate justice without gender justice' introduced by SP to the Indonesian civil society with no doubt had enriched the paradigms of other Indonesian group such as 'climate justice' of the Indonesian CSO Forum and 'woman for climate justice' of the Women Major Group. It gave a new awareness and understanding on the importance to be actively promoting this new paradigm to the larger groups of women in Indonesia and also to work with affected people particularly women. This is now being discussed within

SP to develop follow up activities.

### III. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FOLLOW UP

For the first time in UNFCCC history, a worldwide network of women, **gendercc – women for climate justice**, was established. Their activities and positions met with interest, increasing awareness, and increased expression of commitment to gender justice from a number of stakeholders.

#### *Assessment and appraisal of activities*

Thematic focus:

The selection of issues for papers was very good, with a view to the ongoing negotiations and related gender aspects, and to the women's representatives from the South.

An additional issue would be mitigation which, for this COP, has been omitted on purpose from the gendercc work, as it has been one of the first themes already covered by gendercc during prior COPs. Moreover, since most members of the group came from developing countries, their focus was not so much on mitigation.

Further work needs to be done on CDM and carbon market issues in general. The group started to tackle this issue, however, there have been different views on whether to fundamentally oppose market based mechanisms, or whether to seek to use them and get more women involved in CDM projects. Therefore, this issue needs further in-depth information sharing and debate among women.

Currently the gendercc position papers are presenting those aspects where we were able to achieve consensus. To deal with the more controversial issues, it needs a) broader background information, analysing conflicting views and interests, and b) more time to consult; hence, a continuous process between the conferences is needed.

#### Process:

Compared to the previous COP in Nairobi the *daily women's caucus meeting* was well attended, nevertheless, participation apart from the group of women funded by UNDP was low, in particular during the second week. The reasons are primarily of an organisational nature: the meeting was announced in the daily programme by the UNFCCC secretariat as 'closed' (like all the meetings of constituencies); the announcement in general was a bit confusing (LIFE – women); there were time-consuming routes between the different locations and problems with transport; and the room provided was suboptimal for meetings.

Because gender is a cross cutting issue, it is important also to attract delegates from other constituencies who are interested in gender issues (trade unions, youth, environmental NGOs). Therefore, the time for the meeting should not be in conflict to other meetings. However, this could not be avoided, e.g., the meeting of Trade Unions was at the same time, precluding participants to attend both caucusses.

For future women's caucus meetings, it will be necessary to further develop the generic meeting schedule and process so as to ensure effectivity as well as respecting participants' communication needs. Because time is limited to one hour, it is impossible to discuss e.g. controversial issues or positions. On the other hand, to stick to a very strict agenda (like in the CAN meetings), does not meet the interests of people who need to get to know each other and each others' interests and views, so as to become able to jointly strategize and operate.

#### Lobbying efforts:

Participants of the gendercc network were supposed to contact delegations of their countries and regions for advocacy purposes. However, this was hindered by the venues: the delegation's offices in the tents between the BICC and Grand Hyatt were rarely used, delegations set up additional offices in the hotels they were staying. Therefore, the easiest way to contact them was in the corridors, when they passed the exhibition booth, or in the main conference room during the high level segment. Despite this difficult situation, lobbying was very effective. (examples of what was done and what was achieved? In the individual reports?)

#### *Response of the UNFCCC Secretariat*

Due to the work done at prior COPs, UNFCCC's NGO liaison recognises gendercc as the focal point for the women and gender groups. In a meeting with Barbara Black, head of the NGO Liaison Office, she explained the formal application process and the expectations of the Secretariat and the advantages for constituencies. The women's caucus meeting was strongly opting for the applica-

tion. Nevertheless, it is important to identify the best moment from a strategic point of view. Because the procedure foresees a preliminary approval limited to one year and an assessment of the 'additional value' thereafter, it is important to show strong presence and involvement not only at the COPs, but also at other UNFCCC sessions and debates particularly during that one 'trial year'.

*Future issues, and what is most relevant from a gender perspective*

Thematic issues / contents:

- For the future work, mitigating climate change through emissions reductions needs to be addressed, focussing on the gender dimension of the most important sectors for the implementation of climate protection policies: energy, transport, agriculture.
- CDM and carbon market in general
- Preparation of new position papers and further development of existing opinions.

Process:

It is urgently required to make women's involvement in international climate policy consistent and continuous. This includes close collaboration in the periods between COPs, in order to ensure longer-term preparation, attendance of UNFCCC workshops and the meetings of the Subsidiary Bodies, preparation of submissions, and exchange with other groups (NGOs, Indigenous Peoples, Trade Unions, Research Organisations).

*Response from our partners (emails gendercc)*

- I was in the room and confirm that the statement was well received. Congratulations for this great work. Especially, the aspects on women and forest and also the nuclear energy issues attracted lot of sympathy from the house (Alouka Josue, JVE Togo)
- **Thank you !** Great Statement on behalf of us all! I will be working to get it out to others! (Redwood Mary, USA)
- Well done, good to see all the work being concretised and presented so that our voices can be heard. (Yianna Lambrou, FAO)
- Congratulations on these results. As mentioned previously, leadership and consistence are much needed and your group has proven able to provide it. (Carmen Longa Virasoro, Argentina)
- Also my congratulations to all the women and their organizers for having (y)our voices so well heard!! (Irene Dankelman, Netherlands)
- With pleasure I will add my congratulations to you and all the women who have worked for the result in Bali. (Jutta Steigerwald, Italy)
- CONGRATULATIONS from me as well! Well done! :-) Thanks also for always getting documents out so quickly - it made it possible for me to feel part of the shared endeavour in a little way. (Minu Hemmati, Brazil/Germany)
- Let me add my voice as well... To all the women who worked so hard before and during the Cop 13, congratulations! Great work! Lets hope all the documentation that has been

produced by you all can be circulated in relevant networks and will change some minds and hearts. I circulated it in a Toronto-based network and already received thanks for the information. (Safari Njema, Prabha Khosla, Nairobi, Kenya)

- On behalf of the women and men of the Gender and Disaster Network (GDN), we would like to congratulate and thank gendercc for its hard work and commitment in steering this global activity. GDN highly appreciates the opportunity to work with gendercc in organising the preparatory documentation for the COP13. We strongly share your commitment to achieve gender equality in the issue of climate change and we hope that this small joint effort between our networks would pave the way in doing more collaborative work together. (Kristinne Sanz, UK)

#### **IV. WOMEN'S REPRESENTATIVES AND COORDINATORS**

**Anastasia Pinto (India)**, as an active member of the Indian Women's Movement for over two decades, she has contributed to the establishment, initiation and /or work of many women's groups such as *Bailancho Saad* in Goa and *Saheli Women's Resource Centre* in New Delhi. She presently support and offer resources to many women's community organizations in the North-east region of India. She has worked on numerous studies over the years largely in rural and tribal areas of India and in particular in the North East region. She was responsible for drafting the legislative section of *Shram Shakti* the definitive report on Indian women's economic status (1987). She also have close links with grassroots and women's movements all over the country.

Currently working on adaptability issues and preparedness on human rights aspects of climate change with small education efforts in her home sate in Goa. Participated in UNFCCC COPs as member of the Indigenous Peoples and took part in women's caucuses.

Anna is involved in the UNFCCC process since many years and a strong lobbyist for gender and climate change. Because of her expertise in the UNFCCC process and issues (especially on indigenous and forests issues) as well as in gender equality she is an indispensable member of the group going to Bali.

**Rachel Nampinga (Uganda)**, participated in Gender meetings, women caucuses at different high level meetings such as the UN meeting on Climate change, the Africa Partnership forum, Civil G8 meetings and CSD. Through collaboration and participation worked to build a stronger voice on the major concerns of African women in the climate change debate.

Currently working as the Programs Director of Ecowatch Africa a non-governmental environmental rights advocacy organization. Ecowatch Africa's vision is to ensure gender equality in sound management of natural resources. We cooperate with gender networks and environmental organizations to develop/discuss gender positions as well promoting awareness of gender justice in environmental protection.

In partnership with FIELD a team of experts from different African regions with support of gender experts from the global North we established a network on Gender and Climate Change in Africa As result a core team of experts from different regions of Africa (which she chairs) was established to manage, steer the formation of this network structure and initiate the implementation of the work plan.

Rachel participated in previous UNFCCC COPs and in the women's meetings at the COPs.

**Dorah Lebelo (South Africa)**, is the (part-time) CURES Southern African facilitator ([www.cures-network.net](http://www.cures-network.net)) and has been working in the field of energy for many years, her work has always had a strong gender focus and she has been and continues to be committed to lobby for gender mainstreaming on energy and climate change policy.

Ms Lebelo is an excellent communicator with strong writing skills; she is also a young black woman who has been an activist in South Africa for many years. She has held senior management position and is the executive director of the green house project based in Johannesburg ([www.greenhouse.org.za](http://www.greenhouse.org.za)). She attended the CAN/CURES energy meeting in Bonn earlier this year which looked at the future of the climate change debates. She is a key coordinator of both logistics and content of a CURES round table on climate equity that will be held in November this year, where gender issues form a strong component.

Ms Lebelo has not attended a UNFCCC COP previously but will be supported by myself (Annie Sugrue) and the SACAN (Climate Action Network South Africa) coordinator (Richard Worthington) to ensure that she is orientated during the process. Two of the strongest gender activists, Wendy Annecke and Khamarunga Banda (both ENERGIA members) have offered to brief Dorah prior to her leaving and make sure that she has all of the gender CC documents. Ms Lebelo's nomination was strongly supported by the gender movement in SA.

**Svitlana Slesarenok (Ukraine)**, from MAMA86 Odessa and Women of the Black Sea.

Svitlana is an excellent women leader. She is the director of the well known Ukrainian organization MAMA 86 and founder of the Black Sea Women's Club. She has a lot of experience on the local and international level. Her energy saving and efficiency project "Green Choice" has brought huge CO2 savings in an apartment building in Odessa, Ukraine and was elected as a best practice example for a side event at the CSD 2007 in New York.

Odessa is highly effected by climate change, thus one of Svitlana Slesarenok focuses is on adaptation of climate change in her region.

She has a wide background, knowledge and experience in all kind of energy sources - fossil and nuclear as well, and knows a lot about the negative effects (MAMA86 was founded following the nightmare of the nuclear catastrophe in Chernobyl). Thus she is a promoter of energy saving, efficiency and renewable energy on local level, and is addressing gender equality in her work.

**Sharminde Neelormi (Bangladesh)**, is teaching Economics in a public university in Bangladesh. And has been working on climate change issues in Bangladesh for the past few years. Only recently, she took part in a number of multi-disciplinary research on issues related to climate change, focusing on women's differential vulnerability within the larger contexts of their social and economic vulnerability.

As a member of Climate Action Network South Asia (CANSAs), she came to know about the opportunity for about seven women representing developing countries in the upcoming COP13 in Bali. She thought it would be an excellent opportunity for her to share experiences with participants on gender dimensions in climate change discourse and applied for a slot in offer.

Living in an LDC, such opportunities seldom appear for women. Such an opportunity will certainly be useful. She will do her best to serve the goals of the genderCC network and simultaneously, will perhaps find an opportunity to share her experience working on women in Bangladesh.

**Koin Etuati (Fiji Islands, Pacific)**, currently works as a Project Officer, in the Energy Section of the Community Lifelines Programme (CLP) at the Secretariat of the Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission in the Fiji Islands. Her main key responsibilities in liaison with Energy Team (Energy Advisers & Manager) are awareness raising, technical publications and projects developments on renewable energy and energy efficiency programmes for all SOPAC member countries. She is a member of the Pacific Energy Gender (PEG) Network and assisted in capacity building activities for mainstreaming gender into rural energy developments and energy policies. She will continue to assist in the implementation of the PEGSAP (PEG Strategic Action Plans, 2005- 2008).

**Ana Filippini (Uruguay)**, World Rainforest Movement, has worked a lot on gender and carbon sinks and carbon offsets as well as on biofuels. She took part in previous COPs and is experienced in the process as well as in lobbying.

**Ulrike Röhr (Germany, coordinator)** is the director of genanet – focal point gender, environment, sustainability which aims to support gender mainstreaming in environmental policy. Her key area of work is dedicated to gender perspectives in climate protection and climate change as well as in energy production and consumption. She is doing research and studies, providing background information and articles, developing measures for increasing the share of women in the field of climate protection/energy. Since UNFCCC COP6 in The Hague she started to build up a network with gender and climate change experts in order to sensitize participants and delegations for gender aspects in climate change and to support their integration into the negotiations and outcomes.

**Gotelind Alber (Germany, coordinator)**, is an independent researcher and consultant on climate change and energy policy after 15 years of work for a European city network and partnership with indigenous organisations from tropical forests. She has been following the UNFCCC process from its start in order to interface international climate policy with local approaches in industrialised and developing countries. She has also been working on gender issues related to energy and climate change, and introduced gender mainstreaming in her organisation.

**Titi Soentoro (Christina Suprapti) Indonesia/Thailand, coordinator)**, dedicates herself to promote feminist perspectives to be incorporated into the environmental movements, and on the other hand ecological perspectives into the women's movements. Based on her education background in economics, she gives critical macro-economics perspectives to the women's and environmental movements in Indonesia and in the Asia-Pacific region to understand the reality of mal-development suffered by people and environment due to developmentalism paradigm adopted by the governments. She has many years of experience in campaigning, networking, and coordinating women's activities.

**Isolde Alber (Germany)**, a trainer for speakers and actors and director at theatres, and communication teacher, who was in Bali with LIFE to support our work

**Minu Hemmati (Germany/Brazil)** is an independent consultant who has been working on gender and sustainable issues and international policy processes since 1997, and gender and climate change specifically since 2005. She has been working with Ulrike Roehr / LIFE e.V. and Genanet developing and implementing networking and advocacy strategies, preparing publications on gender and climate change, and preparing position papers and statements. In the Bali process, Minu was involved in the writing of the general gender\_cc position paper on a future climate regime, until the beginning of the conference (Minu did not attend the COP). This included reviewing existing position papers, background materials and research on the issues, producing a first draft, soliciting comments and inputs and re-writing the paper in several stages. Minu also supported the preparations for the Bali COP in general, providing advice, reviews of documents, and so on.

