

GenderCC's Input to the AWG-LCA paper, Bonn III

I. Shared Vision

Text insertions:

Just as gender equality is a prerequisite for sustainable development and poverty eradication, so also it is integral to mitigation and adaptation efforts within current and future climate change agreements.

Development targets and strategies have to be integrated with climate change related priorities, including adaptation, mitigation, risk reduction and technology transfer strategies.

Development targets and strategies have to be integrated with climate change related priorities, including adaptation, mitigation, risk reduction and technology transfer strategies.

- Currently, in both developed and developing countries including SIDS and LDCs currently the prevailing development imperatives of economic growth, extension of unsustainable infrastructures and dominance of the market system, are being prioritized over climate change issues. This is often both to the detriment of climate, water, and biodiversity protection as well as poverty prevention and alleviation.
- Given the scale of existing and impending climate change impacts, such development priorities must be urgently modified so that environmental, social and economic risks will be substantially reduced and mitigation efforts will not continue to be undermined.
- The current development trajectory has historically increased risks to those who must find solutions to the day-to-day survival realities (such as care-givers, women, indigenous peoples) and to eco-systems. Sustainable development must prioritize climate, aquatic, and biodiversity balance over environmentally and socially blind economic growth.
- Among both, developed and developing economies, including least developed economies, the current trajectories are massively increasing the risks caused by climate change to the most vulnerable sections of their populations and the ecosystems these populations are dependent on for their survival.
- Women in every society are those who most support and promote more sustainable ways of life, and also the principal actors in processes of adaptation, mitigation and risk reduction management at local scale. Yet women are largely excluded from shaping of policies, and from decision making and from access to technology development, and finance.

II. Enhanced action on adaptation

Text insertions:

There has to be consistency among all levels of policies and programmes by intergovernmental, UN and other development and aid-agencies, including bi-laterals. These must conform to international laws and standards such as the Principles of the Rio Declaration, the Beijing Platform of Action, and all human rights standards.

A priority of adaptation programmes must be to ensure the self-sustainability of affected social groups, special attention has to be paid to the needs and priorities of women in all societies, since women are the agents of a community's sustainability and integrity (economic, cultural etc.).

III. Enhanced action on mitigation

Text insertions:

Climate change mitigation and risk reduction have to be made imperative (as a main pillar of the architecture) for all political and administrative work at all levels, including sub-national and local government levels.

Local ecosystem management for restoration and sustainable livelihoods must take priority over larger development aims in order to enable effective action by local communities, particularly women, in mitigation and risk reduction.

Trade and investment agreements and commercial transactions under WTO rules and bilateral agreements have also to be monitored and come under the purview of climate change convention and its protocols.

REDD and REDD plus policies and schemes must guarantee that the rights of women, indigenous peoples and local communities are protected and enhanced so that ecosystems, livelihoods and the rights of future generations are protected.

Part F: Economic and social consequences of response measures

Text insertion:

All Parties shall implement policies and measures to respond to climate change in such a way as to eliminate adverse effects and maximise positive effects in terms of sustainable development, poverty prevention and alleviation. Mitigation measures must not increase risks and harm ecosystems. They should contribute to sustainable livelihoods and their future, respect human rights and gender equity, and provide practical and immediate steps towards low energy and zero carbon societies. To this end, all response policies need to undergo impact assessments, including gender impact assessments.

IV Enhanced action on financing, technology and capacity-building

Enhanced action on the provision of financial resources and investment

Financing cannot be linked to the economic debts of developing countries, it should be linked to sustainable and effective efforts in mitigation and adaptation, and to the implementation of human rights.

Part B. Enhanced action on development and transfer of technology

Traditional and indigenous knowledge, usually more gender-sensitive and equitable than modern technologies, can play a key role in mitigation and adaptation. Modern technologies should thus supplement, rather than supplant, traditional knowledge. The transfer of technologies should be reciprocal, collaborative and mutually supportive with people empowered, not disempowered, by the process. Any technologies transferred, be they traditional or modern, should be environmentally sound, low risk and socially acceptable to the recipient community. They must conform with universally accepted human rights and women's rights standards.

Technology transfers under commercial WTO and WIPO regimes must also be subject to the UNFCCC regime.

Intellectual property rights regimes must not to be allowed to limit the sharing of necessary and available technologies.

Capacity building must follow the principles described in the previous section on technology and knowledge sharing and cooperation.

GenderCC - Women for Climate Justice is the global network of women's organisations and networks, civil society organisations emphasizing gender perspectives, and gender experts from all world regions working on women's rights, gender and climate justice.

GenderCC - Women for Climate Justice, Anklamer Str. 38, 10115 Berlin, Germany

www.gendercc.net