

Women & Gender advocacy training

Getting ready to advocate for gender and climate justice at COP24

** This was originally given during a training prior to the SB48.2 on September 2nd & 3rd, 2018 in Bangkok. It was updated and revised in order to serve as a preparation for COP24!*

Being a gender and climate justice advocate at COP 24!

We all know it! Even after years of following the UNFCCC sessions - it is difficult to successfully navigate through them.

Climate change negotiations are complex, often very technical and difficult to understand - and there is always something new either terms, meetings, practicalities. Unknown abbreviations, references to previous processes or decisions can irritate us, sometimes they even make us forget our mission, to raise our voice for people-centered and just climate politics.

This presentation aims to support gender and climate justice advocates going to COP24. It merely focuses on the items relevant for the Paris Agreement Work Programme. But it starts out with some basics of the UNFCCC to set the ground and highlights some gender relevant aspects.

Needless to say besides the negotiations on the implementation guidelines of the Paris Agreement there are other important discussions going on at COP24 that are especially relevant from a gender equality and human rights perspective (e.g. Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform, Loss & Damage, agriculture & Korinivia Programme, finance or just transition).

Agenda of this guide

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Refreshing basics of the UNFCCC

Refreshing basics of the UN Climate Change Negotiations

- The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is an **international treaty** that entered into force in 1994. It serves as a framework for international cooperation and multilateral action to combat climate change and has been ratified by 197 parties.
- The first Conference of Parties (COP1) took place in Berlin in 1995.
- In 1997 **Kyoto Protocol (KP)** and the 2015 **Paris Agreement (PA)** were negotiated under the UNFCCC and **build on the Convention** by adding new, more detailed commitments.
- It is not a legally binding convention, but additional **protocols** (such as the KP or PA) may set **binding obligations**. Those [protocols](#) link to this convention but must be signed and ratified by Parties separately.

Refreshing basics of the UN Climate Change Negotiations

- Guiding principles of the Convention ([Art. 3](#)): Parties should act “on the basis of **equity** and in accordance with their **common but differentiated responsibilities** and respective capabilities”
- It calls on developed countries to “take the lead in combating climate change and the adverse effects thereof”.
 - *Thus the responsibility and leadership of developed countries is embedded in the principles of the Convention.*
- *For more information see also the official website: <https://unfccc.int/>*

Who meets where? Some bodies or institutions under the UNFCCC

There are various institutions & bodies that work within the framework of the Convention. Some are established by the Convention, some by the COP, CMP, CMA (e.g. expert bodies, working groups, committees). They all have their own agenda:

- **COP** (Annual Conference of Parties): all countries that are Parties to the Convention.
- **CMP** (Annual Conference of the KP Parties): all countries that are part of the KP; other Parties can participate as observers.
- **CMA** (Annual Conference of the PA Parties): all countries that are Parties to the Paris Agreement, other countries can participate as observers.
- **Subsidiary Bodies - SBSTA & SBI** (meet usually twice a year: in parallel to the COPs and at the inter-sessional meetings): permanent bodies that advise the COP, open to participation by any Party; governments send representatives with relevant expertise; SBs do not take decisions but their main products are recommendations for draft decisions which are then forwarded to the COP and conclusions which are included in their meeting reports.

Who meets where? Some bodies or institutions under the UNFCCC (ii)

There are several other bodies that have been set up by the COP to undertake specific tasks. These are not permanent and such as e.g.:

- Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement - (APA): was established by the same decision as the adoption of the Paris Agreement. Its mandate is to prepare draft decisions for the entry into force of the PA and the first session of the CMA.
 - Ad hoc working groups usually involve all Parties (that are a Party to the Convention, CMP, CMA); There are given a clear mandate and timeframe to complete their work. If there is a need, Parties can request that they will meet outside the COP or SB Sessions.
- There are also limited-membership bodies that have been established to address specific subjects and that meet independently such as e.g. the Warsaw Internal Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts (WIM), see [here](#) for more information.
- **Thus at COP24 there will be 6 different agendas running simultaneously plus other meetings and side events!**

Who can be found in the different negotiation groups?

Besides Parties' own position - they can also become part of a group and negotiate on behalf of that

- **Group of 77 and China:** 134 members, mainly from developing countries (www.g77.org)
- **Least developed countries (LDCs):** the UN has categorized some developing countries as “least developed” - currently 48 countries that are mostly also part of G77
- **Small Island developing states (SIDS):** Is a UN recognized group with 40 members which negotiate as **Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)** except Bahrain. They are partly part of LDCs as well as G77 (www.aosis.org)
- **African Group:** Consists of 54 countries which partly also belong to LDCs (34 countries) and all belong to G77
- **Arab Group:** Consists of 21 countries and all belong to G77
- **European Union:** The European Union is a party to the convention and also a negotiation group

Who can be found in the different negotiation groups? (ii)

There are negotiation groups that are unique to the UNFCCC negotiations process

- **The Independent Alliance of Latin America and the Caribbean (AILAC):** Consists of seven countries: Chile Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Panama, Paraguay and Peru (www.ailac.org)
- **Coalition for Rainforest Nations:** Consists of about 40 countries that are covered by the three largest tropical rainforest areas: Amazonia, Congo Basin and New Guinea
- **Like-minded developing countries (LMDCs):** All members are also part of G77 and China: Algeria, Argentina, Bolivia, Cuba, China, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, India, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Lybia, Malaysia, Mali, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Syria, Sudan, Venezuela
- **Umbrella Group:** Is a group of non-EU developed countries: Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Russian Federation and the US
- **Environmental Integrity Group:** A group of non-EU developed countries that could not share the decisions of the Umbrella group: Mexico, Liechtenstein, Monaco, The Republic of Korea and Switzerland

Who can be found in the different negotiation groups? (iii)

There are negotiation groups that are unique to the UNFCCC negotiations process

- **Caribbean Community (CARICOM):** Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Monserrat, Saint Lucia, St Kitts, and Nevis, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago
- **The Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of our America (ALBA):** Consists of six countries: Bolivia, Cuba, Dominica, Ecuador, Nicaragua and Venezuela
- **BASIC:** Brazil, South Africa, China and India

What is the hierarchy of UNFCCC documents?

You will find a huge number of documents being provided during and between meetings. You must know that not all of them have the same legal status.

- **Treaties:** Are legally binding agreements among States.
- **Decisions:** Are interpretations and expansion of treaty provisions. All decisions of the COP have to be taken by consensus!
- **Conclusions:** Are written expressions of agreed meeting outcomes.
- **Other:** There are many more, such as workshop reports, technical papers and similar.

How is a decision text structured?

At the end it all depends on the decision text that Parties agree on and adopt. Basically all the decisions consists of **three parts** and follow the same format:

- The **Title**: reflects the content and purpose
 - The **Preamble**: puts the operative section in context and guides the interpretation of the binding paragraphs that follow
 - Often uses words such as ,recalling‘ or ,noting‘
 - These paragraphs have no binding legal value;
 - The **Operative Part** (or decision text): servers as the core of the decision and represents the actual agreement.
 - Generally begins with the words ‘decides to’, ‘decides that’
 - Prevails in direct conflict with preamble language
 - Where ambiguous, preambular language is used to interpret the Parties’ intention
- ***When trying to introduce language as an advocate it is important to know that you actually want it in the operational part as there it has the real value.*** See Fry, I., *Taking the floor* (2010)

How can you understand (draft) negotiation text?

Understanding the strength of a text and reading between the lines is important in order to make sure that we are not fighting for weak language or to know when to advocate for something different.

- **Shall, will must:** almost always **binding** unless combined with a weaker word, e.g. ‘shall strive to do...’
- **Should:** not required but **advised** (e.g. a country ought to try to do this)
- **May:** permissive and discretionary, creates no obligation
- **And:** all connected clauses or requirements must be satisfied, whereas
- **Or:** only one of the connected clauses or requirements must be satisfied
 - *For example: “Scaled up predictable, new, additional, and adequate funding shall be provided to developing country Parties...”*

How can you understand negotiation text? (ii)

“Decides to adopt the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (hereinafter referred to as “the Agreement”) as contained in the annex...”

Language with legally binding component	Diction that dilute/negate legally binding nature
Agrees: Everyone supports the decision	Calls on: strong encouragement to do something
Decides: Legally binding conclusion	Encourages/Urges: Advocating action/no enforcement
Declares: Announcing e.g. a resolution	Emphasises: Gives importance but not deciding on anything
Endorses: Gives legal support to	Notes/takes note of: Recognition but no support or endorsement
	Requests/supports: Asks someone to do something / gives support, usually done by someone else

See Fry, I., *Taking the floor* (2010)

How can you understand (draft) negotiation text? (iii)

There are terms that enable Parties to minimize or even avoid obligations at all e.g. through the insertion of ‘**qualifying language**’, language that **undermines or lessens the mandatory nature**.

- **As appropriate/if necessary:** gives states discretion in determining
- **Consider:** Think about further without necessarily making a decision
- **To the extent feasible/practicable:** to take action within limits set by the Party taking action
- **Towards:** allows approximating a goal without getting there
- **Organise a workshop:** often used as a fallback when agreement can’t be reached, and usually a delay mechanism
- **Where necessary/relevant:** Requiring action only when considered necessary or relevant
 - For example: “*Developed country Parties shall consider taking steps, as appropriate and to the extent practicable, towards scaled up...funding for developing country Parties.*”
- Also note that **square brackets** means that this is not yet agreed text but still under negotiation;

State of gender references in the international climate politics

Does the UNFCCC make any reference to gender?

- **No**, even though the Rio declaration (1992) recognizes gender equality as integral part of all three Rio Conventions (the Conventions on Biological Diversity and Combat Desertification do have gender references).
- In the beginning (1995-2002) there was almost no involvement of women's organisations in the UNFCCC process.
- Initially the negotiations almost exclusively focused on emissions, technologies and economy, and less on social and cross-cutting issues.
- This has slowly changed and today the Paris Agreement Preamble recognises a number of important social and human rights based principles.

COP13 in Bali as a breakthrough in relation to gender

How did gender become an increasingly recognized topic in the UNFCCC process? COP13 in Bali 2007 marks a turning point concerning the recognition of gender in the negotiations.

- Adaptation became an emerging theme.
- More organizations working in the field of development cooperation got involved in the process (transnational and non-governmental organizations).
- Growing number of accredited women's organizations since COP13 (2007) in Bali.
- Organization of a regular Women's Caucus working as meeting space for organisations interested in women issues who ensured ongoing awareness raising and advocacy.
- First organization of an high-level event on gender.
- Launch of the Global Gender and Climate Alliance (GGCA).

What are relevant decisions on gender?

Gender has been considered at various COPs. At the beginning gender was mainly relevant for participation and representation but over the year the focus also changed to gender-sensitive and responsive climate action.

- COP 7: First stand-alone decision on gender related to gender balance, women's participation & national adaptation programmes of action
- COP 13ff: More and more gender language in negotiation text in several decisions (e.g. in finance, technology etc.)
- COP 18: Makes gender a standing alone agenda item of COP
- COP 20: Lima Work Programme on Gender (2-years programme)
- COP 22: Continuation of Lima Work Programme on Gender (3-year extension)
- COP 23: Adoption of a Gender Action Plan

How was gender formally integrated in the UNFCCC process?

Gender was formally recognized in the process through various ways:

- Adoption of COP decisions on “gender”.
- 2009 formation of „Constituency“ called **Women and Gender Constituency** with provisional recognition by the UNFCCC secretariat, full recognition since 2011 (at the moment the [WGC](http://womensgenderclimate.org) has 28 member organizations see womensgenderclimate.org).
- Women and gender experts were represented in some government delegations (Women Delegate Fund).
- Establishment of a Gender Focal Point in the UNFCCC Secretariat and Parties nominate national gender focal points.
- Organization of a “Gender Day“ at COPs.

What terms does the UNFCCC use in relation to gender?

Gender references in text can look quite different. They can be stronger/weaker or even unclear:

- “Adopts a goal of **gender balance** ... in order to improve **women’s participation** and inform more effective climate change policy that addresses the needs of **women** and men equally;”
- “...take fully into account the consequences *for **vulnerable groups, in particular women***” (*Not used often anymore*)
- “...recognizes that **gender equality and the effective participation of women** are important for effective climate action on all aspects of climate change”
- “...should follow a **gender-responsive approach**”
- “...strengthening **gender-related considerations**”
- “...ensure **gender responsiveness**”
- “...taking into account **gender aspects**”
- “...promoting the use of **gender-sensitive tools and approaches**”
- “...including **sex and gender-disaggregated data and analysis**”
- “...be guided by **gender equality**”

**Be ready to advocate for
gender equality in the
PAWP at COP24**

The Paris Agreement at a glance

The [Paris Agreement](#) (PA) was adopted 2015 and entered into force in record time; much of the operational details was left to subsequent negotiations. The details are very important as they make the established mechanism work (often recalled as putting flesh on the skeleton or *setting the rules for e.g. the functionalities of the enhanced transparency mechanism*) and it depends on them to get a robust, coherent and ambitious raising agreement.

- It has a **hybrid architecture**: bottom up approach (nationally determined) but a common international framework with top down elements (e.g. Global Stocktake).
- It sets a **temperature goal**: keep the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the increase to 1.5°C (in [Art. 2](#)).
- The **foundation of its structure** is that **every Party** will determine at the national level so-called Nationally Determined Contributions (**NDCs**). The involvement of every country in climate action contributions can be considered a paradigm shift.

The implementation guidelines

The PA negotiations have been ongoing since 2015. In Marrakesh (COP22) Parties decided to have the so called implementation guidelines finalized and adopted 2018 at COP24. The Paris Agreement Work Programme (PAWP) refers to all the activities for finalization of the guidelines of the PA.

- See all the **PAWP compilation** here together [here](#) (version Sept 9) or the **progress** [here](#)
- **Uneven progress** across the different items; there is still a lot of work to be done and **technical & political questions** (e.g. on issues of differentiation) have to be solved.
- Still no clarity if it will be one omnibus decision or many decisions with annexes (more likely). Therefore we do not expect detailed rules but rather a basis that will be elaborated on more in detail.
- **The implementation guidelines are critical to put into practice rights-based and people centred climate policies. They will shape the way states fulfil domestically their commitments under the Agreement.** We now need a reference to the rights based principles already agreed in the preamble in various items and in its operative section.

What documents to really look out for?

In order to know what is going to be discussed at COP24 and under what body we highly recommend to have a look at the following:

- Any **provisional annotated agenda**: each of the bodies has a report on what happened at its last meeting and a provisional annotated agenda. The annotated agenda tells you in detail **what is going to be discussed under each agenda item**, if there is already draft negotiation text forwarded or if any e.g. workshop reports informs its decision.
 - **Co-Chairs reflection note**: in the joint reflections note the Chairs lay down their opinion on the way forward and **how they expect the discussions to take place**.
 - **Draft negotiation text**: if there is already something, you can search for language, words, see what is still in brackets etc.
- All those documents can be found here: <https://unfccc.int/katowice>

When you are at COP there are also vital civil society updates that are very helpful:

- IIED Earth Negotiation Bulleting, Third World Network & Daily ECO from CAN

What APA agenda items relate to the PAWP?

All of the APA agenda items are relevant for the implementation guideline; in order to know what these agenda items mean, see the annotated agenda:

https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/APA_2018_5.pdf

APA Item - 3: National Determined Contributions (NDCs) (Art. 4 PA)

APA Item - 4: Adaptation communication (Art. 7 PA)

APA Item - 5: Transparency framework for enhanced action (Art. 13 PA)

APA Item - 6: Matters relating to the Global Stocktake (GST) (Art. 14 PA)

APA Item - 7: Compliance mechanism (Art. 15 PA)

APA Item - 8: Further matter related to implementation of PA

What SBSTA agenda items relate to the PAWP?

Only some of the SBSTA agenda items relate to the implementation guidelines. **SBSTA 49 Agenda Items** and their main reference to the PA (for more information see the provisional annotated agenda: https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/SBSTA_2018_7.pdf)

SBSTA Item - 5: Development and transfer of technologies: technology framework (Art. 10 PA)

SBSTA Item - 9: Impact of the implementation of response measures (*i.e. to share information, experiences, case studies, best practices to facilitate assessment and analysis*)

SBSTA Item - 11: Matters relating to cooperative approaches, sustainable development mechanism and non-market approaches (Article 6 PA)

SBSTA Item - 13: Modalities for the accounting of financial resources provided and mobilized through public intervention (Article 9 PA)

What SBI agenda items relate to the PAWP?

Only some of the SBI agenda items relate to the implementation guidelines. **SBI Agenda Items** and their main reference to the PA (for more information <https://unfccc.int/documents/183079>)

SBI Item - 5: Common time frames for nationally determined contributions (Article 4 PA)

SBI Item - 6: Development of modalities and procedures for the operation and use of a public registry (Article 4.12)

SBI Item - 7: Development of modalities and procedures for the operation and use of a public registry (Article 7.12)

SBI Item - 13: Matters relating to climate finance: identification of information to be provided by Parties Modalities (Article 9)

SBI Item - 14a: Development and transfer of technologies: Scope of and modalities for the periodic assessment of the Technology Mechanism (Article 10)

SBI Item - 17a-b: Impact of the implementation of response measures (*i.e. to share information, experiences, case studies, best practices to facilitate assessment and analysis*)

How to cover all these issues?

The negotiations on different agenda items are taking place in parallel meetings.

Therefore, often you cannot cover more than 1-2 topics - better focus on specific negotiation topic (e.g. technology transfer, finance or NDCs) and try to follow the negotiations on this topic and under different bodies (if applicable).

For the purpose of this training - we will focus on four topics that are of particular importance from our point of view:

- National Determined Contributions
- Transparency Framework
- Global Stocktake
- Article 6 PA

What are the NDCs?

Some facts Parties agreed upon in the PA in Art. 4:

- Parties are **obliged to (“shall”)** prepare, communicate and maintain NDCs (Art.4.2);
- Each Party’s successive NDC will represent a **progression** beyond the Party’s then current NDCs and reflect its **highest possible ambition**, reflecting CBDRRC, in the light of different national circumstances (Art. 4.3 PA).
- Parties shall **provide the information necessary for clarity, transparency and understanding** (ICTU) (Art. 4.8 PA)
- In 2020 the NDCs ambition raising period kicks in. Parties have to submit and communicate (updated) NDCs and **every five years** thereafter (Art. 4.9 PA).
- *The PA sets binding obligations concerning NDCs on reporting and conduct instead on its results (the efficacy of the whole deal depends on countries „naming and shaming“ each other to do better)*

NDCs - and its reference to Gender Equality and Human Rights

Why is a reference important: To ensure that climate action is coherent with existing gender decisions and obligations related to human rights and sustainable development. Parties will have to prepare their NDCs in accordance with this guidance to be developed. NDCs must go beyond quantified targets, and have to be designed in a participatory manner, enabling the full and effective participation by civil society.

How can it be put in practice: There are 3 key issues (*also sometimes referred to sub-agenda items in APA-3*) where Parties have to elaborate further guidance: **Features of NDCs** (their scope), **Information to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding of NDCs** (ICTU), **Accounting for NDCs**

State of play: Some Parties have made suggestions concerning the provision of information related to the NDC planning process (ICTU). They invite Parties (on a voluntary basis) to include information on “stakeholder consultations and other processes to achieve the objectives of the NDC, including with indigenous peoples; local communities; elders and youth; just transition; gender; human rights;”. This is still captured in the new tool (page 6).

Key recommendations for the NDCs

Objective: a key objective is to ensure that in the streamlining of this text the existing references to human rights and gender as part of the non-mandatory guidance on information provided do not get lost.

- In terms of providing clearer guidance to Parties and to fulfill the PA mandates on gender, it is important to understand the intention of this reference, including how it related to both procedural (*e.g. how stakeholders have participated throughout the preparation*) and substantive elements (*e.g. how considerations related to human rights related principles*) of the planning process. The goal is to ensure that Parties are invited to share information on how their respective planning processes: 1) effectively engage and include gender experts including women and gender-related groups and national gender machineries, and 2) how gender equality is considered as a cross-cutting element of the NDC planning process. This could include, e.g., how countries collect sex & gender disaggregated data in relation to a specific sector in order to inform its NDC priority actions.
- The invitation to provide information should build on the language used in the preamble of the PA, thus refer to human rights, the rights of indigenous peoples, food security, just transition and the importance of traditional knowledge
- The Chairs proposed to split the guidance related to NDCs in three different documents (CMA decision, annex and a 'good practice guidance'). We call for the inclusion of the existing in the decision itself.

What is the Enhanced Transparency Framework?

- In Art. 13 the PA developed a new “**enhanced transparency framework**” to monitor, report and review information related to the implementation of the UNFCCC. This is the **main system for reporting and review the PA**, superseding over time the already existing transparency arrangement.
 - **The TF is critical as it will help track progress towards achieving the NDCs.** The successful implementation of the PA also depends on the fact if Parties will be able to review individual and collective progress.
- The information that is generated from here **informs the Global Stocktake (GST)** and should help to build mutual trust and confidence and also sharing best practices.
- It consists of two main elements: **reporting** (annual inventory reports & biennial reports) and **review** (technical expert review and a process of “facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress”).
- In Art.13.1 it provides for “built-in flexibility” that takes into account Parties different capacities.
- It is **closely interlinked with various other parts of the PA:**
 - Information related to the NDCs (e.g. ICTU); to Art. 7 on adaptation; to provisions on finance (Art 9), technology transfer (Art.10), capacity building (Art. 11); support provided by developed countries (Art. 13.9-10)

Transparency - and its reference to Gender Equality and Human Rights

Why is a reference important: Its process must be transparent and participatory in order to promote trust and accountability of governments and sharing of experiences and good practices. It cannot only focus on accounting of emissions and financial transfers but have a holistic scope. The review should consider information on whether climate policies are implemented in line with other decisions on gender and existing human rights obligations.

How can it be put in practice: Parties have put forward suggestions including that the principles guiding the modalities, procedure and guidelines for providing information on climate change impacts and adaptation under Art. 7 PA are gender-responsive. That in providing information on adaptation, this should include information on gender perspectives. In relation to monitoring and evaluation, how adaptation actions are being implemented in a gender-responsive manner. And finally that responsive processes should be considered as part of the provision of support.

It should include information on good practices including rights base approaches to mitigation and adaptation action including support.

What is the Global Stocktake?

Some facts Parties agreed upon in the PA in Art. 14:

- The Paris Agreement offers a dynamic but durable framework for increasing climate action over time. One of the sources for this dynamism is the global stocktake (GST)- a moment every five years for all countries to pause and account for what has been achieved so far, and what must still be done, to achieve the goals of the PA.
- This reads in Art. 14, PA as: “an assessment of collective progress towards achieving the purpose of the Agreement and its long-term goals.”
- The stocktaking outcome shall inform Parties in **updating** and **enhancing** (nationally) their **actions**, **support** and **international cooperation** for climate action.
- The first full GST will occur in 2023, but will be preceded by an initial stocktaking exercise in 2018 (known as the Talanoa Dialogue).
- The Talanoa Dialogue will provide an opportunity for countries to reflect on collective progress made and opportunities to take further action prior to submitting new or enhanced NDCs ahead of 2020.
- The PA sets binding obligations on reporting on NDCs instead on its results (the efficacy of the whole deal depends on countries „naming and shaming“ each other to do better).

Global Stocktake - and its reference to Gender Equality and Human Rights

Why is a reference important: Key question is still *how* collective progress will be assessed? It must be ensured that gender equality and a human rights approach are assessed in this (Art. 14 reads like this: “It shall do so in a comprehensive and facilitative manner, considering mitigation, adaptation and the means of implementation and support, and in the light of equity and the best available science”)

How can it be put in practice: Gender equality and a human rights approach must be taken into consideration when Parties agree about how the GST will look like, i.e.

- Who will be involved?
- How will information be collected?
- How will it inform future commitments?

State of play: There are currently no references to gender in this item.

Key recommendations for the Global Stocktake

Objectives:

- **Preparatory phase:** Include women's organizations and national gender machineries as sources of inputs;
- **Technical phase:** Explicitly refer to the participation of women, and women's groups and organizations
- **Sources of input:** (UN Women Rec.) *Information related to equitable access to sustainable development, historical responsibilities, development gaps between north and south, sustainable development including SDGs, poverty eradication, food security, job creation, and social justice in developing countries, climate refugees and displaced people-* explicitly request information to be disaggregated on the basis of sex, age and other factors, and to address 'leave no one behind' principles, and how actions contribute to the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, and co-benefits including gender equality and women's empowerment.

What is Article 6 of the Paris Agreement about?

Art. 6 of PA covers voluntary cooperation between Parties to achieve their NDCs

Some facts Parties agreed upon in the PA on Art. 6:

- Sustainable development, environmental integrity, transparency and robust accounting are common objectives for all approaches
- The article covers three elements - Internationally transferred mitigation outcomes (ITMOs) (6.2), Sustainable Development Mechanism (SDM) (6.4) as well as a framework for non-market approaches (6.8)
- There are clearly overcutting issues with Art. 4 (NDCs) and 13 (transparency framework)

What remains disputed:

- What could ITMOs be, i.e. what units and metrics are used? How to transfer them in NDCs?
- How will be accounting rules set taking into account the variability of NDC target types, scopes of coverage, timeframes → this involves a risk of double counting of emission reductions.
- Which Criteria for generation of ITMOs/emission reductions are applied in 6.4.

Cooperative and non-market approaches and sustainable development mechanism and its reference to Gender Equality and Human Rights

Why is a reference important: Cooperative approaches should not repeat mistakes from former financial and market mechanism, i.e. harm should be prevented through safeguard (entry point) → in particular true for SDM

How can it be put in practice: There are key areas where human rights and gender entry points are found:

- General list of principles
- Governance and participation of stakeholders
- Complaints mechanism

State of play: There are currently no references to gender in this item except in relation to gender balanced representation in the Supervisory Body (which is a requirement of Decision 23/CP.18).

Key recommendations for Article 6:

Objective: There is the possibility for a list of principles (for 6.2 and 6.4) incl. Human rights, environmental integrity, transparent implementation, gender equality and women's empowerment.

The text could define host/using Parties' responsibilities. The host/receiving Parties could be obliged to provide an explanation to the Supervisory Body as to how [...] [Art. 6.4] activity conforms to the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals [...] to obligations on Human Rights.

At the moment there is a complaint mechanism for civil society included - the activity cycle includes a complaining possibility under J) Protection of human rights: Stakeholders, participants and participating Parties may inform the Supervisory Body of alleged violations of human rights resulting from an Article 6, paragraph 4, activity [...]. Moreover, the Supervisory Body [...] ensuring gender-balanced representation and technical competence (one Option would involve representatives from NGOs) - but this already given through a former decision on equal representation.

Useful links

- Glossary of climate change acronyms and terms: <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-convention/glossary-of-climate-change-acronyms-and-terms>
- UNFCCC Negotiator App: <https://unfccc.int/news/download-unfccc-negotiator-app>
- Data on Gender aspects in the UNFCCC <https://wedo.org/download-wedos-new-app-gender-climate-tracker/>
- Refreshing your knowledge on the UNFCCC process (published by iied): [Becoming a UNFCCC delegate: what you need to know](#)
- Providing a collection of materials and documents on gender and climate <https://unfccc.int/topics#:70bd5236-db5c-4951-b3f9-f0ba194311f5>

This training material has been developed within the project “Climate justice and gender justice in international climate politics - not without us!” by:

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