

Global NDC Conference 2019

Gender Narrative and Integration Strategy

Golden Thread

While climate change threatens livelihoods and security across the board, **women and girls commonly face higher risks and greater burdens from climate change**, particularly when they are living in poverty. However, this is not the full picture. **Women are also powerful agents of change, as experts and leading decision makers at various levels, including** at international, national, sub-national, household and community levels. The Paris Agreement, and NDCs in particular, **offer a useful entry point to examine actions and advance gender equality and women's empowerment**, while simultaneously helping to advance development outcomes. Harnessing this power and **ensuring equal rights and access to resources** will help us to reach our collective goals more effectively and help us to set more ambitious targets for the future. Recognizing the importance of inclusive planning and how the results/outcomes of the conference can be utilized for ongoing climate action efforts the organizers have developed this Gender Narrative and Integration Strategy to guide and ensure gender equality and women's empowerment considerations are included throughout the conference.

Thematic Integration

Below are possible gender entry points for the 3 conference themes

Theme	Gender Dimension
Integrated Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Women as decision makers and leaders (<i>Who are the decision makers? How does being disadvantaged lead to under-representation? How does lack of voice perpetuate vulnerabilities?</i>);• Women as stakeholders (<i>Who is in the room and who is being meaningfully consulted? How does being disadvantaged lead to under-representation? How do we bring in additional voices?</i>); and• Institutional coordination at national level at subnational levels (<i>What ministries/sectors are involved? What are their roles and responsibilities? Are civil society groups representing the interests of disadvantaged groups including women, engaged?</i>)
Transparency	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collecting and analysing sex-disaggregated data and intersectional aspects (age, ethnicity, class, etc);• Developing indicators and metrics for gender-related and social benefits of climate action, as well as tracking and reporting on these.
Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gender responsive budgeting;• Access to climate finance (multilateral funding and public)

Gender & the governing questions

The conference aims to answer key questions about achieving NDC implementation and the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement. Each day is led by a guiding question. Below you will find the gender dimensions applicable to each days' question.

Day 1 Q: How does turning the Paris Agreement Rulebook into action support NDC implementation?

- The Katowice Climate Package (Rulebook) states, under the mitigation section, that Parties should report how their NDC was constituted, including: "Domestic institutional arrangements, public participation and engagement with local communities and indigenous peoples, in a gender-responsive manner" have figured in NDC planning (page 9) thereby clearly raising the

expectation that NDCs should be formulated in a gender-responsive way. Conference participants may discuss how such inclusive planning could and has been done – and discuss how inclusive review and planning processes can contribute to an upward spiral of achievement and ambition on mitigation, in consecutive cycles of the NDC process.

- The Rulebook also establishes a forum to monitor the impact of ‘response measures’ to climate change (pages 18-21), and the forum shall establish a six-year work programme. This forum provides a distinct opportunity for gender-based impacts of response measures to be documented and highlighted to Parties and to the funding bodies that serve the Convention.
- Questions for our conference participants include: How can countries document and communicate the effectiveness of gender-responsive approaches (as opposed to the failures of gender-blind approaches) and in so doing, establish new norms around inclusive participation, as well as drive enhanced funding for gender-responsive climate measures? Can the inclusion gender indicators/metrics be included in the Paris Agreement Rulebook and thus institutionalize a regular stocktaking process resulting in more gender-transparent and more gender-equitable NDC implementation?

Day 2: What actions and innovations are driving NDC implementation and advancing development priorities?

- To integrate aspects of gender equality we commit to featuring examples that don’t only look at emission reductions, but those that highlight, and at times prioritize gender and/or social dimensions, recognizing women’s agency and promoting their participation in leadership positions in the same level as men. By doing so we are therefore enabling countries to advance their NDC action while simultaneously working toward achievement of SDG5 on the empowerment of women and girl, among other SDGs.
- NDC implementation can act as a driver for equitable and sustainable development. Studies have shown that by advancing gender equality and women’s empowerment there are direct benefits to educational attainment, labour force participation, and alleviation of those living in extreme poverty¹ while research specifically in Asia, Africa, Latin America that found that women’s substantial leadership and participation in subnational climate resilience programmes was instrumental in the successful and sustainable uptake of climate resilience and adaptation measures², thus, by ensuring your NDC actions are gender-responsive you can enhance development outcomes.

Day 3: How do we increase the pace and scale of change to bring the NDCs in line with the Paris Agreement?

- Women play a key role in key climate related sectors (agriculture, livestock management, energy and disaster risk reduction, forestry and in consumption), which means they possess a unique knowledge and skills that could be utilized in climate change actions and contribute to our collective goals under the Paris Agreement and 2030 Agenda. By empowering women and accounting for their needs and contributions, women can more effectively participate throughout the policy and planning cycle, and in so doing increase the pace and scale of change to bring the

¹ Dugarova, E. 2018. [Gender Equality as an Accelerator for Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals](#). New York: UNDP and UN-Women.

² Kratzer, Sebastian and Virginie Le Masson, [10 things to know: Gender Equality and achieving climate goals](#). Climate & Development Knowledge Network.

NDC in line with the Paris Agreement and the UNFCCC Gender Action Plan and advance our progress to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Strategy

We intend to take a multi-prong approach to ensuring gender equality and women's empowerment is a salient and cross-cutting theme throughout three days of programming.

Objectives and Concept Note

Ensure that gender equality considerations are included in the objectives and concept note of the conference, which will help reinforce inclusion of a gender equality approach throughout the three-day event and signal an explicit intent by the organizing body.

Gender Voices

Rather than developing stand-alone sessions or panels on the role of gender we have decided to weave gender equality aspects into the agenda through participatory action. We, the Gender Working group, will identify key actors to serve as "gender voices" throughout the conference. The designated gender voices will be provided personal briefings (in writing, via webinar, and in-person at the event) to help set the tone of their involvement (see [Regional Dialogue Gender Briefing](#) as an example) and be provided with encouragement to engage by asking questions, and sharing examples, differing perspectives, and reflections that demonstrate a gender lens during the plenary sessions and breakout groups. In addition, the "Gender Voices" will provide an opportunity for the participants that may not be familiarized with a gender approach to engage in fruitful conversations and learn from the gender leadership being shared.

Moderator Guidance

The Gender Working Group will contribute to existing guidance for panel moderators and breakout moderators asking them to adhere to inclusive formats that encourage a breadth of voices and views. This will include:

- Prohibiting gender singular panels
- Actively encouraging moderators to bring in diverse speakers and avoid repeat speakers when moderating a Q&A
- Encouraging speakers and moderators to comment on their experience and their thinking on gender dimensions, including by those who may or may not be official "gender voices" to ensure gender can be brought up by other participants to support a new way of thinking
- Informing plenary moderators of the existence of the "gender voices" and encouraging them to ask for reflections from members of this group throughout the conference.

Key Messages

Nominated representatives from the gender voices group will be asked to review the Key Messages of the conference to ensure that a gender lens is applied and included (as relevant) in the final, published Key Messages.

Thematic Working Streams (those requested by BMU)

At least one designated gender voice from the gender group will be included in each of the three thematic Working Groups tasked with developing recommendations.

Conference Organizers Actions

The Gender Working Group requests that conference organizers and hosts also adhere to a set of guidelines to, at a minimum, signal our commitment to embodying our gender equality ambitions. This includes:

- Strive for a gender balanced attendee list.

- Request national delegations consider the make-up of their delegation both in terms of ministries represented and gender parity.
- Budget funds specifically to support a more inclusive view³.
- Identify two “Anti-Harassment Duty Officers” for the duration of the conference (and equipped with mobiles) to serve as the contact point and resource officer in case of harassment or discrimination. The contact details of the Duty Officer will be made available in the Conference Logistics Note and on the website.
- Be aware of task delegation and strive to delegate Conference tasks in an equitable manner so that one gender is not saddled with more of the administrative or hosting tasks.
- Ensure that special needs of nursing mothers and parents of young children are met, especially by providing support in childcare and special facilities (i.e. for pumping or breastfeeding)
- Ensure that sanitary products are made available to conference attendees in all applicable bathrooms so as not to detract from attendee’s active participation in the Conference
- Add notes and bulleted guidance in the Breakout Session Proposal Form (i.e. – *we ask that all Breakout Moderators adhere to the conference principles of gender equality and women’s empowerment and ensure that panels and discussions are representative of varied and diverse voices, including the voices of women and youth.*)

³ UNDP will fund the participation of representatives from the Ministry of Gender [or the equivalent government machinery] to aid the discussion. These individuals will be identified through the UNDP NDC Support Programme Gender-Responsive component and will help strengthen the “Gender Voices” in the room.