



United Nations  
Climate Change



## **Regional Training Workshop**

# **Accelerating Gender-Responsive Climate Action and Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Implementation in Asia and the Pacific**

Lotte Hotel, 362, Samil-daero, Jung-gu, Seoul, Republic of Korea  
1-3 May 2024

## **Introduction**

The adverse impacts of climate change are already affecting individuals, communities, economies, and ecosystems in the Asia-Pacific. However, these climate impacts are not “gender neutral”. Women and girls bear disproportionate costs of the climate crisis, which amplifies existing gender inequalities and poses unique threats to their livelihoods, health, and safety. Often relegated to the sidelines, they find themselves facing heightened risks in accessing food, grappling with compromised water and sanitation systems, and shouldering increased domestic and care responsibilities as resources diminish. As gender and climate change are inextricably linked, addressing gender issues is crucial for taking equitable and effective climate action. Despite this recognition, gender often goes unnoticed in climate policies and programmes, resulting in inefficient, uneven, and ultimately unsustainable outcomes.

As highlighted in the recent Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Synthesis Report 2023<sup>1</sup>, governments increasingly incorporate gender into their climate commitments. In the Asia-Pacific region, 37 of the 49 countries with NDCs developed and updated by 2023 have gender references in one way or the other.<sup>2</sup> The next round of NDCs is to be prepared and submitted by 2025, with a timeframe of implementation till 2035. As outlined in the Paris Agreement<sup>3</sup>, countries would “ratchet up” their commitments in each subsequent NDC submission, reflecting their highest possible ambition and developing NDCs that are “implementation ready.” This presents an opportunity for governments to ensure that their NDCs are not only gender-responsive but also to ensure actions, implementation, and financing are gender responsive and leave no one behind. In Asia and the Pacific region, UN Women and UNEP have implemented the programme [EmPower: Women for Climate Resilient Societies](#), where over 2,000 governments and development practitioners so far have been trained on gender-responsive climate action through the [training manual on Gender and Climate Change Resilience](#) and an [e-learning](#) course developed under the programme.

To accelerate action and ambition, strengthening the capacities of critical stakeholders remains central to driving gender-responsive climate action. This training workshop aims to

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<sup>1</sup> NDC Synthesis Report 2023 [cma2023\\_12.pdf \(unfccc.int\)](#)

<sup>2</sup> Unpacking Gender Integration in NDCs of Asia-Pacific Countries [unpacking-gender-integration-in-nationally-determined-contributions-ndcs-of-asia-pacific-countries.pdf \(unwomen.org\)](#)

<sup>3</sup> The Paris Agreement <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement>

support governments in accelerating gender-responsive climate action and NDC implementation in the region. The training is organized by the UN Women Centre of Excellence for Gender Equality (CoE) based in Seoul, the Republic of Korea, the UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Secretariat with partners the Adaptation Fund (AF), the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Global Network, and the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR).

The training will focus on accelerating gender responsiveness in climate policy and programming and NDC implementation. It will also draw on various efforts by the climate funds to promote gender-responsiveness in their operations and processes such as the Joint declaration of the heads of the Adaptation Fund, the Climate Investment Funds, the Global Environment Facility, and the Green Climate Fund<sup>4</sup>. Participants will gain technical knowledge and skills on gender-responsive climate policy and action with the view of the NDC update in 2025, climate finance, and tools for monitoring and evaluating gender-responsive climate policies and programmes. To enable the exchange of best practices and lessons learned, the training workshop will also provide opportunities for participants to engage in peer learning and information sharing.

## Objectives

The three-day training workshop aims to strengthen the understanding and technical knowledge of gender-responsive climate finance. The sessions will broadly explore integrating gender-based approaches and applying gender mainstreaming tools in climate change policies, programmes, and monitoring and budgeting. The sessions will also shed light on accessing climate finance and opportunities to ensure gender mainstreaming and women's empowerment in climate change and environmental programs and projects funded by the GCF, GEF, and AF. It is designed for key stakeholders, including the National Gender and Climate Change Focal Points (NGCCFPs) and representatives of different line ministries responsible for the climate change portfolio at the national level who are undertaking gender mainstreaming in climate change policy and programming as part of the NDCs.

### The key objectives are to:

- Enhance understanding of concepts, data and evidence, and policy, reporting and monitoring frameworks related to gender equality, meaningful stakeholder inclusion, human rights, and climate change.
- Strengthen understanding of the skills and capacities for gender-responsive climate programming and opportunities to access climate finance.
- Promote learning exchange between peers working on these issues in the Asia-Pacific and the climate finance mechanisms, including sharing experiences from countries that champion gender mainstreaming in the NDCs and relevant climate policy and programming, including concerning the GCF, GEF, and the Adaptation Fund.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/enhancing-access-and-increasing-impact-role-multilateral-climate-funds>

## **Target Participants and Countries**

The training targets mid-level technical and senior officials from government agencies responsible for advancing gender equality and women's empowerment (e.g., the Ministry of Women's Affairs, the Ministry of Gender Equality) and the Ministry of Environment or other ministries responsible for NDC update and implementation in the following target countries: Bangladesh, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, and Viet Nam.

<b>Day 1 - Wednesday, 1 May 2024</b>	
<b>Time</b>	<b>Agenda Items</b>
08:30-09:00 (30 mins)	Registration and distribution of training materials
09:00-09:10 (10 mins)	Welcome and opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Dr. Jeongshim Lee</b>, Director, UN Women Center of Excellence</li> <li>- <b>H.E. Kim, Hyeon Deputy Director and Climate Change Ambassador</b> for Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Korea</li> </ul>
09:10-09:30 (20 mins)	Introduction to the facilitators and co-organizing team  Setting the scene - Introduction to the agenda
09:30-09:40 (10 mins)	Icebreaker: Power Walk Exercise
09:40-10:00 (20 mins)	Group photo and coffee break
<b>Session 1: Human Rights-Based Approaches and Gender Equality in Climate Action</b>	
Objective: This session presents the basics and fundamental elements of a human rights-based approach and gender mainstreaming. The participants will discuss how to apply the Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) concept and understand why human rights, intersectionality, and gender equality considerations are essential for climate action. This session will reflect the key messages from the <a href="#">online course</a> the participants are invited to take before coming to Seoul.	
Facilitator: <b>Romchat Wachirattanakornkul (OHCHR)</b>	
<b>Session 2: Understanding the gender and climate change policy landscape</b>	
Objective: This session will cover international commitments and frameworks on climate change and gender mandates, linking them with national planning mechanisms for gender mainstreaming. Participants will explore gender integration in the UNFCCC and the upcoming review of the Lima work programme on gender and its action plan, initiated at the 60th meeting of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation and concluded at COP 29.	
Facilitator: <b>Fleur Newman and Wiebke Bender (UNFCCC)</b>	
<b>Session 3: Current Climate Finance Landscape</b>	
Objective: The session provides an overview of the current financing scope and provisions for climate change mitigation, adaptation, loss, and damage.	
Presenters: <b>Stephanie Speck (GCF), Verona Collantes-Lebale (GEF), Young Hee Lee (AF)</b>	
Moderator: <b>Fleur Newman (UNFCCC)</b>	
<b>Day 2 - Thursday, 2 May 2024</b>	

#### **Session 4: Gender-responsive climate change adaptation policies and National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Processes**

Objective: The session will facilitate knowledge exchange on entry points and enabling factors for gender-responsive laws and policies related to adaptation, with a particular focus on National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), which is the key process for advancing adaptation under the UNFCCC. Through dialogue among government actors, we will identify opportunities and challenges for gender-responsive approaches in adaptation, including by aligning NAPs and NDCs. As a result of this session, the participants will be better informed about the importance of gender considerations for enhancing the effectiveness and ambition of climate change adaptation action.

Presenter: **Angie Dazé (IISD/NAP Global Network)**

Moderator: **Parimita Mohanty (UNEP)**

#### **Session 5: Deep Dive: Entry points for Accessing Climate Finance for Gender-Responsive Climate Projects**

Objective: The session will provide participants with knowledge and skills on navigating climate finance for gender-responsive climate programmes.

Presenters: **Seblewongel Deneke (GCF), Verona Lebale (GEF), Young Hee Lee (AF)**

Facilitator: **Fleur Newman (UNFCCC)**

#### **Session 6: Enabling Factors for Gender-responsive climate policies and programmes, including NDCs and NAPs**

Objective: The session will enable participants to share their country's experience and lessons learned in gender-responsive policy and programming, including institutional arrangements, policy coherence, access to finance

Facilitator: **Fleur Newman (UNFCCC)**

#### **Day 3 - Friday, 3 May 2024**

#### **Session 7: Review of the Lima Work Programme on Gender and its Gender Action Plan**

Objective: At COP 28, Parties agreed that the final review of the implementation of the enhanced Lima work programme on gender (LWPG) and its GAP would be initiated at the sixtieth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, in June 2024 - identifying progress, challenges, gaps and priorities in implementing the GAP, and further work to be undertaken – and conclude at its SBI 61 in November 2024 (Decision 15/CP.28). This session will discuss the way forward for LWPG and its GAP.

Facilitator: **Fleur Newman and Wiebke Bender, UNFCCC**

#### **Session 8: Gender-Responsive Monitoring and Reporting Using Gender and Environment Statistics**

Objective: The session presents different approaches to collecting and using gender and environment statistics for climate action and discusses gender-responsive M&E frameworks. After the session, participants will learn about the recent efforts related to

gender data undertaken at the regional level and in countries in Asia and the Pacific and its relevance to the NDC and NAP implementation.

Presenter: **Sara Duerto Valero (UN Women)**

Moderator: **Amy Reggers (UN Women)**

### **Session 9: Action Planning and Next Steps**

Objective: The final session will prompt reflections on progress, challenges, gaps and priorities for gender-responsive NDC and NAP implementation, and ensuring engagements for gender-responsive climate finance and how further work on gender and climate change under the UNFCCC can support national level implementation. Participants will further engage in a planning exercise where they will identify specific actions for gender-responsive NDC and NAP implementation in their respective roles. Participants are encouraged to identify areas where they need additional support to: i) access climate finance or resources, ii) engage in processes that will ensure gender-responsive implementation of climate policies and programs, and iii) develop strategies for overcoming any challenges they anticipate. In order to promote continued learning and knowledge sharing, participants will be invited to join a community of practice where they can share resources, ask questions, and support each other in implementing gender-responsive climate policies and programs.

Facilitator: **Amy Reggers (ROAP), Fleur Newman (UNFCCC) and Parimita Mohanty (UNEP)**