**AILAC and EIG**

**Submission for organization of an in-session workshop on gender, mitigation and technology**

**Advancing actions under the Lima Work Program on Gender**

AILAC and EIG welcome the adoption of the Lima Work Program on Gender at COP 20 and view it as an important step to ensure that gender equality can be achieved within the framework of the UNFCCC. We recognize the need to ensure that policies and initiatives under the UNFCCC respect human rights. Moreover, we acknowledge that in order for climate change mitigation and adaptation measures to be effective and for co-benefits to be generated and equality enjoyed, it is necessary to implement gender approaches as a means to identify the differentiated needs and contributions that both women and men can provide to climate change initiatives.

For AILAC and EIG, it is important that the in-session workshop on gender-responsive climate policy with focus on mitigation action and technology development and transfer is viewed as an opportunity to increase a common understanding among Parties as to the linkages and implications of having a gender approach to mitigation and technology, particularly building on existing practices and identification of lessons learned. Moreover, it is our expectation that the workshop would allow for further discussion on identification of guidelines that will support Parties in the implementation of gender responsive mitigation and technology initiatives, including an understanding on how UNFCCC institutions such as the TEC and the GCF will address gender responsiveness throughout their operations.

We believe the workshop should be organized in the early days of the second week of SBI 42 and that it doesn’t coincide with the INDC session for presentation, in order to allow for the highest possible delegate engagement. This timing will also allow for the content and discussions of the workshop to inform the negotiation process under the ADP.

We further suggest the following for the organization of the workshop:

**Purpose and scope of the workshop**

The workshop should explore at least the following topics: (i) clarification and understanding of the linkages between gender and mitigation; (ii) exploration of what gender responsiveness means in terms of technology development and transfer; (iii) identification of challenges for mainstreaming gender into mitigation and technology initiatives; (iv) sharing of experiences relevant to the topic of gender, mitigation and technology; (v) understanding how UNFCCC bodies mandated to address gender responsiveness are implementing their mandate; (vi) existing institutional support and identification of a road map to increase inter-institutional support within the UN system.

In order to address the above, we propose the workshop focuses on the following mitigation sectors, in order to assess and understand gender linkages:

* Forest conservation, restoration and sustainable management as mitigation options
* Energy sector, both addressing renewable energy technologies and energy efficiency
* Transport sector

Some concrete topics for further exploration and discussion during the workshop may include:

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| **Forest** | * Improve understanding and consideration of women’s and men’s specific needs, knowledge and experience in order to improve sustainable use of forest resources and forest conservation.
* Map knowledge concerning different roles of women and men in forest management and the forestry sector (i.e. access to and control over forests resources, resource management, women’s and men’s function in the production and value chain, forest conservation, tenure rights) and the implications this can have for climate change mitigation and adaptation.
* Exploring how women’s limited access to resources and land rights could be exacerbated by climate change impacts and further decrease women’s quality of life due to their close dependence on forest resources for subsistence and income (i.e. scarcity of fuel wood, fodder, herbal medicine among others and longer distances/collection times).
* Enhancing women’s access to education on sustainable forest management, training programs, project implementation, official-decision making process and property rights. Since these are essential to allow women to play a role in effective forest resource management and the well-being of their communities.
* Explore ways to streamline gender considerations within communities and decision making processes to strengthen the capacity of communities/community organizations to manage and preserve forest resources in protected areas.
* Recognition that forest loss/forest degradation has a gender differentiated impact on the livelihoods of women and men. It is particularly severe on women, as they are the primary users of natural resources for family subsistence (fuel wood, fodder for livestock, non-timber forest products among others) and increase the risk of jeopardizing their safety, health and education opportunities.
* Explore opportunities and challenges to ensure women’s involvement and participation in policy design processes as well as in the broad-scale implementation of REDD+; and forestry projects related to climate change mitigation and adaption).
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| **Energy** | * Understanding of the differentiated energy needs, knowledge and roles that women and men play in the energy sector; i.e. through traditional roles, new non-traditional roles (particularly in female headed households), and in their participation as professionals in the energy sector.
* Identification of gender considerations in medium and large scale renewable energy projects
* Understanding of gender considerations in renewable energy policies
* Understanding of the linkages between enhanced access to reliable and affordable clean energy technologies and increased livelihood activities, particularly for micro and small [women-led] enterprises. Introduction and use of new energy technologies that will provide household energy or reduce energy consumption.
* Ensuring access to clean, affordable and reliable energy technologies.
* Identification of women’s needs with regards to energy technologies and use of this information in the design and modification of energy technologies.
* Recognition that energy poverty has a larger impact on women and girls, who are traditionally tasked with the collection of firewood and water for households consumption, and the impact these tasks have in their safety, health and education opportunities.
* Exploration of how women’s limited access to resources such as land ownership, credit, extension programs, etc. has a direct impact in their capacity to afford, access renewable energy technologies.
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| **Transport** | * Acknowledgement that women are a large majority of public transport users and their mobility patterns must inform the [re]design of transport routes to address features such as distances travelled (point of origin and destination), priority routes, number of transfers necessary to reach locations highlight visited by women (i.e. schools, health centers, markets, etc.), etc.
* Identification of good practices including women’s transport needs in urban transport design, such as those from Madrid, Barcelona and Montevideo.
* Understanding of transport demand by using sex-disaggregated information may also be a means for introducing CO2 reduction campaigns and increase the use of public transport.
* Understanding of the role that social audits can play in increasing women’s participation in debates related to transport ordinances.
* Inclusion of design features that will reduce events of violence against women, the elderly or people with disabilities.
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**Experiences and institutional arrangements**

Several AILAC countries have already engaged in policy processes to mainstream gender into their climate change policies and projects and as such will be happy to share their experiences with a larger audience. For example, **Panama** conducted a climate change national strategies in collaboration with national stakeholders in 2011, identifying key gender priorities through a national participatory process. The **Panama** strategies identified women’s priorities in sectors such as land use and land use change[[1]](#footnote-1) and the energy sector[[2]](#footnote-2), among others. Moreover, **Peru** is on its way to initiate a new climate change gender strategy in 2015 following a similar participatory process as previously done in **Panama and Costa Rica**.

AILAC partners have also accumulated important experiences mainstreaming gender into specific mitigation initiatives. As such, **Colombia’s** TransMilenio, a CDM registered initiative, has included in its features special gender considerations, i.e. increasing women’s participation in the labor force, establishing goals for hiring women heads of households and supporting women’s involvement in non-traditional activities, such as fare collection, and addressing comfort and security concerns of women through support of a public awareness campaign against sexual harassment in the buses.

Chile has developed a National Strategy on Climate Change and Vegetation Resources, implemented by the National Forestry Corporation (CONAF). This strategy has included social and environmental safeguards on different elements such as Indigenous Peoples rights and gender perspective.

Those safeguards are being defined and developed through the participatory process in the framework of the “Social and Environmental Strategic Assessment” (SESA), following the "Guide for the Evaluation of Programmes and Projects with a Gender, Human Rights and Interculturality Perspective”, published by UN Women.

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| Costa Rica’s Ministry of Environment (MINAET) and the National Women’s Institute (INAMU) initiated a collaboration process with the objective of identifying relevant actors and priority themes linked directly to gender equity and justice. Institutional collaboration has taken place through different means, including the implementation of a workshop to review the National Climate Change Strategy 2021 Diagnostic and Action Plan where these institutions worked together in the definition of concrete women-led proposals that can be included in the action plan on land use and development, and advance the search for international financial resources toward the implementation of gender equity actions in climate change policy. INAMU has provided inputs to the National Planning Policy (*Política Nacional de Ordenamiento Territorial 2040*), proposing that reforms to the Urban and Coastal Planning Manuals should incorporate women’s particular needs, voiced at the Municipality level. INAMU has also identified entry points for addressing gender considerations in the transport sector, including: (i) the need for the Public Transport Council to develop the necessary gender capabilities and knowledge to improve the understanding of users’ demand, mobility patterns and for better designing awareness raising campaigns targeting the civil society engagement in achieving emission reductions; (ii) the incorporation of a gender perspective in the analysis and practice of efficient driving programs, allowing for traditional gender roles to be modified and improving efficient driving patterns; (iii) the promotion of public transport systems and campaigns taking into account women account for 80% of users; (iv) the [re]design of public transport routes and features catering to women’s specific needs; (iv) addressing gender considerations when developing cycle paths, elevated crossing bridges for pedestrians and other alternative transport strategies; (v) exploring the creation of programs to support women in the use of family car-pooling options, including tax reduction schemes that would allow women to acquire hybrid cars to be used for family and car-pooling purposes.  |
| **R**egarding actions related to conservation, restoration and sustainable management of forests as mitigation options to climate change, Mexico has actively worked to mainstream gender issues into national forest policy, highlighting the development of the Specific Program of Institutional Intervention for Attention to Indigenous Peoples and Mainstreaming Gender Perspective 2014-2018, which includes actions related to Forests and Climate Change.Additionally, the National Forest Commission has established a collaboration agreement with the National Institute of Women (INMUJERES for its name in Spanish), whose objective is to combine the efforts and institutional resources for gender mainstreaming in projects related to Forest and Climate Change.In the context of REDD+, CONAFOR has worked with the Mexico-REDD+ Partnership (MREDD+) to mainstream gender in the National REDD+ Strategy (ENAREDD+). As a result this document integrates transversely gender issues into its components and action lines. Additionally, MREDD+ and the International Union for Conservation of Nature have developed an action plan that focuses on strengthening the development of technical and institutional capacities and mainstreaming gender in policies, programs and actions that are being developed in the context of REDD+[[3]](#footnote-3). |

**Expected outcomes**

AILAC and EIG expect the in-session workshop on gender in mitigation and technology development and transfer will produce the following outcomes:

* Provide clear examples to State Parties regarding the practical application of gender equality when it comes to climate policy, including cooperation and coordination among ministries/institutions.
* Provide a technical platform for discussion and contribute capacity and shared understanding for Parties.
* Contribute to strengthen the inclusion of gender and social considerations in TEMS, the work of the TEC and the GCF.
* Encourage collaboration among key Convention bodies, including the TEC, CDM Executive Board and the GCF, and provide recommendations on how these should further implement their gender responsive agendas, building on existing experiences and lessons learned in the countries.
* Provide guidance to the Secretariat on gender related activities, including the development of a technical paper on guidelines or other tools on integrating gender considerations into climate change related activities as mandated in the Lima Work Program on Gender.
* Provide guidance to Parties for future implementation of gender responsive mitigation and technology development and transfer.

For the further identification of expertise and potential panel discussions, we would like to suggest the Secretariat to reach out to recognized intergovernmental and civil society institutions, who are in the capacity to provide technical expertise to Parties in the definition and implementation of climate change responsive policies and projects. Moreover, we would like to recommend the Secretariat to identify best practices in collaboration with the UN Secretariat as a whole, as well as the Women and Gender Constituency members, and the recipients of the Momentum for Change awards.

1. Some of the priorities and activities identified included: (i) training in management and soil conservation and forest communities, with emphasis on the participation of women and indigenous women; (ii) planning pilot projects of demonstration farms in land use and land use change led by women; (iii) development of plans and programs with special attention to indigenous and black women in the restoration of soil communities; (iv) public policy advocacy on the issue of gender-sensitive land use and management. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Activities for the energy sector included; (i) awareness of alternative energy: solar, wind, biomass for use at the household level; (ii) increase in renewable and alternative energy coverage in rural and urban districts still lacking this resource; (iii) encouragement of families to increase energy efficiency at home; (iv) availability of disaggregated data on the supply, consumption, and energy demand for decision making and investment; (v) review of the Energy Act to ensure the integration of gender considerations. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. [http://www.alianza-mredd.org/uploads/ckfinder\_files/files/pageredd\_final\_web%20(2).pdf](http://www.alianza-mredd.org/uploads/ckfinder_files/files/pageredd_final_web%20%282%29.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)