

**The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland's submission to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on progress, challenges, gaps and priorities in implementing the Gender Action Plan and on future work to be undertaken on gender and climate change**

provided in line with the mandate given in December 2023<sup>1</sup>

**March 2024**



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<sup>1</sup> [Decision 15/CP.28](#)

## Executive Summary

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is pleased to provide its views on matters relating to the implementation of the Enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender (ELWPG) and its Gender Action Plan (GAP) to advance gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in UNFCCC processes, in line with Decisions 3/CP.25 and 15/CP.28.

Women and girls in all their diversity<sup>2</sup> are disproportionately exposed to the impacts of climate change. Due to a combination of discrimination, socio-cultural barriers and existing inequalities, they are more likely to face economic insecurity and reduced access to education in times of climate-caused hardship, amongst other stresses. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has highlighted that climate change hazards increase existing gender inequalities and contribute to greater vulnerability of women and girls across the world, demonstrating the need for a gender-conscious response to climate change. It is also critical that women and girls are not seen as passive victims, but instead recognised as powerful agents of change whose skills, knowledge and leadership are essential for the world to achieve the objectives of the Paris Agreement.

Since their adoption, the ELWPG and GAP have provided Parties and Non-Party Stakeholders (NPS) with a robust framework around which to structure and direct efforts to integrate considerations of gender equality into climate policies, strategies and plans. The UK has sought to implement the GAP and advance gender equality through both domestic and international climate action during our tenure as COP President and in the years since. We firmly believe that taking intentional steps to bolster women's leadership, uplift their voices and increase economic and political empowerment will enable women and girls' full participation in climate action. We will continue to act and will also urge others to enhance gender-mainstreaming in their national contexts, learning from and amplifying the good practises of countries and observer organisations.

This submission outlines the progress the UK has made in the implementation of the GAP alongside views on recommended future work to be undertaken on gender and climate change under the UNFCCC. In the UK, certain policy areas related to tackling climate change are the responsibility of the Devolved Administrations<sup>3</sup>. Where relevant, activity undertaken by the Devolved Administrations has also been included below.

The following UK Government departments are referred to throughout the submission:

- Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ)
- Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)
- Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)

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<sup>2</sup> While this submission refers to "women" and "girls" throughout, neither should be considered as homogenous groups as both are influenced by a range of other factors that influence identity, including poverty, age, ethnicity, disability, socioeconomic status and geographic location, amongst factors.

<sup>3</sup> The Devolved Administrations refers to the Scottish Government, the Welsh Government and the Northern Ireland Executive

## UK progress in implementing the UNFCCC Gender Action Plan

The United Kingdom has focused on championing inclusion through gender-responsive climate policy both domestically and internationally, underpinned by the belief that our climate goals can only be met if we both acknowledge the gendered impacts of climate change and strive to ensure the full, meaningful and equal participation of all women and girls in climate action.

The UK Government is committed to eliminating discrimination in relation to sex, age, disability and other protected characteristics<sup>4</sup>, and this approach underscores our domestic and international policy and programme development. As set out in the recent [International Women and Girls Strategy 2023 to 2030](#)<sup>5</sup>, the UK pledges to stand up for women and girls' rights and freedoms on the international stage, amplify the work of diverse grassroots women's organisations, target investment towards women and girls, support those impacted by crises and shocks, and strengthen political and economic systems to ensure women's participation in decision-making. Along with the [2023 International Development White Paper](#), we have committed to integrating gender and social inclusion objectives into our climate finance, programmes and strategies, enabling women and girls to be drivers of locally-led adaptation and supporting their leadership in a just transition to a green, inclusive economy. In line with this approach, the UK has pledged that at least 80% of our bilateral aid programmes will have a focus on gender equality by 2030 (using OECD DAC markers), while increasing the proportion of International Climate Finance<sup>6</sup> (ICF) that will be gender marked. The UK is also committed to strengthening the monitoring, collection, and use of disaggregated data in support of said commitments to understand further the disproportionate impact of climate change on women and girls and to ensure they receive the support required.

To implement the GAP, the UK has endeavoured to mainstream gender considerations, enhance the participation of all women and broaden inclusivity within UNFCCC processes. This is demonstrated by our support for initiatives like the NDC Partnership, which works to mainstream gender considerations into NDC planning, engage gender stakeholders and include sex-disaggregated data in NDC implementation, and the Climate Ambition Support Alliance<sup>7</sup> (CASA), which builds the capacity and capability of women negotiators from climate-vulnerable country to engage in international climate negotiations.

The UK has also supported efforts to expand the evidence base on the gendered impacts of climate change. This ranges from commissioning reviews of access to climate finance in the Global South<sup>8</sup> to sharing toolkits for climate professionals on women and the transition to a

<sup>4</sup> [Equality Act 2010](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents) - <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents>

<sup>5</sup> [International Women and Girls Strategy 2023 to 2030](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/international-women-and-girls-strategy-2023-to-2030/international-women-and-girls-strategy-2023-to-2030), March 2023 - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/international-women-and-girls-strategy-2023-to-2030/international-women-and-girls-strategy-2023-to-2030>

<sup>6</sup> [International Climate Finance](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/international-climate-finance) - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/international-climate-finance>

<sup>7</sup> [Climate Ambition Support Alliance](https://casaclimate.org/) - <https://casaclimate.org/>

<sup>8</sup> Roz Price, "Access to Climate Finance by Women and Marginalised Groups in the Global South," K4D Helpdesk Report 1004, Institute of Development Studies, May 2021 - [https://opendocs.ids.ac.uk/opendocs/bitstream/handle/20.500.12413/16622/1004\\_Access\\_to\\_climate\\_finance\\_by\\_women\\_and\\_marginalised\\_groups.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y](https://opendocs.ids.ac.uk/opendocs/bitstream/handle/20.500.12413/16622/1004_Access_to_climate_finance_by_women_and_marginalised_groups.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y).

net zero economy<sup>9</sup>, amongst a host of other activities. The UK has also pledged to create a new Gender and Equalities Resources Gateway alongside the new Green and Inclusive Growth Centre of Expertise to provide easier access to the best technical expertise, guidance and the most up-to-date research for decision making and policy development.

Alongside that, as COP President, the UK took advantage of our prominent platform to advocate for enhanced gender-responsive climate action globally, and we continue to implement the commitments announced during our Presidency. We launched several initiatives in the run-up to COP26 and on Gender Day aimed at amplifying and sharing expertise on gender and climate change, including a High-Level Presidency Event with the UNFCCC, UN Women, UNDP and others focused on Advancing Gender Equality in Climate Action. We strove to ensure that COP26 had been the most inclusive to date and made steps to support further participation through the Women Delegates Fund. Moreover, as COP President, we were proud to announce £165 million to tackle climate change and gender inequality together<sup>10</sup>, including up to £45 million to help empower local communities and grassroots women's groups in Asia and the Pacific to challenge gender inequalities and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

The aforementioned policies and programmes are select highlights of the broader package of work the UK Government has undertaken to promote gender-responsive climate action, in line with our commitment to implement the GAP. A more detailed overview of policies and initiatives that the United Kingdom has supported under each GAP Priority Area since the interim report shared in 2022 can be found under **Annex A**.

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<sup>9</sup> [Women and the net zero economy - https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6188f2d28fa8f52980d932ab/Women-Net-Zero-Economy-toolkit-businesses2.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6188f2d28fa8f52980d932ab/Women-Net-Zero-Economy-toolkit-businesses2.pdf)

<sup>10</sup> [UK boost to advance gender equality in climate action#:~:text=At%20its%20COP26%20Gender%20Day,them%20to%20take%20climate%20action.](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-boost-to-advance-gender-equality-in-climate-action#:~:text=At%20its%20COP26%20Gender%20Day,them%20to%20take%20climate%20action.)

## Recommendations on future work to be undertaken by the UNFCCC on gender and climate change

It is of paramount importance that work started under the GAP continues as part the effort to mainstream gender considerations in the UNFCCC and uplift the voices of women and girls in global climate action. The UK supports the creation of a new work programme and action plan once the review of the GAP has concluded, ensuring that the next iteration includes achievable, timebound and measurable activities for Parties and all relevant bodies to implement.

While there is growing acknowledgement of the linkages between gender and climate, there needs to be greater recognition from all Parties to the UNFCCC and observers of the importance of working towards gender equality as part of the global response to climate change. A combination of lack of awareness and lack of data means that considerations of gender can often be overshadowed in broader discussions about tackling climate change. Ensuring further mainstreaming of gender across other workstreams under the UNFCCC will necessitate greater consideration of gender in policy development at a regional, national and international level. To this end, we support efforts to further incorporate gender considerations into work undertaken on adaptation, mitigation and just transition in the UNFCCC, amongst other areas.

The following are the UK's headline recommendations on the future of gender and climate change under the UNFCCC, which also includes challenges and gaps in the current iteration of the GAP:

### **Extending a future work programme and action plan to ten years**

- Following the example set by the Glasgow Work Programme on Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) agreed at COP26, the UK recommends extending the new iteration of the GAP to run for ten years, as opposed to five. This will give Parties sufficient time to embed gender considerations within both domestic and international climate policies, and allow for more comprehensive monitoring and evaluation of said policies' efficacy before reporting on progress. Parties could be asked to report on progress in an interim review after five years and then formally review at COP39. Similarly to the Glasgow Work Programme, dialogues could be held at meetings of the Subsidiary Bodies where Parties and observers share progress updates alongside summary reports prepared by the Secretariat to take stock on implementation. This longer-term work programme could be aided by creation of rapid, shorter-term action plans to drive progress.

### **Greater focus on gender and sex-disaggregated data collection**

- While aiming to minimise further reporting burdens on Parties and NPS, the UK recommends placing greater emphasis in the next iteration of the GAP on the need to gather more gender and sex-disaggregated data to better enable the effective dissemination of finance and resources. An enhanced evidence base is imperative to fully grasp the extent of the gendered impacts of climate change across the world and the next iteration of the GAP could be a key vehicle through which to encourage this. Without enhancing understanding of the nexus between gender and climate, policies

and programmes aimed at addressing climate change might unintentionally reinforce or exacerbate existing inequalities.

#### **Greater focus on intersectional approaches to climate action**

- The UK would welcome greater reference in a future work programme and action plan to the importance of intersectional approaches in climate action, acknowledging that the effects of climate change are felt differently by women and girls across the world. Furthermore, we would welcome reference to the important role that men and boys play in enabling gender-responsive climate action, as key partners in advocating for gender equality.

#### **Closer coordination with other UNFCCC work programmes and processes**

- The next action plan could further reflect how relevant priority areas, activities and deliverables compliment other UNFCCC work programmes, such as the Just Transition Work Programme and Mitigation Work Programme (amongst others), and how these linkages could enable more effective climate action. This would also facilitate more effective mainstreaming by raising the profile of gender across the UNFCCC.
- Furthermore, future iterations of the GAP could align reporting commitments with existing obligations under both the Convention and Paris Agreement, such as the next Global Stocktake, which will offer further opportunity to incorporate gender considerations within broader UNFCCC decisions and ensure further mainstreaming. Including a Gender CMA agenda item as well as COP is an additional way of achieving this alignment.

#### **Closer coordination with other UN bodies and respective work programmes**

- The future Gender Action Plan could include greater consideration of existing activities under other UN bodies, ensuring coherence and easier sharing of knowledge and best practice between relevant organisations. This could include greater coordination and knowledge-sharing with the UN Commission on the Status of Women and the Convention on Biological Diversity following the introduction of the Gender Plan of Action.

#### **Targeted action to work towards gender equality in the UNFCCC**

- We commend the progress that has been made working towards equal participation within the UNFCCC but note that recent Gender Composition Reports indicate that further targeted action could be taken to achieve parity in all relevant bodies.
- Alongside that, the UK supports the continued work to address and prevent harassment at UNFCCC conferences, ensuring that they are spaces in which all people feel safe and able to participate, and supports the UNFCCC in ensuring the updated Code of Conduct is upheld during sessions.

## Conclusion

The United Kingdom welcomes the opportunity to share views on the implementation of the Enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender and its Gender Action Plan. The GAP has been a useful and effective mechanism through which the participation of women in climate action has been enhanced under the UNFCCC and gender-responsive considerations have been further incorporated into national and international climate policies. While there is much more work to do, we nevertheless welcome the substantial progress made by Parties and NPS since 2019. We also thank the UNFCCC Gender Secretariat for their dedication in helping Parties and NPS to implement the GAP since its inception.

The UK firmly supports continuation of the work commenced under the GAP and we look forward to working productively with other Parties throughout 2024 to determine the next programme of work on gender and climate change under the UNFCCC. The UK is eager to work with colleagues to advance the cause of gender equality and ensure the equal and meaningful participation of women and girls in all their diversity in global climate action.

**Annex A: Examples of UK progress in implementing the Gender Action Plan**

The following Annex sets out some of the key policies and programmes implemented by the UK Government since the interim GAP report in 2022 to advance gender-responsive climate action. The examples listed below cover both domestic and international programmes in areas including climate adaptation, climate finance, economic development and capacity building, among other areas.

**Priority Area A: Capacity-building, knowledge management and communication**

<b>GAP Activity</b>	<b>Examples of UK progress</b>
<p><b>A.1:</b> <i>Strengthen capacity-building efforts for governments and other stakeholders in mainstreaming gender in formulating, monitoring, implementing and reviewing, as appropriate, national climate change policies, plans, strategies and action, including nationally determined contributions, national adaptation plans and national communications</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The UK provides core funding to the NDC Partnership, which focuses on building countries’ capacities for the implementation and enhancement of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). The NDC Partnership works to mainstream gender considerations into NDC planning, engage gender stakeholders and include sex-disaggregated data in NDC implementation. The UK is also the largest donor to the Partnership’s Action Fund, which provides capacity-building and technical assistance to countries that have been unable to access support from existing initiatives.</li> <li>• The UK Government prioritises a gender-responsive approach to domestic and international programmes. Examples of this include:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The £350 million Caribbean Infrastructure Fund which integrates gender equality in infrastructure projects, promotes employment and livelihood development for women, and combats gender-based violence and trafficking; and the £15 million Violence Prevention Partnership supports the Government of Jamaica to tackle violence, which has a focus on violence against women and girls.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The Scottish Government aims to build more gender-responsive, and gender-transformative programmes through applying a gender equality policy marker across all Official Development Assistance (ODA) spend, including in its climate justice work. The Scottish Government recently published a Guidance Note<sup>11</sup> which sets out this approach in practice, including the requirement to collect data disaggregated by sex to inform gender analysis.</li> </ul>

<sup>11</sup> [Mainstreaming gender equality in Scottish Government funded international development projects and programmes: guidance note](https://www.gov.scot/publications/guidance-note-mainstreaming-gender-equality-scottish-government-funded-international-development-projects-programmes/), February 2024 - <https://www.gov.scot/publications/guidance-note-mainstreaming-gender-equality-scottish-government-funded-international-development-projects-programmes/>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At COP28, the UK endorsed the Gender-Responsive Just Transitions and Climate Action Partnership<sup>12</sup> which aims to increase efforts to mainstream gender-just considerations across the transition to a low-carbon and sustainable economy. The FCDO also recently joined a civil society-led Champions Group on Grassroots Gender Just Climate Financing</li> <li>• At COP28 the FCDO announced an additional £40 million to support the Transforming Energy Access platform to continue and expand its critical work, empowering the female leaders of the energy transition. As a result of this work, since 2016, an estimated 27,000 green jobs have been enabled for women, 898 African women were supported with job placements and training in clean energy businesses, and 79 female students supported to study for master’s degrees.</li> <li>• The UK-funded Work and Opportunities for Women (WOW) Programme is working in partnership with private sector organisations to build gender equality efforts into decarbonisation and climate resilience efforts in their supply chains. In March 2023, WOW hosted a workshop at the Business Fights Poverty’s Gender Summit looking at how businesses can apply a gender equity lens to net-zero planning. Following this, they launched practical guidance for companies who are decarbonising at COP28.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ At COP26, WOW launched a Toolkit for climate professionals Women and the Net Zero Economy—A transition toolkit for businesses with global supply chains. This has since led to three reports on Gender Just Net Zero Supply Chains from ongoing partnerships with business to understand climate change impacts on women workers in agriculture and horticulture. The first set of pilot studies were conducted to support women workers in Kenyan horticulture, in Pakistan to strengthen women farmer’s resilience to climate change; and on the gender implications of climate change on women workers in the tea sector in Malawi.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>A.2:</b> <i>Discuss and clarify the role and the work of the national gender and climate change focal points, including through providing capacity-building, tools and resources, sharing</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The UK Government has appointed an official within the UK delegation to the UNFCCC as the National Gender and Climate Change Focal Point (NGCCFP). This official has participated in relevant workshops organised by the UNFCCC Secretariat and observer organisations over recent years.</li> </ul>

<sup>12</sup> [COP28 Gender-Responsive Just Transitions and Climate Action Partnership](https://www.cop28.com/en/cop28-gender-responsive-just-transitions-and-climate-action-partnership)  
<https://www.cop28.com/en/cop28-gender-responsive-just-transitions-and-climate-action-partnership>

<p><i>experience and best practices, workshops, knowledge exchange, peer-to-peer learning, mentoring and coaching</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Domestically, the NGCCFP has led on cross-government coordination and monitoring of gender-responsive climate action, and the communication of international mandates to domestic officials.</li> </ul>
<p><b>A.3:</b> <i>Enhance capacity-building for governments and other relevant stakeholders to collect, analyse and apply sex-disaggregated data and gender analysis in the context of climate change, where applicable</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guidance on mainstreaming Gender Equality and Social Inclusion has been developed for International Climate Finance (ICF) spending departments and FCDO, DESNZ and Defra have set up a new cross-departmental working group to share learning, best practice and improve reporting on gender equality, including (but not limited to) strengthening application of OECD Gender Markers across the ICF portfolio. An external version of the guidance for delivery partners is in the process of development.</li> <li>• The UK Government funds the UK PACT (Partnering for Accelerated Climate Transitions), a £26m technical assistance programme which aims to alleviate poverty by working with partner countries to accelerate climate change mitigation. One of the programme's guiding principles is to be Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) responsive, which means that the programme integrates GESI considerations in all the projects it funds and delivers. Since 2021, the programme has supported over 30 projects, placing significant emphasis on integrating GESI throughout low-carbon transition initiatives in Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Asia. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A GESI survey in India revealed that women were interested in the electric vehicle (EV) sector and preferred women drivers, yet no women worked as auto drivers in the target city of Kakinada. The programme provided hands-on EV skills training for women and GESI sensitisation training for stakeholders. A peer network of women e-mobility leaders was also successfully initiated to encourage job opportunities.</li> <li>○ In Peru, the UK PACT programme supported the creation of the Women, Investment and Climate (MIC) network. This enabled women working in the finance sector to connect with women vulnerable to climate change, with the aim of providing them with tailored financial instruments of support.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>A.4:</b> <i>Strengthen the evidence base and understanding of the differentiated impacts of climate change on men</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The UK announced two new projects at COP28 which will build the evidence base for interventions addressing climate change in and through education:</li> </ul>

<p><i>and women and the role of women as agents of change and on opportunities for women</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Climate Action Partnership for Education (CAPE) is a challenge fund with USAID which will test interventions that either demonstrate how education can advance climate action or reduce the impact of climate-related barriers on girls' education.</li> <li>○ Climate Resilient Education Systems Trial (CREST) is a partnership with International Rescue Committee which will test the use of parametric insurance in education for the first time.</li> <li>● Defra recently commissioned a research study exploring the gendered impact of biodiversity loss and environmental degradation across the globe. The research, developed by International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), provides insight on the differential impacts of biodiversity loss and environmental degradation on women and girls. Researchers identified knowledge gaps in extant evidence on gender and biodiversity, providing new evidence to fill the gaps identified, and develop policy recommendations and potential actions governments and other actors can take to tackle these issues<sup>13</sup>.</li> <li>● Through the Work and Opportunities for Women Programme, the UK has supported research into women's economic empowerment in Blue Economy sectors in SIDS that will improve targeting of the ODA funds to support coastal communities.</li> </ul>
<p><b>A.5:</b> <i>Promote the use of social media, web resources and innovative communication tools to effectively communicate to the public, in particular reaching out to women, on gender equality</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The UK Government has developed communications materials to showcase the progress made in advancing gender-responsive climate action and makes use of social media platforms to showcase said materials. FCDO Gender<sup>14</sup> shares key UK announcements relating to gender policy or programming, and the Minister of State for Development frequently <a href="#">engages</a> the public on matters relating to gender and climate.</li> </ul>

<sup>13</sup> [Women, girls and biodiversity loss: an evidence and policy review](https://randd.defra.gov.uk/ProjectDetails?ProjectID=20951) - <https://randd.defra.gov.uk/ProjectDetails?ProjectID=20951>

<sup>14</sup> [FCDO Gender](https://twitter.com/FCDOGender), X account - <https://twitter.com/FCDOGender>

## Priority Area B: Gender balance, participation and women's leadership

GAP Activity	Examples of UK progress
<p><b>B.1:</b> <i>Promote initiatives for capacity-building in leadership, negotiation and facilitation of negotiation for women delegates including young women, indigenous women and women from local communities, including through webinars and in-session training to enhance women's participation in the UNFCCC process</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The UK Government funds the £9.5m Climate Ambition Support Alliance<sup>15</sup> (CASA), which aims to increase the capacity and capability of climate-vulnerable country negotiators to engage in international climate negotiations. Through the CASA, the UK has supported dedicated training for women UNFCCC negotiators, as well as wider training for negotiators on recognising the importance of promoting gender equality within UNFCCC negotiations. 2022 was the first year where more women received training through CASA than men, and the programme now has a KPI that aims for 50% of CASA-supported participants to be women.</li> <li>• Defra provided £9m to support the Climate Promise, a UNDP-led fund which helps developing countries to increase ambition and implementation of their climate commitments within a framework of inclusive and gender-responsive governance. As part of its work on 'Forests, Land and Nature', it provides direct grants to Indigenous People and Local Communities (IPLCs) to implement projects that directly contribute to countries' Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Climate Promise supports consultation processes with indigenous organisations and provides capacity building to IPLCs to ensure continuous engagement and strengthen their participation in activities that contribute to NDC implementation. Defra has supported the enhanced capacity and leadership of indigenous women through its grants in Ecuador, Colombia, Kenya and Cambodia.</li> <li>• The Glasgow Women's Leadership<sup>16</sup> Initiative continues to be a key pillar of the Scottish Government's climate change and international engagement activity, ensuring that women's voices are centred in international and domestic policy making on climate and environment issues.</li> </ul>
<p><b>B.2:</b> <i>Promote travel funds as a means of supporting the equal participation of women in all national delegations at UNFCCC sessions, as well as funds to</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Scottish Government has, for the last five years, supported the Women's Environment and Development Organisation (WEDO) to improve gender equality in climate action in the global south and to facilitate the participation of women negotiators at COPs. Ahead of COP28, the Scottish Government supported three women delegates to attend the UNFCCC Intersessional</li> </ul>

<sup>15</sup> [Climate Ambition Support Alliance](https://casaclimate.org/) - <https://casaclimate.org/>

<sup>16</sup> [Glasgow Women's Leadership Statement](https://www.gov.scot/publications/glasgow-womens-leadership-statement-gender-equality-climate-change/), November 2021 - <https://www.gov.scot/publications/glasgow-womens-leadership-statement-gender-equality-climate-change/>

<p><i>support the participation of grass-roots local and indigenous peoples' communities from developing countries, the least developed countries and small island developing States and encourage Parties and relevant organizations to share information on travel funding</i></p>	<p>meetings and one female delegate to attend COP28. As part of WEDO's work to ensure consistency in participation, delegates who attended previous COPs were supported to attend further meetings to build leadership and skills for the UNFCCC processes and their thematic areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Both the UK and Scottish Government have supported the Climate Youth Negotiators Programme in recent years. The programme offers six-month intensive leadership and negotiations training and directly funds youth negotiators to travel to and participate in COP negotiations on behalf of their countries.</li> </ul>
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### Priority Area C: Coherence

<i>GAP Activity</i>	<i>Examples of UK progress</i>
<p><b>C.3:</b> <i>Strengthen coordination between the work on gender considerations of the subsidiary bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement and other relevant United Nations entities and processes, in particular the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as applicable</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The UK is committed to the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity's Gender Plan of Action, agreed at CBD COP15 in 2022.</li> <li>• The UK continues to be an active member of the Action Coalition on Feminist Action for Climate Justice (FACJ), affirming our commitment to championing women and girls' climate leadership, education and decision-making, while working to build their resilience to climate change. Delivering gender-responsive climate finance and supporting access to finance for women and girls on the frontline are also critical parts of this work.</li> <li>• The Governments of the UK and Australia issued a joint statement in October 2023 at the inaugural Strategic Dialogue on Gender Equality, where both reaffirmed their commitments to work towards gender equality and the human rights of all women and girls, particularly in response to climate change.<sup>17</sup></li> </ul>

### Priority Area D: Gender-responsive implementation and means of implementation

<i>GAP Activity</i>	<i>Examples of UK progress</i>
<p><b>D.1:</b> <i>Share experience and support capacity-building on gender budgeting, including on the integration of</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The FCDO's International Women and Girls Strategy<sup>18</sup> (2023-2030) sets out the UK's commitment to ensure at least 80% of FCDO's bilateral aid programmes have a focus on gender equality by 2030 (using OECD DAC markers). It</li> </ul>

<sup>17</sup> [Joint Statement on the Australia-United Kingdom Strategic Dialogue on Gender Equality](#) – October 2023

<sup>18</sup> [International women and girls strategy 2023 to 2030](#), March 2023 - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/international-women-and-girls-strategy-2023-to-2030/international-women-and-girls-strategy-2023-to-2030>

<p><i>gender-responsive budgeting into national budgets to advance gender-responsive climate policies, plans, strategies and action, as appropriate</i></p>	<p>also sets out the UK Government’s commitment to increase the proportion of its International Climate Finance (ICF) that will be gender marked and to strengthen our monitoring, collection, and use of disaggregated data in support of these commitments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The UK has collaborated with organisations like POWERful4 Women and the Equality in Energy Transitions Initiative Secretariat to deliver a number of events, including a networking event on ‘Women Powering the Energy Transition’ and a panel discussion at Energy Day at COP28 on ‘The role of women in delivering a just energy transition’.</li> <li>• At COP28, the FCDO joined a Champions Group on Grassroot Gender Just Climate Financing led by the Global Alliance for Green and Gender Action. The group aims to promote the importance of grassroots gender-just climate financing and identify opportunities to collaborate and share learning to progress ambition in this area.</li> <li>• The Scottish Government has funded three women from the Global South to take part in the Human Rights Defendership Fellowship Programme focused on gender and the environment. The programme is delivered by the University of Dundee in partnership with Amnesty International, Front-Line Defenders and other contributors. It enables human rights defenders from other countries to spend several months in Scotland, where they can enjoy a period of respite, while developing their skills and extending their networks in a place of safety. Funding has supported three women from the Global South to take part in the programme, focusing on maintaining and enabling gender and environmental capacity.</li> </ul>
<p><b>D.2:</b> <i>Raise awareness of the financial and technical support available for promoting the strengthening of gender integration into climate policies, plans, strategies and action, as appropriate, including good practices to facilitate access to climate finance for grass-roots women’s organizations and indigenous peoples and local communities</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As part of the UK Government’s Blue Planet Fund, we have committed £37.5m of UK aid to the World Bank’s <a href="#">PROBLUE</a> programme, supporting the development of blue economies in Small Island Developing States and coastal least developed countries. PROBLUE delivers many programmes globally, including <i>Unleashing the Blue Economy of the Caribbean</i><sup>19</sup>. It assists micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises to scale up operations and tap into the Blue Economy through a regional Matching Grants Programme that streamlines access to financing. Much of the Programme’s envelope is earmarked for female entrepreneurs, addressing a long-held difficulty in building a business.</li> </ul>

<sup>19</sup> [Unleashing the Blue Economy of the Caribbean Project](https://blogs.worldbank.org/en/latinamerica/unleashing-blue-economy-eastern-caribbean#:~:text=Tourism%20is%20the%20main%20driver,by%20the%20COVID-19%20pandemic.), July 2022 - <https://blogs.worldbank.org/en/latinamerica/unleashing-blue-economy-eastern-caribbean#:~:text=Tourism%20is%20the%20main%20driver,by%20the%20COVID-19%20pandemic.>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Scottish Government’s funding of the Women’s Environment and Development Organisation (WEDO) also assists grassroots and indigenous women leaders to invest in and scale up climate solutions in global south countries through the Gender Just Climate Solutions Support Facility. These locally-led solutions centre human rights and gender equality while achieving sustainable adaptation and mitigation outcomes. Through the programming, WEDO also promote and share funding opportunities.</li> </ul>
<p><b>D.3:</b> <i>Promote the deployment of gender-responsive technological solutions to address climate change, including strengthening, protecting and preserving local, indigenous and traditional knowledge and practices in different sectors and for improving climate resilience, and by fostering women’s and girls’ full participation and leadership in science, technology, research and development</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The UK’s International Development White Paper<sup>20</sup> outlines the commitment for a more inclusive and locally-led approach to development that is designed and delivered by local people and organisations, especially typically marginalised groups, including women and girls, Indigenous People and Local Communities.</li> <li>• Through the Blue Planet Fund, the UK has committed to providing £20.5m of UK aid to GPAP<sup>21</sup>, a public-private partnership established by the World Economic Forum in 2018 to accelerate the global response to address the problem of ocean plastic pollution. GPAP’s work is underpinned by a commitment to advancing gender equity, inclusion, and the livelihoods of traditionally marginalized people and communities. This stems from a recognition that the impact of plastic waste and pollution impacts ecosystems and is felt disproportionately by marginalised communities – i.e. those already facing persistent inequality and adversity resulting from discrimination, social stigma and stereotypes. Marginalised groups are essential stakeholders in GPAP’s national strategies and roadmaps as well as in global dialogues on plastic pollution.</li> </ul>
<p><b>D.4:</b> <i>Support the collection and consolidation of information and expertise on gender and climate change in sectors and thematic areas as well as identifying experts on gender and climate change, as needed, and enhance knowledge</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The UK Government’s Office for National Statistics (ONS) is currently <a href="#">undertaking a four-year project</a>, with support from the Wellcome Trust, to develop global harmonised standards and methods for reporting on the health impacts on climate change. This framework will promote disaggregation of data by gender and other equalities characteristics as an integral part of statistical reporting.</li> <li>• The UK Government is implementing a roadmap<sup>22</sup> to tackle the persistent gendered inequalities women and men face across their lives in the UK, including in tackling climate change. The roadmap sets out eight key challenges to tackle from</li> </ul>

<sup>20</sup> [International Development White Paper](#), November 2023 -

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/international-development-in-a-contested-world-ending-extreme-poverty-and-tackling-climate-change>

<sup>21</sup> [Global Plastic Action Partnership](#) - <https://www.globalplasticaction.org/home>

<sup>22</sup> [Gender equality at every stage: a roadmap for change](#), July 2019

<p><i>platforms on gender and climate change</i></p>	<p>childhood to retirement, and Government action to do so. The Gender Equality Monitor<sup>23</sup> brings together a suite of indicators to monitor gender equality across five key areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economic participation and progression</li> <li>• Attitudes and leadership</li> <li>• Education and skills</li> <li>• Crime and justice</li> <li>• Health and wellbeing</li> </ul>
<p><b>D.5:</b> <i>Engage women’s groups and national women and gender institutions in the process of developing, implementing and updating climate policies, plans, strategies and action, as appropriate, at all levels</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In March 2024, the UK Government hosted an international conference at Wilton Park on Building Women’s Economic Empowerment into Climate Transitions<sup>24</sup>. The conference covered models for green growth and climate resilience that advance women’s access to decent work and control over work-related decisions; access to and control over economic assets; and recognition, redistribution and reward for care work. It brought together actors working at the nexus of these issues from governments, the private sector, academic, civil society, and multilateral institutions to explore the key roadblocks to building women’s economic empowerment into the green growth agenda and to share opportunities to work together.</li> <li>• The UK advocates for gender equality in the global energy transition, particularly through our membership and support of the Clean Energy Ministerial’s Equality in Energy Transitions Initiative and the Equal by 30 Campaign. The Equality in Energy Transitions Initiative aims to advance women’s participation in the clean energy revolution and enable greater gender diversity in the clean energy professions. The Equal by 30 Campaign works towards equal pay, equal leadership, and equal opportunities for women in the clean energy sector by 2030.</li> <li>• The Blue Planet Fund’s £11.2m ICF Blue Forests Project, delivered by UK NGO Blue Ventures, advances gender equality in local mangrove forest and fishery management through community-led conservation, supporting sustainable livelihoods and healthcare support. The project advances gender-inclusive policies and practices in traditional fisheries and works to increase female representation by enabling women-only discussion spaces and supporting women to participate in natural resource management associations as elected representatives. The project empowers women by training them to monitor fisheries catches and communicate information back to their</li> </ul>

<sup>23</sup> [Gender Equality Monitor \(GEM\)](#), July 2019

<sup>24</sup> <https://www.wiltonpark.org.uk/event/building-womens-economic-empowerment-into-climate-transitions/>, March 2024



	<p>communities. This approach puts data and insights in the hands of local women, opening the way for them to participate actively in resource management discussions. Blue Ventures provide women with tailored training in leadership skills, public speaking, participatory fisheries management and technical skills.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ After more than 15 years of Blue Ventures' community-based work in Madagascar, women now make up more than a third of elected community representatives in the local management committee. This approach not only addresses inequality, but also makes for stronger and more effective mangrove and fishery management and improves women's incomes and the food security of women and children.</li> <li>● In March 2024, the FCDO co-hosted an event with KPMG to explore how gender equality could be better incorporated into climate investing. The event brought together the private sector, think-tanks, women's rights organisations and multilateral development banks to discuss challenges, barriers and opportunities in this space.</li> </ul>
<p><b>D.6:</b> <i>Exchange information on lessons learned among Parties that have integrated gender into national climate policies, plans, strategies and action, as appropriate (e.g. information on results, impacts and main challenges), and on the actions that Parties are taking to mainstream gender in any updates thereto, as appropriate</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Scottish Government has incorporated advancing gender equality as a core element of its international climate programming. All Climate Justice Fund programming is delivered through a participatory approach. The Climate Just Communities programme, launched in 2023 is a multi-year programme in Malawi, Rwanda and Zambia. The programme aims to build more resilient and inclusive communities through interventions that build communities resilience to both the material and social impacts of climate change. Community participation is at the heart of the programme and there is a particular emphasis on empowering those typically marginalised communities, especially women and girls in programme design and implementation. A gender equality framework has been designed for the programme as the strategy to ensure women's experiences are an integral part of the design, implementation and the monitoring of the programme.</li> </ul>
<p><b>D.7:</b> <i>Enhance the availability of sex-disaggregated data for gender analysis, taking into consideration multidimensional factors, to better inform gender-responsive climate policies, plans,</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The FCDO's International Women &amp; Girls Strategy (2023-2030) sets out the UK Government's commitment to strengthen its monitoring, collection, and use of disaggregated data in support of commitments to increase the percentage of bilateral aid programmes having a focus on gender equality by 2030 and the percentage of International Climate finance that is gender-marked.</li> </ul>

<i>strategies and action, as appropriate</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Through the FCDO's Disability Inclusion and Rights Strategy (2022-2030)<sup>25</sup>, we have committed to a pillar on disability inclusive climate action for the first time, reaching women and girls with disabilities. It is underpinned by three deliverables and an action plan which is monitored on a half yearly basis through an external board. Through this, the FCDO has committed to step-up embedding disability considerations into the ICF portfolio, investing more in robust research and evidence on disability inclusive climate action and working with key allies to accelerate global attention and action including through key funds.</li> </ul>
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### Priority Area E: Monitoring and reporting

<i>GAP Activity</i>	<i>Examples of UK progress</i>
<p><b>E.2:</b> <i>Monitor and report on the implementation of gender-responsive climate policies, plans, strategies and action, as appropriate, reported by Parties in regular reports and communications under the UNFCCC process</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The UK has continued to incorporate considerations of gender into its reporting under the UNFCCC. This includes in our Nationally Determined Contribution<sup>26</sup>, Eighth National Communication<sup>27</sup>, Adaptation Communication and Biennial Finance Communication, which emphasises the UK's commitment to increasing ambition on inclusion and gender equality by integrating gender-responsive considerations into ICF programme design.</li> </ul>

<sup>25</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fcdo-disability-inclusion-and-rights-strategy-2022-to-2030>, February 2022

<sup>26</sup> [UK's Nationally Determined Contribution](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-uks-nationally-determined-contribution-communication-to-the-unfccc) - December 2020, updated September 2022  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-uks-nationally-determined-contribution-communication-to-the-unfccc>

<sup>27</sup> [UK's Eighth National Communication](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uks-eighth-national-communication-and-fifth-biennial-report-under-the-un-framework-convention-on-climate-change), August 2022 -  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uks-eighth-national-communication-and-fifth-biennial-report-under-the-un-framework-convention-on-climate-change>