

REPORT ON
**THE CURRENT
CONTEXT OF GENDER
INTEGRATION IN
CLIMATE
GOVERNANCE**

M&E Consultants, ASFL



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January, 2024



WAVERLEY FOUNDATION



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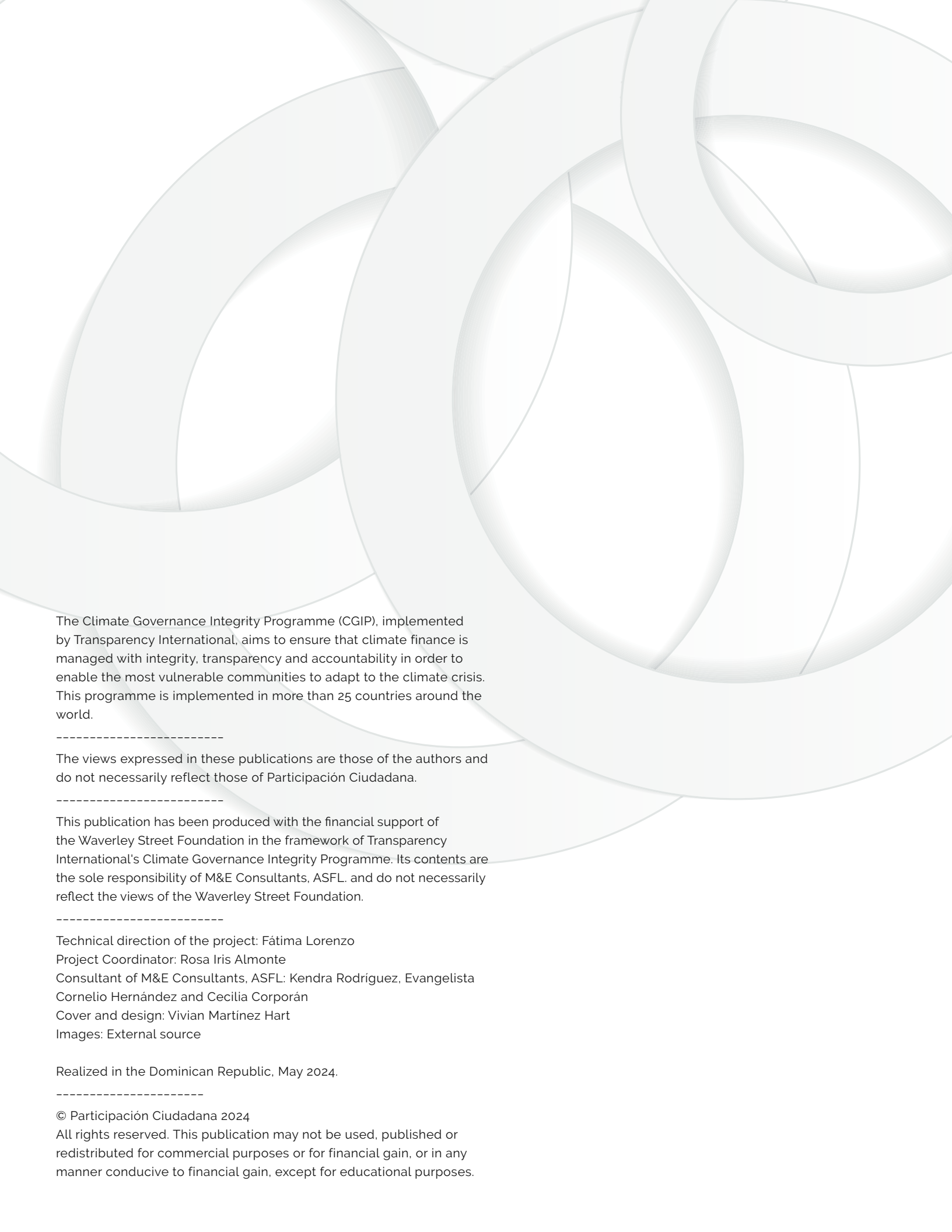


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The Climate Governance Integrity Programme (CGIP), implemented by Transparency International, aims to ensure that climate finance is managed with integrity, transparency and accountability in order to enable the most vulnerable communities to adapt to the climate crisis. This programme is implemented in more than 25 countries around the world.

The views expressed in these publications are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Participación Ciudadana.

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Technical direction of the project: Fátima Lorenzo
Project Coordinator: Rosa Iris Almonte
Consultant of M&E Consultants, ASFL: Kendra Rodríguez, Evangelista Cornelio Hernández and Cecilia Corporán
Cover and design: Vivian Martínez Hart
Images: External source

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS*

END	National Development Strategy
CNCCMDL	National Council on Climate Change and Clean Development Mechanism
CMNUC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of
COP	the Parties
ODS	Sustainable Development Goals
NCD	Nationally Determined Contribution
FVC	Green Climate Fund
FA	Adaptation Fund
GEI	Greenhouse Gases
PNGCC	National Gender and Climate Change Plan
PNUAM	United Nations Environment Programme
AG	Gender Analysis
PPG	Gender Budgeting
MIMARENA	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
MMUJER	Ministry of Women
MEPYD	Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development

*This list of acronyms and abbreviations, in Spanish, will be use throughout this document.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Given the commitment made by M&E Consultants to provide technical support for the incorporation of the gender perspective in the outcomes of three consultancies hired by Participación Ciudadana on Governance, Climate Financial Integrity and Transparency in the Management of Environmental Crimes in the Dominican Republic, a methodological approach was defined. Such approach was based on the review of the legal and conceptual frameworks linking Climate Change and Gender. This enabled to carry out the corresponding analysis and recommendations.

Significant efforts are needed to improve the quality, scope and accuracy of monitoring, reporting and verification of results of climate financed actions on gender equality.

The outcomes analysis of the three consultancies led to the identification of, on the one hand, the need to comply with international commitments made by the country within the framework of the Conferences of the Parties (COP) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (UNFCCC), Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), gender policies of international cooperation organizations and specific climate finance. Also, national plans aimed at considering the gender variable in the management of climate change effects, essentially the National Plan for Gender and Climate Change (PNGCC, acronym in Spanish) and the National Plan for Gender Equality (PLANEG III).

With regard to Climate Governance, a need to propose the representation of the Ministry of Women as the entity responsible for monitoring compliance with the country's national gender equality policy in the National Council on Climate Change and Clean Development Mechanism (CNCCMDL) was identified. It comprises 12 public sector institutions, chaired by the Presidency of the country and whose operating regulations do not include the participation of civil society. Good Governance, as established in the conceptual framework of this document, requires representation of the different sectors affected by the issues being managed, as well as, operating regulations to ensure their participation both in the formulation and in the monitoring and evaluation of implemented actions.

With respect to climate finance, there is a need to guarantee that projects focused on confronting the effects of climate change, both in terms of mitigation and adaptation, are established as an approach requirement with respect to the roles and segregated implications for men and women.

In climate finance, a formal gender policy or gender action plan is rarely sufficient. The systematic integration of gender equality considerations – in particular, paying attention to gender balance and gender expertise – into governance, operational procedures, technical expert advisory bodies and adoption of a fund's decision-making structures, as well as its management and staff culture, is equally important. (Gender and Climate Finance. Liane Schalatek, Heinrich Böll Stiftung, 2021).

Climate funds required to report to COPs under the UNFCCC lack sufficient specificity and rigor in assessing gender equality and climate impacts through supported funded actions, despite the mandate established in the Decision. 21/ CP.22. UNFCCC climate funds should include information on integrating gender considerations into all aspects of their work.

An example of the above is found in the ninth report of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) to COP20. This report, mainly provided a description of procedural aspects for the application of the gender policy in the preparation of projects, but no qualitative or quantitative information on the results in terms of gender equality. Also, it did not provide aggregate figures of beneficiaries segregated by sex, nor an accounting of the funding approved or disbursed to support impacts on gender equity and climate (2020b).

Greater transparency is critical. This includes public disclosure of annual project-level implementation reports based on improved reporting models which require implementing partner institutions to increase their gender reporting. For example, the Adaptation Fund (AF) recently updated its Project Performance Report (PPR) model, which requires increased information disaggregated by gender, as well as qualitative gender reporting, and includes new lessons learned on gender (AFB, 2020).

Strengthening the funds' guidance on monitoring and reporting, together with increasing and reiterating support for the capacity development of implementing partners, should be considered important strategies to address and alleviate gaps in reporting. (Gender and climate finance Liane, Schalatek, Heinrich Böll Stiftung Washington, DC, 2021)

It is essential for the country to have a database wherein projects aimed at addressing the effects of climate change are compiled, taking into account their thematic and geographical areas. It shall be used to compare or monitor their scope, objectives, expected and obtained results, impacts and indicators with the national goals established in the National Development Strategy, Sustainable Development Goals and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC). It is also urgent to promote accountability and create national, provincial and municipal mechanisms which appropriate means are used for their reports. Their demands are taken into account in roundtables where decisions are made, ensuring transparency and access to reliable and trustworthy data.

It is also considered essential, that data on reports regarding to complaints of environmental crimes be disaggregated according to the sex of the person reporting and the affected people. This will prove management is done, taking into account respect for the dignity of people and ensuring their involvement in the conservation of natural resources and their livelihoods.

The document includes proposals for guidelines and actions deemed necessary for the application of recommended improvements.



INTRODUCTION

Climate change—of recognized anthropogenic origin—is one of the most crucial problems on the global agenda and one of the factors that most puts sustainable human development in the 21st century at risk. Their impacts are becoming increasingly tangible and, therefore, countries must define and implement public policies and plans derived thereof to mitigate the causes, reduce their conditions of vulnerability and strengthen mitigation and adaptation actions, *in an environment of good governance and co-responsibility, ensuring the participation of all interested or affected parties.*

The relationships between climate problems and economic, social and environmental aspects comprises a complex matrix of interrelationships with heterogeneous causalities, ranging from both the human and environmental dimensions and from the economic and social aspects segregated at different socioeconomic levels.

Both the causes and effects of climate and environmental changes do not originate or affect populations in the same way, but their consequences fall with greater impact on those who have fewer resources for adaptation, such as the situation of women regarding access to resources, power and decision-making, concerning themselves and society. But as agents of behavioral change in the management of natural resources and the environment, they can make a significant contribution.

Gender inequalities interconnect with climate risks and vulnerabilities. Women's historical disadvantages, with limited access to resources, restricted rights and no voice in decision-making, make them extremely vulnerable to climate change. Since the nature of this vulnerability varies widely, it is not appropriate to make generalizations. But climate change may increase existing patterns of gender disadvantage." (UNDP, Human Development Report, 2007-2008).

Participación Ciudadana executes the Governance and Climate Integrity project, which tries to delineate the methodological path suggested to be followed and being proposed by us for the incorporation of the gender approach in interventions and public policies on climate change, highlighting consultancies being developed at present.



I. CONCEPTUALIZATION

To conduct this work, reviewing fundamental concepts whose lack of application or observation make it difficult to ensure consideration of the gender approach in interventions aimed at facing the effects of climate change, is deemed convenient. That is, take into account the needs, both the practices and strategic interests of women and men of the communities where these are stated and promote mainstreaming in the development of public policies.

The first concept to address is Governance, which implies the decentralization of power and involves different types of stakeholders, whether public, private and civil society, as these share common purposes and have consensual guides and procedures for action. To guarantee Governance in any space, whether institutional or territorial, it is therefore required to develop a structure wherein all sectors are represented and is committed to safeguarding the interests of groups of people or communities with identities, different interests and needs, whose fundamental rights must be guaranteed.

Governance is the way in which rules, norms and actions are structured, sustained, regulated and accountable. The degree of formality depends on the established internal rules. As such, governance can take many forms, driven by many motivations and with different outcomes. Valencia Dominguez, Omar (2020).

One of the main elements of Governance is the existence of interaction and necessary link between society and government, so that there is a fragmentation of power that leads to negotiation and consensus. For this author, the concept of Governance is a dependent variable, since it is a function of change in design, in behavior, in forms of relationship and in the opening of opportunities for citizen participation.

Governance implies the notion of effectiveness, based on participation. It includes an appropriate interaction between the State or public institutions, the private sector and civil society, with the objective of achieving long-range economic, political and social development.

For Valencia Domínguez, Governance is strengthened through responsible and informed citizen participation, which is nourished by transparency, i.e. the information that the government makes available to society, as a fundamental part of the act of accountability. However, the exercise is not one-sided. For the author, the exercise of transparency and accountability is a two-way street, as citizens have the right to access official data and information, but they also have the obligation to demand access to it.



For Zamora Cristales et al (2020), Governance is the process of interaction and integration between different organisations and individuals with different powers, authorities and responsibilities based on common rules and commitments, which are oriented to guarantee the provision of services. However, effective governance requires capacities, technical, financial and human resources, genuine participation, shared leadership, management instruments and regulation.

Also, both transparency and accountability are important components of Governance, which also operates as a control unit for public power.

Climate Governance (Sapiains et al., 2020) is how societies negotiate and define their objectives or goals regarding the implications of climate change, either to limit it or be responsible of its effects (for example, achieving the neutral carbon or water security for human consumption). These objectives guide both decisions and their implementation and supervision. The State has a central role in climate governance, but not an exclusive one, since multiple stakeholders - public, private, communities, academia - must participate at different decision levels - from local development plans to international agreements - and with various perspectives.

Transparency therefore becomes a resource for monitoring acts of corruption and crimes and allows the transformation of public information into useful knowledge so that society can reduce gaps and asymmetries between social sectors, while also serving to optimise decision-making by the authorities. Furthermore, access to information fosters the involvement of actors in the process of designing and developing public policies.

Transparency is defined as the obligation of guarantor organizations to announce the deliberations and acts related to their powers, as well as to provide access to the information they produce. Transparency includes the right of access to information, proactive transparency, accountability and anti-corruption measures. In this regard, transparency requires a series of management instruments and practices aimed at ensuring the openness of processes and the availability of information held by government institutions. (UN-REDD, Mexico).

Environmental Crime refers to any illegal action causing damage or harm to the environment. This may include air, water or soil pollution, the destruction of natural habitats, poaching, illegal trade of protected species, among others (Mejía, et al. 2002).

Corruption, on the other hand, is "any event in which a position of power or influence is used to divert resources (environmental, human, economic, etc.) from public management towards private benefit". Corrupt activities may be contained in the following five forms:

1. Bribery and higher cost of goods and services,
2. Diversion of funds,
3. Clientelism,
4. Favoritism/nepotism (non-universality criteria) and
5. Counterfeiting public documents.

Environmental Corruption refers to the abuse of power or position to obtain personal benefits or to favor particular interests to the detriment of the environment. This may involve bribery, extortion, embezzlement of funds intended for environmental protection, among other corrupt activities.

Both concepts, crime and corruption, can be closely related, since corruption can facilitate environmental crimes by allowing illegal activities to go unnoticed or avoid law enforcement.

Climate finance represents a response to confront climate change through the generation of funds and institutions to combat global warming, as parallel systems to conventional financing (Samaniego & Schneider, 2015).

Climate Change, Gender and Intersectionality

Climate change affects all regions of the world. However, not all populations experience the consequences similarly since economic, cultural and social conditions play a determining role. Indeed, many groups are victims of systematic social exclusion and lack of options and opportunities. Age, social class, ethnicity or racial identity, gender, disability are all factors that determine the advantages and disadvantages of populations.

The intersectional perspective must be understood in the analysis and solutions to climate change, not only as a type of buzzword or mandatory analysis trend, but rather as an opportunity to explore the dynamics of coexisting identities in people. That is, to leave behind analysis of discrimination and inequality from fixed inflexible categories, so as to keep an eye on and always keep in mind that structures of inequality, oppression and discrimination are aggravated when some of them operate together, multiplying and stimulating each other. Therefore, not only their identification is important, but also to be actively present in decision-making and implementation of climate change adaptation and mitigation effects.

The Gender and Intersectionality Perspective involves organizing the integration of five aspects or measures:

- a. Policy alignment
- b. Institutional coordination
- c. Capacity development
- d. Data disaggregated by sex and gender information
- e. Specific financial resources

Although gender mandates represent a clear guide for countries and implementing agencies, one of the main prevalent challenges is to achieve 'moving from words to action' through the design and implementation of climate and environmental initiatives that promote gender equality, appropriate and effective gender equality throughout the cycle of their programs and projects and, at different political and institutional levels.



II. METHODOLOGY

In line with the methodological guidelines established in the Terms of Reference of this consultancy, the responsible M&E technical team supported consultants on the topics of Governance and Integrity in respect to the management of funds for Climate Change projects, and transparency processes in the management of complaints about environmental crimes in the country. As a result, proposals were included to make the gender perspective visible within the possibilities offered by each of them.

The process of supporting different consultancies required a review of international and national documents with very specific guidelines for the integration of gender approach in the management of climate change and analysis of plans and programs (public policies) presented by the country. Findings show that these fail to comply with real measures that may guarantee said approach. Therefore, this document is presented as an input, so both governmental and civil society institutions may go beyond language to material proposals in terms of strategies, monitoring and indicators reflecting progress of women in terms of participation and empowerment.





III. GENDER FOCUS IN CC PUBLIC POLICIES INSTRUMENTS IN THE COUNTRY

3.1 Appraising Analysis

The State is responsible for ensuring that established guidelines are met in any government initiative or international cooperation in the area of climate change and environment, so the country may incorporate an effective gender approach. This guarantees the expected results and impacts in men and women, as the only way to achieve the goals of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring the necessary transparency, accountability and governance. Below, the main instruments of the country are analyzed.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2010-2030 (LAW 01-12)

The Fourth Axis of work of the END, is specifically intended to "A society with a culture of sustainable production and consumption, which equitably and effectively manages the risks and protection of the environment and natural resources, and promotes adequate adaptation to climate change. Article 12 thereof establishes the Gender Approach as a cross-cutting policy in all plans, programs, projects and public policies, establishes adaptation as one of the axes of intervention of the country's policy and defines a 25% reduction mitigation goal for 2030. This is concerning the 2010 baseline of national GHG emissions per capita, establishing guidelines to achieve it.

The document also includes guidelines for climate change adaptation: articulation with other axes such as environmental sustainability, risk management, territorial cohesion and gender equity. Also, a social equality axis that expects cross-cutting themes of action climate and the SDGs such as: quality education, equal rights and opportunities, among others.

This plan includes a matrix explaining a general objective, a specific objective, expected results, lines of action, activities, and implementation channel in its structure (responsibilities and sources of financing are assigned). At the end of each program there is a list of both quantitative and qualitative indicators, structured at different levels. **However, when indicators are reviewed, it does not expressly appear how the approach will be measured.**

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC NATIONAL DETERMINED CONTRIBUTION 2020 (NDC)

The Dominican Republic acknowledges gender equality as a cross-cutting guideline of the national development model in its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).

The NDC 2020 carries out a very detailed analysis of the inequality situation in the country.

The language of the 2020 NDC document, compared to 2015, take a leap in the number of times the word gender appears, from 2 to 64 times. That shows an attempt to adjust to the international context and requirements.

GENDER AND CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN -CCGAP-RD

This plan arises in response to that need, and in response to the agreements made at the Twentieth Conference of the Parties (COP20) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), where the Lima Work Program on Gender was approved. This program promotes gender equality through its inclusion in climate summit decisions and national climate change policies, to better address extreme weather events that increasingly affect our country and the planet.

It is a plan aligned with the implementation of the National Development Strategy, the Nationally Determined Contribution and the Sustainable Development Goals (Network, 2022).

The country has a powerful tool to achieve the desired objectives in terms of climate change and gender, with the PAGCC-RD, and at the same time it is consistent with commitments made in the Paris Agreement and in the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) before the UNFCCC. Likewise, the approaches included in this document respond to the aspirations of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted in 2015 within the United Nations General Assembly. (National Council for Climate Change and Clean Development Mechanism (CNCCMDL, 2018)

NATIONAL PLAN FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND EQUITY (PLANEG III)

The National Plan for Gender Equality and Equity 2020-2030 (PLANEG III) led by the Ministry of Women, establishes the gender transversality provided for in the Constitution of the Republic, with the purpose of overcoming inequalities in rights

How much progress has been made?

The team did not locate any document that reported on the progress or compliance of these actions.

between men and women and achieve gender equality. In PLANEG III, actions are aimed at addressing environmental problems focused on climate change.

A PLANEG II evaluation, **state limitations they face, since it was very difficult to identify advances that specifically support women to the extent that the indicators are not specific. We have seen this issue in all documents revised by us on this topic.**

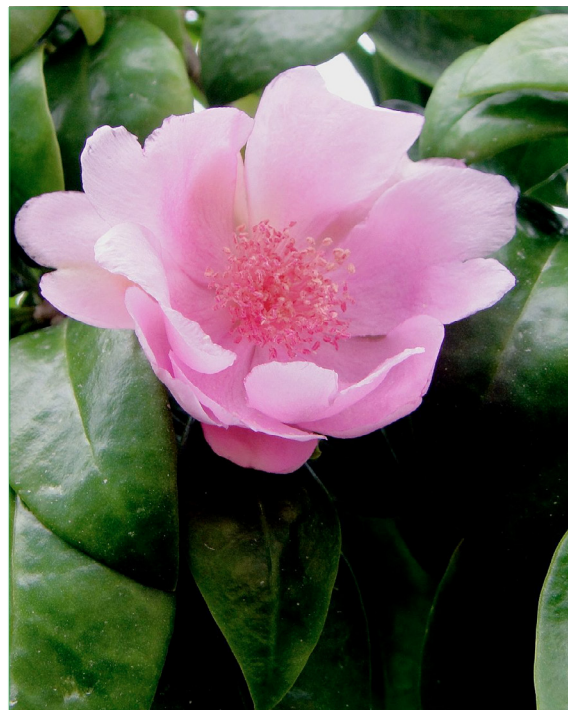
The same ministry is stuck when establishing concrete measurements on this issue, and is making real progress in the proposal to conduct a diagnosis of the current environmental care initiatives undertaken by civil society that consider women's leadership.

GENDER ACTION PLAN IN THE REDD+ OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

This plan, developed with the support of the World Bank, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, seeks to mainstream the gender approach during the implementation of the Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) Program. This is aimed at integrating explicitly different actions and measures that create opportunities for access and benefits generated by conservation and sustainable forests management, thus contributing to reduce the gaps of exclusion and marginalization of women and girls.

It is developed from a Gender Analysis (GA) and focuses on critical gender gaps and existing barriers in two areas, namely, 1) traditional barriers: institutional, economic, political, and legal conditions; and 2) behavioral barriers: psychological, cultural, social, and material limitations.

It is a plan based on a fairly in-depth analysis of the situation, so its proposals are addressed very specifically at the visibility of women in the forestry and agricultural production chains. This leads to increase their participation as members of the boards of directors in associations and initiatives, to reduce gaps in land tenure and ownership, and in the forestry and agricultural labor market.



INTERINSTITUTIONAL ROUNDTABLE ON GENDER AND CLIMATE CHANGE

This is a recently created roundtable, comprising the CNCCMDL, the Ministry of Women (MMUJER, acronym in Spanish) and the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development (MEPYD). Its purpose is to speed up the implementation of the Gender and Climate Change Action Plan in the Dominican Republic, aimed at integrating gender equality into public policies for mitigation and adaptation to the challenges of global warming. Also, it will oversee and promote projects and programs that guarantee more just and gender-sensitive climate action. This roundtable will regularly bring together stakeholders from the public sector, civil society, the private sector, international cooperation, and academia, to integrate gender perspective into actions related to climate change.

3.2 Main limitations of National Policies, Programs and Projects in relation to the Gender Approach in CC and Environment

In terms of making gender situation visible in the aforementioned topics, the country is in what we call a vicious circle, since the data that allows for an in-depth analysis is unavailable. The plans or public policies developed are very weak when designing strategies or measures and defining strong indicators which can feed different databases, so that at the end of a period information is available through statistical records and specific investigations. An example of the above is that environmental statistics are not disaggregated by sex. Likewise, it is difficult to analyze the different impacts of climate change, including disasters, on men and women.

Strategies or measures found in the revised documents could be organized into three typologies suggested by the Gender and Environment group of UNEP in Latin America and the Caribbean: United Nations Environment Program UNEP¹, since in our country we find documents in different stages of development regarding the realization of gender mainstreaming in the management of Climate Change.

¹ https://bvearmb.do/bitstream/handle/123456789/3045/Guia_transversalizacion_genero_financiamiento_climatico_19.04.23.pdf?sequence=1

Illustration 1

Levels of Actions located in CC documents related to gender-responsive actions of the Dominican Republic



Neutral or Blind Strategies or Measures, which do not report gender-related impacts: Measures in which, a priori, the gender approach is not considered applicable and/or do not specify or analyze their impact on social relations. These measures are presented as exclusively technical without referring to the associated social dimensions: coverage, users, emissions, others. Examples. Despite the fact that throughout different texts the gender approach or its mainstreaming is discussed, we found a significant number of these policies

Gender-Sensitive Strategies: Measures or actions that identify and recognize existing gender inequalities, but their objectives do not propose transforming or addressing such inequalities. These measures include data disaggregated by gender (which is most common in official and civil society documents) and some reference of gender equality. Such documents have an adequate analysis of the situation. They strongly justify the need for the approach, but the guidelines to close those identified gaps are not specified. Several documents have this approach, but only including what is needed to strengthen the intervention.

Neutral or Blind Strategies: Measures that do not report gender-related impacts: Measures in which, a priori, the gender approach is not considered applicable and/or do not specify or analyse their impact on social relations. These measures are presented as exclusively technical without referring to the associated social dimensions: coverage, users, emissions, others. Examples. Despite the fact that the gender approach or its mainstreaming is mentioned throughout the different texts. We find a significant number of these policies.

These measures may include gender analysis that demonstrate existing gender gaps, as well as their causes and generating factors. They move towards the proposal of indicators which show the situation or position of women, and whether they are evolving over time according to what is expected. **At this stage, we found a plan which includes some strategies indicating progress to close some gaps.**



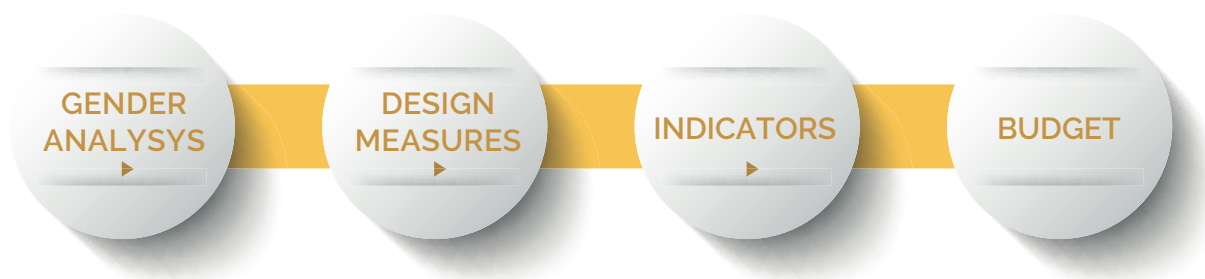
IV. FUNDAMENTAL GUIDELINES TO INCORPORATE GENDER IN CLIMATE CHANGE FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE

Guiding criteria

- Gender equality and women's empowerment as guiding principles
- Gender perspective in the proposals presented
- Significant participation of women as main stakeholders and beneficiaries in the mechanisms

THERE ARE NO TRANSVERSALITIES WITHOUT DIAGNOSIS

Broadly speaking, to achieve gender mainstreaming for climate change and, in order for the intention to take place in the budget, it is necessary to prepare a solid diagnosis of women's reality in relation to men. Afterward, other stages would come, such as the formulation of actions or measures, identifying indicators and labeling the financial resources necessary to reduce gender gaps initially identified.



As evidenced in the graph, the integration of gender perspective in finance cannot be considered as an isolated event. It is part of a comprehensive process that starts from an initial diagnosis in order to analyze the problem to be addressed with intersectional gender lens, to then design measures or actions which contribute to reducing gender inequalities. Based on these actions, indicators are built to measure the degree of compliance with the proposed goals and a budget according to these actions, ensuring that necessary resources for the program implementation are available.

Gender analysis

To conduct a gender analysis is a key step in evaluating how the effects of climate change affect women and men differently. This helps to identify where gender inequalities and gaps exist and where to take appropriate action. Once we better understand the relative distribution of resources, opportunities, constraints, and power in a given context, we can develop more effective, evidence-based climate policies and actions focused on the needs of women and girls, and men and children.

In the analysis, 6 important areas must be reviewed:

- i. Sexual division of labor
- ii. Access to information
- iii. Participation in decision-making
- iv. Access to resources
- v. Special needs
- vi. Intersectionality

Design of measures or strategies

Based on the outcomes of the above analysis, where critical points and areas of greatest gender inequality are identified with respect to the situation (which includes the country's climate policies), the measures or strategies to be developed aimed at closing the identified gaps must be designed with an intersectional view.

As a second resort, trying to incorporate these factors into the design of actions is appropriate to contribute in reducing gaps and transform unequal relations of access to rights and resources, by men and women in their diversity.

Indicator development

To achieve greater effectiveness and efficiency of public policies, programs and projects, specific gender indicators (GI) have been designed as essential tools to make noticeable the multiple differences between the experiences of women and men, and between groups belonging to the same sex. Inequalities often go unnoticed when indicators not sensitive to gender or other types of differences (such as nationality or age) are used.

Depending on the type of approach, all measures should be categorized to measure the quantity and typology of measures and be able to report throughout the different reports, both to the financing agencies, as well as to the National Communication (NC), or the process of achieving the proposed goals based on SDG 5 of Gender Equality.

Gender indicators have objectives per se. Below a few of the main ones:

- Make women and their experiences visible: Recognize the breadth of society from a non-androcentric perspective. Relate gender conditions to situations of inequality or discrimination.
- Quantify gender inequalities: Recognize specific inequalities between men and women. Identify gender gaps. Offer measurable and verifiable information in speeches and practices in pursuit of equal opportunities.
- Promote the adoption of more equitable policies: Identify how a policy affects the gender role in terms of perpetuating, or overcoming inequalities. Steer policies so that they respond to the different interests of women and men.
- Recognize changes occurring over time in the situation of men and women. Fully evaluate the effectiveness and achievements of gender approach in public policies.

Gender-Perspective Budget -GPB-

Although budget is usually considered a gender-neutral instrument, as it is presented in terms of financial aggregates, without express mention of either women or men, it is not. It really is "gender-blind."

A gender-responsive budget aims to analyze the gender-different impacts of proposed policies and actions, developing capacities, and strengthening monitoring mechanisms, to ensure that accountability is provided regarding the state's commitments in relation to the CC, including SDG 5, Gender Equality.

Gender-sensitive budgeting involves the analysis of all budgeted activities to determine a different impact on women and men. Therefore, it may require a reallocation of resources to achieve gender equality results from planned actions.

The PPG is a tool that guarantees implementing gender mainstreaming, ensuring the availability of resources and their equitable allocation in terms of gender.



V. CONCLUSIONS

In general, at the national level, there are no environmental statistics that allow us to segregate the access of men and women to the goods and services of ecosystems and natural resources. Neither, how pressures resulting from interactions between human beings and nature modify the environmental status.

The statistics published by the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MMARN) refer to the natural environment and do not consider social aspects, in particular gender inequalities, but rather the so-called "major issues". At the international level, these are deemed relevant for reporting on the status of environment and natural resources and biodiversity, as recorded in the annual institutional reports and in two editions of Dominican Republic Environment in Figures, corresponding to the periods 2005-2011 and 2012-2016" (Ministry of Women).

Therefore, and despite daily evidence of a close relationship between environmental protection and the main activities socially assigned to women, the National Statistics Office (ONE, acronym in Spanish). Also, issues related to gender inequalities are not included in its compilations of environmental statistics regarding the environmental condition, use of ecosystems, emissions, waste and garbage, disasters, habitat and environmental health; as well as the protection of the environment and natural resources.



At national and local levels, international gender mandates related to environment are a clear guide so countries and implementing agencies notice a series of prevalent challenges preventing the following²:

- a) National climate policies and strategies manage to effectively mainstream gender
- b) Gender issue is appropriately institutionalized in environmental institutions
- c) Provision of an appropriate intersectoral articulation, particularly with women's mechanisms and gender equality policies and,
- d) Move from words to action through the design and implementation of climate and environmental initiatives that promote gender equality and the empowerment of women, appropriately and effectively, throughout the life-cycle of their programs and projects.

² https://lac.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/Field%20Office%20Americas/Documentos/Publicaciones/2020/05/06/EN_UNU_PANAMA_SP_WEB_1-comprimido.pdf



RECOMMENDATIONS

It is important to consider the role of women as agents of change, taking into account their involvement with the daily use of natural resources while performing their care roles,

without this being detrimental to their recognition and empowerment, and rather be seen as a valuable contribution for the management of the effects of climate change.

It is necessary to apply gender-sensitive approaches and tools in all activities of climate change adaptation: planning and design, execution, monitoring and evaluation, creation of an appropriate environment and as well as in the management of projects and programs³

When developing and applying new climatic policies, it should be guaranteed that men and women benefit equally from budget allocations for climate action. *This enables every person to use their skills and leadership in responding to the crisis and getting involved equally in the value chain generated in the actions and processes of adaptation to climate change.*

Suggestions and initiatives to make the situation of women visible with concrete evidence in key instruments:

CLIMATE CHANGE AND GENDER ACTION PLAN (CCGAP)

A more operational plan needs to be developed with variables and indicators by sectors and topics linked to climate change (energy, forestry, coastal management, disasters, transportation, urban planning, health, among many others). These shall respond to specific needs of the sector or subsector we want to influence.

GENDER AND CLIMATE CHANGE ROUNDTABLE

This roundtable must provide a real operational plan based on all the public policy instruments on the subject. A roundtable for monitoring and coordination. To achieve this objective, it is necessary a commitment to conduct several actions aimed at strengthening institutional capacities on gender and climate change. For example, integrate "gender-sensitive" budgets which allocate specific resources for gender actions; promote research on gender, social inclusion and climate change at all levels; develop gender-responsive strategies in different sectors.

³ https://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/application/pdf/5_synopsis_gender.pdf

It could also begin with an assessment using a checklist whose purpose is to incorporate the gender approach into climate change instruments. Based on this effort, the various public policy instruments are reviewed and recommendations are generated to the particular institutions, to include gender perspective and reduce the gaps noted in the policy development and/or updating processes.

NCD-2020

It is suggested to develop a methodology to classify each NDC measure (and its monitoring, reporting and verification) based on its potential to be gender responsive, since the level of implementation in the gender approach could not be established. This methodology could be based on classifying each NDC measure into four groups: neutral, gender-sensitive, gender-transformative and potentially transformative.

General Recommendations for Complaint Mechanisms and Treatment of Environmental Crimes and Corruption Linked to Natural Resources and the Environment

Recommendations to demonstrate the gender approach in reporting crimes and corruption linked to the management of natural resources include disaggregation by sex, with an intersectional view of the people involved, from the reports to the solution and sanction mechanisms. Obtaining the information must lead to a definition of gender-responsive strategies.





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VII. ANNEX: GENDER ANALYSIS TOOL

A simple tool: Checklist⁴

INTRODUCTION TO ANY ACTION

Before starting any action, strategy or intervention to mainstream gender, the intersectionality perspective must be considered, which is explained in a training context focused on gender.

This intersectionality approach related to works against climate change is relevant. On the one hand, it enables us to identify all inequalities that come together and are enhanced in people and societies, causing vulnerability against the effects of change. This is essential to be considered in all adaptation and mitigation actions implemented.

On the other hand, when developing these adaptation and mitigation measures, those people and societies identified with multiple vulnerability factors must be actively taken into account, in order to build solutions tailored to the real situations and needs they face. That is, in order for all of us join forces against climate change, but without losing sight of the fact that not all of us are affected in the same way and, therefore, general solutions may be insufficient and ineffective.

DESIGN PHASE

- 1) Assign human resources necessary to integrate the gender approach and seek a balance of women and men in the composition of the project team.
- 2) Hire a person or organization specialized in gender equality and human rights to be part of the project design team.
- 3) Develop a methodology to collect data disaggregated by sex and perform a gender analysis with this data.
- 4) Conduct consultations with a wide range of stakeholders/players, to identify women rights holders and stakeholders and define their rights and interests.
- 5) Conduct a gender analysis to identify gender considerations relevant to the project through a review of information sources, existing plans and studies or focus group discussions or interviews with women and men from diverse backgrounds.
- 6) The analysis must:
 - a. Carry out a different analysis of the biological resources and ecosystem services on which communities depend, and benefits derived from said resources and services.
 - b. Identify the different roles, knowledge, needs, and contributions of women and men.
 - c. Identify the main gender inequalities.
 - d. Identify the strategic interests of women and men.

- e. Identify the main barriers, for example, cultural, institutional, social, that prevent stakeholders, particularly women, from participating fully and effectively in all phases of the project.
- f. Identify the risks, costs, impacts and opportunities of the project segregated by gender.
- g. Census the needs and preferences of women regarding their participation and distribution of benefits and costs.
- h. Include a baseline of information segregated by sex relevant to the project

7) Define the expected outcomes to promote gender equality and women's empowerment and propose a theory of change which identifies the enabling conditions to achieve them – this theory of change should be developed in consultation with key counterparts, including women's organizations.

8) Develop a gender action plan with expected results, actions and indicators for all topics covered by the project and include a budget for its implementation.

9) Integrate key points of the gender action plan into the Project Document (e.g., in the results framework, under the section describing the project strategy and, in the budget, among others) to ensure that measures are included to address gender gaps, risks and impacts segregated by gender throughout the entire project.

10) Include an annual gender budget in the Project Document to support activities that address gender inequalities and enhance opportunities to promote equality and empower women.

11) Design terms of reference for the project team to include the inclusion of a gender perspective, subject matter expertise, and the promotion of a balance between men and women in the project team, as a requirement.

12) Establish a gender group with team members and gender experts, including from academia and civil society, to meet periodically during the implementation and receive feedback on how to overcome barriers to achieve the goals that measure progress towards gender equality. The group may be independent or as part of the project Steering Committee or the project Advisory Committee.

PROJECT MONITORING AND EVALUATION PHASE

1. Ensure that project indicators are gender sensitive, that is, they enable changes in favor of greater equality to be monitored. It is important to ensure that these indicators are incorporated into the different results of the project, in addition to the results directly linked to gender equality and women's empowerment.
2. Use quantitative and qualitative data collection methods to contribute to the triangulation of results and capture changes that may be difficult to measure with solely quantitative methods. For example, use interview protocols which consider individual interviews for men and women, depending on the context.
3. Allocate enough financial resources to monitor the level and effectiveness of gender mainstreaming.
4. Include a gender section in the annual monitoring report to describe how gender-responsive actions were designed, implemented and monitored.
5. Document which have been the main benefits and added value, as well as the challenges and barriers of incorporating a gender approach in the project and include it in the project reports.
6. Conduct a periodic review (at least every 3 months) of how effective the gender strategy/ action plan was in the different stages of the project (design, implementation and M&E).
7. Ensure that the evaluation team is gender sensitive and has the mandate and capacity to evaluate how effective gender mainstreaming has been, and to include women and men in the team, if possible.
8. Request that all consultancies hired by the project report on gender results.
9. Assess whether the project appropriately addressed gender equality in the project life cycle. Take into account:
 - a) Document whether the project achieved gender transformative results.
 - b) Document whether the project had any impact on women in relation to their livelihoods, access to natural resources, sustainable livelihood opportunities, health, well-being, and leadership capabilities.
 - c) Document whether the project had any impact on reducing gender gaps and minimized social risks.
 - d) Document whether the project had any impact on the resilience of women and men facing environmental and climate impacts and risks.
 - e) Document whether the project results contribute to the SDGs, the gender mandates included in the MEAs, and whether it contributed to the design and/or implementation of domestic or national environmental policies or strategies integrating a gender approach.
10. Disseminate lessons learned, good practices and project evaluations through different means and with several stakeholders, ensuring that project beneficiaries are reached.



PARTICIPACIÓN
CIUDADANA
movimiento cívico no partidista

Wenceslao Alvarez 8, Zona Universitaria
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

www.pciudadana.org

Tel.: (809) 685-6200

info@pciudadana.org

@ · X ·  ·  @pciudadana

