

# The Evolution of Gender in the UNFCCC

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# The Evolution of Gender in the UNFCCC



# Gender in the UNFCCC Convention

- ▶ The UNFCCC is gender blind
  - ▶ Whilst the other Rio Conventions address gender and special needs of women. CBD, UNCCD
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- ▶ The first standalone decision related to gender was Decision 36/CP.7, adopted in Marrakesh in 2001
    - ▶ Its focus was on improving the participation of women in the representation of Parties in bodies established under the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol
    - ▶ Invited parties to give active consideration to the nomination of women for UNFCCC bodies
    - ▶ Requested the secretariat to highlight this decision to parties when electing representatives for UNFCCC bodies (and committees)
    - ▶ Requested the secretariat to maintain information on the gender composition of UNFCCC bodies

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- ▶ The next standalone Decision 23/CP.18 was adopted in Doha on promoting gender balance and improving the participation of women in UNFCCC negotiations and in representation of parties in bodies established pursuant to the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol.
    - ▶ Added gender and climate change as a standing item on the agenda of COP/SBI
    - ▶ Sets the goal of gender balance as gradual but significant increase in the participation of women for review at COP22
    - ▶ Requested views on options and ways to advance the goal of gender balance



## The Lima Work Program on Gender

- ▶ Establishment of two year work program up to 2016 focusing on:
  - ▶ in session workshop on gender-responsive climate policy with a focus on mitigation and technology development and transfer during the 42<sup>nd</sup> session of SBI and prepare a report on the workshop for consideration at its 43<sup>rd</sup> session. Parties requested to submit views by 18<sup>th</sup> February 2015.
  - ▶ in-session workshop with focus on adaptation and capacity building and training for delegates on gender issues during the 44<sup>th</sup> session of SBI and prepare a report on the workshop for consideration at its 45<sup>th</sup> session in December 2016. Parties to submit views by 18 February 2016.

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- Improve participation of women in the UNFCCC bodies
  - Training and capacity building of female delegates to the UNFCCC conferences
  - Parties to provide information on progress made in meeting goals of gender balance and gender responsive climate policy.
  - The secretariat to appoint a senior gender focal point
  - Requesting parties and organizations to support these actions



# Gender in UNFCCC Decisions and Conclusions

- ▶ COP20
  - ▶ Dec.18/CP.20 Lima Work Program on Gender invites parties to
    - ▶ Advance gender balance, promote gender sensitivity and achieve gender responsive climate policy in all relevant activities under the Convention
  - ▶ 9 decisions that reference gender
  - ▶ 2 explicitly refer to gender balance
  - ▶ 4 take a gender sensitive approach under adaptation
  - ▶ 2 decisions recognize the need for gender balance and gender sensitive approach
  - ▶ 1 decision takes a gender sensitive approach and views women as a vulnerable group: Lima Work Program on Gender



# Challenges

- ▶ UNFCCC Gender blind
  - ▶ Perception that climate change impacts are neutral
  - ▶ Not important agenda item
  - ▶ Inadequate understanding
  - ▶ Terms and definitions
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# Gender in the Paris Agreement

Gender provisions in:

- Preamble
- Adaptation
- Capacity building
  
- Mitigation, finance, technology
  
- Current work: elaboration of the Paris Agreement. Need to enhance gender considerations
- Need to integrate gender in finance, technology and mitigation



➤ Thank you very much