The Role of the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection in integrating Gender into the GH-NDCs

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Background

- The Government of Ghana over the years has prioritized its social development goals to promote issues of gender equity and equality, survival and development of children, as well as harmonize social protection interventions and programmes to contribute to the National Development
Background

In 2001 by an Executive Instrument (EI 8), the Government created the Ministry of Women and Children’s Affairs (MOWAC) to ensure that the rights of women and children were promoted for sustainable development. Subsequently in 2013 by an Executive Instrument (EI 1) Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP) was established.
Background

- MoGCSP is a merger of MOWAC and the Department of Social welfare the National Council on Persons with Disability and the Social Protection Division of the Ministry of Employment and Social Welfare (MESW).
Mandate

- The Ministry is mandated to coordinate and ensure gender equality and equity, promote the survival, social protection and development of children, vulnerable and excluded and persons with disability and integrate fulfillment of their rights, empowerment and full participation into National development.
Functions of MOGCSP

- As part of the Ministry’s mandate, it is required to:
  - co-ordinate gender, child and social protection related programmes and activities at all levels of development;
  - facilitate the integration of gender, children and social protection policy issues into National Development Agenda;
Policies

- To achieve its mandate the Ministry adopted the National Gender Policy (NGP); all state institutions and agencies are required to mainstream gender into their plans.
- Policy commitments in the NGP seek to engender climate change process and promote sustainable energy sources; particularly for women – Good entry point.
Policies

- The Labour Intensive Public Works Policy seeks to create employment for the poor and climate change mitigation through the rehabilitation of community assets including feeder roads and small earth dams- good entry points for climate actions
Other Documents

- The Ministry of has developed a curricula for mainstreaming Gender into Planning, budgeting, and M&E with a module gender equality and climate change
- Gender analysis framework and planning template and check list to aid gender mainstreaming
The Role of MOGCSP in the GH-NDCs

• The Ministry is to coordinate all gender related Climate Actions across all sectors to ensure that women and men are equal beneficiaries.

• Provide technical backstopping when it comes to integration of gender into all NDC interventions.
Opportunities

- Gender Equality Sector Group (GEST) – MoGCSP and the National Climate Change Steering Committee at MESTI: conversation is going on towards the setting up of a gender and climate change sub-committee under one of the above committees.
- All sectors appreciate the mandate of the Ministry.
Opportunities

- The presence of CSOs like Abantu for Development that are involved in Gender and Climate Change and are prepared to provide technical support
Challenges

- Weak coordination role of the Ministry because of budgetary and capacity constraints

- Inadequate capacity: The concept of climate change and the GH-NDCs is relatively new to the technical staff of the Ministry, so there is the need for capacity building in that area.
The way forward

- Stronger coordination between the MoGCSP and MESTI/EPA
- Adequate budget should also be made for mainstreaming gender into climate change
THANK YOU