GHANA’S EXPERIENCE ON GENDER INTEGRATION INTO NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS (NDCS)

BY

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MANDATES OF EPA, MOGCSP & UNDP IN THE NDC PROCESS IN GHANA

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is an agency under Ghana’s Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI). Under the NDCs, The EPA has responsibility for managing the gender component of the NDC support Programme in coordination with the Ministry of Gender, Children & Social Protection. The EPA also leads efforts for the development of the NDC Implementation plan and the Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) tool.

The Ministry of Gender, Children & Social Protection (MoGCSP) on the other hand has responsibility for coordinating and tracking progress on all climate change and gender related initiatives related to the NDCs. As part of this mandate, they are tasked to operationalise a gender and climate change sub-committee under the National Climate Change Steering Committee.

The UNDP provides technical and financial support to ensure that planned activities are executed effectively and efficiently for the achievement of planned results.
GENDER ANALYSIS: GHANA’S CONTEXT

- Key Requirement under the Paris Agreement: Development, submission and implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

- Ghana submitted its nationally determined contributions (GH-NDCs) to the UNFCCC in September 2015 before COP 21 held in Paris in December the same year

- Ghana’s submission was in response to key COP decisions by the UNFCCC
  - COP 17, COP 18, COP 19, COP 20 and COP 21

- Ghana’s NDC is anchored on the anticipated 40-year long-term development, GSGDA, NCCP and many other national policies

- Ghana’s submitted NDCs contain gender as a focused action

- A gender sensitive review of the GH-NDC for example shows that under the energy sector for example, the mitigation action which was indicated as being committed to gender equality is the expansion on the adoption of market based clean cooking solutions

- However there was a priority action on gender and the vulnerable with a priority option on building resilience for such groups placing emphasis on technology and capacity building which will be of benefit to men, boys, girls and women
GENDER ANALYSIS: SCOPE & KEY FINDINGS

- Ghana conducted gender analysis on its NDC actions in 2018
- The analysis focused on the Agriculture and Energy sectors with the view of understanding how these sectors are gender responsive regarding the NDCs that were submitted from these sectors

KEY FINDINGS

- **Ghana’s climate change policies** such as the National Climate Change Policy (NCCP), the National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy as well as policies in the energy and agriculture sectors recognised the importance of Gender Equality in achieving climate goals

- The gender analysis found **strong variations** regarding the climate change and gender responsiveness of policies, strategies and plans in the agriculture and energy sectors. Among the two sectors; the Agriculture sector policies are more gender responsive compared to the ones in the energy sector.

- **Weak coordination** on climate change and gender related actions; the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP) has the overarching responsibility of coordinating all gender and related programmes and interventions across all sectors of development, including gender and climate change. The concept of climate change is however relatively new to the sector ministry and thus, technical capacity gaps exist

- Women’s **participation and representation in decision making** spaces in the energy and agriculture sectors is woefully inadequate.
Women do not have satisfactory access to technical knowledge on agriculture (including information on climate smart agricultural practices) due to numerous barriers to accessing information and profiting from extension services and training.

Technical capacity gaps in the public sector to develop and implement gender sensitive climate action; Climate change and its gender dimensions are relatively new concepts. thus, key staff in the Agriculture, Energy and other related sectors have inadequate relevant capacity for the effective mainstreaming of gender and climate change into these sectors.

Inadequate sex disaggregated data for effective planning, monitoring and evaluation of gender sensitive climate action. The gap in sex disaggregated data is higher for the energy sector compared to the agriculture sector.

Again, a crucial capacity gap identified is the lack of gender sensitive indicators to monitor the implementation of the GH-NDCs hence limiting the ability to embark upon a gender sensitive measurement framework and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of the gender actions within the NDCs.
IMPLICATIONS OF THE FINDINGS FOR THE NDC PROCESS

The recommendations based on the findings are being translated into key actions to be mainstreamed into the broader NDC national implementation and sectorial plans to facilitate the implementation of Ghana’s climate commitments for the achievement of the objectives. In addition, plans are far advanced to integrate NDC actions (including gender) into national M&E and tracking system using high level indicators and the APR system.

These actions include:

- Develop and roll out for use at all levels, a country specific gender mainstreaming toolkit/manual with smart indicators to facilitate mainstreaming of gender into NDC relevant sectors.
- Develop and organize targeted climate change and gender capacity building Programme for key technical officers, Gender Focal Persons, planning and budget officers of relevant sector ministries including local government.
- Review policies in the energy sector and integrate gender into them.
- Establish and operationalize mechanisms for coordinating and monitoring gender and climate change related actions.
- Conduct sensitization among key stakeholders on gender and climate change issues.
- Increase women’s access to climate information including climate smart practices and technologies.
- Establish a data hub to facilitate the collection, analyse and use of sex-disaggregated data on the nature and impacts of climate change.
GENDER ANALYSIS PROCESS

Secondary Sources data was sourced from available policies, plans and strategic documents related to the two sectors of agriculture and Energy. In addition, the gender policy was reviewed as well as the water policy as it relates to Agriculture.

Primary Data was from two sources; first through conducting face to face interviews with technical officers including gender focal persons of the selected sectors and conducting two zonal consultative meetings covering broad stakeholders in the Northern and Southern sectors of the country. Stakeholders included staff from the two-sector ministries and their agencies, the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, The Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation (who are coordinating the NDCs), NGOs/CSOs including gender/women focused NGOs, Development Partners, the Academia and private sector organisations involved in on climate action.

Stakeholders were brought back into a validation meeting to validate the results of the gender analysis before the report was finalised.
GOVERNANCE/INSTITUTIONAL COORDINATION

- Ghana’s development agenda recognize gender inequality as a significant development challenge and put forward specific policy action to address them (GPRS I&II, GSGDA I&II and Agenda for Jobs)

- Existence of positive policy framework == “promoting equal opportunities and affirmative action for women and vulnerable groups in Climate change adaptation and mitigation through gender mainstreaming into national and sub-national climate change related policies” *(NCCP, 2013)*

- Existence of Ministry Gender, Children and Social Protection(MoGCSP) to promote the implementation of activities that address the rights of women and ensure the growth, survival and development of children

- Department for Gender tasked to integrate gender issues into development policies and coordinate gender activities; including climate change and gender initiatives.

- Plans are far advanced to establish a climate change and gender sub-committee under the National Climate Change Committee to be coordinated by the MoGCSP
GENDER TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP
## POLICY COHERENCE

### CC and Gender responsive Policies, Plans and Strategies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National climate change adaptation strategy (NCCAS)</th>
<th>National Climate Change Policy (NCCP) &amp; its master plan</th>
<th>NDC implementation institutional framework country report</th>
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<tr>
<td>REDD+ Strategy</td>
<td>National Gender policy</td>
<td>Gender Responsive National Communications Toolkit</td>
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**Gender Equality in National Climate Action: Planning for Gender-Responsive Nationally Determined Contributions**
OPPORTUNITIES FOR COORDINATION

LEADERSHIP

• The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection is better placed to coordinate gender responsive climate action in Ghana
• Gender ministry should be empowered to expand and use existing gender coordination platforms to advance gender responsive climate action including the NDCs
• The gender and climate change technical working group (TWG) establish under the NDC support programme is envisaged to provide technical backstopping to the MOGCSP

COORDINATION CHALLENGES

• Gender, climate change and other environment and development related policies exist separately, the challenge of how to bring coherence and synergy to advance climate change and gender actions
• Inadequate resources to facilitate effective coordination.

GENDER FOCAL POINTS

Majority of the gender focal persons across the NDC sectors have limited gender technical capacity; thus requires comprehensive training in gender mainstreaming including gender budgeting for their capacities to be strengthened.
PLANNING - CONSULTATIONS

NATIONAL GROUPS TO REPRESENT GENDER EQUALITY, INCLUSION & CLIMATE ACTION

• Ministries and agencies working in Climate Change related sectors
• Ministry of Gender and its agencies
• Gender Departments of Academic Institutions
• NGOs/CSOs working on Gender and Climate Change
• Gender Focal Points

EXAMPLES OF CONSULTATIVE PROCESSES

• Focus Group Discussions (Agriculture, Energy sectors)
• Stakeholder consultations with the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP)
• Consultative Meeting I (Southern Sector: Koforidua)
• Consultative Meeting II (Northern Sector: Tamale)
• Gender Technical Working Group Meeting (Koforidua)
OTHER ISSUES/NEXT STEPS

• Progress made regarding engagement of women in decision-making on climate change must be accelerated

• Partners and stakeholders so far identified must be engaged with on a continuous basis: the Gender Working Group on Gender and Climate Change to lead this process

• As an urgent measure, a Gender Action Plan (GAP) including a comprehensive capacity building programme on gender and the GH-NDC targeting identified sectors be developed

• A gender responsive monitoring and evaluation plan with gender responsive indicators and reporting mechanisms will be developed and implemented
THANK YOU