MoE
Vahakn Kabakian, Climate Change Advisor and Project Manager
- Climate change focal point
- Head of the NDC preparation and implementation committees
- Prepared the NDC and coordinates all climate-related activities in Lebanon from mainstreaming, reporting and incentivization

NCLW
Cathy Chami Tyan, Member of the Board and Head of the Environment Committee
- Promotes women’s rights in the Lebanese society and enhances gender mainstreaming in public institutions
- Included in the National Strategy for Women in Lebanon (2011-2021) environment and climate change components
- NDC will be mainstreamed in upcoming vision

EEWAY
Samar Boulos Najjar
- Ensures the equal rights of women and men to enjoy all economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights and privileges
- In their strategy, they support women’s participation in the planning of environmental protection, and aim to integrate gender perspectives in environmental policies and procedures for a sustainable development

NDC Revision
Update and Enhancement
- Better document the assumptions, methodologies and sources that constitute the NDC
- Update the numbers considering the inventory changes we will have when moving to the 2006 IPCC guidelines.
- The enhancement includes the increasing of our renewable energy target from 15% to 30% by 2030 and strengthening adaptation.
- Gender and the sustainable development goals will be tackled.
Methodology

A desk review of main documents related to climate change and gender globally and in Lebanon;

A comprehensive desk review of Lebanon’s climate change related documents (sectoral policies);

20 semi-structured interviews with 28 key stakeholders of the civil society, academic institutions, international organizations and public institutions and group meetings

Analysis

Focuses on the different aspects of the policy-making process related to climate change including data collection, existing capacities, institutional mechanisms and opportunities to mainstream gender;

Used general data on legal, social, economic and political aspects of gender relations in Lebanon;

Did not focus on a particular sector, but rather analyzed what areas Lebanon can conduct some further work on;

Because of limited time and resources, this analysis relies only on secondary data
The gender analysis did not focus on a particular sector, but rather analyzed what areas Lebanon can conduct some further work on;

To ensure the integration of gender into climate policies and planning, one of the key entry points is to undertake an analysis of the national context and identifying key sectors for action;

In Lebanon, women and men have different socially attributed roles and responsibilities with regard to productive, reproductive and community work;

Gender is not systematically mainstreamed into climate change policies and planning;

→ the NDC presents an opportunity to put gender at a higher level and priority. The NDC update will include language on combatting climate change while being gender-responsive.

Findings

How was the gender analysis useful?

- Opportunity for long-overdue stocktake

Clarification of entry points for mainstreaming

- Level of gender mainstreaming capabilities in different ministries

Expanded network of partners and enhanced collaboration

- Clear way forward with recommendations
Climate Institutions’ Context

- The NDC committee on mitigation: follow-up on the NDC implementation and other Paris Agreement requirements, while identifying climate action and transparency needs and gaps
- First meeting is planned in 2019. Many ministries and institutions involved in NDC preparation and SDG, DRR and gender institutions

Coordination Progress

- Our network of partners automatically expanded and coordination is already taking place between the MoE, the NCLW and the EEWAY
- The NCLW and EEWAY have a large network of gender focal points that are existing employees in the different ministries and institutions
  - Role: gender mainstreaming in planning, identify gaps, communicate within gender focal point network
  - Challenge: progress in-between institutions has been uneven (MoA – MoPWT)

Take gender higher

- Objective 9 of the NCLW strategy: need to coordinate between women’s organizations and NCLW, and the relevant authorities (ministries)
- Need to adopt an environmentally-friendly national policy, as well as developing a ‘women-friendly’ national environmental policy
- The implementation of that target within the framework of women activism will increase awareness and interest in the issue of environmental protection at the national level
Challenges

- Leadership: throughout the consultations, many stakeholders iterated that for any kind of mainstreaming to be successful, it has to come through the chain of command
- Capacity-building: very few experts knew the linkage between gender and climate change which hinders the engagement needed. A first step would be to understand how relevant is gender to combat and adapt to climate change before engaging in coordination

Opportunities for coordination

- On gender mainstreaming: work with specific ministries to pilot gender mainstreaming in climate-relevant policies
- CoM to adopt SOPs as enhancing leadership
- Regularly follow up with the NCLW and women’s ministry to take stock of the integration
- Coordination with the DRR office needs to include gender components
- Coordination with the SDG committee on SDG 5 and 13 is crucial to avoid duplication of efforts in implementation
- On gender tracking: include sex-disaggregated data requirements in institutional arrangements with ministries and institutions to report in BURs and NCs.
MoA strategy and FAO forestry strategy include sex-disaggregated data

What is needed for informed decision-making:
- Share of women and men in rural/urban population
- Share of men and women working in each sector
- By sector: repartition of men and women by type of activity and position
- Type of unpaid activities and time spent for each activity by sex
- Study on behaviors with regard to water use, transportation, food consumption... disaggregated by sex
- Level of education by sex and area of residence (urban / rural areas, by governorate)

Challenges to policy change
Gender and Climate Change

- Cultural barriers to gender equality and women’s participation
- Misunderstanding of gender and therefore not a priority
- Lack of data related to climate change and gender
- Lack of coordination

Challenges to gender-responsive MRV

- Disaggregation of data by sex is not automatic
- General data related to climate change sectors is not automatically collected and data is often unavailable or outdated
- Not well informed to formulate gender-responsive climate change strategies
Planning

(2)

From policy to sub-national planning

Key strategic objectives from NCLW 2017-2019 plan:
- Guaranteeing the inclusion of women in official commissions and committees mandated to put environmental policies on the local and national levels;
- Holding sessions and workshops addressed to women in universities and schools at the municipal levels to raise awareness on concepts of SD and climate change

Disaster Risk Reduction:
- Creating many local committees that include local authorities, Red Cross, community groups and municipalities with an emphasis on gender balance

Results and scaling-up

NCLW campaigning on environment for ministries, municipalities and CSOs through number of workshops to increase women’s awareness

Activities to be directly linked to a strategy of SD, and linked to the interest of women in the environment with national attention to that issue

→ NCLW with partner ministries to draft a national strategy for environmental protection and the rationalization of expenditure on water and energy and waste

Resources

Earmarking in budgeting is a national issue, very few expenditure accounts are relevant and categories are challenging to alter to accommodate different types of expenditures in the budget

Little funding goes to NCLW and other agencies working on gender

NDCSP gender and climate funding first resource of its kind
Enhancing Lebanon’s NDC

Including gender in the NDC is an opportunity to bring the gender/climate dynamic to a higher level.

Clear messaging in NDC: end all forms of discrimination, ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision making.

NDC can include details on how women are impacted by climate change and how Lebanon intends to address gender imbalance.

SDG-NDC synchronization and integration in NDC.

Gender and Climate Integration

Climate change mentioned in Objective 9 of the NCLW 2011-2021 strategy: positive role that women can play along with men to improve social behaviors to mitigate climate change and to adapt to its impacts.

National Strategy for Gender Equality 2017-2030: seeks to be in line with the Paris Agreement and the SDGs, and has incorporated climate change, environment, and natural crisis and disasters aspects into its key areas for actions.

Gender Action Plan: Lebanon currently assessing where it stands.

→ New exercise for Lebanon
→ Preliminary results: lack of understanding of the linkages, climate change is not 100% mainstreamed.
Ways to take it further

Raising awareness: bottom-up and top-down – through the NDC, SDG committees, the gender focal points and other stakeholders

Official twinning of the agendas through high-level events, speeches in international meetings, adopting the SOPs

Education: inclusion of gender in school curriculum, training of teachers

Leaders

MoE, NCLW, and EEWAY, CoM (DRR), MoA

CSOs: some have already integrated gender into their planning and projects

Climate change is generally not included in this collaboration so opportunity to mainstream climate change within CSOs

International community: linkages between SDGs 5 and 13 need to be brought forward at HLPF level, and the UNFCCC gender climate action plan more integrated into other UNFCCC items for enhanced mainstreaming

Media: reshaping gender culture
Main barriers

- Gender and its relationship to climate change is a relatively new aspect in Lebanon, the concept remains unclear for a majority of stakeholders
- The consultation with public institutions’ employees revealed a quite low understanding of gender and gender mainstreaming
- Gender was often referred to as the number of women employees and rarely linked to a structural issue
- Most of the interviewees did not have an idea on how gender can be mainstreamed into their sectors and at the institutional level
- No specific resource or budget is currently allocated in the relevant ministries

Entry points

- CSOs are benefiting from international donor requirements for gender and have started to mainstream gender into their programs and policies
- NDC committee, gender focal points, SDG committee: Trainings on gender and exchange of experience around gender mainstreaming are a successful mean of improving gender integration into climate related projects
- International organizations could fill the capacity-building gap by proposing comprehensive training programs on gender and climate change
- Creating gender units as proposed by some gender focal points for gender-integration into programs and policies
Preliminary results: The sectors of energy and waste obtain the highest score and should be prioritized for gender responsiveness from climate office.

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Recommendations

- Mainstream gender;
- Empower gender institutions’ role;
- Empower gender focal points;
- Build women’s capacities for climate change action;
- Enhance public institutions’ capacities to mainstream gender;
- Improve the data collection system.