

Gender Equality and Human Rights in Climate Action and Renewable Energy

Participant's Manual

E-workshop

6-7 April 2022

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Part 1

Introduction to the e-Workshop



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Background

Climate change effects are far-reaching and concern every aspect of society, from economic development to the realization of human rights. By multiplying existing threats, climate change disproportionately affects vulnerable groups – such as women, youth, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, reduce their ability to adapt and respond to its challenges, and enhances inequalities.

In this context, UN CC:Learn, UNEP and UN Women, under the project “EmPower: Women for Climate Resilient Societies”, supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), developed a free, self-paced e-learning course on “[Gender Equality and Human Rights in Climate Action and Renewable Energy](#)”. This course aims to equip decision-makers with the tools and knowledge to integrate gender and human rights into climate policies and commitments while explaining how to develop inclusive climate mitigation and adaptation actions, with a particular focus on the renewable energy sector.

This follow-up e-workshop aims to extend the knowledge of and offer a more context-specific learning for national policymakers, financial institution representatives as well as other professionals and stakeholders from the Asia-Pacific region, particularly from Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam. This event will include both separate country discussions as well as sectoral discussions, facilitating cross-country learning exchange and a more contextualized learning for the participants, using climate change policies from the 5 aforementioned countries as practical examples.

Learning Objectives

After completing the e-workshop, participants will be able to:

1. Identify gender equality and human rights dimensions relevant to climate action and policy
2. Discuss and outline gender equality and human rights actions within a specific sector
3. Identify and present good practices and key challenges to integrating gender and human rights into climate change from the Asia-Pacific region.

Certification

This e-workshop includes two possible levels of certification:

Level 1: All participants who actively participate in the e-workshop, attending both days, will receive a UN Certificate of Participation.

Level 2: Participants who test their knowledge and pass the final assessment, comprising of 2 sets of questions, distributed at the end of Day 1 and of Day 2, will receive a UN Certificate of Completion. Successful completion will require a score of 70% or higher in the final assessment.

The certificates will be sent via email to successful participants.

Resource Persons



Bryan Hopkins, Moderator

Bryan Hopkins has worked internationally in the learning and development field since the late 1970s, originally in education and then in consultancy with private sector and international government organisations. Since 2000, his work has primarily been with United Nations agencies and NGOs in humanitarian and development projects, and he was a staff member with UNHCR for three years, in the establishment of its Global Learning and Development Centre in Budapest. He has Master's degrees in development studies from Imperial College and in systems thinking from the Open University, and his fifth book "Learning strategies for sustainable organisations" will be published by Routledge in May, 2022.

Opening Remarks



Maria Holtsberg, Regional Humanitarian and DRR Advisor, UN Women in Asia and the Pacific

Maria Holtsberg serves as Humanitarian and DRR Specialist at the UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. She joined UN Women in 2019 after over a decade working in Asia on gender, humanitarian action and disaster risk reduction with Save the Children, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, and International Planned Parenthood Federation Humanitarian Hub. Since the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, she has served as COVID-19 Coordinator for the UN Women Regional Office.

Mozaharul Alam, Regional Coordinator, Climate Change Programme, UN Environment Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

Mozaharul Alam joined the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in 2009 and serving as Regional Coordinator, Climate Change for Asia and the Pacific Office. He provides strategic and technical guidance to design and implementation climate change actions. Before joining UNEP, he worked for Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS) and lead climate change programme. He also served the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of Bangladesh as a National Project Coordinator and successfully formulated National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) following an inclusive process. He participated climate change negotiations for more than two decades and coordinated adaptation group of G77 and China during 2007 to 2009. He also worked as Lead Author for Working Group II for IPCC Fifth Assessment Report.

Angus Mackay, Head, UN CC:Learn Secretariat, Director of Division for Planet, UNITAR

Angus Mackay is the Director of the Division for Planet at the UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) with responsibility for aligning all the environmental activities of the Institute with Agenda 2030. He is a climate change adaptation specialist and lead trainer, and has previously worked for a range of international organisations including the UN Department for Peace Keeping Operations, the UN Development Programme, the UK Department for International Development, the World Bank, as well as private sector environmental consulting firms.

Keynote Speaker

Fiza Farhan, Fomer CEO Buksh Foundation / Buksh Energy Private Limited, Member UN Secretary General's High-Level Panel on Women's Empowerment, CEO ORA Global Development Advisor

Fiza is a Pakistani social entrepreneur, business personality, activist and development expert analyst. Her work focuses on energy access and conservation, women's empowerment, microfinance and education. She is the co-founder of Buksh Foundation & Buksh Energy Private Limited, whereby as a practitioner she launched multiple innovations in the nexus between climate change & women's empowerment. Currently she works as a Global Strategic Development Advisor and founded ORA Global Development Advisors which focuses on development solutions to various Government, Private Sector & Development Agencies. Furthermore, she is a member of the UN Secretary-General's panel on Women's Economic Empowerment.

Presenters and Facilitators

Annette Wallgren, Programme Management Officer, Gender and Climate Change, UN Environment Asia Pacific Regional Office

Annette Wallgren joined the UNEP regional office team 5 years ago as the first full time gender expert and on behalf of UNEP she led the development and approval of the unique stand-alone project on gender, renewable energy and climate change. Prior to joining UNEP, Annette worked in crisis management for the Government of Sweden, women's political and economic participation in peacebuilding at UN Women in Kosovo, as a research assistant at PeaceWomen at the UN Headquarters in New York and with various NGOs in India and South Africa on women's rights and disaster risk reduction programmes. She has also conducted research in Ethiopia examining gender roles in times of a refugee crisis.

Dilruba Haider, Programme Specialist, Gender and Climate Change, UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

Dilruba Haider is a Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Humanitarian Action (HA) practitioner with 24 years of experience; currently working at UN Women to ensure that gender equality and women's empowerment is addressed in DRR/CCA/HA, not only to ensure women's and girls' rights, but also to maximise the impacts of these interventions benefiting men, women, boys and girls on the basis of equity.

Dr. Huraera Jabeen, Associate Professor in the Department of Architecture BRAC University, Bangladesh

Huraera Jabeen, Ph.D is an academic and development professional with over 20 years of experience on urban resilience, gender, and the built environment, with a specific focus on the intersection of gender and climate change in cities. She works as an Associate Professor in the Department of Architecture BRAC University in Bangladesh.

Maftuh Muhtadi, Associate Program Planner, Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection of Indonesia

Maftuh Muhtadi is a gender advocate working for the Indonesian Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection. He is currently an Associate Program Planner specializing in creating innovative programs to mainstream gender into development agenda in the area of economics. It includes, but not limited to, women SMEs, financial inclusion, renewable energy and infrastructure. Prior to this position, he was a foreign cooperation specialist assisting the ministry to initiate, maintain and develop its international partnership and portfolio. Maftuh was strongly involved in the advocacy of gender responsive climate budget tagging aiming at engendering climate mitigation and adaptation programs in ministries responsible for the issue. Maftuh is a member of GSI Reference Group under the UNDP Climate and Finance Network.

H.E. Ngin Lina, Deputy Secretary General of General Secretariat of the National Council for Sustainable Development, Ministry of Environment

H.E. Ngin Lina is the Deputy Secretary General of General Secretariat of the National Council for Sustainable Development, Ministry of Environment of Cambodia.

Madhavi Malalgoda Ariyabandu, Senior Expert, Disaster and Climate Risk Management, Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, Sustainable Development and Resilience Issues

Ms. Ariyabandu is a development professional with over 25 years of experience, with special interest on political economy of development, disaster and climate risk and resilience. She has worked in various capacities with the Government of Sri Lanka and with the UN. She has authored publications on varying aspects of disasters and sustainable development; Livelihood Centred Approach to Disaster Management, Gender and social inclusion, Disaster Communication. The publication 'Gender Dimensions in Disaster Management; a Guide for South Asia' has been translated into four South Asian languages; Hindi, Urdu, Tamil and Sinhala, from the original English edition. Madhavi is currently based in Sri Lanka, engaged as a Senior Expert in disaster and climate risk management, gender equality and women's empowerment, sustainable development and resilience issues.

Nguyen Sy Linh, Senior Researcher, Institute of Strategy and Policy on Natural Resources and Environment (ISPONRE)

Nguyen Sy Linh has more than 20 years of working experiences in ecosystem restoration, resource management, environmental protection and climate change responses at a local NGOs called Eco-Eco and state research institutions (FAVRI), (IPSARD) and (ISPONRE). Currently, Linh is Head of Department of Climate Change and Global Issues under the Institute of Strategy, Policy on Natural Resources and Environment (ISPONRE)- a think tank of Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (ISPONRE), conducting research and policy analysis related to climate change in Vietnam, and providing consulting services related to ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA), nature-based solutions (NbS), climate-smart agriculture (CSA), gender mainstreaming in climate change and disaster risk reduction actions, etc. From Jan.2020 to Mar. 2021, Mr. Linh involved in the study called “State of Gender Equality and Climate Change in Vietnam” supported by UNEP and UN-Women.



Vera Pokorny, Associate Specialist in Climate Change, Gender and Human Rights UN Environment Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

Vera Pokorny is Associate Specialist in Climate Change, Gender and Human Rights at the UN Environment Asia Pacific Office. She has experience working on gender and human rights in both national and international settings. This includes a traineeship at the Human Rights Division in the European External Action Service of the European Union, where she worked on gender equality and non-discrimination. As part of her work at the UNEP she supports the work on gender, human rights and the environment in the Asia Pacific Office. In particular, she contributes to the EmPower project's capacity building efforts to communities and national and regional policymakers.



Rotvatey Sovann, UN Women Cambodia Country Office

Rotvatey Sovann has a decade-long working experience on gender and development including in the area of disability, sexual and reproductive health, domestic violence, mental health and governance. She started her career in 2010 working with child-bearing age women and their family to promote gender transformative in family planning and SRHR. Since then, she has a gender activist and feminist who involved in networking and advocacy work for gender responsive law, policy and program, mainstreaming gender in disability and mental health sector, exploring contextualized conceptual framework for women transformative leadership, developing, and contextualizing various type of gender related curriculum and conducting research to contribute to building gender knowledge in Cambodia.



**Dr. Parimita Mohanty, Programme Management Officer,
Renewable Energy, UN Environment Regional Office for Asia and
the Pacific**

Parimita has more than 18 years of experience in sustainable energy, women's entrepreneurship and climate change. She has extensively worked on designing and implementing evidence-driven strategies, technology transfer and climate action plans in more than 15 countries that accelerate and sustain social and environmental impact. Prior to joining UNEP, Parimita worked with TERI, where she has taken the pride of leading the technology unit of globally recognized Lighting a billion Lives campaign and smart grid initiatives and brought number of technology innovations for the benefits of rural communities including women. She has led and successfully implemented solar women entrepreneurship project on the ground with innovative financing instrument in more than 10 south and south-east Asian countries. She sat in various technical committees in India and abroad and was the visiting researchers to many recognized universities in US and Europe.

**Athena Galao, International Consultant Gender and Climate
Change, UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific**

Athena Galao has over a decade of professional experience in the areas of humanitarian action, disaster risk reduction, and climate change adaptation. Her work centers on strengthening capacities on gender-responsive rights-based climate action through providing technical support to governments and organisations, co-creating tools and guidance, and facilitating knowledge production processes. Prior to joining UN Women, she has co-led research on climate finance, tracking adaptation funds and assessing its impact on adaptive capacity, poverty, and gender equality. She has also supported organizations in undertaking reflection and accountability actions.

**Thuyanh Tran, Programme Analyst, UN Women Vietnam
Country Office**

Thuyanh Tran works as Programme Analyst in UN Women Vietnam Country Office.



Agenda

Time	Session	Content details	Speakers/Facilitators
Day 1 – Wednesday 6 th April			
25 mins	Introduction	<u>Introduction to the e-workshop</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome and introduction - Opening remarks - Objectives and agenda - Zoom etiquette - Visual artist introduction <p>Introduction to participants</p>	Mr. Bryan Hopkins (moderator) Ms. Maria Holtsberg (UN Women) Mr. Mozaharul Alam (UNEP) Mr. Angus Mackay (UNITAR)
10 mins	Keynote Intervention	The transformational impact of a gender-responsive and human rights based-approach in climate action and renewable energy	Ms. Fiza Farhan (CEO, ORA Global Development Advisors, Member of UN Secretary High Level Panel on Women Empowerment)
15 mins	Session 1	<u>Regional overview</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gender equality, human rights, climate change and renewable energy – regional overview - The “EmPower: Women for Climate Resilient Societies” project and its resources 	Ms. Annette Wallgren (UNEP) Ms. Dilruba Haider (UN Women)
30 mins		<u>The status of gender equality in climate action in the Asia-Pacific region (experience-sharing)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bangladesh 	Ms. Huraera Jabeen (Bangladesh) Ms. Ngin Lina (Cambodia) Mr. Maftuh Muhtadi (Indonesia) Ms. Madavi Ariyabandu (Sri Lanka)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cambodia - Indonesia - Sri Lanka - Viet Nam 	Mr. Nguyen Sy Linh (Viet Nam) Interested participants
15 mins		Coffee Break	
50 mins	Session 2	<u>Understanding gender equality and human rights in climate policy (group activity)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction to group activity - Breakout groups (5 countries): Review – gender equality in a climate change policy 	Ms. Huraera Jabeen (Bangladesh) Ms. Ngin Lina (Cambodia) Mr. Maftuh Muhtadi (Indonesia) Ms. Madavi Ariyabandu (Sri Lanka) Mr. Nguyen Sy Linh (Viet Nam)
15 mins		Coffee Break	
45 mins		<u>Reporting back and self-reflection</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reporting back - Visual summary of key highlights of the day - Short self-reflection activity 	Mr. Bryan Hopkins (moderator) Group rapporteurs Ms. Desiree Llanos Dee (visual artist)
5 mins		Closing of Day 1	Mr. Bryan Hopkins (moderator)
Day 2 – Thursday 7th April			
10 mins	Introduction and recap	<u>Welcome to Day 2</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recap of Day 1 and overview of Day 2 - Ice breaker 	Mr. Bryan Hopkins (moderator)
50 mins	Session 3	<u>Gender and climate change (sectoral experiences)</u>	Ms. Parimita Mohanty (UNEP) Ms. Athena Galao (UN Women)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The importance of gender equality and human rights commitments in sectors - Sectors of focus (overview and examples): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy • Agriculture • Forestry 	Ms. Rotvatey Sovann (UN Women) Interested participants
50 mins		<u>Designing gender responsive sectoral activities (group activity)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction to group activity - Breakout groups (3 sectors): Designing gender responsive sectoral activities 	Ms. Parimita Mohanty (UNEP) Ms. Athena Galao (UN Women) Ms. Thuy Anh Tran (UN Women) Ms. Rotvatey Sovann (UN Women) Ms. Vera Pokorny (UNEP)
30 mins		Coffee Break	
35 mins		<u>Reporting back and self-reflection</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reporting back - Visual summary of key highlights of the day - Short self-reflection activity 	Mr. Bryan Hopkins (moderator) Group rapporteurs Ms. Desiree Llanos Dee (visual artist)
30 mins	Session 4	<u>Moving forward – where to from here?</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Momentum on the international and regional stage - Reflection on the e-workshop - Collection of commitments and steps forward from the audience 	Mr. Bryan Hopkins (moderator) Ms. Annette Wallgren (UNEP) Ms. Dilruba Haider (UN Women)
5 mins		Closing Remarks	Mr. Bryan Hopkins (moderator)

Part 2

Learning Journal



Photo credit: Abbie Trayler-Smith/Panos Pictures

Day 1

The main focus of the e-workshop in Day 1 is to understand the context and status of gender equality and human rights in climate action within the Asia-Pacific region and how this is integrated in national climate policies. After an inspiring keynote intervention and introductory presentations, an experience sharing segment will highlight insights from 5 countries in the region i.e., Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam, focusing on how gender equality and human rights are captured within their respective climate policies, providing lessons learned, and best practices. You will then have the opportunity within the breakout session to discuss, reflect and share your views based on your own experiences and country contexts.

Learning Objectives

- Identify gender equality and human rights dimensions relevant to climate action and policy
- Identify and present good practices and key challenges to integrating gender and human rights into climate change from the Asia-Pacific region.

Key Messages

- In many countries, pre-existing explicit and implicit sociocultural norms and societal roles result in **significant differences between the realization of human rights and opportunities available for women compared to men**. Women and girls – especially those in the Global South – bear the unequal responsibility of securing food and water and caring for children and the elderly, resulting in gender inequalities in both economic and social spheres which can inhibit equal outcomes from sustainable development. Climate change threatens to **further deepen these existing inequalities**.
- Asia-Pacific is the region most prone to disasters in the world, where 87% of the people were affected by disasters between 1970 and 2018. The region also experiences multiple disasters that sometimes occur alongside other disasters and are made worse by climate change and now the spread of COVID-19.
- Women and girls experience disproportionate impacts of climate change and disasters due to gender inequalities and structural barriers which expose them to risks and increase their vulnerability. Disasters reinforce inequalities, including increasing women's unpaid care work; increasing sexual and gender-based violence risks; limited provision of sexual and reproductive health care; and disproportionate loss of livelihoods for women.
- **Climate change and gender equality are being mainstreamed in national, sectoral policies and sub national laws, policies, strategies and plans** as part of the pathway towards climate resilient development and growth.

Day 1

If development and growth is going to be inclusive, equal and resilient, gender equality and human rights should be integrated and mainstreamed in conjunction with climate change considerations into all development policies and plans.

- **Gender mainstreaming** is the chosen approach toward realizing progress on women's and girls' rights, as a sub-set of human rights. It is a strategy for implementing greater equality for women and girls in relation to men and boys by assessing the implications for women and men for any planned action including legislation, policies or programmes, in all areas and at all levels and making women's as well as men's concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetrated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality.
- Climate action that integrates gender issues and takes a human rights-based approach has shown to have resulted in **multiple positive outcomes in social, economic and environmental spheres**. It has also promoted the enjoyment and fulfilment of human rights and in lessening inequalities.

Breakout session exercise

Case study: Review of a key climate change policy from the selected country (Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Sri Lanka or Viet Nam).

Instructions

- Following the presentation from the respective country experts on gender equality and human rights within national climate policies, you will have the opportunity to share and discuss your reflections, experiences and comments.
- You can think around the following issues to initiate the discussion:
 - (i) What are your perceptions on how gender and human rights are currently integrated in this policy?
 - (ii) What are other key gender and human rights issues in the country that need to be considered?
 - (iii) If you are from another country, how does this relate to climate policies in your country?

Reporting back, discussion and a summary of key points will conclude Day 1.

Day 2

Day 2 will focus on gender equality and human rights commitments in the context of three major sectors in the Asia-Pacific region i.e., Energy, Agriculture and Forestry. Here, an overview of the key gender equality and human rights aspects within each sector will be presented. This will be followed by experience sharing, looking at good practices and lessons learned in the region, across the 3 sectors. In the breakout group exercise, you will have the opportunity to develop gender-responsive activities based on a specified sectoral objective within the context of a gender action plan.

Learning Objectives

- Discuss and outline gender equality and human rights actions within a specific sector
- Identify and present good practices and key challenges to integrating gender and human rights into climate change from the Asia-Pacific region

Key Messages

- A **gender action plan** may be a standalone action plan or a set of actions included in the countries relevant climate change policy implementation plan to implement and operationalise their commitments to gender equality in climate action.
- It is a critical examination of how differences in gender roles, activities, needs, opportunities and rights affect women, men, girls and boys in certain contexts and situations as well as their access to and control of resources and the constraints they face relative to each other.
- You should conduct a **gender analysis and assessment** in the specific context to understand the situation for women and men and ensure proposed gender solutions and activities are localised and will deliver on the strategic objective of the policy/plan/strategy.
- Gender mainstreaming also requires the support of **different stakeholders**, including civil society organisations and development partners, to support national governments to provide space for women to voice their concerns and ensure their priorities are incorporated in decision-making on climate change and sectoral plans, policies and strategies.

Breakout session exercise

Scenario: Participants fill in gender-responsive activities in a gender action plan results framework.

Day 2

Instructions

- Following the context presentation, experience sharing and one's own knowledge and experience, you will develop 2-3 activities to fit into a sample gender action plan. A template of a gender action plan will be provided in each sector group.
- A strategic objective and output will be provided and you will then discuss in your groups to develop several gender responsive activities.
- You can think around the following issues for the discussion:
 - (iv) What are the specific barriers, from your country experience, that women face that hinder the achievement of the output?
 - (v) What are some of the activities or solutions that can be put in place to overcome these barriers?

Gender Action Plan Templates for Breakout Group Session

i) Agriculture

Objective: Climate smart agricultural practices are adopted by smallholder farmers to increase annual incomes and improve food security and nutrition for rural families	
Outputs	Activities
Men and women farmers have increased access to agricultural extension services to support uptake climate smart agricultural practices	

ii) Forestry

Objective: Forest conservation is strengthened through enhanced community forest management plans and effective participation of forest-based communities.	
Outputs	Activities
Community forest management plans are inclusive and promote gender responsive approaches to managing forest resources	

Day 2

iii) Energy

Objective: Clean, sustainable and affordable energy is adopted by small scale-business owners and entrepreneurs to increase the stability and profitability of their businesses.	
Outputs	Activities
Renewable energy products and services are available and accessible for small-scale women business owners and entrepreneurs	

The outcomes of the discussions will be shared in plenary and key summary points will be noted. Day 2 will then continue with a reflection on next steps, from the momentum that is building at all levels to personal commitments, linked with ideas for further support.

Methodology

The programme is designed to be interactive, participatory, and dynamic, taking advantage of a variety of different learning approaches, including:

- Inspiring keynote intervention to kick start the workshop
- Technical presentations from both international and national experts
- Experience-sharing opportunities
- Discussions among experts and participants
- Scenario exercises and group activities
- Visual illustration of the key points that emerge from the exchanges.

Resources

For further information, you can refer to the following resources:

- [Programme webpage](#)
- [EmPower: Women for Climate Resilient Societies website](#)
- [UN CC:Learn website](#)
- [UN CC:Learn e-learning platform](#)




Notes



CONTACT INFORMATION

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