



THE FULL VIEW

SECOND EDITION

Ensuring a comprehensive approach to achieve the goal
of gender balance in the UNFCCC process



RESEARCH REPORT BY
UN WOMEN AND THE MARY ROBINSON FOUNDATION – CLIMATE JUSTICE | NOVEMBER 2016



**Mary Robinson
Foundation**
Climate Justice

This research report builds on an earlier report published in May 2013 entitled, 'The Full View: Advancing the goal of gender balance in multilateral and intergovernmental processes', which highlighted best practices and lessons learned from various sectors to promote women's voice and agency and proposed a set of recommendations on ways to advance the goal of gender balance by Parties and observers to the UNFCCC. This second edition examines developments in the equal participation and representation of women in decision-making processes and seeks to expand on the lessons learned for the achievement of positive outcomes to promote women's voice and agency.



UN Women is the UN organisation dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women. UN Women supports UN Member States as they set global standards for achieving gender equality, and works with governments and civil society to design laws, policies, programmes and services needed to implement these standards. It stands behind women's equal participation in all aspects of life, focusing on five priority areas: increasing women's leadership and participation; ending violence against women; engaging women in all aspects of peace and security processes; enhancing women's economic empowerment; and making gender equality central to national development planning and budgeting. UN Women also coordinates and promotes the UN system's work in advancing gender equality.



The Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice is a centre for thought-leadership, education and advocacy on the struggle to secure global justice for people vulnerable to the impacts of climate change who are usually forgotten – the poor, the disempowered and the marginalised across the world. It is a platform for solidarity, partnership and shared engagement for all who care about global justice, whether as individuals and communities suffering injustice or as advocates for fairness in resource-rich countries. The Foundation provides a space for facilitating action on climate justice to empower the poorest people and countries in their efforts to achieve sustainable and people-centred development.

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Foreword



In 2015, world leaders agreed to take unprecedented action on sustainable development and climate change with the ultimate objective of securing a safe future for all.

As women leaders, we realise that without gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, we cannot achieve the vision laid out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement. Successful implementation urgently demands greater engagement of women in decision-making, and solutions that respond to the needs of the most marginalised, including women from rural and indigenous communities.

This second edition of the Full View focuses on new opportunities to enhance women's participation in the decision-making processes of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. We must enable *all* people to be part of the fight against climate change and, in doing so, secure climate justice for all. Climate justice integrates human rights and sustainable development and promotes people-centred approaches to climate action.

Many inspiring women are already leading as powerful agents of change in communities, countries and international agencies working on climate action, but they remain underrepresented in national and global decision-making. This is a damaging deficit.

It is significant that the Paris Agreement calls for climate action that respects and promotes gender equality and women's empowerment. Achieving an equal voice for women in the UNFCCC process, including those living in communities on the front lines of climate change, requires steadfast commitment from Parties, the Secretariat and civil society organisations. We must act to secure equal voice for women now.

A stylized, cursive signature in black ink.

Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka
Executive Director
UN Women

A cursive signature in black ink that reads "Mary Robinson".

Mary Robinson
President
Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice

Executive Summary

The full and equal participation of women in decision-making processes in all spheres of life is fundamental to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women. Key intergovernmental outcomes that uphold women's right to participate in decision-making include the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Beijing Platform for Action, as well as several resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). These important norms have laid the foundation for several international commitments made in 2015, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement, to assert that gender equality and the empowerment of women are crucial and indispensable to realising sustainable development and effective climate responses.

Indeed, as the Preamble of the Paris Agreement and a number of decisions by Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) have affirmed, women's leadership and participation in decision-making processes is imperative to ensure that climate policies and programmes are gender-responsive and just. Within the UNFCCC process, progress in the participation of women in the bodies and delegations has remained slow despite the adoption of landmark gender mandates under Decision 23/CP.18 titled 'Promoting gender balance and improving the participation of women in UNFCCC negotiations and in the representation of Parties in bodies established pursuant to the Convention or the Kyoto Protocol' (2012) and the Lima Work Programme on Gender (LWPG) adopted in 2014.

To achieve gender balance and gender-responsive climate policy, comprehensive strategies must be taken to overcome structural barriers women face and enhance participation of women in the composition of national delegations and in the membership of the bureaux and constituted bodies established under the UNFCCC. Relevant measures employed by other processes at the international, regional and national levels can help inform efforts to achieve the goal of gender balance within the UNFCCC process.

Research for this report reviewed policies and practices of intergovernmental bodies, national governments, regional mechanisms and other related initiatives, to draw lessons for the UNFCCC Parties, secretariat and other stakeholders in advancing the goal of gender balance, and to enhance gender-responsive climate policy. To realise the goal of gender balance, the research points to key recommendations for actions to be taken by Parties to the UNFCCC, Parties at the national level and the UNFCCC secretariat.

THESE INCLUDE ACTIONS: FOR PARTIES TO THE UNFCCC

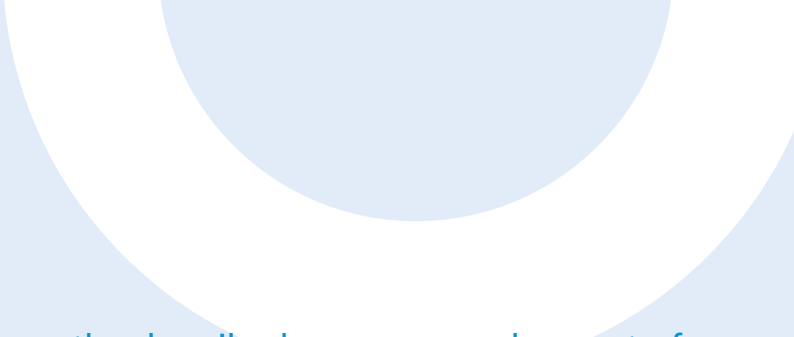
- Include incremental targets with specific timeframes for the participation of women in any decision and institute temporary special measures, including the use of quotas, for existing and new bodies
 - Expand opportunities for leadership positions by a commitment to co-leadership or rotating leadership and commit to gender balance among speakers when constituting panels
 - Mandate the preparation of a technical report and the holding of a workshop on structural impediments to women's participation in the UNFCCC process
 - Allocate a certain percentage from the UNFCCC Trust Fund for Participation to fund participation of women delegates, and commit to creating a separate, targeted trust fund for women delegates from least developed countries and small-island developing states.
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FOR PARTIES AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

- Set an initial quota of 30 per cent for women in Party delegations to UNFCCC meetings and progressively increase to 50 per cent at the end of a six year period
 - Allocate dedicated travel and capacity-building funding for women delegates to ensure their full and equal participation in the UNFCCC process and promote awareness training on gender balance and gender-responsive climate action for all delegates
 - Include representatives of civil society and grassroots organisations on Party delegations and encourage the inclusion of grassroots women on the NGO delegations
 - Develop a national gender-responsive climate change action plan.
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FOR THE UNFCCC SECRETARIAT

- Maintain and regularly update its online platform for sharing all pertinent information on women's participation and gender-responsive climate policy
 - Collect and analyse data on women's participation in the UNFCCC process including membership and chairing of informal bodies and groups; disaggregate data on the composition of bodies by sex and regional representation and regularly report such data to UNFCCC bodies
 - Provide information to Parties when they are constituting bodies and informal contact groups, or when they are appointing facilitators and chairs, on available measures to promote gender balance
 - Formalise a dedicated gender equality networking platform to allow women delegates to discuss strategies, network and collaborate with civil society representatives.
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To reinforce the described measures and as part of a comprehensive set of actions to achieve gender equality and ensure the systematic integration of a gender perspective in all thematic areas of work of the UNFCCC, the following complementary measures are strongly recommended:

- Parties should mandate the development of a gender policy that lays down the principles and the over-all framework to implement the gender-related mandates of the UNFCCC decisions and the Paris Agreement
- The policy should mandate the elaboration of a Gender Action Plan (GAP) which would include priority result areas, key activities, indicators of success, timelines and responsible actors, and resource requirements for each area. Result or action areas should include:
 - Key entry points for the integration of a gender perspective in all relevant areas of work of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement
 - Research and analysis on gender-responsive climate policy and actions
 - Capacity-building on gender mainstreaming and gender-responsive climate policy for women and men participating at COPs
 - Identification of partnerships and resources to support the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the areas of work of the UNFCCC
 - Mechanisms for monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the GAP.
- The GAP should be complemented by a work programme, to be reviewed and updated every three years.

Acronyms and Abbreviations

AAAA	Addis Ababa Action Agenda
2030 Agenda	2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
ADP	Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action
AU	African Union
BPfA	Beijing Platform for Action
CBA	Community Based Adaptation
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CMP	Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol
COP	Conference of the Parties
CSW	Commission on the Status of Women
ECOSOC	United Nations Economic and Social Council
EIGE	European Institute for Gender Equality
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GGC	International Geneva Gender Champions
GGCA	Global Gender Climate Alliance
GPoA	Gender Plan of Action
HLPF	High Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development
INDCs	Intended Nationally Determined Contributions
IPU	Inter-Parliamentary Union
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
NCs	National Communications
NDCs	Nationally Determined Contributions
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
PI	Performance Indicator
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SBI	Subsidiary Body for Implementation
SBSTA	Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

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