



GCF AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ISSUES

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) strives to establish and promote a paradigm shift to low-emission and climate-resilient development, taking into account the needs of developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts.

In carrying out its mandate the GCF will effectively and equitably manage environmental and social risks and impacts, and improve outcomes of all GCF-financed activities, ensuring as well equal participation of women, youth, indigenous populations and other minority and highly vulnerable groups.

GCF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL POLICY

Equality and non-discrimination are part of the basic Guiding principles of the GCF **Environmental and Social Policy (ESP)** highlighting that any adverse impacts from GCF funded activities do not contribute to disproportional social inequality, do not increase the vulnerability or marginalization, and ensures accessibility to resources and benefits to be provided without discrimination and prejudice.

Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS) aims to reduce conflict, ensure equal benefit and avoid harm to people and ecosystems.

Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) is a set of standards that specifies the desired outcomes and the specific requirements to achieve these outcomes through means that are appropriate to the nature and scale of the activity and commensurate with the level of environmental and social risks and/or impacts.

WHAT IS THE GCF GENDER POLICY?

The GCF gender policy aims to ensure contribution of the GCF projects to gender equality, to take into account gender aspects, and, in turn, *mainstreaming of gender and social factors make climate events more effective, sustainable and efficient.*

Gender policy is applied to all GCF activities, regardless of whether they are implemented by international, regional, national or subnational, state or private organizations.



COUNTRY OWNERSHIP

The National Designated Authority (NDA) must assess the compliance of project proposals with the GCF gender policies and standards, as well as national and international policies to achieve the factual gender equality and inclusive approach within the GCF financed projects

Climate change impacts men and women differently to the detriment of women and is likely to exacerbate existing gender inequalities.

To mainstream gender into its decision-making and project/programme proposals, the GCF adopted and implemented its [Gender Policy](#) and [Gender Action Plan](#).



SCHEME OF MAINSTREAMING GENDER IN THE GCF PROJECT CYCLE



THREE METHODS OF GENDER AND SOCIAL MAINSTREAMING

- Gender analysis:** must be carried out and submitted together with the funding project/programme proposals to the GCF. It should include a review of the situation on gender equality in the country and in the targeted sector(s) related to the project proposal. The analysis is needed to improve *the understanding that the sociocultural factors underlying the climate change exacerbate gender inequality*, as well as understanding of *the potential contribution of women and men to social change in order to increase resilience* and ability to respond to climate change;
- Gender action plan:** must be submitted with the GCF project application, indicating methods and tools for *promoting gender equality* and *reducing gender gaps* in project activities, gender performance targets and sex-disaggregated targets.
- Gender-sensitive monitoring and evaluation:** *measuring the results and impacts of project activities on women and men's resilience to climate change* (disaggregated by sex, age, region, etc.); supporting equal participation in the project activities and M&E, as well as in decision-making processes.

Gender equality is the cornerstone for sustainable development!

CONTACTS

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