

Gender and Biodiversity: Advancing gender responsive approach to biodiversity conservation



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Gender Matters

- Gender Perspective on Biodiversity (Factsheet)
- COP13 documents on gender mainstreaming
- SBI2, key agenda items on gender mainstreaming (July 2018)
- Findings & Reflections from Community Conservation Resilience Initiative (CCRI)
- Recommendations
- Post-2020 biodiversity framework
women on the frontlines of change





Men and women tend to rely on different forest products, and their knowledge reflects these different responsibilities in the household and community. Women's knowledge may be linked more directly to household food and nutrition needs, as well as health and culture, with a preference for multipurpose species for subsistence use. Comparatively, men's interests are more connected to commercial use.⁸

Female household members generated about 4 times more forest income than male members.¹⁰



Compared with men, women were able to identify a broader range of plant species (trees, vegetables, vines, bushes and herbs) and usable plant parts (fruit, bark, leaves, seeds and roots).⁹



Various studies have found

Women are generally underrepresented in forest user groups such as village forest committees and community forest associations.¹¹



Gender-balanced community forest groups perform consistently better in all forestry functions (the protection of plantings, forest regeneration, biodiversity and watersheds and the allocation of forest-use permits).¹²



Greater involvement of women in forest governance may support forest policy and planning that is more responsive to the food security needs of communities.¹³



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COP13 DOCUMENTS ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING

Decision XIII/1: Progress in the implementation of the
Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity
2011-2020 and Aichi Biodiversity Targets

13. Further encourages Parties to systematically mainstream gender considerations in their national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and in associated implementation and reporting mechanisms in line with the 2015–2020 Gender Plan of Action under the Convention on Biological Diversity; Decision XII/7.



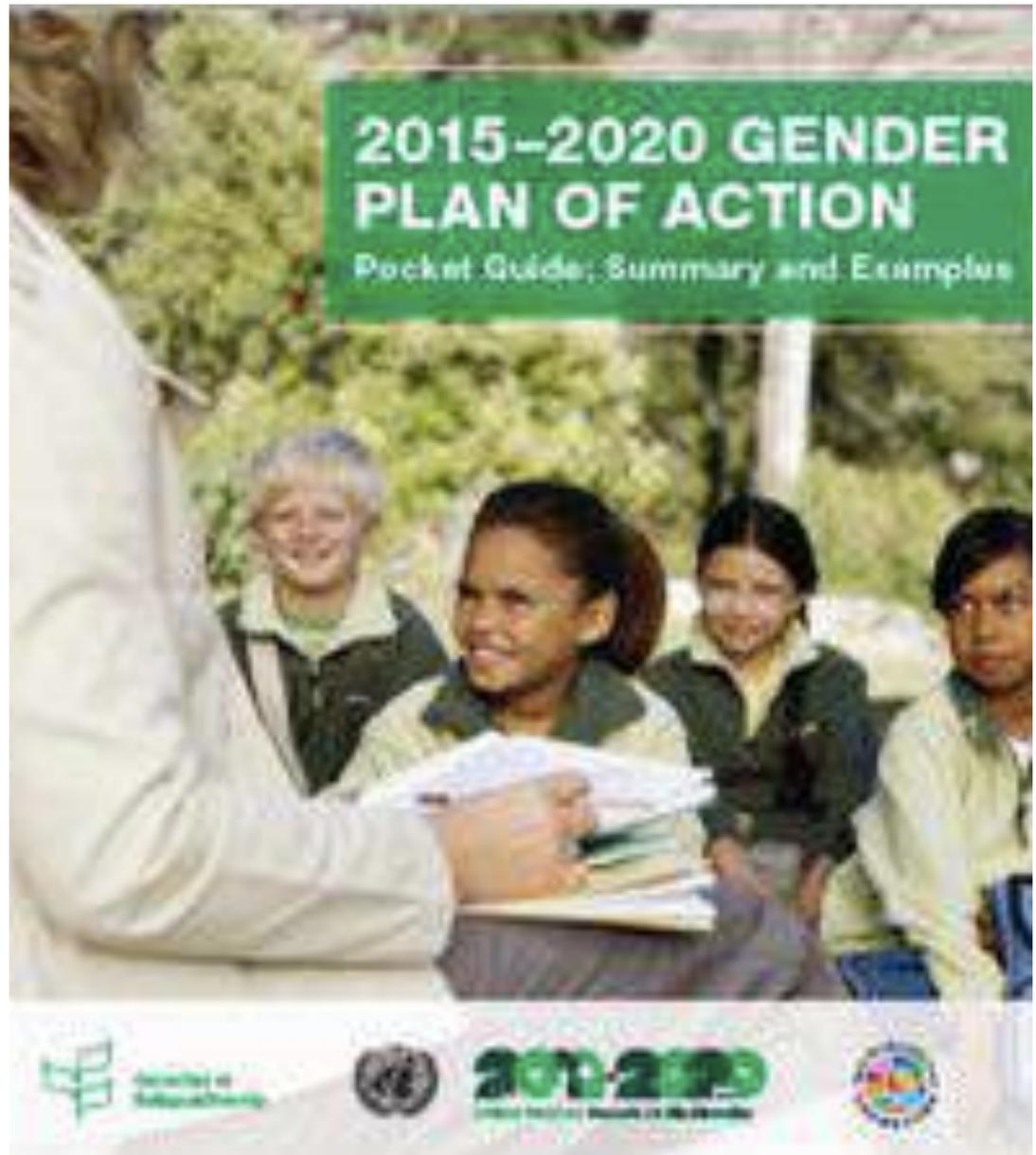
Decision XIII/3: Strategic actions to enhance implement of Strategic Plan and Aichi Targets

101. **Recognizes the vital role of women in mainstreaming biodiversity in agriculture, forestry and fisheries, and tourism and other sectors** as well as the need to take fully into account the role, rights, needs and aspirations of women in all biodiversity mainstreaming policies and actions;
102. **Also recognizes Sustainable Development Goal 5, requests** the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to continue the work with **respect to gender mainstreaming to support the implementation of the 2015-2020 Gender Plan of Action**, taking into account the vision and perspective of indigenous women, including through support to Parties in integrating gender considerations into their revised national biodiversity strategies and actions plans, as well as in integrating biodiversity in national gender policies and actions plans;



CBD Decision V/16

CBD decisions: The Conference of the Parties, in its [decision V/16](#) Article 8(j) and related provisions, adopted the Programme of Work on the Implementation of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions, which requests, **in Task 4**, that Parties develop, as appropriate, mechanisms for promoting the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities **with specific provisions for the full, active and effective participation of women in all elements of the programme of work**.....and preserve women's knowledge of biological diversity.





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SBI2 KEY AGENDA ITEMS FOR GENDER MAINSTREAMING

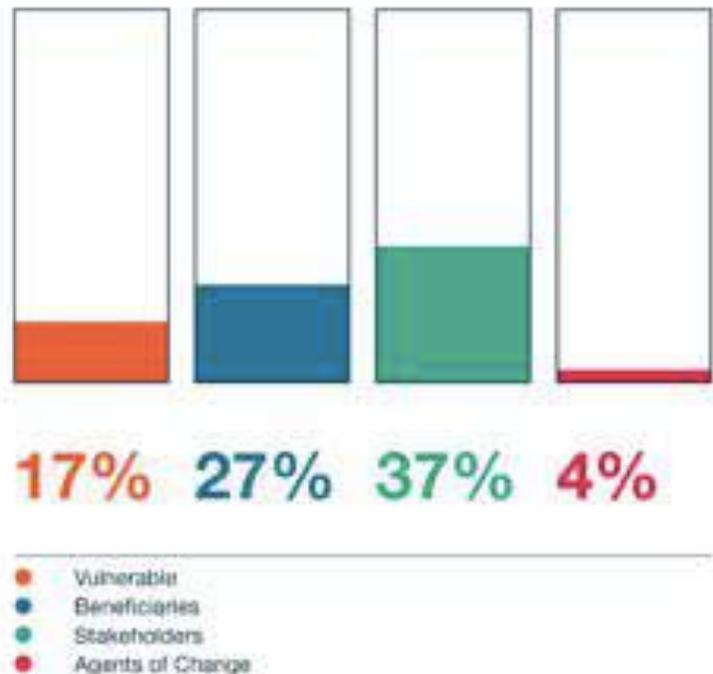
Key Agenda Items on Gender: SBI-2 (9-13 July 2018)

- **Item 3:** Progress in the implementation of Convention and Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020
- **CBD/SBI/2/2Add.3**- Progress in the implementation of the 2015-2020 Gender Plan of Action
- **Item 13:** National reporting and assessment and review



Analysis undertaken by IUCN's EGI of all National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) available through the Convention's search portal received by the CBD from 1993 to May 2016

COUNTRIES' CHARACTERIZATION OF WOMEN, BY PERCENTAGE OF ALL COUNTRIES



Review of revised NBSAPs received following CBD 10 (Nov. 2010) through mid-February 2018 (post-Nagoya NBSAPs), found that the result of the review were similar to those of the review previously undertaken by IUCN EGI.

- Primarily awareness raising and secondly on increasing women's participation in biodiversity conservation.
- **(CBD/SBI/2/2Add.3)**

Challenge

- Participation in **national reporting** processes:
 - *Sixth national reports are due in December 2018*
 - *National report template (Decision XIII/27):
section on contribution of IPLCs is optional and no section specific on the contributions of women*
 - *Important to engage with this process at
(sub-)national level – reports will feed into GBO
and post-2020*



CCRI partners in 22 countries working with 68 communities



<http://globalforestcoalition.org/campaigns/supporting-community-conservation/>

Nepal

More than 15,000 Community Forestry User Groups (CFUGs)

A total of 18,134,78 hectares of national forest has been handed over as community forestry.



Community Forestry Program Development Guideline 2015 (3rd amendment) **provides** for equal representation of women in each executive committee of Community Forestry Users Group (CFUGs)

Women from the Gunduribadi tribal village in the eastern Indian state of Odisha patrol their forests to prevent illegal logging. Around 27 households are working with fellow residents to map the boundaries of this 200-hectare forest that the community claims as their customary land.

At the forefront of the movement are women from tribal communities in states like Odisha who are determined to make full use of a 2012 amendment to India's Forest Rights Act (FRA); a provision of the amended FRA gave forest dwellers and tribal communities the right to own, manage and sell non-timber forest products (NTFP), which some 100 million landless people in India depend on for income, medicine and housing. Some 850 villages in the Nayagarh district of Odisha state are collectively managing 100,000 hectares of forest land, with the result that over half of the district's land mass now has forest cover, more than double India's national average of 21 percent.

India



Women from the Gunduribadi tribal village in the eastern Indian state of Odisha patrol their forests with sticks to prevent illegal logging. Credit: Manipadma Jena/IPS

Malaysia (Sahab)

Tombonuo community, Sungai Elo Pitas

- Documentation of *Momokan* and community protocol on mangrove management
- Community also engaging with other community and NGOs for support and fact finding mission
- The community is promoting the environmental, social and cultural importance of the mangroves and their management and protection, and is appealing to the state government and related agencies to stop the clearing of the mangroves.



Malaysia (Sabah)

"For us in Sungai Elol, there are many challenges because the area that we have been taking care of for nine generations, is being taken over by the government for a non-sustainable development—the largest shrimp pond in Malaysia. This affects the livelihood source for us, the Indigenous people of the area. We should be given the chance to defend our rights. We are not anti-development, but we want a balanced development. We do not want to lose our rights as the Indigenous people, who are defending our community conservation areas, due to development."

**Mastupang Somol, 53 years old.
Native Customary Rights Defender
from Kampung Sungai Elol in Pitas,
Sabah, Malaysia**

A Sungai Tombonuo woman gathering shells in the mangrove forest in Kampung Sungai Elol in northern Sabah. Pacos Trust



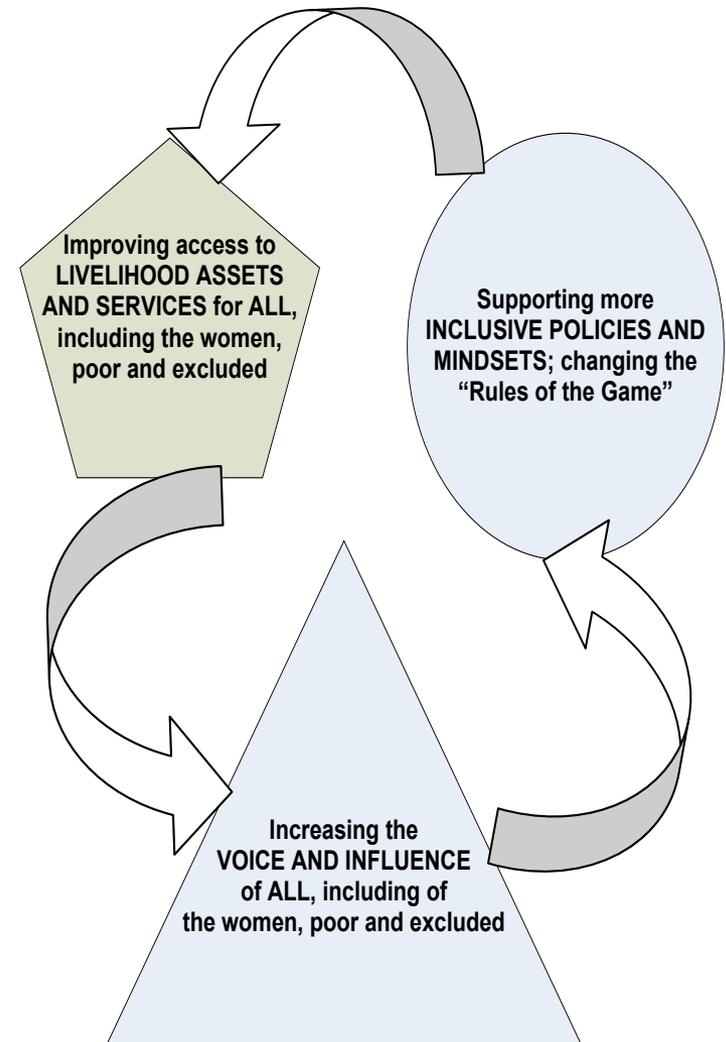
Key findings

- Protecting **traditional community conservation practices** and promoting ecosystem/habitat regeneration is a priority
- Respecting and implementing Indigenous Peoples', local communities' and women's **human rights** and the rights to govern their land and resources is fundamental to their capacity to continue conserving biodiversity
- **Involving women is essential** to protecting and recovering traditional knowledge, practices, capacities and resilience
- **Supporting productive strategies** that promote traditional community livelihoods and wellbeing will promote biodiversity conservation
- Supporting **education** for communities and others about rights, drivers of change, and the environment is vital



Conclusion

- Data disaggregation of indigenous peoples and local communities, including of women, poor and other to be included
- States are usually good at formulating gender equality and social inclusion policies, there is a need to address and strengthen the synergies between gender policies and forest policies
- Need for better integration of the contributions of women in reporting of both the SDGs and CBDs national reports.
- Need for recognition of the role of women as stewards and **“agents of change”** of biodiversity conservation.



Domains of Change

Source : HURDEC

Gender Transformative Change



Source: ICIMOD's strategic approach towards gender equity and analysis 2013-2017

Goes beyond identifying and exploring the symptoms of gender equality, and addresses social constructed norms, attitudes, and relations of power that underlie them. It is committed to rigorous gender analysis, organisational change, capacity and institutional strengthening, and ensuring gender positive impact through meaningful participation of women and men in leadership, policy and decision-making processes and institutions.



Recommendations (1)

Gender Sensitive Indicators

Both quantitative targets and qualitative interpretation with gender sensitive indicators to be developed, tools and methods to ensure gender sensitive M&E. Recognise women not as vulnerable but instead as equal partners and as change makers.

Gender sensitive Technology

Besides recognition of traditional knowledge, access to new technology and innovation, infrastructure should focus on the aspiration and preferences and needs of different group including peoples with disabilities, youth and others.

Gender Budgeting

Gender sensitive resource allocation, involve a gender-sensitive analysis of budget priorities, allocation and distribution pattern and equity issues. Women's representation at local government level, including inclusion of women groups in the national steering committee.

Capacity Building

Understanding gender, identifying the social, cultural and economic relations between men and women and how these relationships are socially constructed. Encourage leadership role.



Recommendations (2)

Gender-Disaggregated data

To make visible the gender-differentiated practices and knowledge of men and women with biodiversity resources including management and conservation of biodiversity.

Partnerships & Coordination

Partnerships and networks should be built and strengthened to promote gender mainstreaming within the biodiversity conservation and management. These should include women's organisations, including CSOs, local

Building Complementarity

Bridging and reinforcing the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular to Goal 5 that is cross-cutting.

Harmony between sector policies/ strategies, constitutional policies and the different processes, the three Rio Conventions and the SDGs at international, regional and national policy and legal framework. the government needs to review and reform all relevant policies to harmonize, including among different reporting processes.





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POST-2020 BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

Key areas of work

- Contributing to development of **post-2020 framework**:
- Contributing to **Gender Plan of Action 2015-2020**:
 - *Progress towards implementation to be reviewed in SBI (Item 3)*
 - *Possible post-2020 Gender Plan of Action and/or gender to be better integrated into post-2020?*





Thank you

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