

B+30 ENVIRONMENT WG RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Introduction: women and the environment analysis

There is an urgent need for the UNECE Member States to fully meet the environmental and gender equality undertakings through recommendations since the adoption of the BPfA in 1995 to date, including the provisions of [UNFCCC](#), [CEDAW](#), [UPR](#), [the Sendai Framework](#), [the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda](#), CSW Agreed Conclusions, and ILO Decent Work Convention. Yet, complex and interlocking crises, including climate change, conflict, poverty, hunger, water scarcity, malnutrition, and environmental degradation's effect on health are still prevalent. Those commitments must be fully implemented to protect the rights of all women and girls.

Gender-responsive approaches to environmental mitigation and resiliency efforts must be [immediately](#) integrated to protect and increase the rights of all women and girls and accord us to achieve full equality. Action is required on at least these fronts: increasing women's presence in leadership roles and creating conditions for women to engage more meaningfully in community life, by the creation of opportunities for women and girls' participation at various levels of governance as well as in diverse leadership roles.

2. Our key recommendations: Three (3) are suggested for B+30 with immediate effect:

1. Empowerment of all women and girls through equal access to funding, as an inclusive operational model in mitigation, adaptation and resilience to climate change.

Member State policies should fund women's full participation in climate action, leadership, and entrepreneurship, ensuring sustainable development and advancing the future, health, and wellbeing of both the environment and all women and girls.

2. Environmental effectiveness requires environmental education.

Member States must provide universal environmental education to foster the adoption of effective disaster risk reduction policies and to implement programs that protect the interests of all women and girls, now and in the future.

3. Secure access to a reformed and sustainable food and [agroecosystem](#), including access to clean water and healthy environments for all women and girls.

Reform food and agroecosystem and policies at the national, regional, and local levels, ensuring an holistic, efficient, inclusive, resilient, gender-responsive and

sustainable food production systems to mitigate and adapt to climate change and restore the natural environment.

Focus on short-, medium- and long-term action steps:

1. Short-term

Mitigating and reversing environmental degradation is critical.

Humanity's survival depends on bold leadership, and decisive action steps to restore our planet and protect the life and health of future generations.

Environmental policy-making, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Member States must:

- o Provide a feedback loop from the implementation phase, comprising of evaluation, monitoring, and effective updates to respond to the ever-changing environmental circumstances of the ecosystem's degradation; and
- o Develop robust and conduct regular monitoring and evaluation systems to track progress and ensure transparency of gender dimensions, environmental policies and programmes that identify gaps, barriers, and opportunities for advancing gender equality for women and girls empowerment.

Gender sensitivity indicators ("GSI"), responsive disaggregated data collection ("RDDC"), and analysis:

- o GSI must be used to assess the impact of the development of environmental policies for all women and girls support, see reference to SDG 5 and FAO Guidelines, to measure gender transformative changes in the context of food security, nutrition, and sustainable agriculture.
- o RDDC must be utilised, whilst mechanisms for data analysis, and reporting on gender and environmental indicators should be developed to ensure disaggregated data by sex and other socio-economic factors are identified and tackled. A coherent national and local data-collection system should be agreed upon to enable mutual cooperation.
- o Capacity building should be required to strengthen the national government's expertise for informative environmental decision-making be provided, such as the development of processes, systems, and resourced abilities to efficiently and accurately read the reality of all women and girls from the national and local settings, whilst analysing effective mechanisms by the implementation of gender-responsive governance and adjusting policies to offer added knowledge and skills for the benefit of all women and girls.

Empowerment of women's leadership through equal access to funding and an inclusive operational model must be:

- o Increased, securing proportional distribution of power, authority, and leadership amongst all stakeholders in the development cooperation process, ensuring half of the planetary workforce, women are represented. Implement gender-transformative approaches putting women at the centre of development and creating conditions for our meaningful engagement in climate action.
- o Promoted, for democratic policy-making to foster people-centered and

gender-responsive governance to ensure women's participation. Leadership must be promoted at every level of society, whether in the family, community, government, corporation, or nation.

- o Galvanised, so Indigenous and vulnerable populations of women and girls are directly supported by empowering and promoting leadership, through mechanisms such as the Green Climate Fund and Member States commitments on the Loss and Damage Fund.
- o Sponsored independently, to create women and girls networks and coalitions focused on environment and technology, providing platforms for advocacy, information sharing, and collective action.
- o Mentored, to assist all women and girls to gain decision-making and leadership skills necessary for assuring that all women and girls have options and ability to make decisions conducive to our well-being, of our families and others.

2. Medium-Term

Environmental effectiveness requires environmental education to:

- o Create gender-responsive policies to promote women-led, community-oriented, and gender-responsive implementation of *UNGA Resolution 76 300 on the Human Right to Clean, Healthy, and Sustainable Environment*; reduction, reuse, and recycle through the development of environmental educational programs; and creative changes to existing habits and actions on over-consumption, aiming to reduce the negative environmental impact.
- o Secure financial support to inclusive and environmental education to institutionalise and implement gender mainstreaming in all levels of educational institutions through financial support, overcoming any form of oppression through the acquisition of self-knowledge and increasing climate literacy as one of the critical elements to revert climate change.
- o provide STEAM, Green Studies, and Higher Education Access: Investment in those and local coaching, targeted grants, and quotas. Whether as leaders in (circle) economic thinking, policymakers, climate activists, smallholder farmers, or other capacities, women, and girls must be given access from basic to higher education programmes, encouragement, and sponsorship for capability use in regenerative agriculture and agroecological transformation.
- o Invest in comprehensive environmental education ensuring long-term quality education at all levels for women and girls; specifically in demographic groups of women and girls such as: those below 18 and up to 30 and over 65 years old; individuals with disabilities, indigenous communities, low-income families affected by the climate crisis; and living and working in areas invested by fossil fuels and derivative products as a cause of inequalities, climate destruction, and exacerbated consumerism.

2.3 Long-Term

Reform and secure access to a sustainable food and agriculture system, including access to clean water and healthy environments to mitigate and adapt to climate change and restore the environment

- o Gender-responsive technology access ensures benefits from technological options, including AI leadership for agroecological, technological transformation of food systems, and

fresh, clean water to reduce hazards and chemicals.

- o Women's participation in the transition to regenerative agricultural practices and regenerative agriculture to improve biodiversity. Establishment and implementation of women-led, regenerative, climate-smart agricultural practices, policies, and programmes such as nature-based solutions, permaculture, organic production, carbon farming, agroforestry, crop diversification, and improved soil and water management - mitigation and adaptation measures for sustainability of agrifood systems, protecting and restoring ecosystems.
- o Women's leadership in environmentally sound businesses and economies through female entrepreneurship and innovation programmes for a faster shift to reduce climate change impact in business environments. Ensure public funding for projects that benefit female entrepreneurs equally.
- o Economic growth and development with female leadership through agroecology by promoting innovative, nature-integrated, and environmentally-friendly economic activities that ensure the protection of natural resources.
- o Youth, specifically girls and young women's empowerment in environmental policy-making to foster clean tech for youth in this and future generations. Recognize and incorporate the rights and contributions of generational youth in policy-making, environmental education, and programme implementation.