



TECHNICAL PAPER ON GENDER RESPONSIVE CLIMATE ACTIONS IN SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES (SIDS) FEBRUARY, 2022

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UNDP Publication Coordination Team

Regional Hub
José Cruz-Osorio, Manager, of the Regional Hub for the United Nations Development Programme in Latin America and the Caribbean

Guillermina Martin, Gender Team Leader in charge, Regional Hub for the United Nations Development Programme in Latin America and the Caribbean

Andrea Quesada-Aguilar, Gender, Environment and Sustainable Development Specialist, Regional Hub for the United Nations Development Programme in Latin America and the Caribbean

Patricia Oviedo Specialist in Gender Mainstreaming in Climate Change Gender Cluster, United Nations Development Programme in Latin America and the Caribbean

Barbados Team
Valerie Cliff, Resident Representative for the United Nations Development Programme Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean

Ugo Blanco, Deputy Resident Representative for the United Nations Development Programme Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean

Mohammad Nagdee, Head of Cluster Sustainable Solutions, Energy and Climate Change, United Nations Development Programme Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean

Massimiliano Tozzi, Project Manager- Enabling Gender-Responsive Disaster Recovery, Climate and Environmental Resilience in the Caribbean (EnGenDER) Project, United Nations Development Programme Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean

Meshia Clarke, Technical Specialist Gender Equality- Enabling Gender-Responsive Disaster Recovery, Climate and Environmental Resilience in the Caribbean (EnGenDER) Project, United Nations Development Programme Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean

Marium Alleyne, Technical Specialist Climate Change- Enabling Gender-Responsive Disaster Recovery, Climate and Environmental Resilience in the Caribbean (EnGenDER) Project, United Nations Development Programme Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean

Sherri Frederick, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist- Enabling Gender-Responsive Disaster Recovery, Climate and Environmental Resilience in the Caribbean (EnGenDER) Project, United Nations Development Programme Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean

Elizabeth Charles-Soomer, Technical Specialist Disaster Recovery- Enabling Gender-Responsive Disaster Recovery, Climate and Environmental Resilience in the Caribbean (EnGenDER) Project, United Nations Development Programme Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean

Erica Greaves, Project Associate-Enabling Gender-Responsive Disaster Recovery, Climate and Environmental Resilience in the Caribbean (EnGenDER) Project, United Nations Development Programme Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean.

Janina Jasmin Blessing, Gender and Climate Change Consultant with the Enabling Gender-Responsive Disaster Recovery, Climate and Environmental Resilience in the Caribbean (EnGenDER) Project, United Nations Development Programme Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean

Headquarters (HQ)
Verania Chao, Programme Specialist, Climate, Gender and Inclusion, Climate Strategies and Policy Team, Nature Climate Energy Team, HQ

This paper has been designed by Ms. Shani Leacock, Communications Advisor with the UNDP Multi-Country Office Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Office.

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ACRONYMS

AF	Adaptation Fund
AOSIS	Alliance of Small Island States
BGA	Bureau of Gender Affairs
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CSO	Civil Society Organization
EnGenDER	Enabling Gender-Responsive Disaster Recovery, Climate and Environmental Resilience in the Caribbean
GAB	Gender Affairs Bureau
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GRB	Gender Responsive Budgeting
LWPG	Lima Work Plan on Gender
NMDM	National Mechanism for Decision-Making
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NTACCC	National Technical Advisory Committee on Climate Change
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
NMDM	National Mechanism for Decision Making
PWDs	Persons with Disabilities
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change



INTRODUCTION

Small Island Developing States (SIDS) have supported and continue to support climate actions that promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and vulnerable groups. Governments and civil society actors with support from international organizations have strengthened their national policies and institutional mechanisms, planned gender responsive climate change actions, and enhanced national-level capacities to incorporate gender equality considerations. These countries have also developed climate change and gender action plans, gender responsive Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs). They also support gender responsive programmes related to climate-smart agriculture and energy projects.

The objective of the paper is to highlight examples of gender responsive climate actions implemented by Small Island Developing States (SIDS) that contribute to the achievement of the country's climate goals and commitments, as well as the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the Enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender and its Gender Action Plan. Special attention is given to the role of gender considerations in enhanced NDCs, or examples of SIDS with gender responsive actions already included in their first or updated NDCs, all of which inform the analysis. The paper focuses on and highlights how countries are moving from policy to action and provides a comprehensive analysis of the enabling conditions required to implement gender responsive climate mitigation and adaptation actions on the ground. In this context, the paper identifies best practices in SIDS across regions that showcase national actions to ensure the development and implementation of gender responsive climate policies and strategies. It is expected that the case studies featured in this technical paper will inform and inspire countries in other regions to implement gender responsive climate change actions.

CASE STUDIES

The case studies were identified through a call for country experiences issued by The Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Virtual interviews with key stakeholders in the Caribbean, African, and Asia-Pacific regions complemented this call. In addition, information was obtained through a web-based scoping study followed by a desk review.

The paper includes two types of examples and good practices on:

1. How countries have strengthened the enabling conditions related to governance, planning, and policy required to implement gender responsive actions on the ground *and*
2. How countries have implemented gender responsive actions across specific sectors related to mitigation and adaptation.

The selection of the case study examples was based on the following criteria:

1. **Transformational impact:** The case study contributed to significant, sustainable, and sustained change at the policy, programme and/or institutional level.
2. **Synergy with the Sustainable Development Goals:** The case study contributed to the fulfilment of one or more Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda.
3. **Contribution to the implementation of the Lima Work Programme on Gender and its Gender Action Plan.**
4. **National or subnational impact:** Development impact at regional or national level clearly demonstrates gender responsive impacts.
5. **Replicable approaches:** Case study examples which demonstrate unique gender responsive elements in climate change actions that can be replicated or upscaled.

SECTION 1.

INTRODUCTION: ANALYSIS OF GENDER COMMITMENTS RELEVANT TO SIDS

Our guiding path: Summary of UNFCCC gender mandates and Enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender and Gender Action Plan.

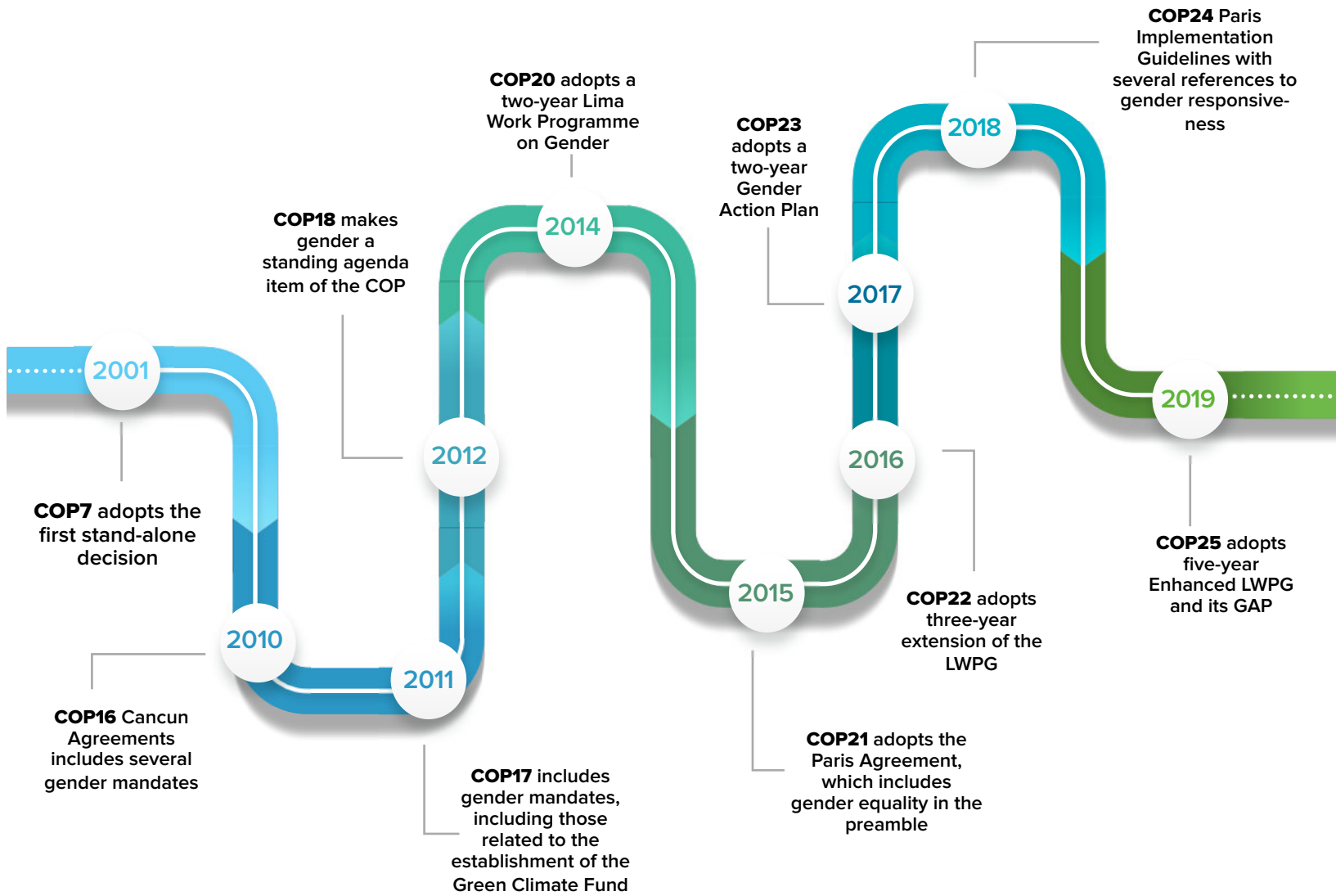
This section summarizes the most important milestones related to gender in UNFCCC decisions. The UNFCCC has made significant advances in integrating gender across all thematic areas in the negotiations. In 2015, the Paris Agreement acknowledged the need for gender equality as a preamble principle for all climate action and concerning adaptation and capacity building. One of the major milestones of the UNFCCC is the adoption of the Enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender and its Gender Action Plan in 2019. The Lima Work Programme on Gender (LWPG) was launched in 2014. In 2016, the LWPG was extended for three years, and a two-year Gender Action Plan (GAP)¹ was adopted in 2017. In 2019, the implementation of the LWPG and GAP was reviewed, and a five-year Enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender and its Gender Action Plan² (Decision 3/CP.25) was adopted at COP25. The enhanced Gender Action Plan sets out objectives and activities under five priority areas and the framework for gender responsive SIDS commitments in developing countries' NDCs (Figure 1).

FIGURE 1. FIVE PRIORITY AREAS OF THE ENHANCED GENDER ACTION PLAN



Gender mandates have been included in the UNFCCC decisions since 2001 and every major thematic area of the negotiation includes at least one gender mandate.³ One core element of the LWPG and the GAP is to strengthen the implementation of these existing mandates. Figure 2 summarizes gender milestones related to gender and climate change in the UNFCCC.

FIGURE 2. GENDER MILESTONES RELATED TO GENDER AND CLIMATE CHANGE⁴



¹ http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/bonn_nov_2017/application/pdf/cp23_auv_gender.pdf
² https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cp2019_13a01E.pdf

³ https://unfccc.int/files/gender_and_climate_change/application/pdf/gcc_drc_2017_1_9may2017.pdf
⁴ Source: Pocket Guide to Gender Equality 2020 Edition, Oxford Climate Policy 2020

GENDER RESPONSIVE CLIMATE POLICY INSTRUMENTS: BRIEF ANALYSIS OF THE NEW GENERATION OF NDCs OF SIDS AND HOW THEY HAVE ADDRESSED GENDER CONSIDERATIONS

This section outlines the current trends and gender considerations in the most recent Nationally Determined Contributions. Since 2015, countries have initiated the integration of gender equality initiatives into climate action, at differing levels of engagement. The 2021 NDC Synthesis Report⁵ summarizes the 164 latest available NDCs representing all 191 Parties to the Paris Agreement. This report shows an increasing consideration of gender integration as a means of enhancing the ambition and effectiveness of their climate action. The report also highlights a significant increase in gender mandates in the new or updated NDCs compared with the previous NDCs. This is also confirmed by UNDP’s preliminary gender 2021 gender assessment of the reviewed NDCs that shows that gender is considered better integrated into the revised NDCs as compared to the first submission.

GENDER INTEGRATION IN NDCs: SIDS PAVING THE WAY

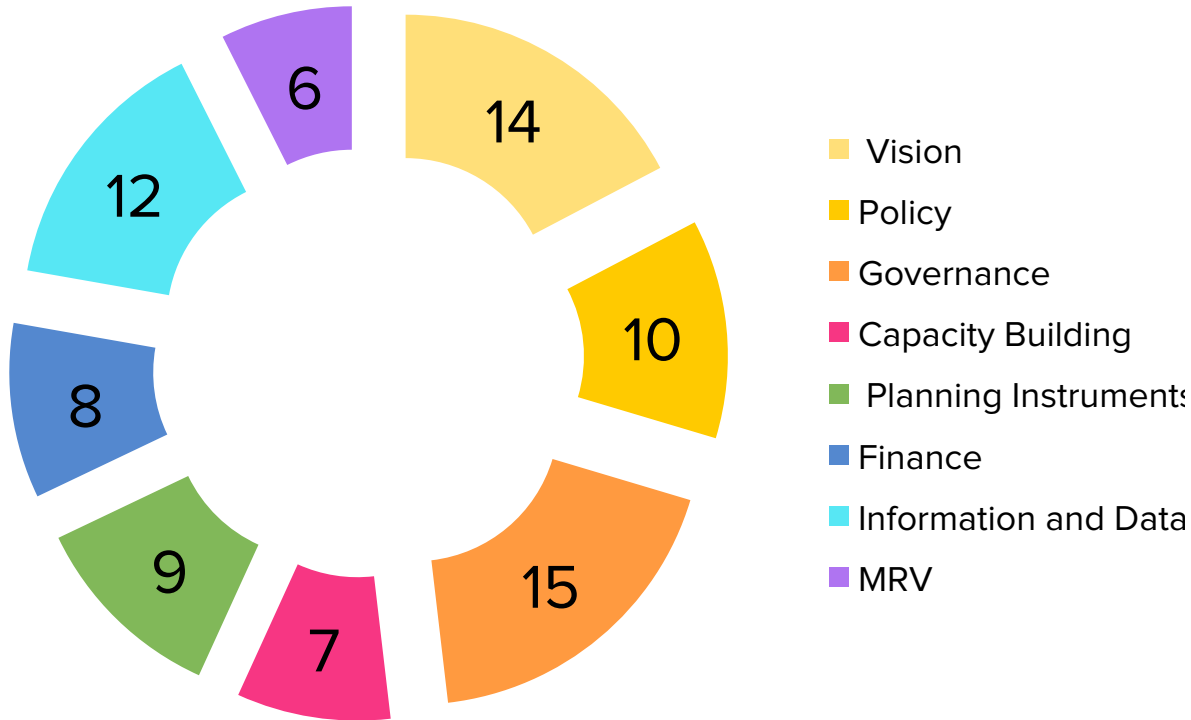
Regarding the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) of SIDS and other AOSIS countries, many of the submissions have shown a positive evolution in relation to gender. An analysis conducted by UNDP in 2021 shows that 22 of the AOSIS members have submitted their updated NDCs as of Oct. 7, 2021.⁶ Most of the countries have included gender considerations (91%) and more than half of the countries have included gender considerations related to mitigation (55%) and adaptation (64%). It is interesting to note that 8 countries have also included specific actions to empower women as part of their climate agendas.

Gender considerations integrated in revised NDCs	Total number of countries	List of countries
The NDCs mention gender/women or both	20	Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Cabo Verde, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Grenada, Jamaica, Maldives, Mauritius, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, Suriname, Tonga, Vanuatu
The NDCs mention gender/women in relation to adaptation	14	Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Cabo Verde, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Maldives, Mauritius, Papua New Guinea, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, Suriname, Vanuatu
The NDCs mention gender/women in relation to mitigation	12	Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Cabo Verde, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Papua New Guinea, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu
The NDCs mention gender/women at a sectoral level	12	Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Cabo Verde, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Maldives, Papua New Guinea, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu
The NDCs recognize women as vulnerable groups	9	Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Cabo Verde, Papua New Guinea, Mauritius, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Vanuatu
The NDCs recognize women as agents of change	3	Cabo Verde, Dominican Republic, Sao Tome and Principe
The NDCs promote women’s empowerment	8	Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Cabo Verde, Mauritius, Papua New Guinea, Seychelles, Vanuatu

GENDER DIMENSIONS AND ELEMENTS

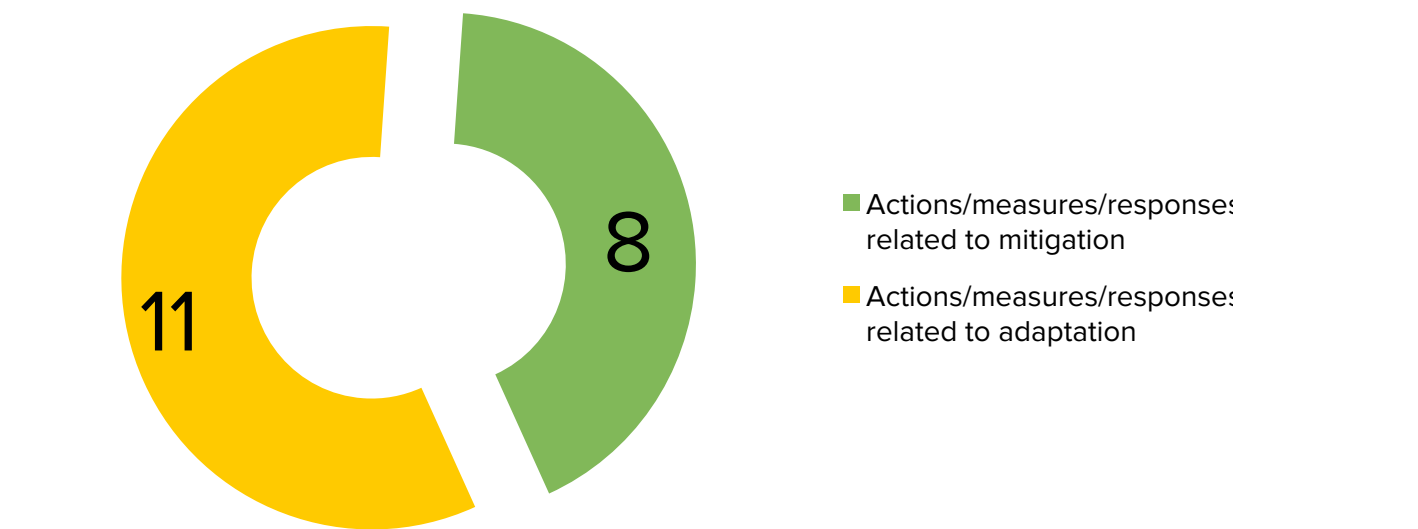
In this new generation of NDCs gender considerations are included in a more comprehensive and ambitious manner. As it can be seen in graph 1, gender issues have been addressed in multiple sections of the NDCs. This means that gender is not only considered as a principle or cross cutting issue in the vision, but these NDCs have included actions to promote gender equality in the implementation process of the NDCs (i.e., capacity building, planning, finance, and MRV). Countries are also showing greater ambition with regards to promoting gender equality as almost half of the countries have included gender responsive mitigation or adaptation actions (Graph 2). In addition, several countries have included actions to address gender differentiated vulnerabilities and promote gender differentiated contributions (Graph 3).

GRAPH 1. Number of AOSIS countries that include gender considerations in Vision, Policy, Governance, Capacity Building, Planning Instruments, Finance, Information and Data, MRV

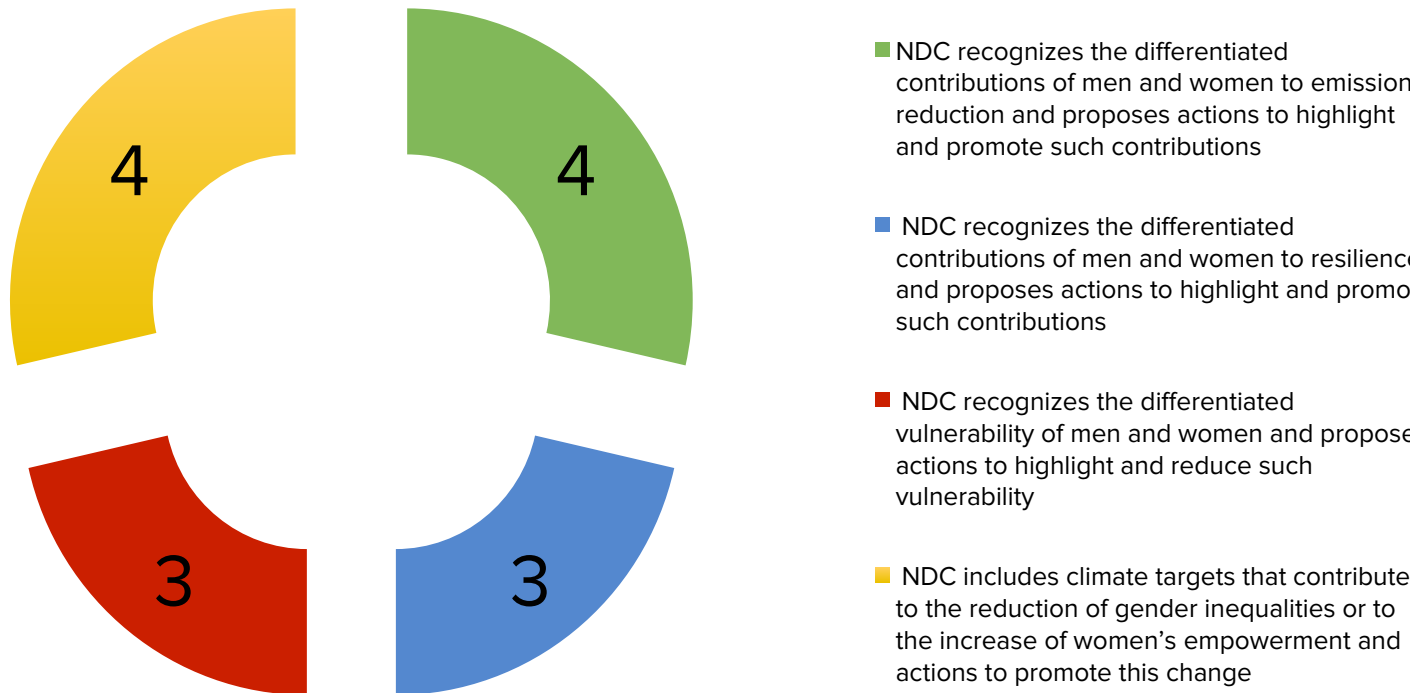


⁵ UNFCCC Synthesis report 2021, available at: https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma2021_08_adv_1.pdf
⁶ Total AOSIS countries that have submitted NDCs as of Oct. 7, 2021 = 22. Antigua and Barbuda; Barbados; Belize; Cabo Verde; Cuba; Dominican Republic; Fiji; Grenada; Jamaica; Maldives; Mauritius; Papua New Guinea; Republic of the Marshall Islands; Samoa; Saint Lucia; Sao Tome and Principe; Seychelles; Singapore; Solomon Islands; Suriname; Tonga; Vanuatu

GRAPH 2 Number of countries that include actions/measures/responses related to mitigation and to adaptation



GRAPH 3 Number of countries that include high gender ambition actions/measures/responses



Examples of actions to promote gender equality that were implemented during the review of the SIDS NDCs

- Grenada has undertaken a gender responsive NDCs revision process and has anchored inclusivity as a cornerstone of its development process. The inclusion of gender and youth considerations represent an expansion in scope relative to the first NDCs.⁷
- Papua New Guinea has taken a gender responsive approach in all planning, programming and implementation of its targets⁸, through integrated stakeholder engagement.
- Tonga has intended to strengthen its mitigation ambition targets and increase adaptation action for coastline protection and marine protected areas and has integrated perspectives of gender and indigenous people in the revised NDCs.⁹

GENDER RELATED TRENDS

Some interesting gender-related trends emerged as part of the analysis of the 2021 NDCs Synthesis Report. Countries that submitted their enhanced NDCs in 2020/21 highlighted:

- The importance of gender analyses or assessments, gender-disaggregated data, gender indicators, and gender responsive budgeting.
- The importance of gender responsive consultations that recognize the gender differentiated needs and perspectives of women and men and the gender-differentiated impacts and contributions to climate change and climate action.
- The importance of incorporating gender responsive climate action in the specific sectors, including energy, agriculture, health, disaster, water, land use and forestry, fisheries, and education.
- The importance of providing capacity-building, finance, and technology for gender-specific action and the means of implementation to be gender responsive.

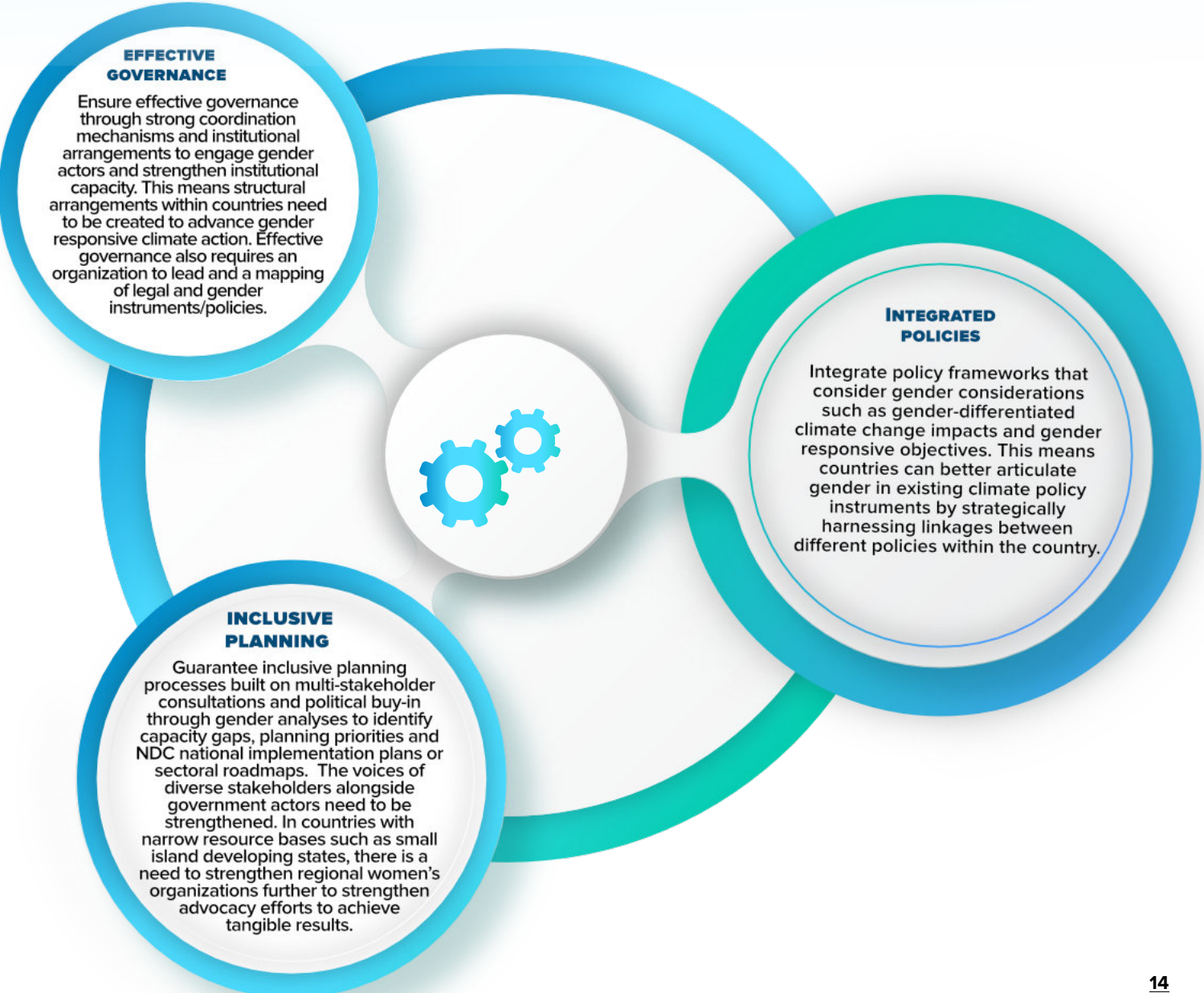
⁷ Climate Promise. Gender Analysis of NDC Processes in Grenada. 2021
⁸ <https://pacificndc.org/articles/papua-new-guinea-submits-enhanced-ndc-unfccc>
⁹ UNDP Climate Promise Progress Report, May 2021

SECTION 2.

FROM POLICY TO ACTION: ANALYSIS OF ENABLING CONDITIONS THAT SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GENDER RESPONSIVE CLIMATE ACTIONS

Fulfilling of gender commitments: overview of how gender equality can be mainstreamed in a systematic and comprehensive manner at different levels: governance, planning and policy

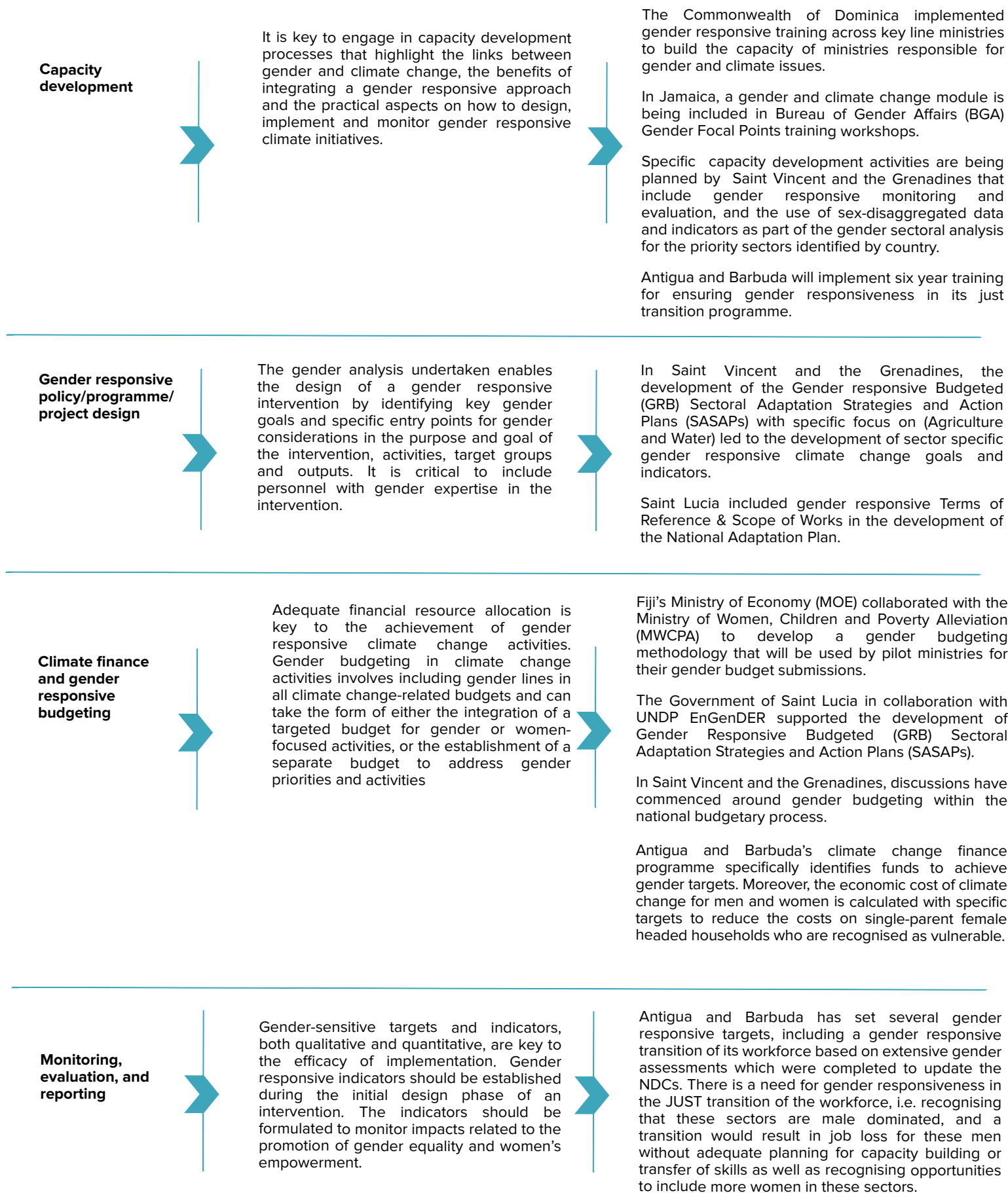
To ensure a gender responsive implementation of the national climate agenda, countries should ensure that gender equality is considered systematically and in a mutually reinforcing way. To guide this effort, UNDP has developed a three-pronged approach to ensure that gender equality is considered in the country’s policy, governance, and planning processes. SIDS can complement and build upon existing efforts to systematically mainstream by using this three-pronged approach:



SETTING THE STAGE: OVERVIEW OF ENABLING CONDITIONS THAT SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GENDER RESPONSIVE CLIMATE ACTIONS

The implementation of gender responsive climate action requires that countries invest in several enabling conditions to ensure the effective, efficient, and long-term sustainability of these actions. A true gender responsive implementation implies a holistic approach that aims to overcome silos and gaps that impede the appropriate design, implementation, and monitoring of gender responsive climate action. When the enabling conditions for gender responsive action are accomplished effectively, each enabling condition lays the groundwork for accomplishing the next key enabling condition. For example, if a gender analysis is carried out in the initial planning stage, it generates the required information to identify gender considerations relevant to a specific sectoral intervention properly. At the same time, it allows for areas to be identified for improvement related to policies, planning instruments or governance that will be needed to ensure the proper implementation of this gender responsive sectoral initiative.

Enabling condition	Rationale	Country example
Gender analysis	<p>Gender analyses are essential to understand how and why women and men are affected differently and how and why they contribute within a particular context or sector. Gender analysis provides insight into the circumstances of men, women and vulnerable groups within a specific sector related to their roles, needs, rights, priorities, access to and control over resources and decision-making processes.</p> <p>The collection and analysis of sex-disaggregated data is critical to identify the gender differentiated roles, needs and preferences relevant to climate action as well as the gender differentiated vulnerabilities to climate change impacts and contributions to climate action. Data availability is essential throughout the policy/programme cycle.</p>	<p>Grenada conducted a gender analysis as part of the NDC revision process.</p> <p>Saint Lucia, in preparation for the development of its gender responsive budgeted proposal, as part of its Sectoral Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan (SASAPs), conducted a gender baseline resilience analysis.</p> <p>Antigua and Barbuda completed several gender analyses for its updated NDCs including examining the cost of climate change for men and women, as well as a just transition of the energy sector for men and women.</p>
Inclusive governance structures	<p>It is critical to assess institutional gender equality frameworks, coordination, and cooperation. Institutional strengthening can be achieved by developing clear governance structures through the integration of national gender mechanisms in climate change governance.</p>	<p>Jamaica strengthened the institutional coordination by increasing dialogue between gender focal points and the climate change focal point network within ministries, departments, and agencies.</p> <p>Papua New Guinea’s development of a very clear institutional structure to address gender.</p> <p>Saint Lucia formed a National Mechanism for Decision Making, with representation from civil society, including vulnerable groups and government.</p>



COUNTRY EXAMPLES AND GOOD PRACTICES

This section focuses on country examples and good practices related to how countries have implemented initiatives to address key gender elements and established the enabling conditions at different levels related to governance, planning and policy. This analysis of examples is organized around the five priority areas of the LWPG GAP and UNDP's checklist¹⁰ to incorporate gender equality and women's empowerment in updated NDCs, new climate policies or relevant sectoral strategies and each case study accomplishes one or more of the enabling conditions outlined above.

Capacity-building, knowledge management, and communication

The examples featured in this section aim to strengthen institutional capacities, facilitate outreach, knowledge-sharing and the communication of activities undertaken to enhance gender responsive climate action and its impacts in advancing women's leadership, achieving gender equality, and ensuring effective climate action.

¹⁰ <https://www.ndcs.undp.org/content/ndc-support-programme/en/home/impact-and-learning/library/gender-checklist-2021.html>

Country	Fiji, Tonga, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu
Gender-Responsive Action	Design gender responsive knowledge management platforms
Enabling Condition	Capacity development
Initiative	Advocacy through networking: A Regional Collaborative: Protection in the Pacific (ProPA) Network
Implementing Partners	The Governments of Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu and UNDP Pacific Risk Resilience Programme (PRRP)
Brief Summary of what and how it was done	<p>Objective: To create an intergovernmental platform to share information, experiences, and best practices to advance gender and protection during times of disaster and climate change.</p> <p>Actions to promote gender equality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Established the ProPA knowledge management platform to improve information sharing on gender and protection.Improved the various methods of data collection and information sharing to ensure needs-based gender and protection programming.Mobilized advocacy efforts amongst network members to participate in discussions to share information on gender to support the development of regional policy.Collaborated with Pacific Island nations and their people to identify and consider the gender related risks they face from climate change and disasters and include those risks in their development plans.
Challenges Faced	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Limited and varied understanding of what constitutes gender and protection in country disaster management offices, climate change offices and amongst regional and international actors.
Impact of the action	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The ProPa network was instrumental to ensuring core principles of protection, gender and social inclusion were incorporated within the regional Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP).Significant progress was made in the Pacific in helping to make gender and protection central to climate change and risk-informing development.
Good Practices that can be scaled up and replicated in other SIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Establish a network that enables new ways of sharing information on gender and protection issues.Create a community of practice for learning on gender and protection issues.New ways for gender data collection and analysis were shared and explored.

Country	Cuba
Gender-Responsive Action	Design of gender sensitive climate change communication strategies
Enabling Condition	Capacity development
Initiative	The Basal Project, or the “Environmental Bases for Local Food Sustainability Project” (2012-2020)
Implementing Partners	The Environmental Agency (AMA); Tropical Geography Institute (IGT) of the Ministry of Science; Ministry of Agriculture (MINAG); UNDP; European Union’s Joint Research Center
Brief Summary of what and how it was done	<p>Objective: Support climate change adaptation strategies in the farming sector through the development of a gender responsive communications strategy to broadcast project goals and results to the public.</p> <p>Actions to promote gender equality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Developed a “<i>Visibility and Communications Framework Strategy</i>” using a comprehensive gender sensitive participatory approach.Acknowledged the differentiated impacts of climate change among men and women. Collected testimonies of men and women about the problems they faced in the agricultural sector through participatory workshops and interviews.Implemented capacity-building programmes on communications and gender for project communicators.Disseminated statistics and disaggregated data linked to gender, food security, and the environment in various communication products.Promoted equal participation of men and women (measured through qualitative and quantitative indicators).Measured the extent to which a “gender lens” was incorporated into communication products and activities.Included inclusive and non-sexist language in all communication products.Developed the blog “<i>Echoes of Learning</i>” as part of the local initiative.Developed multiple communication products focused on the main impacts of climate change and various adaptation measures.Established a Facebook page which was promoted in the local news.
Challenges Faced	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Communication capacities and skills still need to be strengthened to develop gender sensitive products.Communication products could not reflect the entire diversity of rural people.
Impact of the action	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Created 75 materials that promote gender in the agriculture sector, including 25 communication products, 21 technical materials to support adaptation measures, and 29 records of project experiences.Systematized data base of lessons learned on how to mainstream gender and tackled gender stereotypes step by step.Increased awareness on the importance of the role of women in sustainable farming production and gender inequalities among project beneficiaries.
Good Practices that can be scaled up and replicated in other SIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Develop a clear and coherent gender communication strategy for the project.Take advantage of the existing gender sensitive communication capacities of the team and promote collective work.Organize an educational process about gender inequalities identified in the project using communications products developed.Promote strategic alliances with local news channels extended the impact of the gender responsive project activities beyond project beneficiaries.

GENDER BALANCE, EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION, AND WOMEN’S LEADERSHIP

The examples featured in this section include actions that include the Mechanism for the Advancement of Women (MAW) or Gender Machineries in the climate agenda planning process, include women’s groups and civil society organizations (CSO) working on gender and climate change advocacy and policy design and examples where behavioural change strategies or behavioural insight tools supported a shift in women’s participation/leadership in gender and climate change actions.

Country	Saint Lucia
Gender-Responsive Action	Inclusion of the Mechanism for the Gender Equality and the Advancement of Women (MAW) in the climate agenda planning process
Enabling Condition	Inclusive governance structures, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting
Initiative	Formation of the National Mechanism for Decision-Making (NMDM) - EnGenDER Project
Implementing Partners	Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Youth Economy; Ministry of Education, Sustainable Development, Innovation, Science, Technology and Vocational Training ; Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Rural Development; Ministry of Public Service, Home Affairs, Labour and Gender Affairs; Ministry of Equity, Social Justice and Empowerment, National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO); UNDP- EnGenDER Project Management Unit
Brief Summary of what and how it was done	<p>Objective: The designation of the Department of Gender Relations within Saint Lucia’s National Mechanism for Decision-Making (NMDM) as the lead agency. The NMDM is the country’s governance structure that supports the implementation of the Enabling Gender responsive Disaster Recovery, Climate and Environmental Resilience in the Caribbean (EnGenDER).</p> <p>Actions to promote gender equality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Designated the Director of the Gender Bureau as the chair of the NMDM to ensure that the projects benefit from gender expertise and that gender is effectively mainstreamed throughout the project’s implementation efforts.Included civil society as well as other non-state actor groups to ensure that the project benefits from an inclusive participatory process.Established a consultation process with ownership and participation of women and vulnerable groups with the support of the National Mechanism for Decision Making.
Challenges Faced	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Financial and human resource challenges (very limited gender expertise within Ministries, gender focal point system not fully implemented as yet) which impedes the effective implementation of gender responsive climate change actions on the ground.Lack of specific monitoring and reporting systems and frameworks to track gender outcomes.
Impact of the action	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Improved coordination and collaboration processes with regards to gender and climate change through the establishment of the NMDM.Improved participatory and inclusive processes which support gender outcomes in climate change related project activities.Supported gender responsive monitoring and evaluation of project results through the establishment of a formal coordinating mechanism to ensure gender targets are achieved.
Good Practices that can be scaled up and replicated in other SIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Formalize and establish, with the support of EnGenDER, inter-agency collaboration to support institutional coordination and gender mainstreaming efforts through the gender focal point system.Support a direct inclusion of all groups of beneficiaries, particularly the most vulnerable.Strengthens the human resource capacity of the Gender Machineries to support such on the ground processes and accelerate implementation.



Country	Papua New Guinea
Gender-Responsive Action	Strengthen institutional capacities in the field of gender and climate change at the national or subnational levels
Enabling Condition	Inclusive governance structures
Initiative	Papua New Guinea’s enhanced 2020 NDC
Implementing Partners	Papua New Guinea’s Climate Change and Development Authority (CCDA)
Brief Summary of what and how it was done	<p>Objective: PNG enhanced NDC highlights that the country will ensure a gender responsive and human rights-based approach in all related planning, programming, and implementation. The NDC also includes a specific section on gender and youth.</p> <p>Actions to promote gender equality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Papua New Guinea’s Climate Change and Development Authority (CCDA) designed a structure that included different stakeholders, including the government, private sector, and NGOs.A dedicated climate change Minister and office devoted to climate change issues pushed for gender responsive NDC implementation.Established Sub-technical working committees comprising of different stakeholders (women, youth, and vulnerable groups) in other to ensure that discussions include gender issues.Conducted one to one consultations including on gender issues with key government, private sector, and civil society representatives.
Challenges Faced	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Securing political buy-in from high level politicians and members of parliament to include gender in climate change issues.Getting the financial support to submit the NDC and to implement activities and achieve the targets.
Impact of the action	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The inclusive stakeholder participation process led to an understanding and commitment of the different stakeholders.Political acknowledgement for a gender responsive NDC process was achieved.Consulted more than 200 stakeholders representing government, private sector, and civil society representatives in the revision of NDC and setting targets.
Good Practices that can be scaled up and replicated in other SIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Establish an improved institutional arrangement that guides the NDC process to better understand the different stakeholders and enable the mainstreaming of gender.Ensure political will and commitment to promote a gender responsive approach.Conduct one-on-one meetings with stakeholders to understand different realities and propose diverse objectives.

Photo: UNDP/Zaimis Olmos

Country	SIDS in Africa, the Caribbean, Indian Ocean and The Pacific Ocean
Gender-Responsive Action	Include women’s groups and civil society organizations (CSO) working on gender and climate change advocacy and connect these groups across regions to build resilience.
Enabling Condition	Inclusive governance structures
Initiative	Island Women Open Network (IWON) for Sustainable Energy & Climate Resilience in Island Nations
Implementing Partners	The SIDS Sustainable Energy and Climate Resilience Initiative (SIDS DOCK), UNIDO, regional organizations
Brief Summary of what and how it was done	<p>Objective: to promote gender mainstreaming in the sustainable energy sector of SIDS in Africa, the Caribbean, the Indian Ocean, and the Pacific Ocean.</p> <p>Actions to promote gender equality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Promoted empowerment of women and women’s groups at the community and grassroots level to help build community resilience to climate change through capacity building, education and awareness, demonstration of SIDS-Appropriate Technologies, and financing for sustainable energy projects. <p>Connected women and men working in governments, civil society, regional organizations and the private sector across SIDS, engaged in implementing gender responsive sustainable energy and climate resilience building projects.</p> <p>Ensured that gender equality issues are integrated in the concept, design, implementation and evaluation of sustainable energy and climate resilience projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Promoted sustainable livelihoods for women through building small and medium energy enterprises (SMEE).Promoted the inclusion of women’s empowerment activities in regional and national energy-gender programmes such as the ECOWAS Programme on Gender Mainstreaming in Energy Access (ECOW-GEN) or the gender mainstreaming programme of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC).
Challenges Faced	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Actively involving women as members of the networkIntegration of gender issues within the energy transition programmes
Impact of the action	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The establishment of the SIDS DOCK Island Women Open Network (IWON) Sustainable Energy Financing Facility.Sustainable Livelihoods Projects for women and youth costing US\$ 40 millionDevelopment of a US \$50 million proposal to the GCF to support female energy entrepreneurs to plan and implement sustainable energy projects.Networks represent a form of empowerment and an effective means of exercising collective power towards gender equality.
Good Practices that can be scaled up and replicated in other SIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Empower women to build their capacity at the community and grass root levels so that they can participate in the energy transition.Provide networking opportunities that promote the empowerment of women in the energy sector.Ensure capacity building, education and financing opportunities for women to enable their participation in sustainable energy projects.

Country	Samoa
Gender-Responsive Action	Include women’s groups and civil society organizations (CSO) working on gender and climate change advocacy and policy design, implementation, and evaluation across regions to build resilience.
Enabling Condition	Inclusive governance structures
Initiative	UNDP GEF SGP Project: Biodiversity and Women Project Reducing the Impact of Climate Change through the Conservation of Mangrove Ecosystems and Coastal Resources – Establishing the Vailoa Faleata Mangrove Conservation Area
Implementing Partners	The Women’s Committee of Vailoa and the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment (MNRE)
Brief Summary of what and how it was done	<p>Objective: Promote the rehabilitation of the mangrove ecosystem actively involving civil society, in particular women's and youth groups</p> <p>Actions to promote gender equality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Involved the Women’s Committee of Vailoa as primary implementers and decision makers of the project's activities.Ensured their involvement at the village council meetings, through the organization of clean-ups of the mangroves areas and building of a committee house where the women monitor the progress of the project.Supported the village men to encourage the women to take the lead in village activities that they had often dominated.Documented, and incorporated in the analysis, traditional knowledge on biodiversity that Vailoa women have, particularly their knowledge regarding Samoan traditional names and uses of native flora and fauna.Promoted the participation of youth, men, and women as labourers in the village rehabilitation efforts.
Challenges Faced	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Traditional gender stereotypes limited women’s participation in strenuous activities or labour work in ecosystem restoration efforts.
Impact of the action	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Establishment of the mangrove protected area that is now considered as the third largest in Samoa as it is 20 acres in size.Men and women fishers in Vailoa now have businesses. The women earn an average of USD 3,800 per annum from the sale of shellfish.Vailoa is witnessing increased mangrove growth and clean water for drinking, bathing, and other uses.Early participation of women and youth in this project resulted in their recognition at the village council who invited them to their meetings.Establishment of partnerships with government agencies that resulted in the Mangrove Management Plan and passed village by laws in 2015 as a direct result of the advocacy of the women’s committee.
Good Practices that can be scaled up and replicated in other SIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Promote the leadership and governance of the high chiefs who encourage the engagement and participation of women and young people.Increase awareness and improved capacity building in conserving the environment to sustain natural resources for the people’s livelihood.Promote the active participation of the women’s and youth groups.Value and recognize gender differentiated traditional knowledge.

COHERENCE WITH INTERNATIONAL MANDATES AND NATIONAL POLICIES

The examples featured in this section aim to harmonize gender international mandates and national policies. Case studies include actions that recognize national gender equality or social inclusion policies as part of the relevant climate policy framework, recognize gender as a cross-cutting issue and support the promotion of gender equality and women’s empowerment.

Country	The Commonwealth of Dominica
Gender-Responsive Action	Recognize national gender equality or social inclusion policies as part of the relevant climate policy framework
Enabling Condition	Gender responsive policy design
Initiative	Dominica’s climate policy framework
Implementing Partners	Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment, Youth at Risk, Gender Affairs, Senior’s Security and Dominicans with Disabilities; Ministry of the Environment, Rural Modernisation and Kalinago Upliftment
Brief Summary of what and how it was done	<p>Objective: Promote policy coherence between international and national gender mandates in the climate change agenda.</p> <p>Actions to promote gender equality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Updated gender policy to better align the policy with recent international frameworks and commitments made.¹¹Considered climate change, natural disasters, and natural resource management as a distinctive component of the National Gender Policy.Highlighted the vulnerability of certain groups to disasters in the National Policy and Action Plan for Gender Equity and Equality, 2018-2030.Developed a 2020 Gender Action Plan which translates the broad policy objectives into actions, indicators, and targets.Transitioned from the National Women’s Bureau to the establishment of a Bureau on Gender Affairs.Established a National Gender Focal Point System to promote the inclusion of gender issues within and across agencies.Integrated recommendations to address women’s vulnerability in the Low Carbon Climate Resilient Development Strategy (LCCDRS).Acknowledge gender as a cross cutting issue in the Energy Policy to support girls and women inclusion in the energy services sector.Established a cabinet endorsed National Mechanism for Decision Making in Dominica to foster gender responsive climate action, with the support of the EnGenDER project.
Challenges Faced	Outdated data and very limited sex & age disaggregated data to assess the situation and develop evidence-based policies.
Impact of the action	<ul style="list-style-type: none">National climate policies and commitments now integrate gender considerations early on in their design, due to the guidance provided by the 1st Gender Equality Policy and the updated National Gender Equality and Action Plan for DominicaThe establishment of a Gender Focal Point System supported gender sensitization and awareness raising among senior and technical officials and capacity building efforts on gender mainstreaming across the Public Sector.
Good Practices that can be scaled up and replicated in other SIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Adopt the whole-of-government approach which involves all line Ministries to facilitate effective gender mainstreaming in climate change action.Develop gender equality policies and plans that consider environmental and climate change aspects.Align national plans and policies with international gender mandates/agreements.

¹¹A further update of the gender policy is now being undertaken with proposed support from EnGenDER. This is to assist with preparing the document for cabinet approval.

Country	Trinidad and Tobago
Gender-Responsive Action	Address relevant gender considerations for strategic areas or priority sectors and recognize gender-differentiated needs and how sectoral actions can contribute differentially to the economic empowerment, social status and leadership of men and women
Enabling Condition	Gender analysis, Gender responsive policy design
Initiative	Action Plan for Mainstreaming Gender in the Climate Change Sector and NDC Implementation in Trinidad and Tobago (GAP)
Implementing Partners	Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Brief Summary of what and how it was done	<p>Objective: Develop a framework for mainstreaming gender in policy and climate change programming, including NDC implementation process.</p> <p>Actions to promote gender equality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Conducted a gender analysis of the policy and institutional framework to uncover key issues, gaps, and opportunities to mainstream gender in sectoral climate action and NDC implementationDeveloped a Gender Action Plan (GAP) that included key actions, timeframes, responsibilities, resources, indicators, and data sources to mainstream gender in the climate change sector and NDC implementation.
Challenges Faced	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Finding competent gender experts in the local context to support the work.Bringing together the stakeholders who have competing responsibilities such as childcare, transport issues.Difficulty accessing sex-disaggregated data.
Impact of the action	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Through the GAP, stakeholders working in ministries and agencies with mandates for addressing climate change and organizations have a roadmap to include gender equality considerations in key sectors.As organizations work to implement the actions outlined in the NDC implementation plan, there is a common goal and approach towards ensuring that their methodologies include the consideration of gender.The GAP generated general interest in gender and climate change as it relates to NDC implementation.
Good Practices that can be scaled up and replicated in other SIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Conduct a Gender Analysis prior to the GAP, this is critical to identify gaps in policy, planning frameworks, and governance mechanisms for incorporating gender equality considerations in climate change mitigation initiatives.Define key actions, activities, timeframes, responsibilities, resources, indicators, and data sources for mainstreaming gender in the climate change sector and NDC implementation.

Photo: UNDP/Andrea Quesada-Aguilar

GENDER RESPONSIVE MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

The examples featured in this section focus on country initiatives that include gender experts in the design, implementation, and monitoring process of climate actions, propose gender sensitive budgets, address relevant gender considerations for priority sectors, include gender responsive targets and indicators and recognize how sectoral actions can contribute differentially to the economic empowerment, social status and leadership of men and women.

Country	Cabo Verde
Gender-Responsive Action	Recognize the gender-differentiated positive and negative effects of sectoral actions
Enabling Condition	Gender analysis, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting
Initiative	Cabo Verde’s gender markers and enhanced NDC
Implementing Partners	Ministry of Finance, National Institute for Gender Equality and Equity, National Statistics Institute
Brief Summary of what and how it was done	<p>Objective: Include gender responsive indicators and targets in the reviewed NDC and gender markers in the State budget to measure the impact of public funds allocated to promote gender equality</p> <p>Actions to promote gender equality¹²:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Developed a gender analysis to recognize the key role of women and men and identify the relevant gender aspects in the blue economy, energy, water, land use/agriculture, and tourism sectors.Strengthened the capacity of the National Institute for Gender Equality and Equity (ICIEG) and the National Statistics Institute (INE) to collect, analyse and interpret gender-disaggregated statistics.Appointed a National Gender and Climate Change Focal Point to provide guidance to the different institutions with regards to gender and climate change.Collected sex-disaggregated data to identify gaps, needs, achievements and opportunities for women, men, the elderly, the youth – children, especially in rural communities.Defined gender markers to measure the impact of public funds allocated to promote gender equality through the state budget.Included Gender Markers in the budget system in tourism.¹³Reported every year on progress in empowering vulnerable groups in climate action and on the effects of gender-sensitive climate policy planning.
Challenges Faced	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A systematic linking between vulnerable groups, gender and climate.Lack of gender-differentiated and disaggregated data to identify gaps, needs, achievements and opportunities for women, men, the elderly, and the youth.
Impact of the action	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Women will take up at least 40% of employment in the blue economy.Install core resilience and metrics functions, regarding full, clean, accessible and gender-sensitive access to water, energy and transport, basic health conditions, and universal higher education.Support the emergence of local businesses and promote economic opportunities for women in renewable energy.
Good Practices that can be scaled up and replicated in other SIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Incorporate gender markers in the state budget to measure the impact of public funds allocated to promote gender equality.Include specific gender related targets and indicators regarding budgets in climate policy.

Country	Dominican Republic
Gender-Responsive Action	Include gender responsive targets and indicators
Enabling Condition	Gender analysis, Gender responsive policy design
Initiative	Gender responsive policy design, Inclusive governance structures, capacity development, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting
Implementing Partners	The National Council for Climate Change and Clean Development Mechanism, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Global Office on Gender.
Brief Summary of what and how it was done	<p>Objective: Development of a Climate Change and Gender Action Plan (CCGAP) that includes sectoral targets and indicators.</p> <p>Actions to promote gender equality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Established a national coordination group to develop the CCGAP that involved actors from The Ministry of Environment, The Mechanism for the Advancement of Women, The Ministry of Economy, Planning, and Development, The Environmental Network of Dominican Universities, etc.Conducted an analysis of the national priorities and context regarding climate change and gender equality (revision of national and international frameworks).Carried out interviews and consultation processes with multiple gender and climate change specialists.Developed a specific capacity building process for women-led organizations on climate change.Organized national multi-stakeholder workshop, which involved women-led organizations and government representatives, to identify gender considerations in priority sectors (energy, transport, infrastructure, agriculture, waste, forests, water management, health, marine coastal, tourism, risk management) and formulate objectives, actions, and indicators to address these considerations.Conducted a formal validation process of the CCGAP with the National Council for Climate Change.
Challenges Faced	<ul style="list-style-type: none">There is a lack of data disaggregated by sex in all sectors. For example, Dominican Republic uses an Energy Poverty Index, but this does not include information disaggregated by sex.There is little knowledge and capacities among those consulted to propose specific and targeted actions and indicators.Due to weak capacities, consultation processes and data collected rarely result in the inclusion of gender in technical proposals and reports.Limited collaboration between sectoral and gender experts
Impact of the action	<ul style="list-style-type: none">CCGAP was developed through a consultative process that gathered more than 80 participants from government institutions, civil society, the academic sector, investigation centers, and international organizations from September 2016-March 2017The CCGAP is a public policy instrument that promotes different governmental entities to design and implement actions that will contribute to gender equality and sustainable development.The CCGAP proposes multi-sectoral solutions that encourage inter-institutional collaborationActions and indicators addressed key sectoral gender issues
Good Practices that can be scaled up and replicated in other SIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Creation of a multisectoral national group to develop gender action planEngage different sectors and stakeholders to identify sectoral gender considerations.Promote a multisectoral engagement through a nationwide call for participationStrengthen the capacities of women’s groups on climate change to ensure they can fully and effectively engage in sectoral and technical discussions.Establish clear gender priorities, objectives, activities, and indicators for each of the sectors.

¹²These actions to promote gender equality are included in the updated 2021 NDC.
¹³The gender markers are not specifically mentioned in the NDC. They were set up prior to the enhanced NDC, in 2018, as part of an initiative of the Ministry of Finance.

Photo: UNDP/Zaimis Olmos

Country	Fiji
Gender-Responsive Action	Propose gender-sensitive budgets
Enabling Condition	Climate finance and gender responsive budgeting, capacity development
Initiative	Gender budgeting
Implementing Partners	Ministry of Economy (MoE), Ministry of Commerce, Trade, Tourism and Transport, Ministry of Fisheries, Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation
Brief Summary of what and how it was done	<p>Objective: Integrate Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) into the Ministry of Economy (MoE) plans, budgets, processes, and projects administered by the Ministry and its delivery partners</p> <p>Actions to promote gender equality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requested assistance from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), to assess the “gender responsiveness” of the national budget. Worked jointly with the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation (MWCPA) to develop a budget methodology that will be used by pilot ministries for their budget submissions. Selected 9 pilot ministries to implement gender budget methodology. Involved the Fiji Women’s Rights Movement to facilitate a Gender responsive budgeting (GRB) workshop to create awareness to the 9 pilot Ministries. Established a mandate so that budgets adequately respond to the gender differentiated needs of people and address gender gaps. Established effectiveness and performance indicators that are gender, age and disability sensitive and disaggregated data. Included specific references to gender in budget templates.
Challenges Faced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was no clear guideline in the gender responsive budgeting process. The unavailability of sex-disaggregated data in some pilot Ministries. The gender responsiveness assessment of the national budget led to an agreement to take active steps to implement gender responsive budgeting (GRB). Cabinet has endorsed the GRB Framework to ensure that gender mainstreaming is reflected in all the aspects of the budget cycle and that GRB efforts are sustained. Cabinet will pilot the GRB tool using the 10 action plans in two pilot Ministries.
Impact of the action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of a methodology for gender responsive budgeting that will be used by pilot ministries for their budget submissions. Conduct awareness workshops, so Ministry officials are aware of concepts and its application to the budget template.
Good Practices that can be scaled up and replicated in other SIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of a methodology for gender responsive budgeting that will be used by pilot ministries for their budget submissions. Conduct awareness workshops, so Ministry officials are aware of concepts and their application to the budget template.

MONITORING AND REPORTING

The examples featured in this section focus on country initiatives that collect data a) on relevant gender inequalities for adaptation and mitigation actions and b) on the gender-differentiated impacts and vulnerabilities and on gender-differentiated roles and contributions and c) design national information systems to collect sex-disaggregated data and conduct gender analysis with such data.

Country	Micronesia (FSM)
Gender-Responsive Action	Collect data on the gender-differentiated impacts and vulnerabilities and on gender differentiated roles and contributions in the areas of intervention
Enabling Condition	Gender analysis, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting
Initiative	FSM Third National Communication/Biennial Update Report to the UNFCCC Project
Implementing Partners	Department of Environment, Climate Change and Emergency Management
Brief Summary of what and how it was done	<p>Objective: Develop a gender analysis and gender action plan as part of the FSM Third National Communication/Biennial Update Report to the UNFCCC Project</p> <p>Actions to promote gender equality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consulted on gender issues at the national level with Gender Ministry, gender focal points and civil society organizations working in gender and climate change. Completed a gender analysis to identify how women, men and vulnerable groups are affected differently by climate change. Conducted gender consultations with key stakeholders throughout the four (4) Island States of FSM to create the project’s Gender Action Plan (GAP). Developed climate change and Gender Action Plan. Developed gender indicators as part of the development of the Third National Communication.
Challenges Faced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Men in more leadership roles regardless of education or capacity and women in more administrative, supportive roles. If gender is not included as an indicator, there is a risk that the topic will not be addressed.
Impact of the action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through the development of the Gender Action Plan, it is ensured that the key sectors of the Third National Communication/Biennial Update Report fully incorporate a gender lens. The introduction of Gender Indicators allows for the monitoring and evaluation of the progress of the project with a gender perspective.
Good Practices that can be scaled up and replicated in other SIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognize the unique and distinct views on gender norms of different communities in order to develop gender indicators based on an intersectional approach. Identify specific measurable gender impacts and develop gender indicators. Promote the integration of gender considerations in the national climate reporting instruments. Strengthen the capacities of technical teams developing national climate reporting instruments on gender.

Country	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Gender-Responsive Action	Gender Analysis, capacity development
Enabling Condition	Collect data on the gender-differentiated impacts and vulnerabilities and on gender differentiated roles and contributions in the priority sectors
Initiative	Gender based climate resilience analysis
Implementing Partners	Ministry of Tourism, Civil Aviation, Sustainable Development and Culture, Ministry of National Mobilization, Social Development, Family, Gender Affairs, Youth, Housing and Informal Settlements, Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning, and Information Technology, Ministry of National Mobilization, Social Development, Family and Gender Affairs and Person with Disabilities
Brief Summary of what and how it was done	<p>Objective: Develop a gender-based climate resilience analysis under the Enabling Gender responsive Disaster Recovery, Climate and Environmental Resilience in the Caribbean (EnGenDER) Project.</p> <p>Actions to promote gender equality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presented and analyzed data on existing gender and social inequities and how climate change will impact on and shape the vulnerabilities among men, women, and key vulnerable groups. Highlighted the key gaps, opportunities and challenges and provided recommendations to guide the development of gender responsive and socially inclusive policies and plans to build climate resilience. Conducted a comprehensive desk review to understand the policy and institutional context. Used a suite of tools to collect data and effectively engage and gain inputs from underrepresented groups such as women producers and women-led enterprises, youth, PWDs, and the very poor. Included key informant interviews with government agencies and civil society organizations, using largely virtual methods. Conducted a regional online survey to gain wider stakeholder inputs, including from farmer organizations, small agri-businesses and CSOs working on gender and climate change issues. Developed a NDC Gender Mainstreaming Roadmap¹⁴ which supported gender responsive sectoral analysis of key priority sectors identified by the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.
Challenges Faced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No National Gender Policy, and there is limited gender data to provide guidance for integration of gender concerns. Limited gender responsive budgeting, and lack of formal institutional mechanisms for cross sectoral and coordinated action on gender.
Impact of the action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The analysis informed tailored capacity-building initiatives for gender mainstreaming in the priority sectors identified for Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Discussions have commenced around gender budgeting within the national budgetary process
Good Practices that can be scaled up and replicated in other SIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct of a gender-based resilience analysis to establish baselines and determine entry points for addressing gender gaps.

¹⁴ In developing the NDC Gender Mainstreaming Roadmap for Saint Vincent and the Grenadines the following activities were undertaken in supporting the completion of the analysis provided. These activities included a gender responsive policy and institutional analysis, an inclusive institutional capacity assessment and a gender sectoral analysis of the following sectors: Agriculture, Energy, Tourism and Finance. The completion of these activities ensures that gender responsive and human rights-based approaches were appropriately included in the Roadmap design and strengthens further the integration of inclusive approaches across key coordinating agencies which support gender, environment, and climate change efforts.



Photo: UNDP/Zaimis Olmos

SECTION 3.

GENDER RESPONSIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION ACTIONS IN DIFFERENT SECTORS

Why gender matters in the implementation of climate actions: Brief overview of the co-benefits of incorporating a gender approach in climate actions

While Section 2 focused on examples and good practices on how countries have strengthened the **enabling conditions** to implement gender responsive action on the ground, Section 3 focuses on **how** countries **have implemented gender responsive initiatives related to specific sectors**. Mainstreaming gender throughout climate change related actions is critical for the long-term sustainability and effectiveness of such actions. The table below illustrates the specific benefits of incorporating a gender approach, the relevant actions, and impacts.

BENEFITS OF INCORPORATING A GENDER APPROACH ¹⁵		
Co-benefits	Actions to mainstream gender	Impact
Analysis of the social dynamics of the specific contexts	Collect sex-disaggregated data and conduct gender analysis	More effective actions, as it involves and promotes the contributions of all members of the community
A comprehensive vision of climate change challenges	A gender perspective allows us to understand, in a differentiated manner, the relationship that men and women have and understand the problems and challenges they face from a climate change perspective	More equitable actions, since it allows for a more complete vision and to identify the most vulnerable populations
More inclusive decision-making	Implementing actions that increase the participation of women and vulnerable groups in workshops, enables them to have a greater impact on decision making processes in their communities	More diverse and innovative actions, since it facilitates the sharing of ideas and experiences
Compliance with climate change goals and their sustainability	Recognizing women as agents of change with different knowledge ensures that these women have access to and control over resources, capacity building processes, decision making and income-generating opportunities	Actions with greater impacts, since it creates a win-win situation where prevalent gender inequalities are addressed and women's empowerment in economic and social spheres is increased, while reducing climate change and disaster risks.

Women’s meaningful and equal participation at different levels, from climate policymaking to implementing community adaptation initiatives, is shown to yield more effective results for climate and poverty and inequality reduction. Gender responsive policies must reflect the priorities of women themselves. Involving girls and women in the implementation of climate action creates a ripple effect that yields many benefits for individual women and families, communities, and societies. Research suggests that when women have secure rights and land access, they utilize resources sustainably and this leads to greater food security, decreased poverty, enhanced environmental conservation, increased resilience, among other impacts.¹⁶ Hence, including women in climate change mitigation will help guarantee enough clean air, safe drinking water, sufficient food, and secure shelter for future generations.

COUNTRY EXAMPLES AND GOOD PRACTICES. HOW COUNTRIES HAVE IMPLEMENTED GENDER RESPONSIVE ACTIONS RELATED TO SPECIFIC SECTORS RELATED TO MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION.

Examples featured in this section focus on how countries have implemented gender responsive actions related to specific sectors related to mitigation and adaptation. Specific sectors and areas include energy, transport, infrastructure, nature-based solutions, disaster risk reduction and loss and damage. Country initiatives are organized under the following subheadings: a) recognize the differentiated contributions of men and women to emissions reduction and resilience b) target vulnerable groups and propose actions to reduce gender-differentiated vulnerability c) guarantee access to finance to vulnerable groups, particularly women and women’s groups d) increase access to technology and green jobs through specific actions to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment e) include climate targets that contribute to the reduction of gender inequalities or increase women’s empowerment and indicators.

¹⁵ From words to action: Projects with Innovative Solutions to Promote Nature Conservation, Climate Action and Gender Equality UN Women, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), 2020.

¹⁶ <https://womendeliver.org/investment/invest-women-tackle-climate-change-conserve-environment/>

Country	Antigua and Barbuda
Gender - Responsive Action	Gender responsive actions in infrastructure sector
Initiative	GCF Project: Integrated physical adaptation and community resilience through an enhanced direct access pilot in the public, private, and civil society sectors of three Eastern Caribbean small island developing states (Antigua and Barbuda)
Implementing Partners	Ministry of Health Wellness and Environment
Brief Summary of what and how it was done	<p>Objective: Enhance climate resilience through adaptation in infrastructure, strengthened buildings, and enhanced ecosystem services.</p> <p>Actions to promote gender equality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Undertook a gender analysis to understand the situation of women, men, boys, and girls from communities.• Included gender specific targets for all the actionable outputs of the project.• Developed an evidence-informed monitoring and evaluation process, captured in a gender-disaggregated monitoring and evaluation plan.• Ensured that 50% of loans will be awarded to female headed households and that persons with disabilities, the elderly and youth are included.• Carried out an institutional capacity assessment of the organizations that apply for grants and loans to ensure they have a gender-balance which helps to determine how to best implement the project and to mitigate risks.• Provided gender sensitization to policymakers, planners, and analysts in the economic and social development sectors to better respond to the specific needs of poor women, men, youth, the elderly and the disabled• Created an enabling environment for gender-responsive private sector development to facilitate women’s full participation in growth, expansion and regional cooperation and trade.• Provided specific funding for single mothers through a special lending programme with flexible repayment options. At least 50% of the households that benefit from the loans are female headed.• Identified opportunities to involve women in the construction sector.• Encouraged workshops and trainings to be children friendly.
Challenges Faced	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Construction sectors tend to be male dominated, as women tend to be involved in the service industry.• If women are involved in the construction sector they are expected to be involved in administrative or logistics activities.• Women have limited access to incentives or construction funding programmes.• Girls and women are not usually engaged in STEM educational curricula.
Impact of the action	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One of the grantees has a 100% women-led construction team that started building works in late 2021• Entrepreneurship training provided for women, PWDs, and other vulnerable groups in services related to grant writing, financial management and shelter management.• Several women were nominated on the decision-making body for the technical evaluation committee.• Women trained through the programme will become trainers that train community members.
Good Practices that can be scaled up and replicated in other SIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop an evidence-informed gender-disaggregated monitoring and evaluation plan.• Ensure that concessional funding is extended to women headed households and other vulnerable groups.• Develop gender responsive training opportunities for women in the infrastructure sector.

Country	Fiji
Gender - Responsive Action	Increase access to technology and green jobs through specific actions to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment in energy
Initiative	UN Women / UNDP (GEF-SGP) Rural Women Light up the Pacific programme Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Nauru, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu ¹⁷
Implementing Partners	UN Women
Brief Summary of what and how it was done	<p>Objective: Implement a sustainable energy programme in six Pacific Island countries, to train community members from villages in Kadavu as solar engineers.</p> <p>Actions to promote gender equality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Established community based solar workshops to assemble and install solar panels for households in the community.• Involved women from the beginning and women are encouraged to work together with men to manage community electricity.• Involved both men and women in selecting the community members who can be trained as solar engineers.• Established a solar committee, comprised of five community members, three of which are women.• Established a rotating fund where every household pays a small amount of money which is managed by the committee. These funds are used to pay the engineers, and for maintenance of the equipment.• Ensured that decisions about how the money is used, and where and how the panels and lights are installed, are made jointly by men and women.
Challenges Faced	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Technical skills of women are not appreciated.• Stereotypes about what women can do.
Impact of the action	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Women and men have generated income generating opportunities• Women and men were trained in new energy technologies such as assembly, installation, and maintenance of solar panels.• Stereotypes about women and men were broken as women were involved from the beginning of the project• The solar engineers include grandmothers, and illiterate or semi-literate women, which challenges expectations about what women can do and shows what older and less educated women can achieve
Good Practices that can be scaled up and replicated in other SIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop energy products that recognize, respect and use the skills and expertise of both women and men.• Promote the local engagement and ownership of energy projects among women, men and the elderly.

¹⁷This case study was directly adapted from Pacific Gender and Climate Change toolkit Tools for practitioners

Photo: UNDP/Zaimis Olinos

Country	Marshall Islands
Gender - Responsive Action	Gender responsive action in energy sector
Initiative	Outer Islands Community Solar training programme
Implementing Partners	National Energy Office; National Training Council
Brief Summary of what and how it was done	<p>Objective: Establish a pilot community solar training programme for women in rural communities</p> <p>Actions to promote gender equality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Conducted a gender assessment of the energy sector.Conducted a training programme on basic operation maintenance and troubleshooting of solar systems including for female households in rural communities.Provided incentives for the inclusion of women and youth groups in the trainings.Conducted informal consultations with the community leaders to raise awareness about the solar trainings for females.Promoted networking with local women groups to develop a gender responsive solar training programme.Strengthened partnerships between the National Energy Office and women’s groups in rural communities.Improved institutional collaboration between the National Energy Office and the National Training Council in order to allocate specific funding for women electricians. A target has been set to have at least 20% of women electricians in the next decade.
Challenges Faced	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Energy policies or regulations are gender neutral.No specific mandate to include females in the solar trainings.Diversity of attitudes in relation to gender in the different rural communities.
Impact of the action	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The National Energy Office and National Training Council collaborate to allocate specific funding for women electricians.Several women have successfully passed the solar trainingMen in the communities have supported women’s involvement in the solar training.Other communities have approached the National Energy Office requesting the same type of fund/training for women.More awareness about gender issues and the importance of including women and a gender perspective.
Good Practices that can be scaled up and replicated in other SIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Create opportunities for women’s groups to lead and own ground efforts as they can bring the community together.Consult with women’s groups at the grassroots level and strengthen their networks.Offer local trainings in rural communities to guarantee a greater access to training process for women that cannot leave their households.Provide funding access to women’s groups to support community level actions that are more effective.

Country	Micronesia ¹⁸
Gender - Responsive Action	Target vulnerable groups and proposes actions to reduce gender differentiated vulnerability in agriculture
Initiative	GCF Project Climate resilient food security for farming households across the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)
Implementing Partners	Departments of Resources & Development Environment, Climate Change
Brief Summary of what and how it was done	<p>Objective: Increase the resilience of FSM’s most vulnerable communities to food insecurity in the face of climate change. Given that female-headed households are generally poorer and more reliant on subsistence farming, this project has a specific focus on gender-sensitive development for this beneficiary group.</p> <p>Actions to promote gender equality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Aligned the project’s objective with the FSM Strategic Development Plan (SDP) specific goals aimed at improving gender equity and social inclusion.Included under-represented and marginalized people in the planning and review process of the project.Consulted the Gender Development Office to identify gender gaps within the policy and programmes and the differentiated vulnerabilities and needs of men and women with regards to climate change and agriculture.Implemented a stakeholder consultation that included women leaders, key women’s groups including the Kosrae Women in Farming and Chuuk Women’s Council (CWC), and researchers.Recruited a gender expert at the beginning of the project.Collected baseline data disaggregated by gender regarding women’s access to credit, extension, and training through stakeholder engagement and coordination with other past projects.Adjusted gender baselines, indicators and targets with the input and recommendations of the consultation.Provided critical inputs to effectively tailor and apply climate resilient techniques and crop varieties to local community contexts through direct consultations and forums designed for women, and men.Engaged both formal and informal women’s organizations to build awareness and create buy-in for addressing the issue of climate change in agriculture.Women champions will be recruited and empowered to serve in the national coordinating mechanism.
Challenges Faced	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Women still face significant barriers in accessing training, supplies, equipment, credit and other services, and have little representation in decision-making forums.
Impact of the action	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Approximately 68,250 Micronesian farmers will directly benefit from the project, with an additional 44,390 Micronesians benefiting indirectly.Consultations with men and women farmers will lead to the development of climate-smart agriculture packages.
Good Practices that can be scaled up and replicated in other SIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Develop gender baselines, indicators and targets in consultations with women’s groups.Recruit and empower women champions to serve in the national coordinating mechanisms

¹⁸**Note on the implementation of this project:** The agreement for this project was signed in March 2021. More info: <https://gov.fm/index.php/component/content/article/35-pio-articles/news-and-updates/441-fsm-s-first-green-climate-fund-project-begins-micronesia-conservation-trust-signs-funded-activity-agreement-with-green-climate-fund-for-the-fsm-climate-resilient-food-security-project> The Gender Action Plan and Gender Assessment for this project were completed in March 2021. However, the actual implementation of the project is expected to initiate in March 2022. Impact of the action refers to the expected outcomes of the project.

Country	Saint Lucia
Gender - Responsive Action	Increase access to technology and green jobs through specific actions to promote gender equality and women's empowerment in agriculture
Initiative	Inclusive Aquaponics for a Resilient Saint Lucia
Implementing Partners	Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Youth Economy; Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Rural Development; Ministry of Education, Sustainable Development, Innovation, Science, Technology and Vocational Training; Ministry of the Public Service, Home Affairs, Labour and Gender Affairs.
Brief Summary of what and how it was done	<p>Objective: Demonstrate the commercial viability of aquaponics as a climate change adaptation measure and support efficient, inclusive, and scalable aquaculture systems managed by groups typically marginalised within the agriculture sector, such as women farmers, youth farmers and farmers with disabilities (WFYFFD).</p> <p>Actions to promote gender equality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Developed Sectoral Adaptation Strategies and Action Plans (SASAPs) for key sectors which include water, agriculture and fisheries that paid attention to vulnerable groups and promoted gender equality as well as integrates gender into an M&E plan.Established the National Mechanism for Decision Making (NMDM), with the support of EnGenDER, to foster necessary stakeholder consultation processes.Selected (NMDM) a CSO group of farmers with disabilities to be the beneficiary of greenhouse and aquaponic infrastructure, also including a wider population of differently abled farmers to benefit from training and mentorship opportunities.Developed training modalities which are inclusive and consider the needs, characteristics, and capabilities of the different groups of WFYFFD.Consulted with WFYFFD to discuss issues and gaps and include them in the decision-making process.Promoted equitable representation of WFYFFD in the process of compiling lessons.Enhanced the ability for WFYFFD to grow and sell their own food, including protein sources that will contribute to food security and increase self-sufficiency.
Challenges Faced	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The agriculture sector is male dominated, and women are more likely to engage in subsistence farming and agro-processing or shy-away completely.Manual land preparation for traditional small-holder famers is male-dominated, which is a barrier for women and persons with disabilities.Men are typically paid more per hour/day than women for field labour and for skilled agricultural, forest and fishing work.Agricultural land tenure is more difficult to acquire,/secure for women
Impact of the action	<ul style="list-style-type: none">60% of the persons consulted during the project development process were women.30 people to be trained in aquaponics operation (including WFYFFD), 30 people to be trained in aquaponics business plans (including WFYFFD).Commercially scaled aquaponics system to be operationalized and 100% operated by WFYFFD.Creation of a market for fish and hydroponic products through the development of a value-added strategy for these products.Increased use of renewable energy technology within the agriculture sector
Good Practices that can be scaled up and replicated in other SIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Establish a consultation process that demonstrates/reflects ownership and participation of women and vulnerable groups.Capture and share lessons learned through an inclusive stakeholder engagement process to promote gender responsive and inclusive climate change adaptation actions.Develop a gender responsive monitoring and evaluation plan as well as gender responsive budgeting and indicators.

KEY MESSAGES

As shown in the case studies, SIDS are now at different stages of implementing gender responsive-climate actions. The case studies considered in this technical paper provide a wealth of information from which to identify entry points for gender considerations in the national climate agendas and actions. Furthermore, this paper could inform countries that are in the process of reviewing or implementing their NDCs or developing sectoral climate strategies. The case studies included in this paper highlight the following:

- SIDS are paving the way for more inclusive and gender responsive climate action on the ground.** SIDS have shown great commitments to include gender: Out of the 22 AOSIS countries that have submitted NDCs in 2021,¹⁹ 20 have included gender in their NDCs by mentioning gender/ women or both, 8 promote women's empowerment, 9 recognize women as vulnerable groups and 3 recognize women as agents of change.²⁰
- Investing in enabling conditions is essential to transition from policies to a gender responsive implementation of climate action.** Country experiences have shown that investing in enabling conditions leads to more effective, efficient, and long-term sustainability of gender responsive climate actions at multiple scales (national, regional, and local).
- A sound and coherent gender and climate change policy framework will serve as grounds for the gender responsive implementation of climate actions.** For gender responsive climate action to be sustainable, climate policies and sectoral strategies need to be harmonized with the national gender equality policies, integrate a clear linkage between gender and climate change and include specific gender mandates to guide adaptation and mitigation efforts.
- Effective climate governance structures require clear institutional arrangements, strengthened coordination mechanisms, and increased institutional capacities to address gender equality.** Countries should consider the strengthening of coordination mechanisms between gender and climate governmental and non-governmental actors and developing institutional capacities at the horizontal and vertical levels on climate change and gender.
- Inclusive planning requires consultation and participation of key actors that have not always been included in climate change processes.** Inclusive and evidence-based planning process should recognize the gender-differentiated impacts of climate change and the contributions, unique experiences, perspectives and capabilities of women and girls to climate solutions. Moreover, financial resources for gender mainstreaming need to be allocated at the planning stage.
- If you can't measure it, you can't report it!** Accountability systems provide a means to track gender equality progress and outcomes for men and women. It is essential to integrate gender responsive targets in the monitoring and evaluation systems and establish gender responsive climate change transparency frameworks to report progress on the implementation of the UNFCCC's LWPG and its GAP.

¹⁹As of October 7th,2021
²⁰For a detailed analysis of how SIDS have incorporated gender please see Section 1. Gender Integration in NDCs: SIDS paving the way

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FEBRUARY 2022