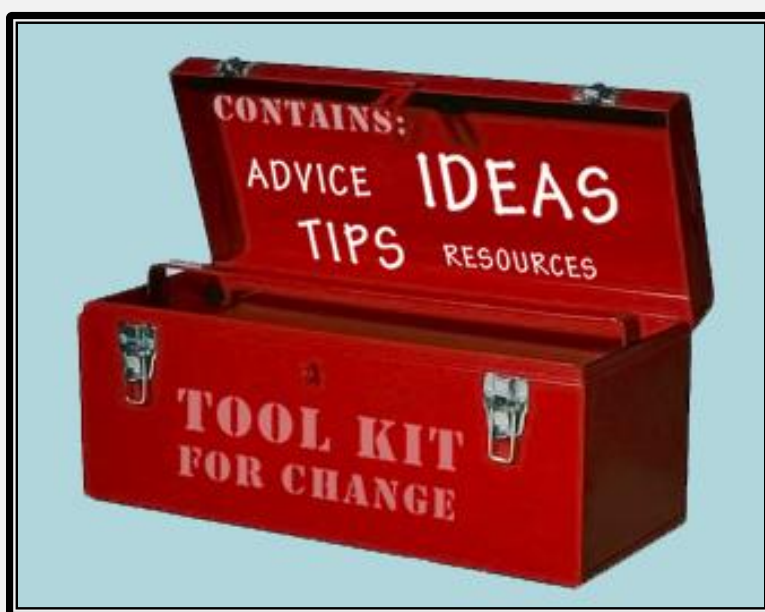


The China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development

Phase VI

Toolkit for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment



March 2019

**The China Council for International Cooperation on
Environment and Development**

Phase VI

**Toolkit for
Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**

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FOREWORD

This toolkit was developed to assist the CCICED, the CCICED Secretariat in China, the Secretariat International Support Office in Canada, and the Task Force and Special Policy Study Teams to better integrate gender equality considerations and the equitable participation of women and men in its policy research, recommendations, and other activities of the Council. The commitment to do so is clearly stated in the CCICED Executive Committee's Guidance Document on Gender Equality, which was announced at the Annual General Meeting in November 2018.

In addition to a suite of tools tailored to each step in the SPS cycle, the toolkit also contains the Gender Equality Baseline Study that was conducted at the beginning of Phase VI in order to track the accomplishments, remaining challenges, and lessons learned in integrating gender equality from Phases IV and V. We have also included the literature review and bibliography that were compiled by the gender advisors, summarizing the relevant international and Chinese literature as well as the gender equality commitments and action plans related to the various major international environmental conventions. Finally, the toolkit includes a roster of international and China-based experts and specialists on gender equality and environment/sustainable development, who might be called upon to provide additional support and expertise to the policy research teams as well as to serve as speakers in CCICED events.

The toolkit was prepared by Linda HersHKovitz and Difei Hu, the CCICED Gender Equality Advisors, under the leadership of Lucie McNeill, the CCICED Project Director at Simon Fraser University. We hope that it will provide a useful foundation for the CCICED to continue to ensure that gender equality is given due consideration in the course of its work, in order to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of policies and programs, enhance and promote sustainability, and safeguard the human rights of both women and men in the context of sustainable development.

Linda HersHKovitz
March 2019



Guiding Document on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (English Version)

CCICED

Guidance on Gender Equality

1. Introduction

This is a guiding document from the Executive Committee of the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development, for use in the planning and conduct of policy research and other activities conducted under its mandate. It is intended to guide the work of the CCICED Secretariat, Chief Advisors, leaders and members of Task Forces and Special Policy Studies in integrating gender dimensions into the work and outputs of the CCICED. As such, it follows established and evidence-based Chinese and international experience and best practice in the field of environment and development.

2. Context and Rationale for this Guiding Document

A review of the relevant international and Chinese literature and best practices makes it clear that attention to the integration of gender issues and participation of women in policy development has emerged in recent years as a strong commitment on the part of virtually all the key players in environment, sustainable development and climate change governance. The major environmental and climate-change conventions explicitly refer to the importance of gender considerations and women's participation. There is a solid, evidence-based international consensus that attention to gender issues in the context of environment, development and climate change improves the effectiveness and efficiency of policies and programs, enhances and promotes sustainability, and promotes the human rights of both women and men. Most conventions (including the Convention on Biodiversity and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change) have developed gender equality strategies and/or action plans with clear targets and roadmaps for implementation. The CCICED, and China more broadly, in fully exercising a leadership role in sustainable development and climate change governance, is committed to furthering this international consensus.



This approach is in full alignment with China's domestic and international commitments to gender equality and sustainable development, including:

- Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW 1979)
- United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development and Agenda 21 (UNCED 1992)
- United Nations Conference on Women and Platform for Action (Beijing 1995)
- Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)
- 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- China National Program for Women's Development (2011-2020)

Looking specifically at the SDGs, SDG 5 on gender equality includes promoting access to natural resources and enabling technologies, and women's roles in environmental decision-making. The cross-cutting priority of gender equality within other SDGs provides multiple opportunities for men and women to benefit more equitably from China's progress toward achieving these goals. For example, SDG 13 on climate action highlights the utmost importance of women's greater inclusion in climate change-related planning. In addition, addressing the gender perspective is significant for SDG 3 on health and environment, SDG 7 on energy, SDG 11 on Disaster Risk Reduction, and SDG 15 on ecosystems and forests.

This Guiding Document is also consistent with commitments from CCICED's international partners, including Canada, Norway, Germany, Sweden, UN Environment, UNDP and others. All have robust gender equality policies and action frameworks that inform their work on environment and development.

3. CCICED Executive Committee Guidance on Mainstreaming Gender Equality in Policy Research on Environment and Development

The purpose of this guidance is to help ensure that CCICED provides the State Council with more effective and efficient policy recommendations that fully and equitably incorporate the roles and needs of, and impacts on, women and men, girls and boys in its policies and actions on environment and development.

To this end, the Secretariat, Chief Advisors, Task Force and SPS leaders and team members should ensure that:



- Gender-based analysis and gender equality goals are integrated in the planning and execution of policy research and other activities;
- CCICED policy research is increasingly grounded in robust gender analysis, and the recommendations the Council provided to the Chinese government reflect the findings of this analysis;
- CCICED policy research Task Force Co-chairs, Special Policy Study Team Leaders, members of the Chief Advisors' group, and Secretariat staff make use of available resources and tools to improve their capacity to support the full integration of the gender dimension in the Council's policy research, activities and events;
- There is increasing gender parity among those selected to conduct policy research and/or participate in CCICED events.

Moreover, the Executive Committee of the CCICED is committed to work towards increasing gender parity among those selected to join the Council, its advisors and its constituent bodies such as the Secretariat and the Executive Committee.



Guiding Document on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (Chinese Version)

中国环境与发展国际合作委员会

性别平等指南

1. 背景

本指南是中国环境与发展国际合作委员会（国合会）用于规划、开展政策研究以及其他活动的指导性文件，旨在指导国合会秘书处、首席顾问、课题组和专题政策研究项目组将性别平等問題纳入国合会的研究工作及主要活动中。本指南采用了国内外环境与发展领域中的相关最佳实践和经验。

2. 理念与原则

相关研究表明，近几年来，在环境、可持续发展和气候变化治理领域，几乎所有主要利益相关方都做出了重大承诺，即重视在政策制定过程中考虑性别平等和女性参与问题，主要的环境和气候变化公约明确强调了性别平等和女性参与的重要性，包括《生物多样性公约》《联合国气候变化框架公约》在内的多数公约都制定了性别平等战略或行动计划，提出了明确的目标和实施方案。国合会乃至中国在可持续发展和气候变化治理中发挥着越来越重要的作用，应致力于推动性别平等这一国际共识。



在联合国 2030 年可持续发展议程中，第 5 项目标即为“实现性别平等，保障所有妇女和女孩的权利”，把扩为妇女提供获得自然资源和技能的平等权利，保障妇女参与环境决策的权利。其他也涉及性别平等问题，为男女平等共享可持续发展成果提供更多可能。例如，第 13 项目标强调了妇女积极参与应对气候变化政策制定过程的重要性。此外，第 3 项目标关于环境与健康方面、第 7 项目标关于能源方面、第 11 项目标关于减灾方面以及第 15 项关于生态系统的目标中都涉及到了性别平等问题。

本指南与加拿大、挪威、德国、瑞典、联合国环境规划署、联合国开发计划署等国合会国际合作伙伴的承诺保持一致。这些国际合作伙伴都建立了完善的性别平等政策和行动框架来指导其环境与发展领域的工作。

本指南也与中国做出的性别平等和可持续发展承诺保持一致，其中包括：

- 《消除对妇女一切形式歧视公约》（1979 年）；
- 联合国环境与发展大会及其《21 世纪议程》（1992 年）；
- 联合国妇女问题世界会议及其《行动纲要》（1995 年）；
- 联合国千年发展目标；
- 《2030 年可持续发展议程》及可持续发展目标；
- 《中国妇女发展纲要（2011-2020 年）》。
-



3. 主要内容

本指南致力于指导国合会在为中国国务院提出政策建议时，充分且平等地考虑男女、儿童的角色和需求及这些政策实施对他们的影响，提高政策建议的成效。

为此，国合会秘书处、首席顾问、课题组和专题政策研究项目组长及成员应确保：

- 在设计和实施政策研究及相关活动时，分析性别平等问题，并提出性别平等目标的建议；
- 国合会的政策研究工作应逐步增加基于性别平等的分析，并在为国务院提供的政策建议中反映相关分析成果；
- 国合会政策研究课题组长、专题政策研究项目组长、首席顾问团队及秘书处工作人员应充分利用资源，提高在政策研究及其他活动中充分考虑性别平等问题的意识及能力；
- 逐步增加女性专家或代表参加政策研究或相关活动的比例。

此外，国合会还将致力于增强国合会委员、特邀顾问以及主席团和秘书处等人员方面的性别平衡。



Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Toolkit

CCICED SPS Project Cycle Gender Mainstreaming Tools

Tool #1 - SPS Proposal Tool

This tool is intended to assist the SPS teams in developing proposals for policy studies that meaningfully integrate gender equality perspectives – i.e. that consider gender as a significant factor in policy development and policy impact. There are four general questions that need to be addressed at this stage:

1. How are women and men / boys and girls affected differently by the problem to be addressed by this SPS?
2. How do we propose to look into the policy implications of these differences?
3. What gender-based analysis will we do and how will we integrate this into the overall report?
4. What expertise / resources do we need to complete this aspect of our study and provide gender-sensitive recommendations?

These questions will be elaborated in more detail in the course of developing the workplan, and in the SPS research itself.



CCICED SPS Project Cycle Gender Mainstreaming

Tool #2 - SPS Inception Meeting Tool

At the SPS inception meeting, the follow issues will need to be addressed:

1. Who will be responsible for ensuring the gender dimensions are integrated?
2. Who will do the work?
3. Will outside expertise be brought in? How will they be identified and recruited?
4. What are the budget implications?
5. How will the gender analysis be incorporated in the overall policy analysis?
6. Who will be consulted and how?
7. What data will be used; will sex-disaggregated and gender-sensitive data be available or can it be generated?
8. Who will be responsible for writing up the gender-related results and recommendations, and how will they be incorporated into the draft report? (e.g. fully integrated into the report; a separate section?)



CCICED SPS Project Cycle Gender Mainstreaming

Tool #3 - SPS Workplan / Policy Research Development Tool

The purpose of this tool is to assist the SPS teams in integrating gender equality into the Workplan and into the policy research approach and methodology. It consists of a series of generic questions designed to focus attention on how the SPS team will identify and articulate the gender equality dimensions of the SPS research problem, how it will identify the policy implications, how the analysis will be carried out and what data will be needed, what expertise and resources will be required, and how the results will ultimately be incorporated into the policy recommendations going forward to the Chinese government.

It should be kept in mind that this is a generic, broad-brush gender analysis tool outlining the broad areas of inquiry required to integrate gender dimensions into the policy research. Each SPS will need to develop more detailed questions relating to the specific topic and scope of the policy area they are addressing.

The Gender Equality section of each Workplan should include an outline of what research will be done, how it will be done, and a plan for integrating the gender-related findings and analysis into the overall SPS report and recommendations.

1. Gender-related questions to address in preparing the gender equality section of the Workplan

- Who are the actors and decision-makers, and who is impacted by this issue? Are women and men, girls and boys, affected differently? (It is useful to break this down as finely as possible – by gender, age, urban/rural, ethnicity, income level, other pertinent variables).
 - Do women and men have different roles in this sector?
 - Who (f/m) will be impacted by the policy solutions being considered/proposed? Is there a possibility that impacts will differ by gender?
 - Who (f/m) are the decision makers? Who makes what kinds of decisions, at what level?



- Is there any literature (international or Chinese) or research that has already been done on the gender dimensions of this topic or problem?
 - What is already being done in other jurisdictions?
 - What best practices have been identified?
- How do you plan to find out about gender issues in the course of the research?
 - Who will you consult with?
 - How will you ensure that women/women's groups are consulted effectively?
 - What data sources will you use? Is the necessary sex-disaggregated or gender-sensitive data available? If not, what alternative strategies will you employ to obtain the necessary data?
- How will this analysis be incorporated into your research process, reports and recommendations?
 - Who will be responsible?
 - Will you bring in outside gender expertise/support and how will it be utilized?
 - What are the budget implications?

2. Gender-related questions to ask in considering the recommendations arising from your work

- What results or benefits are anticipated from the proposed policy or measures?
 - Will men and women (and different groups of men and women) benefit equally?
 - What can be done to maximize equity in benefits?
 - What can be done to mitigate any negative impacts that might affect a particular group of women or men?
- What can be done to improve the participation of women, especially in decision-making in the relevant sector?
- What can be done to improve gender equality or diminish gender-based gaps and inequalities through this policy initiative?



CCICED SPS Project Cycle Gender Mainstreaming

Tool # 4 - SPS Key Gender Issues Tool

The purpose of this tool is to assist the SPS teams in identifying the key gender issues and providing suggested approaches to integrating gender equality considerations in their specific SPS topics.

SPS Topic and Objective	Gender issues/tasks as defined in SPS summary abstract	Key gender issues and suggested gender focus
<p>SPS 1-1 Global Climate Governance and China's Role</p> <p>This SPS will provide policy recommendations on how China can most effectively contribute to a healthy and just global climate governance system while informing China on how to implement the Paris Agreement for maximum long-term impact domestically.</p>	<p>The Role of Gender in Climate Change Governance – securing that climate change treaties and policies are just across gender. [task proposed by the Chief Advisors]</p>	<p>Key issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving the quantity and quality of participation of women and women's organizations in climate change governance Ensuring that gender issues are incorporated in climate change treaties and policies <p>Suggested focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of gender commitments and progress on international climate conventions should be integrated in this SPS
<p>SPS 1-2 Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Conservation</p> <p>The SPS will set out progress of global and Chinese biodiversity conservation strategy in order to identify key global issues and prepare recommendations for a more effective and achievable pathway on stopping global biodiversity loss post-2020 to 2030 and beyond. The study will also identify important cross-cutting mechanisms such as green finance, gender equity in biodiversity</p>	<p>"Identify gender mainstreaming needs for a post-2020 Agreement. This topic will be an important element for the host country to consider in its preparations for COP 15."</p>	<p>Suggested focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of progress in implementing the CBD Gender Action Plan, lessons learned, future needs Planning for roundtable or other event(s) on gender and biodiversity for COP 15, and for including gender-focused CSOs Case study/policy pilot on women's roles in natural resource management, food security, biodiversity conservation



conservation planning and management decisions for protected areas, agriculture and natural resource uses, and environmental protection.		
<p>SPS 1-3 Global Ocean Governance and Ecological Civilization</p> <p>Working under the principle of ecosystem-based integrated ocean management and governance, the Ocean SPS will examine 5 sustainability themes requiring priority attention for integrated ocean governance. In addition cross-cutting themes are to be considered—gender mainstreaming, technology, climate change and Blue Economy. The overall objective is to identify and scope the key issues where substantial progress on both a national and global level could be gained by China taking proactive and directed action—where Chinese leadership could make a difference.</p>	Gender equality is cross-cutting theme	<p>Suggested focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of women's participation in governance • Highlight previously-overlooked gender issues in the SPS research e.g. on marine biodiversity, marine pollution
<p>SPS 2-1 Redefining Urbanization and Regional Integrated Development</p> <p>The SPS objective is to determine how the new digital era and the green era will impact future social, cultural and economic development in urban and rural areas through such factors as: development of rapid transportation and communications; the decentralized supply of public facilities and services; and changes in expectations, e.g., higher emphasis on gender equality and higher expectation for the environment.</p>	The SPS objective is to determine how the new digital era and the green era will impact future social, cultural and economic development in urban and rural areas through such factors as: development of rapid transportation and communications; the decentralized supply of public facilities and services; and changes in expectations, e.g., higher emphasis on gender equality and higher expectation for the environment.	<p>Suggested gender-focused case studies/policy pilots for 2 of the 3 task areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Revitalizing countryside through green transformation</i>: rural women's changing roles in sustainable agriculture and impact of green rural revitalization • <i>Green transition, urban-rural and regional relationship</i>: focus on migrant households, gendered migration patterns in green transition



<p>SPS 2-2 Yangtze River Economic Belt Ecological Compensation and Institutional Reform</p> <p>The overall objective of the SPS is to identify policies to strengthen the institutional framework for green development, including improved ecological and environmental protection in the YREB. The mechanism of ecological compensation will be examined in detail using the Chishui River Basin as a model and case study involving three provinces (Yunnan, Guizhou and Sichuan). These provinces have recently committed to working out joint eco-compensation arrangements. The SPS team will work with local and national authorities to develop an advanced model of these arrangements possibly applicable elsewhere in YREB. In addition the SPS will examine other environmental concerns such as nutrient management in the YREB to identify key institutional reforms. It will map out selected pathways for implementing the plans of the CPC Central Committee and the State Council for environmental protection of the YREB.</p>	<p>"Substantial shifts in land and water policies on matters such as reduction in agricultural nutrients entering the YREB, completion of ecological redlining in the Upper Yangtze, and strengthened institutional arrangements for various aspects of river basin management, including gender equity considerations."</p>	<p>Key gender equality considerations and policy implications for YREB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts of policy shifts on female farmers in lower reaches and female farmers/fuel gatherers in upper reaches of YREB • Ensuring equitable eco-compensation and poverty reduction schemes in light of gendered property rights regimes and other gender inequalities (Han and minorities) • Enhanced participation of women/women's organizations in river basin management <p>Suggested focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case study/policy pilot on gender equality and women's inclusion in local arrangements (livelihood changes, community education, women's access to technology etc.)
<p>SPS 2-3 Environmental Improvement Goals and Pathways by 2035</p> <p>The overall objective of this SPS is to provide a roadmap for the implementation of China's medium and longer-term environmental governance reform and environmental quality improvement goals. The study will provide specific recommendations to the Chinese government in terms of a roadmap for the implementation of environmental governance</p>	<p>Gender equality is identified as a significant cross-cutting concern (along with regional environment and development disparities within China, and the need to continue addressing legacy environmental concerns.)</p> <p>Gender mainstreaming and green finance are two key cross-cutting</p>	<p>Key gender equality considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will China – along with other countries – address and report on the gender-related challenges of SDGs in order to achieve environmental improvement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SDG 5 on gender equality includes promoting access to natural resources and enabling technologies, and women's roles in environmental decision-making. ○ SDG 13 on climate action highlights the



<p>reform and environmental quality improvement goals by 2035. The roadmap will inform the preparation of the 14th FYP (2021 – 2025) with a view to priority actions required to achieve the goals for 2035.</p>	<p>issues that will be addressed in a number of the identified tasks.</p>	<p>utmost importance of women's inclusion in capacity for climate change-related planning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In addition, integrating gender equality perspectives is significant for SDG 3 on health and environment, SDG 7 on energy, SDG 11 on Disaster Risk Reduction, and SDG 15 on ecosystems and forests. <p>Suggested gender focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task #8: Ensure sex-disaggregated data collection in big data technology for environmental governance
<p>SPS 3-1 Green Transformation and Social Governance</p> <p>The goal of this SPS is to recommend policies, mechanisms and systems for building green lifestyles and green consumption in the context of China's social governance system. The intent is to identify robust pathways for sustainable consumption that might be incorporated into the 14th FYP, China's SDG2030 goals, and in the general effort to build a 'Beautiful China' and ecological civilization. The research will sum up the current situation of green consumption in China, diagnose existing problems, analyze the interrelationships between green consumption and green production, and identify green consumption best practices in China and abroad. At household levels there may be significant gender-based consumption differences, in both urban and rural settings, or regionally. Thus gender mainstreaming will be explored in this SPS.</p>	<p>"At household levels there may be significant gender-based consumption differences, in both urban and rural settings, or regionally. Thus gender mainstreaming will be explored in this SPS."</p> <p>Identified Task # 5. Gender aspects of green lifestyles and social environmental governance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International literature indicates women are key decision-makers and drivers of consumption in urban and rural areas (making 85% of purchasing decisions in some European countries). • Internationally and China, many green business pioneers are women, and women workers are key players in green value chains (and would benefit in terms of health and safety from the "greening" of certain female-dominated industries.) • Research on gender aspects of green lifestyles could explore gender differences in consumption patterns and priorities, how to target messages on green lifestyle, role of women's organizations, women-owned businesses in green industry, etc. • Reference: GIZ, Donor Committee for Enterprise Development (DCED). 2012. <i>Women's participation in green growth – a potential fully realised? A scoping study for the Green Growth Working Group (GGWG) of the</i>



		<i>Donor Committee for Enterprise Development (DCED).</i>
<p>SPS 4-1 Green BRI and SDG 2030</p> <p>This SPS aims to consolidate the current environment and development research foundation for selected elements of the BRI, and identify the value and means for using green BRI to support implementation of 2030 Sustainable Development Goals in some partner countries. The SDG 2030 effort is strongly oriented to issues of social equity, include gender equity. The SPS team will incorporate gender mainstreaming into its overall objective regarding green BRI as a support mechanism for meeting SDG2030 goals in partner countries, as well as in China's domestic SDG2030 goals, where these intersect with the BRI.</p>	<p>"The SDG2030 effort is strongly oriented to issues of social equity, include gender equity. The SPS team will incorporate gender mainstreaming into its overall objective regarding green BRI as a support mechanism for meeting SDG2030 goals in partner countries, as well as in China's domestic SDG2030 goals, where these intersect with the BRI." Gender equality identified as cross-cutting issue.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender mainstreaming approaches and lessons learned should be shared between China and partner countries, some of which already have fruitful experience in this area. • China as a "donor" country should study well-established best practices of other donors regarding gender mainstreaming.



CCICED SPS Project Cycle Gender Mainstreaming

Tool #5 - SPS Policy Research Gender Analysis Tool

This tool provides SPS teams with a simple guide to conducting gender analysis in the course of their SPS policy research process. Basically these questions boil down to: Who has what? Who does what? Who decides? Who benefits and who does not? How can the benefits be distributed more equally between women and men?

Gender analysis will help to identify the key gender issues and gaps relevant to the particular policy area under study, clarify how women and men are affected by the problem and by the proposed solutions, and produce policy recommendations that are more fair, efficient and effective for both women and men.

BROAD TOPIC	Questions to ask in the course of the research	Help/examples/prompts*
1. Gender breakdown of actors and decision-makers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who are the key actors in this particular policy area? – government officials, private sector, farmers, consumers, etc. Can this data be disaggregated by sex? In each group, who (m/f) does what work? Are there identifiable things that women do and things that men do? Who makes the decisions at different levels (men and/or women)? Who makes what kinds or level of decisions? Are there issues or conditions that affect the context of the study from a gender perspective? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If this study relates to agriculture or resource management (e.g. related to climate change adaptation or eco-compensation), are the producers predominantly male or female? Do male and female producers do the same tasks? Do they have equal property rights, control, decision-making power, access to capital and other resources? Who makes local-level decisions on resource allocation – are women included or consulted? Is the area affected by gendered patterns of out-migration? If this study relates to climate change governance, is a gender breakdown available? How do different countries measure up in terms of gender division at operational and decision-making levels, and how does



BROAD TOPIC	Questions to ask in the course of the research	Help/examples/prompts*
		<p>China compare? Are there existing initiatives to promote greater gender balance? Is China positioned to address them?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contextual issues could include rules and regulations prohibiting sex discrimination, gendered migration patterns, local economic conditions, discrepancies between property rights laws/regulations and local practice.
2. Gender analysis of people impacted by the issue or policy (and potential beneficiaries of policy changes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who is the population impacted by this issue? Who will be impacted by the policy solutions being considered/proposed? Can the data be disaggregated by sex? Is it possible that men or women will be affected more? Or will men and women be affected in different ways? Are particular groups of men and/or women more affected e.g. because of their age, ethnic group, or other social characteristics? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the study relates to biodiversity or eco-compensation, will social impact be included? If so, the impact on different social groups will need to be assessed. The focus should be on ensuring that both women and men will benefit equitably. A useful tool is the <i>CBD 2015–2020 Gender Plan of Action Pocket Guide: Summary and Examples</i> (https://www.cbd.int/gender/doc/CBD-GenderPlanofAction-EN-WEB.pdf) If the study relates to biodiversity and protected ecological areas, will local men and women be affected differently, depending on how they use these biological resources (e.g. in some areas men gather fuelwood or construction materials, while women use a range of indigenous foods or medicinal plants)? Will eco-compensation be distributed to men and women fairly and on what basis?
3. Existing international/Chinese literature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is there existing research on this policy topic that relates to gender? What does the literature (international and Chinese) say about the key gender issues and gender- 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult the CCICED baseline GE literature review and bibliography as a starting point.



BROAD TOPIC	Questions to ask in the course of the research	Help/examples/prompts*
	<p>responsive approaches relevant to this topic or problem?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is already being done in other jurisdictions? What best practices have been identified? 	
4. Sources of information for the gender analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How do you plan to find out about gender issues in the course of the research? Who will you consult with? How will you ensure that women/women's groups are consulted effectively? What data sources will you use? Is the necessary sex-disaggregated or gender-sensitive data available? If not, what alternative strategies will you employ to generate the necessary data? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek out gender specialists in the relevant fields, international and/or Chinese. Identify and address possible barriers to women's or men's participation in consultations (e.g. is it frowned upon for women to speak in public in mixed meetings? Are meetings held at times that are convenient for women? Are most men working outside the community therefore not available for consultation? Are women excluded because they are not legal land-owners?) Consider having separate, women-only and men-only consultation or focus group to hear the views of each group separately. Seek out or generate data broken down by sex.
5. Key gender issues identified in the research and analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the (1-3) key gender-related issues identified through the research and analysis? If significant gender issues are identified, what are the policy implications? What policy measures could be recommended to improve the situation? If no significant gender issue is identified, explain briefly why. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depending on the SPS topic, these could relate to lack of women's participation, unequal or different impacts or benefits to women and men, not understanding the barriers to women's participation/benefit, etc. Possible acceptable reasons for not identifying gender issues: data not available, more research needs to be done, data shows gender parity already exists, etc.



BROAD TOPIC	Questions to ask in the course of the research	Help/examples/prompts*
6. Potential for policy that reduces gender-based gaps and inequalities in benefits and participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the results or benefits anticipated from this policy be different for women and men? Will it reduce existing inequalities? Will it create new inequalities? • What can be done to improve equity in benefits? • What can be done to mitigate any impacts that might negatively affect a particular group (male or female)? • What can be done to improve the participation of women, especially in management and decision-making? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For climate change examples see UNFCCC, <i>Leveraging Co-Benefits Between Gender Equality and Climate Action for Sustainable Development: Mainstreaming Gender Considerations in Climate Change Projects</i>¹
7. Incorporation into final report and recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will this analysis be incorporated into your research process and outputs? • Who will be responsible for making sure it's there? • Will you bring in outside gender expertise and how will it be utilized? • What are the budget implications? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Try to integrate the findings from the gender analysis into the body of the report and policy recommendations. • It's also useful to have a separate section highlighting the findings of the gender analysis and policy implications. • If your team has used a gender consultant, make sure you have him/her review the final write-up.

¹ https://unfccc.int/files/gender_and_climate_change/application/pdf/leveraging_cobenefits.pdf



Example of gender-responsive research and policy recommendations – climate change adaptation:

Climate change-induced drought and water scarcity: searching for gender-responsive solutions

Applying a gender lens to possible adaptations options		Recommended gender sensitive approach
Men	Women	
Solution: Increase water access through a community cistern with solar pump		
May decrease workload as women can now collect water too	Women will be able to collect water; this may give them more flexibility, but will also increase their workload	Conduct gender analysis of water use and management patterns
More likely to receive training for use of solar pump	Less likely to receive training to operate the solar pump	Ensure men and women are informed and receive training on the use and maintenance of solar pumps
Men may have a higher migration rate and are more likely to leave a skills gap in a household/ community if only men are responsible for accessing water from the cistern	Women may have a lower migration rate, therefore knowledge and skills are more likely to be retained in the community	Facilitate open dialogue about water priorities and gender imbalances of water collection and water-related tasks
		Facilitate open dialogue about gender dimensions of participation and decision-making in water governing structures
		Encourage the inclusion of women in water management committees
		Provide technical training to women and men in community management structures and ensure that skills, and opportunities to increase them are not limited by sex

For example, in this adaptation project, the impacts of the proposed solution on women and men were assessed and a multifaceted gender-sensitive approach was proposed to mitigate potential negative impacts. This approach covered a specific sector-based gender analysis; appropriate training for women and men; open discussion of their needs and priorities, and equitable participation in decision-making and governance structures; and equitable inclusion of women in sector and project management committees.

Source: The Pacific Gender & Climate Change Toolkit (2015).



Source: UN Women. 2016. Leveraging Co-Benefits Between Gender Equality And Climate Action For Sustainable Development: Mainstreaming Gender Considerations in Climate Change Projects.

https://unfccc.int/files/gender_and_climate_change/application/pdf/leveraging_cobenefits.pdf

Example of gender-responsive research and policy recommendations – Napo, Ecuador Biodiversity Case Study

Issue: Biodiversity loss in Napo, Ecuador can be attributed to the degradation of freshwater sources, forests and ecosystems. This has affected local communities, where men and women differ in economic status and environmental knowledge and women's access to education is limited. Promotion of sustainable resources management and poverty alleviation are viable responses.

Action: In the Province of Napo, the GEF project on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity, Forests, Soil and Water to Achieve Good Living aimed at promoting the conservation and sustainable use of internationally significant biodiversity, and at enhancing forest management. The project provided rural communities with opportunities for income generation that also contributed to maintaining and restoring the ecosystem. A social and gender approach was used, offering training and technical assistance in sectors where women are particularly active (e.g. in the production of cocoa and nanjilla, biotrade, and community tourism) to encourage their involvement in planning and decision-making.

Impact: This project led to an increase in the production of cocoa and nanjilla. The cocoa production has been successful in trapping and isolating 20,000 tons of carbon dioxide. Another positive result has come from the conservation of 1,000 hectares of forest through agreements that assigned these forests to be used for community tourism or sustainable biotrade practices. The average income of the 200 producers working in community tourism and sustainable biotrade, out of which 100 were women, increased by 10 per cent.

Source:

GEF. Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity, Forests, Soil and Water to Achieve Good Living (Buen Vivir / Sumac Kasay) in the Napo Province - project webpage. Available from <https://www.thegef.org/project/conservation-and-sustainable-use-biodiversity-forests-soil-and-water-achieve-good-living>



CCICED SPS Project Cycle Gender Mainstreaming

Tool #6 - SPS Report Tool

This tool provides a few simple prompts on how to integrate the findings of the gender analysis into the SPS final report.

1. If there was a gender specialist on the team, or an expert designated for the gender analysis, identify them as such in the Task Force Members list.
2. Include a brief introduction to the gender analysis in the description of the Implementation Process.
3. Include a separate section in the body of the report titled “Gender Analysis” that summarizes the methodology, key questions, and findings of the gender analysis. This section should focus on the implications of the findings for the relevant policy area of the SPS. Reference could also be made to any gender equality strategy or action plan in a relevant international convention (e.g. if the topic of the SPS relates to biodiversity, what is the link to the CBD Gender Equality Action Plan?)
4. Integrate relevant findings from the gender analysis into the body of the report where appropriate (e.g. if the SPS topic related to green consumption, and the gender analysis found that there were gender differences in consumer behaviour, these observations could be integrated into the section on consumer behaviour, as well as summarized in the “gender analysis” section of the report).
5. Include at least one unique policy recommendation referring to gender equality, with a rationale linking it to the findings of the gender analysis.



CCICED SPS Project Cycle Gender Mainstreaming

Tool #7 - SPS Team Self-Assessment Tool

This is a brief checklist to help SPS teams reflect on the degree to which they were able to integrate gender equality considerations into the various stages of their work. It will also help the CCICED Secretariat and IISD to track the implementation of gender equality mainstreaming in the work of CCICED and evaluate implementation of the CCICED Gender Equality-Women's Empowerment Strategy.

Stage	What were we supposed to do?	What did we do?	How did we do? Was it helpful? How could we have done more/better?
SPS Proposal	Was gender equality addressed in the SPS proposal?		
Inception meeting	Was gender equality addressed in the inception stage?		
Workplan/policy research development	Was gender equality addressed in the workplan?		
Policy research gender analysis	Was gender equality addressed in the policy research? Was a gender analysis conducted?		
Final report	Was gender equality addressed in the final report, including in the policy recommendations?		
Summary of key questions <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Did the team include a gender specialist, and/or was a gender specialist consulted? 2. Was a gender-based analysis conducted? 3. Did the final report include a section summarizing the gender analysis? 4. Were the findings of the gender analysis integrated into the overall report? 5. Was there at least one policy recommendation referring to gender equality issues? 			



CCICED Phase VI – Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Toolkit

Tool #8 - Communication Tool

This tool provides users with some concise messages on the links between gender equality, environment and sustainable development, both in general and as they relate to China – in particular to the issues of interest to CCICED.

CCICED's commitment to gender equality

From the Guiding Document of the Executive Committee of the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development:

The purpose of this guidance is to help ensure that CCICED provides the State Council with more effective and efficient policy recommendations that fully and equitably incorporate the roles and needs of, and impacts on, women and men, girls and boys in its policies and actions on environment and development. To this end, the Secretariat, Chief Advisors, Task Force and SPS leaders and team members should ensure that:

- Gender-based analysis and gender equality goals are integrated in the planning and execution of policy research and other activities;
- CCICED policy research is increasingly grounded in robust gender analysis, and the recommendations the Council provided to the Chinese government reflect the findings of this analysis;
- CCICED policy research Task Force Co-chairs, Special Policy Study Team Leaders, members of the Chief Advisors' group, and Secretariat staff make use of available resources and tools to improve their capacity to support the full integration of the gender dimension in the Council's policy research, activities and events;
- There is increasing gender parity among those selected to conduct policy research and/or participate in CCICED events. Moreover, the Executive Committee of the CCICED is committed to work towards increasing gender parity among those selected to join the Council, its advisors and its constituent bodies such as the Secretariat and the Executive Committee.



This approach is in full alignment with China's domestic and international commitments to gender equality and sustainable development, including:

- Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women 《消除对妇女一切形式歧视公约》(CEDAW 1979)
- United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development and Agenda 21 《联合国环境与发展会议和“21世纪议程”》(UNCED 1992)
- United Nations Conference on Women and Platform for Action 《联合国妇女大会与北京行动纲要》(Beijing 1995)
- 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Sustainable Development Goals 《2030年可持续发展议程与可持续发展目标》(SDGs)
- China National Program for Women's Development 《中国妇女发展纲要(2011—2020年)》(2011-2020)
- The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and Gender Action Plan 《联合国气候变化框架公约》和性别行动计划(2017)
- The Convention on Biological Diversity 《生物多样性公约》(CBD) and 2015-2020 Gender Plan of Action

Looking specifically at the SDGs, SDG 5 on gender equality includes promoting access to natural resources and enabling technologies, and women's roles in environmental decision-making. The cross-cutting priority of gender equality within other SDGs provides multiple opportunities for men and women to benefit more equitably from China's progress toward achieving these goals. For example, SDG 13 on climate action highlights the utmost importance of women's greater inclusion in climate change-related planning. In addition, addressing the gender perspective is significant for SDG 3 on health and environment, SDG 7 on energy, SDG 11 on Disaster Risk Reduction, and SDG 15 on ecosystems and forests.

What is gender? What is gender equality?

Gender: Refers to the roles, behaviors, activities, and attributes that a given society at a given time considers appropriate for men and women. In addition to the social attributes and opportunities associated with being male and female and the relationships between women and men and girls and boys, gender also refers to the relations between women and those between men. These attributes, opportunities and relationships are socially constructed and are learned through socialization processes (UN Women).

Gender equality: Refers to the equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of women and men and girls and boys. Equality does not mean that women and men will become the same but that women's and men's rights, responsibilities and opportunities will not depend



on whether they are born male or female. Gender equality implies that the interests, needs and priorities of both women and men are taken into consideration, recognizing the diversity of different groups of women and men. Gender equality is not a women's issue but should concern and fully engage men as well as women. Equality between women and men is seen both as a human rights issue and as a precondition for, and indicator of, sustainable people-centered development (UN Women).

Why gender and environment?

The gender perspective is relevant in all the different areas of environmental policy. Gender relations between women and men, and girls and boys, play a key role in the access to and control of environmental resources, as well as the goods and services they provide. The relevance of gender to environmental issues has been discussed since the early 1970s, when the growing debate on environmental changes intersected with the emergence of studies on women's roles in development and development policy strategies within the international women's rights movement.

性别观点对环境政策的不同领域都有关系。在获得和控制环境资源以及由此而得的货物和服务时，妇女和男子以及女孩和男孩之间的两性关系发挥着关键作用。性别与环境议题的相关性自70年代早期起就一直在讨论，当时关于环境变化的辩论日益增加，同时对妇女在发展领域和国际妇女权利运动中发展政策战略中地位的研究刚刚兴起。(Global Environment Facility, Investing in our planet: Gender mainstreaming, 2009.)

The primary arguments for enhancing gender equality in environmental policies and actions include:

- Gender equality is a human right with clear benefits for women, but also for men. In particular, men benefit from gender equality in terms of improved health and well being. 两性平等是一项人权，让妇女明确受益，但对男子也有明显的好处，尤其在提高其健康和福祉方面
- Using a “gender lens” to examine environmental policies can make these policies more effective. ... Use of the gender lens can help achieve progress towards more sustainable development and environmental protection. 性别视角可以帮助提高环境政策的有效性；更好地取得在可持续发展和环境保护的进展
- Sustainable development will not advance, nor will environmental protection policies and actions be as effective as they need to be, if gender equality is not protected and enhanced. **Gender equality is a multiplier of sustainability.** It strengthens efforts to address poverty and food security. Gender-responsive approaches to problems related to energy, water, sanitation, land and other natural resources are key to protecting human health and the environment.

如果性别平等没有受到保护和增强，可持续发展不会有进展、环境保护政策和行动不会取得预期的成效。性别平等是可持续发展的增效器。它会另对处理贫困和食品安全的努力事半功



倍。解决与能源、水、卫生、土地以及其他自然资源等有关的问题时，采用具有社会性别考量的解决方法是保护人类健康和环境的关键。

- If a gender lens is not used, environmental policies may aggravate existing gender inequalities. There are many examples of the introduction of new technologies in the energy and agricultural sectors having unintended inequality-intensifying consequences. 如果使用“性别视角”，环境政策可能会使性别不平等恶化；或者无意间加剧不平等的后果。
- With the use of an explicit gender lens, environmental policies can contribute to increased gender equality. 而明确地使用性别视角则有利于实现性别平等。
- In the absence of a gender lens it is impossible to develop comprehensive assessments of the nature and scale of the most pressing environmental problems. 没有性别视角，是无法对自然和大多数迫切需要解决的环境问题的范围进行全面的评估。

Source: UNEP, *Global Gender and Environment Outlook*

Socially constructed gender roles create differences in the ways women and men behave in relation to the environment, and in the ways they are enabled to act (or prevented from acting) as agents of environmental change. Even relatively simple gender-based divisions of labour can affect how they experience the environment. If only men fish in the open sea and only women fish in coastal mangroves, they will inevitably have different sets of environmental knowledge and experiences. Or if most men drive to work in a car while most women use public transportation, they will see the environment and changes in it from different vantage points. Their different environmental positioning may mean women and men have exposures to very different environmental problems and risks, and have very different ideas about the seriousness of environmental problems and appropriate interventions, adaptations and solutions. Further, because of the social construction of gender roles, they may have different – usually unequal – capacities and approaches with respect to environmental interpretation and change. (UNEP Global Gender and Environment Outlook).

Key policy statements and commitments - International

The United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing (1995) identified environment as one of 12 critical areas for women. The Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA) asserted that ‘women have an essential role to play in the development of sustainable and ecologically sound consumption and production patterns, and approaches to natural resource management’. “妇女在制订可持续和无害生态的消费和生产型态方面和在自然资源管理对策方面可发挥不可或缺的作用”。



While SDG 5 specifically targets gender equality and women's empowerment, there is a strong thrust in all the SDGs to link all aspects of sustainable development to gender equality. This approach is an important impetus for linking gender and environment/climate change research and policy making by all major actors. For example, the UNEP's Asia Pacific Regional Office "gives priority to SDG 5 on gender equality, including promoting access to natural resources and enabling technologies, and women in environmental decision-making positions. The nexus of Gender within other SDGs provides multiple opportunities for men and women to benefit from countries' commitments to delivering on the SDGs. SDG 13 on climate action highlights the utmost importance of women's inclusion in least developed countries' capacity for climate change-related planning. In addition, addressing the gender perspective is significant for SDG 3 on health and environment, SDG 7 on energy, SDG 11 on DRR, and SDG 15 on ecosystems and forests."

"Gender equality and women's empowerment is recognized as a cross-cutting priority across all aspects of UNEP's work. UNEP promotes men and women's participation in all environmental protection and sustainable development activities."

Key policy statements and commitments – China

The National Program for Women's Development 2011-2020 continues to target "women and the environment" as one of its seven major topics and includes four major goals related to climate change. The four major goals include 1) fully reflect the principle of gender equality in policies related to the environment and development, culture and media, social management and family, etc.; 2) solve drinking water problems in rural areas, reducing damage to women's health caused by water pollution; 3) advocate for women's participation in energy conservation and low-carbon living; 4) improve women's abilities to prevent and cope with disaster risks by fulfilling their special requirements in DRR.

President Xi Jinping, speaking in the International Forum on Women and Sustainable Development, Beijing, 2011, stated:

"Now, more and more Chinese women are consciously involved in environmental protection and sustainable development". In the process of participation and practice, the majority of women's subjective awareness continues to enhance, the contribution to sustainable development continues to improve. Women have achieved great development in education, employment, medical care, science and technology and other fields. China will actively improve the environment for women's development and strive to balance development of women with growth of economy and society, to enhance the equal development of women and men and the all-round development of women themselves."

习近平指出,“现在,越来越多的中国妇女自觉参与到环境保护与可持续发展中来。在参与和实践中,广大妇女的主体意识不断增强,对可持续发展的贡献不断提升,妇女自身也在教育、就业、医疗、科技等多个领域实现巨大发展。中国将积极改善妇女发展环境,努力促进妇女事业与经济社会协调发展、妇女与男性平等发展和妇女自身全面发展。”



Gender and climate change

An increasing amount of literature now suggests that the impacts of climate change and related disasters exacerbate gender differences; to be more specific, women tend to be affected more adversely by climate change than men. (UN Women, Gender Dimensions of Vulnerability to Climate Change in China)

“Women are disproportionately affected by climate change impacts such as droughts, floods and other extreme weather events. They also have a critical role in combatting climate change, but need to be better represented at all levels in the decision-making. Empowering women will be a significant factor in meeting the climate challenge.” (UNFCCC Executive Secretary Christiana Figueres, 2014)

Gender and Biodiversity

The Preamble to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) recognizes the vital role women play in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. It promotes their full participation at all levels of policy-making and implementation with respect to biodiversity conservation activities. At their twelfth meeting held in October 2014, the Parties to the CBD welcomed the 2015-2020 Gender Plan of Action prepared by the Secretariat, to align with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets. This plan includes possible actions for Parties to undertake in implementing the Convention, as well as a framework of actions for the Secretariat to integrate gender into its work. The 2015-20 CBD Gender Plan of Action pursues these strategic objectives among others:

- Mainstreaming a gender perspective into implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the associated work of Parties and the Secretariat; 将性别观点纳入缔约方和秘书处执行《公约》及相关工作的主流；
- Promoting gender equality in achieving the objectives of the Convention, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi (Japan) Biodiversity Targets; 在实现《公约》、《2011-2020 年生物多样性战略计划》和爱知生物多样性 指标的各项目标方面促进性别平等；
- Demonstrating the benefits of gender mainstreaming in measures aimed at biodiversity conservation, sustainable use of the components of biodiversity, and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of utilization of genetic resources. 证明性别主流化在促进有关保护生物多样性、可持续利用生物多样性的组成部分以及公平和公正分享利用遗传资源所产生惠益的措施方面的好处。

Gender and Energy

UNEP and UN Women have joined forces to develop a Global Programme to Promote



Women's Entrepreneurship for Sustainable Energy. The initiative was successfully launched at the Paris Climate Change Conference (COP21) in late 2015.

The Programme builds on the recognition that the transition to sustainable energy requires a paradigm shift: Instead of being passive providers and users of energy, women must become agents of change in promoting sustainable energy technologies. The Programme “will ensure that we empower and strengthen women so they can play a role at the policy level, the delivery level but also in managing the efficient use of energy at the household level”, said Dr. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director of UN Women. To this end, removing structural barriers and discrimination has proven effective in creating gender-responsive services that empower women and increase their capacity to access energy and seize new income-generation opportunities.

Green Consumption and Production

Harnessing the potential for environmentally friendly purchasing power: Estimates of consumer spending that women “control” (without this term being defined in the original research) are as follows: Canada, 75%; United States, 73%; Germany, 70%; United Kingdom, 66%; Japan, 62%; Italy, 57%; China, 50% (Silverstein and Sayer 2009).

Some important considerations:

- Gendering of consumer products is used to increase demand. Notions of masculinity and femininity shape consumption and production decisions, from cars to cosmetics to recreational goods.
- Chronic exposure to now-ubiquitous plastics and industrial chemicals causes millions of deaths each year, and even more disease and disability. The health effects of such exposures are markedly gender-differentiated. The predominance of female workers in many sectors contributes to gendered differences in exposure to plastics and chemicals with potentially dangerous health effects.
- While women and men both express a considerable commitment to more sustainable futures, they have different levels of personal commitment to enabling transformations towards sustainability.

Gender and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

Worldwide, women tend to suffer more from the impacts and fatalities caused by disasters compared with men. For example, women represented an estimated 61% of fatalities in Myanmar after Cyclone Nargis in 2008, 70% after the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami in Banda Aceh, and during the heat wave that affected Europe in 2003, most deaths in France were among elderly women.

Following a disaster, it is more likely that women will be victims of domestic and sexual violence; many women even avoid using shelters for fear of being sexually assaulted.



Gender-based violence is found to increase due to disaster-induced stress and the temporary breakdown of law and order.

In some cases, gender differences in roles and responsibilities in disaster increase men's mortality in disaster situations. Men may engage in riskier behaviour that represents heroic actions in disaster situations—such as being firefighters—that may result in death or injury. For example, there were more immediate deaths among men when Hurricane Mitch struck Central America in 1998, not only because they were engaged in outdoor activities, but because of less cautious behaviour in the face of risks.

Projects supported by the World Bank – e.g. flooding reconstruction in Argentina, El Salvador, Mozambique, Indonesia, Viet Nam, and India – have elevated women's status in society by including women in programme design and implementation while promoting land rights for women. This was accomplished through developing an understanding of the gender dimensions of disaster and promoting equality during the recovery process.

Gender and environmental policy research – why and how?

Gender analysis is a systematic analytical process used to identify, understand, and describe gender differences and the relevance of gender roles and power dynamics in a specific context (USAID). The Canadian government explains gender analysis as "... the variety of methods used to understand the relationships between men and women, their access to resources, their activities, and the constraints they face relative to each other. Gender analysis provides information that recognizes that gender, and its relationship with race, ethnicity, culture, class, age, disability, and/or other status, is important in understanding the different patterns of involvement, behaviour and activities that women and men have in economic, social and legal structures."

At the heart of gender and environment analyses is curiosity about whether women and men (and girls and boys) experience "the environment" differently; how their needs, encounters, vulnerability, and resilience differ. This necessitates asking basic questions about gender equality and inequality – how inequalities are created, perpetuated, and sometimes effectively challenged and changed.

Asking questions "on the ground" related to gender and the environment provides the basis for a more comprehensive, 360° view of environmental issues, which can lead to more effective policies. Just as gendered information flows upstream to inform policy, gender-sensitive policies can have enormous consequences on the ground. Most mainstream environmental policies do not currently incorporate the concerns or insights provided by gender analysis. To this extent, they do not fully serve environmental or social interests. (UNEP, Global Gender and Environment Outlook).

Most environmental assessments conceptualize "the environment" within a physical, biosystem framework. Frameworks that treat it as socially constructed and perceived are

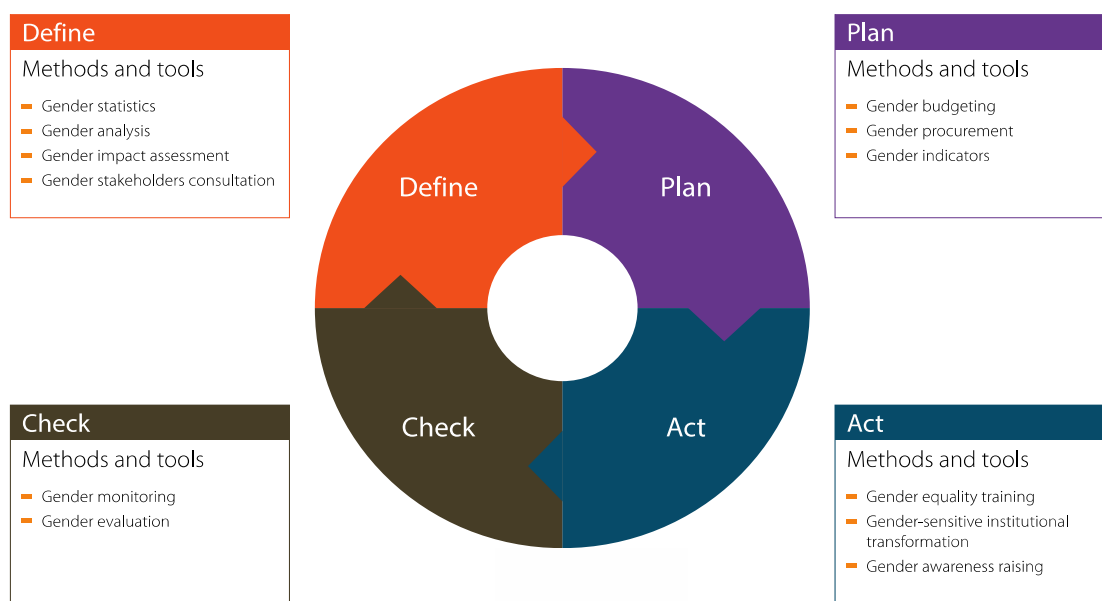


still marginalized in much mainstream environmental work. Climate change, for example, is conventionally addressed primarily as a scientific problem requiring technological and scientific solutions. The physical-sciences-first approach sidelines social and gender analysis.

Gender and the Policy Cycle

The gender dimension can be integrated in all phases of the policy cycle.

Below, you can find useful resources and practical examples for mainstreaming gender into environment and climate change policies. They are organised according to the most relevant phase of the policy cycle they may serve.





CCICED Phase VI - Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Toolkit

Tool #9 - Fast-Access Tools and Guidelines

This is a short list of “how-to” tools and guidelines that can be used by SPS teams in identifying the relevant gender issues, planning and conducting the gender equality analysis, and formulating gender-aware policy recommendations. Many more references can be found in the CCICED Phase VI Baseline Literature Review (attached to this Toolkit).

Asian Development Bank. Gender Checklists and Toolkits in Sector Work.

<https://www.adb.org/themes/gender/checklists-toolkits>

Asian Development Bank.^[SEP] 2015. Training Manual to Support Country-Driven Gender and Climate Change: Policies, Strategies, and Program Development.^[SEP]

<https://www.adb.org/publications/training-manual-country-driven-gender-and-climate-change>

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CCICED Phase VI - Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Toolkit

Tool #10 - Gender Participation Tracker

The CCICED Guidance on Gender Equality stipulates that there will be “increasing gender parity among those selected to conduct policy research and/or participate in CCICED events. Moreover, the Executive Committee of the CCICED is committed to work towards increasing gender parity among those selected to join the Council, its advisors and its constituent bodies such as the Secretariat and the Executive Committee.”

This tool will assist the CCICED Secretariat and IISD in tracking progress on gender parity in the Council's constituent bodies, its leadership, and major CCICED events.

CCICED Gender Participation Tracker				
What	% Male and Female Participants			Comments
Council Members	Chinese	% female	% male	
	International	% female	% male	
	Overall	% female	% male	
Special Advisors/Chief Advisors and support teams	Chief Advisors/Special Advisors	% female	% male	
	Support Teams	% female	% male	
TF and SPS Co-chairs	Chinese	% female	% male	
	International	% female	% male	
TF and SPS	Chinese	% female	% male	



CCICED Gender Participation Tracker				
What	% Male and Female Participants			Comments
members	International	% female	% male	
Special Advisors	Chinese	% female	% male	
	International	% female	% male	
AGM and other major events presenters, keynote speakers and chairpersons <i>(not including presenters during the open forum programs)</i>	AGM	% female	% male	
	Other events (list)	% female	% male	



ANNEXES

Annex 1 – Gender Equality & Women Empowerment Baseline Study

**China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and
Development**

CCICED Phase VI

GE-WE Baseline Study



China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development
CCICED Phase VI
GE-WE Baseline Study

Prepared by: Linda HersHKovitz, CCICED Gender Equality Advisor
March 2018

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2. Overall approach to GE-WE in Phases IV and V
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6. Integration of gender dimensions in policy research and advice
7. Gender equality training and capacity strengthening
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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AGM	Annual General Meeting
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CCICED	China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CHAD	Chief Advisors
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
COP	Conference of the Parties
ECCC	Environment and Climate Change Canada
GAC	Global Affairs Canada
GE	Gender Equality
GES	Gender Equality Strategy
MEP	Ministry of Environmental Protection (China)
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SFU	Simon Fraser University
SPS	Special Policy Study
TF	Task Force
TOR	Terms of Reference
UNEP	United Nations Environment Program
WE	Women's Empowerment



China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development
CCICED Phase VI GE-WE Baseline Study

Prepared by: Linda HersHKovitz, CCICED Gender Equality Advisor²
March 2018

1. Background and methodology

The Canadian-funded China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED) Project has had an explicit gender equality strategy (GES) since Phase IV, and it is intended that the project during its sixth phase will continue to support both awareness raising and capacity building in this area for the direct partners and other project stakeholders. The CCICED Project is now under the direction of Canada's federal environmental ministry, Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), which has requested an updated Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GE-WE) strategy for Phase VI, reflecting the Government of Canada's commitment to its Feminist International Assistance Policy announced in 2017.³

The purpose of this baseline study is to assess CCICED's accomplishments, gaps and lessons learned related to gender equality and women's empowerment, focusing particularly on Phases IV and V, which were covered by the project's Gender Equality Strategy developed in 2008-09. It also updates and builds on the Gender Baseline Study done for Phase IV in 2009. The findings of this assessment will inform the new Phase VI Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Strategy and workplan.

This baseline report draws on information contained in CCICED's annual narrative reports and other project documents, as well as information obtained through key informant interviews. The literature review scans the relevant literature on gender equality, sustainable development and climate change from a broad range of international and Chinese sources, including UNEP and other UN agencies, bilateral and multilateral donors, domestic and international environmental and women's rights NGOs, and academic reports.

2. Overall approach to GE-WE in Phases IV and V

The general approach to gender equality and women's empowerment in the CCICED project has been to treat GE as one of three "overarching strategies" (along with sustainability and communication), and a cross-cutting theme in all CCICED work.

² Substantial assistance and input was provided by Hu Difei. The project was overseen by Lucie McNeill, who also provided input and guidance and provided all the relevant project documents. Any errors or oversights are the responsibility of the author.

³ http://international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_developpement-enjeux_developpement/priorities-priorites/policy-politique.aspx?lang=eng



Particular emphasis was placed on GE in Phase IV: the CCICED Gender Equality Strategy, developed during Phase IV and applied in Phases IV and V, was a major step forward in setting expectations for the project related to GE-WE. It set out the following expected results (which dovetail with the overall expected results in the CCICED project results framework):

- CCICED policy advice and recommendations on environmental management and sustainable development, include (where relevant) gender equality perspectives;
- CCICED, in materials and events aimed at improving understanding in China of environment and sustainable development, outline the pertinent gender perspectives, analysis and information;
- CCICED Secretariat has the capacity to ensure that CCICED procedures and general operations support improvements in gender equality – including increased participation of women.

The impetus for this approach to integrating gender equality principles in CCICED has largely come from the Canadian partners, responding to Canadian government guidelines for international cooperation projects (CIDA and then GAC/ECCC), and the priorities of the Canada-based CCICED Secretariat International Support Office (SISO). However, as the Phase IV GES and baseline study amply demonstrated, this approach is in line with global practice on environment and sustainable development, including, increasingly, climate change governance. It is consistent with the policies and practices of other CCICED donors and partners, and it is also consistent with China's own international commitments, including CEDAW, the SDGs, and China's growing role in international environmental and climate governance.

It should also be noted that for each successive phase of the cooperation project since Phase IV, the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreed upon between the Chinese and Canadian governments has included substantive reference to gender equality as a cross-cutting concern and component in the project. The Phase IV MOU stipulated:

“A concerted effort will be made to integrate gender equality (GE) measures and linkages in the project. After conducting enhanced baseline research, a GE Strategy will be integrated in the Implementation Plan, supported with the appropriate expertise, allocation of adequate resources, capacity development for key organizations and decision-makers, plus more effective reporting, monitoring, and performance measurement frameworks. Specific measures to promote GE could include: greater participation of women in the project especially in decision-making; enhanced role for gender-and-environment experts (researchers and advocates) in research and policy development activities; enhanced capacity of the Council, Secretariat and Task Forces to understand and analyze the gender equality dimensions of environmental issues and policy and to incorporate these into policy recommendations; project management supportive of GE integration, with sufficient human and financial resources earmarked; and strengthening GE focus in monitoring and evaluation mechanisms.”



The Phase V MOU also included stipulations that gender equality be integrated into the project. Gender equality was mentioned explicitly in two of the three expected results, and in the expectation that “Measures to adopt and implement international commitments and gender equality perspectives will be appropriately incorporated in CCICED policy advice, recommendations and procedures.” The project description also included the expectation that improvements to the structure and processes of CCICED over Phase V would include, among others, “a more systematic attempt to integrate a gender equality perspective into analysis and operations.”

The Phase VI draft MOU contains even more detail on how gender equality will be incorporated into the project. It stipulates that ECCC will support, among others, “Capacity-building activities, such as training, workshops, and information, that support gender equality and women’s empowerment as they relate to environment and climate change, among Canadian and Chinese CCICED partners.”

Expected results for Phase VI include the following:

- “Measures to adopt and implement international commitments as well as gender equality, including women’s empowerment perspectives, will be appropriately incorporated in CCICED policy advice, recommendations, and operations.”

and

- Chinese partners will have increased knowledge and capacity to maintain the CCICED Secretariat and/or develop new mechanisms to access international policy advice and recommendations on environment and sustainable development issues, ensuring the integration of gender equality, including women’s empowerment perspectives.

Finally, the project description asks for “improvements to the structure and process of the CCICED in the next five years based on lessons learned,” including: “a more systematic attempt to integrate gender equality, including women’s empowerment perspectives into analysis, research, policy discussions and operations.”

3. Phase IV Gender Equality Strategy (GES) and original baseline study

Early in Phase IV, a Gender Equality Strategy (GES) was developed for CCICED. The GES sketches a rationale for the inclusion of the gender dimension in the project, proposes a series of interventions to improve the integration of the gender dimension in the work of the Council, and presents a methodology for measuring project gender equality results. The GES responded directly to the original MOU between the Chinese and Canadian governments, quoted above.

The expected results of the original GES are presented in the table below. The basic approach adopted by the GES was an ambitious one:



“Our basic approach to achieving greater gender equality is to “mainstream” the gender dimension in all project components. This means the gender dimension will be integrated (where relevant) in the project’s own substantive activities – workshops, studies, task forces and recommendations on environment and development. Where needed, some activities can be targeted to improve understanding of gender equality and the capacity to perform gender-sensitive research and policy formulation – but only as a step towards full integration. Affirmative action measures, such as setting quotas for female participation in activities, are adopted where needed.”

Specific planned actions to achieve the results outlined in the GES were:

- Training: awareness raising; workshops on gender analysis; TF-specific workshops
- Adoption of targets for increasing the participation of women in Council activities and Council-sponsored research
- Integration of the gender dimension in TF-SPS TORs, in reports to Council, and in recommendations to GOC

The indicators selected to track progress on each of the GES expected results are summarized in the table below.

Results - Goals	Indicators
CCICED advice and recommendations include, where relevant, gender equality perspectives	Among the TF and SPS where the gender dimension was identified as significant: <u>number and percentage of their reports and recommendations that included the gender dimension</u>
CCICED, in materials and events aimed at improving understanding of environment and sustainable development, outlines the pertinent gender perspectives, analysis and information	Among the TF, SPS or other Council publications and round-tables where the gender dimension was identified as significant: <u>number and percentage where the gender dimension was specifically discussed</u>
CCICED Secretariat has the capacity to ensure CCICED procedures and operations support improvements in gender equality – including increased participation of women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Number and % of women</u> in all relevant categories of Council work (total, Chinese and international) - Among the TF and SPS where the gender dimension was identified as significant: <u>Number and % of TF and SPS TORs that include the gender dimension</u>

In 2008-09, a gender equality baseline study was conducted in order to 1) assess the status of gender integration in current research work on environment and sustainable development in China; and 2) to measure the extent of gender integration in the CCICED project at the outset of Phase IV (the baseline year chosen was 2006-07 – the final year of Phase III). The purpose of the baseline was to establish a statistical basis for tracking progress towards the gender equality results set out in the GES over Phases IV and V. The key findings were:



- Regarding GES Result #1, the integration of gender equality perspectives in CCICED advice and recommendations, the Phase IV baseline found that of five Task Force reports tabled at the 2006 AGM, three had significant gender dimensions. Of these three reports and three sets of recommendations, only one report and one set of recommendations mentioned gender as a relevant factor. It assigned a value of 2/6 or 33% for this indicator.
- Regarding GES Result #2, inclusion of gender perspectives in materials and events, the baseline study was unable to assess the value of this indicator due to lack of access to the materials and events produced for the three TFs where gender was deemed relevant.
- Regarding GES Result #3, CCICED Secretariat's capacity on gender equality, two indicators were assessed. For the first indicator, the number and percentage of TF TORs that included the gender dimensions, the baseline study found that none of them did so. Thus the value of this indicator was 0%. For the second indicator, the number and percentage of women in all relevant categories of Council work, the baseline research found that women were clearly under-represented among Chinese Council members, International TF members, and Chinese TF co-chairs. Much greater equality was found among Chinese TF members, and Secretariat leadership and staff.

The overall conclusion of the Phase IV baseline study was that “a minimum of awareness and work in this area could yield more promising results on the gender front.”

Subsequently, performance in relation to the objectives of the Phase IV-V GES was tracked and reported in the CCICED's annual reports over Phases IV and V. This is summarized in the following sections.

4. Reporting on gender results in Phases IV and V

This section summarizes and assesses the quality of reporting on progress towards expected gender equality results contained in the final Phase IV report and annual Progress and Financial Reports for Phase V. It should be noted that reporting on the Canadian project is to a great extent determined by the requirements of the funding/oversight organization. Global Affairs Canada (formerly CIDA), which has funded this project from its inception until late in Phase V, has over the years development very stringent requirements for mainstreaming gender equality in all projects and thus for reporting on gender equality results. However late in Phase V, Canadian responsibility for CCICED shifted from GAC to Environment and Climate Change Canada, which to date does not have similar requirements for gender mainstreaming or reporting on gender results in their reporting templates. As will be seen below, the quantity and quality of gender equality reporting for the final year of Phase V reflects this difference. The CCICED Project however did continue to cover gender equality concerns in its narrative reports through to the end of Phase V and has committed to doing so in Phase Vi.



4.1 Phase IV

Project reports reflected that gender considerations were given increased attention in CCICED Phase IV compared to previous phases of the Council's work, as attested by the acceptance and dissemination of the GES and Gender Equality Baseline. It was reported (as an "important development") that "by mid-2009, the CCICED Secretariat in Beijing had accepted the GE Strategy as a *Council* strategy rather than a strategy applying only to the CIDA-funded Project." Further, "the CCICED Secretariat in Beijing took the initiative to organize a major workshop in June 2009 on gender equality issues in environment, which was opened by the CCICED Deputy Secretary, and published the GE strategy as a Council document."

Regarding the participation of women in CCICED staff and bodies, it was reported that by the end of Phase IV, "the percentage of women who served as task force or special policy study international members doubled compared to the single base year of 2006-7. Chinese task force members were predominantly male but one Chinese female co-chair was appointed and there are many women among the task forces' support and research staffs. However, only four international Council members and three Chinese Council members are women, a situation that required attention when the composition of the Phase V Council was developed." Detailed figures are provided in Section 5 of this report.

In terms of mainstreaming gender equality concerns in policy research, the Phase IV final report identified this as a "more difficult" objective. Although GE was included in the terms of reference for new task forces and special projects, for most (but not all) teams, "gender considerations were not deemed to be relevant." As the report pointed out, the Task Force on Green Development was the most conspicuous exception. "A lesson learned was that discipline experts of either gender are often not sufficiently aware of gender dimensions in their particular areas of expertise." This finding pointed to the need for greater awareness raising on the relevance of gender issues going forward.

The Phase IV final report also found that gender considerations were included in many of the capacity development initiatives carried out during Phase IV.

The Phase IV final report thus concluded that, in relation to the performance indicators in the GES, CCICED rated high on inclusion of gender in TORs of TFs but low on performance in including gender considerations in policy research and recommendations themselves. The project also rated highly on improvement in the participation of women in relevant categories of Council work, as well as in capacity development activities. Nevertheless, it also found that "it was evident that the GES was best served when it was quietly implemented and not made much of in, for example, Bureau meetings."

The Phase IV final report also looked at the impact of CCICED recommendations on policies and legislation adopted by the Chinese government. It found that although, as noted above, a few CCICED task forces and special policy studies did address gender-specific issues requiring Government attention in policy development, on the whole gender



considerations did not become an explicit focus of Chinese Government policy development on sustainable development.

4.2 Phase V

Annual narrative reports for Phase V continued to track two of the three GES indicators: gender balance in CCICED bodies, and integration of gender issues in advice and recommendations. The reporting reflects some falling-away of attention to gender equality throughout this phase of the project, particularly in relation to the content of policy research and recommendations. Unfortunately there is little if any analysis contained in these reports that sheds light on the reasons for the lack of sustained attention to gender equality, or ways in which the situation might be improved.

Towards the end of Phase V, Canadian responsibility for the CCICED project shifted from Global Affairs Canada to Environment and Climate Change Canada.

Thus the final Phase V report followed ECCC's reporting template, which, unlike GAC, does not require reporting on GE. We were informed by an ECCC officer that "... aside from GBA+ framework, (http://www.swc-cfc.gc.ca/gba-acsc/course-cours-2017/eng/mod00/mod00_02_01.html) the International Affairs Branch [of ECCC] does not apply a specific gender analysis framework or reporting when undertaking formal international partnerships, such as MOUs ... Gender considerations can and are included if specified in the partnership agreement, but this is not universally applied."⁴ Although gender is not included in the reporting template for the CCICED project, nor does the ECCC results framework explicitly ask about gender results, the project's longer, narrative reports do consistently report on the original cross-cutting priorities, and always include a section on gender equality. We were informed that this practice will continue for the Phase VI longer narrative annual reports.

This change in reporting requirements is an important gap that was evident in the final reporting for Phase V, and will affect the quantity and quality of reporting on gender considerations in Phase VI – unless an explicit decision is made to track and report on gender results in the reporting template.

5. Gender Balance and availability of sex-disaggregated project data

Focusing on Phases IV and V, the project has been quite rigorous in compiling, tracking and reporting on sex-disaggregated statistics on participants in the project at various levels, particularly among international members.

The Phase IV final report compared the situation at the beginning and end of Phase IV, and found modest but very uneven progress in the proportion of female participants in various capacities. Some further progress was made in Phase V (in the categories tracked for the annual reports):

⁴ Personal communication, Laura Coates, Policy Analyst, Climate Change International, ECCC



- The proportion of women among international council members increased from 13% in 2006-7 to 15% at the end of Phase IV, and 24% by the end of Phase V (8 women out of 33 members).
- The proportion of female international task force co-chairs increased from 25% to 50% in the same period (i.e. out of the four international co-chairs in the final year of Phase V, two were women)
- The proportion of female international task force members increased steadily from 11% in 2006-07 to 22% by the end of Phase IV, and 39% at the end of Phase V.
- A consistently larger proportion of women than men have participated in training/capacity development activities over the last two phases of the project, rising from 53% in Phase IV to 72% in the final year of Phase V. Largely this reflects the high proportion of women among Secretariat staff who have been the main recipients of capacity development under CCICED, and the sole recipients of training in the last two years of Phase V.

However, as Table 1 below demonstrates, progress on gender balance over the course of Phase V has been uneven, with the most significant advances made in the final year of the project. It shows that, over Phase V, there was a consistent majority of male participants in all project bodies, but that the majority of participants in capacity development programs were female, reflecting the makeup of CCICED staff who were the primary target group for capacity development.

**Table 1. Gender balance: Selected principal CCICED bodies and activities
Phase V 2013-2017**

Members / Participants	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
Council members (International)	5 17%	24 83%	6 19%	26 81%	6 18%	27 82%	8 24%	25 75%
Task Force/Special Policy Study team international Co-Chairs*	3 27%	8 73%	2 15%	11 85%	1 17%	5 83%	2 50%	2 50%
Task Force/Special Policy Study team international members*	13 27%	36 73%	18 35%	34 65%	9 29%	22 71%	7 39%	11 61%
Participants: Capacity Development Programs	7 64%	4 36%	5 45%	6 55%	11 73%	4 27%	13 72%	5 28%



Table 2 summarizes the available comparative data from Phases IV and V as well as early data for Phase VI, derived from project documents available on CCICED's Chinese web site.

**Table 2. PARTICIPANTS IN CCICED ORGANIZATIONS AND ACTIVITIES BY SEX:
PHASES IV, V and VI**

Organization		BASE YEAR:2006-2007				PHASE IV 2007-2012				PHASE V 2012-2017				PHASE VI 2017-2022			
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
		Men	Men	Wom en	Wom en	Men	Men	Wom en	Wom en	Men	Men	Wom en	Wom en	Men	Men	Wom en	Wom en
COUNCIL MEMBERS	Chinese	31	100	0	0	25	89	3	11	35	95	2	5	28	97	2	3
	Intl	20	87	3	13	21	84	4	16	25	76	8	24	26	72	9	28
CHIEF ADVISOR (GROUP)	Chinese	7	70	3	30	6	75	2	25	1	100	0	0	16	89	3	11
	Intl	1	100	0	0	2	100	0	0	1	100	0	0	11	69	5	31
TF CO-CHAIRS	Chinese	4	100	0	0	29	97	1	3	21	95	1	5	..	..	..	..
	Intl	3	75	1	25	24	75	8	25	16	50	5	50	..	..	..	..
TF MEMBERS	Chinese	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	70	78	20	22	..	..	..	..
	Intl	17	89	2	11	91	78	25	22	50	61	20	39	..	..	..	..
SERI & SISO	Chinese	3	50	3	50	3	50	3	50	2	67	1	33	..	..	..	..
	Intl	1	50	1	50	1	42	1.4	58	0	0	2	100	..	..	..	..
TRAINEES	Chinese	0	0	2	100	15	47	17	53	5	28	13	72	..	..	..	..

The data reflects that, despite consistent support on gender integration from the Canadian side, any improvements in the participation of women, especially in key positions, is still lagging. As noted in the Phase V final-year narrative report,

“... the ICA has consistently argued for the recruitment of more women among research team members. Although there is no overt objection on the part of the CCICED leadership to rectify the existing gender imbalance, it is clearly not a priority for them. The present situation is unlikely to change during Phase VI, unless there is much greater effort (and perhaps concerted effort on the part of other donors and partners) on increasing awareness among key CCICED decision makers as to the relevance of the gender dimension in environment and sustainable development, and the benefits of ensuring greater participation of women in key decision-making and other important CCICED roles.”

Availability of sex-disaggregated data on all project bodies and activities is good for the international participants, but women's representation among the Chinese participants of



the various CCICED bodies has not been tracked and reported as consistently, as the Chinese secretariat did not do so and the SISO deemed it had no control over this management function. This is a situation that could easily be remedied for Phase VI, in order to be able to consistently track overall progress in increasing gender parity in the various bodies and activities under the project.

6. Integration of gender dimensions in policy research and advice

The first objective of the CCICED GES calls for CCICED policy advice and recommendations on environmental management and sustainable development to include (“where relevant”) gender equality perspectives. Repeated reviews have shown that this in an area where the CCICED has consistently not met expectations, with only a few exceptions. For example, the Phase IV GE baseline study looked at five task force reports presented at the 2006 AGM, found that at least three had significant gender dimensions that could have addressed, and concluded that out of the three task forces where gender issues were clearly relevant and could have been addressed, only one of the three did so – the Task Force on Green Development.⁵

By way of explanation, the Phase IV final report pointed out that, while the terms of reference for new task forces and special projects, and for their teams’ international members, required that attention be given to gender considerations,

“... to most teams, gender considerations were not deemed to be relevant. While cultural considerations also had a bearing on the degree of attention paid to gender considerations, the sense that gender considerations were not relevant at the level of policy being addressed appeared to be shared by the international members of most teams, including female members.”

The Phase IV final report further noted: “A lesson learned was that discipline experts of either gender are often not sufficiently aware of gender dimensions in their particular areas of expertise. Consequently, Project management concludes that it should have made additional resources available to policy research teams to **increase awareness of possible gender dimensions in their field of study** and to enable them to review gender issues more thoroughly.” (emphasis added)

Despite these clear conclusions at the end of Phase IV, little progress was made in foregrounding gender issues in policy research in Phase V. The annual reports for the four

⁵ This Task Force devoted a chapter in its final report on the subject, and incorporated gender dimensions in key recommendations. Women’s empowerment was defined as an important enabling condition for a green economy as well as a driver of women’s empowerment. Recommendations dealt with ‘new green jobs’ that benefitted the female workforce and it was recommended that the Government of China “focus its efforts on improving women’s job opportunities in both traditional green sectors ... and in non-traditional sectors, particularly in new and high-technology sectors.”



years from 2013-2017 make the following observations in reporting on this aspect of the GES:

2013-2014: “Among the task forces and special policy studies that reported to the 2013 Annual General Meeting, the Task Force on Environmental Protection and Social Development addressed gender issues explicitly, in particular the disproportionate impact of environmental degradation on women.”

2014-2015: “Among the task forces and special policy studies that reported to the 2014 Annual General Meeting, only the Special Policy Study on Urbanization addressed gender issues. This points again to the advantages of making expert resources available to policy research teams to help them identify and address any gender dimensions in teams’ policy research areas.”

2015-2016: “Among the task forces and special policy studies that reported to the 2015 AGM, none identified, addressed or reported on gender as a relevant dimension to the issues investigated and the recommendations put forward.”

2016-2017: “Among the TF and SPS teams that reported to the 2016 AGM, none identified, addressed or reported on the gender dimension as relevant to the issues investigated and the recommendations put forward.”

The current assessment looked in more detail at the four task force reports and special policy studies tabled in 2016:⁶

- Task Force on Rule of Law and Ecological Civilization
- Task Force on South-South Cooperation for Ecological Civilization
- Task Force on China’s Green Transformation Outlook 2020-2050
- Special Policy Study on China’s Role in Greening Global Value Chains

A cursory look at the four reports⁷ confirmed that there was no attempt at all to address gender dimensions in three of the four (South-South Cooperation, Green Transformation Outlook, Greening Global Value Chains) – a search for “gender” and “women” revealed not one appearance for either of these words in the three reports.

The only exception was the report of the Task Force on Rule of Law and Ecological Civilization, which yielded two occurrences of the word “gender” and four of “women”. A closer look revealed that all of these references occurred in the report’s summary of the UN’s *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* – which outlines the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), one of which (SDG5) is “Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.” However when it came to discussing the implications of the SDGs for

⁶ As reported in the 2016-2017 Annual Progress and Financial Report.

⁷ The reports can be found at <http://www.cciced.net/cciceden/POLICY/rr/prr/>



Chinese environmental law, the link between SDG5 and environmental legislation was not pursued.

The point here is that this report missed the opportunity to delve deeper into the links between SDG5 and China's environmental legislation, reflecting a general lack of awareness of the possible gender dimensions of research under the various TFs.

As the Phase V final-year annual report noted: "TF and SPS teams' Terms of Reference specifically include a clause instructing international co-chairs to consider gender dimensions when it is of substantive relevance to the issues and policies considered. CHAD is also expected to review policy research work using a gender lens. Many CHAD members spent time at SFU in past years and have been exposed to training on the relevance of the gender dimension in environment and sustainable development." This indicates that while there has been clear direction on integrating gender issues in the policy research work of CCICED, and many staff members have been exposed to the relevant training, there has been little uptake or behaviour change over the life of the project. Clearly this is a particularly intractable issue that will need to be addressed much more proactively in Phase VI if substantive gender equality results are to be achieved – and, more importantly, if the proven benefits of applying a gender lens to policy research in environment and sustainable development are to be realized. **The key question is, what can be done additionally or differently to ensure this happens? Specifically, how can the project better demonstrate and build awareness of the "substantive relevance" of gender dimensions in the policy areas targeted for research in Phase VI?**

The present baseline study also looked at the degree of integration of gender equality in the Phase V Policy Recommendations. It was found that, again, while there was potentially considerable scope for flagging gender equality and women's empowerment issues in the recommendations, there were only very limited references to gender, and none at all to GE-WE as a cross-cutting theme. Of the recommended policy "pillars" for a long-term approach to China's green transition, the fifth pillar is particularly relevant for gender equality: "Build a more inclusive society and resilient economy: Provide assistance to specific groups, sectors, and regions that are adversely impacted by the green transition, and establish corresponding comprehensive risk management systems."

Of the four specific Phase V policy recommendations, one contains substantive reference to the relevance of the gender equality dimension: Recommendation 2. "Fully Incorporate Demographic, Cultural, Social and Public Participation Aspects into China's Ecological Civilization Action Plans." This recommendation has four component parts: to act on environmental health issues, create long-term livelihoods based on ecological construction, build ecological civilization co-management systems in nature reserves, parks, ecological redline areas, and in other public lands, and finally to provide more opportunities for public participation. The text draws attention to the gender equality dimensions of each of these components:



“Each of these four components may be influenced by gender considerations. Providing eco-environmental and green development opportunities will reduce family-splitting through migration from rural areas. Tourism, protection of ecological services, and preservation of traditional culture should give opportunities to women and men in villages and towns. Gender-related aspects of climate change, whether risk of natural disasters, or climate adaptation initiatives require attention. Women and children exposed to toxic environmental situations are vulnerable.”

Thus we find encouraging signs that at least one of the final policy recommendations for Phase V did signal awareness of the relevance of gender equality dimensions in one important area of environment and sustainable development.

7. Gender equality training and capacity strengthening

The CCICED project has put considerable emphasis on capacity strengthening on gender equality and women's empowerment over Phases IV and V. The Phase IV final report notes that “ Gender awareness and the examination of policy issues in a gender context was an important part of the Project training programs provided to Secretariat, CHAD, and MEP personnel, as were such related issues as public participation in policy development and multi-stakeholder approaches to environmental management.”

In Phase V, the annual reporting indicates that the project evidently put even more energy into ensuring that gender equality issues were covered in most if not all of the capacity strengthening activities undertaken.

2013-2014: “Capacity development programs directly addressed the importance of incorporating gender considerations in policy development as well as in the context of public participation in policy development and multi-stakeholder approaches to environmental management. In 2013, a special course on Gender and Environment was developed for the semester-long trainees as a joint SFU-University of Victoria effort.”⁸

2014-2015: “Capacity development programs again directly addressed the importance of incorporating gender considerations in policy development.”

2015-2016: Not reported

2016-2017: Not reported

Our interviews with the coordinator of the SFU-based training program and other SFU personnel revealed that emphasis was placed on integrating gender equality

⁸ For the course syllabus and source material, see <https://www.sfu.ca/china-council/cciced-at-sfu/SFUgender2013.html>



considerations in all of the training provided at SFU to CCICED staff. In general, the course evaluations revealed that this was received positively by most of the trainees. However it was noted that most of them had little to no prior knowledge of gender issues and were not expecting this component of the training. Some effort was made to expose the trainees to practical applications of gender issues, and to discuss with them how gender concerns could be relevant to their work. Follow-up investigation revealed that this was rarely achieved. One barrier noted by the several interviewees was the fact that SFU and the Canadian office had no influence over the trainee selection process, and little information about the trainees and their prior knowledge before they arrived in Canada. Given these barriers, it was felt that for the most part, trainees came away with at least some awareness of how gender issues relate to environment and sustainable development. This conclusion was reflected in the final course evaluations completed by the trainees.

Important lessons were learned from the training activities. First, the trainees benefitted most from concrete, practical examples and models that clearly illustrate the links between gender and environment/sustainable development. Secondly, the lack of ability to influence the selection of trainees, or assess their previous knowledge and needs, created challenges in terms of developing effective and relevant training methods and contents. The first lesson can readily be incorporated in any future training activities. While it is probably unrealistic to expect that SISO can play a role in trainee selection, it would be reasonable to assess trainees' prior knowledge and needs through a questionnaire administered prior to the beginning of any course or workshop.

It is evident that the considerable resources put into training and capacity development on gender equality in Phase V have not, on the whole, yielded the hoped-for results in terms of improving overall performance on GE-WE in the project. As a result, there is a need to revisit the approach to capacity development on GE-WE for Phase VI, drawing on Chinese and international good practices and lessons learned. It would be beneficial to understand how such factors as trainee selection, needs assessment, and appropriate program design might influence the uptake of training and its impact on policy research and development under the CCICED project going forward. However, apart from the "supply" side, thought also needs to be given to the "demand" side – i.e. how and where can the acquired skills and knowledge be best applied to inform the policy research sponsored by CCICED, and what measures need to be put in place to ensure that this happens?

8. Conclusion

An analysis of project reports on performance on gender balance in project bodies and integration of gender issues in policy research and capacity strengthening shows that there has been considerable action on the part of the Canadian project, including the development of a Gender Equality Strategy and a GE baseline study in Phase IV, mention of gender equality in all the key project documents, and the provision of gender-related training and capacity development. These initiatives respond to Canadian government policies as well as international best practices, and there was some uptake by the Chinese



project secretariat in Phase IV. However, despite these efforts, performance on the objectives of the GES has not met expectations. This is particularly true for what arguably should be the primary gender-related objective of the CCICED: integration of the gender dimension in policy research and advice.

Project reporting over the course of Phases IV and V reveals that while some modest progress has been made in improving women's representation in CCICED bodies and activities, there has been little progress on integrating gender equality issues and concerns in CCICED-sponsored policy research, advice and recommendations. Further, while the gender capacity of the CCICED secretariat has been strengthened through training, the skills and knowledge have for the most part not been applied to improve the integration of gender considerations in the policy research or recommendations. This is in spite of the considerable capacity strengthening efforts over the past two phases of the project.

Various reports have pointed to the following barriers:

- Limited motivation on the part of the Secretariat leadership, and perhaps on the part of other donors and partners, in pursuing a gender mainstreaming strategy.
- A general sense among policy research teams (Chinese and international members) that gender considerations were not relevant at the level of policy being addressed.
- Some hesitancy on the part of Canadian Project management to promote the GE Strategy too aggressively.
- Disconnect between resources put into GE-WE capacity strengthening and evidence of application in the work of council staff, e.g. in their oversight of policy research activities.
- Lack of evidence that the increased participation of women in project bodies and in capacity strengthening activities has increased awareness of gender dimensions in ESD and climate change in the project overall.

Key informant interviews with donors, advisors, and CCICED secretariat staff delved further into the reasons for these gaps. They confirmed that, apart from the Canadian funders, the donors on the whole did not press for gender integration as hard as they might have in light of their own institutional commitments to GE. Furthermore, most if not all key people we interviewed were unaware there was a gender strategy for the project; if they were aware of it, they did not recall much discussion or information about it, nor did they see any impact from it on the workings of the CCICED – apart perhaps from a concern about gender parity. However, the key informant interviews also revealed that there is, in 2018, a general awareness that gender equality is now considered by most actors to be an important factor in environment, climate change and sustainable development. The challenge is to gain a deeper understanding of the specific links, and acquire knowledge on how best to integrate gender equality considerations in policy research on environment and development.

It is also important to note that majority of CCICED's major international donors and partners, particularly Canada, Norway, Germany, Sweden, UNEP, etc. all have robust gender



equality policies and action frameworks that inform their work on environment and development.⁹ And for the most part, they themselves are required to report on the gender impacts of the projects they finance. Thus they should be important allies in promoting a more proactive and intentional approach to gender equality in Phase VI.

Finally, a review of the international and Chinese literature¹⁰ reveals that attention to gender balance and integration of gender issues in policy development has emerged as a very strong commitment on the part of virtually all the key players in environment, sustainable development and climate change governance. All of the major environmental and climate-change conventions signal the importance of gender issues and women's participation, and most have developed gender action plans. There is a solid evidence-based international consensus that attention to gender issues in the context of environment, development and climate change improves the effectiveness and efficiency of policies and programs, enhances and promotes sustainability, and promotes the human rights of both men and women. If the CCICED – and China more broadly – is to fully exercise its leadership role in sustainable development and climate change governance, it needs to be part of this international consensus in a more consistent and intentional way in Phase VI.

9. Lessons learned and recommendations

Based on the findings outlined above, there are a number of lessons that should inform the development of the gender equality strategy for CCICED Phase VI. The following recommendations represent a menu of possible options that will be put forward for discussion and potential inclusion in the Phase VI GES.

1. Training

- Follow-up evaluation with staff who have received gender training under CCICED in the past – has it changed the way they think about environmental policy issues? Has it changed the way they do their work? Has it had an impact on CCICED. If so, what is the impact? If not, why not?
- For any future training, conduct needs assessment to tailor training to job responsibilities, and ensure follow-up and impact.
- To whom should training be targeted in order to achieve maximum results?

2. Women's participation/gender parity:

⁹ Canada, as the lead donor, should play a particularly active role in promoting gender equality in the CCICED. Canada played a key leadership role and worked collaboratively with other countries to adopt a Gender Action Plan at COP23 (November 2017) under the UNFCCC. Canada supported training and skills development for female negotiators. In addition, as part of delivering on Canada's \$2.65 B pledge to support developing countries' transition to low-carbon economies and build climate resilience, Canada provided funding to the National Adaptation Plans Global Network to enhance developing countries adaptation efforts, including the integration of gender as part of the adaptation planning processes (ECCC, personal communication.)

¹⁰ See *Annex 2*.



- More consistent tracking of m/f participants on both the international and Chinese sides.
 - Encourage donors to identify gender/environment specialists for the Council, TFs, SPS.
 - Encourage Chinese partners to proactively do the same.
3. Integration of gender dimensions in policy research and advice
- Promote routine integration of gender-based analysis in policy research cycle, and integration of GE-WE in policy recommendations.
 - Provide training/coaching in gender based analysis for all teams, and consider adoption of a quality assurance mechanism.
 - Regularly identify strategic opportunities and entry points to integrate gender dimensions in TF/SPS (e.g current preparations for China hosting CBD COP in 2020.)
 - Recommend a GE-focused SPS for 2019-20.
 - Recommend an open forum on gender and a relevant environmental topic for each AGM.
 - Recommend including gender specialist(s) on SPS research teams
 - Recommend appointment of a gender specialist to the Chief Advisors group
4. Organizational approaches
- Mainstream gender equality throughout the policy research cycle: in project identification, TORs, research, policy recommendations, monitoring and reporting.
 - Appoint one or more GE focal point(s) or set up a GE team within the CCICED secretariat, possibly using staff who have already had gender training.
 - Develop a system for tracking GE results (once the new GES is in place).
5. Capacity strengthening
- Develop/adapt a suite of tools to support performance on GE-WE (e.g. checklists for mainstreaming GE in the policy research cycle, guidelines for gender based analysis, etc.)
 - Prepare tipsheets on specialized topics related to the TFs.
 - Track GE results in ECCC project reporting.



Annex 2 - CCICED Phase VI Baseline Literature Review and Bibliography

CCICED PHASE VI
GENDER EQUALITY / WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT STRATEGY
BASELINE LITERATURE REVIEW
AND BIBLIOGRAPHY



CCICED PHASE VI
GENDER EQUALITY / WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT STRATEGY
BASELINE LITERATURE REVIEW

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CCICED PHASE VI
GENDER EQUALITY / WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT
LITERATURE REVIEW

1. BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

This review has been conducted in association with the Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment GE-WE baseline study that will inform the design of a GE-WE strategy for CCICED Phase VI. The GE-WE Strategy builds upon past work on this issue in the project and will provide direction for future Phase VI activities to be outlined in subsequent project workplans. The purpose of the literature review is to summarize the current state of play, best practices and lessons learned, in China and internationally, on the links between gender equality and policy research in the area of environment and development. This will in turn provide evidence on the importance of better integrating gender perspectives and gender equity considerations in the work of CCICED, as well as a compendium of resources for doing so.

Thus, this paper reviews the recent literature (international and Chinese) on the links between environment, development, gender equality and women's empowerment. This relatively new but quickly growing body of literature demonstrates the now-widespread recognition that gender equality and sustainable development are closely linked, and must be addressed in policy and practice. It covers publications from key UN agencies, regional development banks, multilateral agencies and national governments, international environmental NGOs, and the corporate sector, as well as academic and policy-oriented research, both internationally and in China. It should be noted that this review for the most part includes publicly-accessible documents rather than the much broader academic literature which is not generally available to the non-academic reader.

This review first highlights the arguments and rationales presented in the literature for incorporating gender equality issues in research, policy-making and action related to environment and development. Secondly, it summarizes the international consensus, policy commitments, lessons learned, and good practice on gender equality and sustainable development, including the Sustainable Development Goals and other global commitments, the policies and programs of UNEP and other relevant UN agencies, the UNFCCC and other environmental conventions, multilateral organizations and other key international actors. Third, it identifies key gender issues and examples of entry points for integrating gender equality in work on substantive areas of particular relevance to CCICED in Phase VI, including climate change, biodiversity, environmental governance, green urbanization, green energy, investment and trade, sustainable production and consumption. In each section, the Chinese literature on gender equality, environment and development is included, and the implications for further policy research and development are highlighted. In the conclusion section, the paper presents a brief summary of the international consensus in four key areas with direct implications for CCICED's operations going forward: GE integration/mainstreaming in policy



and programs on environment and development; the use of gender analysis in policy research and policy-making; the need for better gender-sensitive and sex-disaggregated data; and the need for greater representation by women at all levels, especially in decision-making. These conclusions will feed directly into CCICED's GE-WE Strategy for Phase VI.

2. ARGUMENTS FOR INTEGRATING GE-WE IN ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY AND PRACTICE

The literature underlines that women and men are impacted by environmental degradation and climate change in different ways, and play different roles as environmental actors. These differences are linked to well-documented gender-based inequalities in roles, decision-making power, access to and control over resources across societies and economies as a whole. Improvements in gender equality have been found to improve overall prospects for addressing environmental issues, which is why UNEP (2016) states the "Gender equality is a multiplier of sustainability."

According to the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE, 2016), "environment and climate change is still an area influenced by a set of gender inequalities, which are as follows:

- Women's under-representation in environment decision-making institutions;
- Gender differences in adaptation and mitigation strategies;
- Gender differences in the effects of climate change."

The rationale for embedding gender equality and women's empowerment in environmental policy and practice hinges on three general types of arguments and evidence: economic rationale; efficiency and effectiveness; social justice, equity and human rights.

For example, the UNEP's *Global Gender and Environment Outlook* (UNEP, 2016) identifies the following rationales for enhancing gender equality in environmental policies and actions, relating first to the protection and enhancement of the basic human rights of both women and men; secondly to improving the efficiency and effectiveness of environmental policies; thirdly to the power of gender equality to enhance and promote sustainability; and fourthly, to the risk that not considering gender might unintentionally aggravate existing inequalities, or hamper efforts to address climate change or environmental degradation. These arguments are presented in greater detail in **Box 1** below.

2.1 Economic arguments

There is persuasive evidence in the literature that promoting gender equality and women's empowerment is positive for economic growth and sustainability. Some of the major links between gender equality and economic growth that have been identified in various sources are:

- Gender equality enhances human capital;
- Gender equality fosters higher labour productivity;



- Gender discrimination is inefficient and lowers productivity, including agricultural productivity.

Box 1. The primary arguments for enhancing gender equality in environmental policies and actions include:

- Gender equality is a human right with clear benefits for women, but also for men. In particular, men benefit from gender equality in terms of improved health and well-being.
- Using a “gender lens” to examine environmental policies can make these policies more effective. ... Use of the gender lens can help achieve progress towards more sustainable development and environmental protection.
- Sustainable development will not advance, nor will environmental protection policies and actions be as effective as they need to be, if gender equality is not protected and enhanced. **Gender equality is a multiplier of sustainability.** It strengthens efforts to address poverty and food security. Gender-responsive approaches to problems related to energy, water, sanitation, land and other natural resources are key to protecting human health and the environment.
- If a gender lens is not used, environmental policies may aggravate existing gender inequalities. There are many examples of the introduction of new technologies in the energy and agricultural sectors having unintended inequality-intensifying consequences.
- With the use of an explicit gender lens, environmental policies can contribute to increased gender equality.
- In the absence of a gender lens it is impossible to develop comprehensive assessments of the nature and scale of the most pressing environmental problems.

Source: UNEP, *Global Gender and Environment Outlook*

Many of the major international players in areas such as climate change, sustainable development, green consumption and production have espoused the view that gender equality reinforces positive economic outcomes. For example, a Convention on Biodiversity factsheet argues that enabling women to access productive resources to the same extent as men worldwide would increase yields on women's farms by 20-30%; raise total agricultural output in developing countries by 2.5-4%, and thus reduce the number of hungry people in the world by 12-17%. However, as long as “women continue to face gender-specific constraints that lower their productivity and limit their contributions to agricultural production, economic growth and the well-being of their families, communities and countries” these gains may be difficult to realize. (CBD, Gender Perspectives on Biodiversity Factsheet).

According to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), “Equal opportunities for women to participate in sustainable industrial development and attain higher-level positions ... will generate new needs and encourage the development of new products. This means gender mainstreaming is much more than a women's issue; it is the basis for establishing a level of equality between women and men which can help stimulate economic growth, create higher-level jobs, support communities, raise productivity and reduce poverty (UNIDO, 2015).”

“The Business Case for Mainstreaming Gender in REDD+”, prepared by the United Nations collaborative initiative on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation



demonstrates how the integration of gender considerations in REDD+ makes good business sense. It includes case studies from the field to demonstrate how women's full and effective participation in decision-making related to property rights and land tenure, the management of forest resources and benefits deriving from REDD+ and enhancing ecosystems-based benefits of REDD+ is likely to lead to not only a more equitable REDD+, but also REDD+ processes that are more efficient, effective and sustainable (UN REDD, 2011).

2.2 Efficiency and effectiveness of policies and programs

This set of arguments is linked to the economic rationale: not only does the promotion of gender equality improve the “bottom line” in policies, programs and interventions designed to address climate change and sustainable development, it also improves their efficiency, effectiveness, and long-term sustainability. In forestry management, for example, according to UN-REDD's publication *The Business Case for Mainstreaming Gender in REDD+* (2011):

“At a minimum, REDD+ programmes and policies must adhere to a “do no harm” principle. As a baseline assumption, perpetuation or exacerbation of existing inequalities constitutes harm. Yet, because of the mounting body of evidence that gender mainstreaming improves not only equity outcomes, but also mitigation performance and environmental quality, REDD+ strategies and plans can aspire to go well beyond this “do no harm” standard. That women are forest managers, stewards and agents of change should be acknowledged and leveraged in seeking to identify and promote the multiple social and environmental benefits linked to forestry policy, including those which REDD+ can help deliver.”

There is increasing evidence that mainstreaming gender equality/women's empowerment dimensions in policies and programs to address environmental sustainability and climate change actually makes these policies and programs more effective and promotes more efficient use of money and resources. Conversely, not paying attention to gender issues and barriers comes with costs in terms of effectiveness and efficiency. However these relationships can be rooted in complex systems of gender-based norms and barriers, and thus not easily solved. For example:

... in the least developed countries, women who perform traditional roles as primary household managers suffer most from lack of access to adequate energy. Accessing modern energy services is a major livelihood challenge for the poorest people on the planet. It is even more difficult for poor women and girls to access basic energy financing than for poor men and boys. Decentralized renewable and efficient energy-related technologies could make a major economic and social difference to many rural women if they resulted in increased incomes. However, acquiring energy equipment is expensive. The lending expectations of banks and credit institutions often disadvantage women, and in many countries women still face legal restrictions that keep them from accessing credit in their own name or without the consent of their husbands. Women may also be discouraged by social and cultural barriers from borrowing or from opening businesses in societies where



they are traditionally expected to take care of the household and leave money-making to men. Without substantial collateral, women are seen as riskier borrowers, further reducing their chances of obtaining loans (UNEP, 2016).

These issues require policy solutions informed by gender-sensitive analysis. This is why, according to the UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, “Integrating best practices for gender mainstreaming into social and development work, government policies and plans including budget planning, donor financing, and innovative partnerships are increasing opportunities for both men and women to benefit from, as well as influence, pathways to sustainable development (UNEP ROAP, n.d.).”

2.3 Social justice, equity and human rights

This set of arguments is often referred to as the “rights-based” approach for promoting gender equality in environment and sustainable development. It seeks to ensure that all programmes and activities are designed to support all affected individuals, including vulnerable and marginalized community members, and is based on advocacy for their rights and on the principles of equality, inclusion and engagement. This approach is grounded in the core international human rights treaties and conventions to which most countries of the world, including China, are party.

A comprehensive architecture of declarations, conventions, covenants and other international instruments form the human rights basis for a GE-WE perspective in environmental policy making (UN-REDD, 2011). These include the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, which set forth a clear anti-discrimination framework. Gender, gender equality and frameworks to operationalize them are defined in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), and the Beijing Platform for Action, which makes clear links between gender and the environment, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Underlying this approach are arguments supporting integration of gender equality concerns in environmental policy making from the perspective of fairness, equity, and non-discrimination. These can be leveraged to hold states accountable for the gendered impacts of their policies and programs, for example through the periodic reporting to the UN CEDAW committee.

3. INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL CONSENSUS AND PRACTICE

3.1 SDGs

While SDG 5 specifically targets gender equality and women's empowerment, there is a strong thrust in all the SDGs to link all aspects of sustainable development to gender equality. This approach is emphasized by all the major actors and is an important impetus for linking gender and



environment/climate change research and policy making. For example, according to the UNEP's Asia Pacific Regional Office flyer on gender and environment (UNEP ROAP, n.d.),

“UNEP ROAP gives priority to SDG 5 on gender equality, including promoting access to natural resources and enabling technologies, and women in environmental decision-making positions. The nexus of Gender within other SDGs provides multiple opportunities for men and women to benefit from countries' commitments to delivering on the SDGs. SDG 13 on climate action highlights the utmost importance of women's inclusion in least developed countries' capacity for climate change-related planning. In addition, addressing the gender perspective is significant for SDG 3 on health and environment, SDG 7 on energy, SDG 11 on DRR, and SDG 15 on ecosystems and forests.”

3.2 UNEP and UN system

The United Nations Environmental Programme has become a strong advocate for integrating gender equality in environment-related work worldwide. According the UNEP Gender and Environment webpage, “Gender equality and women's empowerment is recognized as a cross-cutting priority across all aspects of UNEP's work. UNEP promotes men and women's participation in all environmental protection and sustainable development activities.” Its work is guided by key UN conventions and agreements, **all of which China is party to**, including:

- The Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW 1979)
- United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development and Agenda 21 (UNCED 1992)
- United Nations Conference on Women and Platform for Action (Beijing 1995)
- Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)
- The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- The Future We Want (Rio+20 2012)

The UNEP policy and strategy works at two levels: 1. Technical assistance^[11] provided to national, regional and local partners and stakeholders, so that their policies, plans and programmes achieve clearly articulated, time-bound and measurable gender equality and women's empowerment results in each of UNEP's sub- programme areas, identified based on gender analysis, assessed against clearly defined baseline data disaggregated by sex and age; and 2. Progress towards internal gender parity^[12] at all levels (UNEP, 2015). Prior to developing the strategy and implementation plan, a review of UNEP's approach to gender mainstreaming found some significant lessons learned, which echo the experience of virtually all organizations attempting to link gender equality, environment and development in concrete ways – these are summarized in **Box 2** below.



The UNEP strategy also defines a comprehensive list of specific entry points for gender equality in each of its programming areas.

UNEP's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP) has been particularly active in on-the-ground initiatives to promote gender-responsive programs and policies in the region, and in actively facilitating the inclusion of gender in the nexus of environmental issues such as climate change, waste management, and air pollution, within inter-agency forums, partnership events, regional events and platforms (for example, Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN), ASEAN UN joint programmes), and in its support to governments in developing National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) and SDG implementation plans (UNEP ROAP, n.d.).

UNDP in 2012 published *Powerful Synergies: Gender Equality, Economic Development and Environmental Sustainability*, a ground-breaking collection of evidence-based papers by major scholars and practitioners exploring “the interconnections between gender equality and sustainable development across a range of sectors and global development issues such as energy, health, education, food security, climate change, human rights, consumption and production patterns, and urbanization.” The publication provides evidence, examples, case studies and policy recommendations from various sectors and regions on how women's equal access and control over resources not only improves the lives of individuals, families and nations, but also helps ensure environmental sustainability (UNDP, 2012).

Box 2. UNEP Experience with Gender Mainstreaming:

Lessons Learned

- The principal lessons learned are the central importance of robust advocacy and championing of gender equality considerations by Senior Management, and the need to clarify a results framework that is a clear expression of the organizational commitment.
- The reviews noted continuing challenges that may constrain achievement of results include insufficient resource allocation from core funds and external resource mobilisation, difficulties^[SEP] in including and monitoring expected gender- equality based goals in the performance documents and workplans of all staff, and limitations in understanding of the gendered implications of the UNEP sub-programme areas, and how these may either be leveraged or mitigated, according to circumstances, to ensure steadily improving programme performance.
- The formulaic inclusion of gender-related language in the majority of projects, without correlative socio-economic (gender) analysis, baseline data disaggregated by sex and age, expected gender equality based goals and indicators or resources, is indicative of an underlying limitation in socio-economic and results-based management capacity which requires urgent attention.
- The main strength of UNEP in moving forward on its gender equality and women's empowerment mandate is the renewed interest and commitment of Senior Management as reflected in the compact that the Executive Director has with the UN Secretary General.
- A [further] strength is the Gender Implementation Plan 2014-2017 (GIP) and its related results- framework ... This Implementation Plan lays out the definite interventions that will operationalize the^[SEP] broad strategic directions set out in this strategy document. In providing expected gender equality-based accomplishments and performance indicators, this action plan and results framework offer the real possibility of measurable impact on gender equality and the empowerment of women.

Source: UNEP. 2015. Gender Equality And The Environment: Policy and Strategy.



Other UN agencies, including UN Women, have also made important contributions to the literature on the gender dimensions of various environmental and sustainable development issues. A key contribution was the UN Women publication in 2014 of its annual World Survey on women, focusing on gender equality and sustainable development (UN Women, 2014).

3.3 Policy Frameworks and Research in China

In light of increasing international commitments and policy development related to sustainable development, environment and climate, recent progress has been made to include women and gender into agendas of environment protection, climate and natural disasters reduction in China (UN Women, 2017; State Council, 2015; LI Miao, 2016). More significantly, the *National Women Development Program (2011-2020)* has specifically added "women and the environment" as one of six priority areas for women's development. Among its general objectives it lists "ensuring women's participation in environmental decision-making and management on an equal footing and improving the environment for women's development." (State Council, 2012). Following China's 21st Century Agenda, this is the second national policy that has included gender or women into the environmental policy framework.

Gender indicators have been included in statistics on environment and disasters (State Council, 2015; UN Women, 2016). Gender dimensions have been gradually included into government-led policies on Disaster Reduction Response, such as including the collection and reporting of sex-disaggregated data in disaster statistics and gradually taking women's needs into account in the storage and distribution of relief materials at the local level (UN Women 2016).

However, the Chinese literature also reveals that on the whole, the gender perspective is yet to be considered either in research or in policy frameworks in the key fields related to environment or climate. Existing empirical studies have yet to be acknowledged or incorporated into policy and national projects. Thus relevant policies rarely take into account issues such as environmental impacts specifically on women, and women's participation in environmental decision-making. Environment and sustainable development policies and programs are gender-blind, and gender sensitivity is lacking in many policy-making activities (Women of China, 2015; YANG Yujing, 2000; SUN Dajiang et al. 2015).

Most of the literature on climate issues in China focuses on scientific research, with far less focus on the social dimensions, including gender. Climate change research stresses impacts on economic structure changes, macroeconomic development, or international trade, but contains very much less consideration of impacts of climate change on social development and such topics as livelihoods of rural families, etc. (LI Xiaoyun, 2010). State policies, subsidies or supports mainly focus on technical and engineering projects, and the relevant policy systems do not cover the management of individuals and groups affected (UN Women 2016).

Although female officials working in the MEP system account for 47% of the total, for the most part women are not found in high-level positions; only 8% of the senior leadership in environment bureaus at the provincial level and above are women (HU YuKun, 2013). A recent study found that male government officials have more training opportunities related to climate change than female



officials. In a survey conducted among 78 government officials at the local level, most respondents consider that climate change or disaster has no gender-specific impacts, although they recognize the elderly and poor are more vulnerable (UN Women, 2016).

Gender-disaggregated data are lacking in most fields related to environment and climate change. Monitoring reports are provided annually for progress in six priority fields identified in the *National Women Development Programme*, including “women and environment.” However, the objectives lack clear indicators to report against. In local monitoring reports, it is very common to report on either environment or women respectively with nothing related to the linkage between women and environment. From 2014 to 2016, specific targets regarding drinking water access and sanitation were reported, however, participation in environmental decision making and governance were not reported and also in many cases, women and environment were reported separately (NBS, 2014, 2015, 2016).

It is assumed that the lack of collection, analysis, and use of gender-based data and insufficient research on issues related to women, the environment, and sustainable development also adversely affect the results of policy assessments (Women of China, 2015). However due to the lack of research to date, the evidence to back up this assertion is lacking.

3.4. Gender Equality and Key Environmental Conventions

3.4.1 UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

The links between gender equality, sustainable development and climate change have figured prominently in decisions under the UNFCCC at least since 2012. COP18 in 2012 produced a Decision promoting gender balance and women's participation. COP19 in 2013 in Warsaw produced draft conclusions and an annex with Party proposals on actions for governments, the UNFCCC Secretariat, and civil society, including the establishment of a two-year work programme on gender balance; workshops to further substantiate a gender lens across mitigation, adaptation, technology and finance; capacity building for female delegates organised by the UNFCCC secretariat; and monitoring of gender balance, gender budgeting and gender sensitive climate policies and actions by Parties. At COP20 in 2014, Parties adopted the Lima Work Programme on Gender, which established a two-year work programme that includes:

- A review of implementation of all gender-related mandates by the UNFCCC Secretariat
- Training and awareness raising for delegates on gender-responsive climate policy
- Training and capacity building for women delegates
- Future in-session workshops on gender, in relation to mitigation, technology, adaptation and capacity building
- A technical paper by the Secretariat on guidelines for implementing gender considerations in climate change activities, and
- Appointing a senior focal point on gender at the UNFCCC Secretariat.



In November 2017, at COP 23, the first UNFCCC Gender Action Plan (GAP) was adopted. Its overall goal is to support the implementation of the existing gender-related decisions and mandates in the UNFCCC process, with a set of specific activities identified for the next two years. Five priority areas were defined as critical to achieving gender objectives (CGIAR, 2017):

1. **Capacity-building, knowledge sharing, and communication** – increase understanding of all stakeholders on how to integrate gender into policy and planning.
2. **Gender balance, participation, and women's leadership** – this plan continues to “*achieve and sustain the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in the UNFCCC process.*”
3. **Coherence** – strengthen the integration of gender in the work of UNFCCC bodies, the secretariat, and other United Nations entities and stakeholders
4. **Gender-responsive implementation and means of implementation** – ensure the respect, promotion, and consideration of gender equality and the empowerment of women in implementation of the Convention and the Paris Agreement.
5. **Monitoring and reporting** – improve tracking of implementation and reporting on UNFCCC gender-related mandates.

As the attached bibliography demonstrates, there are numerous publications and tools for integrating gender equality and all aspects of climate change action, produced by UNFCCC itself, as well as other UN agencies, donors, and international NGOs such as IUCN, WEDO, CGIAR, etc. For example, UNDP has published a series of gender-related issue briefs and training modules, including a set of publications focusing on climate-related issues for the Asia-Pacific region, including the following titles: Overview of Linkages between Gender and Climate Change – Asia; Gender and Adaptation; Gender and Disaster Risk Reduction; Gender and Energy; Gender and Climate Finance.

The whole area of gender-inclusive climate finance has been receiving greater attention. The recent IUCN compendium, *Roots for the future: The landscape and way forward on gender and climate change* devotes a chapter to climate financing, noting that all of the key financing mechanisms now take account of gender issues: “The recent integration of gender equality considerations into the five key multilateral climate finance mechanisms is a sign of the times: it marks considerable progress and serves as a signal to the rest of the global climate financial architecture to follow suit. This integration of gender considerations emphasizes the importance of inclusive and equitable resources, as well as women's participation and access—all of which is key to effective and efficient implementation at national and subnational levels (IUCN, 2015).”

For example, the ADB publication *Mainstreaming gender into climate mitigation activities—Guidelines for policy makers and proposal developers* (2016) makes the important point that

“Gender-responsive climate actions are critical to unlocking new flows of climate finance for women and men. Developing funding proposals that are consistent with those actions is just as essential. This section provides an overview of some of the considerations



to develop a gender-responsive proposal for the newly formed Green Climate Fund (GCF), beginning with an overview of the GCF. Initially mentioned in the Copenhagen Accord (COP 15) and then further detailed in the Cancun Agreements (COP 16), the GCF has been created to help “promote a paradigm shift towards low-emissions and climate resilient development” (GCF 2016b). This is particularly important because the GCF will finance a portion of the \$100 billion in annual climate finance to be allocated by 2020 (UNFCCC 2009, emphasis added).”

3.4.2 Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

The CBD in 2014 adopted an updated Gender Action Plan (*The 2015–2020 Gender Plan of Action*), which updates the 2008 Gender Plan of Action to align with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. This plan includes a framework of actions for the CBD Secretariat to integrate gender into its work, and also includes possible gender-responsive actions for Parties to undertake in implementing the Convention. Parties are “requested” to report on actions undertaken to implement the Gender Plan of Action. The four strategic objectives of the Gender Plan of Action are:

- Integrate a gender perspective
- Promote gender equality
- Demonstrate the benefits of integrating gender
- Increase the effectiveness of implementation efforts

Actions to integrate gender are organized around four spheres of work (CBD 2015):

- Policy – Development of a policy framework that can provide the mandate, political support and resources to ensure integration of gender considerations in implementing the Convention;
- Organizational – Gender equality in staffing, institutional capacity, staff development, accountability and related equal opportunity policies;
- Delivery – Integrating gender in implementation of the Convention and Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, including through addressing gender issues in underlying theory, methodology and applied research upon which interventions are based; and
- Constituency – Mobilizing partners and building on existing efforts, best practices and lessons learned.)

It is expected that COP15, to be held in Beijing in 2020, will review the progress achieved under the GAP by the CBD Secretariat and Parties, and set targets for the next Gender Plan of Action.

The CBD Secretariat has produced a number of useful tools for integrating gender in various aspects of biodiversity-related policy and programming, as well as guidelines, fact sheets and case studies on the gender dimensions of various topics, including: wildlife management, sustainable



forest management, agricultural biodiversity, biosafety, and mainstreaming gender into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAP). A study of the existing NBSAPs up to 2016 revealed that out of the 254 total NBSAP reports from 174 countries produced between 1993 and 2016, 143 reports (56% of total documents) from 107 countries (61% of total countries examined) contain at least one women and/or gender keyword. The survey found that if women are mentioned, they tend to be characterized as vulnerable groups, beneficiaries or stakeholders, but rarely (in only 4% of documents) as agents of change. However, in the more recent NBSAPs, while 7% of countries include an objective or goal to advance gender equality, double that number (14%) include gender equality as a guiding principle of the NBSAP, and more than double (18%) include gender equality or women's empowerment considerations as part of a key objective, target or goal.

It should be noted that China's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (2011-2030) is one of the 44% that contains no mention at all of gender or women.

There is a strong thrust to harmonize approaches to the integration of gender equality in all the environmental conventions, spearheaded by the CBD. A recent CBD submission to UNFCCC notes:

Gender issues faced under each of these conventions are similar in nature, and could benefit from related approaches to address these issues. This could include harmonized efforts to address particular action areas of shared importance, including gender and land management and land tenure; ecosystem restoration; promotion of sustainable livelihood strategies that respond to pressures faced by climate change, biodiversity and land degradation; and sector-specific approaches such as in relation to gender and agriculture and gender and forestry, among others. ... The limited resources available for gender mainstreaming in the work to implement these conventions puts further emphasis on the potential benefits of harmonized or joint efforts to support shared objectives for gender mainstreaming. In moving forward with a more harmonized approach, it would be useful to put a focus on the achievement of 'gender and environment' outcomes, as outcomes for gender and climate change will very often be related to outcomes for gender and biodiversity, and land degradation. Consistent messaging on the achievement of associated objectives (biodiversity, land degradation) as part of communications and efforts on gender and climate change could help encourage greater action on all fronts (CBD, n.d.).

3.4.3 Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm (BRS) Conventions

The BRS Conventions, which deal with hazardous chemicals and waste management, developed a Gender Action Plan in 2013, updated in 2016. The updated Plan identifies specific actions to be implemented in the short to medium term (2016-17) which will enable the Secretariat to assess whether its activities impact men and women differently and if so, to take steps to rectify the situation.



The Plan first considers what actions can be taken to mainstream gender issues within the Secretariat, and secondly considers what can be done to mainstream gender issues into the programme of work of the conventions. Pivotal to achieving this will be inclusion of gender issues in the Secretariat's capacity building projects and programmes and cooperation with other internal and external partners on gender-related issues. A research project has been undertaken to provide a clearer understanding of the impact of hazardous wastes from a gender perspective, and to promote gender issues in hazardous chemicals and waste management at the national and regional levels. They are also tracking the representation of women in BRS COPs and other bodies as well as the inclusion of gender in BRS-related documents. Scoping studies have also been carried out in Indonesia and Kenya to identify and analyze specific gender-related dimensions in implementing the conventions (BRS, n.d.).

One of the approaches adopted is to publicize examples of "Gender Pioneers for a Future Detoxified." One of the "pioneers" profiled in the BRS Gender website is the Director of the Solid Waste Management Division of China's Ministry of Environmental Protection (now MEE). She is recognized for emphasizing "the importance of considering the differences in physiological susceptibility between men and women, girls and boys, as well as their subsequent long-term influence in policy development, particularly in relation to steps taken to control heavy metal pollution," in her work on formulating policies for hazardous waste management, solid waste import and export, e-waste and heavy metal pollution control.¹¹

3.5 UN-REDD

The UN-REDD Programme (United Nations Collaborative Initiative on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries) seeks to reduce emissions resulting from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries, especially those in or near the tropics. REDD-plus upgrades the program to include additional emphases on the roles of conservation, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks. Although China is not currently a major player in REDD, it may have a greater role to play under the BRI. It is important to take note that REDD has proactively adopted an integrated approach on gender to assist countries to better integrate gender-responsive activities in a more cohesive and systematic way throughout the REDD+ policy cycle.

The goals of UN-REDD's Gender Approach are to:

- Ensure gender equality and women's empowerment principles inform and are fully integrated into the formulation, prioritization, and implementation of REDD+;
- Realize the gender equality provisions contained in international agreements on REDD+, including on safeguards; and

¹¹ See <http://www.brsmeas.org/Gender/GenderPioneerAwards/tabid/5819/language/en-US/Default.aspx>



- Promote the mainstreaming of gender in REDD+ planning, implementation, monitoring and knowledge management activities, to achieve gender-responsive REDD+ action and contribute to SDG #5 on gender equality.

Furthermore, “To catalyze and promote a gender-responsive approach to REDD+, UN-REDD integrates gender equality and women’s empowerment as both stand-alone and cross-cutting issues across UN-REDD’s thematic areas and within its technical support at national, regional and global levels. It supports UN-REDD partner countries to systematically integrate gender responsive activities within the design, implementation and delivery of their REDD+ action, so that all stakeholders, including women, men and youth (and boys and girls, when relevant), can equitably and meaningfully engage, participate and benefit from national REDD+ processes and action.” (UN-REDD, 2017)

3.6 Regional development banks, multilaterals

The World Bank and all the regional development banks have gender equality strategies and action plans. Regional development banks such as the ADB and African Development Bank have shown leadership in dealing specifically with the nexus of gender and environment, sustainable development, and climate change. For example, the ADB has published a series of practical tools, including *Mainstreaming gender into climate mitigation activities—Guidelines for policy makers and proposal developers* (2016), cited above; *Training manual to support country-driven gender and climate change: Policies, strategies, and program development* (2015); *Gender tool kit: Energy—Going beyond the meter* (2012).

The European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) is the gender equality arm of the European Union. Its 2016 publication *Gender in Environment and Climate Change* can be seen as the go-to reference for the integration of gender equality dimensions in the policy cycle on environment and climate change, with examples of gender-related tools, research and information resources for every step of the policy process from definition to planning to action to evaluation.

Other multilaterals with policies, strategies or information resources on gender and the environment include OECD and OSCE. OSCE has produced a very useful manual on integrating gender issues in environmental projects – including projects at the policy level – in various sectors including water, energy, land management, chemical management, climate change, waste management, and local environmental governance.¹² The questions to be asked at the policy level, for example in water projects, are:

¹² See Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). 2009. *Gender and environment: A guide to the integration of gender aspects in the OSCE's environmental projects*. <http://www.osce.org/gender/36360>



- What are the existing national policies on water and sanitation? Who currently sets priorities and what are the criteria? And how gender-sensitive are these policies?
- How many women and men are there at high-level decision-making in the area of water and sanitation? Are NGOs working on gender, health and environmental issues participating?
- What are the legal and regulatory frameworks regarding ownership, access to and use of land and water resources? These could include inheritance laws, by-laws, laws on water user groups, water fees and cross subsidy mechanisms. What are the contractual arrangements with service providers? Are there any gender issues to review in these areas?
- Do cultural norms have an impact on women's use of water or their ability to participate in water-related policy initiatives?

In addition, virtually all the major bilateral donors have published briefs on gender and environment – see the attached bibliography for examples.

3.7 International gender equality and environmental NGOs

There are several major players amongst international NGOs that focus specifically on gender issues in environment, climate change and sustainable development. These include IUCN, which has set up its Global Gender Office and maintains the excellent online Environment and Gender Information (EGI) Platform (<http://genderandenvironment.org/>) which “aims—through data and analysis—to convey the value of gender-responsive environmental conservation and sustainable development. By providing new evidence-based information and knowledge products, the EGI platform guides action toward a more just world. Originally launched in its 2013 pilot phase as a composite index, the EGI has evolved into a source for new knowledge creation and dissemination—and for revealing progress and challenges in meeting commitments to women's empowerment and gender equality in environmental spheres.”

Another prominent NGO is the U.S.-based Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO), which functions as an advisor to governments and the UN on gender-just approaches to sustainable development, delivers leadership training, produces and promotes knowledge products on gender and sustainable development, and facilitates and organizes international process and campaigns in the areas of gender-responsive climate policy, women's leadership in environmental and climate change decision-making processes, etc., and is a member or organizer of a number of international gender and environment coalitions. Its publication *Pocket Guide to Gender Equality under the UNFCCC* is a useful summary of the most recent state of play.

There are also a number of coalitions of NGOs active on gender and environment issues, particularly on climate change, including the Women and Gender Constituency under the UNFCCC (<http://womensgenderclimate.org/>) with more than 20 member organizations worldwide. Other such coalitions include the Global Gender and Climate Alliance (GGCA), Gender CC – Women for



Climate Justice, and the Women's Major Group (WMG). The WMG (<http://www.womenmajorgroup.org/>) was created at the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, where governments recognized women as one of the nine important groups in society for achieving sustainable development. The WMG is an official participant in the United Nations processes on Sustainable Development. Other processes use the major group or similar systems. The WMG has been active in the processes of the United Nations Environment Program since 1996.

Most of the major international environmental NGOs such as WWF, World Resources Institute, CGIAR, etc. have gender mainstreaming strategies, implement gender-related projects, and publish research on gender-related topics. CGIAR for example has numerous publications on topics related to gender and agriculture from the perspective of climate change and sustainable development. All of these organizations can provide valuable resources for policy making on gender and environmental issues.

4. KEY ISSUES AND ENTRY POINTS IN GE-WE, ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY RESEARCH

The following sections give some snapshots of how gender equality perspectives are being incorporated into assessments, planning, policy-making and action on the key environmental and sustainability issues. The focus is on issues of particular concern to China and/or highlighted in CCICED's planned Special Policy Studies for Phase VI. The attached reference list gives some indication of the size and breadth of this literature, which is not possible to fully summarize in this selective review.

4.1 Climate change

Of all environmental issues, the gender dimensions of climate change have received the most attention. There is already a substantial literature on how to integrate gender considerations in climate change adaptation and mitigation, decision-making, financing, etc. The main issues identified are:

- Participation of women and women's organizations in climate change decision-making
- Gendered impacts of climate change – i.e. differential impacts on women and men due to their different roles, access to resources etc.
- Gender-responsive adaptation and mitigation

There is clear evidence that climate change has different impacts on women and men. A 2016 report by the Global Gender and Climate Alliance (GGCA), *Gender and Climate Change: A Closer Look at Existing Evidence* (2016) is an extremely useful review of over 500 studies, providing “the most up-to-date assessment of the current evidence base illustrating how vulnerability to climate change and climate adaptation decisions vary by gender. This is designed to serve as a resource



highlighting literature addressing a broad array of gender and climate issues affecting vulnerability and adaptation capacity” including hundreds of examples of how gender roles intersect with climate impacts, as well as the outcomes of projects that proactively address gender issues. It included the following insights:

- Only 12% of federal environment ministries globally are headed by women, as of 2015.
- At the World Energy Council, each National Member Committee has a chair and a secretary to represent national interests. The Environment and Gender Index study of 92 national committees found that only 4% of chairs and 18% of secretaries are female, or put differently, 96% of the leading voices on national energy needs are men.
- Women on average make up 43% of the agricultural labour force in developing countries, and around 50% in sub-Saharan Africa. However, as of 2010, only 15% of land in sub-Saharan Africa is owned or managed by women. Rates are generally worse in Asia – only 13% of landholders in India are women, dropping to 11% in the Philippines and 9% in Indonesia.
- In Burkina Faso, rainfall variability is significantly associated with migration, particularly for men, who are likely to move from areas with poor rainfall to other rural areas that are wetter.
- An electrification project in Laos that adopted gender mainstreaming practices increased the number of female headed households electrified by 43%, nearly twice the rate of increase as compared to other households.
- One of the most comprehensive and widely cited articles exploring the gendered impacts of natural disasters suggests that females are more likely to be killed by natural disasters and/or are systematically killed at younger ages than males.

In China, many empirical studies support the argument that women are impacted disproportionately by climate change, environmental degradation and natural disasters. Women are more vulnerable due to their unequal social-economic status and high dependence on the natural environment and natural resources in their livelihood strategies (CHEN Jianmei, 2011; UN Women, 2016; SUN Dajiang, 2016; HU Yukun, 2010; etc.). For example, research has shown in China as elsewhere that women are affected differently than men by climate-related disasters (CHEN Jianmei, 2011). Feminized agriculture has become a common phenomenon in many parts of rural China, and disasters or climate change have reinforced this pattern as men flee in search of jobs, leaving women behind to take on more responsibilities in natural resource management and livelihoods. In extreme disasters, women are more vulnerable due to droughts, sandstorm, and lack of access to potable water, which creates greater burdens on women in fetching water, gathering firewood and feed for livestock, as well as more time spent on care work (HU Yukun, 2013).

Case studies conducted in Yunnan have discovered the linkage between gendered vulnerability and climate change in the context of rural livelihoods, especially in the field of water supply and management, as well as migration. A study in Lijiang demonstrated that lack of water has affected rural women's livelihood and increased their burden, making women more vulnerable (SUN Dajiang et al, 2015). Policies and special programmes addressing vulnerability are needed at all



levels. Gender assessment plays a key role in developing gender-sensitive policies or projects that deliver maximum benefit to the affected groups (SUN Dajiang et al, 2015; UN Women, 2016, YIN Peihong, 2015).

The studies also emphasize women's key role in actively responding to climate change, environment degradation and climate disasters. For instance, in many regions of China changes in agricultural farming systems and planting varieties are employed in order to adapt to the difficulties caused by rising temperatures and water shortages. Women's own experience and knowledge in farming have become an important resource for climate adaption. Therefore, respecting women's knowledge and experience can provide more flexibility for enhancing climate resilience (SUN Dajiang et al, 2015).

4.2 Climate governance and policy-making

A landmark collection of articles by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) identifies the following key messages on integrating gender dimensions at the climate change at the international policy level (IUCN, 2015):

- Over the last few decades, a strong international policy framework spanning human rights, gender equality, environmental conservation and sustainable development has recognised the links between gender equality and climate change.
- While the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) itself was unique in not integrating any social or gender concerns from the outset, great strides have been made by Parties recently to agree on decisions that include mandates on key gender issues. Such mandates include promoting women's participation and leadership, gender mainstreaming of the Green Climate Fund (GCF), and formulating national adaptation plans with gender-sensitive approaches, among others.
- Despite progress in achieving gender mandates in climate change decision-making at a global level, gaps remain both in advancing more substantive understanding of gender and climate dynamics in policymaking and in ensuring that decisions are acted on, such as through guidance under UNFCCC programmes.
- Women's participation in global decision-making on climate change has increased in recent years—due in large part to awareness raising and to subsequent mandates on this topic—but has stagnated overall, with women comprising just over a third of delegates.
- The complexity of global challenges and global policy-making demands strategic and focused attention across sectors, financial mechanisms and at all levels of society. Advancing gender equality can leverage progress on multiple fronts, delivering co-benefits for climate change.

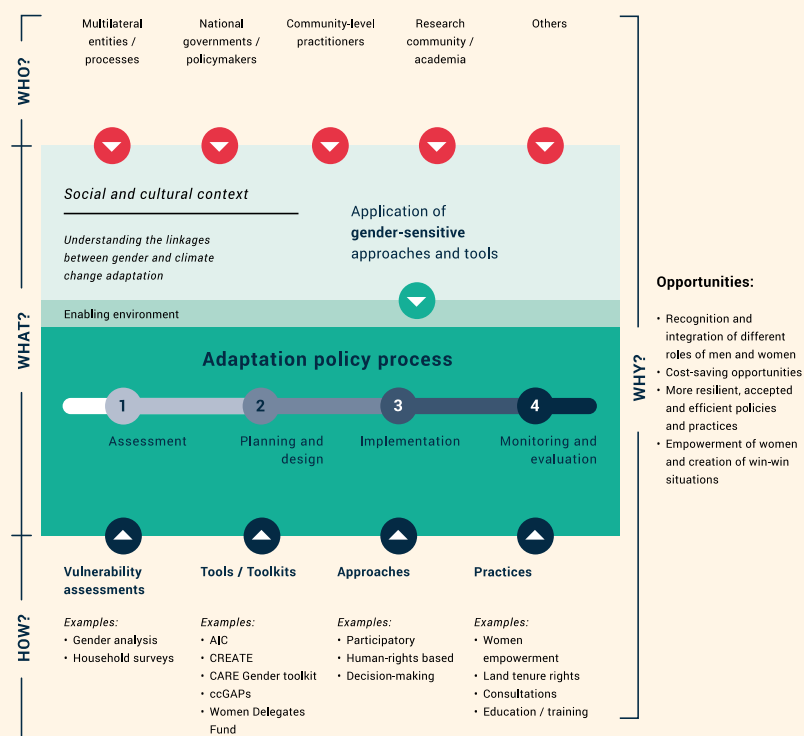
At the national level, "Significant strides have been made by various countries across all regions to incorporate gender equality and climate change considerations in tandem with poverty reduction



and resilience-building efforts in their policies, plans, and strategies.” (IUCN, 2015). The IUCN compendium provides numerous examples, particularly from many of the Least Developed Countries.

As noted above, UNFCCC itself has made great strides in promoting gender-responsive adaptation, resilience, and mitigation. For example, UNFCCC developed the model illustrated in **Figure 1**, providing an overview of key issues, approaches, stakeholders, and rationale for the importance of gender mainstreaming in NAPs and other adaption plans.

Figure 1: An overview of key issues discussed in relation to the application of gender-sensitive approaches and tools for adaptation⁹



One study conducted in Yunnan by researchers from the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICOMOD) and the Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences provides evidence for the importance of building socio-economic perspectives and gender inclusivity into policy responses to climate change (Paez-Valencia and Koningstein, 2017). It argues that “lack of a gender perspective in Chinese policy-making could undermine the efforts to support local resource management and climate adaptation (Su et al.)”

The study was part of an international research project under the Himalayan Climate Change Adaptation Programme (HICAP). **Box 3** below provides more details on this study and its policy-related conclusions. “Women in the region have important responsibilities as managers of natural and household resources and are therefore well positioned to contribute to adaptation strategies. But they are more vulnerable than men to climate change as they face more social, economic, and political barriers limiting their adaptive capacity,” says Su Yufang, ICRAF China’s Deputy Director and the lead author of the study. “HICAP is generating knowledge of climate change impacts on natural resources, ecosystem services, and the communities that depend on them, contributing to policy and practice for enhanced adaptation.”



Box 3. A socio-economic focus for China's climate change adaptation policies

As the effects of climate change become more tangible, national and provincial governments have announced new policies and governance mechanisms for drought response and climate change adaptation, but none of these policies address gender issues.

The case for more attention to the gender dimensions and impacts of climate change becomes critical as agricultural production becomes increasingly feminized and women take on multiple and non-traditional roles. The study's findings indicate that women are taking on an increasingly active role in managing water during droughts but they are still excluded from formal decision-making about water management at the community level.

Based on these findings, the study recommends the adoption of new climate change policies that:

- Consider gendered differences in vulnerability and value women's traditional knowledge and practical experience.
- Provide local communities, and particularly women, with climate change information and technologies to improve their adaptive capacity.
- Ensure women's participation in the planning and construction of drinking water and irrigation facilities to ensure these facilities meet women's needs.
- Support women's participation in community-based water management bodies, and promote the development of women's organizations.

The lack of information and meaningful engagement with gender issues could lead to unfit government-supported adaptation responses that may not address the different priorities and needs of rural women, further marginalizing them, and will hinder the opportunity to benefit from women's active contribution to water management.

Source: Paez-Valencia, Ana Maria and Manon Koningstein. 2017. World Agroforestry Center, Agroforestry World (Web). "Why China should include a gender-perspective in its climate change policies"

<http://blog.worldagroforestry.org/index.php/2017/08/18/why-china-should-include-a-gender-perspective-in-its-climate-change-policies/>

4.3 Biodiversity

As the CDB Gender Action Plan (see above) reflects, gender equality has become an important focus of research on biodiversity. CBD has published a very accessible summary of key issues, *Gender Perspectives on Biodiversity*, highlighting relevant gender issues for three key sectors related to biodiversity – agriculture, forestry and fisheries – in order to promote dialogue and action on gender and biodiversity interlinkages. IUCN has published three useful factsheets addressing the linkages between gender and biodiversity, focusing particularly on two of the main concerns of the Convention: Biosafety, and Access and Benefit Sharing of Genetic Resources.

A key policy instrument of the Convention on Biodiversity at the state party level are the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs). A 2017 study by IUCN looked at the degree to which women's empowerment and gender equality has been integrated into the existing NBSAPs. It found that of 254 total National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (NBSAP) reports, more than half (56%) contain at least one women and/or gender reference, signalling some acknowledgement of gender considerations in biodiversity action planning. With respect to how



women and women's participation are characterized in NBSAPs, the study found that most countries (37%) indicate inclusion of women as stakeholders; 27% include reference to women as beneficiaries; 17% refer to women as vulnerable; while only a very few (4%) characterize women as agents of change. Approximately one-quarter (24%) of most recent NBSAPs include at least one specific activity geared towards women or otherwise proactively including gender considerations (see above for reference).

In order to step up the integration of gender dimensions, in 2016 the CBD Secretariat in collaboration with IUCN's Global Gender Office, supported by the Japan Biodiversity Fund, implemented a pilot project to build capacity of developing country Parties to integrate gender into their biodiversity policy, planning and programming, and specifically to support the integration of gender considerations into their draft NBSAPs being revised to align with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. This process involved bringing together representatives from national governments, women's groups and gender and biodiversity experts to share information on relevant initiatives and review the draft NBSAPs to identify gaps related to gender issues. The proposals and recommendations made during respective workshops influenced the finalization of each country's NBSAP.

4.4 Environmental governance and decision-making

The issue of women's low level of participation in environmental governance and decision-making worldwide has emerged as a key concern for all the environmental conventions. This issue is highlighted in the EIGE report *Gender in Environment and Climate Change* as well as many other publications. And it is being monitored closely by many parties, including IUCN which has published a number of reports including the *Environment Gender Index*, *Women's Participation and Gender Considerations in Country Representation, Planning and Reporting to the BRS Conventions*, *Gender and Climate Finance: New Data on Women in Decision-Making Positions* (2015) and *Women's Participation in Global Environmental Decision Making: New research from the Environment and Gender Index (EGI)*. Organizations such as WEDO provide leadership training to women in an effort to boost and support women's decision-making roles.

In China, some research has explored the gender-specific difference on the knowledge, attitudes, awareness, and willingness to participate in relation to environment and climate change. Studies have found that, compared with men, women are more concerned about the environment and have a higher level of awareness of daily life related pollution, while they have lower level of awareness of industrial pollution, and are more sensitive to price when choosing environment-friendly products (YIN Peihong, 2015). A survey based on data from 30 counties in China shows that women have reported stronger willingness to take action on climate issues; and villagers who are better informed on climate change issues show stronger willingness to take action (XIE Hongzuo, 2011). A study of 3,000 people in Beijing urban areas indicated that, although awareness of environmental issues has no significant gender-specific difference, women are more passionate about environment protection (HU Yukun, 2013).



In terms of governance and decision-making, studies have shown that rural women play a very limited role in local environment governance and rural ecological civilization, although they are impacted more by the environment and ecosystem degradation. (WANG Yunhang, 2011; LI Hongping et al, 2015). Public participation in environment protection faces some gender-blind issues, harming women's rights and restricting women's participation in environment governance, especially in rural areas. Researchers conclude that it is important to fully include rural women's roles in formulating and implementing of environment related policies (YIN Peihong, 2015). Studies looking specifically at "left behind women" in rural areas have found that this group have become the major victims of rural environment degradation. Left behind wives have very weak ability to protect their environment and ecological rights, and very low willingness to participate in local environmental governance when facing serious pollution (WANG Yunhang, 2016).

4.5 Disaster risk reduction/mitigation (DRR/DRM)

One of the persistent themes in the literature is the greater vulnerability of women in disaster situations. Increasingly, attention is also being paid to the role of women and women's organizations as key actors in DRR/DRM.

For example, a recent project funded by UN Women in China, "Legal Advocacy for the Implementation of Gender-Sensitive Regulations Addressing Climate Change/ Disaster Risk Reduction (CC/DRR)," focused specifically on working directly with farmers to develop channels for influencing climate and DRM policy-making in order to make it more gender-responsive. The results are described in **Box 4** below.

Box 4. UNTGG China Gender Facility administered by UN Women China: "Legal Advocacy for the Implementation of Gender-Sensitive Regulations Addressing Climate Change/ Disaster Risk Reduction (CC/DRR)"

This initiative, organized by the Lanzhou University Center for Western Environmental and Social Development and an existing people's congress, assisted nearly 800,000 farmers in two Gansu Province counties to each elect 50 legislative representatives. Of the total 100 representatives, 60 were women. This congress went through a mock law-making process, then provided information to and shared knowledge with legislative bodies at county and province levels.

Such grassroots lobbying efforts sensitize decision-makers on the issue of climate change, while also enhancing community awareness of it. The process of making laws that better respond to climate change helps identify and prevent its root causes, and is thus likely to contribute to conservation natural resources, and help reduce pollution. The process increased opportunities for women to communicate with legislative units and relevant governmental organizations. This has improved women's participation in the public sphere, while enhancing legislative officials' understanding of what roles women can play in addressing climate change. It lays a solid foundation for mainstreaming gender issues in the long term. This first-time project for China resulted in successful advocacy. The legislative networks will be extended to 40 of Gansu Province's 87 counties over the next five years, and is hoped to cover all 87 counties within 10 years. Since the gender-sensitive mechanism addressing climate change and disaster risk reduction is easy to demonstrate and understand, the activity is replicable and scalable.

Source: <https://unfccc.int/climate-action/momentum-for-change/activity-database/momentum-for-change-gender-sensitive-legislation-addressing-climate-change-china>



4.6 Green urbanization

There are numerous initiatives by UN Habitat and other organizations to support the integration of gender equality concerns into policy and planning for green urbanization. The literature reveals important gender dimensions to many key issues including urban climate policy, urban transport, domestic energy supply, garbage and waste disposal, housing, women's participation in decision-making at the municipal level, etc. Recent publications by UN Habitat have focused particularly on the gender dimensions of urban climate policy (see **Box 5** below).

In the Asia-Pacific region, according to UNEP's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, "Rapid urbanization in the Asia Pacific region has negative consequences on urban and peri-urban ecosystems and is further compounded by inadequate considerations of all factors in urban planning. ... Within UNEP's initiatives on Building climate resilience of urban systems through Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) in the Asia-Pacific region, a gender perspective is now included at the initial stages of project planning so as to fully encompass the socioeconomic dimensions. By incorporating specific gender activities as well as indicators for monitoring and evaluation from the onset, gender responsiveness is integrated into project implementation to appropriately inform planners and decision makers on urban planning (UNEP ROAP)."

Box 5. Five good reasons why cities should pursue a gender-sensitive approach to urban climate policy

Climate change poses huge challenges to cities but also represents an opportunity to work towards more healthy, liveable, sustainable, equitable and inclusive cities for the following reasons:

First, both women and men have the right to be involved in decision-making regarding climate policy, whether at city or neighbourhood levels. The equal participation of women and men enhances the legitimacy of urban climate policy and builds a sense of ownership.

Second, climate policy is not only about technologies, it is also about people. People are subject to the impacts of climate change and their consumption and mobility is the underlying cause of greenhouse gas emissions. Hence, people are both the problem and the solution. This means that climate policy will only be effective if people, their gender roles and traditional tasks in society are taken into account. This makes urban climate policies and measures more acceptable, viable and efficient.

Third, policies should respond to the needs and capacities of all citizens, women and men, and include poor and marginalised groups. Otherwise, a vast array of human resources, innovative potential and traditional and practical knowledge is left untapped.

Fourth, a gender approach makes climate policy fairer and more equitable, taking into account that in most cases those who emit the least greenhouse gases are the most vulnerable and vice versa. If the gender dimensions of climate change are not addressed, the impacts of climate change will likely exacerbate existing inequalities and might have adverse impacts.

Fifth, the full integration of social and gender issues into climate policy maximises the effect of available resources for everyone: women and men, girls and boys. This is particularly the case when efforts to improve resilience to climate change impacts have a comprehensive approach and target different kinds of vulnerabilities.

Source: GIZ, UN Habitat. GIZ. 2015. *Gender and Urban Climate Policy: Gender-Sensitive Policies Make a Difference*.



4.7 Green energy

The gender equality dimensions of green energy policies relate to the ways in which women's roles and position in society and the economy affect both their energy use and gendered impacts of energy-related environmental issues.

According to UNEP, which has developed a number of programmes to address these issues, "Energy poverty has distinct gender characteristics, disproportionately affecting women and girls. They face significant health and safety risks from household air pollution, carrying heavy fuel loads, and lack of lighting. As such, ensuring equal energy access is a catalyst for the achievement of the SDGs." The Women's Entrepreneurship for Sustainable Energy Initiative, a global programme led by UNEP and UN Women which began in 2016, aims to increase women's access to sustainable energy, focusing initially on Myanmar, India, and Indonesia in order to establish a portfolio of best practices and facilitate private sector investment and financing, as well as to integrate gender responsiveness into national planning for energy efficiency (UNEP ROAP).

ENERGIA is an international network focusing on gender and sustainable energy. Through its Gender and Energy Research Programme, it has published a number of handbooks and resources on mainstreaming gender in sustainable energy projects, as well as a series of guides under the topic of "Powering Agriculture" by integrating gender in clean energy solutions (see attached resource list for references).

4.8 Sustainable consumption and production

According to studies conducted by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD, 2008 a, b) and by Johnsson-Latham (2010), gender has an enormous influence on sustainable consumption, largely due to the differing consumption patterns of women and men. Of note is the fact that, in some OECD countries, women make more than 80% of the consumer decisions and they are more likely than men to be sustainable consumers.

While the green economy or low carbon economy can bring new development opportunities to women, such as more access to energy, lesser time burdens, or new job opportunities in local energy production, the potentially negative impacts of a quick shift to a low carbon economy may be most keenly felt among women, who start at an economic disadvantage due to gender discrimination. Their overall income level is lower than that of men, leaving them less flexibility in adapting to either economic shifts or climate change.

Because of China's global role in industrial production as well as, increasingly, in consumption, and the disproportionate role of women as both producers and consumers, it is vital for policy making to integrate the gender dimensions of sustainable production and consumption. Environmental concerns vary according to different manufacturing sectors, as do the roles women and men play in



these sectors. The Asia Pacific region is the global hub of many industries in which women form the bulk of the workforce. This includes the textiles industry, particularly in Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Pakistan, and Viet Nam. A program by UNEP's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific provides a good example of gender-responsive programming in this area:

"There is a high risk of toxic chemical substances being used within textile materials in factories, and exposure to these toxins will differ based on the occupational roles of men and women. Moreover, toxic chemicals have negative impacts on women's reproductive health, making them more vulnerable than men. In UNEP's initiative on Reducing releases of POPs, POP candidates and other chemicals of concern (CoCs) in the textiles sector, these gender roles are analyzed in order to ensure that they are taken into consideration in policy-level interventions. In addition, part of the budget of this project is allocated to gender sensitive awareness raising targeting stakeholders outside of the supply chain (e.g. governments and civil society representatives) (UNEP ROAP)."

The literature on green industry likewise argues that promoting gender equality and integrating GE-WE principles in policy making promotes more efficient and more profitable green industrial development. As a UNIDO report points out, "... women play a key role in both consumption and production, and utilizing their distinct knowledge and skills can help a great deal in moving towards more resource efficient and cleaner production. A prominent example from the household level is the development and usage of energy efficient cook stoves. As research shows, the uptake of such improved stoves is higher when women, as the primary users, are consulted throughout the design process. **Considering both women's and men's views ensures that new technologies meet end-users' needs and, in turn, increases their acceptance in societies and maximizes development results** (UNIDO, 2015)."

UNIDO's Green Industry Platform (GIP) showcases women entrepreneurs' leadership in green industry (see Box 6). Under this program, a female entrepreneur from Shanghai received recognition for her leadership in producing and marketing water-saving toilets in the rural areas of

Box 6. A NETWORK FOR WOMEN: THE GREEN INDUSTRY PLATFORM

Recognizing the need to promote and encourage female green entrepreneurship and leadership, the Green Industry Platform (GIP) established a Chapter specifically targeting women in this field. The GIP was launched jointly by UNIDO and UNEP to bring together business, government and civil society to secure commitments and mobilize action in support of sustainable industrial models. In the framework of its Women in Green Industry Chapter, the GIP connects female professionals with a shared interest in Green Industry for networking, peer support and exchange, gives exposure to success stories of female entrepreneurs and leaders, commissions best-practice and best-policy studies dealing with gender aspects in Green Industrial policy development, and ultimately promotes female leadership in the expanding Green Industry space. All activities of the chapter are closely coordinated with UN Women, Global Action Plan International, and other agencies active in this field, and linked to the Knowledge Gateway for Women's Economic Empowerment.

Source: Green Industry Chapter, "Introducing the Women in Green Industry Chapter". Available at: <http://www.greenindustryplatform.org/?s=women+chapter&submit=Go>



China (Women in Green Industry Platform <http://www.greenindustryplatform.org/?p=2515>).

4.9 Sustainable Agriculture

With women forming the majority of agricultural producers in many countries – including in many regions of China – it stands to reason that sustainable agricultural policy needs to incorporate gender concerns. Research on gender and “climate-smart” agriculture (CSA) by FAO and others has yielded the following key messages:

1. The gender gap in agriculture affects how men and women access and benefit from CSA.
2. A gender-responsive approach to CSA addresses this gap by recognizing the specific needs and capabilities of women and men.
3. Site-specific CSA practices that are also gender-responsive can lead to improvements in the lives of smallholder farmers, fishers and foresters, as well as more sustainable results. (Nelson & Huyer 2016).

In China, national statistics have shown a gradual increase in women's participation in agriculture, compared with men. In 2000, employment in the agriculture sector was 48.5% female and 51.5% male; by 2005 showed the proportion of women had grown to 49.7% compared to 50.3% for men (2002, Women and Men in China; NBS, 2006). The proportion of women in agriculture, Forestry, Herding and Fishery was 64% in 2005, 10 percentage points higher than that of men (NBS, 1% Sample Household Survey, 2005).

Although women in China are entitled to land ownership and their property rights are legally protected, they are more likely to be landless at marriage, divorce and widowhood due to ambiguously defined community property regimes and prevalent customary practices in rural China which consider sons the natural heirs of land. The data in 2000 shows that 90% of rural women owned their land; however, 93% of women lost their rights to land at marriage and 100% did so at divorce. In 2003, China enacted the *Rural Land Contract Law* in part to remedy women's loss of land by preserving a woman's share of land in her natal village upon marriage or in her marital village upon divorce or widowhood. Yet social realities in rural China have limited the effectiveness of this provision. Local authorities may no longer take back women's natal land shares, but women hold no practical right to these allocations. The rapid development of real estate in China has further exacerbated women's vulnerability. Many land purchases and estate developments have come with local populations forcibly displaced and access to local natural resources restricted. Among them, small holders and women are hurt more due to their lack of formal land title.

In China, poor rural and urban women and women from ethnic minorities or remote areas face greater discrimination than others. They also carry a heavy work-burden, for example because of scarcer water and energy resources, lower quality land and crops for agricultural production, that is exacerbated by climatic changes. The greater the socio-economic imbalance, the more likely



climate change is to have strong negative impacts on rural women's lives. Damage to crops and livestock affects household income and both women and men face higher workloads as they have to seek waged labour to make ends meet.

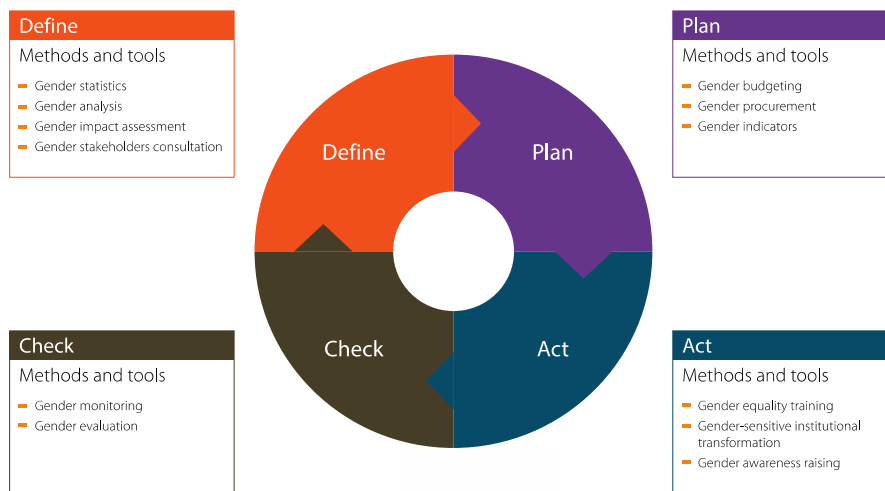
There is a growing literature on the co-benefits of sustainable agricultural and rural policies and gender equality. For example, UNFCCC has documented the co-benefits of sustainable agriculture for gender equality in China under the Clean Development Mechanism, specifically in a biogas digester project in Hubei:

- Reducing the time spent by women collecting firewood or travelling to purchase fuel
- Significantly reducing the amount of household income spent on fuel
- Building capacity in biogas systems, allowing for more widespread replication
- Improving indoor air quality in homes due to smoke-free combustion of biogas compared to traditional fuels, generating health benefits for the community, especially for women who do most of the cooking
- Enhancing sanitation services by improving swine manure handling techniques, as well as providing a connected latrine for households

These co-benefits disproportionately affect women, who are the bulk of the agricultural producers, are responsible for fuel procurement, do most of the cooking in the household, have most of the family care responsibilities, and are most affected by indoor air quality (UNFCCC, 2010).

5. INTEGRATING GENDER IN THE POLICY CYCLE

Governments and multilaterals in particular are concerned with the practical issue of how best to integrate gender considerations into the policy making cycle, from policy and program definition through planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The European Institute on Gender Equality (EIGE) (the EU knowledge centre on gender equality) conceptualizes this process as follows:





That is, gender considerations should be incorporated at all stages, using appropriate methods and tools in defining the problem, planning the intervention, acting on or implementing the intervention, and monitoring/evaluating the intervention. The EIGE publication *Gender in Environment and Climate Change* is particularly helpful in providing practical, concrete examples to support integrating gender dimensions in each step of policy making (EIGE, 2016).

6. CONCLUSION: INTERNATIONAL CONSENSUS AND BEST PRACTICES

This review of the international and Chinese literature on gender and sustainable development points to the evolution of an international consensus on what are considered to be “best practices” for integrating gender perspectives into research and policy-making. Briefly, these elements are:

- High-level leadership and advocacy;
- GE integration/mainstreaming throughout the policy process;
- The use of gender analysis in policy research, and integration of the analysis into the policy recommendations;
- Gender-sensitive and sex-disaggregated data;
- Women's involvement and leadership in planning and decision-making.

These practices will be incorporated, to the extent possible, in CCICED's Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Strategy for Phase Vi.



ANNEX 1. ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
APAN	Asia Pacific Adaptation Network
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
BRI	Belt and Road Initiative
BRS	Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CCICED	China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CGIAR	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
COP	Conference of Parties
CSA	Climate-smart agriculture
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EbA	Ecosystem-based Adaptation
EGI	Environment and Gender Information Platform
EIGE	European Institute for Gender Equality
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GAP	Gender Action Plan
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GE-WE	Gender Equality – Women's Empowerment
GGCA	Global Gender and Climate Alliance
GIP	Green Industry Platform
HICAP	Himalayan Climate Change Adaptation Programme
ICOMOD	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development
ICRAF	World Agroforestry Centre
INDC	Intended Nationally Determined Contributions
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MEE	Ministry of Ecology and Environment (China)
MEP	Ministry of Environmental Protection (China)
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan
NBS	National Bureau of Statistics (China)
NGO	Non-government organization
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
POP	Persistent Organic Pollutants
ROAP	Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific



SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
UN	United Nations
UN-REDD	United Nations Collaborative Initiative on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries
UNEP	United Nations Environmental Programme
UNFCCC	UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNTGG	UN Theme Group on Gender
WEDO	Women's Environment and Development Organization
WMG	Women's Major Group



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Training Module 3: Gender and Disaster Risk Reduction;

Training Module 4: Gender and Energy;

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Annex 3 – Experts & Consultants Roster

CCICED Phase VI

Gender Equality and Environment

Experts & Consultants Roster



CCICED Phase VI - Gender Equality and Environment Experts & Consultants Roster

This is a selective and non-exhaustive list of international and China-based specialists who work, consult and/or publish in the areas of gender, environment, climate change and sustainable development, or are gender focal points within their organizations. These individuals may be contacted to provide technical assistance, to participate as invited speakers in CCICED events, or to provide recommendations for other qualified consultants with needed expertise.

Name	Gender	Title	Institution	Expertise	Contact Info
Former CCICED Gender Equality Advisors					
Dr. Linda HersHKovitz	F	Gender Advisor	Sinolog Consulting, Canada	PhD in Human Geography and gender specialist with 20+ years experience providing research, gender analysis, evaluation, training, coaching and capacity development assistance to governments, international development agencies, UN organizations, multilaterals, NGOs and the private sector. She is the former Gender Advisor to the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development and has extensive experience as a gender specialist in China, Southeast Asia and Eastern Europe.	Tel: +1 416 5343889 Email: sinolog@sympatico.ca
Difei HU 胡涤菲	F	China Center Director	China Center, Long Island University	Specialist in gender & climate change; gender statistics & program evaluation. Difei holds a Master's in Public Administration from Columbia University and is the former Gender Advisor to the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development. As a consultant in the fields of gender and sustainable development, she has worked with the multilateral organizations in Asia including UN Women China, UNDP in global and regional offices, international NGOs.	Tel: +86 13336060339 Email : difei.hu@liu.edu
International Experts Gender & Environment/ Climate Change					

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Name	Gender	Title	Institution	Expertise	Contact Info
Lorena Aguilar	F	Global Senior Gender Advisor	IUCN Global Gender Office	Lorena Aguilar has over twenty-five years of experience in projects and initiatives involving public policy development and the incorporation of social and gender issues into development. She established the IUCN Global Gender Office – the preferred partner for international governments and NGOs seeking to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment for achieving biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. She has created and/or is part of some of the most influential international gender networks including the Network of Women Ministers and Leaders of the Environment and the Global Gender and Climate Alliance. She has developed strategies for mainstreaming gender in leading organizations, including the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). She supports governments to develop gender policies and to create organizational capacity in the area of gender equality and women’s empowerment. She is often a keynote speaker at international conferences, congresses and high-level events.	Email: globalgenderoffice@iucn.org
Irene Dankelman	F	Senior Lecturer	Radboud University, Netherlands	Gender and Environment; Gender mainstreaming and Climate Change, Sustainable Development; International environmental policy. Ecologist by background, Irene Dankelman has been specializing in the area of gender and environment for over 25 years, and has published, lectured and advised widely on these themes at global level and in many countries and regions around the globe. She advises the United Nations, government agencies and non-governmental organizations on gender and environment issues and has lectured and written extensively on the issue, including the book ‘Gender and Climate Change: an introduction’(Earthscan, 2010). She is the former VP of WEDO (Women’s Environment and Development	Tel: +31 24 3612114 Email: i.dankelman@fm.ru.nl

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Name	Gender	Title	Institution	Expertise	Contact Info
				Organization) and was lead researcher for UN Women on climate change adaptation and gender in Asia.	
Natalie Elwell	F	Senior Gender Advisor	World Resources Institute	Natalie Elwell is WRI's senior gender advisor, working to ensure that WRI's programs, activities, and policies benefit women and men equally and contribute to gender equity. Previously at USAID she served as the Senior Advisor for Gender and Environment, working to build capacity within the Agency to advance and leverage women's empowerment and gender equality to enhance the outcomes of environment and climate change programming. Prior to joining USAID she was the Associate Vice President for Gender Equity at World Neighbors where she served as a technical advisor to field teams in 18 countries throughout Africa, Asia and LAC, designing their gender approach and building local capacity to integrate gender into long-term rural community development programs.	Tel: +1 (202) 729-7943 Email: NElwell@WRI.org
Amy Luinstra	F	Program Manager, Gender, East Asia and Pacific	International Finance Corporation (IFC)	Ms. Luinstra manages gender programs and advises colleagues on gender issues across East Asia and the Pacific at the International Financial Corporation (IFC), part of the World Bank Group. Serving in this role since January 2014, Ms. Luinstra leads activities aimed at improving business outcomes through investing in women's employment and including women in agribusiness value chains. Prior to this, Ms. Luinstra managed the Better Work program for IFC, a partnership with the ILO and over 50 leading clothing retailers and brands that has improved the working conditions of over 1 million garment sector workers worldwide. Ms. Luinstra previously worked at the ILO in Geneva and before that as a social protection and labor policy specialist at the World Bank.	Email: linkedin.com/in/amy-luinstra

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Name	Gender	Title	Institution	Expertise	Contact Info
Tanya McGregor	F	Programme Officer, Gender	UN Environment / Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity Montreal, Quebec	As the program officer for Gender, Ms. McGregor is the gender and biodiversity specialist at the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.	Tel: +1 514 287 6677 Email: tanya.mcgregor@cbd.int
Cate Owren	F	Senior Gender Programme Manager	IUCN Global Gender Office	Cate Owren is the former Executive Director of the Women’s Environment and Development Organization (WEDO), a women’s global advocacy organization based in New York and now works with IUCN’s Global Gender Office. With over 15 years of experience working on gender and climate change, sustainable development and biodiversity issues, together with women’s rights and empowerment, gender equality advocacy, women’s political participation, women’s organizing and networking. She has a wide range of experiences in global processes such as UNFCCC, CSD, CBD, CSW, Rio+20, and those elaborating the post-2015 development agenda.	Email: globalgenderoffice@iucn.org
Dr. Bernadette P. Resurrección	F	Senior Research Fellow (Gender Specialist)	Stockholm Environment Institute – Asia Centre	Dr. Resurrección is Senior Research Fellow of the Stockholm Environment Institute – Asia Centre. She has over 15 years of experience in research and capacity building on gender, environment and development. She is a founding member and steering committee member of the Mekong Program on Environment, Water and Resilience, a network of Mekong-based research and civil society organizations engaged in multi-stakeholder dialogues on water governance since 2003. She has led projects on climate adaptation, gender and water stresses in peri-urban Southeast Asia (IDRC), mobility and disasters in Philippine coastal areas (The Research Council of Norway), and the Mekong research fellowship program on water governance (CPWF-M-POWER-	Email: bernadette.resurreccion@sei.org

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Name	Gender	Title	Institution	Expertise	Contact Info
				AusAID). She led and co-managed the IDRC-supported project Gender and Social Analysis in Environment and Development, as well as the EU-supported Asia Link Projects on Gender, Migration and Sustainable Development, and Gender, Development and Public Policy in Asia. She was formerly Associate Professor at the School of Environment, Resources & Development of the Asian Institute of Technology in Thailand.	
Annette Wallgren	F	Gender and Environment Officer	UN Environment Asia and the Pacific Regional Office	Annette Wallgren is a Gender and Environment Officer at UN Environment Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok. She supports staff in capacity building, gender-responsive project design and facilitating a regional dialogue on the gender and environment nexus. She is very committed to make the understanding of gender fully integrated within UN Environment’s work. She leads several new innovative projects that have been developed in Asia Pacific in the last year, including Strengthening Human Rights and Gender Equality through Climate Change and Disaster Resilience (with UN Women) and Gender and Biodiversity Policies and Plans with the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity. Among other initiatives, Ms. Wallgren has also worked closely in partnership with The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) on integrating gender into projects and strengthening institutional capacity.	Email: Annette.Wallgren@unep.org
China-based Experts on Gender & Environment/ Climate Change					
Yiping CAI 蔡一萍	F	Executive Committee member	Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN)	Gender and Development; Gender Mainstreaming; Gender Analysis; Policy Advocacy; Ms. Cai has over 20 years’ experience on gender advocacy and advising for multilateral org., int’l org. and women org., including Ford Foundation, UN Women, UNFPA, DIFD, Oxfam, ILO, and AusAID, etc. She was formerly a journalist with <i>China Women’s Daily</i> and <i>China Women News</i> and is also the author or co-author of many significant publications on gender issue and gender policies in China.	Tel: +86 13501010730 Email: caiyiping2000@hotmail.com

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Name	Gender	Title	Institution	Expertise	Contact Info
Ruixiang GUO 郭瑞香	F	Gender Specialist	Consultant, UN Women	Gender, Rural Women and Poverty alleviation Ms. Guo is former programme coordinator for UN Women China and associate professor at China Agricultural University, with more than 20 years of experience in the development field. She is currently working as a consultant for UN Women China to formulate a Programme for rural women’s poverty alleviation in the context of climate change in Qinghai.	Tel: +86 13810216359 Email: ruixiang.guo@unwome n.org
Dr. Yukun HU 胡玉坤	F	Associate Professor	Institute of Population Research, Peking University	Gender and Environment; Gender and Climate Change; Natural Resource Management, and Rural Women. Dr. Hu’s consultancy and advisory positions include being a member of the Advisory Committee of UN Women China for a study on Gender Dimensions of Vulnerability to Climate Change in China in 2015-2016; the Gender expert for the Policy Research Center for Environment and Economy of the Ministry of Environmental Protection; and the Gender Specialist for “Developing and Implementing the National Framework on Access to and Benefit Sharing of Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge” , by MEP and UNDP. She is the author of the section on “Women and Environment” in <i>Reviewing of Chinese Government’s Implementation of the Beijing Platform of Action (Beijing+15) Report</i> . Her recent books include <i>From ‘Man Can Conquer Nature’ to ‘Rebuild Beautiful Landscapes’: Gender, Natural Resources Management and the Chinese State in an Inner Mongolia Village’</i> (China Social Science Press, 2017) and <i>Gender and Ecological Civilization</i> (Social Science Academic Press, 2013).	Tel: +86 13718798898 Email: huyukun@pku.edu.cn
Dr. Xiaoyun Li 李小云	M	Professor	Department of development management, China Agricultural University	Employment and Transfer of Rural Labor Force, Income and Rural Poverty, Gender and Development.	Tel: +86 10 62738465 Email: lxiaoyun@cau.edu.cn

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Name	Gender	Title	Institution	Expertise	Contact Info
Bohong LIU 刘伯红	F	Professor	China Women's University	Women Studies; Gender and Development, Gender and Public Policy. Deputy Director of the All-China Women's Federation's Women's Studies Institute of China and a senior fellow at the Institute for Women's Issues now, Bohong Liu has played an active role in circulating feminist ideas in the Women's Federation. Since the 1995 UN World Conference on Women in Beijing, she has worked with the Chinese government to teach leaders about the relevance of gender to laws and policies. She has participated in formulating national programs that implement the 1995 UN Platform for Action.	Tel: +86 10 6510 3461 Email: bohongliu0269@vip.sina.com
Dr. Meng LIU 刘梦	F	Social Work Professor and Vice President	China Women's University	Gender, women's land rights, women's welfare policy. Dr. Liu is also deputy general secretary of the Association of Social Work Education in China, general secretary of China's National Committee of Women's Education, and the director of CWU's Research Center of Women's Land Rights. She holds a PhD in social administration and social work from the University of Hong Kong. Her current research and areas of interest include family violence, women's welfare policy, the indigenization of social work in China, trafficking of women and children, and interventions for vulnerable women, including migrants and ethnic minorities and divorced, abandoned, or unemployed women.	China Women's University
Dr. Yiching SONG	F	Senior Research Associate and Program Head	Centre for Chinese Agricultural Policy, Chinese Academy of Science (CAS), China	Yiching Song obtained her PhD in rural sociology and rural development at Wageningen University in 1998 and has held her current post at CAS since 2000. She is also a professor at China Agricultural University, Guangxi University and Jilin Agricultural University and a visiting scholar at Wageningen University. Her research focuses on sustainable agriculture, food security and rural development policies in China. Song has also acted as a key gender consultant for IFAD since 2000.	Email: songyc.ccap@igsnr.ac.cn

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Name	Gender	Title	Institution	Expertise	Contact Info
Dr. Libin WANG 汪力斌	F	Professor	Department of development management, China Agricultural University	Gender and Development; gender and water management, Socio-economic Impact of Development Interventions, and China’s Development Model.	Tel: +86 10 62736379 Email: lbwang@cau.edu.cn
Qing WANG 王青	F	Gender and Climate Change Programme Officer	UN Women China	Graduated from the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Qing Wang has many years of experience in project management, including eight years in environment, and two years in gender. Currently responsible for the UN Women’s gender and climate Change programme, she is committed to helping rural women in poor areas to reduce poverty and improve their capacity to adapt to climate change.	Tel: +86 13810524840 Email: qing.wang@unwomen.org
Dr. Xiaobei WANG 王晓蓓	F	Researcher and Program Officer	China Development Research Foundation	Women’s Land Rights; Rural Women’s Development As researcher and gender expert for <i>Landesa Rural Development Institute</i> , Dr. Wang has designed and undertaken research on land tenure issues in China and developed legal and policy recommendations to improve rural land tenure security and access to land in China, with a specific emphasis on their impact on women and their families. She has also published work on gender and climate change. Her publications related women rights include: “Women’s Forestland Rights in the Collective Forestland Reforms in China: Fieldwork Findings and Policy Recommendations,” <i>Global Trends in Land Tenure Reform-Gender Impacts</i> , Routledge, 2015; “Registering Women’s Land Rights is Essential to an Increase in Agricultural Productivity,” policy paper for Landesa Rural Development Institute (2014); “Gender and Climate Change.” <i>Journal of Shandong Women’s University</i> (2011).	Tel: +86 13901163800 Email: wangxiaobei1602@126.com
Dr. Linxiu ZHANG 张林秀	F	Professor & Director	Center for Chinese Agricultural Policy (CCAP), Chinese	Policy relevant studies on rural development in China, including poverty and inequality, gender, and household nutrition. Dr. Zhang specializes in policy issues around China’s agricultural and rural development, especially rural comprehensive reform, and rural public	Tel: +86 10 64889440 Email: lxzhang.ccap@igsnr.ac.cn

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Name	Gender	Title	Institution	Expertise	Contact Info
			Academy of Sciences	investment and investment strategies and efficiency. Advised and Co-directed UN Environment-International Ecosystem Management Partnership Programme. Her recent research focuses on rural economy, rural non-agricultural employment, labour income distribution and gender.	
Dr. Shiqiu Zhang 张世秋	F	Professor	College of Environmental Sciences and Engineering, Peking University	Environmental economics; Cost benefit analysis; Environmental economic policy Dr. Zhang graduated from the Economics Department and the Center for Environmental Sciences at PKU, majoring in economics and environmental sciences. She has been teaching environmental economics and has been conducting research projects related to environment and development issues which cover environmental economics, environmental policy and environmental management. She is the senior expert member of the UNEP Technology and Economic Assessment Panel for implementing the Montreal Protocol, co-chair of the Task Force for Replenishment of the Multilateral Fund of the Montreal Protocol for the periods 2003-2005 and 2006-2008. She is member of the advisory committee for the Economy and Environment Program for Southeast Asia, as well as a member of the Environmental Economics Working Group and the Environmental and Resources Pricing and Taxation Task Force under CCICED.	Tel: +86 10 62764974 Email: zhangshq@pku.edu.cn
Dr. Xuehua ZHANG 张雪华	F	Chief Scientist	Lishui Institute of Ecology and Environment, Nanjing University	Environmental and Climate Policies; Urban waste management; Ecological community development; Sustainable agriculture; Protection of drinking water source areas; Agricultural pollution control; Environmental governance; Environmental legal institutions; Public participation. Dr. Zhang received her PhD from Stanford University with a focus on environmental law, institutions, and economics. Before that, she was a policy analyst at Resources for the Future, an environmental economics think-tank in Washington DC. She has contributed to the international policy community and its understanding about the functions and operations	Tel: +86 25 57226210 linkedin.com/in/xuehua-zhang-4816671

CCICED PHASE VI – Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment Toolkit



Name	Gender	Title	Institution	Expertise	Contact Info
				of China’s environmental regulatory system, providing consulting services to governments and international organizations such as World Bank, UNEP, Energy Foundation, US Environmental Protection Agency, Natural Resources Defense Council, Environmental Defense Council, Ministry of Environmental Protection of China, and Climate Policy Initiative in San Francisco. Currently she is leading an effort of establishing a project that incorporates industrial and agricultural pollution control and ecological farming to explore innovative approaches for protecting the drinking water sources area in Chengdu, China. The project will also examine the environmental and social impacts of the ongoing large-scale urbanization on China’s peri-urban and rural areas. She has also published widely in <i>Energy Policy</i> , <i>China Journal</i> , and <i>The China Quarterly</i> , etc.	