

Regional Workshop on Women's Participation in REDD+ Processes in Africa

15-16 July 2019, Nairobi

Workshop Report



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Pictures courtesy of Mr. Elijah Toirai, MPIDO, and the Kenya Ministry of Environment and Forestry

Table of Contents

<i>Executive Summary</i>	5
<i>Workshop Methodology</i>	6
<i>Key Messages Delivered during the Workshop’s Opening Session</i>	7
<i>Key Findings</i>	11
<i>List of Annexes</i>	15
<i>Annex 1: Workshop Agenda</i>	16
<i>Annex 2: List of Workshop Participants</i>	18
<i>Annex 3: Recap of the Marketplace on Women-led Initiatives on ERP and REDD+ in Africa ...</i>	21
<i>Annex 4: Matrix of Key Issues, Solutions and Best Practices</i>	22
<i>Annex 5: Background Information and Quotes on Gender and Climate Change</i>	24
<i>Annex 6: Gender, Traditional Knowledge and REDD+ in Africa: The FCPF-CBP Experience, by Sereya Betty Maitoyo</i>	27
<i>Annex 7: Workshop Feedback</i>	30

Executive Summary

50 men and women, representing 17 African countries, were convened at the Regional Workshop on Women Participation in REDD+ Processes in Africa. The workshop was hosted by the World Bank's Social Practice, financed by the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) and executed by the Africa FCPF Capacity Building Program's (CBP) intermediaries for Indigenous People (IPs), the Indigenous Peoples Organizations (IPOs) Mainyoto Pastoralists Integrated Development Organization (MPIDO) and the Network of Indigenous and Local Communities for the Sustainable Management of Forest Ecosystems in Central Africa (REPALEAC). In attendance were representative of prominent IPOs and government officials from relevant offices, as well as FCPF CBP intermediaries from Latin America and Asia, representatives from academia, the media and the private sector, and World Bank FMT members and project team members.

The aims of the workshop were: (a) for stakeholders in the African FCPF countries to reach a joint agreement on the key reasons for the low participation of women in REDD+ -related decision-making and the needed actions to address these reasons, and (b) to strengthen communication between African women-led and women-focused organizations engaged in REDD+. The workshop also looked to take stock of REDD+ women-focused sub-projects financed by the FCPF CBP in Africa and their ability to both mainstream and impact gender issues—to inform any future capacity building interventions and define approaches that have worked, and challenges that still need to be met. The workshop is also expected to help the identification of key elements of a regional strategy for increasing women's participation in REDD+ mechanisms. These elements will act as a guide for women networks at the national level to participating and engaging in negotiations and advocating for favorable policies and laws in their respective countries. The initial gender mainstreaming strategy will be prepared by MPIDO and distributed to participants for endorsement.

Solutions were posed around five identified key challenges, and can be summarized as follows:

- **To overcome cultural barriers:** promote early interventions for men and women in schools and religious fora, sensitize traditional leaders, men and women on joint decision-making, and develop platforms and programs that encourage behavioral change;
- **To fill capacity and information gaps:** provide women with tailored information, skills and tools for REDD+ in local languages and using relevant information sharing fora, encourage networking between women-led and women-focused IPOs, identify and train community champions, and promote women role models and mentors;
- **To secure government support:** mobilize women's platforms with similar motives to lobby the government and support women candidates to run for office, and advocate policy makers with data and training, while engaging media outlets from the outset;
- **To address the inequality in women's access to productive assets:** promote alternative income-generating opportunities and women-only cooperatives and sub-projects, change the legal framework through advocacy and policy engagement and follow up on their implementation, and link women's property rights to entrepreneurship training.
- **To improve donor support for women:** lobby for further financial support to women, design gender sensitive interventions and create funds for women at the national level.

Good practices for gender mainstreaming were identified for each of the key challenges, including land titling programs for community land rights to address inequalities in women's access to land, a dedicated

gender strategy for REDD+ with officially assigned focal points to secure government support, use of local languages, radio programs and meetings in convenient times to pass REDD+ messages, and early child education on gender equality, among others.

More information on the workshop is available at http://mpido.org/IP_women.html

Workshop Methodology

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The workshop is also expected to help the identification of key elements of a regional strategy for increasing women's participation in REDD+ mechanisms. These elements will act as a guide for women networks at the national level to participating and engaging in negotiations and advocating for favorable policies and laws in their respective countries. The initial gender mainstreaming strategy will be prepared by MPIDO and distributed to participants for endorsement. It will be available at http://mpido.org/IP_women.html once finalized and contain the gender mainstreaming objectives, gender mainstreaming methods and tools, capacity building measures, the proposed support structure and means to monitor change.

The workshop began with opening remarks made by MPIDO, REPALEAC, the World Bank and the Cabinet Secretary of the Kenya Ministry of Environment and Forestry, followed by a keynote speech on the gender and policy landscape in Africa by Prof. Patricia Kameri-Mbote from the School of Law of the University of Nairobi. Participants were then divided into small break-out groups to facilitate in-depth and substantive discussions on three principal questions:

- 1. What are the challenges?**

What are the primary issues facing women's participation in REDD+ Projects?

- 2. What are the solutions?**

What activities and processes could address the key issues to ensure women's equal participation in REDD+?

3. What has already worked?

What practices for gender mainstreaming in REDD+ processes should be replicated?

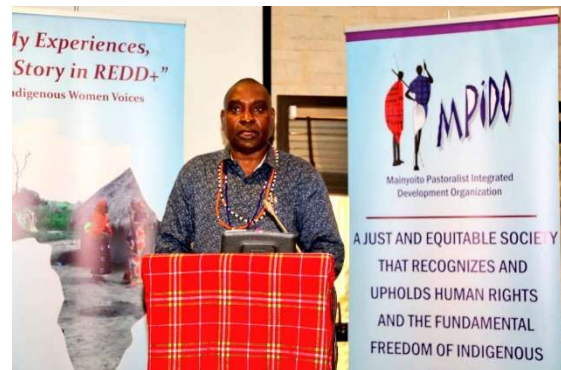
Plenary sessions followed each group discussion in order to build consensus around a results matrix presenting the key points under each of the three questions. The matrix was further informed by a marketplace session, featuring selected REDD+ capacity building sub-projects financed by the FCPF CBP from 10 countries: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Liberia, Madagascar, Nigeria, Republic of Congo, Sudan and Uganda. Marketplace presenters discussed achievements, challenges and ways forward with participants, and answered questions.

See Annex 1 for the workshop's agenda, Annex 3 for a recap of the marketplace, and Annex 4 for the matrix. Annex 7 provides information on participants' feedback based on forms distributed at the end of the workshop.

Key Messages Delivered during the Workshop's Opening Session

Mr. Joseph Ole Simel, Executive Director of MPIDO, welcomed participants to the two-day workshop, delivering the following key messages:

- 1) The workshop is a key milestone in addressing current challenges faced by women in terms of their participation in Emission Reduction Programs (ERPs) and REDD+.
- 2) Women from poor forest-dependent communities play a major role in forest conservation, yet they are marginalized in key decision-making processes related to natural resource management.
- 3) The inclusion of IPs' voices in REDD+ processes is critical for the program's success.
- 4) The FCPF's support of communities for ERPs needs to benefit women directly and provide continuous capacity building for countries that have only recently joined the race to REDD+.
- 5) IPOs, CSOs, governments and partners should document and account for the results of capacity building programs.
- 6) The World Bank and the FCPF should continue facilitating conversations that address gender and REDD+ processes and ensure that IPs women's voices are heard.



Mr. Basiru Isa, Secretary General of REPALEAC, thanked MPIDO and acknowledged its team's efforts in leading the IPs-focused CBP in Africa and ensuring that IPs women were integrated in REDD+ processes. He noted that:

- 1) REPALEAC has played an important role in the proactiveness of IPs network in Central Africa in ensuring that they benefit from ERPs.
- 2) IPs women face similar challenges across communities in Africa, and there is a need to ensure that they are empowered so that they know their rights and how they can benefit from REDD+ programs.
- 3) The World Bank has shown confidence in MPIDO and REPALEAC, already realizing successes.



Ms. Kilara Suit of the Climate Change Group of the World Bank, speaking on behalf of the FMT, appreciated MPIDO's work in delivering capacity-building sub-projects to IPs in Africa, including to indigenous women, in strengthening their engagement in REDD+ processes and for organizing the workshop. Ms. Suit added that:

- 1) Women in local communities played a crucial role in managing forests and landscapes globally, and access to land tenure, capacity building and good resource governance, among other interventions, are essential to improving the current situation.
- 2) The World Bank is committed to ensuring that climate change is considered in its programming and financing.
- 3) by engaging women and local communities in all climate change mechanisms, it is hoped that their inclusiveness, effectiveness, and sustainability will increase.

Ms. Asyl Undeland of the Climate Change Group of the World Bank delivered the following key messages:

- 1) Men and women use land and forest resources differently.
- 2) Forests and their resources are important for IPs women, providing economic, health, cultural and religious benefits.
- 3) IPs women face discrimination in access, ownership and control of forest resources due to several factors, including heavy burden of care, discriminatory formal and customary laws and judicial systems, and lack of awareness and information on their rights and exclusion from policy decision making.
- 4) The [World Bank's 2016 Gender Strategy](#) includes environmental and social safeguards and standards that call for consultations with all groups and segments of communities, especially vulnerable groups and women, the application of Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) and provision for feedback and grievances redress mechanism. The strategy promotes identification and analysis of gender gaps, actions to address the gaps and indicators to measure narrowing/closure of the gaps.
- 5) The [FCPF's Methodological Framework](#) requires that women's engagement is attained at least at a 35 percent level, with a specific FCPF Carbon Fund Gender Strategy at an initial preparatory stage.



Hon. Kariako Tobiko, Cabinet Secretary of the Kenya Ministry of Environment and Forestry officially opened the workshop by stating that ‘climate change is real and here with us.’ He observed that:

- 1) Women constituted a bigger part of the population in Kenya and Africa than men, and their participation in development processes cannot be overlooked.
- 2) Women have faced a challenge of ‘double marginalization’ over the years and have endured a long struggle to challenges such as gender inequalities - efforts which have born fruits and encountered challenges in equal measures.
- 3) Indigenous women have in their custody tremendous amount of traditional knowledge and excellent skills for intergenerational transfer that have preserved and sustainably secured their land, forest and other natural resources.
- 4) The Government of Kenya has taken important strides in climate mitigation and adaptation, including women-led efforts in the conversation and restoration of mangrove forests in Kwale County and protection of water towers across Kenya as means to improve livelihoods, preserve the environment and reduce forest degradation.
- 5) The Government of Kenya has made several efforts to promote women engagement in REDD+ structures and gender mainstreaming in the various REDD+ processes while implementing the 2/3 gender representation in decision making in all climate change decision making bodies; as enshrined in the Kenyan Constitution.
- 6) The FCPF Program and the World Bank, MPIDO and REPALEAC have put IPs women’s issues at the center of their work, including in REDD+.



Prof. Patricia Kameri-Mbote from the School of Law of the University of Nairobi emphasized that:

- 1) IPs women often do not have land rights, and as a result they are left out in representation and decision-making processes on environmental governance and management.
- 2) Despite recent efforts to embrace laws and policies that reinforce gender equality, some have also perpetuated injustices, marginalization and inequality, and have been exposed to patriarchal ordering and lack of assessment of the consequences of such laws on livelihoods and poverty.
- 3) The challenges and opportunities of economic liberalization and governments’ subscription to international treaties, including those related to land rights which have often prescribed private property rights and were often replicated by countries, have put the rights of commons, including IPs women, at risk.
- 4) There has been increased recognition of the role of women in environmental management, especially in developing countries, shifting the 1980s’ perception of women as victims of environmental degradation to women as environmental managers and stakeholders.



- 5) Often environmental laws deposited in various protocols fail to fully address the link between women and the environment as an economic justice issue mediated by social/political power positioning.

See Annex 5 for background information and key quotes on gender and climate change, and Annex 6 for a paper on Gender, Traditional Knowledge and REDD+ in Africa: The FCPF-CBP Experience, by Sereya Betty Maitoyo of MPIDO.

Key Findings

What are the challenges?

What are the primary issues facing women's participation in REDD+ programs?

The breakout groups facilitated rich discussions and sharing of experiences from across the African sub-continent. In the subsequent plenary sessions, participants grouped the principal challenges under the following five key areas:



1. Cultural Barriers

Participants noted that women faced a double-edge sword when attempting to engage in REDD+ programs in their communities: firstly, they were often discouraged from public speaking or leadership roles due to “traditional” views of women’s capacity and roles within a community; secondly, some women did not have the confidence or adequate capacity or availability to engage in such opportunities when they were presented to them. The question of *who* marginalized *whom* was raised and discussed in depth, and it was noted that aside from men, ethnic, religious, educational and geographical differences could sometimes prevent women from helping one another to become engaged. Impediments on the types of activities women could engage in due to time-scarcity; household responsibilities; and, the requirement to stay close to home, were noted across countries by participants.

2. Capacity Building/Information

Illiteracy and the impediments to formal education for young girls and women was highlighted as a principal barrier to REDD+ engagement. The discrepancy between valuable local/indigenous knowledge of the forest and REDD+ terminology and rhetoric were noted by many participants. Lack of information in local languages, or in a format that was accessible was also seen as a barrier to participation by women especially.

3. Political Will/Government Support

While it was noted that great strides had been taken under REDD+ to engage government with IPs and local communities, it was widely felt that women had been largely excluded from the political process, both in terms of IPs representation and as part of political parties and government allocation of targeted resources. It was noted that in cases where policies integrated gender considerations, they were rarely enforced.

4. Lack of Assets: Food Insecurity and Lack of Land Rights

A general lack of access to key productive and human capital resources was noted, including health facilities, water, financial, natural and agricultural inputs. In particular, land and property rights—be they based in community or individual tenure, were seen as *the crucial issue* preventing women from engaging in REDD+ programs and developing more sustainable livelihood strategies in general. Women faced

challenges particularly when trying to adopt alternative livelihood options, and reach markets for non-forest products, with “middle-men” often capturing the fruits of their productivity.

5. Inadequate Donor Support

The timescale of donor-supported projects was mentioned as a principal challenge: short-term funding for long-term change was noted as an ongoing challenge. Designated funds for REDD+ gender activities that were women-led had also been felt to be lacking in many communities, with funds only trickling down once a project was underway, rather than mainstreamed from the outset/design stage. It was also felt that donors did not always distinguish between different constituencies of women, even within indigenous communities, which meant that projects aimed at women did not always serve their specific needs.

What are the solutions?

What activities and processes could address the key challenges to ensure women’s equal participation in REDD+?

The solutions pooled by the group discussions were in some cases based on experiences that had worked in the past, or, were seen as key levers of change to ensure that women were successfully included in all manners of development projects across sectors, and REDD+ processes and programs. Solutions were also informed by experiences from the Latin America and the Caribbean and the Asia-Pacific regions, shared by the FCPF CBP intermediaries from Belize, Guatemala, the Philippines and Nepal. The following are the main proposed solutions:



1. Cultural Barriers

- Early interventions: sensitize and build skills for young girls, talk about gender, develop understanding of climate change;
- Sensitize men and women on joint decision-making;
- Sensitize traditional leaders (men and women) in the community because they have a significant impact on women’s lives;
- Develop different platforms to address unique cultural barriers;
- Develop programs that encourage behavioral change; and
- Consider the impact of religion on culture and mainstream REDD+ education into religious fora.

2. Capacity Building/Information Dissemination

- Provide training, skills and tools to women;
- Strengthen local level IPOs and CSOs by forming national and international networks, and use information sharing fora (for example, WhatsApp, email lists) to share data and findings;
- Identify and support community champions and provide them with skills, public speaking training and funds to educate others; and

- Promote women role models and mentors.

3. Political Will/Government Support

- Mobilize women's platforms and entities with similar motives to lobby the government;
- Support women candidates to run for office;
- Engage media outlets and media champions from the beginning of all interventions; and
- Advocate policy makers with data, to show how women are discriminated against and the benefits of engaging women.

4. Lack of Assets: Food Insecurity, Lack of Land Rights

- Promote alternative income-generating opportunities for women;
- Promote women-only cooperatives;
- Promote more women-only REDD+ sub-projects;
- Change the legal framework through advocacy: lobby for women's property rights;
- Follow up on inclusive laws that are not being implemented; and
- Link women's property rights to entrepreneurship training.

5. Donor Support

- Lobby for further financial support: scale up projects that work;
- Projects should be gender sensitive in planning, implementation and targeted beneficiaries; and
- Create a fund for women at the national level.

What has already worked?

What practices for gender mainstreaming in REDD+ processes should be replicated?

Participants shared examples from their countries of different types of solutions that had worked, and could be replicated and scaled up:

In overcoming cultural barriers:

- Mobilization of community elders and cultural leaders, including women, to promote change;
- Establishment of women's platforms;
- Working through local organizations which understand the local culture;
- Increasing literacy among women; and
- Making use of women-only meetings where appropriate.

In overcoming capacity and information gaps:

- Use of existing structures for increasing capacity, for reasons of sustainability;
- Collaboration with local NGOs;
- Conducting community sensitization campaigns using local languages;

- Coordination of REDD+ capacity building efforts with the government to ensure continued support;
- Conducting exchange visits to best practice projects;
- Packaging of information in user-friendly ways: pictures, songs, dance, radio talk shows;
- Understanding of the needs/desires of different types of women: leaders, entrepreneurs, young and old, rural and alternative livelihood strategies; and
- Delegation of MPIDO as a learning and a lobbying platform.

In overcoming the issue of lack of assets:

- Promoting forest use rules allowing women to decide when to cut trees or not;
- Introducing new energy technologies to increase women's availability, such as solar and wind;
- Enhancement of entrepreneurial opportunities and branding of products of cultural heritage made by women;
- Promoting cash crops for women; and
- Develop women trade platforms among African countries.

In addressing the issue of insufficient donor support:

- Acknowledgement that each country has its own specific needs, and these are reflected in national strategies.

Country stories in more detail..

Participants from Liberia shared success stories in land titling programs adopted by the government for community land rights. In Ghana, a dedicated gender strategy for REDD+ was developed and a focal point for gender was assigned to follow up on the strategy which has been approved by government.

Participants from Belize and Guatemala shared examples of using local languages and radio programs to ensure that REDD+ messages were communicated effectively to IPs women. In Nigeria, REDD+ capacity building activities were undertaken in the late afternoon and evening when more women were available to participate and benefit.

The Government of Kenya presented a new program (Ushanga Initiative) to promote the cultural heritage of women IPs through bead-making as a new international brand. Participants from Nigeria shared success stories of pilot programs that helped women develop direct market access for cash crops.

Participants from Cameroon noted that a program for boys and girls in early childhood (in school) successfully passed messages about gender equality and contributed to a more equal cultural mindset of boys and girls.

Participants noted that regional IPOs/CSOs such as MPIDO empowered women by giving them opportunities to share insights with IPs women from other countries. Sharing of experiences and pilot projects that had worked across the region was crucial for building momentum behind REDD+ projects focused on women.

List of Annexes

1. Workshop Agenda
2. List of Workshop Participants
3. Recap of the Marketplace on Women-led Initiatives on ERP and REDD+ in Africa
4. Matrix of Key Issues, Solutions and Best Practices
5. Background Information and Quotes on Climate Change and Gender
6. Gender, Traditional Knowledge and REDD+ in Africa: The FCPF-CBP Experience, by Sereya Betty Maitoyo
7. Workshop Feedback

Annex 1: Workshop Agenda

Sunday, 14 th July 2019		
Arrival of Participants		
Monday, 15 th July 2019		
<i>"Building a Plan of Action: How Can we Ensure Women are Part of REDD+ Projects and Activities?"</i>		
TIME	AGENDA ITEM	RESPONSIBILITY
8:00-8:30	Registration	MPIDO
9:00-9:30 (segments of 10 mins)	Welcome and context: Welcoming remarks REDD+/FCPF/ER program/BSP: overview Official opening	Joseph Ole Simel, MPIDO Basiru Isa REPALEAC Kilara Suit, WB Kariako Tobiko, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Kenya
9:30-9:45	Climate change, IPs and women: prospects of global frameworks and strategies for women's participation in REDD+	Asyl Undeland, WB
9:45-10:00	Introduction and presentation of workshop objectives: <i>1. What is the problem? What are the primary issues facing women's participation in REDD+ Projects?</i> <i>2. What is the solution? What activities/processes/funding mechanisms could address the key issues to ensure women's equal participation in REDD+?</i> <i>3. What has already worked? What practices for gender mainstreaming in REDD+ processes should be replicated?</i>	Emily Brearley (EB)/Everlyne Nairesiae (EN)
10:00-10:20	Keynote address: Gender and policy landscape in Africa on women, natural resources and climate change	Prof. Patricia Mbote
10:20-11:00	Pan-African FCPF-CBP and women – a reflection of the past, present and future	MPIDO, PACJA and REPALEAC
11:00-11:30	Tea break and group photo	
11.30-13:00	Breakout Session 1: <i>What are the primary issues facing women's participation in REDD+ Projects?</i>	EB/EN
13:00-14:30	Lunch	
14:30-15:30	Plenary: Report back from groups on the primary issues facing Women in REDD+ Projects	EB/EN
15:30 –16:30	Breakout Session 2: <i>What activities/processes/funding mechanisms could address the key issues to ensure women's equal participation in REDD+?</i>	EB/EN
16:30-17:00	Plenary: Report back from groups on ways to ensure women's equal participation in REDD+	EB/EN
Tuesday, 16th July 2019		

"Contextualizing REDD+ in Africa's realities"		
9:00-9:15	Recap of nascent gender mainstreamed REDD+ matrix: key issues, key action points	EB
9:15-10:15	Panel discussion: Examples of what works: best practices and champions of REDD+ and climate change adaptation initiatives	Facilitated by EB and women champions
10:15-11:00	Breakout session 3: <i>What has already worked? What practices for gender mainstreaming in REDD+ processes should be replicated?</i> <i>Marketplace presentations</i>	EB/EN
11:00 - 11:30	Tea/Coffee Break	
11:30-12:30	Plenary: Report back from groups on best practices	EB/EN
12:30-13:00	Breakout session 4: <i>What do we think of our Matrix thus far?</i>	EB/EN
13:00-14:30	Lunch	
14:30-15:30	Plenary presentations: Report back on the gender mainstreaming in REDD+ plan of action	EB/EN
15:30-16:00	Gender mainstreaming experiences in other regions	Intermediary representatives from Latin America and Asia
16:00-16:30	Finalization of gender mainstreaming REDD+ matrix of issues and actions	EB

Annex 2: List of Workshop Participants

NAME	COUNTRY	ORGANIZATION	EMAIL
Oureratou Ouedraogo	Burkina Faso	Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA) – Burkina Faso	oureourai88@yahoo.fr
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Annex 3: Recap of the Marketplace on Women-led Initiatives on ERP and REDD+ in Africa

The marketplace session featured selected REDD+ capacity building sub-projects financed by the FCPF CBP from 10 countries: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Liberia, Madagascar, Nigeria, Republic of Congo, Sudan and Uganda. Presenters discussed their activities' achievements, challenges and way forward with participants, and answered questions.



The presenters at the marketplace were:

- Oureratou Ouedraogo from Burkina Faso
- Aiseatu Bouba from Cameroon
- Jeanne Irine Koumo from Côte d'Ivoire
- Mesfin Tegenie from Ethiopia
- Nettie Diagor from Liberia
- Lana Razafimanantsoa from Madagascar
- Agatha Agbor from Nigeria
- Carine Nzimba from Republic of Congo
- Khalza Abuzaid from Sudan
- Margaret Lomonyang from Uganda

The presentations are available at http://mpido.org/IP_women.html, and showcase achievements in the areas of awareness raising and capacity building for women and girls on REDD+ and related gender issues, fruitful collaborations with the government, successful development of local bylaws and rules to prevent tree cutting, appointment of women in lead positions and national level REDD+ meetings, active contributions to national gender strategies, engagement with traditional leaders that promoted women participation, effective media engagement, greater awareness of women of their rights, successful mapping exercises, and changes of agricultural practices.

Challenges described include lack of adequate women participation in capacity building activities due to cultural and traditional norms, insufficient communication and leadership skills of women, unavailability of alternative livelihood programs to replace woodcutting, insufficient funding to cover more communities, short duration of projects, illiteracy of participants, and lack of women's access to land.

Participants reported having gained more information and better understanding of existing women-led initiatives at the country level, including capacity development on REDD+, challenges faced in their implementation, innovative ideas and best practices.

Annex 4: Matrix of Key Issues, Solutions and Best Practices

The following is the matrix of key gaps, solutions and best practices for women participation in REDD+ processes, agreed to by the workshop participants.

Matrix of Key issues for women participation in REDD+ decision making, possible solutions and identified best practices		
KEY ISSUES	SOLUTIONS	BEST PRACTICES
CULTURAL BARRIERS PREVENTING WOMEN FROM PARTICIPATING IN DECISION MAKING	Early interventions: sensitize and build skills of young girls, talk about gender, develop understanding of climate change	Mobilization of community elders and cultural leaders, including women, to promote change
	Sensitize men and women together for joint decision-making	Establishment of women's platforms
	Sensitize traditional leaders in the community	Working through local organizations which understand the local culture
	Develop different platforms to address unique cultural barriers	Increase literacy among women
	Develop programs that encourage behavioral change	Make use of women-only meetings where appropriate
	Consider the impact of religion on culture	
LACK OF SUFFICIENT CAPACITY AND INFORMATION TO PARTICIPATE IN DECISION MAKING	Provide training, skills and tools to women	Use of existing structures for increasing capacity, for reasons of sustainability
	Strengthen local NGOs by forming national and international networks, use information sharing fora, Whatsapp, email lists to share data and findings	Collaboration with local NGOs
	Identify and support community champions and provide them with skills, public speaking training and funds to educate others	Conducting community sensitization campaigns using local languages
	Promote women role models and mentors	Coordination of REDD+ capacity building efforts with the government to ensure continued support
		Conducting exchange visits to best practice projects
		Delegation of MPIIDO as a learning and a lobbying platform
		Packaging of information in user-friendly ways: pictures, songs, dance, radio talk shows
	Understanding of the needs/desires of different types of women: leaders, entrepreneurs, young and old, rural and alternative livelihood strategies	
LACK OF SUFFICIENT POLITICAL WILL AND GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR INCLUDING WOMEN IN REDD+ DECISION MAKING	Mobilize women's platforms and entities with similar motives to lobby the government	Promotion of policy reform: community land rights, indigenous land or individual ownership
	Support women candidates to run for office	Mobilization of resources from government agencies
	Engage media from the beginning	Allocation of funds for gender mainstreaming in REDD+
	Advocate policy makers with data, to show how women are discriminated against and the benefits of engaging women	
LACK OF ASSETS, LEADING TO FOOD INSECURITY, LACK OF LAND RIGHTS AND UNAVAILABILITY	Promote alternative income-generating opportunities for women	Promote forest use rules allowing women to decide when to cut trees or not
	Promote women-only coops	Introduce new energy technologies to increase women's availability, such as solar and wind
	Promote women-only REDD+ projects	Enhancement of entrepreneurial opportunities and branding of products of cultural heritage made by women
	Change the legal framework through advocacy: lobby for women's property rights	Promote cash crops for women
	Follow up on good laws that are not being implemented	Develop women trade platforms among African countries
	Link women's property rights to entrepreneurship training	
INSUFFICIENT DONOR SUPPORT FOR GENDER ISSUES	Lobby for further financial support: scale up gender-focused projects that work	Acknowledgement that each country has its own specific needs and these are reflected in national strategies
	Projects should be gender sensitive from the beginning	
	Create a fund for women at the national level	

Annex 5: Background Information and Quotes on Gender and Climate Change

“Countries that do not actively promote the full participation of women in education, politics, and the workforce will struggle more than most when it comes to reducing risk and adapting to climate change.”
Margareta Wahlström, UN Secretary-General (SRSG) for Disaster Risk Reduction

Natural disasters and the impacts of climate change affect women, men, girls, and boys differently due to gender inequalities caused by socioeconomic conditions, cultural beliefs, and traditional practices which have repeatedly put females at a disadvantage.¹ Similarly, coping strategies also differ between men and women, and their participation in prevention, relief, recovery and reconstruction processes.²

Women are typically more vulnerable than men to the effects of natural disasters and climate change. Research shows that in most crisis situations, women and children account for the majority of those affected (e.g., more than 75 percent of those displaced by natural disasters, and typically 70-80 percent of those needing assistance in emergency situations).³ As a result, mortality rates in disasters are higher for women than for men, especially in those countries where women's economic and social rights are constrained. Some studies looking at both women and children have found that they are 14 times more likely than men to die in natural disasters.⁴

Women have critical contributions to make towards disaster and climate risk management. Although women are often excluded in decision making and do not tend to hold positions of visible political leadership in significant numbers, they are nevertheless key to a society's social fabric and hence, its capacity for climate resilience. They shape behaviour and transmit culture and knowledge through kin and social networks, which are critical to risk prevention and response efforts.⁵ Women's leadership and participation in decision making on natural resource management and climate actions, including in CSOs can ensure their participation in more formal processes of climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts.⁶ Women's work matters across the economic spectrum. Women often serve as teachers, nurses

¹ Eric Neumayer and Thomas Plümper, “The Gendered Nature of Natural Disasters: The Impact of Catastrophic Events on the Gender Gap in Life Expectancy, 1981–2002,” *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, vol. 97, issue. 3, 2007, pp. 551–566. Neumayer and Plümper analyzed disasters in 141 countries and found that in countries where women and men enjoyed equal rights, mortality rates for both sexes were equal.

² See for example: Elaine Enarsson, “Promoting Social Justice in Disaster Reconstruction: Guidelines for Gender-Sensitive and Community-Based Planning,” in K.R. Gupta, ed., *Urban Development Debates in the New Millennium* (New Delhi, India: Atlantic Publishers and Distributors, 2005), pp. 25-33, and World Bank, *Gender and Climate Change: Three Things You Should Know*, 2011, p. 7.

³ These figures reflect the typical demographic percentage of populations in developing countries. Chew and Badras, “Caught in the Storm: The Impact of Natural Disasters on Women, Global Fund for Women,” 2005, p. 4, www.globalfundforwomen.org/storage/images/stories/downloads/disaster-report.pdf. Lorena Aguilar, *Climate Change and Disaster Mitigation*, International Union for Conservation of Nature, 2004.

⁴ Ariana Araujo and Andrea Quesada-Aguilar, *Gender Equality and Adaptation*, International Union for Conservation of Nature, 2007, www.gdnonline.org/resources/IUCN_FactsheetAdaptation.pdf; UNDP, *Gender and Disasters*, October 2010. See also: Neumayer and Plümper, op. cit.; Oxfam, *The Tsunami's Impact on Women*, Briefing Note, 2005, <http://www.oxfam.org/en/policy/bn050326-tsunami-women>. However, men may be more likely to engage in risky behavior, owing to prevailing social norms, which may lead to higher male mortality rates, as in was observed in reactions to Hurricane Mitch. See for example: World Bank, “Hurricane Mitch: The gender effects of coping and crises,” *Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Notes*, August 2007, No. 57.

⁵ Brookings 2012. *Brookings Institution: The Year of Recurring Disasters: A Review of Natural Disasters in 2012*: Ferris, Petz, Stark: Chapter 4: *DRM A Gender Sensitive Approach*.

⁶ For example, research has found that women's groups played important roles in at least some peace processes even though women were not officially at the 'negotiating table.' See: Brookings-Bern Project on Internal Displacement, *Addressing Internal Displacement in Peace Processes, Peace Agreements and Peace-Building*, September 2007.

and social workers and as such are well-placed to assess community needs and implement disaster relief and recovery programs.⁷ In rural areas women play a critical role in agricultural and pastoral livelihoods, often bearing significant responsibility for managing productive resources such as land, water, livestock, biodiversity, fodder, fuel, and food. They also contribute work and energy towards income generation and carry out a disproportional amount of daily labour in household and community spheres.”⁸

The challenge lies in translating policy into effective practice. Although several multilateral declarations have underscored the importance of gender integration in climate financing, climate financing funds have systematically neglected gender issues and failed to incorporate a gender perspective into programs and projects. Existing global climate funds assume that climate change interventions will (a) succeed without specific efforts to include women and (b) automatically benefit women. This approach undervalues gender mainstreaming, rather than recognizing it as something essential for adequately addressing climate change. It also neglects the fact that women are also not a homogenous group and the importance of collecting baseline sex-disaggregated data that would permit project design to incorporate the differential climate change activity needs and priorities of women and men.⁹ In terms of climate change negotiations, processes and institutions, the trend is a lack of women's formal participation, despite significant local-level engagement.¹⁰

Climate Change and its Impact on Indigenous Women

Forest-dependent IPs and Local Communities own and manage forest resources and biodiversity in a sustainable manner contributing to the preservation about one-fourth (415 mha) of global forest area. IPs make up more than 370 million people in over 75 countries and, together with other forest-dependent local communities (“Local Communities”), live on at least a quarter of the world's land surface which is home to 17 percent (293,061 million metric tons) of the carbon found in tropical and subtropical forests.¹¹ Livelihoods of these communities, and especially of IP women, their culture, social fabric, spiritual practices, and often identity are based and depend on these lands and associated natural resource. IPs and Local Communities in forest areas have in many cases demonstrated capacity to conserve and protect their natural resources for themselves and future generations, including avoiding substantial deforestation and degradation.

Land used by IPs and Local Communities is managed mostly based on informal, collective and/or customary tenure arrangements, which are often insecure and at risk. While IPs and Local Communities in effect manage large areas of forest land, they have formal legal rights to a small share of land (10 percent) and forest area (14 percent) globally.¹² In many countries the collective rights of IPs have not been legally recognized; or, the formalization of these rights has yet to be achieved, including through documentation or registration in formal legal systems. This makes IPs and Local Communities land vulnerable to acquisition and seizure by governments, or private sector investors, a situation that often leads to the displacement of populations or prevention of IPs and Local Communities from traditional

⁷ Brookings 2012. *Brookings Institution: The Year of Recurring Disasters: A Review of Natural Disasters in 2012*: Ferris, Petz, Stark: Chapter 4: *DRM A Gender Sensitive Approach*.

⁸ Christian Nellemann et al., (eds.), *Women at the Frontline of Climate Change: Gender Risks and Hopes. A Rapid Response Assessment*, United Nations Environment Programme, GRID-Arendal, 2011, p. 29, www.unep.org

⁹ *Governing Climate Funds: What will work for women?* Gender Action, WEDO, Oxfam, Arend and Lowman, 2011.

¹⁰ Christine Haigh and Bernadette Vallely, *Gender and the Climate Change Agenda: The impacts of climate change on women and public policy*, Women's Environmental Network, 2010; Christian Nellemann et al., (eds), *Women at the Frontline of Climate Change: Gender Risks and Hopes. A Rapid Response Assessment*, 2011, pp. 31-33; *Streamlining Climate Change and Gender: Gender Equality*, Climate Caucus, accessed 7 March 2013.

¹¹ RRI, 2018.

¹² *Ibid*.

patterns of using land and forest resources. IP women's land tenure rights are often undefined, a situation that reduces them to mere 'users', rather than owners of land and forest resources. Land governance structures are often male dominated, leaving out women in key decision making around land governance and management.

REDD+ and Gender from the AU's Perspective

"No society can reach its full potential, unless it empowers women and youth and removes all obstacles to women's full participation in all areas of human endeavours. Africa must provide an enabling environment for its women, children and young people to flourish and reach their full potential."

African Union: Agenda 2063

There have been many landmark global agreements that African member States have committed themselves to, in order to secure and protect women's human rights. These include the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and; the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPfA) adopted by member States at the 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women. These protocols set forth various governments' commitment to advancing women's rights. In addition, the UN Security Council resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (2000) recognised that war and conflicts affect women differently, and reaffirmed women's rights to participate in decision-making regarding conflict prevention and resolution.

African member states have adopted Africa-specific agreements to accelerate the enforcement of women's rights. Among those are the African Charter on Human Rights—otherwise known as the Maputo Protocol; and, the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA). In the Solemn Declaration states express concern for "*women's exclusion from politics and decision making*" and recognize that "*low levels of women's representation in social, economic and political decision-making structures and feminization of poverty impact negatively on women's ability to derive full benefit from the economies of their countries and the democratization process.*" Countries agreed to expand and promote the gender parity principle to the national and local levels in collaboration with political parties and National parliaments."

AU member states adopted 2010-2020 as the Women's Decade. African leaders also declared 2015 as the "Year of African Women's Empowerment towards Agenda 2063". Achieving gender equality and women's empowerment is therefore recognized as a critical success factor for realising Agenda 2063. Women's rights have also been well spelled out as one of the key underlying principles of Agenda 2030 for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Thus, both Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030 reinforce the powerful linkage between women's rights, gender equality and inclusive and sustainable development.

The African Union Women, Gender and Development Division (WGDD), drafted a 10-year Gender Strategy, which will run through 2018 – 2027. The strategy for gender equality and women's empowerment was adopted by the Executive Council in July 2018. This strategy is the organization's roadmap to meeting its commitments to gender equality and women's empowerment. Another crucial initiative is the Gender Scorecard—developed by The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in 2015. The Scorecard is a simple yet comprehensive tool whose main goal is to provide the AUC and its member States a tool for implementation, monitoring and accountability in achieving the key objectives of Agenda 2063 from a gender perspective.

Annex 6: Gender, Traditional Knowledge and REDD+ in Africa: The FCPF-CBP Experience, by Sereya Betty Maitoyo¹³

i. Introduction

The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility Capacity Building Project's objective is to strengthen the knowledge of targeted forest depended IPS in REDD+ readiness at national level and knowledge exchange at regional level.

Indigenous women participation and representation in the REDD+ readiness process is an important aspect of this project. It is important to understand the roles played by both men and women in Indigenous communities, and mainstream gender by ensuring that women are at the center of the decision-making process in the design, implementation, and in benefit sharing of REDD+ programs.

Climate change has adverse effects on indigenous women's social and economic environment. As they perform their roles, they tend to use up more time due to the change in their environment. They are thus left with little or no time to perform economically viable activities that could help secure household level livelihoods. These women have a lot of knowledge on their land as they work and walk on it every day, and they would have great solutions for their communities when and if disaster strikes.

Indigenous traditional knowledge is an age-old mechanism that has been used by indigenous people as a survival tool in their day to day lives. Most indigenous peoples are disadvantaged when it comes to access to social amenities which include education, health care, infrastructure, water and sanitation. Their traditional knowledge involves everything from mastering weather patterns, identifying and using plants for ceremonies and illnesses, conserving pasture and water for livestock for drier seasons and conserving forests.

Climate change has impacted negatively on traditional knowledge, and indigenous women have learned to adapt in different ways, due to the change in their environment and livelihoods.

These women are twice marginalized, first as women, and then as part of indigenous peoples. They play an important role in conserving forests and although they contribute very little in destruction, they are highly affected by the effects of climate change. They are also, in most cases, left out in the decision-making processes which involve natural resource management because they do not own or control land. In Indigenous communities, women own land either through their fathers or their husbands. They in most cases are free to use land, with permission from the men, but they cannot make decisions on how it is managed. With the current trends of subdivision and privatization of land ownership in some countries, indigenous women are the biggest losers.

ii. Experiences

Indigenous women are the custodians of indigenous traditional knowledge. Women use medicinal plants from the forest for different ailments for children. In Liberia for example, women get specific plants which they boil and use for stomach upset for children and pregnant mothers. They also use these plants for spices for their tea and food. They can tell when these plants are no longer available within safe distances

¹³ Ms. Maitoyo is a gender, research and development specialist, hired by MPIDO as a gender specialist for the FCPF CBP project. This paper is a deliverable of the project.

from home, indicating that there is forest destruction and degradation. Women in Lake Piso Mountain Reserve in Cape Mount County say that they now have to walk longer distances in order to access these plants which were in the past readily available near their homes. This shows that there is change in forest use and loss in biodiversity.

This same community says that it has had to change their farming methods. In the past, the men cleared forests and made farming fields which they used severally with good yields. These fields are no longer as productive, and they have had to clear more forests in order to get yields which can feed their families. This meant more destruction of more forested areas to get the same amount of food that smaller portions yielded in the past. The community members feel that climate change has affected the soil quality and regeneration of plants in these forests.

Apart from farming, this community also depends on fishing. They say that the number of fishes has reduced over time. They now have to go longer distances to get fish and the fish sizes has also reduced. This is because the breeding places for fish has continued to be deteriorate due to climate change. The mangrove trees which are used for drying fish have reduced drastically. They are now aware that the fish actually use the mangrove shade and roots to breed. This has changed both the way they do fishing and how they use the mangrove trees. There is a slogan now within these forest dependent communities in Liberia which says, “eat some, leave some with proper sustainable management of our forests.”

In Cameroon, the Mbororo women are mainly pastoralists. They depend on livestock and livestock products for food at household level. They also sell milk when it is in surplus. These women are also the wood fuel collectors, fetch water from nearby rivers and milk the cattle. They can tell when they have to walk longer distances to collect firewood and when the rivers are drier, and the water is not clean. They can also tell when rainfall patterns have changed since the pasture for livestock is no longer lush, and milk production is low. Since they are the caretakers of children, they know when the children suffer waterborne diseases that the water is not only reduced, but also not clean. Additionally, they get medicinal plants for these ailments in the forests. They now have to walk longer distances for the medicinal plants. These means that there is destruction of biodiversity resulting from climate change.

Mbororo women are also small-scale farmers. They are now practicing climate smart agriculture where they have small kitchen gardens to supplement their dwindling livestock products supply. They are also using alternative products to make yoghurt for sale, to supplement household level income. They use the same knowledge of fermentation that they use traditionally to make the yoghurt.

In the Kordofan region of Sudan, women have organized themselves into small groups in their villages, where they use their indigenous knowledge in harvesting and storage of gum Arabic. As a way of adapting to the adverse effects of climate change, they now sell the product to supplement household income. This is aimed at reducing women's household poverty.

iii. The future

There is a need to not only recognize indigenous traditional knowledge, but also to record it and appreciate the role that indigenous women play in preserving and using it to mitigate disasters in their communities.

However, it is also important to be aware that Indigenous women do not own land, and, in most cases, they are not involved in natural resource management decisions. These are issues which need to be

addressed at policy levels, to ensure that women get an equal share of benefits from natural resources in their communities.

Indigenous women must be involved not only in climate action policy formulation, but also in the design and implementation of and benefit sharing in REDD+ programs, as they contribute a great deal in contributing ideas for household level food security, predicting climate change related threats and access and use of renewable energy.

As decision makers at home and custodians of indigenous knowledge, indigenous women cannot be ignored. It is important to harness their skills and knowledge in building a sustainable future with regards to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Annex 7: Workshop Feedback

The following table presents feedback received from the participants on their level of satisfaction from the workshop's knowledge exchange events, new knowledge and skills attained, the usefulness of the information, changes in the level of understanding of the subject matter, usefulness of the workshop in establishing connections, and willingness to participate in similar events. 33 participants participated in the feedback survey, which was presented in both English and French, and rated their level of satisfaction on a scale of 1 to 5, whereas 5 represents strong agreement, 4 represents agreement, 3 represents lack of agreement or disagreement, 2 represents disagreement and 1 represents strong disagreement. The total averages of all the questions ranged between 4 and 5, indicating an overall high level of satisfaction from the workshop.

	The Knowledge Exchange has met my expectations	I have acquired new knowledge or skills	I will use what I learned in my work	I better understand the key reasons for the low participation of women in REDD+ related decision-making and the needed actions to address this	I have established new connection /networks that I will maintain	The knowledge I gained will be useful to share with my colleagues in my country/org anization	I would participate again in similar knowledge exchange events
Total Average	4.5	4.30	4.56	4.34	4.18	4.70	4.67

Workshop participants were also given an opportunity to provide detailed feedback on the strong and weak aspects of the workshop, with participants expressing particular satisfaction from the marketplace segment, and the innovative format for breakout discussions which informed a practical matrix of challenges and solutions discussed and agreed upon. One participant noted that *“The strongest parts of the sessions were the group work to brainstorm during the breakout sessions, and the panel discussions”*. Participants also noted that they would have liked to have more time to discuss each question, as well as an opportunity to learn new skills to take back to their communities, such as presentation skills and public speaking. Participants would also have liked to have more indigenous women from sub-grantee communities present at the meeting. One participant wrote *“Time management. As usual we have so much to say and so little time!”*