

African Development Bank Pavilion at COP26

Side event concept note template

Technical Discussion

Gender and Climate Change Adaptation on the Africa Continent: ramp-up and innovations

Organisers

The African Development Bank (AfDB), The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the African Union Commission (AUC) and the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) collaborate to showcase a joint side-event for advancing gender equality among climate change adaptation actions on the African continent. The session will gather stakeholders highly specialized in the gender and adaptation nexus at the technical and political levels for strengthening more inclusive and greener activities in Africa.

Background and Context

There is a causal interrelationship between climate change adaptation and gender as gender inequalities lead women to face larger negative impacts of climate change, and because climate change adaptation tends to exacerbate existing gender inequalities. This side-event proposes to consider women are important agents of change by ensuring that their unique knowledge lead to effectiveness and sustainability of adaptation responses to climate change.

AfDB, UNFPA, AUC and EBRD will showcase their respective outcomes in the gender and climate adaptation workstream. These institutions will present: (i) how integrating gender considerations into medium- and long-term adaptation can help to ensure that inclusive adaptation is effective and implementable on the ground ; (ii) and how making sure that the implementation of adaptation activities will not exacerbate inequalities and other vulnerabilities through the equal participation of men and women in the decision-making and implementation phases of the adaptation activities.

Objectives of the event

The objective of the event is to present women as active agents of change at different levels of the adaptation process in climate actions.

The AfDB will present the conclusions and recommendations of gender-responsive case studies in the agriculture sector as well as related to the identification of gender and climate hotspots in Africa. UNFPA will launch its study on Integrating SRHR into National Climate Policies which reviews how gender, SRHR, and human rights considerations for the most vulnerable are reflected in the NDCs. The AUC through the African Risk Capacity (ARC) will take the opportunity of this session to present its Gender and Disaster Risk Management platform. EBRD plans to showcase a specific case study on supporting the private sector in promoting gender equality in their Flagship Green Cities Program.

Draft Programme – Tuesday 9th November - 90 mins – 11:00-12:30 GMT+1

Moderator: Sophie Mbugua, journalist for Africa Climate Conversation

Segment 1: Welcome remarks by the moderator & introduction of speakers

Segment 2: Opening remarks – Dr Bannet Ndyabangi, Regional representative UNFPA and Dr Beth Dunford, Vice President for Agriculture, Human and Social Development at AfDB

Segment 3: Cross sectoral overview of the bottlenecks and challenges of mainstreaming gender in climate adaptation action by Dr Amel Hamza, Manager of the gender and women empowerment division at the AfDB from the AfDB, Dr Angela Baschieri from UNFPA, Nina Kolybashkina, Senior Social Development Specialist at Climate Investment Funds, Dr Christiana George, Gender Advisor at ARC/AUC, Oksana Pak, Head of the Access to Finance and Entrepreneurship Pillar within the Gender and Economic Inclusion at EBRD and Brenda Mwale, Programme Officer Green Girls Platform and 2019 Obama Leader

Reflections from the moderator

Segment 4: Cross sectoral overview of opportunities provided by considering women as agents of change at different levels of the adaptation process in climate actions.

Reflections from the moderator

Segment 5: Feedback and Q & A from the audience and delegates

Segment 6: Consolidated thoughts on how to achieve more inclusive as well as greener activities on the African continent by the moderator or keynote speaker

Segment 7: Final reflections, thanks and closing by the moderator

Key messages

- Women are active agents of change at different levels of the adaptation process in climate actions;
- Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights consideration and mainstreaming are pivotal to empowering women and girls in the climate change adaptation area
- Highlighting the importance of addressing the disproportionate impacts of weather-related and other natural disasters on vulnerable populations which have resulted in devastating toll on lives and livelihoods.
- How moving towards greater gender equality will help the world go green

Links to background documentation:

[Gender and Climate Change Vulnerability Hotspots in Africa Webinar \(cgjar.org\)](https://www.cgjar.org/)

[UNFPA ESARO | Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in National Climate Policy](#)

[The African Union and the African Risk Capacity Group launch the Gender and Disaster Risk Management Platform – African Risk Capacity](#)

<https://www.ebrdgreencities.com/news-events-and-publications/women-leading-on-green-a-female-perspective-on-sustainable-planning/>

Contact event organisers:

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Run of Show

Segments	Overview Session plan with Invited Speakers	Total Time 90 minutes
1	Session Opening Moderator- Sophie Mbugua , Journalist for Africa Climate Conversation (in-person) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moderator welcomes speakers• Introduces session title and says a few words on the issue	5 mins
2.	Opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Bannet Ndyabangi, Regional Director UNFPA Eastern and Southern Africa Region (online)	10 mins

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Beth Dunford, Vice President of Agriculture, Human and Social Development at African Development Bank (in-person) 	
3.	<p>Panel Session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Amel Hamza, Manager of the gender and women empowerment division at the AfDB (online) <p>Guiding questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the challenges you have faced in mainstreaming gender into climate adaptation? 2. What are the opportunities or interventions that AfDB is providing in engaging women as change agents in climate adaptation? Are there examples you can highlight? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Angela Baschieri, Population Policy Dynamics Advisor & Lead of UNFPA Climate Change Work Stream (in-person) <p>Guiding questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How can adaptation responses be gender-sensitive and how can COP 26 help address this? 2. You published a review of the first NDC using gender and SRHR considerations, what opportunities do your findings recommend for integrating gender into national climate policies? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nina Kolybashkina, Senior Social Development Specialist at Climate Investment Funds (online) <p>Guiding questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How does the CIF (Climate Investment Funds) work to make the climate institutional framework more inclusive? 2. The CIF is launching new programs, how will they contribute to economically empower women and address gendered cultural norms that limits and harm women in the climate change area? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Christiana George, Gender Advisor at ARC/AUC (online) <p>Guiding questions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How are you mainstreaming gender-sensitive approaches in Africa's common position at climate negotiations? 2. How is the African Union creating opportunities to address this gap on gender adaptation responses of its member 	48 mins (8 min per panelist)

	<p>states, especially at COP 26?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oksana Pak, Head of the Access to Finance and Entrepreneurship Pillar within the G&EI team at EBRD (in-person) <p>Guiding questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Across your work, what are the bottlenecks inhibiting gender mainstreaming into climate adaptation? 2. How is your bank working to ensure that women have access to financing opportunities that can help improve their adaptation to climate impacts? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brenda Mwale, Programme Officer Green Girls Platform and 2019 Obama Leader (online) <p>Guiding questions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How is climate change impacting the resilience of young girls in your community? 2. What kind of support do young people need to champion locally-led adaptation to respond to climate impacts? 	
4.	Q & A	22 mins
5.	Closing remarks by Moderator (Takeaways from panel sessions)	5 mins