

## KEY MESSAGES

- Women are key agents of change, whose equitable and meaningful involvement in REDD+ can help to break down gender barriers and unjust “business-as-usual” practice and make REDD+ more effective and successful.
- Ensuring that women’s perspectives are integrated into REDD+ actions can enable a more accurate analysis of the problem of forest loss: who is driving deforestation, where and how it is being driven and what underlying factors are at play. In addition, women can help to identify solutions.
- To catalyse and promote a more integrated approach to gender, it has been placed as a crucial cross-cutting theme within UN-REDD Programme’s strategic, monitoring and reporting frameworks.
- Using its gender marker rating system, progress on gender is monitored in the UN-REDD Programme and opportunities for gender action are identified to ensure that its work brings positive change equitably to both women and men.
- Gender equality and women’s empowerment continue to influence, shape and drive collective climate and human development efforts across the globe, including in REDD+ action.

# INFO BRIEF

---

# GLOBAL

## GENDER AND REDD+: PROMOTING TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE AND INNOVATION IN REDD+ ACTION



## INTRODUCTION

The loss of natural forests through deforestation and forest degradation is now estimated to account for about one quarter of total global greenhouse gas emissions ([IPCC, 2014, "Climate Change."](#)). Forests not only serve as an essential carbon reserve, they also provide livelihoods, subsistence and income for more than 1.6 billion of the global poor. Those who rely on forests for their livelihoods are among the poorest people on the planet, and they are disproportionately women. As the pivotal functions of forests are gravely threatened by deforestation and forest degradation, women disproportionately suffer the repercussions of both disappearing forests and climate change.

Women's and men's specific roles, rights and responsibilities, as well as their particular use patterns and knowledge of forests, shape their experiences differently. As such, gender-differentiated needs, uses and knowledge of the forest are critical inputs to policy and programmatic interventions that will enable the long-term success of REDD+ actions on the ground ([UN-REDD Programme, 2011, "The business case for mainstreaming gender in REDD+."](#)). Although women hold a wealth of knowledge of forest systems and have deep relationships with them, making them perfectly placed to be important actors for positive action, they often remain under-valued agents in addressing forest loss. Various social, economic and cultural inequalities and legal impediments, particularly within the forest sector, limit the ability of women (and often of other marginalized groups, including indigenous people, the poor, young people and the disabled) to fully participate in, contribute to and benefit from REDD+ initiatives ([Setyowati, A. \(n.d.\). "Policy brief: How bringing gender perspectives into REDD+ policies could enhance effectiveness and empowerment."](#)) It is therefore crucial that deliberate and meaningful efforts be taken to ensure that REDD+ action is inclusive, fair and gender-responsive, both in policy and in practice.

## THE GENDER APPROACH IN THE UN-REDD PROGRAMME

Witnessing this reality and acknowledging the crucial role of gender in sustainable development, active steps have been taken within the UN-REDD Programme to systematically promote gender equality and a human rights-based approach in its work since it was launched in 2008.

The concept of gender support within the Programme has evolved and grown over time through the use of a "learning by doing" approach. Through experience across regions, it has been found most effective to integrate gender equality and women's empowerment as both stand-alone and cross-cutting interventions across the Programme's thematic areas and within its technical support at the local, national, regional and global levels. In that process, a major lesson that has been learned, and which now serves as a key best practice, is the need to ensure that gender support and guidance is [developed and validated using a bottom-up approach](#). Specific emphasis has been placed on promoting the active and equitable involvement of local and indigenous women, in order to have their knowledge inform national REDD+ action.

In these efforts, emphasis is placed on going beyond gender-sensitive action, such as recognizing and doing no harm, to achieve a gender-responsive approach of doing better and changing the course of actions to advance gender equality and women's empowerment, thereby promoting more sustainable REDD+ processes and outcomes. In other words, steps are taken to help to advance gender equality and women's empowerment, change gender norms and achieve gender-equitable outcomes. (See box 1 for an expanded definition of gender terms and the [UN-REDD Methodological Brief on Gender](#) for more detailed information on the Programme's gender approach.)

Over the years, assistance under the Programme has ranged from undertaking gender-responsive analyses and conducting awareness-raising and capacity-building on gender to promoting gender-responsive participation, monitoring and reporting. The Programme is also committed to sharing information on gender and REDD+ with

## BOX 1. KEY GENDER-RELATED TERMS

**Women's empowerment:** The ability and agency of every woman to shape her own destiny, exercise her rights and make her own choices. Women's empowerment has five components: women's sense of self-worth; the right to have choices and to determine them; the right to have access to opportunities and resources; the right to have the power to control their own lives, both within and outside the home; and the ability to influence the direction of social change to create a more just social and economic order, nationally and internationally.<sup>1</sup>

**Gender mainstreaming (also referred to as "integrating a gender perspective and/or approach"):** The process of assessing and integrating the implications for women and men of any planned action, as well as the inclusion of specific provisions for gender equality, including in legislation, policies and programmes. Gender mainstreaming is a systematic approach for ensuring that the concerns and experiences of women and men are an integral part of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal of gender mainstreaming is to achieve gender equality.<sup>2</sup> The degree of gender mainstreaming within an action can vary (see the definitions of "gender-sensitive" and "gender-responsive" below).

**Gender-sensitive:** Within a gender-sensitive approach, there is understanding and consideration, in attempts to redress existing gender inequalities, of the sociocultural factors underlying gender-based discrimination. In practice, gender sensitivity entails differentiating between the capacities, needs and priorities of women and men; ensuring that the views and ideas of both women and men are taken seriously; considering the implications of decisions on the situation of women relative to men; and taking action to address inequalities or imbalances between women and men. In practice, using a gender-sensitive approach has come to mean 'do no harm'.<sup>3</sup>

**Gender-responsive:** Within a gender-responsive approach, actions taken to address gender gaps and overcome historical gender biases in policies and interventions are proactively identified, understood, and implemented. In practice, using a gender-responsive approach entails attempting to redefine women's and men's gender roles and relations and proactively and intentionally contributing to the advancement of gender equality. More than 'doing no harm', a gender-responsive policy, programme, plan or project aims to 'do better'.<sup>4</sup>

### Sources

- 1 European Institute for Gender Equality. Glossary. "Empowerment of Women", available at: <https://eige.europa.eu/thesaurus/terms/1102>
- 2 United Nations Economic and Social Council Agreed Conclusions, 1997/2, available at: <http://bit.ly/1TiO3kU>.
- 3 Adapted from UN Women's Glossary of terms, available at: <http://bit.ly/1TINHkZ>; Aguilar, L., Granat, M., & Owren, C. (2015). *Roots for the future: The landscape and way forward on gender and climate change*. Washington, D.C.: International Union for Conservation of Nature and Global Gender and Climate Alliance, available at <http://bit.ly/1mC1b9b>; and REDD+ Social & Environmental Standards and Women's Environment and Development Organization (2013), "From research to action, leaf by leaf: Getting gender right in the REDD+ Social and Environmental Standards", Booklet 1, available at <http://bit.ly/214xPv0>.
- 4 Adapted from UN Women's Glossary of terms, op. cit., and Aguilar, L., Granat, M., & Owren, C., op. cit.



development practitioners and partner countries, as demonstrated through its [Business Case for Mainstreaming Gender in REDD+](#) (2011), [Guidance Note on Gender Sensitive REDD+](#) (2013) and [Methodological Brief on Gender](#) (2017).

In addition, a [gender marker rating system](#) has been introduced for UN-REDD's 2018–2020 technical assistance programme, which measures annually how and to what degree its outputs contribute to achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women. Such a system helps to more comprehensively track and monitor gender responsiveness in Programme actions and in global knowledge management to support countries.

## BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS: KEY ENTRY POINTS TO MAINSTREAMING GENDER IN REDD+

Although countries, jurisdictions and projects are increasingly planning activities, conducting baseline assessments and allocating funding in their efforts under the REDD+ mechanism to ensure the explicit inclusion of gender and/or women's empowerment issues, gender gaps remain. As these actors move forward in designing and implementing REDD+ actions, it has become clear that there is a continued and pressing need to better integrate gender-responsive activities in a more cohesive and systematic way throughout REDD+.

In response, and based on its own good practices and lessons learned, actions are being taken under the Programme to proactively seek out areas for improvement and work to address gaps across five work streams, as described below. To illustrate the ways in which those streams can be implemented, a brief description, suggested activities and examples of good practices for each stream are also listed. (Please refer to the [UN-REDD Methodological Brief on Gender](#) for more detailed information on the Programme's work streams and additional case study examples.)

### Stream 1: Gender-responsive analyses

REDD+ assessments can be designed to be gender-sensitive or, ideally, gender-responsive – the latter providing richer insights and elements for increasing their effectiveness, inclusiveness and sustainability. In practice, that could involve, inter alia, ensuring that the methodology applied to the assessment integrates gender considerations; reviewing documents and policies on gender during the literature review; and incorporating any gender dynamics into the assessment report and its findings. In addition, gender-specific analyses can be conducted as a parallel exercise. Both types of reports can help to establish a gender baseline and identify areas for improvement in REDD+ policies and programmes and areas where gender equality and women's empowerment can be promoted. Such analyses (either as a separate exercise or as part of another assessment) provide information on the different social, economic and political conditions that are faced by both women and men (and by girls, boys and young people, as applicable) in a specific context, as well as helping to identify potential opportunities, barriers and risks associated with REDD+ processes.

### Examples

As an example, a gender analysis was conducted in Colombia in 2019 in the context of REDD+. Building on previous gender work supported by UN-REDD and on stakeholder engagement efforts with women and men from indigenous, Afro-Colombian and peasant organizations and communities, the analysis, [Forest and Gender in Preparation for REDD+ \(available in Spanish only\)](#), demonstrates how a gender perspective can be integrated into national REDD+ action. It highlights the relevance of gender in the context of climate change, forests and REDD+, analyses the role of rural women and changes in land use, illustrates how gender considerations have been integrated into the national REDD+ strategy and presents a series of lessons learned and recommendations for integrating gender into REDD+ implementation.

Similarly, in Nigeria, with the goal of acknowledging, recognizing and documenting women's critical efforts in the sustainable management of forests, an [Information Note](#)

[on Gender and Forests](#) was drafted in 2017. It specifically aimed to address the problem of the slow disappearance of women's indigenous knowledge systems, owing to the changing needs and interests of indigenous peoples, and to address the lack of effort to advocate for the recognition of that knowledge. With a focus on Cross River State, the information note highlights women's use of indigenous knowledge systems to address climate change and its effect on communities, and discusses the vital role women play in forest conservation.

Work under the stream can also involve integrating a gender perspective into other assessments undertaken for REDD+. The [REDD+ Guidelines for Stakeholder Engagement in Myanmar](#) provide a good example of how gender can be fully mainstreamed within a non-gender-specific REDD+ analysis. Gender is taken into account in the background and rationale discussion, the 8-step process for effective stakeholder engagement, the monitoring and evaluation tips and in various tools provided in the annexes.

### Stream 2: Awareness-raising and capacity-building focused on gender

Gender mainstreaming relies heavily on stakeholders having a proper understanding and knowledge of the concepts related to gender equality and women's empowerment. Awareness-raising and capacity-building on gender-related topics among staff and stakeholders is therefore crucial to help ensure that gender is effectively mainstreamed. Such efforts range from including training discussions on the need for and benefits of gender-responsive REDD+ processes and addressing misperceptions concerning gender issues to building capacity on how to integrate gender considerations into REDD+ actions. Capacity-building may take the form of specific training on gender approaches, engaging gender specialists in technical work and including gender elements in the tools developed for REDD+ actors. Through these activities, both country stakeholders (including Governments, civil society, indigenous peoples, local communities and the private sector) and staff can gain a better understanding of what a gender approach is and knowledge of how best to integrate gender within their respective REDD+ work areas.

### Examples

With the objective of raising awareness and building capacities on gender, under the Programme and in collaboration with the Government of Cambodia, gender and REDD+ training was conducted in November 2014 with the National REDD+ Gender Group to help to inform its work, enhance its effectiveness and provide awareness-raising activities on the intersection between gender, women's empowerment and REDD+. The capacity-building session for the REDD+ Gender Group focused on how to integrate gender-responsive REDD+ action within the proposed chapters of the forthcoming National REDD+ Strategy; and on how to develop awareness-raising and training tools to communicate the importance of integrating gender into REDD+ actions and provide guidance on the process to the members of the REDD+ Taskforce, Consultation Group and Technical Teams. The training provided a supportive framework for the REDD+ Gender Group to effectively fulfil its functions and to develop key messages and material to raise awareness on the importance of integrating gender and women's empowerment into REDD+ actions, as well as explaining how to do so (see Case study 1 in annex 3 of the [UN-REDD Methodological Brief on Gender](#) for additional information on this work).

Similarly, various steps have been taken by UN-REDD to build staff capacity with regard to gender and REDD+. For example, in late 2018 and early 2019, within the Programme, [two in-person training sessions and two webinars were conducted](#). Those efforts focused on a range of topics, including building staff capacity to use the new [UN-REDD gender marker rating system](#), and on broader themes, such as how to integrate gender within REDD+ support, how to establish the corresponding indicators and targets and conduct yearly monitoring and reporting, and how such actions contribute to achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women. The training helped to build staff awareness and improve confidence with regard to gender, including in developing gender-specific actions within Programme initiatives. Such efforts, along with ongoing tailored advisory support, help to ensure that UN-REDD staff remain actively dedicated to implementing a range of actions to fully integrate gender into the Programme.



### Stream 3: Gender-responsive participation

Ensuring that REDD+ workshops, training, and participation and decision-making structures equitably involve women and men and equitably take their perspectives into account is part of a socially inclusive policy process. Given that women constitute approximately half of society, institutions and processes should reflect that percentage and be composed of women and men in equal proportions. However, women often face socioeconomic, social, cultural and political barriers in many developing countries, and explicit and deliberate action therefore needs to be taken to ensure that both women and men are equitably, actively and meaningfully involved.<sup>1</sup> Undertaking such activities with gender-responsive participation can inform effective and efficient REDD+ processes by more accurately taking into account the specific knowledge, distinct needs, perspectives and contributions of women and men from various groups. Such efforts can also increase the likelihood of widespread support, ownership and sustainability in REDD+ processes.

#### Example

An excellent and illustrative example of promoting gender-responsive participation can be seen in the work undertaken in Panama under the Joint National Programme between the UN-REDD Programme and the Ministry of Environment through its '[active listening](#)' process. The process was established to help ensure that the voices and views of indigenous people would be heard directly and taken into account in the participatory process for the construction of the National REDD+ Strategy. Although the strategy was designed with the goal of ensuring the equal participation of women and men as much as possible throughout its implementation, the specific and important role of women in the conservation, management and sustainable use of land and natural resources was stressed during implementation. That result led to the creation of a new, fifth channel of the active

<sup>1</sup> In line with the target endorsed by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, it is widely held that women should make up at least 30 per cent of the members of any decision-making body, committee, consultation process, workshop or other group. United Nations, 1995, Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, Fourth World Conference on Women. Available at <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/pdf/BDPfA%20E.pdf>.

listening process that was specifically focused on meaningfully engaging women from indigenous, Afro-descendant and rural communities within the national REDD+ strategy consultation process.

Over the course of two 2-day workshops, various good practices were utilized in design and implementation, which in turn encouraged active participation by women and provided a safe space for them to share their views. These included the following:

- Before the workshops, meetings were arranged with leaders and members of indigenous, Afro-descendant and rural organizations to agree on the methodologies to be used.
- Workshops were held in geographically diverse areas and at separate ends of the country to help to ensure that women participants adequately represented indigenous, Afro-descendant and rural communities at the grassroots level.
- The methodology was centred on listening, with participants taking an active role as the owners of the workshop; the organizers, in contrast, took a more passive role and helped to guide the discussions.

The [women's channel](#) gave women a space to interact, share their views on what measures were a priority for them, and contribute to the national 'active listening' process on REDD+. The feedback and results obtained from women informed the National REDD+ Strategy, including its methodology for promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women.<sup>2</sup>

### Stream 4: Gender-responsive planning and monitoring

Developing gender-responsive planning and monitoring measures, including within reporting frameworks and budgets, can help to assess whether women and men (and girls, boys and young people, when applicable) are benefiting from REDD+ processes and can help to ensure that adequate financial resources are available for gender-related activities. Gender-responsive reporting, monitoring and budgeting are

<sup>2</sup> A summary video of the work of the women's channel is available in both [Spanish](#) and [English](#).

accountability tools that help to reinforce and promote the full consideration of gender in REDD+ planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

### Examples

Under the Community-Based REDD+ partnership between the UN-REDD Programme and the Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme, all six country plans ([Cambodia](#), [Democratic Republic of the Congo](#), [Nigeria](#), [Panama](#), [Paraguay](#) and [Sri Lanka](#)) included gender considerations within their monitoring frameworks, with targets and/or indicators related to women's participation and/or gender equality. Noteworthy within those frameworks was the attention paid by Nigeria to subgroups within already marginalized groups. For example, in its country plan, it highlighted young and unmarried women as the most marginalized, as they fitted into neither the youth category nor the women's category, often dominated by married women. They provide a large labour force and represent a major forest resource user group, although their identity as a category is unrecognized and they lack a voice. The country plan was drafted to ensure that various impact indicators explicitly noted the involvement of and need for collecting data on the role and involvement of unmarried women.

On a more programmatic level, in 2017, active steps were taken to develop a more holistic, systematic and comparable approach to measuring the ways in which gender is being integrated into the support provided by the Programme. Adapted from the gender marker point scale and rating systems of the three UN-REDD agencies, a three-point rating scale was created to track and monitor the gender responsiveness of the 2018–2020 technical assistance programme. Under the [gender marker rating system](#), as noted above, each of the outputs of the technical assistance programme receives a gender marker rating to establish how and to what degree they advance or contribute to achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women. The ratings, based on a set of four criteria, are assigned annually and can change from one year to the next. It is envisioned that by identifying good practices and areas for improvement through the monitoring process,



the gender responsiveness of the UN-REDD Programme will improve over time, with the target of having 50 per cent of its 2018–2020 technical assistance outputs being gender-responsive by the end of 2020.

## BOX 2. IMPLICATIONS OF COVID-19 FOR GENDER AND REDD+ EFFORTS

Experience in both developed and developing countries has illustrated that coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is putting pressure on societies that already have gender inequalities, and exacerbating those inequalities. Gains made in gender equality over recent decades in those countries are now at risk of being rolled back. Women, whose employment is predominantly informal and part-time, bear the brunt of such impacts and risk losing their jobs and/or returning to the labour force at lower wages. Without a careful and constructive response, this fragile situation may lead to significant negative consequences for forests.

Pressure on forest resources is likely to continue to rise, as livelihoods become compromised and threatened. For example, gains made in the sustainable use of forest resources (such as sustainable fuelwood and charcoal production) will be threatened as livelihoods based on legal activities are sacrificed in favour of quick economic gains. As such, to truly support building back better, COVID-19 response efforts need to ensure that forests are sustainably managed and conserved, while equitably improving the livelihoods of women, men and young people and upholding the rights of all marginalized groups.

Desirable COVID-19 response efforts that promote gender equality and social inclusion will be aligned with the kinds of actions that the UN-REDD Programme undertakes. UN-REDD actions that support the conservation and sustainable management of forests also promote the equitable improvement of the livelihoods of both women and men, as illustrated below in Section V. Hastily developed responses to COVID-19 have shown that many policies and actions fail to take people into account, in particular the marginalized. The UN-REDD Programme emphasizes the full integration of a gender-responsive and socially inclusive approach in its assistance to partner countries, whether in forest protection policies or in support for zero-deforestation supply chains.

Relief efforts also need to be relevant and connected to the on-the-ground realities being faced by marginalized groups, such as indigenous peoples, local communities, women and young people. In that process, the UN-REDD Programme is also working to promote the validation of such efforts by those who will be most affected by them. People suffering the negative impacts of COVID-19 are also the best placed to know what they need to overcome such barriers.





### Stream 5: Knowledge management on gender

Systematizing and documenting good practices and lessons learned on the design and implementation of gender-responsive REDD+ action is critical for demonstrating how to move from policy to action in integrating concepts of gender equality and women's empowerment into REDD+ processes. Sharing such experiences on gender among countries and regions, as well as among stakeholder groups and staff, further promotes knowledge exchange and replication, and helps to reinforce the relevance, need for and benefits of gender-responsive REDD+ action. In documentation exercises, it should also be recognized that some stakeholders have unique knowledge on gender issues and dynamics, and efforts should be put in place to capture and disseminate such knowledge.

#### Examples

To help illustrate the breadth of UN-REDD gender support and the rich experiences that have resulted from it, [gender and REDD+ case studies from the Asia-Pacific region](#) were compiled in 2019. The case studies, from Cambodia, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam, involve various thematic areas, such as stakeholder participation; free, prior and informed consent; institutional culture; forest-based value chains; and livelihood improvement. They demonstrate good practices and lessons learned that can help to inform other gender mainstreaming efforts being undertaken within REDD+ action at the local, subnational and national levels. Experiences such as those have informed the support on gender and women's empowerment provided by the UN-REDD Programme and have promoted a seat at the table and an equitable voice for both women and men in REDD+ design, implementation and decision-making.

In the Latin America and the Caribbean region, a similar compilation of case studies was also developed in 2017. [Approaches and experiences on Gender in REDD + processes in Latin America: lessons from Chile, Ecuador, Panama and Peru \(available in Spanish only\)](#) illustrates the ways in which gender can be integrated into the sustainable management of forests, and, more broadly, into climate change responses. The compilation of case studies is also intended

to help to break down gender barriers in natural resource management and support countries in advancing gender equality as a catalyst for sustainable development within their REDD+ efforts.

### CREATING POSITIVE CHANGE: A SNAPSHOT OF INITIAL RESULTS

As illustrated by the examples above, the UN-REDD Programme's proactive approach on gender has helped to move from policy to practice in many countries to create credible action and solutions on the ground. That work and support have helped to empower women in their role as guardians of the forest and have shown what successful REDD+ action can look like when women are on an equal footing.

UN-REDD Programme support in Viet Nam provides an excellent example of the positive change to livelihoods that can result when gender is mainstreamed into REDD+ action, particularly at the local level. Under the UN-REDD Phase II Programme in the country, efforts were made to work actively with the Government of Viet Nam and local stakeholders to develop markets and partnerships for natural, forest-based economic models that support the active participation of women. In Lao Cai province, public-private partnerships were piloted between the provincial government and ethnic minority communities, under which traditional medicines managed and harvested according to indigenous knowledge are being sold by local women to partner companies that provide the market access that the women previously lacked. The Programme also worked with the women to complement their ancestral knowledge with training on sustainable harvesting techniques and helped to set up cooperatives at the commune level, comprised of the women involved in harvesting.

For local Dao women in Lao Cai, who depend on forests for their income, those partnerships have had a significant positive impact on their livelihoods by increasing their incomes and securing a viable future for both their traditional knowledge and the sustainable use of the forest. In addition, the initiative has brought many co-benefits for women's daily lives and livelihoods. For example, the medicinal plants



yield a higher income than crops, and their production is less physically demanding, as they only need to be harvested. This work illustrates how the valuable traditional knowledge of women and ethnic minorities can be powerfully leveraged in the stewardship of forests, in REDD+ action and for local economic development that has the potential to operate at an influential scale.<sup>3</sup>

Under Community-Based REDD+, support provided by the UN-REDD Programme has also catalysed on-the-ground changes for women's livelihoods. In Nigeria, for example, the [Cross River State Community-Based REDD+ Programme](#) worked with civil society groups and villagers to improve the sustainable management of their community forest and lands through the development of management plans, reforestation and enrichment planting, including planting indigenous timber species and non-timber forest products.

The experience of Martina Afor from Bokalum, a beneficiary of the Programme in Nigeria, provides an excellent example of both the livelihood benefits and empowered role in decision-making that women received from the support. "With the Community-Based REDD+ Programme, we now have semi-mechanized equipment for the very first time in our community. This allows the women to produce cassava flour at home, doing in two days what used to take a week. We are now able to sell our produce and make money for our families. The women are also included with men in training for improved cocoa production and the sustainable harvesting of non-timber forest products like bush mango, and we have taken an active part in reviewing our community forest management plan. We feel involved and empowered, and our community is now giving us more recognition and support."

<sup>3</sup> Please refer to the [November 2019 issue of the United Nations Development Programme's Asia Pacific Gender Equality Dispatch](#) for more information on the gender-related aspects of this initiative.

## CONCLUSION: CHARTING THE COURSE AHEAD

In the face of ongoing deep-rooted gender barriers and inequalities, there is an ongoing need for State and non-State stakeholders to continue to chart a path forward and integrate gender on multiple levels, across various REDD+ thematic areas, and within all phases of a policy and/or programme. Doing so creates the conditions for the transformative change that is needed to achieve sustainable development and combat climate change.

It is precisely such a multipronged, bottom-up approach that has guided UN-REDD Programme support, has informed and shaped its current [approach to gender](#) and will continue to guide it.

As illustrated by its work on gender across REDD+ design, implementation and monitoring frameworks, the UN-REDD Programme not only remains committed to gender, but is also stepping up its work in order to promote the meaningful and equitable participation of all stakeholders, including women, men and young people, so that they can benefit from REDD+ processes and actions. Through the REDD+ mechanism, the replication of good practices for gender-responsive action and for innovation on gender concepts and methods will continue to be promoted to enhance the reach and effectiveness of the support it provides.

## GENDER RESOURCES

- UN-REDD Workspace – Gender Equality [page](#)
  - UNDP Asia Pacific Equality Dispatch. Gender and REDD+ case studies from Asia-Pacific Region, November 2019 (Available in [English](#))
  - Information Brief on the Gender Marker Rating System, 2018 (available in [English](#))
  - UN-REDD Methodological Brief on Gender, January 2017 (available in [English](#), [French](#), and [Spanish](#))
  - Checklist for Gender Responsive Workshops (available in [English](#), [French](#), and [Spanish](#))
- Approaches and experiences on Gender in REDD + processes in Latin America: lessons from Chile, Ecuador, Panama and Peru, March 2017 (available in [Spanish](#))
  - Second Indigenous Women’s Dialogue on Forest and Gender, May 2016 (available in [English](#))
  - Guidance Note on Gender Sensitive REDD+, 2013 (available in [English](#), [French](#) and [Spanish](#))
  - UN-REDD Business case for mainstreaming gender in REDD+, December 2011 (available in [English](#), [French](#) and [Spanish](#))
  - Country documents:
    - Forest and Gender in Preparation for REDD+ in Colombia, June 2018 (available in [Spanish](#))
    - REDD+ Guidelines for Stakeholder Engagement in Myanmar, 2016 (available in [English](#))
    - Report of Gender and Women Empowering Workshops in Panama. Active Listening Process, 2015 (available in [Spanish](#))
    - Information Note on Gender and Forests in Nigeria (available in [English](#))
    - Community-Based REDD+ country plans of ([Cambodia](#), [Democratic Republic of the Congo](#), [Nigeria](#), [Panama](#), [Paraguay](#) and [Sri Lanka](#))

# UN-REDD PROGRAMME



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



UN  
environment  
programme

The United Nations Collaborative Programme  
on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and  
Forest Degradation in Developing Countries.

## UN-REDD PROGRAMME SECRETARIAT

International Environment House,  
11-13 Chemin des Anémones,  
CH-1219 Châtelaine,  
Geneva, Switzerland.

Email: [un-redd@un-redd.org](mailto:un-redd@un-redd.org)  
Website: [www.un-redd.org](http://www.un-redd.org)  
Workspace: [www.unredd.net](http://www.unredd.net)