

# Climate Action Africa Gender Equality Strategy<sup>1</sup>

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## Background

Climate Action Africa (CAA) provides targeted, short-term technical assistance in Sub-Saharan Africa in response to locally identified needs. The Project aims to assist in addressing the causes and effects of climate change, including by increasing women's capabilities to fully participate as active agents and leaders of change. It aims to accomplish this by:

- Helping to develop or strengthen gender-responsive climate-related legislation, policies and strategies and implement the Paris Agreement and related UNFCCC commitments.
- Supporting implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) to mitigate emissions and adapt to the adverse effects of climate change. Mitigation efforts focus on increasing gender-equitable access to renewable energy (RE) and reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+). Adaptation efforts focus on gender-responsive agriculture and water resource management.
- Supporting the implementation of the UNFCCC Gender Action Plan (GAP), with a specific emphasis on climate education programs that target women, youth, and marginalized groups, as well as strengthening the capacity of climate institutions to integrate gender equality and social inclusion considerations into climate policy and programming.
- Strengthening women's participation and leadership in climate-change-related action and dialogue.

## Objective of the Gender Equality Strategy

The objective of the Gender Equality (GE) Strategy is to contribute to the Project's effort to strengthen gender-responsive climate action across Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). The Strategy outlines the Project's overall approach to achieve the Project's gender equality-related outcomes and outlines the types of interventions that may be supported at project and initiative levels.

## GEWE impact pathway

The Project's Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) impact pathway aligns with the overall Project Logic Model and is based on an **understanding** that supporting gender-responsive climate change governance, mitigation and adaptation action, and meaningful participation and leadership of women in climate change dialogue and action means being explicit about integrating gender equality across the Project's **activities and outputs** and being strategic about the kinds of approaches promoted.

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<sup>1</sup> March 2022 – excerpt from PIP approved by GAC

To contribute to Sub-Saharan Africa being better able to address the causes and effects of climate change, the GE Strategy recognizes the importance of identifying and understanding **the underlying causes** that lead to the **barriers** to gender equality and socially inclusive, equitable leadership and participation in climate dialogue and action. Over the long-term, this means addressing those formal structures (e.g., discriminatory laws, policies, procedures, and services) and informal structures (e.g., discriminatory social norms, customs, values, unconscious bias, and exclusionary practices that perpetuate gender inequity, women’s limited agency, and social exclusion in the region/specific countries).

## Approach

The GE Strategy applies a gender-responsive, intersectional, and inclusive approach to guide the Project’s short-term technical assistance and capacity development with requesting organizations (ROs) and South-South Exchanges (SSE) to strengthen gender-responsive climate dialogue and action. In the process, the Project will leverage opportunities to build on, inform, and strengthen interventions underway across the region to contribute to longer-term transformational change. This includes, for example, engaging with, and building the capacity of a broad and diverse group of stakeholders (e.g., government institutions, NGOs, private sector bodies, academia and training institutes, women’s and human rights organizations working on climate change-related issues, etc.).

### Examples of gender-related interventions under CAA

<p><b>Types of overall project interventions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Technical assistance</b> (policy/regulatory approaches, model development, studies, etc.) and capacity development (training, workshops, coaching, mentoring).</li> <li>• <b>South-South Exchanges</b> to facilitate the exchange of climate-related knowledge, expertise and lessons learned, and strengthen South-South networks.</li> <li>• <b>Documentation and sharing of experiences:</b> good practices, lessons learned, processes undertaken (e.g., technical briefs, training materials, repositories of expertise, climate stakeholders).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Types of GEWE interventions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Gender sector mapping and gap analysis</b> –draft developed in the inception phase and will be updated through the life of the Project.</li> <li>• <b>Outreach to climate change stakeholders and diverse women’s, feminist, and gender-focused networks and organizations</b> – particularly those focused on typically marginalized groups across the region to raise awareness and stimulate demand for requests.</li> <li>• <b>Technical assistance and capacity strengthening on gender equality and social inclusion</b> for requesting organizations (e.g., governments, NGOs, and women and youth-focused networks/organizations, etc).</li> <li>• <b>South-south knowledge exchange</b> integrating gender in the sectors or specific focus on women’s participation.</li> <li>• <b>Tool development/adaptation/dissemination</b> (e.g., guidelines, briefs, analytical tools, e.g., gender analysis, etc.) – and/or revision/dissemination of tools developed in specific initiatives</li> <li>• <b>Documentation and knowledge sharing of good practices, lessons learned from across the Project</b>, etc. on gender responsiveness and women’s participation/leadership</li> <li>• <b>Synergies with complementary resources and climate change initiatives</b> will be leveraged to achieve greater outcomes, promote harmonization and ensure sustainability with national, regional, and global initiatives.</li> <li>• <b>Gender-responsive Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL)</b> to monitor gender-responsive results of the Project</li> </ul>