



United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa

Gender and Climate Change in Africa: Gender in Climate Change Policies, Programs and NDC Processes

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BACKGROUND

The aim of **Intergovernmental Panel on climate change (IPCC)** and **United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC)** is to respond to global climate change challenges.

Through the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** and the **Paris Agreement (2015)**, African states have an opportunity to draft and implement nationally appropriate policies through international commitments including the **National Determined Contributions (NDC)**.

Role of ACPC: Technical support to African governments to enhance the mainstreaming and implementation of NDCs and reporting on progress to the UNFCCC.

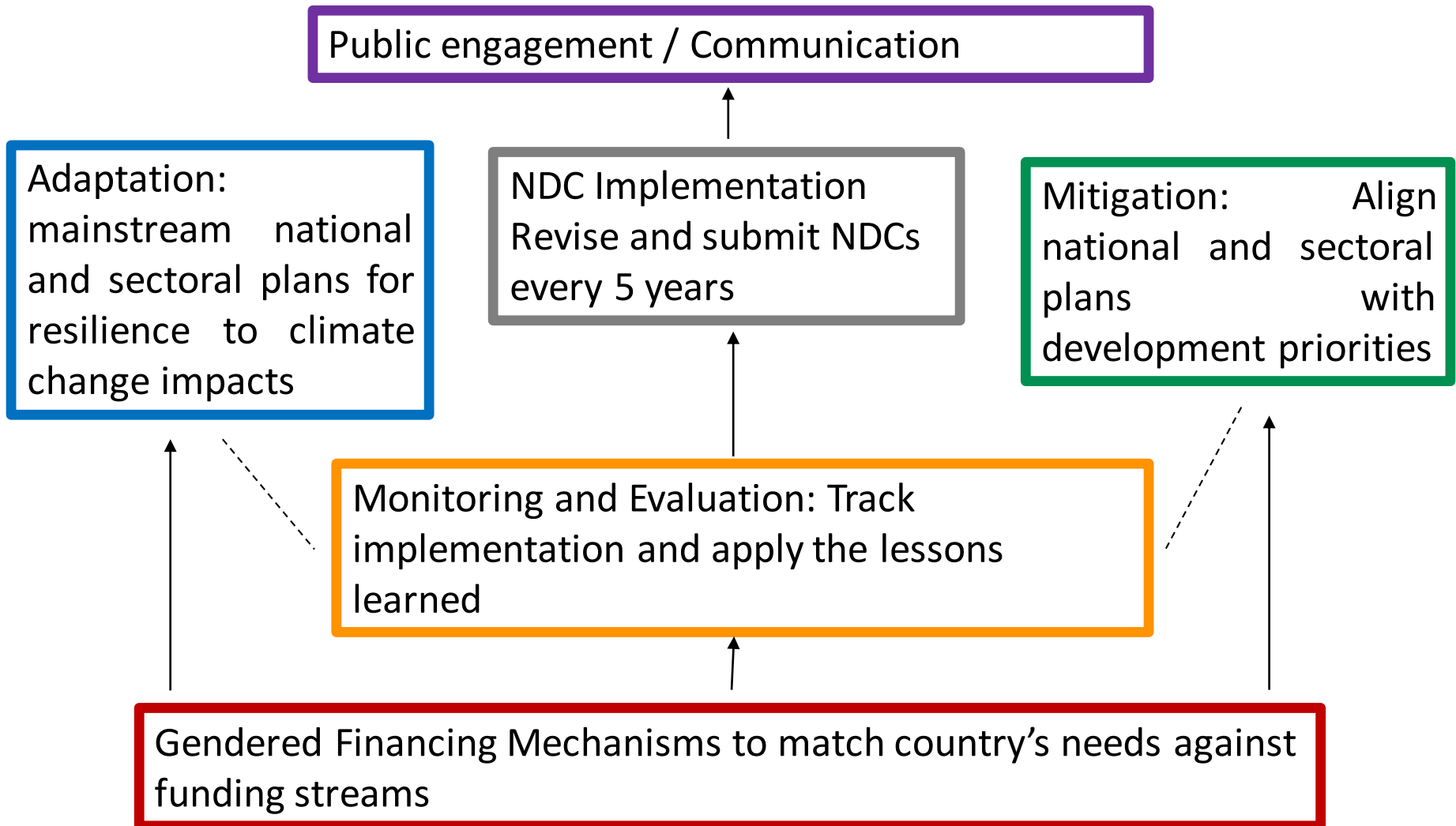


INTRODUCTION: Relevance of Gender to Climate Change

- African countries face greater vulnerability to climate change
- Women are considered more vulnerable to climate change than men
- NDC process promotes comprehensive alignment of countries' gender-responsive climate actions
- Only 40% of countries made at least one reference to gender equality or women in their INDCs
- Achieving gender equality reinforced through institutional processes - planning, implementation and monitoring policy and legislation (Larrson 2017)



CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK



Adapted from CDKN & Ricardo (2016)

RECOMMENDATIONS: Women Participation in decision making

Challenge

Lack of female participation in decision making

Opportunity

Support governments to coordinate efforts from community level to ministerial governance structures

More women in leadership

Women as agents of change

Challenge traditional gender roles

RECOMMENDATIONS: Gender-sensitive Adaptation and Mitigation

Challenge

Adaptation and mitigation approaches disenfranchise women and sometimes deepen inequalities

Opportunity

Technical assistance in collecting gender-disaggregated data in climate change sensitive sectors to in turn inform policy

Support engagement of relevant stakeholders consider different needs in an aim to improve interventions e.g. livelihoods diversification

RECOMMENDATIONS: Capacity Development

Challenge

Gender considerations within policies and plans not integrated from the beginning

Opportunity

Increase capacity building for gender mainstreaming in climate change policy instruments at the national and local levels

Awareness raising, training and guidance for greater grass-roots participation in policy formulation/implementation

RECOMMENDATIONS: Gendered financing mechanisms

Challenge

Insufficient national budgets for gender mainstreaming in climate change

Lack of gender identification and differentiation in national planning processes limits support/prioritization to gendered climate actions

Opportunity

Support new economies that embrace countries' low emissions

Improve local-level resource mobilization strategies

Greater involvement of women in financial decision making

RECOMMENDATIONS: Climate Change Policy communication

Challenge

Women's access to information still more limited compared to that of men

Policy makers still limited in their understanding of the climate change problem

Opportunity

Women as 'climate change champions'

Development of culturally sensitive/appropriate communication tools

Improved national understanding of the problem as it affects all sectors/actors

CONCLUSION

- **Global** knowledge deficit in gendered national adaptation planning
- Gender considerations and analysis should be included at all stages of **national** policy, programmatic and project planning
- More **research/data** on climate change and gender roles
- **Climate change funds** to reach local/vulnerable communities



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