**Guidelines and template for comments on the draft outline of a new gender plan of action for the post-2020 period**

## Background

1. In order to support the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, on agenda item 3, *Review of progress in the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020*, which will consider, amongst other matters, the *Review of implementation of the 2015-2020 Gender Plan of Action[[1]](#footnote-1)* and *a new draft gender plan of action for the post-2020 period*, the Executive Secretary has prepared a draft outline of a gender plan of action for consultation, available at <https://www.cbd.int/sbi/review.shtml>.
2. The draft outline has been prepared based on the review of implementation of the 2015-2020 Gender Plan of Action and consultations on gender in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework[[2]](#footnote-2), to structure input for the development of a new gender plan of action. The draft outline is presented in a table organized in three sections: I. Draft Action Areas; II. Implementation Support Mechanisms; and III. Responsibility and Transparency, Outreach, Awareness and Uptake. Parties and partners are invited to reflect on the draft outline and propose priority areas for action and related objectives. The draft outline contains questions for consideration in the provision of input. These questions are included in section III of this document for reference.

## II. Submitting Comments

1. To ensure that your comments are given due consideration, please send them by e-mail to [secretariat@cbd.int](mailto:secretariat@cbd.int), at your earliest convenience but **no later than 31 August 2020**
2. When submitting comments, please adhere to the following guidelines as much as possible:
   1. Please provide all comments in writing and in an MS Word or similar document format using the template provided below.
   2. Please provide full contact information for the individual/Government/organization submitting the comments.
   3. Please avoid commenting on issues related to grammar, spelling, or punctuation, unless it affects the overall meaning of the text, as the document will be edited as the final draft is prepared.
   4. To facilitate the consultation process please be as specific as possible in your comments. In areas where you feel additional or alternative text or information is required, please suggest, if possible, what this text may look like or what should be included.
   5. If you refer to additional sources of information, please include these with your comments when possible or provide a complete reference or hyperlink.
   6. All comments will be posted on the gender webpage[[3]](#footnote-3) for the post-2020 process in the interests of transparency
3. Should you have any questions regarding the review process, please contact [secretariat@cbd.int](mailto:secretariat@cbd.int).
4. ***Guiding Questions***
5. Guiding questions included in the draft outline of the new gender plan of action are repeated below for ease of reference. Please note, these questions are provided as a basis to generate clear and concise proposals for priority areas for action and associated objectives for inclusion in a draft gender plan of action for the post-2020 period. All responses are requested to be sent in the format of the template for comments, as put forward under the below heading: *IV. Template for Comments*.

*Section I: Draft Action Areas*

* Do the draft action areas reflect priority gender-biodiversity issues in your country or region?
* Are there other action areas you would propose as priorities for addressing gender and biodiversity issues in your country or region?
* Do the draft objectives reflect priority gender-biodiversity issues in your country or region?
* Are there other objectives you would propose that are important for gender and biodiversity in your country or region?

*Section II: Implementation Support Mechanisms*

* Are there other objectives related to Implementation Support that you think are important for the work of your government or organization on gender and biodiversity?

*Section III: Responsibility and Transparency, Outreach, Awareness and Uptake*

* Are there other topics that are important to the gender-biodiversity work of your government or organization that you think should be added to this list?
* Are there other objectives related to these topics that you think are important for the work of your government or organization on gender and biodiversity?

***IV. Template for Comments***

1. Please use the review template below when providing comments.
2. The complete draft outline has been released in a portable document format (PDF). The draft outline is presented as a table containing column letters and row numbers, and page numbers are also indicated. Please use these as a reference for providing your comments, as illustrated in the template below. General comments on the draft outline can be included by referring to Page 0 and Line 0.

**TEMPLATE FOR COMMENTS**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Review comments on the draft outline of a gender plan of action for the post-2020 period** | | | | |
| *Contact information* | | | | |
| **Surname:** | | | | Yiu |
| **Given Name:** | | | | Evonne |
| **Government** (if applicable)**:** | | | |  |
| **Organization:** | | | | United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS), International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI) |
| **Address:** | | | | 5–53–70 Jingumae,, Shibuya-ku, 150-8925 |
| **City:** | | | | Tokyo |
| **Country:** | | | | Japan |
| E-mail: | | | | isi@unu.edu |
|  |  |  | ***Comments*** | |
| **Page** | **Column letter** | **Row number** | **Comment** | |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | Though the action plan is based on the inputs from UNCCD, UNFCCC and SDG plans, the coherence, and linkages between the implementation of these three types of plans and integration of biodiversity perspective into the already existing national systems seems to be missing. This is important in the context of the countries which may have limited capacities. | |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | Section III seems to exist for ensuring transparency, outreaching and awareness raising of this action plan but the current contents in section III contains actions that better fits under Section I and will not serve the purpose of overseeing the implementation of this action plan. | |
| 3 |  | P13 | While Target 20 of the current draft of Post-2020 GBF proposes gender responsive actions, all targets of the GBF and the vision and goals of GBF itself should be gender responsive. The Post-2020 GBF should identify and embed gender-responsive indicators throughout targets, including a landscape approach, and make use of relevant gender-responsive indicators that have been agreed under the SDGs framework. | |
| 4 | B | 3 | We welcome this as it is in line with the recommendations from the participants of the Expert Thematic Workshop on Landscape Approaches for the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, as proposed in *The“Kumamoto Report” on Landscape Approaches for the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework* as stated below. Furthermore, we like to see the involvement in all levels possible, including national and sub-national. “In recognition that women often have a more holistic approach to resource and land use, the framework should encourage national and sub-national policymakers to specify that women and women’s  organizations and agencies are equitably represented in landscape strategy development, project planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of conservation projects.”  <https://satoyama-initiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/UNU-IAS-Landscape-Expert-Thematic-Workshop-Report-final-1.pdf> | |
| 4 | B | 3 | Parties should also be encouraged to keep/monitor/gather gender related statistics in their NBSAPs and National reports. A set of gender specific indicators can be provided as references. | |
| 4 | A | 1-3 | This action area talks more about high level participation of women in government bodies, Convention, and inclusion in NBSAPs. However, the women who are directly engaged in biodiversity management are the poor local and indigenous women, who barely have any role in decision making or any awareness about their rights. It is they who should be targeted in this action area. For example: *Van Panchayats* in India (Local forest governance) is one method to include local and indigenous participation. Local level women participation or their participation at high level forums/their representatives would be really effective in long-term biodiversity conservation by women. | |
| 5 | A | 4 | Accountability mechanisms in the framework should include specific incentives toward allowing all genders to have legitimate land tenure and control over resources in the landscape, as women are prohibited from owning land in some places (*The“Kumamoto Report” on Landscape Approaches for the Post-2020 GBF)*.. | |
| 5 | B | 4 | Not only legal and societal barriers, but also economic barriers in countries and/or communities where men are preferred owners of businesses or preferred employees of certain professions. | |
| 5 | B | 5 | The Post-2020 GBF should specifically state that women are often most directly affected by various factors in productive landscapes, and encourage recognition of women’s rights, tenure, and access to resources (*The“Kumamoto Report” on Landscape Approaches for the Post-2020 GBF)*. | |
| 6 | B | 7 | Not only “increased paid employment opportunities”, but also equal opportunities to all professions and promotion opportunities to leadership positions. | |
| 6 | B | 7 | In addition to concentrating on the paid opportunities, women’s unpaid work in biodiversity management and regulation, especially in rural areas is generally undervalued. There is currently no method to account for that in the National GDP. Example: they collect fire and fuelwood for their household, and nobody would pay them for that. But just if this work is done by employing a set of people, they will be paid for it, accounting for GDP. Women’s participation in rural labour markets varies considerably across regions, but invariably women are overrepresented in unpaid, seasonal and part-time work globally (FAO ESA Working Paper No. 11-02). It is very difficult to account for the income loss that women suffer until their unpaid services are accounted for. | |
| 6 | B | 7 | As in UNCCD Action Plan, it will be important to add “quality” employment opportunities, as this action plan is not promoting any kind of paid employment opportunities, but safe and equal working opportunities. | |
| 6 |  | 8 | Equal rights and opportunities to education and biodiversity related knowledge are fundamental to empowering women’s role in biodiversity conservation but is not explicitly addressed in the draft action areas. | |
| 6 |  | 8 | Mechanisms should be created to recognize women’s productive activities – which often take the form of informal or home industry – for their role in enhancing landscape diversity and sustainable livelihoods and ensure that women receive the benefits equitably.( *The“Kumamoto Report” on Landscape Approaches for the Post-2020 GBF)* | |
| 7 | A | 9 | As a general precept, the framework should work towards recognizing women as active players and agents of change in integrated landscape management, rather than passive beneficiaries of nature’s contributions to people as has often been the case to date. This should be reflected in gender responsive budgeting and funding to create an enabling environment. (*The“Kumamoto Report” on Landscape Approaches for the Post-2020 GBF)* | |
| 7 | B | 9 | With many environment related issues on board and lack of specific financial resources for each, it is more important to prioritize and integrate gender responsive action in all biodiversity related financial decisions. Because this may create another category for new and additional financial resources specifically for gender responsive action in biodiversity. | |
| 8 | B | 13 | Partnerships and collaboration for gender-responsive actions and women empowerment for biodiversity are not necessarily restricted to the networks and institutions working on women/gender issues, but also at all levels of governments and society. | |
| 8 | B | 13 | The Post-2020 GBF should encourage synergies between women and other often-disadvantaged members of society in implementation of landscape approaches; for example, youth are often more receptive to gender issues, and women often hold more power and authority in IPLCs and rural communities, and so  can contribute more to biodiversity conservation and human livelihood. (*The“Kumamoto Report” on Landscape Approaches for the Post-2020 GBF)* | |
| 8 |  | 14 | Education (can be under Capacity Building but should be more stressed explicitly) should also be emphasized. | |
| 9 | A | 15 | Recommend the “review process” to include how to review this action plan, whether it is effectively implemented. It should include how to and when to review the interim progress. | |
| 9 | B | 16 | To “monitor and report” on the actions implemented under this plan, the objective should include more than “national reports are gender-responsive”. It should request Parties to report, in their national reports, on objectives written in rows 4-7, 9-10, 12, 13, as appropriate, and the CBD Secretariat to monitor women’s participation in their bodies and meetings. | |
| 9 | B | 16 | In order for national reports to be able to capture gender-responsive actions, strategies, principles and monitoring methodologies must also be first laid out in the NBSAPs. | |
| 9 | B | 17 | If the purpose of this component is what is written here, it should be incorporated into Section 1- as it is part of effective participation of women and gender constituencies in various processes and implementing actions. If the sections are to remain as it is now, the awareness raising and outreaching in this section III should focus on ensuring effective outreaching and awareness raising of this action plan. | |
| 9 |  | 18 | We should be careful not to generalize or assume that women in the developed countries have equitable rights, access and control of biodiversity-related resources, nor do they necessarily have equitable opportunities to decision making or leadership positions as compared to peers in developing countries. In fact, attention and support for women empowerment is often more vocal and active for women in developing countries, whereas women in developed countries are assumed to be “doing fine” but in reality the progress of their gender equality and empowerment has been stagnating. Reports such as the World Economic Forum’s *Global Gender Gap Report 2020* and UNDP’s *Gender Inequality Index* have shown that gender gap in some developed countries remain huge and even lack behind developing nations. <http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_GGGR_2020.pdf>, <http://hdr.undp.org/en/data>. Thus, the support for gender-responsive actions from CBD must be also equal for both developed and developing nations. Furthermore, the engagement of women for biodiversity should not only be in terms of numbers, but more importantly also the quality of the nature of women’s participation. | |
|  |  |  |  | |
|  |  |  | Additional rows can be added to this table by selecting “Table” followed by “insert” and “rows below” | |

*Comments should be sent by e-mail to* [*secretariat@cbd.int*](mailto:secretariat@cbd.int)***no later than 31 August 2020****.*

1. [CBD/SBI/3/2/Add.3](https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/2a29/307a/3235fdabd9edd01b9576e42b/sbi-03-02-add3-en.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. [Expert Workshop to Develop Recommendations for Possible Gender Elements in the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, 11-12 April 2019, NYC, USA](https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/423f/a276/206bc2751c07658af8fa1a4a/gb-om-2019-01-02-en.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. <https://www.cbd.int/conferences/post2020/gender> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)