Here in Argentina, we believe that any instrument on gender equality must pursue a common objective: to end gender gaps and inequalities. In order to make this objective evident in the text, there must be a process of deep questioning of the gender stereotypes that can persist in these areas and question the power relations that derive from gender. It is a complex exercise that requires different perspectives that provide critical points of view of the text and its spirit.

Thus, we value interventions aimed at symbolic and cultural deconstruction that highlight the historical experience of women and LGBTIQ+ people. At the same time, we believe that the gender and diversity perspective in a biodiversity plan must have a double objective: to contribute to the construction of equality from the field of biodiversity conservation policies, as well as to contribute to the strengthening of biodiversity policies through the strengthening of the role of certain key groups such as women and the  LGBTIQ+ community.

We have some general comments on the formulation of the aforementioned Outline Draft. Throughout the document we’ve identified the need for a human rights’ perspective. International standards on the rights of women, indigenous women, rural women, the LGBTI + community and / or the rights of children and teenagers, among others, are not mentioned. Nor are standards that intersect environmental rights with a gender perspective. It is especially advised to incorporate these perspectives into the Guiding Principles section.

There is a lack of intersectionality perspective in the preparation of the document. Although it is clarified that the group “women and girls” will include rural and indigenous women and girls, an intersectional view of the obstacles faced by women in all their diversity in relation to biodiversity is not envisioned. There are no objectives aimed at fighting the specific inequalities of certain groups of women, such as trans women, rural women, indigenous women, women with disabilities, and girls, among others. It is recommended that the objectives contemplate the different realities of these groups and seek to address different scenarios and discrimination in a comprehensive manner.

The document does not contemplate a view of diversity in terms of LGBTI + people. The only approximation is subtly given in the principles, but it is not developed or considered when it comes to recognizing inequalities and setting objectives to fight them. It is advisable to complement the gender perspective directed only at women with a more complete gender approach that incorporates different gender identities and sexual orientations.

Regarding the expected outcomes, we would appreciate if these two were included:

1. Reinforce, revalue and redistribute care work, which has been historically given to women, to build a new relationship with the environment and habitat
2. Promote and strengthen an environmental education with a gender perspective, for all people at all levels.