



UNCBD Women’s Caucus comments on the draft manual for Strengthening NBSAPs through Landscape Approaches (UNU)

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Please provide general comments on the draft manual below.	
<p>The document provides a strong foundation for exploring the social aspects of human-biodiversity interactions; however, there is an opportunity to further enhance its inclusiveness by explicitly addressing human rights considerations. By incorporating a human rights framework, the document can effectively highlight the importance of ensuring the rights and participation of all individuals, with particular emphasis on marginalized groups such as women and girls. This approach will strengthen the social dimension of landscape and seascape approaches and contribute to more equitable and sustainable outcomes for both people and biodiversity. Emphasizing the integration of human rights perspectives within the document will allow for a comprehensive and holistic approach to addressing the social complexities of human-biodiversity relationships.</p>	
<p>The current discourse on landscape and seascape approaches often emphasizes their implementation at the local level but fails to explicitly recognize local people's rights. This is a crucial opportunity to emphasize the importance of effectively involving Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs), women and youth in managing the territories they inhabit. It is essential to ensure that their needs and priorities are addressed equally rather than solely serving the interests of governments or the private sector. By actively promoting the inclusion of IPLCs, women and youth as critical stakeholders, landscape and seascape approaches can promote a more inclusive and equitable approach to natural resource management, harnessing their traditional knowledge, perspectives and aspirations for sustainable and socially just outcomes.</p>	
<p>As gender intersects with other identities such as race, ethnicity, socio-economic status and Indigenous or cultural background, it is crucial to adopt an intersectional approach that considers the unique experiences and needs of women from diverse backgrounds. Addressing the specific challenges historically marginalized groups face and promoting their inclusion and empowerment in landscape and seascape approaches is a must.</p>	

Please provide other comments indicating the line number below.

Line number	Comments
Section 1	We suggest adding a paragraph or sentence highlighting the significance of integrating gender considerations within landscape and seascape approaches. Mention that women and girls often have distinct roles, knowledge, and experiences related to landscapes and seascapes, and their participation and empowerment are crucial for sustainable development and biodiversity conservation.
Section 1	Landscape and seascape approaches should include gender-responsive spatial planning. This can involve considering women's specific needs, such as access to clean water, energy, and healthcare, addressing gender-based violence and promoting economic opportunities for women.
Section 1	There is a need to emphasize that integrating gender considerations within National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) is crucial for effectively implementing landscape and seascape approaches. Encourage countries to include gender-responsive targets and indicators in their NBSAPs and align them with the goals and targets of the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).
Section 2	Gender and power dynamics must be understood to address women's challenges and barriers concerning landscape and seascape management. These may include unequal resource access, limited decision-making power, gender-based violence and restricted mobility.
Line 169	Avoid perpetuating the idea that civil society organizations act on behalf of IPLCs, women, youth and other rights holders.
Lines 170-171	Explicitly mention women and youth groups too.
Lines 173 - 181	The involvement of gender experts, Indigenous knowledge holders and social scientists is essential to consider diverse groups' specific needs, rights and priorities. Their expertise will help integrate gender equity, intergenerational equity and the rights of Indigenous peoples and local communities into the planning and implementation processes
Lines 183 onwards (yellow boxes)	An inclusive and enabling environment that encourages women's active participation in all stages of planning, implementation and evaluation should be guaranteed. Any strategy should promote equal representation and ensure that women's perspectives and priorities are integrated.
Lines 183 onwards (yellow boxes)	It is of utmost importance to collect and analyse gender-disaggregated data to understand the differentiated impacts of landscape and seascape approaches. We encourage using gender-sensitive indicators and monitoring frameworks to assess the effectiveness of interventions in promoting gender equity.
Lines 183 onwards (yellow boxes)	It is essential to consider the specific needs, interests, and perspectives of women and girls, especially those from underrepresented groups such as indigenous and rural women. Engage women's organisations, experts, and local communities to gather information on areas that are important to them and may require support for successful landscape and seascape approaches.
Lines 183 onwards (yellow boxes)	Adopt a participatory approach to monitoring landscape and seascape approaches, involving women and diverse stakeholders. Encourage women's active participation in data collection, analysis, and reporting.

	Pay attention to gender-disaggregated data to understand the differential impacts of landscape and seascape approaches on men and women. This will help identify gender-specific needs and uphold women's rights throughout implementation.
Lines 210 - 219	It is essential to ensure the meaningful participation of women, indigenous peoples, local communities and other underrepresented groups in reviewing and updating NBSAPs. We encourage naming them as rights holders in a separate bullet point. Efforts should be made to incorporate their perspectives, concerns and knowledge about landscapes, seascapes, and biodiversity conservation. This will contribute to a more equitable and inclusive decision-making process and increase ownership of the national targets.
Section 3	Include indicators that capture women, youth and IPLCs' impacts on landscape and seascape approaches. These indicators should measure progress in achieving gender justice, promoting intergenerational equity, and respecting indigenous peoples' and local communities' rights and well-being.
Section 3	It is great to see that examples included in this section mention women, youth and IPLCs, but human-rights-related language is missing. We suggest providing more details on gender responsiveness, intergenerational equity and collective rights of Indigenous peoples and local communities to help inspire and guide similar initiatives in different contexts.
Section 4	Include a paragraph on women's empowerment and capacity building. National governments should conduct workshops and training programs targeting women to build their capacity to apply landscape and seascape approaches. This can include providing technical skills, knowledge sharing, and leadership training.
Lines 300 - 324	We restate our previous point on the need for gender-responsive monitoring, review and reporting by disaggregating data, analysing the collected info from a gender perspective, and setting up gender-related indicators.