

Annex I

Concrete Actions from Discussion Tables

Table 1: Ms. Julia Marton-Lefèvre, Director General, IUCN; Ms. Marie Aminata Khan, CBD; Ms. Christine Bosse, CEO TrygVesta Group/SG MDG Advocacy Group for MDG 3; Mr. Tobias Casperson, Counsellor Permanent Mission of Estonia to the UN; Ms. Yoko Watanabe; Program Specialist Biodiversity, GEF; Mr. Delfin Ganapin, Global Manager, GEF SGP; Ms. Ann Powers, Center for Environmental Legal Studies, Pace Law School; Ms. Aprille Muscara, IPS News; Mr. Haider Rizvi, Media Consultant & Independent Journalist;

1. Education needs to be two-prong – we must educate both genders at all levels
2. Legislation for women’s empowerment is needed
3. Involve women/men from societies, who do not give women the freedom to speak out on their problems, in the dialogue. Women are often too scared to speak out.
4. Build on the micro-finance schemes already being implemented to empower women in countries/societies where this is not possible.
5. To effectively communicate the gender inequalities in relation to the MDGs media must also be involved in the process, including taking into account cultural diversity
6. Regarding the environment, it is lagging behind in the gender dialogue – a formal networking and mentoring is necessary
7. Resource rights need to be transferred to women
8. A horizontal coherence is needed in order for us to have a vertical synergy
9. Partnerships are necessary for us to move forward on the issue
10. We need more transparency and a common agenda
11. A need for a quota system

Table 2: *Mr. Luc Gnacadja, Executive Secretary, UNCCD; Ms. Rachel Harris, Outreach Officer, WEDO; Ms. Carole Robert, Founder BDA Foundation; Ms. Hannie Meesters, Policy Specialist on Gender & Environment, UNDP; Ms. Bani Dugal, Baha'i Permanent Observer to the UN; Mr. Narinder Kakar, IUCN Permanent Observer to the UN; Mr. Rao Sethuramiah, Permanent Observer for Partners of Population and Development*

1. Donor money given to women is often seen as the solution, however, priority needs to be given to education of the girl child while at the same time sensitizing the boy-child to gender equality
2. Women's economic empowerment is a major step toward achieving goals 1 and 3; simple things like allowing women opportunities to access and open bank accounts must be pushed for
3. To improve women's livelihoods we can't just go through one avenue of educating the girl-child, we must also educate all generations of women and men.
4. There is an urgent need for access to knowledge and access to capital—but this is not easy to achieve. Therefore, there needs to be custom-paced policy on access to knowledge and capital that is tailored to match the environment in which persons live
5. Simple solutions can have a large impact: i.e. cookstoves can impact poverty reduction, women's health and education, and lessen negative environmental impacts. However, this does not exclude the larger picture as there are so many societal structures in place that inhibit women's access to needed technologies and simple solutions. Therefore, a package of short-term 'simple' solutions as well as long-term structural goals is required
6. A need for a poverty/gender analysis linking the 3 Rio conventions. The enormous benefits to be reaped from such an analysis will far outweigh the costs.
7. Countries that have gender policies that work should take the lead in showing how gender policies are mainstreamed, i.e. Sweden and Finland
8. If the Executive Secretaries of the 3 Rio Conventions agree on a common gender strategy, working with UN Women can become an essential component of the synergies between UNCBD, UNFCCC and UNCCD
9. If UN Women will plan to have the funding and commitment at ground level to actually implement the various conventions of the UN with a gender perspective, we ask donor countries to commit to putting their money into this important new entity.

Table 3: *H.E. Ms. Tarja Reponen, Ambassador for Sustainable Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland; Ms. Natalia Kostus, IUCN/WEDO; Ms. Nasserie Carew, Managing Director Communications, MCC; Ms. Flavia Pansieri, Executive Coordinator, UNV; Mr. Kyo Akasaka, UN USG for Communications & Public Information; Mr. Melchiade Bukuru, Chief, UNCCD Liaison Office, NY; Mr. Frank Pinto, Sr. Advisor on Energy, Climate Change and Development, UNDP; Ms. Charlotte Petri Gornitzka, Acting Director, Swedish Agency for Development Cooperation; Brian Thompson, IUCN*

1. Decide on focus areas and concentrate on concrete solutions that produce results
2. There is a clear connection between gender and poverty, but the connection between gender/social and environment is harder to make
3. Issue of compartmentalization at every level needs to be addressed and taken up at the Ministerial or higher level
4. A need for institutions and institutionalization of policy, as voluntary actions are not as effective
5. A need for quotas, loans, and frameworks, land-rights issues, and women's access to decision making
6. A need for quotas on local participation
7. Address difficulties and particularities of working at country level
8. Different Ministries are lacking synergies to successfully address issues such as social aspects of climate change
9. Addressing lack of land ownership is a key crosscutting issue for women, and will require complex legal system reform through legislation. Every solution is going to intervene at the social level, which will endanger societal cohesion.
10. Integrating social considerations and gender into the environmental debate may create a backlash in the traditional societies. It is important to deal with traditional beliefs when working with grassroots societies on environmental issues and gender.

Table 4: *H.E. Ms. Gunilla Carlsson, Minister for International Development Cooperation, Sweden; Ms. Marie-Claire Angwa, UNDP; Ms. Neneh Diallo, Associate Director, MCC ; Ms. Magaret Batty, Director of Policy Campaigns, WaterAid, Sweden ; Sarah L. Timpson, Chairperson, Equator Prize Committee; Dan Shepard, Information Officer, UN DPI; Mr. Ruben Brouwer, Permanent Mission of the Netherlands to the UN; Ms. Maria Alejandra Velasco Parrado; Equator Prize Winner, Bolivia;*

1. Donors should publish development assistance and see where problems are still lagging - information sharing is essential for all.
2. Governments should not impose/dictate national policies
3. Need for integration approach as women know about things that impact them
4. Women's reproductive role to be brought back to the table
5. More programmes like the Equator Initiative needed to show results
6. Traditional knowledge of women and indigenous communities should be supported

Table 5: Ms. Cate Owren, Programme Coordinator, WEDO; Ms. Diep ThiMyHanh, Equator Prize Winner, Vietnam; Ms. Eva Maria Meister, Attaché, Permanent Mission of Germany to the UN; Gail Karlsson, ENERGIA; Ms. Ana Maria Currea, Knowledge Facilitator, GEF SGP; Ms. Leslie Wright, Chair, CoNGO (Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relations with the UN) Committee on Population and Development; Ms. Lynne Godkowski, Advisor on Climate, Environment & Biodiversity, Permanent Mission of the United States to the UN; Mr. Neil Pratt, Sr. Environmental Affairs Officer/Head of Communications, CBD

1. A need to define the role of women in civil society: Do we service ourselves when we separate out women as a group or when 'women' are more mainstreamed? There is a big difference between including women/women's participation and gender equality. We need the former to achieve the latter. Synergies between stakeholders is also crucial: women see targeting youth is key (and perhaps vice versa.)
2. Women need to be empowered as leaders who then insist that women count. There is a huge opportunity to empower women through education (see above, as well, linking women and youth). If women are in the room they have some power: it is up to them to champion the cause. Everyone in the room today arguably has this power, so it is up to us to continually insist women's issues and gender equality matters. Women still need the proverbial 'place at the table' to engage, so that their input is included and they can represent many interests of women. Especially the case in finance discussions, see below...
3. Countless example of good work exists, as is clear from stories around the table. We need to build on and create new plans of action together, fostering/prioritizing synergies.
4. But, why there is not more progress if we have great examples of 'best practices' and effective programs? It is important to consider vertical synergies in policy making: local to global. A need for financing at the community level: women need to have access to the community funds. There are many challenges: Talk of "big pots of money" for climate change. Will these pots respond to needs?

The example from Viet Nam. We talk about equality, but it is already women who do all the work. We need to teach children good conservation habits. Habits are hard to change, but children adopting new practices can teach the parents. Biodiversity is the key to survival in villages. Women play an important role in the communities. Women play an important role in the communities, but they depend on men's money. Bamboo is growing very fast, needs to be managed and cut correctly, and then it is sustainable. Bamboo house has very good climate and absorbs carbon. Bamboo is also used in waste water management.

5. Necessary to find ways to get women to the decision making tables on finance. Will an efficiency argument work?

Table 6: ; Ms. Cassandra Butts, Senior Advisor, MCC; Ms. Lorena Aguilar, Sr. Global Gender Advisor, IUCN; Mr. Liberto Bautista, President, CoNGO; Ms. Eileen De Ravin, Manager, UNDP Equator Initiative; Ms. Diana Rivington, Director Human Development & Gender Equality, Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA); Ms. Soon Young Yoon, NGO CSW, International Alliance for Women; Mr. Javed Jabar, Global vice President, IUCN

What are the strategies you would recommend for gender-mainstreaming?

1. A need to find grass-roots and macro programs that are working in the country—micro-finance, health-care, education, for example—and integrate the gender and ecological factors into those
2. It is important to do a gender assessment and impact evaluation as an integral part of planning and implementation. However, to have good results, senior staff gender experts should be hired as part of the team. The environment sector in a project like forestry can promote gender equality through existing programs.

With all of the existing data and evidence, we still don't have enough results. What else needs to be done?

1. A fundamental need for women's to access basic resources such as land. Without land rights (collective, usufruct or private), it is nearly impossible to integrate gender into sustainable development as women cannot make strategic decisions. The role of legal and constitutional reform and/or enforcement of existing laws should be a starting point.
2. The need for the environmental sector to improve its messaging and disseminating its message. The UN report is already three years old, but few women know about the basics related to climate change. Mass media, micro media, traditional media—none of these are working well to connect gender inequality with environment issues.
3. Good governance, accountability, financial transparency, anti-corruption measures, and support to social movements, including the women's movement, are all necessary to move forward. That provides the mechanisms for "how" to bring about sustained social change

Websites

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

www.cbd.int/gender

International Union for Nature Conservation (IUCN)

www.generoyambiente.org/home.php

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

www.unccd.int/knowledge/docs/Desertificationandgender.pdf

Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC)

www.mcc.gov/pages/activities/activity/gender

Government of Finland

<http://formin.finland.fi/public/download.aspx?ID=53454&GUID={AC7E012B-20D2-4E99-BF3B-D554B12178A2}>
<http://formin.finland.fi/public/download.aspx?ID=44819&GUID={F5F241A3-3BB2-4046-B3A9-A8EAC935EB08}>

Government Sweden

www.sweden.gov.se/sb/d/8366
www.sweden.gov.se/sb/d/2066
www.sweden.gov.se/sb/d/7517

Global Environment Facility (GEF)

www.thegef.org/gef/node/2834

United Nations Development Programme

www.undp.org/women

GEF Small Grants Programme (GEF SGP)

www.sgp.undp.org

Women's Environment Development Organisation (WEDO)

www.wedo.org

Equator Initiative

<http://www.equatorinitiative.org>

Tryg Vesta Group

<http://www.tryg.com/uk/Menu/About+us>

Baha'i International

www.bahai.org

BDA Foundation

www.bdafoundation.org

Partners for Population & Development

www.partners-popdev.org

United Nations Volunteers

www.unv.org

United Nations Department of public Information

<http://unic.un.org/aroundworld/unics/en/whoWeAre/aboutDPI/index.asp>

Swedish Agency for Development Cooperation

<http://web.mit.edu/urbanupgrading/upgrading/resources/organizations/Sida.html>

WaterAid

www.wateraid.org

International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy (ENERGIA)

www.energia.org

The Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relations with the UN (CoNGO)

www.ngocongo.org/index.php

Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)

www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/home

International Alliance of Women

www.womenalliance.org