Gender and climate change in Mexico: Achievements, opportunities, lessons learned, and challenges

Itzá Castañeda
#ParlAmericasGender
Content

1. International framework
2. National policy
3. Challenges of integration
International Framework

- **All** of the Rio Conventions with gender mandates – GAP

- **All** of the main *financing mechanisms* have policies and guidelines on gender equality and women’s empowerment

- **Agenda 2030** – SDGs
Gender in the NDCs

40%

65 of 162 (40%) mention women and/or gender in the context of their Nationally Determined Contribution
Women and Gender within the NDCs

- **13** Mention “women” and/or “gender” exclusively in their adaptation sections
- **3** Mention “women” and/or “gender” exclusively in their mitigation sections
- **5** Mention “women” and/or “gender” in both their adaptation and mitigation sections, but do not mainstream or integrate gender into all climate change actions and strategies
- **33** Identify gender as a cross-cutting policy priority, or commit to either integrate or mainstream gender in all climate change actions and strategies
- **11** Mention “women” or “gender” exclusively in their introduction or national context sections
Gender in the NDCs

EXAMINING THE ALIGNMENT BETWEEN THE INTENDED NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The year 2015 was a significant turning point for both the sustainable development and climate agendas. Two major international processes were concluded: the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the adoption of a new international climate agreement, the Paris Agreement, under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

The challenge now becomes one of implementation. The Paris Agreement is underpinned by the intended nationally determined contributions (INDCs) that reflect the national climate policies and actions of the countries. NDGs in the SDGs also have a large number of targets and indicators that need to be translated into national and sub-national plans. This requires an unprecedented level of joint implementation of these two agendas in a way that can generate significant mutual benefits and move beyond the view that these agendas are essentially different or different avenues to achieving the transformational goals they share.

This working paper explores the extent to which the two agendas are aligned, and a concrete way for identifying examples of climate actions in the SDGs that have the potential to generate mutual benefits with the INDCs.

http://genderandenvironment.org

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Mexico: Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

- Mexico committed to reducing Greenhouse Gas emissions by **25 %** by **2030**

- This commitment includes **human rights and gender equality** as transversal focuses, and recognizes women as important actors in decision-making on energy consumption

- Emphasizes that measures taken must not exacerbate the already-disproportionate adverse effects of climate change **due to gender inequality**
2015-2016: New Agreements

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UNFCCC: Gender Decisions

No. Decisions Addressing Gender Under Main Thematic Areas

- Adaptation: 10
- Mitigation: 3
- Finance: 5
- Technology: 4
- Capacity Building: 5
Financing

• All international financing mechanisms have a gender component: GEF, Green Fund for the Climate

• Mexico’s Climate Change Fund must operate in accordance with gender criteria (PECC 2.2.4)
2. National Policy
Programmatic Framework

Plan Nacional de Desarrollo

PROIGUALDAD

PECC (2014-2018)
ENBIOMEX (2016-2030)
ENAREDD+, PEACC´s (Veracruz, Oaxaca, CDMX)

$ GASTO ETIQUETADO y REGLAS DE OPERACIÓN

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Legal Framework

Constitution
   Art. 1
   Art. 4

Planning Law
   Treasury Budgeting Law
   General Law on Equality

National Development Plan:
   gender equality as a cross-cutting strategy
National Framework

- Policies and laws on energy, forestry, biodiversity, and many others do not include gender considerations, and gender policies do not address these sectors.

- Lack of sex-disaggregated data and indicators to inform decision-making that “leaves no one behind”.

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Advances and Contradictions

National Program for Equality of Opportunities and Non-discrimination against Women 2013-2018

Strategy 1.1 Harmonize national legislation with international conventions and treaties on women’s human rights, in accordance with the 1st Article of the Constitution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Type of action</th>
<th>Organization with responsibility for follow-up</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1.6 Harmonize women’s rights with the Convention on Biological Diversity</td>
<td>Specific (Semarnat)</td>
<td>Inmujeres SRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.7 Promote the harmonization of women’s rights with the United Nations’ Fight against Desertification</td>
<td>Specific (Semarnat)</td>
<td>Inmujeres SRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.8 Promote the harmonization of women’s rights with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change</td>
<td>Specific (Semarnat)</td>
<td>Inmujeres SRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.9 Promote the harmonization of national legislation with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples</td>
<td>Specific (Segob and CDI)</td>
<td>Inmujeres SRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.10 Promote the harmonization of national legislation and legal frameworks on strategic topics: education, health, work, social development</td>
<td>Strategy coordination</td>
<td>Inmujeres</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How can international instruments be translated into national policy – particularly environmental legislation – in Mexico, and the necessary modifications or additions be made to the legal framework?
Climate change is the most urgent and critical issue of our time. Ensuring equitable participation of women and men in developing solutions to this challenge is paramount to moving towards a sustainable future. Women’s participation at all levels is integral to achieving the goals of sustainable development and poverty alleviation, as women and children are the ones greatly affected by the impact of climate change. The development of a gender-sensitive climate change strategy...will lead to the women of Liberia taking ownership and deciding what they want as it relates to climate change.”

Julia Duncan Cassell, Minister of Gender and Development, Government

Developed by: Liberia Agua, Francois Rogers
Main Partners: Liberia Environment Protection Agency, Ministry of Gender and Development, Government of Liberia
Partnership: NGOs, local government, civil society, academic, research institutions, foundations, UN
Date: April 2012
Contact: ungenderinfo@iucn.org, www.genderenvironment.org
ccGAPs in Latin America and the Caribbean

1. Peru
2. Haiti
3. Cuba
4. Dominican Republic
5. Panama
6. Costa Rica
7. Sonora, Mexico
¿Cómo elaborar un CCgAP?

Take Stock
- Analysis of country’s legislative and policy framework
- Interviews with key stakeholders
- Assessment of institutional initiatives and technical capacities

Level the Playing Field
- Training for women, women’s organizations, and other interested groups to build capacity and identify priorities

Capture Diverse Voices
- Multi-stakeholder workshops
- Participatory development of sectoral actions

Prioritize Actions
- Draft of the ccGAP is finalized by a group selected by workshop participants

Validation
- Validation through various electronic means
- Workshops in different regions

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Impact emissions reduction

Inclusive

Drive transformative change

Increase sustainability

Innovative

Improve quality of life

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Harmonization

• How is the legislative branch engaged?

• Interest and strength of federal and state-level equality committees?
A choice cannot be made between: *development, poverty and equality*

- **Climate change** is a development, human rights, poverty reduction, and equity issue

- A human rights-centred approach implies that you cannot choose between one or the other

- Ensuring the full realization of human rights depends upon *parallel and complementary advances* in health, education, transportation, water, nutrition
All Women Are Equal?

Indicadores de Desarrollo Humano y Género en México: nueva metodología

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Conditions for Women

Differences in conditions of wellbeing between groups, within them, and, notably, between women and men.

- 53% of women live in conditions with high or very high levels of development
- 46.4% live in medium or low development conditions
Intersections: sex, age, and household poverty

Gráfica 1. Razón de hogares por sexo de la jefatura, edad y condición de pobreza del jefe o la jefera, 2010

Fuente: estimaciones del CONEVAL con base en el MCS-ENIGH 2010.
Land tenure in the Yucatan Peninsula 2014

Source: EGI 2016. Women’s access to land ownership and resources, Gender and Sustainable Development Evaluation in the Yucatan Peninsula.
Citizen Participation Index for the Environmental Sector

- Allows for understanding of the extent to which actions involve citizens.
- Tool for promoting informed, active, and effective participation by citizens, following the principles of inclusion, equality and equity.

Percentage of citizen participation by women and men in CONANP activities Yucatan Peninsula, 2014

Fuente: UICN, 2015 - EGDS-PY
Where Are We?

• Advances in national legal and programmatic frameworks, but these are incomplete and not harmonized
• Prevailing gender inequality does not allow for sustainable development
• Little participation/knowledge of state-level women’s institutions. Some advancements: CDMX, Sonora, Veracruz, Oaxaca
• Lack of understanding and interest by the public? There are cases and good practices
Comprehensive and Complementary Policies

- Apart from gender gaps, it is important to recognize and transform existing legal, technical, and institutional barriers

- It is not about adding in gender; it is a process of integration

- Gender violence, defense of land and resources!
Challenges

- National and state governments, cooperation agencies and social organizations have an opportunity to implement these policies appropriately and in their entirety.

Mainstreaming a gender perspective not just in formal negotiation processes.

Participation in:
- Design
- Implementation
- Financing
- Monitoring and evaluation
"Depending on their design and implementation, policies and institutions can further perpetuate patterns of inequality and exclusion, or they can contribute to a more equitable expansion of opportunities for women and men, leading to more sustainable societies." (UNDP, 2011)

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