



GLOBAL SUPPORT
PROGRAMME



Gender mainstreaming into climate transparency and measurement, reporting and verification (MRV)

2017-2020

Results of GSP Pilot in Western Balkan countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia) and Lebanon



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LIST OF ACRONYMS

BUR	Biennial Update Report
BTR	Biennial Transparency Report
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CBIT	Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency
CNS	Carbon-Neutral Strategy
COP	Conference of Parties
DHS	Demographic and Household Survey
FBO	Faith-Based Organization
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GGCA	Global Gender Climate Alliance
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GSP	Global Support Programme for Preparation of National Communications and Biennial Update Reports
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
LEDS	Low Emission Development Strategies
MRV	Monitoring, Reporting and Verification
NAMA	Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NC	National Communication
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
NGO	Non-Government Organization
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention Climate Change Convention
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UN WOMEN	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

GLOSSARY

Gender: Gender refers to the “economic, social and cultural attributes and opportunities associated with being male or female” (United Nations Population Fund [UNFPA], 2005, n.p.). It encompasses the roles, behaviors and activities that are deemed acceptable for people of different genders and influences the relationships between the people who fall within these groups. These attributes and relationships are socially constructed (UNFPA, 2005; UN Women Training Centre, 2017). “Gender determines what is expected, allowed and valued” (UN Women Training Centre, 2017, n.p.) in a particular context at a given time, recognizing that this is changeable. In most societies there are differences and inequalities between women and men in the responsibilities they are expected to take up, the activities that are considered normal or acceptable, access to and control over resources, and participation in decision-making.

Gender analysis: Assessment of the basis and identification of the differences that women and men are facing/dealing with in the concrete field of interest. It defines the differences in the access, participation, involvement, different needs and obstacles of both sexes in the concrete sphere of the living. The main purpose of these analysis is to identify the gaps and the obstacles, the roots and the causes in order to introduce the concept of equal treatment and equal rights of both women and men. This refers to careful and critical examination of how differences in gender roles, activities, needs, opportunities and rights/entitlements affect men, women, girls and boys in certain situations or contexts. A key element of gender analysis is the examination of women’s and men’s access to and control of resources—especially economic, political and knowledge resources and access to and control of time. Other important analysis factors that should be considered along with gender include age, poverty levels, ethnicity, race and culture.

Gender and sex: Gender and sex are different but interlinked. Gender is a social construct with defined roles and behaviors of women and men, while sex refers to a set of biological attributes where individuals are almost always clearly male or female. Society shapes and normalizes different roles and behaviors based on people’s male or female sex and these socially determined roles and relationships are referred to as gender attributes. Sexual orientation also influences the roles and behaviors of individuals and different societies treat lesbian, gay, bisexual and transsexual people with differing degrees of expectations and discrimination.

Gender equality: Equality between men and women, or gender equality, refers to the equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of women and men, boys and girls. Equality does not mean that women and men will become the same but that their rights and opportunities will not depend on whether they were born

male or female. Gender equality implies that the interests, needs and priorities of both women and men are taken into consideration, recognizing the diversity of different groups of women and men. Gender equality is not a women's issue as it provides benefits for both men and women and is a key human right. Gender equality is also a precondition for, and indicator of, sustainable development.

Gender equity: Gender equity refers to specific measures that are designed to redress historical inequalities between men and women. There are many examples of gender equity and they apply across all sectors. Examples include taking steps to ensure girls and boys and women and men have equal access to health and education opportunities, designating temporary special measures to bring women into decision-making arenas and employment, and/or designing processes to ensure women can safely participate in economic life.

Gender inclusive: Gender inclusiveness is a process and refers to how well women and men are included as equally valued players in initiatives. Gender-inclusive projects, programs, political processes and government services are those which have protocols in place to ensure women and men (and boys and girls, where appropriate) are included and have their voices heard and opinions equally valued.

Gender mainstreaming: Gender mainstreaming is the (re)organization, improvement, development and evaluation of policy processes, so that a gender equality perspective is incorporated in all policies at all levels and all stages, by the actors normally involved in policy-making. This is the process of assessing the implications for men and women of any planned action, including legislation, policies or programs, in all areas and at all levels. It is a way to ensure women's and men's concerns and experiences are an integral dimension of all development efforts. The goal of gender mainstreaming is gender equality. Gender mainstreaming is a 'whole of government' responsibility.

Source: Most of the definitions in this glossary are adapted from the UN Women website, <https://trainingcentre.unwomen.org/mod/glossary/view.php?id=36> (accessed 17 April 2020), as well as from the website of the European Institute for Gender Equality (<https://eige.europa.eu/>)



INTRODUCTION

This document is an initiative of the Global Support Programme for National Communications and Biennial Update Reports (in short, GSP), funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and jointly implemented by UNDP and UNEP. The primary objective of the GSP is to provide technical and financial support to developing parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in preparing their National Communications (NCs) and Biennial Update Reports (BURs).

Among other areas of work, the GSP supports the integration of gender equality considerations into climate reporting, in accordance with UNFCCC's guidance and GEF's gender policy and action plan. In December 2017, GSP started a pilot initiative by providing a combination of regional and national support to six countries on gender and climate change, in order to enhance understanding of the interconnection of the two issues and to build the institutional capacity in this regard. Such start coincided with the adoption of the UNFCCC Gender Action Plan by COP 23, which served to GSP as a conceptual framework going forward.

The following document summarizes experiences and lessons learnt generated from December 2017, when the first regional kick off meeting was held, to February 2020 when the third (and final) regional dialogue was organized.

The document consists of three parts:

- **Framework:** it gives basic information on the Transparency Arrangements and on Gender Mainstreaming under the Convention which served as a framework for GSP support;
- **GSP Pilot for Western Balkan Countries and Lebanon:** this part illustrates the process and what was done in the region - it starts with a description of challenges that GSP encountered in the beginning, continues with overview of GSP inputs and finishes with results of the pilot which are illustrated by concrete examples of enhancement;
- **Next Steps - Thinking Beyond the GSP Pilot:** this final part presents a summary of recommendations for future activities at the national and regional levels in order to build up on the results of the pilot.



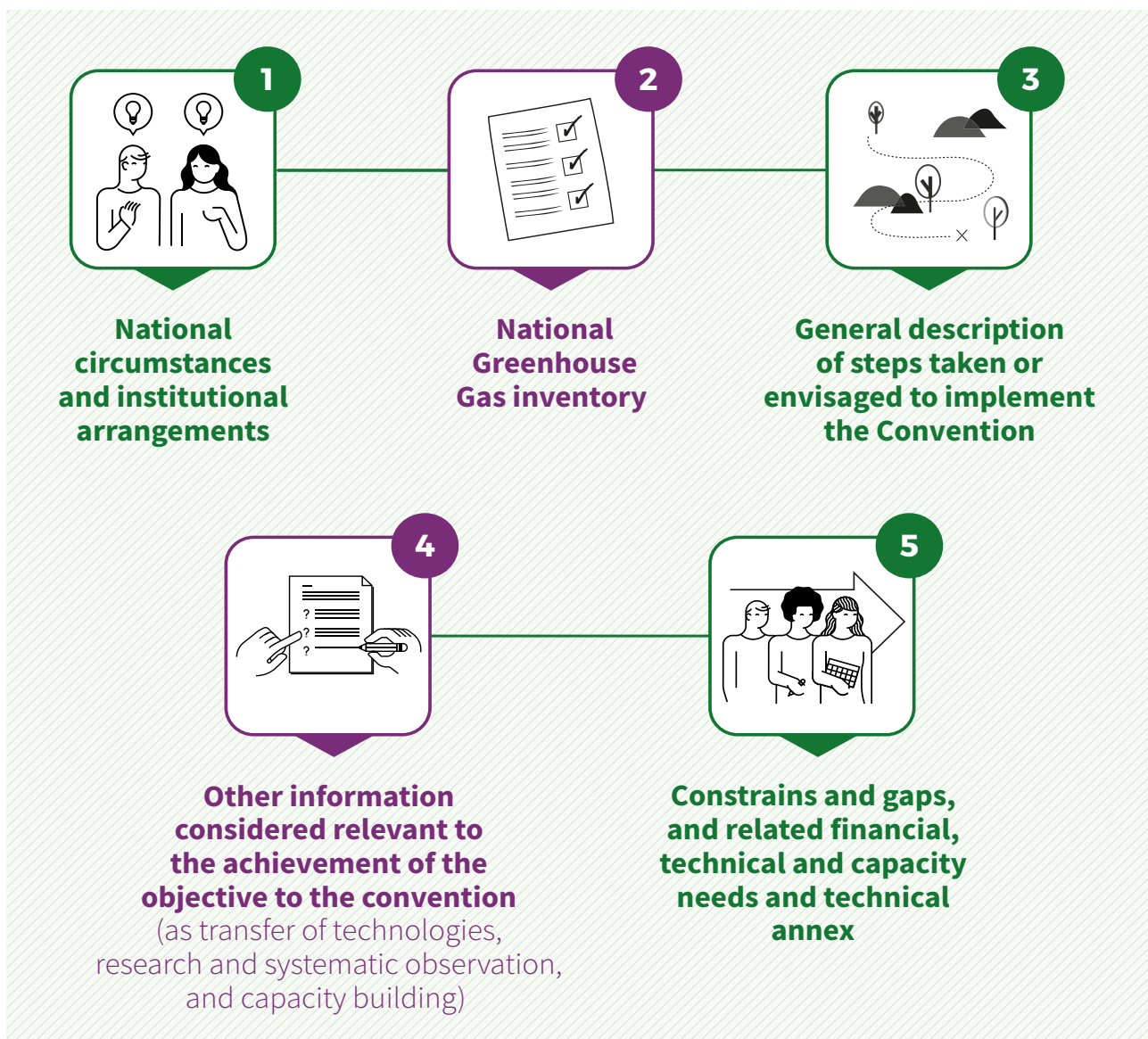
FRAMEWORK

MRV and Transparency

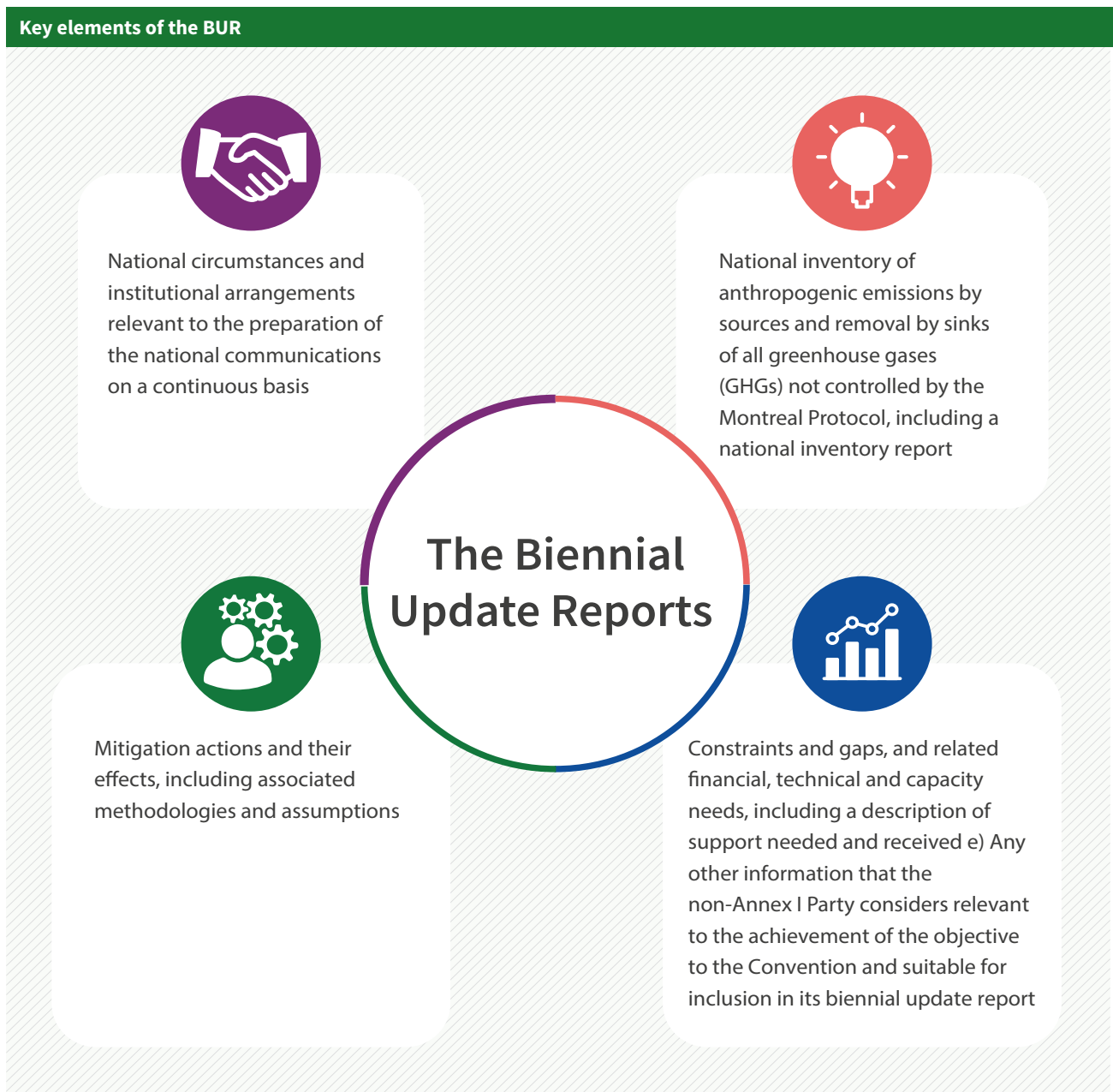
Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) are obliged to communicate and report to the Conference of the Parties (COP), through the secretariat, information on the actions they have taken and envisage they will take to implement the Climate Convention and the Paris Agreement.

In the last 20 years such arrangements for national reporting of the Convention have evolved into a more comprehensive Measurement, Reporting and Verification, framework (MRV) and have provided the basis for the establishment of the Enhanced Transparency Framework as an outcome of the Paris Agreement in 2015. Under the MRV framework, National Communications (NC - to be submitted every four years) and Biennial Update Reports (BUR - to be submitted every two years) are at the heart of reporting on the progress in the implementation of the Climate Convention.

The key elements of the National communications are:

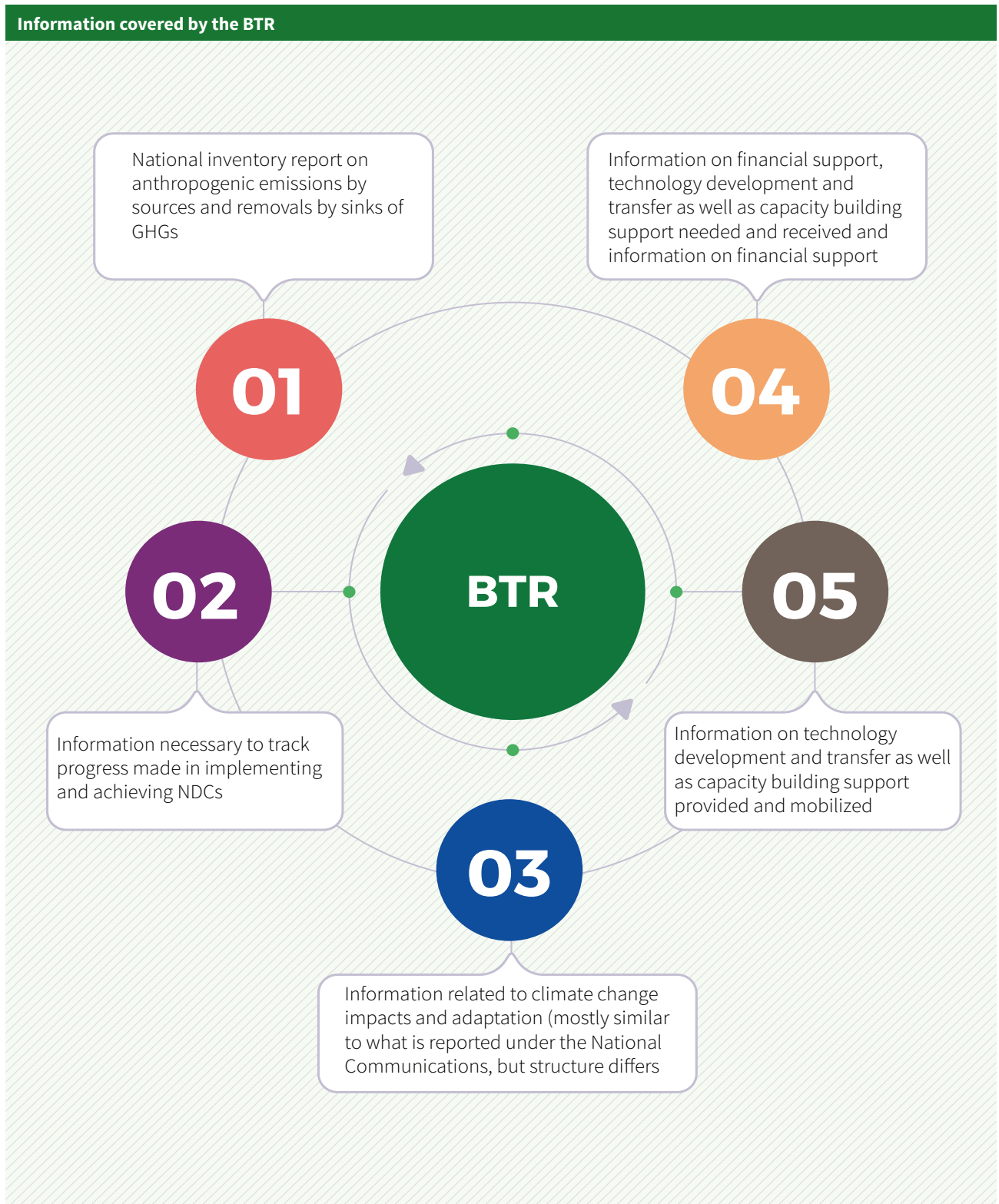


The key elements of BURs are:



The Katowice conference (COP 24, Dec 2018) introduced the operationalization of the Paris Agreement by adopting the modalities, procedures and guidelines (MPGs), with the aim of guiding and facilitating the improvement of reports and transparency over time. As an outcome of the Enhanced Transparency Framework all parties to the Paris Agreement are invited to report under the same process. According to the Decision 18/CMA, Parties shall submit their first Biennial Transparency Report (BTR) and national inventory report, if submitted as a stand-alone report, in accordance with the MPGs, at the latest by 31 December 2024 and will undergo the last International Consultation and Analysis (ICA) cycle between 2024-2026.

The BTR has major changes regarding the BUR, on the scope and the methodologies used for reporting, specially to ensure completeness and accuracy of the information reported on the GHG inventory and in the reporting and tracking progress of the NDCs. This also includes the requirement to use the 2006 guidelines by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and use the global warming potentials (GWP) of the Fifth Assessment Report by the IPCC.



Gender under the UNFCCC Process

In 2001 at COP 7, the parties agreed on the first decision related to “Improving the participation of women in the representation of Parties in bodies established under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol”¹. Subsequent decisions referred to gender and the importance of considering it across the different aspects of climate change policy and action as well as the convention. It was not until 2014, that the Lima Work Programme on Gender² was adopted by COP 20 as a stand-alone gender decision. The Lima Work Programme on Gender invited parties to advance on gender balance, promote gender sensitivity in developing and implementing climate policy, and achieve gender responsive climate policy in all relevant activities under the Convention³.

In 2016, at COP 21, the Paris Agreement entered into force and gender equality considerations were further advanced through the Preamble, Articles 7 and 11 and Decision 1. Article 11 of the decision (paragraph 2) was dedicated specifically to capacity building: “Capacity-building should be country-driven, based on and responsive to national needs, and foster country ownership of Parties, in particular, for developing country Parties, including at the national, subnational and local levels. Capacity building should be guided by lessons learned, including those from capacity-building activities under the Convention, and should be an effective, iterative process that is participatory, cross-cutting and gender-responsive.”

Following the extension of the Lima Work Programme on gender at COP 22, the UNFCCC Gender Action Plan (UNFCCC GAP)⁴ was adopted in 2017, at COP 23, in order to enhance implementation of Lima Work Program. The Gender Action Plan sets priorities, activities, responsibilities, timeline and deliverables, as follows:

- A: Capacity-building, knowledge sharing and communication
- B: Gender balance, participation and women’s leadership
- C: Coherence
- D: Gender responsive implementation and means of implementation
- E: Monitoring and reporting

At COP 25, in Madrid, countries took steps to accelerate a more gender-responsive approach to climate action by adopting a comprehensive Enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender (LWPG) and Gender Action Plan (GAP) by inviting Parties to submit information on efforts and steps taken to implement the enhanced LWPG and its gender action plan in their national reporting under the UNFCCC process, as applicable.

The decision acknowledges that there is further need for mainstreaming gender throughout the Convention and that this will contribute to increasing effectiveness, fairness and sustainability of climate policy and action. The enhanced five-year WP and GAP is focused on implementation and affirms that action by all stakeholders - public and private - towards gender-responsiveness and implementation of gender-related activities is critical⁵.

1 Decision 36/CP.7

2 Decision 18/CP.20

3 Decision 18/CP.20

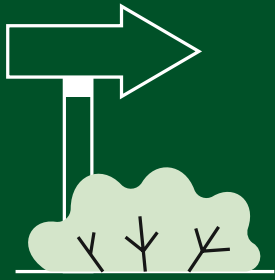
4 Decision 3/CP.23

5 Draft Decision/ CP.25

Gender under the UNFCCC Process Timeline



Countries took steps to accelerate a more gender-responsive approach to climate action by adopting a comprehensive Enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender (LWPG) and Gender Action Plan (GAP)



The parties agreed on the first decision related to “Improving the participation of women in the representation of Parties in bodies established under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol “

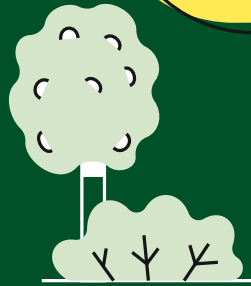


The Paris Agreement entered into force and gender equality considerations were further advanced through the Preamble

2019
COP 25

2016
COP 21

2017
COP 23



2001
COP 7

2014
COP 20

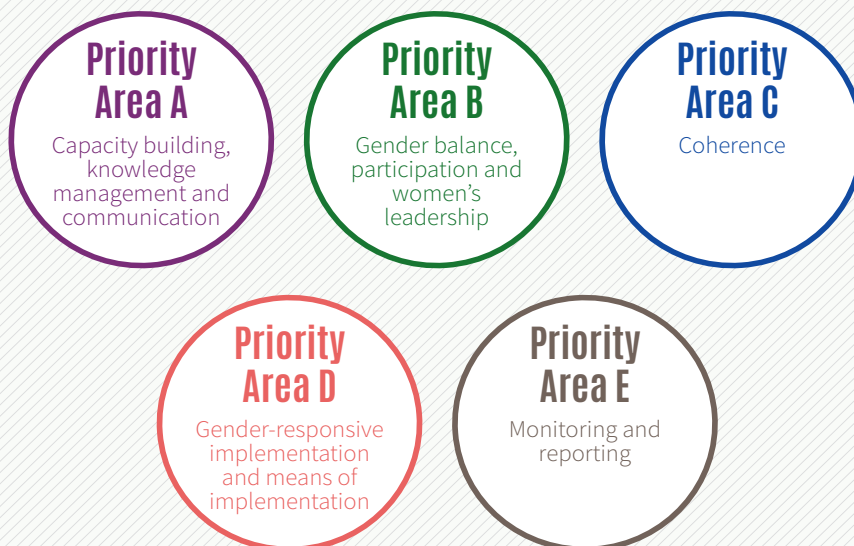
The UNFCCC Gender Action Plan (UNFCCC GAP) was adopted

The Lima Work Programme on Gender was adopted



Lima work programme on gender

Gender Action Plan



The GAP includes 20 activities grouped under the above mentioned five priority areas. These activities describe concrete actions and outputs, in which governments, Parties and relevant organization are invited to lead or support.

In relation to MRV/transparency, the following are of particular importance:

Priority Area A: capacity-building, knowledge management and communication

A.3 Enhance capacity-building for governments and other relevant stakeholders to collect, analyze and apply sex-disaggregated data and gender analysis in the context of climate change, where applicable

Priority area D: gender-responsive implementation and means of implementation

D.1 Share experience and support capacity-building on gender budgeting, including on the integration of gender-responsive budgeting into national budgets to advance gender-responsive climate policies, plans, strategies and action, as appropriate.

D.6 Exchange information on lessons learned among Parties that have integrated gender into national climate policies, plans, strategies and action, as appropriate (e.g. information on results, impacts and main challenges), and on the actions that Parties are taking to mainstream gender in any updates thereto, as appropriate.

D.7 Enhance the availability of sex-disaggregated data for gender analysis, taking into consideration multidimensional factors, to better inform gender responsive climate policies, plans, strategies and action, as appropriate.

The UNDP/UNEP Global Support Program (GSP) and Gender

In 2015, the GSP elaborated a “**Gender responsive National Communications Toolkit**” that offered a well-structured guidance to countries on how to integrate gender considerations in National Communications (NCs) and Biennial Updated Reports (BURs). The Toolkit sets down instructions of the main gender considerations that can be integrated into the reports like gender balanced decision making, gender-differentiated risks and the types of support men and women need to influence climate adaptation, mitigation, policymaking and reporting.

Further, since 2016 and in collaboration with the GSP, UNDP - while assisting developing countries in accessing GEF funding for NCs and BURs – has been working with national counterparts to include the elaboration of gender analysis and components as part of their climate reporting efforts, thus enhancing the mainstreaming of gender considerations into national climate policies and actions.

Similarly, since the start of the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) in 2016, UNDP has been encouraging countries to include specific gender activities in their projects, with the objective of strengthening the integration of gender considerations into the new enhanced transparency framework, enhancing the elaboration of gender-climate change indicators, capacity building opportunities and institutional arrangements, among others.



GSP PILOT FOR WESTERN BALKAN COUNTRIES AND LEBANON

In 2017, GSP encouraged countries to use the methodology of the Gender Responsive National Communications Toolkit by launching a pilot program for five Western Balkan countries - Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia and Lebanon. The initiative aimed at providing guidance to developing countries on how to mainstream gender equality, step by step, in the development process of NCs and BURs as well as at facilitating countries in sharing experiences and lessons learned during the process.

The pilot program went from December 2017 to February 2020 and had two components: a regional and a national one. Within the regional component, three regional workshops were conducted - on December 5-6, 2017 in Skopje (North Macedonia), on November 14-15, 2018 in Belgrade (Serbia) and on February 12-13, 2020 in Podgorica (Montenegro). The national component consisted instead of the provision of targeted technical assistance to countries in integrating gender considerations in NCs, BURs and CBITs in line with the Lima Work Program on Gender and the Gender Action Plan. UNFCCC gender focal points from EU countries, other UN entities working on gender dimension of climate change, as well as national gender experts, were also invited to support exchanges of knowledge and good practices.

Challenges encountered at the pilot start

- **At the first regional conference organized by GSP in December 2017, countries highlighted the lack of staff with expertise to collect and analyze sex-disaggregated data necessary to understand conditions and factors men and women may experience while facing the potential effects of climate change.** In five out of six countries⁶ national statistical offices regularly collected data like percentage of women and men employed in sectors of agriculture, energy and transport, earnings in those sectors disaggregated by sex, percentage of women and men among researchers, etc. and publish the data as separate studies⁷. When it comes to data analysis, three out of five countries took the initial steps to analyze gender data in the context of climate change: In 2014, **North Macedonia** conducted a research named “Gender and Climate Change in Macedonia”⁸, that covered the wide spectrum of data, gender statistics and information relevant for climate change policies in the country, and also for the purpose of integration of gender considerations into the third NC. In 2015, **Serbia** published a research titled “Gender and Climate Change in Serbia”⁹ for the purpose of the development of gender sensitive climate change policies. In 2017, **Montenegro** conducted a research titled “Women and Climate Change in Montenegro” to be included in its Second BUR and Third NC.

6 Western Balkan countries - Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia

7 National publications are available at:

Albania: <http://instat.gov.al/en/themes/demography-and-social-indicators/gender-and-age-equality/#tab3>

Bosnia and Herzegovina: http://www.bhas.ba/tematskibilteni/TB_zene_i_muskarci_bh_2015_eng.pdf

North Macedonia: <http://unfccc.org.mk/content/Publikacii/Gender%20and%20Climate%20Change%20in%20Macedonia.pdf>

Montenegro: https://www.monstat.org/eng/publikacije_page.php?id=205

8 <http://unfccc.org.mk/content/Publikacii/Gender%20and%20Climate%20Change%20in%20Macedonia.pdf>

9 https://www.rs.undp.org/content/serbia/en/home/library/environment_energy/gender-and-climate-change-in-the-republic-of-serbia.html

- In all target countries **institutions mandated with climate and those mandated with gender were challenged to understand interconnection between the two policies.** The majority of countries (with the exception of Lebanon, which at that time was developing a national gender mechanism) have well established institutional and legal framework for gender equality and well developed national networks of civil society organizations and women’s groups. The same applies for national institutions dealing with climate change policies. Although the process of preparation of CBITs proposals in 2018 considered gender policies, strategies and legislation as well as basic gender information, and although 3 countries had conducted gender analyses, it was evident that institutions rather relied on ad hoc expertise available through UNDP and other agencies, instead of thinking strategically about raising overall institutional capacity to understand the main principles of gender and climate change and to incorporate them in their everyday work.

Additional challenge for pilot countries was the **lack of adequate indicators to connect Sustainable Development Goals related to gender equality (SDG5) and climate change (SDG13).** Besides indicators to measure climate change impact and effect of adaptation and mitigation policies on women and men, it was also evident that countries were not trained to collect and analyze data related to intersectional vulnerability of women and men within socially marginalized groups.

GSP interventions

Regional meetings: In December 5-6, 2017, the GSP organized “The First Regional meeting on Supporting the Integration of Gender Considerations into MRV/transparency Processes in the Western Balkan Countries and Lebanon”, hosted by the Government of North Macedonia and held in Skopje. The purpose of the event was to bring together the climate and gender stakeholders from relevant ministries and institutions, to discuss the opportunities and the challenges to mainstream gender into the development process of NCs and BURs, also in the light of the enhanced transparency framework established by the Paris Agreement and the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT). Besides the clear awareness raising, capacity development and networking purposes, this workshop was also the opportunity to make countries acquainted with the Gender Responsive National Communications Toolkit as a practical and well structured guidance on integrating gender issues into climate documents. The toolkit enabled participants to better understand the transparency of the process of reporting in terms of who is involved, whose views are represented, gender-differentiated risks and the types of support men and women need to influence climate adaptation, mitigation, policymaking and reporting. Finally, participants discussed about measures that have to be taken by the respective countries to implement the toolkit. Based on that each country was asked to develop a draft national action plan and to discuss it further with stakeholders.

In November 14-15, 2018, GSP organized a Second Regional meeting on Gender and Climate Change . The event was hosted by the Government of Serbia and held in Belgrade. The workshop targeted both governmental officials responsible for development and submission of reports to the UNFCCC (NCs and BURs) as well as professionals entrusted with gender mainstreaming. UNDP Country offices’ experts also participated at the event. The workshop was aimed at further capacity building of countries in terms of an updated understanding of gender dimension of climate change and vice versa. The workshop was also an opportunity to strengthen collaboration among countries through experiences sharing on the status of climate/gender action, and to openly discuss expectations and results of the respective countries in the area of gender and climate change.

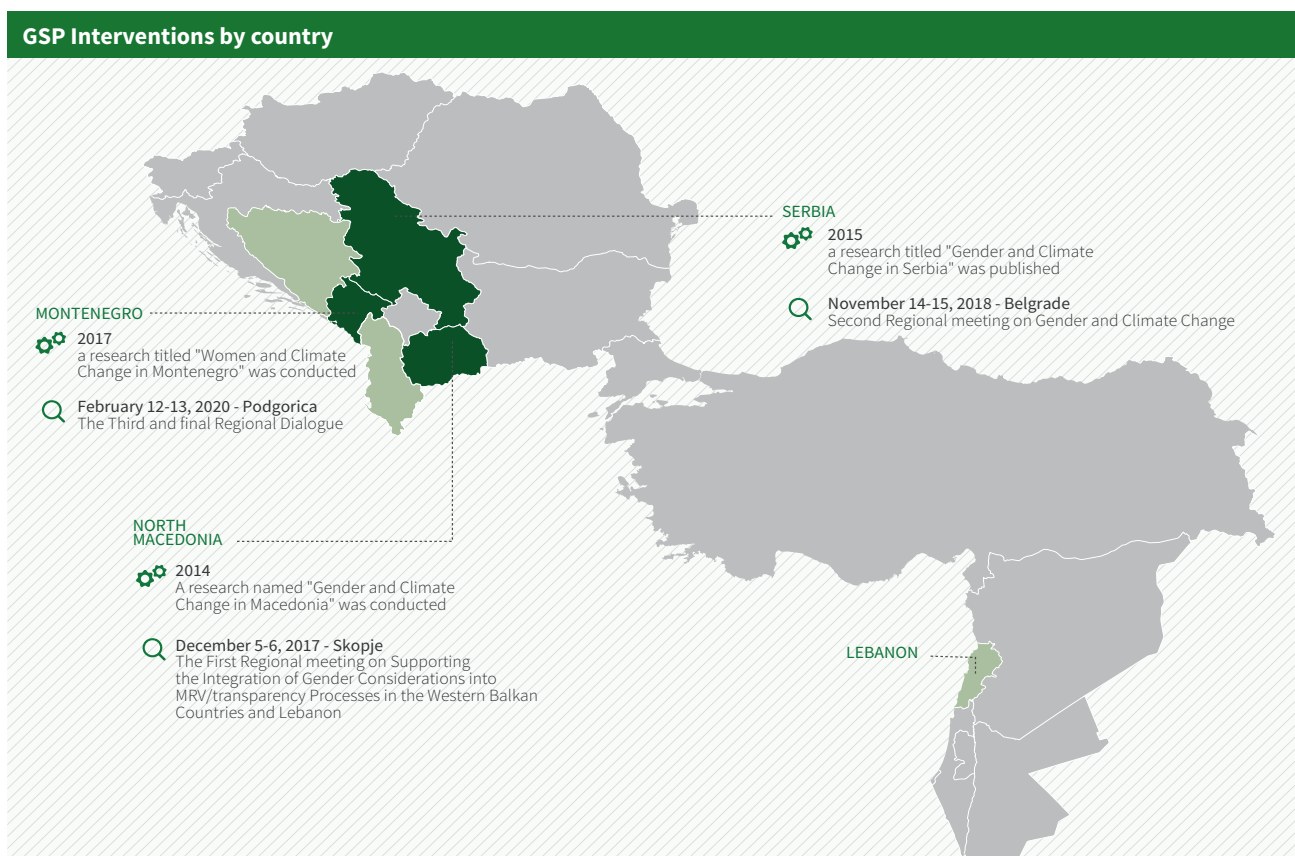
Based on what countries previously elaborated at the Skopje workshop on their draft gender action plans, country representatives were asked to further develop the Action Plans based on the new inputs and lessons learnt generated in this workshop and in line with priorities set under the UNFCCC Gender Action Plan from 2017.

The Third and final Regional Dialogue was hosted by the Government of Montenegro and held in Podgorica on February 12-13, 2020. The group of institutional stakeholders was widened by UNFCCC gender focal points from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, and North Macedonia, France and Germany, as well as representatives of UNDP and UNFCCC. The main purpose of this event was to summarize achievements and to exchange information, experience and recommendations about introduction of gender considerations into MRV, implementation of national action plans, as well as about gender-sensitive financing and integration of gender aspect in the process of revision of National Determined Contributions (NDC).

Further, participants also discussed on the potential sustainability of implemented efforts in the short/medium term as the pilot initiative comes to an end. Results of the discussion are presented in the Chapter “What next”?

Consultancy support for integration of gender consideration into climate change reports: In 2018, GSP engaged a gender professional¹⁰ to provide targeted support to countries in integrating gender into climate change reports, and to advise on the process of collecting data, on the most appropriate methodologies related to development of gender analyses, capacity assessment of institutions, capacity building, share of good practices, etc. During a period of 18 months, the consultant paid visits to all countries, supported cooperation among national stakeholders and conducted permanent online support to individual countries to upgrade their BURs, NCs and CBIT proposals with regard to priorities as identified by UNFCCC Gender Action Plan. One of the important aspects of this consultancy was also to support the process of networking among countries, including the sharing of good practices and exchange of information.

¹⁰Mrs. Sanja Elezovic from Montenegro





Outcome of GSP support in line with the priorities identified in UNFCCC Gender Action Plan

At the end of the pilot, countries shared the views that the support received by the GSP had enhanced understanding of the importance of gender aspect and enabled a good transfer of know-how for actual mainstreaming of gender into climate change projects¹¹. As a result, all targeted countries developed and operationalized their gender and climate change action plans, five out of six nominated gender and climate change focal points to UNFCCC and all integrated gender aspects in relevant reports (NCs/BURs, CBITs).

Gender Action Plan Priority Area A: capacity-building, knowledge management and communication

Within this priority area, the GSP pilot worked on enhancing capacity of governments and other relevant stakeholders to collect, analyze and apply sex-disaggregated data and to conduct gender analysis in the context of climate change. Also, having in mind that countries are preparing to revise their NDCs in 2020, GSP also initiated a discussion within the pilot countries regarding the introduction of gender dimension in NDCs. GSP also encouraged countries to appoint gender and climate change focal points and supported sharing of experience and best practices from European Union countries and peer-to-peer learning through regional workshops.

A more detailed view of GSP's contribution to Priority Area A is shown below:

¹¹ Report from Third Regional Workshop on Supporting the Integration of Gender Considerations into MRV/Transparency Processes in the Western Balkan Countries and Lebanon, page 5, https://www.un-gsp.org/sites/default/files/documents/thirdmeeting_report_final.pdf

1. Creating awareness of the importance of sex-disaggregated data, analysis of data and development of gender indicators

- In **Albania**, the Ministry of Tourism and Environment included for the first time in the Third National Communication specific guidelines on gender integration in policies and programs that address climate change. The guideline is being implemented as part of the Fourth National Communication. Also, an action plan has been drafted to integrate gender equality in climate change policies and plans.
- In **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, a study¹² was developed to put more light on different gender roles in adaptation and mitigation at the community level, policy formulation and decision-making process, gender perspective on vulnerability, impacts, and adaptation in sectorial analyses, particularly in areas such as health and rural development. The study served as a base for integration of gender dimension into the Fourth National Communication and Third Biennial Update Report.
- **Lebanon** conducted an in-depth gender analysis¹³ to identify key climate sectors for gender mainstreaming and to examine legal, policy, and institutional frameworks related to climate change and gender. One of the important aspects of such analysis was also to identify institutional opportunities and challenges in key sectors, including gender trends like, for example, change in the labor force, structures of decision making bodies, etc., as well as to present current coordinating mechanisms and gender diversity in participating institutions. The study provided recommendations to overcome the identified barriers, and the guidance on introduction of gender-sensitive and gender-responsive practices to mainstream gender within climate sectors - Standard Operating Policies and Practices and Standard Operating Procedures for Planning and Reporting.
- In **North Macedonia**, as part of the Fourth NC and Third BUR, an analysis on the inclusion of the gender perspective into the national climate change policies was conducted in 2019. The study took into account international standards, national institutional set-up, an overview and analysis of the gender based roles, needs, challenge and barriers of women and men in four sectors: energy use in households, transport, agriculture and ICT (information and computer technologies).

2: More structured thinking about interconnection between gender equality and climate change policies and development of strategic framework for cross-sectorial approach

GSP supported countries to develop action plans for gender and climate change in line with priorities defined under the UNFCCC GAP. Plans served the purpose of a on-term strategic thinking about steps that have to be undertaken to interlink the two areas in terms of policy adjustment, capacity development of institutions, more systematic data gathering, etc. Draft plans were developed in close cooperation between institutions mandated with gender equality and those in charge of climate change MRV and transparency. Some examples include:

¹² Gender study is not published. For accessing the document, individuals and other interested parties can send a written request to UNDP BiH.

¹³ Gender Analysis executive summary is available on: <http://climatechange.moe.gov.lb/viewfile.aspx?id=301>

For accessing the full document, individuals and other interested parties can send a written request to UNDP Lebanon.

Montenegro defined three objectives within its national Gender Action Plan:

1. to improve climate change legislation and policy documents (strategies and by-laws) by introducing a gender perspective, as well as to introduce climate change perspective in policy documents related to gender equality;
2. to strengthen national institutions to mainstream gender into the climate change transparency framework by assessing the capacities of institution to interlink gender and climate change as a first step. A set of trainings were also proposed. It was also proposed to nominate gender representative into Working Group on Climate Change within the National Council for Sustainable Development, and
3. to improve the system of collection and analysis of sex-disaggregated data and gender data relevant for MRV and transparency.

Serbia in its Gender Action Plan defined four objectives:

1. strengthening national transparency capacities for tracking NDC progress from mitigation activities through ensuring women's representation and active participation in capacity strengthening activities and in the capacity platform;
2. strengthening national transparency capacities for NDC tracking and reporting on vulnerability ad adaptation
3. development of MRV system for NDC, including financing for institutions, local communities and businesses, that contain sex-disaggregated data where possible, and
4. in monitoring and evaluation / project management, increase understanding of how project benefits may vary by gender and raise awareness regarding gender mainstreaming in transparency frameworks.

3: Improve comprehension of gender sensitive monitoring framework

In order to support countries to build upon results of gender analysis and to create a monitoring framework capable of measuring impact of mitigation and adaptation measures on women and men, the second regional workshop organized by GSP was dedicated to better understanding of gender indicators and their role in mainstreaming gender in different areas of climate change policies.

- In **Serbia**, for example, establishing a gender sensitive monitoring framework was initiated as a precondition for gender sensitive evidence-based policy making in the area of climate change. Monitoring framework covers seven broad areas: access to resources, participation in decision making and climate change policies, economy and work, consumption and livelihoods, education, health, climate change knowledge and attitudes and behavior. The framework also provides guidelines on how and where to mainstream gender perspective not only in climate change policies but in other relevant policy areas as gender equality is cross-sectorial and multi-sectorial issue, as well as in climate change.

4: Better understanding of gender dimension of NDCs

During the Third Regional Workshop in February 2020, all pilot countries agreed that it is necessary to integrate gender into their revised NDCs. The aim is to ensure the equal participation of men and women in the development and implementation of the new NDC. Countries seek to involve men's groups, women's groups and civil society organizations focused on gender equality during the stakeholder engagement process and also include them in the institutional arrangements to support the implementation of NDCs and climate actions. Countries agreed that it is important to carry out analysis to determine the level to which gender roles and equality are considered in national sector plans and climate change policies/strategies. The results of the analysis can then be used to inform the development of specific gender sensitive activities, commitments and corresponding indicators, as well as the budgeting processes to ensure that adequate resources are secured. This will ensure that gender issues are addressed from the planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation stages

5: Promotion of communication tools to effectively cooperate with stakeholders and to rise awareness of the public about interdependence of gender and climate change

GSP supported countries to further develop methodologies for stakeholders' participation and for building capacities to mobilize all available networks of policy makers, gender mechanisms, civil society regional forums, regional organizations, etc. to further raise awareness on gender and climate change and to "move the issue from the theory to real life", as pointed out by participants of the Second Regional Workshop. Countries were also encouraged to share video materials¹⁴ that could serve a double purpose - for rising awareness of public about interdependence of gender and climate change, but also as a tool to advocate for more intensive participation of stakeholders in building resilience of both women and men, as well as of vulnerable and marginalized social groups.

- **North Macedonia** was the first country that utilized resources under CBIT to mobilize women political groups as gender and climate change advocates. In November 2019, a Parliamentary debate on gender and climate change was organized and as a result, a comprehensive list of conclusions and recommendations¹⁵ were developed for future engagement in this regard.

6: Encouraging countries to nominate UNFCCC gender focal points and enabling experience share and peer-to-peer learning between European Union countries and Western Balkans and Lebanon

In accordance with the gender and climate change decision 3/CP.25, paragraph 11 "Encourages Parties to appoint and provide support for a national gender and climate change focal point for climate negotiations, implementation and monitoring" GSP supported countries to appoint gender focal points to implement and report on international standards set in the Paris Agreement. During the GSP pilot project, five out of six countries nominated gender focal point - **Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia**. Countries applied different models of appointing the focal points - for example, Montenegro and Serbia appointed a representative from the ministry in charge of climate change, North Macedonia and Bosnia and Herzegovina appointed a person from the institutions in charge of gender equality, while gender focal point of Albania appointed a professor at a national university.

¹⁴ A documentary "After the Rain" (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LqLLfqpWJII>) produced by UNDP North Macedonia was shared at the First Regional Workshop. On the Second Workshop, a documentary "Climate change influence everyday life" supported by UNDP Serbia was shared <https://www.rs.undp.org/content/serbia/sr/home/presscenter/articles/2019/serbia-climate-change-forcing-new-reality.html>

¹⁵ https://www.sobranie.mk/2016-2020-srm-ns_article-komisijata-za-ednakvi-moznosti-na-zenite-i-mazite-soglasna-vremeto-za-adaptiranje-e-sega.nspix

During the second and the third regional workshops, gender focal points from two EU countries - France and Germany - were invited to present their experience and their roles. The discussion that originated was a good opportunity for countries to discuss the role of focal points in integrating gender awareness into organizational culture in respective countries and to serve as a point of networking with other stakeholders, including civil society, women's groups, etc.

7: Sharing of best practices

During the entire initiative, pilot countries were emboldened to share experiences and best practices from their countries. The GSP also encouraged countries to use available on-line resources for their capacity-building activities. Some of the examples are presented below:

- **Bosnia and Herzegovina:** Technology transfer for climate resilient flood management in Vrbas River Basin (2015-2020) project¹⁶

Floods that happened in the Western Balkans in 2014 were eye-opening for decision-makers and rose the awareness about differentiated vulnerability of women and men, especially among vulnerable and marginalized social groups. Bosnia and Herzegovina was one of the countries in the region that developed gender targeted measures within this project.

The project generated gender disaggregated data that enabled development of an innovative gender-sensitive socio-economic risk models and plans. Gender sensitive Community Intervention Plans, as well as Flood Forecasting, Flood Risk Management Plan and Early Warning System were developed as a result of this project. Community members were trained to implement the Community Intervention Plans and special attention was paid to capacity building for women and support to single-headed women households.

- **North Macedonia:** Training Module for Capacity Building of Civil Servants on Gender and Climate Change:

This training module is developed under the CBIT, for the two key target groups when it comes to incorporating a gender perspective into climate change: gender machinery in state administration bodies and civil servants working on the design and implementation of policies to tackle climate change. In order to mainstream gender when addressing climate change, policymakers and implementers need to understand why gender is an important issue in tackling climate change, how gender is linked to climate change and how to incorporate gender perspectives into climate change policy documents. The publication contains examples from several sectors (transport, agriculture, ICT, energy), as well as examples of gender mainstreaming, gender neutral, gender blind and gender responsive policies. The module covers the following topics:

1. Basic terms and concepts related to gender and climate change;
2. International and national strategic framework for addressing climate change;
3. Key aspects of gender and climate change;
4. Impact of climate change on the lives of women and men.

¹⁶ More information is available on demand in UNDP Bosnia and Herzegovina, Office in Banja Luka

- **Serbia:** Gender and Climate Change: Training Handbook

The Handbook was developed in cooperation with UN Women and UNDP, through Global Environment Facility funded project on Climate Smart Urban Development (CSUD). It aimed at enhancing understanding and to give information about:

1. Gender roles, gender stereotypes and their influence on the creation and results of public policies and measures, and vice versa, the possibility of changing gender relations and the position of women and men through public policies;
2. Gender issues relevant to activities and policies in the field of response to climate change effects;
3. Activities that can be taken to introduce gender perspective into policies and programs in the field of climate change.

- Examples of useful online resources on gender and climate change

Priority area D: gender-responsive implementation and means of implementation

Within this priority, GSP worked on sharing experiences on integrating gender budget into national budget in order to advance gender responsive climate policies. Also, collection and exchange of best practices and lessons learned and useful resources for capacity building were shared among pilot countries.

The GSP contribution led to the following:

1. Better understanding of gender and climate responsive finance and budgeting

During the third regional workshop, the experience of Nepal was shared to illustrate the process of the strategic inclusion of a gender sensitive budget in the state budget from the 2015 earthquake up to 2020. As a result of this process, Nepal has well mainstreamed gender budgeting through all relevant policies, strategies and programs in sectors related to climate change.

Participants were also acquainted with funding opportunities available under the National Communications, BURs and CBITs, as well as with examples of gender and climate change financing from France and Germany, presented by gender and climate change focal points from respective countries.

NEXT STEPS - THINKING BEYOND GSP PILOT

At the end of the pilot, country representatives were also asked to think about the next steps that could be taken at the national and regional level in order to further develop integration of gender into MRV and transparency framework. A list of recommendations¹, among other, includes the following:



¹⁸ Report from Third Regional Workshop on Supporting the Integration of Gender Considerations into MRV/Transparency Processes in the Western Balkan Countries and Lebanon, pages 5-8, https://www.un-gsp.org/sites/default/files/documents/thirdmeeting_report_final.pdf

ANNEX

Category	Name	Done by	Link
Video - documentary	“After the Rain”	UNDP North Macedonia	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LqLLfqpwJII
Video - documentary	“Climate change influence everyday life”	UNDP Serbia	https://www.rs.undp.org/content/serbia/sr/home/presscenter/articles/2019/serbia-climate-change-forcing-new-reality.html
Video	Women and Men in Albania, Gender Statistics	UN Women Albania	https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=121&v=QakTNJGXVxQ&feature=emb_title
Toolkit	Gender and Climate Change: Training Handbook	UN Women Serbia	https://serbia.un.org/en/12842-gender-and-climate-change-training-handbook
Toolkit	Training Module for Capacity Building of Civil Servants on Gender and Climate Change	UNDP North Macedonia	https://www.un-gsp.org/sites/default/files/documentos/training_module_gender_and_climate_north_macedonia.pdf
Infographics	Gender responsive climate change reports	Global Support Program (GSP)	http://www.un-gsp.org/infographics
Infographics	UNFCCC Gender Action Plan	Climate Tracker	http://climatetracker.org/inforgraph-gender-action-plan-gap/

