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# KENYA

# GENDER ANALYSIS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



## ABOUT UNDP

UNDP's work on climate change spans more than 140 countries and USD \$3.7 billion in investments in climate change adaptation and mitigation measures since 2008. With the goal to foster ambitious progress towards resilient, zero-carbon development, UNDP has also supported the implementation of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change by working with countries on achieving their climate commitments or Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

## THE UNDP NDC SUPPORT PROGRAMME

The NDC Support Programme provides technical support for countries to pursue a “whole-of-society”, integrated approach that strengthens national systems, facilitates climate action and increases access to finance for transformative sustainable development. The programme helps countries address these financial barriers by deploying a structured approach for scaling up sectoral investments and putting in place a transparent, enabling investment environment. Beyond direct country support, UNDP facilitates exchanges and learning opportunities on NDC implementation at the global and regional level by capitalizing on our close collaboration with the UNFCCC and other strategic partners.

## GENDER INITIATIVE

Coordinating and connecting the interlinked processes of climate change and gender equality, by using NDCs as a platform, offers an opportunity to promote inclusive and successful development outcomes. The NDC Support Programme is supporting the work in 17 countries to ensure that gender equality aspects are factored into the NDC processes by leveraging analysis, strengthening institutional mechanisms, ensuring gender-responsive climate actions and disseminating best practices to enhance national-level capacities.

The Programme, which works in contribution to the NDC Partnership, is generously supported by the German Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (BMU), the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the European Union and the Government of Spain.



## DISCLAIMER

The Gender Analysis Summary has included a few additional statistics to provide contextual information to facilitate a better understanding of the context/situation for a broader audience, however, statements/recommendations have not been altered from the Gender Analysis.

# I. BACKGROUND

Climate change presents a major threat to Kenya's sustainable development and the realization of the nation's Vision 2030 that seeks to create a competitive and prosperous nation with a high quality of life. Kenya, like its neighboring countries in East Africa, has felt the impacts of climate change as weather patterns become increasingly unpredictable and climate-related disasters increase in frequency and magnitude. As a country whose economy is dependent on climate-sensitive natural resources, challenges from an unpredictable climate can increase vulnerability and have the potential to reverse development gains and further entrench inequalities.

As part of global efforts to combat climate change, in 2016 Kenya ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Paris Agreement, and submitted its first ambitious Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). Kenya's first NDC sought to abate its Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions by 30 percent by 2030 relative to the Business as Usual (BaU) scenario, through adaptation and mitigation actions that will build resilience to climate change. At the domestic level, the country has put in place the necessary policy and regulatory framework to effectively address the adverse effects of climate change and support the implementation of its NDC. This includes that National Climate Change Framework Policy, Climate Change Act (2016) and 5-year National Climate Change Action Plans.

**Kenya's NDC has been revised and updated. The updated NDC commits to abate GHG emissions by 32 percent compared to the first NDC target of 30 percent by 2030** relative to the BAU scenario of 143 MtCO<sub>2</sub>eq. Unlike the first NDC that was fully conditional to support, **the update commits to mobilize resources to meet 13 percent of the estimated implementation budget of USD 62 Billion**, requiring international support of 87 percent.

To support this review, an in-depth Gender Analysis was undertaken to ensure that gender responsive actions are identified, planned, budgeted for and implemented as part of mainstreaming gender into Kenya's NDC. The analysis explored the gender differentiated impacts of climate change by looking at existing gender inequalities in access to and use of resources, participation, and benefits between various gender groups. It analyzed the extent to which gender issues have been considered within Kenya's policy, legal, and institutional frameworks and their suitability for supporting gender-responsive climate change actions. It focused on the key NDC sectors of Agriculture, Energy and Water, the role of gender within these sectors, challenges to women's participation and empowerment, and sectoral opportunities for supporting gender responsive measures. The gender analysis provides strategic recommendations on governance, planning, and policy that will strengthen the integration of gender equality into NDC planning and implementation processes.



## II. GENDER AND CLIMATE

Climate Change impacts do not affect all groups of people equally. The degree to which people are affected by climate change is directly linked to their vulnerability. Factors such as social status, gender, poverty level, livelihood options, and access to and control of resources influence vulnerability and how different people experience climate change. For women, their vulnerability is reinforced by the existing gender inequalities they face across social, economic, political, and environmental systems, and in turn, this means that women are more likely to be disproportionately affected by climate change.

In Kenya, patriarchal norms that assign gender roles place responsibility for household reproduction in women and girls. As primary caregivers they are charged with securing water, food, and fuel for cooking and heating while also being responsible for taking care of household members including children, the elderly, and disabled. In addition to reproduction activities, women also actively engage in livelihood production, undertaking the bulk of agricultural work and contributing to productivity for consumption and for sale.<sup>1</sup> Nonetheless, women earn only a fraction of the income generated and own a nominal percentage of assets.<sup>2</sup> Barriers to information, technologies, and financial services coupled with limits to women's full participation in household decision-making, markets and formal institutions contribute to these unequal outcomes between men and women.

Despite women's participation and contribution to the economy, their work is under-rated, and women and girls' work is often unpaid, underpaid or invisible.<sup>3</sup> The majority of women work in the informal sector, with only 34 percent working in the formal sector.<sup>4</sup> For those that do work in the formal labour market they generally earn less than men; for every KSh100 earned by a man, a Kenyan women only earns KSh62.<sup>5</sup> This wage gap cumulatively translates to different outcomes for both men and women, economically, politically, socially and culturally. Poverty is prevalent among low-income earning women, rural communities and the urban poor, concentrated in increasing urban settlements.<sup>6</sup> 30.2 percent of female headed households are poor compared to 26 per cent of their male counterparts.<sup>7</sup>

Women's dependence on natural resources for both reproductive and productive activities underscores their vulnerability in the face of increased climatic uncertainty. Yet, this same dependence also makes them critical stakeholders in adaptation and mitigation efforts. Therefore, implementation towards Kenya's NDC as well as efforts towards low carbon and climate resilient development requires inclusive and gender responsive approaches that address the factors that maintain inequalities, constrain women's opportunities, and limit their ability to plan and adapt to climate change.



### III. RELEVANT SECTOR(S)

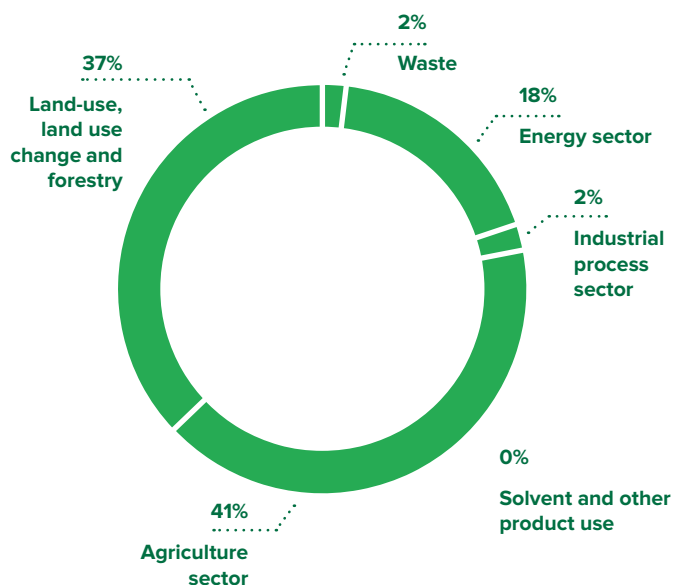
The in-depth gender analysis strategically focused on three priority NDC sectors of **Agriculture, Energy and Water**. These sectors were selected because they are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, are critical in women’s lives, and have significant contributions to make towards adaptation and mitigation efforts. Moreover, as these sectors are key drivers of Kenya’s economy, they are important for the achievement of the government’s ‘Big Four Agenda’<sup>8</sup> and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in addition to Kenya’s NDC ambitions.

As illustrated in Figure 1, the Agriculture, Land Use Change and Forestry sector contributes to over 75 percent of the country’s emissions, followed by the energy sector contributing 18 percent of emissions. While the water sector does not directly contribute to emissions, it is vital to adaptation efforts and therefore considered in this NDC revision as a priority sector.

#### AGRICULTURE

Agriculture remains the backbone of the Kenyan economy and continues to be a key economic and social driver of development. Kenyan households that solely engaged in agriculture contributed 31.4 percent to the reduction of rural poverty.<sup>9</sup> As the largest source of income for rural households, agriculture supports over 80 percent of the rural population and provides about 75 percent of total employment.<sup>10</sup> More specifically, **women account for approximately 75 percent of the agricultural labour force in small-scale agriculture** in Kenya as compared to 51 percent of men.<sup>11</sup>

Figure 1: Relative distribution of emissions by sectors



Agriculture contributes 21.9 percent of GDP and 65 percent of exports, with industrial crops contributing 55 percent of agricultural exports.<sup>12</sup> The majority of farming in Kenya is primarily small-scale, with about 75 percent of total agricultural output produced on rain-fed agricultural lands averaging 0.3 to 3 hectares in size.<sup>13</sup> Key cash crops include tea, coffee and horticultural crops, which comprise over 90 percent of foreign exchange earnings from agricultural products.<sup>14</sup> Within this context, the agriculture sector plays a clear role in both economic development and poverty reduction by supporting livelihoods for large swaths of the population, and especially for rural women.

**Women account for approximately 75 percent of the agricultural labour force in small scale agriculture**



The agriculture sector has become more vulnerable due to unpredictable weather patterns and the increased frequency and intensity of floods and droughts, which can lead to decreased agricultural productivity, crop failures, livestock deaths, land degradation, and in some cases, conflict. These impacts result in reduced yields and loss of income in the agriculture sector, food shortage and malnutrition, reduced quality of produce and earnings as well as increased postharvest losses. Furthermore, climate uncertainties pose high risks to agro-based enterprises and can result in low agro-based investments and low technology uptake for production and value addition.<sup>15</sup> It is estimated that the economic cost of climate change on the sector is 3 percent of GDP per year by 2030 and reaching as high as 5 per cent by 2050.<sup>16</sup>

In agriculture, gender inequalities have been identified as one of the major factors holding back agricultural productivity and perpetuating poverty and hunger. Gender norms that dictate roles in agriculture underpin the disparities that men and women face in production systems. Women have less access to the means of production including land, finance, inputs, modern technologies, extension services, and marketing facilities while also having less say in decision making

surrounding production and marketing. Despite women's central role in agriculture production, **only around 10% of land titles are issued to women.**<sup>17</sup> When the hectare size of titles is considered, this translates into **only 1.62 percent of agricultural land being owned by women.**<sup>18</sup> In Kenya, where land title deeds are the most common form of collateral required for agricultural credit by financial institutions, low land ownership is a constraint to accessing credit. From 2014-2018, it is estimated that **only around 10 percent of agricultural credit went to women.**<sup>19</sup> These disparities **result in yield gaps of up to 20-30 percent between male and female managed agricultural enterprises.**<sup>20</sup>

Within the context of a changing climate, these barriers will further constrain women's ability to adapt, and the gender gap in agriculture will continue to widen.<sup>21</sup> Moreover, as women are responsible for overall security and wellbeing of the family, when food availability is threatened by extreme weather events such as droughts and floods, the burden of sustaining the family falls disproportionately on women (and girls). Women's inequality in agriculture makes them and their families more vulnerable to climate change and therefore, women must be a priority in both adaptation and mitigation strategies in the agriculture sector.

## AGRICULTURE IN KENYA



translating to



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resulting in



## ENERGY

In Kenya, the energy sector plays an important role as the infrastructure enabler for sustained economic growth, development and poverty reduction. Kenya's Vision 2030 identifies energy as a driver of industrialization while access to affordable, competitive, reliable, quality, safe and sustainable energy will be integral to achieving the "Big 4 Agenda." Increasing economic activities coupled with population growth has led to an increasing energy demand; between 2004 and 2013 power demand rose by 18.9% annually.<sup>22</sup>

The main sources of energy in Kenya are renewable energy and fossil fuels. As of 2018, renewable energy, in the form of hydropower, geothermal, and wind, accounted for 35.12 percent, 26.84 percent, and 1.09 percent, respectively, of Kenya's electricity production. The remaining electricity capacity comes from fossil fuels at 34.93 percent, biomass at 1.12 percent, and off-grid sources at .81 percent.<sup>23</sup> In urban areas, 78 percent of the urban population has access to electricity while only 39 percent of the rural population does.<sup>24</sup> **52.4 percent of male headed households use electricity for lighting compared to 48.8 percent of female headed households.** Regardless of connectivity to electricity, over **80 percent of Kenyans rely on the traditional use of biomass as their primary source of energy for cooking and heating** – with firewood contributing 68.7 percent and charcoal 13.3 percent.<sup>25</sup> About 87 percent of the rural population uses firewood for cooking and 82% percent of the urban population uses charcoal for cooking.<sup>26</sup>

Kenya's reliance on hydropower as a renewable energy source leaves the country's energy supply sensitive to climate change impacts. **Hydropower generation is impacted by droughts** which can lead to the increased use of diesel-powered generators and result in higher electricity prices and increased emissions. Such electricity disturbances impact domestic and economic activities and affect gender groups differently. Energy plays a role in **enhancing adaptive capacity** as communities with access to energy (electricity, in particular, through connection to the grid or through mini-grids) can utilize it to diversify livelihoods and income generating activities. Yet, **high electricity connection costs can make connectivity unaffordable**, especially for female headed and child-headed rural households. A study done in Homa Bay county revealed that 74 percent of female headed households had not been connected, despite the area having proximity to the grid, due to the high cost of connection.<sup>27</sup>

It is evident that energy plays a key role in meeting practical gender needs of women (cooking, food processing and water hauling) as well as their strategic gender needs (lighting to enable evening study, street lighting for safety, and power for enterprise development). Production and use of biomass fuels is the responsibility of women and children, especially in rural areas. It is most often women who spend considerable time and effort to supply fuel for their households and productive needs, using their own labour to carry heavy loads over increasingly long distances, at great

## ENERGY IN KENYA



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risk to their health and safety. **Per week, women spend on average 77 minutes to collect energy from source, compared to 13 minutes by men**<sup>28</sup>W. The use of biomass also means that women and children are exposed to large amounts of smoke from indoor fires which increases risk for respiratory diseases. Insufficient access to modern energy and existing patterns of energy use, processing, and collection increase the burden of work on women. Furthermore, women's limited ability to make decisions within the household and community restricts their ability to influence processes and resource allocations on issues, including energy.

**Access to modern energy is an enabler for women's empowerment as it plays a key role in meeting practical gender needs of women such as cooking, food processing and water hauling as well as strategic gender needs like street lighting for safety and power for enterprise development.** While access to energy services would not necessarily guarantee gender equality, it helps in relieving women and girls of the drudgery associated with their daily tasks and provides them time for income-generating opportunities and education.<sup>29</sup>



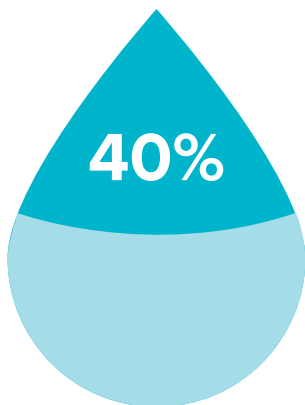
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## WATER

In Kenya, water is fundamental to life and livelihoods and vital for sustainable development and adaptation actions in the water sector will be integral to Kenya's response to climate change. Currently, clean water coverage in Kenya stands at 60 percent leaving approximately 40 percent of Kenyans without access to clean and safe drinking water.<sup>30</sup> **In rural areas, 86 percent of people fetch water from springs, wells, boreholes** and streams while only 14 percent have access to tap water.<sup>31</sup> Climate change is altering the spatial and temporal availability of water resources in Kenya and has led to an increased scarcity of water resources. This makes resource management more difficult, affecting **energy production and agricultural systems** and increases the **likelihood of conflict**. Moreover, reduced water quality and quantity for domestic and industrial use can lead to **high water pricing** and increases in **water borne diseases**.

These impacts are especially felt in Kenya's arid and semi-arid lands, which make up 80 percent of the country.<sup>32</sup> During the 2017/18 drought, Kenya's dominant rain-fed agriculture system left 3.4 million people severely food insecure and an estimated 500,000 people without access to water.<sup>33</sup> Prolonged droughts reduce food security and increase malnutrition, with impacts particularly for pregnant women, lactating mothers, children and the elderly.



**of Kenyans are without access to clean and safe drinking water**

In times of water scarcity, it is women and girls who have to travel long distances in search of water, and have less water for their hygiene. **Droughts therefore mean that women work harder to feed and take care of their families, as well as take up roles that used to be the preserve of men, who often migrate to take up paid work in urban areas increasing the burden on women.** This has a negative effect on women's time management in the household and means they have less time than men for learning and social and cultural activities. **Women's inequality in access to resources** such as land, education, credit and control over household income **limit their ability to adapt to climate change** water related impacts.

## IV. GOVERNANCE

The **Climate Change Act (2016)** is the first comprehensive legal framework for climate change governance in Kenya and established the National Climate Change Council, Climate Change Directorate, and Climate Change Fund. Importantly, the Act requires that national and county governments mainstream intergenerational and gender equity in all aspects of climate change responses.

In turn, the Climate Change Directorate (CCD), housed within the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, is the lead government agency on national climate change actions and delivery of operational coordination, mandated with supporting different sectors and ministries on climate change. The Climate Change Act requires that the Cabinet Secretary responsible for climate change affairs lead the formulation of a **Gender and Intergenerational Climate Change Education and Awareness Strategy** and the Directorate to coordinate its implementation.

The **National Climate Change Council (NCCC)**, chaired by the President, is supposed to ensure the mainstreaming of climate change functions by the national and county governments and approve and oversee the implementation of the 5-year **National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP)**. Inter-ministerial coordination occurs through the **Inter-ministerial National Climate Change Coordination Committee**, which consists of senior-level members from Climate Change Directorate, the Prime Minister's Office, various ministries including the Ministry of Gender, and representatives from the private sector and civil society.

**The Climate Change Act (2016) calls for the creation of a climate change unit in each ministry** to be responsible for integrating the 5-year National Climate Change Action Plans in sector strategies and implementation plans, however, most ministries have a climate change focal point, although not necessarily with high hierarchical influence.<sup>34</sup> In the NDC priority sectors the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries, Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, and the Ministry of Energy, all have climate change and gender focal points seconded from the Ministry of Public Service, Youth and Gender.

**Promoting gender equality and women's empowerment falls under the responsibility of the Ministry of Public Service, Youth, and Gender** and specifically through the State Department for Gender. The Department is the technical lead in regard to mainstreaming gender in policies and programmes within Government and works with relevant stakeholders through laid down mechanisms like the Intergovernmental Forum and the Gender Sector Coordination mechanism. These ensure that there are structured ways of interaction with relevant State and non-state Actors, including the county governments, academia and development partners. The National Gender and Equality Commission ensures the government is in compliance with all international treaties and conventions that Kenya has ratified relating to equality and non-discrimination.

**Following the recognition of gender as a national priority, various ministries have developed gender policies for their sectors, while some ministries have established Gender Units and Sections with gender officers.** The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries has a Gender Unit whose responsibilities are to coordinate gender mainstreaming efforts and to ensure that gender is part and parcel of all interventions, procedures, and processes, however there is no specific gender budget line in the ministry for this unit. Even though the Ministry of Water has existing gender mainstreaming committees, there is a low understanding of gender mainstreaming and climate change in the sector because of limited awareness creation and capacity building resulting from inadequate funding. The Ministry of Energy has a Gender Unit in place and a Gender Ministerial Committee who are responsible for coordinating gender actions and ensuring mainstreaming of gender into activities in the ministry and its Semi-Autonomous Government Agencies. While there is good will from management to support gender activities and regular reporting by the Gender Ministerial Committee, the Gender Unit has a limited budget restricting its ability to fully operationalize.

**Devolution is a key mechanism for inclusive governance in Kenya. The Council of Governors**

provides a mechanism for consultation amongst county governments as well as the national government and other stakeholders. Under the Council of Governors there are sectoral technical committees established, including one on gender, that handle sector specific issues and offer advisory services to country governments. While Secretariats of sectoral committees lead on technical matters, including gender, the committees of the Council of Governors work separately in silos and thus minimal working relations exists with the gender committee. In terms of climate change, a **County Executive Committee (CEC)** member is designated to coordinate climate change affairs in each county, while each county is also expected to establish a Climate Change Unit. As part of the County Climate Change Unit establishment guidelines, staffing provisions have been made for a Social Safeguards Officer who also can act as a Gender Officer, however, this is yet to be implemented. Under provisions in the Climate Change Act (2016) some county governments have established County Climate Change Funds to support the financing of climate change actions in their county Integrated Development Plans. Of the five existing county climate change fund regulations in place across Kenya, most of them take gender into consideration.

Even though Kenya has committed to mainstreaming climate change and gender in Ministries, Departments and Authorities (MDAs) and instilled institutional arrangements in all sectors, **weak coordination,**

**harmonization and networking among actors at all levels poses challenges to mainstreaming** at the national and county levels. **Inadequate resources (human and financial), limited technical capacity, and capacity consistency resulting from deployment/transfers of key staff also slows down the pace of implementation.** At county level, County Climate Change Units are to support county sectoral structures to mainstream climate change and gender adequately into agriculture, energy, and water functions.

#### RECOMMENDATION 1

**Training and capacity building** on gender mainstreaming and climate change is key at both the national and county levels of government. Climate change and gender focal points from key MDAs and the 47 counties should be targeted.

#### RECOMMENDATION 2

The Ministries in charge of gender and climate change should facilitate the **establishment of a Gender and Climate Change Coordination Platform** to coordinate and promote gender in climate change actions. The platform should be co-chaired by the Ministry for Public Service, Youth and Gender and the Ministry of Environment and Forestry and should have multi-stakeholder representation from other NDC relevant ministries, development partners, private sector and civil society organizations.



## V. PLANNING

Kenya's five-year **National Climate Change Action Plan II 2018-2022 (NCCAP)** guides the country toward adapting to climate change and reducing GHG. The Climate Change Act requires the government to develop Action Plans to guide its mainstreaming of climate change into sector functions and is the framework for implementing Kenya's NDC. The National Climate Change Action Plan is reviewed every five years and informs the nation's overarching 5-year Medium-Term Plans that operationalize Vision 2030.

The **National Treasury and Planning** plays a pivotal role in integrating gender and climate change into the national Medium-Term Plans and is responsible for making regulations that set out procedures and powers to identify sources of climate finance, monitoring its use and promote climate change initiatives. At local levels, **county governments** are responsible for integrating and mainstreaming climate change and gender into **County Integrated Development Plans** while County Climate Change Units oversee the implementation of the climate change actions stipulated in the county plans.

**The National Climate Change Action Plan II identifies gender equality as a critical component of the plan.** It recognizes that the adverse effects of climate change will exacerbate existing gender inequalities in the country and commits to advancing gender equality and equity. Similarly, Agriculture, Energy, and Water sector plans also consider gender, yet, there still remains limited implementation and monitoring at programme and project levels and this contributes to the gender gaps that still persist in those sectors.

**There is a lack of adequate gender-specific budgetary allocations at sector levels and in the national and county budgets.** Across all sectors it is noted that gender responsive planning and budgeting holds a critical role in enabling actual implementation, however at the implementation phase of various interventions there doesn't seem to be much compliance with such policies and guidelines on gender responsive budgeting.

Compounding the problem, is a **lack of gender sensitive sectoral indicators and targets and a scarcity of sex/gender disaggregated data across all the sectors.** Such data and information is crucial

to not only informing policy decisions and planning but also to verify and monitor gender mainstreaming in climate change actions and in sector initiatives. An analysis of the National Climate Change Action Plan II found that many of the actions in the three NDC priority sectors were gender blind. In turn, the Gender Analysis provided recommendations for gender-responsive indicators to all actions in the plan to strengthen gender integration in the plan.

### RECOMMENDATION 3

The Climate Change Directorate and the Ministry of Public Service, Youth and Gender should **develop clear guidelines on mainstreaming gender considerations into climate change sectors,** supported with tangible targets and indicators (drawing from the recommended indicators in the Gender Analysis). The guidelines will also support key sector actors and stakeholders (public and private) to pursue climate change actions and sector policies in line with NDC and National Climate Change Action Plan II while simultaneously promoting gender equality.

### RECOMMENDATION 4

**Support the implementation of the Climate Change Act (2016) at the devolved levels of government** to create the institutional and structural arrangements that are critical to sustaining the mainstreaming efforts.

### RECOMMENDATION 5

The National Gender and Equality Commission should **advocate for the implementation of the National Guidelines for Gender Responsive Budgeting in Kenya** and build capacity of key decision and policy makers in gender responsive budgeting. Increased monitoring, learning and evaluation of compliance to gender responsive planning and budgeting should be obligatory at program, project and activity level.

### RECOMMENDATION 6

The **inclusion of gender and climate change indicators in the performance contracting of public office holders** is crucial and should be reinstated. This is important for prioritization and budgetary allocation in MDAs and other stakeholders.

## RECOMMENDATION 7

The National Gender and Equality Commission should **develop comprehensive reporting guidelines** for use by state and non-state actors. Annual gender reports should be informed by sector with comprehensive and specific sex-disaggregated data. Guidelines should be customized and used by all sectors with clear follow up and tracking.

## RECOMMENDATION 8

All sectors should **invest in disaggregated data** to reveal gender disparities in sectors related to climate change actions. This is crucial in informing relevant policy interventions. Gender and climate change review, progress and evaluation reports should be systematically produced to all actors and stakeholders for continued influencing of the ongoing actions through relevantly disaggregated data decision making and planning.



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## VI. POLICY

The Constitution of Kenya, which is the supreme law of the Republic of Kenya, is clear on the principle of equality and non-discrimination as well as the not more than two thirds gender principle in appointive and elective positions.<sup>35</sup> In addition, Kenya's overarching **national development policy, Vision 2030**, acknowledges the equal rights of men and women to enjoy a high quality of life and to benefit from equal opportunities, while the **Medium-Term Plan III (2018-2022)** emphasizes the promotion of gender equality in all sectors. Nonetheless, there is no direct link between Vision 2030 and the various key policy documents on gender, such as the **National Policy on Gender and Development (2000)** and **Sessional Paper No.2 of 2006 on Gender Equality and Development**. In regard to climate, Vision 30 does not directly address climate

change; however, the Medium-Term Plan III (2018-2022) recognizes climate change as a crosscutting thematic area and facilitates mainstreaming climate actions in sector plans.

The **National Climate Change Framework Policy** was developed in 2016 to facilitate a coordinated, coherent and effective response to the local, national and global challenges and opportunities presented by climate change. An overarching mainstreaming approach has been adopted to ensure the integration of climate change considerations and support the goal of low carbon climate resilient development. The framework integrates gender through gender sensitive and inclusive approaches, responsiveness of actions and measures, and inclusive decision making and implementation.



Importantly, the National Climate Change Framework Policy sets the foundation for all other climate change policies, strategies and plans including for the implementation of gender responsive NDCs.

The National Policy on Gender and Development (2019) is still in draft form as it awaits Cabinet approval but underscores the importance of gender mainstreaming across sectors including in matters related to the environment and natural resources. It clearly outlines policy actions towards ensuring a clean, secure and sustainable environment for all from a gender perspective.

The Ministry of Agriculture does not have a specific sectoral gender policy, but has supported gender mainstreaming in the **Agriculture and Livestock Sector Plan of Medium-Term Plan III (2018- 2022), Agriculture Sector Transformation and Growth Strategy, and the Climate Smart Agriculture Strategy (CSAS 2017)**. The **National Energy Policy (2019)** speaks to gender imbalances among personnel in energy institutions, stresses the need to undertake measures to make clean and modern energy services affordable and accessible to all, and indicates that gender should be mainstreamed in energy policy formulation, planning, production, distribution and use. The Gender Policy in Energy launched in November 2020 aims to guide the mainstreaming of gender in institutions, policies and programs in the Ministry of Energy, county governments and amongst stakeholders ensuring gender equality and equity is achieved within the energy sector in Kenya. The National Water Policy (2018) broadly mainstreams both climate change and gender issues however, the policy is silent on gender

integration in the specific interventions it proposes, despite women being central to their success. These include the promotion of agroforestry and low maintenance water technologies like water harvesting, and in the education and training on environmental conservation and management.

Despite the above-mentioned policies and legislative frameworks, **gender disparities still persist due to the slow implementation processes**. This can be attributed to **gaps in the laws, delayed enactment of gender-related legislation and lack of comprehensiveness in the content of some laws**.

#### RECOMMENDATION 9

**Align the development of sector plans with the various gender policy documents** to ensure that each sector appropriately mainstreams gender concerns. **Finalizing the Draft National Policy on Gender and Development** will be a step towards improving gender mainstreaming in sector plans.

#### RECOMMENDATION 10

**Operationalize the Gender Policy in Energy (2020)** through implementing it's commitments and strategies.

#### RECOMMENDATION 11

**Revise/review the Draft Water Policy** to reflect gender budgeting across all programs/plans in the water sector.

#### RECOMMENDATION 12

**Formally include gender in the ministerial performance contracts** to ensure prioritization of gender-responsive actions.

## VII. CONCLUSION

The gender analysis illustrated common gaps and challenges faced by institutions mandated to coordinate, support, and implement climate change adaptation and mitigation actions across the country. These include:

- **Meeting financial and human resource capacity** needs surrounding both climate change and gender across climate change governance institutions, sector Ministries, Departments, and Authorities, and in county government;
- **Clear guidelines to facilitate climate change and gender mainstreaming** into sector policies, strategies and plans, and interventions. Guidelines would stipulate the use of gender responsive sector indicators and targets, gender budgeting, and the collection of sex-disaggregated data; and
- **Gaps in gender-specific sector policies** that would further support operationalizing gender mainstreaming throughout sector Ministries, Departments, Authorities, regulators and parastatals.

By comprehensively assessing Kenya's climate change institutional environment and the NDC priority sectors of Agriculture, Energy, and Water, the Gender Analysis has provided concrete governance, planning, and policy recommendations. These recommendations will strengthen Kenya's ability to meet its commitments under the Paris Agreement as well facilitate the nation on its path towards low-carbon, climate resilient economic growth and development for all of its citizens equally, women included.



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