

# Policy coherence, including a potential joint work programme of the Rio Conventions

## *A CBD Women's Caucus submission*

The CBD Women's Caucus, on behalf of its more than 700 members around the world, submits the following inputs and consideration as contribution to the information that will be made available for the 27th meeting of CBD Subsidiary Body of Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, as requested and mandated by the CBD COP decision 16/22 to take into account the diversity of values, worldviews and knowledge systems, including the traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities, as well as the intersectional approaches.

The interlinked crises of biodiversity loss, climate change and land degradation are accelerating, with compounding effects on ecosystems, livelihoods, and rights holders. On the one hand, it is women and other systematically marginalised groups that are most negatively impacted by biodiversity loss and climate change and suffer the highest social and economic costs hence further entrenching the rising global inequality. On the other hand, women, especially from Indigenous peoples, local communities and peoples from African descent embedding traditional lifestyles, are key ecological, cultural, social and economic agents in conservation and sustainable use, mitigation and adaptation and offer solutions to climate change and biodiversity loss that focus on building resilient communities and ensuring practices that protect life. They have the potential to be effectively rolled out and integrated at multiple levels to achieve the goals of the three Rio Conventions. However, these solutions are often ignored and not visible to many decision-makers.

The cross-cutting gender perspective recognized in CBD and UNFCCC (and UNCCD), makes it all the more imperative to leverage further synergies and work on a shared programme of work for more effective, just and sustainable actions. The common acknowledgment of the importance of rights, HRBA, gender equality and equity in CBD, UNFCCC, and a priority focus on land and resource rights, participation in policy and decision-making and access to resources, information and justice, can be built upon to effectively and collaboratively address these interconnected challenges and drivers that impact biodiversity, ecosystems and livelihoods alike, and thus achieve the goal of living in harmony and peace with nature.

As reaffirmed by CBD Decision 15/4 (Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework), CBD Decision 15/11 (Gender Plan of Action) and CBD Decision 14/34 (post-2020 GBF), a rights-based and gender-responsive approach to biodiversity policy and action is non-negotiable. Likewise, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), particularly General Recommendations Nos. 34, 37 and 39, and the

outcomes of multiple Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), offer binding and normative guidance that must inform a potential joint programme of work across the Rio Conventions.

## 1. Inter-Conventions coordination mechanism for implementation of the plans of action on gender

Gender action plans have been developed or are under review within the Rio Conventions, aimed at ensuring that gender equality is integrated into environmental governance, policies, and processes. These plans focus on empowering women in decision-making and ensuring that gender perspectives are reflected in the achievement of each Convention's goals.

To enhance the effectiveness of these action plans, the CBD Women's Caucus proposes the establishment of a joint mechanism across the Rio Conventions. A dedicated Inter-convention Gender Coordination Committee should be formed, consisting of representatives from the Secretariats of the three Conventions, Parties (with a particular focus on Gender Focal Points), women's and gender constituencies from each Rio Convention, UN agencies, and other relevant stakeholders.

This committee could have, among others, the following roles:

- **Identifying and harmonizing common gender goals** across the three Conventions to ensure they are aligned and mutually reinforcing, and therefore delivering on impact for gender-responsive biodiversity and climate actions rather than siloed or contradictory.
- **Supporting coordinated monitoring**, evaluation, and review of the plans of action on gender. This would involve definition of relevant indicators to track progress and adjust strategies as needed, regular reporting and participatory feedback mechanisms to ensure that the gender-responsive strategies are effective and meet their intended outcomes.
- **Promoting earmarked allocation of funds** for the implementation of the gender plan of actions, either from existing or future financial mechanisms. The Rio Conventions must ensure that resources are allocated to gender-responsive actions. This includes dedicating specific funds to be mobilised in a predictable and sufficient manner at the international and domestic level.
- **Creating and maintaining a standing exchange and learning spaces** dedicated for Gender Focal Points, and between the Women and Gender Constituencies, of the Rio Conventions are critical. This exchange would include the alignment and coordination, as well as cross-fora capacity building, including knowledge exchange and the sharing of best practices. In this context, regional platforms could be invaluable resources to support these exchanges.

## 2. Focus on women's land and water rights and tenure security

The Rio Conventions have recognised women's land rights-related obligations within their monitoring frameworks. This includes the inclusion of land tenure indicators under the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) Monitoring Framework, formal initiatives such as the FAO/UNCCD joint initiative on tenure and land degradation neutrality (adopted by UNCCD COP15 and COP16), and strengthened links between gender considerations under the Rio Conventions and the SDG indicators on land tenure.

As stated in Target 23 of the GBF and in the CBD Gender Plan of Action Expected outcome 1, Land rights and tenure security are essential for sustainable land, water and resource governance and sustainable use of , and climate adaptations and resilience. Yet, women and girls in all their diversity—including those from Indigenous Peoples and local and rural communities—often face legal, institutional, and socio-cultural barriers that limit their access to, ownership of, and decision-making power over land and natural resources. Moreover, laws and provisions might be in place.

Securing women's land rights is not only a question of justice, but a strategic and evidence-based investment in effective biodiversity governance. Research shows that when women have secure tenure and can participate equally in land use decisions, biodiversity outcomes improve, and conservation efforts are more sustainable and equitable.

In this sense, a joint programme among Rio Conventions should address this matter by:

- **Promote and support recognition of** diverse tenure systems, including customary and collective rights, ensuring they are equitably accessible to women and girls in all their diversity.
- **Provide evidence of the barriers and opportunities for women and girls'** access to land, seeds, water, and other productive resources, including through legal reforms and the protection of customary tenure systems.
- **Promote and support implementation** at national level of related international obligations, including CEDAW General Recommendation No. 34 and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, to uphold women's land tenure rights in practice.
- **Provide evidence of the barriers and opportunities for full, effective, and informed participation** of women and girls in land and resource governance at all levels, including in community-led conservation and protected area management.
- **Institutionalise the use of disaggregated data**—including by sex, age, and tenure type—in monitoring biodiversity and land governance, to expose and address gendered inequalities.
- **Promote and provide guidance for women's** access to justice and remedy for violations of land rights, including through gender-responsive grievance mechanisms and support for legal empowerment.

- **Promote collaboration among relevant actors** for SDG indicators on land tenure (1.4.2<sup>1</sup>, 5.a.1<sup>2</sup>, and 5.a.2<sup>3</sup> under Target 23) to be systematically tracked not only under the CBD, but also under the UNCCD and UNFCCC, to enhance coherence and enable long-term accountability.

#### Box 1. “Connecting Rights Across Rio Conventions”

Synergies for women's land rights across the Rio Conventions (and within each Convention) are found from local to global levels. At the local level in Ethiopia, the [Stand for Her Land](#) global advocacy initiative leverages these synergies by working with several local and national Ethiopian organizations that address the nexus between women's land rights and ecosystem management and restoration. This [case study](#) details the contribution of secure land rights for women to land restoration outcomes, helping fulfill the Government of Ethiopia's commitments to land degradation neutrality under the UNCCD. The case study highlights ways in which women's leadership and rights at the local level can meet goals associated with one Rio Convention, which in turn can contribute to the goals of the other two. As women — relying on their secure rights to land — cultivate and protect native species of plants and demonstrate and train on sustainable land management practices, biodiversity loss can be halted and climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resilience are strengthened.

This work at the local level is a crucial part of the systems change approach being driven from grassroots to global levels by the women's land rights movement. There is growing global recognition of women's land rights as a basis for effective action across the Rio Conventions, including the [Women's Land Rights in the Rio Conventions Initiative](#), co-sponsored by the Secretariats of each Convention; and contributions to the evidence base and global advocacy supporting the links between women's land rights and the Rio Conventions, as captured in the [synergies paper](#) on gender in the Rio Conventions recently published by UN Women, and this [evidence scan](#) on women's land rights and climate change produced by Landesa.

### 3. Inter-convention task force on environmental human rights defenders

As recognised under the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders (1998) States have a duty to protect environmental and human rights defenders, from reprisals and violence. Despite this, women environmental and human rights defenders (WEHRDs) continue to face targeted threats, harassment, criminalisation, and violence including gender-based violence (GBV) —often fuelled by structural discrimination and the shrinking of civic space. In many countries, those standing up for the environment, land, or water face higher risks if they are women, Indigenous, or from other historically excluded groups. Yet international environmental frameworks have so far failed to adequately recognise or respond to this reality.

<sup>1</sup> Indicator 1.4.2: Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land, (a) with legally recognized documentation, and (b) who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and type of tenure Accessed [here](#).

<sup>2</sup> Indicator 5.a.1: (a) Proportion of total agricultural population with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land, by sex; and (b) share of women among owners or rights-bearers of agricultural land, by type of tenure. Accessed [here](#).

<sup>3</sup> Indicator 5.a.2: Proportion of countries where the legal framework (including customary law) guarantees women's equal rights to land ownership and/or control. Accessed [here](#).

To fulfil their mandates effectively, the Rio Conventions could address this pressing issue in a coordinated manner, by establishing an Inter-Convention Task Force on Environmental Human Rights Defenders, with gender as a cross cutting element ensuring comprehensive attention to differentiated impacts against (WEHRDs), including gender based violence. This Task force could bring together Secretariats, focal points and women and gender constituencies, as well as other relevant actors as UN agencies and Academia, including collaboration with UN Special Rapporteurs on human rights defenders, on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, on the human right to a healthy environment and on climate change.

And for it to be effective, the respective financial mechanisms (GEF or GCF for example) should dedicate targeted funding for the Task Force to achieve its objectives.

This Task Force should deliver, among others, on:

- **Establish a harmonised reporting system** to collect and report sex-disaggregated data on GBV, threats, and reprisals against WEHRDs. This data should inform National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Strategies (NASs) and Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) targets.
- **Integrate gender-responsive human rights safeguards** into biodiversity, climate, and land restoration projects, ensuring that conservation, restoration and climate initiatives do not lead to land dispossession, controlled access to natural resources, forced displacement, or increased risks for WEHRDs.
- **Strengthen access to justice and protection mechanisms**, including by providing access to legal aid and emergency response funds, and formally recognizing WEHRDs as rights holders under environmental governance and legal frameworks. This should be linked to the compliance of adopted declarations on Human Rights and on Indigenous Peoples' Rights, and where applicable, the Escazú Agreement, among others.

**Box 2. Integrating gender perspectives to protect those who protect land: the work of the Land rights defenders Platform in Latin America**

The International Land Coalition (ILC) is the largest global alliance working to secure land rights, uniting over 300 organizations across 84 countries.

To respond to both emergency situations faced by members and a shrinking civic space threatening defenders, ILC has established regional emergency funds, joined partnerships to [document attacks against land rights defenders](#), to connect local struggles to broader advocacy platforms, and to amplify defenders' voices—especially those of grassroots women land defenders.

In Latin America and the Caribbean, ILC brings together 57 members in 16 countries committed to people-centered land governance. In a region marked by violence, extractivism, land grabbing, and criminalization, supporting women land and territory defenders is a key priority.

The Regional Platform of Land and Environmental Defenders (LED), led by ILC LAC

since 2014, brings together 16+ member organizations from eight countries—Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, and Peru—and works with over 30 allies.

In response to escalating threats, the platform has intensified advocacy to elevate defenders' voices in key decision-making spaces. It has engaged in processes like the Escazú Agreement, the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the UNFCCC, urging recognition of defenders' protection as essential for environmental and climate justice.

The LED Platform connects two strategic levels: local and international. Locally, it has a unique capacity to reach communities directly affected by attacks—lethal and non-lethal—strengthening their ability to respond and protect themselves. Globally, this engagement enables the platform to gather detailed information on human rights violations and bring that evidence to global mechanisms—helping to raise visibility, demand accountability, and drive systemic change.

Since 2023, it has implemented an advocacy roadmap **developed by women defenders**. As part of this, efforts are underway to incorporate a gender perspective into the Escazú Agreement's Regional Action Plan.

Today, the LED Platform is recognized as a key regional actor on issues related to environmental defenders. Through its work, it has amplified the voices of women defenders, positioning them as essential decision-makers in climate and biodiversity discussions, and ensuring that their demands are heard and taken into account at the global level.

## 4. Gender-responsive funding and finance

Despite repeated commitments to gender equality across biodiversity and climate frameworks, dedicated and accessible funding to support the leadership, priorities, and rights of women and girls in all their diversity remains scarce. Gender-blind finance perpetuates exclusion and undermines the effectiveness and equity of environmental action.

Women and girls, particularly from Indigenous Peoples and local communities, continue to be excluded from decision-making on funding flows, from the design of funds to the governance of benefit-sharing mechanisms. Meanwhile, the organisations and networks that centre their voices—especially those led by and for women—remain drastically underfunded and overburdened by donor requirements.

Gender-responsive financing is not an add-on. It is fundamental to ensuring that biodiversity and climate finance reaches those who are most directly engaged in protecting and restoring ecosystems.

The CBD Women's Caucus has identified three critical domains for the Rio Conventions to work in a coordinated manner:

- **Incorporate gender-responsive budgeting** into their funding mechanisms principles and programmatic provisions. By earmarking funds for gender-responsive actions, the Rio Conventions can support programmes that empower women in decision-making processes and strengthen their capacities in environmental governance.
- **Enable access to funding, including through direct access mechanisms**, by women's organizations under the Rio Conventions financial mechanisms and instruments. This should include the following: simplifying application processes ensuring they are also accessible and flexible; providing capacity building and technical assistance to create and enhance financial literacy at the local level; ensuring representation of women in financial bodies and instruments; and enabling representation and active participation in decision-making processes for funds distribution.
- **Track the allocation and use of funds** in gender-responsive climate, biodiversity and/or desertification neutrality initiatives through robust monitoring, transparency and accountability mechanisms. Monitoring systems should include gender-sensitive indicators that assess the effectiveness of funding in addressing women's specific needs as identified by them, and advancing gender justice. Moreover, participatory auditing processes should be implemented, allowing women's groups, civil society and any stakeholder to track funding and results for ensuring that allocated resources reach their intended beneficiaries and achieve the desired outcomes in terms of gender justice.

**Box 3. Recognizing Women as Crucial Rightsholders in Climate and Conservation Action is the Path to Achieving Gender-Responsive Financing**

The [Women in Global South Alliance \(WiGSA\)](#) was catalyzed by [Rights and Resources Initiative](#) (RRI) in 2022 as a response to the historic [\\$1.7 billion Pledge](#) made at the UNFCCC CoP26 in Glasgow by governments and donors to support Indigenous Peoples and local communities. Although this funding commitment was a step in the right direction, WiGSA [asserts](#) that to repair the historical gap in funding for grassroots organizations, the international donor community must also address the rights of Indigenous, Afro-descendent, and local community women and girls, whose direct access to funding has been severely limited.

With UNFCCC CoP30 in Brazil in 2025 and the anticipated announcement of a second donor Pledge, gender equity and women's tenure rights perspectives cannot be left behind in new financial commitments. Women and girls should be recognized as rightsholders in climate mitigation and adaptation efforts and biodiversity conservation actions and have direct access to global finances.

To build evidence-based analysis on women's direct access to funding, RRI and WiGSA are developing research on the level of global financing reaching Indigenous, Afro-descendant, and local community women's organizations in the Global South. This research assesses the extent to which existing grants and funding mechanisms are considered [fit-for-purpose](#) by recipient organizations. [Preliminary findings](#) published in October 2024 show that data on women's access to funding is insufficient and inadequate; data is virtually non-existent for Indigenous, Afro-descendant, and local community women; and overall investment in gender equality is declining. The 13 WiGSA members surveyed show that seven had a 2023 annual budget of

US\$100,000–US\$500,000, and very few reported budgets greater than US\$ 500,000, even though WiGSA members work in several countries or multiple regions within a single country.

To close the direct funding gap for grassroots women and girls, “*the international community needs to recognize community women as leaders and subjects with rights in climate and conservation finance [WiGSA member, Peru].*”

## 5. Recognition and support of women’s contributions to food security

Food systems are both a driver and a solution to the interlinked biodiversity and climate crises. Women and girls in all their diversity, including those from Indigenous Peoples and local communities, are central to these systems—as seed keepers, producers, knowledge holders, and defenders of agroecological practices.

Yet dominant models of industrial agriculture continue to erode biodiversity, fuel greenhouse gas emissions, and displace traditional knowledge systems. These models often exclude women from decision-making, limit access to land and resources, and undermine food sovereignty.

Gender-just, biodiversity-positive approaches to agriculture are urgently needed. Agroecology, community-based food systems, and Indigenous and traditional knowledge must be recognised as vital to climate resilience and biodiversity conservation. These approaches are most effective when women’s rights to land, seeds, and territories are fully realised.

The CBD Women’s Caucus considers that a framework and implementing guidelines for gender-responsive and sustainable food systems should be developed as an essential element of a joint work programme under the Rio Conventions. The blueprint for this framework could be the general recommendations that the CEDAW Committee has made to State Parties on various issues, including:

- **Support the leadership and knowledge** of women in agroecological transitions, recognising their roles in conserving biodiversity and enhancing climate resilience.
- **Integrate gender justice and biodiversity considerations** into national and international policies on agriculture and food security, including through National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).
- **Provide evidence and guidance on** how Parties could redirect public and private finance away from harmful agricultural subsidies and towards gender-just, biodiversity-positive food systems, with full participation of rights holders in the design and implementation of these transitions.



- **Provide evidence and guidance on how Rio Conventions could** protect and promote Indigenous and traditional knowledge systems, including women's seed networks and community food practices, as essential components of resilient food systems.

#### **Box 4. Afro Colombian women, and Marine Life: A Legacy of Protection and Provision**

The marine ecosystems have been a source of livelihood for many local and indigenous communities worldwide. Coastal women have played an important role in the conservation of marine biodiversity by using traditional sustainable practices.

This is the case of afro-descent women in the Pacific Coastal areas in Colombia that for generations have applied traditional knowledge to preserve the mangroves as they are an important source of their livelihoods. In Buenaventura, for example, women, especially the 'piangueras', work in the sustainable harvesting of the piangua (*Anadara tuberculosa* and *Anadara similis*), a mollusc found in mangrove swamps, and other seafood such as crabs and shrimps.

Their work protects marine ecosystems by: respecting the prohibition of closed periods for harvesting marine life (*veda*) to prevent overexploitation allowing the breeding of species; using artisanal harvesting techniques to avoid the destruction of the natural habitat; and active involvement in mangrove restoration and reforestation projects. Some have organised themselves into associations to promote the fair and direct sale of marine products, improving their income and contributing to the local economy.

In addition, they participate in training on sustainable fishing and marine conservation, strengthening their role as guardians of the ecosystem. They teach the new generations on the importance of mangroves and ecological balance while promoting traditional cuisine. The work of these women not only helps to preserve the marine biodiversity of the Pacific Region Colombia, contributing to climate change but also guarantees access to traditional foods and strengthens the cultural identity of the region.[1]

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[1] Gobernación del Valle del Cauca, Proyecto de Piangueras de Buenaventura; Proyecto Raíces Costeras, Febrero 2025.

## 6. Coordinated answers to forced migration, displacement, conflict and disaster risk reduction

The interconnected challenges of climate change, biodiversity loss, and land degradation are significant drivers of forced migration and conflict. These environmental and socio-political crises have distinct, gender-differentiated impacts—particularly on women and girls in all their diversity, including those from Indigenous Peoples and local communities—who face heightened risks due to structural inequalities and gender-based discrimination.

CEDAW General Recommendation No. 37 affirms that climate-induced disasters exacerbate existing gender inequalities, increase exposure to sexual and gender-based violence, and limit women's and girls' access to food, water, education, healthcare, and livelihood opportunities. It emphasises that States have an obligation to ensure that disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation measures are gender-responsive and support women's rights to participation, protection, and access to justice.

Within the framework of a joint work programme under the Rio Conventions, it is essential to:

- Develop a binding framework or set of guidelines to ensure that all biodiversity, climate, and land degradation policies and projects are conflict-sensitive and account for the rights and specific needs of women and girls affected by conflict and displacement. These should be aligned with CEDAW Recommendation No. 37 and other relevant human rights standards.
- Build capacity among Parties and stakeholders to integrate gender and conflict sensitivity into planning and implementation processes, drawing on principles from the Beijing Platform for Action and international human rights obligations.
- Establish a joint monitoring mechanism to assess how environmental policy interventions impact forced migration, conflict dynamics, and displacement patterns, with sex- and age-disaggregated data that inform inclusive and context-sensitive responses.

## Conclusion

Gender equality is not only a fundamental human right—it is a necessary foundation for achieving a just transition and delivering the objectives of the Rio Conventions. Empowering women and girls in all their diversity, including those from Indigenous Peoples and local communities, is a strategic investment in social wellbeing, biodiversity conservation, climate resilience, and sustainable development.

The full, effective, and inclusive participation of women in all aspects of the Rio Convention processes—particularly at national and local levels—is vital to realising the 2050 Vision of Living in Harmony with Nature.

We urge Parties to the CBD and the Rio Conventions to take concrete steps toward greater coherence, accountability, and impact through a joint work programme that is gender-responsive, rights-based, and grounded in the lived realities of women around the world.

**\*\*\*\*\*ENDS HERE\*\*\*\*\***



### **Cases suggested to be included, but where?**

#### 1. Inirida Declaration and Law - Colombia

In the run-up to the COP16 on Biodiversity Colombia, as Women in Biodiversity for Water Territories, we initiated a dialogue with women environmentalists, feminists, ecofeminists from diverse community and ethnic-territorial processes to weave the [Declaration of Inirida](#), a political advocacy document to make visible at the highest level the contribution of women and girls in the conservation of biodiversity and caring for our essential common goods (water, flora, wildlife, soil, air, etc.), as these efforts are generally not recognised or valued by society or the State. The Declaration of Inirida was presented at various side events in the Blue Zone and widely disseminated in 4 languages to delegates from Member States, civil society and accredited observers at COP16. 2 A concrete result of this advocacy action was the elaboration of the Draft Bill of Inirida on Women and Biodiversity that we submitted to the Colombian Senate on 13 November 2024 with the support of the Governor's Office of Valle del Cauca and the Women's Legal Commission of the Congress and is being debated in the Senate. We anticipate that it will be approved and sanctioned by the President of the Republic in mid 2025. The proposed Law of Inirida recognises that women's actions are essential for the sustainability of the country: It includes concrete measures for access to resources, funding and technologies to continue caring for biodiversity with autonomy and leadership; it provides a seat at the decision-making table on the future of our territories; it creates the National Network of Women Caretakers of Biodiversity, a space for meeting, growth and mutual strengthening; it allows us to actively participate in its implementation with our own action plans in each community, designed from our reality, with our priorities and needs, because we women better than anyone know what is needed to care for our territories and our lives. The Draft Law of Inirida is an achievement of women as civil society, as ecofeminists and as a women's movement in the framework of the COP16 on Biodiversity.

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**REPOSITORY**

**DRAFT 2**  
**March 31, 2025**

## ~~1. Introduction~~

~~To be developed once the content sections are completed.~~

~~Human rights approach to environmental policy as a connecting thread between agendas.~~

~~Views on options for enhanced policy coherence, including a potential joint work programme of the Rio Conventions.~~

## ~~2. Coordinated Gender Plans of Action:~~

~~The Rio Conventions have developed or are in the process of updating Gender Action Plans (GAPs) to ensure that gender equality and women's empowerment are integrated into their implementation. The UN Convention on Biological Diversity has a Gender Plan of Action (GPA 2022-2030) that aims to mainstream gender considerations into biodiversity policies and programs. It focuses on enhancing women's participation in biodiversity conservation, promoting gender-responsive policies, and ensuring that women's knowledge and contributions are recognized and valued. The UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) has a Gender Action Plan (GAP) that addresses gender inequalities in the context of desertification and land degradation emphasizing the importance of women's involvement in sustainable land management, restoration efforts, and decision-making processes and aims to improve women's access to resources, technology, and capacity building opportunities. The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender and its Gender Action Plan (GAP) are due for renewal by Parties, building on their review at COP29 in 2024. These gender plans aim to create synergies across the Rio Conventions by addressing gender inequalities and promoting women's empowerment in environmental decision making and actions. By integrating gender perspectives, the Rio Conventions can achieve more inclusive and effective outcomes for both people and the environment.~~

~~To enhance the effectiveness of these GAPs, it is essential to establish joint mechanisms to report and review the implementation of the Gender Actions Plans across the conventions. This could involve the creation of a dedicated **inter-convention Gender Coordination Committee** that includes representatives from each convention, from Secretariat level, Parties, women and gender constituencies as well as UN agencies and other relevant actors. This committee could support identifying and integrating common gender goals, specific targets and language, aligning and harmonising gender actions, ensuring that initiatives under each convention are mutually reinforcing rather than siloed or contradictory.~~

~~Moreover, to achieve a more holistic approach, these gender plans should incorporate **cross-cutting themes** that address intersectional barriers faced by women, and challenges unique to specific regions, particularly in conflict affected or climate vulnerable areas, and comparable indicators for monitoring and evaluation. In parallel a standing exchange process among Gender Focal Points of the Rio Conventions is critical to ensure alignment and coordination, as well as cross-fora capacity building including learning and best practices~~

sharing. In this context, regional meetings or virtual platforms could be invaluable resources/processes to support these exchanges.

To ensure the effective implementation of the Gender Plans of Action (GPAs), explicitly dedicated financial resources must be disbursed across the Rio Conventions, ensuring that gender considerations are adequately implemented into biodiversity, climate, and land restoration programs.

Furthermore, effective monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems must be put in place to track the progress and impact of the GPAs. Regular reporting, coupled with participatory feedback mechanisms, will allow stakeholders to evaluate the effectiveness of gender-responsive strategies, identify challenges, and adjust approaches accordingly.

### **3. Women's land rights**

Gender-equitable land rights are increasingly recognized as fundamental to fulfillment of the goals of all three Rio Conventions (climate mitigation and adaptation, land degradation neutrality, and biodiversity conservation), to coherence across the Rio Conventions, and to undergirding justice and effectiveness in climate change workstreams (e.g., loss and damage). A study published in *BioScience*[1] (endorsed by 11,000 scientists from around the globe) and the 2019 report on land[2] from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) are part of this growing consensus, which is also shared by the Secretariats of the Rio Conventions,[3] a cross sectoral “Women’s Land Rights in the Rio Conventions Initiative,”[4] UN Women, and other UN bodies.[5] In addition to this broad recognition, each Convention has recognized and enshrined women’s land rights-related obligations into their monitoring frameworks (e.g., land tenure indicators in the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework), formal initiatives (e.g., the FAO/UNCCD joint initiative on tenure and land degradation neutrality, adopted by UNCCD Parties at COPs 15 and 16); and previous efforts for and articulations of coherence (e.g., the UNFCCC’s Gender Action Plan’s Activity C.3 on coherence, which recognizes links between gender considerations under the UNFCCC and other relevant UN entities and processes, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which include 3 sex-disaggregated indicators on land tenure).

A joint programme of work (which could span gender officers and focal points within the Rio Convention Secretariats, as well as the Gender or Women’s Caucuses for each Convention) could support stronger understanding and application of the transformative power of gender-equitable tenure rights to achieve goals within each Convention as well as cross-Convention synergies. This joint programme could usefully focus on the SDGs, given that both the CBD and the UNCCD are already using land tenure SDG indicators in their monitoring frameworks (the KMGBF includes SDG indicators 1.4.2, 5.a.1, and 5.a.2 under Target 23; the UNCCD incorporates SDG indicator 15.3.1 in its monitoring framework). This could also support uptake

of and continuity with the SDGs beyond 2030, supporting integration of women's land rights within the Pact for the Future. This work could also leverage the Theory of Change on Women's Land Rights and the Rio Conventions[6] drafted for the second meeting of the Women's Land Rights in the Rio Conventions Initiative. The Theory of Change could guide practical avenues for leveraging synergies and help to create a roadmap for priorities and actions appropriate to different actors, and the Initiative could help shepherd development and implementation of these actions, as well as other key routes to coherence. One immediate area for action is to incorporate language on women's land rights and Rio Convention coherence into proposed content for the new UNFCCC Gender Action Plan, which will be developed at the Subsidiary Body meetings in June 2025, and presented to Parties for negotiation at COP30.

Securing land and territorial rights for the 2.5 billion people who are part of local communities and Indigenous groups; securing housing and tenure rights for the 1 billion people who live in informal settlements; and investing in gender justice regarding tenure rights, land governance, and natural resource management are central to solutions for the interrelated climate, soil, and biodiversity crises. When rural land stewards have strong tenure rights, there are better results for conservation, increased use of agroecological practices and other sustainable land management practices—which increase soil health, conserve biodiversity, and support mitigation—and increased pathways to resilience for these crucial stewards.[7] Across these efforts, stronger tenure rights for women ensure these investments support climate justice, but also support stronger and faster uptake of sustainable practices, and facilitate related gender justice outcomes (increased household nutrition, better education outcomes, decreased gender-based violence, increased household decision-making power for women, and better access to health services, including reproductive health services).[8]

In urban areas, stronger tenure rights also facilitate greater climate resilience, allowing communities to invest in adaptation measures, better prepare for disasters, and recover more quickly and effectively when a disaster strikes.[9] In turn, when urban and rural areas enjoy stronger linkages, this can facilitate better land management and more sustainable use of land in rural areas.[10] Urbanization of rural areas (concentrating township centers, providing off-farm employment, and increasing availability of services) can also lead to reduced internal migration.[11] And investments in rural areas can support scaling up of locally led adaptation, resilience, and restoration measures.[12] Gender-equitable tenure rights are a crucial foundation to ensure justice and sustainability in achieving Rio Convention goals across the rural-to-urban continuum. Women in urban areas bear a disproportionate share of the care burden, though to a lesser degree than their rural counterparts.[13] Stronger gender-equitable tenure rights decrease climate vulnerabilities that are linked to this disproportionate burden of care, and can increase food security and other forms of resilience.[14]

#### **4. ~~Women environmental and human rights defenders~~**

~~Women Environmental and Human Rights Defenders (WERHDs) play a critical role in safeguarding biodiversity, addressing climate change, and preventing land degradation. However, they continue to face severe risks, including gender-based violence (GBV), and criminalization. As recognised under the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders (1998) and reaffirmed by the UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders, states have a duty to protect WERHDs from reprisals and violence. To fulfil their mandates effectively, the CBD, UNFCCC, and UNCCD may coordinate their efforts to strengthen protections, integrate gender-responsive safeguards, and ensure justice for WERHDs.~~

~~The three conventions could address these pressing issues in a coordinated manner through an Inter Convention Task Force on Women Environmental Human Rights Defenders ensuring systematic information exchange, joint recommendations, and concrete protection measures. This task force could bring together Secretariats, Focal points and Women and Gender constituencies, as well as other relevant actors as UN agencies and academia. And for it to be effective, the respective financial mechanisms (GEF or GCF for example) could dedicate targeted funding for the Task Force to achieve its objectives.~~

~~This Task Force could focus its work on~~

- ~~— Establish a harmonised reporting system to collect and report sex-disaggregated data on GBV, threats, and reprisals against WERHDs. This data should inform National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Strategies (NASs) and Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) targets.~~  
~~Integrate gender-responsive human rights safeguards into biodiversity, climate, and land restoration projects, ensuring that conservation and climate initiatives do not lead to land dispossession, forced displacement, or increased risks for WERHDs.~~
- ~~— Strengthen access to justice and protection mechanisms, including legal aid, emergency response funds, and recognition of WERHDs as rights holders under environmental governance frameworks. This should be linked with international human rights bodies such as the UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and the Environment and the Escazú Agreement, where applicable.~~

#### **5. ~~Agriculture and food security~~**

~~Potential joint programme of work must ensure meaningful participation and consultation with (IP&LG) women food producers~~

~~Key role of women in all their diversity as (smallholder) food producers and with traditional knowledge/practices (e.g. crop rotation, seed saving)~~

~~Higher likelihood of adopting and implementing biodiversity and climate positive practices such as agroecology, organic agriculture,~~

~~Logical to have joint work on agriculture/food systems — target 10 in KMGBF, and Sharm el-Sheikh work programme in UNFCCC, in UNCCD ???~~

~~Climate change/ crisis risks food security via o.a. rising temperatures and increasing land degradation~~

~~Promote shift away from harmful subsidies, pesticides, industrial agribusiness model, promote alternative models of agroecology and organic, toxic-free food production (also linked to health impacts)~~

~~GHG emissions from conventional agr. exacerbating climate crisis. Also fossil-based pesticide use—~~

~~Connection also to women's land rights — women are using land but have little/no decision-making power or control over~~

~~I would add a topic on family based agriculture~~

## **~~6. Gender responsive Funding/finance~~**

~~Addressing gender justice in climate, biodiversity, and desertification finance requires intentional and systemic reforms to ensure equitable access and representation. As women and girls, particularly from marginalised communities, bear disproportionate impacts from environmental degradation, financing mechanisms, strategies and flows must be designed to integrate a gender-responsive approach at every level of funding allocation and implementation.~~

~~In this sense we have identified five potential actions for the Rio Conventions to work in a coordinated manner:~~

- ~~● To ensure that gender justice is effectively integrated into the Rio Conventions, gender responsive budgeting must be incorporated into their funding mechanisms principles and programmatic provisions. By earmarking funds for gender-responsive actions, the conventions can support programs that empower women in decision-making processes and strengthen their capacities in environmental governance.~~
- ~~● To foster equitable financial outcomes, the Rio Conventions must integrate intersectionality into funding priorities. This means addressing the compounded disadvantages faced by marginalised women and girls, including indigenous women, women with disabilities, and those from low-income backgrounds or conflict-affected areas. Intersectional funding assessments would allow for tailored interventions that effectively address the unique needs of diverse groups of women.~~
- ~~● Rio Conventions must ensure that women's organisations are enabled to access and manage funds, as well as actively participate in the decision-making processes for fund distribution. Simplifying application processes, providing technical assistance, and~~



ensuring representation of women's voices in financial bodies are vital steps. Moreover, direct access to funds for grassroots organizations is essential. This involves supporting capacity building initiatives to enhance financial literacy at the local level, enabling women's organisations to manage and access funds effectively.

- Finally, robust monitoring and accountability mechanisms are needed to track the allocation and use of funds directed towards gender-responsive climate/biodiversity/desertification neutrality initiatives. Monitoring systems should include gender-sensitive indicators that assess the effectiveness of funding in addressing women's specific needs and advancing gender justice. Moreover, participatory auditing processes should be implemented, allowing women's groups and civil society to hold funding institutions accountable for ensuring that allocated resources reach their intended beneficiaries and achieve the desired outcomes in terms of gender justice.

## **7. Forced migration and conflict**

The challenges of forced migration and conflict, exacerbated by environmental degradation, climate change, and biodiversity loss, are increasingly being recognised as critical global issues. The CEDAW Committee has emphasised that women face heightened vulnerabilities during forced migration, including increased exposure to sexual and gender-based violence and exploitation. The UNCCD has highlighted the link between land degradation and forced migration, noting that women, especially in rural areas, are more likely to suffer from the impacts due to socio-economic marginalisation and unequal access to land and employment opportunities.

In addition, CEDAW General Recommendation No. 37 on disaster risk reduction and General Recommendation No. 30 on women in conflict and post-conflict situations highlight the critical importance of ensuring women's participation and protecting them from gender-based violence in contexts of displacement and conflict. Integrating conflict sensitivity into environmental policies, particularly in fragile and conflict-affected regions, is vital for ensuring that efforts to combat biodiversity loss and climate change do not deepen inequalities or fuel further tensions.

As these crises have distinct gender-differentiated impacts, particularly on women and children, and require a coordinated, conflict-sensitive, and gender-responsive approach within the frameworks of the Rio Conventions we suggest the following initiatives:

- A unified framework could be developed across the three conventions to conduct conflict and gender analyses. This would guide the design and implementation of climate, biodiversity, and land restoration policies and projects to ensure that they are sensitive to the specific needs and vulnerabilities of women, particularly those displaced or affected by conflict.
- Stakeholders within the conventions should undergo joint training on conflict sensitivity and gender responsiveness, guided by the principles outlined in CEDAW General Recommendation No. 37 and the Beijing Platform for Action. These programs should empower practitioners to design and implement environmental projects that do not

~~inadvertently exacerbate conflict dynamics or gender inequalities, but rather promote peaceful, sustainable, and inclusive outcomes.~~

~~—The Conventions could establish joint monitoring mechanisms to assess the impacts of environmental initiatives on both conflict and displacement or forced migration dynamics.~~

## **8. Health**

*Indication: 3 to 4 max paragraphs with concrete ideas on what and how. Avoid over focus on what has previously been done.*

~~I suggest that to the nexus of biodiversity, climate change and desertification must be added wellness and health, and here when we speak of wellness and health we mean not only that of humans specifically women and girls but also that of nature and all that constitutes it. All this should be approached together. I can provide concrete examples~~

## **References**

[1]

~~[https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-50302392?fbclid=IwAR2GZe-UX5Y\\_y544\\_DWyRwPD90k0XlaQuhC1-TqOXtd7D9ZsWHfUkXdKlie](https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-50302392?fbclid=IwAR2GZe-UX5Y_y544_DWyRwPD90k0XlaQuhC1-TqOXtd7D9ZsWHfUkXdKlie)~~

[2] ~~<https://www.carbonbrief.org/in-depth-qa-the-ipccs-special-report-on-climate-change-and-land>~~

[3]

~~<https://www.unccd.int/news-stories/multimedia/women-are-heralded-land-stewards-lets-herald-their-land-rights>~~

[4] ~~<https://www.tmg-thinktank.com/initiatives/the-womens-land-rights-initiative#>~~

[5]

~~<https://www.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/2024-11/advancing-gender-responsive-synergies-across-the-rio-conventions-en.pdf>~~

[6]

~~<https://drive.google.com/file/d/16OQpGw-g3pgGVDKUFhH40xp5Msb8wUdT/view?usp=sharing>~~

[7]

~~[https://www.landesia.org/wp-content/uploads/WomensTenure\\_ClimateChange\\_EvidenceScan\\_2024.pdf#:~:text=There%20is%20emerging%20evidence%20that%20women's%20land,and%20adaptation%20and%20to%20build%20climate%20resilience.&text=Women's%20land%20tenure%20security%20can%20contribute%20to,response%20options%20not%20related%20to%20land%20investments](https://www.landesia.org/wp-content/uploads/WomensTenure_ClimateChange_EvidenceScan_2024.pdf#:~:text=There%20is%20emerging%20evidence%20that%20women's%20land,and%20adaptation%20and%20to%20build%20climate%20resilience.&text=Women's%20land%20tenure%20security%20can%20contribute%20to,response%20options%20not%20related%20to%20land%20investments)~~

[8] ~~<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0308521X1730505X>~~

[9]

~~<https://unhabitat.org/land-tenure-and-climate-vulnerability#:~:text=This%20publication%20examines%20the%20inter,parts%20of%20the%20developing%20world>~~

[10] ~~<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0959378018313426>~~

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[13] ~~<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0277539524001584>~~

[14]

~~<https://odi.org/en/insights/land-rights-can-break-the-gender-bias-in-climate-action-for-the-good-of-the-planet/>~~

## **END OF SUBMISSION**

////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////

**DRAFT 1**  
**February 21, 2025**

### **As presented during online meeting on February 19th:**

The CBD Secretariat invited Parties (page 6 below), observers, and other stakeholders to submit views on options for enhanced policy coherence, including a potential joint work programme of the Rio Conventions:

- ~~Deadline: 1 May 2025.~~
- ~~Submissions should be sent through an official letter.~~
- ~~Parties to the UNFCCC and the UNGCD, as well as observers and other stakeholders in those processes, are welcome to also submit their views.~~
- ~~National focal points to the CBD are encouraged to engage with their UNFCCC and UNGCD counterparts in this regard.~~
- ~~In accordance with decision 16/22, a technical information exchange may be anticipated for mid-2025 and further information will be shared in due course.~~
- ~~A compilation of submissions received, as well as views and inputs from the Joint Liaison Group and outcomes of the technical information exchange, will be made available to SBSTTA-27 for consideration.~~

**Suggested organisation of work**, including comments and inputs made during the zoom meeting:

~~1. Define the topics to be addressed.~~

~~Please add any topic you consider relevant to the submission development.~~

~~Please take into consideration that:~~

~~A. the objective of this submission is to present views on:~~

~~i. How to enhance coherence between the Rio Conventions (biodiversity, climate change, and desertification), and~~

~~ii. Whether a joint programme of work would be needed.~~

~~B. this is going to be the submission of the CBD WC, therefore, inputs should be framed in our priorities: inclusion, respect for women's and girls' roles and rights, gender responsiveness and the full, equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive representation and participation in decision-making, this coherence to be effectively implemented. For more information please consult the GPA (in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)) and the [GBF](#).~~

~~2. Define the submission's outline, where the topics are to be organized in the different sections:~~

~~3. Sign in as section leads. The inputs for each section will need to be organized and a coherent text should be prepared for the Draft Submission:~~

~~4. Sign as part of an editorial committee. Once the "section leads" have their section draft ready, prepare a final draft for sharing and after receiving inputs, write down the final text for the Submission:~~

~~5. Define if additional actions would/should be taken, for example contact the women's caucuses for Climate and for Desertification and who is going to meet with them:~~

***PLEASE CHECK IF YOUR INPUTS HAVE CORRECTLY BEEN INCLUDED IN THE LISTS BELOW. INCLUDE ADDITIONAL INPUTS IF NEEDED:***

**1. Which topics should the CBD WC submission address?** Suggested topics so far:

- ~~Land rights for women (considered in the 3 Rio Conventions).~~
- ~~Direct access to climate, desertification, and biodiversity funding.~~
- ~~To enhance grassroots solutions in biodiversity and climate resilience(I can provide some concrete examples for this aspect )~~
- ~~Prioritizing strengthening women and girls rights and roles in biodiversity, climate and desertification actions. I would add practical examples of how we think this could be obtained: ex, access to funding; valorization and protection of family-based agriculture~~

- ~~Human rights-based approach and language lost in biodiversity negotiations.~~
- ~~Non-market approaches.~~
- ~~Environmental and social safeguards, highlighting those focused on women and girls.~~
- ~~Protection of environmental and human rights defenders.~~
- ~~Just transition and its connection to gender justice and climate justice~~
- ~~What a joint gender plan of action of the three conventions should look like.~~
- ~~What a joint programme should look like.~~
- ~~Education and capacity building for decision-making (3 conventions).~~
- ~~Agriculture, food systems, and women's roles.~~
- ~~Benefit sharing.~~
- ~~Women and girls and displacement (climate's refugees or IDP).~~
- ~~Women and girls and bioeconomy — this is extremely ambiguous, I am not sure I personally support the idea~~
- ~~Joint program of work.~~
- ~~Joint GPA.~~

 **REMEMBER:** including concrete examples will be very helpful.

**DEADLINE TO RECEIVE INPUTS AND COMMENTS: MARCH 3rd, 2025**

## 2. Outline:

1. ~~Introductory remarks (2 paragraphs max).~~
2. ~~Women and girls rights and roles: actors on the ground within a human-rights-based approach.~~
3. ~~Gender responsiveness: what a common Gender Plan of Action should include.~~

The Rio Conventions have developed or are in the process of developing Gender Action Plans (GAPs) to ensure that gender equality and women's empowerment are integrated into their implementation. The UN Convention on Biological Diversity has a Gender Plan of Action (GPA 2022-2030) that aims to mainstream gender considerations into biodiversity policies and programs. It focuses on enhancing women's participation in biodiversity conservation, promoting gender responsive policies, and ensuring that women's knowledge and contributions are recognized and valued. The UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) has a Gender Action Plan (GAP) that addresses gender inequalities in the context of desertification and land degradation emphasizing the importance of women's involvement in sustainable land management, restoration efforts, and decision-making processes and aims to improve women's access to resources, technology, and capacity building opportunities. The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Enhanced Lima Work Programme on

Gender and its Gender Action Plan (GAP) are due for renewal by Parties, building on their review at COP29 in 2024. These gender plans aim to create synergies across the Rio Conventions by addressing gender inequalities and promoting women's empowerment in environmental decision-making and actions. By integrating gender perspectives, the Rio Conventions can achieve more inclusive and effective outcomes for both people and the environment.

### ***Recommendations to Enhance Policy Coherence in Gender Integration:***

4. Establish joint mechanisms to oversee the implementation of the Gender Actions Plans across the conventions. This would include the alignment and coordination among Gender Focal Points of the Rio Conventions through the organisation of regional meetings to share best practice policies and address issues
5. Establish funding mechanisms to ensure the implementation of the GAPs
6. Access to funding: how funding rules should be the same; how to change the financial architecture; why capacity building is not enough; why market approaches cannot stand alone.
7. Biodiversity, climate and desertification goals and targets that prioritize strengthening women's and girls' rights and roles: a joint programme of work? (including decision-making, representation and participation?)
8. I would add a topic on family-based agriculture
9. I suggest that to the nexus of biodiversity, climate change and desertification must be added wellness and health, and here when we speak of wellness and health we mean not only that of humans specifically women and girls but also that of nature and all that constitutes it. All this should be approached together. I can provide concrete examples
10. Addressing and including conflict sensitivity in the three conventions

### **Agriculture and food security**

- Potential joint programme of work must ensure meaningful participation and consultation with (IP&LC) women food producers
- Key role of women in all their diversity as (smallholder) food producers and with traditional knowledge/practices (e.g. crop rotation, seed saving)
- Higher likelihood of adopting and implementing biodiversity and climate positive practices such as agroecology, organic agriculture,
- Logical to have joint work on agriculture/food systems – target 10 in KMGBF, and Sharm el Sheikh work programme in UNFCCC, in **UNCGD ???**
- Climate change/crisis risks food security via o.a. rising temperatures and increasing land degradation
- Promote shift away from harmful subsidies, pesticides, industrial agribusiness model; promote alternative models of agroecology and organic, toxic-free food production (also linked to health impacts)

- ~~GHG emissions from conventional agr. exacerbating climate crisis. Also fossil-based pesticide use~~
- ~~Connection also to women's land rights—women are using land but have little/no decision-making power or control over~~

### **Climate Displacement and Desertification:**

~~Besides including any other section and its title in the above list, please include your inputs on defining in which section should every topic be considered.~~

~~DEADLINE TO RECEIVE INPUTS AND COMMENTS: MARCH 3rd, 2025~~

### **3. CBD WG workforce. Sign-in as:**

- ~~Lead for any section:~~
  - ~~Beth Roberts: Land rights.~~
  - ~~Annabel Kennedy: market/non-market approaches.~~
  - ~~Annabel Kennedy: agriculture (Daphne Esquivel-Sada available to assist).~~
  - ~~Edda Fernández: sustainable food systems.~~
  - ~~Edda Fernández: just transition~~
- ~~Contributing in the marked section(s):~~
  - ~~Meenal: land rights, human rights-based approach; just transition; joint GPA.~~
  - ~~Cristina Eghenter: land rights.~~
  - ~~Beth Roberts: human rights-based approaches; and non-market approaches~~
  - ~~Larissa Silvestri: land rights; human rights-based approaches; migrant mobility.~~
  - ~~Queenny López: benefit sharing; environmental defenders; participation and representation.~~
  - ~~Tauraoi Kirite: human rights-based approaches.~~
  - ~~Juana Ramírez: just transition; biodiversity finance.~~
  - ~~Scovia Ampumuza: climate displacement and desertification.~~
  - ~~Georgina Gatacora Vargas: providing examples.~~
  - ~~Liz Mejía Penadillo: providing examples~~
  - ~~Sofi Ospina: providing examples; participation and representation~~
  - ~~Marie Salvatrice Musabyeyezu: Just transition, benefit sharing, green economy and climate justice~~



- Editorial committee.
  - Cristina Eghenter.
  - Georgina Catacora Vargas.
  - Elisa Marchi.
  - Liz Mejía Penadillo.
  - Daphne Esquivel Sada
  - Olga Laiza Kupika Gender, green economy, climate change and biodiversity nexus; skills building and capacity building for enhanced gender sensitive climate resilience
  - Michelle Gaelle Simeone BIDIMA: climate and biodiversity
  - Esperance Noumbou
- Contact and set meetings with climate and desertification caucuses.
    - Larissa Silvestri.
    - Annabel Kennedy.

#### **4. Additional considerations:**


- How to sign the submission?
  - As the CBD Women's Caucus
- With whom else should we share it?
  - Parties to the CBD.
  - Youth and Indigenous Peoples and local communities caucuses.



## 5. TIMELINE

Draft 1	Inputs to Draft 1	Leads editing inputs and first outline of sections  Draft 2	Editing Draft 2  Draft 3	Comments on Draft 3
Feb 21	Feb 21 - March 3	March 4 - 14	March 17 - 28	March 31 - April 11



Editing Draft 3  final text	Submission ready for formatting	Submission sent to CBD Secretariat
April 14 - 18	April 18	April 25

**NOTIFICATION****Submission of views and information on biodiversity and climate change**

Dear Sir or Madam,

In its decision 16/22 on biodiversity and climate change, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) requested Parties, observers and other stakeholders to submit their views on options for enhanced policy coherence, including a potential joint work programme of the Rio Conventions.

Pursuant to the above decision, I would like to invite Parties, other Governments and observers to submit their views **by 1 May 2025**. Submissions should be sent through an official letter addressed to the Executive Secretary by e-mail to [secretariat@cbd.int](mailto:secretariat@cbd.int).

Representatives of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), as well as observers and other stakeholders in those processes, are welcome to also submit their views. National focal points to the CBD are encouraged to engage with their UNFCCC and UNCCD counterparts in this regard.

In accordance with decision 16/22, a technical information exchange may be anticipated for mid-2025 and further information will be shared in due course.

A compilation of submissions received, as well as views and inputs from the Joint Liaison Group and outcomes of the technical information exchange, will be made available to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice for consideration at its twenty-seventh meeting.

Please accept, Sir, Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

*(Signed)* Astrid Schomaker  
Executive Secretary

To: CBD national focal points, SBSTTA focal points, indigenous peoples and local communities, and relevant organizations

*Please find here links to additional information that might be useful.*

## BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

<https://nature4climate.org/cali-to-belem-open-letter/>  
<https://nature4climate.org/n4c-policy-tracker-2024/>  
<https://nature4climate.org/interview-sue-reid-deforestation/>  
<https://nature4climate.org/redd-glossary/>

## Women

<https://www.climatepolicyinitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Advancing-Gender-Equality-through-Climate-Finance.pdf>

<https://womensgenderclimate.org/cop29-starts-with-sidelining-cma-authority-for-carbon-market-mechanism/>

[https://womensgenderclimate.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/wgc\\_issuebrief\\_falsesolutions\\_en.pdf](https://womensgenderclimate.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/wgc_issuebrief_falsesolutions_en.pdf)

## REFLEXIONS

Target 3 GBF and land grabs: minimal discussion. Indigenous territories led by men because of land tenure schemes. Governance structures are starting to include women. No land tenure, no access to finance.

Financing conservation solutions: high ambition coalition digital platform where technical and financial support can be offered. Financial solutions inventory... no direct access by women.

Lack of general knowledge about women' and girls' rights, including by women and girl.

Financing model of the Sustainable Finance Coalition.

No knowledge on how to include women.