



Gender Mainstreaming in selected Nationally Determined Contribution Sectors in Bhutan: *Agriculture, Waste and Energy*

A Guideline

2022



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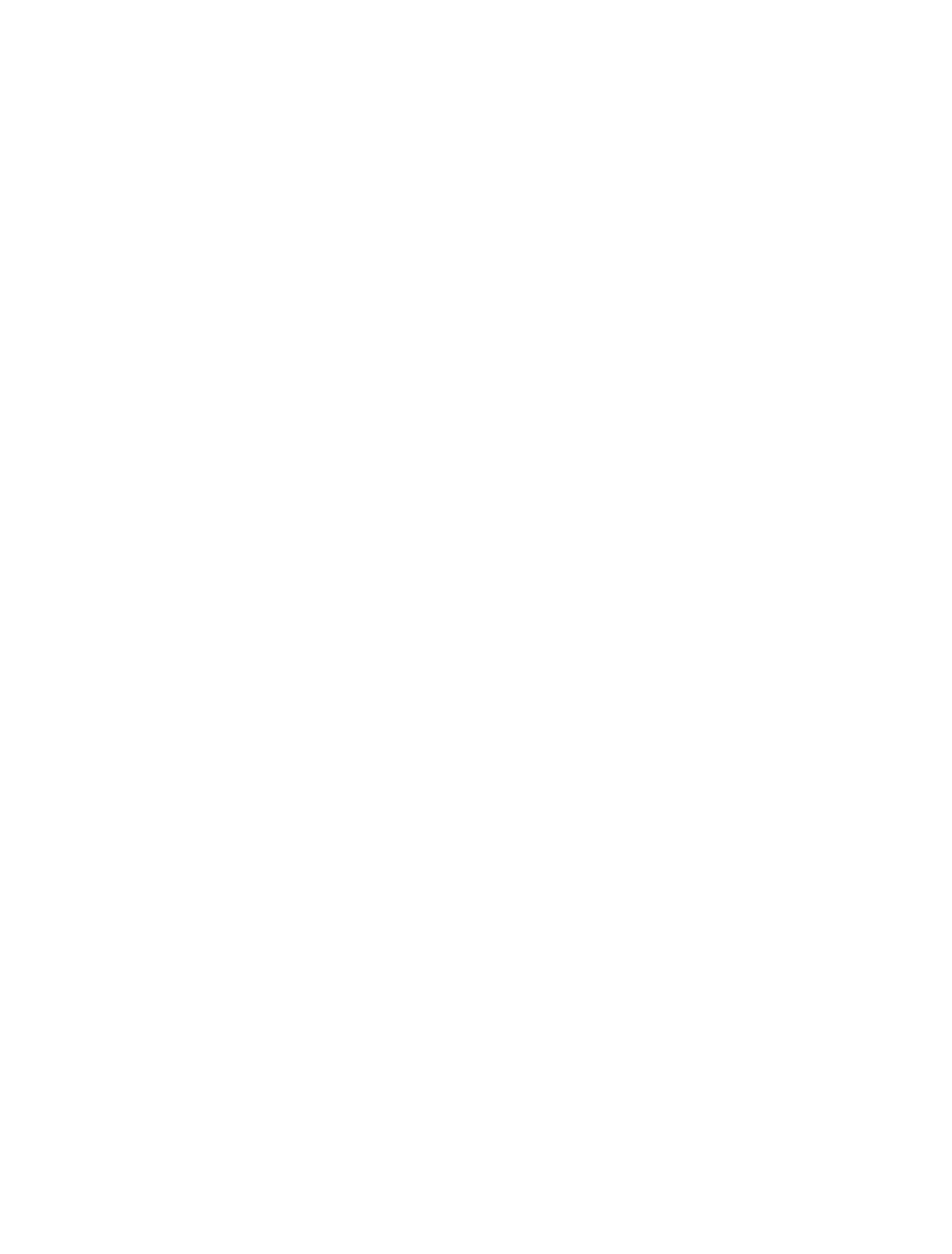


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Foreword

The National Commission for Women and Children (NCWC) is an autonomous agency under the Royal Government of Bhutan, mandated to promote gender equality in the country through gender responsive interventions. Gender mainstreaming has become necessary to achieve inclusivity in all developmental policies, plans and programs. As such, the commission has rightfully initiated gender mainstreaming efforts in numerous sectors including justice, climate, disaster, among others.

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) reaffirms the commitment of the Royal Government of Bhutan in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. In particular, the NCWC has commenced mainstreaming gender into climate change and its sectors, which directly contributes to the SDGs Goal 5: Gender Equality and Goal 13: Climate Actions, among others. Efforts have been made towards achieving carbon neutral, resilient and sustainable development through gender responsive interventions.

In 2019, the implementation of the “Gender responsive Nationally Determined Contributions” project was initiated to mainstream gender into climate related actions. The global temperature continues to change over time, posing serious climate related threats and impacts on the community. Research has shown that women and men contribute differently and tend to experience gender differentiated impacts of the changing climatic conditions and weathers. Therefore, a comprehensive study was conducted in three selected NDC sectors; Agriculture, Waste and Energy in Bhutan to understand key linkages between gender and climate change; *including adaptation capabilities, knowledge and vulnerability*.

This guideline is thereby designed and developed in line with recommendations from the study findings, mainly to guide and support stakeholders in integrating gender equality practically and concretely in climate change interventions in these three sectors. The guideline contains context on climate change and followed by guidance note/links to best practices and internationally recognised case studies, examples of other projects and references/documents to provide an overarching context and guidance on gender mainstreaming to our practitioners.

This document is finalised after numerous consultations with stakeholders from relevant sectors including the Ministry of Agriculture and Forest, Department of Renewable Energy and Waste Management Division, and National Environment Commission.

NCWC remains committed to taking forward gender mainstreaming initiatives with the support and collaboration of all stakeholders in the country.

(Dr. Tandi Dorji)

Chairperson

National Commission for Women Children

Acknowledgement

National Commission for Women and Children (NCWC) would like to acknowledge the support and contribution of all stakeholders and individuals who were involved in development of this document.

We would like to especially extend our gratitude to Ms. Koh Miyaoi, Gender Expert and her team, UNDP Bangkok Hub for their technical assistance in developing this guideline. The expert and team initiated the drafting of this guideline with focus on Agriculture, Waste and Energy sectors.

We also would like to thank our stakeholders from key sectors of agriculture, waste and energy for their valuable participation during the review and finalization of the guideline.

The Women Division, NCWC would like to extend our appreciation to following officials for their contributions:

1. *Nima Om, Gender Focal Point, Ministry of Agriculture and Forest*
2. *Tshering Wangchen, Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Forest*
3. *Dechen Pema Yangki, Department of Renewable Energy, Ministry of Economic Affairs*
4. *Rinchen Penjor, Waste Management Division, National Environment Commission*

The guideline is developed with support through the United Nations development Programme (UNDP) Bhutan with financial support from the European Union, the Government of Spain and the Government of Germany.

Acronyms

ADB	Asian Development Bank
CCAFS	The CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women
COP	Conference of the Parties
CSA	Climate Smart Agriculture
EGI	Environment and Gender Information
ENERGIA	International network on gender and sustainable energy
ESMAP	Energy Sector Management Assistance Program
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FYP	Five-year plan
GACSA	Global Alliance on Climate-Smart Agriculture
GGCA	Global Gender and Climate Alliance
GGG	Global Gender Gap Index
GHG	Green House Gas
GII	Gender Inequality Index
GNH	Gross National Happiness
IFPRI	The International Food Policy Research Institute
IPCC	International Panel on Climate Change
IRENA	International Renewable Energy Agency
IUCN	The International Union for Conservation of Nature
NCWC	National Commission for Women and Children
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NEC	National Environment Commission
NKRA	National Key Result Areas
NPAGE	National Plan of Action for Gender Equality
RGoB	Royal Government of Bhutan
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SEARCA	The Southeast Asian Regional Centre for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture
STEM	Science, technology, engineering and mathematics
SWM	Solid waste management
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WEDC	The Water, Engineering and Development Centre
WIEGO	Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing

INTRODUCTION

The global temperature is continuously changing over time, fluctuating regularly through cycles of hot and cold periods¹. In the last century, there has been a sharp rise in global average temperatures, resulting from anthropogenic climate change. The average global warming “is likely to reach 1.5°C between 2030 and 2052” and “climate-related risks to health, livelihoods, food security, water supply, human security, and economic growth are projected to increase with global warming of 1.5°C and increase further with 2°C.”² Despite the universal impact of climate change, these impacts are not evenly distributed. Economically and geographically, developing countries have been disproportionately affected due to their inherent vulnerability and difficulties in adapting to the effects of climate change. Furthermore, climate change poses differential effects on women in comparison to their male counterparts, posing a range of risks and vulnerabilities.

About this guideline

This guideline is designed to support policy makers in integrating gender equality practically and concretely, in climate change interventions in the Agriculture, Energy and Waste sectors. The guideline is aimed towards providing guidance to practitioners, and to enable them to identify issues and approaches for addressing them.

GENDER AND CLIMATE CHANGE

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)³ entered into force in 1994 and is the fundamental international agreement on climate change. Its goal is ambitious - to prevent human induced changes to the climate system. UNFCCC has set a principle of “common differentiated responsibilities” calling for a collective response to combat the changing climatic system. The GHG emission from the industrialised countries are relatively higher, adding to the existing historic emissions. Therefore, it requires global contributions to solve these climate change issues.

The Kyoto Protocol⁴ was adopted in 1997, including its bindings. Yet, not enough targets were set for industrialized countries. In 2015, the Paris Agreement⁵ was adopted. It builds upon the UNFCCC and involves all countries in a joint effort to keep the global temperature rise below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, and if possible, even further down to 1.5 degrees Celsius. It requires all countries to define Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), to strengthen their efforts in the following years, and report regularly on emissions and implementation actions, to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. It also includes provisions to strengthen the ability of countries to adapt to the impacts of climate change, and seeks to ensure financial flows from industrialized to developing countries, particularly vulnerable countries.

Gender integration into climate actions became a standing item on the agenda in 2012 during the Conference of the Parties (COP), which is the governing body of the international climate negotiations process. A gender team was formed within the UNFCCC Secretariat, and parties were called on for the implementation

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