



Ref.: SCBD/MPO/AF/NP/CR/83350

20 March 2014

NOTIFICATION

Request for information on the development of indicators to monitor gender mainstreaming

Madam/Sir,

I am writing to request your input on the development of indicators to monitor gender mainstreaming, including the collection of sex-disaggregated data.

In decision XI/9, the Conference of the Parties emphasized the importance of gender mainstreaming in all programmes of work under the Convention as important to achieving the objectives of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and to enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness thereof. The Conference of the Parties further emphasized the importance of establishing and monitoring gender-based indicators in working towards sustainable development and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

To this end, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary “to invite Parties to make submissions to the Secretariat on the development of indicators to monitor gender mainstreaming, including the collection of sex-disaggregated data, under the Convention” and “to report to the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the development of indicators to monitor gender mainstreaming in activities of the Convention”.

Pursuant to the above request, and to support timely contributions, a short online survey has been prepared and made available at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CBD_Gender. Kindly provide your inputs to this survey as soon as possible but no later than **11 April 2014** in order to allow sufficient time for the Secretariat to compile and collate submitted information.

Any additional inputs relevant to the development of indicators to monitor gender mainstreaming, including the collection of sex-disaggregated data, may also be submitted to the CBD Secretariat by e-mail to: secretariat@cbd.int or faxed to: +1 514 288 6588.

A background note on gender mainstreaming and associated indicators has been provided as an enclosure to this notification.

Thank you for your continued support of the work of the Convention.

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

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias
Executive Secretary

Enclosure

To: CBD, CPB, ICNP National Focal Points



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BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON INDICATORS TO MONITOR GENDER MAINSTREAMING

Introduction to Gender Mainstreaming

Gender is recognized as being important to implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) because of the differing roles and knowledge between men and women in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Gender issues are also grounded in the social, political and economic environment and, as such, are closely tied to the implementation of any actions impacting livelihoods, land use and natural resource management.

Gender mainstreaming can have direct and indirect impacts on the implementation of the CBD including:

- Supporting the identification of drivers of loss;
- Identifying locally-appropriate approaches to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use;
- Enhancing stakeholder participation;
- Improving equity of tenure and use rights; and
- Ensuring consistency with the human rights based approach to development.

Defining Gender Mainstreaming

The process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies or programmes, in all areas and at all levels. It is a strategy for making women's as well as men's concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality.

Source: United Nations Economic and Social Council Agreed Conclusions, 1997/2)

Gender Mainstreaming in the CBD

Gender mainstreaming is an important cross-cutting issue contained within the text of the Convention and included in a number of strategies, programmes of work and decisions by the Parties to the Convention. Examples of gender mainstreaming in the CBD include:

Text of the Convention – 13th preambular paragraph

Recognizes the vital role that women play in the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and affirms the need for the full participation of women at all levels of policy-making and implementation for biological diversity conservation.

Decisions on Gender Mainstreaming - IX/24, X/19 and XI/9

Call for the mainstreaming of gender considerations into national and, where appropriate, regional, biodiversity strategies and action plans, national biodiversity targets, CBD funding and implementation of the programmes of work.

Programme of work for the Implementation of Article 8(j) – Task 4(e)

Calls for the promotion of gender specific ways in which to document and preserve women's knowledge of biological diversity.

Strategic Plan for Biodiversity - Goal D

“Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services”.

Aichi Biodiversity Target – Target 14

“By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable”.

Monitoring Gender Mainstreaming

Developing Indicators

Gender mainstreaming under the CBD is called for in:

1. The work of the Secretariat;
2. The development of national targets;
3. The revision or development of national biodiversity strategy and action plans (NBSAPs); and
4. Implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

As such there are a number of avenues for monitoring, assessing and reporting on gender mainstreaming: participation of men and women in relevant processes; awareness of gender - biodiversity issues; inclusion of gender in relevant strategies, plans and decision-making; etc. The strength of monitoring and reporting on gender mainstreaming is highly dependent on the establishment of accurate baselines and the development of relevant indicators to measure changes and trends through time.

Additional details and illustrative examples are provided below.

Criteria	Desired Outcome	Examples of Indicators
Awareness	Steps are in place to increase the awareness of gender mainstreaming issues and benefits	Number of training tools, outreach materials published High level of understanding of value of gender mainstreaming
Participation	Processes are in place to ensure or encourage the meaningful participation of women in decision-making and policy development	Number of women participants Number of women’s groups consulted Level of understanding among women participants Number of positive views from men on value of input from women Number of decisions taken and policies developed with input from women
Assessment	Baselines for monitoring and assessing gender mainstreaming needs, issues and initial conditions established	A gender baseline has been completed (see below) Roles of women as resource users /managers have been identified and documented
Strategy	Relevant strategies and action plans are gender sensitive	Number of times that the different gender roles are reflected in strategies for

		biodiversity management Level of understanding of different threats to biodiversity from men and women Amount of financial and human resources assigned for gender mainstreaming
Reporting	A monitoring and evaluation system is in place to assess the implementation of gender mainstreaming actions and results are reported	Gender disaggregated indicators identified Instances where gender-related issues are included in CBD national reports Instances where gender information is adequately included in financial reporting

Important Concepts in Gender Monitoring

A crucial step towards a meaningful programme for gender mainstreaming is the establishment of an accurate baseline against which changes and trends can be monitored and assessed through the use of indicators. The collection, use and reporting of gender disaggregated data plays an important role in the establishment of a gender related baseline.

Establishing a Gender Baseline

An assessment of gender mainstreaming consists of two main components: (1) the policy and legal environment; and (2) the on-the-ground situation, as outlined below.

	1. Assessing the policy, cultural and social environment for gender mainstreaming	2. Identifying any gender differences in biodiversity management and use
Key questions	Are there any laws and regulations with regards to gender? What are the social norms with regards to the participation of men and women? Are there any legal or institutional barriers to gender mainstreaming? How are women and men currently represented in decision-making?	Are there gender differences in employment in biodiversity-related sectors? Are there gender differences in access to capital, training and other resources required for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use? Are there gender differences in the allocation of funding for implementation of the CBD
Examples of sources of information	National laws and legislation Tenure and use rights Customary laws Reports to relevant conventions (e.g. CEDAW)	Gender-disaggregated data on: agriculture, forestry, employment, etc Financial reporting on biodiversity-related projects

A gender analysis to establish a baseline can be carried out on its own or be part of a larger situational analysis process that incorporates gender-sensitive questions and presents data according to gender (i.e. gender disaggregated data). For example, the guidance on gender mainstreaming in the NBSAPs recommends that a gender analysis is included in the stocktaking portion of NBSAP development or revision.

Gender Disaggregated Data

Also known as sex-disaggregated data, gender disaggregated data is an important tool to identify and assess changes and trends in gender related issues.

With regards to gender mainstreaming and the CBD, gender disaggregated data falls into two broad categories:

1. Data gathered for general use: this is data that governments collect as part of broader census or sector assessments and can include indicators such as: employment by sector, income by sector, percent of land titles, percent of resource use rights, number of government officials, etc.; and
2. Biodiversity-specific data: this is data that is gathered as part of a CBD or related process such as NBSAP development or revision and can include indicators such as: biodiversity knowledge, types and sustainability of use of biodiversity, contribution to threats to biodiversity, benefits from investments in biodiversity, etc.

The World Bank and the United Nations maintain databases of sex-disaggregated data on population, health, education, employment and political participation, which covers most countries. Both databases acknowledge, however, that a lack of data, especially from low-income countries limits the scope and coverage of such indicators for global reporting.