

# FINAL REPORT

## RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOR THE SOCIETY

REGIONAL DIALOGUE SUPPORTING GENDER EQUALITY  
AND SOCIAL INCLUSION IN CLIMATE ACTION  
PLANNING – MEKONG FOR THE FUTURE





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Asian Research Center for Migration (ARCH-CE)



**Project: Research and Development for the Society**  
**Regional Dialogue Supporting Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in**  
**Climate Action Planning – Mekong for the Future**





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## Disclaimer

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## ABBREVIATIONS AND TERMINOLOGY

### **List of Abbreviations:**

ACW	ASEAN Committee on Women
ACWC	ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children
AMS	ASEAN Member States
AICHR	ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights
AWGCC	ASEAN Working Group on Climate Change
AWGCW	ASEAN Working Group on Chemicals and Waste
AWGNCB	ASEAN Working Group on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
CC	Climate Change
CLMTV	Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam
CO <sub>2</sub> emission	Carbon dioxide Emission
CRIDF	Climate Resilient Infrastructure Development Facility
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DIW	Department of Industrial Works
DNP	Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation
DRRM	Disaster Risk Reduction Management
DONRE	Departments of Natural Resources and Environment
DPSIR	the Driver-Pressure-State-Impact-Response
EPPO	Energy Policy and Planning Office
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
GHGs	Greenhouse Gases
GM	Greater Mekong
GT	Gender Transformative
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPPU	Industrial Processes and Product Use
LULUCF	Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry
MFF	Mekong For the Future
MONRE	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
MVA	Manufacturing Value Added
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NCCC	National Committee on Climate Change Policy
NECCCCC	National Environmental Conservation and Climate Change Central Committee



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**List of Abbreviations:**

NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
OAE	Office of Agricultural Economics
ONEP	Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning
OTP	Ministry of Energy Office of Transport and Traffic Policy and Planning
PCD	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, and Waste Pollution Control Department
PPP	Purchasing Power Parity
TWGCC	Technical Working Groups on Climate Change
UN	United Nations
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WWF	Worldwide Fund For Nature





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## Terms and Definitions:

**Gender Equality:** The concept that women, men, girls, boys, and gender diverse persons have equal conditions, treatment, and opportunities for realizing their full potential, human rights, and dignity, and for contributing to (and benefitting from) economic, social, cultural, and political development (UNICEF Regional Office for South Asia, 2017).

**Social Inclusion:** The removal of institutional barriers and the enhancement of incentives to increase the access of diverse individuals and groups to development opportunities (World Bank, 2013).

**Gender Equality and Social Inclusion:** approach aims to guarantee equal rights, opportunities, and services to the entire population rather than only seek to improve the wellbeing of individuals in acute need. The perspective recognizes both formal and informal institutions and focuses on changing the power relations that render vulnerable and excluded populations at a disadvantage. This not only includes women but also LGBTQI+, indigenous, and differently abled populations (USAID, n.d.).

**Climate Change:** A long-term shift in temperatures and weather patterns (United Nations, n.d.).

**Climate Change Adaptation:** In human systems, the process of adjustment to actual or expected climate and its effects, in order to moderate harm or exploit beneficial opportunities. In natural systems, the process of adjustment to actual climate and its effects; human intervention may facilitate adjustment to expected climate and its effects (IPCC, 2022).

**Climate Change Mitigation:** A human intervention to reduce emissions or enhance the sinks of greenhouse gases (IPCC, 2022).

**Vulnerability:** The propensity or predisposition to be adversely affected. Vulnerability encompasses a variety of concepts and elements, including sensitivity or susceptibility to harm and lack of capacity to cope and adapt.

**INGO:** International nongovernmental organizations (INGOs) are NGO operating at the international, transnational, or global level ("International Nongovernmental Organizations", n.d.).



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**NGO:** an entity that is part of civil society organizations that primarily has humanitarian and cooperative objectives and is formed to provide services and/or to advocate a public policy and usually not affiliated with any government and not fundamentally organized for private profit (Karn, 2020; Leverty, n.d.; “Non-governmental Organization”, n.d.).

**CSO:** non-state and not-for-profit actors having presence in public life, expressing shared interests and values of their members or others, and are based on ethical, cultural, scientific, religious, or philanthropic considerations (Asian Development Bank, 2008).

**DPSIR:** The DPSIR framework is a development of the Pressure -State-Response (PSR) framework initially proposed by Rapport and Friend (1979), adapted! and largely promoted by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) for its environmental reporting. the EU adopted and started to use the Driving Force Pressure State Impact Response framework (DPSIR) The Driving forces (e.g. social and economic developments) exert Pressures (e.g. pollution), leading to changes in the State of the environment(e.g. Changes in the physio-chemical and biological systems, nutrients, organic matter, etc.), which then lead to Impacts on humans and ecosystems (e.g. fish mortality, phytoplankton blooms) that will in turn require a societal Response (e.g. building Water treatment plants)





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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Asian is home to more than half of the world's population and is the planet's most dynamic and fastest-growing region (USAID, 2022). However, the Greater Mekong (GM) Region is also increasingly exposed to environmental shocks and stressors, in particular climate-induced water vulnerability, according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (Parry et al., 2007; Krittasudthacheewa, 2019). Ensuring sustainable adaptive capacity of GM communities require an integrated approach of regional collaboration on policy development and advocacy, National cooperation on transboundary environmental and social issues, and community level buy-in on policies and practices.

The Mekong for the Future Regional Dialogue Supporting Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in Climate Action Planning (The Dialogue) promote collaboration between the Worldwide Fund for Nature -WWF and the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC), to develop policy pathways and influencing capacity of Civil Society Organizations operating throughout the Greater Mekong. The project pilot phase brings together representation from the Greater Mekong countries: Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. The research project creates synergies between civil society practitioners working in the nexus of natural resource governance and gender and social rights, together with experts in environmental policy frameworks, climate diplomacy, and gender equality and social inclusion (GESI). The Dialogue pilot outcomes will be documented for lessons learned to be adapted for future interventions throughout the ASEAN and across sectors.

The key objective of this study is to raise critical awareness for the Great Mekong (GM) member state participants on the nuances, policies, and practices influencing Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) in their respective countries and between the Great Mekong (GM) country. These findings will be useful for policy makers and practitioners on the linkage between Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) and climate change in these sectors, more broadly at the national level and for better targeting of and priority setting of GESI issues with climate actions and planning. The study was undertaken in five Mekong countries, i.e., Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam which involved two phases for implementation: Phase 1.1: involve desk review and implement primary data collection in five Mekong Countries in policy and institutional setting of GESI and climate action. Meanwhile in Phase 1.2, the research involved mainstreaming of GESI into climate action planning. Stakeholders interview and assessment of GESI integration in national and sectoral climate policies were conducted



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This study finds that the climate of the Mekong River Basin ranges from high-altitude continental and temperate in the upper basin to tropical monsoonal in the lower basin. Climate change may threaten each individual country's environmental and social systems varies significantly. Mekong River Basin region is vulnerable to direct impacts of climate change, but mostly due to the limited capacities to adapt to climate change (Evers, J., and Pathirana, A. (2018)). The ASEAN states in climate change readiness as their commitment in key regional policies and key institutions across GM countries as well as GESI institutions and policies settings and their engagement in climate actions plan. GESI integration in a dimension of climate adaptation is more emphasized than that in a dimension of climate mitigation. In term of sector, GESI has greatly integrated in the adaptation plan of agriculture and health while it is more emphasized in the mitigation plans of agriculture and waste management. The results of the study represent that the level of GESI engagement in climate actions as low to medium level, for their understanding, accessibility, and ability to engage in CLMTV countries. It is crucial for Climate Change related policy makers and, CSOs, Youth Groups, INGOs, and Academic Institutes in Climate policy process to gain more understanding and awareness in both academic and perspectives of other sectors/fields on these 3 issues (Gender Equality, Social Inclusion, Climate Change Action).

Additionally, CLMTV countries have addressed GESI issues in their climate actions in different contexts and different dimensions. It is important to note that, even the mitigation plans have addressed GESI as a part of the action objectives, components and outputs or have provided several details in relevant to GESI, but neither an analysis on how the plan is likely to be positively or negatively impact on GESI activities nor a prediction on possible changes in the quality of life of the women and other vulnerable social groups in the plans has been emphasized. To assess an integration of GESI in Climate actions using the DPSIR framework, the collected content conducts through an open-ended interview. At regional level, aggregating DPSIR analysis from CLMTV countries, it was found that the current state of GESI integration is low due to a lack vulnerable group's voice in climate action planning. Despite, GESI has been addressed in climate strategy, measures and action plan for policy implementations have not yet been addressed. However, an intended state of GESI integration seems increase gradually as seen women's participation is now highly encouraged. Particularly, it is a requirement from international agencies supporting climate fund. Therefore, to greater integrate GESI elements into climate actions and planning, the actions shall be as recommended.



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# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 RATIONALE

### SDG Related Goals for GESI and Climate Action

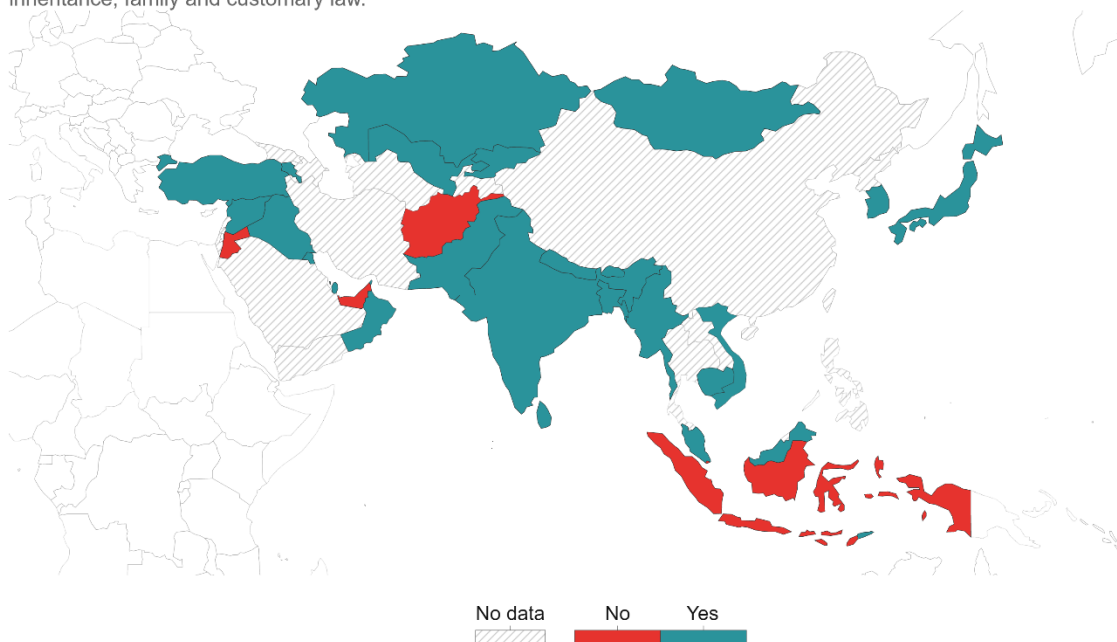


**SDGs No. 5 Gender Equality:** Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. The UN explains: "Gender equality is not only a fundamental human right, but a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world. Providing women and girls with equal access to education, health care, decent work, and representation in political and economic decision-making processes will fuel sustainable economies and benefit societies and humanity at large." The SDG 5 specified 14 Indicators for INDICATOR 5.1.1 which related Legal frameworks for gender equality and non-discrimination. The definition of the indicator 5.1.1 is whether legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex. There are various legal frameworks which can be applied to promote and enforce non-discrimination on the basis of sex. The figure 1 mentioned the Nondiscrimination clause mentions gender in the constitution is whether there is a nondiscrimination clause in the constitution which mentions gender. For the answer to be "Yes," the constitution must use either the word discrimination or the word nondiscrimination or even when there is a "claw back" provision granting exceptions to the nondiscrimination clause for certain areas of the law, such as inheritance, family, and customary law. The answer is "No" if there is no nondiscrimination provision, or the nondiscrimination language is present in the preamble but not in an article of the constitution, or there is a provision that merely stipulates that the sexes are equal, or the sexes have equal rights and obligations. The answer is "N/A" if there is no nondiscrimination provision.

## Does nondiscrimination clause mention gender in the constitution?, 2015

Measures whether there is a nondiscrimination clause in the constitution which mentions gender. For the answer to be "Yes," the constitution must use either the word discrimination or the word nondiscrimination or even when there is a "clawback" provision granting exceptions to the nondiscrimination clause for certain areas of the law, such as inheritance, family and customary law.

Our World  
in Data



Source: World Bank

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**Figure 1-1 the Nondiscrimination clause mentions gender in the constitution in 2015**

Source: <https://data.worldbank.org/data-catalog/gender-statistics>

According to **Figure 1-1** in 2015, the SDG 5 target show most of countries in Mekong region, is a nondiscrimination clause in the constitution except Thailand and Lao PDR has no data provided related to these issues. However, from literature searching, since 1980 the government of Lao PDR (GoL) has signed several United Nations Human Rights Treaties and ASEAN Declarations, Thailand adopted a new constitution in 2017, which including a paragraph on the requirements for political parties candidate lists to include women on equal terms as men (IPU 2019). In the preparation of a list of candidates under paragraph two, the members of the political party shall be allowed to participate in the deliberations, and regard shall be had to the candidates for election from different regions and equality between men and women (Article 90, Constitution 2017). This requires legal frameworks in place to enforce gender equality for all countries.



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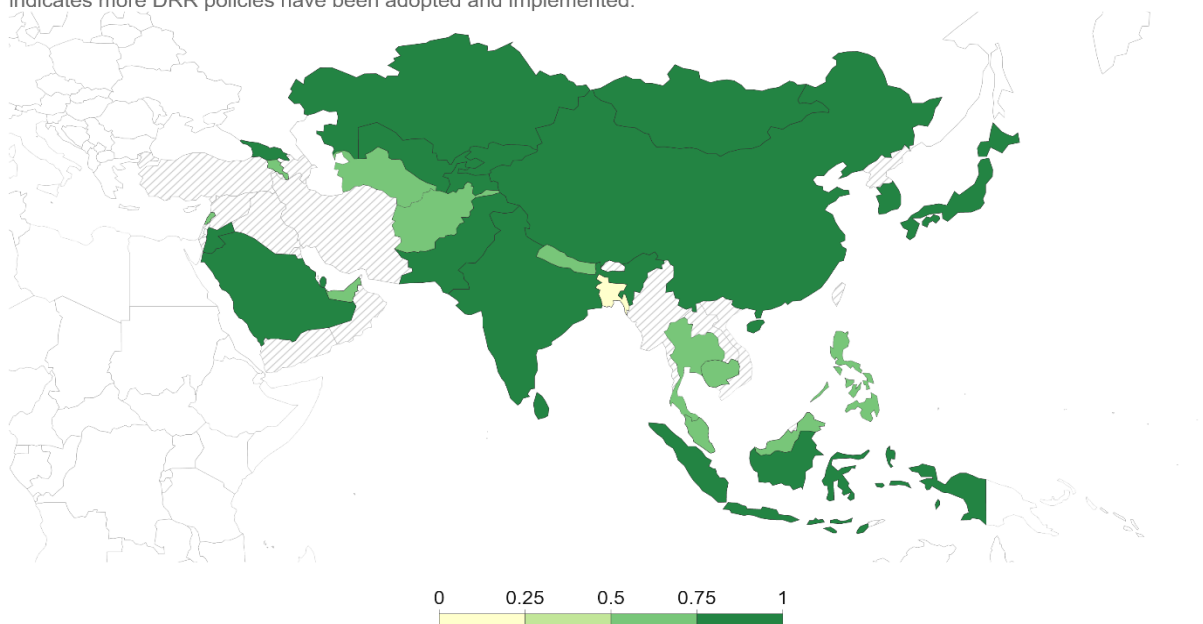


The **SDGs goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts**. The UN explains: Affordable, scalable solutions are now available to enable countries to leapfrog to cleaner, more resilient economies. The pace of change is quickening as more people are turning to renewable energy and a range of other measures that will reduce emissions and increase adaptation efforts. The SDGs indicator related the project is National disaster risk management. The definition of indicator 13.1.2 is the number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030.

### Adoption and implementation of policies to reduce disaster risk, 2021

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction aims to reduce the impact and risk of disaster. This index measures the extent to which countries have established disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies, a higher value indicates more DRR policies have been adopted and implemented.

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Source: UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

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**Figure 1-2 Adoption and implementation of policies to reduce disaster risk, 2021**

Source: <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>



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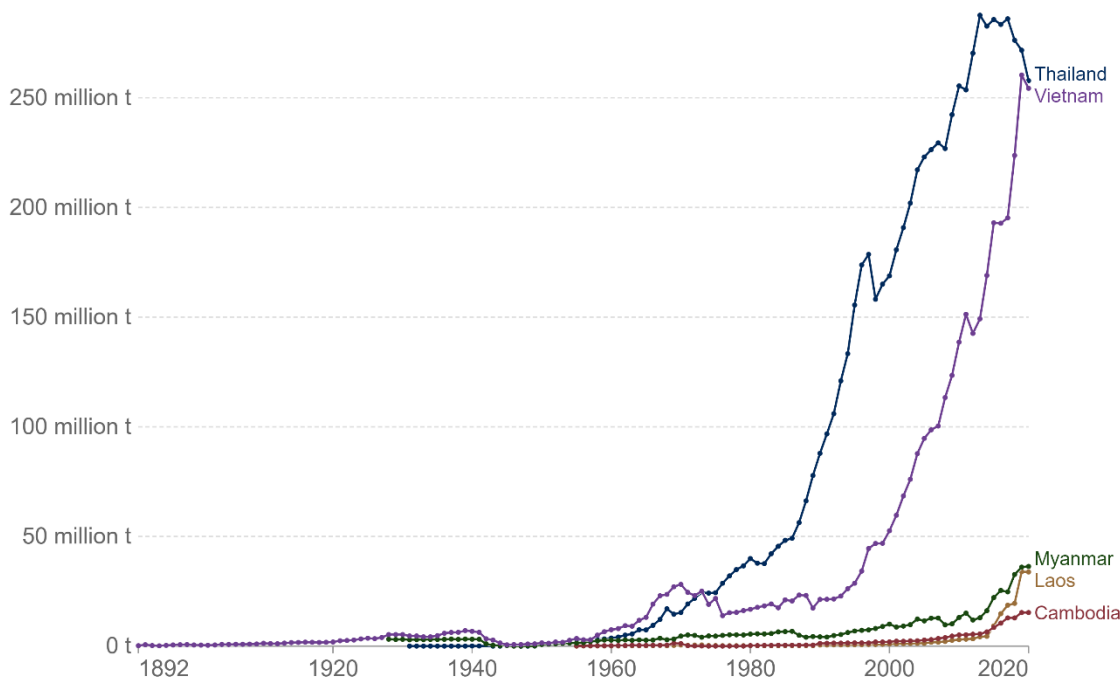


This indicator identifies countries who have and have not adopted and implemented disaster risk management strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. **Figure 1-2** Indicate Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies in line with the Sendai Framework in Asian Countries. Thailand and Cambodia showed the score as 0.68 in 2020 and 0.65 in 2019, respectively. There is no data for Vietnam, Lao PDR, and Cambodia (Last update in 2022). Another indicator in SDGs goals 13 is INDICATOR 13.2.1: Integration of climate change into national policies. The definition is the number of countries that have communicated the establishment or operationalization of an integrated policy/strategy/plan which increases their ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development. **Figure 1-3** showed the annual CO<sub>2</sub> emission in Mekong Region from fossil fuels and industry. This is based on territorial emissions, which do not account for emissions embedded in traded goods. **Figure 1-4** measures the number of countries signed on to multilateral agreements on climate change. Currently this indicator does not reflect the levels of operationalization or implementation of climate mitigation and adaption action.

## Annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from fossil fuels and industry. Land use change is not included.

Our World  
in Data



Source: Global Carbon Project

OurWorldInData.org/co2-and-other-greenhouse-gas-emissions/ • CC BY

**Figure 1-3 Annual production-based emissions of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), measured in tones.**

Source: <https://doi.org/10.18160/gcp-2021>





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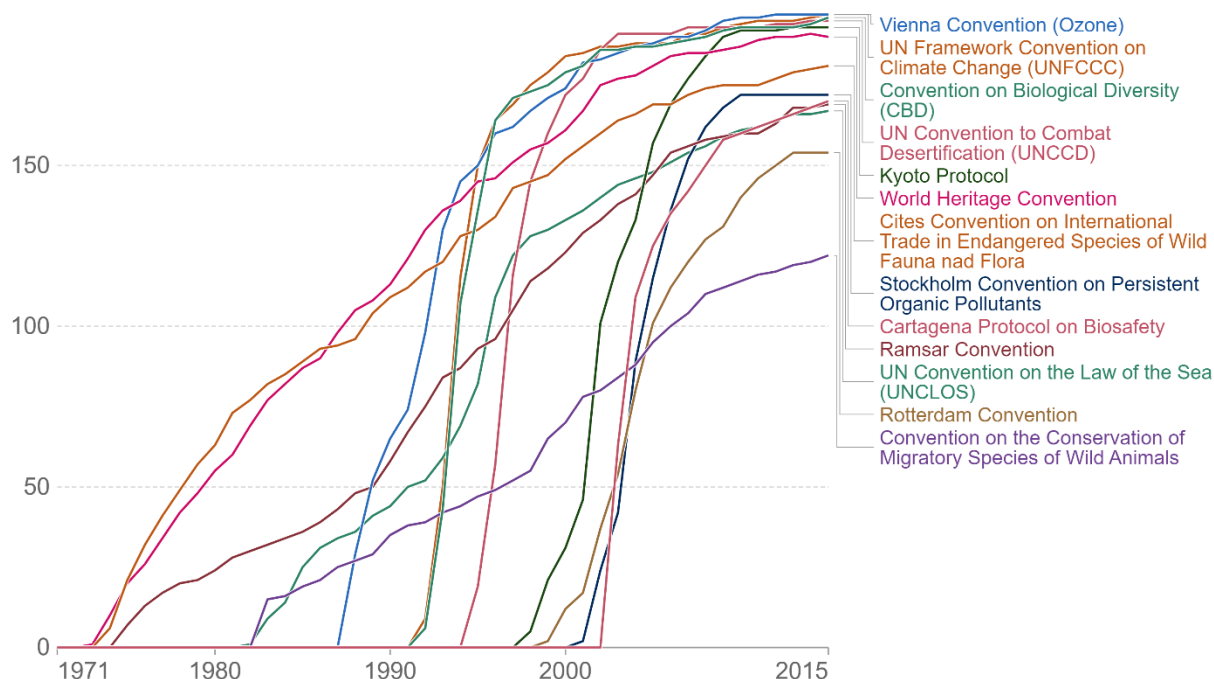
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## Number of parties in multilateral environmental agreements

Total number of global parties signed on to multilateral agreements designed to address trans-boundary environmental issues.

Our World  
in Data



Source: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

OurWorldInData.org/ozone-layer • CC BY

**Figure 1-4 the number of parties signed into international, multilateral environmental agreements.**

Source: <http://stats.unctad.org/Dgff2016/index.html>



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**SDG 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.** SDG 17 is key to the implementation of all the other goals. In delivering, its mandate to catalyze global solidarity for sustainable development, women and girls have to be seen as key partners in development and active economic agents. Globally, women on average are paid 24% less than men, where in developing regions, up to 95% of women's employment is informal, in jobs that are unprotected by labor laws and lack social protection. UN Member States and national governments who have committed to the goals have to ensure that they back programs which improve access to women and girls' education and healthcare as well as remove barriers to political participation, access to decent jobs and finance. Nevertheless, strengthening partnerships (SDG 17) and the exchange of information is essential to ensure that ASEAN and the other Asia Pacific sub-regions have the means to finance, target and implement policy solutions. Fail to do and slowing down on SDGs 17 track, these countries will jeopardize the achievements of all the other goals (The state of gender equality and climate change in ASEAN, 2022).



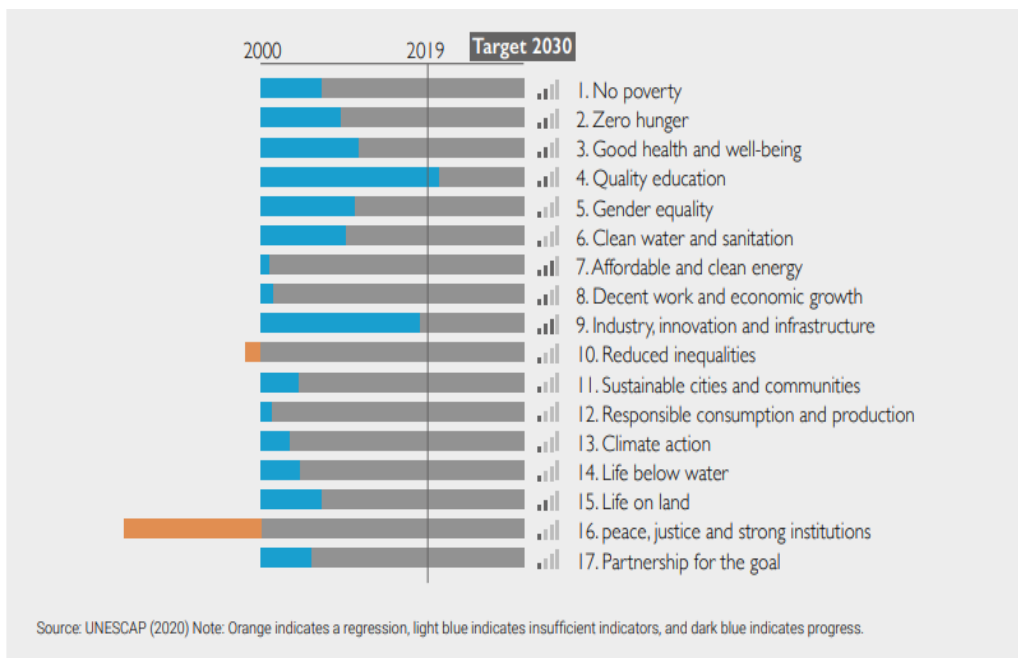
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**Figure 1-5 Target 2030**

In 2012/2013 only 5% of foreign aid funding had gender equality as one of its primary objectives. Despite the fact that gender-based data is crucial to better define how to achieve gender equality, only about one third of countries have specific departments for gender statistics. Around a third of \$114 billion in 2014-2015 had a gender focus, but investment shares varied, with a marked emphasis on government and civil society, and only marginal attention to women's roles in the economy (UN Women, 2018). However, the data is very limited for contribution to GESI funding in all CLMTV countries.



**Figure 1-6 SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals**

### The gender- environment nexus related SDGs indicators framework

In the past few decades, several international conventions have formulated an international normative framework for sustainable growth. Different countries have adopted this practice domestically and attempted to build policy-frameworks to implement them. These have been fraught with challenges and met with varying levels of success and failure. There is need to strengthen these frameworks and establish effective checks and balances to ensure the effectiveness of their implementation between environment, development, and partnership in the Asian context with inclusiveness of gender equality and social inclusion as a holistic view (Huang J., 2009)

Of the 93 environment-related indicators identified by UNEP, only 7 overlaps with UN Women's list, as shown in **Table 1-2** below. In other words, under the (UNEP, 2019) and (UNWomen, 2018) indicator groupings, the environment-related indicators which specifically address women and girls or require gender disaggregation represent only 3% of the 231 unique SDG indicators.



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**Table 1-1 SDG indicators identified under the gender-environment nexus  
(Based on UNEP and UN Women)**

Indicator	Indicator Label
1.4.2	Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land, with legally recognized documentation and who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and by type of tenure
4.7.1	Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development, including gender equality and human rights, are mainstreamed at all levels in: (a) national education policies, (b) curricula, (c) teacher education and (d) student assessment
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
8.9.2	Number of jobs in tourism industries as a proportion of total jobs and growth rate of jobs, by sex
11.2.1	Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities;
11.7.1	Average share of the built-up area of cities that is open space for public use for all, by sex, age and persons with disabilities
13.b.1	Number of least developed countries and small island developing States that are receiving specialized support, and amount of support, including finance, technology and capacity-building, for mechanisms for raising capacities for effective climate change-related planning and management, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities

Source: 1. <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/129a4345-en/index.html?itemId=/content/component/129a4345-en#tablegrp-d1e3261>

2. UNEP (2019), Measuring Progress towards Achieving the Environmental Dimension of the SDGs, United Nations Environment Programme, Nairobi, <http://www.unenvironment.org>

3. UNWomen (2018), Turning promises into Action : Gender Equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, <https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications>.

OECD (2021) stated that the gender dimension is largely missing from the nine environment-related SDGs and the existing indicators framework. While data availability is a major limitation, the framework itself does not adequately capture the interlinkages between environmental and gender goals. Hence, the agreed SDG



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indicators fall short in capturing the extent to which SDG targets are gender-responsive or could be linked to women's and girls' empowerment. A stronger focus on the gender-environment nexus in the SDG framework, and possible development of additional indicators that encapsulate it, would strengthen focus amongst policy makers and other stakeholders. In that sense, GESI mainstream plans in all SDGs are targeted.

## **Gender Equality status in the Great Mekong Regions and ASEAN**

According to SDGs target, Gender equity is critically important in the Mekong River Basin in term of sustainable development. Gender-inclusive development strategies contribute significantly to economic growth, poverty reduction, and to equity objectives by ensuring that everyone receives a fair share of development benefits. The Mekong River Commission is one of the actively supported national agencies in mainstreaming gender in water related initiatives, in the development of country specific Gender Action Plan, and in capacity building. The MRC declares that government policies, public action, and continued high levels of economic growth and poverty reduction all contribute to narrowing gender gaps in several areas, such as access to education, health, and water supply and sanitation services. The World Bank has demonstrated that activities that take gender equality into account tend to achieve their objectives more often than projects that ignore them. Gender equality and women's empowerment are central to the achievement of all the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (World Bank, 2019).

Gender mainstreaming efforts have proceeded at uneven paces across different sectors, including environment and water-related sectors. National and regional water governance institutions typically do not engage with gender organizations or women's groups. For NGOs, advocacy and network-building on water and environment issues at the national and regional scales do not readily accommodate women leaders. Dialogues focus mostly on the technical rather than social and gender aspects of water governance. Gender-equal participation and women's leadership are mostly found at micro-levels, and their participation often decreases as engagements scale up (IUCN and Oxfam (2018). Table 1-2 represent the National gender equality policies in term of water governance in the Mekong region. There is need to prioritize gender mainstreaming in water governance curriculum and research activities related to climate action. Mekong region is not only physically vulnerable for climate change that impacts water, land, forest, air quality and resources, but also vulnerabilities of people who are indigenous to the land. ASEAN countries need to give more voice for the rights indigenous people in communities.

In essence, women and girls constitute of the largest population in the world living in poverty, with higher barriers to accessing reproductive services and rights, education and information, employment, and finance opportunities, than their male counterparts. Thus, in the implementation of gender specific indicators,





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governments will have to address the unequal access to productive resources, the restriction of access to community managed service and prevalent provision of poor quality.

**Table 1-2 National Gender Equality Policies and National Environmental Protection (including Environmental Impact Assessment) Laws and Policies in the Mekong region**

	<b>Cambodia</b>	<b>Lao PDR</b>	<b>Myanmar</b>	<b>Thailand</b>	<b>Vietnam</b>
<b>Gender AND water resource</b>	No explicit national policy.	No explicit national policy.	No explicit national policy.	No explicit national policy.	No explicit national policy.
<b>Gender Equality plans</b>	National Strategic Development Plan on Women's Economic Empowerment (2019 – 2023)	Law on Women's Development and Protection, Vision 2030 and 10-Year National Strategy on Gender Equality (2016-2025) and Vision 2030 on Women Development, 10-Year Women's Development Strategy (2016-2025)	National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women (2013-2022)	Gender Equality Act (2015), National Economic and Social Development Plans (2017-2021)	Gender Equality Law (2006), The National Strategy on Gender Equality 2011-2020
<b>Assessment:</b>	Gender equality/ women's development policies do not	Gender equality/ women's development policies do not	Gender equality/ women's development policies do not	Gender equality/ women's development policies do not	Gender equality/ women's development policies do not



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**Table 1-2 National Gender Equality Policies and National Environmental Protection (including Environmental Impact Assessment) Laws and Policies in the Mekong region**

	Cambodia	Lao PDR	Myanmar	Thailand	Vietnam
	refer specifically to water resources	refer specifically to water resources	refer specifically to water resources	refer specifically to water resources	refer specifically to water resources
<b>Environmental Protection (Including EIA)</b>	<p>Draft Environment Code</p> <p>Law on Environmental Protection and Natural Resource Management (EPNRM Law 1996)</p> <p>Rewriting its Sub-Decree on Environmental Impact Assessment 1999 (EIA SubDecree 1999)</p> <p>EIA Law (in preparation)</p>	<p>Environmental Protection Law (1999)</p> <p>Decree of Environmental Impact Assessment 2010 (EIA Decree 2010)</p> <p>Ministerial Instruction on the Process of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment of the Investment Projects and Activities 2013 (Ministerial Instruction on ESIA 2013)</p>	<p>Environmental Conservation Law (ECL, 2012)</p> <p>Environment Protection Rules 2014 (EP Rules)</p> <p>EIA Procedure (2015)</p> <p>Draft public participation in EIA guidelines (EIA PPG) (2017/2018)</p> <p>Draft National Environmental Policy (2017)</p>	<p>Enhancement and Conservation of National Environmental Quality Act 2535 1992 (NEQA 1992)</p> <p>Constitution of Thailand 2007</p> <p>Guidelines for Public Participation in EIA Processes (2008)</p> <p>Guide on Environmental Regulation 2014 (BOI 2014)</p>	<p>Law on Environmental Protection (LEP 2014)</p> <p>Decree Providing Strategic Environmental Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Protection Commitment No.29/2011/NDC P (SEA/EIA Decree 2011)</p>



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**Table 1-2 National Gender Equality Policies and National Environmental Protection (including Environmental Impact Assessment) Laws and Policies in the Mekong region**

	Cambodia	Lao PDR	Myanmar	Thailand	Vietnam
	General Guidelines for Developing Initial EIA Reports, MoE, N.376 BRK.BST (2009)	Ministerial Instruction on the Process of Initial Environmental Examination of the Investment Projects and Activities (2013)  Environmental Impact Assessment Guidelines 2012 (EIA Guidelines 2012)			
<b>Assessment:</b>	EIA Sub-Decree 1999 encourages public involvement, but no concrete requirements stipulated.	Decree incorporates social impact assessments and warrants public participation, but no reference to gender or women as stakeholder	EIA procedure calls for public consultation processes, but no specific reference to gender; latest draft of EIA PPG	NEQA has no provision on public participation or information disclosure with respect to EIA; constitution & guidelines support public consultation	LEP 2014 acknowledges that environmental protection must promote gender equality. But outlines no requirements for open public involvement or guidance on



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**Table 1-2 National Gender Equality Policies and National Environmental Protection (including Environmental Impact Assessment) Laws and Policies in the Mekong region**

	Cambodia	Lao PDR	Myanmar	Thailand	Vietnam
		group. EIA Guidelines state women's & feminist groups to be consulted.	references gendered impacts and women's participation	processes, no specific mention of gender.	effective consultation methods, leading to disadvantaged & voiceless groups often misrepresented.

Source: IUCN and Oxfam (2018). Gender and Water Governance in the Mekong Region, 26 pp

The urge of all ASEAN Member States is submitted Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and several have set clear gender equality priorities. This is a promising trend demonstrating political commitments to gender equality in the climate policy landscape. However, there is room to advance from gender-responsive to gender transformative approaches, particularly in terms of delineating structural inequalities that impede gender equality and social inclusion and setting specific goals to address them. The State of Gender and Climate Change in ASEAN (2022) report presents a summary of gender-based analysis of climate mitigation and adaptation in 10 ASEAN Member States, with a focus on renewable energy (RE), disaster risk reduction (DRR), and agriculture sectors. It shows its efforts towards integrating gender in the key sectors and provides recommendations for more gender-transformative (GT) on climate responses. However, the key gaps are identified in ASEAN and its member states that need more budget and funding as well as staff for gender mainstreaming at all levels and across sectors. In ASEAN, GESI status and key improvement are stated as “Discriminatory gender and social norms are deeply entrenched and continue to constrain women’s roles at home and in their communities and lead governments to favor more technical and technocratic, male-dominated approaches over experience-based and traditional knowledge and practices” (the State of Gender Equality and Climate Change in ASEAN, 2022). Additionally, Recommendations of Regional Conference on Social Impact of Climate Change on Woman and Children in ASEAN (2019) provides recommendations for all ASEAN Member States to track effective measure in climate change and its impact on woman and children in ASEAN. The key recommended are policy framework and recommendations, prevention, education, and awareness raising, resource mobilization and governance, service provision and supports (see details in Recommendations of Regional Conference on Social Impact of Climate Change on Woman and Children in ASEAN (2019)). Overall requires the ASEAN member states the integrations of Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) in policy and planning at the national or sub-national levels.



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## 1.2 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

In this study, the following research questions are set:

- a) To what extent has Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) been addressed in the national or sub-national climate policies?
- b) What are the challenges and opportunities to involve Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) issues in future sectoral and national climate policies?
- c) In what ways can Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) mainstream into climate policy actions?

## 1.3 RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

The study (for the current phase) is conducted in the Great Mekong (GM) region (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam). The project will engage with civil and will focus on assessing the links between climate change impacts and Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) in key sectors. Findings from this study will be used to inform policy makers and practitioners on the linkage between Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) and climate change in these sectors, and more broadly at the national level.

Specifically, the objectives of this study are:

- a) To raise critical awareness for the Great Mekong (GM) member state participants on the nuances, policies, and practices influencing Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) in their respective countries and between the Great Mekong (GM) country.
- b) To foster dialogue on barriers to inclusion and the dynamic representation of gender identity in the Great Mekong (GM) related to climate actions in their respective countries.
- c) To provide recommendations in strengthening institutional systems on Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) responsive climate action and natural resource governance, based on community-led data and documentation.

## 1.4 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Responding to the key research questions, the research method of this study is designed as a mixed method between quantitative and qualitative approach. This study will tentatively involve two phases for implementation:

Phase 1.1: will involve desk review and implement primary data collection in five Mekong Countries, namely Cambodia, Lao PRD, Myanmar, Vietnam and Thailand to understand the state of GESI and climate action planning in the pilot country. Literature reviews and documentary analysis in titles related to both GESI and climate action policies in each country-level will be performed as detailed in the following section.



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Note: the workshop for researchers will be virtually conducted prior to the data collection to ensure the standard of research methodology implementation as well as to inform the ethical guidance related to the area of research and data collection. All researchers/ research assistants are well English and local languages understanding in speaking, listening, writing, and reading.

Meanwhile in Phase 1.2, the research will involve mainstreaming of GESI into climate action planning in 10 ASEAN Member States (AMS). Stakeholders interview and assessment of GESI integration in national and sectoral climate policies will be conducted as detailed in below:

### Phase 1.1

In order to understand the institutional and policy framework for GESI and climate change in the pilot country, the policy making system will be reviewed by the research country first. The institutional setting and policy framework for GESI and climate change in the pilot country will also be reviewed. Then followed by reviewing the regional and international commitment related to GESI and climate change issues.

For a high-level analysis of institution engagement, particularly on GESI responsive climate action and natural resource governance in the Mekong region, each country researcher will perform the following:

- Prioritize the climate actions based on the amount of emission reduction and a status of implementation which will be classified as implemented plan, current plan, and future plan.
- Analysis GESI integration in the climate actions using checklist as shown in **Table 1-3**.
- Consult with the regional research team for selecting the high-impact climate actions which will be based on a level of GESI integration in each plan. The decision on high-impact actions selection should be made upon the inception workshop.

**Table 1-3 Checklist for GESI integration analysis**

No	Checklists	Y/N	Comment
1	Does the selected plan report on findings of GESI as a part of the environmental or social impact assessment relevant to the action objectives, components, and outputs?		If YES, please describe HOW? if No, the ask
2	Does the selected plan analyze the GESI barriers in the following domains? Access to resources, participation in plans, legal rights and status, power and decision making in the action activities?		GESI about what should be done
3	Does the selected plan detail the socio-economic baseline for GESI?		(mainstreaming,
4	Does the selected plan detail identification and analysis of GESI issues relevant to the plan objectives, components and outputs/outcomes?		Action, policy Dialogue)?
5	Does the selected plan provide an analysis on how the plan is likely to positively or negatively impact on GESI activities?		





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**Table 1-3 Checklist for GESI integration analysis**

No	Checklists	Y/N	Comment
6	Does the selected plan realistically predict possible changes in the quality of life of the women and other vulnerable social groups in the plans?		
7	Does the selected plan address the needs and opportunities of women, girls, and other vulnerable groups?		
8	Does the selected plan specify other measures such as mainstreaming and policy dialogue for addressing the needs and opportunities of GESI?		
9	Does the selected plan specify project interventions and recommended actions that would contribute to addressing gender inequalities and social exclusion to ensure increased benefits in actions?		
10	Does the selected plan provide realistic activities and costs, which can contribute to GESI if supported.		

## Phase 1.2

The data collection is deployed both quantitative and qualitative methods. Key actors in GESI integration into climate policy should be involved in this study in order to ensure success. Each country researcher shall perform stakeholder analysis along the establishment of climate policy. A total number of stakeholders related to GESI, and climate issues are further used for determining the sample size in the next step. According to the scope of research questions, the submission to the Research Ethics Review Committee for Research Involving Human Subjects: The Second Allied Academic Group in Social Sciences, Humanities and Fine and Applied Arts, Chulalongkorn University, and get approval will perform accordingly before key informant interviews. To understand perspectives of civil society and youth on an integration of GESI in climate policy, quantitative methodology will be deployed. A questionnaire as attached in Annex I will be distributed via online platform to a group of civil society organizations (CSOs) and youth clubs. The sample size will be designed based on a number of such groups in each pilot country using Yamane technique, with an expected size of 20-30 sets. The content will be analyzed using the Drivers, Pressure, State, Impact and Response (DPSIR) framework. Number of publications have indicated the benefits of DPSIR as a scoping tool for conceptualizing interdependence in resource management problems (Lewison et al., 2016), to validate data obtained from the questionnaire, we deploy a qualitative approach at this stage. Bryman and Bell (2007) pointed out focus group, unstructured, and semi-structured interviews are suitable for a qualitative approach. It is vital to note that with an interpretative research method, a qualitative approach will be used to elaborate how policy is supportive and what improvements are needed for the future. Thus, we use consultation/ key informant meetings with representatives from relevant agencies working on the implications of GESI practices in climate change responses in the selected actions for this purpose. This will be carried out either onsite or online using the interview guide as attached in Annex II. A



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number of consultation/ key informant meetings will take place with key stakeholders ( 10 representatives from government, NGOs, youth clubs, and CSOs) as presented in **Table 1-4** The content will also be analyzed using the DPSIR framework to strengthen an integration of GESI into climate policies, challenges, and opportunities to mainstream GESI into climate change-related policies shall be suggested either at country level or regional level.

**Table 1-4 Key Interview**

Key interview		Number of sample collection
A	Government (Nation/local level)	2
B	NGOs	2
C	Youths' organization/clubs	2
D	Civil society organization related human rights, women, and gender equality	4
Total		10

Notes:

<sup>1</sup>For Myanmar, only B, C, D sectors are required (with at least 10 organizations).

<sup>2</sup>The key sector's selection can be distributed between CSOs and NGOs, but the total must be 4 organization units.

<sup>3</sup>Since there is no key sector interview for Vietnam, only secondary data will be applicable (10 organizations from all key sectors are required).

This research will fundamentally deploy a purposive sampling technique for both quantitative and qualitative data collection by selecting eligible participants based on the following criteria:

- All participants MUST be able to understand English.
- Youth must be aged 18 and above. They can be from Youth clubs or Youth organizations.
- CSOs must be interested and working on climate actions/ environmental justices and.
- Government officials who have knowledge of GESI, climate action, and experience in working on policy development.

Based on the general selection criteria, since the researchers for CLMVT will reach out to their closed contacts that they have for Youth Organizations/ Youth Clubs, CSOs in climate action/ environmental justice, and government officials who are involved in policy making for climate action, non-probability samples will also be deployed in this project via purposive sampling.

Moreover, the researchers especially for CLMT conducting primary data collection has to follow and inform the participant on the following approaches to Protection of Rights and Confidentiality of Participants:



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- The researchers will ask for permission from the participant before collecting any data through voice recording, photo taking or video recording at an interview, or a focus group meeting. The recorded files and/or photos are only for the use of this research.
- The researchers will ensure to conceal participant's information and keep it anonymous. The information about participants together with other information, will be destroyed within 5 years after the research is completed.
- The participants' personal information will be kept confidential and will not be revealed to the public as information about an individual.
- The research result will be reported collectively. People who will have the right to access your information will be those who are involved with this research and the Research Ethics Review Committee for Research Involving Human Subjects from the Second Allied Academic Group in Social Science, Humanities, Fine and Applied Arts only. The committee will also be one of the crucial actors in ensuring the whole process of the research project is in alignment to standardized research ethics.

### **Platform Development**

To ensure the effectiveness of project communication, selected researchers for CLMVT shall develop a communication platform which is apt to each country's situation during the data collection to maintain a relationship with key informants/ informants.

### **GESI integration assessment**

To assess an integration of GESI in CC action plan, the collected content will be analyzed using the Driver-Pressure-State-Impact-Response or DPSIR framework. The DPSIR framework principally provides a structure within which to present the indicators needed to enable feedback to policy makers on environmental quality and the resulting impact of the political choices made, or to be made in the future. The framework assumes a chain of the causal links between Driving forces, pressure, state of environment, impact, and response (Food and Agriculture Organizations of the United Nations, n.d.). Driving forces are the socio-economic and socio-cultural forces driving human activities, which increase or mitigate pressures on the environment. Pressures are the stresses that human activities place on the environment. State, or state of the environment, is the condition of the environment. Impacts are the effects of environmental degradation. Responses refers to the responses by society to the environmental situation (GRID-Arenal, 2005).

### **Recommendations and suggested guidelines**

Based on a finding from the successful GESI integration in CC action plan, country researchers shall share steps of implementation and its influencing factors to inspire/give ideas for other cases. Besides, from a



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finding of yet to success or unsuccessful stories, researchers for CLMVT shall provide recommendations to improve the level of GESI integration in CC, and also provide suggested guidelines to strengthen the institutional system on GESI responsive climate action and natural resource governance based on community-led data and documentation.

### Limitations

- Myanmar excluded government sector for key stakeholders' interview
- Vietnam only based on secondary data, there is no key sector interview for Vietnam
- Due to the circumstances and Covid-19 situation, the interview shall develop online or onsite . However, number of sampling and response are varied from country to country which may have impact to meaningful dialogue

## 1.5 RESEARCH FRAMEWORK AND TIMELINE

The project timeline and task in each project phase are indicated below. During the project, the research progress meetings were held every week.

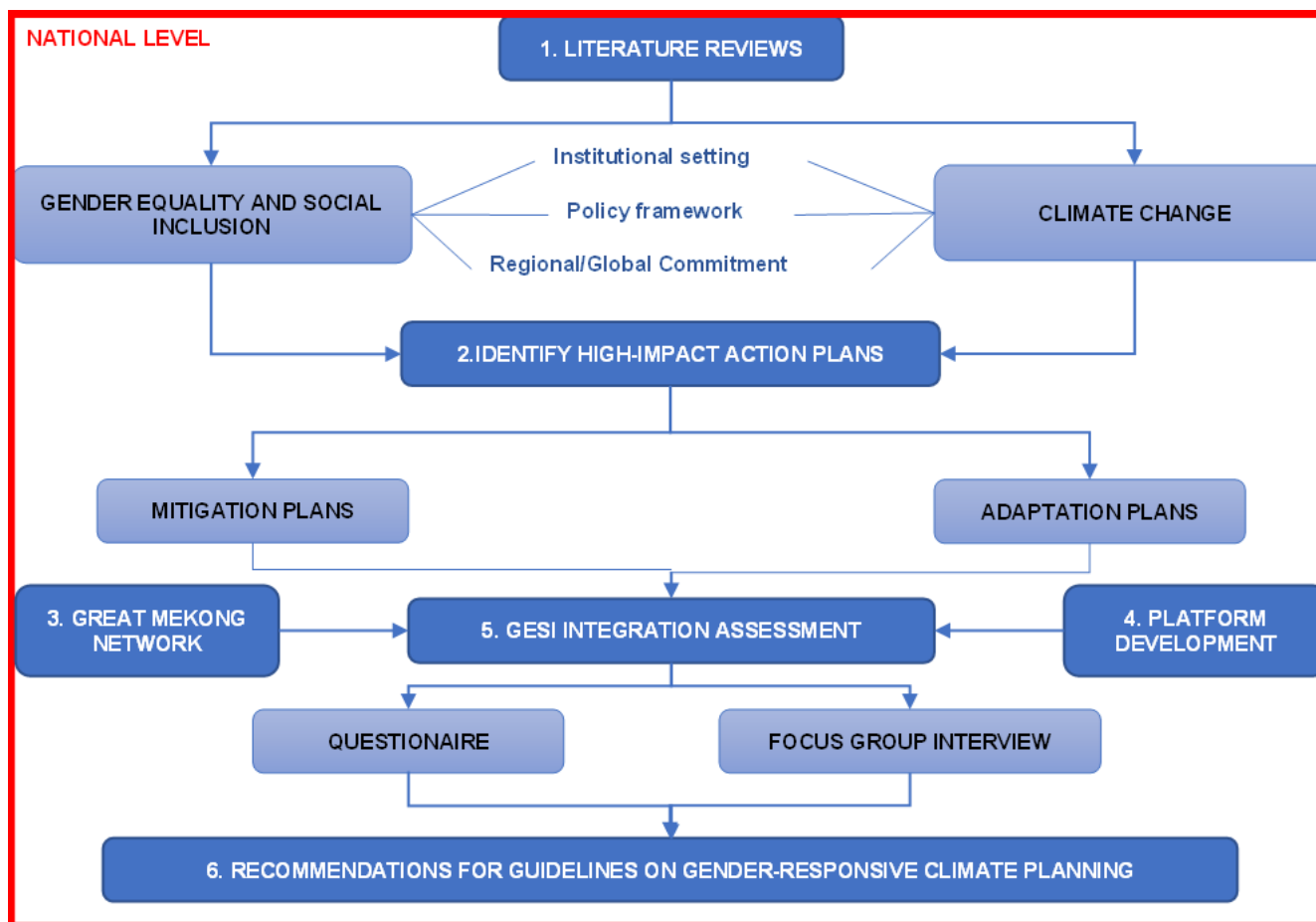


Figure 1-7 Research Timeline



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**Table 1-5 Deliverables/Activities**

Deliverables/Activities	JUN				JUL				AUG				SEP				OCT				NOV				DEC			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
<b>Phase 1.1</b> Understanding the state of GESI and climate action planning in the pilot country (CLMVT Countries)																												
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Literature reviews - Understand institutional and policy framework for GESI and climate change</li> </ul>																												
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify high-impact action plans - Perform a high-level analysis of institution engagement</li> </ul>																												
<b>Phase 1.2</b> Mainstreaming GESI into climate action planning																												
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Greater Mekong Network – Understand perspectives of all key sectors using questionnaire and interview questions (data, including community-led data and documentation, youth groups, inclusive for all gender group)</li> </ul>																												
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Platform Development Develop a communication /dialogue platform to maintain a relationship with key informants/informants</li> </ul>																												





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	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GESI integration assessment – Collected data is analyzed by using DPSIR Framework; in order to ensure that the collected data is reliable and valid. Highlighting common norms/themes, best/good practices, and areas for collaboration.</li> </ul>																												
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommendations and suggested guidelines to strengthen and improve for the future of the institutional systems on GESI mainstreaming into climate action-related policies and practices (including GESI responsive climate action, natural resource governance, environmental policies and programming, inclusion, and engagement of CSOs in influencing these policies)</li> </ul>																												



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## 2 ASEAN & CLIMATE CHANGE READINESS (CAMBODIA, LAO PDR, MYANMAR, THAILAND, AND VIETNAM)

### 2.1 GREENHOUSE GASES INFORMATION IN GREAT MEKONG REGIONS

**Table 2-1** provides an overview of the key indicators for greenhouse gases information in CLMTV from the World Bank data in 2019 (World Bank, 2019).

**Table 2-1 Human Development Index, Gender Development Index, Gender Inequality Index and Greenhouse gas information in Mekong Regions**

Year	Indicators	Cambodia	Lao PDR	Myanmar	Vietnam	Thailand
2019	GHG Emissions without LULUCF (MT CO <sub>2</sub> eq) <sup>a</sup>	40.1	29.3	133.3	450.2	422.1
	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions (metric tons per capita) <sup>b</sup>	1.0	2.6	0.7	3.5	3.8
	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions per GDP unit (Kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq per 2017 PPP USD of GDP) <sup>c</sup>	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.2

**References** <sup>a</sup> CAIT Climate Data Explorer via Climate Watch, Link

<https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/total-ghg-emissions-excluding-lulucf?tab=chart&country=THA~KHM~LAO~VNM~MMR>

<sup>b</sup> Available at: [climatewatchdata.org/ghg-emissions](https://climatewatchdata.org/ghg-emissions), Link

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.ATM.CO2E.PC>

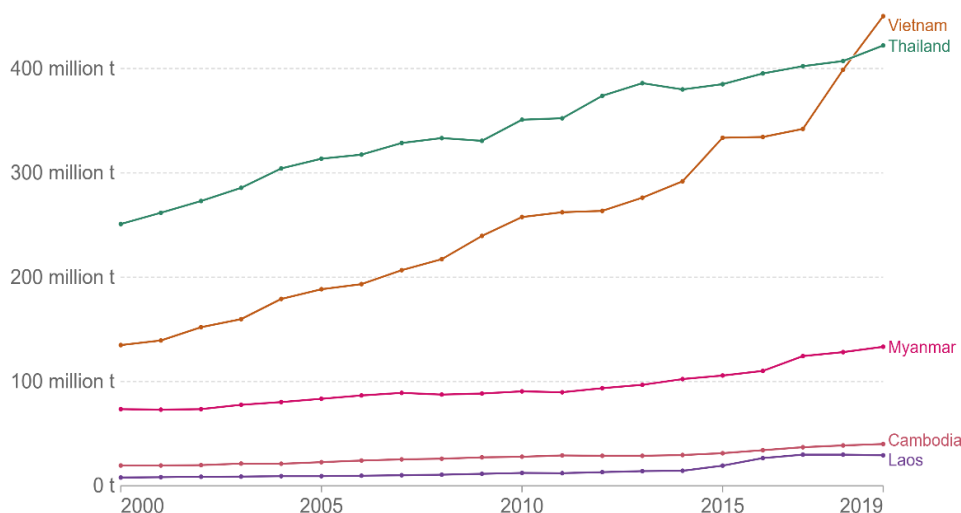
<sup>c</sup> Link <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.ATM.CO2E.PP.GD>

The Mekong Region is among the world's most susceptible to sea level rise; as such, climate change adaptation and vulnerability reduction is vital. Over the past 20 years, the total GHGs emission profile in each countries rising significantly (**Figure 2-1**). GHGs emission profiles have been reported as baseline information to further support fight against climate actions.

### Total greenhouse gas emissions, excluding land use and forestry

Emissions are measured in carbon dioxide equivalents (CO<sub>2</sub>eq). This means non-CO<sub>2</sub> gases are weighted by the amount of warming they cause over a 100-year timescale. They exclude emissions from land-use change and forestry.

Our World  
in Data



Source: Our World in Data based on Climate Analysis Indicators Tool (CAIT).

Note: Greenhouse gases are weighted by their global warming potential value (GWP100). GWP100 measures the relative warming impact of one molecule of a greenhouse gas, relative to carbon dioxide, over 100 years.

OurWorldInData.org/co2-and-other-greenhouse-gas-emissions • CC BY

**Figure 2-1 Total greenhouse gas emissions excluding land-use change and forestry, measured in tons of carbon dioxide-equivalents from 2000-2019.**

- GHG Emissions without LULUCF:** The total greenhouse gas emissions without land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF) sector in 2019 of each country. Emissions are measured in carbon dioxide equivalents (CO<sub>2</sub>eq). They exclude emissions from land-use change and forestry. It is being one of the target indicators 13.3.2 (a) of SDGs 13 to build capacity to implement adaptation, mitigation, technology transfer and development related to climate events.

**CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (metric tons per capita):** Annual production-based emissions of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), measured in tons per person.CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are often used to compare countries' contribution to climate change. But this metric often reflects differences in population size across the world. To understand the 'footprint' of the average person in a given country, this data shows per capita emissions. Thailand and Vietnam rank 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> among 5 countries in GM regions (World average in 2019 is 4.5 mt per capita).



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- **CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per GDP unit:** CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per unit value added is an indicator computed as ratio between CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion and the value added of associated economic activities. The indicator can be computed for the whole economy (total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions/GDP) or for specific sectors, notably the manufacturing sector (CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from manufacturing industries per manufacturing value added (MVA). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per unit of GDP are expressed in kilograms of CO<sub>2</sub> per USD constant 2017 PPP GDP. Being one of the Target 9.4 SDGs 9. Most countries were in the range of 0.1 - 0.3 with world average of 0.3 kg per 2017 Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) \$ of GDP.

## 2.2 IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN GREAT MEKONG RIVER REGION

The Mekong basin and associated river network and distribution coverage by country: China (21%), Myanmar (3%), Lao People's Democratic Republic (25%), Thailand (23%), Cambodia (20%) and Vietnam (8%) (Open Development Mekong, 2016). For the people living along the Mekong River, especially the 29.6 million living within 15 km of the river, this great waterway plays both a cultural and economic role. Cultural practices, traditions, and holidays center around the river's seasonal changes, and country economies depend on the resources and services of the river, which provides rice, fish, and water for domestic, municipal, and industrial use. Any impacts to the river, especially if exacerbated by climate change, will have a devastating impact on those dependent on it, especially marginalized populations like women, indigenous peoples, and the poor. Climate change is not just a threat in the Mekong River Basin. Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, and Viet Nam are comprising in the Lower Mekong River Basin (LMB), is recognized as one of the region's most vulnerable to climate change. The economies of the GM countries, their ecosystems, sustainability, and social harmony are all at risk. Its impact is present and affecting the livelihoods of the millions who rely on the river's natural resources (Mekong River Commission, 2020).

The climate of the Mekong River Basin ranges from high-altitude continental and temperate in the upper basin to tropical monsoonal in the lower basin. It is dominated by the southwest monsoon which gives rise to wet and dry seasons of approximately equal length. The monsoon season lasts from June to November, with heavy rainfall in most of the basins. The dry season from December to May is cooler with low rainfall in most areas, except for the Mekong Delta in Cambodia's Kratie province and in Viet Nam. There is little seasonal variation in temperatures in the lowlands and river valleys of the Lower Mekong River Basin, ranging from highs of around 32°C in the warmest months of March and April and lows of around 23°C. Further north, seasonal variations increase, with average wet-season temperatures around 15°C in the highlands of Lao PDR. The distribution of mean annual rainfall over the basin follows a distinct east-to-west gradient. The rain-soaked uplands in Lao PDR and Cambodia receive up to 3,000 mm of rainfall per year, compared to 1,000-1,600 mm on the semi-arid Khorat Plateau in northeastern Thailand. Figure 5.



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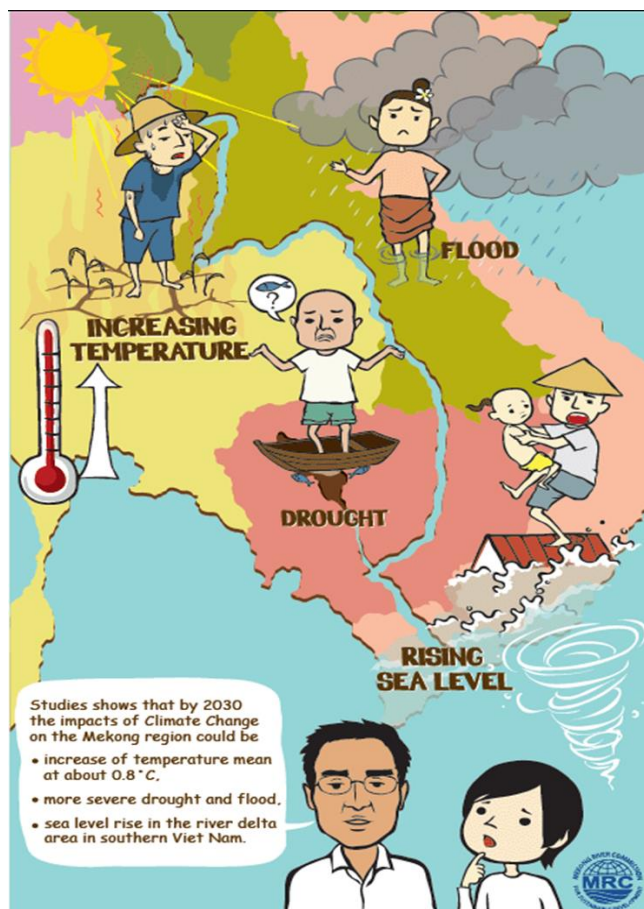


summarize the impact of climate change in the Lower Mekong River basin. Temperatures is rising and changing in the intensity of rainfall, river flow, floods, and droughts which are destroying homes, infrastructure, crops, and fisheries. Consequently, vulnerable communities are faced with food shortages and diminished livelihoods. Additionally, predicted rises in sea levels are set to increase salinity, sea water intrusions and floods in the GM region, causing damage to crop in the most productive area of the basin. Additionally, predicted rises in sea levels are set to increase salinity and floods in the Mekong Delta, causing damage to crop in the most productive area of the basin.

According to the Mekong River Commission for Sustainable Development research (MRC, 2022), temperatures are projected to increase across the basin and across seasons. By 2060 the average annual basin-wide increase could be between 0.4°C and 3.3°C depending on the trajectory of global greenhouse gas emissions. Average change in rainfall by 2060 under a dry climate scenario is projected to fall by 16%, and under a wet climate scenario, to increase by 17%. Agricultural yields are likely to be affected. Changes in agricultural practices, irrigation and technological improvements will be required to offset these impacts. Hydropower production will be at risk due to increased droughts. Navigation may be affected by lower dry season flows making some parts of the upper Mekong impassable at certain times of the year. Roads and water supply infrastructure are at risk from more intense rainfall, increased flooding, and landslides, while significant expenditure may be required to protect coastal infrastructure from rising sea levels and storm surges. Many plants and animal species are highly vulnerable to climate change with large numbers of fish particularly at risk due to their sensitivity to hydrological cues. Under a moderate scenario to 2060, soil erosion losses are projected to increase by 16.9%. Evers and Pathirana (2018) stated that “Emissions of greenhouse gases per capita and emission intensity are low in the Lower Mekong Basin compared with other parts of the world. The impacts of climate change are, however, predicted to be significant, as are the subsequent predicted consequences for human development and poverty alleviation in the region”.

### Impact of climate change in Mekong Regions.

- By 2030 the mean temperature annual basin-wide increase approximately 0.8 °C and could be between 0.4°C and 3.3°C depending on the trajectory of global greenhouse gas emissions by 2060
- Average change in rainfall; Increases in annual precipitation of more than 13.5% (equivalent to 0.2m) in some areas leading to an increase in the severity of flooding.
- Decreases in dry season precipitation in other areas making some parts of the basin more drought prone. Hydropower production will be at risk due to increased droughts
- In the upper reaches of the Mekong Basin, melting glaciers will increase the contribution of snow melt to water in the river system.
- More extreme weather events that impacts on productivity of agricultural activities.
- Salinity intrusion into the Mekong Delta, which will have a significant impact on agriculture, aquaculture, and capture fisheries, which may mean the displacement of millions of people.

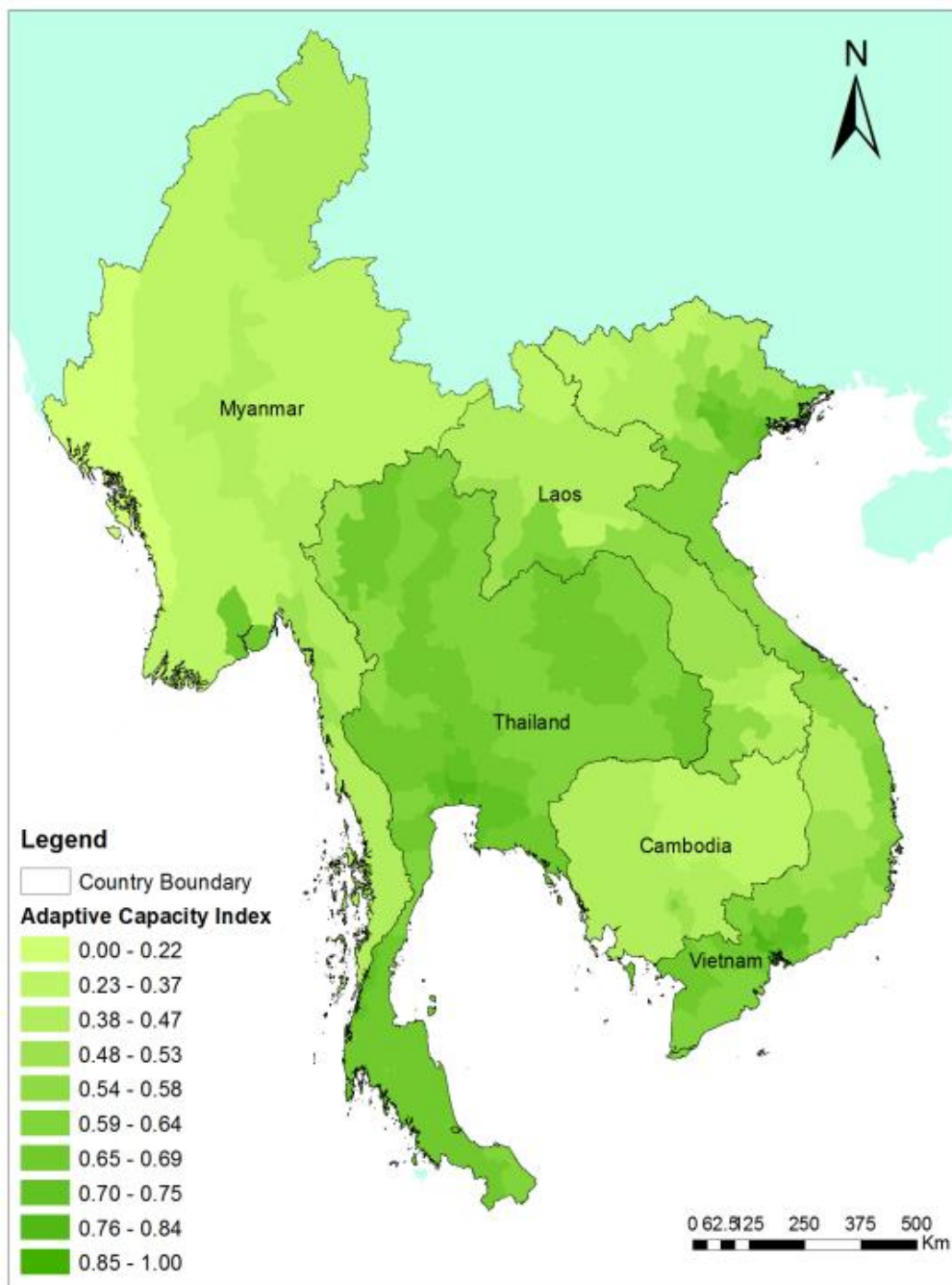


**Figure 2-2 Impact of climate change in the Lower Mekong River basin**

Source: <http://archive.iwlearn.net/mrcmekong.org/ccai/understanding-climate-change.htm>

Climate change may threaten each individual country's environmental and social systems varies significantly. Mekong River Basin region is vulnerable to direct impacts of climate change, but mostly due to the limited capacities to adapt to climate change (Evers, J., and Pathirana, A. (2018)). The Governments of Thailand and Viet Nam have developed climate change scenarios and projections and have accomplished some studies on impact assessment and potentials for adaptation. Climate change information for Cambodia and Lao PDR are less developed but expected to increase in the coming years (Mekong River Commission, 2022).





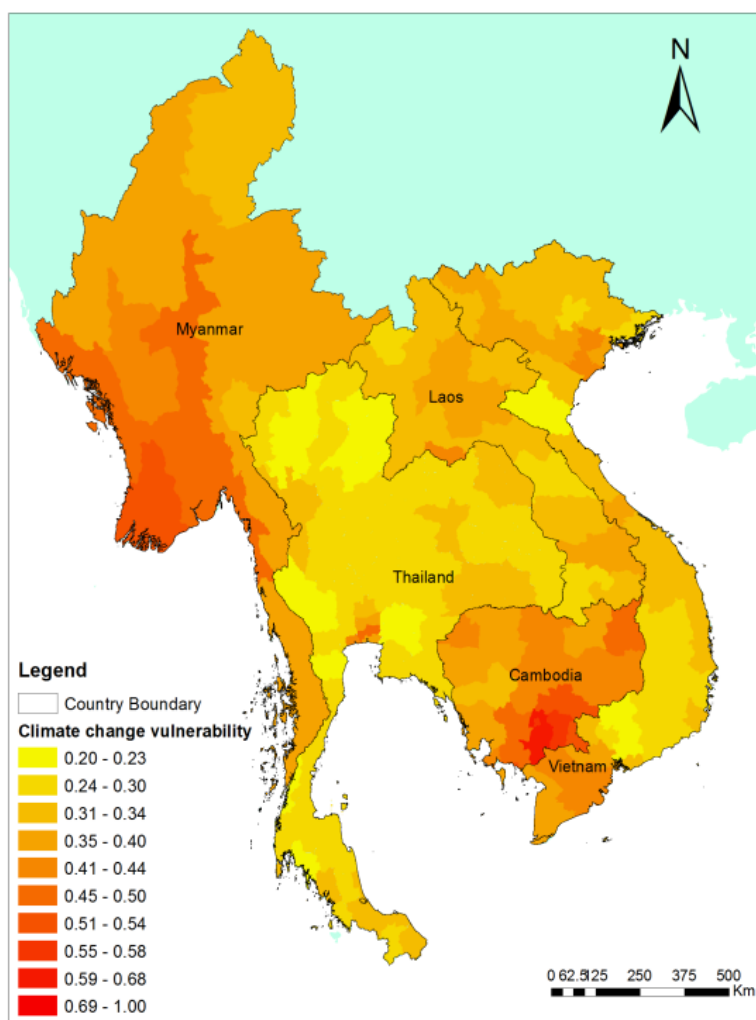
**Figure 2-3 Mapping of adaptive capacity in the Mekong countries**

**Adaptive capacity** is an essential factor in determining vulnerability to climate change and in conducting a comprehensive assessment of how a system can adapt and cope with its impacts. The higher the score on the ACI index, the less vulnerable the country is to climate change, while lower scores reflect greater



vulnerability (**Figure 2-3**). Bangkok has the highest adaptive capacity in the Mekong region with an ACI score of 0.82.

Myanmar has the lowest adaptive capacity as reflected by low ACI scores – 0.18 which relate to HDI index its low HDI score, low level of technological development, high poverty incidence, and income inequality. Adaptive capacity is generally inversely proportional with vulnerability –the regions with higher adaptive capacity will be less vulnerable and better able to adapt to the impacts of climate change. However, even these regions are still heavily affected by other factors, such as exposure and sensitivity. Adaptive capacity remains an effective criterion for the mitigation of vulnerability towards climate change (UNESCO Bangkok, 2015)



**Figure 2-4 Vulnerability index in the Mekong countries in 2015**



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Vulnerability assessments are crucial to identifying areas that are unsustainable and their capacity to respond to climate change. According to the study of UNESCO Bangkok (2015), The Mekong lowlands, the eastern region of Cambodia, the western coastline and the central region of Myanmar were identified as areas most vulnerable to climate change. Thailand, with the exception of Bangkok, is considered to be less vulnerable to climate change than other except Bangkok. In Vietnam, the vulnerable areas to climate change are in the Mekong River Delta and Red River Delta (**Figure 2-4**).

Adaptive capacity plays an important role in mitigating climate change vulnerability in combination with HDI, both of which important factors in determining a country's social and economic well-being. HDI indexes in Mekong regions are shown below. adaptive capacity was determined as a function of socioeconomics, technology, institutions, and infrastructures which link to HDI index, income inequality and technology accessible with the capacity of institutions and infrastructure to adapt to climate change at the regional level.

## 2.3 GESI INDICES IN GREAT MEKONG REGIONS

**Table 2-2** provides an overview of the key indicators for each of the five Mekong Countries (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam), based on Global Human Development Reports published by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank data. According to the state of gender and climate change in ASEAN report, ASEAN countries has made a high-level political commitment to gender and social inclusion through key documents in many policy commitments as well as effort to achieve gender targets and the strong commitment of the government to promote gender equality and women empowerment.



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**Table 2-2 Human Development Index, Gender Development Index, Gender Inequality Index and Greenhouse gas information in Mekong Regions**

Year	Indicators	Cambodia	Lao PDR	Myanmar	Vietnam	Thailand
2021	Human Development Index Rank <sup>3, a</sup>	146	140	149	115	66
	Human Development Index (Female: Male) <sup>3, a</sup>	0.570: 0.615	0.591:0.623	0.565:0.599	0.704:0.702	0.805:0.796
	Gender Development Index (Group) <sup>2, a</sup>	3	3	3	1	1
	Gender Development Index (Value) <sup>1, a</sup>	0.926	0.949	0.944	1.002	1.012
	Gender Inequality Index (Rank) <sup>4, a</sup>	116	120	125	71	79
	Gender Inequality Index (Value) <sup>4, a</sup>	0.461	0.478	0.498	0.296	0.333

**Definitions:**

1. Gender Development Index: Ratio of female to male HDI values. See Technical note 3 at [http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/hdr2022\\_technical\\_notes.pdf](http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/hdr2022_technical_notes.pdf) for details on how the Gender Development Index is calculated.
2. Gender Development Index groups: Countries are divided into five groups by absolute deviation from gender parity in HDI values. Group 1 comprises countries with high equality in HDI achievements between women and men (absolute deviation of less than 2.5 percent), group 2 comprises countries with medium to high equality in HDI achievements between women and men (absolute deviation of 2.5–5 percent), group 3 comprises countries with medium equality in HDI achievements between women and men (absolute deviation of 5–7.5 percent), group 4 comprises countries with medium to low equality in HDI achievements between women and men (absolute deviation of 7.5–10 percent) and group 5 comprises countries with low equality in HDI achievements between women and men (absolute deviation from gender parity of more than 10 percent).
3. Human Development Index (HDI): A composite index measuring average achievement in three basic dimensions of human development—a long and healthy life, knowledge and a decent standard of living.
4. Gender Inequality Index: A composite measure reflecting inequality in achievement between women and men in three dimensions: reproductive health, empowerment, and the labor market

**References** <sup>a</sup> the 2021/2022 Human Development Report is the latest in the series of global Human Development Reports published by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)



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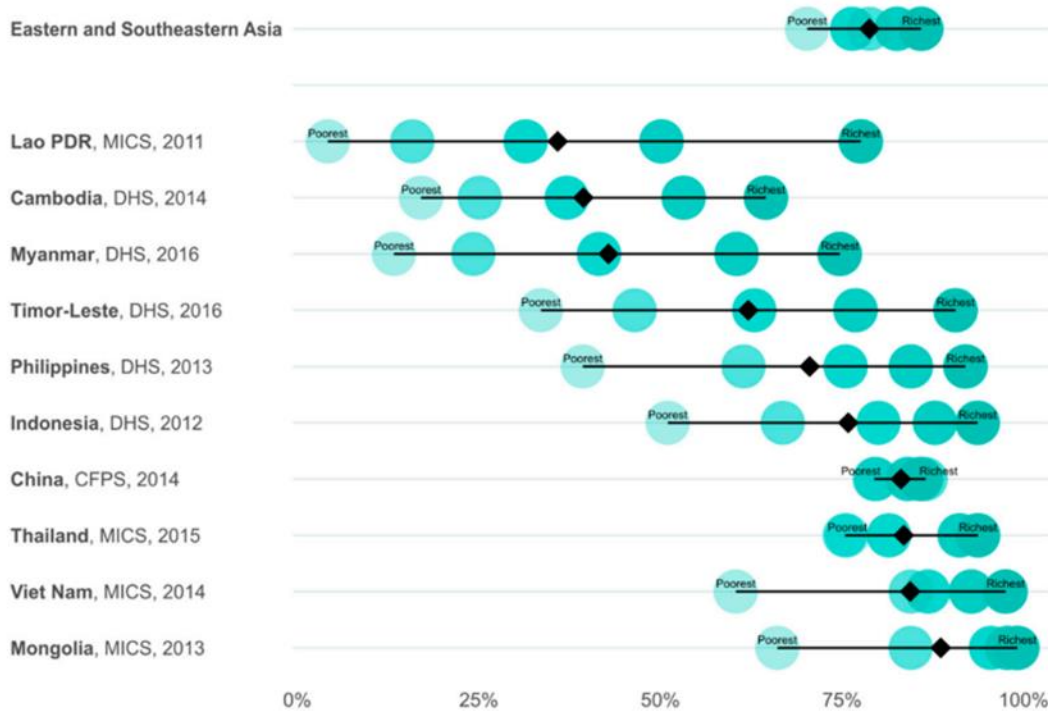


**Some of the key findings are as follows:**

- **Human Development Index (HDI):** The HDI measures in three key dimensions of human development: a long and healthy life, access to knowledge and a decent standard of living. In 2021, Thailand and Vietnam's female HDI was 0.805 and 0.704, Vietnam increased from 0.475 in 1990. Thailand and Vietnam rank 66<sup>th</sup> and 115<sup>th</sup> out of 189 countries and territories and falls in very high and high human development category, respectively. Lao PDR, Cambodia, and Myanmar's female HDI were 0.591, 0.570 and 0.565 which rank in medium human development, respectively.

**Gender Development Index (GDI):** The GDI measures gender inequalities in achievement in three basic dimensions of human development: health (measured by female and male life expectancy at birth), education (measured by female and male expected years of schooling for children and mean years for adults aged 25 years and older) and command over economic resources, measured by female and male estimated earned income. Thailand and Vietnam's GDI value of 1.012 and 1.002 placing it into Group 1 (**high equality in HDI achievements between women and men (absolute deviation of less than 2.5 percent)**). In comparison, GDI values for Lao PDR, Cambodia and Myanmar are 0.949, 0.926 and 0.944, respectively which fall into Group 3 (medium equality in HDI achievements between women and men (absolute deviation of 5 – 7.5 percent)).

- **Gender Inequality Index (GII):** GII reflects gender-based inequalities in three dimensions – reproductive health, empowerment, and the labor market for. It ranges from 0, where women and men fare equally, to 1, where one gender fares as poorly as possible in all measured dimensions. Thailand and Viet Nam have a GII value of 0.333 and 0.296, ranking it 79<sup>th</sup> and 71<sup>st</sup> in the 20201 indexes. Lao PDR, Cambodia, and Myanmar have value in 0.478, 0.461 and 0.498 (rank in 120<sup>th</sup>, 116<sup>th</sup> and 125<sup>th</sup> places in GII Index), respectively.



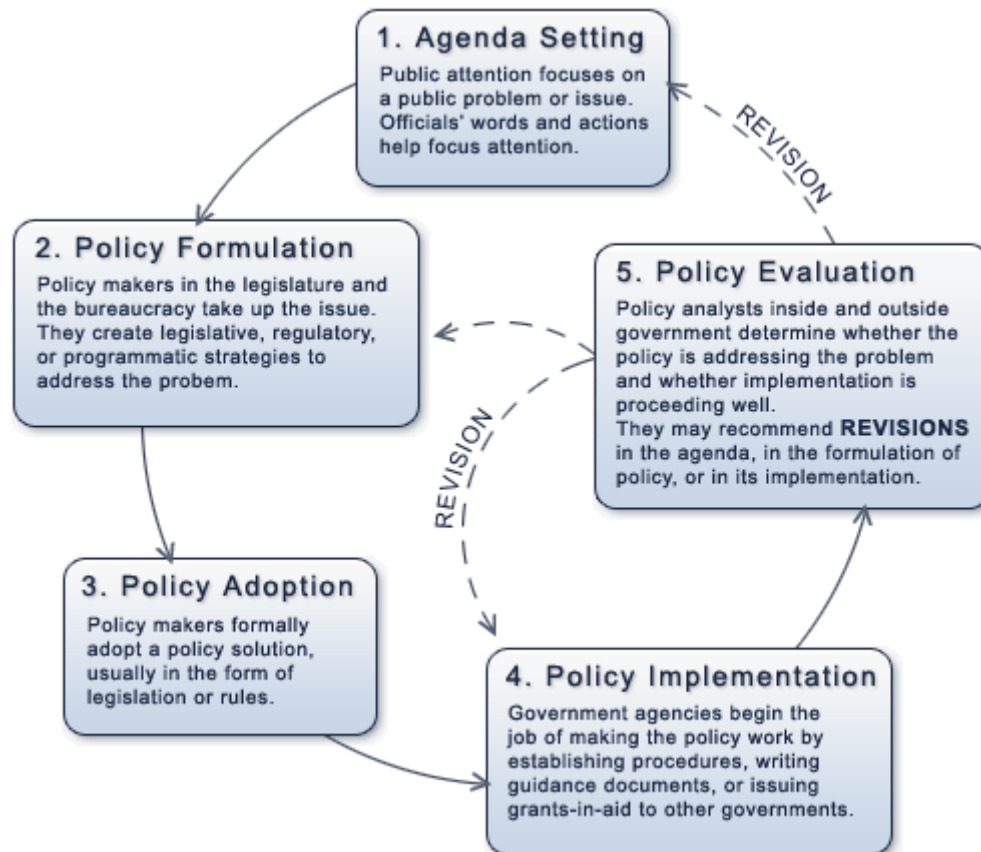
**Figure 2-5 Educational inequalities in Eastern and Southeast Asia**

Source: Hoffmann and Blecha, 2020

**Figure 2-3** reveals substantial educational inequalities in some Southeast Asian countries, such as Lao PDR, Cambodia, or Myanmar, where less than 25% of the poorest population group have completed lower secondary education. The graph represents educational inequalities for selected countries in Eastern and Southeast Asia. It showed that the lower secondary education completion rates for different wealth quintiles (poorest vs richest population groups). The black diamond shapes reflect the average completion rates. The length of the black lines indicates the amount of inequality in the countries (UNESCO, World Inequality Database on Education). Hoffmann and Blecha (2020) reported that education and learning capacity can influence disaster vulnerability as the capacity to anticipate, cope with, resist, and recover from natural hazard in direct and indirect ways. Directly, through education and learning, individuals acquire knowledge, abilities, skills and perceptions that allow them to effectively prepare for and cope with the consequences of disaster shocks. Indirectly, education gives individuals and households access to material, informational and social resources, which can help reducing disaster vulnerability.

## 2.4 KEY AGENCIES IN GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION GESI AND CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION AND PLANNING

### 2.4.1 Policy Making System



**Figure 2-6 Overview of policy making system**

Source: <https://www.amyglenn.com/POLS/govt2305policy.htm>

The policy refers to the actions and decisions of several agencies, government and relevant stakeholders that are intended to solve problems and improve the quality of life for its citizens. At the federal level, public policies are enacted to regulate industry and business, to protect citizens at home and abroad, to aid state and city governments, to help people such as the poor through funding programs and to encourage social goals. A policy established and carried out by the government goes through several stages from inception to conclusion. These are agenda building, formulation, adoption, implementation, and evaluation (refer: <https://www.amyglenn.com/POLS/govt2305policy.htm>). Figure 2-6 provides overview of policy making system which required multistakeholders dialogues.





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## 2.4.2 Institutional setting and policy frameworks for GESI issues

In **Table 2-3**, key institutions working on GESI issues, and their functions are provided in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. In Cambodia, the relevant ministries help initiate other national strategic plans on the gender issues. For instance, the Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA) initiated various strategic programs to promote gender equality and awareness, such as the implementation of "Neary Rathanak," updated every five years; and recent master plans such as the Gender and Climate Strategic Plan and Master Plan on Gender and Climate Change (MoWA, 2021). Cambodia established many organizations, government agency and related partner in the issues of gender equality and social inclusion in their country and has many approvals agency working on the GESI issues. For Lao PDR, there are two categories of legislation: legislation of general application and legislation of specific application. Lao PDR has established various organizations in order to empower women such as Lao Women's Union (LWU) that is constitutionally and politically mandated to represent Lao women of all ethnic groups and to protect women's rights and interests. Those agencies are mainly promoted and encouraged gender equality in the organization as well as policy which focus on women as well as mainstreamed gender issue into law, strategy, and plan such as the Law on the Development and Protection of Women, the Labour Law, Decree on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication, the five-year National Social Economic Development Plan, NSEDP, (2011-2015). Myanmar ratified in The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in 1997. The GoM reaffirmed in 2008 that Myanmar legislation "Directly applies" CEDAW. According to CEDAW, states must "agree to pursue by all appropriate means and without delay a policy of eliminating discrimination against women" and "take in all fields, particularly in the political, social, economic, and cultural fields, all appropriate measures, including legislation, to ensure the full development and advancement of women." In addition, the National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women, 2013–2022 (NSPAW), which was announced in 2013 in Myanmar, calls for the reform of "systems, institutions, and practices.". Ministry of Social Warfare, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation and Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs are the Key institutions working on GESI issues in Myanmar. Thailand reported that The Ministry of Social Development and Human Security (MSDHS) is a key institution working on promoting gender equality and supporting social inclusion in Thailand. Regarding gender equality and women's advancement, the Department of Women's Affairs and Family Development (DWF) under MSDHS acts as a national coordinating mechanism in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment. For social inclusion, MSDHS is divided their work based on target groups, for examples, children and youth, persons with disabilities, older persons, under specific departments. Meanwhile, the Rights and Liberties Protection Department, Ministry of Justice also works on upholding the rights of all groups based on international conventions and agreement on human rights. Regarding policies, each department formulate policies to support the work of their issues and target groups for social inclusivity. A key policy for gender equality is the Twelfth Women's Development Plan (2018 – 2022). The plan aims to promote women's advancement and cultivate gender equality norms in Thai society. For





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legislative action on gender equality promotion, Thailand enacts Gender Equality Act 2015 (B.E. 2558), which is the first legal instrument in Thailand that defines and prohibits gender discrimination. The substance of this Act is to prohibit state, private and individual discrimination based on gender. For inclusivity, specific development plans on target groups have been formulated, for instance, Strategic Plan for Empowerment of Women with Disabilities, the National Persons with Disabilities' Quality of Life Development Plan, the National Action Plan on the Elderly. In Vietnam, there are ministries and specialized agencies within ministries and sectors that are tasked with developing gender equality in their specific fields. In Vietnam law, it has been building legal frameworks with increasingly improved content to promote women's rights and gender equality more comprehensively at the National level (Details on policy settings and framework shown in Appendix A1, B1, C1, D1 and E1.)



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**Table 2-3 Key institutions working on GESI issues and their functions**

Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	Climate action Integrations
Cambodia	Gender Mainstreaming Action Group (GMAGs)	GOV	It was established since 2005 in all line ministries and government agencies to review relevant program actions from a gender perspective, provide recommendations to relevant ministries on gender advocacy, design gender mainstreaming plan, enhance capacity building, and mobilize resources to develop GMAGs.	n/a
	United Nations in Cambodia	INGOs	Advance gender equality while supporting the socio-economic recovery from the COVID-19 and promoting the achievement of the SDGs • UNFPA2 - partners with the Government to develop policies on prevention and has successfully advocated for the inclusion of violence against women data in the 2014 Cambodia Demographic and Health Survey - supports local initiatives that provide shelter, legal, psychosocial, and medical support to survivors of violence - advocates for women's rights, raises awareness on the prevention of violence against women and supports initiatives that empower and enable women to lead healthy lives - works with men and boys to help transform social norms that justify gender inequality and raise awareness among men to become role models in preventing violence in their families and communities • UNICEF3 - Support online training in Cambodians Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport to support it as it works towards greater gender equity"	Climate action Integrations
	East-West Management Institute	CSOs	Implemented Cambodia Civil Society Strengthening (CCSS) program and commissioned a Gender and Social Inclusion (GESI) assessment of its first round of 12 grantee partners	Climate action Integrations
	RECOFTC (The Regional Community Forestry Training Centre for Asia and	CSOs	Has 4 strategic goals, one of which is social inclusion, gender equity & public action from regional level to national and community level.	Climate action Integrations and implementation various project relate to climate change and natural resources



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**Table 2-3 Key institutions working on GESI issues and their functions**

Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	Climate action Integrations
	the Pacific) Cambodia			
	Gender and Development for Cambodia (GADC)	CSOs	Conducts a community of practice that supports emerging women leaders from the government and community sectors to share information and experiences to promote solidarity, and personal and professional sharing	n/a
	Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA)	GOV	Increase the number of women in decision making, promoting economic empowerment of women, supporting the Cambodian National Council for Women, enforcing legal protection of women, raising awareness, and combating discriminatory attitudes, implemented Neary Rattanak strategic plans to mainstream gender equality and women empowerment in key priority areas and sectors at the national and sub-national levels. The MoWA also has the Gender and Climate Change Committee (GCCC) that has the role to identify progress and challenges related to gender mainstreaming in climate change adaptation projects, provide guidelines and strategies to develop gender mainstreaming Master Plan and Action Plan, provide comments and recommendations on draft policies relating to gender and climate change, conduct research findings and limitations. To support their actions, they have different working groups such as Working group on Gender and Disaster Risk, working group on Gender and Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience, working group on Gender and Mekong and Tonle Sap River, and Working group on Gender and Green Growth.	Climate action Integrations: Mainstreaming gender in key government reform programs such as SNDD, Public Financial Management (PFM), PAR and Judicial Reform, including cross-cutting areas such as climate change and vulnerable groups of women and girls.
	Cambodian National Council for Women	CSOs	The mechanism for coordinating and providing opinion to the Royal Government on matters relating to promoting the status and roles of women and the social welfare of Cambodian women and to eliminate of all forms of discrimination and violence against women	n/a
	Technical Working Group on Gender (TWG-G)	CSOs	TWG-G was established in 2004. Its members include representatives from 31 government agencies, 14 development partners and 15 civil society organizations, which has provided a forum for discussion and inputs into the formulation of gender-related policies, laws, and strategies.	n/a

**Table 2-3 Key institutions working on GESI issues and their functions**

Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	Climate action Integrations
	Commune Committee for Women and Children (Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans, and Youth Rehabilitation)	CSOs	Monitor the overall situation of children being returned from residential care, mobilize resources to support them and their families, report on their situation and challenges in monthly commune council meetings	n/a
	People in Need Cambodia	CSOs	Provides humanitarian assistance and development to all people across Cambodia with technology and innovation. Their missions are enhancing the livelihood of Cambodians in rural areas, improving capacity building among youths, provide employment opportunities, and resilience to climate change. They aim to improve the inclusiveness of their system by strengthening gender-sensitive value chain that ensures no one is left behind.	Climate action Integrations: enhancing the livelihood of Cambodians in rural areas, improving capacity building among youths, provide employment opportunities, and resilience to climate change
	Banteay Srei	CSOs	A non-profit organization that focuses on Women Economic Empowerment and Livelihood, develop policies to increase gender inclusiveness, and engage civil society to conduct research relating to impact of climate change on gender.	Climate action Integrations: Engage civil society to conduct research relating to impact of climate change on gender
	CEPA (Culture and Environment Preservation Association)	CSOs	Recognizes the equality of men and women in the conduct of their program to ensure sustainable livelihoods in Cambodia.	Climate action Integrations: ensure sustainable livelihoods in Cambodia
	Women's and Children's Consultative Committees (WCCCs)	INGO	Empowers women and children at the sub-national level, under the jurisdiction of provincial and district councils, for example, advising capital, provincial, municipal and district councils regarding issues related to women and children.	n/a
Lao PDR	Lao Women's Union (LWU)	GOV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- is the institution that is constitutionally and politically mandated to represent Lao women of all ethnic groups and to protect women's rights and interests</li> <li>- LWU promotes and monitors the implementation of women development programs in compliance with the Party's and</li> </ul>	the Technical Working Group on Climate Change, which promotes the participation of women in environmental policy making. LWU is also included in

**Table 2-3 Key institutions working on GESI issues and their functions**

Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	Climate action Integrations
			Government's policies, the Constitution, and laws related to ensuring equal rights between women and men.	Village Disaster Management Committees under the Law on Disaster Management (DM Law), although not in the district, provincial, or central DM Committee. The capacity of LWU to influence women's resilience through these mechanisms is also limited by the lack of any specific gender criteria or targets in the relevant law and policy frameworks.
	Lao National Commission for the Advancement of Women, Mothers and Child.	GOV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to assist the government in formulating national policy guidance and strategic plans of action to promote women's advancement and gender equality in all spheres and at all levels of society</li> <li>- to act as the focal point and coordinate closely with local authorities and international organizations concerns for the implementation of the party and government policy on the promotion of gender equality and the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women</li> </ul>	n/a
	Lao Front for National Construction	GOV	Its duties include aiding the people to implement the resolutions of the 10th Congress of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and the Congress of the Lao Front for National Construction.	n/a
	Lao Revolutionary Youth Union	GOV	The Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union (LPRYU) is a mass organization in Lao PDR whose mission is to mobilize young people throughout the country in order to contribute to national development. It is the young branch of Lao PDR's ruling party, the Lao People's Revolutionary Party. Its registered members aged 15-35 and the LPRYU focuses on the fields of information, media, entertainment, art, and music. It operates at the central, provincial, municipal, district and village levels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Disseminate knowledge of climate change that affects livelihoods, especially in agriculture and fisheries</li> <li>-Promote the creation of jobs that are green, clean, and resilient to climate change in all sectors.</li> </ul>

**Table 2-3 Key institutions working on GESI issues and their functions**

Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	Climate action Integrations
	National Asseble Ethnic Affairs Committee	GOV	n/a	n/a
Myanmar	Ministry of Social Warfare	GOV	Support the implementation of NSPAW, Gender equality, Women's Participation, Women Peace and Security, Violence Against Women	provide aid to those who face hunger owing to sever drought, great change of climate or destroyed agricultural fields by pests and animals
	Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation	INGOs	In the prevention-focused sectors of the National Plan, MWAF serves as a crucial NGO actor. The grassroots level of the Myanmar women has been organized by the MWAF. Under the MWAF, the Working Group on Protection and Rehabilitation MWAF, the Working Group on Protection and Rehabilitation MWAF, the Working Group on Protection and Rehabilitation implements initiatives like education-based talks on human trafficking, awareness-raising campaigns, and efforts to prevent trafficking in women. The MWAF also helps trafficked women with support, recovery, repatriation, reintegration, and rehabilitation.	Climate action Integrations
	Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association	INGOs	Works in protecting women and their children	n/a
Thailand	Ministry of Social Development and Human Security (MSDHS)	GOV	The Ministry of Social Development and Human Security (MSDHS) is a key institution working on promoting gender equality and supporting social inclusion in Thailand. MSDHS's missions are to 1) develop human and society; 2) promote multi-sectors in social development; 3) improve knowledge, capacity building, and management system for social welfares and development. Their strategies are to promote peoples' opportunity to access social services based on the self-sufficiency approach; create immunity and enhance capacity of target groups to realize their full potential; and enhance social synergy as a mechanism for social development. (MSDHS, 2022) MSDHS is divided their work based on target groups and issues, for examples, women and gender equality, children and	Climate action Integrations



**Table 2-3 Key institutions working on GESI issues and their functions**

Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	Climate action Integrations
			youth, persons with disabilities, older persons, under specific departments	
	Department of Women's Affairs and Family Development	GOV	<p>The Department of Women's Affairs and Family Development (DWF) acts as a national coordinating mechanism in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment</p> <p>The DWF's missions are</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) protecting women's rights;</li> <li>2) promoting gender equality and empowering women;</li> <li>3) providing occupational training for vulnerable groups, for example, single parents; and</li> <li>4) strengthening family institution. (DWF, 2022)</li> </ol> <p>The DWF acts as the national women machinery and the national focal point on gender equality promotion as well as the secretariat of the National Committee on Policy and Strategy for the Improvement of the Status of Women and the National Committee on Gender Equality Promotion. Both committees are multi-agencies body, composed of high-level representative of government agencies, experts and the civil society. Both national committees chaired by the Prime Minister with the Minister of Social Development and Human Security as Deputy Chair (DWF, 2021).</p> <p>The responsibility of the committee is to recommend the Cabinet regarding policy and plans for the promotion of women's advancement and gender equality promotion, legislative amendments, and monitor and evaluation the implementation regarding such issues (DWF, 2021).</p>	n/a
	Department of Empowerment of Person with Disabilities	GOV	<p>The Department of Empowerment of Person with Disabilities is responsible for the work regarding persons with disabilities.</p> <p>The missions are promoting and developing person with disabilities' quality of lives through formulating policies and plans, promoting persons with disabilities to access their rights, welfares, and facilities, and strengthening organizations and networks of persons with disabilities (DEP, 2022)</p>	n/a



**Table 2-3 Key institutions working on GESI issues and their functions**

Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	Climate action Integrations
	Department of Children and Youth	GOV	The Department of Children and Youth is in charge of promoting children and youth's potential, protecting children and youth 's rights, and enhancing children and family's welfares through formulating policies, measures, and mechanisms, strengthening government and non-governmental organizations, as well as monitoring and evaluating the implementation of policies and plans aiming to promote children and youth's quality of lives and their security (DYC 2022)	n/a
	Department of Older Persons	GOV	The Department of Older Persons is a key agency working on developing sustainable elder's quality of life and well-being. Their missions are developing plans, measures and innovations including integrate tasks that promote and protect elder persons' rights and well-being, prepare well-being of elder persons, protect, and promote elder's rights in accessing of social welfare system, as well as promoting networking to advance the implementation (DOP, 2022)	n/a
	Department of Social Development and Welfares	GOV	The Department of Social Development and Welfares is in charge of developing policies and mechanisms for social welfares and services, enhancing communities, networks, and their capacities to increase participation of social development and welfares. The department is also responsible for supporting marginalized groups such as homeless persons, ethnic groups (DSDW, 2022)	n/a
	Rights and Liberties Protection Department, Ministry of Justice	GOV	The Rights and Liberties Protection Department is responsible for providing systems and promoting peoples to have knowledge regarding human rights and liberties as well as supporting peoples to access justice, legal protection, and remedies (RLPD, 2022)	n/a
	The National Human Rights Commission of Thailand (NHRCT)	GOV	The National Human Rights Commission of Thailand (NHRCT) is an independent agency operating under the Constitution, the Organic Act on the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand B.E. 2560 (2017) and in accordance with the Paris Principles. The current Commission is the Fourth Commission performing its duties on 31 May 2021. Their core mandates are 1) human rights protection by examining and report facts in	End the injustice of poverty, inequality, and climate change



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**Table 2-3 Key institutions working on GESI issues and their functions**

Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	Climate action Integrations
			cases of human rights violations and provide guidance ; 2) human rights promotion through promoting public awareness of human rights; 3) provide recommendations for related organizations, the government, and the parliament regarding promoting and protecting human rights to comply with human rights principles; and 4) assessment of the human rights situations by providing assessment report to the parliament and the cabinet (NHRC, 2022)	
	Mechanisms: Chief Gender Equality Officer (CGEO) and Gender Focal Points (GFP)	GOV	<p>Besides, the above agencies, Thailand has set up mechanisms in promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women in all line ministries and departments, namely Chief Gender Equality Officer (CGEO) and Gender Focal Points (GFP)</p> <p>The Cabinet Resolution of 31/07/2001 designates ministries and departments to assign the Chief Gender Equality Officers (CGEOs) and Gender Focal Points (GFPs) to promote gender equality within their agencies and services.</p> <p>CGEO is a designated Deputy Permanent Secretary or a Deputy Director-General. The role of CGEO is to provide policy guidance and monitor progress of the implementation of gender mainstreaming in each department. GFP is designated to act as the focal points at the departmental level for integrating a gender perspective in the routine work of each department.</p> <p>Mandates and responsibilities of GFP are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Promote equality within government organizations</li> <li>2) Formulate a plan for gender equality promotion</li> <li>3) Initiate and organize activities to create gender awareness among government officials</li> <li>4) Report implementation of activities on the promotion of gender equality, together with gender mainstreaming activities to the DWF (DWF 2021)</li> </ol> <p>The DWF is responsible for facilitating and coordinating with</p>	Climate action Integrations

**Table 2-3 Key institutions working on GESI issues and their functions**

Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	Climate action Integrations
			CGEOs and GFPs in the integration of a gender perspective into government agencies policy and practice.	
Vietnam	The Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA)	GOV	<p>MOLISA is an important agency that provide direct advice to the GoV on the development and implementation of gender-related policies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Organize the nationwide strategy implementation</li> <li>- Review and develop legal frameworks, policies and strategies related to gender equality</li> <li>- Instruct and organize the implementation of the annual Month of action for Gender equality and Prevention and Response to Gender-based violence</li> <li>- Develop and implement a program to prevent and respond to gender-based violence and communicate awareness raising and behavior change on gender equality; mainstreaming gender equality projects into social security programs</li> <li>- Instruct, inspect and summaries the implementation of the strategy and periodically report to the government</li> <li>- Organize a preliminary summary of the strategy</li> <li>- Be responsible for the implementation, monitoring and reporting results of some assigned targets</li> </ul> <p>At the local level, the Departments of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs (DOLISAs) under the People's Committees of provinces/cities, and Offices of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs under People's Committees of districts, towns, or provincial cities, are tasked with managing GESI issues within the provincial territory."</p>	
	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE)	GOV	Tasks related to gender equality work are assigned to the Committee for the Advancement of Women (CAW) in MONRE. Currently, the head of the department is the Deputy Minister of MONRE	Climate action Integrations
	The Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI)	GOV	- Mainstreaming gender equality targets into annual and 5-year National Socio-economic development plans	n/a

**Table 2-3 Key institutions working on GESI issues and their functions**

Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	Climate action Integrations
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Instruct the integration of gender equality objectives and targets into the formulation and evaluation of sectors and localities' socio-economic development strategies, master plans and plans</li> <li>- Collect, compile, and promptly publish data of the annual set of national gender development statistical indicators</li> <li>- Build a national gender statistical database</li> <li>- Be responsible for collecting and reporting data related to the target performance of some indicators in the National strategy"</li> </ul>	
	The Ministry of Finance (MoF)	GOV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensure state funding for the implementation of programs and projects on gender equality after being approved</li> <li>- Instruct, inspect, and examine the use of funds for implementing developed programs and projects on gender equality following the State budget law and other relevant legal provisions.</li> </ul>	Climate action Integrations
	The Ministry of Justice (MoJ)	GOV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Instruct and appraise the mainstreaming of gender equality issues in legal documents</li> <li>- Develop capacity-building programs on gender equality for lawmakers and legal staff, thereby enhancing the gender mainstreaming in the development of legal documents</li> </ul>	n/a
	The Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA)	GOV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review and propose competent agencies to amend, supplement, Instruct and organizing the implementation of regulations on age for appointment, training and retraining of female cadres, civil servants, and public employees</li> <li>- Integrate knowledge about gender and gender equality in training and fostering cadres, civil servants, and public employees</li> <li>- develop and implement programs to increase the equal participation of women in leadership and management positions at policy-making levels</li> <li>- Be responsible for the implementation, monitoring and reporting of the implementation of the assigned targets</li> <li>- the Ministry assigns work related to gender equality to the General Affairs Department"</li> </ul>	n/a

**Table 2-3 Key institutions working on GESI issues and their functions**

Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	Climate action Integrations
	The Ministry of Education and Training	GOV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- implementing activities to Ensure the achievement of gender equality goals in the health sector</li> <li>- Strengthening communication, warning, and proactive control to address the root causes leading to the sex imbalance in newborns</li> <li>- Be responsible for organizing, monitoring, and reporting on the results of the implementation of the assigned targets</li> </ul>	Sharing experiences and strengthening co-operation to support Climate Change. Education in Vietnam
	The Ministry of Information and Communications	GOV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Direct the press and media agencies to renew communication and education activities on the Party and state policies and regulations on gender equality</li> <li>- increase the quantity and the quality of gender Mainstreaming"</li> </ul>	Building and public awareness on climate change; Information and networking
	The Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism (MoCST)	GOV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Instruct the implementation of activities to support victims of domestic violence</li> <li>- Collect and statistical data related to the number of victims of domestic violence and the number of victims and perpetrators of domestic violence to support and provide consultation</li> <li>- Be in charge of communication and moral education on family lifestyle to Ensure the principle of gender equality</li> <li>- Strengthen the inspection, examination, and handling of violations of advertising products with gender-biased content</li> <li>- the Ministry assigns work related to gender equality to the family Department</li> </ul>	n/a
	The Ministry of Public Security	GOV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assume the prime responsibility for formulating, implementing, and reporting on the results of human trafficking prevention</li> <li>- Coordinate with relevant ministries and agencies to develop early detection, intervention, and timely handling of cases of gender-based violence.</li> </ul>	Climate action Integrations
	The People's Committees	CSOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop and issue annual and 5-year strategic implementation plans of the locality, implement the annual reporting regime</li> </ul>	Committee is tasked with coordinating cross-sectoral climate action



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**Table 2-3 Key institutions working on GESI issues and their functions**

Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	Climate action Integrations
			- Carry out a preliminary and final review of the implementation of gender equality goals and targets in the locality, sending it to MOLISA for reporting to the GoV	
	The Vietnamese Fatherland Front and member organizations	CSOs	Among them, VWU is an important agency that provide direct advice to the GoV on the development and implementation of gender-related policies. - Participate in the strategy implementation - Promote gender equality awareness raising - Participate in the formulation, supervision, and social scrutiny of the implementation of policies and laws on gender equality	n/a

Note: n/a = Either no gender preference or limitations of data





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### 2.4.3 Institutional setting and policy framework for Climate change

Most of the countries established national policies and action plan related to climate change according to the Ministry of Environment policy in each country. In Cambodia many institutional developed their policy related to CC at National Level and many organizations related in policy setting. Lao PDR ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and Kyoto Protocol in 1995 and 2003 respectively. In 2012, the Department of Disaster Management and Climate Change was established under MoNRE and became the Department of Climate Change in 2017. The Technical Working Groups on Climate Change (TWGCC) was established through the eight-line ministries. Since climate change affects many sectors, numerous organizations consider it part of their mandate to address it. Myanmar government published the Climate Change Policy in 2019. This Policy's objective is to offer long-term direction and guidance to take and encourage climate change mitigation and adaptation measures in Myanmar, to incorporate climate change adaptation and mitigation considerations gradually and iteratively into Myanmar's national priorities at all levels and in all sectors; and to make decisions that will maximize opportunities for sustainable, low-carbon, climate-resilient development while ensuring the well-being of all. MoNRE and National Environmental Conservation and Climate Change Central Committee (NECCCCC) of Myanmar which takes on the overall leadership role in carrying out the Myanmar Climate Change Policy. In Thailand, The Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP), the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, is Thailand's national focal point under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the national agency in charge of policy and planning on climate change. A national mechanism for climate change collaboration is established under The National Committee on Climate Change Policy (NCCC). The NCCC is chaired by Prime Minister. The committee members are comprised of representatives from public and private sectors as well as experts from relevant agencies. Furthermore, collaboration from various departments to tackle climate change to achieve Thailand's targets and Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) is illustrated in many sectors for example, energy sector : Energy Policy and Planning Office (EPPO), Ministry of Energy Office of Transport and Traffic Policy and Planning (OTP); Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU): Department of Industrial Works (DIW), Ministry of Industry, Agriculture: Office of Agricultural Economics (OAE), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF): Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP), Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, and Waste Pollution Control Department (PCD), Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. In Vietnam, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) is assigned as the main state agency responsible for climate change issues, overseeing the implementation of climate change policies at the national level. Local Departments of Natural Resources and Environment (DONRE) will be responsible for monitoring and implementing policies at the provincial level. Because climate change is a complex and multi-sectoral issue, the Government in all Mekong country has established a number of





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organizations to assist in the management and coordination of efforts in responding to the impacts of climate change. **Table 2-4** are the key institutional working on CC issues and their functions.



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**Table 2-4 Key institutions working on CC issues and their functions**

Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	GESI Integration
Cambodia	National Climate Change Committee	GOV	Cross-sectoral and multi-disciplinary body with the mandate to prepare, coordinate and monitor the implementation of policies, strategies, legal instruments, plans, and programs related to climate change	n/a
	Cambodia Climate Change Alliance (CCCA)	CSOs	Constitutes a unified engagement point for development partners, and a multi-donor financial facility to provide resources for climate change capacity building at national and local government level	Engages between GOVs, CSOs, Academic and Private Sector
	Ministry of Environment	GOV	Department of Climate Change under the Ministry of Environment is responsible for coordinating the development and implementation of the climate change response in Cambodia and reporting on Cambodia's commitments under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	Encourage all groups to be interested in the environment.
	Strategic Program for Climate Resilience (SPCR)	CSOs	Strengthen the capacity of communities to restore and manage their climate-resilient landscapes for food and nutrition security through agroecology	Transform and develop at policy and operational levels to be more risk-responsive, climate-resilient and gender-sensitive.
	Asian Vision Institute (Centre for Sustainable Development Studies)	CSOs	Hosts AVI-SDGs Dialogue Series, Book Launch on ASEAN Climate Change Response	Promote multi-stakeholder dialogue and strengthen cross-sectoral partnerships and collaboration
	Cambodia Development Research Institute	CSOs	Implement studies on Gender-based Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction in Cambodia's Local Communities	Service and respect for Cambodia's history, culture, and the wellbeing of its people
	National Council for Sustainable Development (NSCD)	GOV	The Council oversees the country efforts to respond to climate changes, and is mandated to prepare, coordinate, and monitor the implementation of relevant policies, strategies, legal instruments, plans, and programs, including the implementation of the CCCSP and sectoral climate change action plans	Continues to make progress in the establishment of a strong policy and legal framework to help Cambodians shift to more sustainable, resource-efficient, climate resilient, low



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Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	GESI Integration
				carbon modes of development.
	Ministry of Tourism	GOV	Raise awareness of climate change risk amongst tourism stakeholders and promote their contribution to build a low carbon and resilient tourism sector in Cambodia	n/a
	Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sport	GOV	improve the capacities of secondary school teachers and students so that they can participate in climate change mitigation and adaptation response	Ensuring that all Cambodian children and youth have equal opportunity to access quality education
	RECOFTC (The Regional Community Forestry Training Centre for Asia and the Pacific) Cambodia	CSOs	RECOFTC's visions are to secure community forestry, transforming forest conflict, and provide solutions to human-induced climate change	WAVES, or Weaving Leadership for Gender Equality, is a RECOFTC initiative on gender equality in the governance of forest landscapes in Asia-Pacific
	GERES (Groupe Energies Renouvelables, Environnement et Solidarités) Cambodia	CSOs	Enhance capacity building to create climate resilience communities and mainstream climate energy method and promote sustainable energy practice	The needs of the population drive strategy. Priority is given to local production and the added value this brings to the local economy. Technologies are accessible to the population.
	WWF	INGOs	Fights climate change through its core activities of protecting forests and wildlife	n/a
Lao PDR	Department of Climate Change, MoNRE	GOV	Study and enhance, disseminate, and implement policies and strategies related to climate change, Coordinate with line ministries and all related stakeholders at both national and local levels. Act as focal point for all CC project implementation and monitoring and evaluation, Mainstream CC into the national planning process, and in various relevant sectors	n/a



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Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	GESI Integration
	Department of Meteorology and Hydrology, MoNRE	GOV	Provide observation weather as well as hydrological information in any temporal timestep. Furthermore, weather and hydrological forecasting data are provided. DMH had done a project call SAMIS which providing climate information and projection in Lao PDR	n/a
	Department of Planning and Finance, MoNRE	GOV	Act as the National Designated Accredited for the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and others	n/a
	Department of Hygiene and Health Promotion (DHHP), MoH	GOV	Be a representative of the technical working group on climate change. DHHP had mainstreamed climate change into health sector by development the climate change adaptation strategy on health sector as well as national adaptation planning on health.	Supporting access to nutritious foods for all women and children.
	National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute, MAF	GOV	NAFRI is tasked with conducting integrated agriculture, forestry, and fisheries research in order to give technical knowledge, standards, and findings that aid in formulating government-aligned strategies. NAFRI has four primary functions, including adaptive research, the development of methodologies, tools, and information packages, policy feedback, and research coordination and management. Contribute to the Agricultural Development Strategy 2025 by doing research for development in the following areas: agrobiodiversity sustainability and conservation, productivity enhancement, climate change, adaptation and mitigation, and a supportive policy environment.	n/a
	Faculty of Environmental Science (FES), NUoL	GOV	As a research/academic institute, it teaches its students about climate change. The FES and the technical collaboration and exchange. FES also provides DCC with technical assistance about climate change adaptation and mitigation.	n/a
	Lao National Mekong River Commission, MoNRE	GOV	Coordinate with line ministries and all related stakeholders at both national and local levels, disseminate, and implement policies and strategies related to the agreement on the cooperation for the sustainable development of the Mekong River Basin 1995 and others, once, LNMRC had implemented the Climate Change Adaptation Initiative which is regional program for climate change adaptation	Coordinate with line ministries and all related stakeholders at both national and local levels, disseminate, and implement policies and strategies



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Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	GESI Integration
			and climate change issue has been integrated into the Mekong River Basin study	
Myanmar	National Environmental Conservation and Climate Change Central Committee (NECCCCC)	GOV	The Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar is in charge of the NECCCCC, which takes on the overall leadership role in carrying out the MCCS and the Myanmar Climate Change Policy. It designates focal agencies' (ministries') responsibilities to: Promote activities related to the corresponding sectoral outcomes Follow up on developments and give the NECCCCC an annual report. If necessary, the NECCCCC may investigate creating an administrative climate change coordination structure to plan and carry out investments essential for the strategy's execution in the medium term (5–10 years)	n/a
	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation	GOV	MONREC serves as the strategy's secretariat, gathering sectoral reports every six months and providing frequent reports to the NECCCCC every year. The secretariat is made up of ECD workers in the short term (within two years of adopting the strategy), with assistance from the MCCA. The establishment of a climate change secretariat within MONREC to assist with the implementation, coordination, and monitoring of the policy will be investigated by the government in the mid-term (5-8 years). The MoPF (Ministry of Planning and Finance) co-chairs the Secretariat role together with MONREC.	n/a
	Ministry of Social welfare, relief and resettlement	GOV	Climate risk management for people's health and wellbeing	Climate risk management for people's health and wellbeing



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**Table 2-4 Key institutions working on CC issues and their functions**

Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	GESI Integration
	UNDP	INGOs	The Sustainable and Inclusive Growth (SIG) unit supports initiatives aimed at protecting the environment, encouraging the use of renewable energy sources, and establishing fair and gender-responsive policies and strategies to help Myanmar better prepare for natural disasters and adapt to climate change. The organization is also working on "Myanmar's REDD+ Readiness Roadmap" and the National Environmental Policy Strategy Framework and Masterplan alongside MONREC.	Aimed at protecting the environment, encouraging the use of renewable energy sources, and establishing fair and gender-responsive policies and strategies to help Myanmar
	Focal agencies	GOV	Six focal agencies facilitate the implementation of the six sectoral outcomes' activities. Through MONREC, they coordinate and monitor activities and report to the NECCCCC on the status of the strategy master plan. The six focal organizations and sectoral results are: MOALI: Agriculture, fisheries, and livestock that are climate-smart for food security Sustainable management of natural resources for healthy ecosystems is the mission of MONREC. Resilient and low-carbon energy, transportation, and industrial systems for sustainable growth. MoC: Resilient, inclusive, and sustainable communities where people can flourish. MoTC and MoHS (alternative): Climate risk management for the health and well-being of individuals. Education, science, and technology for a resilient society constitute the Ministry of Education.	Climate risk management for the health and well-being of individuals. Education, science, and technology for a resilient society constitute the Ministry of Education.
	Ministry of Planning and Finance	GOV	The MoPF assists the secretariat in coordinating initiatives, gaining access to financing, and observing investments.	n/a





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**Table 2-4 Key institutions working on CC issues and their functions**

Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	GESI Integration
Thailand	National Committee on Climate Change Policy (NCCC)	GOV	<p>The National Committee on Climate Change Policy (NCCC) is chaired by the Prime Minister. The committee members are comprised of representatives from public and private sectors as well as experts from relevant agencies.</p> <p>NCCC is responsible for 1) formulating national climate change policy and strategy; 2) determining national positions and the international negotiations under UNFCCC and relevant international agreements; and 3) monitoring and evaluating implementation results of government agencies to be in accordance with the national policies and plans.</p> <p>The NCCC is composed of five subcommittees</p> <p>1) The Subcommittee on Climate Change Policy and Planning Integration is responsible to provide inputs on policy integration, strategy and planning linked with climate mitigation and adaptation; provide suggestions on mechanisms and measures, such legal regulations and financial measures; and push forward an integrated budget allocation system on climate change.</p> <p>2) The Subcommittee on Climate Change Knowledge and Database is responsible to provide comments on the country report under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); support the development of the Green House Gas (GHG) inventory; provide suggestions on the development of databases and climate change knowledge in the areas of mitigation, adaptation, and Measurement, Reporting and Verification systems.</p> <p>3) The Subcommittee on Climate Change Negotiation and International Cooperation is in charge of providing</p>	Conducting training, raising awareness, and implementing capacity building across all sectors.



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Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	GESI Integration
			<p>recommendations on Thailand's positions for negotiations on climate change under multilateral agreements and other international frameworks; preparing and developing knowledge and data regarding international negotiations on climate change; providing guidance in international aspects of climate change implementation and the arrangement of Thailand's delegation for international negotiation on climate change.</p> <p>4) The Subcommittee on Action for Climate Empowerments and Public Relations holds mandates on publicizing news and knowledge on the causes, impacts, and solutions related to climate change under the Paris Agreement, Thailand's NDC targets and the SDGs as well as promoting activities related to climate change by conducting training, raising awareness, and implementing capacity building across all sectors.</p> <p>5) The Subcommittee on Climate Law is responsible to provide comments on policies for the development, improvement, cancellation, or amendment of laws related to climate change according to the NCCC; arrange and propose draft laws, rules, regulations, or notifications; provide legal opinions on tackling issues related to climate change; and provide advice on the enforcement of laws related to national climate change (ONEP, 2020)</p>	
	Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP)	GOV	The Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning is a government agency under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE). ONEP is Thailand's national focal point under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the national agency in charge of policy and planning on climate change. Main responsibility of ONEP is enhancing and preserving natural resources and the environment by developing policies, plans, and measures (ONEP, 2022)	n/a



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Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	GESI Integration
	Energy Policy and Planning Office (EPPO), Ministry of Energy	GOV	The Energy Policy and Planning Office is in charge of the formulation and administration of energy policies and plans for the national sustainability. Their missions are to 1) recommend energy policies, integrate, and review country's energy management plans. 2) recommend national strategies for energy conservation and alternative energy promotion; 3) propose measures to solve and prevent oil shortage in both short and long terms; 4) supervise, monitor and evaluate the implementation of national energy policies and energy management plans; 5) administer the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) on energy.	n/a
	Office of Transport and Traffic Policy and Planning (OTP)	GOV	The Office of Transport and Traffic Policy and Planning (OTP) is responsible for formulating transport and traffic policies and plans as well as providing transport safety measures. Furthermore, the OTP has missions to conduct studies and analysis, establish database of information system as well as supervise and expedite the operations of agencies under the Ministry of Transport. The OTP is also assigned to provide inputs regarding national land transport and legislation related to transport and traffic management to the National Transport Policy Board and the Commission for the Management of Land Traffic and the Cabinet (OTP, 2022) EPPO and OTP are two lead agencies, responsible to gather the data from relevant agencies within the Ministry of Energy, the Ministry of Transport, and others. The data is used for GHG emissions calculations are from fossil fuel, electricity consumption used in different activities (ONEP, 2020)	n/a



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**Table 2-4 Key institutions working on CC issues and their functions**

Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	GESI Integration
	Department of Industrial Works (DIW), Ministry of Industry	GOV	The Department of Industrial Works has its core mandate on 1) administrating the industrial business regulations and hazardous substances in accordance with laws and international agreements; 2) enhancing knowledge of machinery, production, environment, safety, hazardous substances, energy as well as corporate social responsibility for industrial business development, and 3) regulating and monitoring missions transferred to local administration as stipulated in the Factory Act. (DIW, 2022). DIW is responsible for recording production volume, import volume and export volume in each industry group for data used for GHG emissions calculations (ONEP, 2020).	n/a
	Office of Agricultural Economics (OAE), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives	GOV	The Office of Agricultural Economics has missions to 1) develop and formulate country's agricultural strategy; 2) study and produce reports on domestic and international agricultural economics situations; 3) monitor and evaluate importance projects implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives; and 4) provide agricultural data and information services (OAE, 2022) OAE is responsible for gathering the data, including livestock farming, rice cultivation, agricultural soils, field burning and open burning of agricultural residues, from relevant agencies under the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives and others for GHG emissions calculations (ONEP, 2020).	Supporting the creation of opportunities and equality for farmers
	Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP), Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	GOV	The Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation is in charge of 1) preservation, protection, and restoration of forests and wildlife; 2) provision of technical support, studying, and managing data on preservation, protection and restoration of forests	n/a



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Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	GESI Integration
			and wildlife; and 3) promotion of responsive and sustainable utilization of natural resource (DNP, 2022) DNP is responsible for collecting the data from relevant agencies within the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) and others regarding land use, land use change and wood product for GHG calculations (ONEP, 2020).	
	Pollution Control Department (PCD)	GOV	The Pollution Control Department (PCD) is responsible for formulating policies, plans, and measures regarding pollution management, correction of pollution problem, quality of pollution control; monitoring and surveillance of pollution situation; developing knowledge, technologies, legislation on waste management, substances, quality of water, air, and level of noises, as well as coordinating to restore and manage pollution hazardous (PCD, 2022)	n/a
	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	GOV	PCD is in charge of gathering the data relating to waste, waste production rate, waste composition, wastewater volume, including emission factors from relevant agencies for GHG emissions calculations (ONEP, 2020).	n/a
	Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, Ministry of Interior	GOV	The Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation is a key agency on disaster prevention and mitigation. The mandates are to develop system and mechanisms for disaster prevention and mitigation based on international standards; establish networks on disaster prevention and mitigation to prepare readiness of disaster responses; provide and disseminate knowledge on disaster prevention and mitigation; provide assistances for those facing disaster and restoration disaster areas; and study and develop knowledge of disaster management (Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, 2022)	Working with GOVs, the private sector and CSOs in managing disasters effectively.
	Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization (Public Organization)	GOV	Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization (TGO), established in 2007, is an autonomous public organization to manage and expedite development and implementation of greenhouse gas reduction projects as well as support public, private and international	n/a



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Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	GESI Integration
			organization partnerships to promote implementation of climate action towards sustainable low-carbon economy and society. The missions are to 1) develop greenhouse gas reduction tools and mechanisms; 2) certify the quantity of greenhouse gases, and track greenhouse gas reduction; 3) acting as a center of greenhouse gas information and knowledge management, and providing technical advices; 4) building capacity, knowledge, raising awareness and participation in climate action; and 5) supporting implementation of climate change (TGO, 2022).	
Vietnam	The National Committee on Climate Change (NCCC)	GOV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An advisory body for the Prime Minister in researching, proposing directions and strategic solutions to respond to climate change.</li> <li>- Chair: Prime Minister. Vice-Chair: Deputy PM and the Minister of MONRE. Members: Leaders and representatives of related Ministries and agencies. The Director General of the Department of Climate Change chairs the Committee Office.</li> <li>- The entry point at the national level for mainstreaming gender dimensions into climate change policies</li> <li>- Mobilize, coordinate, and monitor resources to implement strategies and programs for effectively responding to climate change</li> </ul>	n/a
	The Vietnam Panel on Climate Change (VPCC)	CSOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Includes leading scientists in climate change impact assessment, climate change adaptation and greenhouse gas emission mitigation</li> <li>- Policy advice on CC for GoV and NCCC based on research, science, and technology</li> <li>- Propose scientific research and technology tests to find solutions to CC which are relevant to Vietnam's situation and international cooperation orientations</li> </ul>	Climate proofing of infrastructure and social protection and assistance systems, especially focused on the elderly and children.





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Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	GESI Integration
			- Advice on solutions and proposing programs/projects to raise awareness, strengthen capacity, and develop human resources to respond to CC and green growth	
	The National Steering Committee on Realization of Vietnam's Commitment at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26)	GOV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An inter-sectoral coordination mechanism, assisting the PM in researching, directing and coordinating the settlement of interdisciplinary work related to the implementation of Vietnam's commitments at COP26</li> <li>- Chair: Prime Minister. Vice-Chair: Deputy PM. Members: Leaders, representatives of related Ministries and agencies</li> <li>- Direct the review and synchronous completion of mechanisms, policies, laws, strategies, and planning; promote reform of administrative procedures; take advantage of financial and technological support opportunities and attract investment flows in infrastructure to respond to climate change; development model transformation and energy transition.</li> </ul>	n/a
	The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE)	GOV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The state agency assumes the prime responsibility for climate change issues. Responsible for drafting National Strategy for CC, NAP</li> <li>- Oversees the implementation of climate change policies at the national level</li> <li>- National Focal Point to implement the United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC), Kyoto Protocol (KP), Paris Agreement on Climate Change (PA)</li> <li>- The permanent acting agency of the NCCC, the standing body of the Steering Committee, coordinating with ministries, agencies, and localities in managing and implementing the Strategy</li> <li>- National Focal Point to implement the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) of Viet Nam</li> </ul>	n/a



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Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	GESI Integration
	Department of Climate Change under MONRE (DCC)	INGOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An organization directly under MONRE, with the function of advising and assisting the Minister in state management of climate change and protection of the ozone layer; perform public services on climate change, protect the ozone layer following the law</li> <li>- Steering board for implementation of UNFCCC, KP&amp;PA</li> <li>- Act as a liaison with international agencies and NGOs; monitor and report to the Minister on the activities of international agencies and NGOs in the field of climate change, ozone layer protection and green growth associated with climate change</li> </ul>	Monitor and report to the Minister on the activities of international agencies and NGOs in the field of climate change
	The Science Technology and International Cooperation Division, DCC of MONRE	GOV	- Unit in charge of policy research, consultation and implementation related to gender issues under UNFCCC	Unit in charge of policy research, consultation and implementation related to gender issues under UNFCCC
	Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DONRE)	GOV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MONRE's local departments are responsible for overseeing and implementing the national and local policies at the provincial level</li> <li>- Responsible for drafting the Provincial Climate action plan</li> </ul>	n/a
	MPI, MoF	GOV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Key ministries, especially during the policy formulation stage</li> <li>- MPI provides data and information, defines the scope of policy covered, allocates and expends the national budget for CC</li> </ul>	n/a
			- MoF commenting on the draft law, regulates budget spending	
	The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)	GOV	- The national focal point for the United Nations' Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD) initiative of reducing greenhouse gas from deforestation.	n/a
	Departments of Planning and Investment (DPI), Departments of Finance (DoF)	GOV	- The DPI and DoF play important role in the feedback mechanism in the local administrative system, between the local government and the DONRE	n/a



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**Table 2-4 Key institutions working on CC issues and their functions**

Country	Agency	Sector	Functions	GESI Integration
	Divisions of NRE	GOV	The agencies in charge of natural resources and the environment are below the departmental level, under the direction of DONRE and the district People's Committee. Responsible for designing Programs, Projects, and Activities to implement National Strategy for CC, NAP, and Provincial Climate action plan	n/a
	District authority (District People Committee-DPC)	GOV	The administrative apparatus is directly under the provincial level, responsible for directing the Divisions of NRE to design the specific plans and activities mentioned above.	n/a

Note: n/a = Either no gender preference or limitations of data



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## 2.5 THE LINKAGE OF GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION AND CLIMATE CHANGE POLICIES/ACTIONS

- Most of the countries implemented the policies on climate change that working on GESI issues and mainstreaming them into inclusiveness of their action.
- In Cambodia, it has seen an increase in gender mainstreaming in the environmental domain and climate change action planning. During the progress of making that vision more prominent, the government has made it a mission to incorporate gender equality and social inclusion into relevant policy frameworks.
- Cambodia is implemented the Gender and Climate Change Committee (GCCC) working group was formed under the Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA) takes the technical lead to mainstream gender in Climate Change action in Cambodia including the development of the master plan on gender and climate change. Gender mainstreaming initiatives are coordinated and led by MoWA across the Royal Government of Cambodia.
- In Cambodia, the prioritization is put on the protection of ecotourism and the participation of women. Various institutional frameworks have been developed, such as the National development and climate change Framework and the Climate Change Action Plan, to decrease gender-based vulnerability to the impacts of climate change. Lao PDR is proposed in encouraging gender equality in human development endowment, women's effective involvement in the economy, public policy engagement, and mainstreaming gender perspective into climate change and disaster planning. Lao PDR stated that it will be necessary to guarantee that women participate in consultation and decision-making processes.
- Myanmar Climate Change Policy mentioned about inclusiveness, gender equality and women's empowerment, fairly distribution of food and water security, and capacity building activities for effective and gender-responsive climate action in a capacity-building framework.  
Strengthening gender responsive climate change policy with regards to adaptation, mitigation, financing, technology development and transfer, and capacity building, and ensuring full and equal participation of women in decision-making, are all effective means of promoting and protecting gender equality and women's equal rights.
- Gender and inclusion issues is clearly mentioned under NDC Support Project: Delivering Sustainability through Climate Finance Actions in Thailand (NDC Support Project). The NDC Support Project is implemented in partnership between the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP) and UNDP.  
Gender and inclusion dimension has initially highlighted as one component in the NDC project in Thailand as illustrated in one expected output of the project: Strengthened public climate finance reforms to deliver NDC outcomes and enhance gender equality.



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- In Vietnam, the government of Vietnam considers climate actions and vulnerability reduction as its top national development priorities. Over the past two decades, Vietnam has shown an active spirit and strong commitment to developing policy frameworks and legal mechanisms to create a firm basis for responding to climate change nationally. However, there are no real main budget lines in the state budget planning system for climate change activities in Vietnam.

For Vietnam, the agencies that make climate change policy, the agencies that make GESI policies are jointly coordinate at the central and local levels. There is a clear absence of joint mechanisms at the local levels.

- The most influential and potential organizations to promote gender mainstreaming in climate change policies are the VWU and the CFAW. These are relatively strong and uniform organizations, present at both the central and local levels as well as being able to contact a large number of Vietnamese women.

There are still many challenges for Vietnam to effectively respond to climate change, including the lack of integration of social aspects such as gender equality and gender inclusion in the development and implementation of climate change policies at national, sectoral, and local levels. It can be seen that there is almost no relationship between the two goals of promoting gender equality and combating climate change at the national and local levels when compare the two policy systems.

- Most countries stated that woman is categorized as a climate change vulnerable group which mean most climate change policy and measures are going to focus on women as a primary group for enhancing resilience.

Still no countries explicit the action of youth and the mobilization of the social inclusion for Climate Action Planning in Mekong Region.

- The synergies and mechanisms to integrate gender in climate policies are presented, the social inclusion aspect is less information and could be strengthened – next step for a review of measures targeting poverty, focusing on ethnic minorities, youth etc. related to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

## 2.6 ASEAN REGIONAL COMMITMENT OF GESI & CC

### 2.6.1 Regional commitment on GESI

In support of the achievement of the ASEAN Regional Commitment of GESI, several ASEAN agreements were proposed: ASEAN Declaration on Gender-Responsive Implementation of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and Sustainable Development Goals (2015) and the ASEAN Gender Mainstreaming Strategic Framework (AGMSF) (2021), ASEAN Enabling Masterplan 2021–2025: Mainstreaming the Rights of



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Persons with Disabilities (2018), ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework and its Implementation Plan (2020), ASEAN Committee on Women(ACWC) Work Plan (2021–2025), ASEAN Regional Framework on Protection, Gender and Inclusion in Disaster Management 2021–2025, The strategic framework is intended to serve as a tool for ASEAN to achieve gender equality goals, to communicate ASEAN's commitments and deliverables, and response in women empowerment; for example, women's meaningful involvement in designing, managing, implementing of climate change and Disaster Risk Reduction Management (DRRM) and recovery is enhanced. The relevant ASEAN agreements, declarations and plans are as **Table 2-5**:

**Table 2-5 The relevant ASEAN agreements, declarations, and plans**

<b>GESI Issues</b>	<b>Declaration/Agreement</b>	<b>Instruments for operationalization</b>	<b>Does this framework mention climate change: yes/no</b>
Gender equality and the empowerment of women	ASEAN Declaration on Gender- Responsive Implementation of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and Sustainable Development Goals (2015)	AGMSF (2021) ASEAN Committee on Women (ACWC) Work Plan (2021–2025)	No
Violence against women and children	The Declaration on EVAW and EVAC in ASEAN (2013)	ASEAN RPA on EVAW (2016) ASEAN RPA on EVAC (2016)	No
promoting protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) in disaster management in the ASEAN region	The ASEAN Regional Framework on Protection, Gender and Inclusion in Disaster Management 2021–2025,	National Disaster Management Organizations (NDMOs) and other organizations working on gender and social inclusion issues	Yes
Disability inclusion	Bali Declaration on the Enhancement of the Role and Participation of Persons with Disabilities in ASEAN Community (2011)	ASEAN Enabling Masterplan 2025 (2018)	No





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Source: ASEAN Regional Framework on Protection, Gender, and Inclusion in Disaster Management 2021-2025 Jakarta, ASEAN Secretariat, October 2021

The ASEAN commitments that develop as global commitments which related to SDGs target and GESI issues as below which report in the voluntary national reviews (VNRs) and aim to facilitate the sharing of experiences, including successes, challenges and lessons learned, with a view to accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The VNRs also seek to strengthen policies and institutions of governments and to mobilize multi-stakeholder support and partnerships for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals as **Table 2-6**.

**Table 2-6 The relevant ASEAN agreements, declarations, and plans**

Country	Commitments		Network	Does this framework mention GESI: yes/no
Cambodia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cambodia will ensure that 95% of the poor are covered by health equity funds by 2015</li> <li>- Phnom Penh Urban Poor Development Fund</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cambodia will ensure that 95% of the poor are covered by health equity funds by 2015 and develop a new policy to ensure availability of emergency obstetric care at the district level.</li> <li>- Phnom Penh municipality established the Urban Poor Development Fund to provide shelter loans to a specific community to support their relocation from a forthcoming inner-city development project.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Every Woman Every Child</li> <li>Green economy policies, practices, and initiatives</li> </ul>	Yes
Lao PDR	The Lao People's Democratic Republic commits to provide free deliveries	The Lao People's Democratic Republic commits to provide free deliveries in order to ensure access to the most vulnerable; produce 1500 new midwives by 2015 by upgrading existing staff and training and recruiting new staff; and increase immunization from 67% to 90% by 2015. Lao PDR will also increase the proportion of couples with access to modern contraception and the proportion of births attended by a skilled attendant.	Every Woman Every Child	Yes

**Table 2-6 The relevant ASEAN agreements, declarations, and plans**

Country	Commitments		Network	Does this framework mention GESI: yes/no
Thailand	Asian Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network	is to promote improved compliance with environmental legal requirements in Asia through regional exchange of innovative policies and practices. Members presently include environmental agencies from: Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, People's Republic of China, Lao PDR, Malaysia, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore and more.	Green economy policies, practices, and initiatives	No
Vietnam	Development of Locally Managed Areas for Restoration and Sustainable Use of Coastal Ecosystems with Involvement of Local Stakeholders	Viet Nam has made great efforts in developing marine protected areas, albeit facing numerous challenges, including the lack of resources. In recent years, Viet Nam's enterprises and communities are increasingly aware of the important role of marine ecosystem in the social and economic development	The' Ocean Conferences	No

Source: <https://hlpf.un.org/countries>, Noted: **No data of Myanmar in the voluntary national reviews (VNRs)**

## 2.6.2 Regional commitment on climate change actions

According to the Mekong River Basin Vision towards 2040, the Basin of 2040 has enough water during the dry season to minimize the effect of droughts while salinity intrusion in the delta is not materially worse, even as sea-level rises. Water is of good quantity and quality to enable sustainable development while minimizing water-related disasters. Flood impacts are less severe through a combination of upstream reservoirs, protected floodplain areas, and by coordinating the design, location, construction, and operation of flood protection infrastructure. Transboundary flood management effectively operates as a single integrated system between countries. For responding to climate change involves a two-actions:

- **Climate change mitigation** aims to reduce and stabilize GHG emissions through mitigation.
- **Climate change adaptation** seeks to reduce and adapt to the negative impacts of climate change.



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Basin countries need to take steps to increase mitigating the impacts of climate change – and ensure resilience of GM communities are as well prepared as possible to adapt to the changing circumstances. Central to strengthening the resilience of basin communities and adapting to climate change and climate variability is to improve information on changing climate conditions through enhanced monitoring, forecasting and early warning systems. Progress on harmonization of disaggregated data collection and sharing, notification of impacts, agreed infrastructure operating protocols, and integrated decision support systems will all be beneficial to achieving one overall basin planning and management system. Each of government in GM region need to take the step up as regional commitment on climate change actions. As of 2017, all ASEAN member states (AMS) had signed and ratified the Paris Agreement (**Figure 2-7**), joining the global cooperative effort to mitigate and adapt to climate change. Most of the AMS have transformed their intended nationally determined contributions (INDCs) into NDCs by ratifying them. **Table 2-7** and **Table 2-8** represent NDC Target and sector in ASEAN. NDC target refer to Nationally determined contributions (NDCs) are at the heart of the Paris Agreement and the achievement of its long-term goals. NDCs embody efforts by each country to reduce national emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change. As per consulting with researcher in CLMVT, the target NDCs is selected to implement activities, projects in Energy, Industrial, Transportation, Agricultural, Forest and Land use and Waste Management. However, the people's vulnerabilities to climate change are needed to consider and to understand about the impacts on health and wellbeing for very age groups, sex (prior to gender), economic circumstances, living conditions and land use, resource distributions, etc. With that understanding, ones may investigate further how to have socially inclusive policies, and who to engage with, what to do to mitigate the barriers. There is need to advocate for policy makers to make substantive efforts to make disaggregated data available on the health risks, accumulative impacts of climate change throughout the life-course, and other impacts of changing environment. The health, GESI and climate change nexus and their indicators are needed to further investigate specifically in vulnerability groups of all CLMTV countries.



**Figure 2-7 Date of Paris Agreement Ratification by ASEAN Member States**

**Table 2-7 NDC Target in ASEAN**

Country	NDCs Target	
Cambodia	Reduce GHG Emission by 2030 27% compared to BAU	<p><b>Energy industries, manufacturing industries, transport, and other sectors:</b> Cambodia intends to undertake actions to reduce the GHG emissions, the impact of which is expected to be a maximum reduction of 3,100 Gg CO<sub>2</sub>eq compared to baseline emissions of 11,600 Gg CO<sub>2</sub>eq by 2030.</p> <p><b>Land use, land-use change, and forestry (LULUCF):</b> Cambodia intends to undertake voluntary and conditional actions to achieve the target of increasing forest cover to 60% of national land area by 2030. In absence of any actions the net sequestration from LULUCF is expected to reduce to 7,897 GgCO<sub>2</sub> in 2030 compared to projected sequestration of 18,492 GgCO<sub>2</sub> in 2010.</p>
Lao PDR	<p>NDC Target Energy Sector: Increase the share of renewables (by 2025)</p> <p>30% of the total energy consumption is sourced from renewable energy</p> <p>Forestry Sector Increase forest cover 70% of total land area</p>	Lao PDR has outlined the following intended mitigation activities to be implemented in 2015 – 2030
Myanmar	<p>NDC target: Energy sector Realize electricity saving potential by 2030 20% Compared to BAU, Increase the share of renewables 30% of the total renewable energy in rural electrification,</p> <p><b>Forestry Sector</b> NDC Target Increase Reserved Forest and Protected Public Forest 30% of total land area by 2030</p>	The INDC includes both mitigation and adaptation contributions. Mitigation targets mainly covers Forestry, Electricity and Rural Renewable Energy sectors while adaptation contributions are in line with priority sectors in its NAPA (2012)
Thailand	Reduce GHG Emission by 2030 20% Compared to BAU	The level of contribution could increase up to 25 percent, subject to adequate and enhanced access to technology development and transfer, financial resources, and capacity building
Vietnam	Reduce GHG Emission by 2030 9% compared to BAU	With domestic resources, by 2030 Viet Nam will reduce GHG emissions by 9% compared to BAU, in which forest cover will increase to the level of 42-42.5%.

BAU = Business-as-usual (BAU) References: ASEAN Climate Change and Energy Project  
(Link <https://accept.aseanenergy.org/work/apaec/>)



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**Table 2-8 Details of NDC target and sector**

NDC sector	Cambodia	Lao PDR	Myanmar	Thailand	Vietnam
Energy	<p>1.Improvement of energy efficiency of the equipment in industrial sector and building sector.</p> <p>2. Implementation of cooling system in building energy.</p>	<p>Increasing renewable Energy, biofuels to meet 10% of transport, 30% Electric Vehicles penetration for 2-wheelers and passengers' cars in national vehicles mix and 10% reduction of final energy consumption</p>	<p>Myanmar's government has set Unconditional and Conditional Targets for its energy generating mix and research solar, wind, mini-hydro, biomass, tidal, and other sustainable energy technologies. Reduce emissions from the use of fuelwood and charcoal, traditional cookstoves.</p>	<p>Five Energy Generation measures: Increase power generation efficiency, renewable energy generation Energy Consumption in Households, increase energy efficiency in households, renewable energy in households Energy Consumption in Buildings, increase energy efficiency in buildings.</p>	<p>Continue to develop small hydroelectric plants that meet environmental standards. Continue to develop small hydroelectric plants that meet environmental standards. Developing energy storage technologies, upgrading energy transmission and distribution systems, and applying technology to capture carbon dioxide (CCS) for fossil fuel power plants and industrial facilities. To develop an industry using clean energy, to produce and circulate vehicles using electricity and hydrogen. Construction of buildings, housing against the heat, using green cooling solutions, relying on nature to reduce urban heat island effects, using</p>





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**Table 2-8 Details of NDC target and sector**

NDC sector	Cambodia	Lao PDR	Myanmar	Thailand	Vietnam
					materials with low GHG emissions, recycled materials.
Industrial	1.Urban planning tools for climate change mitigation and the urban planning solution in three sub city. 2.Improvement of process performance of EE by establishment of energy management in buildings/industries. 3. Integrating climate change response measures onto the construction design for buildings and for rural housing	n/a	Enhance energy efficiency in a variety of industries by 2030	3 industry improvement measures: Avoid/Reduce traveling, shift/Maintain travel modes, improve energy efficiency in transport	Evaluate international trade policies, technical barriers related to climate change and propose solutions to respond, develop and implement plans to upgrade and renovate power plants, power transmission stations, substations, fuel pipeline systems, mines, coal yards and other energy facilities in coastal areas and improve raw material supply chain, diversify sources of supply, alternative sources for materials sensitive to climate change
Transportation	Enhance maintenance and inspection of vehicle (Piloting maintenance and emission inspections of vehicles)	New Bus Rapid Transit system in Vientiane Capital and associated Non-Motorized Transport (NMT) component and Lao-China Railway	Integrated resource management and planning methodologies (such as the urban nexus approach), low carbon city growth models, and urban resilience paradigms for all cities	3 transportation measures: Avoid/Reduce traveling, Shift/Maintain travel modes and Improve energy efficiency in transport	n/a



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**Table 2-8 Details of NDC target and sector**

NDC sector	Cambodia	Lao PDR	Myanmar	Thailand	Vietnam
Agricultural	Increasing the effectiveness and sustainability of agricultural land management techniques, towards an Agroecological transition in the uplands of Battambang. Promote manure Management through compost making process to reduce carbon emission. Development of Rice crops for increase production, improved quality-safety; harvesting and post harvesting technique and agro-business enhancement, development of new technologies and increased yields by using new crop varieties which adapt to climate change, improvement of support services and capacity building to crop production resilient to climate change by promoting research, trials and up-scaling climate-smart farming systems.	50,000 hectares adjusted water management practices in lowland rice cultivation	The average tree canopy increasing cover across 275,000hectares of its agricultural land with 10% tree canopy cover per hectare by promoting tree planting and agroforestry	The development of Thailand's LEDS of the agriculture sector takes into consideration adaptation measures identified in the existing policies and plans that have mitigation benefits such as enteric fermentation, and manure management. Adaptation measures in rice cultivation and agricultural soil will contribute to lower GHG emissions in the agriculture sector post-2050.	Reducing emissions through management measures, technological innovation in cultivation and animal husbandry, changing land use methods, developing low-emission agricultural value chains and processing, and preserving Postharvest, Reuse crop by-products and treating livestock waste as organic fertilizer, Reuse crop by-products and treating livestock waste as organic fertilizer, generating biogas. Apply compost and reducing chemical fertilizers. Replace urea with low emission fertilizers. Apply advanced measures in agricultural production to reduce methane emissions from rice farming and animal husbandry. Building smart, modern agriculture, effectively



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**Table 2-8 Details of NDC target and sector**

NDC sector	Cambodia	Lao PDR	Myanmar	Thailand	Vietnam
					adapting to climate change, with high added value and ensuring food security.
Forest and Land use	Prepare modality of standardized green spaces for urban planning or new sub- cities to address vulnerability of urbanization, respond to the impacts on land, housings, coastal management, and building due to climate change. Promote proper low-cost shelters for low-income households resilient to climate change, practically in the area of social land concession. Mainstream climate change response measures into coastal development planning against sea water intrusion, sea water rise and seasonal storm destruction, and rising temperature.	reduced emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, foster conservation, sustainable management of forests, buffer zones of national parks and other preserves, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks, Increased Forest cover to 70% of land area.	Decreasing deforestation 123.6 MtCO <sub>2</sub> e by 2030	The development of the Thailand's LEDS of the LULUCF sector is based on the National Strategy (2018-2037). The implementation of the strategy will drastically increase carbon sinks as the key measures include increasing and remaining primary forest and regenerated natural forest area, increasing economic forest area, increasing, and remaining cropland, and reducing biomass burning.	n/a
Waste Management	n/a	Implement the Strategy on Climate Change and Health Adaptation to 2025 and implementation of	n/a	Waste Management: Solid waste management, industrial wastewater management and	Develop models for integrated solid waste management. Apply advanced measures in solid waste



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**Table 2-8 Details of NDC target and sector**

NDC sector	Cambodia	Lao PDR	Myanmar	Thailand	Vietnam
		500 tons/day sustainable municipal solid waste management project		municipal wastewater management	treatment, including landfill with gas collection (LFG), semi-aerobic landfills. Produce compost from organic waste; burning solid waste to generate electricity. Produce fuel pellets from solid waste. Apply advanced measures in waste and wastewater treatment to reduce methane emissions. Implement management measures, minimize waste generation from production to consumption, expanding the responsibility of manufacturers. Increase reuse and recycling of waste.



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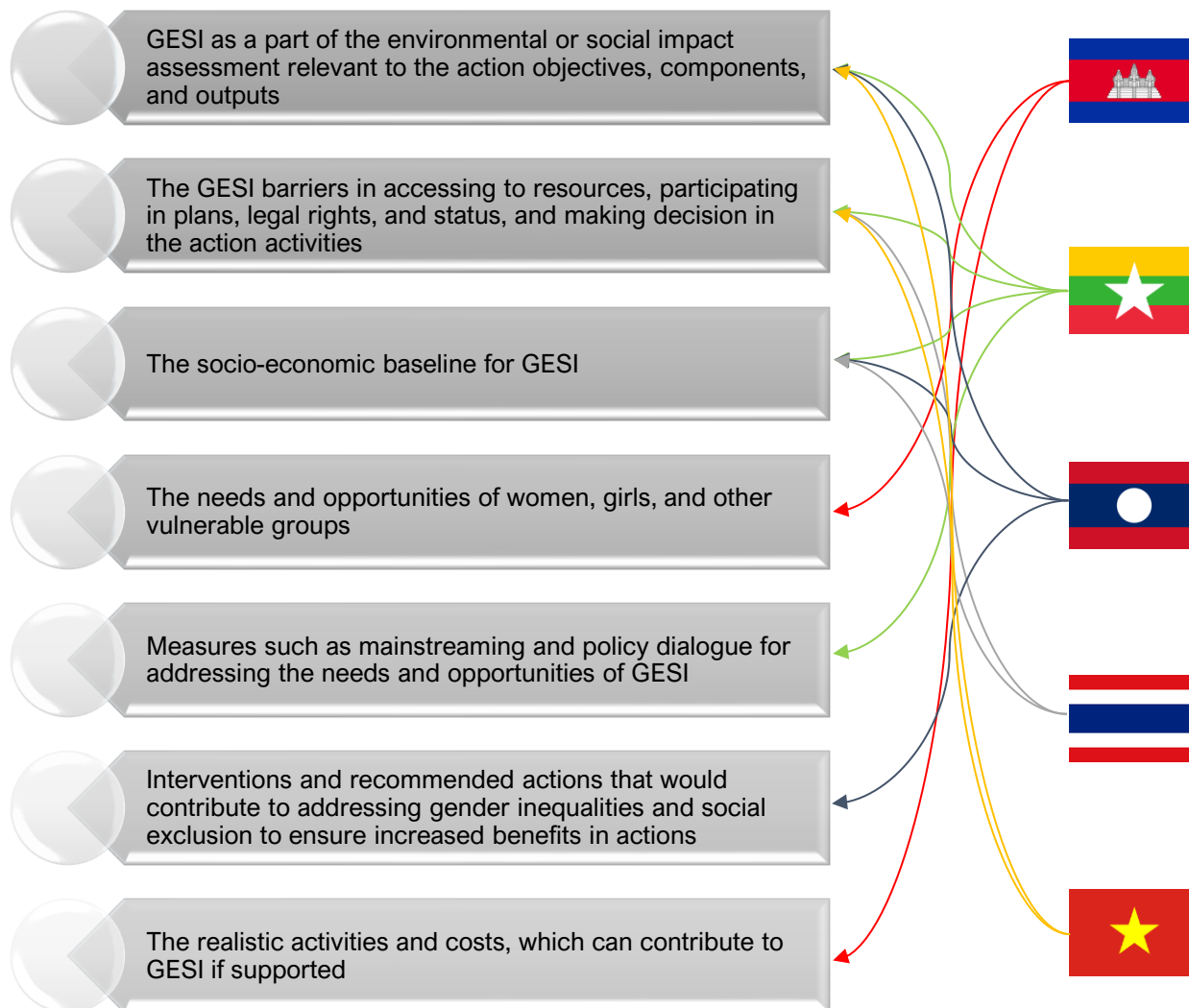
### 3 ASSESSMENT GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION INTEGRATION IN CLIMATE CHANGE

#### 3.1 LEVEL OF GESI ENGAGEMENT IN CLIMATE ACTIONS

This research stated by exploring the state of gender equity and social inclusion integration in climate actions, particularly mitigation actions and adaptation actions to indicate the extent to which gender and social issues that have been and not integrated. Both Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) or National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) of the pilot five countries (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam) were reviewed and assessed using GESI integration analysis checklists adapt from the Climate Resilience Infrastructure Development Facility, 2016 as shown in Error! Reference source not found.

The findings of GESI integration in climate action plans have illustrated that GESI integration is widely emphasized in a dimension of climate adaptation than that in a dimension of climate mitigation. Evidently, through an assessment on both NDCs and NAPs of the five pilot countries (CLMTV), only one climate plan which is the LAO PDR's adaptation plan called 'Scaling-Up Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene' in Lao PDR demonstrated the level of GESI integration at high level. Whilst the NDCs of the CLMTV have integrated GESI contexts only at low level in all emission sectors (Energy, Transportation, Waste, Industrial process and product use, and Agriculture, forest, and land use), excepting the mitigation action in agricultural sector of Myanmar that showed such integration at medium level.

CLMTV countries have addressed GESI issues in their climate actions in different contexts and different dimensions. Elements of GESI integration stated in the climate plans of CLMTV countries can be summarized as demonstrated in **Figure 3-1**. It is important to note that regarding the ten elements of GESI integration, even the mitigation plans have addressed GESI as a part of the action objectives, components and outputs or have provided several details in relevant to GESI, but neither an analysis on how the plan is likely to be positively or negatively impact on GESI activities nor a prediction on possible changes in the quality of life of the women and other vulnerable social groups in the plans has been emphasized.



**Figure 3-1 Aspects of gender and social integrated in climate actions of CLMTV countries**

- In Cambodia, among the 31 mitigation plans of NDCs and 35 adaptation plans of NAPs, there is no high level of GESI integration found since the highest "Y" is only 6, which falls into the medium level. Most of climate actions have addressed GESI aspects in term of their needs and opportunities as well as the activities and costs which can be contributed to them if supported. However, such needs and activities to integrate GESI into climate actions are rarely taking into considerations for a real action.

In Lao PDR, the high and medium levels of GESI integration are found only one climate actions and they are under the climate change adaptation measure - health sector. Whereas the low-level impact climate action is generally seen in climate actions. Thus, the GESI integration in climate change policy is less consideration. However, it does not only be a great opportunity to involve





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GESI into climate change policy such as the National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), the new update NDC and on the other hand, but it does also a suitable time to mainstream climate change into GESI policy as well. Furthermore, the Lao Women's Union is introduced to be a technical member of the Technical Working Group of Climate Change.

- In Myanmar, the policy mentions about the GESI as a part of the environmental or social impact assessment relevant to its action objectives, components, outputs and integrated in its Master Plan for Climate Change. In its strategy, they analyze the GESI barriers in the access to resources, participation in plans, legal rights and status, power and decision making in the activities. The socio-economic baseline for GESI was also mentioned and described as women are more vulnerable to climate change and hazards, and it can influence whole communities' levels of resilience. However, the action plan for energy, transportation, industry, and forest and land did not provide an analysis on how the plan is likely to be positively or negatively impact on GESI activities although they did have specific analysis on the climate change planning and did not realistically predict possible changes in the quality of life of the women and other vulnerable social groups in the plans, but only mentioned in the policy and for agricultural sector.

In Thailand, Gender and inclusion dimension has initially highlighted as one component in the NDC project as illustrated in one expected output of the project: Strengthened public climate finance reforms to deliver NDC outcomes and enhance gender equality. The output indicators are 1) number of budget submissions that have integrated inclusive, gender responsive Climate Change Benefit Analysis (CCBA) 2) Number of public debates for inclusive, gender-responsive climate change related investments in enhanced through political engagement advocacy.

- In Vietnam, no policy has been found that demonstrate high level of GESI integration. GESI is not systematically integrated into laws, policies, and action plans at all levels on energy, agriculture, LULUCF, waste and IP. It is only scattered in a few policies, has almost no sex-disaggregated indicators and data. Several legal documents also show/imply gender stereotypes, considering women as the object of full responsibility for taking care of nutrition and children. There is no policy that analyzes the specific needs of women and girls and proposes measures to meet them appropriately. Resources (human, financial) to implement gender mainstreaming are either not allocated specifically or allocated in insufficient quantities /inappropriately compared to what is required.



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### 3.2 LEVEL OF GENDER EQUITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION ENGAGEMENT IN CLIMATE ACTIONS

This research stated by exploring the level of gender equity and social inclusion engagement in climate actions using questionnaire technique. To understand perspectives of civil society and youth on an integration of GESI in climate actions, a set of questions as shown in **Table 3-1** has been developed and performed under the approval of the Research Ethics Review Committee for Research Involving Human Subjects: The Second Allied Academic Group in Social Sciences, Humanities and Fine and Applied Arts, Chulalongkorn University. The number and sector of respondents from each pilot countries are illustrated in **Table 3-2**

**Table 3-1 Questionnaire on a level of integration in climate change**

Questions	Rating		
	Low	Medium	High
1. On which scale, where you have participated in Climate change <b>activities</b> ?			
2. On which scale, where you have participated in Climate Change <b>policies</b> ?			
3. On which rating where are the <b>current state</b> of GESI integrate in Climate action plan? - Respondent understanding - Responding accessibility - Respondent ability to engage			
4. On which rating, where the <b>intended state</b> of GESI integrates in the Climate Change action plan?			
5. To what extent, the <b>root causes and social forces</b> exerting pressure on the current state?			
6. To what extent, the <b>external factors</b> exerting pressure on the current state?			
7. On which scale, where the GESI have <b>impacted</b> on climate change planning?			
8. On which scale, where the changes in climate <b>affect</b> GESI?			



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**Table 3-2 The number and sector of respondents from each pilot countries**

Country	Number of respondents classified by sector				Way of communication
	Government	CSOs/NGOs	iNGOs	Youth Club	
<b>Cambodia</b>	2	5	4	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Face to face</li> <li>• Zoom call</li> <li>• Online survey</li> </ul>
<b>Lao PDR</b>	10	23	7	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Face to face</li> <li>• WhatsApp</li> <li>• Focus group discussion</li> </ul>
<b>Myanmar</b>	0	32	1	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Face to face</li> <li>• Zoom call</li> </ul>
<b>Thailand</b>	4	8	4	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Face to face</li> <li>• Zoom call</li> </ul>

**NOTE:** There is no key sector interview for Vietnam.

Questionnaire was distributed via both online and offline platform to agencies working in the field related to both gender equality and social inclusion, and climate change aspects. In total, there are 119 respondents. Of which, civil society organizations (CSOs) and local non-governmental organization (NGOs) had contributed 57%, followed by Youth clubs (16%), government agencies (13.5%) and INGOs (13.5%). The findings from each pilot countries demonstrated that

- In Cambodia – an understanding of GESI in climate action planning in Cambodia is at a medium level, indicating that people are aware of the issue. Even though the concept is relatively new in the country, the essential stakeholders appear to have a good understanding of the issue. The youth organization informants answered the questions quite well. They gave very useful information on the factors that put pressure on GESI incorporation in climate action plans. That goes the same with officers and staffs from the Government and CSOs

In Lao PDR – based on the result gathered from 45 respondent in 4 sectors, all officers from government sector agreed that they had have involved in climate change activities in medium level, whereas many iNGOs gave a low level of participation in climate change activities as well as youth organizations.

- In Myanmar – even most of respondents participate in climate policy at low level and in climate activities at medium level, they still believe that the intended state of GESI integration in the climate

actions is increasing. The low level of participation in climate actions is mainly because of their struggle of living.

In Thailand - about half of informants have participated in both Climate Change activities and policy processes. In addition, one-third of respond rated the status of GESI integration in climate action plan as low to medium level, for their understanding, accessibility, and ability to engage. It is interesting to see that one-third of participants rated the situation of GESI impact on climate change planning as low and low to medium. However, all respondents have acknowledged changes in climate had a high level of impact to GESI.

### 3.3 GENDER EQUITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION INTEGRATION IN CLIMATE ACTIONS

In this section, the Driver-Pressure-State-Impact-Response (DPSIR) Framework as portrayed in **Figure 3-3** is applied to analyze Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) integration in climate policies/actions. The DPSIR framework provides a structure within which to present the indicators needed to enable feedback to policy makers on environmental quality and the resulting impact of the political choices made, or to be made in the future.

**Drivers** are the cause of change that can perpetuate inequalities, such as the unequal distribution of resources, but can also be shared by gender inequalities, such as when restrictions on woman's reproductive right affect population growth.

**Pressures** are stresses put on the environment by human activities. They have clear equity implications, as the pressure exerted by wealthier and more powerful groups typically have the most severe consequences for those who are poor, less powerful, and/or marginalized.

**State and trends** of gender and environmental linkages define the context for how gender considerations are integrated within a sector. For instance, if the prevailing gender norms restrict the mobility of women and girls, they may be in greater danger during extreme weather events.

**Impacts and effects** are the immediate and longer-term consequences of climate change on different population groups. Socio-economic impacts and effects have important gender dimensions determining degree of agency and access to assets and resources.

**Responses** are actions by public sectors as well as the private sector, civil society, and communities. Effective integration of gender and social equity concerns including in institutional arrangements, is crucial to ensuring fair responses.

**Figure 3-2 the Driver-Pressure-State-Impact-Response (DPSIR) Framework**

The DPSIR framework assumes a chain of causal links starting with 'driving forces' (economic sectors, human activities) through 'pressures' (emissions, waste) to 'states' (physical, chemical, and biological) and



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'impacts' on ecosystems, human health, and functions, eventually leading to political 'responses' (prioritization, target setting, indicators). Establishing a DPSIR framework for a particular setting is a complex task as all the various cause-effect relationships must be carefully described and environmental changes can rarely be attributed to a single cause. To assess an integration of GESI in Climate actions using the DPSIR framework, the collected content through an open-ended interview as demonstrated in **Section 1.4 research methodology**.

An interview with representatives from relevant agencies on the implications of gender equality and inclusion in climate change responses has been carried out in order to gain insight stories of gender integration into climate policies as well as to validate findings from the analysis on a level of individual integration in climate change using questionnaire. The number and sector of interviews from each pilot countries are illustrated.

A summary of DPSIR analysis from CLMTV countries is presented in **Table 3-3**. **Figure 3-3** illustrated an aggregation of DPSIR analysis from CLMTV countries at regional level, it was found that the current state of GESI integration is low due to a lack vulnerable group's voice in climate action planning. Despite, GESI has been addressed in climate strategy, measures and action plan for policy implementations have not yet been addressed. However, an intended state of GESI integration seems increase gradually as seen women's participation is now highly encouraged. Particularly, it is a requirement from international agencies supporting climate fund. Therefore, to greater integrate GESI elements into climate actions, the actions shall be as recommended as follows:

- Establish coordination mechanism between GESI and CC focal point  
Promote activities to pursue GESI to participate in climate actions
- Provide training/ workshop in capacity building to vulnerable group  
Launch an awareness raising campaign
- Conduct studies on the gendered impacts of climate change  
Develop a monitoring and evaluation framework for gender integration into climate policies



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**Table 3-3 Summary of DPSIR analysis of the CLMTV countries**

DPSIR	Cambodia	Lao PDR	Myanmar	Thailand	Vietnam
<b>State</b>					
- Current	Low participation in decision making and planning of climate related issues	- GESI integration in climate action is low and limited.	- Low participation in climate change activities - Women are suffering more vulnerable; lost and damage when there is disaster	- Policy makers acknowledge the GESI integration in principle for their policy planning processes.	- Integration of gender into policy at the sector-level is inconsistent.
- Trend	GESI integration will increase as women's participation is now highly encouraged			GESI integration will increase as there's a constraint in receiving Climate Funding	
<b>Pressure</b>					
- Internal	- Gender inequality in community work - An understanding of their husbands		- Daily schedules - Works - living difficulties	- People's voice	- Women's participation in the setting of climate policies is limited
- External	- Lack of awareness raising - Lack of women's voice in planning and decision making	- Support from government is limited	- Nation's economic - Pandemic and other health issues - Lack of security	- Thailand's commitment to international Treaty/Convention	- Structural barriers at the community level
<b>Driving Forces</b>	- An encouragement to participate and access fundamental education - Families' understanding of the value of forestry work - The inclusive actions from the government and other stakeholders to promote GESI	- A need for policy development	- Concern more for basic needs	- Socio-economic changes, Climate Change impacts, voices of CSOs and vulnerable groups and the Government efforts to plan a better policy - Accessibility to Climate funding	- Lack of guidance on gender mainstreaming and mechanisms for the monitoring and evaluation of gender integration.





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**Table 3-3 Summary of DPSIR analysis of the CLMTV countries**

DPSIR	Cambodia	Lao PDR	Myanmar	Thailand	Vietnam
<b>Impact</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The climate action plan is not inclusive and effective for all</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Climate action loss focuses on GESI</li> <li>- Loss of ecosystem and biodiversity</li> <li>- Food insecurities</li> <li>- illegal settlements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lack of awareness and knowledge about Climate Change</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Climate Change affects women those who are more vulnerable and have lot of burden</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implementation of gender strategies and action plans remain weak</li> </ul>
<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All the relevant ministries, especially the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture, have developed various plans that include gender inclusivity and increase women's quota in climate change</li> <li>- Provide training/ workshop in capacity building to women</li> <li>- Make the activities related to climate action inclusive for everyone, including women and vulnerable groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Initiate integration GESI into climate actions</li> <li>- Establish coordination mechanism between GESI and CC focal point</li> <li>- Awareness raising campaign</li> <li>- Develop climate database</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promote National level activities to pursue women to participate in Climate Change Activities, leading from international level organizations.</li> <li>- Awareness raising and training for community</li> <li>- Research project on women and climate change management</li> <li>- Doing participatory action research</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Participation with key stakeholders</li> <li>- Understandings and Awareness of GESI dimension</li> <li>- Linkage between national and sub-national implementation of Climate Change Action</li> <li>- Investing infrastructure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promoting awareness-raising and capacity-building among policy makers</li> <li>- Developing, and promoting the application of, technical guidelines for gender mainstreaming into climate change policies</li> <li>- Conducting studies on the gendered impacts of climate change by sector and region, and identifying entry points through which to integrate gender into climate-related policies</li> <li>- Developing a monitoring and evaluation framework for gender integration into climate policies, and establishing a database of the</li> </ul>



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**Table 3-3 Summary of DPSIR analysis of the CLMTV countries**

DPSIR	Cambodia	Lao PDR	Myanmar	Thailand	Vietnam
					gendered impacts of climate change

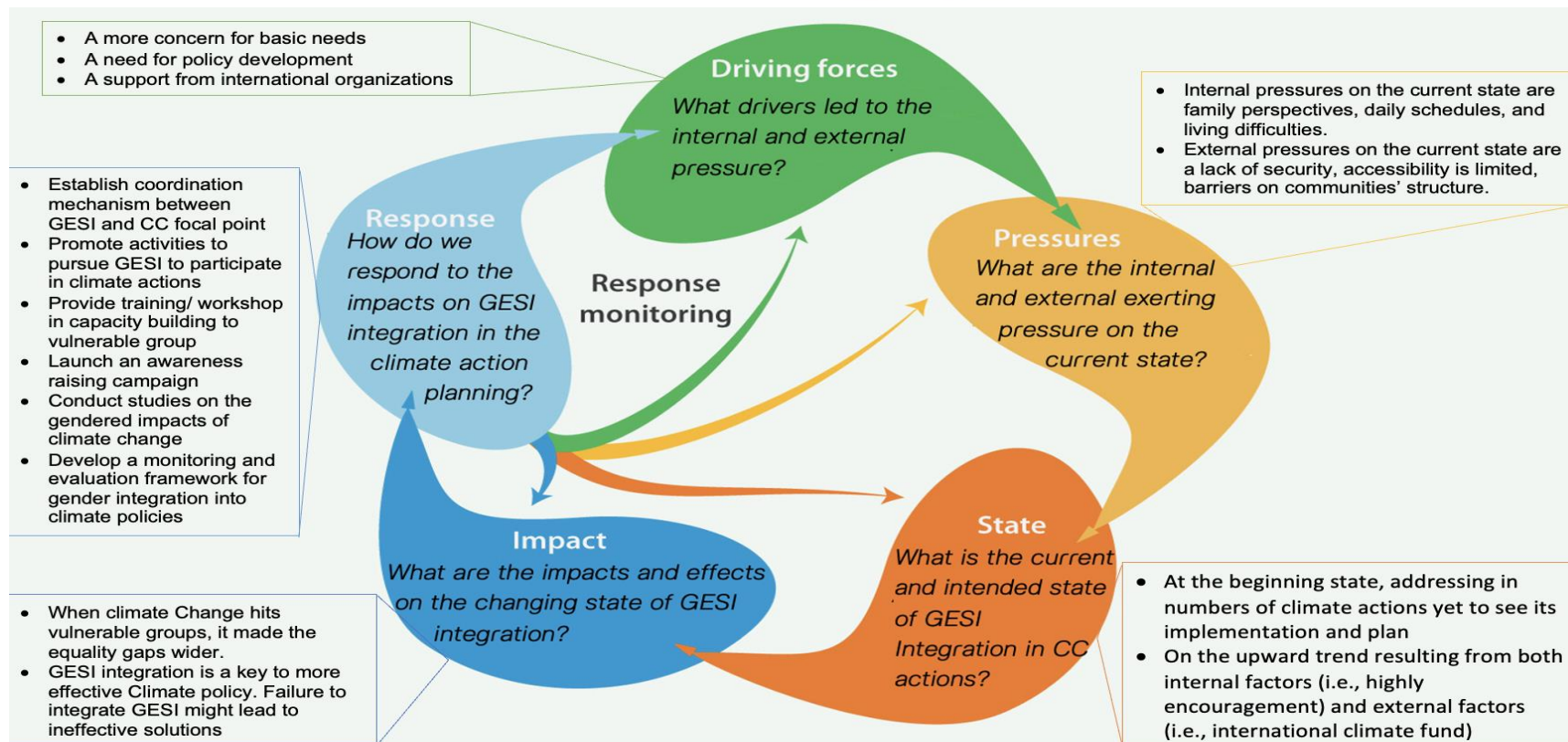


Figure 3-3 the Driver-Pressure-State-Impact-Response (DPSIR) analysis on GESI integration in climate actions



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## 4 RECOMMENDATION TO SUPPORT GESI INTEGRATION IN CLIMATE ACTION PLANNING

Climate change is urgent issues that there is need a participatory research and actions including multidisciplinary knowledges and experts. Regarding GESI integration in climate action planning, many actions have been taken to mitigate climate issues, many of them fail to place disadvantaged groups at the center of attention. Overall, ASEAN Member have made important progress in gender recommendations integration in recent years, especially in DRR, but the analysis shows significant differences across ASEAN policies, between sectors and among countries. The major gap in ASEAN that people cannot pay sufficient attention to GESI integration in climate change planning as main prioritizing in socio-economic and political issues that are facing here in most countries. The task is to build on best practices and move towards gender-transformative policies and initiatives at all levels, with strong institutional support to ensure success. the “ASEAN Vision 2025 on Disaster Management” stated that ASEAN is well placed to become a global leader given its vast experience, knowledge, and expertise in disaster management and emergency response by 2025. In ASEAN Regional Framework on Protection, Gender, and Inclusion in Disaster Management 2021–2025 mentioned gender-responsive with gender transformative elements and approaches: The Framework recognizes the differentiated impacts of disasters on women and men while highlighting the need for women in leadership roles in DRR.

This is also in line with the direction set by the ASEAN Leaders through the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and other ASEAN statement in several agreements. To include GESI in climate action effectively, there are key areas that need to be addressed:

### **Education and Creation of equal understanding on Gender Equality, Social Inclusion, Climate Action**

- Education and raising awareness of women's equality should be promoted. Gender Equality, Social Inclusion, Climate Change Action issues should implement in dialogue/lesson learned to help creating understanding and awareness raising include working with the media; and drawing on existing knowledge platforms (such as via UN Women).
- Designing the learning topic should be balanced in four activities 1) Academic knowledge 2) Relationship & trust building 3) Learning & sharing from expertise, hand-on experiences and 4) Dialogue platform that support Climate policy process & GESI integration. The learning topics should also be analyzed and assessed among policy makers, government officers, policy researchers, and CSOs & NGOs.



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Government should improve equal access to education for women like men and learn enough information to be decision makers in society. Workshops, conferences, public lectures which would allow for these populations to be placed in the spotlight.

- Integrate climate issues and the curriculum of schools from kindergarten to university with particular focus on the implementation of Eco-school programs and GESI initiative

### **Capacity Building and Awareness for Women and Vulnerable groups**

Awareness-raising and capacity-building on gender equality and women's empowerment aspects of climate change adaptation should be an urgent priority in all sectors, promoted by using both bottom-up and top-down approaches.

- Women or disadvantaged groups should be a part in research, adopt co-production (or transdisciplinary) research methods that can simultaneously empower disadvantaged groups, and connect research to on-the-ground and policy outcomes. To ensure that there is enough representation, and that in-depth analysis is recorded. The channel of communication is best bridged when the issue is thoroughly identified and analyzed.

Survey of vulnerability groups about their Climate Change impacts and how the relevant stakeholder has responded and compensate the level of participation that each vulnerable group prefer in participating Climate Change policy process, and which policy/strategy or levels they need to get involved (local, provincial, region, or national levels)

- To promote access and control of livelihood, ownership of household assets, adaptation in skills training, finance, and technology for those affected by climate change particularly for GESI  
Apart from technical knowledge on GESI and Climate Change, all stakeholders in Climate policy process are highly recommended to learn and practice the art and science of communication and awareness raising.
- Application of gender transformative approach (GTA) to increase inclusiveness of gender and social inclusion in any activities/practices/plan toward policy recommendations for policy makers.

### **Strengthening information sharing, communication channels and building dialogues platforms**

To promote the sharing of information, experiences, and best practices between and among the member Platform sharing their struggles and experiences in climate actions. This would help ensure that their voices and concerns are heard and alleviated.

- Sharing data and information via platform should be developed for engaging as well as disseminating to interested agencies namely iNGOs, youth organization and CSOs.  
Exchange technical skill and knowledge platform besides sharing data and information platform.
- Building dialogue platform GESI into climate actions and include the role of the media to broadcast project implementation



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Ensure gender and child-sensitive approach in climate change adaptation and mitigation including disaster risk reduction and management through collaborative work among stakeholders.

### **Establish a technical working group for GESI and Climate actions**

- The technical working group for GESI and climate change domains needs to be formed. Roles and mandates of climate change entity should be mainstream GESI. Moreover, GESI topic should be introduced into climate change policy and action plan
- Strengthening the collaboration between and among member states and relevant UN agencies and development partners to implement policies and programs on climate change affecting GESI

### **Policy Supporting, Framework and implementation**

- Clear technical guidance on how to integrate gender aspects into climate policy should be provided to policy makers. The guidelines should be easy to use, and leverage and build upon any existing ones.
- Climate policy should be more integrated between national and local levels. This could be a strategic way to help address impacts of Climate Change in selected areas and group-specific impacts
- Participatory action and research in policy framing and existing policy participatory activities.
- A monitoring and evaluation framework should be developed, and a database established, to systematically track the integration of gender into climate policies, and to understand the gendered impact of climate change by sector and region, respectively including its implementation in line with national and international frameworks
- Setting indicators, target actions and baselines to measure progress towards protection, gender, and inclusion at each sector such as DRR, RE and other sectors in the national and regional levels

### **Resource allocation and budget**

- Allocate specific budget/funds for GESI to respond to the social impact of climate change and establish financial mechanisms of resource mobilization. Budget allocation for GESI expert, staff, or technical working groups in climate actions and planning  
Prioritize funding in pilot project implementations in support GESI & Climate Change activities
- Establish an agency to manage, mobilize and allocate resources supporting the operations at the sub-national/local level  
Strengthen cooperation in human and institutional capacity building for fund management about the social impact of climate change. Invest in financial and human resources of integration GESI-CC in all sectors as well as public service, and education budget





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- Encourage donors to increase funding for work that addresses the issues of social impact of climate change on GESI, including the promotion of their adaptation, agency/resilience to climate change

**Further recommended topics/research to support GESI integration in Climate policy planning & implementation as well as public participation**

Identify gaps and correlation of Climate Change and GESI dimensions

- Definition, criteria, and measurement/indicators that identify vulnerability and inclusion  
Net impacts of Climate Change in different population groups, livelihoods, area/site specific communities, provincial and regional levels.
- Beneficiaries of GESI integration in Climate Action. How GESI integration help Thailand addresses better Climate mitigation and adaptation action for different population and vulnerability groups?  
Addressing context differences and how government and advocates act differently to cope with Climate Change and integration of GESI



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## 5 GUIDELINE TO STRENGTHEN INSTITUTIONAL SYSTEMS ON RESPONSIVE CLIMATE ACTION

This draft guideline is developed based on the findings from the pilot CLMTV countries under the project titled Research and Development for the Society Regional Dialogue Supporting Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in Climate Action Planning – Mekong for the Future. Since the GESI integration in climate actions is at low to medium level, for their understanding, accessibility, and ability to engage in CLMTV countries. Despite, GESI has been addressed in climate strategy, measures and action plan for policy implementations have not yet been addressed. It is crucial for Climate Change related policy makers and, CSOs, Youth Groups, INGOs, and Academic Institutes in Climate policy process to gain more understanding and awareness in both academic and perspectives of other sectors/fields on these 3 issues (Gender Equality, Social Inclusion, Climate Change Action). Therefore, to strengthen institutional systems on GESI responsive climate action, the development of the action should comprise the following activities:

### STEP 1 GESI responsive climate action working group

Since the action will elaborate the type of activities to be carried out, it must involve the organizations and individuals with both GESI and CC expertise. The very first step to strengthening institutional system is setting an effective working group to facilitate and to moderate dialogues on both gender equality and social inclusion aspects and climate change aspects. To do so, either the institutional setting or policy framework related to both aspects should be reviewed to understand and to bridge the institutional and policy framework for GESI and climate change together. In the meantime, an official communication channel is also vital and shall be established to put all working team in the same page, striving for the group's objective in the same direction. In addition, the objective of this group setting shall be in the line with the national strategy on both aspects. Therefore, the actions from public sector as well as private sector on GESI integration into climate actions will be greatly impacted. It should elaborate the components of this working group i.e. key actors from public sector, private sector, CSOs, academic institutes, etc. for explanation on the official communication channel and ways of communication. In addition, prior establishing the working group, capacity assessment may be conducted.

### STEP 2 Identifying the elements of GESI integration in climate actions

The step of identifying elements of GESI integration in climate actions must be conducted to indicate the extent to which gender and inclusion issues that have been and not integrated. A Checklist of GESI integration in climate actions adapted from the GESI Tools and Guidelines published by the Climate



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Resilience Infrastructure Development Facility as demonstrated in Error! Reference source not found. is proposed.



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**Table 5-1 GESI integration analysis checklists**

Checklists	Y/N	Comment
1. Does the action plan report on findings of GESI as a part of the environmental or social impact assessment relevant to the action objectives, components, and outputs?		
2. Does the action plan analyze the GESI barriers in the following domains? Access to resources, participation in plans, legal rights and status, power and decision making in the action activities?		
3. Does the action plan detail the socio-economic baseline for GESI?		If YES, please describe HOW?
4. Does the action plan detail identification and analysis of GESI issues relevant to the plan objectives, components, and outputs/outcomes?		
5. Does the action plan provide an analysis on how the plan is likely to be positively or negatively impact on GESI activities?		If NO, please ask about what should be done (Mainstreaming, Action, Policy Dialogue)
6. Does the action plan realistically predict possible changes in the quality of life of the women and other vulnerable social groups in the plans?		
7. Does the action plan address the needs and opportunities of women, girls, and other vulnerable groups?		
8. Does the action plan specify other measures such as mainstreaming and policy dialogue for addressing the needs and opportunities of GESI?		
9. Does the action plan specify project interventions and recommended actions that would contribute to addressing gender inequalities and social exclusion to ensure increased benefits in actions?		
10. Does the action plan provide realistic activities and costs, which can contribute to GESI if supported.		

The findings will reflect opportunities to strengthen GESI engagement in climate actions. Discussions on what the expected social impacts, both positive and negative, of the proposed policies/actions will be, how inclusive, significant and/or acceptable these impacts are to different social groups, and how and to what extent the project will benefit the lives of women and children, including participation of, and impacts to, and inclusiveness of outcomes is required. Therefore, voices from vulnerable groups shall be heard through the official communication platform established in STEP 1. Moreover, to identify such elements properly a knowledge building on GESI issues for climate planners/policy makers and vice versa shall be conducted. A capacity building on how to participate in climate action planning for the vulnerable groups shall be discussed in consistency.

### STEP 3 Integration of GESI into Climate action and planning

Key stakeholders related to GESI, and CC is important. After identifying and analysis the status of GESI and climate action plan in specific groups/ project or countries or even policies. Platform, workshop, seminars, or communication channel can be developed in integration of GESI into climate action and planning.



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For case example, “Awareness Raising Dialogue<sup>1</sup> Workshop” for key stakeholders in Government, INGOs, CSOs, and Youth Organizations, especially those who responsible for GESI integration. It can be run in a couple of days or weeks or set to be a series of workshops. The draft sequence & topics of this dialogue workshop is shown in the **Table 5-2**.

**Table 5-2 Sequence & topics of this dialogue workshop**

Sequence of Workshop	Dialogue topic
Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is GE &amp; SI in your own perspectives?</li> <li>How GESI is important to you?</li> </ul>
Awareness of unconscious bias	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What's on your mind when you think of these stereotypes? (Gender, Vulnerability, Policy makers, NGO, Academia, etc.)</li> </ul>
Academic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is Gender Equality? Why it is important to Climate Action?</li> <li>What is Social Inclusion? Why it is important to Climate Action?</li> <li>How Climate Change and GESI related? Which evidence we should study more?</li> </ul>
Main dialogue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are the main gaps in GESI integration to Climate Action?</li> <li>What do you think about the participation in the process of GESI integration to Climate action?</li> <li>What is your key message you want to share to other stakeholders? So, they can understand your standing points and constraints.</li> </ul>
Reflection & Closing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Compared to yourself before attaining this workshop, what do you understand more about GESI?</li> <li>What is your suggestion to support the process of GESI integration?</li> <li>After finishing this workshop, what you/your organization will take actions to support process of GESI integration in Climate Action?</li> </ul>

Also, include “A set of evaluation-question to learn the feedback and awareness increasing from participants” after completion the workshop and reflection on the outcomes and impacts of this workshop.

<sup>1</sup> Dialogue in this recommendation is based on the dialogue framework by David Bohm. Dialogue is defined as a free flow of meaning between people in communication. It seen as an arena in which collective learning takes place. As a form of interaction, Dialogue help bringing a sense of increased harmony, fellowship and creativity. Regarding to this framework, Dialogue is not discussion or debate. A key difference between a dialogue and an ordinary discussion is that in an ordinary discussion people usually hold relatively fixed positions and argue in favor of their views as they try to convince others to change. <https://www.bohmdialogue.org/#bohmdialogue> (as accessed October 2022)



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Next, key stakeholders can explore collective dialogue topics. Our topics recommended include:

- How can we have better collaboration for integrating GESI to Climate Action?  
Which government agencies/academic institutes/organization you would like to invite them to participate? Which issues or selected topics you would like to discuss and learn from them?
- What should be criteria and indicators that measure GESI inclusion? How do we plan M&E to help address GESI and Climate Change?

#### STEP 4 Action Implementation and Design

Pilot action design and activities can be implemented targeted community members, or their representatives. We need to ensure that a project is GESI-responsive and inclusive, project proponents should identify persons or groups to be involved in the implementation of GESI-responsive activities at every stage of the project. Moreover, project developers should consider the approach to be consistent with project objectives. The project outcome and target as well as the indicators need to be determined prior project implementations:

- Project Objectives: Set objectives in accordance with GESI (community, youth, CSOs, INGO) and project concept/schemes (climate change, natural resource management, water management)  
Project Outcome/ Deliverables: representing the entire reason and purpose of a project development
- Indicator: Specify and determine the indicator to measure project outcome, output, or target  
Target: Set a measurable target for project monitoring and evaluation such as 20% increase of resilient community in GM region

Project implementation and activities to achieve their objectives including the following

(Source: GESI Integration into GCF Climate Projects)

- Increase capacity and resources of the implementing entity, including GESI expertise and/or appointing a GESI focal point or establishing a GESI working group.  
Determine resource specific GESI interventions, track the implementation processes and report its results regularly.
- Maintain effective partnership with all key stakeholders, including women and other identified vulnerable groups, to ensure ownership and sustainability of the project  
Continuity resource allocation/budget for GESI working group





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## STEP 5 Monitoring and Evaluation

To evaluate and monitor the project outcomes, sustainability and problem tracking of the project, there is need to set up GESI indicators in the project results and framework, including in the improvement of activities and stakeholders, and the efficacy of GESI integration within the project. The project owner must collect data disaggregated by demographic of the project (sex, age, disability, and ethnicity whenever relevant and possible to track) or any related data base of the project. The project shall elaborate and give some specific guidance for users on separately among Monitoring and Evaluation i.e., setting up participatory monitoring mechanism for strengthening institutional systems by integrating effective working group roles & responsibilities on monitoring as well as developing monitoring tools, checklist, tracking indicators. For evaluation on outputs, outcomes and impacts, the guideline can also distinguish the timeline by implementing baseline assessment, mid-term review, and final evaluation.

GESI mainstreaming progress in their outputs and outcomes. Among key stakeholders, project proponent and working group must also record and share the knowledge from its implementation process and lessons learned, especially regarding GESI aspects. GESI integration in climate change action policy and planning even projects, activities require a high level of commitment and full integration at every stage.



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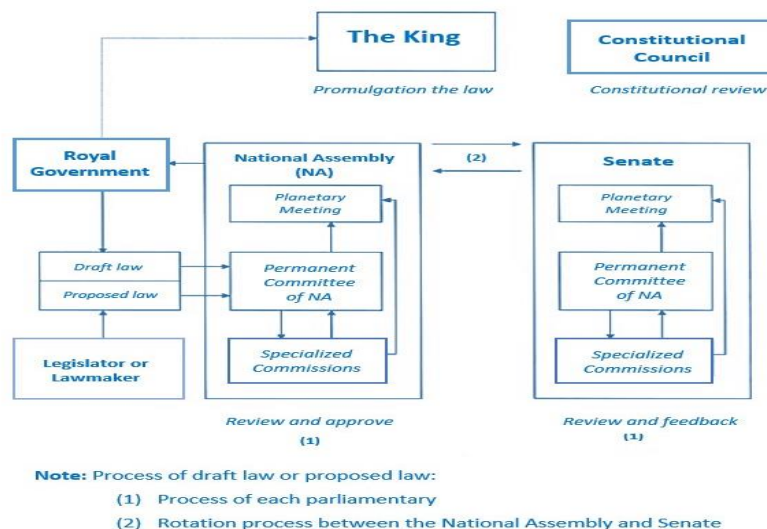
## ANNEX A KEY FINDINGS OF CAMBODIA

### Project: Research and Development for Society: Regional Dialogue Supporting Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in Climate Action Planning – Mekong for the Future

By Ms. Chandany Noun

#### A1 Policy making system

According to the Constitution of Cambodia (1993), three different institutions can initiate the policy-making process in Cambodia: the members of the National Assembly, the Senate, and the Prime Minister.



**Figure A-1** Policy Making System in Cambodia (<https://opendevelopmentcambodia.net/topics/law-making-process/>)

Furthermore, relevant ministries can initiate other national strategic plans on the issues. For instance, the Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA) initiated various strategic programs to promote gender equality and awareness, such as the implementation of "Neary Rathanak," updated every five years; and recent master plans such as the Gender and Climate Strategic Plan and Master Plan on Gender and Climate Change (MoWA, 2021). Other relevant ministries, such as the Ministry of Planning, contribute to other appropriate ministries who expertise in each field, ranging from social, political, and economic, to develop the National Strategic Plan, which the Royal Government of Cambodia adopts. Furthermore, even though developed through the coordination of the Ministry of Environment as the primary expertise, the Cambodia Climate Change Strategic Plan development involves various ministries and stakeholders such as non-governmental organizations, private sectors, academia, and more (CCCP, 2014).

Issues concerning climate change, gender equality, and social inclusion are critical and shared in many Asian countries. For instance, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), founded in 1985, consisted of eight Asian countries to promote the well-being of the people in the region through universal respect and protection of human rights, advancing gender equality and women's empowerment as well as concern on the issue of environmental degradation. Similarly, ASEAN, founded in 1967 with currently ten members consistently developing implementations relating to climate change and gender equality, such as the ASEAN Climate Change Initiative, the Multi-sectoral Framework on Climate Change,



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and Food Security-sectoral Framework, encourages ASEAN member states to implement and monitor the policies and programs.

In the ASEAN region, the member states have been actively contributing to addressing climate change actions through dialogues, the ASEAN framework of community building, ASEAN Summits, and more. The ASEAN member states have been working hand in hand, aligning with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) through pledges, the highest possible commitments to reduce environmental degradation caused by climate change. The member states comply with various mechanisms relating to climate change risk, adaptation, and mitigation to create a sustainable environment, reduce carbon emissions, and protect biodiversity. Moreover, the ASEAN countries have also launched the ASEAN State of climate report to keep track of the progress of climate mitigation and the achievements of each country to their pledges. More specifically, “The report is designed to inform and guide the region and the ASEAN Member States towards ambitious climate change targets, through a framework for transparency and transformative action to mitigate and adapt to climate change” (ASEAN, 2021). Not only climate change initiatives, gender equality, and social inclusion are also being addressed by the member states through the commitment of the ASEAN Gender Mainstreaming Strategic Framework to enhance further the integration of gender equality and social inclusion with the ASEAN's framework (ASEAN, 2022).

As a member state of ASEAN, the 2020 report published on Cambodia's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) showcased the country's commitments towards the journey of becoming a prominent climate-resilient and gender equitable country (NDC, 2020). Enabling roles to facilitate the implementation of actions within the NDC were undertaken by a number of ministries in which six of those recorded roles integrate gender and social inclusion in climate action planning. The Ministry of Women's Affairs made the commitment to enhance institutional capabilities at the national and subnational levels to incorporate gender responsiveness into climate change adaptation policies, plans, and programming, including gender sensitive budgeting. The ministry also leads the coordination and implementation of accountability mechanisms to reduce climate change vulnerabilities of disadvantaged women and other marginalized groups (NDC, 2020). They follow up with the mission of monitoring and constructing evaluation systems among sectoral ministries to track gender outcomes in climate change initiatives as well as Capacity Development for GCCC members on Gender Analysis, gender responsive budgeting. Last of MoWA's enabling actions, as stated in the report, develops technical guidelines for gender mainstreaming in the NDC process. The National Committee for Sub-National Democratic Development (NCDD) also takes part by ensuring that the market supply chain of rural women entrepreneurs is resilient to climate change.

The regional commitments can be seen in several Asian countries consistently committed to solving climate and gender equality issues. The first country to examine is Bangladesh, where the people, especially women, are exposed to climate change threats and other risks through their contribution to the labour force in the manufacturing sector. To address the issue, several initiatives have been implemented, for instance, the Bangladesh labour reform in 2013, the Bangladesh Climate Change and Action Plan, and the Gender Road Map, just to name a few, which all aim to gender-equal opportunities, women's leadership in policy and law regulation, principally in the garment industry. Moreover, concerns relating to the vast proportion of women migrating to urban areas which are exposed to hazardous living conditions such as air pollution, floods, and heat, have also been considered through right-based standards by the World Fair Trade Organization and the Fair Wear Foundation to provide labour justice and fair economic opportunities. These initiatives target to develop women's skills, improve women's working conditions, and increase women's participation in leadership roles. Other affiliations include a policy on renewable energy that provides women with necessary electricity accessibility to ensure their right to health, personal integrity, hygiene, and sanitation. (Pross, C. et.al, 2020).

## **A2 Linkage between gender equality and social inclusion and climate change policies**

Belonging as part of the Greater Mekong (GM) Region, much of Cambodia's population depends mainly on the country's natural resources making agriculture and fisheries their primary means of income. However,



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the region has long been at peril from climate change, whose effects jeopardized millions of people's livelihoods. The detrimental impacts of climate change distressingly are even more severe for women, children, and disadvantaged populations, especially on their education and employment (Sqalli et al., 2021). This phenomenon prompted the Government of Cambodia to take concrete action in climate action planning, for which multiple working groups were established. In doing so, the government has also made it a mission to emphasize the significance of gender focus and social inclusion in light of the calamitous impacts that climate change could have on women and other vulnerable populations.

Several years later, the Gender and Climate Change Committee (GCCC) working group was formed under the Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA) to hold responsibility for technical work, administration, and finance and propose ideas relevant to climate change. Gender mainstreaming initiatives are coordinated and led by MoWA across the Royal Government of Cambodia. The Gender and Climate Change Committee (GCCC) will conduct and coordinate gender and climate change mainstreaming with line ministries and other stakeholders, in coordination with Gender Mainstreaming Action Groups (GMAGs) of line ministries, and advance gender and climate change agendas within the purview of MoWA itself (MoWA, 2013). The committee was established in September 2011 and was chaired by a Secretary of State with members from relevant general directorates and departments. The GCCC holds responsibilities for coordinating and sharing information on gender mainstreaming and climate change with relevant institutions, national and international NGOs, Provincial Departments of Women's Affairs and District Offices of Women's Affairs. Additionally, the roles of the working group include researching the impact of climate change and natural disasters, particularly on women and children, disadvantaged and vulnerable groups. They also develop the capacity of the team and relevant MoWA officials and other institutions at the national and sub-national levels to understand the impacts of climate change mitigation and adaptation. So far, 357 officials (53 per cent women) have received training in gender mainstreaming in climate change programs as a result of the MoWA Gender and Climate Change Committee's (GCCC) efforts to build the capacity of relevant civil servants at the national and sub-national levels (MoWA, 2021).

In accordance with the Cambodian Government's policy framework and plan, MoWA launched its Gender and Climate Change Strategic Plan (GCCSP) in February 2013. The Gender and Climate Change Committee (GCCC) drafted this with assistance from the United Nations Development Programme. Its approach is to integrate gender mainstreaming and targeted pilot interventions. The National Strategic Development Plan (2014-2018) and Neary Rattanak IV, as well as the Rectangular Strategy for Growth, Employment, Equity and Efficiency, Phase III33, the Cambodia Millennium Development Goals, and other pertinent national policies, will all be in alignment with it during which will draw on the expertise and roles of women in climate change adaptation and mitigation (MoWA, 2014). Encouraging women to participate in decision-making on natural disaster management, climate change adaptation, and raising the level of gender and climate change awareness are among the top core elements of the Gender and Climate Change Strategic Plan. Through this plan, MoWA also wishes to boost the capacity of their dispersed offices, stakeholders, and planning techniques, as well as deliver targeted interventions to women who are highly vulnerable in cases of natural disasters whose frequency and severity are largely impacted by the change in climate (MoWA, 2014). Moreover, education is a critical factor in ensuring that the disadvantaged groups are equipped with knowledge on how to handle these said risks, which is why GCCSP's core elements include research and development to increase the availability of data and information as well as eliciting appropriate lessons and training on gender and climate change (MoWA, 2014).

### **A3 The implications of gender equality practices in climate change**

The interview had a total of 21 participants. Respondents are from Cambodian government agencies, youth clubs, and civil society organizations. There are two informants from the Ministry of Environment, five from Youth Action for Green Environment, one from People in Need, four from Urban Poor Development Cambodia, four from Asean Youth Advocate Network, and three from Recoftc. The interview results are described by grouping the respondents into three groups, e.g., government sector, youth organization, and civil society organization.



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According to the questionnaire results from the three main stakeholder sectors, understanding of GESI in climate action planning in Cambodia is at a medium level, indicating that people are aware of the issue. Despite the fact that the concept is relatively new in the country, the essential stakeholders appear to have a good understanding of the issue. The youth organization informants answered the questions quite well. They gave very useful information on the factors that put pressure on GESI incorporation in climate action plans. That goes the same with officers and staff from the Government and CSOs.

**TABLE A-1 ANALYSIS OF INTERVIEW RESULTS: DPSIR ANALYSIS ON EXISTING CLIMATE ACTION POLICY AND PLANNING**

ASPECTS	YOUTH ORGANIZATION	GOVERNMENT	CSOS
<b>DRIVER</b>	-Low engagement of women in rural area	-Women are not valued in families - Women's education is still limited in rural areas	The pressures are almost non-existent because of the women's families' understanding of the value of forestry work and the inclusive actions from the government and other stakeholders to promote GESI
<b>PRESSURE</b>	-Gender disparity along with climate change	- Gender inequality in community work - Lack of women's voice in planning and decision making	- The burden of women is less now due to the understanding of their husbands. - The relevant ministries and government encourage women to participate and access fundamental education
<b>STATE</b>	-Lack of awareness raising toward women inclusion in climate action planning	- Low participation from women in decision making and planning of climate related issues	- GESI integration is now increasing as women's participation is now highly encouraged
<b>IMPACT</b>	-The effectiveness of climate action plans cannot be realized	-The climate action plan is not inclusive and effective for all - Climate related projects may not succeed	-Promoting GESI and climate change is beneficial
<b>RESPONSE</b>	- Make the activities related to climate action inclusive for everyone, including women and vulnerable groups	- Provide training/workshop in capacity building to women	- All the relevant ministries, especially the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture, have developed various





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**TABLE A-1 ANALYSIS OF INTERVIEW RESULTS: DPSIR ANALYSIS ON EXISTING CLIMATE ACTION POLICY AND PLANNING**

ASPECTS	YOUTH ORGANIZATION	GOVERNMENT	CSOS
			plans that include gender inclusivity and increase women's quota in climate change

## A4 Recommendations

It can be concluded that it is a good track with what is being done regarding GESI integration in climate action planning, but there is much more than can be done. Although many actions have been taken to mitigate climate issues, many of them fail to place disadvantaged groups at the center of attention. In order to include GESI in climate action effectively, there are 2 key areas that need to be addressed:

- Capacity Building for Vulnerable group

All people are affected by climate change; however, women are affected more. In other communities, in terms of flexibility, women have less force, less adaptability, overthink, and take time to deal with their vulnerabilities. The policy work should prioritize more women who want to commit to climate change actions. There needs to be more support from across all sectors to ensure that the potential of women and vulnerable groups are realized. In order to eliminate all forms of discrimination against these underrepresented groups, there ought to be more workshops, conferences, public lectures which would allow for these populations to be placed in the spotlight. Better yet, there ought to be support for women and disadvantaged groups who have faced the impacts of climate change to be sharing their struggles and experiences. This would help ensure that their voices and concerns are heard and alleviated. On the other hand, the government should improve access to education for women so that they can get an education like men and learn enough information to be decision makers in society.

- Strengthening information sharing and communication

Just like other aspects of the environmental, a lot can be done and updated in terms of the information gathered in Cambodia. Clear communication between the researchers and the affected groups ought to be established to ensure that their needs are addressed and amended. Data is valuable in all kinds of research, therefore there ought to be sufficient financial support and time for researchers to carry out their tasks to ensure accurate information is achieved and gender mainstreaming is incorporated. A majority of the researchers themselves ought to be women or disadvantaged groups to ensure that there is enough representation, and that in-depth analysis is recorded.

The channel of communication is best bridged when the issue is thoroughly identified and analyzed. More awareness to be raised on this issue because an effective solution emerges only when the problem is truly identified. Each region faces its own complications and hurdles, therefore there ought to be a clear line of communication in order to pave the way for effective solutions catered to those needs. Equipping women and vulnerable groups with abundant information and sufficient technology will also allow for these groups to sustain themselves in any case of emergencies without having to await governmental intervention.

Importantly, channel of communication should not necessarily link to the government or non-government; women can initiate something new relating to climate change, and they can propose to request funds. GESI in climate action planning ought to be implemented by all sectors of the government, not just mainly led by the Ministry of Women's Affairs. Non-governmental and youth organizations can also take an active part in this implementation. For example, youth nowadays are eager to participate and advocate. Therefore, it





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requires proper organization for the human resources that are available, people need to be involved and be well-informed about climate policymaking.

Finally, education and raising awareness of women's equality should be promoted. Everyone needs to be educated to give value to women. In addition, it should be linked with morality and goodness because education alone would not be enough.

## A5 Lists of Documents

Literature reviews were undertaken by compiling information from 33 sources, including policy documents, fact sheets, and national reports from government, non-government, and international organizations. Most of the data was collected via official websites government, non-government, and international organizations websites.

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## ANNEX B KEY FINDINGS OF LAO PDR

**Project: Research and Development for Society: Regional Dialogue Supporting Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in Climate Action Planning – Mekong for the Future**

**By Mr. Vilakone Maniphousay**

### B1 Policy making system

The Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) is a landlocked country in Southeast Asia that shares land borders with Cambodia, China, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. It has an approximate area of 236,800 square kilometers and a projected population of 7,379,358 in 2021. In 2017, the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) achieved a new high of 16,85 million dollars. The Lao PDR has been placed in the lower middle-income category, with a GDP per capita of \$2,270 in 2017.

In accordance with the 2015 Constitution of the Lao PDR (the "Constitution"), the State consists of the National Assembly, the President, the Government, the Local People's Assembly, the Local Administration, the People's Court, and the Office of the Public Prosecutor.

In Lao PDR, legislation is the primary source of law. There are two categories of legislation: legislation of general application; and legislation of specific application. Legislation of general application consists of 1) The Constitution; 2) Laws; 3) Resolution of the National Assembly; 4) Resolution of the National Assembly Standing Committee; 5) Presidential Decree; 6) Decree of the Government; 7) Resolution of the Government; 8) Order or Decision of the Prime Minister; 9) Order, Decision or Guideline of the Minister or head of the organization under the supervision of the Government; 10) Order, Decision or Guideline of the Provincial Governor or Mayor; 11) Order, Decision or Instruction of the District Governor or Head of Municipality; 12) Regulation of the village.

Legislation of specific application includes:

1. Presidential Decree on the promulgation of a law;
2. Presidential Decree or Decision on the award or appointment of a certain person for a certain position or specific activity;
3. Notice.

A law is legislation that is developed by the authorized authority, adopted by the National Assembly and promulgated by the President of the Republic [and] that defines principles, regulations and measures governing social relationships in many areas or in a specific area, and is effective nationwide and is long lasting.

In terms of policy development, a policy is created by the authorized agency, adopted by the policy steering committee, and, depending on the policy level, endorsed by the minister of the ministry or the prime minister. Since 1980, the Government of Lao PDR (GoL) has signed several United Nations Human Rights Treaties and ASEAN Declarations namely 1) Convention to End All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (1980); 2) International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (2000); 3) United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP, 2007); 4) Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2008); 5) The Convention Against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Punishment (2010); 6) Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women in the ASEAN region (2004); 7) ASEAN Human Rights Declaration (2012); 8) Vientiane Declaration on Enhancing Gender Perspective and ASEAN Women's Partnership for Environmental Sustainability (2012); 9) Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Elimination Of Violence Against Children in ASEAN (2013); and 10) ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection (2013). Those treaties and declarations are fundamental policy for GoL on setting up the gender policy as well as institutional arrangement. The



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Lao PDR's constitution stated that an equality for all citizens in the social, political, economic and legal spheres in a multi-ethnic society.

Lao PDR has established various organizations in order to empower women. Those agencies are mainly promoted and encouraged gender equality in the organization as well as policy. The key organizations are to carry out the gender equality and social inclusion: 1) Lao Women's Union (LWU); 2) Lao National Commission for the Advancement of Women; 3) Lao Front for National Construction; 4) Lao Federation of Trade Union; 5) Lao Revolutionary Youth Union; 6) Provincial Women's Union; 7) Ministerial Women's Union; 8) Lao Women Parliamentarians Caucus (LWPC); and 9) National Assemble Ethnic Affairs Committee. The primary function of Lao Women's Union (LWU) is the institution that is constitutionally and politically mandated to represent Lao women of all ethnic groups and to protect women's rights and interests and promotes and monitors the implementation of women development programs in compliance with the Party's and Government's policies, the Constitution, and laws related to ensuring equal rights between women and men.

The GoL has developed various of laws and regulations which focus on women as well as mainstreamed gender issue into law, strategy and plan such as 1) The Constitution of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (1991); 2) Law on the Development and Protection of Women (2004); 3) Labour Law (amendment 2013); 4) Decree on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (2012); 5) The Five-Year National Social Economic Development Plan (2011-2015) and (2021-2025); 6) The National Strategy for the Advancement of Women (2011-2015); 8) Law on Gender Equality (2019) and 9) The National Action Plan on Gender Equality (2021-2025) (NAPGE) (2021). The Constitution of the Lao People's Democratic Republic does not only outline the fundamental rights duties but it also encourages social, political, economic, and legal equality for all citizens.

In terms of climate change, the Department of Disaster Management and Climate Change (currently the Department of Climate Change) was established under MoNRE in 2012. The Technical Working Groups on Climate Change (TWGCC) was established through the eight-line ministries. Since climate change affects many sectors, numerous organizations consider it part of their mandate to address it namely 1) Department of Climate Change; 2) Department of Meteorology and Hydrology; 3) Department of Planning and Finance; 4) Department of Hygiene and Health Promotion (DHHP), MoH; and 5) National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute, MAF. The key function of the Department of Climate Change (DCC) acts as the national focal point for all climate change project implementation and monitoring and evaluation, mainstream climate change into the national planning process, and in various relevant sectors. DCC is also to study and enhance, disseminate, and implement policies and strategies related to climate change, Coordinate with line ministries and all related stakeholders at both national and local levels.

Lao PDR ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and Kyoto Protocol in 1995 and 2003 respectively. Lao People's Democratic Republic adopted and submitted its First and Second National Communications on Climate Change to the UNFCCC in 2000 and 2013, respectively. The National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) (2009); the National Strategy on Climate Change of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (NSCC) (2010); the Guidelines for Development and Consideration of Proposed Clean Development Mechanism Project in Lao PDR (2013); the Climate Change Action Plan of Lao PDR for 2013-2020 (CCAP) (2013); the Guidelines on Ecosystem-Based Adaptation Practices in Lao PDR (2014); the Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) (2015); the second Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) (2021); and The Climate Change Decree (2019).

The National Strategy on Climate Change defined direction for mainstreaming climate change into line ministries' sectors and national development which set out in the 7th and 8th Five Year National Socio-Economic Plan contribute to sustainable development. MoNRE' vision classify the preparedness of disaster and climate change as the first priority to ensure inclusive and sustainable development and enlist from LDC in 2020 (MoNRE, 2015).



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## **B2 Linkage between gender equality and social inclusion and climate change policies**

In order to achieve gender equality in Lao PDR will require continued and intensified focus on overall system methods as well as sector-specific results. This includes encouraging gender equality in human development endowment, women's effective involvement in the economy, public policy engagement, and mainstreaming gender perspective into climate change and disaster planning. It will also be necessary to guarantee that women participate in consultation and decision-making processes.

The constitution of the Lao People's Democratic Republic promotes social, political, economic, and legal equality for all citizens. Thus, women and men in Lao have legal equality. They have the right to vote, to believe in a religion, to pick their career and occupations, to be educated and to attend school, and to marry. Therefore, the subject of Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) has been brought to the attention of the government and the public.

Climate change is a growing danger to poverty reduction objectives and national stability. Climate variability exacerbates the condition of vulnerable groups, including women; elderly people; kids, teenager; disable and uneducated people, particularly in regions where livelihoods are primarily reliant on natural resources. There is a need to ensure that: i.) gender is mainstreamed into national strategies and programs for climate change and natural disaster management; ii.) women participate in consultation and decision-making mechanisms for adaptation planning and emergency management at national, regional, and local levels; iii.) adaptation planning places a strong emphasis on social protection measures for those affected and/or displaced by climate-related events; and iv.) the use of productivity approaches is incorporated into adaptation planning.

Gender sensitive social protections should be considered for rural households in the form of, for example, index-based livestock or weather insurance for crops. The poverty and social impact effects of such interventions should also be conducted. Intra-household data collection and analysis to understand gender-specific impacts of vulnerability and shocks could be conducted. Social protection outlays will likely need to increase due to climate stresses. In this scenario, countries can consider use of contingency financing arrangements to guard against fiscal shocks to national budget from program outlays (including expanded social protection) responding to climate-induced weather events.

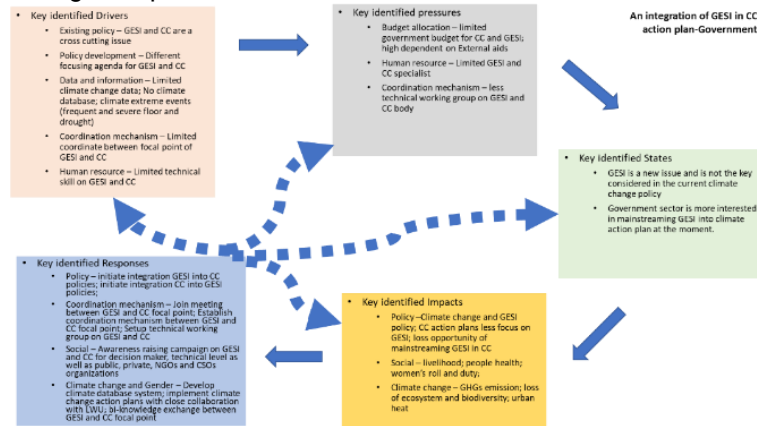
Lao Women's Union (LWU) is a mass and social organization of women at all strata throughout Lao P.D.R. It is part of Lao People's Democratic Republic system. The organizational system of LWU operates throughout the country at four levels, namely: central; provincial, district and village. Its key functions and mandates are to mobilize and unite Lao women to actively involved in the national protection and development process. Protect the rights and interests of the Lao multi-ethnic women and children, Promote the implementation of the policy on gender equality and the advancement of women in the implementation of national socio-economic development. According to the LWU body, the gender equality promotion is pretty easier to introduce and integrate to sectoral policy especially climate change namely strategy, action plan and programme. Furthermore, awareness raising and information dissemination activities are obviously mention on climate policies and most women are carried out climate change awareness campaign. Lastly, woman is categorized as a climate change vulnerable group which mean most climate change policy and measures are going to focus on women as a primary group for enhancing resilience. LWU implemented the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Technical Assistance (TA) 9348-REG: Strengthening Women's Resilience to Climate Change and Disaster Risk in Asia and the Pacific. This project aims to increase the capacity of Fiji, Lao PDR, and Mongolia to develop and advance gender-responsive climate change and disaster risk management national and sector policies and laws.



## B3 The implications of gender equality practices in climate change

### B3.1 An integration of GESI in CC action plan-Government:

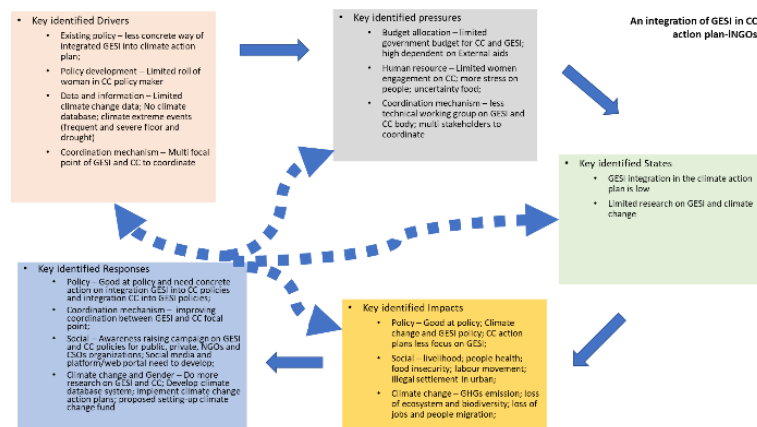
Based on available information and the opinions of informants, the topic of Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) has limited attention in numerous strategies and action plans. The climate change policy specifies that vulnerable groups, including women, should be given greater consideration for climate change adaptation.



Key Drivers whose activities were creating pressure on the integration of GESI in CC action plan are the existing policy; policy development; data and information; coordination mechanism and human resource. Thus, multiple GESI policies have been produced by various sectors, however the key of climate change policies have been developed by the department of climate change and other policies have been developed by the Health, Agriculture, and Forestry sectors. Generally, most informants have a medium level of

understanding of the current state of GESI integrates in the climate change action plans and following by the low and high levels respectively. Half of the government's view shows that the current state of GESI integrates in the climate action plans are medium level. The list of responses from the government sector about GESI integration and climate change are 1) Policy - initiate GESI integration into climate change policies and climate change integration into GESI policies; 2) Coordination mechanism - establish coordination mechanism between GESI and climate change focal point; setup technical working group on GESI and climate change; and hold joint meeting between GESI and climate change focal point; 3) Social - Awareness campaign on GESI and climate change for decision makers, technical levels, and public, corporate, NGO, and CSO groups; 4) Climate change and Gender – Create climate change database system; Implement climate change action plans in close coordination with LWU; Bi-knowledge exchange between GESI and climate change focus point.

### B3.2 An integration of GESI in CC action plan-iNGOs:



Key Drivers for the integration of GESI in CC action plan by iNGOs are the existing policy; policy development; data and information; coordination mechanism and human resource. In terms of policy, there is no concrete way of integration GESI into climate action plan as well as limited role of women in climate change policy makers. Most informants have a low level of understanding of the current state of GESI integrates in the climate change action plans and following by the medium and high levels respectively.

More than Half of the iNGO's view shows that the current state of GESI integrates in the climate action plans are low level.

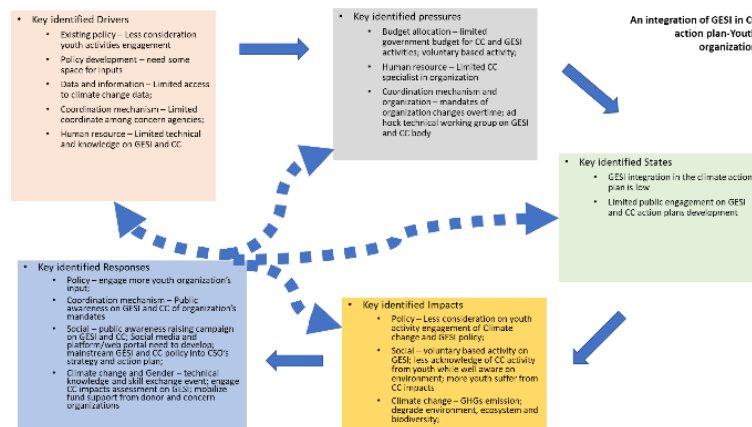
For GESI and climate change issues, there are many stakeholders intend to work in GESI and climate change. As a result, it is complicated to coordinate for iNGOs. In Lao, the climate change data is very limited



and uncentralized so it is quite difficult for INGOs to access those data and information. The list of responses from the government sector about GESI integration and climate change are 1) Policy – Lao has a good at policy, however a concrete action on integration GESI into climate change policy or integration climate change into GESI policy are needed; 2) Coordination mechanism – it is significant for improving coordinate mechanism between GESI and climate change focal point if there are in placed; even though establishment coordinate mechanism is needed; 3) Social - Awareness raising campaign on GESI and climate change for public, private, NGO, and CSO groups through social media and web platform is required; 4) Climate change and Gender – Do more research on GESI and climate change as well as climate change database system is also needed for INGOs and other interested agencies; climate fund should be considered to setup.

### B3.3 An integration of GESI in CC action plan-Youth organizations:

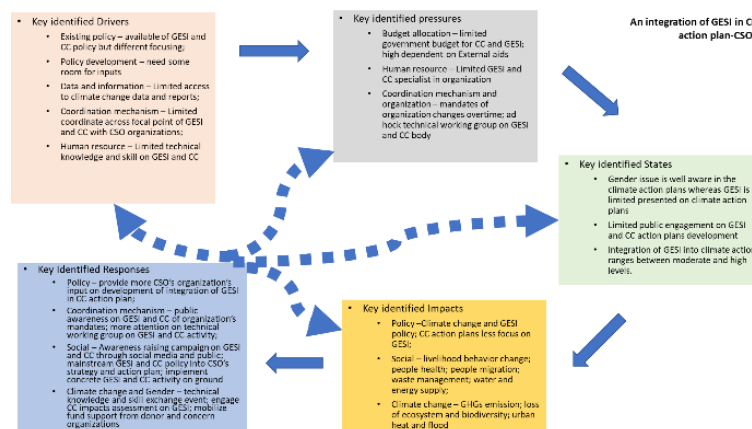
Key Drivers for the integration of GESI in CC action plan by youth organizations are less considered youth activities engagement; neglect space for youth's inputs on policy development. The climate data is very rare and inaccessible, there is a limited technical and knowledge staffs on GESI and climate change in the youth organizations. More than Half of the Youth organization's view shows that the current state of GESI integrates in the climate action plans are low level and following by the medium levels.



The list of responses from the youth organizations about GESI integration and climate change are 1) Policy – GESI and climate change policy need to be engaged more youth organization's inputs; 2) Coordination mechanism – run a public awareness campaign on GESI and climate change of organization's mandates; 3) Social - Awareness raising campaign on GESI and climate change for public, private, NGO, and CSO groups through social media and web platform is required; moreover, push a mainstreaming GESI

and climate change policies into youth's strategy and action plans; 4) Climate change and Gender – keep exchanging technical knowledge and skill on GESI and climate change among concern agencies with youth organizations as well as keep engaging climate change impact assessment on GESI and keep actively mobilized fund support from donors and concern organization to run youth activities;

### B3.4 An integration of GESI in CC action plan-CSOs:



Key Drivers for the integration of GESI in CC action plan by CSO organizations are needed some room for CSO's inputs on policy development. Those available policy, GESI and climate change, are more focus on the both GESI and climate change agencies' interest. The climate data and reports are limited, there is a limited technical and knowledge staffs on GESI and climate change in the CSO organizations. More than Half of the CSO's view shows that the current state of GESI integrates in the climate action plans are medium



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level and following by the low and high levels.

The list of responses from the youth organizations about GESI integration and climate change are 1) Policy – GESI and climate change policy need to be engaged more CSO organization's inputs; 2) Coordination mechanism – run a public awareness campaign on GESI and climate change of organization's mandates; 3) Social - Awareness raising campaign on GESI and climate change of organization's mandates for public, private, NGO, and CSO groups through social media and web platform is required; moreover, keep attention on technical working group on GESI and climate change activities; 4) Climate change and Gender – keep exchanging technical knowledge and skill on GESI and climate change among concern agencies with CSO organizations as well as keep engaging climate change impact assessment on GESI and keep actively mobilized fund support from donors and concern organization to run youth activities.

## B4 Recommendations

Based on the DPSIR analysis, the integration of GESI in climate change action plans must link two main entities which responsible for GESI and climate change. It may be necessary to establish the technical working group for GESI and climate change domains. The encouraging women in the GESI and climate change policies are essential.

Roles and mandates of climate change entity should be mainstream GESI. Moreover, GESI topic should be introduced into climate change policy and action plan.

Sharing data and information platform should be developed for engaging as well as disseminating to interested agencies namely iNGOs, youth organization and CSOs. However, the research on the linkage between GESI and climate change should be available. By building capacity of human resource on GESI and climate change, it should include exchange technical skill and knowledge platform besides sharing data and information platform.

For enhancing GESI engagement in climate action plans or climate change mainstreaming in GESI policy, a pilot project, or activities for vulnerable groups on capacity building, fund mobilization, public engagement (CSOs, iNGOs, key concern sectoral), and developing a platform for data exchange should be undertaken.

## B5 Number of Documents

Literature reviews were undertaken by compiling information from 32 sources, including policy documents, fact sheets, and national reports from government, non-government, and international organizations. Most of the data was collected via official websites and the direct cooperation of government, non-government, and international organizations.

### List of Policy Documents

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## ANNEX C KEY FINDINGS OF MYANMAR

### Project: Research and Development for Society: Regional Dialogue Supporting Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in Climate Action Planning – Mekong for the Future

By Dr. Khine Khin Phyu

#### C1 Policy making system

Myanmar is the second largest country in Southeast Asia with 676,578 square kilometers. Myanmar is geographically diverse. In addition to the monsoon season, the country is also prone to air pollution and climate change due to changing population and living systems. Ministry Of Natural Resource and Environmental Conservation worked with the Environment Ministers and high level representatives of the Environmental Conservation Department to gain their valuable contributions and for traveling from different states and regions to attend the national consultation workshops; and the experts of the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) drafting team for formulating the Myanmar Climate Change Policy, which provides long-term solutions. On behalf of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, MONREC organized almost all citizens of Myanmar to participated in meetings at local, sub-national, and national levels in more than 20 townships across five states and regions, and some people provided feedback via the MCCA website and other means throughout the formulation process of the Myanmar Climate Change Strategy and Master Plan (MCCS and MCCMP) 2018-2030 and the Myanmar Climate Change Action Plan (MCCAP) (MCCP)

In order to achieve women's equitable involvement in decision-making and leadership at all levels of society, the National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women, 2013–2022 (NSPAW), which was announced in 2013, calls for the reform of "systems, institutions, and practices." Increasing resilience to climate change by educating women who are involved in household chores on a daily basis; Reducing damage caused by natural disasters.

As a result of climate change, Myanmar is especially susceptible to extreme weather conditions such heavy rains, storm surges, severe droughts, floods, cyclones, and landslides, all of which have gotten more violent and frequent during the past 60 years. Therefore, Myanmar government published the Climate Change Policy in 2019. This Policy's objective is to offer long-term direction and guidance to take and encourage climate change mitigation and adaptation measures in Myanmar, to incorporate climate change adaptation and mitigation considerations gradually and iteratively into Myanmar's national priorities at all levels and in all sectors; and to make decisions that will maximize opportunities for sustainable, low-carbon, climate-resilient development while ensuring the well-being of all.

#### C2 Linkage between gender equality and social inclusion and climate change policies

The capacity of women and girls is important in mitigation and response efforts, and gender equality needs to be taken into account. Awareness raising on environmental protection and climate change is also key in doing so. Women's capacity plays a key role in these outreach activities.

Myanmar Climate Change Policy mentioned about inclusiveness, gender equality and women's empowerment, fairly distribution of food and water security, and capacity building activities for effective and gender-responsive climate action in a capacity-building framework. The policy encouraged that benefits and opportunities of climate change adaptation, mitigation, and low-carbon, climate-resilient development should be fairly distributed, so it is important to involve people from all walks of life in decision-making and action by supporting and embracing their diverse social, economic, and cultural perspectives, participation, and contributions without discrimination, especially with respect to gender, ethnicity, and age. Strengthening gender responsive climate change policy with regards to adaptation, mitigation, financing,





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technology development and transfer, and capacity building, and ensuring full and equal participation of women in decision-making, are all effective means of promoting and protecting gender equality and women's equal rights.

In order to guarantee food security and safeguard the livelihoods of the people of Myanmar, it is essential to keep the expansion and production of food systems, including the agriculture, fisheries, and livestock sectors, through low-carbon, climate-resilient, and gender-responsive initiatives in case of food and water security recommendation according to the policy. Moreover, the policy encouraged about establishing new institutions and/or a capacity-building framework, as appropriate, and engage in and support capacity-building initiatives to increase the knowledge and skills of relevant stakeholders necessary for successful and gender-responsive climate action.

This process, which resulted in the adoption of the current Myanmar Climate Change Policy and the corresponding Myanmar Climate Change Strategy and Master Plan 2018-2030 (MCCSMP), has been proudly facilitated by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation (MONREC)

### **C3 The implications of gender equality practices in climate change**

The policy mention about the GESI as a part of the environmental or social impact assessment relevant to its action objectives, components, outputs and also integrated in its Master Plan for Climate Change. In its strategy, they analyze the GESI barriers in access to resources, participation in plans, legal rights and status, power and decision making in the activities. The socio-economic baseline for GESI was also mentioned and described as women are more vulnerable to climate change and hazards in Myanmar, and it can influence whole communities' levels of resilience. In the Myanmar Climate Change Policy, the linkage between GESI and Climate Change has been discussed in detail and analysis of GESI issues has been described in its Strategy and the plan objectives, components and outcomes are drawn accordingly to avoid GESI to be missed out. However, the plan did not analyze mainly focused on positive or negative impact on GESI activities, but it analyzed the prediction on possible changes in the quality of women's like and other vulnerable social groups in its strategy. Therefore, it addressed the needs and opportunities of women, girls, and other vulnerable groups in its strategy in order to encourage gender equality and social inclusion in climate change action planning.

However, the action plan doesn't analyze the GESI barriers in the access to resources, participation in plans, legal rights and status, power and decision making in the action activities. It also failed to detail the socio-economic baseline for GESI and identification and analysis of GESI issues relevant to the plan objectives, components, and outputs/outcomes. The action plan for energy, transportation, industry, and forest and land did not provide an analysis on how the plan is likely to be positively or negatively impact on GESI activities although they did have specific analysis on the climate change planning and did not realistically predict possible changes in the quality of life of the women and other vulnerable social groups in the plans, but only mentioned in the policy and for agricultural sector. The action plan did address the needs and opportunities of women, girls, and other vulnerable groups the action plan specifies other measures such as mainstreaming and policy dialogue for addressing the needs and opportunities of GESI only in agricultural sector but did not specify project interventions and recommended actions that would contribute to addressing gender inequalities and social exclusion to ensure increased benefits in actions. Moreover, the action plan did not provide realistic activities and costs, which can contribute to GESI for all the sectors.

Given Myanmar's high vulnerability, adaption efforts will be a top focus of the NDC. Myanmar will commence the development of its National Adaptation Plans and seeks to strengthen the resilience of all its vulnerable populations and ecosystems by identifying and supporting the most appropriate community-based and ecosystem-based adaptation strategies using a sectorial approach. Agriculture, natural resources, health, catastrophe risks, and urban planning are the core areas outlined by the Myanmar Climate Change Strategy for enhancing Myanmar's socioeconomic resilience. Education, training, and research will also be essential pillars for enhancing local capabilities and understanding to comprehend and manage climate change's effects.



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In Myanmar, women are also more susceptible to climate change and natural disasters, which influences the resilience of entire communities. Due to the fact that many women's activities are not regarded as "economically active work," they risk being excluded from climate related training and information. And in the event of a hurricane, flood, or other calamity that necessitates mobility, caring for children and the elderly may prevent women from escaping, gaining refuge, or gaining access to healthcare in a timely manner. However, women can also take the lead in responding to the effects of climate change, for instance through small-scale entrepreneurship and enterprise. By optimizing energy efficiency, employing low-footprint energy sources and practices, and influencing a household's use of ecosystem services, they can play a crucial part in mitigating climate change. Effective environmental preservation and management in the face of climate change is dependent on recognizing these various vulnerabilities, requirements, and capacities.

They mentioned that existing disparities, duties, and roles have varying effects on the lives of men and women in relation to climate change. In Myanmar, women and men have unequal access to natural resources and land ownership; women have limited opportunities to participate in decision-making and limited access to markets, capital, training, and technology; and they carry a double load of obligations inside and beyond the home. Despite being responsible for sowing, planting, weeding, harvesting, and processing, women are primarily considered as agricultural laborers, rather than farmers. This is even though they make up approximately 51 percent of the members of agriculturally dependent households. They often labor as subsistence farmers for their families. Women are frequently paid less than males for the same agricultural labor. 15.1% of the 5.4 million families in Myanmar with agricultural holdings are headed by women.

To sum up, the Climate Change Strategy, Policy and Action Plan of Myanmar do vulnerable to Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in Climate Change by detailing about the gender consideration part. They supportively mentioned that throughout the national implementation of climate change planning, women should be consulted and targeted as program beneficiaries, in accordance with best practices. This can include quotas for women's representation on local climate change-related committees, women-only consultation meetings, and safe transportation and childcare for women attending meetings. Myanmar is a signatory to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and has recently been evaluated by the United Nations. After parties to the UNFCCC acknowledged the significance of tackling gender and climate change concerns and integrating women and men equally in the UNFCCC, the Myanmar government said that it would take gender considerations into account while designing its climate change strategy (GoM 2014). Ensuring women's full and effective participation in decision-making enables them to serve as change agents in all situations. Actions connected to climate change would benefit from the insights, knowledge, and other resources that women provide to the development of effective and sustainable solutions for adapting to and mitigating the effects of climate change. The MCCS comprises capacity training and guidance on mainstreaming gender into climate change initiatives, ensuring equal participation of men and women in interventions, and enhancing the availability of sex disaggregated data.

## C4 Recommendations

Most of the results are showing low in participating in climate change activities since people are currently struggling for their own economy and living. However, the participation is high for the people who are climate activists.

GESI in Climate action policy and planning is that policy, strategy, and action plan itself is detailed and processed strategically. However, it doesn't point out focusing on gender but goes more to general since climate is the issue for both men and women of every age group. Anyway, we do believe that women are more vulnerable when suffering from disaster. The major gap of GESI in Climate action policy and planning is that community do not aware of climate issues as a major problem and do not have much knowledge about policy, planning and the strategy. We need a more international driving force to stimulate the national level to encourage more awareness raising and action research.



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According to the interviewees, they explained as although they have learned that we have the Myanmar Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan- MCCSAP (2016-2030), they do not aware of GESI integration as well as implementation progress of the MCCSAP because of their limited knowledge and unfamiliarity with institutions working for climate change. I have no knowledge of the intended state of GESI integration. I assume that not only GESI integration in the national action plan, but also implementation of the action plan itself cannot progress much because of current unstable socioeconomic and political situation at national level as well as global level as root causes.

Ukraine War, tensions in Taiwan and rising fuel issues globally as well as inflation, crimes and terrorist attacks affecting civilians' lives and livings domestically. Competition of the World powers (e.g., US, China, EU, and Russia) for their political and economic interests is the major driver. Recent flood and heavy rain are very likely to negatively affect crop cultivation, food production and security and income in Myanmar. Due to reduced food production and income with higher inflation, many households in both urban and rural areas will suffer as most of the population is poor in Myanmar. As there is no crop insurance system here, resilience of farming households is also very low and they are among those who suffer the most.

To be summarized, pregnant and lactating women and infants are very vulnerable so, they will be affected more by food and nutrition insecurity, associated with climate change. In addition, housewives care for providing nutritious meals to their husband, children and the elderly at home as much as they can, and they eat less to do so. So, diets of housewives are much more affected by climate change than others are. Most of them have no knowledge of policy work in GESI integration in climate change planning. However, government, UNs, NGOs and CSOs, including traditional religious and social groups at village and ward levels as well as businesses/private sector, the policy planning and implementation will be effective. In assumption, the major gap is that people cannot pay sufficient attention to GESI integration in climate change planning as they have to prioritize socio-economic and political issues they are facing here in Myanmar.



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## ANNEX D KEY FINDINGS OF THAILAND

**Project: Research and Development for Society: Regional Dialogue Supporting Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in Climate Action Planning – Mekong for the Future**

**By Dr. Perada Phummessawatdi,  
Ms. Weranuch Wongwatanakul**

### D1 Policy making system

Thailand ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 1994 and The Kyoto Protocol (KP) in 2002. According to Thailand's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) report in 2020, Thailand is ranked the 13th country in the extreme risk category that is most vulnerable to future climate change impacts over the next thirty years. Thailand accounts 0.77 percent of global GHG emission (2014), which is lower than world average. The largest contributor to Thailand's GHG emission is energy sector, which accounts 74 percent of Thailand's total emission. Thailand achieved a GHG emission reduction of 14.09 percent in 2017. Thailand reconfirms the mitigation target provided in the Intended NDC which is a reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (economy-wide, excluding the land use, land use change and forestry sector) by 20% by 2030 (115.6 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e) from the business-as-usual (BAU) scenario, or by 25% conditional on support.

The Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP), the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, is Thailand's national focal point under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the national agency in charge of policy and planning on climate change. A national mechanism for climate change collaboration is established under The National Committee on Climate Change Policy (NCCC). The NCCC is chaired by Prime Minister. The committee members are comprised of representatives from public and private sectors as well as experts from relevant agencies. Furthermore, collaboration from various departments to tackle climate change to achieve Thailand's targets and Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) is illustrated in many sectors for example, energy sector : Energy Policy and Planning Office (EPPO), Ministry of Energy Office of Transport and Traffic Policy and Planning (OTP); Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU): Department of Industrial Works (DIW), Ministry of Industry, Agriculture: Office of Agricultural Economics (OAE), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF): Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP), Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, and Waste Pollution: Control Department (PCD), Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. The key national policies of climate change have been developed to be in accordance with international conventions and agreements. These include National Climate Change Master Plan (2015 – 2050), aiming at providing a long-term national framework for climate change adaptation and low carbon growth promotion according to sustainability development principle as well as a policy framework for the development of mechanisms, action plans and tools for climate change. The National Adaptation Plan (NAP) 2018–2037 is the implementation framework to integrate climate change adaptation into the sectoral and local strategic plans at all levels and to propose guidelines and adaptation options for each sector as well as the cross-cutting issues which are in line with the national context. The Nationally Determined Contribution Roadmap on Mitigation 2021 – 2030 is a driven mechanism for action plan at the national and local levels. The Roadmap identifies emission reduction targets in each measure to facilitate the relevant agencies to be able to achieve the target under the assigned mitigation measures, for example, in Energy, NDC sets to achieve 72 MtCO<sub>2</sub>eq (20.4 percent) of mitigation.

The Ministry of Social Development and Human Security (MSDHS) is a key institution working on promoting gender equality and supporting social inclusion in Thailand. Regarding gender equality and women's advancement, the Department of Women's Affairs and Family Development (DWF) under MSDHS acts as a national coordinating mechanism in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment. For social inclusion, MSDHS is divided their work based on target groups, for examples, children and youth, persons





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with disabilities, older persons, under specific departments. Meanwhile, the Rights and Liberties Protection Department, Ministry of Justice also works on upholding the rights of all groups based on international conventions and agreement on human rights. Regarding policies, each department formulate policies to support the work of their issues and target groups for social inclusivity. A key policy for gender equality is the Twelfth Women's Development Plan (2018 – 2022). The plan aims to promote women's advancement and cultivate gender equality norms in Thai society. For legislative action on gender equality promotion, Thailand enacts Gender Equality Act 2015 (B.E. 2558), which is the first legal instrument in Thailand that defines and prohibits gender discrimination. The substance of this Act is to prohibit state, private and individual discrimination based on gender. For inclusivity, specific development plans on target groups have been formulated, for instance, Strategic Plan for Empowerment of Women with Disabilities, the National Persons with Disabilities' Quality of Life Development Plan, the National Action Plan on the Elderly.

## **D2 Linkage between gender equality and social inclusion and climate change policies**

There is a limited information of the connection of the issue of GESI and climate actions portrayed in policy documents and the implementation. Although a specific department working on each issue and in each sector has its own clear mandate on their work, however, there is a limited data on collaboration and the linkage among all GESI issues as well as mainstreaming GESI into climate actions.

The positive development of the linkage between GESI and Climate Action is initially mentioned under NDC Support Project: Delivering Sustainability through Climate Finance Actions in Thailand (NDC Support Project). The NDC Support Project is implemented in partnership between the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP) and UNDP. The project is supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), the Government of Sweden; the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), Government of Germany, and UNDP's Climate Promise. The Project aims to support the Royal Thai Government to achieve in delivering on the NDC commitment and its commitment to implement the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals. The approach is to use NDC implementation as a mechanism to scale up investments in climate change and deliver socially inclusive and gender-responsive climate actions for sustainable development. GESI has initially highlighted as one component in the NDC project as illustrated in one expected output of the project: Strengthened public climate finance reforms to deliver NDC outcomes and enhance gender equality. The output indicators are 1) number of budget submissions that have integrated inclusive, gender responsive Climate Change Benefit Analysis (CCBA) 2) number of public debates for inclusive, gender-responsive climate change related investments in enhanced through political engagement advocacy.

Another positive development is the establishment of the Monitoring Committee on NDC Support Project: Delivering Sustainability through Climate Finance Action in Thailand was set up in 2019. The Committee is chaired by the Secretary – General of ONEP and is consisted of representatives form government, non-governmental, and international organizations. A representative of the Department of Women's Affairs and Family Development is also a committee. Inclusive, gender-responsive Climate Change Benefit Analysis (iCCBA) Working Group is also set up. The iCCBA report showed that climate change impacts on the poor and vulnerable populations, particularly the elder persons and the rural poor in the agricultural sector were acknowledge in Thailand's national climate policies, strategies, and plans. However, policy goals, implementation guidelines, and indicators relating to poverty reduction, reducing inequalities, and promoting gender equality in the context of climate change were disconnected. The human dimension in climate change policies and plans is limited as there is no explicit definitions and criteria for vulnerable groups. Therefore, an effort of mainstreaming a gender perspective and social inclusion is proceeding.



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### **D3 The implications of gender equality practices in climate change**

In Thailand, policy makers, INGOs, CSOs and youth organizations, aware the importance of integrating GESI into Climate Action. Thailand is now in the beginning phase of GESI integration into Climate Action. The Thai Government has committed to international communities for both SDG Goals and Climate Change related Convention. Consequently, this is a significant force from the Thai Government to push GESI into Climate Action plan in order to achieve SDG Goals that relevant to gender equality and Climate Change. As of October 2022, Thailand Climate Action includes GESI aspects in the National Climate Change Master Plan. However, GESI has been addressed in Climate adaptation strategy, but less likely to be addressed in Climate mitigation strategy. However, measures and action plan for policy implementations have not yet been addressed.

CSOs noted that numbers of national level strategies were launched to address Climate Change, which included the National Climate Change Master Plan, National Adaptation Plan (NAP), and Nationally Determined Contribution Roadmap on Mitigation (NDC). Lot of them said they did not yet see the implementation and action Plan. They analyzed that under the Thai Government administration structure, the policy process was a top-down approach. Even though the Thai Government and responsible agencies were more opened to CSOs & NGOs participation in the past years, however, they could voice out, but still their voices were not impact or change the decision of policies or strategy. CSOs participation was somehow practically not in a partnership position in decision making.

Focusing on understanding and awareness on GESI and Climate action, Climate Change related policy makers, who had their priorities in planning for mitigation and adaptation, were not familiar with gender dimensions. They, both decision-making and operation levels, have said that they did not fully understand gender related dimension. Also, there's need for CSOs working in Gender Equality, Social Inclusion, and Climate Change issues to understand and see the same pictures between those issues in order to advocate GESI integration.

The CSOs and youth organizations, those who works with people at the ground levels, viewed that local communities or those who live in specific areas had ownership to the Climate related problems and they were willing to participate in Climate policy process. They voice for more formal mechanism in participation in Climate action.

### **GOVERNMENT**

#### **Driver**

- Socio-economic changes, Climate Change impacts, voices of CSOs and vulnerable groups and the Government efforts to plan a better policy: Thailand has faced changes in socio-economic structure in the past decades. Social and development issues exist, such as social exclusion, inequality, etc. People who were more vulnerable and got effected by Climate Change gathered with CSOs have continuously voiced out to the Government. This dynamic has happened for many years. For this reason, policy makers acknowledge that Climate Change is one of the factors affect to vulnerable groups. To balance economic growth and social development, the Government agencies must adapt themselves to be more open to listen to voices of people from variety of groups.





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## Pressure

- **Thailand's commitment to international Treaty/Convention:** The Thai Government has committed to international communities for both SDG Goals and Climate Change related Convention. Thailand takes SDG Goals seriously. Consequently, this is a significant force from the Thai Government to push GESI into Climate Action plan in order to achieve SDG Goals that relevant to gender equality and Climate Change.
- **Accessibility to Climate funding:** The Thai Government has its goals to mitigate Climate Change impacts as well as exercising adaptation. Those efforts required the Government to find more financial resources through climate finance under UNFCCC. In order to receive the Climate Funding, policy makers understand logical and importance of GESI integration and accept the condition to integrate GESI dimensions in the Climate Action Plan.

## State

- **The beginning phase of GESI integration in the Thai Climate Action Plan:** Thailand is now in the beginning phase of GESI integration into Climate Action. They have been addressed both Climate Change and GESI in national level planning and strategies (e.g. the National Strategy 2018–2037, the National Economic and Social Development Plan). At big picture, policy makers acknowledge the GESI integration in principle for their policy planning processes. As of October 2022, Thailand Climate Action includes GESI aspects in the National Climate Change Master Plan. However, GESI has been addressed in Climate adaptation strategy, but less likely to be addressed in Climate mitigation strategy. Please note that measures & action plan for implementations have not yet been addressed.
- **Intention to integrate GESI into Climate Action:** As there's a constraint in receiving Climate Funding, there has been an effort in addressing GESI guided by the Green Climate Fund; those indicators related to Social and Environmental Safeguards and Gender Policy. In addition, as of 2022, gender budgeting has not yet been identified as there's limited study and evidence to quantify the proper amount or percentage of the total budget. From policy makers perspectives, to this day there's still not clear evidence on how to address GESI in Climate Action.
- **The on-going process to understand GESI and linkage to Climate Change:** Authorized agency has collaborated with international agencies and research institute to study to gain more understanding of GESI dimensions that links to Climate Change. This intention is to ensure evidence-based policy processes and understanding pros and cons for each planning. Key on-going studies include 1) Inclusive, Gender-responsive Climate Change Benefit Analysis and 2) Gender Analysis for Climate Policy in Thailand.



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## Impact

- **GESI integration is a key to more effective Climate policy:** Policy makers understand and aware that Climate Change affects all human but negative impacts caused more difficulties to people who are more vulnerable or less resilience. Addressing GESI will help addressing more insights of Climate Change impacts which is beneficial for the Climate Action Planning. Climate Change related policy makers aware that GESI integration the Climate action is the strategic ways for more effective policy. Failure to integrate GESI might lead to ineffective solutions.

## Response

- **Participation with key stakeholders:** The MoNRE and responsible agency have provided a participatory policy process for Climate Change related strategies. Participation has been set for all key stakeholders are relevant government agencies, seen as the closer tier of stakeholders. And, the participation has opened to all sectors and population groups, academic/education institutes, private sectors, and CSOs and NGOs, youth groups, vulnerability groups. However, there were challenges in providing and facilitating participatory processes. In some meetings/forums, there still a gap in communication where there were less numbers of participants, compared to numbers of invitation sent out. Furthermore, there has been an effort from policy makers to response back to suggestions and recommendation made during the participatory process.
- **Understandings and Awareness of GESI dimension:** Climate Change related policy makers had their priorities in planning for mitigation and adaptation. Consequently, they were not familiar with gender dimensions. Some of policy makers, both decision-making and operation levels, have said that they did not fully understand gender related dimension.
- **Linkage between national and sub-national implementation of Climate Change Action:** At sub-national and provincial levels, there has been a coordination work in addressing and implementing Climate Actions. Under the Thai Government administrative structure, ministries will have their province office to run and implement the plan and strategy from the ministries. The Climate Action is also in line with this structure under MoNRE. However, the provincial administration is under the Ministry of Interior. The target to help reducing GHG is voluntary for each provincial administration. Still there is a gap in collaborating or sharing targets/indicators of Climate Action to sub-national or provincial administration.

## INGOs

### Driver

- **International attention for gender and Climate Change:** At international level, gender issue has been addressed since 70's (since Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)). However, it was about 20 years ago for Climate Change (UNFCCC).



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Consequently, the Thai Government has been driven by those Conventions and shared its concern on the gender issue by accept the concept of gender.

- **People's voice as an internal driver:** Vulnerable and marginalized groups, including grassroot groups, are those who most affected by Climate Change. They have continuously voiced out. Therefore, researchers and practitioners work with them as an ally to ensure that they will be included in the Climate action.

## Pressure

- **From gender side:** Gender equality has been promoted by international community since 80's and approximately in the past two decades for Climate Change, however, more pressure came from Climate Change side. Those international pressure and their momentum were strong that led the Thai Government to take a starting point to push forward gender issue.
- **From Climate Change Side:** There was commitment to the Paris Agreement. And, Thailand has it focus on mitigation from several sectors. However, for Thailand, it was weak for adaptation for both statement and commitment. Thailand don't have a clear action plan for Climate adaptation. In sum, nowadays attention of Climate Change movement is on mitigation but there was relatively less international pressure from adaptation side.

## State

- **From international to Thailand efforts in addressing GESI integration to Climate policy:** In ASEAN Context, it's less likely for environment people to understand GESI. However, the Thai has shared their concern on GE&SI issues. The movement was from gender equality & social inclusion side to approach the environmental side. AICHR, as a Human Rights Body, has been working with environment people and the strategy was to keep them involved several years from now on.
- **Current state of GESI & Climate action:** For Thailand, gender is more advance than social inclusion in terms of action. Policy makers were aware to place gender into their strategies. However, it is less familiar to address elderly and people with disability. Thailand has stated gender in Climate Strategy. But it had no action plan for GESI. Other countries neither had action plan.
- **Social Inclusion in Climate Change related policy (focusing on Forestry sector):** The process of climate policy was not aimed to tackle issue social inclusion, as it was not able to address challenges of marginalized people. The Climate Strategy seems to be standalone. The Thai Climate policy in forestry sector still require an analysis on the framework of forestry policy and laws as well as gaps needed to improve those laws for a better and effective climate policy & planning. Moreover, there was conflicting between forestry policy and climate change targets. Climate policy needs to move fast in mitigation, but the forestry law is time consuming to address a certain issue. And, policy mechanisms may not help reaching climate targets.



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## Impact

Informants acknowledged that when Climate Change hits vulnerable groups, especially the poor, it made the equality gaps wider. Those vulnerable and marginalize people rely on unsecure resources, like forest and river. Disaster and flood impacted most to all vulnerable groups, especially people with disability. Climate Change affects women those who are more vulnerable and have lot of burden. Therefore, Climate Change impacts may be detrimental to some groups of women. It is more likely to impact women in rural area than urban one.

## Response

- **How to better integrate GESI into Climate Action:** We should have a wholistic view of Climate Action plan. Together, it is crucial to strength the existing mechanisms, such as better inclusion in existing laws would make it easier to address vulnerable groups into Climate action.
- **Response to disaster is responding to Climate Change:** Thailand has shown its commitment and made progress in establishing Climate policy. Also, building capacity for SAD data (Sex and Disability Disaggregated data) was made, under Sendai framework (Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction). And, there was a progress in investing infrastructure ensuring equal access and treatment for woman in disaster reduction situation.

## Youth organizations/Clubs

### Driver

Key drivers include

- 1) **Changes in socio-economic structure** led to changes in economic activity and people livelihoods.
- 2) **Results of dealing with Climate Change in the past years were not effective.** Therefore, people who had negative effects continuously voiced out. These made government and policy makers to rethink about their policy and action to cope with Climate Change.
- 3) **Social inequality and discrimination exist.** This made it harder to include relatively vulnerable groups into inclusion.
- 4) **The male dominant culture** leads to policy decision maker that neither aware of discrimination nor supporting filling the gap for gender equality and rights. This made it more difficult for women to get involve in both social development and Climate Action.

### Pressure

There were centralized decision making that forced Climate policy makers to accept pressure from international and business sectors. Viewed by informants, the Government's centralized decision-making structure had not included gender, and vulnerable groups into policy decision making process.



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## State

- **Perceptions on inclusion & Climate policy at national and local levels:** It was not clear to our informants for both Climate action and its implementation plan. They did not see links between policy implementation at national and local levels. According to informants, those who were women, children in indigenous groups and stateless persons (lot of them were also LGBTQ), have not perceived about Climate action in both local and national levels. This might reflect another example of social exclusion from the Climate action.
- **General perception on gender differences:** Informants perceived that nowadays there was not much different between capability of men and women in several skills or professions. However, women had to push relatively much higher efforts in order to get to the same level of acceptance. This also hold true for vulnerable and marginalized groups for acceptance and inclusion.

## Impact

- **Area-based impacts:** The northern part of Thailand have been affected from Climate Change for many years. Some affected with floods, landslide, PM 2.5, forest fire, and negative impacts from economic development projects. Dealing with pollution, it is a cross border issue where area-based and community actions might not enough.
- **Impacts and risk taking:** Informants aware that Climate Change affected environmental changes (such as river level, drier weather that lead to forest fire) that led to a decline in food resources. It impacts to agriculture. Changes in temperatures and unpredictable rain worse off to marginalized groups and small-scale farmers; they had to bear all risks and difficulties. It also increased the risk for women to get exploitation and gender violence and the risk that vulnerable young child to fall out of formal education system. Of those who get affected were considered stateless. Those youth, women, children and LGBTQ are not only vulnerable to Climate Change but also vulnerable to human rights violation. In sum, it threatened livelihood and led to hunger & poverty.

## Response

- **No participation process & consultative status had not been addressed:** They did not see participation process and consultative status had not been defined to cope with Climate related impacts at the local levels. They viewed that top-down approach might not be effective. This because those who got negative impacts from Climate Change had their own knowledge and skill to deal with the problems. They analyzed that it would not be possible for the Government to address Climate Action and integrate GESI into Climate Action without participation with those who advocate in gender gap & equality and gender rights issues.
- **Challenges in local action to address Climate Change:** There's a challenge that sub-national/provincial policy makers or leaders had their own fixed term and they need to achieve



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assignments and indicators from the national level. However, people in the area have more ownership in addressing problems that affect their lives, including Climate related problems.

## **CSOs & NGOs**

### **Driver**

CSOs and NGOs informants aware that the Thai Government has it strong push in achieving SDG Goals. And, both gender and Climate Change could help Thailand fulfilling the Commitment made with international communities. In their opinion, this force was outside-in and might lead to a blur vision in both achieving SDG and addressing Climate Change.

### **Pressure**

The impacts of Climate Change itself push countries to speed up their Climate policy process and the international community believe that GESI integration could help addressing Climate Change. Other pressure was that the Thai Government had to comply with conditions set by Climate Fund. And it was also pressured from Funder and business sectors lobbying. Focusing on Climate Funding, Funder set its guideline and constraints for grantee to follow specific approach of climate mitigation, especially in energy and agriculture related sector. Informants viewed that those approaches were technology-based and business-driven development that might not fit to all and not friendly to small-scale farmers, entrepreneurs and other vulnerable groups. Some of them thought that those approach was a false solution to tackle Climate Change.

### **State**

- **About the Master Plan & relevant policy process:** They noted that numbers of national level strategies were launched to address Climate Change, which included the National Climate Change Master Plan, National Adaptation Plan (NAP), and Nationally Determined Contribution Roadmap on Mitigation (NDC). Lot of them said they did not yet see the implementation and action Plan.

d)

In addition, the Master Plan was written to include all groups of stakeholders in participation. But this was unclear. Moreover, affirmative action was not made for woman, people in alternative genders, vulnerability groups, and people with disability. It might be that case that they were not be in the invitation list for that meeting/activity in the Climate policy process. Then, it was an exclusion to that participatory activity.

- **Contradictions in policy directions (Economic growth, Climate Action, and Sustainable Development):** For instance, the Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC), which has been placed in the eastern of Thailand, was established to promote foreign investment in industrial sectors. Accordingly, there were policy contradictions for the economic growth and reduction of GHG and mitigation in overall eastern areas. Focusing on agriculture, CSOs concerned that the national policy direction support more on economic crops. Still, the overall agricultural sector was expected to reduce GHG, alongside with other key economic sectors. Alternative and sustainable agriculture help bringing sustainable development as well as addressing Climate Change effects and





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promoting inclusive for small-scale farmers. However, they did not see policy efforts supporting alternative and sustainable agriculture.

## Impact

- **Impact of Climate Change to GE & SI:** Climate Change worsen vulnerable people where most of their livelihood rely on natural resources. They faced difficulties and were unable to access existing natural resources that happen to be that source of income.
- **Impact of Climate related policy:** Women and vulnerable groups not only worsen by impacts of Climate Change; they were worse off by the Climate policy. The policy is less likely to mitigate climate change impacts. Consequently, women and vulnerable groups still had to deal with all problem themselves.

## Response

- **About participation in policy process:** Though there were number of participatory meetings in the Climate policy process, however, some CSOs reflected that they got involved at the end of the line. Some informants experienced situations where those who got invited for participation were those who all agree with the Government agency. They analyzed that under the Thai Government administration structure, the policy process was a top-down approach. Even though the Thai Government and responsible agencies were more opened to CSOs & NGOs participation in the past years, however, they could voice out, but still their voices were not impact or change the decision of policies or strategy. CSOs participation was somehow practically not in a partnership position in decision making.
- **Limited understanding and awareness on GE & SI:** Thailand have male dominant culture. It has been there long enough that people aware gender bias, this is also true to policy makers. Informants observed that policy makers and government officers have limited understanding and awareness on GE & SI. Policy makers is male-dominant. Therefore, policies and strategy were not gender friendly. Importantly, lots of policy makers, both male and female, also did not fully understand and aware of inequality and social inclusion. Furthermore, female policy makers might not interest in gender issues.
- **Limited roles of CSOs and Government's negative attitude toward CSOs and NGOs:** As the policy process is top-down, role of CSOs participation is limited. They reflected that lots of government officers/policy makers had negative attitude toward CSOs and NGOs. Some informants felt that some government officers/policy makers look at CSOs as troublemaker. Informants suggested that CSOs should have roles in M&E and help with recommendations.
- **Climate policy and implementation & Policy Integration to local/provincial level:** Informants noted that the Climate related strategies coordinated to related ministerial-level Climate policies.



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Nevertheless, to some informants, they could not picture how those coordination help bring Climate policy integration. Some of them even said the policy was fragmented. There was also a reflection that the national policy was not integrate into the provincial and local level implementation. From their experiences, the big picture policy might not fit to area-specific problems and challenges

## D4 Recommendations

- Creating Understanding and Awareness on key issues: Gender Equality, Social Inclusion, Climate Action.

As it is the beginning phase of GESI integration to Climate Action Plan, it is crucial for Climate Change related policy makers and, CSOs, Youth Groups, INGOs, and Academic Institutes in Climate policy process gain more understanding and awareness in both academic and perspectives of other sectors/fields on these 3 issues (Gender Equality, Social Inclusion, Climate Change Action). To begin, we recommend the “Awareness Raising Dialogue Workshop” for key stakeholders in Government, INGOs, CSOs, and Youth Organizations, especially those who responsible for GESI integration.

- To identify feasibility of those following:
  - Formal participatory mechanism to support Climate Action policy process

Stakeholders should study and discuss on “Should we need formal participatory mechanism to support participatory for GESI integration to Climate Action policy process? If so, what it should look like?” “Would it be possible under the Administration structure and existing regulation?”.

- Setting up the GESI & Climate Change Dialogue Platform

The GESI and Climate Change dialogue platform is important for supporting policy planning, implementation and public participate. This Dialogue Platform is an important mechanism for building relationship & trust among stakeholders and support collective learning and participation. Issues needed to discuss and explore to identify feasibility include 1) pros and cons of setting up this Dialogue platform 2) should the Platform be the new institution establishment or existing channel of communication & platform 3) proper scale of platform, whether national, sub-national, area or site specific, etc.

- Climate policy should be more integrate between national and local levels.

More efforts should be made from both policy makers and all stakeholders in order to better address Climate action. This could be a strategic way to help addressing impacts of Climate Change in selected areas and group-specific impacts. They should discuss this seriously in existing policy participatory activities.

- Finding Agents of Change who will help influencing and facilitating process of GESI integration in Climate Action Planning and implementation

As a key to success, Agents of Change could be individuals or groups who can communicate and influence stakeholders in Climate policy process. They should understand GESI dimension and have ability to facilitate stakeholder’s collaboration. Each sector should have their own agents of change.

- Academicians, policy researchers, and research institutes could be an important actor that link government/policy makers with CSOs



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Apart from providing studies to support evidence-based policy, researchers and education institutes could play more role in advocating and coordinating with relevant CSOs in facilitating policy process of GESI integration to Climate Change.

- Capacity Building and Upskills & Reskills for the art and science of communication and awareness raising

Apart from technical knowledge on GESI and Climate Change, all stakeholders in Climate policy process are highly recommended to learning and practice the art and science of communication and awareness raising. These will make a big difference in interactions and effectiveness of communication all of which will help supporting integration of GESI to Climate action. We recommend policy officers, researchers, and CSOs to learn and practice together, this help all stakeholders support each other learning journey and spend quality time discuss on Climate Change and GESI integration along the journey

- List of further research topics recommended to support GESI integration in Climate policy planning & implementation as well as public participation
  - Identify gaps and correlation of Climate Change and GESI dimensions
  - Definition, criteria and measurement/indicators that identify vulnerability and inclusion
  - Net impacts of Climate Change in different population groups, livelihoods, area/site specific communities, provincial and regional levels. And, evidences on how Climate Change affects woman in variety of professions/livelihoods/communities, vulnerability groups in urban and rural communities, people with disabilities, small-scale fishers, farmers, entrepreneurs, etc
  - Apart from existing evidence on GHG emission from various sectors (industrial, energy, transport, agriculture sectors, etc.), there should be a study indicate the GHG emission from different population groups and livelihoods, in several province or region in Thailand. This could help comparison GHG emissions of various sectors to different population groups and livelihoods
  - Opinions & Survey of vulnerability groups about
- Their Climate Change impacts and how the relevant stakeholder has responded and compensate
- The level of participation that each vulnerable group prefer in participating Climate Change policy process, and which policy/strategy or levels they need to get involved (local, provincial, region, or national levels)
  - Benefit of GESI integration in Climate Action. How GESI integration help Thailand address better Climate mitigation and adaptation action for different population and vulnerability groups?

Addressing context differences and how Government and advocates act differently to cope with Climate Change and integration of GESI.



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## D5 Number of Documents

Literature reviews was conducted by gathering data from 18 policy documents, fact sheets, and national reports from government, non-governmental, and international organizations. The data were mainly acquired from official websites of government, non-governmental, and international organizations.

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## ANNEX E KEY FINDINGS OF VIETNAM

**Project: Research and Development for Society: Regional Dialogue Supporting Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in Climate Action Planning – Mekong for the Future**

**By Ms. Phan Khanh Ha**

### E1 Policy making system



**Figure E-1** The policy-making system in Vietnam

As demonstrated in Figure 1, The Communist Party (CPV), National Assembly (NA), Government of Vietnam (GoV), ministries and local governments are the key actors. There are official organizations representing social groups including the Vietnamese Fatherland Front (VFF), the Vietnam Women's Union, etc. The organizations communicate the interests of social groups, to the political leaders and mobilizing social groups to support the state in policy implementation. Currently, they are not strongly influencing the policy-making process. Most policy-making activities take place within governmental organizations.

Institutional setting on GESI involves as follows.

- Parliamentary Committee for Social Affairs (PCSA): A legislative body under the NA, responsible for gender equality policymaking nationwide
- The National Assembly Women Members' group: Promote gender equality and gender mainstreaming in NA operations.
- The Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA): The lead governmental agency in state management of gender equality progress nationwide. Corresponding to MOLISA are the provincial/district Departments of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs (DOLISA).
- The Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism (MOCST): Assigned by the government to execute the Law on Domestic Violence Prevention and Control. Corresponding to the MOCST are the provincial and district Departments of Culture, Sports, and Tourism (DOCST).
- Line ministries: Are responsible for establishing their CFAW. Corresponding to Line ministries are Line Departments at provincial and district levels





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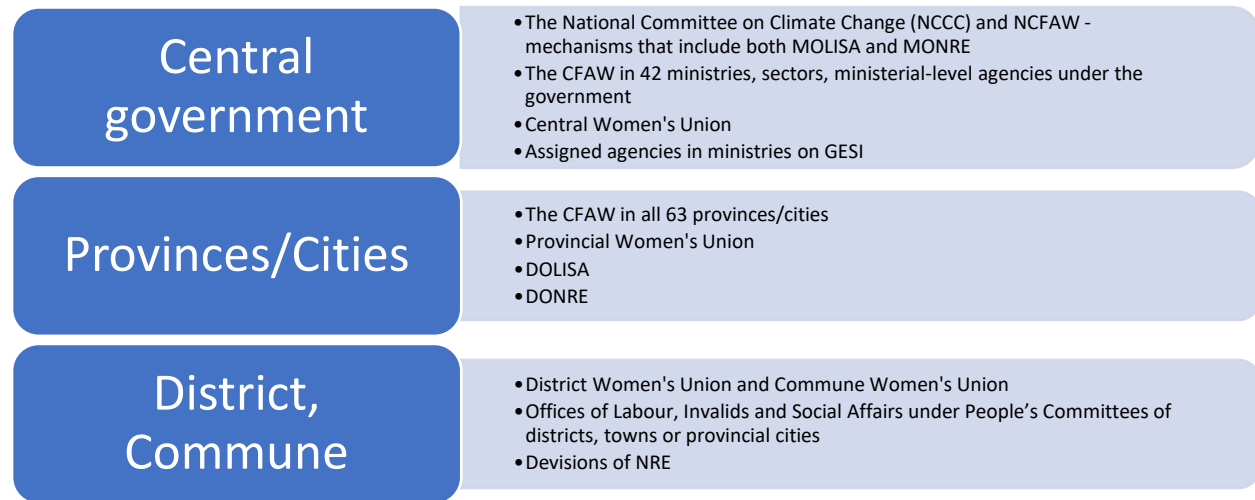
- The Vietnamese Women's Union (VWU): Represents the legal and legitimate rights and interests of all Vietnamese women and strives for their equality and development. Corresponding to VWU is the Provincial, District and Commune Women's Unions
- The National Committee for Advancement of Women (NCAFW): An inter-ministerial coordinating committee helps the Prime Minister to supervise and coordinate to achieve national goals on gender equality progress. Like the NCAFW at the national level are The Committees for Advancement of Women (CAFWs) in provinces and Ministries/agencies

Institutional setting for Climate change involves as follows.

- The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE): Responsible for drafting National Strategy for CC, NAP. Oversees the implementation of climate policies at the national level. Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DONRE): MONRE's local departments; are responsible for overseeing and implementing the national and local policies at the provincial level. Responsible for drafting the Provincial Climate action plan. - Department of Climate Change under MONRE (DCC): Steering board for implementation of UNFCCC, KP&PA. Act as a liaison with international agencies and NGOs.
- Divisions of NRE: In charge of natural resources and the environment below the departmental level, under the direction of DONRE and the district People's Committee
- District authority (District People Committee-DPC): The administrative apparatus is directly under the provincial level, responsible for directing the Divisions of NRE to design the specific plans and activities mentioned above.
- The National Committee on Climate Change (NCCC): An advisory body for the Prime Minister in researching, proposing directions and strategic solutions to respond to climate change.
- The Vietnam Panel on Climate Change (VPCC): Policy advice on CC for GoV and NCCC based on research, science and technology, and Vietnam's situation.
- The National Steering Committee on Realization of Vietnam's Commitment at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26)
- The Science Technology and International Cooperation Division, DCC: Unit in charge of policy research, consultation and implementation related to gender issues under UNFCCC

The Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP26). At this conference, Vietnam committed to a net-zero emission target by 2050, the Global Methane Pledge, the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use, the Global Declaration on the transition from coal to clean energy, Vietnam has also been one of the latest members of the Adaptation Action Coalition. MONRE, MARD, and MPI have received technical assistance from international partners in developing policy documents related to climate change.

## E2 Linkage between gender equality and social inclusion and climate change policies



**Figure E-2** Linkages between GESI and CC institutional setting Policy making in Vietnam

There is a clear absence of joint mechanisms at the local levels. The two systems of MOLISA and MONRE are almost separate, without taking into account the NCCC and NCAFW, two joint mechanisms available only at the central level.

## E3 The implications of gender equality practices in climate change

Research using secondary data from official or authenticated sources such as promulgated legal documents, official websites of the Vietnamese government and ministries, and reports of organizations domestic and international.

### I. Decision No.819/BNN-KHCN/ The National Action Plan for Climate Change for Rural Development and Agriculture sector (2016-2020) and the vision towards 2050

#### 1. Stage (S)

This is the plan with the clearest gender indicators among the eight assessed climate action plans in the agricultural sector (ISPONRE, 2021). However, the policy still lacks more detailed concrete steps that represent a more holistic and sustainable approach. Thereby it limits women's capacity to participate and contribute to climate change adaptation. The policy lacks coordination with other activities, such as mobilizing businesses and international donors to increase financial funds for projects. The expected or desired status of gender equality in this action plan has not been stated. Though activities are listed, there is no prediction of results as well as a clear mechanism for evaluating results.

#### 2. Pressures (P):

**Political factors and mindsets:** Favorable political conditions and frameworks. Lack of awareness.

**Legal factors:** Gender is not integrated synchronously into the general legal and policy system. A lack of orientations, requirements and guidelines on gender mainstreaming for local policies. Inadequate, scattered and have not been utilized gender data and indicators. Legislations contain gender bias. No specific, evidence-based analysis of women's needs compared to their actual living conditions. No appropriate



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intervention recommended. Lack of coordination mechanism between the climate policy-making system and the GESI policy-making system.

Gender equality principles are mentioned in a number of programs and strategies, but are rarely translated into specific action plans and tasks. Most of the climate policies and programs are gender neutral, focus on technical aspects. There are no guidelines on gender mainstreaming in agriculture and rural areas. Most of the data and related indicators are not disaggregated by sex. Inadequate attention to the lack of human resources and their capacity in gender mainstreaming and implementing of policies.

**Economic factors:** Absolute poverty has decreased rapidly but is not sustainable. The gap between rich and poor widens.

Although agriculture accounts for a small proportion in the economic structure, it contributes significantly to Vietnam's economy. Agriculture provides the majority of jobs and livelihoods for Vietnamese women. Agricultural land is fragmented, small and dispersed for each household, making it difficult to mechanize, modernize and develop large-scale production. Vietnam's agriculture has been strongly reformed with new rural development programs, modernizing infrastructure system and agricultural restructuring. A trend of "feminization of agriculture" in rural Vietnam due to men migrating to towns and cities for non-agricultural occupations. Women are doing more vulnerable jobs. The percentage of women being employer is always lower than that of men. In terms of income, the agriculture, forestry and fishery sectors had the largest income gap between men and women, at 0.69 (ISPONRE, 2021).

Women's access to land, rural finance and credit remains limited. Women have less access to and less benefit from advisory and agricultural extension services. Insufficient resources are allocated for gender mainstreaming

**Social factors** People's quality of life is improved. However, large gender gap exists. In Vietnam, housework is still considered the main responsibility of women. Women have limited access to training and education as well as time to participate in social life. The large gender gap in education

Men still play a major decision-making role in the family. Women face limitations in terms of time, mobility, and education, which lead to their limited access to land, finance, extension and technology. Vietnamese women are vulnerable to food and nutrition insecurity

**Technological factors** Technological advances have saved farmers' labor costs and time. This also contributes to helping women better manage their work and be less dependent on their husbands at work. Mechanization of agricultural production is more beneficial for men. Women are less likely to have access to agricultural technical training courses. Male farmers are still the main participants in technology transfer related to new livelihood strategies. Women are still limited to traditional, small-scale forms of training with less commercial value.

**Environmental factors** Vietnam is particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change and natural disasters. Women's vulnerability to climate change is very high and increasing. Among them, poor and ethnic minority women, living in remote and coastal areas, are the least resilient to the impacts of climate change.

### 3. Drivers (D):

**Socio-economic conditions: Traditional division of labor in agriculture** depends on the physicality of the work. This form of division of labor is more beneficial for men. They have more competitiveness, more opportunities to have jobs with higher incomes than women.

**Cultures and customs** in many regions in Vietnam still carry heavy **gender stereotypes**. Gender stereotypes that women's main roles are housework and nutritional care. Women still have a limited voice in important decisions regarding technical knowledge. Stereotyped depictions of men and women. The rate



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of abuse and violence against women is still very high. Many women themselves accept gender stereotypes and misconception that husbands and boyfriends have the right to beat their wives (VWU, 2020).

**Quality of social services:** Agricultural extension training courses do not meet the needs of women

It is harder for women to access health services and education than men.

#### 4. Impacts and Effects (I+E)

Law enforcement leave no incentive for gender actions, no direction for executive officers to carry out gender mainstreaming activities. There is no indicator reflecting the current status of gender inequality in the agricultural sector in the context of climate change. It will be difficult to carry out monitoring, inspection and evaluation activities. This action plan will not be able to effectively provide opportunities for women, girls, and other vulnerable groups and will not be able to meet their needs. The lack of budget for gender mainstreaming may affect the effectiveness of gender actions. If the link between gender inequality and climate change is not resolved together, the status and livelihood of women in society will increasingly decrease. And since women are the main productive and reproducing force, the threat to their well-being is also a threat to social security and development. Addressing gender inequalities and empowering women is therefore an integral part of building climate resilient societies.

#### 5. Responses (R) and Action/ Policies (P):

Reviewing gender outcomes in micro finance, infrastructure, business, and technology policies/programs. Reform procedures for issuing LUCs with names of both women and men, together with going helping women understand the benefits of having their name on a LUC. Ensure that national extension services and programs meet women's needs and promote their livelihood and opportunities. Capacity building for women leaders and managers. Review and evaluate gender mainstreaming projects in the agricultural sector, paying attention to long-term effects. Provide real effective credit and financial programs for women, meeting their needs for training, accessing to technology and information, and increased market and business understandings. Provide social services aimed at reducing women's time spent in unpaid care work and increasing their market access. Strengthening communication to help change perceptions of gender stereotypes. Find out specific measures to promote the participation and voice of women farmers in the formulation of local agricultural policies.

### II. Decision No. 491/QĐ-TTg / Adjustments to the National Strategy on Solid Waste Management by 2025, vision to 2050

#### 1. Stage (S)

This action plan is gender-neutral. Therefore, this plan also does not analyze gender-related obstacles in solid waste management, does not provide any gender indicators, does not provide any measures to mainstream gender in reducing GHG emissions in the waste industry. As a result, this plan fails to take into account and respond to the needs of women, girls and other sensitive groups. A lack of attention to GESI in such a long-term, large-scale plan is very serious because it shows the underdevelopment trend of GESI in the waste management industry in Vietnam.

#### 2. Pressures (P)

- **Political factors:** VWU and international organizations have been active in assessing the impact of the environment on the well-being and livelihoods of women and come up with various initiatives. However, their role is still limited to policy consultation and implementation, rather than policy-making and evaluation

- **Economic and social factors:** Women are the pioneers in waste management, participating in almost all stages of the waste value chain. Waste management in Vietnam is mainly carried out by the informal



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workforce, most of which are women. It is also a profession that provides livelihoods for many women and their families. The division of labor between women and men in the waste collection and treatment is quite clear.

Workers often live and work in dangerous and unhealthy conditions. Informal waste workers do not have access to social services. They are not protected by the Labor Law, have no information on labor rights and work regularly without days off. People in this industry are paid among the lowest in Vietnam and live in poverty. Waste collectors are severely discriminated against. In such difficult situation, female workers are even more disadvantaged. The gender division of labor makes women more exposed to toxic gases, bacteria, parasites and dust than men.

**- Technological factors:** New and advanced technologies on solid waste treatment have been put into operation, but only limited in some areas. The GoV encourages green growth models and community-based ecosystems to adapt to climate change and improve people's livelihoods.

**- Environmental factors:** Vietnam is one of the countries with large emissions to population growth and backward waste treatment technologies. Waste management in Vietnam is still weak. GHG emissions occur largely from landfills, during wastewater discharge and from uncontrolled burning of waste.

**- Legal factors:** Waste management is regulated by the 2020 Law on Environmental Protection and related government Decisions. This is also the foundation of this action plan. Legislation related to waste treatment does not provide adequate protection for women's labor rights. Jobs of informal workers are not recognized in the existing laws. The legal framework for this sector has emphasized technological aspects more than social aspects. There is no specific mention of gender issues related to waste collection and recycling in the Labor Law.

### 3. Drivers (D)

Women's participation still faces barriers in terms of technology, capacity, communication and finance. Gender division of houseworks influence household waste generation and management. Women have less power and time to participate in local decision-making on waste disposal than men because of gender bias and women's heavier workload. Gendered consumption patterns: women and men may have different views on household waste and waste disposal, and on environmental and public health.

### 4. Impacts and Effects (I+E)

If the development policies of the waste industry continue to ignore gender aspects,

Women workers, along with their interests and their hidden contributions to urban solid waste management will continue to go unrecognized. Their priorities, responsibilities and needs will not be heard at the institutional level. Gender-neutral waste policies would negatively affect women's opportunities, living conditions and performance capacity and labor rights. The policy will continue to deepen gender inequality. Housewives will not be aware of and promote their potential and role in garbage classification and waste treatment. As a result, GHG emissions will not be reduced and habitats continue to be destroyed. People in areas with beautiful natural landscapes will not have the opportunity to earn economically through cultural activities, forestry and tourism. On the contrary, improved waste management policies can help ease women's overall work burden, and provide a healthy and clean environment which decrease their care responsibilities for people sickened by pollution.

### 5. Responses (R) and Action/ Policies (P)

Enhance existing policies in the direction of sorting waste at source and promote the Circular Economy model. Improving working conditions, occupational safety, health and life for female informal workers. Strengthen cooperation among the government, gender organizations and NGOs to promote women's participation in gender mainstreaming in waste management. Incorporate gender aspects in its policy





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direction and technical guidelines. Implement a communication strategy to raise women's awareness of waste segregation at source. Family shares the work burden for women, encouraging them to allocate more time to sort domestic waste at source.

### III. Decision No. 2068/QD-TTg/ Vietnam's Renewable Energy Development Strategy to 2030, vision to 2050

#### 1. Stage (S)

- Status: The action plan states the goal towards 'a society that uses resources economically and efficiently, and is environmentally friendly', 'enhancing access to modern, sustainable, reliable, affordable energy for all'. When these goals are fulfilled, they will benefit all segments of society, including women, especially women in rural areas. However, the aspect of gender equality and social inclusion is not explicitly mentioned in any section of the plan. This shows a lack of consideration, or a lack of interest in this factor of policy-makers in renewable energy sector.

- Trend: Overall, the Vietnamese government has considered social issues in responding to climate change in general. However, the underdevelopment trend of gender and social inclusion in renewable energy in Vietnam must be mentioned.

#### 2. Pressures (P)

**Economic and social factors:** Vietnamese families in rural areas mainly use biomass energy, with the main fuel source being wood and agricultural by-products.

The traditional division of labour in the family is that women and girls are in charge of collecting firewood. This relates to women's traditional roles in cooking and taking care of the family.

The above division of labour negatively affects women and girls as follows: They have to go far to get firewood, then cut and carry firewood home. This long distance can put women at risk of violence, rape and other crimes. Burning wood and biomass produce toxic gases, causing health problems for women. Traveling, cutting firewood and cooking reduces their time and opportunities to participate in other economic activities, education and leisure. Consequently, it limits their social network and financial independence. Climate change can make natural resources scarce. The above consequences will therefore be even more severe.

However, gender inequality exists in the energy sector, specifically most of the workforce in the renewable energy industry in Vietnam is male. Women often do not have strong presence or voice in community meetings related to the issue of clean energy use. Women's political organizations are less involved in advisory and policy-making processes. There exists a prejudice that jobs in the energy industry are not suitable for women

**Technical factors:** There are almost no studies on gender and social inclusion in energy development in Vietnam. There is a lack of sex-disaggregated data in the energy sector. This leads to a lack of understanding about gender differences and gender power relationships in accessing and controlling renewable energy. Reports on gender mainstreaming in renewable energy are barely published.

**Legal factors:** In general, Vietnam's national policies on renewable energy development are gender-neutral: There is a lack of guidance on gender mainstreaming, no guidelines for gender inclusion in decrees or circulars. There are no clear guidelines on gender mainstreaming in action plans at the provincial and commune levels. There is no gender mainstreamed monitoring and evaluation mechanism in the energy sector.





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### 3. Drivers (D)

Old cultural practices and prejudice against women have been and are barriers to women's participation in the energy sector in Vietnam. Gender inequality in the energy sector: Jobs in this field are still considered physically demanding and highly technical and therefore unsuitable for women. Women are not encouraged to study Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

### 4. Impacts and Effects (I+E)

The traditional division of labour that brings injustice to women in the family will continue to exist unchallenged. Opportunity, health and economic security of women and girls continue to be threatened. Women will continue to be seen as unfit to work in the energy and STEM industries, creating barriers to women's aspirations. Women's legitimate interests and ability to contribute as users of resources and contributors to the implementation of climate policies continue to be marginalized. Development policies in the clean energy sector will continue to suffer from gender-blindness, lack of gender-related data. As a result, society continues to lack understanding of gender differences and gender power relationships in the renewable energy industry. Gender inequality in this field will therefore not be addressed.

### 5. Responses (R) and Action/ Policies (P)

Government and energy industry policy-makers need to recognize gender and social inclusion in renewable energy development strategies. Measures should be taken to support women for an equal access to affordable and sustainable energy technologies, and articulate this in policy documents. It is necessary to collect and provide data on gender and vulnerable groups in climate change in the energy sector, at the national and specific local levels, from which to assess needs, develop energy policy and planning at the local and national levels. Recruit more female workers in the energy industry, especially increase the number of leaders in government agencies that draft laws on sustainable energy development. The government needs to promote the role of women's representative organizations such as VWU, international organizations, NGOs and GESI research institutes in the energy sector in policy formulation and implementation. Focus on education and training, have policies to encourage women to study and do research and development in STEM.

## E4 Recommendations

**- Awareness raising and capacity building for policy makers:** National leaders should guide all levels, encourage advocacy for gender mainstreaming. Ministries and sectoral levels: Promoting women's leadership at all levels, especially at the highest level of ministries and sectors responsible for responding to climate change. The role of the VWU also needs to be strengthened and focused. Dialogues and exchanges between agencies on gender should be organized regularly, and the technical capacity of the dialogue parties should be given more attention. Encourage the cooperation and consultation of experts and organizations in developing plans to integrate gender and combat climate change. Such IGOs, NGOs and CSOs should be empowered to participate in policy making and implementation. Strengthening supervision capacity of the NA members and People's Councils

**- Develop and promote gender mainstreaming guidelines on to climate change policies:** Provide clear and easy-to-use guidance on how to mainstream gender in climate policy to policymakers and other stakeholders. Guidelines should include gender indicators and issued together with decrees/circulars guiding local authorities. This guideline needs to be synchronized with other important policies on gender mainstreaming and send it to all line agencies, from national to provincial and commune levels to translate it into action through the development of a National Gender Strategy in gender-sensitive sectors. There should be a request to submit reports on gender mainstreaming during the drafting of legal documents and



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proposals in the Law on Promulgation of Legal Documents. It is essential to mainstream gender into all steps of policy-making process.

- **Promote gender impact studies of climate change by sector and region.** This will provide evidence-based information for policymakers to design and implement gender-responsive climate policies in agriculture.

- **Developing a monitoring and evaluation framework and establishing a database on gender-specific impacts of climate change:** Agencies should establish a clear and comprehensive gender mainstreaming **monitoring and evaluation** mechanism in their sectors and ensure that it is applied to all policy-making processes. The audit reports should be published and made available to all interested parties. Ministries and sectors should cooperate to establish a comprehensive gender mainstreaming **monitoring and evaluation** mechanism. It is imperative that programs/projects ensure outputs with a clear gender indicator. Sex-disaggregated and gender-sensitive data should be collected and publicly reported.

- **Actively advocate for increased financial resources for gender mainstreaming measures in climate change response policies.**

- **Promote gender communication in the context of climate change** to all stakeholders, especially the mass media.



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## ANNEX F WORKSHOP ON REGIONAL DIALOGUE DIALOGUE ON GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION IN CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLANNING: THE WAY FORWARD AND REGIONAL COMMITMENT ON 1 DECEMBER 2022 AT MONTIEN RIVERSIDE HOTEL , BANGKOK THAILAND



**Figure F-1 Workshop on Regional Dialogue on Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in Climate Action Planning: The way forward and Regional Commitment on 1 Dec 2022**

## RECOMMENDATION TO SUPPORT GESI INTEGRATION IN CLIMATE ACTION PLANNING



**Figure F-2 Recommendation to Support GESI Integration in Climate Action Planning**

The workshop were separated as 5 groups with mixed of participants from: ASEAN Sectoral Bodies, Government Sector, International Organization, youth, persons with disabilities, CSOs, and academia in each 5 -6 persons/group. The workshop were discussing on the key recommendation in above 7 categories and prioritizing guideline recommendations for implementation. To identify high-priority recommendations for implementation, the questions were raised in the group discussion as 1. What is the accelerating Forces 2. What is the decelerating Forces 3. How to overcome the challenges in selected recommendations. The summary of results stated that **Capacity building & Awareness for women & vulnerable groups** are the most important followed by Strengthening information sharing, communication channels and building dialogues platforms, Establish Technical Working Group and Resource allocation and budget.

The details of influencing factors are shown for further recommendation to implement to promote access and control of livelihood, ownership of household assets, adaptation in skills training, finance, and technology for those affected by climate change particularly for GESI. Women or disadvantaged groups should be a part in research to ensure that there is enough representation, and that in-depth analysis is recorded as below:

### 1. The Accelerating Forces

- Personal commitment of women and vulnerable groups
- Access to information, services, and resources
- Supportive families & communities
- Training – Curriculum, Syllabus Ex. Blue School. (Thailand)



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- Team of Passionate workers on climate changes and relevant stakeholders such as village leaders, civil society leaders, non – state leaders and trained teachers.
- Application of new technologies to update vulnerable groups about the impacts of cc/adaptive skills.

## **2. The decelerating forces:**

- Unexpected situation that added/worse the pandemic Ex. Disasters as part of climate change
- Socio- cultural norms
- Global economic crisis
- Lack of technical skill and training support, and Finance support

## **3. How to overcome the challenges**

- Recognize & reduce the unpaid work. For women & vulnerable groups and improve their leadership capacities.
- Disseminate information and technology utilization
- Networking & collaboration across sectors & actors within and outside counties
- Provide accessible services and information
- Building more local specialist
- More resources and budget
- Find champions at all levels from top leaders to the front-line workers
- Building the dialogue and debate for diverse views at a given time frame to develop a common strategy