



# **NDC PARTNERSHIP GENDER STRATEGY**

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**NDC**   
PARTNERSHIP

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# INTRODUCTION

The members of the NDC Partnership, as well as the Steering Committee and its Co-Chairs, have emphasized gender equality and women's empowerment as a high priority for the Partnership. From the outset, the NDC Partnership has identified gender equality as one of its ten guiding principles, with new members signing on to the principle as part of the Partnership's efforts to accelerate sustainable, inclusive, and equitable country-driven climate action.

Gender equality exists when all people, irrespective of gender, have equal rights, responsibilities, and opportunities, and when the uptake of these rights, responsibilities, and opportunities do not depend on whether people are born male or female. Gender-responsive interventions are essential to achieving gender equality. Their implementation entails identifying, understanding, and carrying out actions that address gender gaps, norms, roles, and access to resources, in addition to overcoming historical gender biases in policies and interventions. Gender-responsive approaches go beyond gender sensitivity to gender differences and include application. *(Please see Annex 1 for a short glossary of commonly-used gender equality terms.)*

Gender-responsiveness is critical for the effectiveness of any policy and action and it is imperative that the needs, perspectives, experiences, and knowledge of all people impacted by climate change are considered. The Paris Agreement calls for gender equality and women's empowerment to be among the guiding principles of climate action. It states: "Acknowledging that climate change is a common concern of humankind, Parties should, when taking action to address climate change, respect, promote, and consider their respective obligations on human rights". The Rulebook agreed to at COP24 in Katowice also makes clear reference to the need for gender-responsive Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) planning and review processes. Moreover, the

UNFCCC [Gender Action Plan](#) (GAP) promotes the mainstreaming of gender into climate policy and action at all levels. Meanwhile, gender equality actions are rooted in intergovernmental commitments on human rights and women's rights, such as the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), adopted in 1979 and ratified by 189 UN member states.

As the Partnership collaborates to drive transformational climate action while enhancing sustainable development, ensuring that the NDCs and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are implemented in a mutually reinforcing manner is critical for the Partnership's success. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development stresses the need to promote gender equality and address gender inequalities, including through specific targets set under SDG 5 (i.e. "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls."). The 2030 Agenda also highlights the importance of gender-disaggregated data and gender-sensitive review processes.

As countries revise their NDCs and accelerate climate action to 2020 and beyond, integrating gender equality into NDC planning and implementation takes on significant global importance for ensuring effective NDC action and equitable outcomes. Women and other disadvantaged groups face higher risks of climate-related hazards and are disproportionately affected by negative climate change effects due to their reduced agency to respond to them. They also face unequal participation

in climate-related planning, decision-making, and implementation. In parallel, as UN Secretary-General António Guterres remarked, “when women are empowered to lead, they are the drivers of solutions.”

For instance, policies and programs are often more responsive to the needs of constituents; as women actively participate in decision making at the local level, their rich practical knowledge of sustainable resource management can be fully utilized. It is therefore essential to engage women and disadvantaged groups equally and meaningfully in developing and implementing national, subnational, and local level mitigation and adaptation initiatives. In this way, the contributions and resources needed from women, men, and disadvantaged groups for effective climate action are more fully harnessed and can lead to more equitable results.

Between 2019 and 2020, member countries will be focused on NDC revision and enhancement, building on ongoing NDC implementation efforts. This presents a critical window of opportunity for mainstreaming country-specific gender analysis and proposed responses to identified gender inequalities into the design of NDC revisions. In turn, it leads to more sustainable, inclusive, and equitable iterations of NDCs, as well as NDC Partnership Plans that support accelerated NDC implementation. This strategy is intended to facilitate this gender mainstreaming process over the next two years and lay the foundation for the development and implementation of gender-responsive NDCs, both now and beyond 2020.

The strategy mainstreams gender equality considerations throughout the NDC Partnership’s Work Program and its component workstreams of Country Engagement, Knowledge & Learning, and Communications during this important juncture in time. Mainstreaming gender equality considerations into climate finance will take place



*Mainstreaming a gender perspective means assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action as a way to make women’s as well as men’s concerns and experiences an integral dimension of all policies and programs in all political, economic, and societal spheres. In this way, women and men may benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated.”*

**UN Women. 2017. UN Women Training Center: Gender Equality Glossary.**

primarily through support provided as part of the Country Engagement and Knowledge & Learning workstreams. The strategy’s purpose is to facilitate member identification of country needs and deploy the range of their expertise and resources to ensure that gender-responsive actions are included in NDCs and their implementation.

The gender strategy is informed by NDC Partnership gender-focused activities conducted in 2018, including a scoping assessment on gender-responsive climate action within member countries; two gender-focused peer convenings; gender case studies; and related country engagement experiences from the past two years by the Partnership and its members. These activities have enabled the Support Unit of the Partnership to identify priority knowledge gaps and country capacity building needs for supporting gender-responsive NDCs, along with key areas for gender capacity building that member institutions and development partners can support. *(Please see Annex 2 for*

*a summary of key findings and recommendations from the Partnership scoping assessment.)*

This strategy is also guided by an overarching gender equality results framework and indicators that are linked to the Partnership's Monitoring & Evaluation Framework, and which will facilitate the Partnership's assessment of its progress on gender equality. Many member countries and institutions have their own gender strategies in place which guide their work on gender equality and women's empowerment. In 2019, the Partnership will work with interested members to harmonize gender equality approaches for increased complementarity in our support to countries and greater collective impact.

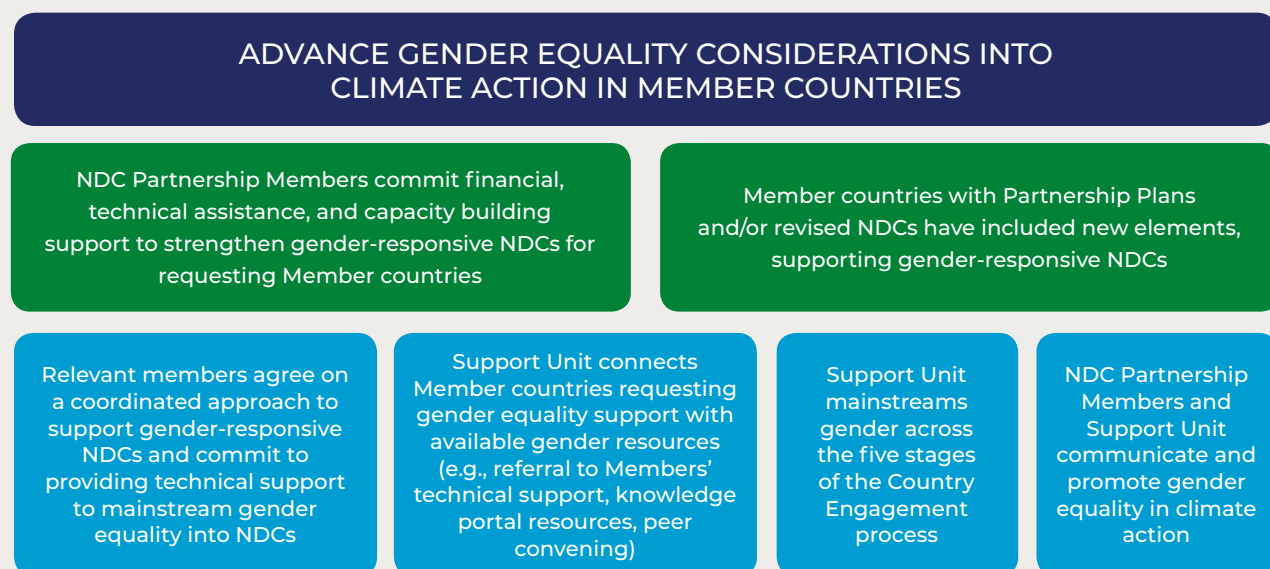
## II. RESULTS FRAMEWORK

The results framework in Figure 1 below maps the high-level impact and two outcomes that this gender strategy aims to contribute to, along with four outputs which the NDC Partnership sets out to achieve between 2019-2020.

The framework also lays the groundwork for further supporting gender-responsive NDC implementation after 2020. This logic model posits that the NDC Partnership can contribute to advancing gender equality considerations into climate action in member countries if NDC Partnership members and partners provide (continued) financial and technical support to build and support implementation of gender-responsive NDCs for requesting member countries and if member countries commit to systematically acquiring knowledge, building capacity, and applying this with respect to planning and implementing gender-responsive NDCs.

To facilitate these two outcomes, the Support Unit will work with Partnership members to respond to key areas of technical gender support requested by countries and identify ways to deliver capacity building resources in a coordinated and responsive manner, capitalizing on the gender expertise of the Partnership's members. As a starting point, the Support Unit will build on existing government gender policies. In addition, development

**FIGURE 1: NDC PARTNERSHIP GENDER RESULTS FRAMEWORK**



and implementing partners who may be supporting country-level programmatic frameworks and gender mainstreaming strategies within countries as well as overarching gender policy frameworks are also encouraged to feed these into the country engagement process at an early stage. At the country level, the Support Unit will connect countries requesting gender support with member and global knowledge resources, while mainstreaming gender equality considerations into the Country Engagement Process. The latter is detailed in subsequent sections of this strategy. While all Support Unit staff will be equipped to refer countries to the gender resources of the Partnership and its members, internal gender focal points within the Country Engagement and Knowledge & Learning workstreams of the Support Unit will be able to refer more unique gender-related country requests to implementing and development partners, as well as relevant learning or experiences from other countries. Finally, the NDC Partnership will also work to communicate how gender-responsive NDCs can enable more ambitious, equitable, and sustainable climate action, bringing to light country examples from the Partnership.

### III. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

The Partnership aims to implement this gender strategy through its various workstreams, particularly at the upstream level through knowledge and learning support and at the country level via targeted steps within the established five stages of the country engagement process.

#### 3.1 Knowledge and Learning

Under the Knowledge and Learning workstream, the Partnership will prioritize the mobilization of members' expertise and technical resources to support gender-responsive approaches. To do this, the Support Unit (SU)

will carry out the following activities in collaboration with members.

First, the SU will map gender learning needs and capacity gaps among member countries, as expressed in country requests for support with additional input from expert members. This analysis will be based on the kNook knowledge management system and will be shared through periodic briefings to members and external audiences aimed at highlighting Partnership learning about country needs.

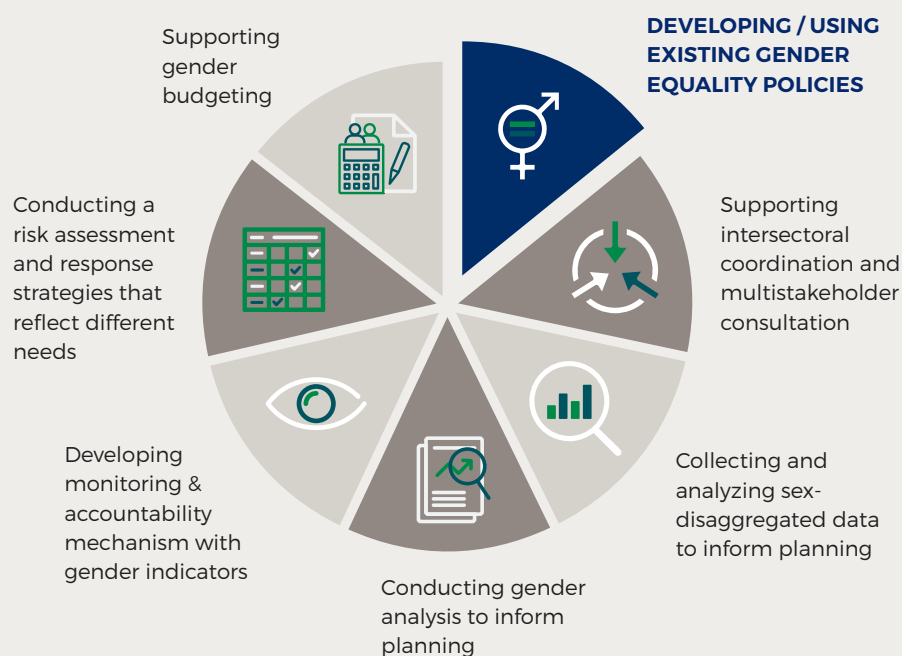
Next, the SU also will continually update and curate gender resources available on the NDC Partnership Knowledge Portal. This includes gender tools, guidelines and sectoral gender analyses, *inter alia* developed by Partnership members and beyond. As part of this process, the SU will support development of a roster or network of technical gender experts by inviting members to nominate individuals that should be included in the distribution of country requests and with whom the SU can share the periodic briefings above.

Based on these analyses, the SU will support the process of matching knowledge and capacity needs for mainstreaming gender into NDCs through the Country Engagement Strategy. The SU will do this by ensuring that gender-related requests are flagged to relevant member experts, as well as by facilitating access to knowledge resources (NDC Partnership Knowledge Portal, insight briefs, and other knowledge products) and peer exchange opportunities aimed at meeting common implementation challenges or learning needs.

The SU will also prioritize gender equality examples in developing the knowledge products contained in the Work Program. These will take the form of case studies, videos, insight briefs, and public outreach materials such as the annual Partnership in Action report, as appropriate.

## FIGURE 2: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS FOR DEVELOPING GENDER- RESPONSIVE NDCS

The Strategy proposes that Partnership members support countries in meeting technical assistance needs, with facilitation from the Support Unit as needed.



Peer exchange activities under the Work Program will prioritize convening members with a view to coordinating approaches to technical support for effectively mainstreaming gender into NDCs. Figure 2 below shows areas identified in the gender scoping assessment and analysis conducted in 2018 as described in Annex 2. Such technical assistance would be coordinated and provided by members of the Partnership and based on a set of minimum standards for mainstreaming gender equality endorsed by 35 international organizations.<sup>1</sup>

### 3.2 Country Engagement

The five flexible stages of the Country Engagement Strategy provide several entry points for the inclusion of gender equality considerations. This would allow for stronger mainstreaming of gender equality-related actions in requests from countries to the Partnership; in the Partnership Plan results frameworks for accelerating NDC implementation; and in the process of NDC enhancement (either in the form of direct support

requested from the Partnership, or by building on NDC implementation experience through Partnership Plans). The matter of NDC enhancement is particularly timely as the Partnership has already received around 20 country requests (formal and informal) to support countries' NDC revision processes for the second generation of NDCs by 2020 (as of May 2019). Moreover, the Partnership has launched the Climate Action Enhancement Package (CAEP) to support developing countries on NDC enhancement and raising ambition, which includes a specific criterion to ensure gender equality considerations are taken into account as part of the NDC updating process and provides a direct opportunity to receive partner support to strengthen these aspects. Working in a coordinated fashion, it is expected that increased efforts on gender equality throughout the existing country engagement process will beneficially impact NDC implementation and the NDC revision processes and the ability of countries to raise ambition, including by making their NDCs more gender-responsive.

The five stages of the NDC Partnership Country Engagement Strategy (CES) are carried out by the following key actors: Implementing and Development Partners, Government Focal Points, an In-Country Facilitator, and the Support Unit (*refer to Annex 3 for an overview of the different roles of partners, government, and facilitator based on the CES*). The process is fully country-driven and follows the guidance of the government. The SU, when in the role of scoping lead, has a facilitative role in the first three stages of the engagement process, where it will collaborate with partners and government to achieve the desired results, and will take a backseat in stage 4-5, where it will primarily focus on extracting success stories, lessons learned, challenges, and progress updates to be shared with the wider Partnership. In addition, implementing and development partners are expected to proactively take the lead on part of the steps during all stages. Among others, these include contributing to the process with gender analyses; supporting governments in surfacing gender equality-related needs to include in the Request for Support Letter; and capacity building activities.

Throughout the stages of the country engagement strategy, two levels of action have been identified. The first level is the **minimum standard** for mainstreaming gender equality into climate action, which all countries with in-country NDC Partnership support would be expected to meet with support from partners. Results, tracked for all countries, would inform overall collective progress. It is expected that the minimum standard will evolve over time based on progress achieved and lessons learned. The Support Unit will also invite partners to provide inputs to the refinement of its existing processes and systems in place to become more gender-responsive, such as the Rapid Situational Assessment template ([link](#)). As of the first quarter of 2019, its revised template has started to

integrate gender equality questions and considerations. In order to further strengthen this existing mechanism, partners are invited to provide recommendations for how to better incorporate gender-related questions in the rapid situational assessment stage in a way that does not increase the burden on Support Unit staff, but, for example, ensures that existing partner knowledge and resources are tapped into effectively.

The second level includes **higher level opportunities** for gender mainstreaming, where countries can choose to pursue further opportunities to mainstream gender equality in climate action and NDC implementation processes, with additional support of partners. Countries with the following profile may opt for this second level: countries in which members/partners are implementing policy-driven projects or programs focusing on gender and climate; countries with a strong government interest in making progress in this area (e.g., in countries with ongoing involvement of the ministry or agency responsible for gender affairs); and governments that have requested or are receptive to gender-related technical support (e.g., as expressed in request for support letters —the case for nine countries as of July 2019). Higher level mainstreaming opportunities would be explored by scoping leads with government and involved partners and should identify a lead partner agency to take the work forward.

In countries where higher-level opportunities have been identified and governments endorse the approach, members of the Partnership, supported by the scoping lead, will ensure: 1) its implementation as part of the NDC Partnership country engagement process, and 2) the connection with larger NDC enhancement efforts of the country. In 2019-2020, “higher level opportunities” for mainstreaming gender equality will be piloted by

implementing and development partners in a smaller set of countries (at least 5 countries) with engagement between stage 1 and 3 across different regions if and as requested by the country governments. It is expected that, over time, some of the actions that are considered “higher level opportunities” at this stage will be integrated as part of the minimum standard. First, successes in implementing the Gender Strategy need to be achieved, setting the Partnership up for higher level success.

If the scoping lead (Support Unit or a partner agency) indicates that it lacks capacity or expertise on gender issues and no other partner with relevant gender expertise and resources is able to contribute to the process and its preparations, the Partnership may facilitate the placement of national gender experts to advise and support the outlined actions throughout the scoping and Partnership Plan development process, subject to available resources.

The elements identified for development of gender-responsive NDCs – and related Partnership Plans or Investment Plans – as outlined in Figure 2 have been incorporated throughout the country engagement actions as outlined in the following overview.

## GENDER STRATEGY OVERVIEW

COUNTRY ENGAGEMENT STAGE	MINIMUM STANDARD	HIGHER LEVEL OPPORTUNITIES
<b>STAGE 1-2</b> SCOPING, RAPID ASSESSMENT, AND REQUEST FOR SUPPORT	Activities undertaken by Scoping Lead (SU or Partner)	Activities undertaken by Implementing and Development Partners
	<b>Workshops and Consultations</b>	<b>Workshops and Consultations</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. INTRODUCING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS:</b> Ask Government Focal Points how they intend or plan to mainstream gender into the NDC Partnership Plan and revised NDC.</li> <li><b>2. INVITING KEY GENDER STAKEHOLDERS AS PART OF SCOPING MEETINGS (GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL):</b> Recommend to Focal Points to extend workshop or meeting invitations to relevant government actors (e.g., Ministry or main agency responsible for gender equality or social equity and/or the UNFCCC gender focal point) and other identified stakeholders (e.g., women's organizations and local gender experts) working on gender equality and/or social inclusion.</li> <li><b>3. ENSURING GENDER-BALANCED PANELS AND SPEAKER LINE-UP DURING WORKSHOPS:</b> Actively consider gender balance on panels and presentations in preparation for workshops; aim to avoid one-gender panels (all-male and all-female).</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. ENGAGEMENT OF GENDER EXPERTISE FROM ALL LEVELS:</b> Partners engage closely with the Ministry or Agency responsible for gender affairs, to ensure inclusion and informed participation of gender focal points and experts across all relevant sectors and subnational levels (the entire national gender machinery) in the consultations for the request for support and the Partnership Plan, and as part of the coordination mechanisms for NDC implementation.</li> </ol>
	<b>Rapid Situational Assessment</b>	<b>Rapid Situational Assessment</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>4. IDENTIFYING KEY GENDER STAKEHOLDERS AT DIFFERENT LEVELS AND SECTORS (GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL):</b> Based on recommendations from the NDC Partnership Focal Points, identify key inter-sectoral government actors and local stakeholders working on gender equality, including the country's UNFCCC gender focal point (if in place).</li> <li><b>5. IDENTIFYING EXISTING GENDER POLICIES:</b> Consult the Ministry or main agency responsible for gender equality or social equity for an overview/survey of relevant existing gender policies and possibly climate-related projects. If the agency does not have this information, request relevant in-country partners to provide the information they have on this matter.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>2. RISK ASSESSMENT AND DIFFERENTIATED RESPONSE STRATEGIES:</b> Partners conduct a risk assessment of the draft Partnership Plan/Investment Plan and propose response strategies that consider the differentiated needs of women, men, and disadvantaged groups to be incorporated in the final Partnership Plan version.</li> </ol>

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COUNTRY ENGAGEMENT STAGE	MINIMUM STANDARD	HIGHER LEVEL OPPORTUNITIES
	Activities undertaken by Implementing and Development Partners	
STAGE 1-2 SCOPING, RAPID ASSESSMENT, AND REQUEST FOR SUPPORT	<p><b>6. UTILIZING EXISTING GENDER ANALYSES AND RELEVANT RESEARCH/RESOURCES:</b> Partners share their existing country-specific gender analysis/gender impact assessment and knowledge resources<sup>2</sup> on gender and climate in the respective country (supported by the K&amp;L workstream's partner expertise mapping exercise).<sup>3</sup> If available, provide partners' existing country-level programmatic frameworks related to gender equality and gender mainstreaming strategies.</p> <p><b>7. DEVELOPING NEW AND TARGETED GENDER ANALYSES TO INFORM PARTNERSHIP PROCESS:</b> If no gender analysis/gender impact assessment is available, partners support the government in developing a gender analysis/gender impact assessment (with focus on the areas in the NDC/request for support to the Partnership), including building on the information collected on existing gender policies, climate-related projects, and key gender stakeholders.<sup>4</sup></p> <p><b>8. IDENTIFICATION OF GENDER EQUALITY-RELATED REQUESTS AS PART OF THE RSL:</b> Partners assist the Government in identifying gender-related issues and needs, if requested, to be included in Request for Support Letters (RSL) or Partnership Plan (PP).</p>	
	Activities undertaken by Scoping Lead (SU or Partner)	Activities undertaken by Implementing and Development Partners
	Partnership Plan / Investment Plan	Partnership Plan / Investment Plan
STAGE 3 PARTNERSHIP PLAN / NDC INVESTMENT PLAN DEVELOPMENT	<p><b>1. SEX-DISAGGREGATED AND GENDER-RESPONSIVE KPIS:</b> Agree with Government on sex-disaggregated key performance indicators (KPIs), gender equality-relevant (gender-responsive) KPIs, and inclusion of references to women and disadvantaged groups, and women as agents of change, where found relevant.</p> <p><b>2. REFLECTING IDENTIFIED GENDER-EQUALITY NEEDS/ISSUES IN THE PARTNERSHIP PLAN:</b> If specific needs or issues related to gender equality have been surfaced throughout the consultations and RSA process, aim to reflect these needs in the Partnership Plan.</p> <p><b>3. MATCHMAKING OF COUNTRY NEEDS WITH PARTNER SERVICES:</b> Connect the surfaced needs with targeted gender-related services, based on existing support programs from partners and potential new support (in particular for the technical assistance need as outlined in Figure 2) through consolidated response letters and the Partnership Plan process.</p>	<p><b>1. BUDGETING AND INVESTMENT FOR GENDER-EQUAL OUTCOMES:</b> Partners review<sup>5</sup> the Plan's costing/budgeting and investment-related requests/ outputs/outcomes with a "gender lens" to make potential recommendations aimed at achieving more equal climate action outcomes of climate action for women, men, and disadvantaged groups through these elements of the Partnership Plan/Investment Plan.<sup>6</sup></p>

COUNTRY ENGAGEMENT STAGE	MINIMUM STANDARD	HIGHER LEVEL OPPORTUNITIES
	Activities undertaken by Implementing and Development Partners	
<b>STAGE 3</b> PARTNERSHIP PLAN / NDC INVESTMENT PLAN DEVELOPMENT	<p><b>4. BUILDING COUNTRY CAPACITY FOR GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN NDCS:</b> Partners support countries on capacity building activities for mainstreaming gender into their related NDC revision and enhancement processes, at countries' request.</p>	
	Activities undertaken by Implementing and Development Partners and Government, with Facilitator support	Activities undertaken by Implementing and Development Partners and Government, with Facilitator support
<b>STAGE 4-5</b> FACILITATION, MONITORING & EVALUATION, LEARNING	<p><b>1. ENSURING GENDER BALANCE AMONG IN-COUNTRY FACILITATORS:</b> In the facilitator hiring process, ensure there are both male and female candidates (Government), and ensure that the hired facilitator has the capacity or receives training (e.g., as part of global facilitator retreats) to facilitate implementation of a gender-responsive Partnership Plan (partners).</p> <p><b>2. TRACKING PROGRESS ON GENDER EQUALITY RESULTS:</b> Track progress on gender-related/sex-disaggregated indicators, as part of the setup of the Partnership Plan tracking and accountability mechanism. (SU will directly track indicators as in the gender strategy in collaboration with partners, government, and facilitator.)</p> <p><b>3. BUILDING ON GENDER-RESPONSIVE NDC PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION FOR NDC REVISION:</b> Ensure that the gender-responsive climate actions as identified in the NDC Partnership Plan process and its implementation are reflected as part of the 2020 NDC revision process.</p>	<p><b>1. SURFACING GENDER EQUALITY-RELATED SUCCESS STORIES:</b> Specific focus on extraction of lessons learned and success stories related to gender equality and NDCs, informing case studies and NDC Partnership publications. (SU will collect the lessons and stories for global dissemination.)</p>

In 2018, Partnership Plans were developed in 15 countries, which are under implementation (stage 4-5) in 2019 as the NDC Partnership Gender Strategy is approved by the Steering Committee. For these countries, during their stop-and-reflect exercises and periodic review of the Partnership Plan, a specific gender review should be included, creating an opportunity for potential improvements on mainstreaming gender equality as part of the Partnership Plan, the NDC, and its implementation.

Gender equality indicators will assist in measuring the success of gender mainstreaming efforts throughout the stages of the NDC Partnership's Country Engagement Strategy and its impact on NDC implementation through Partnership Plans, as well as revised NDCs. These indicators, outlined in section IV, have been included in the NDC Partnership Monitoring and Evaluation Framework. The Support Unit will work to ensure that templates for reporting and monitoring can clearly track how progress on developing and implementing gender-responsive NDCs is being achieved.

### 3.3 Communications

The Communications workstream plays a key role in raising public awareness of what gender-responsive climate action means and why it is important, how women play a fundamental role in implementing climate action as agents of change, and how disadvantaged women and men are negatively affected by climate change based on harmful gender norms and biases. Gender norms can also influence access to benefits by women and men and reflecting these barriers may be particularly important when considering actions in sectors such as renewable energy and transport. It is also critical to communicate broadly what the NDC Partnership and its members are doing to support more sustainable and gender-

equitable climate outcomes under NDC programs that the Partnership supports. Key areas of gender and climate communications activities will include:

- Raising public awareness on the topics mentioned above, through various communication channels, including via social media, media briefings, videos, and blogs, inter alia;
- Elevating gender equality and climate work at public forums, important events, or events with media by including key communication messages on gender equality and climate action into speeches and talking points for like-minded NDC Partnership leaders;
- Identifying key champions for gender action from among NDC Partnership members to deliver these messages at key events (e.g., Directors, NDC Partnership Co-Chairs and Steering Committee members, and gender champions across the membership);
- Coverage of major gender and climate issues and stories experienced by our member countries, particularly the successes and lessons from NDC Partnership country engagement;
- Capturing the stories of local communities, women, and disadvantaged groups to communicate how women play a fundamental role in implementing climate action as agents of change, as well as how disadvantaged women are affected by climate change. These would be concrete, inspirational stories, presented in a vivid and appealing way to illustrate what is happening in different countries and to move others to action. This may include written editorial pieces, videos, and other public materials that appear on the NDC Partnership website or through social media;

- Increasing advocacy on gender mainstreaming in collaboration with partners, in particular for climate actions in the key NDC sectors and for the NDC revision process;
- Including clearly in the NDC Partnership's communication strategy the use of non-sexist language and a call for using images that do not repeat social stereotypes (for example, women only as vulnerable and men only as strong); and
- Per region, in collaboration with colleagues from other workstreams and implementing partners, government, and local organizations, developing a roster of gender and climate change experts (with a balance of women and men, as well as other underrepresented groups), who could potentially be drawn upon to serve as panelists or speakers for member or Support Unit organized events.
- Agreement among relevant members on a coordinated approach for providing gender capacity building support to countries.
- At least 15 instances of partner-provided support to member countries facilitated by the Support Unit.
- Two gender convenings will have been held by the end of 2019 to accelerate improved learning on developing gender responsive NDCs across countries.
- At least three public information materials on gender developed.
- At least 80 percent of the scoping missions conducted in 2019 will consult the government on addressing gender equality in relation to NDC implementation and revision processes and will include identified gender equality stakeholders in subsequent NDC Partnership in-country workshops and consultations.
- At least 20 Partnership Plans have sex-disaggregated and gender-responsive key performance indicators.
- At least 15 Rapid Situational Assessments include a basic gender analysis.
- At least 15 Partnership Plans respond to identified gender equality needs and issues.
- Partners are consistently contributing country-specific gender knowledge resources and existing gender analysis.
- Partners develop targeted NDC-related gender analyses in at least two countries, which will inform the respective country engagement processes by feeding into the RSA and Partnership Plan.
- Gender-responsive NDC revision processes are supported by partners in at least 20 countries.

## IV. GENDER EQUALITY RESULTS AND INDICATORS<sup>7</sup>

The NDC Partnership's contributions to gender equality in climate action are presented through the gender equality results framework with corresponding indicators below. These have been incorporated into the Partnership's Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) framework and will be tracked as part of the larger 2018-2020 Work Program. The timeline for implementing the gender strategy is reflected in Figure 3.

While the final targets of this gender strategy to be achieved by 2020 are outlined in the framework below, several key milestones are expected to be achieved by the end of 2019, including:

- Completion of a mapping of members' and partners' gender mainstreaming technical assistance.

- An increased number of embedded in-country facilitators are female.
- The countries in which the Partnership will undertake “higher level opportunities” have been identified by member countries and relevant partners; support processes have started in direct coordination with the ongoing country engagement process.

### FIGURE 3: TIMELINE OF GENDER STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION DURING THE 2018-2020 WORK PROGRAM



RESULTS LEVEL	INDICATOR	BASELINE (2018)	TARGET (2020)	MEANS OF VERIFICATION
<b>IMPACT:</b> Member countries advance gender equality considerations into climate action.	% of member countries who are drawing on the technical gender support of Partnership members <sup>8</sup> that have developed gender-responsive climate action. <sup>9</sup>	—	100%	Assessment of gender mainstreaming into climate action as part of the NDC Partnership Evaluation in 2021. This will build on relevant program assessments of institutional and development partners.
<b>OUTCOME 1:</b> NDC Partnership members commit financial, technical assistance, and capacity building support to requesting member countries.	% of developed countries, institutional members, or partners that have allocated financial resources or that have provided technical capacity building support to member countries for mainstreaming gender into NDCs under the Country Engagement process.	TBD	100%	2021 Review of extent to which institutional and developed country members have supported other member countries in NDC gender mainstreaming support.
<b>OUTPUT 1.1:</b> Members agree on a coordinated approach to support gender-responsive NDCs and commit to providing technical support to mainstream gender into NDCs.	Members agree on a coordinated approach and key technical assistance areas needed for supporting gender-responsive NDCs in 2019.	N	Y (in 2019)	SU tracking of partner and member engagement.
	Completed mapping of NDC Partnership members' and partners' capacity building offerings against the agreed-upon approach and technical assistance areas needed for supporting gender-responsive NDCs in 2019.	N	Y (in 2019)	
	# of individual NDC Partnership members or partners providing technical gender support to member countries facilitated by the SU.	0	10 (5 per year)	

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RESULTS LEVEL	INDICATOR	BASELINE (2018)	TARGET (2020)	MEANS OF VERIFICATION
<b>OUTPUT 1.2:</b> SU connects member countries requesting gender knowledge or technical support with available gender resources (e.g., referrals to members' technical support, knowledge portal, peer convening).	# of member countries that received technical gender capacity building support or knowledge resources (facilitated by SU) and used this learning to inform country NDC processes.	0	5	SU tracking of support provided at country level.
	# of gender and climate peer exchanges (co-) organized or supported by SU.	2	5 (2-3 per year)	SU tracking of peer exchanges convened.
	% of NDC Partnership-supported events, convenings, and peer exchanges where there are no single-sex panels or conference speakers.	—	100%	SU tracking of peer exchanges convened.
<b>OUTCOME 2:</b> Member countries with Partnership Plans and/or revised NDCs have included elements supporting gender-responsive NDCs.	# of member countries (receiving in-country NDC Partnership support) that have initiated or undertaken capacity building activities for mainstreaming gender into their NDC (based on a minimum standard for gender mainstreaming).	TBD	5 (done on a pilot basis)	2021 qualitative assessment on whether revised NDC interventions address gender and social gaps and inequalities.
	# of newly revised NDCs among member countries that have incorporated gender equality aspects.	1	40	
<b>OUTPUT 2.1:</b> SU mainstreams gender across the five stages of the County Engagement process.	# of gender analyses (basic information vs. in-depth) included in country engagement process through RSAs.	0; 0	40 (basic); 5 (in-depth)	Regular SU tracking of CE process.

RESULTS LEVEL	INDICATOR	BASELINE (2018)	TARGET (2020)	MEANS OF VERIFICATION
<b>OUTPUT 2.1:</b> SU mainstreams gender across the five stages of the County Engagement process.	% of Partnership Plans developed and periodically assessed with involvement of national gender agency and stakeholders.	TBD	50%	Regular SU tracking of CE process.
	% of Partnership Plans with sex-disaggregated and gender-responsive KPIs.	TBD	100%	
	% of Partnership Plans responsive to surfaced gender-related needs through consultation processes and gender analysis.	—	60%	
	% of Partnership Plans with gender-responsive budgeting and investments.	—	50%	
	# of in-Country Facilitator(s) nominated by country governments and in place (sex-disaggregated).	TBD	TBD, (40:60, female: male)	
<b>OUTPUT 2.2:</b> Members and SU communicate and promote gender equality in climate action.	# of NDC Partnership publications, case studies, editorials, videos, and public information materials that build on lessons learned and success stories surfaced through the Partnership's in-country engagement and global knowledge and learning work.	1	6 (3 per year)	Regular SU tracking of public materials produced.

# ANNEX 1:

## GENDER EQUALITY DEFINITIONS



### Gender

Gender refers to the roles, behaviors, activities, and attributes that a given society at a given time considers appropriate for men and women. In addition to the social attributes and opportunities associated with being male and female and the relationships between women and men and girls and boys, gender also refers to the relations between women and those between men. These attributes, opportunities, and relationships are socially constructed and are learned through socialization processes. They are context/time-specific and changeable. Gender determines what is expected, allowed, and valued in a woman or a man in a given context. In most societies, there are differences and inequalities between women and men in responsibilities assigned, activities undertaken, access to and control over resources, and decision-making opportunities. Gender is part of the broader socio-cultural context, as are other important criteria for socio-cultural analysis, including class, race, poverty level, ethnic group, sexual orientation, age, etc.



### Gender equality

This refers to the equal rights, responsibilities, and opportunities of women, men, girls, and boys. Equality does not mean that women and men will become the same but that women's and men's rights, responsibilities, and opportunities will not depend on whether they are born male or female. Gender equality implies that the interests, needs, and priorities of both women and men are taken into consideration, recognizing the diversity of different groups of women and men. Gender equality is not a women's issue but should concern and fully engage men as well as women. Equality between women and men is seen both as a human rights issue as well as a precondition for and indicator of sustainable people-centered development.



### Gender machineries

Gender machineries usually refer to formal government structures assigned to promote gender equality and/or improve the status and rights of women. Globally, gender machineries take a wide variety of forms, from formal ministries to temporary councils and committees. They may be established by formal statute, executive decree, or bureaucratic rules, or there may be machineries in political parties that have a widespread influence. Effective agencies have been statutory, centralized, complex, and well-funded, and take a form that withstands changes in political leadership.



### Gender mainstreaming

Gender mainstreaming is the chosen approach of the United Nations system and international community toward realizing progress on women's and girls' rights as a subset of human rights. It is a strategy for implementing greater equality for women and girls in relation to men and boys. Mainstreaming a gender perspective is the process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies, or programs in all areas and at all levels. It is a way to make women's as well as men's concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of policies and programs in all political, economic, and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality.



### Gender-sensitive

Understanding and taking into consideration socio-cultural factors underlying discrimination based on gender norms, roles, and access to resources.



### Gender-responsive

Identifying, understanding, and implementing interventions to address gender gaps and overcome historical gender biases in policies and interventions by addressing and changing gender norms, roles, and access to resources. Gender-responsive approaches go beyond sensitivity to gender differences, in application contributing pro-actively and intentionally to the promotion and advancement of gender equality.



### Gender-responsive budget

Gender-responsive budgeting is a method of determining the extent to which government expenditure has detracted from or come nearer to the goal of gender equality. A gender-responsive budget is not a separate budget for women, but rather a tool that analyzes budget allocations and public spending.

# ANNEX 2: NDC PARTNERSHIP GENDER SCOPING ASSESSMENT

## Key Findings & Recommendations

**Background:** The NDC Partnership identified gender-responsive NDC planning and implementation as a priority area for cooperation based on its guiding principles as well as country interest. In 2018, the Support Unit commissioned a Gender Scoping Assessment to identify the knowledge gaps, effective practices, and challenges of mainstreaming gender in NDCs, as well as the opportunities for supporting a gender-responsive approach across the Partnership. The study surveyed a sampling of member countries and implementing partners with noted engagement on gender issues as well as on challenges, needs, and opportunities for supporting gender-responsive NDCs. This sampling included Cote d'Ivoire, Kenya, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Peru, Philippines, and Uganda.

**Key Findings:** Countries are in the **early stages** of integrating gender in NDC processes, so gender has been considered primarily in the policy development and planning phases. Sustained attention is needed to overcome the challenges to the comprehensive inclusion of gender in these phases, as well as during implementation.

## ENABLING CONDITIONS

- **Political will and institutional arrangements** are critical to whether gender is mainstreamed into climate action.
- A **strong gender machinery**, including a **gender focal point system** across ministries, departments, and agencies with adequate technical capacity and authority.
- Inclusion of **gender language and action** in climate planning and policy.
- **Influential decision-maker(s)** advocating gender mainstreaming as a priority issue.
- Sound **technical capacity** on gender in climate change at both national and international levels by governments and implementing institutions.
- Targeted **financial resources** and/or **gender-responsive budgeting**.

## CHALLENGES

- A lack of **data and analysis** on gender and climate change specific to countries' contexts and priority sectors, limiting the evidence base on gender-differentiated issues and impacts.
- Limited engagement of **gender specialists** and provision of their **technical expertise**, particularly to support capacity building, training, and guidance on integrating gender in climate action.
- Difficulty **mobilizing financing** with specific earmarked funds to support gender-responsive action in response to identified inequalities, gaps, and barriers.

- Complex and siloed **coordination** of national climate change and NDC processes, where integration of gender remains limited, superficial, or lacks consistency.
- Limited **knowledge sharing** across countries and institutions on gender-responsive approaches, practices, or lessons of successes and barriers, as well as a lack of information on what knowledge resources and tools exist and/or where to access them.

## RECOMMENDED PRIORITY ACTIONS

- Allocate **dedicated funds**, both in domestic budgets and through international finance, to support women's rights and gender equality in the NDC process and outcomes.
- Ensure robust **disaggregated data** collection (at national and subnational levels) and ensure that **gender analyses** feed into the development of gender-responsive climate planning and implementation.
- Support engagement of **gender specialists** across sectors and throughout planning and implementation cycles, and build the **technical capacity** of government, stakeholders, and the public on gender and climate change.
- Facilitate **increased domestic coordination and inclusion of the gender machinery** through institutional arrangements and accountability mechanisms.

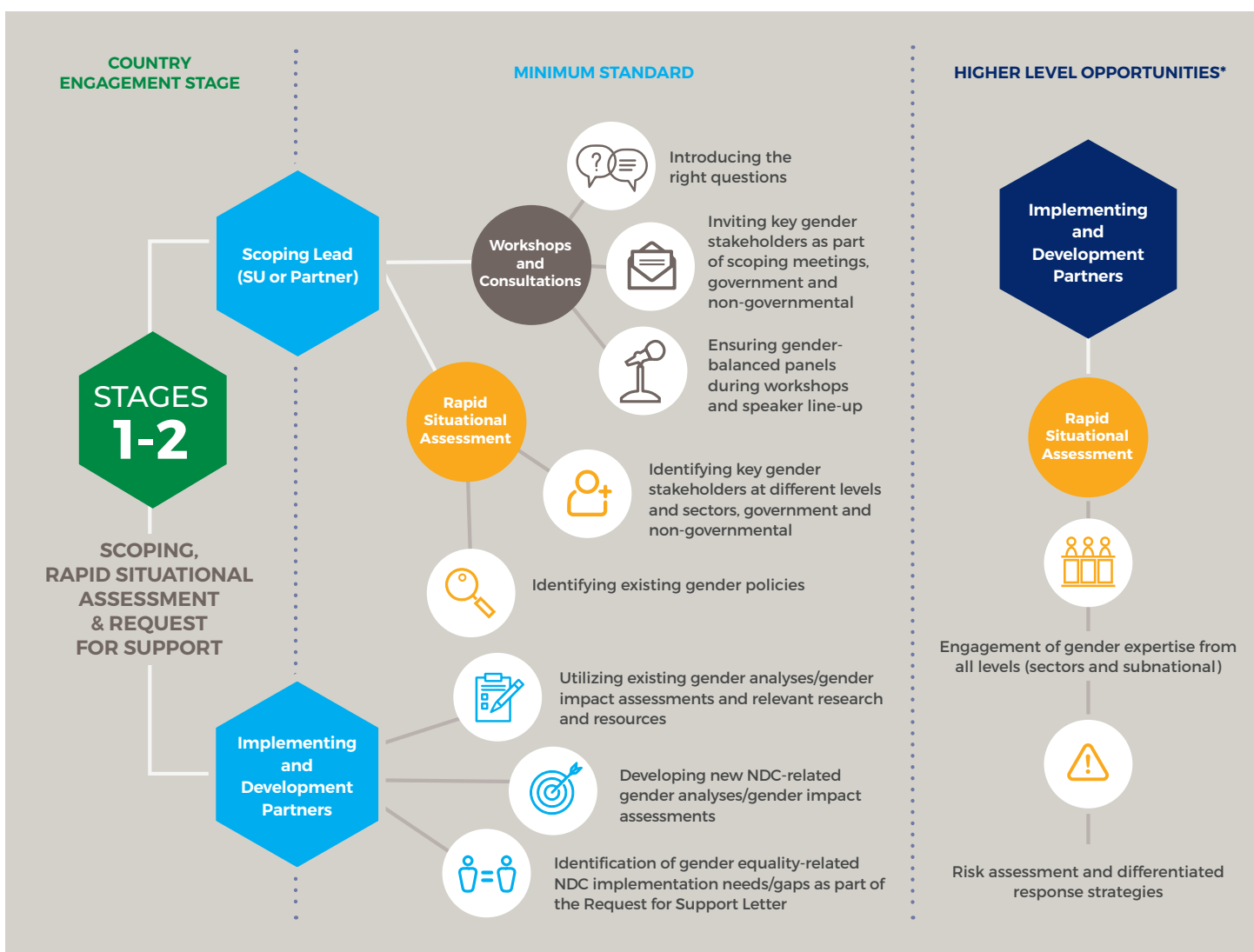
## ANNEX 3: ROLES AS DEFINED IN THE COUNTRY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

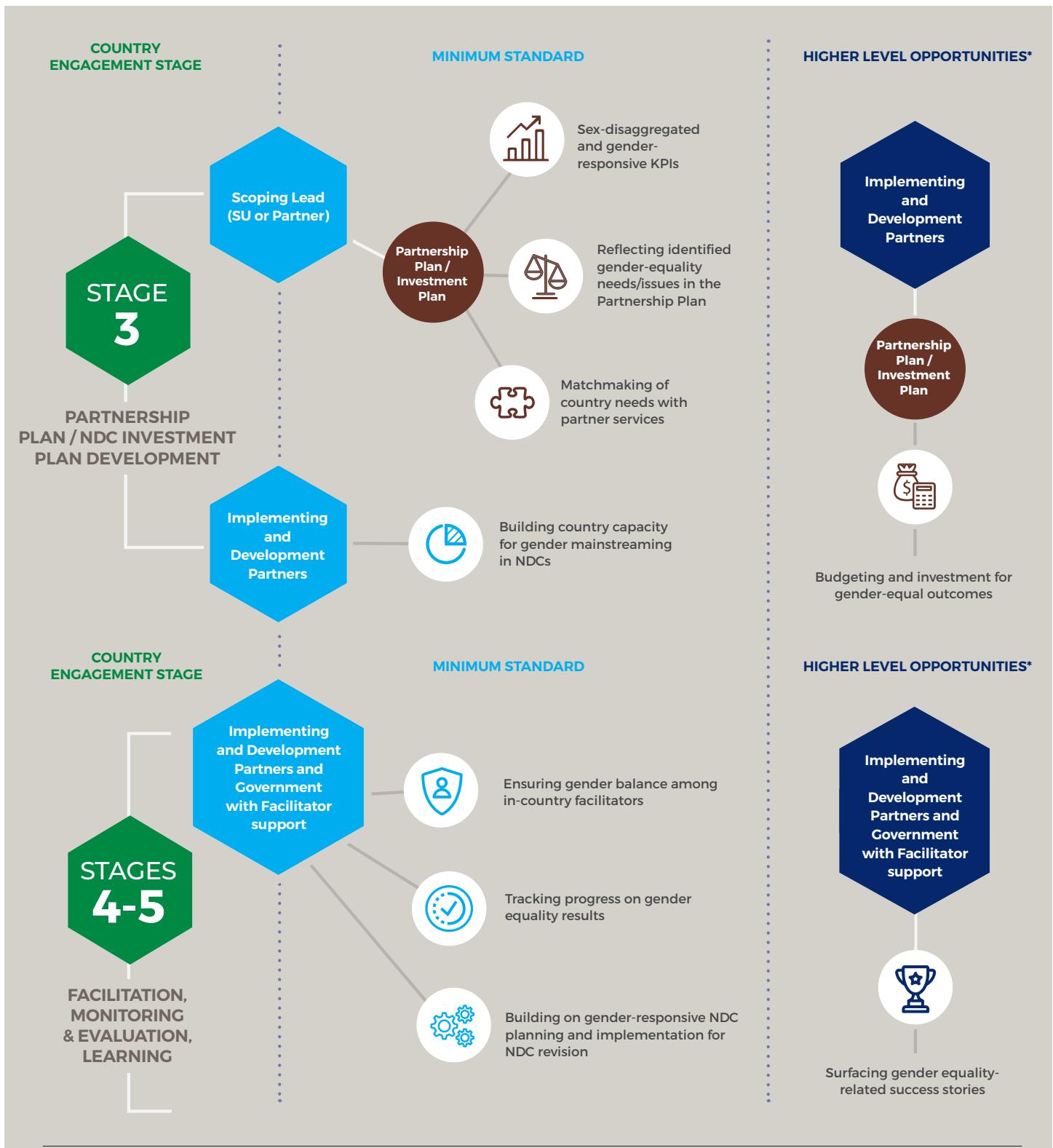
### Distinguishing between the Roles of In-Country Facilitator, Implementing Partners, and Focal Points

ROLE	MAIN FUNCTION	KEY RESPONSIBILITIES
<b>IN-COUNTRY FACILITATOR</b>	Country-level Coordination and Facilitation; Government capacity building, as applicable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Track implementation of and reporting on the Partnership Plan;</li> <li>Liase with the SU, IPs, and others as the government's NDC Partnership interface;</li> <li>Build government's capacity to coordinate/facilitate directly, as applicable.</li> </ul>
<b>IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS</b>	Implementation; Service delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver technical assistance, policy advice, and other services;</li> <li>Collaborate with others for synergies and results.</li> </ul>
<b>COUNTRY FOCAL POINTS (GOVERNMENT)</b>	Agenda-setting, decision-making, and approvals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shape the conversation and resulting work;</li> <li>Endorse/approve each key element of country engagement stages;</li> <li>Lead oversight of the implementation of the Partnership Plan.</li> </ul>

# ANNEX 4: MAINSTREAMING GENDER EQUALITY IN THE NDC PARTNERSHIP COUNTRY ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

The NDC Partnership Gender Strategy outlines a process to support countries to mainstream gender equality into climate and lays the foundation for the development and implementation of gender-responsive NDCs. This infographic provides an overview of how the NDC Partnership will integrate gender throughout its country engagement process. The NDC Partnership Knowledge & Learning workstream will facilitate gender mainstreaming by mapping members' technical capacity building resources, programs and knowledge tools, and supporting their uptake across member countries, as well as supporting country exchanges and access to information on successes, effective practices, and lessons through peer exchanges and insight briefs. These activities will support gender mainstreaming in the Country Engagement and other NDC Partnership processes. The NDC Partnership places high priority on gender equality and women's empowerment as a means to accelerate climate action and sustainable development and will work to implement the Gender Strategy to develop equal climate-related outcomes for all people.





\* Higher level opportunities for gender mainstreaming exist for countries that choose to pursue further opportunities to mainstream gender equality in climate action and NDC implementation processes, with additional support of partners. In countries where higher-level opportunities have been identified and governments endorse the approach, members of the Partnership, supported by the scoping lead, will ensure: 1) its implementation as part of the NDC Partnership country engagement process, and 2) the connection with larger NDC enhancement efforts of the country.

# ENDNOTES

- <sup>1</sup> Minimum Standards for Mainstreaming Gender Equality. Gender Practitioners Collaborative. <http://genderstandards.org/>
- <sup>2</sup> The Knowledge & Learning workstream is liaising with partner institutions (members and non-members) to map and identify relevant gender resources and technical support, including with UNDP, UN Women, World Bank, UNFCCC, WRI, and IUCN. For example, under UNDP's NDC Support Programme, the following countries have a dedicated gender mainstreaming support component: **Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Ghana, Kenya, Uganda, Zambia, Lebanon**, Bhutan, **Philippines**. Similarly, IUCN is providing gender support to: Bangladesh, **Nepal, Jordan**, Liberia, **Mozambique, Peru, Ghana, Uganda, Mexico, Dominican Republic, Lao PDR, Kenya**, El Salvador, **Honduras, Pakistan**. (Countries listed in **BOLD** indicates those currently undertaking country engagement processes.)
- <sup>3</sup> Resources for improving analytics and the availability of sex-disaggregated data from global data partnerships are available and include UN Women's 2018 Turing Promises into Action: Gender equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: <http://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2018/2/gender-equality-in-the-2030-agenda-for-sustainable-development-2018#view>.
- <sup>4</sup> Sample guiding questions to support a basic gender analysis: 1) How do climate policies help achieve gender-related objectives and take into account gender-differentiated impacts of climate change?; 2) What are the synergies between climate policies and key climate-related sectoral policies in relation to the integration of gender equality issues within climate action?; 3) How do gender policies incorporate climate change-related objectives?; 4) What are the institutional frameworks involved in climate action and have they appropriately mainstreamed gender equality and women's empowerment into climate action efforts?; 5) Which stakeholders are involved in climate change coordination mechanisms (e.g., national, subnational, civil society, academia)?; 6) What are the institutional structures for mainstreaming gender and respective mandates and capacities to influence the policy and programmatic objectives in relevant line ministries? How are they engaged in climate change responses?; 7) What strategies/actions are in place to guide gender mainstreaming in key climate sectors and to build their capacities? Is there a gender focal point system or network within each ministry?
- <sup>5</sup> Reviewing partners would include, in particular, regional or multilateral development bank members and finance-focused associate members.
- <sup>6</sup> Ultimately, this action should be considered the minimum standard. In the early stages of implementing the gender strategy, we suggest to pilot this in a set of countries first to build a working model for this action shared among partners with the relevant expertise. However, if the Steering Committee is confident that the Partnership can deliver this type of support and provide the resources required, it can be moved to the minimum standard column right away.
- <sup>7</sup> This is a comprehensive set of indicators. Note that we will show only top-level gender indicators within this gender strategy for illustrative purposes. All indicators listed above will be incorporated into the broader NDC Partnership Monitoring & Evaluation framework.
- <sup>8</sup> This refers mainly to dedicated technical support for mainstreaming gender into climate action, which NDC Partnership institutional and development partners are already providing to member countries.
- <sup>9</sup> "Gender-responsive climate action" means that country climate change plans and implementation are based on a clear understanding of the different needs, priorities, and climate change impacts for women, men, and disadvantaged groups, and the different gender roles and social norms across sex address identified gender inequalities.

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