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# Gender Assessment

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## **FP152: Global Sub national Climate Fund (SnCF Global) – Equity**

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**GREEN  
CLIMATE  
FUND**

## SnCF Gender Assessment

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### 1. Overview

The Subnational Climate Fund (SnCF) *Gender Assessment* serves as the foundation to strengthen the programme’s (Fund and Technical Assistance) responsiveness to the multiple, culturally-derived principles of gender equality and women’s empowerment, and to address the links between gender equality, climate mitigation and adaptation, and environmental sustainability in the context of a global climate equity fund and related Technical Assistance. The Assessment informs the accompanying *Gender Action Plan*, both at fund and project level, with indicators and targets to support SnCF commitments to and engagement with women, men, girls and boys, including those from marginalized communities<sup>i</sup>, in compliance with GCF and SnCF gender policies. The Assessment and Action Plan support the SnCF Environmental Social Management System (ESMS).

The Assessment builds upon quantitative data and qualitative evidence derived from field experience (including 1:1 household interviews), industry surveys, and desk review of existing literature and secondary databases, as noted in the Sources section. Like the ESMS, the SnCF Gender Assessment and Action Plan are living documents and will be regularly updated to reflect key developments, including:

- Portfolio:** The SnCF is a Fund of projects that may operate in up to 40 countries (to date SnCF has received 37 non-objection letters – NOLs). The specific portfolio of funded projects, and indeed the countries in which those projects may occur, are yet to be confirmed. Relevant country-specific, sex-disaggregated gender data must be assessed once the prospective project pipeline and host countries become known.
- COVID-19:** The full impact in the long term of the global COVID virus is unknown. In the short term, findings have already suggested that it has had differentiated impacts in the lives of men and women. With respect to reproductive work, women and girls, already disproportionately responsible for household duties, including water, food and fuel collection; food preparation; and taking care of children as well as elderly and ill relatives, have experienced heightened levels of responsibility in the midst of the pandemic and subsequent stay-at-home orders. In addition, home quarantines, market impacts and food shortages have also been found to increase household tensions and, as a result, women have been exposed to higher risks of domestic violence. The Assessment and Action Plan will be updated as virus-related development, people differentiated impacts and strategies for remediation become more clear (see Section 2.2).

## 1.1 Country Ownership

The Fund investment focus is sub-national climate projects. However, the SnCF fully adheres to the principle of country ownership. The Gender-responsive Assessment and Action Plans for every funded project will align with prevailing international ratified legal frameworks, regional and national gender policies, or other public policy for gender equality and women’s empowerment. The assessment and action plan will seek also to align the project with other national development strategies that promote equal opportunities, poverty reduction and sustainable use of natural resources whether in the intervention region or the sector. This will include analysis of the gender equality landscape and data relevant to the host country and in the targeted sector(s), including Nationally Determined Commitments (NDCs).<sup>ii</sup>

## 1.2 COVID Assessment

The SnCF will begin implementation before the impacts of the global COVID-19 virus crisis are fully known. However, it is clear that the impacts will be felt deeply in the host countries in which the SnCF plans to invest (see Graphic 1, below). Of particular relevance is the SnCF subnational focus, as over 90% of COVID cases occur within urban settings. With respect to gender-related impacts, the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities (UN-CCSA) concludes that COVID-19 will disproportionately impact the vulnerable and compound existing inequalities. Impacts may include food shortages, mobility restrictions, decreased access to health care and education, higher unemployment, and increases in domestic violence.”<sup>iii</sup>



**Graphic 1:** Confirmed cases of COVID-19, May 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic is threatening fragile gains on gender equality and women’s rights. As countries respond to the crisis, sex-disaggregated data is critical to examine the differential impact on women and men towards evidence-based decision-making. Globally, women on average do three times as much unpaid care and domestic work as men – a workload that intensifies with school closures and when health systems are overloaded. Additionally, research has begun to surface indicating that women are more vulnerable to losing their jobs than men in response to the crisis. Widespread job losses will have long-term impacts for women’s economic independence and security. With 740 million women globally in informal employment and a majority employed in services, women are being, and will continue to be, particularly hard hit by the impacts of the COVID crisis.<sup>iv</sup> Indigenous communities and specifically women and children are also more vulnerable due to overcrowded housing, unsafe water, and poor access to healthcare.<sup>v</sup>

The SnCF Gender-responsive Assessment and Action Plan will be updated on a regular basis to reflect the impacts of COVID in host countries and related project sectors.

## 2. Project Category Assessment

As previously noted, the SnCF will be a fund of projects that may operate in up to 40 countries. The specific portfolio of funded projects, and indeed the countries in which those projects will occur, have yet to be confirmed. At such time as host countries and prospective pipeline projects are identified, SnCF will seek country-specific, sex-disaggregated data by project type to inform gender-responsive project design and implementation. This activity will be supported by framework guidelines on gender assessment, to ensure that project proposal and implementation mainstream gender.

In the current absence of country-specific data, the SnCF has conducted peer-project Assessments to help identify the drivers of change and the gender dynamics needed to achieve the fund's project adaptation and mitigation goals. The SnCF will invest in the following project categories (all Category B – lower risk):

1. Energy Efficiency
2. Renewable energy (small scale solar and wind, no hydro)
3. Waste optimization– biochar, compost, recycling
4. Water and Sanitation
5. Regenerative Agriculture / Aquaculture (Nature based solutions)
6. Urban design solutions

SnCF has assessed each project categories beginning with the Gender-Related Vulnerabilities and Capacities for Change in GCF Projects.<sup>vi</sup> In addition, the Assessment is framed using the *Six Domains of Gender Analysis Framework Approach*<sup>vii</sup> including:

1. *Access* - to resources, income, services, employment, information, and benefits, poverty rate, formal / informal employment, unemployment, division of labour;
2. *Knowledge, Beliefs, and Perception* - commonly held beliefs, perceptions, and stereotypes, mobility, vulnerable groups;
3. *Practices and participation* - adult literacy rate, skills training and gaps, attendance at meetings and training courses, and accepting or seeking out services;
4. *Time and Space* - how time is spent and how men and women each contribute to the welfare of the family, community, and their society;
5. *Legal rights and status* – legal status of women, access to healthcare, access to and management of resources (economic, financial, physical, natural, other assets), access to ownership and recourse;
6. *Power and Decision Making*– existing gender inequalities that may be exacerbated by project impacts, anticipated differences in vulnerability and adaptive capacity<sup>viii</sup>, use of household and individual economic resources, choice of employment.

### 2.1 Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

**Table 1: - GCF Result Area Energy Access and Power Generation<sup>ix</sup>**

GCF - Result Area	GCF - Vulnerabilities	GCF - Capacities for Change
Energy access and Power generation	Share of women and women-headed households without energy access	Roles of women in household energy supply/use
	Impacts women are experiencing due to lack of energy access	Share of women and men in the energy labour market and type of occupation
		Policies and institutional framework to promote gender equality in energy/power generation

Energy access is fundamental for women's economic empowerment. For example solar water pumps, electrical grill, cooling, solar electricity, solar water heating all open the possibility for women micro and small enterprises (MSEs) to diversify livelihoods and reduce work load. [Source: 2017, UNDP, Gender and Sustainable Energy<sup>x</sup>] Energy efficiency and renewable energy projects have distinct gender characteristics that have the potential to disproportionately affect women and girls. For example, women and girls are often primarily responsible for collecting fuel and water at the community level. Also, poor women tend to participate in the informal economic sector (for example, the food sector), which relies strongly on biomass as its main energy source. This link and impact, however, is not recognized on a policy and programming level, leading to the gender impact not featuring heavily in national energy policies and priorities.

The project assessment below focuses on a clean cookstove example.

Indoor pollution from the burning of solid fuels is also a serious health problem for women and girls. Every year, 4.3 million people – mainly women and children, those most likely to be near the burning or because indoor air pollution is linked to cooking, a role predominantly held by women – die because of indoor air pollution. In 2012 alone, 7 million people died – representing one in eight of total global deaths – because of exposure to indoor air pollution, which confirms that air pollution is now the world's largest single environmental health risk. Women are also exposed to other health risks linked to the work of fuelwood / energy collection. Much of the work requires high levels of physical energy, however their access to nutrition within the household is often less than other family members. Women's poor nutrition vis-à-vis their workloads increases their susceptibility to anaemia and perinatal mortality, while the heavy lift of energy collection could result in postnatal complications and takes a toll on women's well-being. Moreover, gender-differentiated roles related to land and resources can also make women more vulnerable to gender-based violence (GBV) while carrying out daily responsibilities, as seen in firewood and water collection activities.<sup>xi</sup>

Energy poverty also affects women and girls' time, resulting in 'time poverty' (a lack of time for rest and leisure after taking into account the time spent working, whether in the labour market or at home). Women spend considerable time gathering biomass for energy. Because women are often responsible for these activities, climate-induced scarcity of natural resources can exacerbate their time poverty. As women are forced to travel and spend more time collecting these resources, they lose out on other, self-fulfilling activities (such as education, when otherwise available). A study conducted in India, Bangladesh and Nepal found that women in South Asia spend up to 20 or more hours per week in energy collection. Better access to modern energy can help alleviate some of these challenges. Research in Brazil also shows that girls in rural areas with access to electricity are 59 percent more likely to complete primary education by the time they are 18 years old than those without.

Improved cookstoves can reduce cooking time by 50 percent and increase fuel efficiency by 30 percent – high efficiency cookstoves lead to even larger benefits in time and energy savings, while also contributing to emissions reductions. A preliminary analysis of mitigation pledges under the Paris Agreement shows that some 32 countries have included efficient cooking initiatives in their INDCs.

In the formal sector, women generally have less access to finances and energy-related services than men. Studies from the Africa region, for example, show that women-headed businesses generally face more impediments than men in accessing grid electricity. Experiences in Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia suggest that women entrepreneurs also face greater discrimination than men in the form of delays in obtaining electrical connections and the expectation that they will pay bribes for these services. More broadly, women are often excluded from discussions about energy plans and policies across scales, despite being primary household-energy managers, limiting their entry into the energy industry and resulting in gender-blind energy project planning, financing, execution and implementation.

## Specific Project Assessment: Cookstoves in Brazil – Gender Responsive certification, challenges and opportunities<sup>xii</sup>

The introduction of the SDG framework and application of Gold Standard for the Global Goals offers new opportunities and tools to promote and measure outcomes in terms of gender equality. At the same time, achieving Gender Responsive certification requires a more comprehensive and precise approach to project monitoring. Table 1 summarizes the targets and indicators selected for the sample project in Brazil, together with the developer’s historic activities and the new activities under SDG 5 Gender Responsive Certification.

**Table 2: Historic and proposed gender indicators from Efficient Cookstoves initiative in Rural Brazil**

Gender Equality area	Current Impact and Monitoring	Gender-Responsive Approach		
		SDG 5 Target	SDG Indicator	New Impact and Monitoring
Burden of domestic work on women	Self-reported impacts on time-savings in fuel collection and housework, collected through in-home surveys	5.4 Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate	5.4.1 Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location.	Time savings study to determine quantitative change in time dedicated by women in fuel collection and cooking-related tasks due to adoption of new stove technology and practices and analysis of saved time spent
Women in Leadership	Network of Community Agents, women identified from the population of local stove users in rural communities	5.5 Ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life	5.5.2 Proportion of women in managerial positions	Expand team to include new managerial positions and training, and adopt Equal Work Equal Pay policy

Gender-based Violence	<i>No activities under current approach; implementation contingent on new funding opportunities</i>	5.2 Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.	5.2.2 Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence	Launch trafficking awareness and prevention campaign in rural communities, to reduce risk of rural women migrating to urban centers and becoming victims of sexual exploitation.
Sexual and reproductive health	<i>No activities under current approach; implementation contingent on new funding opportunities</i>	5.6 Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights.	5.6.1 Proportion of women aged 15-49 years who make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care	Partner with local and state health authorities to improve access to family planning information and resources for young women in rural areas.
Access to and opportunities regarding digital technology  OR  Empowering Women through Digital Technology	<i>No activities under current approach; implementation contingent on new funding opportunities</i>	5.B Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women.	5.B.1 Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone, by sex	Harness existing mobile phone network to build connectivity and explore micro-enterprise opportunities with women

### **Domestic Work**

Target 5.4 addresses the unequal burden shouldered by women throughout the world in regards to domestic labor. It is estimated that in Brazil women spend 2.5 times the number of hours as men on domestic tasks (de Melo, 2016). As Perene's cookstove model reduces wood use by half, there is significant time savings in fuel collection reported by the cookstove users. Prior to implementing the Gold Standard Gender Responsive

guidelines, monitoring of project impacts was limited to in-home surveys. Responses to survey questions are given in relative terms: “more/less/same” time for each activity comparing old stove to new stove.

Monitoring surveys (Perene, 2016) reveal that 80% of users report spent less time collecting wood with the new stove. In addition, the absence of open flames to blacken cookware, and the significant reduction in smoke in the home also improves household environment: 89% report their homes are cleaner overall with the new stove. Less tangible but equally important is that owners of improved cookstoves display a new-found pride in their homes and in themselves. Rural women report improved self-esteem and status on par with urban dwellers, as they become free of the stigma and discomfort of clothes, hair and skin damaged by smoke.

Building on the self-reported evidence of time saved, a Gender Responsive approach will capture the number of hours of fuel collection and improvement to household environment and how those savings translate to positive change. With additional investment, a paired-sample study of approximately 120 households to track time, distance and frequency of fuel collection, time spent in cleaning and cooking activities, as well as how time is spent, for instance in education or income-generating activities, could be carried out to determine the full impact of the substitution of traditional stoves by improved cookstoves. This impact data can enable further monetization of the outcomes beyond carbon credit income, as well as contributing to the sense of value placed by the women themselves on the new practices and technology adopted.

### ***Women in Leadership***

Women have been involved as decision makers from the start of the Perene Institute’s work. From lead engineer to field agents, female leadership is a pillar of the organization’s successful promotion of better cooking technology and practices. In the design phase, women participated with equal access and almost equal numbers as men, contributing to the cookstove specifications, features and materials. In user aspects, women’s voices have been the most valuable, as they represent over 85% of the cookstove users. The participative approach has proven to be highly effective and the model has been well adopted and fitted to local cooking customs. Women continue to play a determining role when it comes to implementation: they are responsible for signing the Terms of Agreement, deciding with the construction team where the new stove will be located, giving feedback during household visits and surveys and sharing information with other community members about the project. In monitoring activities, local women are trained as Community Agents, carrying out annual surveys and teaching cookstove users how to best operate and maintain their stoves.

With the adoption of Indicator 5.5.2, Perene will invest in strengthening the role of the Community Agents and include two new positions: Community Agent Coordinator and Training Supervisor. Increasing the participation of women in managerial positions is expected to have a direct and positive effect on the long-term adoption rates of stove users and the overall success of the project.

The sale of carbon credits at current market prices does not provide sufficient project funding for the additional time-savings studies needed to monitor Indicator 5.4.1 (Time spent on domestic work), or for hiring additional human resources for progress on Indicator 5.5.2 (Women in managerial positions), which would be required for Gender Responsive Certification. This opens the opportunity for new funding and partners to leverage the existing project development framework for carbon offset projects - community relations, credibility, logistics, communications and implementation team - to reach numerous SDG 5 Targets. Examples of additional synergistic targets include:

- Target 5.2 *Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.* Existing monitoring activities of the project mean that female Community Agents visit hundreds of homes in their rural communities and speak one-on-one with women in the safety and privacy of their homes. With additional training and support, Community Agents could also raise awareness of the risk of trafficking among the population.
- Target 5.6 *Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights.* In a similar way, the cookstove projects’ household visits and periodic community meetings have the

potential to reach thousands of women in remote areas, connecting them with existing public family planning services.

- Target 5.B *Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women.* In recent years, mobile phone ownership in rural areas has become widespread and most town centers offer some access to the internet. The potential for supporting and addressing the additional needs of women - through connectivity platforms, online training courses, small business ventures - is obvious, but starting up such initiatives in remote, low-resource settings is daunting. The existing infrastructure and operational momentum of Efficient Cookstoves projects, coupled with the relationship of trust built by years of delivering on commitments, offers an unparalleled context to launch such women-centered initiatives.

### **Alignment with National Gender Policies**

The Efficient Cookstoves initiative is fully aligned with Brazilian policies for gender equality. Brazil's national gender policies are spearheaded by the Ministry of Justice and Citizenship under the Special Secretariat for Women's Policies. The overarching mission of the Secretariat is:

*Promoting the capacity and participation of women in the roles of power and decision-making, based on the understanding that the under-representation of women has diverse causes. Therefore, changes must be promoted in various social spheres including: cultural, educational, legislative and institutional (Ministry of Justice and Citizenship, 2017).*

Two of the main actions outlined by the Secretariat, in particular, are directly promoted by the Efficient Cookstoves program: (1) *Support the capacity-building of women leaders* and (2) *Make available data, information and studies on the subject of gender.* Since its inception, the Efficient Cookstoves program has invested in women leadership, from Perene's Technical and Monitoring management and the 65 rural women who form the Community Agents network to the 6,500 women trained in adopting new technology and better practices.

Regarding action (2) of Secretariat, all project data is gender disaggregated and made publicly available online through the Markit Environmental Registry. This practice contributes to the national effort of monitoring and evaluating impacts on a gender basis and increases project transparency.

As the Efficient Cookstoves project demonstrates, project activities can and should be aligned with the national Gender agenda. In fact, adoption of the Gold Standard Gender Equality Framework ensures that projects meet or exceed the requirements of their host country regarding Gender Equality. Reviewing federal and local legislation and incorporating pertinent aspects in project design is an essential step in the project certification process.

## 2.2 Waste, Water, and Sanitation

**Table 3: - GCF Results Area Infrastructure and the Built Environment<sup>xiii</sup>**

<b>GCF Result Area</b>	<b>Vulnerabilities</b>	<b>Capacities for Change</b>
Infrastructure and the built environment	Share and number of women lacking access to adequate infrastructure (water supply, sanitation, flood protection, housing, energy access, etc.)	<p>Roles of women in the design and maintenance of infrastructure and the built environment</p> <p>Share of women and men in relevant labour markets and type of occupation</p> <p>Policies and institutional framework to promote equal access to adequate infrastructure</p>

**Water and climate:** [Source: UN-Water<sup>xiv</sup>] Growing demand for water increases the need for energy-intensive water pumping, transportation, and treatment, and has contributed to the degradation of critical water-dependent carbon sinks such as peatlands. In less developed countries, an estimated 2.5 billion still people rely on biomass, such as fuelwood, charcoal, agricultural waste and animal dung, to meet their energy needs for cooking and water treatment. In many countries, these resources account for over 90% of household energy consumption<sup>xv</sup>. Cutting trees both adds carbon dioxide to the air and removes the ability to absorb existing carbon dioxide. If tropical deforestation were a country, it would rank third in carbon dioxide-equivalent emissions, behind China and the U.S.<sup>xvi</sup>

**Gender imperative:** [World Health Organization<sup>xvii</sup>] The right to water and sanitation is recognized as fundamental to attaining all other human rights. Globally, however, 2.1 billion people do not have access to safe drinking water at home, 2.3 billion do not have basic sanitation and 1 billion practice open defecation. Women and girls are disproportionately affected by the lack of access to basic water, sanitation and hygiene facilities, as they play a larger role relative to men in water, sanitation and hygiene activities, including in agriculture and domestic labour. This situation has implications for gender equality and empowerment.

One priority area is that of women's water-fetching responsibility and its associated time-use burden, and the implications for health and economic well-being. Women and girls are responsible for fetching water in four out of five households where a drinking water source is off premises. Another priority is the growing evidence on sanitation-related gender-based violence faced by women and girls. Reports from Ethiopia, India, and refugee or internally-displaced persons camps in Guinea, Haiti, Kenya, Liberia, the Philippines, Sierra Leone and Somalia document physical and sexual harassment and assault by non-partners, fear of sexual violence and harassment and stress faced by women and girls while they attempt to access shared sanitation facilities.

Another priority area is that of women's participation in water, sanitation and hygiene decision-making and governance, leading to their social and political empowerment. One multi-country study found women's participation in key water committee positions of leadership to be a significant predictor of functional and sustainable water systems. There is evidence that empowering women to make sanitation decisions can enhance performance outcomes for the household and community.

**Specific Project Assessment - The Lango Safe Water Project<sup>xviii</sup>.** The project employed a gender responsive approach to empower women and girls in delivering climate action in rural Uganda. The project rehabilitates boreholes to provide clean water access to the local communities. In Lango, access to safe water is a major challenge and boreholes often fall into disrepair due to a lack of funding or training in their maintenance. This forces communities to use unsafe water sources such as streams, in which the water must be boiled. To boil the water, communities collect and burn firewood, which places greater pressure on dwindling forests and produces CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. It also creates a burden for women and children, who typically spend hours every day collecting firewood and water. Despite these efforts, boiling water alone still does not always guarantee that it is safe to drink, allowing waterborne diseases to continue to afflict the community.

**Gender-Responsive:** The Lango Safe Water Project implemented gender-responsive project design and elected to certify the project's gender impacts with a third-party auditor. The assessment and design were based on a comprehensive gender analysis to establish a gender baseline through a baseline survey and supplementary gender-focused local stakeholder meetings. Through these activities, three key themes were identified:

1. *Time poverty* – the amount of time women and girls spend collecting water greatly diminishes their ability to engage in income-generation or education, increasing their economic dependence and decreasing time for rest and leisure.
2. *Individual and community empowerment* - including meaningful participation and leadership, stronger social networks and agency that enables women more of a say in decision-making on key issues affecting the community.
3. *Exposure to gender-based violence in water collection* – it emerged that women suffer GBV whilst travelling long distances to collect water and may also face domestic violence at home as a result of delays in other household chores caused by the length of time it takes to collect water.

The project used the assessment to focus their action plan around the following project elements, in addition to addressing the issue of badly maintained boreholes:

1. The principle of shared domestic responsibilities to instil the idea that time women save on water collection should be spent on empowerment-focused activities, not simply redirected to other unpaid domestic tasks.
2. Gender-parity in the Water Resource Committees and group dynamics training to ensure the viewpoints of all members are heard equally.
3. Awareness raising of the harms of gender-based violence, promoting open dialogue within the communities to ensure that it is understood and dispelled from the level of community leaders.

**Certified Project Impacts:** To date, the boreholes rehabilitated through the project have brought clean water to over 40,000 people throughout Lango. Almost 100% of people use the rehabilitated boreholes for the majority of their water needs. For borehole users, there is no longer a need to boil water to make it safe, thereby eliminating associated CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Users also benefit from reduced exposure to waterborne disease and women and children save hours every day, enabling them to invest their time in other more productive activities. The certified project impacts include:

- Approximately 100,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduced per year
- 2 hours a day saved on water collection - this time saved is spent on other unpaid domestic tasks and income-generation, leisure, religious activities and empowerment focused activities within the community.
- A male and female member of each WRC were present at the gender equality awareness raising meetings. These 206 members then shared the information gathered back to the local communities.
- The ratio of male and female members in the project Water Resource Committees is approaching parity with 46% female to 54% male.
- None of the women reported incidents of domestic violence related to water collection since the project started, compared to 35% prior to the project.
- Borehole users have reported an 85% reduction in incidents of bullying, intimidation and assault during water collection since the borehole was rehabilitated.

### 2.3 Nature-based Solutions (NbS)

**Table 4: - GCF Results Area Ecosystem and Ecosystem Services<sup>xix</sup>**

GCF Result Area	Vulnerabilities	Capacities for Change
Ecosystem and ecosystem services	Share and number of women depending on ecosystem and ecosystem services for livelihoods	Roles of women in the community/ household with reference to natural resource use  Share of women and men in the natural resources / agricultural labour market and type of occupation  Policies and institutional framework to promote gender equality in access to ecosystem services

Ecosystems and ecosystem services are strongly linked to gender disparities, and have significant potential to impact the gender and social relations within communities. As discussed, women play a large role in the collection and use of natural resources within households, while also holding valuable roles in agriculture and food systems. Conversely, by including women in nature-based solutions and efforts to preserve ecosystems communities can have exponential impact in addressing ecosystem challenges and gender inequality simultaneously. With ecosystems at an increased risk of destruction as a result of climate change, it is increasingly evident that women and men should equally be involved and included in efforts to develop these nature-based solutions.

**Specific Project Assessment- The Coastal Resilience to Climate Change Initiative:** The Coastal Resilience to Climate Change Initiative (CRCC) is a four-year initiative that aims to strengthen and restore the value of coastal and marine ecosystem goods and services to improve social, economic and ecological resilience to climate change. It aims to use nature-based and other innovative solutions to deliver practical solutions to improve livelihoods and provide upstream benefits.

**Gender responsive activities of the Initiative:** The initiative has implemented a few activities in Mozambique specifically. Mozambique ranks third amongst the African countries most exposed to risks from multiple weather-related hazards, suffering from cyclic floods, cyclones and droughts. Much of this vulnerability is directly related to climate change. The activities have addressed various ecosystem challenges while integrating gender-responsive activities, including in dune stabilization, mangrove restoration and agriculture conservation efforts.

*Dune restoration:* In Inhassoro District Youth (8 girls, 7 boys) have been trained in dune stabilization methods and techniques, with an emphasis on a combination of green and grey infrastructures (combination of vegetation and concrete blocks). Dune restoration is an activity that is locally considered 'heavy duty' thus solely seen as a male activity. The CRCC project has changed this mentality by engaging girls in the training sessions, empowering them and allowing their meaningful and active participation in conservation and sustainability of coastal environment. The expected outcome is increased resilience for the Inhassoro community, reduction in coastal erosion thus reducing risk of climate change effects.

*Mangrove Ecosystem Restoration:* The cyclone IDAI in 2019 hit Dondo District, affecting both men and women from coastal communities of Sengo and Farol. This resulted in a loss of fishing gear and destruction of social infrastructures, including ecosystems such as mangroves and coastal dunes. The CRCC Project supported 50 community members (45 men and 5 women) to be trained on 'Ecological Mangrove Restoration' methods such as establishing mangrove tree nurseries, plantation management and practicing survey techniques to determine mangrove zonation in a reference forest. The expected outcomes include conserved and restored mangrove forests, which provide nursery grounds for fish, ensure erosion reduction, and increase the awareness of mangrove ecosystems importance in providing environmental services.

*Conservation Agriculture:* Inhassoro communities face different climate risks, including droughts, cyclones and erosion that threatens their livelihoods. Low rainfall affects agriculture productivity and, consequently, food security. At the beginning of 2020 CRCC supported 2 communities in development of conservation agriculture. To increase agriculture resilience 23 members (19 women) were trained on farming practices, such as using mulching to help prevent loss of water by evaporation, maintaining soil structure and promoting soil productivity, and on producing biological pesticides using certain plants. The expected outcome is increased local capacity in conservation agricultural practices and improved local livelihoods, taking advantage of biodiversity and ecosystem services.

## 2.4 Sustainable Development Goals

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) make an explicit commitment to gender, both as a standalone goal on gender equality and women's empowerment (SDG 5) as well as a crosscutting theme across the SDGs. Among the 230 unique global SDG indicators, 53 explicitly reference women, girls, gender, or sex.<sup>xx</sup> SDG 13 on combating climate change aims to promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries, including focusing on women, youth, and local and marginalised communities. The following qualitative and quantitative gender sensitive indicators will inform the Action Plan. They are derived from a preliminary Assessment of SDG 5 and SDG 13 targets (to reflect the Secretariat guidance regarding the GCF SDG 13 focus). In practice SDG 5 is cross cutting beyond just SDG 13.

**SDG Targets, Category 1 - Economic:**

- Recognise and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate.
- Ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision making in political, economic and public life.
- Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws.
- Enhance the use of enabling technologies including information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women.
- Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels.
- By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.
- By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all (within a country), irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.

**SDG Targets, Category 2 - Social:**

- Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.
- Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation.
- Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences.
- Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment.

**Table 2:** Economic Empowerment Goals and Sample Indicators – SDG Assessment

Economic Empowerment Goals	Potential Project Action	Example of gender-responsive indicators
1) Income and expenditures	Closing of gender gaps in earnings and income generation opportunities	Qualitative increase in earning and income generation opportunities for both women and men expressed as income ratio of men to women Percentage change in expenditure on purchasing fuel / electricity for household energy needs in women-headed households
2) Economic assets	Closing of gender gaps in asset access, ownership and control; Absolute increase in women’s relative control and ownership of an asset	Number/proportion of women with improved access to financial mechanisms (equity investment, affordable loans, etc.) for low-carbon/climate-resilient products and services Evidence of the type of financial incentives used to encourage women’s entry into the market for provision of low-carbon/climate-resilient products and services (e.g., finance packages, tax benefits and rebates, subsidies, pilot schemes, partnerships with

		financial institutions, the private sector or women's associations)
3) Quality employment	Closing of gender gaps in labour market segregation and paid and unpaid employment	Quantifiable increase in targeted and diversified employment opportunities for women and men (expressed as a ratio) coupled with support for reproductive responsibilities Number and percentage of women who report time-savings and increased ability to engage in economic activities due to improvements in their own health care, reduced childhood illnesses, etc, including work in the formal sector.
4) Education	Closing of literacy gap between boys and girls and parity in enrolment rates in primary, secondary and tertiary education	Quantifiable increase in enrolment rates of boys and girls and rates of graduation with relevant skills

**Table 3:** Social Empowerment Goals and Sample Indicators – SDG Assessment

Social Empowerment Goals	Potential Project Action	Example of gender-responsive indicators
1) Individual and community empowerment including meaningful participation and leadership, Increase in women networks and organizations and agency	Closing of gender gaps in women and men's participations and leadership and access to networks  Closing of gender gaps in leadership positions and decision making at the individual, household, community and political level	Quantitative indicators that measure targets and quotas for women's participation and leadership in community, including their access to social networks  Quantifiable increase in the percentage of women making decisions on behalf of their families, communities and government
2) Applied skills and training	Closing of gender gaps and stereotypes in women's and men's access to applied skills and training	Qualitative and verifiable increase in women's and men's relative confidence, skills and know-how, e.g., on appraising investments and developing projects Evidence of the type of incentives designed to recruit women, increase their capacity and provide career development in targeted sector agencies and service providers

3) Secure access to health, reproductive health and rights	Closing of gender gaps in accessing health services and entitlements expressed as a ratio	Quantifiable improvement in women's overall health and determination of health rights and service delivery Number of beneficiaries, i.e., people with improved living and occupancy conditions, including women and women-headed households
4) Access to infrastructure services and technologies	Closing of gender gaps in access to infrastructure services	Quantifiable increase in women's control over, decisions in, related skills development and access to infrastructure services (e.g., transport, renewable energy supplies) and technologies (e.g., increased number of women and men passengers on trips and freight using low-carbon transport) Time saved in collecting and carrying water, fuel and forest products due to environmentally sustainable and climate change mitigation/adaptation activities Capacity building of both women and men to use, maintain and manage low-carbon and climate-resilient solutions and technologies
5) Rest and leisure	Closing of gender gaps in women and men's unpaid time poverty and labour burden	Quantitative indicators that measures women's and men's shift in time spent on leisure activities

### 3. Fund Application

The Assessment provides a frame for the gender-related elements of the SnCF investment portfolio, as well as for the Fund itself. Specifically, the Assessment has been used to inform the following areas within the Fund:

- Governance – including roles and responsibilities to achieve SnCF gender equity targets;
- Competencies and capacity development – including ESMS Manager, gender specialist(s), SDG specialist, and related training;
- Resource allocation, accessibility and budget – at both SnCF and invested project level, the Gender Action Plan has dedicated budget allocated for its implementation;
- Operational procedures – at both SnCF and invested project level. This includes mandatory inclusion of a gender assessment as part of ESIA (Environmental & Social Impact Assessment) for each project, and gender-responsive stakeholder consultation requirements and safeguards, based on Gold Standard Gender Equality Guidelines & Requirements as well as monitoring and evaluation; and –
- Knowledge generation and communications.

Gender-related outputs at Fund level <sup>xxi</sup>	SnCF Fund-level targets	Status 06-2020
Gender and social inclusion policies in place at fund level	Endorsement of gender and social inclusion policy by fund management committee	100%
Gender procedures and checklists incorporated in fund's ESMS	Comprehensive ESMS with updated gender procedures	100%
Recruitment of women in projects	Aspire for gender parity in SnCF project team, at least 40% of employees will be female including senior and decision-making positions	46%
Recruitment of women in fund capacity-building, field and monitoring teams	Aspire for gender parity, at least 25% of project field / monitoring team members will be female	TBD
Ensure SnCF internal annual reporting includes requirements, targets and reportable progress	100% annual compliance with gender reporting at fund level	TBD
Dedicate necessary finances and human resources to implement the Gender Policy and Gender Strategy	ESMS Manager, gender specialist and SDG Specialists on SnCF team	
Dedicate resources required to build and strengthen staff capacity related to knowledge management, learning	Line item in budget for gender-related capacity building within SnCF team	
Appoint gender specialist/consultants as needed	Gender specialist available to SnCF team as needed, additional project consultants hired as needed	
Audit and verification teams have the expertise to review and assess project gender responsiveness and impact	Gender training programme for audit and verification teams	

**Table 1:** SnCF Fund-level Assessment

### 3.1 Safeguards and Consultation

All projects considered by SnCF must have mandatory gender-sensitive and gender-responsive procedures and strategies that adhere to the Gold Standard Gender Equality Guidelines & Requirements<sup>xxii</sup>. These guidelines, aligned with the SnCF ESMS, require project developers to complete gender-sensitive safeguards assessment and stakeholder consultations as part of initial project design and feasibility. This is a mandatory foundational requirement that applies to all SnCF projects, which includes:

#### *Social Safeguarding Principles*

- 3.1 Principle 1 – Human Rights
- 3.2 Principle 2 – Gender Equality and Women's Rights
- 3.3 Principle 3 – Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions
- 3.4 Principle 4 – Indigenous Peoples, Displacement and Resettlement (not applicable, Cat B)
  - 3.4.1 Sites of Cultural and Historical Heritage
  - 3.4.2 Forced Eviction and Displacement

### 3.4.3 Land Tenure and Other Rights

### 3.4.4 Indigenous Peoples

### 3.5 Principle 5 – Corruption

#### *Economic Safeguarding Principles*

### 3.6 Principle 6 – Economic Impacts

#### 3.6.1 Labour Rights

#### 3.6.2 Negative Economic Consequences

## 3.2 Gender-Responsive Project Design

It is impossible to integrate gender equality into projects or activities without clearly understanding gender issues within the targeted population. Gender-responsive design requires a gender analysis to understand the social, economic and political factors underlying climate change-exacerbated gender inequality, and the potential contribution of women and men to mitigate and adapt to climate change in the project. The analysis also allows project developers to identify strategies, action and indicators to better assess how initiatives have engaged with or impacted different groups.

Building on the safeguards and consultations, SnCF will require prospective projects to establish and commit to the following mandatory, minimum gender-responsive requirements.<sup>xxiii</sup>

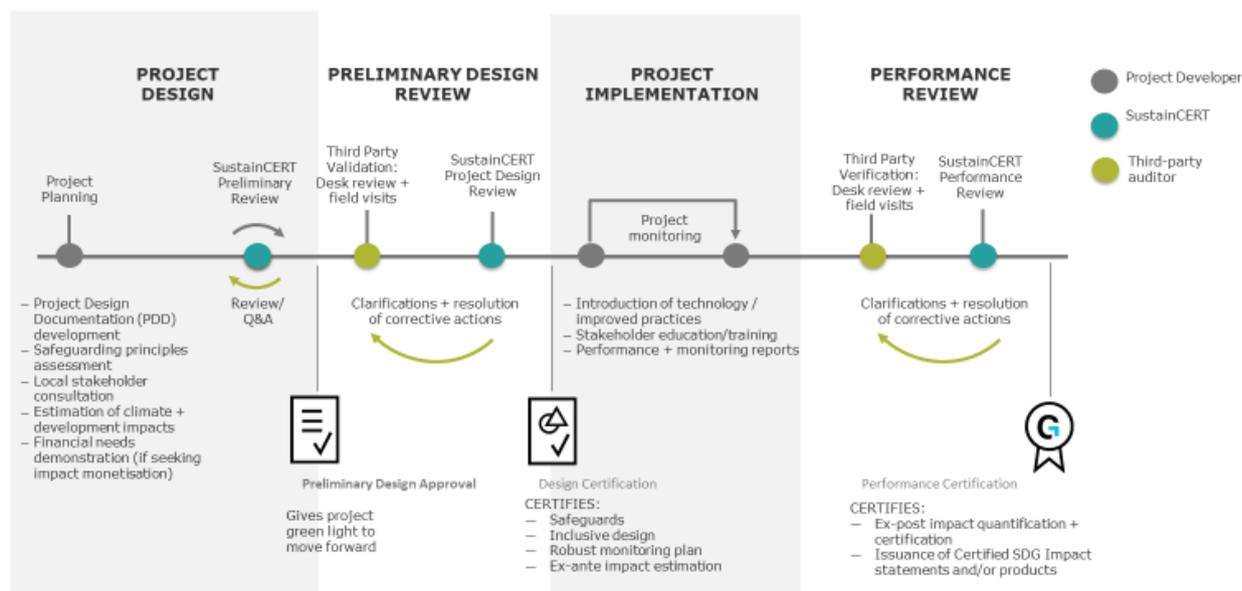
- Collect, analyse and apply sex-disaggregated data and using gender indicators to inform gender-responsive monitoring, evaluation, reporting and learning on IUCN programmatic activities.
- Conduct gender analyses and applying key issues and recommendations identified to inform gender-responsive project design, budgeting, staffing, implementation, monitoring and evaluation;
- Analyse risks that the project may experience or pose, putting measures in place to ensure activities do not exacerbate existing gender-related inequalities, including gender-based violence, and seize opportunities to address gender gaps and support empowerment of women;
- Structure inclusive and gender-sensitive project teams that demonstrate appropriate capacities and technical expertise to support gender-responsive action;
- Ensure women and men have equal opportunities in terms of participation, decision-making and benefits, throughout the identification, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of activities;
- Allocate sufficient resources for specific activities, technical support and/or other actions to improve gender equality considerations, including the meaningful engagement of diverse stakeholders and beneficiaries;

SnCF may direct and/or support should an expert stakeholder opinion (with a specific emphasis on gender and environment expertise) be required to support the gender safeguards assessment or project design process, depending on project type, scale and context.

### **Gender Claim Certification**

In addition to climate and other SDG goals, the SnCF projects will establish gender claims that can be quantified, qualified and documented in support of a strong business case and investor interest in gender equality outcomes. The gender claims will be verified by third party auditors, per the process in Graphic 2.

## CERTIFICATION PROCESS



**Graphic 2: Certification Process**

### 3.3 Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

The SnCF has a rigorous M&E framework, with mandatory impact certification at both fund and project level. All SnCF projects must include mandatory SDG-13 impact targets, a certified gender-sensitive framework, mandatory, minimum gender-responsive elements, and a minimum of two additional SDG impact targets. The project's monitoring framework includes gender-responsive targets and indicators to monitor gender equality results against the established baseline.

M&E occurs at every stage of the project, from initial feasibility, project design, preliminary design review, implementation and ongoing performance review (See Graphic 2, above). Monitoring is led by third-party auditors and certification is led by an independent third-party expert (SustainCERT).

## 4. Sources

- [ACDI/VOCA- Gender Analysis, Assessment, and Audit Manual & Toolkit](#)
- [Harvard- Gender Roles Framework or Gender Analysis Framework](#)
- [FAO- Socio-Economic and Gender Analysis Field Handbook](#)
- [Gender Analysis in Natural Resource Management | Land Portal](#)
- [Gender Analysis for Sustainable Livelihoods and Participatory Governance in Rwanda](#)
- <https://www.pacificclimatechange.net/document/gender-analysischecklist-food-security-and-climate-change-within-programme-or-project>
- How to Conduct a Gender Analysis | [USAID ASSIST Project](#)
- The World Bank's PPP website with collated resources across the following sectors: Agriculture, Education, Energy, Health, Information and Communications Technology (ICT), Transport, Water and Sanitation. See: <http://ppp.worldbank.org/public-private-partnership/ppp-sector/genderimpacts-ppps/sector-specific-materials/sector-specific-materials>

- Asian Development Bank (2013) Tool Kit on Gender Equality Results and Indicators <https://www.adb.org/documents/tool-kit-gender-equality-resultsand-indicators>
- The Gender Data Portal for the latest sex-disaggregated data and gender statistics covering demography, education, health, economic opportunities, public life and decision-making, and agency, see <http://datatopics.worldbank.org/gender/>
- GACC tool see <http://cleancookstoves.org/resources/490.html>

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- World bank estimates based on International Labour Organization, ILOSTAT database. Data retrieved in March 1, 2020.

<sup>i</sup> 2019, November 6, GCF: Updated Gender Policy and Gender Action Plan 2020–2023, page 3

<sup>ii</sup> 2017, August, GCF: Mainstreaming Gender in Green Climate Fund Projects, page 24

<sup>iii</sup> 2020, May, CCSA: How COVID-19 is changing the world: a statistical perspective, page 40

<sup>iv</sup> 2020, May, UN Women: <https://data.unwomen.org/women-count>

<sup>v</sup> Gender and the economy. 2020. Primer on the gendered impacts of COVID-19.

<https://www.gendereconomy.org/primer-on-the-gendered-impacts-of-covid-19/>

<sup>vi</sup> 2017, The Green Climate Fund: Mainstreaming Gender in Green Climate Fund Projects, page 32

<sup>vii</sup> 2018, IUCN: Towards Ending Drought Emergencies: Ecosystem Based Adaptation in Kenya's Arid and Semi-Arid Rangelands

<sup>viii</sup> 2020, GCF: Gender Analysis/Assessment Guide and Gender Action Plan Template

<sup>ix</sup> 2017 August, GCF: Mainstreaming Gender in Green Climate Fund Projects, page 30

<sup>x</sup> 2017, UNDP, Gender and Sustainable Energy

<sup>xi</sup> Castañeda Camey, I., Sabater, L., Owren, C. and Boyer, A.E. (2020). Gender-based violence and environment linkages: The violence of inequality. Wen, J. (ed.). Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. 272pp. <https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/48969>

<sup>xii</sup> 2018, December, Gold Standard, Women / Energy / Climate: Linking SDGs to drive finance to high-impact projects

<sup>xiii</sup> 2017 August, GCF: Mainstreaming Gender in Green Climate Fund Projects, page 30

<sup>xiv</sup> 2019, July, UN-Water: Policy Brief on Climate Change and Water

<sup>xv</sup> 2006, World Energy Outlook

<sup>xvi</sup> 2019, February: National Geographic <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/global-warming/deforestation/>

<sup>xvii</sup> 2018, WHO: Water, sanitation and hygiene: measuring gender equality and empowerment

<sup>xviii</sup> 2019, November, Gold Standard: <https://www.goldstandard.org/our-story/project-profile-gender-certified>

<sup>xix</sup> 2017 August, GCF: Mainstreaming Gender in Green Climate Fund Projects, page 30

<sup>xx</sup> 2017, International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), [Achieve Gender Equality to Deliver the SDGs](#)

<sup>xxi</sup> 2017, Gold Standard: Gender Policy

<sup>xxii</sup> 2017, Gold Standard: Gold Standard Gender Equality Guidelines & Requirements

<sup>xxiii</sup> 2017, August, GCF: Mainstreaming Gender in Green Climate Fund Projects, page 23