

The 10th Session of the UNCCD
Conference of the Parties

The **UNCCD** Advocacy Policy Framework on **Gender**

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United Nations Convention
to Combat Desertification

The gender gap (1)

The key role of women (key findings of a FAO study):

- Women make up
 - 20% of the agricultural labor force in Latin America and
 - 50% in Eastern Asia and sub Saharan Africa
- They are mainly in charge of water collection and production of staple food
- They possess sound traditional knowledge



The gender gap (2)

BUT, unfortunately **women have less access** than men **to productive and financial resources**, imposing costs on the agricultural production and the economy



➔ Gender continues to be “**one of the world’s strongest markers for disadvantage**”

Bridging the Gender Gap



- Closing the gender gap could immediately benefit as much as **100–150 million people**
- Increasing yields on land farmed by women up to levels achieved by men would increase agricultural output in developing countries between 2.5 and 4%;
- Increasing production by this amount could reduce the number of undernourished people in the world by 12–17%
- Reducing inequalities can be instrumental in making progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (UNDP 2005)

The value of Gender Mainstreaming

- Gender mainstreaming seeks to **recognize and bring the diverse roles and needs of women and men to bear** on the sustainable development agenda
- Gender mainstreaming **reduces vulnerability, and enhances the efficiency and effectiveness** of programmes, policies and projects
- **Major donors have recognized the importance** and added value of mainstreaming gender in development; this is true also for drylands



Gender mainstreaming in the UNCCD



- Numerous decisions from the UNCCD COPs have reiterated the relevance of **gender associated with core aspects of the convention**
- **Gender in the 2010-2011 UNCCD National Reports**
 - Gender finds a noteworthy mention in some of the fourth national reports received by the UNCCD secretariat in 2010
 - There are some points that call for discussion:
 - Gender is mostly mentioned within a bigger group of issues
 - Very occasionally it is the prime focus
 - It has not been dealt with sufficient in-depth and no target policies have been proposed

The Advocacy Policy Framework on Gender (1)



Focus of the Advocacy Policy Framework (APF) on Gender (ICCD/CRIC(10)/20)

- In line with the strategic approach of the UNCCD: Increased effectiveness of the work of the Secretariat and Parties of the Convention in delivering on the long-term objectives of the 10-Year Strategy.
- Concrete deliveries in demonstrating benefits of mainstreaming gender in DLDD/SLM actions at the national and local levels

The Advocacy Policy Framework on Gender (2)



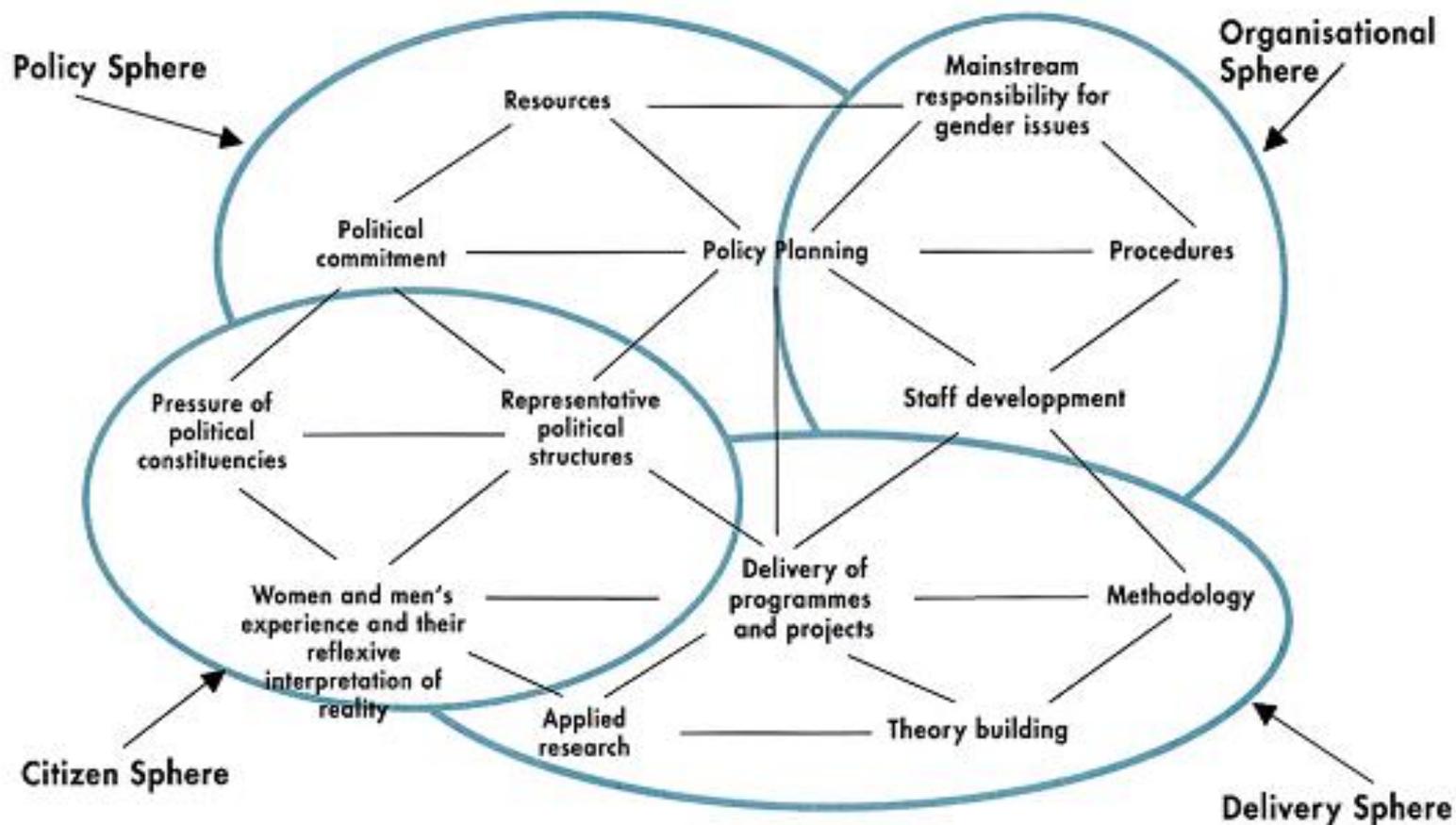
Methodology

The APF on Gender was drafted by the Secretariat in collaboration with the IUCN Gender Office, with financial support from Finland and Switzerland, and based on several inputs:

1. The outcomes of the 3-day workshop in Bonn
2. Exchanges on the current UNCCD performance on gender;
3. A survey conducted among staff of the Secretariat; and
4. Global outreach: Comments received over the UNCCD web site

The Advocacy Policy Framework on Gender (3)

THE WEB OF INSTITUTIONALISATION



The Advocacy Policy Framework on Gender (4)



TARGETS OF THE POLICY SPHERE

- Target 1:** Gender and DLDD/SLM are strategic priorities of the Convention
- Target 2:** High-level commitment for gender and DLDD/SLM within the Secretariat is secured
- Target 3:** On-going commitments from donors on gender and DLDD/SLM
- Target 4:** System in place for gender-screening
- Target 5:** Active involvement of women in decision-making and research
- Target 6:** Rio Conventions have a shared roadmap to promote gender equality

The Advocacy Policy Framework on Gender (5)



TARGETS OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL SPHERE

- Target 7:** Establishment of a structure within the UNCCD Secretariat to support gender mainstreaming
- Target 8:** UNCCD Secretariat recruitments advance on gender balance
- Target 9:** Managers and staff members held accountable for gender mainstreaming
- Target 10:** Secretariat staff have the competency to mainstream gender effectively

The Advocacy Policy Framework on Gender (6)



TARGETS OF THE CONSTITUENCY SPHERE

- Target 11:** Enable continuous, coordinated and effective input from women to decision-making under the UNCCD
- Target 12:** Build partnerships & establish networks to foster gender mainstreaming within DLDD/SLM
- Target 13:** Programmatically link the APF with the UN System's action on gender
- Target 14:** UNCCD Parties recognize the traditional & indigenous knowledge of women as fundamental assets in combating DLDD
- Target 15:** Increase women's representation in national coordinating bodies
- Target 16:** Parties and stakeholders effectively mainstream gender in national and regional implementation of the Convention

The Advocacy Policy Framework on Gender (7)



TARGETS OF THE DELIVERY SPHERE

Target 17: Gender mainstreamed in NAP alignment process (SRAPs and RAPs)

Target 18: Gender is included in the performance and impact indicators

Target 19: Gender-sensitive communication involve key constituencies

Target 20: Build understanding of DLDD/SLM among gender and women's organizations

Recommendations & Way forward



- ✓ **At UNCCD COP 10** parties may wish to acknowledge gender mainstreaming within the UNCCD, as indicated in the APF, as a necessary element for the **implementation of the convention**
- ✓ The Parties may wish to **consider a decision approving the APF on gender** and report on its implementation during the meetings that will assess implementation of the convention in the coming years.
- ✓ The **adoption of revised procedures** to include gender-specific organizations for the participation of **CSOs** in the COP and other UNCCD bodies is also envisaged.

Thank you



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