

# **LOCAL CLIMATE ADAPTIVE LIVING FACILITY Plus (LoCAL+) - West Africa (Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Mali and Niger)**

Gender Assessments

## 1- FOREWORD

Women are not only the first observers but also the first victims of climate change by virtue of their roles in looking after the family and responsibilities in food production, collecting fodder, fuelwood, and water. They are the first to observe the decreased agricultural productivity and depletion of water resources. They are the most vulnerable as, when climate change disrupts livelihoods, they are the most affected. Disasters and the social disruptions of climate change often have different impacts on women and men. Women and children are more likely than men to die or be injured in disasters, specifically in countries where women have unequal social, economic, and political status. Nevertheless, women are also effective agents of change as they often cope and adapt differently to men, and they play a preeminent role in the family.

Despite their vulnerability, women should not be seen only as victims of climate change, but they should also be seen as active and effective promoters of adaptation and mitigation. For example, women have historically developed knowledge and skills related to water harvesting and storage, food preservation and rationing, and natural resource management. Thus, gender mainstreaming is essential in climate change projects to both empower women's capacity and knowledge and provide them with the tools and skills for climate adaptation.

The LOCAL CLIMATE ADAPTIVE LIVING FACILITY Plus (LoCAL+) West Africa programme intends to reach the population of up to 80 local governments of Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Mali, and Niger and build the adaptive capacity of communities by contributing to reducing their vulnerability to climate change impacts. Strengthening climate resilience will support local economies, with tangible benefits for vulnerable groups, women especially and can be expected to indirectly generate new job opportunities for both men and women.

The initiative will therefore seek to participate in enhancing the socio-economic empowerment of women at the local level for example by supporting the establishment of community contracting systems for local green and resilient investments and supporting access to finance and improved infrastructures. Throughout its design and implementation, it will mainstream gender and social inclusiveness considerations so as, in particular:

- (a) To ensure that the voice, needs and perspectives of all social groups have the opportunity and a safe space to be conveyed;
- (b) To take into account the above perspectives and input in the design and delivery of all Programme activities;
- (c) To avoid at all times any unintended negative repercussion of any Programme activity on any specific group (incl., women);
- (d) To exploit the Programme as an avenue to foster wider participation and engagement in public governance by multiple stakeholders (incl. women).

It deserves be noted that women have been consulted during the participatory process to develop the current proposal and will remain key stakeholders for engagement and consultation throughout the programme's implementation. Regular field missions have also been undertaken which allowed to gather beneficiaries' impressions and feedback on the implementation of PBCRGs in three of the four targeted countries. Such mission was organized in Niger between 24 and 28 October 2023, during which local authorities and beneficiaries – women groups in particular - of the communes of Abalak (Tahoua region), Falwel and Sokorbé (Dosso region) were met, and their testimonies recorded.<sup>1</sup> Another mission was organized between 12 and 26 December 2023 in 12 communes of Niger (Damagaram Takaya, Kagna Wamé, et Kantché, Abalak, Tchintabaraden, Tébaram, Bagaroua et Allela, Dogon Kiria, Soucoucoutan,

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.uncdf.org/article/8636/small-investments-delivered-at-scale-are-transforming-futures-for-the-most-vulnerable-in-niger>

Falwel et Sokorbé) which notably allowed to raise local governments and communities' awareness on planning and budgeting of climate resilience grants. Another mission was organized from 22 January to 4 February, in the Niger communes of Gadabédji, Soli Tagriss (Maradi region), Tarka, Tanout and Falenko (Maradi region) which aimed to contact, inform, and mobilize customary and municipal authorities and beneficiary communities on the PBCRG system. In Burkina Faso, a similar mission was held in the three communes of Pabré, Loumbila and Saponé from 16 to 25 August 2023 and repeated in December of the same year (04-09).<sup>2</sup> In Mali, analogous field missions were organised between 12 and 14 November 2023 and held again between 22 and 28 January 2024 in the communes of Sandaré and Simby (Kayes region).

Conclusions of these successive consultations have both informed and benefitted from the below gender assessment which have been conducted to provide a snapshot of the gender equality situation in the 4 countries targeted by the programme. Based on a set of guiding questions, each country specific assessment provides details on the overall national situation relating to gender (rights and status of women), relationship between climate and gender in the proposed program footprint area, as well as gender specific challenges to be addressed in each country.

## 2- GENDER ASSESSMENTS

### BURKINA FASO

#### **Summary: challenges of integrating gender equality into adaptation and resilience programmes in Burkina Faso**

Gender equality and women's empowerment is a priority development issue in Burkina Faso. By adhering to the Beijing Platform for Action (1995) for the promotion of women's rights as well as the Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the United Nations in 2016, the country committed itself to undertaking profound reforms to improve the living conditions of its population, particularly of women, and to adopt policies, legislation and institutions that will make it possible to achieve gender equality.

The **political will** to integrate gender, climate change adaptation and resilience is also present in Burkina Faso. The Plan National d'Adaptation aux Changements Climatiques [National Climate Change Adaptation Plan – NAP] (2015) is exemplary in this respect, placing gender at its heart and dealing with it in a cross-cutting manner, making a real effort to integrate it across the different sectors (which is not the case in all key policies dealing with climate change). This political will is supported by international donors, who support different initiatives involving gender issues, making this approach an opportunity to obtain necessary funding.

However, this political will does not always translate into concrete action and the **gap with real-life experience** remains wide. The diagnosis established by the Plan National de Développement Economique et Social [National Economic and Social Development Plan – PNDES], the reference framework for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in Burkina Faso, shows that despite the progress made, considerable inequalities in poverty, education, employment, access to production resources and elected positions still exist, particularly to the disadvantage of women and young people. Generally, despite the fact that gender equality is enshrined in the legislative framework, social norms that discriminate against women and girls have an impact in all areas of development, whether in terms of access to resources, access to education, political participation or access to justice.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.uncdf.org/article/8584/communities-facing-double-threat-of-climate-change-and-insecurity-begin-resilience-building-with-local>

Women’s living conditions and rights continue to be marred by various forms of exclusion and violence, as stated in the national report on the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action (Government of Burkina Faso, 2019) 25 years later.

In the areas of disaster risk reduction and resilience to climate change, there is an **emphasis on women's vulnerability** rather than their potential. The notion of gender often comes down to women as a homogeneous group with the same challenges and needs, rather than exploring their different capacities to act on climate change.

Another challenge that may undermine the political will to address climate change and gender jointly is the **security situation in the north-east of the country** and the internal displacement caused. This situation increases the vulnerability of women and girls and gives rise to an emergency logic: providing assistance to affected populations as quickly as possible, rather than an integrated and long-term policy. As the events are recent, it is still difficult to assess their magnitude and the impact they will have on national climate policy and action.

**a- Country gender overall situation: rights and status of women in the country**

Guiding questions	Analysis – national level	Data at subnational level if available
<p>What are the national policies covering gender issues? (include policy name, date)</p> <p>Programmes/action plans?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National strategies for strengthening the role of women in the development process (1991).</li> <li>• Politique Nationale Genre [National Gender Policy] (2009). Goals: "the qualitative transformation of Burkinabe society with a view to removing sociocultural and economic obstacles to equitable and sustainable development; the elimination of inequalities between men and women in all areas; the strengthening of communities’ and development actors’ capacities and skills in the area of gender with a view to reducing poverty; the removal of obstacles to gender parity in national strategies, budgetary policies and procedures to achieve the aims of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) and Millennium Development Goals; and the promotion of the human rights of women and men for greater social justice and equal opportunities in development" (National Gender Policy, 2009).</li> <li>• National Plan for Economic and Social Development – PNDES (2016-2020): the second strategic focus on the "development of human capital" aims to reduce gender inequalities and make women dynamic actors in development.</li> <li>• Sectoral strategies with gender equality among their objectives: Stratégie de Croissance Accélérée et de Développement Durable [Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Sustainable Development] 2011–2015 (SCADD): gender is one of the priority cross-cutting issues. Programme National d’Accélération de l’Alphabétisation [National Accelerated Literacy Programme] 2011–2015 (PRONAA) (2011a): aims to reduce disparities between women and men.</li> </ul>	<p>National, Regional and Communal Councils for the Promotion of Gender (CONAP Gender).</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stratégie Nationale d'Accélération de l'Éducation des Filles [National Strategy for Accelerating Girls' Education] (2012).</li> <li>• Plan National de Développement Sanitaire [National Health Development Plan] 2011–2020: focus on maternal health (Government of Burkina Faso, 2011).</li> <li>• Plan Stratégique de Sécurisation des Produits de Santé de la Reproduction [Strategic Plan for Reproductive Health Commodity Security] (2010).</li> <li>• Politique Nationale de Sécurisation Foncière en Milieu Rural [National Rural Land Security Policy] (Government of Burkina Faso, 2007): states that women have the same rights to land as men.</li> </ul>	
<p>Who is the governmental body (Ministry? Agency? Office?) in charge of gender issues?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Women, National Solidarity and the Family</li> <li>• National Council for the Promotion of Gender</li> <li>• National Committee for the Fight Against the Practice of Excision</li> <li>• In addition, gender groups, institutional and ministerial units for gender promotion have been established in all ministries, although their capacities need strengthening (Japan International Cooperation Agency [JICA] 2013).</li> <li>• A national gender observatory is housed at the National Institute of Statistics and Demography (INSD) and is responsible, among other things, for defining monitoring and evaluation indicators.</li> </ul>	
<p>Are gender-disaggregated data/statistics available?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes – in 2015, the INSD produced four "Livrets Genre" ("Gender Booklets"), one national and three regional. These booklets contain gender-disaggregated statistics and information on demography, health, education, standard of living, employment and vocational training, violence and crime, governance and decision-making.</li> <li>• The Social Scoreboard 2017 also provides gender-disaggregated data on themes similar to those of the gender booklets, with additional sections on housing, water supply and sanitation, poverty, sustainable development and food security, sports and recreation, justice and security.</li> <li>• International databases such as the World Bank's Gender Data Portal (<a href="http://datatopics.worldbank.org/gender/country/burkina-faso">http://datatopics.worldbank.org/gender/country/burkina-faso</a>) also provide gender-disaggregated data on Burkina Faso in addition to the INSD (2009) statistical yearbook of sex-disaggregated and/or gender-sensitive sociodemographic indicators.</li> </ul>	<p>Three booklets are regional (Centre-Est, Centre-Sud and Est regions).</p>
<p>What is the legal status of women and children in the country of intervention (existing gender-responsive policies? Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)? Ratification of international laws?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>Constitution of 11 June 1991</b> prohibits discrimination, in particular "those based on race, ethnicity, region, colour, sex, language, religion, caste, political opinion, fortune and birth".</li> <li>• Customary law is recognized by the Constitution as a source of law insofar as "customs shall be ascertained and brought into harmony with the fundamental principles of the Constitution". With regard to inheritance, the Persons and Family Code gives widows and minor daughters the right to inherit property. In practice, customary law prevailed: minors had no right to inherit and it was common for the</li> </ul>	

	<p>family of the deceased husband to appropriate the couple's property and assets, to the detriment of the women and children. Article 15 of the Constitution guaranteed the right to property for all and the agricultural and land tenure reform gave women equal access to land, yet in practice women continued to have little access to land.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>Persons and Family Code</b> establishes that spouses are equal partners: the mother and father share equal authority, responsibility and obligations towards the children. However, if the spouses do not agree on the place of residence, the right of decision rests with the husband (article 294). Each of the spouses has the right to exercise a profession without the consent of the other, provided that such profession is not contrary to public order and morality and does not prejudice the interests of the family (article 295).</li> <li>• Since 1996, a law has prohibited female genital mutilation (FGM); however, in practice, it persists.</li> <li>• A law on "gender quotas" was approved in 2009: it establishes that 30 per cent of candidates for local and legislative elections must be women (French Development Agency [AFD], 2016).</li> <li>• <b>International laws:</b> Ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1987 and the CEDAW Protocol in 2005, as well as the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa in 2006.</li> </ul>	
<p>What are commonly held beliefs, perceptions, and stereotypes related to gender roles and status in the project/programme footprint area or the country?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two thirds of the population (60 per cent of whom are women) do not think that they should be involved in decisions about their own health, a choice that is left to their husbands (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development [OECD], 2018).</li> <li>• Inequalities and disparities in the division of labour give women more work than men, and girls more than boys, with damaging impacts on their health, productivity, leisure time and reinvestment in human capital.</li> <li>• Traditional practices that restrict the physical and moral integrity of women continue to exist, as do certain traditions that maintain prejudices and stereotypes related to the gender of individuals.</li> <li>• Sexual violence such as rape, sexual harassment, sexual assault and abuse, paedophilia and child pornography affects both women and men, but is more pronounced among women.</li> <li>• The sexual exploitation of young girls.</li> <li>• Inequalities in access to or maintenance of processes of social exclusion or self-exclusion, particularly of women and children (girls and boys) in decision-making spheres (National Gender Policy, 2019).</li> <li>• Boys have preferential access to education.</li> <li>• There is individual and collective mental resistance to accepting equality between men and women. These resistances are all the more worrying as they appear among certain opinion leaders (National Gender Policy, 2009).</li> <li>• Nearly half of Burkinabe say that the decision on a woman working for pay outside family businesses or plots should</li> </ul>	<p>Burkina Faso is a country that embodies ethnic pluralism, with more than 60 ethnolinguistic units listed and grouped into several families, resulting in diverse sociocultural practices and formations that have forged strong traditions and established different systems of gender relations.</p>

	<p>be made by her husband or partner. Only 12 per cent consider that women can make this choice alone. And even if she participates in the decision, the wife must ask her husband for permission. This applies to 95 per cent of the population. On the contrary, according to social norms, 70 per cent of people think that a man can make his decision without his wife's opinion (OECD, 2018).</p>	
<p>What are the gendered health issues (what is the maternal mortality rate, infant mortality rate, life expectancy (disaggregated by sex) in the country of intervention and/or the project/programme footprint area?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the national level: Maternal mortality: 122.3 deaths per 100,000 births. Infant mortality: 92 per 1,000 live births (at the national level, infant mortality is higher among boys than among girls).</li> <li>• Life expectancy for women was 57.5 years in 2006 compared with 55.8 years for men (Livret Genre, 2015).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Centre-Est Region:</b> Maternal mortality: 92.3 deaths per 100,000 births. Infant mortality: 185 per 1,000 live births. Life expectancy for women is 1.9 years longer than that of men (Livret Genre Centre-Est, 2015).</p> <p><b>Centre-Sud Region:</b> Maternal mortality: 42 deaths per 100,000 births. Infant mortality: 83 per 1,000 live births (the booklet notes a higher rate of female infant mortality). Life expectancy for women is 1.2 years longer than that of men (Livret Genre Centre-Sud, 2015).</p> <p><b>Est Region:</b> Maternal mortality: 134 deaths per 100,000 births. Infant mortality: 143 per 1,000 live births. The life expectancy of women is slightly lower than that of men (Livret Genre Est, 2015). More precise data are available in the Livret Genre National 2015.</p>
<p>Do women have equal access to education, technical knowledge, and/or skill training (what is the educational status of girls and boys? Adult literacy rate disaggregated by sex?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proportion of girls among all primary school pupils has been gradually increasing since the 2008/2009 school year. It rose from 46.1 per cent in 2008/2009 to 48.6 per cent in 2015/2016.</li> <li>• Over the period 2008–2015, the gross enrolment rate at the national level rose from 77.1 per cent to 85.9 per cent for boys and from 67.7 per cent to 86.4 per cent for girls.</li> <li>• Between 2009 and 2015, the proportion of girls in the total number of post-primary pupils in general education</li> </ul>	<p>The Social Dashboard (2017) also contains gender and regionally disaggregated data on primary school enrolment (page 56–57). Access to education has been severely compromised by the</p>

	<p>increased from 43.1 per cent in 2008/2009 to 48.7 per cent in 2014/2015.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During the period 2009–2015, the proportion of girls among students in technical and vocational secondary education decreased from 48.2 per cent to 44.1 per cent.</li> <li>• Only three out of every 10 students enrolled in a public institution are women.</li> <li>• The literacy rate in 2016 was 52 per cent for men and 28.7 per cent for women (Social Dashboard 2017).</li> </ul>	<p>unstable security situation in the north-east of the country, and most internally displaced children do not attend school, according to the United Nations International Organization for Migration (IOM/United Nations) Migration Report (2019). However, the report does not specify whether girls are affected differently from boys.</p> <p>According to Alice Albright (Global Partnership for Education) and Ulla Tornæs (2019), girls are particularly affected by the security context, as they are more exposed to gender-based violence (GBV), which jeopardizes their schooling or deters them from attending school.</p>
<p>What is the information in-country related to gender-based violence (including intimate-partner violence, early-marriage and FGM)?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forty-four per cent of married women were married before the age of 18 compared with only 3 per cent of men. Nearly one in two Burkinabe thinks that a union can take the form of litho, levirate, sororate or abduction. One third of the population says that women should not be involved in decisions related to their marriage. These are considered the responsibility of their father (23 per cent of opinions) or both parents (8 per cent). This denial of the right to freely choose one's spouse is more widespread in rural areas (40 per cent) than in urban areas (23 per cent), particularly in the Sahel (52 per cent) and Nord (58 per cent) regions (OECD, 2018).</li> <li>• Only 19 per cent of women have escaped both FGM and domestic violence and see their right to reproductive autonomy respected.</li> <li>• Domestic violence: More than a third of women have been victims of domestic violence in their lifetime and a third of the population justifies the practice.</li> <li>• Reproductive rights and reproductive health: Only one third of women who do not want to have children immediately use a contraceptive method and one third of the population states that women may not take part in</li> </ul>	<p>Women living in rural areas face greater discrimination. In the Centre, Est, Hauts-Bassins and Centre-Ouest regions, levels of discrimination within the family are lower than the national average. On the other hand, women in the rural regions of Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Est, Cascades and Nord are one and a half times more discriminated against than those in Centre, the most urbanized region, which is home</p>



	<p>decisions about contraceptive use, birth spacing and the number of children, all of which are the responsibility of the husband.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FGM: More than two thirds of women have undergone FGM and 18 per cent of Burkinabe believe that the practice should be retained.</li> <li>• Early pregnancy: 17 per cent of mothers are under the age of 18, and a quarter of Burkinabe believe that a girl can give birth before reaching adulthood, while no one believes that this age is appropriate for a boy (OECD, 2018).</li> <li>• In the north-eastern part of the country, women are particularly vulnerable to GBV since the 2019 terrorist attacks and the internal displacement caused by them. Women account for 57 per cent of displaced people and, even if they do not feel insecure, they are particularly affected by the feeling of insecurity caused by the risk of GBV, especially rape (IOM, 2019).</li> </ul>	<p>to the capital (OECD, 2018).  Being married before reaching adulthood is more likely in rural areas (48 per cent) than in urban areas (25 per cent). No less than 81 per cent of married women were married before the age of 18 in Bougouriba Province, 68 per cent in the Sahel region, 65 per cent in Sud-Ouest and 63 per cent in Centre-Nord against 28 per cent in Hauts-Bassins and 22 per cent in Centre. Early-marriage is all the more common as women are poor and poorly educated (OECD, 2018).  Seven times as many women have been victims of domestic violence in Sud-Ouest (42 per cent) as in the Boucle du Mouhoun (6 per cent), while attitudes justifying this practice are eight times more frequent in Centre-Sud (66 per cent) than in Est (8 per cent). These practices and social norms tend to be weakened in urban centres, despite some tenacity. Violence, FGM and early pregnancy are more common and accepted by rural populations, while women's ability to make decisions about their health, including reproductive health, is more common and supported by urban populations. Changes in social norms and</p>
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		<p>practices guaranteeing women control over their bodies, as well as knowledge and application of the legal framework, seem to be more marked in the less isolated regions (OECD, 2018).</p> <p>Two thirds of women have been victims of FGM in Burkina Faso (63 per cent), and more than three quarters in the Centre-Est (75 per cent), Nord (76 per cent), Central Plateau (77 per cent) and Sahel (83 per cent) regions. The practice appears to be less common in the Centre-Ouest (25 per cent) and Centre (36 per cent) regions. Similarly, FGM is more common in rural areas (68 per cent) than in urban areas (48 per cent) (OECD, 2018).</p>
<p>What are the main issues for accessing justice and the barriers that women face?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The stigma attached to violence prevents victims from seeking help to end it. Only 41 per cent of female victims and 42 per cent of male victims of domestic violence sought help or told someone about it (Figure 26). Men tend to confide in their families (68 per cent) or friends (24 per cent). Women are more likely to turn to their families (65 per cent) or their husbands' families (42 per cent). Recourse to public institutions (police, health or social services personnel) or religious leaders is almost non-existent. Similarly, women's low propensity to tell neighbours and friends as a first resort is a sign of shame. This is all the more true when the violence has been committed by the partner, symbolizing the internalization and justification of the phenomenon.</li> <li>• The objective education provided by family planning facilities and schools has only been able to reach one third of the population, which explains the lower use of modern practices and the persistence of FGM (OECD, 2018).</li> <li>• The National Gender Policy discusses a need to "work to strengthen the legal culture among the people, and to define and institutionalize accessible and affordable justice." In short, understanding and acceptance of the modern justice system, among people and the justice</li> </ul>	<p>The IOM Report (2019) highlights the difficulty for government and humanitarian assistance to access conflict-affected areas in the north-east.</p>

	<p>actors themselves, must be heightened. A favourable judicial environment, with the availability of the necessary assistance, must therefore be created” (National Gender Policy, 2011).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “In practice, women's ability to access justice and to bring cases of discrimination before the courts is limited by factors such as lack of information on their rights, legal costs, the persistence of traditional justice systems, illiteracy, complexity of legal procedures and other practical difficulties in accessing courts. Furthermore, the Committee is concerned that enforcing court rulings remains a challenge. The Committee further notes that, although the State party has carried out a reform to the National Human Rights Commission, it has yet to allocate sufficient financial and human resources for its effective functioning” (CEDAW, 2010).</li> </ul>	
<p>What are the current indicators and trends related to poverty and development? (Human Development Index (HDI)? HDI world rank? Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HDI: 0.423, 183rd out of 189 countries and territories (United Nations Development Programme [UNDP], 2018).</li> <li>• GDP per capita: 1,650 (2011 ppp\$) (UNDP, 2018).</li> </ul>	
<p>What do national statistics/census say about women's economic situation (employment rate? Average income? Gender pay gap? Any data on gender differences in the informal sector? And in the agricultural sector?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the national level, the net activity rate according to the International Labour Organization (ILO) is 85.9 per cent for men against 78.8 per cent for women, a difference of 7.1 points (Social Scoreboard, 2017).</li> <li>• Women's economic participation is lower than that of men, although higher than the African average: 77 per cent of Burkinabe women were active in 2016 compared with 63 per cent south of the Sahara. This has not increased since 2006 (OECD, 2018) and is confined to the informal sector. In 2015, women accounted for only 24 per cent of employees in the public and formal private sectors (Centre d'Information et de Formation en matière de Droits Humains en Afrique [Centre for Human Rights Information and Training in Africa – CIFDHA] et al., 2017).</li> <li>• Female employment is precarious and vulnerable. This labour-force is mainly composed of family workers (35 per cent), providing 80 per cent of the unpaid labour on family farms and businesses. In other cases, women are self-employed in agriculture (25 per cent), trade and crafts (15 per cent) (OECD, 2018). The same report speaks of “opportunity entrepreneurship” for men and “survival entrepreneurship” for women, with a strong over-representation of women in the informal sector (OECD, 2018).</li> <li>• The Global Gender Gap Report (2011) gives Burkina Faso 0.77 for gender pay inequality, where 0 represents perfect equality and 1 represents complete inequality.</li> </ul>	
<p>What is the situation in terms of access to financial resources for men and women in the area (access to banking? Microcredit?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2017, 51 per cent of men had a bank account compared with 34 per cent of women. 12 per cent of women and men have money saved in a financial institution (World Bank Group, 2017).</li> </ul>	

Savings account? Self-help group?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Precise data on the number of women benefiting from microfinance projects or self-help groups were not found. However, many initiatives target women in particular: the government has created funds to enable women to access credit, such as the Support Fund for the Income-Generating Activities of Women Farmers (FAAGRA) and the Support Fund for Women's Income-Generating Activities (FAARF). These funds, directly managed by government structures, have enabled organized women's groups to access microcredit, without collateral, on the basis of a third-party guarantee. Access to microcredit for the rural poor, especially women and youth, remains a challenge (International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), 2018).</li> </ul>	
What is the situation in terms of access to land? Property rights?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Article 15 of the Constitution guarantees the right to property for all and the agricultural and land tenure reform gives women equal access to land, yet in practice women continue to have little access to land (AFD, 2016).</li> <li>• The patrilineal-filiation system and the principle of exogamy means that women are often excluded from inheriting land (Konaté, 2006).</li> <li>• Land is generally made available to women on a temporary basis and not for use as a landowner (Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, 2016).</li> </ul>	The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung report (2016) provides regional data on land-use disaggregated by gender. Programmes such as the Land Security Project have enabled more women to access land, but difficulties remain and the report notes that some women abandon the process under the weight of social pressure and/or threats from their husbands.

**b- Climate and gender in the proposed project/program footprint area**

➤ **at the national level**

Guiding questions	Gender equality – national level
How are the national climate policies and strategic plans (National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), National Determined Contributions (NDCs), other) addressing gender issues? (Include policy name, date)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The gender dimension is not very visible in Burkina Faso's NDC (2015). It is stated that the Coordination Unit will work with other ministries on cross-cutting themes, including the Ministry for the Promotion of Women and Gender [sic].</li> <li>• The NAP (2015) pays more attention to this issue and uses vulnerability analysis to propose climate change adaptation measures for activity sectors and for different social groups: Gender mainstreaming is one of its guiding principles ("Gender mainstreaming: the adaptation options identified in the NAP require the participation of men and women in actions for greater relevance and significant impacts. Therefore, in view of women's increased vulnerability to the adverse effects of climate change and their participation in development, gender mainstreaming in</li> </ul>

	<p>the implementation of actions is necessary”). For the development of the NAP, Burkina Faso set up a multi-sectoral and gender-sensitive team of experts in the following sectors: (i) Agriculture, (ii) Animal production, (iii) Environment and natural resources, (iv) Meteorology, (v) Energy, (vi) Health, (vii) Infrastructure and housing, (viii) Women's associations, (ix) Civil society organizations (NAP, 2015).</p>
<p>What are the governmental bodies (Ministry? Agency? Office?) in charge of the interface between these issues?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministry of Environment and Fishery Resources, Ministry of Women, National Solidarity and the Family, sectoral ministries.</li> </ul>
<p>What are the priority sectors targeted by climate change-related NAPs and NDCs?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NAP pillars of accelerated growth: agriculture, livestock, forestry, energy and infrastructure, food and nutrition security, water resources, physical security of people and property, natural ecosystems and health.</li> <li>Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC): sustainable land management, forestry, energy, environmental education and food.</li> </ul>
<p>Are there national programmes addressing each climate change and gender inequality independently or in an integrated manner?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Africa Hydromet Program – Strengthening Climate Resilience in Sub-Saharan Africa: Burkina Faso Country Project includes a Gender Action Plan (Green Climate Fund, 2018).</li> <li>Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Policy for Gender Mainstreaming in Energy Access (Green Climate Fund, 2019).</li> <li>The gender dimension is taken into account in national climate action in the areas of health, energy and finance according to UNDP (2016).</li> </ul>
<p>How does the government frame both issues?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vulnerability of women: "People who are weak like women" (Politique Nationale de Sécurisation Foncière en Milieu Rural [National Rural Land Security Policy], 2007).</li> <li>“Women are more vulnerable to climate change than men.” "The most vulnerable groups are among the rural poor (women, youth, small-scale farmers)" (NAP, 2015).</li> <li>But the important role of women in development and the need to strengthen their participation and capacities is also recognized (NAP, 2015).</li> <li>UNDP lists Burkina Faso as one of the countries for whom “gender equality is referred to as cross-cutting, mainstreamed or a pillar in either the INDC or national climate change policy; national (sustainable) development planning, strategy or policy; national vision or commitment for development; or the national constitution” (UNDP, 2016).</li> </ul>
<p>Are there any policies specifically referring to gender equality/social inclusion in climate change initiatives (both adaptation and mitigation)? Any background studies?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The NAP proposes a “Women's Adaptation Plan” which includes three projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Project 1: Training/information/awareness-raising for women's associations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen the initial literacy skills of women members of associations in the areas of non-timber forest products, market gardening, wood energy, traditional pharmacopoeia, household waste management and sanitation, processing of fishery products, agriculture and livestock.</li> <li>Raise awareness among women for effective participation in local governance.</li> <li>Strengthen women’s and men’s capacities in gender and women’s leadership.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Project 2: Strengthening the resilience and adaptive capacity of women's associations to climate change through the implementation of income-generating activities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen the capacities of women's associations in running income-generating activities for women’s empowerment.</li> <li>Ensure that irrigation water levels at market gardening sites are managed by restoring wells and boreholes.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Improve nutrition among the most vulnerable groups (women and children) by making available sufficient quantity and quality of products.</li> <li>○ Equip women with appropriate equipment and technology to carry out their activities.</li> <li>○ Increase cereal and market gardening production to contribute to food security.</li> </ul> <p><b>Project 3: Research on good adaptation practices that benefit and reach women (NAP, 2015)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Incorporate local traditional knowledge into research strategies to improve women’s climate change adaptation practices.</li> <li>○ Mainstream improved technologies that are less physically constraining and less costly to implement.</li> </ul> <p>National benchmarks result in low-carbon, gender-sensitive and sustainable second-generation regional and communal development plans.</p>
<p>Are there international organizations supporting the government on gender and climate initiatives?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Burkina Faso has received financial support from Denmark, Japan, Global Environmental Finance (GEF) and UNDP to support the Burkina Faso NAP process (NAP, 2015) and to jointly implement all three projects (closed since 2012): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Capacity-building on adapting and reducing vulnerability to climate change in Burkina Faso (Programme d’Action National d’Adaptation [National Adaptation Programme of Action] for Climate Change (NAPA-BKF-UNDP/Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA))</li> <li>- Adaptation to climate change for improved human security in Burkina Faso (NAPA-BKF-UNDP/DANIDA)</li> <li>- Capacity-building for better integration of climate change adaptation concerns into the preparation and implementation of development plans, projects and programmes (NAPA-BKF-UNDP/Japan).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Are there background studies on both adaptation and gender?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sophie Rigg, Emma Lovell, Florence Pichon (2016). <i>Assessing gender in resilience programming: Burkina Faso</i>.</li> <li>● Oxfam (2011). <i>Climate Change and Women Farmers in Burkina Faso, Impact and Adaptation Policies and Practices</i>. Burkina Faso.</li> <li>● Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS) (2014). <i>Subnational study, focus on the Yatenga</i>.</li> <li>● Frances Crowley, Chesney McOmber, Camilla Audia, Alexander Ritchie, Mark Pelling, Emma Visman (2017). <i>Building resilience by challenging social norms: Towards a gender transformative approach in BRACED. (Subnational study)</i>.</li> </ul>
<p>What do available studies say about the anticipated differences in men’s and women's vulnerability and adaptive capacity to climate change?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Women’s workload, which combines productive, reproductive and community responsibilities, is already greater and may become even more difficult to manage.</li> <li>● Women are less educated and have less access to the means of communication through which climate information is transmitted (Rigg, Lovell and Pichon, 2016). They also have limited access to tools and technologies that could facilitate their work on the land (Oxfam, 2011). Women have less decision-making power within households (and therefore less influence on adaptation strategies) (Rigg, Lovell and Pichon, 2016).</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During periods of food insecurity, women are less likely to migrate than men. They are less mobile because of dependency in the form of pregnancies or young children. Some return to live with their families (Rigg, Lovell and Pichon, 2016). The possibility for men to migrate and obtain paid employment makes them less dependent on natural capital than women, even though women have very little decision-making power over this capital, which remains predominantly controlled by men (Oxfam, 2011).</li> <li>• Women are more vulnerable to food insecurity (Oxfam 2011), as they are responsible for caring for those who cannot work or support themselves materially (Rigg, Lovell and Pichon, 2016). Similarly, few women are able to save in preparation for hard times as they use their income to provide for their family (Oxfam, 2011). Vulnerability to food insecurity, as well as the high number of childbirths for many women, contributes to a high risk of poor health for women (Oxfam, 2011).</li> </ul>
What do available studies say about existing gender inequalities that may be exacerbated by climate change impacts?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate change could affect, directly or indirectly (by increasing male migration, in particular), women's already-heavy workloads and the reconciliation of their multiple responsibilities: productive, domestic and community. Women's vulnerability to food insecurity, already more pronounced than men's, could also be increased (Oxfam, 2011; Rigg, Lovell and Pichon, 2016).</li> </ul>

### C- Gender-specific challenges for the programme

Guiding questions	Gender equality
What are the targeted regions or local government to be supported by LoCAL? What challenges can we anticipate?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The targeted regions/local governments are not yet known.</li> <li>• At the national level: The “status of women in Burkinabe society and their poor access to education and information [...] In Burkina Faso, as in other Sahelian countries, the enrolment rate of girls is low compared with boys. Without access to education, women find themselves at a disadvantage because they are excluded from discussions on the sustainable exploitation and protection of natural resources” (NAP, 2015).</li> <li>• The National Gender Policy identifies three risk factors that may jeopardize its implementation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Gender resistance (“there is individual and collective mental resistance to accepting equality between men and women. These resistances are all the more worrying as they appear among certain opinion leaders”).</li> <li>(ii) Sociocultural burdens (“the persistence of sociocultural burdens reinforces gender inequalities and resistance to change. The aggravating factor is the low level of education and illiteracy of a large part of the population (men and women)”).</li> <li>(iii) The inadequacy of resources (“the insufficient resources allocated by the State for the implementation of the National Gender Policy which will require significant technical, financial and human resources; technical and financial partners not fulfilling their commitments and the weakness of their contribution; and disregarding the principle of fungibility that can lead to very complex management procedures and the extension of disbursement deadlines”) (National Gender Policy, 2009).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
What are their capacities in both sectors (human, technical, financial capacities)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This issue will be addressed once the regions/locations are known.</li> </ul>

<p>What are local government's responsibilities and attitudes vis-à-vis gender mainstreaming in development planning?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This issue will be addressed once the regions/locations are known.</li> </ul>
<p>What is the typical participation (or lack thereof) of women in decision-making processes at the local government level? How many women are part of the local government decision-making committee?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• According to Oxfam, women's organizations take part in community life and are consulted in decision-making processes. However, their participation remains low and their representation at the provincial, regional and national levels is minimal (Oxfam, 2011).</li> <li>• The NAP stresses that despite the active role of women in natural resource work, they do not have decision-making power over water resources and forests (NAP, 2015).</li> <li>• At the local level, an Overseas Development Institute (ODI) study admits that it was difficult to capture and represent women's specific opinions and needs because women were more silent and reluctant to share (Rigg, Lovell and Pichon, 2016).</li> <li>• By 2015, women will occupy 13 per cent of parliamentary seats and 13 per cent of ministerial positions. There has never been a female head of state (Global Gender Gap Report [GGGR], 2015).</li> </ul>
<p>Have any projects/activities/decisions been implemented by the local government to support women's rights and/or empowerment in the past in the area of intervention?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This issue will be addressed once the areas of intervention are known.</li> </ul>
<p>Are there any women's organizations, women's groups and/or gender advocates present in the area of intervention? If so, what do they focus on? Who is the main point of contact? Are they involved in local development planning? In the implementation and maintenance of initiatives/infrastructure? What are their capacities like?</p>	<p>At the national level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Le Mouvement Burkinabé des Droits de l'Homme et des Peuples [Burkina Faso Movement for Human and Peoples' Rights] (MBDHP): human rights non-governmental organization (NGO) created in 1989. Carries out advocacy, training and awareness-raising activities to promote women's rights and provides legal advisory services.</li> <li>• Réseau de Communication d'Information et de Formation des Femmes dans les ONG [Network for Communication, Information and Training of Women in NGOs] (RECIF/ONG-BF): seeks to contribute to the strengthening of the positions and decision-making power of women in associations through communication, information and awareness-raising activities.</li> <li>• Association des Femmes Juristes du Burkina Faso [Association of Female Legal Practitioners in Burkina Faso] (AFJBF): created in 1993, this association aims to "fight for the promotion of law and against all forms of discrimination against women". Partners: Canadian Centre for International Studies and Cooperation (CECI), World Bank, UNDP, US Embassy, Canadian Embassy, German Agency for International Cooperation, Courants de Femmes [Women's Movement], Agence Intergouvernementale de la Francophonie 150 [Intergovernmental Agency of La Francophonie], Avenue de l'Union Economique et Monétaire Ouest Africaine [West African Economic and Monetary Union] (UEMOA) Ouagadougou. Tel.: (+226) 5033 5307. Fax: (+226) 5033 5307. E-mail: afj-bf@cenatrin.bf – contact.</li> <li>• Association Femmes Solidarité – Femmes Chefs d'Entreprises [Female Solidarity Association – Female Business Leaders]: association created in 1990, bringing together businesswomen. 01 BP 1638. Tel.: (+226) 5035 0171 Fax: (+226) 5035 0171 E-mail: noomde@caramail.com or noomde@gmail.com.</li> <li>• Association Kebayina des Femmes du Burkina [Kebayina Burkinabe Women's Association]: through awareness-raising and training activities</li> </ul>



	<p>among the most disadvantaged strata, the association seeks to “stop retrograde practices and ideas that hinder women’s development”. E-mail: akebayinafb@hotmail.com.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Association pour la Promotion de la Femme et la Sauvegarde de l’Environnement [Association for the Promotion of Women and the Safeguarding of the Environment]: created in 1999, this association involves several activities, including raising awareness of environmental issues and raising women’s overall awareness and literacy, as well as promoting their access to credit. Partners: Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (ENABEL), Canadian Local Initiatives Canada Fund for Local Initiatives (CFLI), Partenariat pour l’Education Non Formelle [Partnership for Non-Formal Education] (PENF, Canada). Sector 29 – Behind the Lycée Scientifique [Science High School], near SIAO 06 BP 9129 – Ouagadougou 06. Tel.: (+226) 61 33 93.</li> <li>• Association Tin-Mua – Femmes, Battons-Nous [Women, We Fight]: the association works on several subjects, including poverty (setting up a tontine), illiteracy, unwanted pregnancies and HIV and AIDS, FGM, forced or early-marriages and desertification. BP 120 – Ouahigouya. Tel.: (+226) 23 28 26/+226 55 08 25. E-mail: Mailsazetou@yahoo.fr – Mrs Awa Maïga (President).</li> <li>• Appui Moral Matériel et Intellectuel à l’Enfant [Material and Intellectual Moral Support for Children]: works in particular on raising awareness among women and men on the use of contraceptive methods. The President of the association, Cécile Beloum, is a member of the network of Francophone women formed at the end of the Kinshasa Forum and is active alongside State family planning facilities in the Nord Region. Cécile Beloum (President, former Minister of Parliamentary Relations). E-mail: cecile.beloum@yahoo.fr.</li> <li>• Association Songui Manégré/Aide au Développement Endogène [Songui Manégré Association/Support for Internal Development] (ASMADE): combats poverty and works to promote social rights in Burkina Faso. Nearly 15 years after its creation, the association directly or indirectly reaches more than two million people in various sectors: education, health, training and employment. With funding from the French Embassy, PAJE, a youth centre where Burkinabe meet to develop cultural projects, train or look for work, was created. Ms Juliette Compaore (founder and member of the network of Francophone women formed at the end of the Kinshasa Forum). E-mail: asmade@ongasmade.org.</li> <li>• Fonds National pour l’Alphabétisation et l’Education Non Formelle [National Fund for Literacy and Informal Education] Ms Alice Tiendrébéogo (Director, former MP, former Minister of Education in the 1990s and member of the network of Francophone women formed at the end of the Kinshasa Forum). E-mail: astiendre@gmail.com.</li> <li>• Fonds d’Appui aux Activités Rémunératrices des Femmes [Support Fund for Women's Income-Generating Activities] (FAARF – under the control of the Ministry of Economy and Finance): support for women’s income-generating activities, access to credit. 01 BP 5683 Ouagadougou.</li> <li>• Association Développement et Eveil Pugsada [Association of Support and Awakening Pugsada] (ADEP): ADEP was created in 1995 and was recognized in 2013 by the Government of Burkina Faso as a public non-profit organization. Founded with 11 members, ADEP now has 57 active members. Its main objective is to work to improve the legal status and socioeconomic living conditions of young girls in Burkina Faso. Member of the Réseau des Observatoires de l’Egalité de Genre [Network of Gender Equality Observatories] (ROEG). Partner: Genre en Action</li> </ul>
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[Gender in Action]. Address: 06 BP 6691 Ouagadougou 06, Burkina Faso/Website: <http://pugsada.org/> Contact: Agnès OUBDA, President. Tel.: (+226) 70 26 80 60. E-mail: [agnesoub@yahoo.fr](mailto:agnesoub@yahoo.fr). Hortense LOUGUE, Coordinator. Tel.: (+226) 70 26 35 76. E-mail: [louguehortense@yahoo.fr](mailto:louguehortense@yahoo.fr).

- Coalition Nationale pour l'Education Pour Tous [National Coalition for Education for All] (NC-EFA/BF): created in the aftermath of the World Education Forum (held in Dakar in 2000 and focused on education for all), the CN-EFA/BF is a grouping of 27 civil society organizations. Its main mission is to ensure the implementation of the commitments made by the heads of state and government for universal achievement by 2015. One of the Coalition's specific objectives is to monitor the commitments made by decision makers in the area of girls' schooling. Member of the Réseau des Observatoires de l'Égalité de Genre [Network of Gender Equality Observatories] (ROEG). Partner: Genre en Action [Gender in Action]. Address: 05 BP 6515 Ouagadougou 05, Burkina Faso/Website: [www.cneptbf.org](http://www.cneptbf.org). Samuel DEMBELE, President of the Coalition. Tel.: (+226) 70 29 90 10. E-mail: [dembesam\\_hotmail@hotmail.com](mailto:dembesam_hotmail@hotmail.com). Tahirou TRAORE, National Coordinator. Tel.: (+226) 25 38 83 72; (+226) 70 26 79 16; (+226) 76 26 79 16. E-mail: [traoretahirou2005@yahoo.fr](mailto:traoretahirou2005@yahoo.fr). (AFD, 2016).

At the local level :

- Association des femmes burkinabé de ouahigouya [ouahigouya burkinabe women's association]: created in 1977, this association now has 3,200 members. It works on education for girls and women as a priority, but also on access to water (construction of wells in partnership with the groupement des femmes de vence-ouahigouya [the vence-ouahigouya women's group]), information and awareness-raising and the economic promotion of women through training in income-generating activities. Partnership and support from the swiss agency for development and cooperation. Tel.: (+226) 40 55 04 58 fax: (+226) 5031 1966. E-mail: [afbo@fasonet.bf](mailto:afbo@fasonet.bf) – ms madina (president).
- Association pour la formation et l'insertion de la jeune fille [association for the training and integration of young girls]: an association that has been in existence since 1998 offering training in sewing, dyeing, embroidery and making bogolan to young girls in two neighbourhoods of ouagadougou. Products are produced and marketed through the association, which is under the supervision of the ministry of women, national solidarity and the family. Bp 4979 ouagadougou (near pharmacie de la savane, sector 3). Tel.: (+226) 5031 6176/+226 5030 2281. E-mail: [mailafijef@yahoo.fr](mailto:mailafijef@yahoo.fr) – ms felicite tiendrebeogo (president).
- Association des femmes pag-la-yiri de zabre [pag-la-yiri women's association of zabre]: an association whose aim is "to contribute to the development of women living in rural areas by meeting their daily needs and concerns". Main partners: the burkinabe state and its devolved and decentralized structures, the permanent secretariat of non-governmental organizations (spong), the national fund for literacy and non-formal education (fonaenf), the network for access to essential medicines (rame), emmaus international, emmaus africa, emmaus finland, ngo croix du sud (italy), nouvelle planète [new planet] (switzerland), international institute of communication for development, european union (eu), ico foundation and ngo martta (finland). 09 bp 335 ouagadougou. Tel.: (+226) 5036 3400/+226 5036 3400 e-mail: [paglayiri@fasonet.bf](mailto:paglayiri@fasonet.bf).

## IVORY COAST

### **Summary: challenges of integrating gender equality into adaptation and resilience programmes in Côte d'Ivoire**

The strategic vision in the Côte d'Ivoire National Development Plan (NDP) 2016–2020 calls for better integration of gender and environmental issues into public policies. There is even a dedicated budget for this. However, there is as yet no clear implementation of this vision. Despite there being a directorate responsible for promoting gender mainstreaming in all sectoral policies, within the Ministry for Women, the Family and Children, it lacks sufficiently competent staff supported by an adequate budget to monitor the effective integration of equity issues within other government entities. Thus, the gender units that were relaunched in 2014 to support sectoral policies in each ministry have not been maintained and are now almost non-existent (with the exception of the gender unit in the Ministry of Agriculture, and the gender focal points in the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development) and inoperative due to a lack of human capacity and budget.

**Gender is clearly seen as a donor priority and therefore an opportunity to receive funding.** It is in this context that the National Gender and Climate Change Strategy enables the National Climate Change Programme (NCCP) to confirm the State's willingness to integrate gender issues into efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change. However, as there is wide disparity in knowledge and understanding of the concept between different government representatives, the term “gender” is being superficially integrated into policy documents and project proposals to make them more “gendered”. This is contributing to removal of the political dimension of gender inequality and the actions needed to address it. Thus, there is a gap between the commitment to gender mainstreaming shown by the various stakeholders in adaptation initiatives and the effective translation into programmes that work to promote gender equality in all sectors and at all levels.

**There are few examples of policy documents where gender issues are integrated and documented in depth.** Many decision makers sum up gender as women's issues and give examples of one-off projects where women's groups were supported and where awareness-raising activities were carried out, particularly during International Women's Rights Day, on 8 March each year. A notable exception is the work carried out by the Fonds Interprofessionnel pour la Recherche et le Conseil Agricole (Interprofessional Fund for Agricultural Research and Advisory Services – FIRCA). It has a department dedicated to Gender and Environment, which has created an Agricultural Gender Platform to bring together local partners from each sector. FIRCA's experience, and the network on which it draws, could be a valuable asset in determining the scientific studies to be conducted in the agricultural sector, and the consultations to be carried out to better understand the various issues in climate change adaptation.

**It will be essential to generate knowledge that is better informed about current inequalities in Côte d'Ivoire, and their impacts on different socioeconomic groups, to enable relevant adaptation planning.** There is a clear need for scientific studies that document the impacts of current and future climate change at regional, national, and local scales and the implications for different sectors and populations. Studies into the co-benefits of inclusive adaptation from an economic, social, and environmental point of view could support advocacy by gender teams/departments within the different State entities so they can receive more institutional and financial support.

It is important that commissions for studies communicate clear requirements on integrating gender into research methodologies (for example, through terms of reference that require gender analyses in each study and data disaggregated by sex and age). Ultimately, all environmental assessments, feasibility

studies, project proposals and logical frameworks for monitoring and evaluation must reflect gender considerations. In parallel, the Indicators on Gender, Poverty, the Environment and Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals in African Countries, compiled by the African Development Bank, provide a basis to support both the identification of relevant indicators for the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and a baseline.

**a- Country gender overall situation: rights and status of women in the country**

Guiding questions	Analysis – national level
<p>What are the national policies covering gender issues? (include policy name, date) Programmes/action plans?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The National Development Plan (NDP) 2016–2020 provides for better integration of gender and the environment into public policies, although gender is not explicitly considered in climate-related development objectives.</li> <li>• The 2009 National Policy on Equal Opportunities, Equity and Gender promotes the elimination of gender disparities in all development sectors, and equitable access to and control of resources. The policy also refers to eradicating discrimination, including violence against women. This document was updated in May 2018 and is still awaiting adoption by the Government.</li> <li>• The topic of gender does feature in policy documents (particularly in the revised Constitution and in the NDP), but there is a gap between references to the issue in the national policy document and its effective translation into laws, decrees and programmes that work to promote equality in all sectors and at all levels. There are few examples of policy documents where gender issues are integrated and documented on the basis of gender analyses.</li> </ul>
<p>Who is the governmental body (Ministry? Agency? Office?) in charge of gender issues?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ministry for Women, the Family and Children (12 July 2018):</b></li> <li>• <b>Directorate for the Promotion of Equality and Gender</b> Directorate for Promotion and Empowerment of Women</li> <li>• <b>The National Observatory for Equality and Gender (ONEG) Decree No. 2019-592 of 3 July 2019 on the creation, structure and operation of ONEG.</b></li> <li>• The 14 gender units created within technical ministries in 2007 have not been maintained and are now almost non-existent and inoperative (see the inventory of the gender units carried out by the African Development Bank in 2015). The exception is the gender unit of the Ministry of Agriculture, created by decree in 2016, which brings together established focal points in each department of the Ministry. However, these focal points are not gender specialists, apart from the Secretary-General of the Unit, and have demonstrated a need for capacity-building.</li> <li>• Gender focal points are not appointed in all ministries, and their appointment is often informal rather than official (through internal mail). They receive no capacity-building, their role is little valued, they are not allocated any budget and their decision-making power is almost nil.</li> <li>• The Directorate for the Promotion of Equality and Gender at the Ministry for Women, the Family and Children (2018).</li> <li>• The ONEG is the entity responsible for monitoring the integration of gender into development policies, to boost gender equity and equality, but this entity is not supported by sufficient funding. The ONEG is also an appeals body for individuals experiencing discrimination or violations of their rights.</li> <li>• The gender audits carried out in four ministries, and those to come, are an opportunity to better understand the barriers to integrating equality considerations in the various sectors, and to support the mapping of the</li> </ul>

	<p>institutional capacities of each ministry. This is on the condition that these audits are shared with other departments, which is not the case at present.</p>
<p>Are gender-disaggregated data/statistics available?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, but only in reports by international organizations and in some sectoral development policy documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Analyse Genre Du Programme De Coopération Cote D'ivoire</i> [Gender Analysis for the Côte d'Ivoire Cooperation Programme] – UNICEF (2003–2007)</li> <li>• <i>Le Rapport de la Mise en Œuvre de Beijing, 20 ans après</i> [Report on Implementation of the Beijing Declaration, 20 years after its adoption] (Ministry of Solidarity, 2014)</li> <li>• <i>Le Rapport de la Mise en Œuvre de Beijing, 25 ans après</i> [Report on Implementation of the Beijing Declaration, 25 years after its adoption] (Ministry for Women, the Family and Children, 2019)</li> <li>• <i>Profil genre de la Côte d'Ivoire</i> [Gender profile for Côte d'Ivoire] (African Development Bank [AfDB], 2015)</li> <li>• <i>Are Women the Key to Unlocking Economic Emergence in Côte d'Ivoire?</i> Report (World Bank, 2018a)</li> <li>• Household Living Standards Survey (National Institute of Statistics [INS], 2015)</li> <li>• <i>Les Indicateurs sur le genre, la pauvreté, l'environnement et progrès vers les objectifs de développement durable dans les pays africains</i> [Gender, poverty, environment indicators and progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals in African countries] (AfDB, 2017)</li> <li>• International databases such as the World Bank's Gender Data Portal (<a href="https://genderdata.worldbank.org/countries/cote-d-ivoire">https://genderdata.worldbank.org/countries/cote-d-ivoire</a>) also provide gender-disaggregated data on the population of Côte d'Ivoire. According to the World Bank, 49.5% of the population of Côte d'Ivoire is female: this proportion was used to calculate the number of female beneficiaries of the project in Côte d'Ivoire.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>What is the legal status of women and children in the country of intervention (existing gender-responsive policies? Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)? Ratification of international laws?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The country is ranked 171 out of 188 countries in the United Nations Gender Equality Index (index of 0.814) (United Nations Development Programme [UNDP], 2016).</li> <li>• Ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1995.</li> <li>• The Constitution of Côte d'Ivoire provides for the equality of all citizens before the law and for equal opportunities. The principle of gender equality is enshrined in the Constitution of 8 November 2016 and applied in various areas (articles 35, 36 and 37) (parity in the labour market, political participation and combating violence against women) (UNDP, 2017).</li> <li>• Customary law is recognized as a valid source of law by the Constitution insofar as it is consistent with substantive law (article 71, Constitution).</li> <li>• New laws since 2013 more favourable to gender issues: law on marriage that obliges spouses to manage the household jointly, law on compulsory schooling for all children (girls and boys) between 5 and 16 years old, civil service statute and labour code.</li> <li>• Under-representation of women in decision-making positions in the Administration. They are in a very small minority in elected positions, even though they represented nearly 52 per cent of voters registered on the 2010 electoral lists (World Bank, 2013).</li> <li>• Only 11.4 per cent of parliamentarians are women (in 2018). Only 15 out</li> </ul>

	<p>of 216 mayors are women (6.94 per cent), and only one of the 31 Regional Councils has a female President (3.2 per cent). Moreover, of the 30 ministers in office in the Government of Côte d'Ivoire, over the period January 2017 to July 2018, only six were women (20 per cent). In State institutions, only 20 per cent of Presidents of Institutions, 20 per cent of Ministers, and 12 per cent of Ambassadors are women (Ministry for Women, 2019).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Law No. 2019-870 of 14 October 2019 promotes the representation of women in elected assemblies.</li> </ul>
<p>What are commonly held beliefs, perceptions, and stereotypes related to gender roles and status in the project/programme footprint area or the country?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the review of the Beijing Declaration 20 years later, the government concluded that the principle of gender equality must be accepted as a fundamental human rights principle, to break down resistance and deconstruct harmful sociocultural stereotypes. Positive discrimination or affirmative action is often necessary.</li> <li>• The Beijing+25 report summarizes the five main obstacles to equality: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- non-institutionalization of gender budgeting</li> <li>- weakness of funding mechanisms</li> <li>- persistent sociocultural burdens</li> <li>- lack of temporary special measures and insufficient dissemination of legislation</li> <li>- social norms and lack of ownership of the Gender and Development approach</li> </ul> </li> <li>• There are two known failings in the achievement of gender equality and women's empowerment: (i) failure to improve the representation of women in decision-making positions and elected assemblies, as envisaged by the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, (ii) lack of a mechanism for citizen oversight of actions taken by the public authorities in the area of gender and women's empowerment (Ministry for Women, the Family and Children, 2019).</li> </ul>
<p>What are the gendered health issues (What is the maternal mortality rate, infant mortality rate, life expectancy (disaggregated by sex) in the country of intervention and/or the project/programme footprint area?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young population with a high number of dependants: one out of two Ivorians is aged under 20 years and nearly two out of three Ivorians are aged under 25 years (Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, 2016a).</li> <li>• The health situation remains a cause for concern due to high morbidity and mortality from malaria and HIV/AIDS. Life expectancy (54.3 years in 2015) is among the lowest in the world (AfDB, 2018).</li> </ul>
<p>Do women have equal access to education, technical knowledge, and/or skill training (what is the educational status of girls and boys? Adult literacy rate, disaggregated by sex?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to education has improved, with an estimated primary school enrolment rate of 78.9 per cent in 2015 (INS, 2015).</li> <li>• Inequality of access to schooling is exacerbated by the level of poverty: there is a literacy rate of 56 per cent among men compared with 36.8 per cent among women (INS, 2008).</li> </ul>
<p>What is the information in-country related to gender-based violence (including intimate-partner violence, early marriage, FGM)?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevalence of physical and/or sexual violence perpetrated by a spouse at least once since the age of 15 years: 26 per cent (Demographic and Health Survey – DHS, 2012).</li> <li>• Prevalence of physical and/or sexual violence perpetrated by a spouse in the past 12 months: 22 per cent (DHS, 2012).</li> <li>• Female genital mutilation (FGM) rates: 38 per cent; among the highest in West Africa, despite the fact that the practice has been prohibited by law since 1998 (French Development Agency [AFD], 2014).</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early marriages are prohibited by law but continue to be practised at a rate of 27 per cent (DHS, 2012). One third of girls between 15 and 19 years of age report having had at least one pregnancy. Although they do not all drop out of school, almost all of them fall behind and find it difficult to follow classes (Ministry of National Education, <i>Les grossesses en milieu scolaire en Côte d'Ivoire</i> [Pregnancies in schools in Côte d'Ivoire], September 2016).</li> <li>• The Penal Code prohibits sexual harassment (article 356) and rape (article 354: rape is punishable by five to 10 years' imprisonment (AFD, 2014)).</li> </ul>
<p>What are the main issues for accessing justice and the barriers that women face?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal and judicial care for victims of sexual violence remains very weak. However, there are initiatives such as the decentralized legal clinics run by non-governmental organizations (NGOs).</li> <li>• Access to legal aid is hardly ever free of charge. The victims themselves have to bear the cost of legal actions. Apart from a facility located in Attécoubé – the <i>Centre de prévention et d'assistance aux victimes des violences sexuelles</i> (Centre for Prevention and Assistance to Victims of Sexual Violence – PAVVIOS Centre) attached to the Ministry for Women – there are no well-funded shelter and relief facilities for women and girls who are victims of violence, or medical, psychological and other counselling.</li> <li>• There are no established measures for punishing the perpetrators of violent practices and acts against women such as genital mutilation, infanticide and dowry-related violence (Ministry for Women, 2019).</li> </ul>
<p>What are the current indicators and trends related to poverty and development? (HDI? HDI World rank? GDP per capita)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• According to the latest Human Development Report, Côte d'Ivoire ranks 171th out of 188 countries in the low human development category in 2015 (UNDP, 2016).</li> </ul>
<p>What do national statistics/census say about women's economic situation (employment rate? Average income? Gender pay gap? Any data on gender differences in the informal sector? And in the agricultural sector?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Division of labour: Women work primarily in self-sufficient gardening, growing crops for consumption by their own households (cassava, maize, bananas and other crops) while men work in commercial agricultural plantations (cocoa, palm and rubber) (Japan International Cooperation Agency [JICA], 2013). Nevertheless, women have a strong presence in all economic sectors: 29.9 per cent in agriculture; 31.6 per cent in industry; 59.5 per cent in trade and 39.5 per cent in services (INS, 2015).</li> <li>• The majority of the poorest people are women: the rate of working poor is also higher among women (34.68 per cent) (INS, 2015). Fifty-three per cent of women aged 15–64 years are economically active, compared with 82.1 per cent of men (International Labour Organization [ILO], 2012). Women's wages are the equivalent of \$125 per month, compared with \$240 per month for men, a gap of 50 per cent (World Bank, 2018a).</li> <li>• Combined unemployment rate (i.e. taking into account underemployment and vulnerable and informal employment): 26.5 per cent (Agence d'études et de promotion de l'emploi [Agency for Employment Research and Promotion], in AfDB, 2018).</li> </ul>
<p>What is the situation in terms of access to financial resources for men and women in the area (access to banking? Microcredit? Savings account? Self-help group?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women have unequal access to credit due to lack of collateral and reduced capacity to save and invest. Microcredit projects are potentially beneficial to women, but are limited in number (French Development Agency [AFD], 2014).</li> <li>• An adolescent girl in Côte d'Ivoire is half as likely to complete secondary education as a boy. A woman, even with the same level of education as a man, finds it more difficult to find a paid job, and her salary is on average 30 per cent lower (World Bank, 2017).</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the national level, only 12 per cent of women have a bank account with a financial institution, compared with 18 per cent of men (World Bank, 2017).</li> <li>• Within the Ministry of Solidarity, Social Cohesion and the Fight against Poverty, the Directorate for the Fight against Poverty is developing a policy to improve financial inclusion for women.</li> </ul>
What is the situation in terms of access to land? Property rights?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Property rights: the law provides for equal access to land between men and women, but in practice women in rural areas have difficulty getting access to land (AFD, 2014).</li> <li>• Unequal access to land and resources: the law in Côte d'Ivoire allows women to purchase land, but this right is only exercised in urban areas; in rural areas, local customs prevent women from acquiring land (AFD, 2014). Only 8 per cent of women hold a land title or certificate of sale, compared with 22 per cent of men. The difference, however, diminishes when customary law is taken into account (World Bank, 2017).</li> </ul>

## b- Climate and gender in the proposed project/program footprint area

### ➤ at the national level

Guiding questions	Gender equality – national level
How are the national climate policies and strategic plans (NAP, NDCs, other) addressing gender issues? (include policy name, date)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The reference policy document for climate action is currently the one on Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for Côte d'Ivoire. It incorporates adaptation strategies in the areas of Water Resources, Agriculture, Forestry and Land-Use, and Hydrometeorological Disaster Management.</li> <li>• Gender is considered as a “sector” in the NDCs, without further detail on the implications it has for the vulnerability of the population or of certain sectors, or for adaptation.</li> <li>• The Education sector is not identified as a priority sector in the NCCP Strategy or the NDCs, but Health is now on the list of priority sectors for the NAP process.</li> <li>• The Third National Communication provides a more comprehensive database, particularly in the sectors of Agriculture, Health, Water and Climate Hazards. Gender considerations are still addressed superficially, through specific references to the presence of women in certain sectors such as agriculture and to the need to improve their access to property.</li> <li>• The 2009 National Policy Document on Equal Opportunities, Equity and Gender is not available on the Internet and is not cited in climate change-related reports or referred to (or known) by actors involved in adaptation initiatives.</li> </ul>
What are the governmental body (Ministry? Agency? Office?) in charge of the interface between these issues?	<p><b>Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>NCCP</b>, responsible for climate change issues under the supervision of the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development, created in 2012</li> <li>▪ A gender and climate focal point within the NCCP was appointed in 2017</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Gender and Social Inclusion Unit</li> </ul>
What are the priority sectors targeted by climate change-related NAPs and NDCs?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As part of the NAP process, the NCCP is aiming to develop climate change adaptation planning by focusing on the sectors identified in the NDCs as being highly vulnerable: agriculture, access to water, land-use and coastal zones. Health is now added to these (it was previously identified as a sector of medium vulnerability). The forest sector is covered by the Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+) Programme.</li> </ul>
Are there national programmes addressing each climate change and gender inequalities independently or in an integrated manner?	<p>Yes, the NCCP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gender issues will be cross-cutting for the priority sectors for adaptation.</li> <li>• The NCCP has also commissioned a National Strategy on Gender and Climate Change, expected to be completed by the end of 2019.</li> <li>• Examples of effective gender mainstreaming in sectors include the creation of the Agricultural Gender Platform by FIRCA in 2017, which brings together local partners from each sector to represent the interests of different socioprofessional groups. Platform members have received training on equity issues.</li> <li>• The work for and with the support of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) on gender mainstreaming in the energy policy of West African countries is another example of sectoral gender mainstreaming. A research officer within the Ministry for Women is involved in this work. Meanwhile, energy issues are addressed by the NDCs.</li> </ul>
How does the government frame both issues?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discourse about gender among representatives of the sectoral ministries is highly politicized: it is a subject that is clearly considered a priority for donors and development partners and therefore an opportunity to receive funding.</li> <li>• In the consultations, many of the decision makers reduced gender considerations to recognition of the presence of women in certain sectors and the need for parity in decision-making positions. The importance of equality and gender mainstreaming through national development plans is not explained, nor is it made explicit in the initiatives mentioned in the consultations, although stakeholders did put forward examples of specific projects where women have been supported. For example, the Ministry of Animal Resources and Fisheries does a lot of work with cooperatives of women who raise livestock or process fishery products.</li> <li>• The problem also lies with the wording used for gender, which is not well understood by decision makers, and according to the ONEG, is perceived as a passing fad. In a book edited by UNDP and published in 2015, the various ministries of Côte d'Ivoire contributed to exploration of the subject of sustainable development in relation to their sector. A chapter dedicated to gender and sustainable development, with priorities given to climate change adaptation in Africa, was written by the gender equality officer of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) Office in Côte d'Ivoire (Allah-Kouadio et al., 2015).</li> </ul>
Are there any policies specifically referring to gender equality/social inclusion in climate change initiatives (both adaptation and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The next National Strategy on Gender and Climate Change, planned for the end of 2019</li> <li>• The technical note by the Ministry of the Environment and</li> </ul>

<p>mitigation)? Any background studies?</p>	<p>Sustainable Development, supported by the NAP Global Network 2018, on opportunities for mainstreaming gender in the national adaptation process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 2018 UNDP situational analysis on gender mainstreaming in climate change policies, plans and programmes</li> </ul>
<p>Are there international organizations support the government on gender and climate initiatives?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The NAP Global Network</li> <li>• UNDP, with funding from the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF)</li> <li>• AfDB</li> <li>• AFD, Adapt'Action Facility</li> <li>• European Union, Global Climate Change Alliance Plus (GCCA+)</li> </ul>
<p>Are there background studies on both adaptation and gender?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The technical note by the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development, supported by the NAP Global Network 2018, on opportunities for mainstreaming gender in the national adaptation process</li> </ul>
<p>What are the documented and projected climate change impacts that will affect the country?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An average increase in temperature of 2 degrees, variability in rainfall and a 30-cm rise in the sea level all along the coast are the main manifestations of climate change expected in Côte d'Ivoire between now and 2050 (World Bank, 2018b).</li> <li>• The direct impacts of these changes include a reduction in water resources and inland fishing areas, a delay in the agricultural season, an increase in disease transmission vectors, coastal erosion and an increase in extreme hydro-climatic phenomena (floods, storms, bush fires, drought).</li> <li>• Indirect impacts of climate change include declining agricultural and fishing yields, the areas suitable for cocoa cultivation being at higher altitudes, potentially leading to migration, land conflicts, disruption of livelihoods, loss of life and destruction of habitat and infrastructure through coastal erosion and disasters.</li> </ul>
<p>What do available studies say about the anticipated differences in men's and women's vulnerability and adaptive capacity to climate change?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A 2013 study (Kaman, 2013) includes an analysis of vulnerabilities and human, social, geographical and economic capacities to address major disaster risks at the national level, providing a relevant baseline for better integration of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation activities.</li> <li>• Neither this study, nor currently any other, documents the differential impacts of natural hazards, disasters and climate change on women and men in Côte d'Ivoire. However, socioeconomic differences between different social groups in the composition of economic sectors, and unequal access to resources and decision-making between men and women, suggest that populations within the different communities will not be affected in the same way. The sectors most affected are water resources, agriculture and coastal erosion, according to the AfDB's Gender Profile for Côte d'Ivoire (2015).</li> <li>• As part of the process for the NAP financed by the Green Climate Fund, a vulnerability study is needed to highlight the different impact of climate change on women and men by presenting their needs, challenges and priorities in this area.</li> </ul>
<p>What do available studies say about existing gender inequalities that may be exacerbated by climate change impacts?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Based on existing studies on the impacts of climate change in Côte d'Ivoire and West Africa, different gender roles in the agricultural, forestry and fishing sectors suggest that declining productivity will have different impacts on household livelihoods, incomes and resources.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Reduced fishing yields will have a direct impact on the income of fishers (the vast majority of whom are men) and thus on their main activity, but also along the value chain for fish processing, which largely employs women and young people. Little is known about the impact on the prices of raw and processed fishery resources, the consequences for livelihoods along the value chains, or the alternatives available to men and women.</li> <li>○ Declining yields in cereal production will have a major impact on farmers' incomes, while water stress could affect both cash and subsistence crops. However, the consequences will be different depending on the crops affected, and on the differing capacities of smallholders and groups to respond to change and to protect themselves or adapt. For example, negative impacts on cocoa plantations will more widely affect the activities of men, who are in the majority in this sector, but may also affect women through deforestation.</li> <li>○ Prolonged lean seasons and food insecurity are exacerbating the seasonal or permanent migration of men in search of alternative livelihoods, and the pressure on women to manage the day-to-day household needs for water, food and energy.</li> <li>○ The changes in temperature and rainfall that will require crops (such as cocoa) to move to higher altitudes will increase migration, pressure on land and potential land-related conflicts. In a post-conflict context and in areas still vulnerable to land disputes between nomadic pastoralists and farmers, these changes could carry risks of intercommunity violence which will affect the well-being of both men and women.</li> <li>○ Changes in temperature and rainfall also increase the use of traditional and industrial fertilizers (Yeo et al., 2016) the environmental impacts of which are poorly documented. The accountability of farmers who use industrial supplies, the constraints they face and the opportunities for implementing climate-smart agriculture need to be analysed from a gender perspective to better target groups with awareness-raising and support.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Changes in economic activity due to climate change and declining income (Yeo, 2016) will mainly affect those categories of people who are confined to certain roles or sectors, especially in an economic context characterized by a very significant division of labour between men and women. Women have less access to productive employment than men, as almost all of them are employed in small and informal enterprises, which are characterized by low productivity and therefore they are relatively low paid. This is the case for 90 per cent of women, while it is only 68 per cent for men (World Bank, 2017). This gap is even greater in urban areas, where 52 per cent of men hold paid employment in a formal enterprise or the public sector, compared with only 26.4 per cent of women (ibid.).</li> <li>● In addition to the impacts of climate change, anthropogenic activities are exacerbating environmental degradation. The rapid urbanization of coastal cities (movement towards Abidjan and San-Pédro) is contributing to the proliferation of health risks (Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, 2014a). The degradation and destruction of mangroves and</li> </ul>
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	<p>coastal forests for domestic fuelwood or smoking of fish is contributing to coastal erosion (ibid.). At the same time, sand mining, industrial pollution and overexploitation of aquatic resources are impacting conservation of coastal areas and contributing to irreversible reduction in biodiversity (International Performance Computing and Communications Conference [IPCCC], 2014). How are different social groups involved in these activities that are degrading the coastline? What are their constraints and how are these being addressed by the government to support environmentally sound economic development strategies?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Due to the lack of studies with a gender perspective, the differences between women's and men's needs, interests, vulnerabilities and capacities in relation to climate change adaptation are not well understood, and are not integrated into sectoral public policies.</li> </ul>
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### Summary of the literature

Issue	Link to differential vulnerability to climate change
Economic disparities between men and women in the agricultural sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poorer farmers (mostly women and young people) are less able to access resources (irrigation information and knowledge, seeds, markets, equipment and other supplies).</li> <li>• Power imbalances disadvantage small farmers when selling their products.</li> <li>• Smallholders have difficulty generating sufficient funds for investment in water management technologies, and the agricultural investments needed to generate higher profits and take on proportionally greater financial risks (Marloes et al., 2016).</li> </ul>
Imbalance in the right of access to resources (land or water).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women in rural areas have difficulty accessing land (AFD, 2014) due to customary and religious inheritance systems that discriminate against women. This limits their decision-making power and their flexibility to protect their crops or adapt to changes.</li> <li>• Women in Africa receive less than 10 per cent of the credit granted to smallholder farmers, and 1 per cent of all credit to agriculture (Oka-Balima, 2015).</li> </ul>
Imbalance in labour and time spent on domestic chores.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Difficulties with water supply adversely affect women more than men: 78 per cent of households (67 per cent in rural areas and 92 per cent in urban areas) get their drinking water from an improved source. Nearly two out of 10 households (17 per cent) have to spend 30 minutes or more obtaining drinking water (INS, 2012). It is mainly women who are responsible for fetching water; access to water is limited and is likely to worsen with the decrease in surface water due to climate change. This means they have to devote a considerable amount of time to this task (AfDB, 2015).</li> </ul>
Women have higher exposure to vector-borne diseases, due to their domestic roles coupled with endemic health vulnerability in Côte d'Ivoire (meningitis, malaria, respiratory infections, diarrhoeal diseases, malnutrition, measles, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This contributes to increasing the risk of mortality from infectious diseases and limiting prevention strategies.</li> <li>• There is a positive correlation between changes in rainfall and temperature and the incidence of malaria, respiratory infections and diarrhoeal diseases in several localities in Côte d'Ivoire. (Besancenot et al., 2004; Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, 2014a).</li> <li>• Coupled with the scarcity of water reserves, health vulnerability is at the root of certain waterborne diseases such as cholera (Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, 2014a).</li> <li>• The health system is characterized by an unequal national distribution of human resources for health, with a high</li> </ul>

(Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, 2014a).	concentration in the south of the country, particularly in Abidjan, creating an imbalance in the supply of services. There is also a shortage of specialized medical staff, with only five nurses and midwives per million population (World Bank, 2018a), a lack of professional development plans, and a lack of budgetary allocation for the remuneration of planned staff (Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, 2016c).
Unequal division of productive and reproductive work: a large proportion of employment is in the informal economy and does not benefit from social insurance (Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, 2014f).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women have unequal access to credit due to lack of collateral and reduced capacity to save and invest. Microcredit projects are potentially beneficial to women, but are limited in number (AFD, 2014).</li> <li>• An adolescent girl in Côte d'Ivoire is half as likely to complete secondary education as a boy. A woman, even with the same level of education as a man, finds it more difficult to find a paid job, and her salary is on average 30 per cent lower (World Bank, 2017).</li> <li>• At the national level, only 12 per cent of women have a bank account with a financial institution, compared with 18 per cent of men (World Bank, 2017).</li> </ul>
Lack of recognition of indigenous knowledge in the Sahel (Nyong, Adesina and Osman-Elasha, 2007).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is creating a shortfall in supporting climate change adaptation processes (Nyong, Adesina and Osman-Elasha, 2007).</li> </ul>
Discrimination against women and girls, including gender-based violence (see Table 1).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The main reasons for interruption of girls' schooling are: pregnancy, forced marriage, lack of financial means, and lack of drinking water and sanitation infrastructure in schools (AfDB, 2015).</li> <li>• The early age of marriage and pregnancy contributes to reducing economic opportunities for young women, who often have to drop out of school or give up work (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development [OECD] Development Centre, 2017).</li> <li>• Women who experience physical, sexual and/or psychological violence on a daily basis are less likely to access and control resources equally and equitably with men.</li> <li>• Domestic violence reduces the resilience of survivors and their households in preparing for periods of stress and crisis (Le Masson et al., 2019).</li> </ul>

### C- Gender-specific challenges for the programme

Guiding questions	Gender equality
What are the targeted regions or local government to be supported by LoCAL? What challenges can we anticipate?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The targeted regions will be identified in the initial phase of the programme.</li> </ul>
What are their capacities in both sectors (human, technical, financial capacities)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This will be identified during the initial phase.</li> </ul>
What are local governments' responsibilities and attitudes vis-à-vis gender equity issues in development planning?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Beijing+25 implementation report highlights the low impact of development actions and low involvement of grass-roots communities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Small towns and rural areas seem to be excluded from women's empowerment programmes and initiatives;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There is a lack of information sharing at the grass roots level leading to feelings of frustration, discrimination and marginalization of rural communities. In Tabagne, for example, women say they are forgotten and feel that their situation has worsened over the past five years, despite initiatives for women.</li> </ul>
<p>What is the typical participation (or lack) of women in decision-making processes at the local government level? How many women are part of the local government decision-making committee?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Based on data in the National Commission for Human Rights in Côte d'Ivoire (CCNDHCI) Annual Report 2017, and the communiqué from the Council of Ministers on 6 March 2019, women's representation in certain decision-making bodies seems to have stagnated below certain thresholds. The Côte d'Ivoire Administration currently includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 7 women out of 41 ministers (17.07 per cent)</li> <li>- 29 women out of 255 representatives (11.37 per cent)</li> <li>- 8 women out of 66 senators (12.12 per cent)</li> <li>- 16 women out of 201 mayors (7.96 per cent)</li> <li>- only 1 female president out of 31 regions (3.33 per cent)</li> <li>- 26.61 per cent of magistrates</li> <li>- 3.22 per cent of regional prefects</li> <li>- 12.32 per cent of prefects</li> <li>- 17.16 per cent of sub-prefects</li> <li>- 0 presidents of institutions (Ministry for Women, 2019).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Have any projects/activities/decisions been implemented to support women's rights and/or empowerment in the past in the area of intervention? (by the local government)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gender-balanced early warning and conflict management committees established in all 31 regions of Côte d'Ivoire since 2018</li> <li>• Strengthening of the early warning mechanism of the Observatory of Solidarity and Social Cohesion (OSCS), with a network of more than 1,401 male and female monitors responsible for regular collection of data on solidarity and social cohesion, covering all the sub-prefectures and the 10 communes of Abidjan, and for the publication of weekly reports: 52 reports produced in 2017, compared with 19 reports in 2016 (Ministry for Women, 2019)</li> <li>• Creation by FIRCA of the Agricultural Gender Platform in August 2018</li> <li>• Support for entrepreneurship, including free training from 2017 to 2019 at 15 digital centres for 1,580 vulnerable women entrepreneurs, in financial education, digital literacy and information and communication technology, and the creation by UN Women of a centre dedicated to women's entrepreneurship</li> </ul>
<p>Are there any women's organizations, women's groups and/or gender advocates present in the area of intervention? If so, what do they focus on? Who is the main point of contact? Are they involved in local development planning? In the implementation and maintenance of initiatives/infrastructure? What are their capacities like?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- LeadAfricaines (NGO)</li> <li>- Centre Féminin pour les droits humains de Côte d'Ivoire (CEFCI) [Women's Centre for Human Rights in Côte d'Ivoire]</li> <li>- Compendium des Compétences Féminines de Côte d'Ivoire (COCOFCI) [Compendium of Women's Skills in Côte d'Ivoire]</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## MALI

### Summary: Challenges of integrating gender equality into adaptation and resilience programmes in Mali

Mali's official policies express a political will to mainstream gender issues in combating climate change. Mali's Third National Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (2018), for example, has a section dedicated to gender equality. However, there is almost no mention of gender in other documents with more practical objectives, such as the Politique Nationale sur les Changements Climatiques [National Climate Change Policy] and the Stratégie Nationale [National Strategy] (2011). The political and legal framework for gender mainstreaming for adaptation and resilience is sometimes difficult to identify due to a proliferation of documents and it is not always clear which ones are still relevant, particularly following the disruption caused by the conflict since 2012.

In general, the gap between official policies and their implementation is significant. An emblematic case that illustrates this situation is the condemnation of the Malian State by the African Court of Human Rights in 2018 for non-compliance with international texts on gender equality, which Mali has officially endorsed. In this case, it was civil society associations that sued the State, pointing to the difficulties the State and civil society face when working together on these issues. The case of the African Court of Human Rights also reveals the reluctance of the Malian State to transform gender norms, citing the priority of maintaining peace and a desire not to fuel tensions in the country by maintaining the gender status quo. The reality experienced by women in Mali is far from the equality enshrined in official documents, as evidenced by national statistics on the scale of gender-based violence (GBV), and there is a lack of resources to improve the situation.

Moreover, gender is treated separately, added to rather than incorporated transversally into adaptation and resilience policies, which could suggest a concern for complying with the expectations of international donors rather than a real desire for mainstreaming. Gender is seen as a monolithic category, concerning women and girls, with an emphasis on their vulnerability (compared with that of young people and children) rather than their positive participation in resilience and adaptation efforts, or at least the potential for them to do so. These observations must, however, be set against a civil society landscape that has been active for many years and various projects at the regional level.

#### a- Country gender overall situation: rights and status of women in the country

Guiding questions	Analysis – national level	Data at subnational level if available
What are the national policies covering gender issues? (include policy name, date) Programmes/action plans?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <i>Programme National de lutte contre l'excision</i> [National Programme to Combat Female Genital Cutting – PNLE] was established in 2002, attached to the Ministry for the Advancement of Women, Children and the Family (MPFEF).</li> <li>• A National Action Committee for the Abandonment of Practices Harmful to Women's and Children's Health (CNAPN) was created in 1999 (United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, 2006).</li> <li>• <a href="http://bamada.net/lutte-contre-les-pratiques-nefastes-a-la-sante-de-la-femme-et-de-lenfant-le-crapn-et-les-clapn-se-reactivent">http://bamada.net/lutte-contre-les-pratiques-nefastes-a-la-sante-de-la-femme-et-de-lenfant-le-crapn-et-les-clapn-se-reactivent</a></li> <li>• Project to support the strengthening of gender equity, launched in 2009 (MPFEF-United Nations)</li> </ul>	

	<p>Development Programme [UNDP], 2013)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Politique Nationale Genre du Mali</i> [Mali National Gender Policy] (PNG-Mali) (MPFEF), 2011</li> </ul>	
Who is the governmental body (Ministry? Agency? Office?) in charge of gender issues?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry for the Advancement of Women, Children and the Family</li> </ul>	
Are gender-disaggregated data/statistics available?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes. Mali's National Institute of Statistics (INSTAT) conducts the annual Modular and Permanent Household Survey (EMOP), which contains data on poverty, consumption, health and literacy disaggregated by gender (<a href="http://www.instat-mali.org/contenu/eq/ranuel17_eq.pdf">http://www.instat-mali.org/contenu/eq/ranuel17_eq.pdf</a>).</li> <li>• Demographic and Health Survey (DHS V – 2013, DHS VI – 2018): INSTAT in close collaboration with the Planning and Statistics Unit of the Health, Social Development and Promotion of the Family Sector (CPS/SS-DS-PF). Funding for the Mali Demographic and Health Survey VI (DHS VI) was provided by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Global Fund.</li> <li>• This contains information on nutritional status, maternal health, fertility, family planning, household characteristics, malaria, HIV, female genital cutting, the status of women (employment and remuneration, participation in decision-making and problems of access to care) and domestic violence (<a href="https://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/SR261/SR261.pdf">https://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/SR261/SR261.pdf</a>).</li> <li>• International databases such as the World Bank's Gender Data Portal (<a href="https://genderdata.worldbank.org/countries/mali">https://genderdata.worldbank.org/countries/mali</a>) also provide gender-disaggregated data on the population of Mali. According to the World Bank, 49.5% of the population of Mali is female: this proportion was used to calculate the number of female beneficiaries of the project in Mali.</li> </ul>	
What is the legal status of women and children in the country of intervention (existing gender-responsive policies? Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)? Ratification of international laws?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Article 2 of the Constitution of Mali (1992) establishes equality between men and women: "All Malians are born and remain free and equal in rights and duties. Any discrimination based on social origin, colour, language, race, sex, religion or political opinion is prohibited."</li> <li>• Mali has ratified the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa.</li> <li>• In practice, however, discrimination persists. In 2018, Mali was condemned by the African Court on Human and People's Rights for non-compliance with the Maputo Protocol and CEDAW, first, because the legal age of marriage is set by law at</li> </ul>	



	<p>16 years for women (compared with 18 years for men), and secondly, because verification of the spouses' consent is not requested from ministers of religion, because of inequalities in inheritance (which is governed by religious and customary law, discriminating against women and natural children), and for “violation of the obligation to eliminate traditional practices or attitudes that undermine the rights of women and children” (African Court on Human and People’s Rights, 2018).</p>	
<p>What are commonly held beliefs, perceptions, and stereotypes related to gender roles and status in the project/programme footprint area or the country?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Female genital mutilation (FGM): 71.9 per cent of women aged 15–49 years and 79.1 per cent of men aged 15–59 years think that FGM should continue (Thomson Reuters Foundation, 2018).</li> <li>• There are 11.5 times more male than female heads of household (calculated based on data from the EMOP survey, 2018).</li> <li>• Women remain largely excluded from leadership positions: 8.8 per cent of parliamentary seats in Mali are held by women and 7.3 per cent of adult women have reached at least secondary education compared with 16.2 per cent of their male counterparts (UNDP, 2018a).</li> <li>• However, according to the International Labour Organization (ILO) (2018), the share of women in managerial positions is 40.1 per cent (<a href="https://www.ilo.org/shinyapps/bulkexplorer2/?!ang=en&amp;segment=indicator&amp;id=SDG_0552_OCU_RT_A">https://www.ilo.org/shinyapps/bulkexplorer2/?!ang=en&amp;segment=indicator&amp;id=SDG_0552_OCU_RT_A</a>).</li> <li>• According to CARE, a majority of men believe that women should not work outside the home because it would prevent them from fulfilling their roles as mothers and wives. The report notes, however, that in practice many women work, particularly in trade or agriculture, and that their work contributes significantly to the livelihood of many households (CARE, 2013).</li> </ul>	
<p>What are the gendered health issues (what is the maternal mortality rate, infant mortality rate, life expectancy (disaggregated by sex) in the country of intervention and/or the project/programme footprint area?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infant mortality: 62 per 1,000 live births (United Nations Inter-Agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation [UN IGME], 2018) (<a href="https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.DYN.IM.RT.IN?locations=ML">https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.DYN.IM.RT.IN?locations=ML</a>).</li> <li>• Maternal mortality in 2015: 587 deaths per 100,000 births (World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the World Bank Group and the United Nations Population Division) (WHO, 2015).</li> <li>• Life expectancy – men: 58 years; female: 59 years (World Bank, 2017) <a href="https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.DYN.LEO0.FE.IN?locations=ML">https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.DYN.LEO0.FE.IN?locations=ML</a>).</li> </ul>	
<p>Do women have equal</p>	<p>Net enrolment ratio (primary school) 2008–2012,</p>	<p>Strong disparities exist</p>

<p>access to education, technical knowledge, and/or skill training (what is the educational status of girls and boys? Adult literacy rate, disaggregated by sex?)</p>	<p>boys: 71.6 per cent  Net enrolment ratio (primary school) 2008–2012, girls: 62.6 per cent  Net enrolment ratio (secondary school) 2008–2012, boys: 36 per cent  Net enrolment ratio (secondary school) 2008–2012, girls: 23.1 per cent  (UNICEF)  <a href="https://www.unicef.org/french/infobycountry/mali_statistics.html">https://www.unicef.org/french/infobycountry/mali_statistics.html</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult literacy rate (people aged over 15 years) in 2017: 44.8 (men), 24.6 (women) (INSTAT Mali, 2017–2018).</li> </ul>	<p>between regions, urban and rural areas (see Table 3-6, INSTAT, 2017–2018).</p>
<p>What is the information in-country related to gender-based violence (including intimate-partner violence, early-marriage and FGM)?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early-marriage – Mali DHS (2012–2013): one in five (20 per cent) women aged 25–49 years were married before the age of 15. Half of the women (50 per cent) were married before the age of 18. Among women aged 25–49 years, 21 per cent had had their first sexual intercourse before the age of 15, compared with only 5 per cent of men in the same age group.</li> <li>• FGM: Prevalence is 91.4 per cent among women aged 15–29 years according to the 2012–2013 Mali DHS. The most common type of FGM is “cutting, with flesh removed” (Thomson Reuters Foundation, 2018).</li> <li>• Data on domestic violence are subsumed under more general data on GBV, with a focus on violence related to armed conflict: “In response to the question ‘In the past year, have you or any female family member been a victim of violence?’ 44 per cent of respondents answered yes in Gao, 20 per cent in Timbuktu, 16 per cent in Bamako, 10 per cent in Kidal, 8 per cent in Mopti and 2 per cent in Ménaka”. The same report noted the increase in GBV since 2012 and the use of rape as a weapon. “From January to June 2018, 1,306 cases of GBV were reported, including 1,115 cases reported by Gender-Based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS) users. Ten to 11 per cent of the cases reported are cases of denial of resources and psychological violence, while 6–13 per cent concern cases of forced marriage and physical aggression. Sixty per cent of GBV cases are sexual violence; of these, 68 per cent involve girls under 18 years old. Ninety-eight per cent of the survivors of GBV are women and girls, while 2 per cent are boys” (Sous-Cluster Violence Basée sur le Genre [GBV Sub Cluster], 2018).</li> <li>• In Mali, 96 per cent of women and girls are victims or survivors of GBV (DHS IV 2012–2013). Despite the numerous initiatives, 54 per cent of the national territory lacks appropriate care services</li> </ul>	<p>With regard to FGM, there are wide disparities between the south/west and north/east regions. While prevalence among women aged 15–49 years is 94.7 per cent in the <b>Kayes</b> region, it is 0.9 per cent in the Kidal region, 1.8 per cent in Gao region and 44 per cent in the Timbuktu region (Thomson Reuters Foundation, 2018).</p> <p>The DHS V 2012–2013 provides relatively precise and recognized data that are essential for targeting the intervention areas and priority populations. Nevertheless, the political context in Mali has hampered data-collection in the northern regions (Gao, Timbuktu and Kidal, as well as three circles in the Mopti region): Douentza, Youwarou and Tenenkou). Although the northern regions are less populated than the rest of the country and only 10 per cent of Mali’s population is not represented in the study, this lack of evidence makes national comparisons of DHS data over time imprecise.</p> <p>A study published in 2014 examined the existence of commercial sexual exploitation of children in</p>

	<p>in this area. The political and security crisis triggered in 2012 and the resulting instability and violent extremism have increased the prevalence of this type of violence while limiting women’s and girls’ access to basic social services (UNDP, 2018a).</p>	<p>certain at-risk localities in the cities of <b>Kayes</b>, Sikasso, <b>Ségou</b>, Mopti and the District of Bamako. Out of a sample of 1,472 children aged between 10 and 17 years, 28 per cent (93.4 per cent of whom are girls and 6.5 per cent boys) were identified as victims of one of the three forms of exploitation chosen: prostitution (12 per cent, of whom 94.7 per cent are girls and 5.2 per cent boys), sex tourism (9 per cent, of whom 98.5 per cent are girls and 1.4 per cent boys), and trafficking for sexual purposes (7 per cent, of whom 84.9 per cent are girls and 15 per cent boys) (MPFEF, 2019).</p>
<p>What are the main issues for accessing justice and the barriers that women face?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The GBV Sub Cluster (2018) points out the important role of customs, habits, taboos and social norms, which means that many cases are not reported or dealt with by the authorities, but rather settled “amicably” in order to protect the family’s image. The Sub Cluster, as well as UNDP (2018), also highlight the role of the precarious security situation, which makes it difficult to access GBV management services despite the existence of national pools of trainers on GBV case management: 54 per cent of the national territory lacks appropriate GBV management services (UNDP, 2018a). Another barrier noted by the Sub Cluster and UNDP (2018) is the absence of State authority in some places. Finally, the fear of reprisals, impunity, the lack of knowledge among survivors of their rights, and the financial and personal cost of legal proceedings are all obstacles to access to justice (GBV Sub Cluster, 2018).</li> <li>• To this, UNDP adds that “the legislative and political framework is inadequate because of the non-harmonization of national legislation with international conventions, the non-insertion of ratified texts in the official gazette, and the emphasis on the rules of custom to the detriment of the law. As a result, Malian law continues to discriminate on gender (in texts such as the Family Code) and harmful practices such as FGM are still not penalized”(UNDP, 2018a), assertions that were corroborated by the verdict of the African Court of Human Rights (2018).</li> </ul>	

<p>What are the current indicators and trends related to poverty and development? (Human Development Index (HDI)? HDI World rank? GDP per capita)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human Development Index: 0.427 (182nd out of 188 countries) (UNDP, 2018a)</li> <li>• GDP per capita: US\$ 830 (World Bank, 2018)</li> <li>• Poverty rate: 41.3 per cent (World Bank, 2019) <a href="https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/mali/overview">https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/mali/overview</a></li> <li>• Gendered indicators: Gender Inequality Index (GII) (measures the loss of human development due to inequality between female and male achievements): 0.689 (156 out of 159 countries in the 2015 index). Women make up 52 per cent of the rural population and 64.2 per cent live below the poverty line (UNDP, 2018b).</li> </ul>	
<p>What do national statistics/census say about women's economic situation (employment rate? Average income? Gender pay gap? Any data on gender differences in the informal sector? And in the agricultural sector?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The unemployment rate for people aged 15–64 years was 9.7 per cent for women and 7.5 per cent for men in 2018 (EMOP, 2018).</li> <li>• Unadjusted compensation differential: 62.5 per cent (UN Women, 2015–2016).</li> <li>• Using data from the 2003 Integrated Light Household Survey (ELHS), Doumbia Gakou and Kuépié (2008) conclude that “Women occupy a slightly more disadvantaged position than men, with more women in the informal sector. However, analyses have shown that when Malian women are educated, they have almost the same chances (or even more) than men to find their place in the crowded but protective public sector. Moreover, while women living in poor households are overwhelmingly present in the labour market, they are much more likely to be relegated to precarious jobs in the informal sector. The same is true of mothers with young children who, although they are as active in the labour market as women with no dependent children under the age of five, are more active in the informal sector.”</li> <li>• Agricultural sector: “Men are active in cash crops that provide more income whereas women are active in food crops (rice, sesame, maize, groundnut, cowpea, okra, etc.) intended primarily for family subsistence. However, more or less structured groups of women organize themselves in locations, to engage in activities linked to the cotton harvest, or in rice transplanting” (Republic of Mali, 2014).</li> <li>• Women make up 52 per cent of the rural population and 64.2 per cent live below the poverty line (UNDP, 2018b).</li> </ul>	
<p>What is the situation in terms of access to financial resources for men and women in the area (access to banking? Microcredit? Savings account? Self-help</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women are 20 per cent less likely than men to have a bank account (World Bank Group, 2017).</li> <li>• Nine per cent of men have paid bills or bought something online in the past year, compared with only 3 per cent of women.</li> </ul>	

group?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Twenty-five per cent of men have saved to start or expand a farm or business, compared with 19 per cent of women. Eight per cent of men have saved in a formal financial institution, compared with 4 per cent of women. The figures are the same for borrowing through formal financial institutions.</li> <li>• Twenty-four per cent of men received a salary in the past year, compared with 11 per cent of women (Global Findex Database Data, 2017).</li> <li>• The proportion of women benefiting from microfinance initiatives varies, but there are some that are particularly or exclusively aimed at women, such as MIselini, Soro Yiriwaso or the First Microfinance Agency of Mali (ILO, 2011, Aga Khan Development Network [AKDN], 2018) (<a href="https://www.akdn.org/where-we-work/west-africa/mali/microfinance-mali">https://www.akdn.org/where-we-work/west-africa/mali/microfinance-mali</a>).</li> </ul>	
What is the situation in terms of access to land? Property rights?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inheritance/differences between national and customary law.</li> <li>• Less than 3 per cent of women in Mali own land (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, 2011).</li> <li>• 3.1 per cent of land is owned by women, compared with 96.9 per cent by men (Njobe and Kaaria, 2015).</li> <li>• Note: Act no. 2017- 001/ of 11 April 2017 on agricultural land states that “at least 15 per cent of the land developments of the State or territorial authorities are allocated to groups and associations of women and young people located in the area concerned.”</li> </ul>	

## b- Climate and gender in the proposed project/program footprint area

### ➤ at the national level

Guiding questions	Gender equality – national level
How are the national climate policies and strategic plans (NAPs, NDCs, other) addressing gender issues? (include policy name, date)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Cadre pour la Relance Economique et de Développement Durable du Mali</i> [Framework for the Economic Recovery and Sustainable Development of Mali – CREDD]: objective: “to promote inclusive and sustainable development for the reduction of poverty and inequality in a united and peaceful Mali, based on the potential and capacity for resilience in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030”. Sub-target 4.1.1: “Promote decentralized and participatory management of renewable natural resources.” It also proposes to “put in place measures to improve women's control over productive land” and to strengthen “the involvement of local communities, non-governmental organizations, professional organizations, women's and youth groups” (CREDD, 2019).</li> <li>• National Climate Risk Fund: takes into account the “quality and relevance of activities to the problem and the approach proposed in the proposal (for example, gender, community involvement in implementation, etc.)” (UNDP, 2012).</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The gender mainstreaming section of Mali's Third National Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (2018) mentions a National Climate Change Policy accompanied by a National Strategy, both developed in 2011.</li> <li>• However, the National Strategy makes no mention of gender or women and the National Climate Change Policy merely points out that another relevant programme (the <i>Programme de développement économique et social</i> [Economic and Social Development Programme – PDES]) aims to "include women and young people in productive circuits" (2011).</li> <li>• The <i>Programme d'Action National d'Adaptation aux Changements Climatiques (NAPA)</i> [National Action Programme for Climate Change Adaptation – NAPA] (2007) aims "to strengthen intersectoral concertation by strongly involving institutions representing women and young people".</li> <li>• <i>Plans d'Action Nationaux</i> [National Action Plans – NAPs] (under development) should take gender aspects into account (Mali's Third National Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 2018).</li> <li>• <i>Plan d'Investissement pour une Economie Verte et Résiliente aux Changements Climatiques pour le Mali</i> [Investment Plan for a Green and Climate-Resilient Economy for Mali] (2018): See next section (highlighted in blue).</li> <li>• <u>National Gender Policy:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This policy is cited in the various environmental policies. The document itself does not set out a gender-environment policy but rather an inventory and critique of the lack of gender mainstreaming in existing policies (in 2011).</li> <li>- "The social option remains global in its conception by considering civil society as a homogeneous group enjoying the same prerogatives".</li> <li>- There is no "comprehensive gender mainstreaming" in environmental policies, and although they are based on the equality and empowerment of actors, the PNG criticizes the lack of "provision for making equal participation by women and men functional and practical".</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>What are the governmental bodies (Ministry? Agency? Office?) in charge of the interface between these issues?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of the Environment, Sanitation and Sustainable Development, <i>Agence de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable</i> [Environment and Sustainable Development Agency – AEDD], Ministry for the Advancement of Women, Children and the Family.</li> </ul>
<p>What are the priority sectors targeted by climate change-related NAPs and NDCs?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The priorities identified by Mali's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) (2016) are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Forest management for the restoration of degraded ecosystems and strengthening the protection of protected areas</li> <li>- The development of intelligent and climate-resilient agriculture (State commitment to devote 15 per cent of the national budget to agriculture)</li> <li>- Pastoral management that is resilient to climate change</li> <li>- Rainwater harvesting and storage to contribute to universal access to drinking water and access to water for other uses</li> <li>- The development of renewable energies and energy efficiency (objective: to reach the target of 10 per cent of the energy mix by 2020, by developing photovoltaic, wind, hydroelectric and biomass energy)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Are there national programmes addressing each climate change and gender inequality independently or in an integrated manner?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project contained in the NAPA for the "Promotion of Income-Generating Activities and Development of Mutual Insurance Funds" which provided technical and financial support for women and young people to "develop market gardening and livestock fattening activities for women.</li> <li>• Help to set up mutual insurance funds, savings funds and credit unions, facilitating access to credit for women and young people.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen the economic capabilities of women and young people" (NAPA, 2007). The NAPA also plans to involve the Ministry for the Advancement of Women, Children and the Family in the steering committees of various projects covering different areas (food security, fisheries, etc.). However, it is difficult to know what became of these projects after the conflict.</li> <li>• Overall, the gender issue is relegated to a separate, unintegrated section and sets out principles rather than specifying the conditions for their implementation in practice. The statements made in the Investment Plan for a Green and Climate-Resilient Economy for Mali (2018) speak for themselves in this regard, as the document indicates that the integration of environmental policies in different areas and gender policies is a task that remains to be accomplished: "A number of strategic priorities must be developed in order to strengthen the livelihoods of women's groups and vulnerable communities to increase their resilience, namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- improving access to climate-resilient water management systems for vulnerable communities, including women, to support their livelihood activities,</li> <li>- promoting women's access to adaptation techniques (water and soil conservation techniques, use of improved seeds, crop diversification, compost and market gardening),</li> <li>- strengthening women's groups in rural communities and supporting their participation in the planning and implementation of adaptation measures to ensure that their needs and priorities are taken into account;</li> <li>- promoting active participation in community decision-making,</li> <li>- investing in innovative climate-resilient approaches and technologies for women and other vulnerable groups to strengthen and secure the production of local livelihood systems in the face of climate impacts. Accordingly, adaptation projects or programmes must be formulated and implemented to enable better gender mainstreaming and social inclusion".</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>How does the government frame both issues?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The government emphasizes the vulnerability of women: "The results of the field missions indicate that women and young people are the group most vulnerable to the effects of climate change" (NAPA, 2007).</li> <li>• In the CREDD (2019), women are almost systematically mentioned in tandem with "young people" or children.</li> <li>• Mali's Third National Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (2018): In practice, the section on gender issues in the Communication deals mainly with poverty reduction, without necessarily addressing the specific characteristics of gender issues. The link between women and young people is also mentioned in this document.</li> <li>• The Investment Plan for a Green and Climate-Resilient Economy for Mali (2018) similarly emphasizes vulnerability, and places women and young people in the same category: "The main social groups who are vulnerable to climate change are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- women and young people,</li> <li>- the elderly,</li> <li>- people with a disability and orphans,</li> <li>- widows and affected people".</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Women's potential, rather than their vulnerability, is sometimes referred to: "Eight out of ten women can neither read nor write, despite the fact that they are the essential driving force behind all sustainable human development" (NAPA, 2007).</li> <li>• Investment Plan for a Green and Climate-Resilient Economy for Mali (2018): "Women play a key role in implementing prevention, adaptation and mitigation strategies to address the adverse effects of climate change."</li> </ul>
<p>Are there any policies specifically referring to</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See above. References to specific initiatives are scarce: it is more a matter of principles and references to other documents/policies.</li> </ul>

<p>gender equality/social inclusion in climate change initiatives (both adaptation and mitigation)? Any background studies?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Investment Plan for a Green and Climate-Resilient Economy for Mali (2018) lists various projects (portfolio of projects and programmes in the country), some of which include references to gender equality or social inclusion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the Mali Femmes [Mali Women] Project, the Project for Scaling-up Renewable Energy in Mali (PAPERM)</li> <li>- the Promoting Sustainable Electricity in Rural Areas through Hybrid Technologies Project</li> <li>- the Project for Access to Renewable Energy Services in Kita (PASER-K)</li> <li>- the 50 MW Solar Photovoltaic Power Plant Project in Kita</li> <li>- the Project for the Implementation of a Pilot Unit for the Production of Biomass Fuel Briquettes in Kita ("Kitabricobiom")</li> <li>- the project for the transformation of agricultural residues and biomass into combustible briquettes and pellets in Mali</li> <li>- the project for the production of gum arabic to limit future migration</li> <li>- the National Biogas Development Programme in Mali</li> <li>- the project for the valorization of bioethanol for sustainable domestic energy in Mali</li> <li>- the project for the improvement of ecosystems and ecosystem services and the improvement of forest management and land-use</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Note:</b> many of these programmes are still at the project stage, and only partially or not yet funded.</li> </ul>
<p>Are there international organizations supporting the government on gender and climate initiatives?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The above projects are supported and financed by UNDP, the Least Developed Countries Fund, the Green Climate Fund, the French Development Agency (AFD), the Global Environment Facility, the European Union, the West African Development Bank (BOAD), the Dutch Investment Fund, Green Africa Power and the Dutch Development Organization (Investment Plan for a Green and Climate-Resilient Economy for Mali, 2018).</li> <li>• GIZ: development of the Climate Proofing Tool used at the local level and which takes gender aspects into account (Mali's Third National Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 2018) and development of a map of climate change projects in Mali (2017).</li> <li>• Financial support from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and UNDP for the development of the CREDD and specifically "to support the Government in strengthening the effective integration of cross-cutting issues such as the environment, climate change and gender in policies, plans and programmes in all sectors" (Mali's Third National Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 2018).</li> <li>• Women in Agriculture and Sustainable Development (AgriFeD) programme initiated by UN Women (<a href="https://africa.unwomen.org/en/news-and-events/stories/2018/07/csa-mali">https://africa.unwomen.org/en/news-and-events/stories/2018/07/csa-mali</a>).</li> </ul>
<p>Are there background studies on both adaptation and gender?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Least Developed Countries Expert Group (2015): "Strengthening gender considerations in adaptation planning and implementation in the least developed countries" (A section is dedicated specifically to Mali, but does not really analyze specific gendered needs/responses, instead discussing existing projects and how to develop them).</li> <li>• Djoudi, Houria and Brockhaus, Maria (2011). Is adaptation to climate change gender-neutral?: Lessons from communities dependent on livestock and forests in northern Mali. <i>International Forestry Review</i>, vol. 13, No. 2, p. 123-135. Available at: <a href="https://www.cifor.org/library/3524/">https://www.cifor.org/library/3524/</a>.</li> <li>• Djoudi, Houria (2016). At the intersection of inequities – Lessons learned from CIFOR's work on gender and climate change adaptation in West Africa. Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR).</li> </ul>



<p>What do available studies say about the anticipated differences in men’s and women’s vulnerability and adaptive capacity to climate change?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Djoudi, Houria and Brockhaus, Maria (2011). “Women cannot be viewed as a homogeneous category. Variabilities are determined by and depend on wealth, class, age and other social and economic categories. Women’s vulnerability is mostly linked to natural resource dependency and poverty” (p. 124).</li> <li>• “Women and other socially marginalized groups are likely to be most vulnerable to climate change because of the socially and politically driven lack of participation in decision-making and access to power/decision-making” (p. 126).</li> <li>• “We argue that women are critical and strategic actors in adaptation because of their differentiated views on environmental and social change. Also important are their preferences in managing natural resources and their involvement in resource-based activities to secure livelihoods” (p. 127).</li> <li>• “Higher risks are related to increasing workloads without increasing incomes and the defeminization of agricultural activities due to the loss of former arable land around the lake. This is accentuated by the loss of access to land in the new institutional land allocation and access systems. However, the feminization of the use of forest products and services has the potential to minimize the risk of vulnerability. New income-generating activities include charcoal production and fodder provision. Women’s workload has clearly been increased by the climate event itself (drought) and by the responses to it. But some climate change-induced effects on women are still unclear. Charcoal production, especially based on the invasive species <i>Prosopis</i>, offers an opportunity for women to improve their income. However, women are impeded by limitations related to insecure land tenure and social restrictions on access to markets. Male migration is increasing women’s workload in the short term. But in the long term, it could give women the social space to assume leadership in household decision-making. It could also allow women to get more involved in activities that were once strictly a male domain. Male and female traditional roles and activities are evolving faster under recurrent drought and migration. Women are increasingly undertaking 'male' activities, but without acquiring automatically the same rights. Successful adaptation means reconsidering the usual theoretical dichotomies, in classifying 'male' and 'female' activities. The most important question is the how the women's new roles and responsibilities affect and change power relationships. We argue that the emerging new societal roles could empower women to negotiate new institutional arrangements to access and control resources. We have seen strong differences in women's and men's preferences for adaptive strategies and their vision for adaptation. Women have a long-term perspective focused on educational investments and non ecosystem-based strategies. These could release pressure on the ecosystem.” (p. 132-133).</li> <li>• Djoudi (2016): Women are limited in their adaptive capacity by social norms (especially with regard to mobility and diversification of livelihood activities). She also emphasizes the opportunities presented by the social changes that accompany climate change adaptation strategies.</li> </ul>
<p>What do available studies say about existing gender inequalities that may be exacerbated by climate change impacts?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Djoudi, Houria and Brockhaus, Maria (2011). Increased workload, without a corresponding increase in income (caused first, by climate events themselves, and secondly, by the resulting migration of men).</li> <li>• Djoudi (2016): Negative effect on the education of children, especially girls.</li> <li>• Both studies also stress the possibility of positive transformations for gender equality through adaptation strategies.</li> </ul>

## C- Gender-specific challenges for the programme

Guiding questions	Gender (in)equality
What are the targeted regions or local government to be supported by LoCAL? What challenges can we anticipate?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kayes and Ségou (see some data disaggregated by region in Table A, especially regarding GBV).</li> </ul>
What are their capacities in both sectors (human, technical and financial capacities)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For Mali in general:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Financing issue (PNG, 2011; many projects are awaiting funding Investment Plan for a Green and Climate-Resilient Economy for Mali (2018)).</li> <li>- Technical: Many tools have been developed with external support (GIZ, UNDP, etc.), which could indicate a lack of capacity in Mali.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Human resources: The Investment Plan for a Green and Climate-Resilient Economy for Mali (2018) points to the lack of qualified and competent personnel to organize and implement certain programmes, in particular, the low rate of qualified women and/or specialists in the environmental field.</li> </ul>
What are local governments' responsibilities and attitudes vis-à-vis gender equity issues in development planning?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The MPFEF has not been able to fully play its roles of influencing, coordinating and providing advice on gender mainstreaming in the wave of reforms that Mali has undergone since 2002, in strategic sectors such as State reform, poverty reduction, health, education and rural development. The initiatives carried out in this direction, as, for example, in the case of the Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (GPRSP), have met with resistance and constraints. It must be acknowledged that the Department was ill-prepared to play these roles of policy influence and advice and that its initiatives were not legitimized by a clearly defined mission to do so. Neither its action plan nor the configuration of its services were geared in this direction. Similarly, skills in policy analysis and gender analysis were under development (PNG, 2011).</li> <li>• The PNG notes that its own implementation "will face a number of risks that need to be understood now so that they can be managed and mitigated as effectively as possible. The main risk factors relate to political will, the legal provisions to be put in place, the restructuring of the MPFEF, resource mobilization, the support of partners and civil society and resistance to change".</li> </ul>
What is the typical participation (or lack thereof) of women in decision-making processes at the local government level? How many women are part of the local government decision-making committee?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The report of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group 2015 is broadly positive: "In several institutions established by the Government of Mali, such as the National Climate Change Committee, the Agency for the Environment and Sustainable Development and the National Council of Environment, women are well represented among their members."</li> <li>• "At the local level, the Climate Proofing Tool constitutes the main development tool of the municipalities. Developed in an inclusive and iterative process, it addresses inequality problems between women and men and also takes into account specific aspects of women empowerment."</li> <li>• The findings of the CREDD are more ambivalent: "Women are present in political parties and are the main actors in elections. However, they are often overlooked when senior appointments are made. As a result, in most parties' governing bodies, they appear only through their Chair or are poorly represented in the lists of candidates for the various elections. They</li> </ul>

	<p>are also poorly represented in positions appointed by the State. There are several women’s associations and organizations such as the Coordination des Associations et ONG féminines [Coordinating Body of Women’s Associations and NGOs – CAFO], women economic operators and former female parliamentarians and ministers, working to promote gender equality” (CREDD, 2018).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Similarly: “The issue of gender in governance concerns both the low representation of women in the public sphere and the low level of responsibility to which women have access in the decision-making process. Accordingly, there are higher numbers of men in positions of responsibility in public services, in the institutions of the Republic, on the political scene (3 women out of 121 political party leaders), in the National Assembly (132 men compared with 15 women) and in representation at the local level (9,847 male municipal councillors compared with 927 women). The judicial system is also largely male-dominated” (African Development Bank [AfDB] Group, 2011).</li> </ul>
<p>Have any projects/activities/decisions been implemented by the local government to support women’s rights and/or empowerment in the past in the area of intervention?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Programme Présidentiel d’Urgences Sociales [Presidential Social Emergency Programme]:</b> implementing this programme in 2017 contributed to significantly reducing inequalities in access to basic social services, including water, energy and support for students in schools. We note the completion of 2,000 drinking water connections to benefit poor urban populations in Kayes, Kita, Koutiala and Sikasso (MPFEF, 2019).</li> <li>• <b>The Projet d’Autonomisation Economique des Femmes dans la Filière Karité [Project for the Economic Empowerment of Women in the Shea Subsector]</b> (PAEFFK 2018–2023). “Implementing this project will contribute to strengthening economic empowerment with shea butter and stimulate inclusive growth for rural women. With CFAF 2.7 billion in AfDB funding, the expected achievements should help promote equitable access for female beneficiaries to decision-making processes, basic infrastructure and investment operations on the one hand, and by increasing the technical and organizational capacities of women’s groups on the other; the project thus plays a strategic role in the development of inclusive growth and improvement of women’s status. A gender-sensitive communication strategy will be incorporated into all areas of intervention. A plan is in place to establish a monitoring and evaluation system based on sex-disaggregated data and gender-related indicators. The programme will benefit 400 village locations, directly affecting more than 50,000 rural women, i.e. an indirect beneficiary population of more than 800,000 in the production areas of <b>Kayes</b>, Koulikoro, Sikasso, <b>Ségou</b> and Mopti” (MPFEF, 2019).</li> <li>• To support access to Legal Protection, 38 <i>Bureaux d’Assistance Juridique et Judiciaire</i> [Legal and Judicial Assistance Offices – BAJJ] have been set up with the support of the NGO DEME- SO in courts in the regions of Gao, Mopti, <b>Ségou</b> and Timbuktu (MPFEF, 2019).</li> <li>• Two networks that should be included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fédération Nationale des Femmes Rurales du Mali (National Federation of Rural Women in Mali – FENAFER): comprises nine professional associations of rural women in the regions, 46 associations of rural women in the <i>cercles</i>, and 703 communal associations of rural women in prospect. Its overarching objectives are “to increase agricultural production, ensure food security and reduce poverty”, and its specific objectives are “to train and inform the majority of rural women, equip rural women, control AIDS and malaria, develop production chains, build water supply points and protect the environment”. Ms Niakaté Goundo Kamissoko (Chair)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Réseau des Femmes Opératrices Economiques du Mali (REFOE): the Malian branch of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) network of Women Economic Operators. The mission of REFOE-Mali is to “strengthen the organizational, technical, material and financial capacities of women economic operators' organizations in Mali”, by acting on several sectors of activity, namely entrepreneurship, trade, rural women and production, and handicrafts and processing. Faladiè Sokoura – Cités des Coopérants – Bâtiment R10 Phone: +(223) 20 29 20 09 / +(223) 76 04 13 55 / +(223) 66 75 00 33 E-mail: rfoe-mali@resope-uemoa.org</li> </ul>
<p>Are there any women’s organizations, women’s groups and/or gender advocates present in the area of intervention? If so, what do they focus on? Who is the main point of contact? Are they involved in local development planning? In the implementation and maintenance of initiatives/infrastructure? What are their capacities like?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the national level, see: AfDB's Mali Gender Profile (2016) for a relatively exhaustive list: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Gender Profile of the AfDB makes particular mention of CAFO, which aims to “contribute to enhancing the status of women by grouping and coordinating members' actions and influencing policies” (<a href="https://www.cafomali.org/">https://www.cafomali.org/</a>) and the Groupe Pivot Droits et Citoyenneté des Femmes [Focal Point for Women’s Rights and Citizenship – GP/DCF] whose mission is to “influence the definition and implementation of policies, strategies and actions for the promotion and defence of women's rights and citizenship in Mali”( <a href="http://alliancedroitsetsante.equipop.org/gp-dcf/">http://alliancedroitsetsante.equipop.org/gp-dcf/</a>). Both associations are represented and active throughout Mali.</li> <li>- Collectif des Femmes du Mali [Malian Women’s Collective – COFEM]: created in 1991, this is one of the oldest Malian women's organizations, whose objective is “to promote the development of the female population by providing civic information with a view to their effective participation in political, economic, social and cultural life and more generally in the development of the country”. Ouolofobougou-Bolibana. BP E2790 Bamako – (+223) 23 13 09. E-mail: cofem@cefib.com</li> <li>- Coordination des femmes entrepreneurs du Mali [Coordinating Body of Malian Women Entrepreneurs]: created in 2004, this grouping falls under the supervision of the Ministry for the Advancement of Women, Children and the Family. Its mission is to strengthen the organizational, technical, material and financial capacities of women’s economic operators’ organizations in Mali. Head office: Conseil National du Patronat du Mali BP 24 45 BAMAKO-MALI Tel: (+223) 221 63 11 Fax: (+223) 221 90 77</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## NIGER

### **Summary: Challenges of integrating gender equality into adaptation and resilience programmes in Niger**

#### Progress in gender mainstreaming in Niger

Unlike some African countries that have belatedly taken the issue of gender into consideration in national policies, Niger seems to have taken the marginalization of women seriously very early on (since 1996, in particular the Plan d'Intégration Genre et Inclusion Social [Gender and Social Inclusion Plan (PIGIS)], Politique Nationale de Genre 2007 [National Gender Policy (PNG) 2007], subsequently revised in 2017). In fact, national policies have existed for about 30 years, with a series of operational programmes on the issue and the creation of specific State bodies (Plan décennal 2009-2018 [Ten-year Plan 2009–2018]; Stratégie Sectorielle pour la Promotion de l'Égalité de Genre [Sectoral Strategy for the Promotion of Gender Equality]; Plan de Développement Economique et Social [Economic and Social Development Plan] (PDES) 2017–2021; the country's constitution recognizing gender equality, etc.). Gender has become a cross-cutting issue in all the country's development policies. At the outset, this reflects an awareness of gender issues in the country, and also a strong will at very high levels of the State, brought to life through the creation of the First Lady of Niger's Foundation dedicated to women's issues (Fondation Guri Vie Meilleure [Guri Vie Meilleure Foundation]).

In addition, Niger has acceded to most of the international conventions on African women's issues (Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women [CEDAW], Convention on the Rights of the Child) and several international institutions are developing programmes to meet the needs of African women in general, and Nigerien women in particular. To this end, the World Bank carried out a study (Disrupting the Gender Divide, 2018) in four countries, including Niger, on climate change-related vulnerabilities, including how these vulnerabilities are expressed in terms of gender inequalities. However, there are still significant challenges at the country level.

#### The main challenges for the country

The social norms, attitudes and beliefs of Nigerien communities contrast with the expectations of the national initiatives and policies implemented to promote women's rights. Women continue to be regarded as second-class citizens, along with children and young people. This negatively affects their access to basic public services. For example, women have limited access to legal, health and education services, fields vital to physical, social and intellectual development in any society. The literature review also looks at gender inequality in terms of access to land, the main source of socioeconomic development in Niger.

The above challenges are also reflected in women's economic situation: they are poorer than men, in other words, poverty has a female face. In 2016, the inequality index was 0.674, putting Niger in 149th place out of the 152 countries assessed. This shows that public policies on gender have not had the desired impact. These figures show that talking about gender means talking about social or societal transformation or revolution. This means it is difficult to achieve tangible results when we know that those who need to lead this struggle are both stakeholders and detractors (the institutions are in the hands of men, and men must use them to transform societies for the benefit of gender equality).

Gender equality in Niger will be achieved through a small "cultural revolution". Men have control of the main regulatory institutions (whether modern or traditional). Yet, although there is political will, serious decisions in support of women will not be taken unless there are institutions capable of leading this transformation. This has not yet been addressed. In part, this can be attributed to attitudes and beliefs that prevent some decision makers from implementing different initiatives to support women's rights,

or that discourage communities from implementing policies at the local level. Original scientific research is needed to determine the feasibility of this “transition” (Issue 1).

Secondly, the documents consulted highlight a distinct lack of information on local (subnational) conditions. Niger is cosmopolitan (diverse in terms of languages, cultures, demographic dynamics, etc.). The main trends presented in the various documents do not allow for an objective assessment of how conditions differ at the regional level. Given this, it is essential to plan actions specific to each region (by mobilizing those with knowledge of the areas and providing support in terms of capacity-building, etc.) (Issue 2).

Finally, the indicators related to education (Ministry of Planning, 2017) show women to also be at a disadvantage in this respect. Yet, access to decision-making positions in modern institutions, in a national or regional context, requires schooling and academic knowledge. Therefore, comprehensive support (Issue 3) to promote women's schooling, both at school and tertiary levels, would bring about major societal changes at the national and regional levels.

**a- Country gender overall situation: rights and status of women in the country**

Guiding questions	Analysis – national level
<p>What are the national policies covering gender issues? (include name of policy name, date)</p> <p>Programmes/action plans?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Politique Nationale de la Promotion de la Femme</i> [National Policy for the Advancement of Women] (adopted by the Government in 1996)</li> <li>• <i>Loi sur la santé de la reproduction</i> (2006) [Reproductive Health Act (2006)]</li> <li>• <i>Loi interdisant les Mutilations Génitales Féminines</i> (MGF) (2003) [Law Prohibiting Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) (2003)]</li> <li>• <i>Plan d’Intégration Genre et Inclusion Sociale</i> (PIGIS) [Gender and Social Inclusion Integration Plan – PIGIS] MCA-Niger (2017)</li> <li>• <i>La Politique Nationale de la Jeunesse</i> [The National Youth Policy] (ratified in 2015)</li> <li>• <i>Profil de Pauvreté du Niger</i> [Poverty Profile of Niger] (September 2011, last modified in 2016)</li> <li>• <i>Plan décennal de mise en oeuvre de la politique nationale de genre</i> [Ten-year Plan for the Implementation of the National Gender Policy], 2009–2018 with two programmes:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Promotion des Droits pour l’équité de genre et la protection des femmes</i> [Promotion of rights to gender equality and the protection of women]</li> <li>2. <i>Promotion des opportunités économique pour les femme</i> [Promotion of economic opportunities for women] (Source: <i>Profil Genre Niger</i> [Gender Profile: Niger], November 2016)</li> </ol> </li> </ul> <p><u>Sectoral strategic documents including the promotion of gender equality in their actions and objectives:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Economic and Social Development Plan 2017–2021 (PDES): (Source: Gender Profile: Niger, November 2016)</li> <li>• <i>Programme Décennal de Développement de l’Education</i> [Ten-year Education Development Programme] (PDDE, 2003–2013): (Source: Gender Profile: Niger, November 2016)</li> <li>• Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) and Multiple Indicators (MICS) DHS and Multiple Indicators (2012)</li> <li>• <i>Politique National de Genre</i> [National Gender Policy – PNG] (2007, revised in 2016 and adopted on 10 March 2017) + <i>Cadre National de la politique de Genre</i></li> </ul>

	<p>[National Gender Policy Framework]</p> <p>The formulation of the National Gender Policy was an opportunity to analyse the situation of gender in Niger and to locate the issue of equity and equal access for men and women within the different subsystems that organize Nigerien society (National Gender Policy, 2008).</p> <p><b>Revised National Gender Policy (2017)</b></p> <p>The National Gender Policy was revised nine years after its implementation to take into account the challenges of accelerated population growth, along with peace, security and humanitarian emergencies. It is structured around the following four strategic areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improvement of the sociocultural environment in relation to demography, peace and security for greater equity between men and women</li> <li>2. Strengthening of the institutional and legal framework conducive to the effective implementation of the rights of women and girls, the fight against gender-based violence and the equal participation of men and women in power management</li> <li>3. Economic empowerment and inclusive growth in relation to environmental sustainability, disaster risk management, migration and humanitarian emergencies</li> <li>4. Strengthening of institutional mechanisms and organizational frameworks for coordination, monitoring and evaluation and partnerships</li> </ol>
<p>Who is the governmental body (Ministry? Agency? Office?) in charge of gender issues?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Ministère de la femme et de la protection de l'enfant</i> [Ministry for the Promotion of Women and the Protection of Children]: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Observatoire National pour la Promotion de la Femme</i> [National Observatory for the Advancement of Women]</li> <li>- <i>Direction de la Promotion de la Scolarisation des Filles</i> [Directorate for the Promotion of Girls' Education]</li> <li>- <i>Direction de la Promotion de la Femme</i> [Directorate for the Advancement of Women]</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Are gender-disaggregated data/statistics available?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2012, the average annual growth rate was 3.9 per cent (the highest in the world, with a tendency to approximately double every 25 years). Women account for roughly 50 per cent of the population, which is also characterized by extreme youth; 54 per cent of the population is under 15 years of age and 70 per cent is under 25 years of age.</li> <li>• Niger is committed to mainstreaming gender in all economic, social and environmental sectors with the aim of reducing gender-based inequalities and increasing women's financial autonomy. This is reflected by certain targets and indicators from Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5 being included in the PDES 2017–2021 (Republic of Niger, Ministry of Planning, 2017).</li> <li>• International databases such as the World Bank's Gender Data Portal (<a href="https://genderdata.worldbank.org/countries/niger">https://genderdata.worldbank.org/countries/niger</a>) also provide gender-disaggregated data on the population of Niger. According to the World Bank, 49.3% of the population of Niger is female: this proportion was used to calculate the number of female beneficiaries of the project in Niger.</li> </ul>
<p>What is the legal status of women and children in the country of intervention? (existing gender-responsive policies? Convention on</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• While there has been progress in women's participation in politics, the public sector, trade unions and the private sector, there are still many inequalities when it comes to representation. Yet the texts that make up the legal system in Niger are, despite certain inadequacies, conducive to equality and equity in gender relations. They consist of international and national legal instruments.</li> </ul>

<p>the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)? Ratification of international laws?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>At the international level</u>, Niger has ratified most of the international conventions on human rights in general, and those, such as the CEDAW and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which promote equal opportunities between men and women in particular. Although these conventions are now part of Niger's internal legal system, they are not well implemented. This is due, on the one hand, to the failure to adopt additional domestic measures to support the implementation of these conventions and, on the other hand, to the many reservations made by Niger on acceding to the CEDAW. These reservations render this convention meaningless and make adopting measures to ensure equality between men and women in all areas challenging.</li> <li>• <u>At the national level</u>, article 8, paragraph 2, of the Constitution of Niger declares "the equality of all persons before the law without distinction as to sex, social, racial, ethnic or religious origin". Respect for the constitutional principle of equality is reinforced by the law on the organization of the judiciary. Under this law, the custom is applicable where it is consistent not only with the legislative provisions and fundamental rules concerning public order and personal freedom, but also with the provisions of the international conventions ratified by Niger.</li> <li>• In the main text, the legislation and regulations in force recognize the same rights for men and women in terms of access to services and resources. Better still, some of these texts devote temporary measures (positive discrimination) to accelerating gender equality, while others include an enforcement framework that protects women against certain violations of their rights (female genital mutilation (FGM), sexual harassment, rape, slavery, prostitution, etc.).</li> <li>• However, the coexistence of several types of law, with the effective dominance of customary law over modern law, limits the possible effects of enshrining the principle of equality in national legislation and international texts ratified by Niger.</li> </ul>
<p>What are commonly held beliefs, perceptions, and stereotypes related to gender roles and status in the project/programme footprint area or the country?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the majority of these sociocultural environments, once they reach an advanced age, women can act as counsellors and mediators within the community, in forming matrimonial alliances and resolving family conflicts. However, this input does not mean that they have full authority in the final decisions; only men can make decisions that affect the household or the community.</li> </ul>
<p>What are the gendered health issues (what is the maternal mortality rate, infant mortality rate, life expectancy (disaggregated by sex) in the country of intervention and/or the project/programme footprint area?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Health problems:</b> <i>A high prevalence of anaemia in women.</i> In Niger, more than one in every two women (53.3 per cent) is anaemic (Institut National de la Statistique [National Institute of Statistics – NIS], 2017).</li> <li>• The median age of first marriage/first time living with a partner for women aged 25–49 is 15.7 years, compared with 24.2 years for men (INS, 2012). More than three out of four women (77 per cent) were already married/living with a partner by the time they were 18 years old.</li> <li>• In 2017, 30 per cent of married women between the ages of 15 and 19 were already mothers or were pregnant (Republic of Niger, 2017b). Early-marriage results in early pregnancy and the resulting complications, including maternal mortality and disabilities such as fistula.</li> <li>• Although female genital mutilation (FGM) has decreased from 5 per cent in 1998 to 2.2 per cent in 2006, it is still practised by certain ethnic groups. For example, among the Gourmantché, 65.9 per cent of women are cut, while among the Peulhs and Arabs, this stands at 12.8 per cent and 3.4 per cent, respectively. The most affected areas are Tillabéri, the urban community of Niamey and Diffa (Agence Nigérienne de Presse [Nigerien Press Agency], 2019).</li> <li>• The low level of women's health indicators is largely linked to gender</li> </ul>



	<p>inequalities that affect their social situation, limit their level of education and information and their power to make decisions about their reproductive health. This situation sanctions the precariousness of women’s reproductive health in Niger, which in turn affects their capacity for development intervention. Therefore, correcting gender disparities and discrimination in health is an urgent necessity for human development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>A very high fertility rate</i> with a total fertility rate of 7.1 children per woman on average. This is the result of early sexual activity and marriage (one in two girls is already married before the age of 15), as well as low levels of contraceptive use. In 2006, 11 per cent of women used contraception, of which only 5 per cent used a modern contraceptive.</li> <li>• <i>The maternal mortality rate</i> is also high, although it has declined slightly from 671 in 1992, to 648 per 100,000 live births in 2006.</li> <li>• <i>High infant and child mortality rates</i>, although there has been a marked improvement. The infant mortality rate fell from 123.1 per 1,000 in 1998, to 81 per 1,000 in 2006. Child mortality stood at 198 per 1,000 in 2006, compared with 273.8 per 1,000 in 1998. In each category, male children have a higher risk of mortality than female children.</li> </ul>
<p>Do women have equal access to education, technical knowledge and/or skills training (what is the educational status of girls and boys? Adult literacy rate, disaggregated by sex?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>At the activity level:</b> labour is divided according to sex, with different tasks allocated to girls and boys, men and women. This differentiation in the context of production and reproduction activities and at the community level makes it possible to assign men the highly valued formal production work, and women the maintenance and care work that falls within the category of reproduction activities and is less valued.</li> <li>• <b>Literacy level:</b> less than two in 10 women aged 15–49 (14 per cent) and just over four in 10 men aged 15–49 (42 per cent) are considered literate. Among women, this proportion varies from 7 per cent in rural areas to 45 per cent in urban areas, and among men, from 32 per cent to 70 per cent. In 2012, among young women aged 15–19, 64 per cent had no education, compared with 37 per cent of men (INS, 2012).</li> <li>• <i>Examination of the outcomes by region reveals spatial disparities in literacy, with greater disparities for women than for men. Indeed, in the regions, the literacy rate among women ranges from a low of 9 per cent in the Tahoua region, to a high of 53 per cent in the Niamey region. Among men, literacy rates range from a low of 19 per cent in Diffa region to a high of 72 per cent in Niamey region, while the rate in Agadez is 59 per cent (INS, 2012).</i></li> </ul>
<p>What is the information in-country related to gender-based violence (including intimate-partner violence, early-marriage and FGM)?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>In the area of violence,</b> the situation is also worrying. Girls and women suffer all kinds of violence, including sexual and psychological violence. This type of violence is the most noticeable because of the prevalence of early-marriage, with its consequences for their physical safety and health (National Gender Policy, 2008). The proportion of women and girls who are victims of violence (physical, sexual, psychological, economic or cultural) decreased from 60.1 per cent in 2015 to 58.3 per cent in 2017 (Ministry of Planning, Annual Implementation Report 2017, in INS, 2017).</li> <li>• Although FGM has decreased from 5 per cent in 1998 to 2.2 per cent in 2006, it is still practised by certain ethnic groups. For example, among the Gourmantché, 65.9 per cent of women are cut, while among the Peulhs and Arabs, this stands at 12.8 per cent and 3.4 per cent, respectively. The areas most affected are Tillabéri, the urban community of Niamey and Diffa (National Gender Policy, 2008).</li> <li>• The strategic focus, the National Gender Policy, intends to work towards greater implementation of the rights of women and girls on the one hand, and increased participation of women in decision-making bodies on the other hand,</li> </ul>

	<p>through the following specific objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Contribute to establishing a legal environment that is conducive to equity and equal access for men and women</li> <li>2. Ensure the implementation of women's rights in accordance with the Constitution and CEDAW</li> <li>3. Help reduce gender-based violence</li> <li>4. Ensure equal exercise of civil and political rights by women and men at all levels</li> </ol> <p>The strategies proposed to support the achievement of these objectives prioritize:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) harmonizing national legislation with the international and regional commitments ratified by Niger</li> <li>(ii) operationalizing the texts adopted by implementing measures in line with the law</li> <li>(iii) information/awareness-raising among litigants and judicial actors on women's rights and their application</li> <li>(iv) revitalizing the Observatoire National de la Promotion de la Femme [National Observatory for the Advancement of Women] as a body for monitoring the effectiveness of texts favourable to gender equity and equality</li> <li>(iv) strengthening the protection of the physical safety of women and girls against gender-based violence</li> <li>(v) awareness-raising/social mobilization/advocacy among the various stakeholders in society for the effective implementation of the quota law</li> <li>(vii) capacity-building of decentralized structures and local authorities on gender issues</li> <li>(viii) strengthening of women's leadership (National Gender Policy, 2008).</li> </ul>
<p>What are the main issues for accessing justice and the barriers that women face?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The most noticeable consequences are at the level of family law and personal status, where the legislator recognizes the application of custom, and of the law, depending on the parties involved. While written law or statute law is generally egalitarian in its approach to gender, customary law – which is essentially patriarchal in the most common interpretations – is unequal. In customary law, the matrimonial regime, property and the rules of intergenerational transmission are always determined by gender and sanction male dominance.</li> <li>• This situation leads to confusion about the status of women in the family. Under these conditions, women can neither make decisions on motherhood (birth spacing) nor exercise the same responsibilities as men during marriage or at its dissolution.</li> <li>• The difficulty of establishing an effective legal order in a context of legal pluralism thrives on the State's inability to intervene. This is compounded by the fact that legal pluralism is experienced as a means of using different sources of law according to the interests at stake or the outcomes sought.</li> </ul>

<p>What are the current indicators and trends related to poverty and development? (Human Development Index (HDI)? HDI world rank? Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A high level of poverty: Economic growth appears insufficient to satisfy the basic needs of Niger’s population given its rapid growth. This translates into a high level of poverty affecting 48 per cent of the population as a whole, 18 per cent of urban dwellers and 55 per cent of rural dwellers.</li> <li>• The regions most affected by poverty are Maradi (58 per cent), Tillabéri (56 per cent), Dosso (53 per cent), Tahoua (48 per cent) and Zinder (48 per cent) (Enquête Nationale sur les Conditions de Vie des Ménages et l’Agriculture [National Survey on Household Living Conditions and Agriculture – ECVMA], 2011).</li> <li>• According to the outcomes of ECVMA (2011), the main determinants of poverty are: high household size due to high fertility, low levels of education and professional qualifications, lack of availability of productive assets in households and limited access to public services.</li> <li>• The economy is predominantly informal and the secondary sector is weak. The primary sector, which accounts for more than 80 per cent of the working population, generates 43 per cent of the national income, while the secondary and tertiary sectors contribute 12 per cent and 37 per cent, respectively (INS, 2012). The main factors limiting the Nigerien economy’s performance are: a lack of competitiveness, a business climate not conducive to private sector development, a predominance of the informal economy and difficult climatic conditions. Analysis of public finances also reveals inefficiencies in public spending and weak links between national and sectoral strategic priorities, and the budget (Ministry of Planning, Land Use and Community Development, 2013).</li> <li>• Although there are more women than men in the labour force, analysing this according to gender shows that twice as many men work than women. The activity rate for men is 60.1 per cent compared with 29.6 per cent for women. The bottom line is that women’s participation in economic activity is very low. Indeed, more than seven out of 10 (71 per cent) working women did not work in the seven days prior to the survey. On the other hand, the poverty status of households does not seem to have a significant impact on the employment rate of women compared with men. Gender disparities according to place of residence are also significant.</li> <li>• While in Niamey and other urban centres, seven and six females, respectively, for every 10 males can read and write (73.21 per cent and 56.13 per cent, respectively), in rural areas fewer than three females for every 10 males can read and write (29.54 per cent).</li> <li>• In terms of health, despite the efforts made by the national authorities to improve the availability, accessibility and quality of services, the position of women remains critical and unacceptable. This position is characterized by alarming indicators highlighting the poor health of women in general, and of women of reproductive age in particular. This leads to high maternal mortality (648 women die per 100,000 live births in Niger – DHS-MICS-III 2006). This situation is explained by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Low rate of access to health services, including reproductive health services.</li> <li>- Low health coverage in general and in obstetric care in particular.</li> <li>- Low coverage of prenatal consultation (46 per cent – DHS-MICS-III 2006).</li> <li>- Low levels of use of modern family planning methods (5 per cent of women who were married/living with a partner – EDS-MICS-III 2006).</li> <li>- The young age of first sexual experiences. Gross national income per capita is estimated at \$210. Poverty, which is more pronounced in rural areas, affects women more than men. The causes of this poverty are high population growth, successive</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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	<p>droughts leading to poor harvests, degradation of productive potential and urban migration (Modieli, 2010).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- According to the Human Development Report published in 2013, Niger is ranked 187th out of 187 countries, with an HDI of 0.304 (United Nations Development Programme [UNDP], 2013).</li> <li>- Niger's economy is characterized by weak and volatile growth. The economic performance analysis was carried out as part of the development of the Development Policy. The growth rate of the Nigerien economy decreased from 11.8 per cent in 2012, to 5 per cent in 2016, with an average rate of 6.7 per cent. The PDES confirms this observation. Estimated at 3.8 per cent on average over the period 2007–2012, the real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate varies from 9.6 per cent in 2008 to -0.7 per cent in 2009, 8.4 per cent in 2010 and 2.3 per cent in 2011 (Ministry of Planning, Land Use and Community Development, 2013).</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In summary, the poverty headcount ratio, at 39.8 per cent in 2016, and the HDI, at 0.304 in 2013, place Niger last in the world.</li> <li>• GDP per capita improved considerably from about \$384.6 (CFAF 192,329) in 2011 to \$463 (CFAF 231,508) in 2015. However, this macroeconomic performance has not noticeably impacted poverty since the absolute number of poor people continues to increase (7,963,631 in 2011 and 8,400,992 in 2014) as a result of population growth (Ministry of Planning, 2017).</li> </ul>
<p>What do national statistics/census say about women's economic situation (employment rate? Average income? Gender pay gap? Any data on gender differences in the informal sector? And in the agricultural sector?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The employment rate among the labour force is 41.42 per cent. In other words, barely four out of 10 Nigeriens of working age who looked for work in the seven days prior to the survey, worked during this period. Analysis by gender shows that the employment rate of women (29.03 per cent) is lower than that of men (55.82 per cent). Thus, at the national level, there are barely five women for every 10 men employed in the labour force (a ratio of 52 per cent). This reflects Nigerien women's very low levels of participation in economic activity at the national level (Genre et Pauvreté, 2007–2008 [Gender and Poverty, 2007–2008]).</li> <li>• Rain-fed and irrigated agriculture is the primary occupation for Nigerien communities leading sedentary, semi-nomadic and nomadic lives. According to the <i>Recensement Général Agricole et du Cheptel (RGAC) 2004/2006</i> [General Census of Agriculture and Livestock 2004/2006], the agricultural sector employs 11.3 per cent of agricultural households headed by males, and 7.9 per cent of households headed by females in the agricultural sector.</li> <li>• In rain-fed agriculture, women are involved in working in the fields but at specific stages of the production process. In terms of irrigated agriculture, which takes the form of market gardening or rice cultivation, generally after the rainy season, women are much more involved in market gardening, but most often on small plots (0.5 ha) (National Gender Policy, 2008).</li> <li>• The gender inequality index was 0.674 in 2016, placing the country 149th out of the 152 countries ranked. Inequalities experienced by women include access to education and reproductive health, and women's participation in the economy and in decision-making.</li> <li>• In 2015–2016, the primary school gross enrolment ratio was 70.2 per cent for girls and 82 per cent for boys. At secondary school, it was 28.8 per cent for girls and 39.6 per cent for boys. The parity index in primary education has remained stagnant at 0.85 over the last five years.</li> <li>• The analysis of the role of Nigerien women in the economy clearly indicates an unequal distribution of roles and responsibilities in the division of labour, as well as difficulties in accessing, managing and controlling resources, unequal access to economic opportunities and undervaluing of women's work in the household economy. In the area of employment in particular, there is a low</li> </ul>

	<p>participation of women in the labour force, with an unemployment rate twice as high (25 per cent) as for the male labour force (11.8 per cent) (Ministry of Planning, 2017).</p>
<p>What is the situation in terms of access to financial resources for men and women in the area (access to banking? Microcredit? Savings account? Self-help group?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>At the national level</i>, statistics indicate a low participation of women in the labour force and an unemployment rate twice as high (25 per cent) as for the male labour force (11.8 per cent). This situation is paradoxical, given that women represent 51.14 per cent of the total working population. Women's activity rate is underestimated because the reproductive and informal activities that women carry out on a daily basis, being unpaid, are not considered as work in national accounts. Yet these activities, which also consume time and energy, are essential for the renewal of human capital. Promoting women's activities as a significant source of income would increase women's income level and improve the annual income parity per capita, which is 0.80 (National Gender Policy, 2008).</li> <li>• Access to funding in the sector is also unequal because of the eligibility criteria (yields, productivity, input) which women find difficult to meet. In general, loans allocated to women are small sums from informal networks and are most often invested in areas other than production. Men, on the other hand, often benefit from larger loans (National Gender Policy, 2008). The practice of income-generating activities by women in the region seems very important. Indeed, a significant proportion (73.2 per cent) of women are engaged in these activities. In addition, women undertake a diverse range of income-generating activities, although trade is relatively dominant (at 27.2 per cent), followed by agriculture and livestock (21.1 per cent), catering (19.4 per cent) and processing (14.8 per cent) (Ministry of Finance/National Institute of Statistics), November 2012).</li> </ul>
<p>What is the situation in terms of access to land? Property rights?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soil and method of accessing land: The entire Department of Aguié is located in an area dominated by sandy dune soils with clay content of less than 2 per cent (Service d'Arrondissement d'Aguié [Aguié Departmental Unit d'Aguié – SAA], 2003). In this area, the most common method of accessing land is through inheritance or purchase, but there are also loans and pledges. In Zabon Mouso, it is easy to access agricultural land through purchase, which is why producers are perfectly aware of the price of a one hectare plot (100,000 to 150,000 CFAF). This exacerbates the problem of insufficient agricultural land in an already densely populated area (91.3 inhabitants per km<sup>2</sup>). The increase in this area's population has led to the subdivision of plots and a reduction in the size of farms. Thus, an average farm has eight (8) inhabitants and about 4.5 hectares (ha) of cultivable land, or 0.6 ha per person (Services d'appui à l'Agriculture d'Aguié [Aguié Agricultural Support Service], 1997). This has been confirmed by our surveys. The average farm employs ten (10) people and in Aguié has 6.3 hectares, or in Gaya 12.3 hectares, of cultivable land, i.e. 0.63 and 1.23 hectares per person, respectively.</li> <li>• In the Bana area, most agricultural activities are carried out on the flatlands, which are made up of a succession of slopes, terraces and lowlands. For all the people surveyed, the main method of accessing land is inheritance (90 per cent), followed by loans and donations. In this area, it is difficult to access land by purchasing it. Nevertheless, the surveys reveal cases of renting or "talmey" at a rate of 20,000F per hectare for one season. Producers say they have not yet begun to sell off parts of their land, so it would be difficult for them to determine a price for farmland.</li> </ul>

b- Climate and gender in the proposed project/program footprint area

➤ at the national level

Guiding questions	Gender equality – national level
<p>How are the national climate policies and strategic plans (NAPs, NDCs, other) addressing gender issues? (include policy name, date)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) is in line with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Regional White Paper and recognizes that access to modern energy services significantly contributes to: improving access to basic social services (health, education, drinking water); increasing household productivity for cooking, lighting and transport; stimulating the creation of income-generating economic activities; <b>freeing women from the chores of gathering wood, water, husking, etc.</b> These points are seen as co-benefits in strategies to combat climate change (Republic of Niger, 2016a).</li> <li>• On the other hand, the document mentions gender only once at the monitoring and evaluation level:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>“The institutional set up for the implementation of the Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) includes the following aspects: a gender-aware ‘country monitoring and evaluation’ system, measuring, reporting and verification procedures and a register of INDC projects.”</i></li> <li>- <i>“The monitoring and evaluation of the effects and impacts of the INDC will be based on relevant criteria and indicators and the definition of corrective measures for climatic, environmental, economic and social safeguards; the monitoring of risks and changes in vulnerability to climate change at the national level”</i> (Republic of Niger, 2016a).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• In terms of the process of the National Action Plan (NAP), the UNDP country report that introduces the next steps does not mention gender considerations (UNDP, 2016) Nor are these issues raised in the Third National Communication of 2016 (Republic of Niger, 2016b).</li> <li>• The fisheries sector in Niger has been targeted, as a sector hard hit by the effects of climate change: in particular, it was mentioned as part of the <i>Programme d’action national pour l’adaptation aux changements climatiques</i> (PANA) [National Adaption Programme of Action on climate change – NAPA]. Aware of the fact that the development of this sector must take into account the worrying phenomenon of climate change, with the financial support of Nouveau partenariat pour le développement de l’Afrique [New Partnership for Africa's Development – <u>NEPAD</u>], the Guri Vie Meilleure Foundation has initiated the projet de renforcement de la résilience des femmes de la filière poisson face aux effets des changements climatiques [project to increase the resilience of women in the fisheries sector to the effects of climate change] (PROREF) in the region of Tillabéri located in north-western Niger. This project is part of the drive for adaptation and prevention measures related to the risks of climate change.</li> <li>• Women make up a large segment of the agricultural population and are also the most susceptible to the impacts of climate change. It has therefore become urgent to mainstream gender issues and the concerns of small-scale women farmers in the definition and implementation of public policies, so as to better understand the effects of climate change.</li> <li>• The fundamental objective of the Guri Vie Meilleure Foundation is to support the implementation of all intervention projects which advance the empowerment of rural women, so that they might better cope with the negative impacts of climate change. The First Lady of Niger, Hadjia Issoufou Aïssata, founder of the Guri Vie Meilleure Foundation, supports any</li> </ul>

	<p>programme aimed at improving the living conditions of the population in general, and of women in particular (Malam Goni, 2016).</p>
<p>What are the governmental bodies (Ministry? Agency? Office?) in charge of the interface between these issues?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <u>Conseil national de l'environnement pour un développement durable</u> [National Environment Council for Sustainable Development (CNEDD)], a multisectoral deliberative body involving governmental and civil society structures, responsible for translating national policy on climate change into action.</li> <li>• It has seven (7) functional commissions: la Commission Technique Nationale sur les Changements et Variabilité Climatiques [the National Technical Commission on Climate Change and Variability], created by order No. 054P/CNEDD/SE of 21 July 1997, and presided over by the Ministry of Transport and Tourism through the National Directorate of Meteorology. This order was modified and completed by Decree No. 050 PM/SE/CNEDD of 7 June 2006 to take into account certain structures holding data on gas emissions and the creation of thematic groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Technical Commission on Energy and Sustainable Development, created by order No. 018PM/SE/CNEDD on 25 April 2002 and chaired by the Ministry of Mines and Energy through the Directorate of Renewable Energies</li> <li>- the Technical Commission on the Urban and Physical Environment, created by order No. 078/PM/CNEDD of 1 September 2003 and chaired by the Ministry in charge of Urban Planning through the Urban Planning Department</li> <li>- the Global Environment Facility (GEF)</li> <li>- the <i>Programme National de Référence d'Accès aux Services Energétiques</i> [the National Benchmarking Programme for Access to Energy Services]</li> <li>- the Technical Commission on Biological Diversity, created by order No. 053/PM/CNEDD of 21 July 1997 and chaired by the Ministry in charge of the Environment through the Department for Wildlife, Fisheries and Fish Farming – this order was amended and supplemented by order No. 46/PM/SE/CNEDD of 23 April 2004</li> <li>- the Technical Commission for Combating Desertification and the Management of Natural Resources created by order No. 066/PM/SE/CNEDD of 22 August 1997 and chaired by the Ministry in charge of the Environment through the Environment Directorate</li> <li>- the Technical Commission on Water and Sustainable Development, created by order No. 0045/PM/CNEDD of 23 April 2004 and chaired by the Ministry of Water, Environment and Desertification Control through the Directorate of Water Resources and the Technical Commission on the financing of the National Environmental Plan for Sustainable Development, created by order No.093/PM/CNEDD of 5 November 1997 and chaired by the Ministry of Economy and Finance through the Commissariat in charge of Development.</li> </ul> <p>(Republic of Niger, National Office for Editing and Publishing, <u>2019</u>).</p> </li> <li>• Since 2006, Niger has been engaged in implementing the agenda of the <u>Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme</u> because the theme is topical and all the more important for the development of Niger's agricultural sector (Saratou and Goni, 2016).</li> <li>• Niger's report on the implementation of Beijing +25: the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.</li> </ul>

<p>What are the priority sectors targeted by climate change-related NAPs and NDCs?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For the NAP, the highest priority is desertification control and natural resources management.</li> <li>• For Niger's INDC, the adaptation options to be prioritized are those that provide the best co-benefits in terms of climate change mitigation. In particular, this will include scaling up – throughout the country's eight regions – the good adaptation practices and techniques that enable both carbon sequestration and a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.</li> <li>• These adaptation options are already well defined by existing strategic frameworks, such as the PDES 2012–2015 and 2016–2020, which are derived from the Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth Strategy (SDDCI) – Niger 2035, the 3N Initiative ("les nigériens nourrissent les nigériens" ["Nigeriens feed Nigeriens"]), the National Climate Change Policy (NPCC), the Strategic Framework for Sustainable Land Management (CS-GDT), and the National Strategy and Action Plan on Climate Change and Variability (SNPA-CVC).</li> <li>• (United Nations Climate Change Conference [COP 21], 2015).</li> </ul>
<p>Are there national programmes addressing each climate change and gender inequality independently or in an integrated manner?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The First Lady Hadjia Aïssata Issoufou Mahamadou's Foundation Guri Vie Meilleure is stepping up its activities aimed at the advancement of rural women. Within this context, the Foundation has initiated a large project called "Projet Genre et Pratiques de l'Agriculture Intelligente face aux Effets du Changement Climatique dans la Région de Tahoua" [Gender and Practices of Intelligent Agriculture in the Face of the Effects of Climate Change in the Region of Tahoua], whose activities were officially launched 28 September in Illéla commune.</li> <li>• This project also aims to combat the extreme poverty of women in rural and peri-urban areas, including women from the rural commune of Illéla for the pilot phase. This choice is no coincidence, because the women receiving support through this project have demonstrated that they play a huge role in development. This project also aims to encourage job creation. Indeed, for the first phase alone, fifty (50) women will be empowered to conduct this pilot phase for four (4) months. The project then aims to improve the resilience of the inhabitants of Illéla and the surrounding area.</li> <li>• Through this project, the Guri Vie Meilleure Foundation has developed new adaptation strategies, including adaptation and mitigation measures related to the impact of climate change on agriculture (Saratou and Goni, 2016).</li> </ul>
<p>How does the government frame both issues?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The gender inequality index was 0.674 in 2016, placing the country 149th out of the 152 countries ranked. Inequalities experienced by women include access to education and reproductive health, and women's participation in the economy and in decision-making.</li> <li>• At the same time, Niger is grappling with a vulnerable environmental situation due to the extent of land degradation, poor preservation of biodiversity, difficulties in sustainable management of land and water resources, and limited capacity to meet the emerging challenges posed by the impact of climate change. Women are the most vulnerable to climate change-related disasters.</li> <li>• The Government's support for these two issues involves implementing the PDES 2017–2021), which is based on most of the 17 SDGs.</li> <li>• Therefore, in order to combat climate change and its repercussions (SDG 13), Niger intends to improve resilience and adaptive capacities in the face of climate hazards and climate-related disasters and to improve education, awareness-raising and individual and institutional capacities with regard to climate change adaptation, mitigation and early warning systems.</li> <li>• The policy of reducing inequalities (SDG 10) involves the steady and rapid improvement of the incomes of the poorest 40 per cent of the population, as well as the empowerment of all vulnerable people and their social, economic and political integration (Ministry of Planning, 2017).</li> </ul>



<p>Are there any policies specifically referring to gender equality/social inclusion in climate change initiatives (both adaptation and mitigation)? Any background studies?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• According to the latest census, conducted in 2012, women represent 50.6 per cent of the country's 17,129,076 inhabitants.</li> <li>• Unfortunately, women are also the most exposed to the effects of climate change, especially those living in rural areas and whose main activities are farming and domestic livestock production.</li> <li>• Therefore, as a result of recurrent cycles of drought, and the resulting agricultural and fodder shortfalls, many rural women live in a state of extreme poverty (Illa, 2015).</li> <li>• Niger has an NPCC, a <i>Cadre Stratégique de Gestion Durable des Terres</i> [Strategic Framework for Sustainable Land Management] (CS-GDT), and a <i>Stratégie Nationale et Plan d'Action en matière de Changement et Variabilité Climatiques</i> (SNPA-CVC) [National Strategy and Action Plan on Climate Change and Variability]. The first NAPA was prepared in 2006.</li> <li>• A National Gender Policy (NGP) was adopted in 2008, with a ten-year plan for 2009–2018 and an institutional framework for implementation developing two areas of focus (promotion of rights and promotion of economic opportunities). The NGP does not mention gender mainstreaming in climate policies. With regard to natural resources, a lack of access is highlighted in the areas of water, energy and sanitation, noting however "changes in roles, with a greater involvement of men in supplying and financing water. Similarly, we see a greater involvement of women in the management of water points where they are part of the management committees." The Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) for September 2015 indicates that its implementation involves establishing a "country monitoring and evaluation" system that mainstreams gender. The mitigation component mentions "women" in the area of lightening domestic chores: "freeing women from chores related to wood, water, husking, etc." and lightening the load of women's domestic tasks is one of the co-benefits of the energy sector (Nicolas, 2017)</li> </ul>
<p>Are there international organizations supporting the government on gender and climate initiatives?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNDP helps its partners, including Niger, to engage women in climate change and disaster resilience efforts, and to ensure their equal access to the resources they need, including clean energy, water, shelter and to alternative livelihoods.</li> <li>• Within this framework, UNDP supports 10 countries in mainstreaming gender equality in their NDCs, which define the methods for achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement.</li> </ul>
<p>Are there background studies on both adaptation and gender?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The World Bank has produced a study on gender inequality but not related to climate change.</li> </ul>
<p>What do available studies say about the anticipated differences in men's and women's vulnerability and adaptive capacity to climate change?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Niger, more than three out of four girls are married before they turn 18. When an adolescent girl has to leave school to get married, her low level of education will have a significant impact throughout her life, especially on her income and her children's education. She also faces increased risks to her health and that of her children due to the consequences of early and repeated pregnancies.</li> <li>• Based on the study, adolescence is therefore a crucial period during which all four countries need to put in place complementary public policies to keep girls in school.</li> <li>• At the community level, the involvement of men, women and community leaders is critical for reducing gender disparities (World Bank, 2018).</li> </ul>
<p>What do available studies say about existing gender inequalities that may be exacerbated by climate change impacts?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <i>Principes Directeurs de la Politique de Développement Rural pour le Niger</i> [Guiding Principles of Rural Development Policy for Niger], in article 4 of the Code Rural [Rural Code], mentions: "Rural natural resources are part of the common heritage of the Nation. All Nigeriens have an equal aim to access it</li> </ul>

	<p>without discrimination on the basis of sex or social origin". Therefore, women, like men, also have a right of access to natural resources, including land, water and other resources. However, in Niger, the land-tenure system is still largely dependent on customary institutions and, in this traditional environment, women's access to land remains problematic and varies from one locality to another.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Série des Evaluations Genre des Pays, Profil national genre des secteurs de l'agriculture et du développement rural</i> [Country Gender Assessment Series, National Gender Profile of Agriculture and Rural Livelihoods] (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations [FAO], 2018).</li> <li>• According to field surveys in, for example, the Dosso region, in the villages covered by the FAO study (Gender Country Assessment Series, Niger) the empowerment of women in agriculture is estimated at 45 per cent. The main obstacles to women's empowerment are weak decision-making, lack of control over resources and an uneven distribution of time.</li> </ul>
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### C- Gender-specific challenges for the programme

Guiding questions	Gender (in)equality	Climate adaptation
What are the targeted regions or local government to be supported by LoCAL? What challenges can we anticipate?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>The Tillabéri region</u></li> <li>• The region of Tillabéri (or Tillabéry) is located in the south-west of the Republic of Niger. It is bordered to the south by the Dosso region, to the north-east by the Tahoua region and the Republic of Mali, and to the west by Burkina Faso. It covers an area of 97,251 km<sup>2</sup>. It is divided into 13 departments, which are themselves subdivided into 45 urban and rural communes. In 2012, it had a population of 2,715,186.</li> <li>• In 2012, Niger's Total Fertility Rate level was very high (7.6 children per woman) but it was even higher in the Tillabéri region (7.9 children per woman). Explanatory factors include, among others: (i) early marriage; (ii) low level of education; (iii) the population's pro-birth attitude; (iv) low levels of family planning practised.</li> <li>• Unfortunately, in terms of poverty, the region of Tillabéri is the most affected by multidimensional poverty, with a rate of 88.32 per cent, compared with 23.13 per cent in Niamey, for example. The group most affected by poverty is the rural population, especially women.</li> <li>• In addition, there are security threats linked to incursions by armed groups, which constitutes another major challenge for the region's inhabitants in general, and for women and children in particular (Ministry of Planning, 2017).</li> </ul>	<p>The Tillabéri region, like most of Niger's other regions, faces a precarious environmental situation due to the extent of land degradation, poor preservation of biodiversity, difficulties in sustainable management of land and water resources, and limited capacity to meet the emerging challenges of climate change impact (Ministry of Planning, 2017).</p>
What are their capacities in both sectors (human, technical and financial capacities)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Programme 6 of the PDES relating to "food security and sustainable agricultural development", there is a subprogramme (6.5) specifically on "empowerment of rural women" which affects the region of Tillabéri the most, as the poorest in the country.</li> <li>• This subprogramme aims to improve rural women's income. The aim is to significantly increase women's productivity and productive capacity. To this end, interventions are envisaged to reduce the burden of domestic chores, increase yields and the productivity and</li> </ul>	<p>The region benefits from the following:  Huge mining potential, mainly in Liptako Gourma and other areas: gold, coal, iron, phosphate, etc.  Large areas of irrigated land to ensure food security in the region: 31</p>

	<p>quality of production by women, and increase women's economic power (Ministry of Planning, 2017).</p>	<p>hydro-agricultural schemes (AHAs) thirty (30) of which are for rice production.</p> <p>The W Regional Park, forest reserves and the Niger River valley containing a diversity of flora and fauna Niger's largest cattle herd in the north and south (Ministry of Planning, 2017).</p>
<p>What are local governments' responsibilities and attitudes vis-à-vis gender equity issues in development planning?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In 2016, the constituency of Tillabéri was represented in the Assembly by 24 deputies, out of a total of 171 for the entire country. The issue of gender equity is national in scope and is also discussed at the parliamentary level, including the case of Tillabéri region (<i>Subdivisions administratives</i> [Administrative Subdivisions], Ministry of the Interior, Public Security, Decentralization and Customary and Religious Affairs and General Directorate of Decentralization and Local Authorities [DGD/CT], 2015).</li> </ul>	<p>The 45 communes in the region have communal management bodies that deal with various issues, including climate adaptation.</p>
<p>What is the typical participation (or lack thereof) of women in decision-making processes at the local government level? How many women are part of the local government decision-making committee?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Today, the challenge of participation is first of all that of increasing women's access to decision-making, but above all, enabling men and women to come together to manage and control decision-making as full partners; indeed, women's participation at the decision-making level is extremely low (Ministry of Planning, 2017).</li> <li>The gender inequality index is 0.713 in Niger. It is higher than the average for sub-Saharan Africa, which is 0.537. This indicator shows that Niger still has much to do in the area of gender equality (FAO, 2018).</li> </ul>	<p>The Belgian Technical Cooperation, in its interventions in 19 departments of the Dosso region, has set up Committees for the Advancement of Women in each commune to check whether the issue of gender equality is being mainstreamed. These Committees are attached to the Ministry for the Advancement of Women and Child Protection – they are supposed to be disseminated regionally and nationally by the Ministry in charge of gender issues.</p>

### 3- RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

The information and data collected via the gender assessments allow to identify a set of equity-related issues and trends that are closely related to the intervention areas of the LoCAL+ West Africa Programme and which the Programme can and intends to contribute to address, by mainstreaming equity consideration throughout its design and implementation.

In particular, the following specific measures and actions are recommended to be undertaken to ensure a thorough integration of equity-related considerations as well as a gender-responsive Programme implementation:

- 1) Institutionalize gender assessments at the local level prior to the disbursement of any project funding and to the design of any project activity.
- 2) Ensure that funding allocations also enable women to play a role in the design and maintenance of the initiatives supported via project funding. In so doing, the Programme intends to act as a good practice to enhance gender equality in public governance and decision-making, including in access to finance matters.
- 3) Ensure that gender considerations are embedded across all policy and institutional frameworks that govern the Programme design and its implementation, with adequate capacity and understanding across all stakeholders. In so doing, the Programme intends to serve as a best practice to improve gaps in policies and institutional frameworks to address gender-specific vulnerabilities.
- 4) Ensure that women are represented in all project activities and are provided with a comfortable space and time to participate in and contribute to all activities. Holding women-only project activities will also be taken into consideration when prescribed by local cultural sensitivities and based on women's feedback about preferred engagement modalities.
- 5) By providing women with equal access to information and active and safe engagement opportunities during the design and implementation of project activities, the Programme supports women's capacity to become champions of climate change awareness and adaptation within their communities.
- 6) Ensure that all Programme communications channels and products are tailored to women's unique needs, availability and cultural sensitivities, to ensure that Programme information reaches all the intended target audiences and is adequately understood.
- 7) Pursue gender-disaggregated data whenever conducting analysis and research, to ensure to capture gender-specific nuances, needs and perspectives in relation to any researched and studied topic.

These recommendations will be used to guide the Programme Gender Action Plan with a view to embed them in as many project activities as possible.

While the Programme explicitly targets men and women, in its design and implementation it will integrate the different perspectives, needs and voices of all stakeholders across its design and delivery, so as to optimize opportunities for, in particular, social inclusion and gender equality in economic growth, climate resilience, public governance and also to ensure that, unintentionally, no project activity generates any unintended negative social impact.

Social inclusion will be implemented by (a) ensuring at all times a transparent and open implementation approach based on a wide and user-friendly outreach to and engagement of different stakeholders to be consulted in the roll out of the program; (b) promoting a participatory approach during decision-making, to foster a more inclusive public governance modality. If and as needed, this will also imply conducting stakeholder-specific consultations, to ensure each stakeholder has a safe venue and convenient time window to participate and share their input; (c) collecting stakeholder-specific information and data (including disaggregated by age group).

The continuous monitoring of equity-related matters throughout the Programme implementation is also intended as a vehicle to identify in a timely manner any new or unforeseen equity-related issue that may surface during implementation and that may require adjustments in the design and/or delivery of project activities.

As such, the measures listed above are not intended to be an exhaustive list but rather an initial compilation of recommended measures, to be further strengthened and complemented as needed during the Programme roll-out.

#### **4- PROGRAMME CONTRIBUTION TO ENHANCED GENDER SENSITIVITY, EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT**

Based on the above, it was decided that all activities identified in the programme are going to be designed and implemented with a gender-sensitive approach and accounting for local, cultural sensitivities. Zero tolerance against gender-based discrimination and violence is a core principle of the programme, which foresees a grievance mechanism, including for offences about sexual exploitation, sexual abuse, and sexual harassment.

The LoCAL+ Programme expects to be conducive to advance gender sensitivity, equality and women's empowerment in the four countries, both directly and indirectly, in several ways, starting from women's participation in its roll-out and local economic development:

- Adaptation responses will account for gender-specific vulnerabilities to climate change as identified by the CRA implemented – which account for the distribution of adverse impacts on diverse social groups but also positive impacts as results of adaptation options proposed.
- Awareness and capacity building are sensible to vulnerable groups' voice and needs, including women, to contribute to create an inclusive and gender-sensitive civic space that accounts for broader social inclusion.
- The LoCAL mechanism incentivizes participatory and gender sensitive planning processes that lead to the identification of investments that are able to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable, in a view of distributing adaptation benefits to advance gender equality. LoCAL does that thanks to specific design features that account for gender equality considerations. In brief few highlights:
  - A climate risk assessment methodology that accounts for local stakeholder groups' specificities and respective vulnerabilities.
  - Capacity building and TA that account for gender mainstreaming aspects along the PBCRG deployment cycle (adaptation planning, implementation of investments, M&E and reporting), aiming at contributing to create a change in the civic tissue in favour of more gender sensitive local governance for climate action.

- A menu of eligible investments that account for gender sensitive and responsive investments (e.g., sectors or domains where women participation is particularly relevant and/or where women are expected to suffer the most from the effects of climate change).
  - Specific performance measures (against which local governments are annually assessed) that accounts for gender mainstreaming aspects along the PBCRG deployment cycle, incentivizing local governments to perform better on gender sensitive and responsive adaptation action and contributing to institutionalize these processes in the long run.
  - The ACCAF (M&E methodology of LoCAL) helps identify and track distribution of adaptation benefits of the PBCRG portfolio, providing a M&E tool that can help assess improvements on gender sensitive and responsive adaptation at the local level.
  - In collaboration with UN Women and UNDP, UNCDF has developed the Women Economic Empowerment Index (WEEI) to assess the viability of an investment from the point of view of the economic empowerment of women. As part of the LoCAL mechanism, WEEI indicators will be used to support local authorities in assessing the extent to which public adaptation investment projects contribute to women's empowerment and gender equality.
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- These established tools will also benefit the deployment of the Blended Finance Facilities, that will develop their own investment policy and criteria to ensure resulting investments contribute to gender equality and women empowerment, in addition to BOAD own tools and policy to ensure gender considerations are integrated in all the processes for project origination and financing.
  - Investments are screened against a climate rationale that should also account for impacts on the most vulnerable populations, including women, and a quota is set on investments (in the framework of the programme) that should explicitly target women (through women's groups, associations, etc.).
  - Safeguarding on Sexual Exploitation, Sexual Abuse, and Sexual Harassment (SEAH) are integrated in the ESS checklist (see Annex 6) and will be applied to GCF-financed activities – which will comply with relevant GCF SEAH policies, procedures and recommendations in its operations. These internationally accepted levels of safeguards will be implemented throughout the execution of the programme.

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