

FROM WORDS TO ACTION

LESSONS FROM
NORDIC EFFORTS TO
INTEGRATE GENDER
EQUALITY IN
CLIMATE FINANCE

November 2021



Foreword	3
Summary and key findings	4
Recommendations	5
Introduction	7
About this report	7
One: How gender responsive is climate finance?	9
Two: What types of projects have better levels of gender integration?	11
Three: What does gender responsiveness look like at project level?	14
Conclusion	17
ACT members working for both climate and gender justice	18
End notes	19

Acknowledgements

This study was commissioned by DanChurchAid, in collaboration with Act Church of Sweden, Felm, Finn Church Aid, and Norwegian Church Aid. The research was conducted by the Danish firm INKA Consult and carried out by consultants Christopher Roy and Sunitha Bisan, in collaboration with Verena Nitschke and Lisa Reenberg of DanChurchAid. It was prepared for media release by Hannah Grene, Barncat Consulting. The research team would like to thank the various ACT Alliance members, NGOs, Nordic Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Development Agencies, and other resource persons for their valuable contributions to this report.

Foreword

In our work with the poor and vulnerable communities around the globe, we have seen how solving the climate crisis goes hand-in-hand with promoting gender equality. COP 25 saw the agreement of an enhanced work programme on gender, and a stronger Gender Action Plan. That is of course important, and welcome.

However, speeches and agreements are not enough to ensure gender justice. Words must be followed by action. In this report, we use data gathered by the OECD to understand the ways in which gender is being considered in climate-related development finance, and what needs to happen to improve the gender responsiveness of such projects.

We chose to focus on the Nordic countries as they have high ambitions for both gender equality and climate finance. The study reveals both best practices and challenges. The Nordic countries do, to a varying degree, consider gender in their climate projects, and there are good lessons to be learned. However, also there is room for significant improvement.

Through the research, we have identified best practice examples which can serve as models for others. For example, while the study shows that gender is seldom considered in mitigation projects, it also identifies and analyses some examples of good gender responsiveness in mitigation. In terms of planning and implementation, we found that most climate finance projects studied do include a gender analysis. However, those do not often lead into concrete activities to ensure gender justice, to challenge gender norms, or to support female empowerment.

Gender inclusion cannot be just a tick-box exercise; it needs to turn into robust action that fosters women's agency and gender equality. We urge governments, NGOs, private companies and others to draw on the lessons illustrated in this report to ensure that women and men have equal access to, and leadership in, climate action.

Birgitte Qvist-Sørensen
Secretary General
DanChurchAid

Erik Lysén
Director
Act Church of Sweden

Rev. Rolf Steffansson
Executive Director
Felm

Jouni Hemberg
Executive Director
Finn Church Aid

Dagfinn Høybråten
Secretary General
Norwegian Church Aid

Summary and key findings:

Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden (referred to collectively as the Nordic countries) are among the most gender-equal countries in the world, and are known globally as champions in protecting and advancing women's rights.

In our report, we explore how this reputation translates into action in finance from these Nordic countries to developing countries to help them tackle climate change (climate-related development finance, or climate finance for short). How do the Nordic countries consider gender programming in their climate finance to developing countries, and what we can learn from the efforts these four countries have made?

Unfortunately, **there is no specific requirement** in the UN climate commitments reporting system to **track gender responsiveness in climate finance**. Of the four countries, only Sweden has chosen to do so voluntarily. However, it is possible to assess the level of gender integration in climate-related development finance by using the OECD's development database, which requires countries to report which of their development assistance targets climate (Rio markers) and which targets gender equality (Gender equality markers). Our research therefore explored what proportion of the climate development finance dataset also had gender as a principal or significant objective, before then qualitatively assessing specific projects targeting both climate and gender.

Some of the key findings include:

- **Only just over half** of climate-related development finance from the four Nordic countries reported gender as a 'principal' or 'significant' objective to the OECD in 2019. If the reporting is accurate, this implies that almost half of Nordic climate finance still does not consider gender in any meaningful way.
- There is considerable variation between the four countries, and **Sweden is the clear leader** with 81% of its climate-related development finance reporting gender as an objective in 2019. Sweden's gender integration of climate finance increased sharply in 2014, with the introduction of a Swedish feminist foreign policy, and has remained consistently high ever since.
- There is a much higher proportion of **gender integration in adaptation financing than in mitigation financing** across the four countries. Globally, there is much less awareness about gender impacts related to climate mitigation. However, our research did find some examples of strong gender integration in mitigation projects, which should be used as a best practice model.
- Lower income-group developing countries are much more likely to receive gender-responsive climate finance. 67% of Nordic climate finance to least developed countries has gender reported as an objective, whereas only 6% of the equivalent finance to upper middle income countries includes a gender focus.
- Climate finance delivered by civil society is most likely to include gender objectives, while that delivered by the private sector is least likely to include gender objectives.

- Nordic countries perform strongly **on including a gender analysis** in their projects – but too frequently this does not follow through into including gender-sensitive outcomes and indicators in their project activities.
- Many projects completely overlook the risk of **unintentionally perpetuating gender inequalities in their own activities**, despite having an extensive risk analysis.
- Women are too frequently **not recognised as agents of change**. Women are often targeted as beneficiaries, but very often they are not reflected in the project’s staff or decision-making processes, and projects are often not strong on advancing initiatives for women’s economic empowerment and leadership while tackling climate change.

Recommendations

// If we took away the barriers to women’s leadership, we would solve the climate change problem a lot faster.

MARY ROBINSON, FORMER UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Climate change demands urgent and transformative action, which means that the methods by which we tackle it need to be transformative, too. We need stronger mechanisms for integrating women as agents of change to all climate action and we need to avoid perpetuating harmful gender norms or gender inequalities. Based on the findings of the report, we present here ten concrete recommendations for enhancing the integration of gender into climate-related development finance.

Recommendations to all climate finance donors:

- Donors should agree to mandatory reporting of the gender objectives of their development climate finance to the UN, in order to track progress against the Gender Action Plan.
- Donors should ensure that gender integration is consistent in their climate commitments across recipient countries. Gender equality as a cross-cutting issue should be integrated into funds to middle income countries, just as much as it is in least developed countries.
- Donors should make greater efforts to ensure mitigation projects are gender responsive, building on best practice identified in this report.
- Donors and civil society should seek to influence and share best practice with the private sector and multinational development banks to improve gender responsiveness in their climate finance activities.

Recommendations to Nordic countries:

- The Nordic countries should collectively advocate for the establishment of gender integration sub-goals, with clear targets and indicators, as part of the post-2025 climate finance negotiations in the United Nations Framework Conventions on Climate Change.
- Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden should collectively advocate for mandatory reporting of gender objectives in development climate finance.
- In the meantime, Denmark, Finland and Norway should follow Sweden's lead in voluntarily reporting their gender tracking to the UN climate change reporting system.
- Denmark, Finland and Norway should increase the proportion of climate finance which has gender responsiveness as an objective, and together with Sweden, encourage other donors to do likewise.

Recommendations to implementing actors (including donor organisations, recipient countries, civil society and private sector):

- Implementing actors should ensure that gender analyses go beyond a tick-box exercise. The analysis must be specific to the local context and the intervention, and the findings of the analysis should be followed through with concrete actions and reflected in budget lines in the project activities.
- Implementing actors should ensure that women are included as agents of change, including in leadership roles in the project's design, implementation, staffing and activities.
- Implementing actors should include a detailed assessment of the project's own risk of causing gender-related harm in their risk analysis, and should present clear strategies to mitigate any such risk.

Introduction

Women and girls are disproportionately impacted by the effects of climate change, and this is particularly true in least developed countries. Women and girls are as much as 14 times more likely to die as a result of disasters resulting from climate change than men and boys, according to UN Women.¹ Women are more often poor, have less access to finance and information, and more frequently have domestic responsibilities, limiting their mobility. Furthermore, women's unequal participation in decision-making processes and labour markets compounds inequalities and prevents women from fully contributing to climate-related planning, policy making, and implementation.

It is vital to acknowledge women as agents of change for climate justice, rather than as passive victims. In many lower income countries, women do the greatest amount of subsistence farming to provide for their families and they are more often involved in the protection of natural resources.² This experience and knowledge is crucial to developing adaptation and mitigation initiatives which are suited to local conditions. At national level, parliaments with a higher female representation are more likely to ratify environmental treaties, and to set aside protected land areas.³ Ultimately, it is only by empowering people of all genders to act that we can hope to achieve a sustainable solution to the climate crisis.

About this report

In this report, we assess the level of gender integration in the climate finance provided to developing countries by Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden (the Nordic countries). The Nordic countries are among the most gender-equal in the world⁴, and have a strong reputation for protecting women's rights, both in their own countries and internationally.

However, it does not necessarily follow that gender equality and a focus on women's rights will ensure a gender focus across all areas. While gender responsiveness has been incorporated into much of the Nordics' foreign policy, a study on climate policy-making in Scandinavia found that, despite a critical mass of women decision-makers, this did not automatically result in gender-sensitive climate policy-making.⁵ We therefore set out to explore to what extent these four countries have been able to integrate gender into their climate-related development finance, and to highlight both best practice and challenges.

Our researchers analysed data from the OECD on development assistance to discover how much Nordic climate-related development finance identified gender as either a 'principal objective' (where gender equality is the main objective) or 'significant objective' (where it is important, but not the principal reason for undertaking the piece of work). After quantifying the amount of gender responsive climate finance in this way, the researchers assessed the quality of gender responsiveness through in-depth studies of specific projects committed in the years 2017 and 2018 (that is, the projects which feature in the most recent UN Biennial Report). This qualitative analysis was supplemented by a study of gender, climate and development co-operation at national level policy and strategy in the four countries. National Gender Focal Points and relevant Ministries in the four countries were invited to participate in consultation and to provide comments on the in-depth research report on which this media briefing is based.

Below, we give some of the details behind our key findings and recommendations by addressing three key questions. Firstly, how much of the climate finance provided by the

four Nordic countries identifies gender as an objective? Secondly, what factors affect the level of gender integration in climate finance? There are significant variations across sector, geographic regions, and channels of delivery. And finally, what does gender responsiveness actually entail at the project level? We look at both good practices and gaps in this regard.

Understanding the methodology:

Every project or programme reported to the OECD Development Assistance Committee should be screened and marked as either targeting gender equality as a “principal objective” (Gender Equality Marker- GEM 2); a significant objective” (GEM 1), or not targeting the objective (GEM 0). The climate specific finance was identified in a similar way, since each project is also marked according to whether climate is a principal, significant or not targeted objectives (Rio markers).

One: How gender responsive is climate finance?

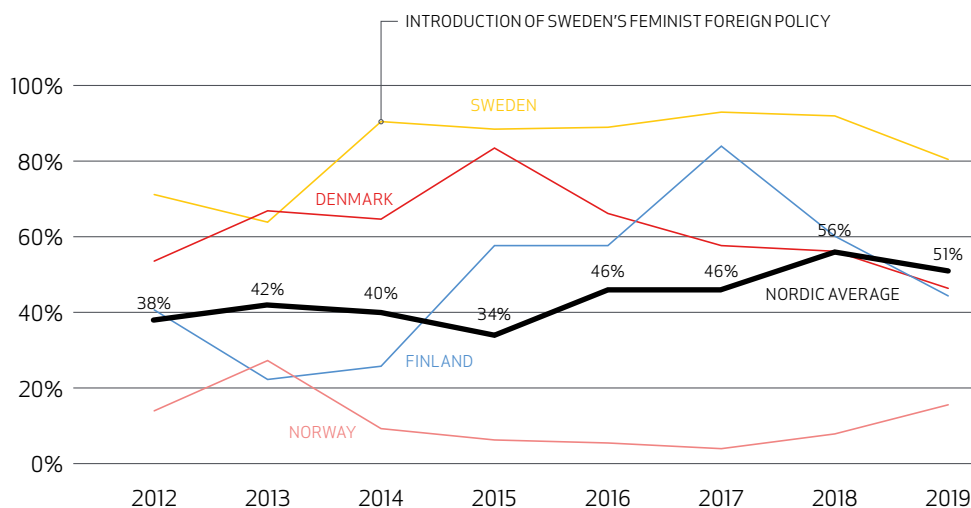
At the beginning of 2020, civil society organisations engaged in gender equality welcomed the adoption by governments of a new Gender Action Plan in the UN Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC).⁶ Covering a wide range of areas and activities, the Plan also invites ‘relevant public and private entities to increase the gender-responsiveness of climate finance with a view to strengthening the capacity of women’.⁷

Despite this achievement, there is still no agreed guiding standards and principles to enhance gender equality, including for countries to report on how much of their climate finance considers gender specifically. Of the Nordic countries we looked at for this report, only Sweden voluntarily reports information on the gender integration of their climate finance to developing countries.

This omission makes it impossible to track progress on the gender integration of development climate finance through the UNFCCC system. However, donor countries also report all their development assistance to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and gender reporting is mandated there. Our researchers were able to use the OECD reporting system to first identify the dataset of climate-related development assistance, and then to search for the gender markers within this dataset. The following graphic gives an overview.

Just over half of the climate finance provided by the four Nordic countries in 2019 identified gender as an objective.

FIGURE 1: Level of gender integration (% with a GEM of 1 or 2) in the Nordic Nations’ climate-specific, concessional finance. Figures provided over an 8-year times-series (2012-19)



There is wide variation between the four countries in terms of the level of gender integration in climate finance to developing countries. Sweden is the clear leader, with 81% of its climate finance in 2019 identifying gender as an objective. We can see that in 2014, the year in which its feminist foreign policy was introduced, Sweden’s level of gender integration increased sharply and has remained high ever since.

In the above graph, we combine those projects which target gender equality as a ‘principal objective’ (where addressing gender is one of the main objectives) and as a ‘significant objective’ (where gender is important, but not the main focus). However, the proportion of climate finance which identifies gender as a principal objective is tiny. Only **3.9%** of the total climate development finance between 2012 and 2019 from the Nordic countries has gender as a principal focus.

The OECD recommendation is that donors adopt a “twin-track” approach to gender equality across their development co-operation portfolio, combining dedicated or targeted interventions (principal objective) with gender mainstreaming approaches (significant objective).⁸ Both are important, since not every climate-related project can have a standalone gender approach. However, the fact that there are so few climate projects with gender as a principal objective means that there are missed opportunities for a more transformative approach towards women’s leadership and empowerment in climate action.

Recommendations arising:

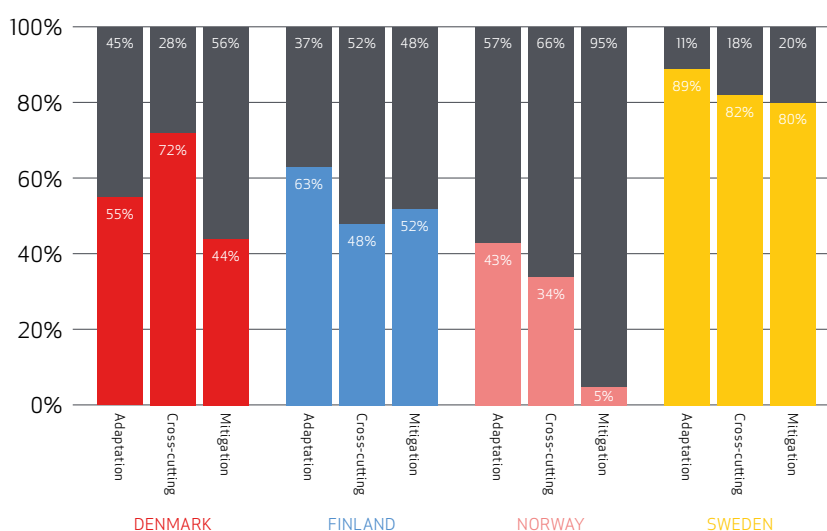
- Denmark, Finland and Norway should increase the proportion of climate finance which has gender responsiveness as an objective, and together with Sweden, encourage other donors to do likewise.
- Donors should agree to mandatory reporting of the gender objectives of their development climate finance to the UN, in order to track progress against the Gender Action Plan. The Nordic countries should collectively advocate for this tracking.
- In the meantime, Denmark, Finland and Norway should follow Sweden’s lead in voluntarily reporting their gender tracking to the UN climate change reporting system.

Two: What types of projects have better levels of gender integration?

Above, we looked at the overall level of gender integration in climate finance in the four Nordic countries. In this section, we look more closely at what types of projects are more likely to have higher levels of gender integration, and why. For this, we use both the quantitative data found in the OECD reporting system, and qualitative research carried out by our consultants who examined individual projects for examples of good practice.

There is a higher proportion of gender integration in adaptation financing than in mitigation financing across the four countries

FIGURE 2: Proportion of gender integration in climate-related ODA by Nordic nation according to objective. Figures provided over an 8-year average (2012-19). Grey represents finance reported either as 'gender not targeted' or where the gender equality marker has been left blank, and the colour represents where gender is listed as a 'principal' or 'significant' objective.



Globally, the majority of climate finance goes towards **mitigation** (action to reduce greenhouse gases). However, **adaptation** (action to adapt to climate change) is particularly vital for developing countries, which have both low carbon emissions and very high exposure to the effects of climate change. Under the Paris Agreement, climate finance should: 'aim to achieve a balance' between adaptation and mitigation.⁹ Some finance is reported as '**cross-cutting**', meaning that it targets both adaptation and mitigation.

This balance varies across the four Nordic countries. Denmark and Sweden show a near equal distribution of funds between adaptation, mitigation and cross-cutting. Norway and Finland show a clear preference for mitigation funding, although some of this may have more cross-cutting elements than is apparent in the reporting.

All four countries have a higher proportion of gender integration in their adaptation financing than in their mitigation financing. This echoes a recurrent difficulty with mitigation projects globally, and correcting this calls for a shift away from a needs-based approach to women as vulnerable groups, to an approach where women are intentionally given leadership and job opportunities. An example of a good and less good practice in this regard are found below.

GENDER RESPONSIVENESS IN MITIGATION PROJECTS



Not so good

The Danish funded project on wind energy in Ethiopia mentions gender without clear actions. The project's screening tool identifies a low level of female staff as the only challenge and opportunity in the context of the project. But there are no commitments made to tackle this, and the results framework does not show any gender specific indicators, nor a minimum requirement to gather sex-disaggregated data.



Better

The Swedish Energia project is a 'best in class' mitigation project. It seeks to ensure reliable and sustainable electricity for men and women in Mozambique, while also catalysing women's economic empowerment in the sustainable energy value chain, in order for them to become leaders and decision-makers in businesses and in their homes.

A significant pattern in the data shows that **the larger the mitigation project, the lower the percentage of gender integration is likely to be.** The reverse is true for adaptation and cross-cutting projects, which are more likely to have a gender marker, the larger their size.

Lower income-group developing countries are much more likely to receive gender-integrated climate finance

Least developed countries (LDCs) (e.g. Ethiopia, Yemen) receive the highest proportion of gender-responsive climate finance from the Nordic countries. Over two-thirds (67%) of climate finance to LDCs has a gender marker.

However, this commitment to gender integration drops significantly in funds to lower middle income countries (El Salvador, Philippines) and diminishes even further in climate finance to upper middle income countries (Botswana, Ecuador). Only 6% of Nordic climate-related development finance to upper middle income countries has a gender marker, with a tiny proportion of listing gender as a principal objective. As we have established above, gender tends to be reported as an objective in adaptation projects far more often than in mitigation projects, so the fact that least developed countries receive higher levels of gender-responsive finance may be as a result of them receiving larger proportions of adaptation finance.

Among the lower middle income countries (LMICs), there is a striking geographic regional anomaly. While overall there is a moderate level of gender integration in finance to the LMICs, countries in this bracket in Far East Asia (e.g. Indonesia, Mongolia, Vietnam) have much lower levels of gender integration.

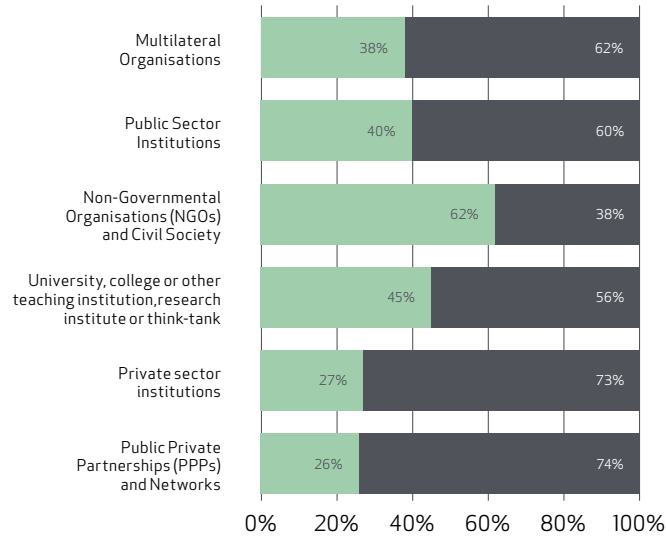
Climate finance delivered by NGOs and civil society is most likely to be gender responsive, while that delivered by or with the private sector is least likely to be gender responsive

The majority of climate finance flowing from the Nordic countries is delivered through multilateral organisations, public sector institutions or NGOs/civil society. Of these three main channels, NGOs/civil society have by far the highest levels of gender responsiveness.

Only 4% of overall Nordic climate development finance is delivered by private sector or public private partnerships, but it is notable that the levels of gender responsiveness are far lower.

Only a quarter of climate finance delivered by or with the private sector lists gender as a significant objective, while none lists it as a primary objective.

FIGURE 3: The total Nordic climate-related concessional development finance flowing through different channels of delivery, and the associated level of gender integration in the years 2012-2019.



Recommendations arising:

- Donors should make greater efforts to ensure mitigation projects are gender responsive, building on best practice identified in this report.
- Donors should ensure that gender integration is consistent in their climate commitments across recipient countries. Gender equality as a cross-cutting issue should be integrated into funds to middle income countries, just as much as it is in least developed countries.
- Donors and civil society should seek to influence and share best practice with the private sector and multinational development banks to improve gender responsiveness in their climate finance activities.

Three: What does gender responsiveness look like at project level?

In the sections above, we looked at how many and what types of projects have gender markers. But what do the gender markers actually mean for how the project operates?

To explore this, our researchers looked at a sample of gender marked projects across the four Nordic countries, and assessed their approach to gender integration by applying a set of in-depth questions adapted from the OECD DAC Gender Policy Marker guidelines.¹⁰

Our analysis found a lack of coherence around how the markers are applied. A large number of projects which list gender as an objective do not meet the criteria for gender as either a principal or significant objective, according to our analysis. Some of our key findings in this regard are outlined below.

Gender analyses need to go beyond a box-ticking exercise, by translating findings into concrete actions

Most of the projects studied do have a gender analysis, but many of these lack sufficient detail. Too often, the gender analysis is deemed concluded by including a few sentences on the level of gender equality in the country of implementation, only referring to other very general gender-related frameworks or one short paragraph on gender as part of a context analysis. Even where the findings are more meaningful, they are often not used to inform the design of the project in any substantive way.

FROM GENDER ANALYSES TO CONCRETE ACTION



Not so good

The Finnish-funded Uongozi Institute project shows gender being integrated throughout the design of the funding agreement and an extensive description of women's issues and gender inequality in Tanzania is included. However, this is not mirrored by gendered responses and allocation of resources in the listed activities and requirements for the five year strategy of the project.



Better

In the Norwegian Climate Resilience project in Mekong, Vietnam project, the information gained through the gender analysis is well reflected in the results framework through gender specific indicators. The results framework requires either exact numbers or percentages on the number of women who, for example, start and complete a training course. In general, throughout the project document, concrete targets and measures are presented and the importance of collecting sex-disaggregated data is emphasised.

There is a risk that projects completely overlook the risk of unintentionally perpetuating gender inequalities in their own activities, despite having an extensive risk analysis.

While many of the projects reviewed had an extensive risk analyses, these tend to look mostly at external factors and not at the risks associated with their own initiatives in terms of gender harm. For example, if women are presented as more vulnerable

and more at risk of climate change, but not integrated at a decision-making level or in an empowering way throughout the design of the project, the measure might not only fail to live up to gender equality standards, but even unintentionally do harm.

.....
UNDERSTANDING THE GENDER RISKS OF THE PROJECT ITSELF



Not so good



Better

.....

As outlined above, the Norwegian Climate Resilience project in Mekong, Vietnam is a good practice example in terms of directly targeting women. Despite an extensive risk analysis, however, the project did not consider its own risks. For example, this might be an increase in gender based violence at a household level, when women are financially supported but male family members are not targeted and power relationships are not addressed as part of the initiatives.

The Danish funded *Forced displacement in Somalia: applying the durable solutions framework* project acknowledges the risk of harmful gender impact, including where women are the main beneficiaries. To mitigate this risk, the project specifies that: “planning and activities targeting women include men in appropriate ways; male leaders engaged to support women’s involvement in decision making; gender impact of programme (positive & negative) closely monitored”. The project thereby not only mitigates the potential risks, but also addresses underlying patriarchal norms and power relations.

.....

Women are too frequently not included as agents of change

The qualitative project assessment revealed that women are often targeted as beneficiaries, but very often are not reflected in the project’s staff or decision-making processes. Projects do not consistently focus on ensuring equal representation of women and men nor diversity amongst project personnel. This tendency increases risks of reinforcing gender inequality and gender stereotypes.

There are also gaps in terms of initiatives for women’s economic empowerment, and in fostering women’s leadership in science and technology, which is one of the commitments of the enhanced Gender Action Plan of the UN climate change process.

.....
WOMEN AS AGENTS OF CHANGE IN THE PROJECT AND ITS ACTIVITIES



Not so good

Sweden's Energia project in Mozambique demonstrates many best practices in regard to women's economic empowerment, but fails to ensure that the project itself mainstreams gender through equal representation of men and women among project staff at all levels.



Better

The Finnish-funded project Sustainable livelihoods and forest governance in Myanmar integrates a gender focus into both the project's activities and its own staffing. It mandates that 50% of small-scale enterprise initiative participants should be women, and that the gender equitable distribution of profits gained should be ensured. At staff level, the project commits to increasing the percentage of female staff, and all programme staff will be trained on gender issues, and how to incorporate women's empowerment throughout the project activities.

.....
Recommendations arising:

- Implementing actors should ensure that gender analyses go beyond a tick box exercise. The analysis must be specific to the local context and the intervention, and the findings of the analysis should be followed through with concrete actions and reflected in budget lines in the project activities.
- Implementing actors should include a detailed assessment of the project's own risk of causing gender-related harm in their risk analysis, and should present clear strategies to mitigate any such risk.
- Implementing actors should ensure that women are included as agents of change, including in leadership roles in the project's design, implementation, staffing and activities.

Conclusion

The Gender Action Plan set out following COP 25 recognises that *the full, meaningful and equal participation and leadership of women...is vital for achieving long-term climate goals.*¹¹ At COP26 in Glasgow, it is time to follow through on this by ensuring a stronger focus specifically on ensuring gender equality in climate finance to developing countries.

By examining the gender focus of climate finance flowing from four Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden) to developing countries, our research demonstrates both gaps and best practices, in the way in which gender integration is applied, implemented and reported. We hope that the best practices and recommendations identified in this report will inspire the Nordic nations to lead and influence in this space, as discussions for a new post-2025 climate finance regime begin at COP26.

Recommendation arising:

- The Nordic countries should collectively advocate for the establishment of gender integration sub-goals, with clear targets and indicators, as part of the post-2025 climate finance negotiations.

ACT members working for both climate and gender justice



DanChurchAid

DanChurchAid is a Danish non-governmental organisation supporting the world's poorest through both long term development and humanitarian aid. It was founded in 1922, and is rooted in the Danish National Evangelical Lutheran Church. Both gender and climate change are cross cutting commitments, which should be integrated into all DCA programs, and addressed through stand alone projects and advocacy themes (twin-track approach). DCA recognizes that in order to mitigate and adapt to the negative impacts of climate change in a gender-transformative and rights-based manner, women and girls as well as men and boys should lead climate change mitigation and response efforts together, and their differentiated needs and ideas should therefore be taken into consideration in all DCA's climate related programming and advocacy.



Act Church of Sweden

Act Church of Sweden is the international development work of the Church of Sweden. We are involved in humanitarian action, long term development in partnerships with local and global ecumenical alliances, as well as policy dialogue with duty bearers to promote human rights and sustainable development.

Act Church of Sweden is committed to contribute and strengthen locally-led climate change adaptation and increased resilience of people and societies at the frontline of the climate crises. Promoting gender inclusive climate justice and the right to climate finance of climate crises affected communities are strategic priority areas for policy dialogue with duty bearers, to ensure compliance with the Paris Agreement and its Gender Action Plan.



Felm

Felm is an agency of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland for its international work. It promotes human dignity and social justice in thirty different countries with over a hundred partnering NGOs and churches. Both gender and climate are cross-cutting themes to its projects. Moreover, Felm runs versatile community development projects that aim in mitigating climate change or building the resilience of communities to adapt to the already occurring biophysical changes. The resilience is also strengthened via action for disaster risk reduction and advocacy challenging the socioeconomic root causes of the climate-related vulnerabilities.



Finn Church Aid

Finn Church Aid (FCA) is a Finnish development cooperation organisation and important provider of humanitarian assistance. FCA is a faith-based organisation with more than 70 years of experience, founded by the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland. We value the different backgrounds and beliefs of all the people we work with and promote interfaith collaboration.

There are three cross-cutting issues common to all FCA working modalities: 1) Gender Equality and Social Inclusion, 2) Climate action and environmental protection and 3) Do No Harm and Conflict sensitivity. FCA recognizes that climate change affects men and women differently, and understands that women have diverse everyday experiences of how to best adapt to climate change and how it can be mitigated most effectively. However, women's possibilities to influence decision-making are often limited. Therefore, FCA supports the

inclusion of gender perspective on climate and environmental actions, promoting gender equity and women empowerment and ensuring that all actions are gender sensitive.



Norwegian Church Aid

Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) is an ecumenical diaconal organisation working for global justice. For more than 70 years, NCA has been mandated by Norwegian churches to save lives and seek justice for all people. We work with people and organisations around the world in their struggle to eradicate poverty and injustice. We help those whose needs are greatest, regardless of ethnicity, creed, political or religious affiliation. NCA works on prevention and response to gender-based violence, and the links to sexual and reproductive health and rights. Gender mainstreaming is one of NCA's five sustainability standards that we integrate into our programming. With this, we ensure that our programmes do not have adverse impact on any gender, with a particular focus on programme impact on women and girls.

End notes

1. UN Women, Turning Promises into Action: Gender Equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, 2018.
2. CARE International. (2020). Why Climate Justice is a Gender Justice issue. In CARE International UK Policy Briefing (p. 4).
3. Norgaard, Kari, and Richard York. "Gender Equality and State Environmentalism." *Gender and Society*, vol.
4. World Economic Forum, Global Gender Gap Report, March 2021.
5. Magnusdottir, G. L., & Kronsell, A. (2015) The (In)visibility of gender in scandinavian climate policy-making. *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, 17(2), 308–326.
6. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/women-s-groups-applaud-gender-action-plan-following-cop-25>
7. UNFCCC. (2019a). Enhanced Lima work programme on gender and its gender action plan. December, 12. https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cp2019_L03E.pdf
8. OECD-DAC GENDERNET. (2016). Handbook on the OECD-DAC gender equality policy marker. <http://www.oecd.org/dac/gender-development/Handbook-OECD-DAC-Gender-Equality-Policy-Marker.pdf>
9. The Paris Agreement states that climate finance should: 'aim to achieve a balance' between adaptation (actions to allow countries to adapt to current or inevitable climate change), and mitigation (actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions).
10. [Handbook-OECD-DAC-Gender-Equality-Policy-Marker.pdf](#)
11. UNFCCC (2019). Enhanced Lima work programme on gender and its gender action plan, https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cp2019_L03E.pdf