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**TO : THE BOARDS OF DIRECTORS**

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Acting Secretary General**

**SUBJECT : INFORMATION NOTE ON THE CHECKLIST FOR  
MAINSTREAMING GENDER AND CLIMATE CHANGE IN  
PROJECTS**

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## **LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

<b>ADB</b>	:	African Development Bank
<b>CRMA</b>	:	Climate Risk Management and Adaptation Strategy
<b>UNFCCC</b>	:	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
<b>CSP</b>	:	Country Strategy Paper
<b>PRSP</b>	:	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
<b>ESS</b>	:	Environmental and Social Study
<b>ADF 11</b>	:	African Development Fund Phase 11
<b>FAO</b>	:	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization
<b>IFAD</b>	:	International Fund for Agricultural Development
<b>GHGs</b>	:	Greenhouse gases
<b>IPCC</b>	:	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
<b>PCN</b>	:	Project Concept Note
<b>NAPA</b>	:	National Adaptation Plan of Action
<b>TOR</b>	:	Terms of Reference

## **I. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1. Background and Rationale**

1.1.1. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) adopted in 1992, marked the awareness by the international community of the threat of global warming and the need to stabilise greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere (Art .2). The 1997 Kyoto Protocol - adopted to support the UNFCCC - translated into quantitative legally-binding commitments by the industrialised countries to reduce their emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs), considered as the principal cause of climate warming, by 5.2% between 2008-2012,.

1.1.2. The impact of climate change is experienced differently by regions, generations, age groups and sexes (IPCC, 2001). Climate change has specific effects on women and men because of the different roles they play in society and their differentiated access to social, economic and physical resources. In Africa, these disparities resulting from the social positions of women within the family and the community are aggravated by the effects of climate change on the very factors that are most essential for protecting women's means of subsistence (food, water and energy supply).

1.1.3. Climate change and gender inequality are inextricably linked. On the one hand, climate change slows progress towards gender equality and poses a challenge to poverty reduction efforts; on the other hand, gender inequality can further worsen the effects of climate change. Consequently, gender mainstreaming must be seen not only as an aspect that requires special attention when conducting activities to mitigate climate risks but also as an important factor in adaptation to ensure success and sustainability of projects.

### **1.2. Strategic Context**

1.2.1. The Bank's Medium Term Strategy for 2008-2012 and ADF 11 recognise gender equality as a critical development issue that should be mainstreamed into the key operational plans. In April 2008, the Bank adopted a Climate Risk Management and Adaptation Strategy (CRMA) to accelerate progress towards eradicating poverty and contributing to sustainable improvement in people's means of subsistence. The CRMA clearly states that "through the focus on gender mainstreaming and women's economic empowerment, the Bank is increasingly paying attention to mitigating the effects of climate change on gender equality. In particular, the Bank is working with other partners to outline the entry points for addressing gender mainstreaming within the climate change framework."

1.2.2. This checklist for mainstreaming gender and climate change into Bank projects has been prepared to afford a more effective response to climate change, in terms of management of climate risks, adaptation and mitigation.

### **1.3. Objectives**

1.3.1. The objective of a Gender and Climate Change Checklist is to provide project managers with a tool for effective mainstreaming of gender in programmes and projects related to climate change to: (i) facilitate the identification of gender and climate issues; (ii) provide entry points for mainstreaming of gender-related issues in climate change projects; and (iii) guide project managers to take gender and climate change into consideration when planning, designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating projects.

## **II. ENTRY POINTS FOR GENDER AND CLIMATE CHANGE MAINSTREAMING IN THE PROJECT CYCLE**

### **2.1. Project Identification**

2.1.1. The identification stage is the most appropriate moment to ensure that gender aspects are effectively mainstreamed in the treatment of issues surrounding climate change as part of the project concept. A good analysis based on the understanding of gender roles and relations will help design the climate risk management aspects of the project as well as aspects related to mitigation of and adaptation to climate change.

2.1.2. It is important at this stage to involve men and women in discussions around the project idea and analyse their roles and responsibilities such that they will be able to benefit from the project as actors, beneficiaries and managers.

2.1.3. The project concept note (PCN) should reflect the gender-related aspects of the project. Setting out a project log frame, the PCN will develop objectives, results and activities, performance/impact indicators and operational costs, and will take account of gender needs and interests tied to climate change.

### **2.2. Project Preparation**

2.2.1. This phase involves providing more detailed information and project data on the gender analysis to improve knowledge about men and women's vulnerabilities to climate change and clarify the special needs of men and women, all with a view to developing appropriate responses to the impact of climate change.

2.2.2. Irrespective of the sector (water, energy, infrastructure, agriculture, etc.), the following must be taken into consideration: (i) gender issues must be reflected in the terms of reference for all feasibility studies and the ESIA ; (ii) The study team must include a gender expert; and (iii) data, disaggregated by gender, must be collected before the project is implemented.

#### **Box 1: Adaptation to Climate Change**

Differentiated power relations between men and women and unequal access and control over assets mean that men and women do not have the same adaptive capacity; instead, women have distinct vulnerability, exposure to risk, coping capacity and ability to recover from climate change impacts.

Gender relations determine adaptation strategies. For example, as a result of gender-differentiated roles in agro biodiversity management, women often have greater knowledge of plant varieties with important nutritional and medicinal values. However, because men have more secure access to land or land tenure, they have more incentive to contribute to effective natural resources management, and contributions necessary for adaptation.

*Gender in Agriculture Sourcebook: FAO, IFAD, World Bank, 2008*

2.2.3. During the preparation phase, it will be important, in order to obtain additional data, to work together with the national structures in charge of gender (Ministry in charge of gender, the gender focal point for the Convention on Climate Change, the other government institutions and civil society organisations working in the fields of gender and climate change as well as research institutions and development partners working on gender issues).

**Box 2: Mitigation**

Because women usually prepare food, their decisions ... can reduce carbon emissions.

Women's active involvement in agriculture, and their dependence on biomass energy, makes them key stakeholders in effective environmental management related to mitigation.

*Gender in Agriculture Sourcebook: FAO, IFAD, World Bank, 2008*

2.2.4. The project team, working with the different stakeholders, and based on the gender analysis will need to:

- Define objectives that incorporate the gender dimension,
- Ensure that the activities identified will include actions to mainstream gender in climate change mitigation and adaptation,
- Determine specific activities that address gender inequalities related to climate change,
- Identify climate change mitigation actions and strategies with a gender component as well as gender-sensitive adaptation measures,
- Include specific actions to combat gender inequalities, especially if such gender inequalities have a demonstrable effect on climate change,
- Verify the capacity of institutions to address gender issues that are related to climate change.

2.2.5. Examples of gender and climate change indicators:

- Number of women, men and other vulnerable groups who have experienced a decline in their income in recent years as a result of climate change
- Number of women and men who have, and use, energy efficient technologies.

**Box 3**

Gender mainstreaming in Bank projects and programmes also means that special measures will need to be implemented to build the capacity of women to overcome obstacles and encourage them to be full participants.

Gender mainstreaming does not preclude specifically targeted activities. Specific interventions can be for women, men or both, to enable them participate in development efforts and benefit in equal measure. These temporary measures are needed to combat the direct and indirect effects of gender discrimination on climate change.

- Number of women and men who have access to, and fully understand, ecological technologies
- Number of women who participate in climate change planning and research
- Number of men and women involved in natural resource management and conservation (water, forests, etc.)
- Number of households headed by women who have received training in and assistance towards disaster management.

2.2.6. The relevant documents during the preparation phase include the PRSP, the Gender Policy, the National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA) for Climate Change if these are available, and the Bank Checklist for Gender Mainstreaming in the relevant sub-sector<sup>1</sup>.

### 2.3. Project Appraisal

2.3.1. It might be necessary to gather additional information to complete the gender analysis. The appraisal team must include a gender expert. The terms of reference must be clear and explicit on the gender-related aspects. The relevant structures handling gender issues will be involved to ensure that the appraisal report reflects needs and interests related to gender.

2.3.2. The following areas in relation to gender and climate change in the following sectors will be discussed:

#### Energy Sector

- Analyse how women and men use energy and other consumption that impact on climate
- Identify the adaptation strategies in energy that have been developed by men and women
- Encourage households to use alternative fuels to cut down on dangerous emissions and to reduce household energy costs and the workload of women and girls
- Promote use of clean fuels in homes to lower dangerous emissions, reduce household energy costs and lighten the workload of girls and women.
- Include a component on income-generating activities to help pay energy bills.

#### Box 4

Climate change could alter the way women and girls use their time in performing their tasks. Since rural women and girls usually provide households with fuelwood, the time needed for gathering fuel will likely increase with the depletion of forests, decreasing the time that women have for food production and participation in income-generating activities. This will likely affect household food security and nutritional well-being.

<sup>1</sup> The Bank, through OSUS, has developed checklists for gender mainstreaming in different sectors and these are relevant tools for project managers.

## **Water Sector**

Climate change directly affects water quality and supply due to differentiated gender relations. Because they are vulnerable, children and pregnant women are more affected by water-borne diseases due to their involvement in fetching water and domestic chores; they are more vulnerable to diseases such as diarrhoea and cholera, which thrive in water degradation conditions.

Hence, dwindling water resources will increase the workload of women and girls, which will likely impact on their health.

## **Food Sector**

In the traditional division of labour between men and women, women are limited to subsistence production for household consumption. Key points that need to be raised concern the need to:

- Clearly define the roles and responsibilities of men and women in food production and supply,
- Generate gender-disaggregated data in the project area,
- Determine gender-related factors which are likely to militate against women's involvement and their ability to enjoy the project benefits,
- Identify measures to guarantee land rights for women,
- Determine measures needed to address the increasing workload of women due to the decline in farm production and household food security,
- Identify measures needed to address the health problems caused by the decline in farm production and household food security,
- Build capacity of local institutions to recognise vulnerabilities and identify risk reduction measures.



**Table 1**  
**Gender and Climate Risk Checklist for Appraisal Report**

<p><b>Chapter 1: Strategic Framework</b></p>	<p><b>1.1. Project Linkages with Country Strategy and Objectives:</b> Use gender data in the policy papers (PRSP, CSP, Country Gender Profile) to analyze how climate change impacts gender relations in the sector and determine whether the project or programme is likely to be viable.</p> <p><b>1.2. Rationale and Bank's Involvement:</b> Verify that climate change issues linked to gender are adequately visible and that they show why the project is necessary.</p>
<p><b>Chapter 2: Project Description</b></p>	<p><b>2.1 Project Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine whether gender/climate change linkages have been taken into consideration in key project objectives.</li> <li>• Verify that the project satisfies the practical and strategic needs of men and women in the context of climate change. Develop gender-specific results and indicators.</li> </ul> <p><b>2.2. Project Components:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verify whether the components and activities proposed incorporate gender and climate change concerns.</li> <li>• Specify the rationale advanced for each component so as to incorporate gender-sensitive adaptation actions.</li> </ul> <p><b>2.3. Project Beneficiaries:</b> Specify clearly who the direct beneficiaries of the project are (women, men, ...) and determine the gender criteria to be used for targeting beneficiaries.</p> <p><b>2.4. Project Cost:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The base cost estimate should take into consideration the need for additional disaggregated data on gender and climate change.</li> <li>• Include in the budget for the project the financial and human resources that will help attain results in the area of gender.</li> </ul> <p><b>2.5. Participatory Process:</b> Participatory approaches must be gender-inclusive. Identify strategies that will help overcome constraints holding the different stakeholders (men and women) back from participating in activities.</p> <p><b>2.6. Bank Group Experience, Lessons Reflected in Project Design:</b> Apply lessons drawn from having failed to take account of gender issues in climate change analyses in previous Bank projects in the relevant sector, and show how these shortcomings have been addressed.</p> <p><b>2.7. Key Performance Indicators:</b> Verify that the indicators proposed take account of the gender dimension to climate change and are consistent with the indicators in the CRMA.</p>

<p><b>Chapter 3: Project Feasibility</b></p>	<p><b>3.1 Economic and Financial Performance:</b> Provide information on the potential impact of the project that implementing gender-sensitive climate change adaptation actions will bring in terms of costs and economic benefits, and climate change mitigation.</p> <p><b>3.2 Environment:</b> Ensure that the preparation of the ESIA plan describes the project's possible impact on gender and climate change, and verify whether the project proposes measures to mitigate the adverse effects on men and women.</p> <p><b>3.3 Climate Change:</b> Determine whether there are climate risks inherent in the project and determine their potential impact on men and women as well as measures to mitigate them.</p> <p><b>3.4 Social:</b> Verify if all gender-related direct and indirect benefits with a social dimension have been identified; in particular, whether vulnerable and marginalised groups will see an improvement in their situation.</p>
<p><b>Chapter 4: Implementation</b></p>	<p><b>4.1 Implementation Arrangements:</b> Verify that the project implementation structure includes a gender expert and make sure that existing women's associations are involved as partners. Ensure that gender mainstreaming concerns are incorporated in the budget for climate change mitigation.</p> <p><b>4.2. Monitoring/Supervision:</b> Verify that the instruments and tools used in monitoring/evaluation are gender-sensitive. Ensure that gender is incorporated in the result indicators.</p> <p><b>4.3. Governance:</b> Take measures to ensure that management structures (committees, frameworks, etc) include women in leadership positions and that capacity building actions (trainings, workshops,) provide quotas for women.</p> <p><b>4.4 Sustainability:</b> Assess the country's continued commitment through the existence of legal instruments that will allow for the incorporation of gender mainstreaming after the project is implemented. Where there are factors that can jeopardise project sustainability, develop appropriate strategies, evaluate their costs and indicate their method of financing.</p> <p><b>4.5 Risk Management:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify the major risks to gender mainstreaming during and after project implementation, and propose mitigative measures.</li> <li>• Identify potential obstacles that may jeopardise project sustainability and develop appropriate strategies to overcome them.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Chapter 5: Legal Instrument</b></p>	<p><b>5.1. Legal Instrument:</b> Ensure that legal instruments are gender-sensitive. Verify the country's commitment to climate change.</p> <p><b>5.2. Knowledge Development:</b> Mention the types of knowledge that should be generated from implementing the project and likely to be disseminated or duplicated as widely as possible (nationally, sub-regionally</p>

	<p>and internationally, on websites etc.). Ensure that arrangements are made to disseminate such knowledge and its effectiveness.</p> <p><b>5.2 Main Conditions of the Intervention funded in the Sector by the Bank:</b> Assess whether there are any of the key features of the gender mainstreaming strategy in the proposed project that need to be listed as condition to loan and/or grant entry effectiveness.</p> <p><b>5.3 Compliance with Bank Policies:</b> Verify whether there are exceptional conditions that need to be presented to the committee as regards gender and climate change mainstreaming.</p>
<b>Chapter 6: Risk Management</b>	<b>6.1.</b> Identify potential climate risks and resistance to gender in the country which could affect implementation of the project and propose strategies to address them.
<b>Chapter 7: Recommendation</b>	<b>7.1.</b> Verify that the project reflects the recommendations of the Bank CRMA and that the intervention includes a clear strategy to promote gender equality and women's empowerment.

### **III. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND SUPERVISION**

#### **3.1. Project Implementation and Supervision**

3.1.1. **Project Launching:** This phase is crucial to ensure project ownership by the beneficiaries. At this level, the key considerations will be to:

- Verify that the different categories (women's groups, youth associations, etc) have participated in the preparation and conduct of the launching mission.
- Associate partner structures such as the Ministry in charge of gender issues, the national structure in charge of implementing the Convention on Climate Change, NGOs and women's networks, and NGOs working in the area of climate change.

3.1.2. **Implementation:** The project implementation team must be gender-sensitive and must include a person specifically in charge of gender issues. Ensure also that the training programme includes continuous training in gender and climate change for project staff and partner institutions, and provide them with supporting tools after the training.

3.1.3. **Monitoring:** Ensure that the monitoring/evaluation mechanism includes gender-sensitive results and indicators linked to climate change.

3.1.4. **Procurement:** Indicate clearly in the TOR that gender competence is essential in the selection process, give priority to gender-competent consultants (consulting firm, individual consultant, NGO, association...). Ensure that the preparation of Bidding Documents and invitations of expressions of interest take gender issues into consideration. Identify the best media to use to ensure the information gets to as many members of the public as possible.

### 3.2. Project Completion and Evaluation

3.2.1. This phase will be used to review how the project has improved gender mainstreaming in measures geared towards reducing climate risks. It will present the lessons generated from the outcomes vis-à-vis the project's gender equality objectives as well as the strengths and weaknesses. The team must include a gender expert.

3.2.2. The following aspects should be taken into consideration during project implementation and evaluation:

- Assess the gender results obtained in the sector,
- Evaluate the quality and usefulness of the gender-disaggregated data,
- Determine whether the changes supported by the project will be sustainable in the short, medium and long term (gender division of labour, allocation and distribution of access to and control of different resources, greater empowerment of women, impact of climate change on women and men, etc.),
- Analyse changes in the participation of different stakeholders,
- Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the project in mainstreaming gender in actions taken to mitigate and adapt to climate change,
- Analyse how the gender-sensitivity of the project team and private and institutional service providers has evolved,
- Determine what lessons the Bank can learn from this project with regard to gender mainstreaming in strategies to reduce climate risks.

## Glossary

**Greenhouse gases:** The gases that make up the atmosphere and whose physical properties contribute to create a greenhouse effect (a natural warming of the atmosphere). Increased concentration of greenhouse gases in Earth's atmosphere is one of the principal causes of climate warming.

**Gender:** Corresponds to the French term "*genre*". This term attempts to highlight the fact that feminine and masculine roles are not determined by sex (biological attributes), but evolve differently depending on social, cultural and economic conditions. Gender relations are culturally determined; they are defined by the society which determines the activities, status and physiological characteristics etc. associated with being male or female.

**Gender and development:** Focuses on the specificities of the respective roles, tasks, responsibilities, expectations and opportunities assigned to women and men in development projects and programmes. Emphasis is on the different actors, men and women, their interests and specific functions in the society. The GAD approach goes beyond the strict framework of production and extends to the sphere of reproduction. Using the social relations between the sexes, GAD attempts to establish a linkage between production and reproduction to find the source of the marginalisation of women. Social and gender-based division of work has been identified as the main reason preventing women from participating fully in development. The GAD approach advocates a more equitable type of development which does not take account of productivity only but puts an end to relations of inequality and concentrates on essential needs.

**Sustainable development** Sustainable development necessarily associates preservation of the environment, social progress and economic good governance, but also the gender perspective.

**Gender analysis:** Study of the traditionally determined differences between men and women in terms of the conditions, needs, participation indices, access to resources, development and policy, etc. as a result of the roles ascribed to them.

**Gender-disaggregated data:** Collection of data and analysis of results by gender (e.g.: data on the social status and socio-economic roles of different groups of women and men).

**Gender discrimination:** Behaviour that refuses to treat individual men and women equally as they would like to be treated or as they are entitled to be treated.

**Gender-differentiated work:** social system where the two sexes each play a series of gender-based roles. This division is not based on ability but on gender. Gendered division of work is the central determinant of social relationships between the sexes and seeks to legitimise hierarchical relations between men and women.

**Gender equality:** A policy concept which supposes that women and men will benefit in equal measure from goods, opportunities, resources and rewards recognised by the society. Being equal does not mean being identical. Equality can be attained by changing institutional practices and social relations that reinforce and maintain disparities between men and women.

**Gender equity:** Fair and impartial treatment of people from all walks of life without consideration to criteria such as sex, race, religion etc. This concept challenges the gender division of labour as a cause of discrimination and advocates using incentive measures to achieve gender equity.

**Gender mainstreaming:** The process of identifying, incorporating and integrating the needs and interests of women and men in every programme, policy, strategy, administrative or financial activities.

**Gender-specific indicators:** Gender-based indicators make it possible to measure inequalities between women and men, for example as regards poverty, violence, education, HIV/AIDS and political representation.

**Gender training:** Theoretical and practical training designed to increase the possibility that gender analysis will be conducted to build awareness on gender issues and recognise their relevance and the need to integrate them in the programming process.

**Gender insensitivity:** inability to recognise differences in the roles and responsibilities of men and women resulting in inability to recognise that policies, programmes and projects can impact differently on men and women.

**Sex:** defines the biological variables that differentiates male from female; in humans, men and women.

## **Gender Analysis and Climate Change**

**From the article on “Gender Dimensions of Climate Change” in *Gender in Agriculture SOURCEBOOK*, IFAD, FAO World Bank**

### **Climate change impacts**

Climate change could alter the tasks people perform and their time use, affecting men and women differently. For example, rural women, and girls to some extent, frequently provide households with water and fuelwood for heating and cooking. The time needed for their work in gathering water and fuel will likely increase with water shortages and depletion of forests. Decreasing the time available to women for food production and preparation as well as participation in income-generating activities will likely affect household food security and nutritional well-being (see also Module 1).

### **Adaptation**

At the local level, farmers continuously adapt to climate variability. They change crops or varieties, choose different harvest and sowing dates, alter land management, and employ water efficiency techniques (FAO 2007). Long-term climate change poses a new set of challenges to farmers dependent on natural resources, and so at the national and international levels, governments and development agencies play a fundamental role in building the capacity of farmers to cope with and adapt to a changing environment (Soussain, Burton, and Hammil 2003). The adaptive capacity of people depends on how they can draw from resources to maximize their livelihood outcomes (Masika 2002), so adaptation depends on factors such as economic status, technology, health, education, information, skills, infrastructure, access to assets, and management capabilities (IPCC 2001). Differentiated power relations between men and women and unequal access to and control over assets mean that men and women do not have the same adaptive capacity; instead, women have distinct vulnerability, exposure to risk, coping capacity, and ability to recover from climate change impacts (Masika 2002). Although women are generally more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, they play an active role in adapting to its impacts to secure food and a livelihood for their household.

Gender components determine adaptation strategies in terms of how men and women can contribute. For example, as a result of gender-differentiated roles in agro biodiversity management, women often have greater knowledge of indigenous plant varieties with important nutritional and medicinal values (FAO 2005). As the keepers of seeds, women often possess knowledge of a variety of genetic resources to adapt to varying climatic conditions such as resistance to drought or pests. However, because men have more secure access to land or land tenure, they have more incentive to contribute to effective natural resources management, use, and contributions necessary for adaptation.

Gender also often determines who receives inputs for adaptation strategies. Frequently new agricultural technologies bypass women farmers, despite women’s knowledge. For

example, extension personnel introducing new varieties intended for higher drought or heat tolerance rarely speak directly with women farmers (Kurukulasuriya and Rosenthal 2003).

Finally, a gender component exists for the adaptive strategies that are pursued and the consequences of adaptation. For example, in New South Wales, Australia, women migrate away from farms for work, which enables men to remain in agriculture. In other regions impacted by drought, men migrate, leaving women, who have fewer resources, to perform agriculture. In either case, the drought strains traditional gendered relationships (Alston 2006).

### **Mitigation**

Mitigation has revolved around the reduction of greenhouse gases and the enhancement of carbon sinks to absorb them (Boyd 2002).<sup>11</sup> Although responsibility for carbon emissions resides primarily in industrial countries, fossil fuel use and industrial processes, rural poverty, and subsistence agriculture account for a portion of emissions of carbon dioxide that stem from deforestation and land-use change.<sup>12</sup> In addition, rural poor women and men generally lack access to energy-efficient services that do not degrade the ecosystem or contribute to environmental change. Rural households typically rely on biomass for cooking and heating.

Because women usually prepare food, their decisions about cooking fuels and efficiency can reduce carbon emissions. Households with lower average income and level of education generate lower emissions; however, they also have a lower mitigation and adaptive capacity. Low educational levels of women and men household members limit awareness of mitigation options, such as the use of energy-efficient devices (Lambrou and Piana 2006a). Therefore, as issues of sustainable energy development (renewable energy and energy efficiency) and sustainable transportation receive more attention, it is important to encourage and improve the active involvement of key stakeholders. Women's active involvement in agriculture, and their dependence on biomass energy, makes them key stakeholders in effective environmental management related to mitigation (Denton 2002).