

## **Guideline on Gender Equality for the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM)**

### **1. Purpose**

The Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) model project aims to mitigate global climate change through the promotion of advanced decarbonization technologies to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) including gender equality and contributing to sustainable development in partner countries.

It has been well recognized that the gender gaps exist and those gaps can be found in the access to natural resources and participation of decision-making in environmental policies and measures at all levels. It is also recognized that women do not get to fully enjoy the socioeconomic benefits and services. This leads to the impediment of overall mitigation efforts and the hindrance of achievement of sustainable development and SDGs.

As such, this guideline aims to provide basic principles and specific recommendations on gender equality and encourages stakeholders, especially project participants who are in charge of implementing a JCM model project, to take actions at all the stages of the project cycle (planning, implementation, and monitoring).

Since how gender equality pertains to each project varies, when applying this guideline, stakeholders are recommended to do so to the extent possible, depending on the nature of each project.

### **2. Basic Principles on Gender Equality**

This section elaborates on the basic principles on gender equality and project participants are encouraged to follow these principles.

#### **(1) Women's Empowerment**

- Consider how various outcomes from the project (e.g. electrification of previously underserved areas, compensation related to land acquisitions) can lead to women's empowerment including increased employment and income, opportunities for female entrepreneurs to start or expand their businesses with higher productivity, as well as better access to education.
- Entities undertaking a project are expected to take measures to create a work environment where more women can play an active role, by providing job training and education, as well as facilitating other gender-related improvements and necessary support.

(2) Gender-balanced Decision-making Process

- Consider promoting women's equal access to information regarding climate change and relevant policies and their participation in community decision-making processes.
- Consider facilitating gender-balanced decision-makings at implementation stage of the project to encourage women to take on a leadership role.

(3) Women's Health and Well-being

- Consider promoting improved health and well-being for women in various aspects of life, including health (e.g. by decreasing negative health impacts from polluted air and water), safety (e.g. by installing streetlights and sanitary facilities, and improving public transportation systems), as well as economic and physical burden (e.g. by reducing energy bills including electricity, and lowering domestic workload by installing water and sewage systems, high-efficient cooking equipment, and the like).

**3. Recommendations for Gender Equality at Each Stage in JCM Model Project**

This section elaborates on ways that project participants can promote gender equality throughout the JCM model project.

(1) Planning Stage

- Consider whether a project will lead to women's empowerment including increased employment opportunities and/or more advanced role for women.
- Consider identifying what kind of gender-related challenges exist in the project area, and reflect possible responses in the project planning. National and/or regional policies and initiatives regarding gender equality, if available, should be taken into account as much as possible.

(2) Project Implementation Stage

- Promote employment of women and gender-sensitive work environment, women's leadership, and training and education during the implementation of a project.
- Incorporate women's opinions in consensus building processes regarding a project and ensure women are not subject to unequal treatment in compensation related to land acquisition and displacement and the like.

(3) Facility Operation Stage

- Advance women's employment and providing training, especially for management and technical expert positions that are necessary for the operation of a facility.
- Ensure the benefits of a project are shared with women in the project site community by ensuring their comments and inputs made at stakeholder consultations are given equal

consideration.

(4) Information-sharing Stage

- Disseminate information regarding gender equality measures, achievements, and lessons learned from implementation of the JCM model project.
- Monitor the project periodically to ensure that necessary actions continue to be taken to promote gender equality such as employment, training and education, and participation in decision-making processes for women.

**References:**

- Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. *General recommendation on No.37 on gender-related dimensions of disaster risk reduction in the context of climate change*. 2018
- Global Environment Facility. *GUIDELINES ON GENDER EQUALITY*. 2018
- Global Environment Facility. *Policy on gender equality*. 2017
- Green Climate Fund. *Updated gender policy and gender action plan 2020-2023*. 2019
- Green Climate Fund, United Nations Women. *Mainstreaming gender in Green Climate Fund projects*. 2019
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. *Gender action plan*. 2019
- United Nations Industrial Development Organization. *Guide on gender mainstreaming: Energy and climate change projects*. 2014
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. *Paris Agreement*. 2015
- United Nations Women. *Leveraging co-benefits between gender equality and climate action for sustainable development*. 2016