Update on progress in the implementation of the TEC-CTCN joint activities on matters relating to technology and gender
Background Note

I. Introduction

A. Background

1.   In response to decision 8/CMA.2, para. 3, at TEC21 and AB16 (November 2020) the TEC and the CTCN Advisory Board agreed on activities to be undertaken jointly in the period of 2021–2022 in two areas: i) technology and nationally determined contributions (NDCs), including the development of a joint publication on technology issues related to NDCs; and ii) gender and technology. The two bodies subsequently reported on this matter in their joint annual report to the COP and CMA for 2020 and 2021.[1,2]

2.   At the joint session of TEC 23 and AB18 (September 2021), the TEC and the CTCN Advisory Board considered progress in implementing their joint activities related to technology and gender. The two bodies took note of a report on the development of a global roster of experts including results from research on existing rosters and platforms that list female experts.

3.   During the joint session, the gender focal point of the TEC and the CTCN, with the support of the secretariat, will report on progress in the development of a roster of gender experts.

B. Scope of the note

4.   This background note provides an update on progress in the in the development of a roster of gender experts.

C. Expected action by the CTCN Advisory Board and Technology Executive Committee

5.   The TEC and the CTCN Advisory Board will be invited to take note of the updated and provided further guidance for the development of a roster of gender experts.

II. Inter-sessional work

6.   The gender focal point of the TEC and the CTCN, with the support of the secretariat, worked inter-sessionally to identify and characterize the building elements of the roster of gender experts.

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[1] FCCC/SB/2020/4, para. 15 and annex I, available at https://unfccc.int/documents/267476.
[2] FCCC/SB/2021/5, para. 8 – 11 and annex I, available at https://unfccc.int/documents/306935.

A. Desk review of existing gender rosters and platform

7. Preliminary desk research was conducted regarding existing female expert rosters and platform in general, and gender and climate expert rosters specifically, to gain insight into what type of information resources are already available and to learn from the best practices of current rosters. The following rosters were considered:

(a) Les Expertes. An initiative managed by multiple French media outlets, such as TV5 Monde, France Television, Radio France, France televisions, among others.

(b) Women also know stuff. A global roster of female experts within the political science field.

(c) AcademicNet. A global roster of female experts in science and academia; an initiative of the Swiss National Academic Foundation.

(d) Diverse Sources. A global roster of underrepresented experts, whose main areas of expertise are health and environment.

(e) Women for oceans. Global directory of ocean professional, interactive map powered by google maps showing members worldwide.

(f) InterviewHer. A global roster of female experts on conflict, peace, and security.

(g) Foreign Policy Interrupted. A Platform ws created in 2014 that focuses on highlighting female expertise.

(h) Women, gender, environment, mountain – Roster of Experts. A global roster of experts and professionals working on issues related to women´s rights, gender, mountain ecosystems and the environment. An initiative of The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD).

(i) Diversify EEB. A global roster of women and underrepresented minorities, experts in ecology and evolutionary biology.

(j) 100+ Climate Experts at the Earth Institute. An expert roster by the Columbia Climate School, Earth Institute.

(k) Wiki Gender. A platform designed to promote gender mainstreaming, sharing research, data, events, forums and key resources for the advancement of gender equality.

(l) Gender Climate Tracker. An initiative of Women´s Environment and Development Organization (WEDO), which provide tools and resources to track, follow up and understand the implementation of gender mainstreaming within the climate agenda.

(m) UNFCCC gender and climate LinkedIn professional group. A LinkedIn group created in 2021 open to practitioners and professionals interested in gender and climate change.

(n) Reflect Reality. A compilation of databases of female experts globally and by regions (Asia, Africa, North America, Larin America, Middle East, Europe).

8. The review of existing rosters and platforms showed that while numerous rosters focus on women experts in various fields, none were specifically focused on either gender experts in the area of climate change or women experts in climate change sectors.

B. Design of the roster

9. Based upon the analysis of other rosters and in order to fill a necessary gap, it is proposed to develop and maintain two separate and distinct rosters, both of which will be open to the public:

(a) Female experts in the climate change field; and

(b)   Female and male gender experts within the climate change field.

10.   Those interested in being included in either or both rosters, will be required to input their information into an online template which will then be reviewed, validated, and approved by staff of the UNFCCC secretariat and/or the CTCN. Likewise, it is recommended to add youth or junior professionals as a subcategory, in order to be inclusive and open the expert roster to early career professionals.

11.   As per best practice described by several existing platforms, it is proposed to populate the roster gradually before its official launch so that once it is officially unveiled, visitors to the site can already see examples of experts and see the value in both using and submitting their names to the site. The proposed roster design has been shared with the UNFCCC gender team for input.

C.   Sign up criteria and categories

12.   Based upon a review of existing expert rosters as well as categories relevant to climate change technology and gender and climate change, a draft list of sign up criteria have been developed for each roster, as contained in the annex. Likewise, a mock up spreadsheet of 30 gender experts and 35 women climate change and technology experts has been populated based upon existing TEC and CTCN contacts.

D.   IT infrastructure

13.   Discussions with IT staff in charge of the UNFCCC website and CTCN website took place and indicated that the roster can easily be set up and hosted at a minimal cost based upon a variety of options. In the case of setting up the roster on the UNFCCC website, the roster can then be linked to both the TEC and the CTCN's websites (TT:CLEAR and www.ctc-n.org, respectively).

III.   Next steps

14.   The proposed next steps for development of the rosters are:

(a)   Solicit additional feedback on roster criteria and categories from the UNFCCC Women and Gender Constituency and refine the roster (April 2022).

(b)   Prepare an introductory description of Technology Mechanism roster and its potential uses for the roster landing page and outreach purposes (May 2022).

(c)   Discuss partnering opportunities with relevant platforms such as the Gender and Climate Tracker, in order to promote broader awareness and use of the roster (May 2022).

(d)   Decide upon and implement IT solution utilising either UNFCCC or CTCN platforms (June 2022)

(e)   Finalize outreach and awareness raising plan including a call for experts to join the roster (June 2022)

(f)   Populate the expert roster with initial lists of experts with the approval of existing contacts and by soliciting the Women and Gender Constituency to help promote its use (October 2022).

(g)   Formally launch the expert roster at COP 27 and promote its use in a widespread manner (November 2022).

Annex I

Draft sign-up template for female experts in climate change

1.   **Contact information**

    (a) *Name*

    (b) *Contact details (professional email, personal email, phone number)*

    (c) *Do you self-identify as a woman? / Gender*

    (d) *Affiliation or organization*

    (e) *Career stage*

    (f) *Country of residence*

    (g) *Languages*

    (h) *Relevant links*

2.   **Areas of expertise**

    (a) *Mitigation sectors*

    (i) Agriculture

    (ii) Carbon fixation and abatement

    (iii) Energy efficiency

    (iv) Forestry

    (v) Industry

    (vi) Renewable energy

    (vii) Transport

    (viii) Waste management

    (b) *Adaptation sectors*

    (i) Agriculture and forestry

    (ii) Coastal zones

    (iii) Early warning and environmental assessment

    (iv) Human health

    (v) Infrastructure and urban planning

    (vi) Marine and fisheries

    (vii) Water

    (c) *Cross-cutting approaches*

    (i) Community based

    (ii) Disaster risk reduction

    (iii) Ecosystems and biodiversity

    (iv) Endogenous technologies

(v) Gender (If this category is selected, it will be suggested that the applicant also complete the Gender expert in Climate Change roster registration)

(d) *Cross-sectoral enablers*

(i) Advocacy and awareness

(ii) Capacity building and training

(iii) Economics and financial decision making

(iv) Governance and planning (policy, regulatory systems)

(v) Innovation and RD&D

3. **Experience by geographic region (and sub-region)**

(a) *Africa*

(i) Central Africa

(ii) East Africa

(iii) North Africa

(iv) Southern Africa

(v) West Africa

(b) *Asia*

(i) Central Asia

(ii) Pacific

(iii) South Asia

(iv) Southeast Asia

(c) *Europe*

(d) *Latin America and Caribbean*

(i) Caribbean

(ii) Central America

(iii) South America

(e) *Middle East*

(f) *North America*

4. **Other relevant information could include:**

(a) *Academic and professional background / short bio*

(b) *Publications*