
TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)

Study on gender impacts of climate change in Viet Nam**1. Background**

Knowledge and literature relevant to the topic of climate change impacts, from national, regional and global levels, have been produced and published worldwide. This has further informed national policy makers and provided recommendations for necessary actions required. Examples are the reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the ASEAN report on the State of Climate Change in ASEAN Region. However, there are gaps in understanding the in-depth and country specific dimensions of the inter-linkages between climate change impacts and gender equality. Practitioners are often guided by assumptions and generalizations and face challenges to assess the climate vulnerabilities among different social groups such as men and women. At the same time, the existing capacities and skills among men and women are not presented as potential solutions in addressing climate change. Without available data, analysis and evidence on gender related aspects within various sectors such as water, agriculture, land use, energy, food security, forests and health, countries remain limited in their ability to report on progress to the SDGs and the Paris Agreement.

Viet Nam is one of the countries severely affected by climate change and its related disasters. The Mekong Delta is one of the deltas in the world most susceptible and vulnerable to sea level rise. Climate change adaptation is vital for Vietnam and is regarded by the Government as one of the priority tasks to reduce the vulnerability level. Over the past 50 years, the average temperature in Vietnam has increased by approximately 0.5°C and the sea level has risen by about 20cm. Extreme climate events have increased both in frequency and intensity. Climate change has made hazards, especially storms, floods and droughts, more intense. According to Vietnam's climate change and sea level rise scenario (MONRE, 2016), by 2100 the annual average temperature in Viet Nam is expected to increase by 2 to 3°C, precipitation will increase in the rainy season and decrease in the dry season and the sea level will rise between 80 and 100cm. The most vulnerable areas, regions and objects are: agriculture, natural ecosystems, biodiversity, water resources, public health and infrastructure; the Mekong Delta, the Red 8 River Delta, the Central Coast; the poor, ethnic minorities, the elderly, women, children and people with disabilities.

Adaptation measures to prevent future losses are technically possible, however, many measures to protect against river floods, storm surges, saline water intrusion and drought, are needed to be implemented in the 21st century, which exceed the nation's capacity. The increasing impact of climate change on residential areas, economic zones, and ecosystems will lead to unavoidable losses. Therefore, the government of Vietnam (GoV) has formulated a number of strategies and policies on climate change, particularly at national level to provide a climate policy framework for development of sectoral and local climate actions.

The regional programme "Strengthening Human Rights and Gender Equality through Climate Change Action and Disaster Risk Reduction" (EmPower) is a joint initiative of two United Nations organizations including the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP). It is funded by the Swedish Government and will be run from 2018-2022 in 3 Asian countries namely Bangladesh, Cambodia and Viet Nam, along with other activities at regional level. The overall outcome of the programme is "*Countries in Asia and*

the Pacific implement gender-responsive climate change and disaster risk reduction actions to address key-drivers¹ of gender-based vulnerabilities”.

The EmPower regional programme applies a comprehensive approach to reach its goal by addressing the key drivers of gender-based vulnerabilities and enhancing human rights through implementation of gendered climate change and DRR policies and actions in Asia and the Pacific. This will be done with the view to achieving the impact of greater resilience to disaster and climate change and achieving equal rights and opportunities for women and men. The joint regional programme strives to achieve 5 outputs:

- *Output 1:* CSOs representing women and women’s groups are able to lead, participate in and influence climate change and disaster risk reduction decision-making processes;
- *Output 2:* Governments and key stakeholders are able to generate, analyse and use sex, age, and diversity disaggregated data to inform climate change and disaster risks and actions;
- *Output 3:* National policymakers are able to integrate gender equality commitments in climate change and disaster risk reduction policies;
- *Output 4:* Women use renewable energy to increase adaptive capacity and enhance climate-resilient livelihoods; and
- *Output 5:* Regional normative and policy frameworks on climate change and disaster risk reduction incorporate gender equality and human rights perspective.

Viet Nam’s component targets Outputs 1, 2 and 3 and this Terms of Reference (TOR) specifically refers to Output 2 and 3.

Under the Output 3, UN Women, in collaboration with GIZ Viet Nam, is supporting the Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment in mainstreaming gender in the update of the National Strategy on Climate Change (2021-2030). In order to provide evidence-based gender responsive recommendations to this process, UN Women and GIZ will commission a study on gendered impacts of climate change in Viet Nam.

2. Objectives and scope of the study

2.1. Study objective

The assessment also contributes to the development of the National Strategy on Climate Change for period 2021-2030 through inclusion of gender equality and gender considerations in strategy revision/updates, including desired gender responsive actions and indicators for the monitoring and evaluation framework. Thus, this study aims to contribute to strengthen the country-driven process to present more evidence at the national level on the linkages between gender equality and climate change, and analyze gendered impacts of climate change in health, agriculture, water resources, and waste management and energy sectors.

The study will focus on assessing the links between climate change impacts and gender equality in five sectors. They are **life and health; agriculture (including food security and forest management); water management; solid waste management; energy (renewable energy, energy efficiency)**.. Findings of this study will be used to inform policy makers and practitioners on the linkage between gender equality and climate change in these selected sectors and more broadly at the national level.

¹ Drivers such as a lack of gender-responsive policies; a lack of capacity of policy makers and CSOs representing women, women themselves and women leaders; lack of sex, age and diversity disaggregated data; a lack of access to financial resources; and lack of alternative livelihoods for women.

The overall objective of this study is to contribute to the update of Climate Change Strategy for period 2021-2030 with a gender perspective. In particular, the study needs to achieve the following specific objectives, including:

- (i) To identify/highlight the linkage between gender equality and climate change (focusing in some priority areas identified in the strategy's missions) with specific evidence, data and case studies from some selected region of Viet Nam.
- (ii) To identify the gender gaps in the implementation of Viet Nam's existing Climate Change Strategy for period 2011-2020 (focusing in some priority areas identified in the strategy's missions).
- (iii) To identify gender responsive M&E indicators and actions of the strategy.

In order to achieve the above objectives, this study answered three following key questions:

1. What are the linkages between gender equality and climate change in Viet Nam? (focusing in some priority areas identified in the strategy's missions).
 - a. What are different impacts of climate change on women, men and other gender groups? *What are key indicators to measure these different impacts?*
 - b. What are gender differences in adaptive capacity and mitigative capacity? What are characteristics and causes of these differentials? *What are key indicators to measure these differences?*
 - c. How do climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts address gender-based vulnerability, inequality and poverty? *What are key indicators to measure these possibilities?*
2. Are these gender issues addressed in the implementation of the existing National Strategy on Climate Change (2011-2020)? If yes, to what extent? If no, why? Which stakeholders engaged in gender mainstreaming in the current National Strategy on Climate Change and what are their roles?
3. What are concrete gender responsive climate actions and M&E indicators to be applicable and measurable in the new strategy given the international commitment of Viet Nam on CC?

2.2. Scope of study

The study will focus on the following work:

1. Review existing literature and secondary data to identify/highlight potential linkages between gender equality and climate change in, focusing on 5 key sectors (health/life; agriculture, water management, energy and waste management).
2. Triangulate and validate research hypothesis/questions with international and national research and evidence.
3. Conduct fieldwork to collect case studies to validate/evidence research questions as well as to review the gender implementation of existing Climate Change Strategy.
4. Consult with different stakeholders including relevant government ministries and women's organizations and ensure women's organization perspectives are included.
5. Identify and propose gender responsive actions for the new strategy and gender responsive indicators for the M&E framework.

The study will focus on 5 key sectors, including: general impact of life/health; agriculture (including food security and forest management); water management; solid waste management; energy (renewable energy, energy efficiency).

3. Key activities and timeline

The selected supplier will work closely with a gender consultant contracted by GIZ to carry out the following activities and meet the objectives of the study.

The study is tentatively carried out from May to end of October 2021 with the following tentative timeline:

Activities	Objectives	Tentative date
1. Inception report and consultation on research framework	Present research methodology, and workplan for the field work Literature review Collect feedback on the research framework	May/June 2021
2. Data collection and draft report	Collect secondary data Meeting with relevant stakeholders, including women's organizations Fieldworks to collect case study	June/July
3. Consultation workshop on preliminary findings (by sectors), with ministries and women's organizations	Validate preliminary findings Consult with different stakeholders, especially with women's organizations to ensure their perspective are included.	Aug/Sep 2021
4. Participation in consultation workshop for the strategy (including recommendations on indicators and actions)	Share findings from the report and recommendations on indicators and mainstreaming gender in the strategy	Sep/Oct 2021
5. Meeting with UN Women/GIZ/MONRE	To update the research plan/progress/results	May-Oct 2021
6. Participation in the general writeshop for the strategy	Share recommendations and support gender mainstreaming	July - October 2021

4. Team composition and qualifications:

The organization should legally constituted organization with a valid registration.

Minimum 10 years of experience in conducting research and policy assessment in social and economic development, preferable on issues related to climate change and/or gender.

Working experience with United Nations and international organization is an advantage.

The team composition is expected to include at least a team leader and team members as following:

The team leader should have:

- Master's degree (or equivalent) in gender and development, development studies, sociology, human rights or related field.
- Proven experience in conducting empirical research in social and development field, Experience in conducting research related to climate change or gender is preferable.
- At least 15 years of professional working experience in climate change related studies/research/survey.
- Strong experience of working with government authorities especially in climate change topic.
- Excellent analytical and conceptual ability;

The team member – climate change researcher should have:

- Master's degree in environment or relevant fields;
- At least 15 years of professional working experience in climate change related studies/research/survey.
- Strong experience of working with government authorities especially in climate change topic.
- Excellent analytical and conceptual ability;
- Excellent writing skill;
- Ability to work independently and in team

Team member – data analysis

- Master's degree in statistics or relevant fields;
- At least 10 years of working experiences in statistics/data analysis especially related to gender & climate change.
- Strong experience with relevant data visualization software.
- Excellent analytical and conceptual ability;
- Excellent writing skill;
- Ability to work independently and in team;

Research assistance:

- Bachelor's degree in social sciences or relevant fields.
- At least 5 years of working experience as research assistance
- Excellent administrative and logistic support skills.
- Good communication skills.

6. Roles and responsibilities of the parties

UN Women will provide overall technical guidance where possible. The supplier shall be required to bear all the related costs and work independently to successfully achieve the end results.

7. Communication and reporting obligations

As the study is a joint activity by UN Women and GIZ in Viet Nam, in which UN Women will contract a consulting firm to conduct the study, GIZ will be responsible to contract a gender specialist to supplement gender expertise to the team. GIZ will be in charge of organizing meetings and consultation workshop for the study as a part of this joint work.

Therefore, throughout the study, the selected supplier will work closely with a gender consultant contracted by GIZ as a team to achieve objectives of the study. The gender consultant will provide inputs on gender to every steps of the study. The whole research team (both contracted by UN Women and by GIZ) will work under the close coordination with UN Women and GIZ in Viet Nam.

The supplier will report to the UN Women Programme Analyst in Viet Nam