

PANAMA

Aportes para la equidad de género en la revisión de la
Política Nacional y la Estrategia de Cambio Climático



We believe it was very positive to incorporate the views and experience of the National Women Institute of Panama, grassroots organizations with experience in gender and the National Environmental Authority of Panama throughout the consultation process as mainstreaming gender into environmental management plans and programs is essential. Climate change, and natural disasters, impact women and men differently and especially where women are already more vulnerable to violence. In this regard, we need to continue to ensure that the models and policies for development and integration identify the gaps of inequality and prevent the effects that may occur, ensure respect for human rights without discrimination, and recognize the differentiate contribution of women and men to management of natural resources, environment and food production.”

Lic. Markelda M. de Herrera, General Director, National Women Institute of Panama

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Main Partners: Panama National Environmental Authority; Central American Commission for Environment and Development (CCAD); Central American Integration System (SICA)
Participants: 33 Participants from government, indigenous communities and civil society
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In April of 2007, Panama's President and Minister of Economy and Finance signed the country's National Climate Change Policy, which includes among its key principles the importance of the "promotion of the conscious participation of the citizenship, including gender equality." Panama is also in the process of reviewing its National Environmental Policy, which will initiate the development of the National Climate Change Strategy.

In 2011, the Climate Change Unit of Panama's National Environmental Authority requested the assistance of the IUCN Global Gender Office to engage in the integration of a gender perspective in the country's National Climate Change Strategy. A national workshop was organized along two streams—under the umbrella of mitigation: energy, land use, and land use change, and under the umbrella of adaptation: agriculture and water resources. The multi-stakeholder workshop produced innovative actions in these sectors to be considered for incorporation in the national strategy. The workshop and resulting action steps followed a similar process at the regional level sponsored by the Central American Commission for Environment and Development (CCAD) of the Central American Integration System (SICA), as well as consultation workshops with women in various Central American countries.





In Panama, the ccGAP included the priority areas of land use and land use change, energy, water resource management, and agriculture and food security.



Overall Objective:

To incorporate a gender perspective in the National Climate Change Strategy of Panama, under the leadership of the Climate Change and Desertification Unit of the National Environment Authority, in order to facilitate its implementation under the principles of equity and justice.

Examples of Proposed Actions in Panama

	<i>Priority Area</i>	<i>Action Involving Women</i>
	Land use and land use change	Define priority locations where women perceive an imminent need for soil restoration initiatives
	Energy	Study of the judicial-legal situation in the field of energy from a gender perspective
	Water resources management	Awareness campaigns for women and men in areas of high vulnerability and risk
	Agriculture and Food Security	Train and encourage the participation of women in decision-making on issues of agriculture, food security and gender