

Concept Note

Stronger women for a better climate

Draft concept



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European Development Days 2018

Event: Women at the centre of climate action

5 June 2018

Running Time: 70 minutes

Capacity: 70 persons

Room: D3

Time: 14h – 15h15

More info: <https://eudevdays.eu/community/sessions/280/stronger-women-for-a-better-climate>

Agenda

3' Opening Remarks: Yvon SLINGENBERG, Director, European Commission on the importance of women involved in climate action -policy frame

3' Opening Remarks: H.E. Mrs Sheila Sealy MONTEITH, Ambassador of Jamaica, Chairwoman of the ACP Committee of Ambassadors

2' Intro to film clip – by Felice Zaccheo, Head of Unit C6 ' Sustainable Energy, Climate Change', DG DEVCO European Commission

Theme introduction: Projection of a video (4min) from a GCCA+ project in Malawi showcasing a concrete example of the role of women in climate action

3/4 minutes from 10'45" to 14'36" of this video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ixmaj-kt-K8&t=880s>

Total time above: 13' - 15' maximum

Debate: 50' +- for exchanges and discussions

Speakers and Moderator:

50' +- for exchanges and discussions

Moderator: *Marie Roger BILOA*, Chief Executive Director of The Africa International Media Group

- Gender in International climate policy making, *Fleur Newman*, *Gender focal point*, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Secretariat
- Women in national climate policy making at national level, H.E. Deo Saran, Ambassador Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary, Fiji – representative of the COP23 Presidency
- The role of gender equality advocacy in climate change policy, Dr Sharmind Neelormi, steering group member and the Asian coordinator of GenderCC, a global network working for gender equality and climate justice
- Role of women in mobilising local actors for climate action: Mrs Anne Barre, Gender policy coordinator, Women Engage for a Common Future International and Vice-President of Climate Chance organisation
- Climate Change policy, the role of the private sector in gender equality advocacy, Dr. Uphie Melo Chinje - Rector/ President/ Vice Chancellor of the University of Ngaoundere, Cameroon and former Managing Director of the Laboratory of Materials, Locals Materials Promotion Authority (MIPROMALO)
- Closing Remarks: Wrap up and presentation of Outcomes (moderator)

Format: Joint Lab debate. An introductory speech will introduce a film clip to explain context and challenges. A talk-show type interactive discussion will then follow with a journalist as moderator. Closing remarks will end the session.

Organizers: DG Climate Action (lead), DG for International Cooperation and Development - DG-DEVCO (global GCCA+ initiative) and ACP Secretariat (Intra-ACP GCCA+ component) (see description at the end)

When: **5 June, 2018, 14h** (first day of the 2-day EDDs)

Context: Women are disproportionately vulnerable to the impacts of climate change: their rights and socio-economic status are not equal to those of men, and they have less voice and influence than men in shaping policies and prioritising how climate finance is used.

Empowerment of women is an important ingredient in fighting climate change and building climate resilience as women are primary agents of change and effective risk managers. Their role is fundamental to create solid basis for a climate proofed development.

Through a series of concrete examples from international, national, local actors and climate activists, the session will explore how women's voices and actions can be heard and seen to influence climate change policy making at all levels.

Relevance

The session looks at the role of women in climate change policy making and the rights of women in climate action. It directly links to the goal of the forum, and specifically with themes such as environment, women's voices, women in emergencies, etc.

Outcomes

The session will discuss challenges and opportunities for women's active participation in climate change policy making and action at the international, national and local level. The goal is to highlight concrete examples of how women's voices can be heard and women's rights can be considered when defining policies for climate change mitigation and adaptation. Conclusions/recommendations stemming from presentations and discussions will feed into the discussions on Gender within UNFCCC context framework of the Gender Action plan.

Lead organizer:

European Commission's Directorate General for Climate Action

The Directorate-General for Climate Action (DG CLIMA) leads the European Commission's efforts to fight climate change at EU and international level. Its key mission is to formulate and implement EU climate policies and strategies, so that the EU can meet its climate targets for 2020, 2030 and beyond and achieve a resilient Energy Union with forward-looking climate change policy, to ensure European energy is secure, affordable and sustainable.

DG CLIMA also plays a leading role in international climate negotiations, implements the EU's Emissions Trading System, monitors emissions by EU member countries and promotes low-carbon technologies and climate change adaptation measures.

Co-organizers:

European Commission, Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO): managing the Global Climate Change Alliance Plus (GCCA+). The GCCA+ is a flagship initiative of the European Union helping the world's most vulnerable countries to address climate change. Having started with just four pilot projects in 2007, it has become one of the largest climate initiatives in the world that has funded over 70 projects of national, regional and worldwide scope in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and the Pacific. www.gcca.eu GCCA+ Community <https://europa.eu/capacity4dev/gcca-community>

The ACP Group. The African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) is an organisation created by the Georgetown Agreement in 1975. It is composed of 79 African, Caribbean and Pacific states, with all of them, save Cuba, signatories to the Cotonou Agreement, also known as the "ACP-EC Partnership Agreement" which binds them to the European Union. There are 48 countries from Sub-Saharan Africa, 16 from the Caribbean and 15 from the Pacific.



The Intra-ACP Global Climate Change Alliance+ Programme (Intra-ACP component of the GCCA+ flagship initiative) is an initiative of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States funded by the 11th European Development Fund (EDF) to strengthen dialogue and cooperation on climate change with ACP Countries.

Reference publications

https://unfccc.int/files/meetings/bonn_nov_2017/application/pdf/cp23_auv_gender.pdf
http://unfccc.int/files/gender_and_climate_change/application/pdf/leveraging_cobenefits.pdf
<https://www.mrfcj.org/resources/womens-participation-an-enabler-of-climate-justice/>



Biographies

Marie-Roger Biloa is the Chief Executive Director of The Africa International Media Group. She is a journalist by profession, being the Editor of the political magazine « Africa International », and founding Editor of two highly successful local publications, « ICI-Les Gens du Cameroun » (2004) and « ICI-Les Gens du Gabon » (2008). A very frequent talk show guest in Europe and Africa, Ms Biloa is also president of the « Club Millenium » in Paris, a think tank for Africa and a much appreciated networking center for African and international business and political leaders. Marie-Roger Biloa has been running for 17 years « Africa International » which is the longest established French-speaking Panafrican magazine, created in 1958 in Dakar in Senegal. This magazine is intended for the political community, business executives, social activists, cultural actors, Africans in the Diaspora and students alike.

Anne Barre: Coordinatrice de la politique genre et climat pour le réseau WECF - Women Engage for a Common Future International, et membre de la Women and Gender Constituency, Anne Barre est titulaire d'une licence de lettres et d'un master européen en management. Engagée depuis 18 ans au sein du réseau WECF, elle a contribué à la réalisation de nombreux projets de terrain dans les domaines de l'accès à l'eau, de l'agriculture et de l'énergie durables. Elle a fondé en 2008 l'antenne française de WECF, qu'elle a présidé pendant 8 ans. Responsable des actions de la Women and Gender Constituency dans les espaces dédiés à la société civile depuis la COP21, elle coordonne notamment l'organisation du Prix Solutions Genre et Climat, dont l'objectif est de valoriser et renforcer la contribution fondamentale des femmes dans l'action et les politiques climatiques.

Vice-présidente de l'Association Climate Chance, Anne Barre s'est engagée dès 2015 dans cette plateforme des acteurs non étatiques pour le climat, en participant activement aux Sommets Climate Chance et en co-pilotant la Coalition Financements. L'égalité de genre dans l'accès aux financements climat et à l'échelle territoriale doit être renforcée.

Professor Uphie Chinje Melo is the rector/president of the University of Ngaoundere, Cameroon. She has held this position since July 2017 and oversees twelve schools and faculties, made up of twenty-eight thousand students and staff of 1200. She is also a visiting professor at the University of South Wales, UK. Prior to joining the university of Ngaoundere, Professor Chinje was a professor at the University of Yaounde where she had been teaching since 1985. She has published close to 80 scientific articles, 6 technical manuals on materials production and co-authored a book. From 1998 to June 2017 Professor Chinje served as Managing Director of MIPROMALO (a government institution with a mission of enhancing the use of locally produced materials). While at MIPROMALO, her goal was to drive research on local construction materials beyond the laboratory into practical applications in the society. Through her work, she lobbied the government to enact a legislation imposing the use of locally produced construction materials in public buildings below 2 stories. She led the creation of local material production units for low cost housing construction nationwide, leading to job opportunities for youths. In 2009 she won the President of the Republic's award for best researcher of the year.

Professor Chinje is a Life Member of the Royal School of Mines (UK), member of the ACP-EU Development Minerals Technical Committee, member of United Nation's African Institute for Economic Development and Planning's (IDEP) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), President of the Africa Industrial Minerals Network, professional member of the Institute of Materials, Mining and Minerals (UK), member of the African Scientific Institute (USA) and member of the Cameroon Academy of Sciences; among others.

In 2006, Professor Chinje founded the Creative Women's Center, an NGO with the goal of empowering local rural women in the Northwest Region of Cameroon. She is active in national politics and is a Central Committee Member of Cameroon's ruling party, the CPDM. She is a Knight of the Cameroon Order of Valour. She obtained a Ph.D. in Metallurgical Engineering from Imperial College London and

a Diploma of Imperial College in 1984 and earned a Master's degree in Inorganic Chemistry from the University of Yaounde, Cameroon in 1981.

She is profiled in the 2017 Network of African Science Academies (NASAC) publication: Women in Science, Inspiring Stories from Africa.

