Session 1: The Power of Data: Understanding the state of gender and environment data

Background

The environment and biodiversity loss are not gender-neutral issues. The impacts of these crises affect women, girls and gender-diverse people in different proportions due to social, political and economic inequalities: and, they have less access to and control over resources and the benefits derived from the utilization of them. At the same time, they play an important role in implementing solutions to minimize impacts on households and communities. In this context, gender data, which is the collection of information about the different lived experiences of women, men, and gender-diverse people, including data disaggregated by sex or gender, reflecting roles, relationships, inequalities, stereotypes, social norms, and other factors that may introduce gender bias; can help illuminate the disparate impacts of biodiversity loss for women, girls and gender-diverse groups, as well as their contributions. However, on many key issues, gender data remain unavailable, resulting in a lack of baseline data available to compare the situation of women and girls before and after the implementation of initiatives of conservation, sustainable development, and benefit sharing; also, in most cases these data lack high quality, regularity and are not internationally comparable for many aspects of the environment; despite the fact that numerous international commitments recognize the interlinkages between gender and environment, the measures that support gender data collection and its monitoring are not consistently. This is why, wherever possible, gender data collection and analysis should adopt an intersectional approach and disaggregate data by multiple dimensions to capture differences based on income, age, race, ethnicity, location (urban/rural), indigenous status, migration status, disability, and other characteristics. Establishing strong gender data systems today can help to ensure that data is available to inform response and recovery efforts when crisis strikes so that no one is left behind.

This session will explore the significance of gender-disaggregated data in understanding the interconnections between gender and biodiversity, it will showcase current state of data availability on gender and biodiversity, highlight the data gaps and challenges in collecting gender-disaggregated environmental data, and the steps needed to strengthen it. Will explore how statistical systems collect, analyze, and disseminate data related to biodiversity and gender, addressing the existing challenges in prioritizing measurements at the intersection of gender and the environment.

Outcomes

- Increased awareness of the importance of gender-disaggregated data.
- Identification of key gaps in current data collection efforts.
- Recommendations for improving gender and biodiversity data collection.

Moderator: Venge Nyirongo, Intergovernmental Specialist (Climate Change, Sustainable Development and the Rio Conventions), UN Women

Trigger presentation: The state of gender and environment data.
Sara Duerto Valero, Regional Advisor on Gender Statistics in UN Women's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

This presentation will explore critical topics including the current landscape of data availability concerning the environment and biodiversity, identify key data gaps, and discuss effective methods for data collection, and the barriers to obtaining comprehensive data and highlight opportunities for improvement.

Panel discussion: Overcoming challenges to produce gender and environment data: Implementing the Call to Action.

- Alicia Bárcena, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Mexico
- Claudia Rubio, Associate, Policy & Programs, Gender and Environment Data Alliance
- Jillian Campbell, Head of Monitoring, Review and Reporting, UN Convention on Biological Diversity
- B. Piedad Urdinola Contreras, Chief Statistician, Departamento Administrativo Nacional de Estadística (DANE), Colombia
- Cate Orwen, Senior Advisory on Gender Equality/ Ciara Daniels, Gender and Environment Specialist, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)