



Food and Agriculture
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INCLUSIVE DROUGHT PLANNING

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Mainstreaming gender in national drought plans, national action plans and national policies



BACKGROUND

- The report is a result of the collaboration between FAO, IDMP, WMO and GWP.
- Draws on comprehensive reviews of national drought plans (NDPs), national action plans (NAPs), and related policies.
- It applies the Gender Equality & Social Inclusion (GESI) framework, exploring how strategies can better incorporate gender dimensions to enhance inclusivity.
- GESI - not additional considerations but fundamental components in building resilient societies.

MAIN INSIGHTS



Tackling gender imbalances and fostering social inclusion globally are essential for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.



Addressing gender disparities is crucial for enhancing food systems and meeting food security goals.



Reviewing drought policies through a gender perspective is the first crucial step to harmonising efforts towards gender equality.



Involving both women and men as agents of change in promoting equality and bringing climate policy forward - transformative approaches.

GESI AS AN ESSENTIAL TOOL FOR DROUGHT RESILIENCE



It is crucial to understand that **women** are agents of change and not just vulnerable victims of climate change.



Policies and programmes in the education sector focused on early **childhood** development can be a major transformative element in climate action.



Young people have emerged not only as proactive leaders during disasters but also as innovators & enablers of knowledge-building and preparedness.



Persons with **disabilities** are changemakers because they possess the knowledge and experience to create better, more inclusive, resilient, and accessible environments.



While a vast body of knowledge has documented the gendered impacts of drought on women, very little has been done focusing on **men**, yet their engagement is vital for GESI.

METHODS TO REVIEW NDPS THROUGH GESI FRAMEWORK

- The Feminist Critical Policy Analysis Framework was used to assess the extent to which gender equality and social inclusion have been integrated into drought plans.
- The assessment is an index that evaluates the quality of policies and plans using a ranking system with seven quality criteria categories and respective questions scored from 0 to 1.

EXAMPLES OF QUESTIONS

- The policy/plan examines the differentiated effects of drought on men, women and other social groups?
- The policy/plan sustains a pattern of viewing women and other social groups as positive contributors to resolving the problem of drought?
- The drought task force includes representation from the country's gender machinery or CSOs promoting and engaging in gender, youth and women empowerment issues?
- The policy/plan has specific targets and indicators for monitoring GESI?
- The policy/plan aligns with or refers to any gender policies, laws, regulations, strategies or action plans?

METHODS TO REVIEW NDPS THROUGH GESI FRAMEWORK

Each question is assigned one score, and the scores are then rated against the gender continuum, which shows an incremental progression of gender considerations from gender-blind to gender-transformative.

0 – 1.8	Gender blind	No attempts to address gender inequalities. likely perpetuates gender inequalities
1.9 – 3.7	Gender neutral	Vague, erratic or insubstantial effort
3.8 – 5.6	Gender aware	Acknowledges gender differences but does not address gender inequalities
5.7 – 7.5	Partial gender mainstreaming	Efforts are made to include women as beneficiaries
7.6 – 9.4	Gender mainstreaming	Includes statements around gender across the program; no focus on gender norms or harmful practices
Above 9.4	Gender Transformative	Addresses underlying causes of gender-based inequalities; transforms harmful gender norms, roles, relationships.

MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR MAINSTREAMING GESI

1. Adopt & apply a policy that institutionalises a commitment to gender equality in operations & programming



2. Promote a shared commitment to GESI by ensuring staff have the proper understanding, skills & support



3. Perform gender analyses for every project, using the findings to inform design and implementation



4. Allocate organisational and programme budget resources to meet GESI capacity-building needs



5. Collect, analyse, and use sex- and age-disaggregated data for all applicable programmes



6. Develop and track specific indicators to measure progress towards gender equality.



7. Perform risk assessments and develop corresponding mitigation and response strategies.



8. Establish accountability mechanisms to monitor the status of gender equality within organisational practices and programming



INTERACTIONS BETWEEN PLANS, PROGRAMMES AND POLICIES

CASE STUDIES

Grenada's NDP (2019) and NAP (2015)

Zambia's NDP (2018) and NAP (2002)

Somalia's NDP 2020) and NAP (2016)

Drought Policies:

- Jordan: The 2018 Water Sector Policy for Drought Management.
- Namibia: The 1997 National Drought Policy and Strategy.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BETTER SYNERGIES OF NDPS & NAPS

NAPs should not be developed in isolation from NDPs – GESI interventions in plans should be mirrored in the action programmes.

NDPs and NAPs should take the gender-transformative approach - tackle the root causes of gender inequality and reshape unequal power relations.

NDPs and NAPs should not take a narrow view of men and women as homogeneous groups but instead should recognise various identities of people so that no one is left behind.

National drought policies should be deliberate and intentional in mainstreaming gender equality and social inclusion.

There is need for participatory processes and broad consultations with different stakeholders to ensure that the needs and feedback of all social groups are integrated in drought planning & implementation.

CONCLUSIONS

- ❑ The urgent call to address drought impacts underscores the need for comprehensive strategies that involve all segments of society.
- ❑ Collaboration among diverse groups is essential for realising GESI in drought management, ensuring that everyone's rights and needs are recognised and addressed.
- ❑ As formal national instruments, NDPs and NAPs have a huge potential in advancing GESI integration, especially with the use of the UNCCD Model National Drought Plan.
- ❑ By understanding who is affected and to what extent, policymakers can design inclusive measures to mitigate vulnerabilities.
- ❑ Neglecting GESI aspects in drought policies can lead to inadequate responses and may exacerbate social inequalities.
- ❑ Prioritising GESI in drought planning is essential for fostering equitable and resilient communities.

THANK YOU FOR THE ATTENTION

