



Understanding the Gender-Environment Nexus

Launch of the OECD report “Gender and the Environment: Building Evidence and Policies to Achieve the SDGs”

21 May 2021, 12h00 – 13h15 CEST

Concept Note

Gender equality and women’s empowerment are central to the development, environmental sustainability and achievement of the SDGs. Yet, gender inequalities have recently increased as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to deteriorate economies and people’s health and well-being across the globe.

At the same time, the current environmental crises continue to drain livelihoods. Biodiversity loss, pollution, climate change and related extreme weather events threaten economic opportunities and increase health risks. While often overlooked, these environmental impacts affect men and women differently, exposing underlying discrimination, unequal access to resources and physiological factors that require for a differentiated approach. These parallel crises threaten gender equality, undermining the achievement of SDGs.

As countries attempt to recover from the pandemic, addressing the gender and environment nexus will be essential to deliver on Agenda 2030, especially during the “Decade of Action”. Gender mainstreaming in environmental policies can help understand and address environmental impacts on various segments of society and create more equal opportunities for all in more sustainable economies. The lack of gender-disaggregated data, unequal representation and barriers to decision making are further challenges that require special attention.

This virtual event will review emerging OECD work on the gender-environment nexus, including policy approaches and action for gender equality, environmental sustainability, environmental justice, economic opportunities and well-being. On the occasion of the launch of OECD report: “Gender and the Environment: Building Evidence and Policies to Achieve the SDGs”, panellists will discuss innovative approaches and raise awareness about this critical aspect of the global environmental agenda.

This virtual event will take place via Zoom and [advance registration](#) is required.



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Agenda

Friday, 21 May 2021	
12h00	<p>Opening remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Angel Gurría, OECD Secretary General <p>Keynote speaker</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kostis Hatzidakis, Minister of Labour and Social Affairs of Greece
12h15	<p>Presentation of the publication</p> <p>Sigita Strumskyte, Head of Sustainable Development, Gender and Partnerships Team, OECD Environment Directorate</p>
12h25	<p>Panel discussion on climate justice and sustainable consumption and production</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Romina Boarini, Director, OECD Centre for Well-Being, Inclusion, Sustainability and Equal Opportunity (WISE) <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chitra Kumar, Associate Director, Office of Environmental Justice, US Environmental Protection Agency• Linda Gustaffson, Gender Equality Advisor, City of Umeå, Sweden• Mapula Tshangela, Director for Climate Change Mitigation Plans Implementation, National Department of Environment, Forestry & Fisheries, South Africa• Josephine Musango, Professor, GENS Trilateral Research Chairholder, School of Public Leadership, Stellenbosch University, South Africa• Verania Chao, Programme Specialist, Gender and Climate Change, UNDP• Rodolfo Lacy, OECD Environment Director
13h10	<p>Closing remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Denise Gareau, Chairperson, Working Party on Gender Mainstreaming and Governance / Director, Policy and External Relations Branch, Women and Gender Equality, Canada• Masamichi Kono, OECD Deputy Secretary General