

Gender Equality Perspectives Series

# DEVELOPMENT FINANCE FOR GENDER-RESPONSIVE CLIMATE ACTION

March 2022

This paper is published under the responsibility of the Secretary-General of the OECD. The opinions expressed and the arguments employed herein do not necessarily reflect the official views of OECD member countries.

This document, as well as any data and any map included herein, are without prejudice to the status of or sovereignty over any territory, to the delimitation of international frontiers and boundaries and to the name of any territory, city or area.

Please cite this paper OECD (2022), “Development Finance for Gender-Responsive Climate Action”, OECD *Development Co-operation Directorate*, OECD Publishing, Paris.

Comments, questions and other inquiries are welcomed and may be sent to [DCD.GenderNet@oecd.org](mailto:DCD.GenderNet@oecd.org).

This document is also available on O.N.E Members and Partners under the reference: DCD(2022)10.

**Join the discussion:** @OECDdev

---

This paper provides an overview of how members of the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) are integrating gender equality and climate action objectives into their bilateral allocable official development assistance (ODA).

---

## Key messages

Climate change has devastating impacts on the environment and planetary health. These effects are not gender-neutral: they exacerbate inequalities and humanitarian emergencies that acutely affect women and girls. In order to better combat these effects, official development assistance (ODA) should be further leveraged to support gender-responsive climate action.

- Financing levels show a record high for total volume of ODA to climate action (USD 33.1 billion) and to climate ODA integrating gender equality (USD 18.9 billion).
- However, climate ODA that is dedicated to gender equality as the “principal” objective stood at only USD 778 million in 2018-2019 – 2.4% of all climate-related ODA.
- Of the USD 18.9 billion of climate ODA integrating gender equality, programmes with multiple purposes for climate change adaptation and mitigation; and climate change adaptation programmes present the highest shares of climate ODA integrating gender equality objectives (above 60%). Mitigation programmes show the lowest shares of ODA integrating gender equality objectives (46%).
- In their efforts to help build back better and greener from the COVID-19 pandemic, OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) members should ensure that programming and commitments towards climate action are instigated and implemented with gender-sensitive measures undertaken from the start.

## At the intersection of climate change and gender equality

Climate change and gender inequality are among the world’s most pressing and complex development challenges. Over the last 40 years, each decade has been warmer than the last, and within the past 10 years, the effects of the human-induced climate crisis have become even more profound – and are increasing in severity (IPCC, 2021<sup>[1]</sup>). Simultaneously, key components of gender inequality not only continue to persist but have worsened – reports of gender-based violence are increasing in many countries. Women’s food insecurity levels compared to men’s rose by four percent between 2019 and 2020 (UN Women, 2021<sup>[2]</sup>). While climate change and gender inequality are separately dangerous and consequential, together they pose a perilous threat to people all over the world.

The continuous rise of global land and sea temperatures, the increased severity and frequency of droughts, heat waves, tropical cyclones, and heavy precipitation, and the melting of ice, snow cover and permafrost are negatively impacting populations and ecosystems (IPCC, 2021<sup>[1]</sup>). Climate change also has a greater impact on sections of the population that are most reliant on natural resources for their livelihoods; they are often the most geographically and contextually exposed to natural disasters, and are least prepared and have the least capacity to respond to these circumstances. This is often the case of marginalised populations, such as indigenous communities, youth or women. Furthermore, although the impacts of climate change are felt worldwide, certain geographical areas, and their inhabitants, are impacted differently and disproportionately with some locations even at risk of becoming uninhabitable, such as small island developing states (SIDS).

Climate change, and its widespread and iniquitous consequences, is not a gender-neutral phenomenon. Women face adversity and vulnerability to climate hazards that inevitably exacerbate pre-existing vulnerabilities and inequalities. Climate change impacts are experienced differently by women due to the intersections between socio-economic structures, institutionalised discrimination, social norms and expectations, and gender (Andrijevic et al., 2020<sup>[3]</sup>). The disparities in mortality rates, health issues, and

educational and economic impacts between women and men during and following climate-related hazards are glaring (Women4Climate Action Daring Circle, 2019<sup>[4]</sup>). Gender inequality means that women face higher risks and greater burdens from the impacts of climate change, which is exacerbated further in compounding situations such as that of poverty or a global health crisis like the COVID-19 pandemic. Notably, events caused by climate change lead to increases in unpaid care work, which are largely undertaken by women (Camey et al., 2020<sup>[5]</sup>). In addition, those working in the most vulnerable types of employment in the informal sector, of which the majority are also women, will be most impacted by declines in national financing to social protection and loss of income due to the immediate need to divert funding to coping mechanisms against natural disasters and the loss of economic activity. Likewise, women's underrepresentation in decision-making processes and labour markets means that women are prevented from fully contributing to climate-related planning, policy-making, and implementation.

There also exists a linkage between the effects of climate change and surges in rates of gender-based violence. Contexts with climate extremes exacerbate existing unequal power dynamics and reinforce restrictive gender norms and stereotypes that render women and girls more susceptible to the denial of necessary resources or services, and more vulnerable to many forms of gender-based violence. For example, in periods of protracted drought, women and girls make longer journeys to collect water which increases the risk of violence, and some vendors insist on both monetary compensation and sexual acts with women in exchange for resources such as food (Camey et al., 2020<sup>[5]</sup>). Rates of intimate partner violence are also elevated after climate change-related disasters, particularly in emergency accommodation (IPCC, 2014<sup>[6]</sup>). Moreover, due to a lack of adequate safeguarding and gender analysis efforts, some existing climate change mitigation programmes and policies may inadvertently amplify the risk of gender-based violence (Gevers, Musuya and Bukuluki, 2020<sup>[7]</sup>). Additionally, it is women and girls in lower- and middle-income countries that stand especially at risk of suffering severely through the effects of climate change.

However, women often also have key learnings, experiences and solutions that can help cope with climate change impacts, as well as promote preparedness, anticipation and adaptation to these impacts, promoting sustainable development and thus minimising climate-related losses and damages (UNFCCC, n.d.<sup>[8]</sup>). Women play a critical role in the conservation and use of natural resources, and are leading global capacity development and efforts that contribute to low-emissions and sustainable development. Although often seen only as the victims of climate change, women are also catalysts for innovative solutions at both local and international levels.

Internationally, there are drastic increases in a sense of urgency for accelerated action to address and mitigate the human-made disruptions to, and alterations of, global climate systems; and to reduce emissions to net zero by mid-century. This is vital in order to be able to impede global warming from surpassing 1.5 °C and to protect a liveable climate for all (UNFCCC, 2021<sup>[9]</sup>). Leading up to the 26<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), many countries have already set targets to meet reduced emission targets and submitted new or updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), which outline their national plans of action to reach their climate goals.

Attention to gender equality, the inclusion of gender perspectives, and the empowerment of women and girls has increased within the international climate change arena over the last decade. The Lima Work Programme on Gender (decision 21/CP.20) was adopted at COP20 in 2014 with the aim of advancing and improving gender-balanced and gender-responsive climate change policy (UNFCCC, n.d.<sup>[10]</sup>). The Paris Agreement on Climate Change (COP21), acknowledges that Parties should respect and promote gender equality and the empowerment of women, and that adaptation (Article 7) and capacity building (Article 11) should be gender-responsive (UNFCCC, 2015<sup>[11]</sup>). The Gender Action Plan (GAP), designed to further recognise and advance women's participation in climate negotiations, develop gender-responsive policy on climate change, and incorporate the mainstreaming of gendered perspectives in the implementation of all work of Parties of the Convention, was adopted by the Parties at COP23 (UNFCCC, n.d.<sup>[10]</sup>).

Within Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), gender integration is increasingly recognised as a prerequisite to ambitious and effective climate change action. Many Parties note their intentions to consider gender throughout implementation of these plans, and some aim to mainstream gender throughout their NDCs. However, the NDCs lack action plans that are ambitious enough to meet the emission reductions that are considered necessary to keep global warming below 2 °C (UNFCCC, 2021<sup>[9]</sup>). Within other UNFCCC instruments to strengthen national climate planning, such as National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) (decision 5/CP.17) and Long-Term Strategies (LTSs) (decision 1/CP.21), efforts to strengthen the integration of gender are varied (UNFCCC, 2021<sup>[12]</sup>; UNFCCC, 2021<sup>[13]</sup>). The NAP Global Network has developed, and supports the implementation of, comprehensive processes and strategies for developing countries to advance gender-responsive NAPs (NAP Global Network, n.d.<sup>[14]</sup>). On the contrary, gender is not a significant component of the development or monitoring of Parties' LTS's (Climate Watch, n.d.<sup>[15]</sup>).

There has been meaningful uptake in the focus on the intersection of gender and climate in global processes:

- 'Women and the environment' was already one of 12 key areas for urgent action in the 1995 Beijing Platform for Action;
- Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development includes indicators and targets on gender equality and the environment. For example, SDG 13, 'take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts', includes target 13.B, "promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focussing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities";
- 'Feminist action for climate justice' is one of the 2021 Generation Equality Forum's six Action Coalitions;
- 'Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programmes' will be the priority theme of the 2022 Commission on the Status of Women (CSW66).

However, enormous efforts are necessary to secure global net zero emissions by mid-century, and to adapt and protect communities and natural habitats. Critically, this includes mobilising financing. At the 26<sup>th</sup> UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26), governments, civil society, companies, and individuals on the frontline of climate change came together to develop a plan to accelerate action towards the goals set out by the Paris Agreement and the UNFCCC (UNFCCC, 2021<sup>[16]</sup>). The mobilisation of finance and the involvement of financial institutions and private sector finance were highlighted. Financing for climate adaptation and mitigation is a standing priority at the Conferences of the Parties, and the consideration of gender within the scope of climate change diplomacy is becoming increasingly so, as well. However, there is room for improvement at the intersection of financing for climate action and gender equality.

Members of the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) recognise the need to support climate investments that are gender-responsive, as recently noted in the "OECD DAC Declaration on a new approach to align development co-operation with the goals of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change". DAC members' commitments to integrating environmental and climate action into development co-operation increasingly recognise gender equality as central to advancing this agenda (OECD - DAC, 2021<sup>[17]</sup>; OECD, 2021<sup>[18]</sup>). Additionally, the 2021 Generation Equality Action Coalition on Feminist Action for Climate Justice highlighted aligning climate commitments from governments and international donors alike to gender equality priorities.

Gender equality needs to be at the forefront of future financing efforts towards climate change mitigation and adaptation. As DAC members continue on the path to building back better and greener from COVID-19, it is important to mobilise ODA to support both the transitions of partner countries towards the achievement of net zero emissions, and their ability to adapt to the impacts of climate change. It is crucial that DAC members also ensure that these efforts and financing structures are gender inclusive.

Towards that end, this paper provides an overview of official development assistance (ODA) trends that address both climate action and financing towards gender equality. This paper does not attempt to analyse the impact or effectiveness of this ODA.

## Methodology

This paper draws on two sets of OECD markers that track ODA in support of Climate Change and Gender equality. These two types of markers have been combined to analyse the proportion of ODA that has been reported to tackle climate change and that also targets gender equality objectives.

The OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) gathers statistics, on an annual basis, on official development assistance (ODA) and other resource flows to developing countries from bilateral and multilateral development co-operation providers. The data are publicly available in the Creditor Reporting System (CRS) database.

**The OECD Gender Policy Marker:** The OECD tracks ODA in support of gender equality and women's empowerment using the DAC gender equality policy marker – a qualitative statistical tool to record ODA activities that target gender equality and women's empowerment as a policy objective. The gender equality policy marker is used by DAC members as part of the annual reporting of their ODA activities to the OECD. All DAC members except Hungary reported against the marker on their 2016 ODA flows. Full methodology is available in the Handbook on the OECD-DAC Gender Equality Policy Marker (OECD, 2016<sup>[19]</sup>)

**OECD Rio markers:** DAC members are requested to indicate for each development finance activity if the activity targets environmental objectives. Since 1998, the DAC has monitored development finance flows targeting the objectives of the Rio Conventions on biodiversity, climate change and desertification through the CRS using the so-called “Rio markers”, with a fourth marker on climate change adaptation being applied to 2010 flows onwards.

This paper builds on data provided by climate change-related markers. Full methodology is available in the OECD DAC Rio Markers for Climate Handbook (OECD, n.d.<sup>[20]</sup>). Both climate change Rio markers and the gender marker are based on a three-point scoring system (with the exception of “desertification”, though not the focus of this paper, which uses a 4-point scale). The data generated by the DAC policy markers provide a qualitative estimate of ODA in support of the specific topic analysed (climate change or gender) but is not an exact quantification. The scoring system is:

- **Principal (marked 2)** means that gender equality or climate change (depending on the marker used) is the main objective of the project/programme and is fundamental in its design and expected results. The project/programme would not have been undertaken without this objective.
- **Significant (marked 1)** means that gender equality or climate change (depending on the marker used) is an important and deliberate objective, but not the principal reason for undertaking the project/programme, often explained as gender equality being mainstreamed in the project/programme.
- **Not targeted (marked 0)** means that the project/programme has been screened against the gender or climate change marker (depending on the marker used) but has not been found to target gender equality.

In order to avoid double counting, ODA has been analysed in three separated groups/objectives, each one of them containing a unique sample of projects with no overlap between them. We refer to them in

this paper as “Climate ODA” with the addition of the values of the three flow groups. The three groups/objectives are:

- **Climate change adaptation ODA:** ODA only targeting climate change adaptation. It intends to reduce the vulnerability of human or natural systems to the current and expected impacts of climate change, including climate variability, by maintaining or increasing resilience, through increased ability to adapt to, or absorb, climate change stresses, shocks and variability and/or by helping reduce exposure to them.
- **Climate change mitigation ODA:** ODA only targeting climate change mitigation. It contributes to the objective of stabilisation of greenhouse gas (GHG) concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system by promoting efforts to reduce or limit GHG emissions or to enhance GHG sequestration
- **Multiple-purpose climate change adaptation and mitigation ODA:** ODA with multi-purpose targeting both climate change adaptation and mitigation. For example, a sustainable forest management project can contribute to biodiversity conservation, carbon capture (climate change mitigation), and climate risk reduction (climate change adaptation).

This paper draws on the ODA commitments data reported by 27 DAC members for both gender and climate change markers.

The scope of the data and analyses presented here are different to OECD or other assessments of progress made by developed countries towards the goal of mobilising USD 100 billion per year by 2020 for climate action in developing countries (see [Climate Finance and the USD 100 Billion Goal](#)). This note indeed tracks climate-related development finance or ODA and, as such, only partially overlaps with climate finance, as monitored through the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change process.

## ODA trends for gender equality and climate change action

### ***Overall bilateral climate ODA integrating gender equality objectives***

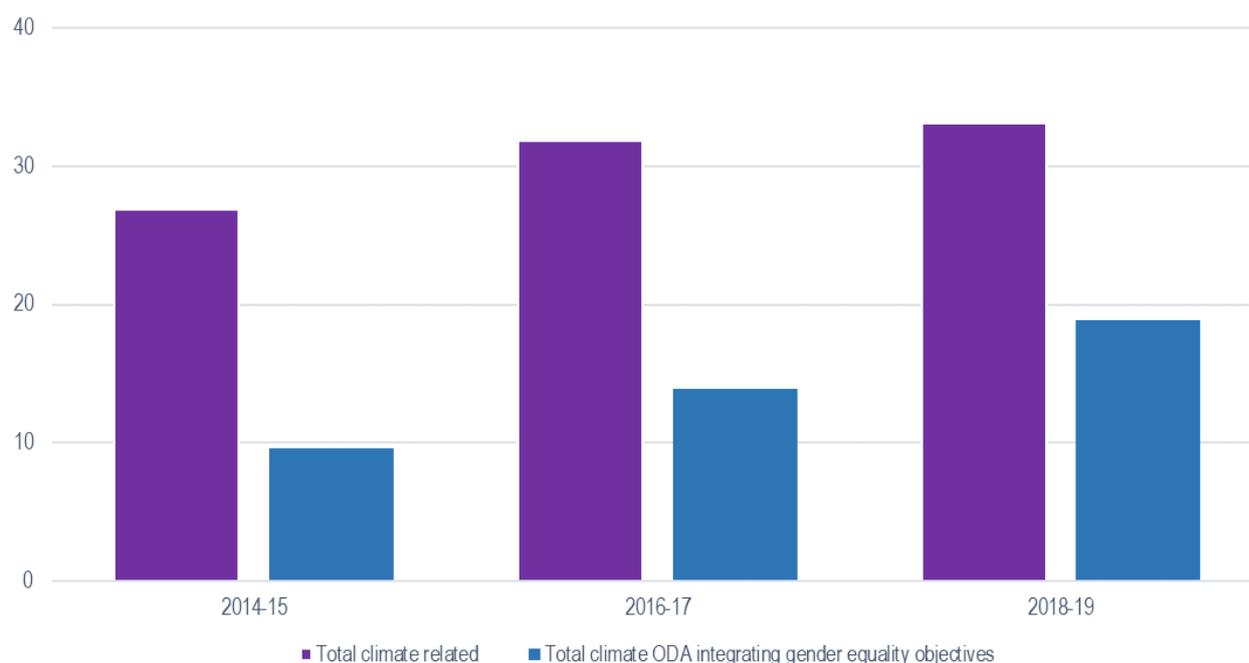
Total amounts of bilateral climate ODA have increased since 2014-2015 from USD 26.9 billion to USD 33.1 billion in 2018-2019 on average per year. The amount of overall climate ODA that integrates gender equality objectives is also consistently on the rise. It has increased from USD 9.6 billion in 2014-2015 to USD 18.9 billion in 2018-2019 on average per year (see Figure 1).

In 2018-2019, climate ODA integrating gender equality objectives represents 57% of all climate ODA, indicating increasing and important efforts by DAC members to link climate action with gender equality in their development co-operation programmes. In comparison, only 45% of all bilateral ODA integrates gender equality.

However, climate ODA that is dedicated to gender equality as the “principal” objective is nearly non-existent: In 2018-2019, this figure stood at USD 778 million – 2.4% of all climate-related ODA. As a result, the analysis in this paper generally refers to “climate ODA integrating gender equality”.

**Figure 1. Trends in amounts of ODA for gender equality and climate change**

2019 constant prices, USD billion, commitments, 2-year averages



Source: DAC Creditor Reporting System: <https://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?ThemeTreeld=3>

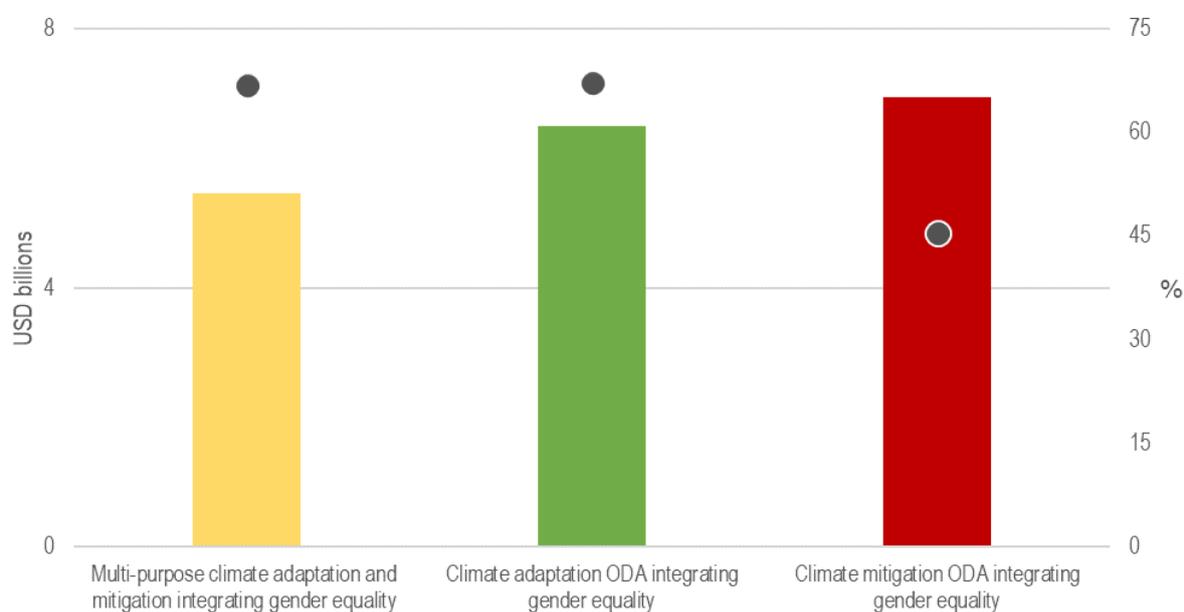
### ***Climate ODA broken down by objective integrating gender equality***

This section sets out the trends and current amounts and shares of aid integrating gender equality in the three different groups of climate ODA: adaptation, mitigation, and multi-purpose climate ODA targeting both climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Of the USD 18.9 billion of climate ODA integrating gender equality on average per year in 2018-2019, programmes with multiple purposes for climate change adaptation and mitigation; and climate change adaptation programmes present the highest shares of climate ODA integrating gender equality objectives (above 60%). Mitigation programmes show the lowest shares of ODA integrating gender equality objectives (46%) but have also increased over time (see Figure 2).

**Figure 2. Over half of climate ODA integrated gender equality objectives**

USD billion, 2019 constant prices, commitments, 2018-19 on average



Note: Shares (dot) have been calculated based on total screened ODA for each group of programmes. ODA volume in USD billions is represented by the bars while the dots represent the percentage to which gender equality objectives are integrated in climate-related ODA.

Source: DAC Creditor Reporting System: <https://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?ThemeTreeId=3>

### *Aid for climate change adaptation*

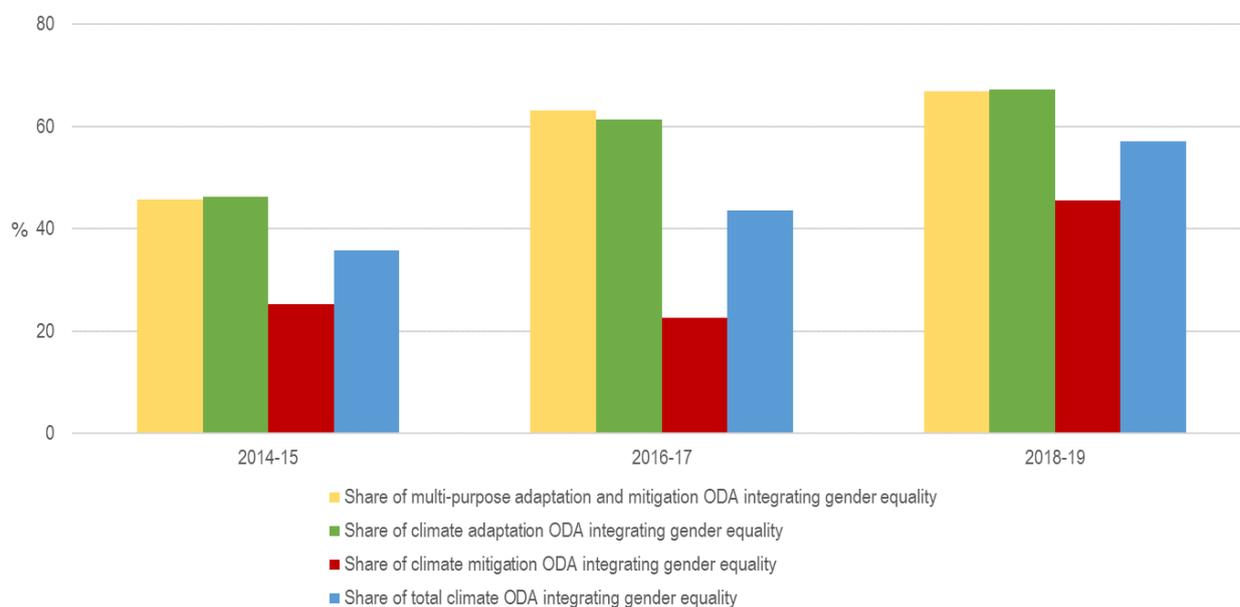
ODA towards climate change adaptation “intends to reduce the vulnerability of human or natural systems to the current and expected impacts of climate change by maintaining or increasing resilience, through increased ability to adapt to, or absorb, climate change stresses, shocks and variability and/or by helping reduce exposure to them (OECD, n.d., p. 4<sub>[20]</sub>)”. Activities with this classification can include information and knowledge generation and sharing, capacity development, and the design, planning and implementation of actions for climate change adaptation.

For example, a grant from Spain promotes sustainable agriculture, gender equity and environmental protection in Cinquea and Tejutepeque, two communities in El Salvador. This grant supports a programme that works with small producers participating in the project to improve their food and income security through sustainable agriculture practices. Gender equality and climate change adaptation are both identified as priorities of this programme. This example, as with subsequent programme examples in the text, was selected specifically because it scored a 2 on both the gender equality and pertinent climate change marker.

ODA towards climate change adaptation integrating gender equality objectives has remained at high levels but fairly stagnant since 2016-2017, from USD 5.9 billion (61% of climate-related bilateral ODA) to USD 6.5 billion (67% of climate-related bilateral ODA) in 2018-2019 – after rising significantly between 2014-2015 and 2016-2017. (Green bars in Figure 3.)

**Figure 3. Trends in climate ODA shares integrating gender equality**

2-year averages



Source: DAC Creditor Reporting System: <https://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?ThemeTreeId=3>

### *Aid for climate change mitigation*

ODA towards climate change mitigation “contributes to the objective of greenhouse gas (GHG) concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system by promoting efforts to reduce or limit GHG emissions or to enhance GHG sequestration” (OECD, n.d., p. 3<sub>[20]</sub>). Activities with this classification contribute to the mitigation of climate change by limiting the emission of GHGs, the protection and/or enhancement of GHG sinks and reservoirs, the integration of related concerns into the development objectives of recipient countries, developing countries’ climate action-related efforts.

For example, France supports a programme, of which both gender equality and climate change mitigation are dedicated (principle) objectives, in Morocco that bolsters the recognition of the role of women in energy transition. This programme strengthens the place of women in the renewable energy sector through the creation of two women’s energy co-operatives and support for organised women’s co-operatives towards sustainable production and management methods, as well as through their involvement in advocacy and local policy-making.

While the share of ODA addressing climate change mitigation that integrates gender equality objectives has increased over time, it remains at a low level: 46% in 2018-2019. This share is lower than the shares of both climate adaptation ODA and multi-purpose climate ODA integrating gender equality (see Figure 3).

The amounts in USD are however high compared to the two other climate ODA groups/objectives (at USD 6.9 billion in 2018-2019), given that the amounts of climate ODA for mitigation overall are high (see red bar in Figure 3).

This overall increase in amounts and shares of climate change mitigation ODA integrating gender equality can largely be attributed to a set of significant grant operations (worth over USD 1 billion) from Japan in 2018 to support the expansion of mass transportation in Asia and the Pacific.

### *Aid for adaptation and mitigation combined (multi-purpose)*

Multi-purpose climate change ODA targets both climate change adaptation and mitigation. For example, Spain supports a programme in Mali that aims to promote techniques and strategies for mitigation and adaptation to climate change and sustainable and inclusive rural development through the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources integrating a gender perspective for the improvement of food safety. Gender equality, climate change adaptation and climate change mitigation are all scored as principle objectives of this programme.

Multi-purpose climate ODA integrating gender equality has risen between 2016-2017 and 2018-2019, from USD 4.7 billion to USD 5.5 billion. This has come after a significant increase from 2014-2015 when committed multi-purpose ODA integrating gender equality ODA was USD 2.6 billion. In terms of the percentage to which multi-purpose climate ODA integrates gender equality objectives, this number stands at 67% of programming (see Figure 3).

### **Priority Sectors in 2018-2019**

In terms of volume, seven sectors received nearly all (USD 14.6 billion) climate ODA integrating gender equality objectives in 2018-2019. These include transportation and storage (USD 5.2 billion); agriculture (USD 2.5 billion); water supply and sanitation (USD 2 billion); general environment protection (USD 1.6 billion); multi-sector programmes (USD 1.4 billion); government and civil society participation (USD 1.4 billion); and social infrastructure and services (USD 600 million) (see Figure 4).

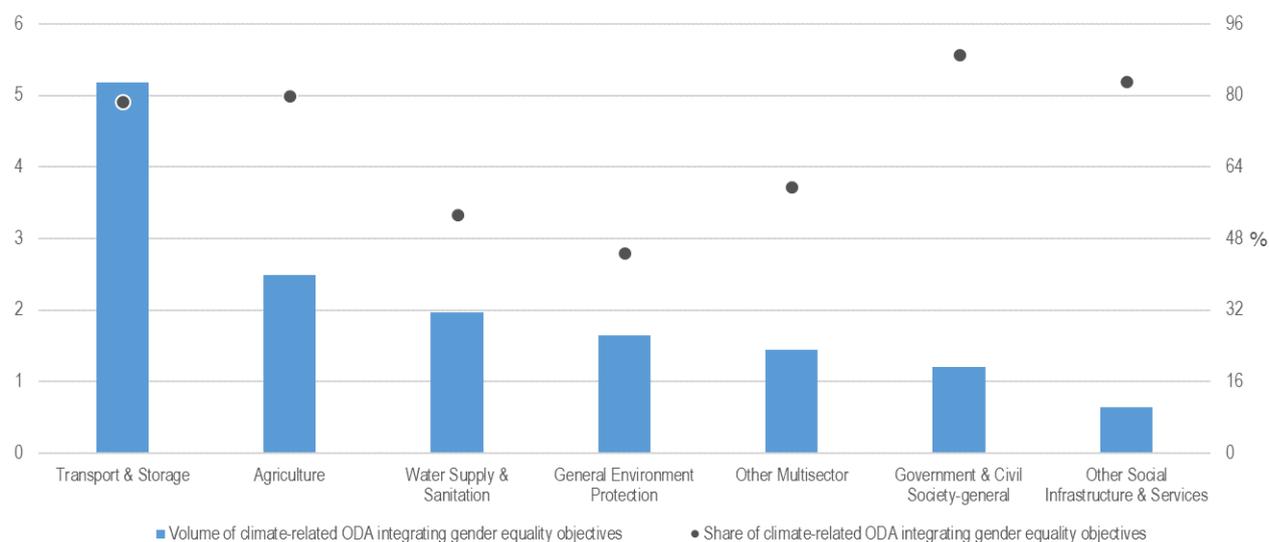
Shares in these same seven sectors, government and civil society (89%) – mirroring the shares of total bilateral aid for gender equality to this sector – and social infrastructure and services (83%) show the highest percentage of climate ODA integrating gender objectives out of total climate-related ODA. Agriculture (80%), transport and storage (79%), multi-sector programmes (60%), and water supply and sanitation (53%) sectors follow. General environmental protection (45%) shows the lowest share of climate ODA integrating gender objectives. Notably, the two sectors (government and civil society and social infrastructure and services) that show the highest shares of climate ODA integrating gender equality objectives received the lowest volumes of climate ODA integrating gender equality objectives, while the sector that shows the lowest shares (general environmental protection) received a median volume of aid.

Programme examples from these sectors include:

- A German regional programme in Africa and in India for the support of green innovation centres in the farming and food economy to reduce poverty, support employment and to enable better care with basic food.
- A Korean programme for construction and rehabilitation of water facilities, improvement of sanitary facilities, creation of water and sanitation committees in target villages, and capacity development for water and sanitation.

**Figure 4. Sectors representing the highest amounts of climate ODA integrating gender equality objectives**

USD billion, 2019 constant prices, commitments, 2018-19 on average



Source: DAC Creditor Reporting System: <https://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?ThemeTreeld=3>

### **Leading Development Assistance Committee donors in 2018-2019**

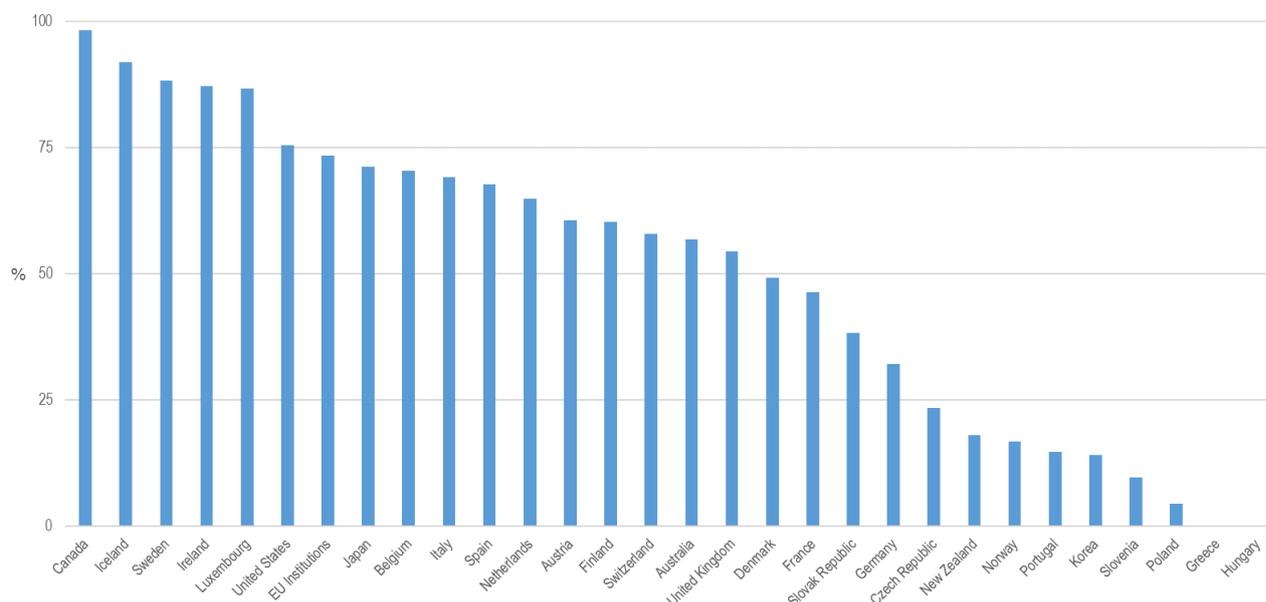
#### *Shares of DAC members' climate ODA integrating gender equality objectives*

The DAC members' with the highest share of climate ODA that integrates gender equality objectives are Canada (98%), Iceland (92%), Sweden (88%), Ireland (87%) and Luxembourg (87%) (see Figure 5). These shares are in line with DAC members' shares of overall bilateral allocable ODA integrating gender equality objectives; additionally noting that Canada, Sweden, and Luxembourg all have feminist foreign policies in place.

For example, Canada supports a project that aims to contribute to Dominica's climate resilience, with a significant part of the aid going towards women's rights organisations and movements. Additionally, a German project in the Philippines contributes to food security for smallholder farmers, aiming for the structural reduction of cases of violence against women and improving participation opportunities for women. Switzerland supports a project enabling women and their families to implement effective climate adaptation practices, and strengthen their voice and leadership to influence public plans and policies.

**Figure 5. DAC member integration of gender equality objectives in their climate ODA**

2018-2019 on average



Source: DAC Creditor Reporting System: <https://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?ThemeTreeId=3>

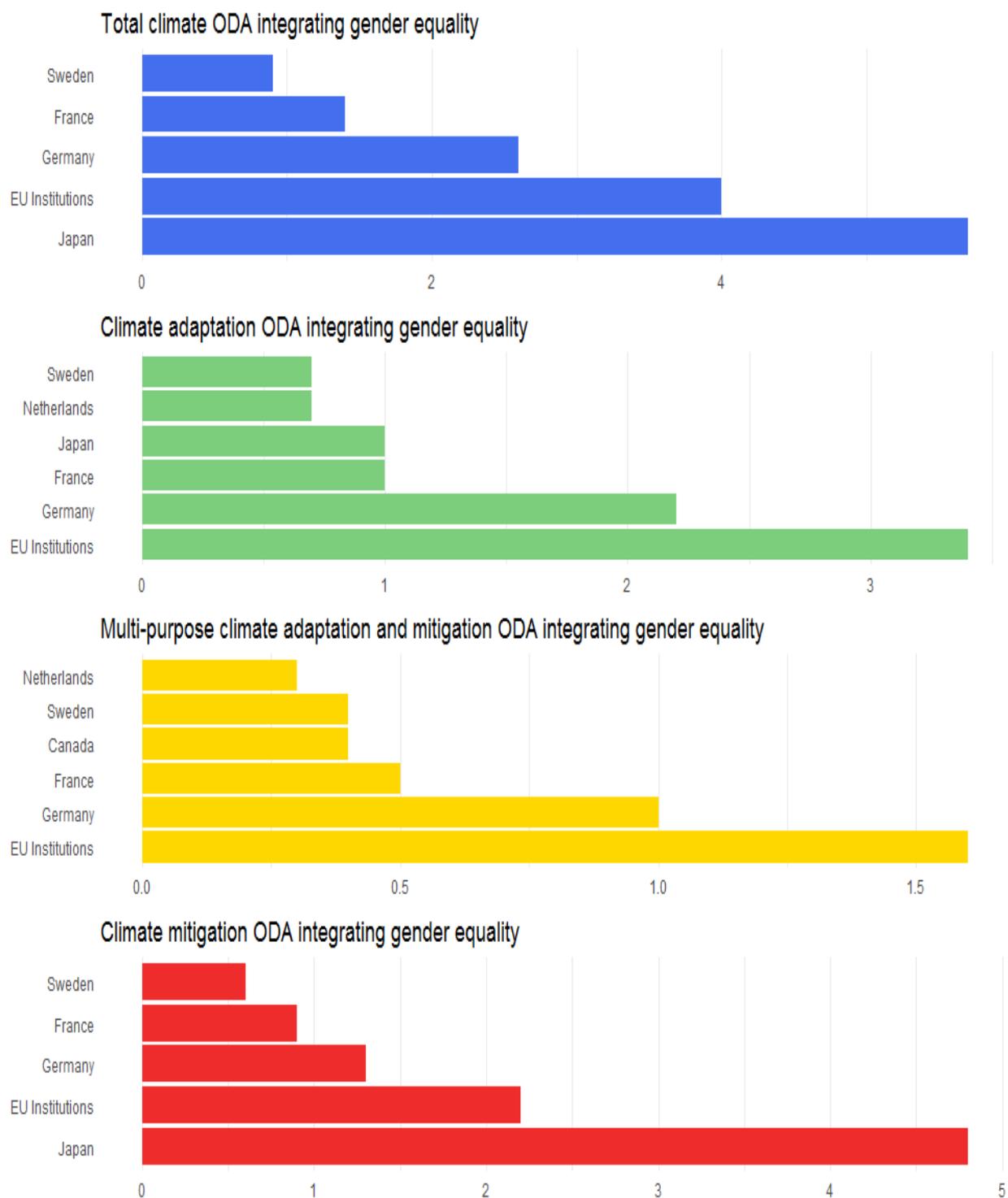
#### *Amounts of DAC members' climate ODA integrating gender equality objectives*

Over three quarters of overall climate ODA integrating gender equality objectives have been provided by only five DAC members. Not all of these are amongst the donors with the highest shares of climate ODA integrating gender equality: Japan (USD 5.7 billion), EU Institutions (USD 4 billion), Germany (USD 2.6 billion), France (USD 1.4 billion) and Sweden (USD 879 million). The UK and the US followed with USD 802 million and USD 716 million, respectively.

For climate change adaptation ODA specifically, the same group of donors plus the Netherlands are the top providers of ODA integrating gender equality objectives. In the case of climate change mitigation ODA, Japan remains the top donor (USD 4.8 billion) together with EU institutions (USD 2.2 billion) and Germany (USD 1.3 billion). In regard to ODA with multi-purpose targeting both climate change adaptation and mitigation, EU Institutions, Germany, France, Sweden, Canada and Netherlands are the largest providers of ODA integrating gender objectives (see Figure 6).

**Figure 6. Top providers of climate ODA integrating gender equality objectives (amounts)**

USD billion, 2019 constant prices, commitments, 2018-19 on average



Note: ODA committed on average per year in 2018 and 2019 by 27 DAC members

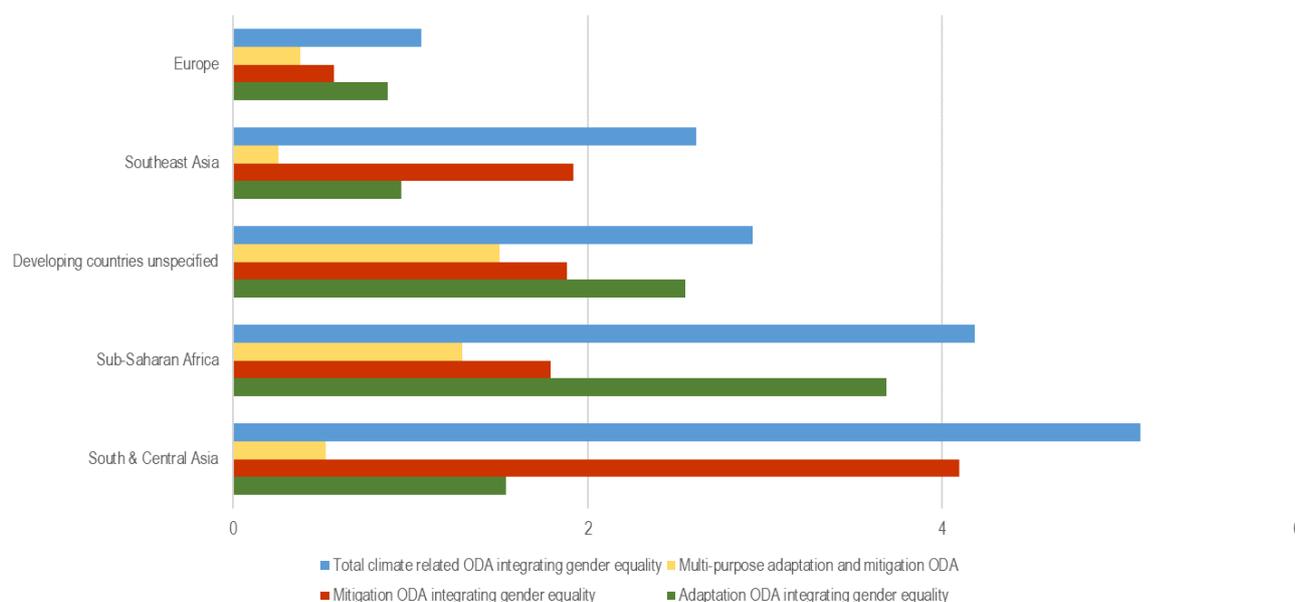
Source: DAC Creditor Reporting System: <https://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?ThemeTreeld=3>

### What regions received the largest allocations of Climate ODA integrating gender equality objectives in 2018-2019?

South and Central Asia (USD 5.1 billion), sub-Saharan Africa (USD 4.2 billion), unspecified developing countries (USD 2.9 billion), Southeast Asia (USD 2.6 billion), and Europe (USD 1.1 billion) were among the top regions receiving climate-related ODA integrating gender equality objectives.

#### Figure 7. Regions receiving over USD 1 billion climate ODA integrating gender equality

USD billion, 2019 constant prices, commitments, 2018-19 on average



Source: DAC Creditor Reporting System: <https://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?ThemeTreeId=3>

Programmes integrating gender equality objectives in the Asian region focus primarily on climate change mitigation. One example is a programme supported by Germany that develops measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change through reforestation. As the co-operation between the private sector and village groups is the central component, the project is integrated into the work of the local administrations of the partner countries within the Southeast Asia region. The improvement of forest management and biodiversity also contributes to food security, thereby helping to adapt to climate change risks.

In the African region, most programmes focus on adaptation to climate change. One such programme is a French initiative in Morocco that contributes to the inclusive development and climate resilience of the region, and the recognition of the role of women in the energy transition by strengthening their place in the renewable energy sector through the creation of two women's energy co-operatives. It also contributes to the support of women organised in these co-operatives working towards sustainable production and management methods, and their representation in local policies.

***What countries received the most climate ODA integrating gender equality objectives in 2018-2019?***

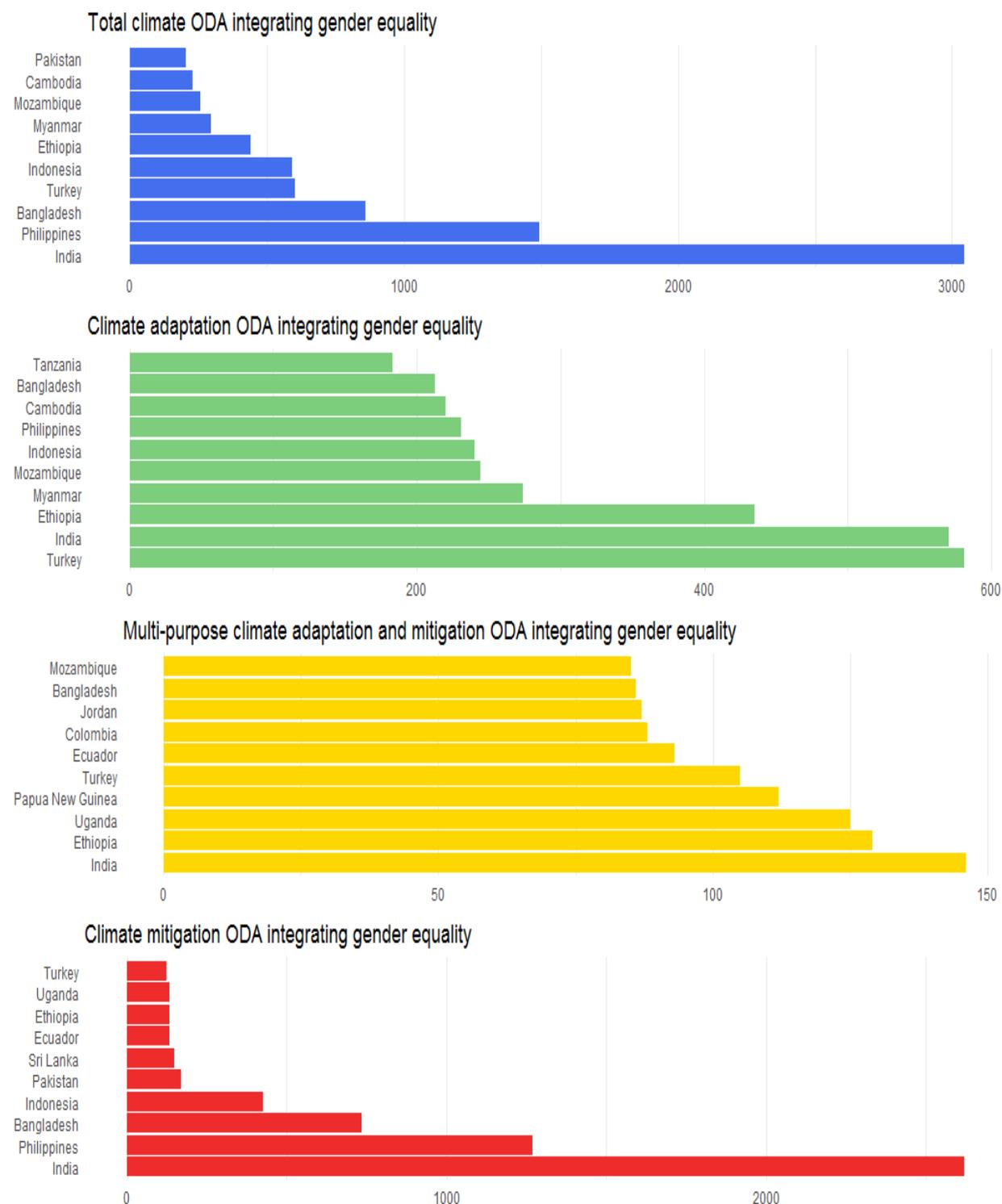
In 2018-2019, India (USD 3 billion), the Philippines (USD 1.5 billion), Bangladesh (USD 862 million) and Turkey (USD 602 million) received the largest amounts of climate ODA integrating gender equality objectives (see Figure 8). Much of this funding was allocated to climate mitigation efforts except for Turkey where climate adaptation programmes received the majority of climate ODA integrating gender equality.

Out of the top recipients of climate ODA integrating gender equality, four also rank as part of the top five countries “at risk for natural hazards” (all except Turkey) (INFORM, 2021<sup>[21]</sup>). As the effects of climate change become more severe, the level of risk for natural hazards – and the specific threats to women and girls these hazards present – is also likely to increase.

For India, one of the largest programmes was aimed at sustainable forest ecosystem management, biodiversity conservation, livelihoods improvement support, and institutional capacity strengthening towards climate mitigation efforts. In the Philippines, the largest programme aimed at accommodating increasing transportation demand by constructing subway line in Metro Manila, thereby contributing to alleviate serious traffic congestion as well as to mitigate air pollution and climate change.

**Figure 8. Top 10 recipient countries of Climate ODA integrating gender equality objectives (amount)**

USD million, 2019 constant prices, commitments. 2018-19 on average

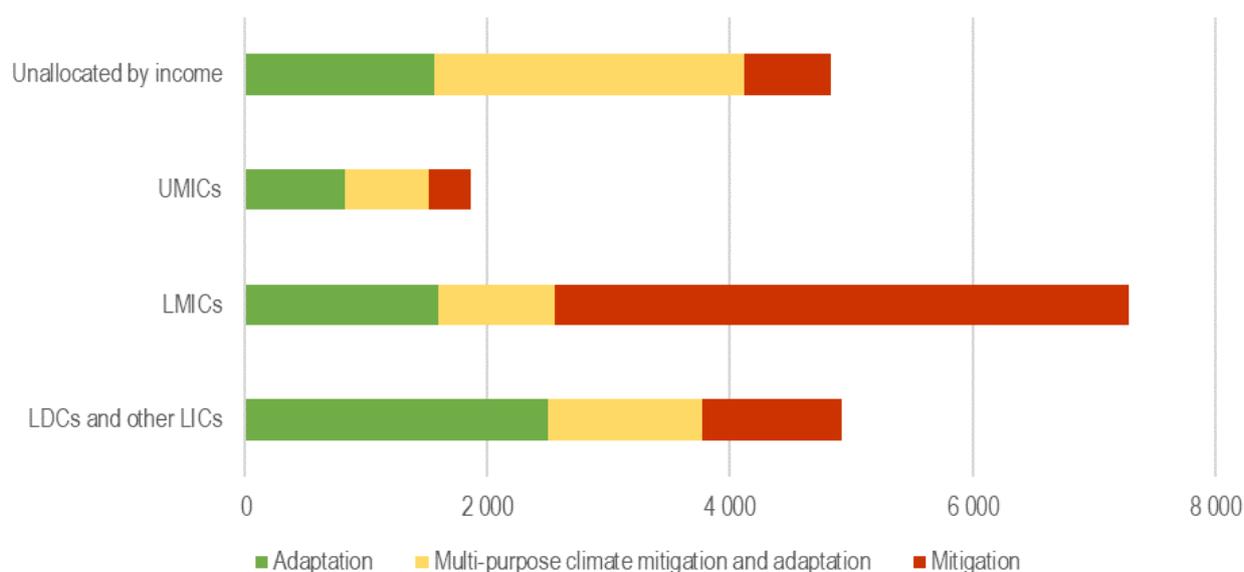


Source: DAC Creditor Reporting System: <https://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?ThemeTreeId=3>

In terms of allocations per income level, the largest allocations of climate ODA integrating gender equality objectives were made for lower middle income countries (with a large portion focussed on climate change mitigation), followed by least developed countries and other LICs (with a larger focus on climate change adaptation). While upper middle-income countries represent lower level of allocations, there is a larger portion of adaptation programmes (see Figure 9).

**Figure 9. Allocations of Climate ODA integrating gender equality by income**

USD millions, 2019 constant prices, 2018-19 on average



Source: DAC Creditor Reporting System: <https://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?ThemeTreeId=3>

### ***Channel of financial flow for climate ODA integrating gender equality objectives***

The most climate ODA integrating gender equality objectives in 2018-2019 was channelled through recipient's institutions, such as central and local governments and other public entities (USD 8.9 billion).

Civil society organisations were the next most used channel (USD 2.4 billion), with a large focus on CSOs based in donor countries. Out of aid channelled through CSOs, only USD 43 million went to "feminist, women-led and women's rights organisations and movements and institutions". While a global issue, the effects of climate change are first and foremost felt at local levels. As such, women within these contexts are not only acutely affected by climate change but are among the first to respond in managing and mitigating local environmental disasters. Women often use their traditional knowledge regarding natural resource management, community practices, and household systems to lead strong, contextual climate change adaptation techniques (CIFOR & CGIAR, n.d.<sup>[22]</sup>). Women also play key roles in the implementation of climate change mitigation measures such as resource conservation. In this regard, local women's organisations play an important role in climate action.

## Conclusions

Progressing towards gender equality and climate action remain global challenges; and DAC Members have demonstrated their commitment to more inclusive approaches integrating their efforts across the gender-environment nexus.

Through increasing the share to which gender equality and climate change objectives are integrated into ODA, and increasing a focus on gender equal climate action in policy measures, DAC members can have greater impact on this agenda. In this regard, utilising the DAC Network on Gender Equality (GENDERNET) and the DAC Network on Environment (ENVIRONET) as collaborators on the gender-environment nexus can provide opportunities to increase space for dialogue and peer learning.

# References

- Andrijevic, M. et al. (2020), “Overcoming gender inequality for climate resilient development”, *Nature Communications* 11, <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-020-19856-w>. [3]
- Camey, I. et al. (2020), *Gender-based violence and environmental linkages: The violence of inequality*, <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/gender-based-violence-and-environment-linkages-violence-inequality> (accessed on 29 October 2021). [5]
- CIFOR & CGIAR (n.d.), *Gender and Climate Change: Evidence and Experience*, <https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/GenderClimateBriefs.pdf> (accessed on 5 Jan 2022). [22]
- Climate Watch (n.d.), *Explore Long-Term Strategies (LTS)*, <https://www.climatewatchdata.org/lts-explore> (accessed on 15 December 2021). [15]
- Gevers, A., T. Musuya and P. Bukuluki (2020), *Why climate change fuels violence against women*, <https://www.undp.org/blog/why-climate-change-fuels-violence-against-women> (accessed on 5 January 2022). [7]
- INFORM (2021), *INFORM Risk Index*, <https://drmkc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/inform-index/INFORM-Risk/Results-and-data/moduleId/1782/id/433/controller/Admin/action/Results>. [21]
- IPCC (2021), *Summary for Policymakers. In: Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*, Cambridge University Press, [https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg1/downloads/report/IPCC\\_AR6\\_WGI\\_SPM.pdf](https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg1/downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_WGI_SPM.pdf) (accessed on 28 October 2021). [1]
- IPCC (2014), *Synthesis Report. Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*, <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/syr/> (accessed on 5 January 2022). [6]
- NAP Global Network (n.d.), *Gender*, <https://napglobalnetwork.org/themes/gender/> (accessed on 15 December 2021). [14]
- OECD (2021), *Integrating Environmental and Climate Action into Development Co-operation: Reporting on DAC Members’ High-Level Meeting Commitments*, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://dx.doi.org/10.1787/285905b2-en>. [18]
- OECD (2016), *Handbook on the OECD-DAC Gender Equality Policy Marker*. [19]

- OECD (n.d.), *OECD DAC Rio Markers for Climate Handbook*, OECD DAC, [20]  
[https://www.oecd.org/dac/environment-development/Revised%20climate%20marker%20handbook\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.oecd.org/dac/environment-development/Revised%20climate%20marker%20handbook_FINAL.pdf) (accessed on 23 November 2021).
- OECD - DAC (2021), *OECD DAC Declaration on a new approach to align development co-operation with the goals of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change*, [17]  
<https://www.oecd.org/dac/development-assistance-committee/dac-declaration-climate-cop26.htm> (accessed on 29 October 2021).
- UN Women (2021), *Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals The Gender Snapshot 2021*, [2]  
<https://www.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/Headquarters/Attachments/Sections/Library/Publications/2021/Progress-on-the-Sustainable-Development-Goals-The-gender-snapshot-2021-en.pdf> (accessed on 23 November 2021).
- UNFCCC (2021), *Communication of long-term strategies*, <https://unfccc.int/process/the-paris-agreement/long-term-strategies> (accessed on 15 December 2021). [12]
- UNFCCC (2021), *COP 26 Goals*, <https://ukcop26.org/cop26-goals/> (accessed on 1 November 2021). [16]
- UNFCCC (2021), *NDC Synthesis Report*, <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/nationally-determined-contributions-ndcs/nationally-determined-contributions-ndcs/ndc-synthesis-report#eq-5> (accessed on 29 October 2021). [9]
- UNFCCC (2021), *Overview - National Adaptation Plans*, [13]  
<https://unfccc.int/topics/resilience/workstreams/national-adaptation-plans/overview> (accessed on 15 December 2021).
- UNFCCC (2015), *Paris Agreement*, [11]  
[https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/english\\_paris\\_agreement.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/english_paris_agreement.pdf) (accessed on 1 November 2021).
- UNFCCC (n.d.), *The Enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender*, [10]  
<https://unfccc.int/topics/gender/workstreams/the-enhanced-lima-work-programme-on-gender> (accessed on 1 November 2021).
- UNFCCC (n.d.), *Women for Results*, <https://unfccc.int/climate-action/un-global-climate-action-awards/women-for-results> (accessed on 6 January 2022). [8]
- Women4Climate Action Daring Circle (2019), *Women leading climate action: A world within reach*, [https://www.womens-forum.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Women4ClimateAction-report\\_2019.pdf](https://www.womens-forum.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Women4ClimateAction-report_2019.pdf) (accessed on 29 October 2021). [4]