

# Gender Equality and the Environment

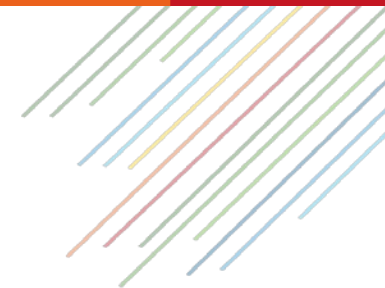
Gender Events at  
UNEA-2  
25-27 May 2016

Overview and  
Outcomes



23 -27 May 2016  
Nairobi, Kenya

# Summary of Events



## Women & Sustainable Energy Sustainable Innovation Expo

**Tuesday 24 May 2016**

Empowering women entrepreneurs for SDG delivery. Focus on sustainable entrepreneurship in the energy sector.

## High Level Gender & Environment Forum

**Tuesday 24 May 2016**

Achieving transformative results for gender equality for a “Healthy Environment-Healthy People”. Held in collaboration with the Network of Women Ministers and Leaders for the Environment and supporting partners.

## Global Gender & Environment Outlook Critical Issues Launch

**Wednesday 25 May 2016**

The critical issues launch of the first comprehensive global assessment of the gender-and-environment nexus.

## Network of Women Ministers & Leaders for the Environment: Breakfast meeting

**Thursday 26 May 2016**

Closed event



# 1. Women Entrepreneurs for Sustainable Energy

## Theme/Key Messages:

- Women's potential to accelerate sustainable energy access in context of joint UNEP - UN Women programme.
- Achievement of multiple SDGs (climate change, sustainable energy, gender equality).
- Women disproportionately bear burden of energy poverty: health and safety risks from household air pollution, carrying heavy fuel loads, lack of lighting.
- Women can be powerful agents of change in the transition to clean energy.
- Potential of women as sustainable energy entrepreneurs unrealized.

## Presenters:

- Ms. Patricia Beneke (UNEP Regional Office, North America).
- M.P. Dr. Oyun Sanjaasuren, UNEA-1 president, fmr Minister of Environment, Mongolia.
- H.E. Mr. Ohn Win, Union for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Myanmar.
- Mr. Cheikh Fofana, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Senegal.
- Ms. Christine Kalui, African Eco-labelling Mechanism/Eco Mark Africa Secretariat.
- Ms. Norine Kennedy, United States Council for International Business.



## 2. High Level Gender and Environment Forum

### Theme:

Gender and Environment in context of Agenda 2030 implementation

### Focus:

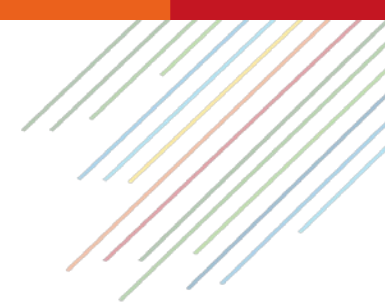
- Setting the scene for gender-environment issues
- Addressing the challenges by learning from each other

### Presenters:

- Ms. Haddijatou Jallow, **Environment Protection Agency, Sierra Leone** (chair)
- Dr. Musonda Mumba, **UNEP** (moderator)
- Dr. Margaret W. Mwakima, **Ministry of Environment, Kenya**
- H.E. Dr. Oyun Sanjaasuren, President, **UNEA**
- H.E. Flavia Nabugere, **Minister of State for Environment, Uganda**, NWMLE Chair
- Ms. Kerstin Stendahl, **Secretariat of Basel Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions**
- Dr. Cristina Tirado-von der Pahlen, **International Union for Nutritional Sciences**
- Prof. Joni Seager, **Global Gender and Environment Outlook**
- Ms. Almas Jiwani, **Almas Jiwani Foundation**
- Dr. Juana Vera Delgado, **Gender and Water Alliance**
- Mr. Daniel Wanjohi, **Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves**
- Ms. Helen Hakena, **PNG Women Major Group**



# Recommendations



## Energy and Water

- 14 of 17 SDG have implications for water, 10 for clean cooking.
- Access to safe, sustainable energy (household, transportation, income generation) essential for human health and climate.
- Gender dimensions are key; until we understand the social, economic, physical burden for women that lack of access to safe, sustainable energy/water constitutes we will fail to the resolve environmental burden.
- National programs/budgets should be gender responsive and environmentally sustainable.
- Energy plans and policies should be informed by sex-disaggregated data and target women's needs/priorities to ensure equitable access.
- Gender barriers to sustainable energy finance should be dismantled to ensure equal entrepreneurship opportunities in sustainable energy for women and men.



# Recommendations (cont.)

## Women and Chemicals

- Women's right to a healthy environment is essential to address negative health impact from e.g. hazardous chemicals.
- Essential for protecting children's health; up to 33% of women's toxic body burden can be transferred to children.
- Need to phase out hazardous chemicals and ensure gender perspective in chemical management, including strong gender-mandate for Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions

## Forests

- Caution against unregulated, unethical multi-stakeholder partnerships that could cause more harm to marginalized communities esp. women.
- Real champions on gender equality and women's rights ensure policies are implemented. UNEA can strengthen gender language across different Resolutions, in line with MEAs .



# 3. Global Gender and Environment Outlook (GGEO) Critical Issues Launch

## Key Points

- A pivotal report for next generation of inclusive environmental assessment and decision-making.
- GGEO calls for recognition of key role of women in driving sustainable development.
- Need support so that GGEO recommendations are translated into global/local action.
- GGEO lessons and further development to be taken into all other GEO products.
- GGEO to be institutionalized into UNEP global assessment framework and contribute to 2030 Agenda Review.

## Presenters

- Mr. Elliot Harris, UN Assistant Secretary-General and Director, New York Office, UNEP
- Ms. Simone Ellis Oluoch-Olunya, Deputy Regional Director, UN Women, Eastern and Southern Africa
- Ambassador Victor C. Rønneberg, Ambassador of Norway to Kenya
- Ms. Jacqueline McGlade (Chief Scientist and Director, Division of Early Warning & Assessment, UNEP)



# GGEO (cont.)

## Key GGEO findings:

- Existing environmental and gender commitments by governments need to be followed up and implemented.
- Adequate funding/resources will contribute to improvement and progress in developing and implementing gender-sensitive environmental policies.
- Gender-sensitive environmental assessments needed at national and international levels.
- Gender-disaggregated information essential.
- Essential to promote and support women's voices, leadership and agency.
- Important to bring men/boys, women/girls into gender-environment conversation.
- Enabling conditions for large-scale transformations with respect to the environment and gender need to be created.
- Issues of unpaid work and time poverty need to be addressed.

The GGEO can be downloaded at:

[www.unep.org/ggeo](http://www.unep.org/ggeo).



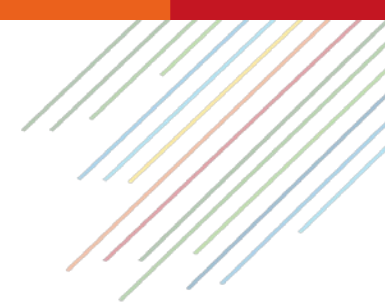


# 4. Network of Women Ministers and Leaders for the Environment Breakfast Meeting

- Network est. 2002
- Goal: promote gender responsive sustainable environmental management and enhance representation of women in decision-making areas of environment and sustainable development at all levels.
- Participants: environment ministers, heads of delegations and government, heads of environment agencies, international civil society and UN agencies.



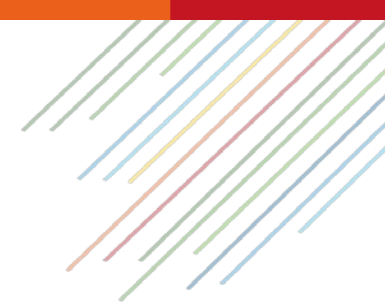
# Presenters



- H.E. Amina J Mohammed, Minister for Environment, Nigeria
- H.E. Flavia Nabugere, Minister of State for Environment, Uganda, NWMLE Chair
- Dr. Margaret W. Mwakima, Ministry of Environment, Kenya
- Dr. Yannick Glemarec, UN Women
- Ms. Inger Andersen, International Union for Conservation of Nature
- Ms. Naoko Ishii, Global Environment Facility
- H.E. Mr. Mona Ioane, Associate Minister for Environment, Cook Islands
- Dr. Shamshad Akhtar, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia-Pacific
- Environment and Forestry, Indonesia
- Dr. Masoumeh Ebtekar, Minister for Environment, Iran
- Ms. Haddijatou Jallow, Environment Protection Agency, Sierra Leone
- Ms. Almas Jiwani, Almas Jiwani Foundation
- Ms. Norine Kennedy, US Council for International Business
- Prof. Joni Seager, Global Gender and Environment Outlook
- H.E. Rhoda Peace Tumusiime, Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union



# Recommendations



- Support gender equitable implementation of SDGs by:
  - Promoting gendered aspects of SDGs into HLPF.
  - Advocating for reporting on gender targets in environmental goals of SDGs.
  - Continued leadership on climate change; more active role in Lima Gender Work Program.
- Accelerate gender equality through partnerships, focus on multi-stakeholder transformative programs.
- Women's inclusion must be meaningful; global goals cannot be achieved without women.
- More transparency and accountability.
- Focus on women is smart economics; a risk smart approach.
- Bring about change in attitudes, behaviors, to transform ideas and mentalities (local, national and regional).
- Central role of private sector in achieving SDGs (public-private partnerships, policy input, closing finance/technical capacity gaps).



# Recommendations (cont.)

## Africa Network for Women Environment Leaders:

- Domesticate global/regional agendas at country level; ensure focus on environmental sustainability, gender equality.
- Promote women's participation in environmental decision making bodies.
- Examine/revise national policies to ensure they are in line with regional/global agendas; promote gender responsive environmental sustainability.
- Policy coherence within countries essential.
- Work with UN in developing/applying tools to monitor progress towards implementation of global/regional goals in national contexts.
- Explore technical areas of work on gender responsive natural capital accounting and quantifying women's contribution to natural capital.
- Make gender equality perspective part of all environmental assessments/outlook reports.
- UNEP should accelerate development of roadmap looking at Africa Renewable Energy Initiative and Africa Adaptation Initiative as entry points.
- Two page strategy on gender integration in AMCEN and AU work to be drafted.
- African ministers could ask for support for energy solutions.



# Engagement & Momentum

- A strong overall momentum for gender and environment
- Large turnout of men and women
- Time for further partnerships and concrete commitment on gender as a factor in the activities of UNEP and beyond