

# CLIMATE INVESTMENT FUNDS

Joint CTF-SCF/TFC.22/7/Rev.1

June 5, 2020

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Joint Meeting of the CTF and SCF Trust Fund Committees

Approval by Mail

**CIF GENDER ACTION PLAN – PHASE 3  
(FY21-24)  
REVISED**

## **PROPOSED DECISION**

The CTF and SCF Trust Fund Committees having reviewed the document Joint CTF-SCF/TFC.22/7, *CIF Gender Action Plan – Phase 3*, notes that the document was prepared at the request of the June 2019 Joint meeting and approves the Phase 3 Plan.

The CTF and SCF Trust Fund Committees invite the CIF AU and MDBs to collaborate to implement the approved Phase 3 Plan and to report back to the Joint meeting annually on progress.

## SUMMARY

### I. Background and Overview

1. The Joint Meeting of the Clean Technology Fund (CTF) and Strategic Climate Fund (SCF) Trust Fund Committees of the Climate Investment Funds (CIF) approved the *CIF Gender Action Plan (Revised) - Phase 2 (CTF-SCF/TFC.16/6)* in 2016, calling for its implementation and annual reporting to the Joint Meeting on plan progress. This paper reflects on progress made under Phase 2 (FY17-20) of the Plan and proposes a Phase 3 to the Plan for FY21-24, to further deepen the program's approach to catalyzing gender-transformative outcomes. The Joint Trust Fund Committee is invited to review the proposed Phase 3 Plan, with a view to its approval and implementation.
2. Climate change and its impacts threaten global growth and poverty reduction goals. The Climate Investment Funds (CIF) were established in 2008 to support countries' transition to a low-carbon future by initiating "*transformational change towards climate-resilient, low carbon development in developing countries through scaled-up financing.*" Such a transition cannot be accomplished in a sustainable manner without attention to the linkages between gender and climate, and their intersection with other forms of social exclusion<sup>1</sup>. A gender-responsive approach requires not just identification of target groups and specific programming needs, but inclusive and embedded approaches to women's participation in climate and development planning across different scales (see IDRC 2019; also IUCN and GGCA 2015; Williams 2016). For the CIF, gender equality efforts that combine analysis and needs identification, with attention to institutional and policy processes, help ensure that the CIF effectively supports transformational change and climate-smart development for women and men in CIF pilot countries.
3. The challenges posed by climate change require gender-specific responses in both mitigation and resilience programming. As countries elaborate their resilient, low-carbon growth plans, including through their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), they rely in part on climate finance processes such as Investment Planning under the CIF to help advance their own national goals in poverty reduction, environmental sustainability, and gender equality, while expanding investments supporting their energy transition and resilience efforts. While the forms of these investments vary by country, what remains important is that climate investment planning is transparent and inclusive so that the new resources, assets, and services on offer at country and sub-national levels, best reflect the needs and interests of different social, gender and livelihood groups. This understanding includes also such intersecting identities as ethnicity, religion, race, disability status, indigenous identity, and sexual orientation which structure individuals' access, opportunity, rights, and dignity to take part in society (World Bank 2013).
4. Key motivations for Phase 3 of the *CIF Gender Action Plan* are to consolidate gains from Phase 2 of the *CIF Gender Action Plan*; embed application of the CIF Gender Policy in program processes, including deepening upstream support to MDBs and countries on gender technical assistance for Investment Plan and project design; and to enhance gender monitoring and reporting, and knowledge and capacity. These aims are placed amidst a learning approach that reflects lessons from earlier Plan implementation and CIF evaluative

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<sup>1</sup> Global experience on climate action highlights the importance of gender-informed perspectives that reflect the varied needs, interests, forms of knowledge, and climate vulnerabilities of women and men from different socio-economic groups (World Bank 2011; UNDP 2009; Hallegatte et al 2106, 2017; IDRC 2019).

efforts - such as the 2019 *Independent Evaluation of Transformational Change in the CIF* study<sup>2</sup> that found a need for CIF gender programming to go beyond impacts at the levels of individual women and men, towards efforts that help advance longer-term institutional change at the level of systems and institutions within countries. Analytical, learning, and program support under the CIF Gender Action Plan Phase 3 will be implemented with these goals in mind, and with a view to monitoring CIF portfolio quality through a consolidated rating system of MDB gender performance metrics, among other means.

## II. Lessons Learned and Design Approach

5. From stakeholder feedback and evaluative material, including the afore-mentioned 2019 Independent Evaluation of Transformational Change in the CIF by Itad and the 2020 study by the Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO) on *'Engagement of Women and Gender-Related Groups in the Climate Investment Funds: An Assessment'*<sup>3</sup>, three overarching lessons can be drawn to inform Phase 3 approach and design. First, CIF Gender Policy has been usefully elaborated but requires closer monitoring of its application to ensure full benefit. This finding (together with gender requirements under new SCF programming) will require additional capacity-building and close monitoring to ensure that measures are applied systematically across CIF. Second, there is a need for an emphasis on systemic change and women's climate leadership through participation in institutional processes, rather than relying on gender outcomes at the level of individuals only<sup>4</sup>. The third lesson from Phase 2 implementation is on the need for stronger gender monitoring and reporting (M&R) systems and leveraging of MDB data reporting and CIF-wide reporting channels. Gender M&R reforms are detailed within the Phase 3 Plan.

## III. CIF GENDER ACTION PLAN: PHASE 3 (FY21-24)

### Program Goal and Theory of Change

6. The CIF Gender program works in support of CIF's overall transformational change around low-carbon and climate resilient development, so that the reach and benefits of CIF investments extend to all persons in the project areas, both women and men.
7. The *CIF Gender Action Plan – Phase 3* is intended to continue with the CIF Gender Program aims of mainstreaming gender in CIF policies and programs and deepening knowledge, learning and technical support on gender in the CIF, while undertaking more scaled-up efforts in the functional areas of capacity-building, institutional development (including expansion of outreach, with MDBs and countries, to non-state actors particularly as a feedback mechanism for CIF implementation) and support to women's climate leadership, as well as efforts in systematic sector-wide learning and dissemination.

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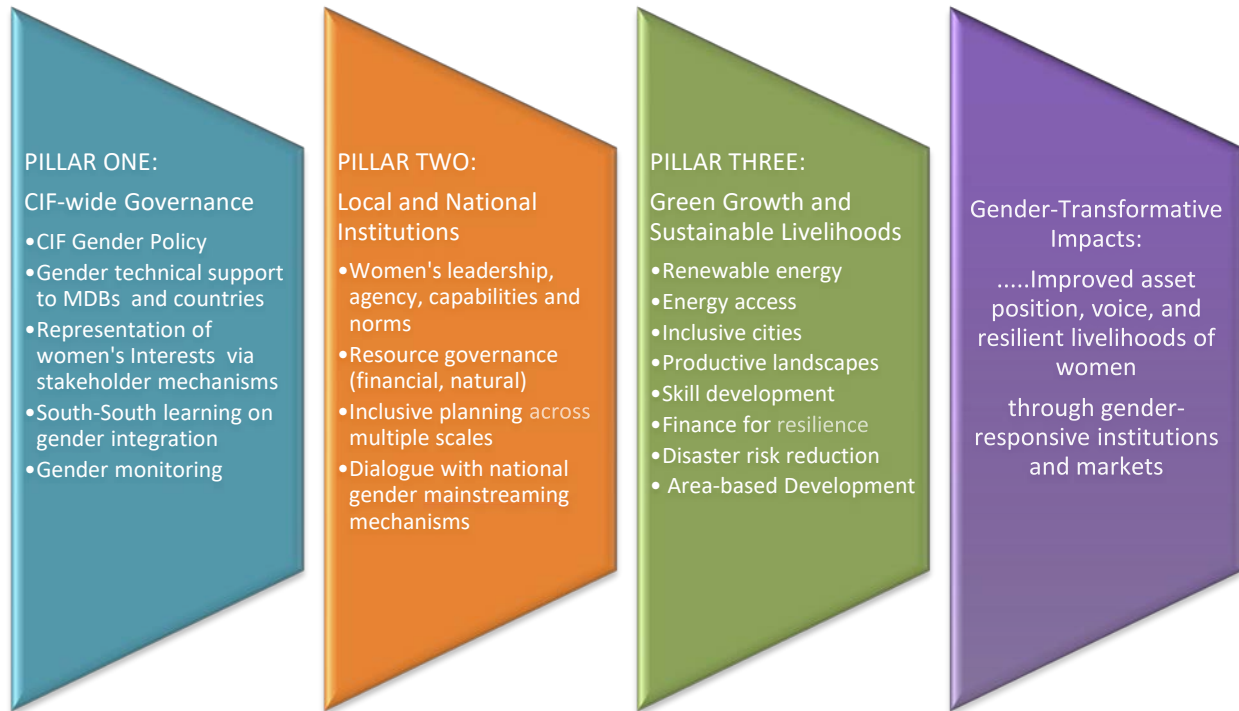
<sup>2</sup> Independent Evaluation of Transformational Change in the Climate Investment Funds. Itad, 2019

<sup>3</sup> See report at

[https://www.climateinvestmentfunds.org/sites/cif\\_enc/files/knowledgedocuments/wedo\\_final\\_report\\_7april2020.pdf](https://www.climateinvestmentfunds.org/sites/cif_enc/files/knowledgedocuments/wedo_final_report_7april2020.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> Such institutional changes take place in both formal and informal settings, such as changes in norms and governance (e.g., of forests or other resources), as well as systemic shifts through formal participation in public planning and budgeting, or shifts in labor markets, employment entry requirements, or credit markets, due to a critical mass of women participants, and/or policy measures. Private sector practices, regarding procurement terms, collateral requirements or similar, by way of example, can also shift the rules of engagement for women (and women-owned firms), when entering new markets.

**Figure 1 CIF Gender Program – Phase 3 Theory of Change**

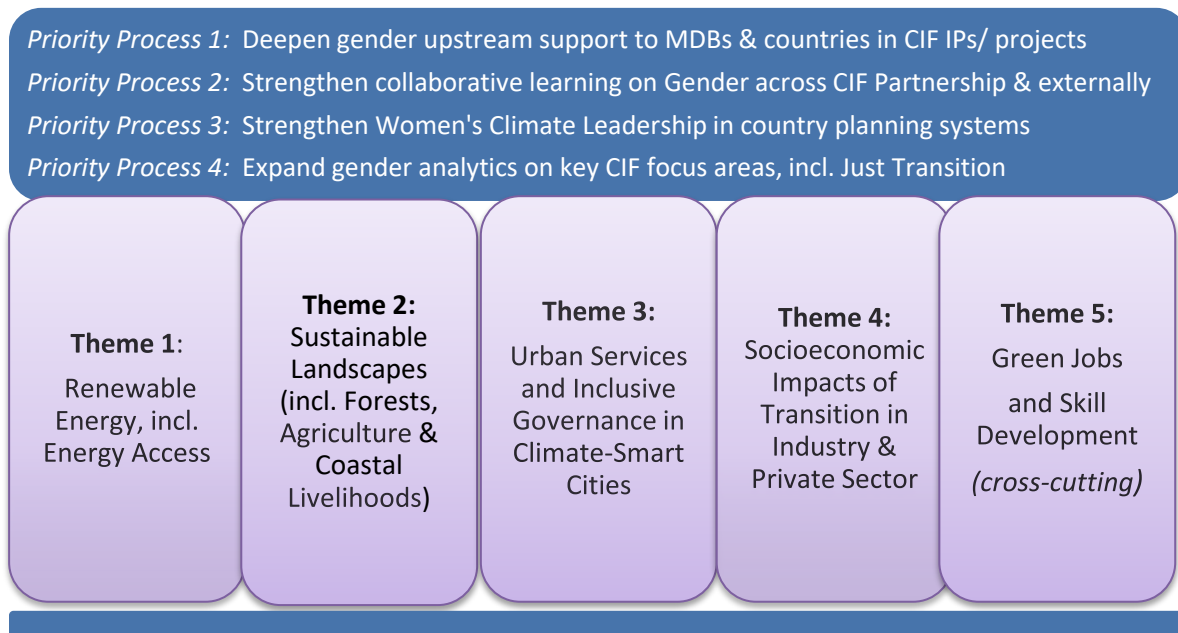


8. Figure 1 introduces the theory of change behind the proposed CIF Gender Action Plan – Phase 3. The main thrust of the Phase 2 approach remains, but with an added focus on outcomes at the levels of institutions and markets. Under this approach, efforts on CIF-level Governance (Pillar 1), combined with activities for Local and National Institutions (Pillar 2), support work across key Green Growth and Sustainable Livelihoods sectors that affect gender outcomes (Pillar 3), for an expected result of Gender-Transformative Impacts of women's improved asset position, voice, and resilient livelihoods through gender-responsive institutions and markets.
9. Note that this more explicit focus on formal and informal institutions and markets in Phase 3 aims to bring the expected locus of change increasingly towards a systemic, rather than only individual, level, while recognizing that such larger-scale institutional and norm change is predicated also on more local-level engagements around women's empowerment, and economic and political participation
10. *CIF-wide and Program Governance*: Pillar 1 is focused on internal CIF functions and inputs. It comprises such elements as CIF policy requirements and procedures; gender technical support to MDBs and countries; women's participation and representation of their interests in CIF stakeholder mechanisms; South-South learning on gender integration across programs and sectors; and gender-sensitive monitoring and evaluation.
11. *Local and National Institutions*: Pillar 2 looks at processes and outcomes at the country level in the area of local and national institutions. These include women's leadership, agency and capabilities; socio-physical mobility opportunities; and changes in norms around these, such as women's participation in the public sphere. Pillar 2 includes more regularized use of gender-inclusive approaches in government planning and local governance. These can include inclusive natural resource governance processes; participatory

resilience planning featuring women’s voice; presence of national gender mainstreaming mechanisms such as use of gender focal points for CIF programs at country level, and coordination with national gender machineries<sup>5</sup>, ministries and use of gender budgeting processes, in line with national strategies and goals on gender equality and sector-specific outcomes.

12. ***Green Growth and Sustainable Livelihoods***: Pillar 3 addresses key sectoral investment areas under CIF to support the gender equality outcomes envisioned under Phase 3. This includes opportunities for women in energy transition, along with other innovative areas such as landscapes; area-based development; renewable energy innovations; credit lines for adaptation finance, inclusive cities, and skill development, particularly in the context of a Just Transition. CIF’s sector-specific goals for outcomes for women in Phase 3 include a distinct vision that women not be relegated to residual, low-growth sectors alone that exacerbate gender gaps in income and assets.
13. ***Gender-Transformative Impact***: The combination of the above three pillars operating in CIF governance, country institutions, and sectoral outcome areas is intended to lead to CIF’s achievement of Gender-Transformative Impact in the key areas of asset position, voice, and resilient livelihood status of women through gender-responsive institutions and markets. The pillars of the proposed Theory of Change operate in spheres related to the individual (e.g., skills, livelihoods); institutional (both norms and organizational systems), and market (e.g., labor markets and industrial sector trajectories) spheres. A streamlined set of indicators are provided in the Results Framework for the *CIF Gender Action Plan – Phase 3* (see Annex 1).

**Figure 2 CIF Gender Action Plan – Phase 3 (FY21-24) – Operational Vision**



<sup>5</sup> “Gender machineries” refers to “formal government structures assigned to promote gender equality and/or improve the status and rights of women” (see McBride and Mazur 2011).

14. Underlying the Phase 3 Theory of Change is an Operational Vision of priority processes and themes that further elaborates the ways in which the *CIF Gender Action Plan Phase 3* will be implemented (see Figure 2). This vision is structured along four priority processes and five themes, as below.
15. **Priority Process 1: Deepen gender upstream support to MDBs and countries in new CIF IPs and projects:** CIF AU will offer targeted support to MDBs and countries in integrating gender in line with existing CIF mandates, as well as the new programming requirements. Specifically, capacity-building will involve scale-up support and capacity-building on gender with MDBs, pilot countries, and observers, and with an applied focus around the CIF Gender Policy; criteria requirements under the new SCF programming (especially through provision of upstream inputs to the project pipeline; support for inclusive Investment Planning approaches and processes in-country, and improved M&R capacity), and for MDBs, Gender and Climate training on demand.
16. **Priority Process 2: Strengthen collaborative learning on Gender and Climate across the CIF Partnership, and externally:** Sector learning and dissemination objectives under Priority 2 are to: i) increase offerings of sector-specific gender regional learning events, including select South-South Exchanges for country representatives; ii) ensure CIF Gender lessons are shared with broader MDB, development, client, and practitioner communities (e.g., through webinars, panels, and meetings).
17. **Priority Process 3: Strengthen Women’s Climate Leadership in Country Planning Systems:** Institutional Development efforts refer to the design and roll out of new support modalities to enhance women’s climate leadership at multiple scales (including e.g., local and national government planning processes, and support to in-country NDC efforts, where feasible) in order to better leverage the impact of CIF investments in larger country processes. On the latter, collaboration with the NDC Partnership, which also has its own gender strategy and targets, is envisioned. The expansion of dialogue to non-state actors, particularly women’s organizations, e.g., in evaluative processes including participatory monitoring and evaluation, is intended to help ensure that CIF implementation is grounded in a more diverse stakeholder group.
18. There will be a multi-year initiative around women’s climate leadership to foster more sustained and systemic support to gender and climate integration at the country level through multi-scalar and multi-stakeholder processes. This would include a particular focus on supporting participation and leadership of women in local and national climate action planning, including through such formal mechanisms as the UNFCCC gender focal points in-country, and countries’ own Ministries of Women Affairs and gender focal points within line ministries, and as a supportive input to countries’ own poverty, gender and climate strategies and commitments. A detailed Roadmap on the CIF Women’s Climate Leadership initiative will be prepared in FY21.
19. **Priority Process 4: Expand gender analytics on key CIF focus areas, including Just Transition:** The Phase 3 agenda on knowledge for operations envisions a more robust analytical and knowledge management effort on gender in the CIF, to build the evidence base and scope for real-time learning, and identify and disseminate sector-specific gender good practice approaches to task teams and country focal units quickly to help inform design and implementation of the new portfolio from the start.
20. The topic areas prioritized in the first instance for Phase 3 analytical work include:
  - Inclusive planning and resilience in climate-smart cities
  - Area-based development and social risk management (including adaptive social protection)
  - ‘Just Transition’ and STEM-led employment for women

- Enhancing women’s positions in product and service value chains in the climate context, in order to broaden private sector entry points in CIF programming on gender

21. In addition to the four Priority Processes under the Operational Vision, the five sectoral Themes, mirroring and supporting the areas of new programming, are: i) Renewable Energy, including Energy Access; ii) Sustainable Landscapes (including Forests, Agriculture and Coastal Livelihoods); iii) Urban Services and Inclusive Governance in Climate-Smart Cities; iv) Socioeconomic Impacts of Transition in Industry and Private Sector; and v) Green Jobs and Skill Development (cross-cutting).

#### **IV. Operationalizing the CIF Gender Action Plan – Phase 3**

22. The *CIF Gender Action Plan - Phase 3* will maintain the current governance arrangements<sup>6</sup> for CIF Gender Program implementation, with a greater emphasis on more regular convening of the CIF Gender Working Group, and attention to gender technical support for MDB staff and CIF pilot country partners. Overall, the Plan will continue to be implemented as a joint effort of the MDBs and the CIF AU, using the mechanism of the CIF Gender Working Group, with overall guidance from the CIF governing bodies. Primary responsibility for delivery of the action plan will lie with the CIF Administrative Unit. The CIF Gender Policy has also mandated a role for gender representatives among the CIF observers, and Phase 3 implementation is envisioned to ensure full use of this mechanism as an input to program transparency and accountability, and to expand the range of voices heard formally in CIF deliberations at both governance and implementation levels.
23. The sharper focus on upstream technical support to project preparation and capacity-building is tied to operations. This is envisioned as working in a more routinized way to ensure adherence to program requirements, particularly through provision of i) sector-specific technical input; and ii) direct support to those countries seeking to mainstream their gender and climate action through effective use of inclusive planning and coordination of devolved finance (e.g., under an expanded DGM program). Stronger attention to gender-inclusive stakeholder engagement in planning and implementation is also expected to improve outcomes for women and men on the ground. Throughout Phase 3, CIF will remain committed to learning and sharing lessons with MDBs, countries, and other climate actors on good practices, key design elements, and the expected gains from an iterative approach.

#### **V. Monitoring Progress**

24. Results will continue to be monitored annually to assess the impact of the Phase 3 Gender Action Plan on CIF program implementation and institutional advances in-country, as well as to contribute to regular program reporting of CIF-wide programming.
25. The Phase 3 Results Framework (Annex 1) has been streamlined to focus on: support to countries and MDBs; institutional change processes; and internal governance of the CIF. M&R reforms will also include

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<sup>6</sup> Under Phase 3, MDBs remain responsible for project design, implementation and monitoring, reporting and evaluation. The CIF AU coordinates overall gender mainstreaming in CIF policies and programs; provides technical advice upon demand and facilitates upstream technical support to help ensure improved gender performance of programming; and undertakes monitoring, knowledge and learning activities together with the MDBs and pilot countries to advance gender equality outcomes and assessment of the gender impacts of CIF programs. Pilot countries are responsible for investment plan preparation (including integration of gender considerations), and for the identification and preparation of projects based on country needs, together with MDBs, and undertake gender-responsive reporting on their programming.



enhanced integration of key gender variables in the CCH system, for direct reporting by MDBs and countries.

26. Phase 3 will feature stronger gender monitoring and reporting at the levels of the CIF portfolio, specific programs, and on MDB-specific CIF portfolios, with the support of gender M&R tip sheets, and use of the following mechanisms: i) reporting on a streamlined results framework for the Phase 3 Gender Action Plan; ii) inclusion of key gender indicators in the CCH system; iii) strengthened requirements on new SCF programming results chains on gender outcomes within projects and on accompanying gender indicators, as reviewed at CIF AU level; and iv) expanded reporting by MDBs on gender portfolio performance under their own MDB “gender tag/ gender marker” systems for use in CIF-wide monitoring to assess change over time in MDB gender performance in CIF-financed operations, including in relation to MDB operations not receiving CIF financing, as well as on reporting MDB’s CIF-financed individual project results indicators on gender on an annual basis.
27. Further, to strengthen gender reporting within the CIF, it is envisioned that the CIF AU and MDBs will submit through a regular reporting protocol gender data from their institutions as it pertains to the CIF-financed portfolio. Specifically, within six (6) months after the end of each Financial Year, gender performance reporting data on CIF Projects as reported to each Implementing Entity’s management team (i.e., under a ‘gender tag’, ‘gender marker’ or similar rating system), with such gender performance data to be reported by CIF Project, and aggregated for each CIF program and on a CIF-portfolio wide basis as implemented by the MDB, and accompanied by a similar MDB-portfolio wide comparator metric regarding gender performance across the MDB portfolio) and specifying:
  - Number and percentage of CIF-funded projects falling under different tiers/categories of the MDB gender rating system
  - USD amounts approved and disbursed under project stand-alone components on gender (where present)
  - Project-specific gender achievements as specified in the MDB project’s Board-approved results frameworks
  - Sex-disaggregated beneficiary figures by project, program and CIF-funded MDB portfolio as well as disaggregation by age and disability status
  - Project outcome achievements as related to results indicators of the Results Framework of the CIF *Gender Action Plan* under implementation.

## VI. Conclusion

28. Since 2014, the Climate Investment Funds have prioritized gender equality outcomes in its programming. Development of the CIF Gender Action Plans – Phases 1 and 2, the CIF Gender Policy, and continued implementation through the CIF AU, CIF Gender Working Group, MDB, country and observer partners has allowed the development of significant improvements in portfolio gender quality and in joint learning, including with external funds and partners, while influencing capacity and growth of the Gender and Climate agenda across CIF MDBs.
29. With the CIF Gender Action Plan – Phase 3, intended for implementation from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2024, the CIF is again looking to support gender-transformative outcomes but with a heightened emphasis on shifts over time in institutions and markets, as arenas for systemic change. The potential addition of the new programming areas, including low-carbon urban investments and “greening industries” initiatives, also offer scope for innovation and scaling of gender equality goals in diverse country contexts. In addition,

Phase 3 includes a new emphasis on supporting Women’s Climate Leadership, with a view to helping CIF Gender contributions become more embedded over time in countries’ own strategic planning processes around gender and climate, including through NDC and related processes.

30. *The CIF Gender Action Plan – Phase 3* builds upon the firm foundation of earlier phases, including in its implementation mechanisms, but with a stronger mandate and new opportunity for closer application of the CIF Gender Policy, upstream support to MDBs and countries, and robust integration of gender actions in the new SCF programming areas. With strong demand from countries, MDBs and the Governing Bodies of the CIF, for the proposed work on gender-transformative programming, an expanded team in CIF AU and in a growing CIF Gender Working Group, the program is well-positioned to begin implementation of the Phase 3 Plan from July 2020, employing a reflective approach made possible in the context of the CIF as a “learning laboratory”.

## 1. Introduction

1. The Joint Meeting of the Clean Technology Fund (CTF) and Strategic Climate Fund (SCF) Trust Fund Committees of the Climate Investment Funds (CIF) approved the *CIF Gender Action Plan (Revised) - Phase 2 (CTF-SCF/TFC.16/6)* in 2016 and called for annual reporting to the Joint Meeting on plan progress. This paper reflects on progress made under Phase 2 (FY17-20) and proposes a Phase 3 to the Gender Action Plan (FY21-24) in response to the Joint Meeting's June 2019 request for development of a Phase 3 plan, in order to further deepen the program's approach to catalyzing gender-transformative outcomes. The Joint Trust Fund Committee is invited to review the proposed Phase 3 Plan, with a view to its approval and implementation.

## 2. Background

2. Climate change and its impacts threaten global growth and poverty reduction goals. The CIFs were established in 2008 to support countries' transition to a low-carbon future by initiating "*transformational change towards climate-resilient, low carbon development in developing countries through scaled-up financing.*" Such a transition cannot be accomplished without attention to the linkages between gender and climate in order to most effectively advance the benefits from and use of climate investments in mitigation and adaptation for impact within countries.<sup>7</sup> A gender-responsive approach requires not just identification of target groups<sup>8</sup> and specific programming needs, but inclusive approaches to women's participation in climate and development planning across different scales (see IDRC 2019; IUCN and GGCA 2015; Williams 2016). For the CIF, gender equality efforts that combine gender analysis and needs identification, inclusive consultation and user inputs into program design, and attention to institutional and policy processes, help ensure that program efforts effectively support transformational change and climate-smart development for women and men in CIF pilot countries.
3. The challenges posed by climate change require gender-specific responses in both mitigation and resilience programming. As countries elaborate their resilient, low-carbon growth plans, including through processes such as UNFCCC Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), as well as country Investment Plan processes of funds such as the CIF, they rely in part on climate finance processes to help advance their own national goals in poverty reduction, environmental sustainability, and gender equality. While the forms of investments vary by country, what remains important is that climate investment planning and implementation are transparent and inclusive so that the new resources, assets, and services on offer at country and sub-national levels, best reflect the needs and interests of different social, gender and livelihood groups.

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<sup>7</sup> Global experience on climate action highlights the importance of gender-informed perspectives that reflect the varied needs, interests, forms of knowledge, and climate vulnerabilities of women and men from different socio-economic groups (World Bank 2011; UNDP 2009; Hallegatte et al 2106, 2017).

<sup>8</sup> Recent research by IDRC in Canada reviewing their '10 years and 219 gender research projects' defined gender-transformative research as: "addressing the root causes of inequality; recognizing multiple vulnerabilities and identities (since gender can intersect with race, ethnicity, ability, age, religion, caste, and other factors); building trust and meaningfully engag[ing] stakeholders; and leveraging and amplifying local thought leaders and institutions. The study recommended the importance of: having an ambitious mandate (including regarding which types of norms, structures, and behaviors contribute to different opportunities and outcomes); defining terms like equity and inclusion; taking a long-term approach to institutional change; and measuring change and supporting capacity development over time. (IDRC 2019). Available at [https://issuu.com/idrc\\_crdi/docs/wd\\_13\\_000\\_gender\\_e-file\\_en?e=34655515/70235030](https://issuu.com/idrc_crdi/docs/wd_13_000_gender_e-file_en?e=34655515/70235030)

### 3. Gender Gaps related to Climate Change

4. The threat of climate change, as well as country responses to it in the form of strategies and investments in climate mitigation and adaptation, necessitate use of a gender and inclusion lens to ensure that no one is left behind in the efforts towards resilience and low-carbon futures. In this vein, CIF's Gender programming seeks to support the CIF's overall strategic climate objectives and the effectiveness and impact of CIF's related investments, while simultaneously advancing gender equality and women's political and economic empowerment opportunities present in the realm of programming and institutional change through climate action.
5. Climate vulnerability is heightened by intersecting social processes that deepen socioeconomic inequalities experienced by excluded groups, including women (IPCC 2014). Gender-based exclusion intersects also with other vectors of exclusion based on such characteristics as class, ethnicity, age, disability status, religion, indigenous persons status, and sexual orientation (Koehler et al 2020).<sup>9</sup> In addition, there is often also an overlap between social and spatial exclusion (Das 2016). Climate impacts can exacerbate these patterns of exclusion to generate new risks, e.g., for place-based natural resource occupation groups, such as farmers, herders, or fishers, or those marginalized groups living in informal settlements, making disadvantage more entrenched and hampering anti-poverty outcomes (Koehler, G. et al. 2020). A gender-informed, socially just and inclusive lens on strategy, investments, outreach, and governance is thus particularly important for all climate interventions and can help further the development of inclusive societies.<sup>10</sup>
6. Specific gender gaps related to women and men's vulnerability to climate impacts need to be considered in both the design and implementation of climate investments. Women are typically more vulnerable to the effects of climate change, e.g., in extreme events from droughts to floods, due to gender divisions of labor at the household level, social norm restrictions and constraints on their physical mobility due to gendered social norms. These gender-based differences impact the levels of women and men's vulnerability in disasters, as evidenced by mortality rates in climate-induced extreme events (see ISDR and UN 2008; Neumayer and Plumper 2007).<sup>1112</sup> As women constitute a heterogeneous group, they can experience climate change impacts differently due to intersecting socioeconomic characteristics and forms of exclusion. Women and girls with disabilities may face more severe impact with lower resilience capacity, due to limited physical mobility, potential increase in vulnerability to infectious disease, and poor access to services, information and networks (particularly during emergencies and displacement) (Smith, F. et al. 2017) (Das and Majumdar 2019). During disaster recovery phases, disabled women can also face more economic and social isolation compared to disabled men (Das and Majumdar 2019). Vulnerabilities of women migrant workers and elderly women

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<sup>9</sup> See [IPCC Fifth Assessment Report, Working Group II, Part A](#) .

<sup>10</sup> *ibid*

<sup>11</sup> Improved attention to women's participation in design and implementation of disaster preparedness can go a long way to reducing such morbidity and mortality losses, as has been shown in Bangladesh where mortality rates were greatly reduced due to investments in gender-responsive disaster preparedness at community level. See Neumayer and Plumper 2007; also Mustafa 2015 on early warning system design.

<sup>12</sup> Studies following the cyclone and flood disasters of 1991 in Bangladesh showed the death rate among women aged 20-44 to be 71 per 1000, compared to just 15 per 1000 for men of the same age group (CCAFS 2016), due to women's aforementioned socio-mobility constraints, and skills gaps e.g., in swimming.

who are living in slum environments have also been shown to be heightened during urban flood events (ibid).

7. Women often cluster in low-return, or non-monetary livelihoods, including primary production in natural-resource based occupations such as agriculture, compared to men, leaving them vulnerable to the climate impacts on rural livelihoods in physically exposed regions. Increasing threats such as slow-onset processes like desertification, and heightened frequency and intensity of extreme events lead to increased distress migration and displacement, with adverse impacts on women in particular - whether they are the ones migrating, or among those left behind (Rigaud et al 2018).<sup>13</sup> Migration's impacts on women, including indigenous women, can include loss of social networks and of tenure rights, degraded access to services, and increased threat of gender-based violence, and for those women left behind in male out-migration, an increased labor burden for *de facto* female-headed households (see Kuriakose et al 2013; World Bank 2010; Rigaud et al 2018; Castaneda Carney et al 2020; ILO 2017).<sup>1415</sup> Indigenous women are particularly affected by the impacts of climate change due to their dependence on natural resources for productive as well as traditional activities (Hien et al. 2011).
8. In addition, 'gender blindness' in project design and implementation can lead to weaker results for women from operational investments (World Bank 2011a). For example, new assets created through climate adaptation interventions (e.g., via land reclamation and land titling) can fail to generate benefits for women unless specific analysis is undertaken to understand the needs of women and men in sector contexts, e.g., regarding multiple-use water needs in the case of irrigation projects, or specific agricultural extension design<sup>16</sup> targeted to women farmers and forest users, both for productive uses and food security (Kuriakose et al 2005).
9. At the same time, climate mitigation and adaptation policy and programming can offer opportunities for women. For example, shifts to green growth investments including in energy, offer the promise of new, high-quality employment opportunities for women (USAID and IUCN 2014).<sup>17</sup> Currently only 20-24% of renewable energy sector jobs are held by women, though this can rise, with adequate support (IRENA 2013 cited by OECD DAC 2016). This is the intention behind investments in school-to-work transition of girls and young women, particularly in STEM<sup>18</sup>, and in inclusive 'Just Transition' investments that include a focus on re-skilling of male and female workers facing a changing employment landscape in their regions due to shifts to low-carbon pathways. Increasing women's labor force participation in STEM occupations requires addressing gender norms that influence girls' and young women's pursuit of some

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<sup>13</sup> Available at <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/29461>

<sup>14</sup> Available at <https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/48969>

<sup>15</sup> Gender roles in household reproduction and care activities can also harm women's welfare in context of climate change. For example, during food shortage periods - such as those from climate shocks - women are at increased risk of using negative coping strategies to manage scarce resources, including reducing their personal food intake to aid other household members (see Haddad et al 1996).

<sup>16</sup> In the case of meeting women producers' data needs through hydromet services, good practice would include gender-informed needs assessment and institutional assessment of absorptive capacity of relevant line ministries and agencies to make these linkages, and then ensuring that there is customization towards and outreach to end-users of climate data (and of its applications, such as with agricultural extension) to ensure e.g., that women farmers growing particular crop types with need for climate data of a certain level of detail, specific periodicity in delivery, and translated to user-friendly 'chunks' is offered.

<sup>17</sup> See USAID and IUCN. 2014. "Women at the Forefront of the Clean Energy Revolution". White Paper available at <https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/Rep-2014-005.pdf>

<sup>18</sup> STEM = Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

specific educational and job tracks (Solotaroff et al 2020; Zengin-Arslan 2002). The energy transition also can engender shifting of place and industry-based identities, including traditional worker masculinities, and an opportunity for engagement with men and boys, and women and girls, around more equitable gender norms, that support women's economic and political empowerment (Abrahamsson and Johansson 2020).

10. Mitigation efforts to advance countries' energy transition to renewable sources, including solar, wind, and geothermal investments, as well as investments in clean cooking, can help improve energy access for poor households, including women. They have direct benefits in terms of improvements in women's time poverty (from reduced reliance on biomass sources of fuel) and on health especially of women and children from reduced indoor air pollution; and on women's economic empowerment through e.g., integration in solar value chains as both solar retail entrepreneurs and technical service suppliers, and employment in energy utilities<sup>19</sup>. Mitigation investments for sustainable forest management include opportunities for women's improved tenure security and livelihoods impacts; improved participation in local resource governance (e.g., through forest committees), as well as new benefit streams through e.g., payment for environmental services approaches or participation in forest product value chains (see Marin and Kuriakose 2017; Kristjanson et al 2018; Colfer and Minarchek 2013). CIF's experiences with the Forest Investment Program (FIP), as well as the Dedicated Grant Mechanism (DGM) for indigenous peoples and local communities, offer tried approaches to inclusive forest governance, benefit sharing of forest resources, and forest-based enterprise development by women. The DGM has demonstrated results in improve women's skills, capacity, access to services, participation in decision-making, and ability to generate and control forest-derived income.

#### 4. Entry Points for Gender-Responsive Mitigation and Adaptation Programming

11. Entry points for gender-responsive and inclusive climate action lie in specific outcome areas of: asset development and control over assets; access to services; livelihoods; and participation in planning and governance. Strengthening gender-transformative climate mitigation and resilience efforts thus requires attention to: i) **understanding the different vulnerabilities, risks, and impacts** of climate change faced by women and men, and how these could be exacerbated for particular women, who experience intersecting forms of exclusion, through use of risk assessments and gender diagnostics; ii) strengthening **investments in human endowments, skills and capacity development**, particularly as part of low-carbon pathway development and Just Transition efforts, and linked to longer-term jobs agendas of countries through shifts in formal and informal institutions; iii) increasing **women's access to productive assets, particularly land titling, and services, including energy and financial services**; iv) ensuring inclusive **gender and climate-responsive features in social risk management**, including the design of social safety nets, public resilience responsive to different needs of groups such as women with disabilities, elderly and migrant women living in slum area, urban planning, and use of gender budgeting; and risk and savings and insurance products; v) supporting **women's improved tenure security** and resource access, use and control, including of forest and non-timber forest product (NTFP) resources, and their processing and marketing that considers the particular challenges and capabilities of Indigenous women; vi) supporting development of **gender-responsive standards for climate services**, including hydrometeorological services that meet the needs of women and men; vii) enhancing

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<sup>19</sup> See ENERGIA 2011; O'Dell et al 2014; USAID and IUCN 2014; Gill et al 2017

**women's role in climate decision-making processes at all levels**, incl. in institutional mechanisms governing public sector resource allocation and implementation in countries; viii) increasing efforts towards scaled-up **private-sector climate action opportunities** for women whether in intermediary lending credit lines for resilience products, or efforts to scale up preferential procurement<sup>20</sup> from women-owned firms in the delivery of climate investments.

12. Key motivations for Phase 3 of the *CIF Gender Action Plan* (FY21-24) are to: i) consolidate gains from Phase 2 of the *CIF Gender Action Plan* (FY17-20); ii) better embed application of the *CIF Gender Policy* in program processes, including deepening upstream support to MDBs and countries on gender technical assistance for Investment Plan and project design; and iii) enhance gender monitoring and reporting (including disaggregated reporting by sex, as well as age, disability status, and indigenous identity) and knowledge and capacity. These aims are placed amidst a learning approach that reflects lessons from earlier Plan implementation and CIF evaluative efforts - such as the 2019 *Independent Evaluation of Transformational Change in the CIF* study (hereafter the Transformational Change study)<sup>21</sup> that found a need to go beyond impacts at the levels of individual women and men, towards efforts that help advance longer-term institutional change at the level of gender systems and institutions within countries. Analytical, learning, program support, and course adjustment of *CIF Gender Action Plan Phase 3* will be implemented with these goals in mind, accompanied by tracking of CIF gender portfolio quality through a consolidated rating system built on MDB gender performance metrics.
13. A presentation on background considerations on the CIF Gender Programming context is presented below, namely: i) snapshots of MDB strategic goals and policies on gender and on climate, as well as a ii) summary of the newly-approved '*Enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender and Action Plan*' of the UNFCCC (December 2019); iii) existing gender standards of comparator climate funds; and the iv) evolving CIF programming context with its new programming areas that feature strong gender integration from the start, and robust entry points for gender programming to come.

## 5. CIF Gender Programming: Background and Context

### 5.1 Gender Policies of Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs)

14. The policy environment among MDBs is an enabling one for working towards gender equality outcomes in CIF. Each MDB has a formally elaborated gender policy and/or action plan for its institution, with targets and indicators for implementation, as described below.

a)The *African Development Bank* (AfDB) in January 2014 approved its *Gender Strategy 2014-2018*, building on its existing gender policy and strengthening gender mainstreaming across policy and operations. The three pillars of the strategy are: i) improving women's legal status and property rights; ii) strengthening women's economic empowerment; and iii) enhancing knowledge management and capacity building on gender equality. AfDB

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<sup>20</sup> WEConnect International "helps women-owned businesses succeed in global value chains. It identifies, educates, registers, and certifies women's business enterprises based outside the US that are at least 51% owned, managed and controlled by one or more women, and then connects them with qualified member buyers. Member buyers represent over USD \$1 trillion in annual purchasing power" (See WEConnectInternational.org) The WBG's Procurement Department is taking similar measures to enhance its procurement from women-owned firms for corporate purchases.

<sup>21</sup> Independent Evaluation of Transformational Change in the Climate Investment Funds. Itad, 2019

employs a “gender marker” system to track integration of gender in its projects. It has a range of partnerships such as with OECD on the Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI); with the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) on the African Gender and Development Index (AGDI); and MOUs with both UN Women and IFC.

b) *Asian Development Bank (ADB)*’s new Gender Operational Plan 2 (2019-2024) includes a focus on gender-responsive climate change; DRM policies, strategies and actions, as well as gender budgeting in-country; green jobs and livelihoods for women and access to finance; and women’s resilience to climate change and disasters as well as environmental degradation, through such activities as climate-smart technologies and infrastructure, livelihood diversification, insurance, savings and financial safety nets, community-led solutions, skills development, and women’s leadership in climate decision-making. ADB’s internal procedures on gender are fully elaborated and mainstreamed across its portfolio (see ADB 2012). ADB projects are screened and assigned to one of four tiers, regarding gender integration, based on whether they: i) host gender equality and women’s empowerment as an explicit project outcome, known as the Gender Equity Theme level (GEN); ii) have gender equality and women’s empowerment substantially integrated (e.g., in terms of targets and direct support to such activities) but not as an explicit outcome, known as Effective Gender Mainstreaming level; iii) have some gender elements (SGE) where the project indirectly supports gender equity and women’s empowerment, e.g., under safeguards measures; and iv) have no gender elements (NGE) where gender is not integrated in project design. Targets for the top 2 tiers institution-wide are that 55% of the portfolio reach these levels by 2030, and that the Top 3 tiers are met comprise 75% of the portfolio by 2030.<sup>22</sup>

c) The *European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)* in 2015 approved its *Strategy for the Promotion of Gender Equality 2016-2020*<sup>23</sup> and is currently developing its new Gender Strategy. The existing Strategy mandates the EBRD to promote gender-responsive operations that contribute to equitable and sustainable economies. Its three objectives are to increase access to: i) finance and business support for women-led businesses; ii) employment opportunities and skills for women; and iii) services.

d) The *Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)* will approve in June 2020 its *Gender Action Plan for Operations 2020-2021* that support the implementation of its 2010 *Operational Policy on Gender Equality in Development* by expanding and improving the quality of the IDB’s development interventions that support member countries’ goals and commitments to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment. In the same line, the Bank’s Update to the Institutional Strategy 2020-2023 provides strategic direction to the IDB group, with “gender equality, inclusion and diversity” as one of the institution’s three main cross-cutting themes. Guidance material and lines of action by sector have been prepared on how to integrate gender equality efforts into Bank interventions and corporate results, including on climate change. The two lines of action for the climate change sector are: i) building the capacity of women to facilitate their access to quality jobs associated with the economic transformation to a low carbon, climate resilient economy, in both

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22 Note that those projects falling under GEN or EGM categories are required to have a Gender Action Plan attached to the investment at Board approval stage. As of 2018, 45% of CIF projects implemented by ADB had gender mainstreaming, while by 2019 the gap had narrowed with 69% of CIF-financed having gender mainstreaming, compared to 61% of regular ADB-financed projects (both sovereign and non-sovereign projects).

23 EBRD Strategy available at <http://www.ebrd.com/gender-strategy.html>



rural and urban settings; ii) improving the capabilities of women and men to contribute to climate change adaptation and resilience, through the transfer of knowledge and technology.

e) The *World Bank Group*<sup>24</sup> (WBG) approved in 2015 its new Gender Strategy for FY16-23. The Strategy has four key objectives, i.e., i) Improving human endowments: e.g., health, education, and social protection; ii) Removing constraints for more and better jobs; iii) Removing barriers to women's ownership and control of assets (especially land; housing; and technology, as well as financial services); and iv) Enhancing women's voice and agency, and engaging men and boys. The World Bank seeks to enhance the gender quality of its project portfolio through use of a "gender tag" system in which upstream support is offered to help ensure that, for projects where it is relevant, a close results chain of identifying key gender gap/s related to the project's focus are identified, and that actions are designed within the project to reduce those gaps and that the change is monitored through relevant sex-disaggregated indicators.<sup>25</sup>

f) *International Finance Corporation (IFC)*: The IFC contributes to realization of the WBG's Gender Strategy, as the private sector arm of the Group. In addition, IFC is guided by its Gender Strategy Implementation Plan (GSIP) FY17-19, and the follow-on GSIP 2 (FY20-23) led by regions. The GSIP aims to close gender gaps among corporate leadership, workforce, supply chains, customer segments and communities; engage the private sector from a business case perspective to increase productivity, profitability, and talent retention; provide access to jobs for women through client engagements and global partnerships, e.g., on childcare; provide women access to assets through increased lending to women-owned SMEs, and development of insurance, fintech and other services for women customers; and boost women's leadership and reduce sexual harassment at the workplace and gender-based violence at home or on transport services. IFC's corporate Gender Secretariat unit was established in 2013, and the IFC employs a 'gender flag' system to track gender integration in projects.

15. In sum, the MDBs share common gender goals in the areas of supporting women's economic opportunities and jobs; skills development and training, particularly in relation to green jobs and the energy transition; access to public services (including energy, water and human development services); access to productive assets and financial services (including credit lines, income transfers e.g., through social protection and safety nets, and land titling efforts); and voice and agency considerations (e.g., in rural community-driven development, and in urban planning, as well as in cross-cutting areas such as gender-based violence). Key gender-related outcome areas arising from CIF programming center around such focus arenas as women's asset development; access to services; and participation and leadership in climate action planning and governance. In these ways, progress on gender in the CIF thus simultaneously helps advance the MDBs' own strategic goals in the areas of gender and development.
16. As noted above, gender-responsive efforts undertaken with CIF support in-country through investment plans and projects, help CIF pilot countries advance their own national gender and inclusion goals in diverse sectors of interest. CIF's gender monitoring results show that over time under the CIF Gender Action Plan Phases 1 and 2, investment plans and projects are increasingly including gender as a

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<sup>24</sup> The World Bank Group comprises the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD); International Development Association (IDA); International Finance Corporation (IFC); Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA); and the International Center for the Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID).

<sup>25</sup> For World Bank Group 2015 gender strategy, see <http://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/gender/overview#2>

strategic and operational consideration, and indeed explicitly linking programming to national gender and poverty goals.

## 5.2 Climate Change Programming Priorities among the MDBs

17. MDB ambitions around climate programming are significant and growing. As the 2018 Joint Report on Multilateral Development Banks' Climate Finance report<sup>26</sup> notes, COP24 found the MDBs presenting a joint approach to their climate activities to align their investments with the goals of the Paris Agreement. ADB, the first MDB to set public climate finance targets, has met its targets one year ahead of its 2021 target date, with more than USD 6 billion lent in 2019 from its own resources. ADB's new climate finance target is cumulative climate finance levels of USD 80 billion by 2030 and its overall institutional 'Strategy 2030' also firmly places climate at the center, with a focus on climate change, including resilience, disaster reduction, and environmental sustainability. AfDB has doubled its climate finance targets for the period 2020-2025 to USD 25 billion. It also reached parity in 2018, among adaptation and mitigation financing. EBRD's Green Economic Transition (GET) target was to raise the proportion of its green finance to 40 percent of annual new business by 2020. The 2019 result is expected to be well above that, with EBRD cumulatively having signed over €30 billion through over 1600 green projects.
18. The IDB Group has set climate financing to an annual floor of 30% for each of its windows, which includes the IDB, IDB Invest and IDB Lab, for the next four years. It has set a goal that 65% of its annual project approvals include investments in adaptation and mitigation to climate change. In 2019, it achieved a record approval of 29% in climate-related financing, equivalent to USD 5 billion. This climate-related financing has supported investments in renewable energy, electric mobility, sustainable urban development, climate-smart agriculture, and green buildings, as well as capacity building and preparation of natural disaster risk assessments.
19. The WBG in December 2018 announced new climate targets for 2021-2025, doubling its current 5-year investments to around USD 200 billion. An *Action Plan on Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience* was launched in January 2019, with direct adaptation climate finance ramping up to reach USD 50 billion in the FY21-25 period. The MDBs' climate change strategies and action plans prioritize investments in sectors identified in countries' Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) accompanying implementation of the 2015 Paris Agreement as country contributions to reduce GHG emissions and make economies climate resilient (CIF 2016). These priorities include such investments as: renewable energy, water; energy efficiency, including green buildings, district heating, and cooling; agriculture; green transport; urban development; and land use change and forestry.
20. In addition to MDBs' strategic directions on climate change, the gender and climate change nexus itself is also beginning to receive policy attention in the Banks, as in the World Bank Group which has developed a Gender and Climate Program (FY17-23) to support implementation of both its 2015 *Gender Strategy* and the 2016 WBG *Climate Change Action Plan*. The program, spearheaded by the Climate Change Group, includes an analytical stream; development of gender-responsive policy tools, support to operations; and internal capacity-building, with sectoral focus on renewable energy, adaptive social protection and disaster risk reduction, forests and landscapes, inclusive cities, and private sector

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<sup>27</sup> See UNFCCC Enhanced Lima Work Program on Gender at [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cp2019\\_L03E.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cp2019_L03E.pdf).

development. Other MDBs are beginning to develop gender and climate change programming (see summary of ADB work above), as well as capacity among their staff - in some cases with support from CIF AU.

21. Other MDBs are also moving forward with the gender and climate agenda, with attention to such topics as green jobs and just transition from a gender perspective (EBRD), women's skills in the decarbonization of the energy sector (IDB) and AfDB's Inclusive Climate Finance that seeks to build partnerships, deepen knowledge and learning, and foster policy dialogue in this area. Notably, in the context of discussions around devolved climate finance models, the ADB is working towards a Community Resilience Partnership Program facility to advance women-focused climate and disaster resilience efforts, through technical assistance to governments to design resilience investments targeted at the poor, with specific financing modalities, and institutional and decision-making processes to help funds reach the poor and engage in resilience decision-making, with a focus on community resilience. Provision for a special gender window is planned under this Facility.

### **5.3. UNFCCC Enhanced Lima Work Program on Gender and Gender Action Plan**

22. At the international level, the Twenty-Fifth Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) on the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)<sup>27</sup> held in Madrid in December 2019 resulted in an "Enhanced Lima Work Program on Gender and its Gender Action Plan."<sup>28</sup> It recognizes the "continuing need for gender mainstreaming through all relevant targets and goals in activities under the Convention [to enhance] their effectiveness, fairness and sustainability" (ibid). It also recognized that "climate change impacts on women and men can differ owing to historical and current gender inequalities and multidimensional factors and can be more pronounced in developing countries and for local communities and indigenous peoples" (ibid).
23. The enhanced five-year Lima Work Program on Gender and its Gender Action Plan seeks to scale up capacity-building, knowledge management and experience sharing among relevant actions; and recognizes the importance of "full, meaningful and equal participation and leadership of women in all aspects of the UNFCCC process and in national and local-level climate policy and action" for achieving long-term climate goals, as well as coherence with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; and encourages Parties to adopt a national gender and climate change focal point for climate negotiations, implementation and monitoring, and to report regularly on country progress; and "invites public and private entities to increase the gender-responsiveness of climate finance with a view to strengthening the capacity of women" (ibid).
24. The five priority areas laid out by the Work Program and Gender Action Plan through 2025 feature efforts in : i) capacity-building, knowledge management and communication; ii) gender balance, participation and women's leadership in the UNFCCC process; iii) coherence of gender integration in UNFCCC constituted bodies, secretariat and other UN entities and stakeholders; iv) gender-responsive implementation and means of implementation of the Convention and the Paris Agreement (including gender budgeting and gender-responsive climate planning; promoting information on access to climate finance for local women's organizations; promotion of gender-responsive technological solutions); and

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<sup>27</sup> See UNFCCC Enhanced Lima Work Program on Gender at [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cp2019\\_L03E.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cp2019_L03E.pdf) .

<sup>28</sup> Ref. FCCC/CP/2019/L.3 12 December 2019

v) monitoring and reporting on gender-related mandates under the Lima Work Program and Gender Action Plan (ibid).

25. While CIF is not an instrument of the UNFCCC process, in contrast to e.g., Green Climate Fund, Global Environment Facility, and the Adaptation Fund, it recognizes the important national commitments and institutional mechanisms in place to support NDC development, implementation and monitoring, and is pleased that the aims of the CIF Gender Program and its implementing entities, i.e., MDBs, as well as partner observers and other members of the CIF partnership, have gender-responsive climate goals well-aligned with those laid out in the Lima Work Program and Gender Action Plan of UNFCCC, including a focus on women's climate leadership as such coordinated efforts can lead to more lasting and grounded institutional change impacts on gender as the CIF Transformational Change study has alluded.
26. CSOs active in the UNFCCC process, under the Gender Constituency, and in climate fund observer processes such as those of CIF, have also expressed continued interest and support for Gender Program efforts of the CIF, and continued enhancement of gender integration and inclusion measures, including in in-country programming processes<sup>29</sup>. It is envisioned that the Gender Representatives mechanism of the CIF observers' structure, as established by the *CIF Gender Policy*, will be constituted once the new observers are selected later this year. Finally, gender mainstreaming and collaboration among climate funds (GCF, GEF, AF) and their respective gender focal points, as well as with key UN bodies (e.g., UNFCCC gender secretariat, UN Women; UNDP), has been active under the *CIF Gender Action Plan – Phases 1 and 2*, and will continue to be so with Phase 3, further offering opportunities for greater leverage around gender-responsive climate action.

## 6. CIF Gender Action Plan – Progress since 2014

27. To advance gender equality outcomes under the CIF, the *CIF Gender Action Plan* for FY15-16 inaugurated a program of gender mainstreaming addressing policy; program support; analytical work, monitoring and reporting; and knowledge and learning<sup>30</sup>. The Plan, approved in 2014, was implemented through a partnership of the CIF governing bodies, MDBs<sup>31</sup>, pilot countries, and CIF AU.<sup>32</sup> It was spearheaded by the Senior Gender Specialist in the CIF AU, working in collaboration with the CIF Gender Working Group of MDB representatives. Following this, Phase 2 of the *CIF Gender Action Plan* was developed for implementation from FY17-20 and included development of the *CIF Gender Policy*, as well as the recruitment of the F-level Gender Specialist in 2019, and a range of analytical and learning activities with MDBs, countries and observers.

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<sup>29</sup> The 2020 report by Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO) under the CIF E&L Initiative on the "Engagement of Women and Gender-Related Groups in the Climate Investment Funds: An Assessment" outlines the strengths and further opportunities to enhance gender-responsive processes in CIF investment planning and implementation in-country.

<sup>30</sup> CIF Gender Action Plan Phase 1 available at <http://climateinvestmentfunds.org/cif/node/16277>

<sup>31</sup> CIF MDB partners are: Asian Development Bank (ADB); African Development Bank (AfDB); European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD); Inter-American Development Bank (IDB); International Finance Corporation (IFC); and World Bank.

<sup>32</sup> Note that as with all other operational matters, MDBs' own policies (e.g., on gender, safeguards, procurement, anti-corruption, financial management; sexual exploitation and abuse) hold primacy over any additional CIF-specific requirements or mandates.

## 6.1 Achievements under CIF Gender Action Plan – Phases 1 and 2

28. Implementation of the CIF Gender Action Plan - Phase 1 (FY15-16) witnessed work on policy, program support, and monitoring and reporting (M&R), including adherence to gender best practice in mainstreaming approaches. A system was established of reporting on three gender “scorecard” indicators reporting on program and portfolio progress at Investment Plan and project levels in terms of: i. sector-specific gender analysis; ii. activities targeted at women; and iii. sex-disaggregated indicators. Results are reported from inception through the current reporting period, and for IPs and projects approved during the reporting period. This was later expanded at TFC request to include cumulative figures. Under Objective 2 “*Generating New Knowledge and Enhancing Learning on Gender in the CIF*”, the program prepared: (a) sector-specific notes on gender and energy, and on forest livelihoods ; and b) provision of formal learning opportunities (i.e., webinars; gender panel sessions; dissemination of lessons at global gender and climate meetings); and (c) sessions on gender during the Pilot Countries Meetings.
29. Phase 2 of the CIF Gender Action Plan (FY17-20) continued the investment in internal systems and development of the CIF Gender Policy, but with a stronger emphasis on support to country engagement, and MDB capacity-building, as well as knowledge management. This included design and delivery of learning events, and analytical products, as well as cooperation with climate funds on gender policy and action plan development, including the Green Climate Fund (GCF), Global Environment Facility (GEF), and the Adaptation Fund. The CIF was also active in a range of public fora on gender and climate, including CSOs, think tanks, climate finance mechanisms, other multilateral programs, and UN agencies, and facilitated participation of CIF country focal points in external UN and MDB events to share lessons from CIF programming on gender – themselves a form of capacity-building for country representatives, while offering wider dissemination of CIF experience. Recent examples include the September 2019 Climate Action summit and the November 2019 Global Gender Summit.<sup>33343536</sup>
30. **Lessons Sharing:** CIF gender lessons dissemination took place through various means, including the Global Gender Summit at Kigali, Rwanda in November 2019 (see [conference](#) website for more details).

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<sup>33</sup> On November 25-26, 2019, in collaboration with the World Bank, EBRD, and AfDB, CIF AU organized two separate panels at the inter-MDB Global Gender Summit in Kigali, Rwanda, one focused solely on CIF, and the other including a CIF-financed project as part of a larger discussion on gender and sustainable landscapes. Total conference participants numbered more than 1400. See conference site <https://globalgendersummit.com/about/> .

<sup>34</sup> The CIF-focused panel (“*Gender-Responsive Climate Action: Experience of the CIF*”) featured speakers from Ghana Ministry of Energy (SREP World Bank), Zambian Ministry of National Development Planning (World Bank PPCRt), a Tajikistan local intermediary bank (First MicroFinance Bank of Tajikistan, implementing EBRD’s PPCR investment in ClimADAPT<sup>34</sup> resilience finance), an IUCN senior gender advisor sharing results from CIF-financed evaluations from AfDB, and high-level participation from the host country Rwanda from their Director General of the Ministry of Environment, highlighting their experience in gender-responsive implementation.

<sup>35</sup> The second panel on sustainable landscapes (“*Strengthening Women’s Assets and Voice through Investments in Sustainable Landscapes*”) included a World Bank environmental specialist working on gender integration in the Mozambique FIP project as part of the overall WB integrated landscape management portfolio there; a senior policy adviser from ICRAF speaking on gender and agro-forestry, and a Tunisian social entrepreneur focused on expanding women’s employment in non-timber forest product global value chains).

<sup>36</sup> <https://twitter.com/ATKuriakose/status/1199150718273257472> . The Senior Gender Specialist moderated the CIF panel: see article here <https://www.afdb.org/fr/news-and-events/press-releases/global-gender-summit-2019-climate-investment-funds-can-cushion-women-adverse-effects-climate-change-33373> and photos from the CIF panel <https://www.flickr.com/photos/afdbgroup/sets/72157711951375593/> .

The CIF AU undertook dissemination of key program experience on gender and climate programming and lessons learned, through additional sessions organized together with MDBs and the UN, such as at the September 2019 UN Climate Action Summit in New York where the SREP Haiti Country Focal Point shared lessons on expanding women’s energy enterprises through private sector support from CIF, and the Director General of Conservation International shared DGM experience from diverse countries on expanding women’s leadership in forest governance. CIF AU facilitated the participation of these government and CSO representatives as speakers in a UN Secretary General Climate Action Summit side event, titled “*Solutions for Implementing Gender-Responsive Climate Action*”, by the World Bank, UN Women, and the Governments of Costa Rica, Peru, and Spain, UN Women to highlight women’s role as agents of change in climate action.<sup>37</sup>

31. **Capacity-building:** CIF AU has participated in training and learning events organized by various MDBs. Most recently, in October 2019, CIF AU collaborated with AfDB and IUCN to deliver a training<sup>38</sup> at AfDB headquarters in Abidjan, Cote d’Ivoire to AfDB staff on gender and climate. Approximately 35 staff participated, along with AfDB management from both the departments of Gender and of Climate Change and Green Growth. Two gender case studies on AfDB projects financed by CIF under the ‘*AfDB/ CIF Inclusive Climate Action Initiative*’ were launched during the training: one on CTF Morocco<sup>39</sup> focused on social co-benefits of the CSP project at Ouarzazate) and the other on FIP Ghana featuring gender integration in commercial forest plantation investment.<sup>40</sup> Direct capacity-building support to countries was also offered by IDB and CIF AU in March 2019 under the FIP Mexico program which held a multi-day training for forest agency and local *ejido* members from Mexico, as well as representatives from government agencies and CSOs in the region, on the topic of gender and sustainable forest management with a focus on productive forest enterprises.
32. **Analytical work and knowledge generation** on gender in the CIF under Phase 2 included several outputs, including gender studies under the Evaluation and Learning (E&L) Initiative, as well as studies funded through the CIF country engagement budget under the gender line. These included finalization of the EBRD study on gender-responsive financing for climate resilience in Tajikistan and preparation of an accompanying Guidance Note titled “[How Private Sector Investment Can Support Gender-Responsive Climate-Resilient Development in Tajikistan](#)”.
33. The World Bank’s E&L study<sup>41</sup> on behavioral norms around women’s participation in forest programs in Mexico is now being replicated by the World Bank across countries in Africa and East Asia and has informed development of new project design in the Mozambique landscapes portfolio of the World Bank, with a focus on gender norms and women’s economic outcomes from forest investments. The

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<sup>37</sup> During the session, Ministers of the Governments of Spain, Peru, Costa Rica, and Colombia highlighting gender commitments made at COP20 under the Lima Work Program on Gender and recognized the formal coalition of support for gender-responsive climate action announced on September 23 by Governments of Peru and Spain, with other signatories including UK, Netherlands, Sweden, France, and Finland together with 38 other governments, as part of the Climate Action Summit.

<sup>38</sup> See brief article here <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/project-successes-morocco-and-ghana-offer-lessons-gender-and-climate-change-32874> .

<sup>39</sup> See <https://www.afdb.org/en/documents/gender-mainstreaming-climate-change-projects-case-noor-ouarzazate-morocco>

<sup>40</sup> See <https://www.afdb.org/en/documents/gender-mainstreaming-climate-change-projects-case-form-ghana-ltd-ghana>

<sup>41</sup> The study is titled: Social identity framing to get Mexican Rural Women ‘REDDy’ for participation in natural resource management World Bank, CONAFOR

study was undertaken in a collaboration between the Environment Global Practice, the EMBED Mind, Behavior, and Development Unit, and CIF AU, and examined behavioral norms around women's participation in forest programs which is now being replicated in East Asia and Sub-Saharan African countries through MDB financing. South-South learning and exchange on gender and forest-based value chains is planned with CIF support in FY21, following significant demand from both countries and MDBs.

34. The country engagement budget of CIF AU is greatly facilitating MDB support to countries and their larger MDB-wide CIF portfolio, e.g., through preparation of: i) country gender and energy profiles on Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda and Uganda (AfDB); ii) gender portfolio review of ADB's CIF portfolio; iii) preparation of a Gender Action Plan focused on gender assessment and institutional support on gender and climate investments to Kyrgyz Republic (EBRD); iv) Gender and Water Resource Management Assessment in Honduras (World Bank), v) a gender assessment on opportunities for gender integration in the Uganda SPCR, and vi) World Bank support to Niger PPCR on "Gender and Strategic Planning in Adaptive Social Protection".

## **7. Developing the CIF Gender Action Plan – Phase 3**

35. Overall, the Phase 3 Plan was informed by Phase 2 implementation lessons, and E&L evaluative work, as well as consultative input from the CIF Gender Working Group Second Global Meeting in London at EBRD HQ in February 2020, and additional CIF partnership discussions. In addition, work undertaken on a CIF Gender Portfolio Review is informing future planning and will be accompanied by 4 case studies planned for delivery in 2020.
36. While many focus areas carry over from Phase 2, the CIF Gender Program Phase 3 aims to support systems change towards gender-transformative outcomes through liaison with formal and informal institutions including government and community organizations, rather than only defining outcomes in terms of individuals' livelihood improvements. The initiative on women's climate leadership is an important part of this approach. This lens notwithstanding, however, more routine gender good practice approaches at the programming level will still be embedded through guidance, support, review and monitoring processes, with closer application of the *CIF Gender Policy*, as well as to expanded support on gender criteria and reporting under the new programs.
37. In sum, under Phase 3, CIF Gender activities will focus on rolling out the *CIF Gender Action Plan Phase 3*, capacity-building around the *CIF Gender Policy*, including through guidance notes, as well as deepening upstream gender support to pipeline operations under new programs and facilities, with an enhanced role for CIF Administrative Unit's technical input and review. Phase 3 will also feature a strengthening of technical communities of practice at inter-MDB, country and external levels, and support to capacity-development, particularly sector-specific training, in various delivery forms, from face-to-face and South-South exchanges, to web-based options.

## **8. Lessons from Implementation of CIF Gender Action Plan – Phase 2**

### **8.1 LESSON ONE: Closer application of CIF Gender Policy is required, particularly upstream in IP and operations design**

38. CIF Gender Policy will require additional capacity-building and close monitoring to ensure that measures are applied systematically across the CIF Partnership.

39. The *CIF Gender Policy* as approved by the Joint TFC in 2018 has several requirements regarding Investment Plans and projects. First, joint mission teams for IP development, comprising MDBs and CIF AU, should have gender expertise on them. Investment planning is required to include consultation with women and men (including women's organizations and the national institutions such as the Ministry of Women Affairs, and any gender focal points in line ministries). Finally, CIF program core indicators are required to be reflected in the project's results framework and reference to co-benefit indicators from the program are also encourage for project results frameworks.

## **8.2 LESSON TWO: Need for an emphasis on systemic change and Women's Climate Leadership through participation in institutional processes at country-level**

40. In Phase 3, the objective should be to see programs and projects better reflecting the influence/ outcome areas of 'Gender-Positive Transformation' (i.e., institutional change), as well as organizational mainstreaming (through various tiers of women's climate leadership initiatives in inclusive planning efforts), rather than only 'targeting', 'gender-sensitive project design', or 'individual economic opportunities' work more commonly found in the current portfolio.
41. This is related to the growing emphasis that will be placed in Phase 3 on providing technical support that helps identify gender gaps and linear results chains of actions that can be monitored for change in such areas as institutions, governance, and voice, as well as systemic shifts in labor markets in renewable energy, or in women's participation in credit, or land markets (see Table 1).



**Table 1 From Gender Mainstreaming to Gender-Transformative Outcomes at the Levels of Institutions and Markets**

<i>Influence Area</i>	<i>Design Type</i>		<i>Specific Examples from CIF Projects under Phases 1-2</i>	<i>Project examples from:</i>
<b>GENDER-POSITIVE TRANSFORMATION (Institutional change)</b>	GOVERNANCE, VOICE & AGENCY		7-Enhancing women’s formal roles in natural resource governance	<i>PPCR, FIP</i>
	SECTOR CHANGE		6-Sector training for women, incl. RE industry pipeline development	<i>SREP, CTF</i>
<b>STRATEGIC GENDER INTERESTS (Impacts on individuals)</b>	ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES		5-Strategies/ targets for women’s employment (e.g., women-owned energy enterprises)	<i>SREP, CTF</i>
			4-Ancillary services (e.g., targeted credit schemes)	<i>CTF, PCR, FIP</i>
<b>GENDER MAINSTREAMING (Relying on formal mandate)</b>	ORGANIZATIONAL MAINSTREAMING	3-Gender focal points in climate planning units; gender budgeting and planning approaches		<i>PPCR, SREP</i>
	PROJECT ASSESSMENT & DESIGN	2-Gender-sensitive project design (e.g., in mass rapid transit)		<i>CTF</i>
	TARGETING	1-Identification/ tracking of female beneficiary targets (including re national social inclusion goals) at national and CIF reporting levels		<i>SREP, PPCR, FIP, Partial in CTF</i>

42. As noted above, evaluative evidence on the CIF, and experience from implementation, point to the need for more sustained technical support to formal institutional processes in-country that can amplify women’s voices in climate processes nationally. The multi-year initiative from FY21 around women’s climate leadership from CIF AU will help embed the lessons from the i) Women’s Environment and Development Organization (WEDO) study, ii) the Transformational Change study, as well as iii) CIF investment plan and operational experience itself, on the need for more sustained and systemic support to gender and climate integration through multi-stakeholder processes.

43. This would include a focus on supporting participation and leadership of women in local and national climate action planning, including through such formal mechanisms as the UNFCCC gender focal points in-country, and countries’ own Ministries of Women Affairs and gender focal points within line ministries, as inputs towards fulfilling countries’ own poverty and gender strategies and NDC commitments, as well as through enhanced outreach and capacity-building with women and men at local level as part of CIF investment programming and collaborative learning efforts

### **8.3 LESSON THREE: CIF gender monitoring and reporting requires strengthening and improved alignment with MDB reporting channels**

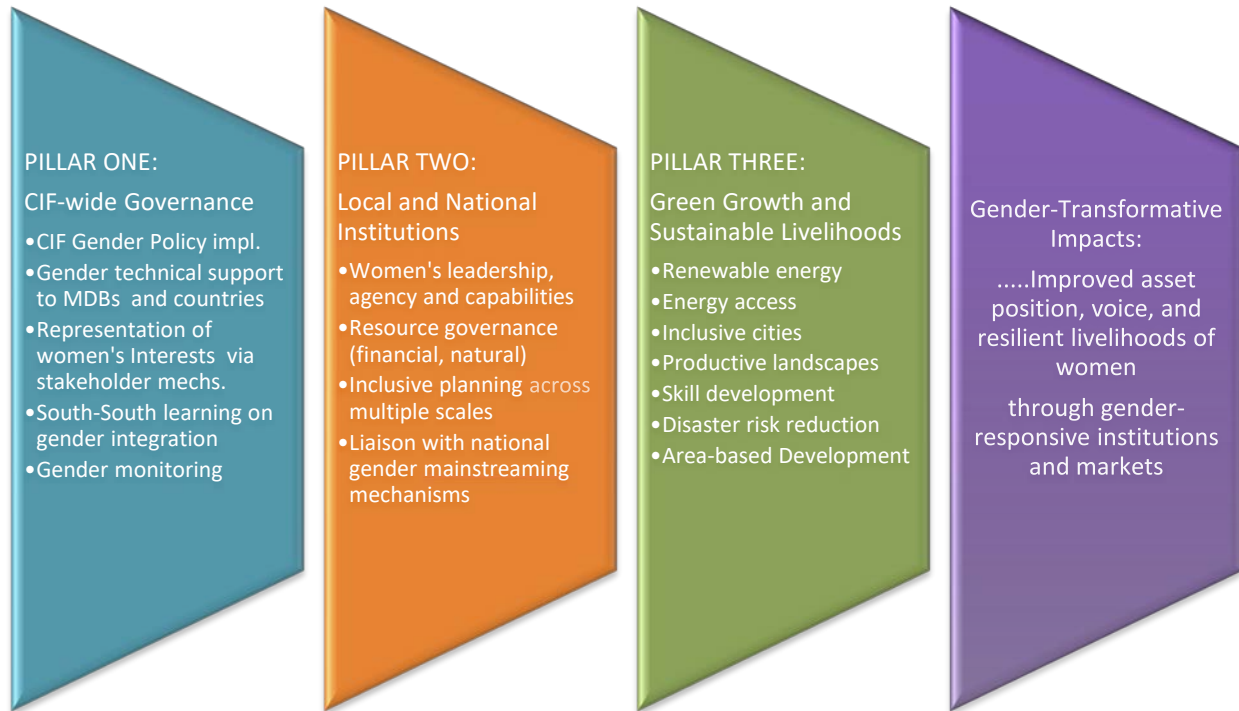
44. The approach to Gender Action Plan monitoring could be further strengthened in Phase 3 with attention to improved alignment across all CIF monitoring business functions; and attention to practical considerations of capacity and resources for Plan monitoring by all producers and users of CIF Gender Action Plan data.
45. To this end, Phase 3 will feature stronger gender monitoring and reporting at the levels of the CIF portfolio, specific programs, and on MDB-specific CIF portfolios, with the support of gender M&R tip sheets, and use of the following mechanisms: i) reporting on a streamlined results framework for the Phase 3 Gender Action Plan; ii) inclusion of key gender indicators in the CCH system; iii) strengthened requirements under the new programs on gender outcomes within projects and on accompanying gender indicators, as reviewed at CIF AU level; and iv) expanded reporting by MDBs on gender portfolio performance under their own MDB “gender tag/ gender marker” systems for use in CIF-wide monitoring to assess change over time in MDB gender performance in CIF-financed operations.

## **9. CIF Gender Action Plan: Phase 3 (FY21-24)**

### **9.1 Program Goal and Theory of Change**

46. As mentioned above, CIF was established to initiate “*transformational change towards climate-resilient, low carbon development in developing countries through scaled-up financing.*” The CIF Gender program works in support of this overall goal, in order to ensure that the reach and benefits of CIF investments extend to all persons in the project areas, both women and men, and that analytical and learning efforts under CIF include due attention to gender elements of climate-resilient, low carbon development.
47. The *CIF Gender Action Plan – Phase 3* is intended to continue with the CIF Gender Program aims of mainstreaming gender in CIF policies and programs and deepening knowledge, learning and technical support on gender in the CIF, while undertaking more scaled-up efforts in the functional areas of capacity-building, institutional development (including expansion of outreach with MDBs and countries to non-state actors including for participatory monitoring and evaluation) and support to women’s climate leadership, and undertaking more systematic application of knowledge efforts for operations, and sector-wide learning and dissemination.

**Figure 1 CIF Gender Program – Phase 3 Theory of Change**



48. Figure 1 introduces the theory of change behind the proposed CIF Gender Action Plan – Phase 3. The main thrust of the Phase 2 approach remains, but with an added focus on outcomes at the levels of institutions and markets. Under this approach, efforts on CIF-level Governance (Pillar 1), combined with activities for Local and National Institutions (Pillar 2), support work across key Green Growth and Sustainable Livelihoods sectors that affect gender outcomes (Pillar 3), for an expected result of Gender-Transformative Impacts of women’s improved asset position, voice, and resilient livelihoods through gender-responsive institutions and markets.
49. Note that this more explicit focus on formal and informal institutions and markets in Phase 3, that aims to bring the expected locus of change increasingly towards a systemic, rather than only the individual level, while recognizing that such larger-scale institutional and norm change is predicated also on more local-level engagements around women’s empowerment, and economic and political participation
50. CIF-wide and Program Governance: Pillar 1 is focused on internal CIF functions and inputs. It comprises such elements as CIF policy requirements and procedures; gender technical support to MDBs and countries; women’s participation and representation of their interests in CIF stakeholder mechanisms; South-South learning on gender integration across programs and sectors; and gender-sensitive monitoring and evaluation.
51. Local and National Institutions: Pillar 2 looks at processes and outcomes at the country level in the area of local and national institutions. These include women’s leadership, agency and capabilities; socio-physical mobility opportunities; and changes in norms around these, such as increasing social

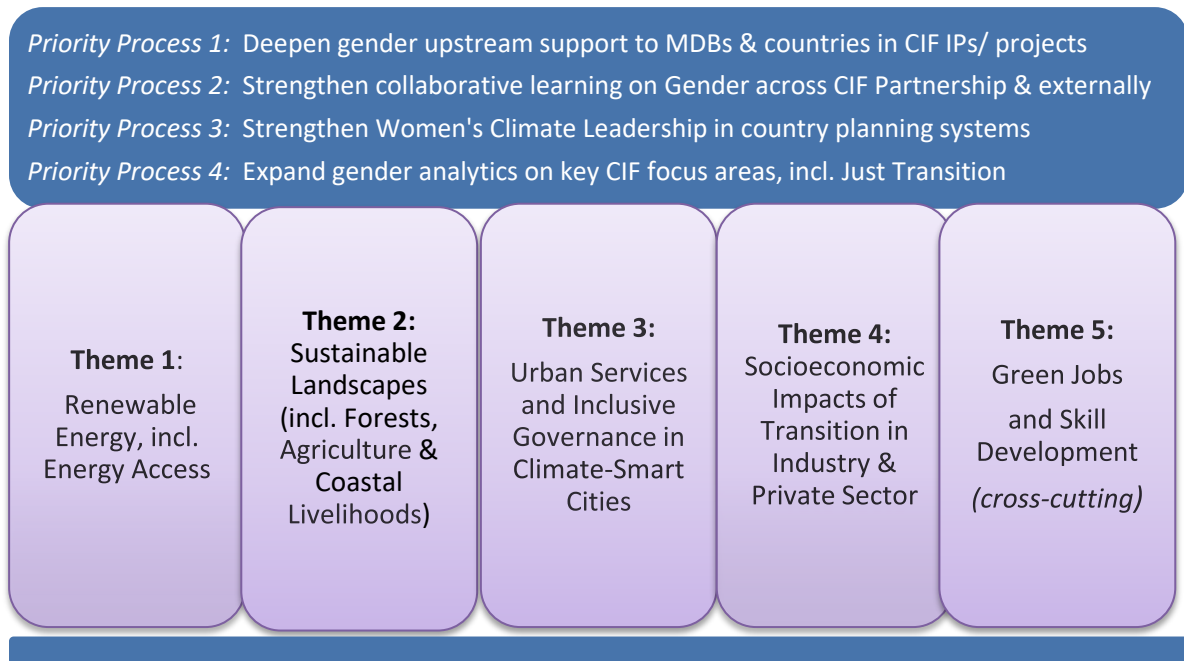
acceptance of women’s participation in the public sphere and movement outside the home. Pillar 2 also includes more regularized use of gender-inclusive approaches in government planning and local governance. These can include inclusive natural resource governance processes; participatory resilience planning featuring women’s voice; presence of national gender mainstreaming mechanisms such as use of gender focal points for CIF programs at country level, coordination with national ministries and bureaux on gender and use of gender budgeting processes, in line with national strategies and goals on gender equality and sector-specific outcomes. Pillar 2 will include a focus on exclusionary practices and gender norms that constitute barriers to women to women’s full participation at community and formal organizational levels and will include efforts on engaging with men and boys in support of women’s rights and capabilities.

52. *Green Growth and Sustainable Livelihoods*: Pillar 3 addresses key sectoral investment areas under CIF that are expected to support the main gender equality outcomes envisioned under Phase 3. The pillar is intended to highlight the opportunities for women in the energy transition processes supported by CIF, along with the growing arenas for change (e.g., landscapes; area-based development; renewable energy innovations; credit lines for adaptation finance, inclusive cities, and skill development <sup>42</sup> particularly in the context of a Just Transition) in which CIF seeks to support women in Phase 3 so that, while acknowledging the need for social risk management, they are not relegated to residual, low-growth sectors alone, that exacerbates gender gaps in income and assets, particularly in comparison to men. This pillar will also seek to respond to ways in which this transition could shift local identities including traditional worker masculinities, and offer opportunities for engagement with men and boys on more gender-equitable social norms and enhanced economic empowerment of excluded women and men (see e.g., Abrahamsson and Johansson 2020).
53. *Gender-Transformative Impact*: The combination of the above three pillars operating in CIF governance, country institutions, and sectoral outcome areas is intended to lead to CIF’s achievement of Gender-Transformative Impact in the key areas of asset position, voice, and resilient livelihood status of women through gender-responsive institutions and markets. The pillars of the proposed Theory of Change operate in spheres related to the individual (e.g., skills, livelihoods); institutional (both norms and organizational systems), and market (e.g., labor markets and industrial sector trajectories) spheres. A streamlined set of indicators are provided in the Results Framework for the *CIF Gender Action Plan – Phase 3* (see Annex 1).

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<sup>42</sup> Sector-wide efforts can include interventions such as supporting school- to work pipelines in STEM for girls in the renewable energy context, even under a larger ‘Jobs/ Human Capital’ agenda at country level. This effort can move from placement of individual in jobs, or small numbers of scholarships, to more systemic shifts, through support to curriculum development and outreach campaigns in schools, behavior change approaches through shifting of norms around desirable jobs for women, and the potential for university-industry alliances that bring in private sector-informed inputs to design of apprenticeships, training and employment “on-ramps” at a larger scale. Drawing on both model estimations and qualitative fieldwork in Sri Lanka, Solotaroff, Joseph and Kuriakose (2017) highlight the importance of both early intervention of messaging around careers and STEM education (for girls, their parents and teachers) to help reduce girls’ drop-out rate in secondary school, and use of industry-linked internships, business incubators, and job centers to help match young women with STEM employment opportunities. See [https://www.skillsforemployment.org/edmsp1/groups/skills/documents/skpcontent/ddrf/mtk0/~edisp/wcmstest4\\_194711.pdf](https://www.skillsforemployment.org/edmsp1/groups/skills/documents/skpcontent/ddrf/mtk0/~edisp/wcmstest4_194711.pdf)

**Figure 2 CIF Gender Action Plan – Phase 3 (FY21-24) – Operational Vision**



54. Figure 2 lays out the four priority processes and five themes under the CIF Gender Action Plan - Phase 3. These are discussed in turn below.
55. **Priority Process 1: Deepen gender upstream support to MDBs and countries in new CIF IPs and projects:** CIF AU would offer targeted support to MDBs and countries in integrating gender in line with existing CIF mandates as well as the new programming requirements. Specifically, Capacity-Building would involve scale-up of support and capacity-building on with MDBs, pilot countries, and observers, and with an applied focus around the *CIF Gender Policy*, criteria requirements under the new SCF programming (especially through provision of upstream inputs to the project pipeline; support for inclusive Investment Planning approaches and processes in-country, and improved M&R capacity), and for MDBs in particular, Gender and Climate training on demand.
56. **Priority Process 2: Strengthen collaborative learning on Gender and Climate across the CIF Partnership, and externally:** Sector learning and dissemination objectives are to: i) increase offerings of sector-specific gender regional learning events, and conduct select South-South Exchanges for country representatives; ii) ensure CIF Gender lessons are shared with broader MDB, development, client, and practitioner communities (webinars, panels, meetings).
57. **Priority Process 3: Strengthen Women’s Climate Leadership in Country Planning Systems at Local, Regional and National Levels:** Institutional Development efforts refer to the design and roll out of new support modalities to enhance women’s climate leadership at multiple scales (including e.g., local and national government planning processes, and support to in-country NDC efforts where feasible). On the latter, close collaboration with the NDC Partnership, which also has its own gender targets, is envisioned, following recent dialogue with its Secretariat. The expansion of outreach to non-state actors, particularly women’s organizations, is intended to help embed lessons from the WEDO study in

CIF implementation approaches, and to ensure CIF implementation locally is grounded in a more diverse, stakeholder group than one or two large ministries at national level, especially following the initial design consultation stage of investment planning.

58. A multi-year initiative around women's climate leadership is planned to offer more sustained and systemic support to gender and climate integration through multi-scalar and multi-stakeholder integration within CIF pilot countries. This effort would help embed the lessons from both the i) WEDO<sup>43</sup> study which concluded that more sustained engagement with women's organizations in-country was needed, as well as conclusions from the ii) Independent Evaluation of Transformational Change study<sup>44</sup> which saw signals of positive gender outcomes on internal gender mainstreaming in the CIF and on women's livelihoods and voice at the beneficiary level, but only interim signals of change at the systemic level within countries, as well as iii) CIF investment plan and operational experience itself, on the need for such support. This would include a particular focus on supporting participation and leadership of women in local and national climate action planning, including through such formal mechanisms as the UNFCCC gender focal points in-country, and countries' own Ministries of Women Affairs and gender focal points within line ministries, and as a supportive route to e.g., gender-responsive NDC implementation in-country, and ultimately, as inputs towards fulfilling countries' own poverty and gender strategies and commitments. A detailed Roadmap outlining the approach and activities of the Women's Climate Leadership initiative will be developed in FY21.
59. Women's climate leadership efforts under CIF will include both expanding women's participation in project implementation and beneficiary-led assessment at the local level but also specific support to expanding women's leadership development locally, and then working institutionally through joined-up efforts across government scales to embed the participation and formal inclusion of women and women's organizations in climate planning. It can help identify ways for CSOs to help inform CIF implementation locally including, in the case of DGM, through direct finance, or for larger public-sector (and even private sector efforts) through devolved project implementation -- as in the case of CDD-style social protection and resilience projects of the sort that have already been supported under Phases 1 and 2, particularly under PPCR and FIP.
60. This sort of institutional and regular capacity-building support also offers the possibility of diverse partnership opportunities in-country and CIF-wide, including with groups like the NDC Partnership; the UNFCCC Gender Coordinator unit and its Gender Action Plan implementation as approved at COP25; institutional efforts of other climate funds in-country where these exist; and organizations such as UNDP and UN Women that work on related initiatives on gender budgeting and the like. It is envisioned that capacity-building at the local level will also require support to intermediated discussions with women and men on gender norms, and issues related to agency and empowerment in the context of climate action.
61. It may be noted that policy developments in a number of CIF pilot countries promise fertile ground for such efforts including Mexico's Feminist Development Policy; Niger and Burkina Faso's decentralization efforts, particularly in relation to landscapes, and support for women's inclusion in related decision-

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<sup>43</sup> Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO) – See study at [https://www.climateinvestmentfunds.org/sites/cif\\_enc/files/knowledge-documents/wedo\\_final\\_report\\_7april2020.pdf](https://www.climateinvestmentfunds.org/sites/cif_enc/files/knowledge-documents/wedo_final_report_7april2020.pdf)

<sup>44</sup> Independent Evaluation of Transformational Change in the Climate Investment Funds. Itad, 2019

making processes; Zambia’s community-led adaptation investments and formal statutory commitments within local budgeting processes to dedicated percentage budget allocations for projects identified and led by women; and Nepal’s requirements around upwards reporting on government operational impacts on those persons belonging to one or more disadvantaged categories such as gender, low socioeconomic status, ethnic minority and similar markers.

62. **Priority Process 4: Expand gender analytics on key CIF focus areas, including Just Transition:** The Phase 3 agenda on knowledge for operations envisions a more robust analytical and knowledge management effort on gender in the CIF, both to build the evidence base and scope for real-time learning, but also with the aim of getting sector-specific as well as gender good practice approaches to task teams and country focal units as quickly as possible to help inform design and implementation of the new portfolio from the start (in contrast to assessing and reporting on gender quality performance only *ex post*). The topic areas prioritized in the first instance for Phase 3 analytical work include the following:

- Inclusive planning and resilience in climate-smart cities
- Area-based development and social risk management (including adaptive social protection)
- ‘Just Transition’ and STEM-led employment for women
- Enhancing women’s positions in product and service value chains in the climate context, in order to broaden private sector entry points in CIF programming on gender

63. The five *CIF Gender Action Plan – Phase 3* sectoral themes are: i) Renewable Energy, including Energy Access; ii) Sustainable Landscapes (including Forests, Agriculture and Coastal Livelihoods); iii) Urban Services and Inclusive Governance in Climate-Smart Cities; iv) Socioeconomic Impacts of Transition in Industry and Private Sector; and v) Green Jobs and Skill Development (cross-cutting).

## 9.2 Operationalizing the CIF Gender Action Plan – Phase 3

64. As described above, Figure 1 outlines the Theory of Change developed for Phase 3 of the Gender Action Plan. It features both internal inputs, global coordination, and country-level action in order to achieve the gender-transformational outcomes that the program seeks. To operationalize the Phase 3 Plan, several priority processes and focus themes will be emphasized during implementation. These are outlined below.

### 9.2.1 Roles and Responsibilities

65. The *CIF Gender Action Plan - Phase 3* will maintain the governance arrangements for CIF Gender Program implementation from the first two phases, with a greater emphasis on more regular convening of the CIF Gender Working Group, and attention to gender technical support for MDB staff and CIF pilot country partners. Overall, the Plan will continue to be implemented as a joint effort of the MDBs and the CIF AU, using the mechanism of the CIF Gender Working Group, with overall guidance from the CIF governing bodies. Primary responsibility for delivery of the action plan will lie with the CIF Administrative Unit. The CIF Gender Policy has also mandated a role for gender representatives among the CIF observers, and Phase 3 implementation is envisioned to ensure full use of this mechanism as an input to program transparency and accountability at both governance and implementation levels.

66. Under Phase 3, MDBs remain responsible for project design, implementation and monitoring, reporting and evaluation. The CIF AU coordinates overall gender mainstreaming in CIF policies and programs;

provides technical advice upon demand and facilitates upstream technical support to help ensure improved gender performance of programming; and undertakes overall monitoring, knowledge and learning activities together with the MDBs and pilot countries to advance gender equality outcomes and assess gender impacts of CIF programs. Pilot countries are responsible for investment plan preparation (including integration of gender considerations), and for the identification, preparation and implementation of projects based on country needs, together with MDBs, and to undertake gender-responsive reporting on their programming.

67. Overall, the Phase 3 Plan will deepen its focus on institutional and technical support for systemic change; on full implementation of the CIF Gender Policy, its requirements, and related new gender mandates under new programming documents, and with a sharper focus on upstream technical support to project preparation and capacity-building tied to operations. This is envisioned as working in a more routinized way to ensure adherence to program requirements, particularly through provision of i) sector-specific technical input; while also working more expansively on ii) direct support to those countries seeking to mainstream their gender and climate action through effective use of inclusive planning, alignment with country gender machinery and NDC processes, and coordination of devolved finance (e.g., under an expanded DGM program). Stronger attention to gender-inclusive stakeholder engagement in investment planning and operations design, and in implementation reviews, is also envisioned. Throughout Phase 3, CIF will remain committed to learning and sharing lessons with MDBs, countries, and other climate actors on good practices, key design elements, and the expected gains from an iterative approach that is dedicated to local institution-building.
68. In sum, the *CIF Gender Action Plan Phase 3* will continue to focus on the objectives of: (i) mainstreaming gender in CIF policies and programs, and (ii) enhancing knowledge and learning, and technical support on gender in the CIF, but with the additional focus area of providing targeted assistance to institutional scale-up of gender and climate mainstreaming within country systems, including through inclusive processes reaching across administrative scales in-country. This support will be offered to countries on demand and in coordination with MDBs and will leverage partnerships with other climate and development actors where there is potential to do so.
69. CIF's gender efforts in Phase 3 will include a key focus on women's climate leadership, and inclusive approaches to climate planning across multiple scales. Efforts will be complemented with a scaling-up of sector-specific gender technical support; new tools in the form of sector-specific guidance sheets to operational teams and capacity-building related to CIF requirements in the areas of gender inclusion in its operations including in private sector investments;; and expanded efforts on a gender technical community of practice among MDB and country representatives.

### **9.3 Policy and Program Support**

70. *CIF Gender Policy*: The *CIF Gender Action Plan Phase 3* will be implemented in line with the existing *CIF Gender Policy* approved in 2018. The *CIF Gender Policy* as approved by the Joint TFC has several requirements<sup>45</sup> to ensure gender integration at pre-approval stage for Investment Plans and projects however mandated implementation has not been fully mainstreamed yet into internal CIF approval

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<sup>45</sup> E.g., gender analysis, inclusive joint missions and consultations, gender content to expert reviews of IPs, gender-responsive monitoring, and the like.



processes. In addition to more thorough attention to these issues at an upstream stage, with dialogue between CIF AU, MDBs and countries, the new programming areas, with their specific gender requirements, should help ensure more regular attention to gender across the project cycle in CIF programming. Capacity-building in this area for key stakeholders is planned, as well as development of reference materials to provide guidance on improved gender approaches.

71. Project monitoring and reporting on gender results has also been a challenging area, often with MDB reporting requirements on sex-disaggregated beneficiary information not being readily available. As part of M&R reform on gender, CIF AU will ensure that MDB project results indicators on gender that are being collected at MDB level, are also filtered through to CIF AU reporting level, to ensure that these figures on outcomes are captured in CIF reporting.
72. In addition, the results from the Gender Scorecard indicator system currently in place (comprising gender quality at entry reporting for the presence of 'Sector-Specific gender analysis, women-specific activities, and sex-disaggregated M&E' in IPs and projects) shows stronger attention over Phase 2 to gender in IP and project design for all four program areas. Nonetheless, even stronger performance could be encouraged. For the Phase 3 start in July 2020 there will be an effort to move towards more linear results chains that link the three areas of relevant gender gaps in the sector being financed in the country, actions the project takes to reduce those gaps, and monitoring indicators to be used to report on the gap reduction. Such an approach represents an overall stricter standard of gender logic and performance within projects. It is recognized that there will be a strong need/ demand for support on upstream gender analysis to identify the gender results chain of the project. Capacity-building will be offered to MDBs (and countries) in order to help improve performance in this area.
73. Emphasis will similarly be placed on ensuring that requirements under the Operational Modalities program paper, by investment area, are fulfilled by CIF implementing entities and countries. In terms of technical assistance, Phase 3 will feature a scaling-up of upstream technical support to investment plan preparation and particularly to individual projects, upon request from countries and MDBs.

#### **9.4 Knowledge Management and Learning**

74. Phase 3 will see a range of analytical efforts, including: i) a large-scale study on gender and renewable energy; ii) action research on gender and sustainable forest management, along with an ii) analytical emphasis on gender in the Just Transition (multiple outputs) and efforts around preparation of iv) technical guidance notes and tip sheets for use by task teams. The CIF Gender program will also seek to respond in Phase 3 to calls for region-specific learning events to enhance skills and country capacity on sector-specific gender mainstreaming. Some areas, such as that on forest-based value chains and forest governance, will combine analytical partnerships, such as with CIFOR and others, with delivery of regional training, with an initial focus on West Africa in the case of forests, in response to country demand. South-South Exchanges (e.g., Mexico-Mozambique) on forests and landscapes have also been requested, along with examination of the potentials for lessons from and enhancements to DGM.
75. MDBs will continue with their analytical and learning activities in order to share best practices on gender in the CIF and in response to their business requirements and client demand. MDBs will undertake gender analytical pieces in such areas as review of CIF-financed portfolio (ADB), and a synthesis review of DGM experience across countries (World Bank). AfDB will prepare factsheets highlighting the results and progress on gender equality of CIF operations in Africa. Specific capacity-building support to MDBs by CIF AU will continue in the area of gender and climate, on an on-demand basis in order to deepen the

lessons from CIF implementation in MDB programming and investment approaches.

76. In addition, the CIF Gender Working Group has identified sectoral areas of interest in which gender knowledge could be expanded, and these priority areas will be added to Phase 3 as implementation gets underway. Sectoral areas of interest to MDBs include: gender in the Just Transition and linkages to skills and human capital development; enhancing private sector approaches to gender equality outcomes in the CIF; and measuring women's resilience and longer-term asset development.

## 10. Monitoring Progress

77. Results will be monitored annually to assess the impact of the Phase 3 Gender Action Plan on CIF program implementation and institutional advances in-country, and to contribute to regular CIF-wide reporting processes.

78. Specifically, Phase 3 will feature stronger gender monitoring and reporting at the levels of the CIF portfolio, specific programs, and on MDB-specific CIF portfolios. It will employ the following mechanisms: i) reporting on a streamlined results framework for the Phase 3 Gender Action Plan; ii) inclusion of key gender indicators in the CCH system; iii) strengthened requirements on new programming results chains on gender outcomes within projects and on accompanying gender indicators, as reviewed at CIF AU level; and iv) expanded reporting by MDBs on gender portfolio performance under their own MDB "gender tag/ gender marker" systems for use in CIF-wide monitoring to assess change over time in MDB gender performance in CIF-financed operations, including in relation to MDB operations not receiving CIF financing, as well as on reporting MDBs' CIF-financed individual project results indicators on gender on an annual basis.

79. The *CIF Gender Action Plan - Phase 3 Results Framework* has been streamlined from earlier versions in order to focus on: support to countries and MDBs; institutional change processes; and internal governance of the CIF. M&R reforms will also include enhanced integration of key gender variables in the CCH system, for direct reporting by MDBs and countries.

80. To strengthen gender reporting in the CIF, it is envisioned that CIF AU and MDBs will report regularly on gender data from their institutions as it pertains to the CIF-financed portfolio. Specifically, within six (6) months after the end of each Financial reporting year (RY), gender performance reporting data on CIF Projects as reported to each Implementing Entity's management team (i.e., under a 'gender tag', 'gender marker' or similar rating system), with such gender performance data to be reported by CIF Project, and aggregated for each CIF program and on a CIF-portfolio wide basis as implemented by the MDB, and accompanied by a similar MDB-portfolio wide comparator metric regarding gender performance across the MDB portfolio and specifying:

- Number and percentage of CIF-funded projects falling under different tiers/categories of the MDB gender rating system
- USD amounts approved and disbursed under project stand-alone components on gender (where present)
- Project-specific gender achievements as specified in the MDB project's Board-approved results frameworks
- Sex-disaggregated beneficiary figures by project, program and CIF-funded MDB portfolio, together with other socioeconomic markers where feasible, such age and disability status

- Project outcome achievements as related to results indicators of the Results Framework of the *CIF Gender Action Plan* under implementation.

### **10.1 Communicating CIF Gender Activities and Sharing Lessons**

81. CIF AU online communications efforts on gender will continue, including use of blogs and webinar learning opportunities. Sharing lessons of CIF efforts on gender-transformative climate programming is an important priority under Phase 3. An expanded electronic community of practice is planned for CIF Gender Working Group members in the first instance, and for country focal points from the programs, and later for more general dissemination of program lessons and communications. This will also include closer tracking of web user statistics to analyze geographical origin of web traffic and the overall strength of CIF Gender’s online presence.

## **11. Conclusion**

82. Since 2014, the Climate Investment Funds have prioritized gender equality outcomes in its programming, through the establishment of the CIF Gender Programming and staffing of a Senior Social Development Specialist in 2014, later joined by a Social Development Specialist in 2019. Development of the *CIF Gender Action Plans – Phases 1 and 2*, the *CIF Gender Policy*, and continued implementation through the CIF AU, CIF Gender Working Group, MDB, country and observer partners has allowed the development of significant improvements in portfolio gender quality and in joint learning, including with external funds and partners, while influencing capacity and growth of the Gender and Climate agenda across CIF MDBs.
83. With the *CIF Gender Action Plan – Phase 3*, intended for implementation from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2024, the CIF is again looking to support gender-transformative outcomes but with a heightened emphasis on shifts over time in institutions and markets, as well as improvements in women’s agency and empowerment at local level, as arenas for systemic change. The potential addition of the new programming areas, including novel entrants such as low-carbon urban investments and “greening industries” initiatives also offer scope for innovation and scale on gender equality goals in diverse country contexts. In addition, Phase 3 includes a new emphasis on supporting Women’s Climate Leadership, with a view to helping CIF Gender contributions become more embedded over time in countries’ own strategic planning processes around gender, climate, and development, including through NDC and related processes.
84. *The CIF Gender Action Plan – Phase 3* builds upon the firm foundation of earlier phases, including in its implementation mechanisms, but with a stronger mandate and new opportunity for closer application of the CIF Gender Policy, upstream support to MDBs and countries, and robust integration of gender actions in the new programming areas – the design of which themselves are evidence of institutional change and effective gender integration outcomes within the CIF, when compared to the Funds’ early days. With strong demand from countries, MDBs and the Governing Bodies of the CIF, for the proposed work on gender-transformative programming, and an expanded team in CIF AU and a growing CIF Gender Working Group, the program is well-positioned to begin implementation of the Phase 3 Plan from July 2020, and looks forward to the continued partnerships, feedback and reflective approach regarding gender that is possible within the context of CIF as a “learning laboratory”.

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## Annex 1 CIF GENDER ACTION PLAN – Phase 3: Results Framework

<p><b>Goal:</b> <i>Women’s improved asset, voice, and resilient livelihood status through gender-responsive institutions and markets</i></p>		
<p><b>Objective:</b> <i>To mainstream gender in CIF policy and programming for enhanced gender outcomes across the portfolio via technical support, capacity-building, knowledge generation and program learning</i></p>		
OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	INDICATORS (Baselines and targets TBC)
<p><b>A/Enhance upstream gender integration in CIF investment plans and projects through enhanced analysis, technical support, and monitoring</b></p>	<p>A-i/ Prepare guidance note for implementation of existing CIF Gender Policy (FY20/ Q1)</p> <p>A-ii/ Prepare guidance sheets specific to each new SCF program and its operational modalities (FY20/ Q1)</p> <p>A-iii/ Prepare i) guidance note to transition CIF teams from ‘gender-informed’ approach to linear results chain of modified ‘gender tag’ type project design and ii) develop and roll-out organizational/ system approach to latter (that consolidates into around 3-tiers existing MDB gender monitoring systems), based on discussion with CIF GWG (FY20/ Q1)</p> <p>A-iv/ Development of sector and program-specific tip sheets on good practice in analysis, design, and monitoring as input to project teams (ongoing)</p> <p>A-v/Development of Community of Practice approach among i) CIF Gender Working Group, ii) extended-MDB group, iii) across CIF partnership including countries and observers, and for iv) global dissemination (with enhanced communication and media channels) (from FY20/ Q1 onwards)</p> <p>A-vi/Develop clearinghouse list and informal matching service (as needed) of external firms and individual consultants available for enhanced support to MDBs on own-contract basis</p>	<p>A1. Guidance notes prepared in relevant quarters of FY/s</p> <p>A2. ‘Modified gender tag’ system for CIF rolled out by Dec 2020</p> <p>A3. No. and %. of new Investment Plans (CIF-wide and by program) that have received technical support from CIF AU or other facilitated mechanism (such as Gender Group of MDB) prior to TFC submission for approval</p> <p>A4. No. and % of new projects (CIF-wide, and by program) that have received this support</p> <p>A5. No. and % of Phase 3 CIF projects that fall into each tier of consolidated gender rating system (annual)</p>

	<p>A-vii/ Develop costing, with MDB, of the implementation of the updated gender requirements, and use of gender budget lines (from Admin Budget, country engagement, MDB own resources, and other sources)</p>	
<p><b>B/ Support pilot countries in implementing their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) with a gender lens</b></p>	<p>B-i/Support MDB teams in identifying ways to link CIF investments to NDC implementation in country</p> <p>B-ii/ Support to country capacity development in gender-responsive and inclusive planning processes in adaptation and mitigation, linked to line ministry planning, decentralization agendas, or other country priorities</p>	<p>B1. No. of pilot countries (cumulative since July 1, 2020) directly supported by CIF partnership towards institutionalizing gender in NDC implementation</p> <p>B2. No and % of CIF pilot countries with UNFCCC gender focal point i) in place and ii) liaising with CIF representatives</p> <p>B3. No. of pilot countries (cumulative) receiving TA inputs on Women’s Climate Leadership</p> <p>B4. No. and % of: i) new CIF investment plans and No. and % of ii) new CIF investments (from July 1, 2020) that include national gender machinery<sup>46</sup> in IP or project preparation consultations, respectively</p> <p>B5. No. and % of: i) new CIF investment plans and No. and % of ii) new investments (from July 1, 2020) that include women in their preparation consultations (provide also sex-disaggregated figures on individuals attending consultations (M/F)</p>

<sup>46</sup> E.g., Ministry of Women’s Affairs, gender focal points in line ministries, or UNFCCC country gender focal points



		<p>B6. Preparation of Women’s Climate Leadership program roadmap detailing multi-year approach and activities</p> <p>B7. Qualitative reporting on activities and results under Women’s Climate Leadership</p>
<p><b>C/ Strengthen CIF evidence base, knowledge and capacity on gender and climate change</b></p>	<p>C-i/ Flagship report on Gender, Climate Change and Poverty</p> <p>C-ii/ Gender integration in Just Transition work</p> <p>C-iii/ Gender and Renewable Energy Study</p> <p>C-iv/ Undertake gender scoping and good practice compendium on gender and climate-smart urbanization</p> <p>C-v/ Gender and Forests partnership with CIFOR or similar for research and learning (including regional event with focus on gender and forests governance, and gender and forest-based value chains)</p> <p>C-vi/ CIF AU to offer training on Gender and Climate to MDBs on demand</p>	<p>C1. No. of completed Gender analytical pieces across CIF (annually)</p> <p>C2. No. of sector-specific gender learning events conducted by CIF (annually) and no. of participants (M/F)</p>
<p><b>D/ Improve CIF gender monitoring and reporting</b> 47</p>	<p>D-i. Maintain gender scorecard system for existing portfolio, while transitioning for new SCF programming to ‘modified gender tag’ system</p> <p>D-ii. Ensure MDB reporting on operational results and beneficiary numbers (sex-disaggregated and disaggregated by age and disability<sup>48</sup> status), in line with other regular reporting for risk and related topics</p> <p>D-iii. Integration of key gender indicators into automated CCH system of CIF</p>	<p>D1. Dollar share tracking (amount and %) of stand-alone gender activities within CIF projects.</p> <p>D2. No. and % of CIF projects approved from July 1, 2020 that have: i) sexdisaggregated M&amp;E indicators in their results frameworks; and that ii) report on these and have iii) further disaggregation by iv)</p>

<sup>48</sup> Binary indicator of disabled/ able-bodied with 40% disability (moderate level) as minimum threshold consideration.

		age <sup>49</sup> categories and by v) disability <sup>50</sup> status
<b>E/ Enhance knowledge and practice on measures to reduce gender gaps through renewable energy programming</b>	<p>E-i. Analytical and best practice toolkits in gender and large-scale renewable energy investments</p> <p>E-ii. Evaluative assessments, including tracer studies, of impacts on girls and women supported to join STEM school-to-work transition, or other employment support measures in renewable energy</p> <p>E-iii. Analytical efforts on gender impacts of mini-grid investments, and on monetization of impacts for socially-responsible investors</p>	<p>E1. % of new renewable energy operations with STEM/industry pipeline activities to expand women’s employment (both private and public sector operations)</p> <p>E2. No. of new jobs created in renewable energy sector projects in which women are employed (disaggregated by job quality indicators of temporary/ permanent status; unskilled/skilled), and informal/formal sector)</p> <p>E3. % of new rural renewable energy operations that include productive linkage activities for women</p> <p>E4. No. and share of renewable energy positions (formal sector) and own-enterprises (formal and informal sectors, in energy services or in productive uses of energy, held by women and men, as a result of CIF operations</p>
<b>F/ Improve women’s tenure security and livelihoods base through gender-responsive Dedicated</b>	F-i. Identify and support DGM groups’ capacity-building and linkage needs in order to help improve voice of women and indigenous peoples and local communities in landscapes-related policy	F1. No. and % of female-led sub-projects among DGM-financed operations of CSOs (disaggregated by age and disability status)

<sup>49</sup> E.g., following UN labor classifications, these are 15-24; 25-54; 55-64; and 65+

<sup>50</sup> Binary indicator (disabled, not disabled, using national definition of disability, such as 40% gross disability).

<p><b>Grant Mechanism (DGM) investments</b></p>		<p>F2a. No. and % share of DGM projects that feature women-owned forest enterprises (including collective enterprises)</p> <p>F2b. No and % of DGM forest own-enterprise entrepreneurs that are female</p> <p>F3. No. and % share of DGM projects that feature engagement by i) women (disaggregated by indigenous/ nonindigenous status) with landscapes policies and dialogue in country</p>
<p><b>G/ Deepen women’s climate leadership efforts through the CIF</b></p>	<p>G-i. Technical support and planning process engagement</p>	<p>G1. Expanded capacity building support to women at local and national levels for x% of new SCF programming countries with approved investments</p> <p>G2. Expanded inclusion and gender-responsiveness of national/ sub-national planning process (esp. engagement of women) for x% of new SCF programming countries with approved investments</p> <p>G3. Expanded participation of women’s organization and women’s rights organizations in: i. CIF consultations for new program investments; ii. CIF participatory M&amp;R processes (e.g., national</p>

		<p>scoring workshops (share of women’s organization among total organizations participating) and number and % of participants, disaggregated by gender)</p> <p>G4. Mid-term review with perception survey of CIF’s effectiveness in gender and inclusion conducted with CIF country focal points, CIF-financed and non-CIF financed CSOs in country (Y/N), and % shares of male and female beneficiaries</p> <p>G5. No. and % of Project Implementation Unit staff who are female</p> <p>G6. No. and % of women participants in project participatory research and evaluation measures</p>
<b>H/ Expand private sector participation in gender-responsive mitigation and adaptation investments</b>	H-i. Prepare synthesis note on gender and private sector investments to date across CIF portfolio, including mechanisms that have worked, could be added, and remaining barriers and challenges, in areas such as insurance, savings, and credit lines for women’s energy enterprises	<p>H1. % of new SCF programming that is private sector in nature and “gender-tagged or equivalent” under CIF Gender composite rating system</p> <p>H2. No. of industry association collaborations on gender and climate</p>
<b>PORTFOLIO METRICS</b>		
<b>I/ TRANSITION TO GENDER-TAG SYSTEM IN CIF</b>	I-i. Develop consolidated system based on MDBs’ own gender tracking approaches and build up reporting capacity on it.	I1. No. and share of new SCF Investment Plans falling into each of three consolidated gender tag tiers

		<p>12. No. and shares of new SCF projects falling into each of three consolidated gender tag tiers</p> <p>1-3. No. of gender tag and upstream support training events offered to CIF partnership members (by FY)</p>
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<b>INTERNAL MONITORING ON CIF GOVERNANCE - GENDER</b>		
<p>J/Deepen gender-inclusive climate finance governance</p>	<p>J-i. Women’s participation in climate planning Processes increased</p>	<p>J1. % (and number) of women participating in new SCF Investment Plan consultations, of total participants (disaggregated by age, indigenous identity, and disability status)</p> <p>J2. % (and number) of current CIF observers that are female</p> <p>J3. % (and number) of total CIF trust fund committee members (contributors and recipients) that are female</p> <p>J4. % (and number) of total CIF observers that are female</p> <p>J5. % (and number) of total CIF trust fund committee members (contributors and recipients) that are female</p> <p>J6. % (and number) of total CIF AU staff at Analyst level and above, that are female</p> <p>J7. % (and number) of new SCF CIF investment plans that establish a gender focal point for IP implementation</p>
		<p>J8. % (and number) of CIF country focal point teams that liaise with NDC gender focal point teams in-country</p>

## **Annex 2 Sources of Feedback on CIF Gender Action Plan Implementation**

- a. As a large and diverse partnership, CIF is fortunate to have several sources of feedback on implementation of its Gender Program. In preparing the Phase 3 Gender Action Plan, the team was able to draw on feedback from the TFC, MDBs, and diverse evaluative sources. First, there was formal feedback from the TFC members as delivered during recent TFC meetings, where a consensus developed on the need for further upstream support and technical advice to countries and to MDBs to help strengthen CIF portfolio performance on gender. Second, the CIF Gender Working Group of MDB representatives provided input. Specifically, a Second Global Meet of the CIF Gender Working Group of MDB representatives (London, February 2020). MDBs shared meaningful portfolio and institutional progress on gender integration in the CIF and its influence on MDB activities on gender and climate, but requested additional scale-up of technical support, more training and regular meetings of the CIF Gender Working Group and scaled-up funding to carry out preparatory activities with countries. Third, evaluations and assessments undertaken under the E&L initiative also examined the experience of the CIF Gender Program and met with diverse stakeholders around the world. Their conclusions, e.g., from the Transformational Change study of 2019, as well as an assessment on the engagement of women and gender-related groups in the CIF, completed in 2020, is also discussed below, and has been taken on board in the structuring of the program's emphasis and ambition for Phase 3. Further details are provided below.

### ***Trust Fund Committee feedback on CIF Gender Program implementation***

- b. A key area of feedback from the Trust Fund Committees regarding CIF Gender Program implementation have been that the scorecard system to enhance quality at entry in CIF Investment Plans and projects was welcomed but that a lot more focus was needed on results on the ground in terms of gender outcomes and impact and thus a request that CIF AU provide more upstream support on gender to Plans and projects, and enhanced review and technical inputs to CIF pipeline investments than previously. The CIF Gender Program is responding to this feedback with: i) upstream attention to pipeline; ii) ensuring women's participation in IP consultations along with other CIF Gender Policy requirements; iii) more transparently reflecting performance of CIF portfolio against MDB's own internal systems and targets (i.e., through incorporation of a consolidated gender tag ranking system that reflects MDBs' own systems and reported scoring). There will be a stronger emphasis in Phase 3 on support to country institutional efforts to enhance women's voice and agency in climate planning, and sector-specific mechanisms to do so, and analytical and program attention to devolved climate finance potential across programming.
- c. A second key area of feedback from the TFCs has been on the need for improved gender reporting regarding implementation on the ground, once again with a focus on results and impact. The current M&R reporting streams under the CIF Gender program are: a) CIF M&R, b) CIF Gender FY report and SAR reporting); c) newly added - SDG5 'tagging' by CIF (against scorecard indicators) & gender indicators from MDB operations results' framework (though often even sex-disaggregated beneficiary data is missing). Going forward, there will be more use of data from MDB systems, including operational reporting. In addition, the Phase 3 results framework is more streamlined than that for Phase 2, with more emphasis on e.g., macro/ portfolio-wide targets, than sector-specific outcomes. The TFCs also want to see CIF AU technical support enhanced to countries and MDBs. This will be done in Phase 3 through enhanced series of face-to-face, online, and electronic resource- based training and knowledge materials, to more broadly disseminate knowledge of CIF gender requirements and good practices, and to foster a learning culture on gender.

## ***Findings on Gender from the 2019 Independent Evaluation of Transformational Change in the CIF***

- d. Another source of program feedback comes from external evaluations. The Transformational Change team led by Itad examined gender integration in the CIF and to what degree these efforts represented gender-transformative directions of change. The study concluded that *“CIF has improved its mainstreaming of gender considerations and is advancing women’s voice, skills, and livelihoods in ways that are starting to bring about systemic change”*. However, it further stated that *“overall, evidence is not yet available of outcomes ... [on] how gender-responsive programming contributes to .... transformational change at scale – due in part to the timing of the CIF Gender Program, resourcing, and the enormity of the challenge [of gender integration] [emphasis added]”*.
- e. The Transformational Change study recommended that CIF strengthen inclusion of gender-responsive action in its programming by continuing to “promote programming that leverages gender-responsive actions by ensuring that gender-transformative elements are included in the design stage, are implemented, and are monitored and evaluated. The study further stated that the CIF Gender Policy should be implemented in full and be sufficiently resourced”.
- f. The evaluation found that “CIF has moved toward equal participation in, and benefits from, CIF interventions, with the strongest results in SCF programs. CIF IPs and projects increasingly include in-depth gender analysis, women-specific activities, and sex-disaggregated monitoring and reporting”. It found “interim signals of system change regarding gender-responsive design and institutional changes, as well as market-related outcomes, which might lead to scaling”, stating that “although there is potential for transformative gender impacts in the short to medium-term, CIF projects currently provide little evidence on how gender-responsive programming enhances transformational change [as defined by the study’s focus on dimensions of relevance, systems change; scale and sustainability].
- g. The team noted as a positive signal of ‘scaling’ impact in the future that “CIF partners are starting to design more gender-responsive interventions, including projects submitted to the GCF”, as well as hosting more gender-responsive interventions and technical support such as with the EBRD district heating toolkit supporting design of operations. The study observed gender impacts at the levels of: i) individual and community spheres (e.g., regarding women’s voice, skills and livelihoods); ii) Women’s participation and representation in ‘trainings, planning processes, and construction work’ and (NRM) leadership – Nepal, Cambodia, Niger – also income growth, land access; and had the potential for “dynamic shifts in aspirations for women’s participation and leadership, and influencing community gender norms over time, as part of a longer incremental process toward empowerment”. The study also assessed that there were national examples of gender-responsive design contributing to institutional changes in select pilot countries (what was termed as ‘interim signals of systemic change’), as well as market-related outcomes, that could lead to scaling and transformation objectives. The countries cited as examples where such interim signals of gender-induced inclusive design were found were: ADB PPCR Cambodia; FIP Mexico; CTF Turkey; and PPCR Tajikistan by EBRD; as well as the World Bank’s PPCR and SREP Nepal; and Zambia PPCR<sup>51</sup>.

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<sup>51</sup> The case of the Forests and Climate Change project of FIP Mexico (World Bank) is instructive. The project was able to integrate gender at multiple levels and through diverse entry points. First, there was alignment with national policy *National Development Plan 2013-18*, with gender equality as key principle. Mexican States are required to carry out activities to promote women’s rights and avoid discrimination. In addition, the project’s design features included the following: i) mainstreaming gender in National Forestry Commission planning, budgeting, and monitoring processes; ii) Working with women foresters and women forest producers



- h. In the case of FIP Mexico, lessons<sup>52</sup> from the World Bank project on Forests and Climate Change has demonstrated that sustainable forest management holds opportunities for women's improved tenure security, and livelihoods and food security impacts (i.e., their endowments and assets), while improving their voice and agency via their improved participation in local resource governance of forest committees; offers benefit streams through e.g., i) payment for environmental services approaches ii) participation as workers and owners in forest product value chains, taking the form of economic opportunities for women. To meet these objectives, deliberate outreach and design of technical support on gender and forest landscapes, and community forest tenure and benefit-sharing, incl. linkages with private sector agro-forestry investments and climate-smart agriculture, are needed for women forest producers. Phase 3 analytical, learning and technical assistance work will aim to do just this, in response to the growing demand from CIF pilot countries, MDB FIP focal points, and other sector staff of MDBs (i.e., Task Team Leaders).
- i. Other recent assessments that looked at CIF Gender Program Implementation included the 2020 WEDO assessment on the "Engagement of women and gender-related groups in the CIF". Findings included the conclusion that enhanced engagement beyond the IP preparation stage through to implementation is important for sustained gender outcomes.

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to share experience, expand training and research; and leadership exchanges; iii) Enhancing women's role in formal forest governance in *ejidos*, incl. non-timber forest production and management, and iv) advancing integrated forest policy that considers these uses; v) Joint action on policy to address land rights of rural women. The myriad range of actions chosen were mutually reinforcing towards gender equality outcomes.

<sup>52</sup> FIP Mexico intervention areas which remained challenging but on which the project (and its implementing forest agency CONAFOR) continued to work included: i) Joint actions with Ministries of Agriculture and of Women, to address land ownership for rural women, and in relation to forest law and policy working to ii) safeguard NTFP activities in which women predominate; iii) promoting women's participation on representative and decision making spaces. ; iv) strengthening the forest agency's capacity in gender integration, and a gender and climate lens to projects and programs; including actions for the empowerment of women in the forestry sector.

### Annex 3 Gender Entry Points within New Programming Areas

- j. The changing context for implementation of the *CIF Gender Action Plan – Phase 3* also includes new developments in the CIF itself. Following successful implementation since 2008 of its programming across renewable energy, energy access, climate resilience, and sustainable forest management, CIF has now identified emerging policy and investment challenges requiring new programming support, namely renewable energy integration; climate-smart cities; nature-based solutions and greening industry.
- k. By design, and in many ways as another form of evidence of the enhanced institutionalization of gender integration in the CIF itself, the new programming areas include specific gender entry points and mandates requirements. The **“Integration of Renewable Energy into Power Systems Program”**, hosts myriad opportunities to reduce gender gaps and expand inclusion, including in areas related to energy pricing, affordability, and linkages of energy services to produce use applications in which women specifically can benefit, such as in small-scale processing, trade, and manufacturing. Program contents include a mix of technologies and design elements, including demand-side management and market design that reaches all users (i.e., women and men, producer and consumer groups et cetera). The Technical Assistance (TA) Facility entry points in this sectoral area include support for such potential activities as: impact assessments of tariff and subsidy design on women’s access to energy services; demand-size management among all users for real-time grid management of distributed generation (and use of advanced metering); the role of women and men in the energy value chain as consumers, workers, and entrepreneurs.
- l. Projects may include such investments as mini-grid aggregation enterprises for enhanced private sector inflows, which again offer women the potential for scale-up of their growing role as energy entrepreneurs. There is scope within this program area as well to innovate around gender-positive design mechanisms, such as through sweetening of investment terms for borrowers in relation to gender-specific criteria around procurement (e.g., through women-owned firms as principals or sub-contractors), gender targets around employment generation, or similar, drawing on earlier experience from CTF Colombia investments of IDB, for example, as well as the growing commitments of MDBs around gender-positive procurement<sup>53 54</sup>.
- m. Under the **“Climate-Smart Urbanization Program”**, CIF seeks to support spatial transformation towards low-carbon, climate resilience development. The program recognizes the importance of participatory planning at multiple scales in urban settings; as well as with diverse populations, including both settled, and in-migrant populations, as well as those residing in formal and non-formal settlements, for example. Women as a sub-category within these various inter-sectional groups, must similarly be included in climate-smart planning in a comprehensive and integrated manner.
- n. Green job opportunities; interactions between climate and health; disaster risk reduction

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<sup>53</sup> In 2018, the WBG committed to increase the share of annual corporate procurement that goes to women-owned businesses (WBEs) to 7% by 2023, a doubling over the baseline (see DFID K4D report overview at [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5b3b697fe5274a6ffac66ac3/Gender\\_sensitive\\_procuremt.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5b3b697fe5274a6ffac66ac3/Gender_sensitive_procuremt.pdf) ; also WeConnect International consortium).

<sup>54</sup> As defined by UN Women, gender-responsive procurement is the “sustainable selection of services, goods or civil works that takes into account the impact on gender equality and women’s empowerment” (See details at [https://www.un.org/Shared/KnowledgeCenter/Pages/PT\\_GRP](https://www.un.org/Shared/KnowledgeCenter/Pages/PT_GRP) ).

and preparedness activities; urban titling; urban land use; and green buildings (including residential development), and safe, clean transport, to name but a few, all raise important opportunities in these contexts as new priorities and resources are being identified for action by cities over the medium-term, including in the built environment and infrastructure, and there is potential for maladaptation or 'lock-in' from sunk-cost investments if such investments are not designed with gender and social inclusion goals from the start. Strong CIF experience in gender and transport (ADB and World Bank CTF) and approaches to reduce the threat of gender-based violence through street lighting and station design measures offer good practice examples.

- o. The program proposal also offers the example of investing in distributed energy for social housing, again highlighting the importance of gender-inclusive priority setting and implementation approaches. Rapid city diagnostics are envisioned as a first step under the program, including coverage of such areas as gender-responsive disaster-preparedness, livelihood opportunities under waste-to-energy investments, and quality of life preferences among different user groups when planning for green space in urban areas. Significant emphasis is also placed on national and sub-national governance structures used for the development of viable urban agglomerations that are low-carbon and climate resilience in their expected growth trajectories. Support to use of such structures entails sound opportunities technical assistance in women's climate leadership and inclusive planning, as outlined in this *Phase 3 Gender Action Plan*.
- p. The **"Nature, People and Climate Investments Program"** employs a landscapes model that expands beyond forests alone to include agriculture and water, and ecosystems elements - including coastal landscapes. It is intended to manage natural resource systems while enhancing the livelihood options of communities and their members, both women and men. The program includes entry points of conduct of a landscapes diagnostic, as well as a dedicated focus in Investment Plans on gender integration elements, and a participatory approach with attention to how the needs and interests of all social groups are represented in program planning. There is an expected scale-up of the Dedicated Grant Mechanism (DGM) under this program, which include a larger resilience element. From earlier programming, the DGM model has been shown to have positive gender impact, including on the growth of women's leadership opportunities in natural resource governance and productive use, including in livelihoods development. Land tenure and titling ambitions remain, in order to expand women's control over assets.
- q. The **"Accelerating Low-Carbon, Climate Resilient Transition in Industry Program"** (also referred to as 'Greening Industry') is a private-sector focused initiative targeting industrial corporate climate leadership and impact. In a sense, it constitutes a more challenging program for gender integration as the expected actions will be taken by larger corporate entities, and often in order to retrofit, as well as develop, cleaner and more energy-efficient production processes. The program has a focus on high greenhouse gas (GHG)-emitting sectors, such as chemicals, petrochemicals, iron, steel, aluminum manufacturing, cement, pulp and paper, glass manufacturing, and mining.
- r. The most direct linkages to an enhanced gender equality effort may be those related to a 'just transition' and related employment and re-skilling considerations, in order to ensure that undue gender imbalances are not exacerbated alongside these 'greening' reforms. Social audit processes are one entry point, including those that assess - in relation to both plant workers as well as community members of production sites – i) environmental health and safety impacts of production, as well as the ii) medium-term occupational trends (by sex) expected in relation to transition efforts. This includes the positive opportunities for skilled work and high-value employment for women and men among manufacturers and suppliers, as well as for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) (including women-owned firms) in the concerned production value chains.

## ***Operational Modalities for New Programming***

- s. As the Operational Modalities paper for the new programs alludes, the CIF business model features “consideration of system transformation and social inclusion at the outset”. The Modalities paper underlines that CIF’s programmatic approach will continue to be used for design and implementation of the new programming, including the 2018 CIF Gender Policy itself, which seeks to advance equal access to and benefit from CIF-supported investments for women and men in CIF pilot countries. This approach is to employ the use of “gender-responsive assessment, consultation, design, implementation, monitoring and reporting, and evaluation processes” to support gender equality outcomes through CIF assistance.
- t. There is an emphasis within the new Programming of working towards “systemic change” following a “system-level, socially-inclusive, participatory approach [...] including consultations with multiple stakeholders including women’s organizations... [in order to deliver] demonstrable and measurable impact on gender equality and social inclusion outcomes”. Investment criteria by program are identified and the justifications for investment systematically include gender equality and social inclusion impact in all cases (e.g., with the paper outlining key gender and inclusion barriers related to the sector and providing illustrative examples of gender and social co-benefits by program).
- u. The Operational Modalities paper includes specific Annexes organized by program, and so in the case of the Energy programs, key gender entry points in relation to girls’ and women’s STEM<sup>55</sup> education, training and employment are mentioned, along with energy service tariffs and affordability concerns, for example. For the urban proposal, gender entry points are identified in relation to inclusion of vulnerable groups in planning, as well as the socio-spatial considerations of disadvantaged areas that may be excluded from planning or investments. The greening industry proposal offers gender opportunities related to issues of gender diversity on corporate boards, and among workforces, as well as efforts to reach all users of energy when design and rolling-out energy-efficient technologies (which can have economic opportunities for women’s energy enterprises, if planned from the start). Finally, gender considerations are present across the nature, people and climate investments program annex, and these are particularly raised in relation to non-timber forest product (NTFP) development (in which women often predominate), as well as land management, food security and the gendered differences in impacts stemming from climate shocks, depending on the composition of the livelihood basket within households.
- v. In all of this, there is clear evidence that CIF has learned both from its Independent Evaluation of Transformational Change study as well as program experience and other assessments, not only about the importance from a design and implementation perspective of thinking in terms of systems and institutional change, but also about the importance of embedding gender objectives, criteria and monitoring elements from the start in the design documents of programs on which investment decisions are made.

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<sup>55</sup> STEM = Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics