



SBSTTA 25

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Agenda Item 3.d Plant Conservation

October 16, 2023

Thanks, Chair

My name is Irene Natukunda from Uganda, speaking on behalf of the UNCBD Women's Caucus.

In this crucial moment of updating the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, we advocate for a forward-thinking strategy that not only safeguards our planet's botanical treasures but also acknowledges the vital role that cultural and gender dynamics play in this endeavor.

In this context, the complementary actions of this Updated Global Strategy must be closely aligned with the recently adopted COP15 decisions, which explicitly mandate the integration of a human rights-based approach, and gender responsiveness into the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, it becomes imperative for this strategy to follow the language coming from the KM-GBF.

in that sense we suggest the concrete text modifications as follows:

- *For the complementary actions related to Target 3:* to add at the end of the para the following **"recognizing indigenous and traditional territories"** so full coherence with the Target text is ensured.
- *For the Complementary actions related to Target 22,* After "Ensure the full" to replace **"consideration—and—effective"** with **"equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive"**.
- *And for the Complementary actions related to Target 23,* instead of **"Promotes gender equality across"** to say **"Ensure gender equality in the implementation of"**.

In closing, a gender-inclusive and responsive approach to plant conservation, and by understanding the role of plant diversity in women's livelihoods, well-being, and sustainable development, and the role and contributions of women and girls in plant health, we strengthen our collective resolve to protect our botanical heritage.

We welcome Parties' support for our considerations.

Thank you.

Explanatory note:

- **Integration of Gender Analysis:**
We propose the integration of a gender analysis into our conservation efforts. By understanding how women and girls are uniquely affected by plant conservation, we can tailor our strategies to ensure equal benefits and recognize their profound knowledge in biodiversity management.
- **Incorporation of Traditional Knowledge:**
We urge the establishment of mechanisms that empower indigenous and local women to contribute their traditional wisdom regarding plant diversity. Their meaningful participation in this process is a testament to the holistic approach we seek.
- **Embracing Landscape Approach:**
In our ecological restoration initiatives, we emphasize the need for a landscape approach. These landscapes, serving as biodiversity corridors, are essential to mitigate the loss of our botanical treasures.
- **Gender-Sensitive Management Plans:**
We recommend the development of gender-sensitive management plans for areas of critical plant diversity. This will empower indigenous and local women and girls to have their voices heard, enhancing the effectiveness of our strategies.
- **Support for Ex Situ Conservation:**
To ensure the conservation of socio-economically important plant species, we propose robust support for the contributions of women and girls in ex situ conservation programs. Their active involvement in monitoring genetic diversity is pivotal.
- **Involvement in Invasive Species Control:**
Recognizing that women play a crucial role in managing invasive species on agricultural lands and local ecosystems, we urge facilitating their participation in control measures.
- **Gender-Disaggregated Data for Impact Assessment:**
We highlight the importance of using gender-disaggregated data to understand the unique impacts of our conservation efforts on women's agricultural practices and household food security.
- **Gender-Inclusive Research Methodologies:**

Comprehensive impact assessment necessitates gender-inclusive research methodologies. These methodologies must acknowledge the diverse roles of women and girls in agriculture, land management, and resource use.

- **Ensuring Equal Access to Benefits:**
We call for the implementation of measures to ensure women have equal access to the benefits of plant conservation initiatives. This includes creating mechanisms for fair compensation for their invaluable contributions.
- **Gender-Responsive Data Collection:**
Finally, ensuring gender-responsive data collection and analysis is pivotal for understanding the role of plant diversity in women's livelihoods, well-being, and sustainable development.

For further information contact CBD Women's Caucus Coordination

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