

## CONCEPT NOTE

### Side-event at COP21



### ***“From global commitments to local solutions: Integrating gender equality in climate change action”***

<b>Organisers:</b>	OECD-DAC Network on Gender Equality (GENDERNET), Switzerland and France
<b>Date/Time:</b>	3 December 2015, 11:15 a.m.–12:45 p.m.
<b>Venue:</b>	Conference Centre, Parc des expositions, Paris-Le Bourget Hall 3, Room 7, Le Bourget, Blue Zone

### **Background**

Twenty years ago, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action was the first international agreement to recognise the linkages between gender equality and climate change by identifying ‘Women and the Environment’ as one of twelve critical areas of concern. In recent years, progress has been made in integrating gender equality in international agreements on climate change and sustainable development – a steep change from the Kyoto Protocol where gender equality was absent. At COP7 in Marrakech (2001), all Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) agreed for the first time on the need to improve women’s equal representation and participation in the UNFCCC proceedings. The Lima Work Programme on Gender, launched in 2014, marked another critical step by calling for the adoption of a gender-sensitive approach in the development and implementation of all climate policies and relevant activities under the Convention.

Climate action is also being driven from the bottom-up, with women at the forefront. Women are leaders in building resilience and developing effective coping strategies in the face of climate change, at local and national levels. Their experience, insights and leadership are essential in developing and implementing effective, locally appropriate climate solutions, which have a positive impact on the lives of women and men and at the same time and in turn contribute to achieving gender equality.

2015 represents a momentous year to raise the level of ambition in support of gender-responsive climate change solutions with the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals and the finalization of a new international climate agreement at COP21. This side event will provide an

opportunity to hear from actors who are striving for gender-responsive climate action from the local to the global level and to learn from their experiences. Based on their insights, this side event will help to identify priorities for accelerating the effective integration of gender equality across the whole range of climate actions.

## **Objectives of the side-event**

- Catalyse commitment in support of the full integration of gender equality in climate action.
- Give greater visibility to the critical role of women's leadership in driving effective climate solutions at all levels.
- Share successful examples of gender-responsive climate change responses at the national and local level.
- Discuss existing challenges in implementation, including the need to better integrate gender equality in climate-related finance.
- Identify concrete priorities and give recommendations for accelerating the implementation of international commitments on gender equality and climate change.

## **Agenda/Speakers**

### **Opening remarks**

**H.E. Ambassador Ulrich Lehner, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the OECD**

### **Panellists**

**H.E. Pascale Boistard, Minister of State for Women's Rights, France**

**H.E. Manuel Pulgar Vidal, Minister for Environment, Peru, Host of COP20 in Lima (tbc)**

**H.E. Hakima El Haite, Minister Delegate to the Minister of Energy, Mining, Water and Environment in Charge of Environment, Morocco (tbc)**

**Hon. Mary Robinson, UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Climate Change and President of the Mary Robinson Foundation-Climate Justice (tbc)**

**Mr. Alejandro Rivera Becerra, Director for Climate Change, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mexico (tbc)**

**Ms. Rupa Mukerji, HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation**

**Ms. Thilmeeza Hussain, former Deputy Permanent Representative of the Maldives to the UN, Founder of the NGO Voice of Women, and member of Climate Wise Women**

**Ms. Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim, Coordinator of Indigenous Women and Peoples Association of Chad**

### **Moderator**

**Ms. Brenda Killen, Deputy Director, Development Co-Operation Directorate, OECD (tbc)**