



Side Events Name: From Inclusion to Impact: Advancing Gender-Responsive Technology and Finance Solutions for a Climate Resilient Asia-Pacific

Date: August 28 2025

Time: 12:30 – 2:00pm, Fiji Time GMT + 12

Venue: Hotel Crowne Plaza, Nadi, Fiji

Concept Note

1. Background

The Asia-Pacific region stands at a critical juncture, facing accelerating climate change impacts that disproportionately affect vulnerable communities and exacerbate existing inequalities. Addressing this challenge requires a multi-faceted approach that integrates gender equality and social inclusion with innovative climate finance mechanisms, accessible clean energy technology, and transformative digital solutions, including Artificial Intelligence.

UNEP, UN Women, New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade in partnership with the Asia Pacific Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism (APRCM), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), and the UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centre (RCC) Asia and the Pacific will be organizing a side event to demonstrate these financial, social and technologies as solutions to achieving climate resilience.

This event is designed to align with global environmental governance frameworks. It directly supports the Paris Agreement as highlighted by UNEP/EA.2/6, and champions sustainable business practices for environmental challenges, as outlined in UNEP/EA.4/Res.4. Furthermore, it reinforces the commitment to promote gender equality, and the human rights and empowerment of women and girls in environmental governance (UNEP/EA.4/Res.17), and advocates for sustainable and resilient infrastructure (UNEP/EA.5/Res.9). The event draws linkages to the global normative commitments on gender equality and women's empowerment in relation to environmental governance, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) General Recommendation 37 on the gender-related dimensions of disaster risk reduction in the context of climate change and General Recommendation 40 on the equal and inclusive representation of women in decision-making systems, including promoting women's participation and leadership in decision-making on environmental and climate change issues.

Our focus is on advancing several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure), SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals. By bringing together diverse stakeholders, this event aims to illuminate the indispensable role of gender equality, social inclusion, and innovative financing and technological solutions in building climate-resilient livelihoods across Asia and the Pacific.

2. Objective

To highlight the centrality of gender equality, social inclusion, finance, innovative and action-oriented climate and low carbon technology solutions towards climate resilience building in Asia and the Pacific.

Our core objectives are to:

- i. Demonstrate sectoral and community-led livelihood solutions utilizing climate and low carbon technologies
- ii. Present finance initiatives increasing climate resilience
- iii. Showcase gender and social inclusion strategies driving inclusive and effective climate solutions
- iv. Discuss the capacity building opportunities through digital transformation/artificial intelligence for climate policy monitoring frameworks



3. Proposed Participants/Speakers

- Government Representatives from:
 - New Zealand
 - the Republic of Fiji
 - the Kingdom of Cambodia
 - the Socialist Republic of Vietnam
 - the People's Republic of Bangladesh
 - the Islamic Republic of Pakistan
 - the Republic of Vanuatu
- The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, SPREP
- UN Women Pacific Multi-Country Office
- Adventist Development and Relief Agency -ADRA, Fiji (APRCM)
- Right Energy Partnership with Indigenous Peoples -REP (APRCM)
- CIMB Niaga
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4. Co-organizers: UNEP, UN Women, New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade Asia Pacific Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism (APRCM), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centre (RCC), Asia and the Pacific