

## Gender justice is not a tick-the-box exercise

The urgency for climate action is apparent. Around the world we see the devastating effects of climate change. We need investments in mitigation, where renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions are rolled out; we need adaptation, where drought resistant crops and early warning systems are introduced; and we need to address the effects of the climate related disasters, when people face loss and damage.

However, while talking climate action, we should always remember that climate-related interventions have effects on peoples' lives. When implementing projects, we must therefore also ensure that gender and human rights are addressed.

A new report – [Climate Finance and Gender](#) – commissioned by ACT Alliance members in Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Finland, and produced by INKA consult assess the level of gender integration in climate finance mobilized by the Nordic governments.

The report has several interesting findings:

- Gender is considered more often in adaptation projects than in mitigation projects. For 2021, 58% of adaptation finance and 51% of crosscutting finance from the Nordic countries has integrated gender equality to some extent, whereas for mitigation this was only 29%.
- Many projects include a gender assessment but lack concrete activities ensuring that gender is meaningfully integrated. This leaves gender as a 'tick-the-box exercise'.
- The absence of proper gender integration in Nordic climate finance is not simply a neglect in addressing gender inequality, but also a potential mechanism that may exacerbate the inequalities or disproportional effects of climate change experienced by women.
- All the Nordic countries had policies to ensure that gender is considered throughout the projects. Sweden had the best performance during the assessed period, with 65-91% of climate finance integrating gender. This reflects the comprehensive feminist policy Sweden introduced in 2014.
- Approximately 60% of overall climate finance committed by the Nordic countries in the last two years does not consider gender as a policy objective. Even at the peak of 56% in 2018, these figures remain too low to consider Nordic climate-finance to be truly gender responsive. The ambition is too low!

DanChurchAid Global Climate Lead Mattias Söderberg comments:

- Gender justice must be a top priority when the climate crisis is addressed.
- Gender should never become a tick-the-box exercise. To make a gender analysis is not enough. It must be followed by concrete action and activities, ensuring that gender is mainstreamed throughout climate projects.
- Policy *does* matter, and I hope all governments will have a look into their policy framework, to see if it can be adjusted with a stronger and more coherent focus on gender.
- There seems to be a challenge with integration of gender in mitigation projects. That is a lesson parties should consider. Efforts must be made to ensure that gender is also integrated in mitigation projects.

For more information, contact Mattias Söderberg at +45 29 70 06 09

For more information about the report, contact INKA consult at [info@inkaconsult.dk](mailto:info@inkaconsult.dk)

ACT Alliance will have a stunt at COP28 today at 16.00 GST in Action Zone 9 (B1 near the entrance)