Basic information

2017/2086(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
Women, gender equality and climate justice **Subject** 4.10.04 Gender equality 4.10.09 Women condition and rights 6.30 Development cooperation	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
FEMM Women's Rights and Gender Equality	ENGSTRÖM Linnéa (Verts /ALE)	01/02/2017
	Shadow rapporteur PIETIKÄINEN Sirpa (PPE) ARENA Maria (S&D) WIŚNIEWSKA Jadwiga (ECR) MLINAR Angelika (ALDE) ECK Stefan (GUE/NGL) AIUTO Daniela (EFDD)	

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs	PANZERI Pier Antonio (S&D)	30/05/2017
DEVE Development	MARCELLESI Florent (Verts /ALE)	19/07/2017

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Justice and Consumers	JOUROVÁ Věra

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary

15/06/2017	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
04/12/2017	Vote in committee		
18/12/2017	Committee report tabled for plenary	A8-0403/2017	Summary
15/01/2018	Debate in Parliament		
16/01/2018	Decision by Parliament	T8-0005/2018	Summary
16/01/2018	Results of vote in Parliament		
16/01/2018	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2017/2086(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Initiative
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 55
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	FEMM/8/08889

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE610.804	25/09/2017	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE612.301	25/10/2017	
Committee opinion	DEVE	PE610.680	22/11/2017	
Committee opinion	AFET	PE609.665	23/11/2017	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A8-0403/2017	18/12/2017	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T8-0005/2018	16/01/2018	Summary

Women, gender equality and climate justice

2017/2086(INI) - 16/01/2018 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 485 votes to 117 with 20 abstentions, a resolution on women, gender equality and climate justice.

Parliament noted that women are **particularly vulnerable to climate change** and experience its effects disproportionately because of their social roles, such as providing water, food and combustible materials to the family and caring for others. Women are responsible for more than 70 % of water chores and management worldwide.

In regions most affected by climate change, 70 % of all women work in the agricultural sector, yet seldom participate in developing climate policies. Women and children are 14 times more likely than men to die during natural disasters.

Gender equality as a prerequisite for managing climate issues: Members insisted that women are not just victims, but also **effective agents of change** who, on the basis of full participation, can formulate and execute efficient climate strategies and/or solutions in relation to adaptation and mitigation and can build climate resilience as a product of their diverse areas of experience and practical knowledge across sectors ranging from agriculture, forestry and fisheries to energy infrastructures and sustainable cities.

In this regard, the Commission was specifically called on to:

- integrate climate change into all development programmes at all levels; calls were made for the increased participation of rural and indigenous women in decision-making processes, planning and implementation, and in the formulation of policies and development programmes concerning climate change;
- take account of the **empowerment of women in rural areas** as regards access to land, credits and sustainable farming methods for building climate resilience;
- consider the **social and environmental impacts** of its trade and foreign development policies, including the impact of its actions regarding women;
- develop indicators and collect **gender-disaggregated data** when planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating climate change policies, programmes and projects;
- target the relevant programmes on the **areas affected by disasters**, to step up efforts to deliver aid to those regions, and to act to resolve the problems induced by disasters there, paying particular attention to the situation of women and children;
- facilitate and support the **networking** of women's organisations and civil society activities as regards the development and implementation of climate change policies;
- ensure that women are equal **participants in, and beneficiaries** of, all climate change consultations, programmes and funding organised with EU support at national and local levels;
- take the initiative to produce a comprehensive **communication** with the title 'Gender equality and climate change – building resilience and promoting climate justice in mitigation and adaptation strategies'.

The Commission and the Member States should lead by example and adopt targets and timelines for achieving the goal of **gender balance in delegations** to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Funding: Parliament called for both climate change adaptation and mitigation funding to take into account gender issues. It welcomed recent progress on gender equality issues in the area of multilateral financial mechanisms, but noted that, according to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), only 0.01 % of all funding worldwide supports projects that address both climate change and women's rights.

Members considered that the **three financial mechanisms** under the UNFCCC – the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Adaptation Fund (AF) – should unlock **additional finance** for more gender-responsive climate investment policy.

They welcomed the Commission's call for proposals on women and sustainable energy, making **EUR 20 million** available for the implementation of activities promoting women's entrepreneurship in the sustainable energy sector in developing countries, and encouraged the Commission to increase this amount in future.

Climate migration: Parliament has called for climate-related population displacement to be taken seriously. It is open to a debate on establishing a provision on 'climate migration' and called for the establishment of a group of experts to discuss the issue at the international level. It also urged for international cooperation in order to ensure climate resilience.

The Commission has been invited to work with civil society and human rights organisations to ensure that the human rights of refugees and displaced persons in reception centres are upheld, particularly in respect of vulnerable women and girls.

Women, gender equality and climate justice

2017/2086(INI) - 18/12/2017 - Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading

The Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality adopted the own-initiative report by Linnéa ENGSTRÖM (Greens/EFA, SE) on women, gender equality and climate justice.

The report noted that women are particularly vulnerable to climate change and experience its effects disproportionately because of their social roles, such as providing water, food and combustible materials to the family and caring for others. Women are responsible for more than 70 % of water chores and management worldwide.

In regions most affected by climate change, 70 % of all women work in the agricultural sector, yet seldom participate in developing climate policies. Women and children are 14 times more likely than men to die during natural disasters.

Women are not only victims but **effective agents of change** in developing mitigation and adaptation strategies within their communities and in decision-making positions and must be **empowered to do so**. They are still under-represented in climate change decision-making bodies at the national level in EU Member States.

In this regard, the Commission was specifically called on to:

- integrate climate change into all development programmes at all levels;
- promote **new financing solutions**, revised upwards, and additional funding, particularly regarding adaptation activities which would directly benefit women;

- develop indicators and collect gender-disaggregated data when planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating climate change policies, programmes and projects;
- target the relevant programmes on the areas affected by disasters, to step up efforts to deliver aid to those regions, and to act to resolve the problems induced by disasters there, paying particular attention to the situation of women and children;
- facilitate and support the networking of women's organisations and civil society activities as regards the development and implementation of climate change policies;
- ensure that women are equal participants in, and beneficiaries of, all climate change consultations, programmes and funding organised with EU support at national and local levels;
- take the initiative to produce a comprehensive **communication** with the title 'Gender equality and climate change – building resilience and promoting climate justice in mitigation and adaptation strategies'.

Given that women not only perform the bulk of unpaid household and care work but also make the majority of everyday consumer decisions, the report stated that, if provided with accurate information and options, they can impact on sustainability through their choices. Research has shown that by choosing local food products consumers could **reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by up to 5 %.**

Members called for gender-sensitive action to ensure that women are seen not only as beneficiaries of climate action, but also as clean energy technology entrepreneurs. They welcomed the Commission's call for proposals on women and sustainable energy, making EUR 20 million available for the implementation of activities promoting women's entrepreneurship in the sustainable energy sector in developing countries, and encouraged the Commission to increase this amount in future.

They considered that the three financial mechanisms under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) – the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Adaptation Fund (AF) – should unlock additional finance for more gender-responsive climate investment policy.

Lastly, Members requested that **climate-induced displacement** be taken seriously. They are open to a debate on establishing a provision on 'climate migration' and called for the establishment of a panel of experts to explore this matter at international level. They urged the issue of climate migration to be placed on the international agenda and for strengthened international cooperation in order to ensure climate resilience.