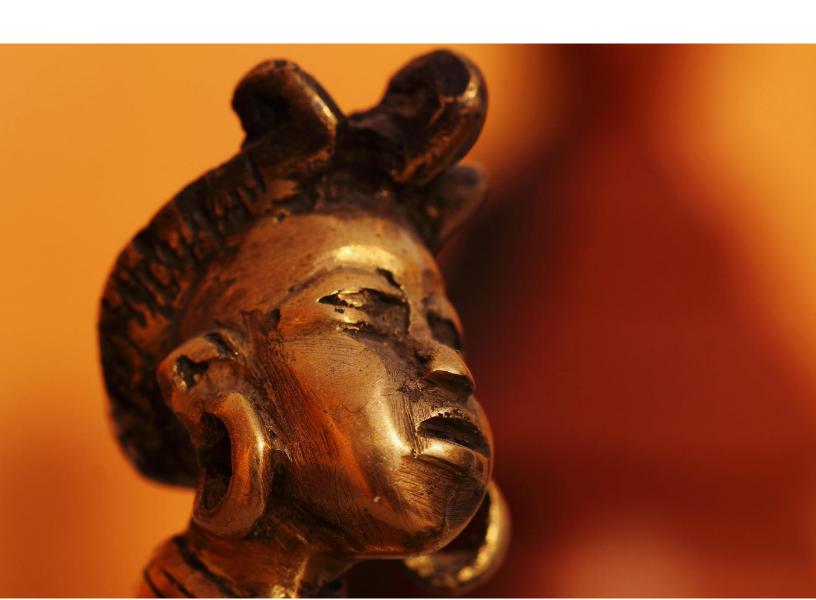


# **Burkina Faso Social Review**





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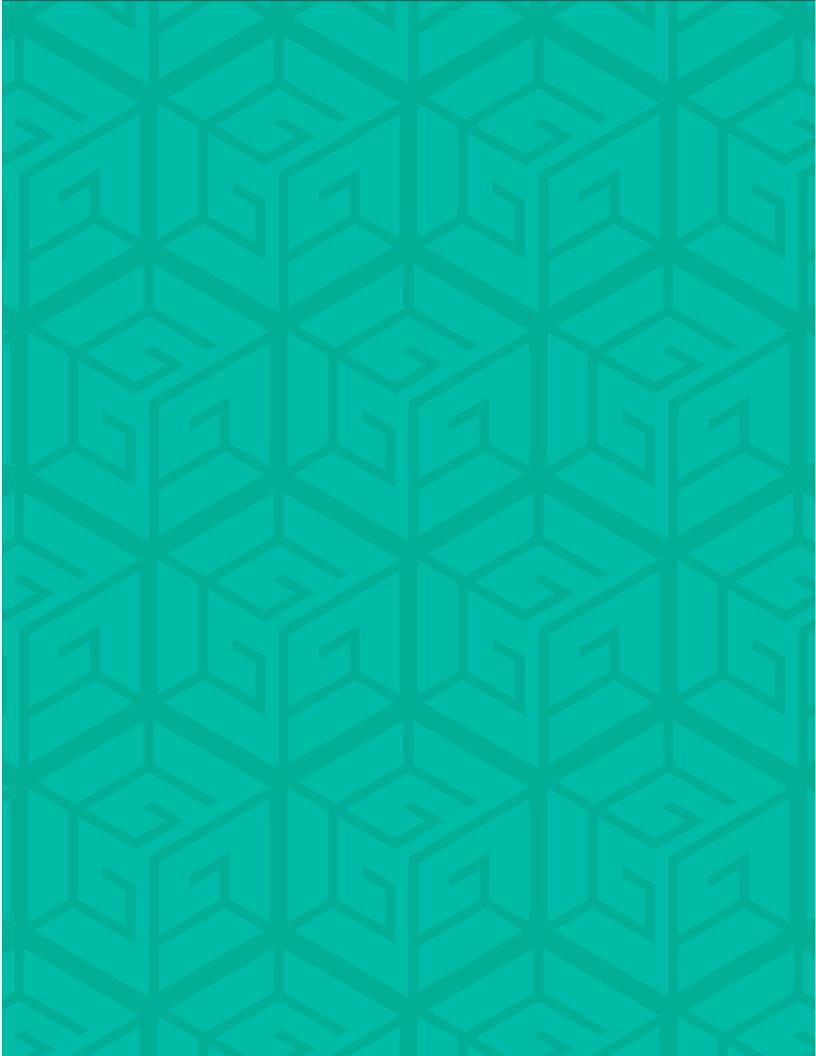
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## 1. Background and Country Context

Burkina Faso is a low-income country with a growing population at an average annual rate of 3% for an estimated population of 18.11 million (Bertelsmann Stiftung's Transformation Index, 2018) and 47% of the population live below the poverty line (World Bank, 2016). According to the 2018 Human Development Index (HDI), the country is ranked 183 out of 189 countries and territories and 145 out of 160 countries in the Gender Inequality Index<sup>1</sup> (United Nations Development Programme, 2018). Poverty dominates the socio-economic situation of the country (with 45.3% children poor compared to 41.9% of adults), coupled with vulnerability especially amongst children and lack of comprehensive social protection (UNICEF, 2015).

Burkina Faso's economy is heavily reliant on agricultural production with close to 80% of the active population employed in the sector; and poverty and social exclusion are quantitatively and qualitatively extensive, and structurally ingrained (BTI, 2018). Women play a leading role in the agricultural production; however, they have difficulty accessing equipment and credit, with less than 20% of them owning land (FAO, 2011). The government has indicated the desire to enhance and promote equal access to land and the laws permits equal property rights for women and men. However, Fletschner found that more than half of women were worried about being forced to leave their property in the event of divorce, compared to fewer than 7% of men (Fletschner, 2018), and this further prevents women from becoming economically autonomous.

With regards to women participation in public decision-making positions, 11 % of parliamentary seats are held by women and 6% of adult women have reached at least secondary level of education compared with 11.7 of the male counterparts (UNDP, 2018). On the other hand, the participation of women in the labor market is low; at 58.2% compared to 75.2 for men. In 2016, life expectancy at birth was 60 years. Even though there have been some noticeable improvements in the country, maternal and child health indictors are yet to meet the targets set in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and the National Economic and Social Development Plan (PNDES).

Considerable progress has been made in the education sector especially on gross enrollment ratio at primary school level with the adoption of a strategic development program for basic education and national strategy for acceleration of girl's education. In 2018, World Bank estimated the literacy rate among adults at 41 %. Enrollment rate of girls in primary education has been improving but completion rate especially in secondary education is still low.

According to UNICEF, Burkina Faso has the fifth highest prevalence rate of child marriage in the world with 52% of girls in Burkina Faso married before their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday and 10% are married before the age of 15 despite the legal prohibition of early and forced marriage. There are differences in the division of work between men and women, women generally are regarded as having a lower status than men (JICA, 2013). Inequalities of the sexes still exists due to traditions and social and cultural factors; for example, despite the adoption of a law prohibiting female genital

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Gender Inequality Index (GII) reflects gender-based inequalities in three dimensions of reproductive health, empowerment, and economic activity

mutilation (FGM) in 1996, as well as the formation in 1988 of a National Committee to fight FGM, the practice remains widespread in certain regions such as the Mossi Plateau (Wiki Gender).

The country remains vulnerable to climatic shocks which are mainly related to changes in rainfall patterns and fluctuations in the prices of export commodities on the world markets (World Bank, 2016). Due to the differential socio-economic status, roles, needs and priorities of different genders in the country, climatic shocks impacts are also different. There are concerns over food security, natural calamities such as droughts and flooding, legal and policy frameworks addressing these climatic risks. Rapid urbanization in the country also has gender and social effects which must be fully considered as the country is shifting towards inclusive green economy.

## 2. Overview of the Policy Framework

This section provides an overview of the legal and policy framework for Burkina Faso in key development issues of gender equality and women's empowerment, social protection and inclusion, and the climate change in general. Burkina Faso ratified international conventions such as; Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1987; Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1990; Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment in 1999; Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa in 2003; United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 1993 and Kyoto Protocol in 2005. Burkina Faso submitted its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) in 2016 focusing on mitigation and adaptation.

The development of the Burkina Faso National Climate Change Adaptation Plan (NAP) which was adopted under the UNFCCC included multidisciplinary team of experts including those in gender agenda and civil society which are women's rights focused. The NAP included the effective and continued promotion of participatory and gender-sensitive approaches coordinated with sustainable development objectives, policies, plans and programmes (UNDP, 2018). Implementation of national sustainable development therefore considered the National Gender Policy and climate adaptation in rural development programmes and projects.

Burkina Faso's Constitution clearly states that men and women and equal. The country has a national institutional framework for promotion of women's status and gender equality with the Ministry for Promotion of Women and Children, however, the Ministry is challenged with financial resources (JICA, 2013). Additionally, Gender Groups were established in 2013 in each ministry in order to promote gender mainstreaming, though with limited capacity to reinforce the same.

The Government adopted the National Gender Policy in 2009 which addresses and promotes gender equality. This was adopted after the poverty reduction strategy paper of 2004 which confirmed the importance of gender in development. The National Gender Policy overall objective is to, 'promote equitable and participatory development of men and women, as well as ensure access, equal control, equal access to resources, and equal access to the decision-making process, in respect to fundamental rights.' The same year saw the adoption of a law establishing a quota for women's representation in electoral lists – minimum of 30% women in local and national elections and political parties that fail to comply receive a 50% cut in funding (Wiki Gender, 2019).

All this was aimed at improving women's participation in politics which continues to be dominated by men despite the set quotas due to structural causes.

As a member of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Burkina Faso adopted the Strategic Framework for Strengthening National Child Protection Systems under which protecting children from marriage is a priority, increased the minimum legal age for marriage to 18 years and prohibited child marriage (Girls Not Brides, 2019). In 2015 the government adopted the National Strategy for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Marriage (2016-2025) and an accompanying Action Plan (2016-2018), being the first country in West and Central Africa to do so (UNICEF, 2017).

In 2010, the country adopted the national development plan of Burkina Faso, "Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Sustainable Development (SCADD) for 2011-2015". The SCADD recognized the importance of gender equality including in education, women's status, gender mainstreaming in all sectors and achievement of accelerated growth. This followed with the current National Economic and Social Development Plan (PNDES, 2016 - 2020). The strategic goals of the PNDES are; reforming institutions and modernizing administration, developing human capital, and boosting growth sectors for the economy and jobs.

The only strategic goal in the PNDES which is explicit on gender and social inclusion is Axis 2, Develop Human Capital whose strategic objective is to 'promote decent employment and social protection for all, including for young people and women.' It has further outlined expected impacts of 'decent employment and social protection guaranteed to all, social and gender inequalities reduced, and women are promoted as active players of development'. The National Policy of Sustainable Development (2013 – 2050) and its implementing National Strategy (2016-2020) aims at improving governance and sustainable development in public administration, strengthen capacities of public institutions and other stakeholders through the creation of a functional structure among others. The policy has integrated cross cutting issues especially gender equality, natural resource management and demography.

In 2018, the country made a strategic policy transition to an inclusive green economy and developed a National Strategy for Green Economy after wide consultations as part of the Switch Africa Green's National Policy Dialogue. This strategy serves as a backbone of the country's transition to green economy and contributing to the PNDES. Within agriculture, the development of the livestock sector is guided by the 2010-2025 National Policy for the Sustainable Development of Livestock, which aims at sustainably improving production and productivity to satisfy the growing demand for animal source foods for improved food security and promote exports (FAO, 2018).

Other national strategic and policy frameworks for Burkina Faso includes; The 2007 National Action Program for Adaptation to Climate Change (NAPA), The 2014 National Adaptation Plan (NAP), The National Strategy for Green Economy (2019-2023). Overall, there has been increased awareness in the country among key stakeholders on the poverty-environment nexus, however, from this analysis, Burkina Faso is yet to comprehensively integrate gender and social inclusion in the key sector policies. Sector policies of Mining, Agriculture and Health have included poverty and environment objectives. Like many developing countries, Burkina Faso is also challenged with enforcement of the existing gender related laws (stand alone and mainstreamed). The

effectiveness of these key policy frameworks in the country goes back to the how inclusive policy formulation processes are for gender-transformative laws Burkina Faso, that in return benefits women, men, girls, boys and all the other social and age groups. This follows with extent to which strategies have been put in place to provide oversight functions for monitoring stand-alone gender related laws and gender/social inclusion polices.

## 3. Risks and Opportunities for Inclusive Green Growth

Gender inequality is now widely acknowledged as a central aspect of development. Green growth cannot be achieved if other groups of people are socially excluded hence gender equality apart from being a right, it is also an end in itself. Tailoring policies, strategies and investments with inclusive green growth lenses has multiple benefits. There are various opportunities for Burkina Faso to achieve inclusive green growth and risks and vulnerabilities associated with the same that need to be considered during program or policy development and implementation stages.

This section discusses some of the risks and opportunities for Burkina Faso in the three thematic areas of urban development; rural development/inclusive ecovillage models; and green investment and governance framework.

#### 3.1 Urban development

With the growing urbanization in Burkina Faso, there are some gender and social inclusion related risks and opportunities that need to be taken into consideration. While urbanization is often associated with greater independence and opportunity for women, in many cities, there are also high risks of violence and constraints on employment, mobility and leadership (IIED, 2013) and this reflects deep gender-based inequalities. Urban settings are generally more favorable to women's empowerment compared to rural areas (RPCA, 2019), however, there are gender relations in both formal and informal employment sectors that requires address. These areas are vulnerable due to their rapid growth in population, the alteration of the built and natural environment without regulated planning and building standards, and the development of settlements in environmentally hazardous areas (UN Habitat, 2009b). While all urban populations face threats to their well-being in disaster situations, women, particularly poor women, face heightened risks (UN Habitat, 2015).

Urban development requires Government to ensure that there is adequate and proper infrastructure such as water, sanitation, electricity and transport to tally with the growing urbanization and for families living on the urban peripheries, its women who are most likely to sense the inconveniences. In the urban context people develop new kinds of livelihoods: salaried jobs, entrepreneurship, trade, and crafts, etc.; and on the labor market men and women face the same problems but differently (Sida, 2004), showing that unemployment is principally an urban problem.

There are hidden dimensions of urban poverty, and the different ways in which they impact men and women, requiring a broader understanding of urban poverty that stretches beyond income to include domestic and care responsibilities, dependency and powerlessness (UNFPA, 2012). The National Economic and Social Development Plan has put in place a strategic objective aimed at improving the living environment, access to water, quality of sanitation and energy services. All

these have social and gender dimensions to them especially around access and provision of social services such as;

Access to water and sanitation; at household level and in the agricultural fields, women largely use water and the availability of clean water accessibility of the same is important. Improved sanitation conditions in the urban and rural areas has a bearing on the good sanitary living conditions of the inhabitants. There is need for Burkina Faso to pay attention to companies which are contributing towards the urbanization to put in measures that are not going to compromise on the sanitation of the people and pollution of the existing water resources in the country.

Energy; Majority Burkinabe people have access to off-grid energy like SHS, solar lanterns unlike the past when there was limited access to electricity through the national electricity grid. Even through this is the case, most women still walk long distances to find the firewood and edible plants they need which in return decreases biodiversity and affect nutrition negatively. Furthermore, with increased competition for wood and other products from the bush, women are tempted to use the bush in a non-sustainable way, for example they cut trees too frequently without giving them sufficiently time to regenerate (Sida, 2004).

Since most women use energy at household level, this provides an opportunity to introduce and/or strengthen the usage of improved household energy technologies for more productivity. The process of identifying these technologies should involve women themselves. Women's agricultural and income earning activities would benefit from better access to modern and improved energy technologies.

Transport/Mobility; There is a risk associated with transport planning, especially how planning fails to respond to women's travel needs. Gender blind transport infrastructure not only does it put women and girls at risk of gender-based violence and exploitation but it also exacerbates the disparities in access to services and productive resources.

Overall, the growing urbanization in the country provides Burkina Faso opportunities for community saving schemes especially for women and build women's leadership in the urban settings, and support upgrading of informal settlements (IIED, 2013). This in many contexts leads to increased income by most marginalized groups particularly women, fosters economic independence and increases their decision-making power at various levels including household level; and Burkina Faso's labor market could benefit from this.

In many ways, urbanization is an important and positive transformation, linked to economic growth and a better educated and more productive labor force (UNFPA, 2012). The Government therefore needs to analyze all aspects including women's engagement in both paid work (often informal, subject to increasing insecurities and low earnings) and unpaid work (which results in time poverty for women). Further to that, the differential access to shelter and basic services and their importance for safety, security and well-being of the people of Burkina Faso. This will contribute to a greater environmental sustainability; more efficient use of resources, improved social welfare and better and equitable access to services.

Lastly, the country has the opportunity to achieve this if policies and all kinds of urban planning/development use a gender perspective to look at various aspects of urban poverty and

contribute towards the transformation of the national economy as per the aspirations put in the PNDES and the National Strategy for Green Economy.

#### 3.2 Inclusive ecovillage development model

Strengthening adaptation and resilience to climate change with a view to developing a more appropriate and inclusive ecovillage development model provides for analysis of the social and gender related risks and opportunities for effective delivery of the same. Rural development presents different needs, interests and impacts on both women and men.

With 80% of the population of Burkina Faso living on agriculture and livestock, the effects of climate change cause even more hunger and threaten the subsistence of the inhabitants (Oxfam, 2017). Empirical research has shown that climate change is directly linked to economic inequality; the poorest people are not only those who have done the least to cause climate change but are also those who tend to be most vulnerable to its effects, and the least prepared to face them (Oxfam, 2017). Women being the most vulnerable in the population, they are the ones who are mainly tasked to providing for their families with the few resources they may have from difficult times.

Although women in Burkina Faso make up approximately 51% of the working population in agriculture and play a dominant role in agricultural and pastoral activities, they own less than 20% of land (FAO, 2011) despite agricultural and land ownership legal reforms which grant women equal access to arable land and housing. With the degradation of natural resources in some parts of the country and the reliance on agricultural production for self-consumption by most people, women play a leading role in the production value chain. Women's livelihoods and traditional roles and responsibilities tend to be more reliant on natural resources. Land for farming is therefore a critical aspect of ecovillage development model. Although the Burkina Faso laws do not prohibit women's access to land, it is extremely difficult to acquire land in the rural areas (JICA, 2013) which makes it event straining for women to access credit (e.g. credit to buy drought resistant crops) and making the environment surrounding women harsh.

Although the environmental and cultural conditions differ in Burkina Faso, a shared experience for rural women is that the deterioration of the natural environment makes it more difficult to fulfill the responsibility to cook and to provide for the family food needs (Sida, 2004). In this regard, women's increasing involvement in farming on insecure land provides a risk to the country's development agenda.

With regards to access to finance, most lending institutions regard women as high risk clients since the majority of them are not land owners and unable to produce the type of required guarantees; leaving them at higher risks of either refrain from the financial services or accepting extremely high interest rates which traps them in poverty and debt. As a way of fostering economic development of the country, the government of Burkina Faso promotes the revenue-generating activities of women's cooperatives as they face difficulties in accessing credit (JICA, 2013). Initiatives like these need to be replicated and/or ably resourced in rural areas.

As agriculture supports the national economy and employment, the ecovillage development model provides an opportunity to enhance both aspects if women are at the center of any kind of

programming around food production for household consumption which is done by women (at least 75 % of food production). However, the current security issues especially in the northern part of the country has some potential impacts and risks that requires attention in any programming.

#### 3.3 Green investments and governance

Women in Burkina Faso remain underrepresented in the political sphere as discussed in the background section. While this limiting factor may not necessarily reflect on national investments, the status and voice of marginalized groups in green investments remains critical. Other studies have shown that when women are put in leadership positions, they tend to put in place bills/policies which favor more women, children and communities at large. Gender disparities constrain women's abilities to engage in climate finance or to start or scale up initiatives aimed to respond to climate change e.g. women's disproportionately high illiteracy rates.

As empirical research shows that climate change affects women and men differently, other research has also shown that gender-sensitive climate finance regimes are more effective. Political and socio-economic imbalances often render women disproportionately vulnerable to climate change impacts. The economic, social and environmental costs of climate change are prohibitively high (World Economic Forum, 2015). As the country raises funds for climate actions, it is important that the resources are channeled towards where they are needed the most by among others ensuring that there is equity and transparency in fund disbursement and utilization. Climate finance approaches should therefore be sensitive to the gendered aspects of climate change impacts, which in return contributes towards achieving the SDGs and Burkina Faso's poverty elimination and social policies.

The country needs to have properly designed and executed climate financing mechanism, leverage on empowerment of women and gender equality, have the potential to enhance the climate response effort while simultaneously improving women's lives (UNDP, 2013). The same UNDP gives examples of funding projects such as those that reduce the walking distance to access energy sources, water and sanitation and promote reforestation and sustainable forest management, promotes sustainable environmental practices and decrease the negative effects on women and girls of environmental change and deterioration. Challenges related with access to finance especially by women such as the types of guarantee required by financial institutions limits women's economic empowerment, digital finance and microcredit among others. Burkina Faso could also leverage on such funding projects including funding projects that supports settlements for women/child headed households affected with housing due to disasters.

## 4. Conclusion and Recommendations

The division between men's and women's work is a deeply ingrained concept in Burkinabe society (JICA, 2013). The various gender and social disparities in the country requires approaches that would effectively address them for sustainable development. Women, who form the majority of the world's 2 billion poorest people, are often disproportionally affected by climate change impacts as a result of persisting gender norms and discriminations, and additionally, women and men also contribute to climate change responses in different ways (ODI, 2016). Gender mainstreaming and

social inclusion are avenues in which women's unique knowledge and skills related to urban development, ecovillage development and climate financing are necessary for effective mitigation and adaptation efforts in Burkina Faso. Mainstreaming gender in climate change projects, policies and planning can help achieve the twin goals of advancing social policy (including gender equality) and ensuring greater returns on mitigative and adaptive investments (GGCA, 2013).

The recommendations presented below are some key entry points and ways forwards towards improving the gender-responsiveness and socially inclusive approaches to achieve the transition of cities to green growth; strengthening of adaptation and resilience to climate change, sustainable management of natural resources and developing a more appropriate and inclusive ecovillage development model; and strengthen green investments and governance framework.

The overall recommendation for Burkina Faso is the revision of the countries' NDC for a more gender responsive NDC. The following are key entry points into the national climate change planning and action as per the guidance from UNDP<sup>2</sup>;

- 1) Analyze the national context for gender trends, sex-disaggregated data and differing situations of women and men and the resulting identification of key sectors, strategies and mechanisms for policy and action.
- 2) Assess institutional gender equality frameworks and coordination mechanisms, including the integration of women's leadership and inputs into national policy, as well as into approaches to inter-ministerial coordination and cooperation.
- 3) Integrate gender equality into climate change policy and planning instruments and processes, including NAPs, LEDs, NAMAs, REDD+ and other UNFCCC processes, as well as other national policy and planning instruments
- 4) Engage in multi-stakeholder consultations with women and women's organizations, as well as a range of stakeholder groups at local, subnational and national levels.
- 5) Support capacity development of different groups, including communities, women's organizations, and government officials at the national and subnational levels.
- 6) Engender the monitoring and evaluation processes and use of sex-disaggregated data and indicators.
- 7) Gender-responsive climate finance mechanisms through national and global climate funds as well as innovative climate financing tools that target women's grassroots enterprises and sustainable development outcomes.

#### 4.1 Key recommendations: urban development

1) Social and gender assessments: With the National Strategy for Green Economy providing the strategic direction in the country with regards to ecovillage development, it is important that any programs/projects in the targeted 2000 ecovillages comprises of social

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>https://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/gender/Gender%20and%20Environment/Gender\_Equality\_in\_National\_Climate\_Action.pdf

- and gender assessments to inform the ecovillage developments. Using assessment/analysis findings, it will provide guidance on low-hanging fruits and sectors in the urban development which have the potential to deliver economic growth, green jobs, environmental protection and social inclusion.
- 2) Gender sensitive urban planning and design: As the transition to green cities will require developing green city guidelines and roadmaps, it is critical that the methodologies for the guidelines are engendered at all levels for social co benefits outcomes.
- 3) Policy development/review: The development (design/review) of policy documents should ensure that gender considerations are part and parcel of all policies related with green energy, sanitation, waste management, public transport services and others in the urban development sector. This should be coupled with ensuring that there are national/ecovillage budgets which responds to the gender-specific needs identified in the policies/strategies/plans.
- 4) Education system and inclusive green jobs: Enhance the education system in the country especially on girl's education in STEM and provide equitable opportunities for decent and inclusive green jobs especially in the energy sector.
- 5) Equality in wages: Ratification of the ILO Convention by Burkina Faso with regards to minimum wage, equal remuneration and many other conventions, the country should strive at improving the working conditions of women and other marginalized groups and ensure that women are not excluded in the formal employment sector.
- 6) Gender responsive climate programs need to take into consideration women's needs in transport such as their safety; affordability of the fares, schedule for the transport services fitting their needs. Additionally, it is important that programs ensure that women and girls are central to the planning and development of the transport programs in urban development.

## 4.2 Key recommendations: ecovillage development model

- 1) While the Government of Burkina Faso has indicated its desire to promote equal access to land for men and women, and the Law permits equal property rights for men and women, it is still difficult for women to acquire land, especially in rural areas, which prevents women from becoming economically autonomous. It is therefore recommended that deliberate efforts are made to address the social cultural issues around land ownership, sensitization and capacity building on women's land rights and enforcement of these land related laws among others.
- 2) As rural development provides entry point for development of agriculture, agroforestry and livestock raising, there is need to recognize that measures to adapt to climate change must first and foremost be taken at village level where these ecovillages are being developed. In the same regard, since the villages are not homogeneous, the ecovillage development model should consider the social and economic dynamics of each of the villages including gender and social dynamics.

- 3) It is recommended that the guidelines to support investment program and transition of village to ecovillage are sender sensitive and includes gender and social inclusion indicators.
- 4) The development of policy recommendations and strategic plan for scaling up investment in renewable energy for productive uses should critically include gender lenses to the policies and investment plans for the ecovillages. The success of the ecovillages will also benefit from the extent to which gender considerations have been put in place in the guiding policies and regulations.
- 5) Inclusion and participation: Consultations for the development of ecovillages need to ensure that locals, especially the marginalized groups including women, women groups, youth and peri-urban poor people are included in the planning, implementation and feedback/evaluation of the ecovillage's development. It is critical that all the inhabitants of these villages are included throughout the process so that specific needs, priorities and impacts of urbanization such as waste management, access to renewable energy, transport, water etc. are taken into consideration.

#### 4.3 Key recommendations: green investments and governance

- 1) Government of Burkina Faso and development partners need to ensure that sustainable climate finance initiatives are properly designed and implemented by addressing the sociopolitical imbalances (including gender imbalances) in the communities, especially imbalances that weaken their resilience to climate change impacts. Marginalized groups such as poor women and men, differently abled people, unemployed youth, children, at risk girls, elderly and other groups face higher barriers to accessing and benefiting from financial resources including climate finance. It is therefore important that climate finance mechanisms explicitly lay out approaches for inclusion throughout planning/designing, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.
- 2) All types of green investments and governance framework need to be gender responsive in order to ensure that climate finance is effective and equitable. This could be done through policies, plans, tools and other strategic frameworks for the country; have gender perspectives at all levels of green the investments mechanisms including governance structures, procedures, processes and operations. This could be done through gender assessments to determine how climate policy and economic mechanisms incentivize individuals, households and businesses.
- 3) Ensure that climate finance for Burkina Faso complements the goals set in the National Economic and Social Development Plan and efforts to achieve the 2030 UN SDG Agenda. This could be done through building synergies between mitigation, adaptation, poverty eradication, economic development, gender equality and women's empowerment maximized at all levels. In this regard, climate funding needs to be channeled to support rural and community level groups interventions/projects/programs particularly those specific to women and/or aimed at uplifting the economic and social status of women in most marginalized and poor communities.

- 4) For the establishment of a Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MVR) system, it is highly recommended that the country is able to collect and analyses gender and sex-disaggregated data to inform the development investments, inform the funding/international community and overall strengthen the monitoring, verification and reporting mechanisms. Incorporate gender analytical tools into all phases of programme design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.
- 5) Ensure women's effective and balanced participation in decision-making: Women and women's groups, and other socially excluded groups need to be engaged as key stakeholders in green investments related decision-making at all levels. For ongoing climate investments, it is critical that ongoing decision-making processes are not gender blind and socially exclusive. This includes active engagement with private sector and non-market finance mechanisms and market-based mechanisms (UNDP, 2013). Deliberate efforts should be made to ensure that target groups for climate finance mechanisms include women and small-scale initiatives in adaptation and mitigation activities.
- 6) For accountability and good governance, it is recommended that gender-responsive budgeting is done at all levels for public resources while promoting gender equality goals as stipulated in the PNDES. This process would also help to address budgetary gender gaps in the climate related finance and re-prioritization of financial resources within investments.
- 7) Lastly, it is recommended that independent evaluation of green investments would allow other vulnerable groups including women, the poor, people with disabilities, for them to access the investments and provide an opportunity for feedback mechanism including complaints/grievances for review.

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