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# Promoting a just and inclusive green transition: mainstreaming the gender perspective in policies and processes in Latin America and the Caribbean through EUROCLIMA+



16 March  
10.00 New York time



<https://youtu.be/wZrAhMbi8iM>

## Concept Note

### Promoting a fair and inclusive green transition:

### Mainstreaming gender in climate change policies and processes in Latin America through EUROCLIMA+

Official Side Event at the CSW66

March 16<sup>th</sup> 2022

Virtual (EC+ YouTube [English](#) and [Spanish](#))

Starting time: 10 am NY (15 Brussels, 11 Santiago, 10 La Paz, 8 San José)

Closing time: 12.00 pm NY (17 Brussels, 13 Santiago, 12 La Paz, 10 San José)

#### Background

Women and girls are particularly affected by the impacts of climate change and environmental degradation, including ecosystem loss and reduced access to natural resources. As primary users and managers of natural resources, women play an essential role for climate change mitigation and adaptation and environmental protection. However, they face barriers to participate equally in related governance processes for multiple reasons, including harmful gender norms, inadequate legal frameworks, low access to education and land ownership.

Furthermore, women are at risk of losing out from the new labour opportunities generated by a green transition, as a result of gender stereotypes, that may reduce their opportunities to join science, technology, engineering and mathematic (STEM) related fields. An unbalance that could further exacerbate existing gender gaps in the labour market and reduce women's economic empowerment opportunities.

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Climate action and the fight for gender equality are issues central to the European Union and Latin American countries, as shown through their international leadership to push forward the agenda on gender equality and women's empowerment under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement.

EUROCLIMA+ is the flagship regional cooperation programme between the European Union (EU) and Latin America on environmental sustainability and climate change. The Programme is implemented by seven agencies (AECID, AFD / EF, FIIAPP, GIZ, ECLAC and UN Environment) and promotes strategic actions for the achievement of the goals indicated in the mitigation and adaptation sectors, prioritised in the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) of the 18 Latin American partner countries, including the growing commitments of governments to improve gender equality within their climate actions. The latter is achieved through bilateral dialogue processes, called Country Dialogues<sup>1</sup>, which imply a platform for the identification and prioritisation of climate actions that recognize gender equality as a cross-cutting pillar.

EUROCLIMA+ recognizes that climate change has varied effects on women and men, since they are exposed to different climate shocks and experience different impacts related to their gender-differentiated roles, rights, and opportunities. Therefore, EUROCLIMA+ addresses gender equality as one of its guiding principles.

The event will be an opportunity to showcase national and subnational level experiences on how to construct gender-responsive climate change policy processes, and will highlight the efforts to strengthen regional processes for South-South-collaboration on gender, climate change and environmental conservation.

## Objectives

The event will be organised in two sections, a high-level one with representatives of the European Union, cooperation agencies and United Nations agencies, which will frame the conversation, and a panel discussion with government representatives and specialists in the field with the aim of:

- Sharing good practices for gender mainstreaming in climate action in the Latin American and Caribbean region based on initiatives promoted by EUROCLIMA+.
- Identifying barriers to carry out projects of this nature and strategies to overcome to implement climate actions with a gender perspective
- Exchanging reflections on key and inspiring elements of these initiatives that facilitate their incorporation into public policies.

## Format

The panel will convene high-level speakers who will speak on the interlinkages of supporting participatory policy processes on climate change-related sectors and opportunities available for

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<sup>1</sup> For more information on the Process of the Country Dialogues and the EUROCLIMA+ Action Lines visit: <https://euroclimaplus.org/en/lines-of-action>

addressing gender equality and women’s empowerment in such processes. After their interventions, a questions and answer section will be organised, to allow the audience to interact and share their impressions with the speakers.

Simultaneous translation Spanish/English will be provided.

## Tentative Agenda

10:00 am	Welcome remarks and event information Andrew Scyner
10:05 am	Segmento político/alto nivel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Diana Montero Melis</b>, Deputy Head of Unit: South America and Regional Operations, Directorate General for International Partnerships (INTPA), European Union. Opening remarks.</li> <li>● <b>Joseluis Samaniego</b>, director, Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division, CEPAL</li> <li>● <b>Anna Terrón Cusí</b>, Director, FIIAPP.</li> </ul>
10:20 am	Moderador: Ana Rojas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Adrián Díaz Benavides</b> Gender and Climate Change National Focal Point (UNFCCC), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chile. Topic: <i>COP 25 Chile -supporting regional alliances and the power of South-South cooperation.</i></li> <li>● <b>Jessica Huertas</b>, Gender &amp; Cross Cutting Approach Responsible for the Ministry of Environment, Peru. Topic: <i>Methodological Tool Gender Mainstreaming in the NDC sectors in Peru.</i></li> <li>● <b>Ana Lucía González</b>, Vice Mayor, Municipality of Montes de Oca, Costa Rica. Topic: <i>The impacts of the women leadership in urban mobility projects at municipal level.</i></li> <li>● <b>Rigliana Portugal Escobar</b>, Specialist on Knowledge Management and Communication; and Gender Focal Point, at HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation - Bolivia. Topic: <i>the role of women in disaster risk reduction.</i></li> <li>● <b>Mariana Duque</b>, Gender Specialist Consultant, ACRA Ecuador. Topic: <i>Mainstreaming a gender perspective in capacity building and climate adaptation strategies towards equity in small-scale family agriculture scenario in Ecuadorian Central Andes.</i></li> </ul>
11:30 am	Q&A -Ana Rojas
10:55 am	Closing remarks- Andrew Scyner

## High-level speakers



**Name:** Diana Montero Melis

**Position/Function:** Deputy Head of Unit: South America and Regional Operations, Directorate General for International Partnerships, European Commission

**Bio:** Diana Montero Melis is the Deputy Head of Unit for South America and Regional Operations at the European Commission's Directorate-General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA). She has +16 years of professional experience working on international development, economic and trade issues at the Commission's Secretariat-General, DG ECFIN, the cabinet of the European Commissioner for International Partnerships, the WTO, and NGOs in India and Sri Lanka.

Diana read International Relations and Economics at the University of Sussex and at the Freie Universität in Berlin. She holds a Master of Public Affairs from Sciences Po in Paris and a Master of Public Administration

from Columbia University in New York.



**Name:** Joseluis Samaniego

**Position/Function:** Director, Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division, CEPAL

**Bio:** He was Director of the Center for Sustainable Transportation of Mexico City, a program established jointly by the Secretariat of the Environment of the Federal District, the Interdisciplinary Center for Biodiversity and Environment and the World Resources Institute. He served as Coordinator of International Affairs of the Ministry of the Environment, Natural Resources and Fisheries during the years 1994 to 2000. As such, he participated in the negotiation of the Kyoto protocol and the Biosafety protocol. He represented Mexico in the North American Commission on Environmental Cooperation and before the environmental policy committee of the OECD. He has a PHD in Natural Resources from the Faculty of Economics of the National Autonomous University of Mexico, a degree in Economics from the Autonomous Metropolitan University, a master's degree in

International Political Economy from the University of the Americas and a Fellow of the International LEAD Program of the College of Mexico.



**Name:** Anna Terrón Cusí

**Position/Function:** Director, FIIAPP

**Bio:** Ana Terrón Cusí holds a Degree in Political Science and Administration, and she has focused her career on international cooperation and migration at the EU level. She is the Director of FIIAPP, while previously she was Secretary of State for Immigration and representative in the Council of Ministers of the EU. She has been Secretary for the EU at the Generalitat de Catalunya, and member of the Committee of the Regions of the EU. She has also been a Member of the European Parliament, of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and

spokesperson on the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs. Moreover, she has been a special adviser to the previous Commissioner for Trade, Cecilia Malmström.

## Panellists



**Name:** Adrián Díaz Benavides

**Position/Function:** Gender and Climate Change National Focal Point (UNFCCC), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chile.

**Bio:** Adrián Díaz is a diplomat, graduated in 2020 from the Andrés Bello Diplomatic Academy of Chile, and currently working in the Directorate of Environment and Ocean Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile; he is an Analyst in Politics and International Affairs, graduated from the University of Santiago de Chile (2017); Focal Point of Chile for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and Focal Point of Gender and Climate Change for the UNFCCC.

**Topic description:** *COP 25 Chile -supporting regional alliances and the power of South-South cooperation*

The Government of Chile, in its capacity as Presidency of COP 25, held in September 2021 the Regional Meeting on Climate Change and Gender Equality, through its Ministries of Environment, Foreign Affairs and Women and Gender Equity. The event was supported by the EU through its EUROCLIMA+ and EUROsocial+ Programs, and with the technical support of ECLAC. The UN System of Chile and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg also participated in the realisation of the event.

The Meeting was 100% virtual and took place in 7 sessions throughout the month. It was addressed to decision makers at the national, regional and global level, academia, media and civil society.

The meetings showed experiences, good practices, challenges and opportunities to integrate gender equality into climate action in Latin America and the Caribbean and into the implementation of a roadmap of the Paris Agreement.

The results achieved include:

- the strengthening of the capacities of LAC countries to manage the linkages between gender and climate change;
- the identification of good practices and challenges related to the gender mainstreaming in the

- formulation and implementation of national climate change policies;
- the establishment of a Network for Gender Equality and Climate Change of LAC to develop a roadmap that promotes incorporation of a gender equality approach in climate action at the governmental level.



**Name:** Jessica Huertas

**Position/Function:** Gender & Cross Cutting Approach Responsible for the Ministry of Environment, Peru.

**Bio:** Jessica Huertas is the Coordinator of Intersectional Approaches and Climate Change, General Directorate of Climate Change and Desertification. She is a social psychologist, with more than 20 years of work experience in public policies, programs and social projects, where she has worked with vulnerable and at-risk populations. Jessica has extensive experience mainstreaming human rights-based, intercultural, intergenerational and gender-based approaches at different stages of the implementation of climate change programs and projects. She was part of the team of the Ministry of the Environment in charge of the Prior Consultation of the Regulations of the Framework Law on Climate Change and Desertification.

**Topic description:** *Methodological Tool Gender Mainstreaming in the NDC sectors in Peru.*

The inclusion of the gender approach in climate change issues is a long-term process that has gone through different phases in Peru. Since 2014, the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations have worked closely together to generate a process of awareness and information in such a way that the various sectors implementing the NDCs integrate a gender approach. To date, Peru is at a stage where it is developing methodological tools that facilitate the mainstreaming of gender, interculturality and intergenerational approaches in the NDCs, that is, we are moving from initial reflection to action. During this presentation they will be able to know the progress and the pending challenges that the country has.



**Name:** Ana Lucía González Castro

**Position/Function:** Vice Mayor, Montes de Oca Municipality, Costa Rica

**Bio:** Ana Lucía González has a degree in Architecture with emphasis in Urbanism, awarded by the University of Costa Rica (UCR). She has a Specialty in Project Management, as well as in Sustainable Mobility with a gender focus. Architecture and design have allowed her to promote research and social innovation to develop the transformation of spaces according to the real needs of users. She has professionally served as a professor at the university level, as well as for the public and private sectors in the direction and assistance of architectural projects.

**Topic description:** *The impacts of the women leadership in urban mobility projects at municipal level*

In the search for sustainable cities, the Montes de Oca municipality set itself the goal of developing strategies and projects where people take ownership of public space and contribute in parallel to improve the socio-environmental qualities of the city and its inhabitants. The promotion and development of urban

cycling is a key element in this task, to which the local government is greatly committed.

Working for the common good is one of the success factors of the “Urban cycling promotional and development project”, which envisioned a network of cycle lanes to connect Montes de Oca with Curridabat. The project responds to the needs of the users and their experiences through an educational approach. With the work team, and more importantly with the women’s leadership, strategies were developed to collect the necessary inputs for the design proposals of the first stage and its subsequent phases.

Thanks to women’s participation in the project, its conception and implementation made it possible to build a stronger and wider envision about the cycle lanes. Example of that was the active participation of women in workshops like the “Biciparque” concept, as well as participation of women in the technical/engineering team, where they designed and supervised the technical aspects of the project, facilitating the inter-institutional collaboration among different local agencies.



**Name:** Rigliana Portugal Escobar

**Position/Function:** Specialist in Knowledge Management and Communication; and Gender Focal Point, at HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation - Bolivia.

**Bio:** Rigliana Portugal is responsible for the strategic actions of Knowledge Management and Communication, and directs the design and implementation of actions on gender in the project cycle at HELVETAS Bolivia. She has more than 29 years of professional experience in organisations linked to issues of development, communication, knowledge management and gender.

Rigliana is a Social Communicator from the Bolivian Catholic University "San Pablo" La Paz. She holds a Master's degree in Communication, Science, Technology and Culture from the University of Salamanca, and a Master's degree in Higher Education

from the University of Havana. He is currently developing the Interuniversity Doctorate in Communication at the University of Huelva in Spain.

**Topic description:** *The role of women in disaster risk reduction*

The EUROCLIMA+ Pachayatiña/Pachayachay project was implemented in Peru and Bolivia in the municipalities of Aymara and Quechua. An Intercultural Climate Service ) was implemented to provide information for the production of quinoa and potato. Tools for weather forecasts, such as the Pacha Untawi and the Waña Katari, were used to help with the prediction of meteorological and agricultural drought. This information allowed Bolivian authorities at the municipal level and regional authorities in Peru to form their Early Warning Systems. The SCI also reports to bodies such as the Regional Agrarian Management Committee in Peru and COMURADE and COEM in the Bolivian municipalities of Sica Sica, Calacoto and Achacachi. These bodies allow strengthening governance mechanisms, which have been achieved with the support of female authorities and with the approval of municipal risk management laws and their regulations. In addition, through climate information and subnational standards, the project achieved the implementation of measures at the community level to face drought through water harvesting in “qotañas”, irrigation systems with participatory investment and harvesting water from housing roofs for human and animal consumption. During the period of implementation of the project, the experiences and lessons learned have been fundamental for the dialogues between producers and authorities of Bolivia and Peru regarding actions oriented towards sustainability.



**Name:** Mariana Duque

**Organisation:** Gender Specialist Consultant, ACRA Ecuador

**Bio:** Mariana Duque holds a Degree in Natural Renewable Resources Engineering, granted by the Ecuadorian Técnica del Norte University. She works in the field of International Cooperation, with a special focus on the role of women and rural communities in natural resources conservation, agriculture, and climate change. She has worked on NDC implementation, on a Climate Change Gender Action Plan for Ecuador, and on the enhancement of civil society participation.

She also worked on the incorporation of a gender perspective in local adaptation climate change plans, and developed an M&E system to support small-scale agriculture.

As Gender Specialist Consultant, Mariana supported mainstreaming processes in the scope of the EUROCLIMA+/ GIZ project “Resiliencia Andina”.

**Topic description:** *Mainstreaming a gender perspective in capacity building and climate adaptation strategies towards equity in small-scale family agriculture scenario in Ecuadorian Central Andes*

The Andean Resilience PRA project’s objective is to strengthen resilient value chains of milk production and family farming. In 2021, a process of gender mainstreaming and capacity building was carried out. As a result, female farmers have gained market access, and it created a call effect for other women to get involved in agroecological practices. Such empowerment has also influenced local governments to broaden the agenda of support to women. Local governments have also benefited from the gender-based climate change adaptation plans that this project’s experience has led to.

This gender mainstreaming and capacity building process consisted of the implementation of training spaces and workshops on Gender and Climate Change in the intervention areas where the project is being carried out, in collaboration with the Agricultural Associations and representatives of the Autonomous Departmental Governments. These trainings reached 2070 producers in the central highlands of Ecuador. The workshops aimed at raising awareness and bringing agricultural producers closer to the concepts and theoretical basis of gender equality. The objective was to identify gender gaps and corrective measures to achieve gender equality in the Agricultural Associations. The activities allowed farmers to identify their roles and use of time in their families and communities. Moreover, they were able to identify behaviours regarding the differentiated access and control that people have over productive resources and production chains.

## Moderators



**Name:** Andrew Scyner

**Position/Function:** EUROCLIMA+ Programme Administrator, INTPA B.2 – LAC Regional Programmes, European Commission

**Bio:** Andrew Scyner currently manages EUROCLIMA+, the European Commission's flagship regional climate action programme in Latin America.

Andrew is a team leader, advisor, analyst, collaborator, facilitator and problem-solver with extensive global experience in international cooperation, climate action, inter-institutional and cross-sector relations, post-conflict stabilisation, knowledge management, multi-stakeholder environments and participatory processes.

He has worked as an official on behalf of Canada, the European



Commission and the World Bank, in Latin America, East Africa, Central and South-East Asia. He was Canada's Deputy Development Director in Afghanistan, its Head of Cooperation in Bolivia, and the EU's Head of Cooperation in Djibouti.



**Name:** Ana Victoria Rojas

**Position/Function:** Senior Specialist on Gender and Climate Change, Consultant, EUROCLIMA+

**Bio:** **Ana Victoria Rojas** is a Senior Gender, Energy and Environment Consultant, with more than twenty-one years of experience working on sustainable development. She has provided technical support on gender mainstreaming in energy and climate change policies and projects, in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Ana has collaborated with international organisations like IUCN and GGGI, supported cooperation agencies such as USAID, GIZ and AECID, and worked with NGOs including SNV, BothEND and CEDARENA. She was a member of ENERGIA's International Secretariat for nine years,

where she began her career on gender and energy.