



GEF CSO Network Statement
Agenda item 9: Gender Equality Action Plan
47th GEF Council Meeting, Washington DC

The GEF CSO Network appreciates the work that the secretariat, council and the committee has done in developing the action plan and we do agree with the key elements suggested in the action plan.

- We as the GEF CSO network welcome the GEF's Gender Equality Action Plan (GEAP) and
- We welcome that it was developed in a participatory manner to include the GEF Agencies.
- Commend the GEF Sec for proposing to hire an "Anchor" and the establishment of focal points in the focal areas on gender issues.

Having said that the GEF CSO Network recommends the following.

- We recommend that the hiring of the "anchor" be done as soon as possible and not later than first quarter of 2015 in order to ensure timely implementation of the Action Plan.
- We suggest that the Focal Areas develop their indicators as soon as possible within the Year 2015, as these are critical in programming and project development.
- Once the Focal Areas indicators are developed we recommend to review the GEF 6- Core Gender Indicators as a means to improve the potential of impact assessment at the End of the 6th GEF Cycle. Specific activities have to be included in the work-plan to meet this task.
- The Knowledge Management and Capacity Development spheres can be better integrated to enhance its results. CSOs experiences can contribute to feed the content for specific thematic areas and provide insights on innovations on how gender has been effective in reaching the GEF goals, and objectives sustainability.
- For a good implementation of the work plan we consider that the sphere of "Capacity Development" has to go beyond the GEF Secretariat, this mean to involve the agencies and implementing organizations at global, country and

community level. We recommend that the PIF template includes capacity development in gender as to assure that budget is allocated to improve the skills of technical staff.

- The GEF CSO Network also congratulates the Secretariat for proposing to setup the Inter Agency working Group on the GEAP. As a mean to continue providing feedback to the process we offer the capacity of CSOs in this matter and request that the CSOs be included in this working group. An expert from the CSO network will be identified to fulfill this function.

We support the GEF Council to welcome the GEAP such that this process can be able to start as per the Plan.