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TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS.....	ii
1. Background of GGEO.....	1
2. The scope of GGEO.....	1
3. GGEO’s outlook component: towards transformative change.....	2
4. GGEO’s policy component: towards actionable policy recommendations.....	3
5. Key assessment questions.....	3
6. Framing the GGEO in the context of sustainable development and Post-2015 development agenda.....	4
7. Conceptual Framework.....	5
8. Assessment methodologies.....	5
9. Data, indicators and indices.....	6
10. Stakeholder engagement.....	7
11. Outreach.....	8
12. Next steps:.....	8
Annex 1: List of participants.....	I
Annex 2: Presentations.....	I
Annex 3: List of suggested GGEO objectives.....	I
Annex 4: Reports from Working Group Discussions.....	I
Annex 5: GGEO Outreach: outcomes discussion.....	I

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	Asia Development Bank	NWMLE	Network of Women Ministers and Leaders for Environment
AGDI	African Gender and Development Index	OAS	Organisation of American States
AIT	Asian Institute for Technology	OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
BAU	'Business as usual'	SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women	SEI	Stockholm Environmental Institute
CGIAR	Centre for Global International Agricultural Research	TERI	The Energy and Research Institute
CIFOR	Centre for International Forestry Research	UN	United Nations
DPSIR	Drivers, Pressures, State, Impact and Responses	UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	UNECA	United Nations Commission for Africa
ECOAS	Economic Commission of Organisation of American States	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
EEA	European Economic Agency	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
EGI	Environment and Gender Index	UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
EIGE	European Institute for Gender Equality	UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organisation
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific	UNSG	United Nations Secretary General
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia	UNU	United Nations University
Eurostat	European Statistical Office	WEF	World Economic Forum
FAO	World Food and Agriculture Organisation	WHO	World Health Organisation
GDI	Gender Development Index	WTO	World Trade Organisation
GEF	Global Environment Facility	WWF	World Wildlife Fund
GEM	Gender Empowerment Measure		
GEO	Global Environment Outlook		
GGCA	Global Gender and Climate Alliance		
GGEO	Global Gender and Environment Outlook		
GII	Gender Inequality Index		
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature		
JRC EU	Joint Research Centre European Commission		
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals		

Introduction

This report reflects the main discussion and outcomes of the Expert Group Consultation for the GGEO preparation phase.

After a warm welcome by Wondwosen Asnake (Programme Officer and Gender Focal Point) on behalf of UNEP's Regional Director for Europe, Jan Dusik, presentations and plenary and working group discussions started, facilitated by Janet Kabereri-Macharia (UNEP, head Gender and Social Safeguards Unit) and her colleagues. The main objective of the consultation was "to define the objectives, scope and process for the GGEO, in consultation with relevant experts and partners".

1. Background of GGEO

In 2012 in GEO-5 (2012) the lack on reliable data on gender and environment was underlined and the Network of Women Ministers and Leaders for the Environment (NWMLE) challenged UNEP to develop a Global Gender and Environment Outlook (GGEO). That same year, at the Rio+ conference, UNEP made a commitment to develop the GGEO in "*cooperation with strategic partners from the NWMLE and civil society*". UNEP's Programme of Work 2014-2015 reflects that commitment under sub-programme 7 – Keeping the Environment Under Review, and the 1st universal session of UNEP's Governing Council, February 2013 welcomed the development of the GGEO that should be launched in June 2016 at the second UN Environment Assembly meeting (see Annex 2, PPT-2).

As starting point the following objectives of the assessment were presented:

- (1) To provide scientifically credible¹ information and data for governments, UN entities, bilateral and multilateral agencies and civil society, to support the development of gender-sensitive policies and programmes for sustainable environmental management.
- (2) To create a global picture on gender and environment by identifying the regional/sub-regional/national disparities in the contributions to and impacts of environmental hazards, degradation and climate change on the lives of men and women, their respective roles as agents of change, and policy implications of these disparities.
- (3) To provide policy options and strengthen the capacity of decision-makers, technical experts and other stakeholders to generate, use and communicate requisite gender-sensitive information in their policy, planning and decision-making processes.
- (4) To strengthen partnerships with key stakeholders and bring together the best expertise on gender and environment across a wide range of networks that will be engaged in the project development, implementation and outreach.

At the end of the meeting, the participants reviewed these objectives and provided further inputs and considerations (see Annex 3).

2. The scope of GGEO

The Desk Study

The outline and contents of the Desk Study were presented through the shared Synopsis and Bibliography² (larger version of the report and annotated outline available on request). It was noted that the study is not exhaustive and there is more literature available. It should be noted that 'gender' is not the same as 'women' and there is a need to focus on intersections between gender and other social differentiators, such as class, caste, ethnicity, age.

¹ During the discussion this was reformulated into: "to provide evidence-based information..."

² The Desk Study full report, Synopsis report and annotated Bibliography are available on request.

Preliminary findings of the Desk Study are summarized as following:

- Based on existing research and studies the development of a GGEO is feasible;
- Much knowledge on gender and environment is available, but is rather scattered and representing different sectors and periods of time;
- The involvement of gender-environment experts coming from a broad range of sectors is necessary, including regional representation;
- A coherent analytical framework is a prerequisite;
- All issues explored in the desk study seem to be relevant. The question is: how do we prioritize and define relevant scope for the assessment?
- It is necessary to combine the described sectors or issues (like gender mainstreaming) in environmental policies and institutions; and
- Special effort is needed to align GGEO with post-2015 development agenda, and SDGs.

Prioritizing gender and environment themes

The discussions on the scope and prioritized themes lead to the following three clusters which were discussed further within the global context.

- *Cluster 1: Sustainable Production and Consumption patterns* – including industries (extractive, other (small) industries), agriculture, employment, energy, climate change mitigation/access to technology, environment and human health.
- *Cluster 2: Social Protection, Poverty alleviation and Equity* – including climate change adaptation, food security, poverty and environment, migration, land use (changes, tenure, and access) and water and sanitation.
- *Cluster 3: Ecosystem management* – including forests/forestry, coastal/marine, biodiversity and healthy ecosystems.

Based on these initial clusters of themes, Working Group I further defined the groups and discussed more in depth the inter-linkages among identified themes, cross-cutting issues and clusters. Some key comments at the plenary presentation are as below (see Annex 4 for group report):

- Cross-cutting issues (which are reflected in all clusters) are identified as equal rights for men and women, and indigenous/traditional knowledge;
- In cluster 2, the link between poverty, social protection and environmental protection is important. It is also important to pay attention to the link between unpaid care work, social protection and the environment³;
- Technology not only comes under cluster 1, but also under cluster 3;
- Concern is expressed about the comprehensiveness of the clusters. It seems to cover almost everything and doesn't reflect priority. It is, therefore, important to prioritize areas that will be covered in GGEO;

3. GGEO's outlook component: towards transformative change

This topic was discussed in both a plenary session and Working Group II. Key elements suggested include:

- How existing responses matches the desired transformational changes? In order to find the answer, it might be useful to develop 1 or 2 scenarios which include 'business as usual' (BAU) scenario and required transformational change scenario;
- How to visualize the green drivers of change and what are the required structural changes that allow realization of the desired transformation;

³ e.g. TEEB report mentioned that 80% of poor people depend on NRs)

- What are the alternative economic models to BAU that will lead to better environmental management and gender equity?
- Identification of areas of conflict and linkages - where can we help to build synergies? Analyse linkages between different sectors and go beyond sector-silos;
- How to scale up good practices that promote women/men as agents of change and women empowerment?
- Presentation of the intergenerational aspects; and
- The roles of awareness raising and education component. Time horizon should align with Rio+20/SDG process, and balance between three pillars of sustainable development;

4. GGEO's policy component: towards actionable policy recommendations

There is a wealth of data/information available on state and trends, but the main gaps may be under policy/practical responses, in particularly in the following areas:

- How to translate policies into action and implementation?
- Policy for integration of gender and environment into technology development, innovation, investments and finance;
- What are available accountability measures in delivering gender equality;
- Gender consideration in environmental finance and economic sectors (including make the role of unpaid care work visible);

5. Key assessment questions

The following assessment questions should help build the structure and scope of the assessment:

Setting the scene and vision:

- Why gender matters for environmental management and what is the value (incl. non-monetary), now and in the future, and where do we want to be?

State-of-the-art and emerging issues:

- What are the major, priority, actual and emerging issues on gender & environment (and what are the trends) – globally and regionally?
- What are major drivers & pressures of the issues? Risk management around these issues?
- How are we performing against major international commitments and objectives (e.g. Rio-Rio+20, MDGs, Beijing+20, CEDAW)? What have we learned and what are we proposing can be done differently?
- What gaps exist in knowledge, policies, finance, and capacity (including global/regionally specific gaps)?

Data and indicators:

- What and how to measure impacts and responses going forward?
- What are the relevant gender & environment indicators for SDGs?

Outlook and Transformation:

- What innovative/transformational solution/responses can be considered that lead to structural change?
- How do we value, measure, design, use and replicate strategic approaches (scalable & gender responsive)? What are the successful approaches with potential for replication/up-scaling?

6. Framing the GGEO in the context of sustainable development and Post-2015 development agenda

The key objective of framing is to make the report relevant for policy makers and social and economic sectors at multiple levels. We need to identify what information is needed for 2015-2030 timeframe. How could we make the GGEO relevant to the challenges of post-2015 development agenda?

The discussion suggested a number of key entry points including the following:

- In order to influence the SDG process with our assessment GGEO needs to be simple, straight forward and include clear messages;
- A gender, poverty and environment assessment would fit well in the sustainable development framework;
- The nexus of gender empowerment and protection needs to be reflected including addressing gender, violence and resilience. This coincides well with the UN Women's perspective on freedom of violence, gender equality and capability (social capital), access to and control over resources, women's decision-making power;

Working Group I further discussed framing GGEO assessment in context of sustainable development and confirmed that GGEO should make a strong case for the importance of gender equality in the field of environment, including demonstrating the societal structures/different aspects of culture to form the basis of inequality and impact the environment. The group also stressed on the need to make GGEO useful and facilitative to support environmental ministries to integrate gender perspectives in environmental policies and action plans.

There was a high consensus during the working group discussion as well as in the plenary that sustainable development should be the foundation to contextualize the GGEO, which will determine its finding's relevance and usefulness. This means GGEO's approach should move beyond piecemeal approach to a comprehensive assessment (as possible) that will provide a big picture of the gender-environment linkages including roles and behaviours, impacts, access to resources, enjoyment rights, decision-making, security, and others;

The group discussion also suggested some other background elements to be used in setting the context of GGEO such as existing conventions and international policies, historical evolution of the roles of women and men in environment management, existing societal structures that impact gender-environment linkages, and lastly, some assessment on the success/failures of the MDGs from the gender-environment lens.

Some notes on the gender-environment lens:

- Understand gender as: the parity in roles, responsibilities and treatments of men/women and boys/girls;
- Gender-related priorities in developed/developing countries are different, but they are linked globally (revisit results of consultation on SDGs and post-2015 by region in My World survey);
- The differences between North-South perspectives;
- Different regional perspectives on gender should be considered and regional ownership should be ensured; and
- Gender parity could reflect spatial issues: urban/rural differentiation; upland/coastal regions; national/sub-nationals/local levels (ethnic, shared resources e.g. water).

7. Conceptual Framework

Three existing analytical frameworks that might be useful in order to define and analyse the relationship between gender, environment and sustainable development were discussed including the presented flow diagram for women's/men's roles in natural resources management, the Human Security Framework on gender, human security and climate change and the GEO's framework - DPSIR.

The DPSIR Framework is used in UNEP's Global Environment Outlook assessment. It focuses on the linkages between Drivers, Pressures, State, Impact and Responses of human-environment environmental changes. Particularly the Drivers, Pressures, Impacts and Responses seem to carry gender-specific characteristics. The participants agreed that a gender-specific DSPIR offers a useful conceptual analytical framework for the GGEO, as it is well known in the assessment world, it is familiar for policy makers, and well recognized. However, further effort is needed to identify relevant gender-specific aspects within this framework, in particular the component that describe "State and Trends".

Working Group II worked with the DPSIR framework (see Annex 4 for group report) and decided to take the DPSIR approach to start its work rather than the cluster of topics. The group also attempted to justify the framework and related methodology by "unpacking" all elements of the DPSIR framework and putting all of them through the gender lens. While unpacking, possible data sources were identified and their characteristics (database, case study etc.). The group also touched upon the possible policy responses. However, in the plenary discussion, participants also raised a question if we should develop our own GGEO conceptual framework. Overall idea was that DPSIR serves as a useful starting point that is forward looking and that needs to be adapted in order to reflect a central gender-environment perspective.

8. Assessment methodologies

A brainstorming question on assessment methodologies was 'what is evidence and knowledge?' It was agreed that GGEO should think 'out of the box' and not only look into official and peer-reviewed data to recognize knowledge and evidence. There is a need to build not only on (quantitative) data and information, but actually GGEO should embrace a 'new' regime that is based on a mixed methodology, including – next to traditional evidence-based data - lived experiences, traditional and indigenous knowledge, and citizen science. In order to apply such a mixed methodology, GGEO should draw on – beside quantitative data - qualitative information from case studies for emerging issues, good practices and to understand the global picture. There are a few options (including triangulation):

- (i) **Counterpose** official narratives with lived experience
- (ii) Develop a **Scaled Index** that combines conventional data with lived experience/wisdom;

There were lively and rich discussions during both the plenary and Working Group II sessions on this theme in order to identify appropriate elements of assessment methodologies for the GGEO, as following points:

- Embracing an approach which is based on comparison of case studies from different parts of the world (with similar results);
- Supporting GGEO by assembly of case studies, or an '**Evidence Bank**'. In such an approach we move beyond numbers, into what it really means;
- Allow some 'new' movements, such as including traditional/indigenous knowledge, citizen science on environment, and lessons learned from existing studies, e.g. the studies on Loss and Damage (UNU). This could be approached this as a form of 'crowd sourcing of data';
- Transparency and traceability are important. Although governmental approach is very much focused on measurable data, there are opportunities for change, but in order to go beyond measurement clarity in approach is a prerequisite; and

- Regarding data-collection, it is important to pre-define the clear purpose for collection and conclusions need to be well-described and sourced; GGEO assessment methods should allow identification of further research gaps.

There was a strong consensus about the use of mixed methodology, as described above. Regarding access to data, it is crucial to have a separate exercise to identify relevant data sources, related networks and respective potential partnerships. The use of a matrix for the analysis is recommended.

The Working Group II also discussed in detail about accessing reliable data and information for GGEO. It confirmed the need to develop some examples using the mixed methodology and find out what is really happening with the data, including the use of specific case studies. For quality assurance, there should be a mechanism in place to carefully check information and data before coming up with the final structure of the report; and access to critical information is important.

9. Data, indicators and indices

Data and indicators are vital for GGEO because gender-disaggregated data and indicators are central to the formulation and implementation of 'evidence-based' policies affecting women and men.

The MDG 3 on Gender Equality includes some relevant targets and indicators, that have been monitored for a wide range of countries, and also the other MDGs include (implicitly) gender-related aspects, including MDG 7 on "ensure environmental sustainability".

Overview of the current sources for gender-related and sex-disaggregated data and indicators: the OECD (2012) Gender, Institutions and Development Database, FAO's Gender-sensitive Statistics for Agricultural Development, UNDP's Gender Inequality Index under the Human Development Report, UN Statistics and Indicators on Women and Men (UNSD) – incl. the World's Women 2010 publication, World Bank's GenderStats Database of Gender Statistics, Women in Development Statistics (WIDNET), the African Gender and Development Index (UNECA), 2004; updated 2011), ECLAC and ESCWA Gender Divisions and Statistics collections, the Asia Development Bank (ADB), and DEVINFO (UN & UNICEF for the MDGs).

UNEP was involved in a project on Sex-disaggregated Data, that concluded that most sex-disaggregated data are found in the socio-economic realms and some environmental sectors, such as agriculture, forestry, energy and water, but there are many gaps in terms of subject areas and time periods, and also between developed and developing countries in general. UNEP's Environmental Data Explorer, and in particular UNEP Live, could become also important sources in future.

Some significant Gender Indicators/Indices are:

- Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM; UNDP)
- Gender Development Index (GDI; UNDP)
- Gender Inequality Index (GII; UNDP)
- African Gender and Development Index (AGDI; UNECA)
- Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI; OECD)
- Global Gender Gap Index (GGGI)
- And IUCN's Environment and Gender Index (EGI) – see example below.

There is a broad understanding and acceptance of the importance of collecting sex-disaggregated data. While this is well-acknowledged at a global level, it is less homogeneously recognized at regional/national/local levels

in different regions and countries. National Statistic Offices should be trained for better (and more strategic) sex-disaggregated data collection.

International regulation is needed to assure the continuous/ongoing collection of a minimum set of gender statistics at national level (*UN Global Forum for Gender Statistics, 2009*). What are the research gaps in knowledge, policies and finance, and what should be the research priorities?

The Environment and Gender Index (EGI) (see Annex 2: PPT-9)

A concrete example on gender-environment indicators was presented on the Environment and Gender Index that has been developed by IUCN. The first report was launched in November 2013,

Purpose of the EGI is to:

- Monitor implementation of global agreements;
- Promote transparency and accountability;
- Expand access to environmental information;
- Increase aid effectiveness; and
- Demonstrate that measurement is possible.

Some findings of The Environment and Gender Index (EGI) 2013 Pilot include:

- Limited sex-disaggregated data in the environmental sector;
- Piecemeal accountability between international agreements and national action;
- Country income level is not a factor in performance;
- Need for gender parity in environmental decision-making;
- Gender policies do have an impact; and
- This methodology is developed enough so that countries can use it as a source of reference.

During the discussion on EGI, it was emphasised that the EGI is not static, and it certainly will be changed and improved over time. There are still many gaps in the available data for the indicators and thus prioritizing is important what is most needed. Furthermore, a lot of information/indicators are only available in a few countries. The EGI also uses qualitative assessments as evidence. It depends on how an indicator is chosen, e.g. instead of the number of female participants in a meeting, better to find out the number of times they speak and what they speak about. However a challenge related to qualitative information is whether trends can be derived from the collected stories?

The EGI presentation and discussion served as good inspiration for GGEO's data and indicators works. It also provides good lesson learned in terms of experience in access to data, working at countries level and potential partnerships.

10. Stakeholder engagement

Stakeholders play vital roles in the GGEO assessment process. There should be a group of 'core partners', who will collaborate closely and work on content, data, facilitation, consultation and outreach. In particular, partners and relevant stakeholder engagement during the consultation process is important to the quality and usefulness of the final products. Consultation processes takes place in different stages: global consultation, review process (independent and neutral). Policy-makers, who are the primary clients of this assessment, should be part of the consultation process, preferably at early stages. The participants provided different options for involvement of the public including surveys, working through focal points and MESH networks.

Fundamentally, partners are not only important for writing (parts of) the report, but also for its use and implementation. Thus the partnership (labelling) of the report is important in order to ensure ownership of relevant stakeholders. UNEP Live could serve as the connection platform for exchanging and sharing information, knowledge, data and networks. It also provides motivation to engage 'smaller' groups and organizations and increase their visibility. Some initial identification of stakeholders to be engaged in the GGEO process are provided below:

Global Level:

- UN partners: UNDP including UNDP/Rio Centre, UN Women, WHO, ILO, FAO, UN Habitat, UNISDR, UNU, UNFPA, IOM, UNHCR, UNESCO and UNIDO;
- World Bank, World Trade Organization (WTO), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Global Environment Facility (GEF); and
- Other non-UN partners as data providers and/or providing contents: EIGE, EEA, OECD, OAS, Eurostat, WEF.

Global NGOs:

- NGOs in the Global Gender and Environment Alliance (GGCA) and Women's Major Groups; Women in Extractives Network; and
- Science/technologies partners: Universities, for example Bern University; IDS, SEI, IIED, AIT, GRID Arendal, ICIMOD, CIFOR/IUFRO, CGIAR, TERI, WWF etc.

Regional Organisations:

Regional Commissions, such as SIDS Regional Commission, JRC Europe, ECOAS, regional economic centres (ECLAC, ESCAP, ECE), and other regional technology and research institute such as AIT, ICIMOD (Himalaya region), IGAD/ICPAC (development and climate change) and GRID-Arendal.

The meeting participants added important discussion points on how to engage some particular stakeholders in the process such as governments/countries and private sector? It was suggested that a part of the process could entail creating active platform(s) for relevant actors and community of practice to network, influence the assessment process from a bottom-up perspective.

11. Outreach

Based on a simple questionnaire on the Outreach of GGEO participants identified a wide range of ideas regarding the Outreach: Impact through outreach; Milestones; Relevant events; Target audiences (primary/secondary); Tools, products, media and technologies, and Strategic partners. For full discussion report, see: Annex 5.

12. Next steps:

The meeting concluded by reviewing the objectives of GGEO and agreeing on the next steps, as the following:

- Compile and share the Expert Group Consultation Meeting Report;
- Completion and approval of GGEO Project Document;
- Stakeholder consultation meeting; and
- Further development and work related to GGEO's scope, framework, assessment methodologies and identifying skill-sets and relevant networks and partnership.

Annex 1: List of participants

Annex 2: Presentations

Annex 3: List of suggested GGEO objectives

Annex 4: Reports from Working Group Discussions

Annex 5: GGEO Outreach: outcomes discussion