

Gender and Environmental Law. Challenges and opportunities for promoting the role of gender in environmental justice

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Panel 4. Poster pitch session

A feminist approach in the climate negotiations.

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The main objective of this project is to identify the evolution of the gender dimension in climate change related decisions adopted at UNFCCC process and what the relevance of these documents are in terms of an Eco-feminism agenda. We can identify some elements that deserve to be highlighted:

1. A sense of progression: Since COP7, where the first decision on this matter was adopted, it is possible to acknowledge some progress achieved in climate negotiations, that allow to advance from a gender balance to a gender sensitive approach and finally to recognize in the preamble of the Paris agreement the relevance of gender equality and empowerment of women in the climate action.
2. The importance of capacity building: One of the elements that have contributed to this improvement was the enhancement of the negotiation skills of delegates involved in this process (and their ability to have a better use of the allocated time during meetings, the use of inter sessional sessions, submissions) and also have a better knowledge about why gender equality matters in the context of a sustainable climate change agenda.
3. Achievement of climate justice. In this regard, it is promising to see reflected in the recent decisions on gender, some concepts related to climate justice like human rights, multidimensional factors of inequality, participation and inclusiveness.

Challenges: However, we should not take all these advancements for granted. Behind these results there are intense negotiations between different approaches about the importance of gender equality, human rights and climate justice in environmental negotiations.