The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Environment and Gender Information (EGI) platform aims—through data and analysis—to convey the value of gender-responsive environmental conservation and sustainable development. By providing cutting edge evidence-based data and knowledge products, the EGI platform guides action toward a more just world.

The EGI is a resource to influence, encourage and assist governments and civil society, policymakers and practitioners, academia and advocates, donors and the media to propel gender-responsive environmental policy, practice and communication. From measuring women’s participation in environmental decision-making spheres to examining the extent to which gender considerations are taken into account in major national initiatives and reporting, EGI knowledge products serve as tools across frameworks and sectors—building knowledge, measuring commitments and enhancing accountability.

EVOLUTION OF THE EGI

Originally launched in its 2013 pilot phase as a composite index, the EGI has evolved into a source for new knowledge creation and dissemination—and for revealing progress and challenges in meeting commitments to women’s empowerment and gender equality in environmental spheres.

With major global agreements made in recent years to propel sustainable development, including the Sendai Framework, the Paris Agreement, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Agenda 2030, the EGI platform is a hub of information that governments and stakeholders alike can use to help inform planning that moves toward meeting commitments and inspiring action. EGI datasets uncover and explore the drivers of inequality and unsustainability, bridging gaps between knowledge, commitments and accountability. EGI knowledge products anchor data in policy and decision-making contexts.

In the last few years, EGI data has informed national policymaking and programming in more than 25 countries around the world that have partnered with IUCN to develop national climate change gender action plans (ccGAPs), biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) and REDD+ Roadmaps, all of which aim to recognize and serve the differentiated needs and capacities of women and men.

The EGI supports:

• **Decision makers** at all levels to make more informed choices based on data disaggregated across a wider, more comprehensive spectrum of gender issues
• **Advocates and practitioners** around the world who need concrete numbers to champion areas of progress and focus attention on urgent concerns
• **International and national institutions** to programme with strengthened understanding of the gender gaps that undermine effective and efficient project delivery
• **Donors** to invest in best practice strategies, regions and issues—as well as those in dire need of enhanced support
• **Monitoring and accountability frameworks** to uncover and explore the drivers of inequality and unsustainability across interlinked issues, such as those evolving under the SDGs
WHAT THE EGI REVEALS

Working in close collaboration with a range of partners who seek to expand their own knowledge in order to inform policymaking and programming, the EGI team continues to analyze tens of thousands of policy and programme documents, rosters and websites to create new data spanning the environmental sector, for example:

- In collaboration with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the EGI found that 56% of NBSAPs contain gender keywords; 4% of countries view women as agents of change within their reports.
- In partnership with Conservation International, the EGI found that 48% of the 126 REDD+ national policy documents analyzed view women as stakeholders.
- The EGI team analyzed national reports to the Ramsar and World Heritage Conventions, collaborating with the Conventions’ Secretariats and IUCN programmes, and found that 16% and 1%, respectively, included gender; many of those viewed women as beneficiaries and stakeholders.

FIGURE 1. INCLUSION OF GENDER KEYWORDS IN CONVENTION REPORTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Convention</th>
<th>Included Women</th>
<th>Did Not Include Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ramsar Convention</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Heritage Convention</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WHAT THE EGI WILL TACKLE NEXT

IUCN remains committed to its vision of realizing more gender-responsive policies, programmes and practices, at all levels, for a more sustainable and equitable world. The EGI creates the data and user-friendly information required as a means toward that end.

The next steps are multifold, including launching new datasets; working with partners to apply EGI data in advocacy spheres; and inviting feedback. Get in touch: contact IUCN’s Global Gender Office to share ideas and information with the EGI team. Together, we will continue to fill the data gaps—and translate that information into strategies for real results.

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