

## WISER Pan Africa

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### Strengthening the Engagement of Women in CIS Generation, Packaging, Dissemination, Uptake and Use

*Webinar, 6 Aug 2020, 11am to 1pm UTC*

#### Concept Note

##### Introduction

Women have significant knowledge and understanding of the changing environmental conditions, which could play a critical role in identifying viable and practical community adaptation. However, the limited engagement of women in climate information and services (CIS) and related climate change dialogues poses serious challenges in sufficiently adapting to and mitigating against climate change impacts. To respond to the climate change and CIS challenges, under the auspices of DFID, the ACPC in collaboration with the UK Met Office, are implementing the WISER programme whose aim is to contribute to addressing the CIS gap and ensure accelerated uptake of CIS for development planning and practice. In implementing the WISER programme, the ACPC has noted the limited engagement of women in the production and uptake of CIS, despite the continuing efforts made to involve them. This could be due to weak policy and legislative environment, which do not sufficiently provide the incentives for women to engage in the uptake and use of CIS. Sectoral policies (environment, agriculture, climate, gender) have not sufficiently addressed differential impact of climate change and how it affects men and women.

It is in this context that ACPC in collaboration with the ECA's African Centre for Gender (ACG) and ABANTU for Development organized a two-day consultative workshop on enhancing gender engagement in the uptake and use of CIS in Accra, Ghana in December 2018 to deliberate on the above issues and come up with recommendations to address them.

As the Coronavirus has afflicted the world since the first quarter of 2020, the world has joined hands in an unprecedented solidarity to defeat the pandemic. Airplanes have been grounded, countries have closed borders, entire populations have gone into lockdown and scientists are readily sharing research work. The result is palpable and goes to demonstrate that a concerted global response can defeat a major threat to the human race. Yet, the climate crisis has been ravaging vulnerable communities and economies at a ferocity that is accelerating, but we are yet to witness unequivocal global effort to address the phenomena.

##### Objectives

The main objective of the webinar is to strengthen the engagement of women in CIS at regional level and to build their capacity and awareness of climate information tools and resources, which they can utilize to support the CIS value chain for the benefit of their countries and communities. Specifically, the event will seek to fulfil the following tasks:

- Identify practical national level opportunities and modalities for enhancing the role of women in the production, packaging, dissemination, uptake and use of CIS both at policy and practice levels;
- Discuss and identify the potential contribution of women in mitigating environmental damage and embedding climate justice in governance mechanisms as the world emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Enumerate tools, resources and networking opportunities to support women engagement in CIS;
- Identify bottlenecks and impediments in facilitating women involvement in CIS at national and sub-national levels.

## Expected Results

1. Better understanding of the social conditions and impediments to women engagement in CIS;
2. Increased capacity for women to participate in CIS generation, packaging, dissemination, uptake and use of CIS;
3. Awareness and readiness to utilize available resources and tools in developing climate informed plans and policies, and in using climate information in practice.

## Structure

The structure of the webinar will consist of an overview of CIS in the continent and the role of the WISER programme in improving the policy and enabling environment and addressing the paucity of women engagement in climate information for development planning. Further, ACPC will step participants through the science basis of climate change interventions as well as ongoing climate information efforts in the region.

The learning tools and module developed under WISER will then be introduced and presented to participants. The African Centre for Gender (ACG) and ACPC will step the participants through the content available in the CIS learning module and recommendations of the Accra workshop under the following topics:

- What are climate information and services?
- Stakeholders and users of climate information;
- Challenges in the integration of CIS in Africa;
- Women involvement in CIS in the context of COVID-19.

The above sessions will include interactive engagement of participants through a Q and A to elicit their experiences and to enable sharing of lessons they have learnt in relation to the CIS value chain.

Lastly, the webinar will have a breakout session where participants will identify opportunities, skills, solutions, resources and tools introduced in the workshop that they can use to elevate women engagement in CIS.

## Participants

The African Centre for Gender (ACG), ACPC and IDEP will use their networks to reach out to climate change and gender practitioners, vulnerable groups and experts involved in the implementation of SDG5, to register for the webinar.

The Future Climate for Africa (FCFA) has also offered to promote the webinar in their network.