

Gender
Women still absent in climate change debate
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IUCN

Lack of women's participation in efforts to solve climate crisis was the main focus of the Third Global Congress of Women in Politics and Governance held from 19 to 22 October in Manila, Philippines. The global gender alliance established by IUCN, UNDP and UNEP, encouraged women to speak with one voice at climate change negotiations.

Gender in Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction was the theme of this year's event gathering more than 350 representatives from governments, development agencies and civil society. The participants launched an appeal for action, emphasizing the urgent need to correct the current gender inequality in tackling the effects of climate change and finding solutions for adaptation and disaster risk reduction.

IUCN asked key participants what is the missing part in their work in order to reduce the gender gap when it comes to climate change. "The consultations with governmental and parliamentary officials allow us to assess their level of commitment and use IUCN knowledge to mainstream gender in the most pressing environment and development issues of our time," said Lorena Aguilar, IUCN's Senior Gender Adviser.

IUCN is currently preparing the first-ever training manual on gender and climate change for decision-makers, to be presented during the next UNFCCC-led meeting in Poznań, Poland, from 1 to 12 December 2008.