Development of a gender-responsive NBSAP in Brazil

In the development of the Gender Plan of Action (GPOA) under the FLR process in Brazil, one of the activities identified was the need to support the mainstreaming of gender considerations into the Brazilian National Biodiversity Strategies Action Plan (NBSAP) because of key linkages between the country’s biodiversity, forests, landscapes and restoration needs.

A three month process was undertaken to support the incorporation of gender criteria in Brazil’s NBSAP. The activities carried out were:

- Review of national policies, institutional initiatives, key stakeholders and dominant issues related to biodiversity and gender to identify priorities, existing technical capacities, challenges and gaps;
- Preparation of training material related to gender and biodiversity that addresses issues of key national interest;
- Training session for key stakeholders working on the areas of gender equality and biodiversity policy, planning and programming (including national focal points, relevant governmental and non-governmental actors1), and identify gender-related/women’s priorities in relation to biodiversity;
- National workshop to engage in planning to incorporate gender considerations/actions into revised NBSAPs, including resource mobilization plans under the NBSAPs;
- Inputs were prepared to inform the production of the gender-responsive NBSAP; and
- A report was produced of the process undertaken, outcomes and lessons learned.

In the first training for key stakeholders, over 40 women from different parts of the country—including experts in gender and biodiversity, and community leaders—participated in a workshop to learn about the NBSAP, understand the connections between gender and biodiversity, discuss the national and international legal framework related to gender equality and biodiversity conservation and to propose actions and recommendations to mainstream gender into the national biodiversity strategy.

During the following two days, the group had the opportunity to present their work and to discuss it further within the Brazilian Panel on Biodiversity – PainelBio, which is a permanent, collaborative, multistakeholder platform that supports, fosters and monitors the implementation and achievement of biodiversity targets in Brasil. PainelBio engaged its thematic groups to promote a broad revision of the Brazilian NBSAP to ensure that the perspectives and inputs of this wide range of stakeholders

1 **National focal points of the Convention as well as staff of governmental or non-governmental organizations that have a nationally mandated responsibility for implementing measures related to the objectives of the Convention. It would also include representatives of organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, that are active in the areas of gender and women’s empowerment. These may include, for example, women’s groups including those of indigenous peoples and local communities, any government office responsible for national gender policies and action plans, and experts from the world of development, cooperation agencies and academia with expertise related to gender and biodiversity.**
are not only incorporated in the strategy but also in the implementation of biodiversity actions.

The results were officially sent to the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment to update the NBSAP to be increasingly gender-inclusive, and -responsive. Brazil's first original draft NBSAP document had zero mentions of *women* and/or *gender* keywords. The final approved version (2016) has 37 references, all as a product catalyzed by the process conducted under KNOWFOR/FLR. The importance of women's participation is stated as one of the objectives of the NBSAP, alongside the inclusion of sex-disaggregated data and development of gender indicators. The incorporation of the national and international legal framework for the support of gender equality in the NBSAP is a step forward to mainstreaming gender across sectors. A representative from the government of Brazil presented its official NBSAP during the CBD COP 13 in Cancun.

Additionally a gender group has been created under PainelBio to follow on the implementation of activities identified under the NBSAP.