

Technical Report

Gender Analysis

Gender Integration in Climate Change
Response Action Planning in Quang Tri
2025 – 2030



On behalf of:



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1. Introduction and Background

Currently, the Quang Tri Climate Change Response Action Plan (CCRAP) for the period 2025–2030, with a vision to 2050, is under development with technical support from the Climate Change Center under the Department of Climate Change, Ministry of Agriculture and Environment. Provincial stakeholders have recognised the necessity of integrating a gender-responsive approach into this planning process.

However, local authorities face significant challenges in translating gender-related issues into feasible actions due to a substantial knowledge gap on gender equality and its interlinkages with climate change and disaster risks.

In response to the request for consultancy support to ensure that a gender-responsive approach is consistently integrated throughout the CCRAP planning process the conduct of a provincial-level gender analysis has been identified as a key task within this assignment.

2. Objectives of the Gender Analysis

Gender analysis in the context of climate change is essential to identify differences between women and men in terms of vulnerability, resilience, and opportunities to access information, resources, and support. This provides a crucial basis for proposing effective gender mainstreaming solutions into the provincial Climate Change Response Action Plan (CCRAP).

Accordingly, this gender analysis aims to:

- Provide an overview of the vulnerabilities of women and girls to the impacts of climate change, as well as the extent to which these aspects have been integrated into the province’s current climate change–related legal documents and plans; while identifying gaps and challenges.
- Review the current draft of the Quang Tri CCRAP and make recommendations on gender mainstreaming in key sectors: agriculture, natural resources and environment, health and education, tourism, and services.
- Propose measures to strengthen gender aspects in the provincial CCRAP for the period 2025–2030.

More specifically, the expected outcomes of this analysis include:

1. Clarifying differences in roles, responsibilities, resilience, and vulnerability between men and women across sectors affected by climate change.
2. Assessing the extent of gender integration in policies, programmes, plans, and in the implementation capacity of stakeholders.
3. Identifying barriers, gaps, and technical support needs to strengthen gender integration in the CCRAP.

3. Research Methodology

3.1. Research Questions

A review of climate change impact assessments in Quang Tri province, along with projected climate change scenarios, indicates that key socio-economic sectors most affected include agriculture–environment, tourism–trade, health, and education. Given this context, the gender analysis focuses on clarifying the differentiated impacts of climate change across these sectors and addressing the following specific questions:

1. How do the impacts of climate change in each socio-economic sector differ between men and women, as well as among other population groups?
2. What barriers currently limit men’s and women’s participation in climate change response, their access to resources and services, and their ability to recover?
3. What are the differences in adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change impacts between men and women?
4. What solutions are needed to ensure effective gender integration in the provincial Climate Change Response Action Plan (CCRAP)?

3.2. Research Methods

Within the scope of the available resources and timeframe of this consultancy, which coincided with the period of provincial merger and the implementation of the two-tier local government model, the Gender Analysis was designed to combine both primary and secondary data collection methods.

Specifically, the review of existing studies, reports, and local statistical data provided an overall picture of gender differences in the impacts of climate change as well as the extent to which gender has been mainstreamed into climate change response planning. In-depth interviews with leaders and technical staff from relevant provincial departments complemented this information by offering concrete evidence and lessons learned in the field of climate change response. The gender analysis framework and data collection tools are attached in other documents submitted by consultants.

In total, eight in-depth interviews were conducted with representatives of leaders and technical officers from relevant departments and organisations, including:

- Department of Agriculture and Environment
- Sub-Department of Irrigation and Disaster Prevention
- Department of Culture, Sports and Tourism
- Department of Industry and Trade
- Department of Health
- Department of Education and Training
- Department of Home Affairs
- Provincial Women's Union

4. Impacts of Climate Change in Quang Tri

Quang Tri is a province located in the North Central Coast region of Viet Nam, with geographic coordinates ranging from 16°55' to 18°05' North latitude and 105°37' to 106°05' East longitude. The province is characterised by rugged high mountainous terrain, narrow width, and steep slopes, descending from the west to the east, with fragmented areas in the western part. The majority of the land area (over 85%) consists of mountains; other forms of terrain include midlands, coastal plains, and sandy coastal strips, accounting for only about 15%. As a result, agricultural production land is relatively limited and frequently exposed to unusual flooding during the rainy season due to the short, steep rivers flowing from west to east.

At the same time, Quang Tri has a long coastline, many beaches and recreational sites, and a system of caves recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, providing favourable conditions for the development of tourism and trade. However, this sector is also among those most severely affected by the negative impacts of climate change in the province.

The economic structure of Quang Tri, as reflected in the provincial Statistical Yearbook 2023, based on Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP), shows that the service sector accounts for the largest proportion at 50.01%, followed by industry and construction at 27.39%, and agriculture, forestry, and fisheries at 19.14%.

Quang Tri has a total population of 918,665 people, the majority of whom live in rural areas (76.61%), while the urban population accounts for 23.39%. Most local residents are of Kinh ethnicity. The two largest ethnic minority groups are the Chut (including Sach, May, Ruc, Arem, and Ma Lieng sub-groups) and the Bru–Van Kieu (including Van Kieu, Ma Coong, Khua, and Sach sub-groups). These communities are concentrated in the mountainous districts of Tuyen Hoa and Minh Hoa, as well as several western communes of Bo Trach, Quang Ninh, and Le Thuy districts. Living standards across the province are uneven, with higher quality of life in urban areas compared to rural and ethnic minority regions.

In 2023, the labour force aged 15 and above in Quang Tri province reached 435,270 people, an increase of 501 compared to the previous year. Among them, male workers accounted for 52.27% and female workers 47.73%. The labour force in urban areas represented 24.62%, while rural areas accounted for 75.38%. In terms

of human resource quality, the proportion of trained male workers was 31.4%, compared to 23.6% among female workers. The unemployment rate in rural areas was higher than in urban areas, at 3.4% and 2.45% respectively. Gender-disaggregated data further indicated that the unemployment rate among men was higher than that of women, at 3.16% and 2.45% respectively.

Due to its geographical location, climatic conditions, and complex topography - combined with the impacts of climate change - Quang Tri is one of the provinces most frequently exposed to natural disasters of the greatest intensity and frequency nationwide. These include storms, tropical depressions, floods, inundation, droughts, saline intrusion, and severe cold spells. Climate change represents one of the most severe challenges facing Quang Tri in recent years. Particularly since 2020, weather patterns and disasters influenced by climate change have become increasingly unpredictable. Climate change has been, and will continue to be, exerting strong impacts on the natural environment, socio-economic sectors, geographic areas, and the lives and health of local populations across the province. Natural disasters and extreme weather events in Quang Tri are increasing both in frequency and severity, becoming more complex and difficult to forecast.

As a province frequently affected by natural disasters, with a relatively low provincial budget and difficult living conditions for many residents, household incomes remain largely at average or low levels. Consequently, many homes are not resilient against floods and storms. Strong storms and typhoons often cause houses to collapse, particularly in coastal areas, estuaries, downstream zones of reservoirs and dams, low-lying regions, and residential areas along hillsides and streams.

5. Gender Analysis in the Context of Climate Change in Viet Nam and Quang Tri Province

As mentioned in the Research Methodology section, due to limitations in time and resources for conducting the Gender Analysis, as well as constraints in province-specific data for Quang Tri, the consultant team endeavored to make use of available secondary information to construct an overall picture of gender roles in relation to climate change impacts in Viet Nam in general, and to compare with locally available data. In addition, in-depth interviews with representatives of provincial departments and agencies provided validation and context-specific evidence.

Viet Nam has been recognised as one of the countries making significant progress in narrowing the gender gap¹. However, the structure of employment and income, as well as the gendered division of labour within households, still reflect persistent gender norms and stereotypes, which negatively affect both men and women.

Women's participation in the labour force is relatively high compared to global and regional averages. In 2024, the female labour force participation rate was estimated at 69.1% (compared to 78.6% for men, according to ILO/World Bank, 2024), well above the average for the East Asia - Pacific region. Although women make a substantial contribution to the economy, they are often concentrated in vulnerable sectors such as agriculture (accounting for about 70% of the agricultural workforce) and informal employment (petty trade, small services) - areas characterised by low income and lack of social protection. This makes women more vulnerable to disasters and unemployment². In Quang Tri, women also account for a high proportion of those engaged in agricultural production³ as well as in tourism and trade. However, most of their work is concentrated in informal activities.

Women also experience disadvantages in terms of job positions and income. As of the third quarter of 2024, men's average monthly income was about 1.34 times higher than that of women. Within enterprises, women's representation in senior and

¹ World Economic Forum (WEF), 2024. Global Gender Gap Report.

² <https://genderdata.worldbank.org/en/economies/Viet Nam>

³ Quang Binh Provincial People's Committee, 2022. Plan 2510/KH-UBND Quang Binh Province, objectives and solutions, 2022.

middle management positions remains low, at only around 21.8%⁴. This reflects prevailing gender stereotypes regarding women's capacities and family responsibilities, which hinder women's career advancement. In Quang Binh's tourism sector projections, women are often recruited into service and hospitality roles such as reception, yet their opportunities are confined to lower-level positions, leaving them more vulnerable to impacts when disasters occur⁵.

Within households and communities, traditional gender norms continue to strongly shape the division of labour, with women widely regarded as having the primary responsibility for family care. This creates a heavy burden of unpaid care work for women, in addition to the "double burden" faced by those engaged in both economic and household activities. This sphere remains one of the most visible manifestations of gender inequality in Viet Nam. According to UN Women, women spend twice as much or more time as men on unpaid domestic and care work. Specifically, women spend on average 2.2–2.5 times more time on unpaid activities (such as cooking, cleaning, childcare, and elder care) compared to men. This gendered division of labour is one of the key barriers limiting women's economic opportunities and career advancement. Such work is unpaid and not recognised in economic terms, yet it forms the backbone for the functioning of both society and the economy. When women devote excessive time to household responsibilities, they have less time available for education, political participation, or rest.

The double burden of women within households is also highlighted as one of the factors contributing to women's vulnerability to climate change in Quang Tri⁶.

Gender stereotypes regarding women's capacities also hinder their participation in policymaking and development planning across all socio-economic sectors. Particularly at the local level, women often participate less in planning processes due to limited voice, underrepresentation in drafting teams, and constraints in technical capacity. Women are also less frequently consulted in climate policy processes. Men tend to hold leadership positions in public institutions and thus exert greater

⁴ World Bank, 2023. Gender Data Portal. [https://genderdata.worldbank.org/en/economies/Viet Nam](https://genderdata.worldbank.org/en/economies/Viet%20Nam)

⁵ Quang Binh Provincial People's Committee, 2011. Decision 1928/QD-UBND 2011. Master plan for tourism development in Quang Binh province to 2020, vision to 2025.

⁶ Quang Binh Provincial People's Committee, 2021. Plan 1158/KH-UBND Quang Binh province (2021–2025).

influence over policy design and budget allocation, yet often adopt a purely technical perspective that pays insufficient attention to social dimensions⁷.

Although the law allows both men and women to be recognised as household heads, men (fathers, husbands, sons) are still widely regarded as the final decision-makers, especially in rural areas or regarding inheritance and property-related matters. Women, particularly those in rural settings, have fewer opportunities than men to hold land titles or asset ownership, thereby reducing their autonomy and economic resilience. This barrier significantly affects women's vulnerability and capacity to recover from disasters, as they have less access to information and support resources before, during, and after crises.

Given these gender norms and inequalities, women and men are affected by climate change in different ways due to differences in social roles, livelihoods, and access to information:

- **Women's heightened vulnerability:** Women, especially in rural and coastal areas, are primarily responsible for tasks such as farming, livestock rearing, water collection, and household care. During droughts, floods, or saltwater intrusion, these tasks become more difficult, forcing women to work harder while their incomes decline. Women are disproportionately impacted by climate change in agriculture (as they make up the majority of the workforce but have limited access to land and training), in water scarcity (due to their roles in water collection and specific sanitation needs), in waste collection (with limited legal protection and hazardous working conditions), and in limited access to clean energy (with negative implications for health, educational opportunities, and increased risks of violence)⁸.
- **Men's economic pressures:** Men are often regarded as the primary economic providers for their households. When climate change affects agricultural production, fisheries, or wage labour, men may lose jobs or be forced to migrate in search of alternative opportunities, leading to psychological stress and family instability.
- **Impacts on health and safety:** In disaster situations, women and girls face higher risks of gender-based violence, inadequate sanitation, and limited

⁷ UN Women, 2021. Analysis of Gender Equality Integration in Viet Nam.

⁸ UNEP, UN Women, and ISPONRE, 2022. Policy Brief: The State of Gender Equality and Climate Change in Viet Nam.

access to reproductive health care. Meanwhile, men may face higher mortality risks due to their involvement in rescue operations or hazardous labour.

Gender-based inequalities in Vietnamese society influence the ability to access resources and support for climate change adaptation.

- **Women’s limited access to information and resources:** Due to constraints in education, time, and decision-making power, women often do not participate in technical training, early warning systems, or financial support programmes. This prevents them from adopting effective adaptation measures.
- **Men’s advantages in access to capital and technology:** Men are more likely to hold ownership of land and assets and retain decision-making authority in households, which enables them to access loans, production equipment, or state and international support programmes more easily.
- **Institutional barriers:** Current climate policies in Viet Nam have yet to adequately integrate gender dimensions. According to UN Women, Viet Nam’s updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) still lack explicit gender mainstreaming in key priority sectors such as agriculture, water management, and renewable energy⁹.

Despite disparities in access, both women and men possess unique capacities to cope with climate change.

- **Women’s adaptive flexibility:** Women often hold indigenous knowledge about agriculture, food, and clean water. They also play vital roles in community organisation, information sharing, and mutual support during emergencies. However, these capacities remain under-recognised and underutilised.
- **Men’s technical and network-based capacities:** Men frequently engage in technical work, construction, and operation of early warning systems, which enhance prevention and risk reduction. Nevertheless, they remain vulnerable if deprived of psychological and social support when facing unemployment or forced migration.
- **The need to promote gender equality in climate action:** Integrating gender into climate change response strategies not only enhances effectiveness but also ensures equity. Programmes should create opportunities for women to

⁹ Ibid.

participate in decision-making, access resources, and receive training in adaptive skills¹⁰.

Reports and studies on Quang Tri province also highlight that traditional gender roles and norms in Vietnamese society remain prevalent locally, particularly in mountainous areas where many ethnic minority communities reside. Traditional gender-based division of labour results in women bearing a double burden, engaging in both income-generating activities and unpaid domestic care work. Women are often concentrated in informal sectors, with limited access to resources and support services. The predominance of men in disaster prevention and control committees further contributes to the neglect of women’s needs and priorities.

The following table summarises the differentiated impacts of climate change on men and women in Quang Tri province, across key socio-economic sectors:

Table 1. Summary of climate change impacts by gender in Quang Tri province

Sectors	Impacts on Men	Impacts on Women
Livelihoods – Employment – Access to Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Men are largely engaged in sectors highly exposed to climate change, such as fisheries and forest management, and therefore face heightened risks of livelihood loss and increased labour migration. In tourism and services, men are more likely to own accommodation facilities, transportation means, or take roles as tour leaders, due to their greater access to resources, digital skills, and foreign languages. As a result, they are less affected and have 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women constitute the majority of the agricultural workforce but face multiple risks, including loss of farmland, limited access to credit, and fewer opportunities for vocational training, livelihood diversification, or application of climate-resilient farming techniques. With 83% of the labour force in Quang Tri engaged in informal jobs in rural areas, rural women workers experience a double burden. They are more vulnerable to disaster and climate risks, while also facing

¹⁰ Ibid

	<p>higher capacity to shift occupations when climate impacts occur.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Men hold stronger decision-making power in policy processes, with comparatively greater access to technology, markets, and financial resources. • As primary income earners, men face significant pressure to secure livelihoods. When employment is lost due to disasters or climate change, men are more likely than women to migrate in search of alternative opportunities. 	<p>restricted access to recovery support and resources due to the informal nature of their employment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the tourism sector, women have fewer opportunities to access resources and are constrained by cultural barriers (e.g., gender stereotypes in tourism) and caregiving responsibilities. This often excludes them from higher-value tourism value chains. Gendered labour division shows that women mainly occupy service and reception positions, which are low in authority and more vulnerable in the event of disasters. • Rural women, especially those in remote and mountainous areas, risk being left behind in livelihood transition processes if they lack access to vocational training, finance, and timely information. The burden of household care responsibilities further limits their participation in new agricultural models.
<p>Health and Care</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Men participating in certain occupations and sectors that require extensive fieldwork (such as technical operations, driving, and adventure tour guiding) may face higher risks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to gendered division of labour, women are disproportionately affected in terms of health related to natural disasters and climate change. Shortages of domestic water (for household use and

	<p>from natural disasters while on duty.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within emergency response forces, including rescue, evacuation support, and reservoir operation, men constitute the majority and are exposed to greater risks of accidents and exhaustion when directly responding to floods and storms. • However, men are less directly vulnerable to climate change impacts in their daily lives (e.g., waterborne diseases, shortage of domestic water supply). • Due to gendered stereotypes of being economic breadwinners and embodying masculinity (strength, resilience under pressure), men are more prone to increased stress, depression, and anxiety. The burden of protecting family assets also adds to this pressure. • Male migrant workers in other provinces face difficulties and limitations in accessing healthcare services. 	<p>personal hygiene), reproductive health risks from contaminated water sources (flooding, storms), and hazardous working conditions (e.g., waste collection, post-disaster environmental clean-up, lack of clean energy for household use) increase the health impacts on women and girls, particularly in the aftermath of disasters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women, children, and the elderly in remote and mountainous areas are among the most severely affected groups during disasters (e.g., floods, landslides, droughts such as the October 2020 floods), due to heavy dependence on agriculture, limited evacuation means, and poor access to healthcare services. • Increased family care responsibilities and engagement in community support activities during disasters and livelihood recovery create a double burden for women. • Women’s access to reproductive health services is more restricted, especially in the post-disaster context.
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<p>Education and Information</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Men generally have greater access to information. • Young men are more likely to drop out of school to work due to the pressure of fulfilling the breadwinner role. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women, due to their limited participation in key positions, social activities, and technology-related skills, often have restricted access to early warning information. • Girls are at higher risk of dropping out of school when disasters occur because of difficulties in transportation, health risks, and the increased burden of household chores.
<p>Participating in decision making</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Men often hold leadership roles and have greater influence on policy shaping and budget allocation, yet they tend to fall into a purely technical mindset, with limited attention to social aspects or gender sensitivity in planning. • Men have a stronger voice in local planning and account for a large proportion of disaster response organisations, including rescue and relief teams. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women, particularly at the local level, are often underrepresented in planning processes due to a lack of voice, limited representation in drafting committees, and insufficient technical capacity. They are also less frequently and less adequately consulted in climate policy processes. • Women are frequently overlooked in leadership roles, primarily participating in logistical support or caregiving activities after disasters. Their involvement in decision-making, especially at commune and village levels, is limited, and when included in steering committees, their roles are often symbolic rather than substantive.
<p>Safety and social risks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to their significant role in rescue and relief teams, men 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women and girls are at risk of gender-based violence or

	<p>face a heightened risk of accidents during emergency response operations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Men are also vulnerable when lacking adequate preparedness and response skills. 	<p>labour exploitation in the aftermath of disasters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women and girls also face heightened health risks due to the lack of safe shelter during and after disasters.
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It is evident that climate change exerts negative impacts on both men and women, but in different ways. This divergence stems from existing gender inequalities as well as entrenched gender stereotypes and norms that shape the distinct roles of men and women across all socio-economic sectors. These factors hinder participation and limit the overall societal capacity to respond effectively to climate change. Therefore, gender integration in climate change response, with an emphasis on gender-responsive solutions and enhancing equitable participation and capacity, is essential.

6. Legal Framework and the Current Status of Gender Integration in Climate Change Response Planning in Quang Tri Province

6.1. Legal Framework for Gender Integration in Climate Change Response

In recent years, Viet Nam, with its strong commitment to climate change response, has made significant efforts to establish a comprehensive legal framework at both national and subnational levels, as well as guidelines for integrating climate change response into all socio-economic sectors. Similarly, the legal foundations and policies promoting gender equality have also received due attention and implementation. However, the regulations and guidelines for integrating gender into climate change response remain broad, lack specific instructions, or show limited coordination between climate change response and gender equality promotion. Some important documents related to gender integration in climate change response can be referenced as follows:

Decision No. 896/QĐ-TTg approving the National Climate Change Strategy to 2050: This strategy serves as a national framework for climate change response until 2050, outlining goals on emission reduction, strengthened adaptation, institutional capacity-building, science and technology advancement, and international cooperation. The decision highlights the role of gender in climate change response, recognising the need to improve gender awareness and capacity, and identifying gender as part of institutional capacity to be enhanced. However, the document does not specify gender-related targets, mechanisms for gender mainstreaming, or concrete budget commitments. Gender considerations are not explicitly integrated into objectives, tasks, or solutions, particularly at the subnational level.

Decision No. 1055/QĐ-TTg approving the National Gender Equality Strategy 2021–2030: The strategy defines national objectives, indicators, tasks, and solutions to promote gender equality across sectors such as politics, economy, labour, education, health, culture, and media. It sets out six specific goals and 20 quantitative indicators to be achieved by 2030. Nevertheless, the strategy does not

explicitly connect to climate change or link with the national climate change strategies currently in place.

Plan No. 1158/KH-UBND implementing the National Gender Equality Strategy in Quang Tri (2021–2025): This provincial plan translates the national strategy into action at the local level, with six specific goals and over 20 quantitative indicators covering gender equality in politics, economy, education, health, family, and communication. However, climate change is not explicitly addressed. These gender equality measures could potentially be integrated into adaptation solutions within the provincial CCRAP. Importantly, the plan does not provide clear guidance on how to mainstream or coordinate implementation with the CCRAP process.

Updated Report on Quang Tri Provincial Climate Change Response Action Plan (CCRAP) 2023: This report consolidates the current status, progress, and proposed updates of the provincial climate change response action plan, aligned with national strategies and the NDC. The document primarily describes technical updates and progress but lacks gender analysis or mainstreaming. While some activities may impact vulnerable groups, the report does not analyse gender-specific differences, nor does it address the roles, needs, or risks of women and men in climate change response.

Guidelines on Gender Integration in Provincial CCRAP (Ministry of Agriculture and Environment, 2024): This guidance document provides a concrete framework and tools for integrating gender into provincial Climate Change Action Plans, structured around five steps with illustrations and recommendations. It explicitly outlines the role of gender in climate change response, provides gender analysis tools, practical examples, and detailed recommendations on indicators, budgeting, and consultation processes. This remains the most comprehensive guidance available to date on gender integration in local CCRAPs. However, gender mainstreaming in CCRAP processes has not yet been institutionalised, nor has a mandatory mechanism for application at provincial levels been clearly established.

In conclusion, a system of legal documents and policies on climate change response and gender equality has been developed and implemented in Viet Nam. However, specific guidance on how to mainstream gender into climate change policies and programmes - particularly at the local level and across socio-economic sectors - remains limited.

6.2. Review of Gender Integration in the Updated Version of CCRAP Quang Tri

Gender analysis in the context of climate change highlights the urgency of identifying gender-differentiated vulnerabilities to climate change, addressing these specific needs, and strengthening the capacity and participation of both men and women in climate change response programmes and solutions.

The purpose of reviewing the 2025 Quang Tri Provincial CCRAP is to assess the extent to which the plan has met gender mainstreaming requirements and to identify existing gaps for improvement. The guiding questions used for this review include:

1. Has gender analysis of climate change in Quang Tri been conducted? If yes, how are the results of this analysis reflected in the plan?
2. Does the section on context analysis and climate change impact assessment explicitly address gender factors (gender roles, gender stereotypes, and gender inequalities) in climate change? Does it identify the differentiated impacts of climate change on men, women, and other vulnerable groups?
3. Are the data and information used in the planning process sex-disaggregated?
4. Do the objectives of the plan aim to address the differentiated needs of men and women in climate change response, and ensure equitable participation and benefit-sharing from programmes and policies?
5. Do the climate change response solutions consider the specific needs and expectations of men and women, and has budgeting been allocated to ensure gender mainstreaming?
6. Does the plan include gender indicators and a monitoring and evaluation framework to measure progress toward gender-related objectives and targets in the CCRAP?
7. Does the plan identify challenges in applying a gender-responsive approach and propose measures for improvement?

The review of the CCRAP, based on the guiding questions, indicates that overall, the updated 2025 Quang Tri CCRAP has not met the requirements for gender mainstreaming. Specifically, it lacks a comprehensive gender analysis to inform the planning process; the plan's objectives and climate change response measures do not address gender aspects; and there is no system of gender-sensitive monitoring

and evaluation indicators. As a result, the plan fails to reflect the need to strengthen gender capacity within relevant provincial departments or to establish an appropriate budget for gender mainstreaming at the local level.

These findings are consistent with information gathered from in-depth interviews with representatives of provincial departments. At the provincial level, there is general recognition of the necessity of integrating gender into climate change response. However, there is little clarity on *how* to do so in practice. As one departmental representative noted during an interview: “*Gender mainstreaming has not received real attention. Although workshops frequently mention it, moving deeper into concrete actions... still stops at the level of slogans.*”

Another contributing factor to the lack of gender integration in the CCRAP is the absence of sex-disaggregated data in reports, updates, and statistics related to disasters and climate change across all affected sectors. This makes it difficult for relevant agencies to identify the differentiated impacts of climate change and disasters on men, women, and other vulnerable groups in the province.

Based on the review of the CCRAP and consultations with relevant provincial departments, the consulting team recommends that the updated document include the following key elements:

- Review available data and evidence on gender analysis in climate change in Quang Tri, and incorporate information on the differentiated impacts of climate change on men and women in the sections on *Context* and *Impacts of Climate Change*.
- Revise the plan’s objectives to address the basic and distinct needs of men and women in responding to climate change.
- Integrate gender considerations into the plan’s guiding perspectives and principles, climate change response activities, and proposed solutions.
- Include gender-sensitive indicators within the monitoring and evaluation framework for climate change response.

The recommendations for strengthening gender integration in the updated CCRAP focus on several fundamental aspects:

- Identify and address gender-differentiated impacts of climate change on men and women, as well as differences in their adaptive capacities.

- Introduce concrete measures to reduce vulnerabilities, particularly those of women, in sectors most affected by climate change, such as agriculture–environment, tourism, trade, health, and education.
- Promote women’s participation throughout the entire process of planning and implementing climate change response activities and solutions.
- Strengthen local capacity building, especially for focal departments and sectors most affected by climate change.
- Enhance the coordinating and monitoring role of the Women’s Union in promoting women’s participation and in implementing projects that aim to reduce women’s vulnerabilities to climate change.

6.3. Local Capacity for Gender Mainstreaming

Awareness of the necessity of gender integration in the CCRAP exists, but concrete actions remain limited: In recent years, Quang Tri province, similar to other localities across the country, has paid greater attention to integrating gender considerations in climate change response through national legal frameworks and policies, as well as sectoral socio-economic development plans at the provincial level. These frameworks reflect the intent to address gender equality.

However, as one provincial department leader shared in an in-depth interview, local gender mainstreaming capacity remains largely at the level of awareness without clear actions: *“(There is still) a lack of attention (from departments) – (because they do not) understand the gender-differentiated impacts of climate change, nor have orientation or know-how. Around 80% of departments are not yet aware of gender equality in climate change, and only the Department of Agriculture and Environment understands how to implement gender mainstreaming.”*

Capacity for Gender Integration in Climate Change Response Remains Limited: As analysed above and confirmed through interviews with provincial department leaders, while local stakeholders recognise the necessity of gender integration in climate change response efforts, their in-depth understanding of gender, the differentiated impacts of climate change response on men and women, and how to design gender-responsive climate change response solutions in the CCRAP as well as how to incorporate gender into monitoring and evaluation remains a significant capacity gap across provincial departments. One example from the CCRAP planning stage illustrates this limitation: *“Gender mainstreaming should have been integrated from the stage of developing the terms of reference. Consultants need a budget to*

conduct baseline surveys and assessments.” (Interview with a provincial department representative.)

Although some gender awareness training sessions and communication activities have taken place, no specific capacity-building efforts on integrating gender into CCRAPs have yet been implemented in Quang Tri while department representatives expressed a strong desire to receive more in-depth training on gender integration in climate change response.

Coordination and the proactive role of each department in gender mainstreaming also need strengthening: Currently, gender integration in climate change response is often assumed to be the responsibility of the Department of Agriculture and Environment, while activities related to women are expected to be led by the Women’s Union. Moreover, there are no sector-specific guidelines on how to apply gender integration in climate action - for example, how to integrate gender into the CCRAPs of the health or education sectors - posing an additional barrier to advancing gender equality in climate change response.

Gender-disaggregated climate data and information: Discussions with department representatives revealed that most climate-related data, reports, and forecasts focus on impacts by sector and field without sex-disaggregated information. According to local officials, data collection templates are standardised at the national level, so adjustments to include gender-disaggregated information would require higher-level directives. Nevertheless, department representatives indicated that collecting such disaggregated data is feasible if properly mandated.

7. Key Findings of the Gender Analysis

A review of available documents and reports on gender analysis in climate change in Viet Nam in general, and in Quang Tri province in particular, combined with consultations with provincial department leaders, highlights several key points:

- a. Climate change strongly affects people's lives in Quang Tri. However, the impacts differ between men, women, and other vulnerable groups. Women are often more vulnerable and have lower recovery capacity than men because they are heavily involved in agriculture, services, and informal economic activities, sectors that are highly sensitive to natural disasters.
- b. Gender stereotypes and social norms that define women's roles in family and community care have created a "double burden" for them in the face of disasters and climate change impacts. Women must simultaneously maintain livelihoods while ensuring household safety and care (food, nutrition, health, care for the elderly and children), leading to greater vulnerability during disasters. Since men are usually the household heads and final decision-makers, women often have limited access to climate-related information, resources, and support services.
- c. Despite women's adaptive capacities, derived from their experience and knowledge in agricultural production, other economic activities, and understanding of local communities, they often have limited participation in planning and implementing climate change response activities.
- d. Provincial departments acknowledge the importance of promoting gender equality in general, and gender integration in climate change response in particular. However, capacity for gender mainstreaming remains a significant gap. Departments expressed the urgent need for deeper gender awareness in climate change response, as well as enhanced capacity for integrating gender into CCRAP planning and implementation, particularly in sector-specific areas.
- e. The national legal framework on gender equality and gender mainstreaming in climate change policy provides an important foundation for implementation at the local level. Nevertheless, gender integration in socio-economic development plans at the provincial and sectoral levels remains limited and poorly coordinated among stakeholders. This gap partly reflects the lack of gender mainstreaming capacity at the local level as well as the absence of sector-specific gender mainstreaming guidelines and tools.

- f. Gender integration in the updated Quang Tri CCRAP 2025 still has major gaps, from the lack of a gender analysis as a foundation for planning, to the absence of gender-responsive solutions in climate change response activities, and to the lack of gender-sensitive monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to track implementation.

8. Recommendations

Based on the gender analysis and consultations with provincial departments, the consulting team proposes the following recommendations, focusing on strengthening capacity and improving the process of gender integration (GI) at the local level:

- a.** Review and update the Quang Tri CCRAP 2025 to reflect gender-differentiated impacts of climate change, gender-specific adaptation needs, and men's and women's participation in planning and implementing climate change response. Ensure the updated plan includes a gender-responsive budget and gender-sensitive monitoring indicators.
- b.** Develop a practical gender integration guideline that provides concise and easy-to-apply instructions, not only at the provincial level but also tailored to specific sectors. This should particularly focus on climate-vulnerable sectors such as agriculture–environment, tourism, trade–services, health, and education.
- c.** Conduct capacity-building activities on gender analysis and GI in climate change response for provincial departments, especially in the sectors most vulnerable to climate change impacts as identified above.
- d.** Maintain regular monitoring and support for departments in CCRAP planning and in designing and implementing proposed solutions/projects in a gender-responsive manner, to promote gender equality in climate change response.
- e.** Strengthen inter-departmental coordination to ensure a comprehensive approach in CCRAP planning and implementation across sectors and at the provincial level.

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